



Oh, Lord, hear our prayer.

**God of the whole earth, we bring
before you this fragile, groaning
world. For rivers depleted, for
forests cut down, for oceans
overwhelmed and species
vanishing- we ask your mercy
and your healing. Stir us to wise
and courageous action that
works with, not against the grain
of your creation.**

Rev. Dr. Mike Perry (A Rocha)

INFORM



**URC
VAN ROAD
CAERPHILLY
September 2025**

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Any items for the next edition should be
submitted by the 19th of the month

to

Mrs Diane Moverley

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We hold in our prayers -



Rev Malcolm Shapland

Enfys Hawthorn

Carol Booth Cathy Vernalls Margaret Craig

Hilary and Steve Akerman

Frank Frayling Wendy Angove

Barbara Stewart Diana Hibbert

Dave Jenkins and all the family

**Those suffering in Gaza, Israel and the West Bank.
Hostages and refugees.**

**Those who have lost their employment and those fearful
for their jobs and struggling with the rising cost of living.**

All those without a home or warm shelter.

**Those countries facing hardships, particularly in
Pakistan, Afghanistan, Somalia, Iran, Sudan and Yemen
and all those desperate for their safety and future,
particularly the people of Ukraine.**

Those people helping to welcome and settle refugees.

**World leaders that they make sound, fair and just
decisions particularly in the USA new administration.**

**A Message from our pastorate minister,
Clare Nutbrown-Hughes**

Dear Friends,

It's a little strange writing this in August as someone who is not yet your minister but, if all goes to plan (!), who will be by the time you read this. It's now the summer holidays and our children are home, but when this edition of Inform is circulated we will all be returning to the more usual rhythms of life, and our house will be quieter once again. Even more strangely, having holidayed in Switzerland this summer, I have already been to a return-to school church service as the academic year there begins in mid-August. That felt quite surreal!

Perhaps though, it is fitting in some ways to be across different time zones if you like. Life as a Christian is inspired by both what has been and what will be. We are used to drawing on the riches of the past and the promise of the future while we work out what it might look like, and what it might mean, to follow Jesus in the here and now.

As I prepare to become the minister of Van Road URC, I am conscious of both the wealth of history and relationships that I will hopefully soon begin to absorb, and of our shared call to build on that heritage as God leads us forwards. For me, there is something exciting about Septembers, I love fresh perspectives after a summer break - and new stationery is always going to put a smile on my face! This September is of course extra special though; we have the gift of a new season in our life together as a Church family.

I so look forward to getting to know you and how God is at work through you at Van Road and across the wider community. Whether you are like me and relish new beginnings, or you are more likely to approach them with wariness and reluctance, all of us can draw on our eternal God who was and is and will be, who journeys with us in all times. Trust in God and an assurance of God's faithfulness, enables us to walk into that new future together, nurtured by what has been and inspired by what can be.

Wishing you every blessing as we begin the journey together,

Yours,

Clare



PS We are in the process of setting up a new mobile phone for me, but I do already have an email which is valleysministerurc@gmail.com. Otherwise, I look forward to seeing you on September 14th when I will join you for worship for the first time

From Salt Magazine edited by David Kitchen.

- Don't count the days, make the days count.

- Never stare when someone is decorating.

-If you are not embarrassing your children you are not enjoying yourself.

- Everything extraordinary is born in the ordinary.

All Things Bright and Beautiful

A	B	T	R	E	E	S	T	I	U	R	F
W	N	I	A	T	N	U	O	M	I	F	Y
G	N	I	N	R	O	M	N	O	L	L	N
S	P	L	I	P	S	M	M	E	W	O	I
Y	E	L	U	F	R	E	D	N	O	W	T
Y	V	U	E	P	I	R	Y	U	I	E	G
T	E	F	R	A	E	P	Y	S	D	R	A
H	R	I	T	D	S	T	E	K	M	D	R
G	Y	T	B	P	L	A	H	Y	O	V	D
I	O	U	A	E	R	R	N	G	W	I	E
M	N	A	S	E	Y	E	S	T	I	R	N
L	E	E	S	E	R	U	T	A	E	R	C
A	A	B	I	R	D	G	R	N	Y	G	B

BRIGHT CREATURES GREAT BEAUTIFUL GOD
 WONDERFUL WISE FLOWER BIRD GARDEN
 PLEASANT SUMMER MOUNTAIN MORNING
 RIPE FRUITS EVERYONE ALMIGHTY EYES
 LIPS TREES SKY TINY

Calendar of Regular Events in the Church

Coffee Morning, 10.30am First Wednesday each month
 Communion service 2nd Wednesday each month, 10.30am
 'Only Boys Aloud' rehearse Every Monday, 6.30,
 Caerphilly Chorus rehearse Every Friday, 7.30pm,
 University of the Third Age (U3A) First Friday each month
 1.30pm (usually)
 U3A singing group Thursdays fortnightly, 2pm

'Young Wives' (All ladies welcome) Every Monday 7.30pm

Bible Study , 1st and 3rd Thursdays in the month, 10.30am

NB Some activities stop during school holidays. Please check for any changes to this list. With Clare joining us as minister this month there will be communion on Wednesday 10th September.



NB. No Coffee morning this month,

Next Coffee Morning

Wednesday 1st October



An Elder writes

To start, I am pleased to say a big THANK YOU! to everyone who has supported my coffee mornings for the last year, I am sending a cheque to Velindre Cancer Charity for £1100. I am very grateful for all the help and support I get each week, I know I don't have to mention any names as you know who you are. I do get a little despondent at times when we are few in numbers but there are many different reasons for people not being able to attend. The next coffee morning won't be until October, for a fresh start to another year of fund raising.

When you read this I will be enjoying a week's holiday on the Isle of Wight, hopefully the sun will still be shining.

This summer has been so lovely we can't believe we have had so many weeks without rain. I know we do need the rain for so many reasons and I think God provided us with plenty throughout the winter so we should be thankful for that.

The garden in the car park has flourished this year and we are so pleased that so many people have commented how wonderful it is, the next thing it needs are bulbs ready for the spring next year, so, if anyone has a few bulbs going spare they are quite welcome to plant them in the garden. (Just let us know exactly where.)

This year seems to have gone so quickly, I know they say the older you get the quicker time seems to go but even the young people are saying how quickly a month goes by. We will have harvest upon us shortly and it doesn't seem that long ago it was Easter and Pentecost, my 'how time flies.'

We are all looking forward to Clare's arrival in the pastorate, and we must be there to support her in all she does and keep her and her family in our prayers.

It has been a very busy time within the church life this year so much going on, we had 6 weeks of Lent Lunches every Friday, then we had the Easter services, the celebrations for Pentecost at Crescent Road, Christian Aid Week with a service at Windsor Road. We had a wonderful Art Exhibition and the Flower Festival, we have also had numerous concerts all being so different from one another and I have already mentioned it will be Harvest to come next; no wonder the year has flown and we must thank God, who is keeping us reasonably fit and healthy to keep going in our small way. As Elders we are always here to do God's work if we possibly can.

Every blessing to you all,

Margaret Baldwin



Lectionary Readings

September

7th

**Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 1:30:1-6, 13-18;
Deuteronomy 20:15-20; Psalm 1;
Philemon 1:1-21; Luke 14:25-33**

14th

**Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 51:1-10;
Exodus 32:7-14; 1 Timothy 1:12-17;
Luke 15:1-10**

21st

**Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; Psalm 113; Amos 8:1-7;
1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13**

28th

**Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15; Psalm 146;
Amos 6:1a, 4-7; 1 Timothy 6:6-19;
Luke 16:19-31**



Pulpit Supply

September

7th **Lewis Lewis– Head
Communion**

14th **Rev Clare Nutbrown-Hughes**

21st **Café Church, Season of Creation
Rob and Diane Moverley**

28th **Ms Maggie Kirkbride**



Young Wives

*Mondays 7.30pm
All ladies, any age, welcome*



**Next meeting Monday 8th September
TBC**

From the editor

As many of you know, I am recovering from a heart procedure. Many thanks for all the kind thoughts and encouragement. I have been very fortunate to spend quite a lot of time recuperating in St David's with family and the weather has been unusually kind.

When home we have been tending the garden plants, gathering produce, feeding the many variety of birds, as well as 2 hedgehogs which turn up every night and which we manage to catch on a garden camera.

All in all it has been a lovely summer for us due to spending so much time with family and outdoors appreciating sun, sea and nature.

**1st September - 4th October is the
Season of Creation.
This year's theme is
Peace with Creation**

The organisation, A Rocha, tells us, "The Season of Creation is a time observed by denominations globally to reflect specifically on God's wider creation, His relationship to it and our own relationship with it."

"Christians and Churches are invited to pray, act and use their voice to advocate for creation."

We should do what we can! Lots of help and information on the website -arocha.org.uk

Diane.

In Praise of Carolyn

It is a privilege to have known Carolyn and to have the opportunity to put into words just how much she meant to us all at Van Road and Young Wives.

Carolyn was a member of our church since 1972. Carolyn and Dave were wonderful members from the beginning, bringing up Ruth and Mary in the church and following their faith and serving the church with great commitment.

Carolyn was a true Christian lady. She was kind, patient and friendly to all.

Carolyn was secretary of Young Wives for nearly 40 years. She was the only person I knew that still used shorthand. She worked diligently to find excellent speakers for our Monday evenings and spent many hours planning our evening sessions. It was Carolyn that instigated our commitment to The Leprosy Mission, which we have now supported for many years.

Carolyn was not one to seek the limelight but it is very important to recognise what a very special person she was, both to the church and to Young Wives.

Our love and prayers are with Dave, Ruth and Mary and all their wider family and friends. She will be greatly missed.

Carol



It Happened in September

- 1st, 1939 Germany invades Poland starting the second World War.
- AD70, Roman Emperor Titus orders the destruction of Jerusalem.
- 2nd, 1666 The Great fire of London starts in a baler's shop in Pudding Lane.
- 1752 Britain and its colonies change from the Julian to the Gregorian calendar; the following day becomes 14th September.
- 20th, 1519 Ferdinand Magellan starts his round the world voyage.
- 22nd, 1327 Edward II of England is murdered in prison on orders of his wife, Isabella and her lover, Roger de Mortimer.
- 24th, 1789 President George Washington signs the Judiciary Act to establish the United States,
- 25th, 1066 King Harold leading an outnumbered army won a crushing victory over Viking invaders.
- 27th, 1825 The world's first steam powered passenger train pulls out of Darlington.
- 30th, 1399 Richard II abdicates as king of England.

CONGRATULATIONS To

Carys Lewis-Head on passing her A levels and going forward to study law.

And to

Owen Moverley for his excellent GCSE results.