



CiA News – September 2025

This news sheet is available on the CiA website at www.church-in-abingdon.org.uk. Please take a look.

WHAT'S COMING UP

Cafe@35

The café is closed for an extended break. Watch this space for news of its reopening.

Back to 35

A group for over 50s meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month with talks, games and activities in the church sanctuary at Abingdon Baptist Church from 10.30 to 11.30 am. Doors open at 10.00 am for tea, coffee and cake. A varied programme is on offer:

- 4 September - Board games
- 18 September - Life as a Judge with Anthony King

Admission only £1. Limited parking at the church. All welcome.

Global Week of 24-7 Prayer: 5-7 September 2025, Peachcroft Christian Centre

Prayer connects us all with God. As part of the Global Week of 24-7 Prayer, we will be hosting a prayer room at Peachcroft Christian Centre for two full days, from Friday 5 September at 7 am to Sunday 7 Sept at 8 am, with non-stop prayer happening day and night.

We invite you to join us praying for our world and our community. There will be themed prayer stations set out in the main church hall. You can just drop in or sign up for one or more hour slots. To find out more, visit <https://www.peachcroftcc.org/prayer/24-7-prayer-september-2025>.

Abingdon Compassionate Cafe

A comforting space for conversation, along with cake, tea, coffee, or soft drinks, at St Ethelwold's House, East St Helen Street, Abingdon, OX14 5EB.

The Café takes place monthly on the first Saturday of the month, starting with Saturday 6 September 2025 from 2 pm to 4 pm. All welcome.

Lunchtime music hour at Abingdon Baptist Church



On Monday 8 September 2025, we welcome Paul Harrington who will entertain us on piano, keyboard and organ from 12.30 to 1.30 pm. Bring a packed lunch; tea and coffee will be available. Sorry, the cafe will be closed. There will be a retiring basket for Archway.

Dorcus dress project

This project restarts on 18 September 2025 in a new location:

7th Abingdon Air Scouts Hut, on Dalton Barracks, Shippon, 9.30 - 11.30 am.
Access is from Barrow Road (car boot sale turning).



TAB charity golf day



Friday 19 September 2025, 10 am – 3 pm, Hadden Hill Golf Club, Didcot.

Teams of 4, Stableford Competition

Cost £50 per person (£200 per team) (cost includes breakfast on arrival, halfway refreshments and sandwiches/chips at finish)

To enter, please contact Kirsty Darter at kirsty@theabingdonbridge.org.uk.

Non-golf players – if you would like to sponsor a hole (where your company logo is on the tee) or donate a raffle prize, please contact Kirsty at the above email.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES: 28 AUGUST 2025. An information pack will be sent to Captains nearer the date.



Fr Paul Smith's farewell service

This service will take place at St Michael's on Friday 9 October 2025 at 7 pm. See Fr Paul's farewell article in Round & About Abingdon, October issue.

Licensing of new Team Rector at St Helen's Church

The Revd Jen Brown will be licensed as Team Rector and Vicar of St Helen's Church on 21 October 2025 at 7 pm.

Abingdon Community Fridge

Abingdon Community Fridge exists to prevent food waste and is open to everyone. It collects surplus food from local businesses and distributes to the community. Help to stop excess food being thrown out by coming to Hadland Road Community Centre, Abingdon OX14 3YH:

Mondays: 4 - 4.30 pm

Thursdays: 1 - 2 pm

Saturdays: 10.30 - 11.30 am

For more information, go to www.facebook.com/abingdoncommunityfridge.

Abingdon's International Welcome Café – Fridays, 1 – 2.30 pm, The Barn, Christ Church, Northcourt Road, OX14 1PL

This café was set up in response to the Homes for Ukraine scheme and to provide wider support of refugees through a collaborative partnership of Christ Church and Host Abingdon, the main partners, as well as many other churches in Abingdon as well as local groups and organisations, including the Food Bank. The café offers friendship, support, refreshments, toys and help with English run by a qualified TEFL teacher. For further information, please contact hello@hostabingdon.org.

Archway



The Archway Foundation, a locally founded registered charity 'serving those hurt by loneliness', offers a pathway of support including individual support via telephone or face-to-face, and small supportive social groups. By volunteering for an hour a fortnight as an Individual Support or once a month as a small group volunteer, or as a volunteer driver, you can make a huge difference to someone's week. We are especially keen to find volunteers to support our monthly Abingdon group. Excellent training and support is given and any travel expenses reimbursed. If you think you could help, please get in touch. An application form can be found at www.archwayfoundation.org.uk, or a hard copy is available by calling 01865 790552.

Christian cards and books

Cards covering all events, including birthdays, anniversaries, get well, thinking of you, etc., which are

regularly topped up, are available for purchase from 35 Ock Street, Abingdon Baptist Church. There is also a range of books for sale, regularly updated; books can also be ordered. Do come along and see what we have. Our stock is sourced from St Andrew's Christian Bookshop whose nearest outlet is Witney since they closed their shop in Oxford.

Food Bank

Harvest is an important time for us at the Food Bank - a time when we are able to re-stock, thanks to the generosity of so many of you. If you are planning to bring harvest gifts to the Food Bank, then firstly thank you! We don't take it for granted. Secondly, if we can help with any signs, a list of what we particularly need or someone to give a talk at your church, do let us know. We can also open up our warehouse at Christ Church at any time during the week to receive harvest gifts. During the summer holidays, we gave out extra top-up parcels to families coming to the Food Bank and to other families recommended to us by schools as needing free school meals. Now as autumn approaches, we will need to stock up with 'cold weather food', such as soup, tinned meat, fish and vegetables, and puddings. Thank you as always for your support.

Moving into Stillness: Taizé circle dancing and stillness

Circle dancing to Taizé music with silent interludes takes place on the first Thursday of the month 9.45 - 10.45 am at St Michael and All Angels Church, before the regular circle dancing session, which is held on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 11 am to 12 noon. Elizabeth Mitchell will be the teacher. No prior experience/partner needed. Tea and coffee will be provided. Contact Sue Sheppy (susan.sheppy@btinternet.com) for further information.

New Horizons group for the over 50s

This takes place every Wednesday at the Salvation Army base at 12 West St Helen Street, Abingdon. Coffee and chat from 10.30 am with a meal at 12 noon – please let us know a week ahead if you want a meal on oxford@salvationarmy.org.uk.

The meal is followed by an activity: a 'sing by heart' – a dementia friendly session – once a month, and a craft activity monthly.

Open Doors initiative

Open Doors runs most Mondays (except Bank Holidays) from 11 am until 2 pm at St Edmund's Parish Centre.

We welcome anyone who is on their own or would just like some company to join us for a chat and lunch or just pop in for a tea/coffee.

Open Doors sessions are informal and you are welcome to come along for all or part of the session. Lunch (a home-cooked main meal and dessert) is served around 12.15. There are usually about 20 guests at each session. Hope you can join us.

Silent Reflections

This will be held on the last Tuesday of every month (except for December) at St Michael and All Angels Church from 7.30 to 8.30 pm. Material will be available to support your prayer in the quiet of the sanctuary, and the opportunity is always available to walk the labyrinth. We begin in the church room, so please enter through the door on the south side of the church. If you park in Park Road or Crescent, come in to get a parking permit, otherwise the parking is free in the surrounding streets.

Upcoming free eco events

See www.oneplanetabingdon.org for full details.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE CHURCHES: Please check church websites for up-to-date info

Abingdon Baptist Church www.abingdonbaptist.org.uk

Abingdon Community Church <https://abingdoncc.org.uk> / www.facebook.com/groups/AbingdonCC/

Abingdon Vineyard Church www.abingdonvineyard.org.uk

All Saints Methodist Church www.allsaintsabingdon.org.uk

Christ Church www.cca.uk.net/ and www.longfurlongchurch.org.uk

RCCG Light House Abingdon www.rccglighthouseabingdon.org

Peachcroft Christian Centre www.peachcroftcc.org/

Quakers www.abingdonquakers.org/

Salvation Army www.salvationarmy.org.uk/abingdon

Our Lady and St Edmund Roman Catholic Church www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/

St Helen's, St Michael's, St Nicolas' <https://abingdonparish.org.uk/StH> <https://abingdonparish.org.uk/StM>
<https://abingdonparish.org.uk/StN>

Trinity Church www.trinityabingdon.org.uk

The CiA News is circulated by the Church in Abingdon to member churches within Abingdon to promote church activities and groups, news and any other information that may be of interest to CiA news readers. If you would like to submit news or receive the news by email, please contact the CiA Administrator. The deadline for publication is the 15th of the month previous to publication. For more information about the Church in Abingdon, go to www.church-in-abingdon.org.uk.