

VINTAGE ADVENTURE

@ HOME

Our Provider God



Dear Vintage Adventure @ Home friends,



Welcome to our September issue on the theme of Harvest. We trust that you will enjoy its contents, as much as we did putting this month's booklet together.

*In this month's pack you will find much to read and reflect on. Frances has written our worship based on our hymn for this month, *We plough the fields and scatter* As usual, you can discover something about the hymn writer, as well as about an eccentric Cornishman, Parson Hawker of Morwenstow, who revived long lost traditions of harvest celebrations.*

God provides not only for our material needs but for our spiritual wellbeing too, so we share some information about Bible reading notes, which help to feed our souls, minds and hearts.

Alternatively, perhaps you will prefer finding new snippets of information about different fruits, vegetables and breads in our quizzes. One of our creative readers, Gillian Gain, shares a poem she wrote at the time when Caraway's co-founder Erica, moved to the West Country. We also offer a short but heartfelt tribute to David Corfe, whose poems often feature in our booklets and who has recently died peacefully after a short illness. A service of Thanksgiving will be held at Highfield Church, SO17 1RL, on Monday 8th September at 2.30 pm. Do ponder his poem 'The Stick Brigade' published last year in his third anthology, 'Autumnal, A Late Offering'.

We are so thankful to God for all the gifts we enjoy, from food and physical health to the variety of creative talents our community shares. We also thank God for you all, wherever you may be. Whichever part of Vintage Adventure @ Home is your favourite, we pray that something will challenge, inspire, encourage or reassure you.

*With every blessing,
Cynthia and your Caraway friends*

WORSHIP



We plough the fields, and scatter the good seed on the land;

But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand:

He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,

The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

Chorus: All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above,

Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all His love.

He only is the maker of all things near and far;

He paints the wayside flower, He lights the evening star;

The winds and waves obey Him, by Him the birds are fed;

Much more to us, His children, He gives our daily bread.

Chorus

We thank Thee, then, O Father, for all things bright and good,

The seed time and the harvest, our life, our health, and food;

Accept the gifts we offer, for all Thy love imparts,

But what Thou most desirest, our humble, thankful hearts.

Chorus

This hymn, written by the poet Matthias Claudius, of German origin, is usually associated with harvest time. It was published in 1782 and translated into English by Jane Montgomery Campbell in 1861. It is among the most performed of hymns in Britain.

It is associated with Harvest and Harvest Thanksgiving services; I wonder what thoughts and memories does the word 'Harvest' or 'Harvest Festival' bring to your mind?



Pause and ponder and share with others.

One of my early memories is harvesting apples; it was the one time as a young girl when I was 'allowed' to climb the apple trees in the garden, and I loved climbing trees! We had lots of trees and spent a whole Saturday picking, sorting and laying out apples for the winter.

Harvest is a time of **thanksgiving**; thanking God for the provision of food.

*We plough the fields, and scatter the good seed on the land;
But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand:*

Harvest involves us working with God to provide food for life.

We plough...

I spent a year working on a farm before going to university, and I remember the joy of ploughing, seeing the earth turning over as the plough shares cut into the hard ground, and the gulls following the tractor as the worms were unearthed for them!

And then we scattered the seed over the prepared field, a process known as broadcasting, a term that was later used for spreading news!

But we had to wait months before the harvest was ready, but God was at work causing the seeds to germinate and to grow and develop.

Harvest is about **GROWTH**



Psalm 65 describes and celebrates how God brings growth
You care for the land and water it; You enrich it abundantly.

*The streams of God are filled with water
to provide the people with grain, for so You have ordained it.
You drench its furrows and level its ridges;
You soften it with showers and bless its crops.*

*You crown the year with Your bounty,
and Your carts overflow with abundance.
The grasslands of the wilderness overflow;
the hills are clothed with gladness.*

*The meadows are covered with flocks
and the valleys are mantled with grain;
they shout for joy and sing.*

We have to do our part, but we need God to do His!
From the very beginning of time we were called to work together with God
in caring for creation and tending to its productivity.

But growth is the work of God, both in food production but also in our
lives, He is the source of all life, both physical and eternal. As Jesus says,
"I am come that you might have life, and that you might have it to the full."

Harvest is about **GRATITUDE**

That's why church harvest services are often referred to as Harvest
Thanksgiving services. If it were not for God there would be no harvest!

In today's western world we are somewhat distant from the actual manual
work of food production; we can go to the supermarket and buy virtually

any foodstuff we want, products from all over the world. So we can forget the toil and anxiety of farmers as they have to depend on weather, markets and consumer demands. But in many places the fragility of the environment and unpredictability of an annual harvest is a constant key factor of life and survival.

Let's not take our food for granted, let's not see it as our right, and let us be thankful and grateful for all we have to eat.



Do you give thanks for your meals each day?

If not, now's a good time to start!

Harvest is about **GENEROSITY**

Traditionally we celebrated harvest as a community, sharing out the fruitfulness of the land. Way back in early days in the Bible, God set down rules that ensured the wealthy landowners left the edges of the grain fields so the poor could gather or glean them and have food. He stated that having picked fruit trees or grape vines, anything left behind should be for the poor and widows and the owners should not go over the trees or vines again.

We read about this in action in the book of Ruth in the Bible, why not read it this week? The power of caring and sharing in action with a beautiful outcome!

As Jesus so rightly said, we will always have the poor with us, so how can we share some of the wealth and productivity of the land and harvest that we receive with those who have lots less than us?

We can donate to Basics Bank or give money to those charities seeking to distribute aid or help farmers in other parts of the world to improve their ways of producing food. We can bake a cake for someone or have them round for a coffee.....

In what ways do you think you might be able to share some of the blessings God has given you with others less well off?
And do it with a cheerful heart!

As we celebrate God's goodness this harvest time, let's do so with gratitude and generosity, recognising that without Him there would be no harvest!



A Prayer for harvest time

Living God,

We thank You for our world,

with all its rich and wonderful variety, for Your gift of life,
constantly renewed by Your loving hand.

For all that You have made to grow and flourish around us,
all that provides our food and clothing,

all the beautiful and bountiful resources of this amazing planet,
You have blessed us with so much.

Help us to share these blessings with others with generosity and gratitude.
To the praise and glory of Jesus Christ, our Lord and King. Amen

We plough the fields and scatter

Many of us have memories of singing rousing hymns at harvest festival services during the months of September or October. But who was the writer of this month's hymn *'We plough the fields and scatter'*?

Originally called *'Wir pflügen und wir streuen'*, this hymn was written by the German poet Matthias Claudius in 1782.

Matthias was a layman who was born near Lübeck in North Germany in 1740 and studied at the University of Jena. Matthias had a variety of roles, working as Commissioner of Agriculture and Manufacture, and then, between 1771-1775 he earned a literary reputation by editing a newspaper, the Wandsbeck Messenger. Here he published prose essays and poems which became popular owing to their simple, accessible German. Matthias also tried his hand at being a bank auditor.



In 1777, Matthias fell seriously ill and as many of us do, this crisis led him to turn to God once more, having drifted away from his earlier Christian faith during his 20s, when he became convinced by the 18th century view that humans have no need of God. During his illness Matthias continued to write poems. In 1782, a friend invited him over for dinner and asked him to bring along one of these Christian poems. Matthias had been so inspired by Psalm 144 that he actually penned seventeen verses!

The hymn was part of a dramatic sketch about a peasant celebrating harvest in his farmhouse and became familiar all over Germany, appearing in hymnbooks of the period. Not surprisingly, the majority reduced the original verses, with publishers typically starting with the third verse, which begins 'Wir pflügen und wir streuen'. Johann Schulz set the hymn to music.



In 1861 in England, Jane Montgomery Campbell, a fluent German speaker, translated some German hymns into English. Jane's intention, however, was not to translate the text literally but to retain the original focus on expressing thanks to God for the provision of harvest. Jane taught the hymn to children who attended Sunday School at the Church of England school in London where her father was rector. The hymn became so well liked that it was later included in Charles Bere's *Garland of Songs* and *Children's Chorale Book*.

Much more recently, a shortened version appeared in the 1970s musical *Godspell*, as the song, 'All Good Gifts'. *Godspell* opened at The Roundhouse theatre in Chalk Farm, London on 17 November 1971, two of the actors being drama students David Essex and Jeremy Irons. Indeed this hymn, now 250 years old, remains extremely common at harvest festivals and also in America as part of the annual Thanksgiving celebrations in November.

In 1814 Matthias moved to Hamburg, living in the house of his son-in-law, a publisher, and dying there on 21 January 1815.

Harvest festivals and Parson Hawker of Morwenstow

As autumn approaches and some of us celebrate harvest festivals, I have discovered the impact of eccentric Victorian vicar, Rev Hawker, who lived further up the coast in the tiny clifftop hamlet of Morwenstow.

Cornwall's most northerly parish, Morwenstow had had no priest for over a century but from **1835** became the home of **Rev Robert Hawker**. Although

this sepia photo makes him look dull, he was quite literally, a colourful character, with a long purple coat, and instead of a clerical waistcoat, a blue fisherman's jersey, showing he was 'a fisher of men.'

These jerseys were knitted by a fisherman's wife in Clovelly and embroidered with a tiny red cross, to symbolise the place where Christ's body was pierced. Instead of the usual stiff collar, he wore a limp white cravat and a yellow poncho he'd made

from a horse blanket. In those days clergy were attired in sombre black, but it is said that Robert only wore black socks, hidden inside his long hessian seaboots! A wide-awake pink beaver hat completed his outfit.



Life was exceedingly tough in this bleak landscape peopled by smugglers and wreckers. Robert's parishioners would often scavenge from the wrecks off the coast. Robert's incumbency coincided with the 'Hungry Forties' when folk were starving and wages inadequate to meet even the cost of flour for daily bread. Kind-hearted Robert made great efforts to improve life, using his own money to help the needy, including building a school. He was the first Victorian parson to organise weekly church collections to support those in poverty for which he was attacked by name in *The Times*. He defended the practice vigorously, setting an example that put his wealthier contemporaries to shame.

1842 was a particularly bad year but the next was better. On 14 September 1843, Robert summoned his parishioners to meet him in the chancel on the first Sunday in October for a special service of Thanksgiving. He invited them to **bring their own produce**, which he afterwards distributed amongst the poor, establishing the tradition of decorating churches with home grown fruit, vegetables, bread, and sheaves of corn and sharing with the less fortunate. A precursor to our modern food banks, perhaps?

Daily encouragement

God also sustains us spiritually and does so through His Word, the Bible. Did you know that there are many daily Bible reading booklets giving a verse and some thoughts for daily encouragement? Here are just a few - some are free and others you can buy. Alongside each, we've given contact details. If you are unable to get in touch with the ministry, do please phone the Caraway office on 07535 164 014 and we'll try to help.

Our Daily Bread: Using portions of Scripture, daily readings help you see God more clearly and know His love for you. God is here. He's holding you and He won't let go. That's the heartbeat of each Our Daily Bread articles. Come close and rest in God's presence through the wisdom and comfort of His Word. Sample FREE plus free delivery. Standard or Large Print available PO Box 1, Carnforth, Lancashire LA5 9ES. Phone: [+44 \(0\) 15395 64149](tel:+44201539564149) email: europe@odb.org



Word for Today written by Bob and Debbie Gass from United Christian Broadcasters (UCB), brings encouraging words every day. This free publication is delivered every 3 months. For a copy please contact FREEPOST RLTX-ABUL-GRAR, United Christian Broadcasters, Westport Road, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 4JF.



The Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF) has two daily devotionals to buy,



covering 4 month's worth of readings. The Upper Room has a worldwide readership of some 3 million. Each daily meditation has a passage from the Bible followed by a prayer, Thought for the day and Prayer Focus. Available from BRF Ministries, 15 The Chambers, Vineyard, Abingdon OX14 3FE Phone: +44(0)1865 319700 or email enquiries@brf.org.uk.

It is available in giant print from Torch Trust for the Blind, Torch House, Torch Way, Northampton Road, Market Harborough, LE16 9HL.

Tel: +44(0)1858 438260

Bible Reflections for Older People is written by older people for older



people, and is designed to bring hope, assurance and sustenance, reminding the reader of the presence and love of God. Each issue contains 40 Bible reflections and prayer suggestions to use and revisit as often as is helpful. Printed in a larger font it is available to buy from: BRF Ministries 15 The Chambers, Vineyard, Abingdon OX14 3FE Phone:

+44(0)1865319700 or email enquiries@brf.org.uk. www.brf.org.uk

Every Day with Jesus is now available as a book containing a year's worth of devotional readings written by Selwyn Hughes and is available to buy from www.equippingthechurch.com or phone 0330 8181 000 or for those who prefer, it can be downloaded free to your smartphone from Play Store or



or



Happy reading!

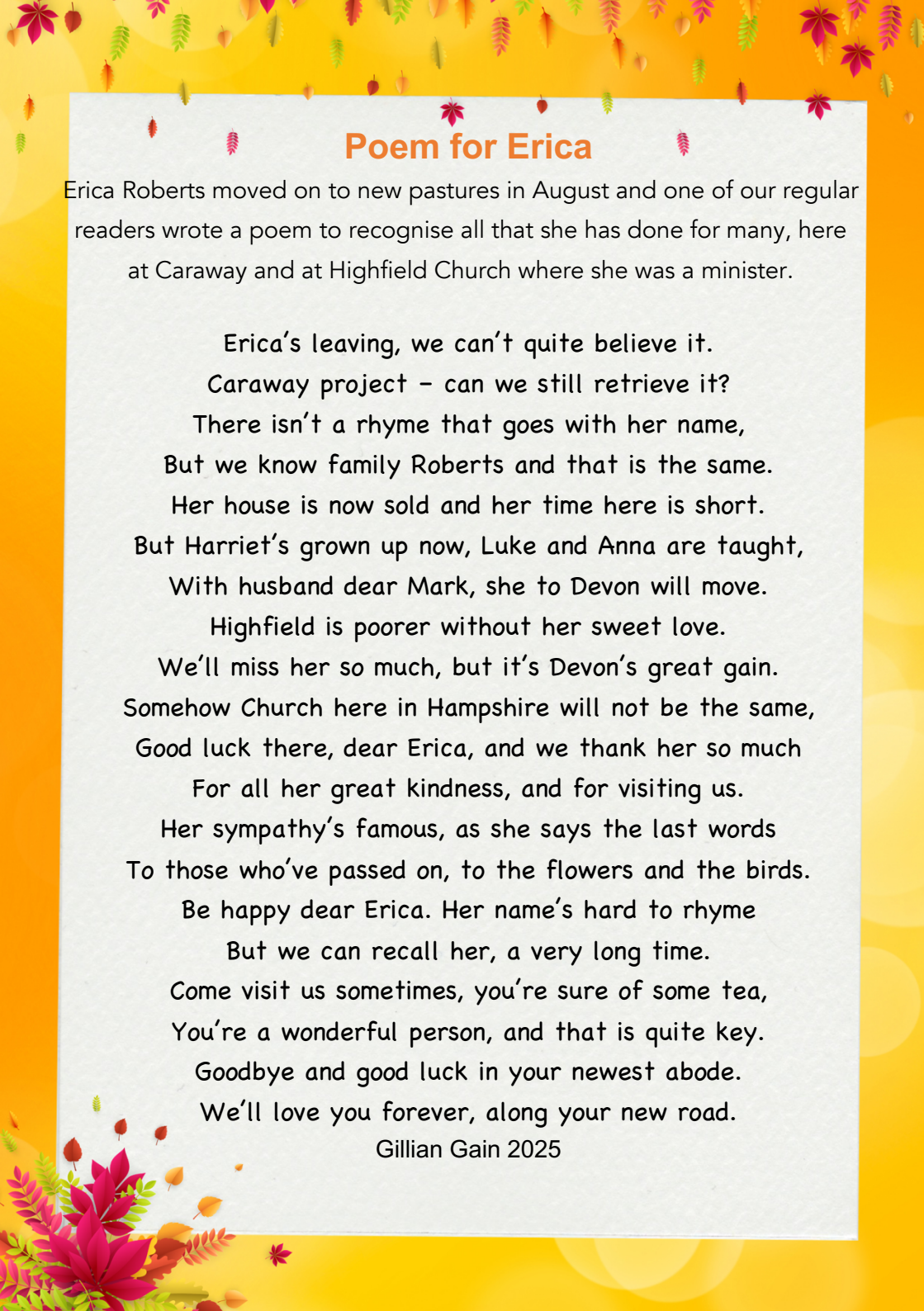



Poem for Erica

Erica Roberts moved on to new pastures in August and one of our regular readers wrote a poem to recognise all that she has done for many, here at Caraway and at Highfield Church where she was a minister.

Erica's leaving, we can't quite believe it.
Caraway project – can we still retrieve it?
There isn't a rhyme that goes with her name,
But we know family Roberts and that is the same.
Her house is now sold and her time here is short.
But Harriet's grown up now, Luke and Anna are taught,
With husband dear Mark, she to Devon will move.
Highfield is poorer without her sweet love.
We'll miss her so much, but it's Devon's great gain.
Somehow Church here in Hampshire will not be the same,
Good luck there, dear Erica, and we thank her so much
For all her great kindness, and for visiting us.
Her sympathy's famous, as she says the last words
To those who've passed on, to the flowers and the birds.
Be happy dear Erica. Her name's hard to rhyme
But we can recall her, a very long time.
Come visit us sometimes, you're sure of some tea,
You're a wonderful person, and that is quite key.
Goodbye and good luck in your newest abode.
We'll love you forever, along your new road.

Gillian Gain 2025





The world,
and all that is
in it, belong
to the LORD.

PSALM 24:1

Down Memory Lane



As you remember harvest in years gone by.....

What **smells** can you recall?

Perhaps of freshly baked harvest loaves in the shape of a sheaf of corn?



What **taste** comes to mind?

Perhaps the sweetness or sharpness of a crunched apple?



What **colours** do you link with harvest?

Perhaps the browns and golds of autumn as the leaves turn? The purple of ripening blackberries?



What **sounds** could you hear?

The chime of church bells calling worshippers to harvest festivals?

The cries of birds following a tractor or plough?



Reverend David Corfe (1935-2025)

It is with great sadness that we let you know of the death of one of our regular contributors, the Rev David Corfe. David was a retired clergyman, who often wrote our worship section or the accompanying reflection. We have included some of his thought provoking poems in many editions over the years (and will continue to do so).



As well as a gifted poet, David was an artist and his apartment contained several of his paintings. As a young man, David served in India with his wife Rosemary, and visited Nepal. These experiences, together with ponderings on the tough times of life, feature in his poetry. Then, whilst living in Manchester and Birmingham, he befriended several in the Asian community. Later, having retired to Southampton, he continued to spend periods with Asian contacts in Birmingham, as well as supporting the Southampton Asian Christian Fellowship and with sensitivity, drawing alongside Muslims, with whom he shared his Christian faith.

A revered and much loved member of the Highfield Church family, even into retirement David continued to preach, preside at Holy Communion services, and with his late wife Rosemary, facilitated a home group especially for those from around the area who were struggling with their mental health.

David was a humble, unassuming gentleman, honest about his questions, fears, doubts, and sense of inadequacy, but at the same time profoundly convinced of the reality of the gift of salvation and the assurance of eternal life for those who place their trust in Jesus.

David composed the reflection on the hymn *Thine be the Glory* for the May booklet, which he wished to have sung triumphantly at his Thanksgiving Service. In it he wrote,

'When Jesus appeared to the disciples on the evening of His resurrection, He could have rebuked them for the way they had let Him down Yet His first words were 'Peace': I'm not holding your failure against you.' David went on, *'I find that very encouraging: when we mess up and accuse ourselves of hopeless failure, Jesus greets us lovingly, 'Peace'.*

We miss David, especially at Wednesday Communion, but rejoice that we will meet both him and Rosemary again. He is safely with His Saviour and Friend, the Lord Jesus Christ, Whom he trusted and followed faithfully to the end of his long life. One of his daughters, Lizzie Guillebaud, read this Bible verse to David as he was dying: *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.* May this be true of us!

The Stick Brigade

*We are the stick brigade, antique walkers
who fight a losing battle with our age;
no national trust exists to prop us up.
Though we may struggle or live long
death implacably awaits us.*

*So why fight on? Should we deceive ourselves,
keeping our eyes tight shut against tomorrow,
with grim determination and false cheer?
The enemy, who's stealthily relentless,
must laugh at crematoria or graves,
but shudders if he ever thinks of Calvary,
for there he was exposed, his power broken;
our shepherd king has walked the darkest valley
and emerged triumphant. When our turn comes,
with cudgel and a staff He waits to lead us.
We shall not need our sticks when we arrive.*

Holiday @ Home 2025 – Italy

Many of our readers attended one of our summer Holiday @ Home events where guests experienced all things Italian. Here's a few photos that we've received.



Making a venetian mask at Shirley Memory Café

At Highfield Church guests were welcomed and enjoyed armchair dancing, good food and had their holiday photo posing in front of the Leaning Tower of Pisa.



Different types of Bread

Do you know your breads? Draw a line matching the picture to the name



RYE



CIABATTA

MULTIGRAIN



CROISSANT

BURGER BUN



SANDWICH

PUMPERNICKEL



WHEAT

WHITE

TORTILLA



WHOLE WHEAT

SOURDOUGH

WHOLE GRAIN



Name the vegetable



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9

Orchard Trivia

September is the month we harvest the apples – how much do you know about this popular fruit?



1. How long do apple trees take to produce their first fruits? (*4-5 years*)
2. Apples are a member of what flower family? (*The rose family, just like pears and plums.*)
3. A bushel of apples weighs about 40 pounds. If you love someone a lot, you can say you love them a bushel and a peck, and a hug around the neck.
4. If you want your apple to ripen, should you leave it on your table or put it in your fridge? (*Leave it at room temperature - it ripens 6-10 times faster there.*)
5. How many apples does it take to make one gallon of apple cider? (*Approximately 35.*)
6. How many apples do you need to make a 9-inch pie? (*About 2 pounds.*)
7. List as many things as you can that are made with apples. (*Apple pie, apple cake, apple juice, apple cider, apple muffins, apple sauce, etc.*)
8. Have you ever bobbed for apples? They float because how much of their volume is made of air? (*25%*)
9. How many apples does it take to make a pint of cider? (*Approximately 10 -15.*) For every 2kg of apples, you can expect to make a litre of cider (approx. 2 pints.)



FIND THE HIDDEN OBJECTS

Can you find all 10?



Name a fruit or vegetable alphabet



A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
I
J
K
L
M

N
O
P
Q
R
S
T
U
V
W
X
Y
Z

Some possible Answers

Apple
Banana
Carrot
Dates
Elderberry
Fig
Grapes
Honeydew Melon
Iceberg lettuce
Jackfruit
Kiwi
Leek
Melon
Nuts
Orange
Peach
Quince
Radish
Strawberry
Tomato
Ugli (a fruit, a cross between a grapefruit and a mandarin)



JANUARY brings the snow,
fire-side tales and candle's glow
FEBRUARY brings the rain,
snow-thaw, puddles, indoor game
MARCH brings lambs to shepherd's care
primroses and violets scent the air.
APRIL's time for husbandry
planting spuds and fruiting tree
MAY's bright bulbs and bluebell drifts
bring migrant cuckoos, geese and swifts
Flaming JUNE sees roses budding,
tennis matches, summer pudding
Hot JULY brings lightning glancing
o'er harvest, fetes and rustic dancing.
AUGUST brings relief to teachers,
cream teas, outings, crowded beaches.
SEPTEMBER glows with rosy apples,
blackberries, nuts and wedding couples
OCTOBER turns green leaves to gold,
and harvest gifts cheer young and old.
NOVEMBER's gales make leaves whirl past
and pigs are loosed to eat the mast.
DECEMBER flies as housewives race
till Christmas fare fills every space.

Word Search

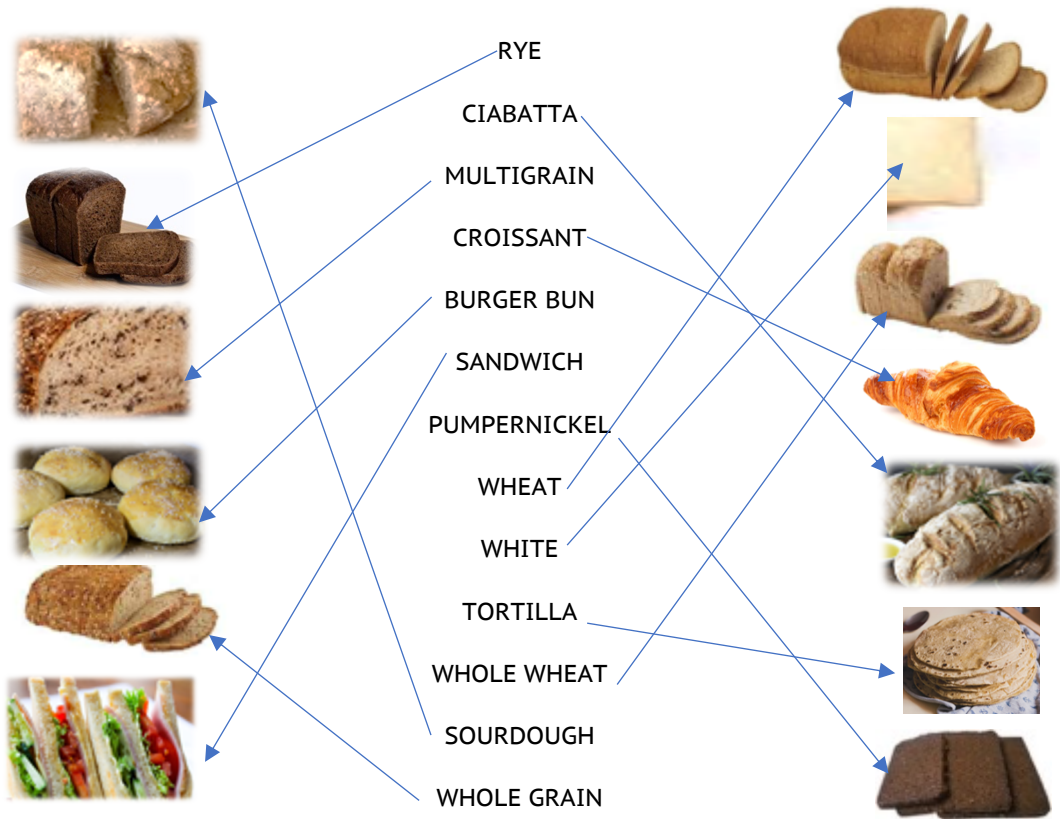


C	C	L	C	L	I	P	E	E	P	E	R	A	O
R	O	O	L	O	C	A	N	D	Y	T	W	C	T
A	C	A	Z	C	S	S	X	L	G	U	T	R	H
N	F	R	V	Y	E	T	B	T	N	R	R	U	A
B	Z	A	I	V	I	W	U	E	L	K	I	N	N
E	X	N	A	S	E	O	E	M	G	E	C	C	K
R	H	E	H	L	P	W	Z	N	E	Y	K	H	S
R	L	K	P	H	O	N	I	N	C	C	O	H	G
Y	X	P	E	L	I	F	M	L	O	I	R	A	I
H	A	K	L	K	F	U	R	F	O	D	T	Y	V
F	A	A	P	U	T	C	P	E	L	E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

Fall	Autumn	Peeper	Crisp
Apple	Pumpkin	Hayride	Thanksgiving
Halloween	Trick Or Treat	Candy	Turkey
Stuffing	Cranberry	Orange	Red
Rake	Cool	Cider	Costume
Crunch	Change	Leaves	Cozy



Answers to Different types of Bread



Answers to Name that Vegetable

1. Asparagus
2. Beetroot
3. Artichoke
4. Leek
5. Parsnips
6. Aubergine / Eggplant
7. Brussel sprouts
8. Fennel
9. Radish

FIND THE HIDDEN OBJECTS

Can you find all 10?



Rev Dave Hendra

City Chaplain for Dementia
Southampton
Revdave.hendra@caraway.uk.com
07466 914671

Marion Hitchins

Anna Chaplain
Parish of St. Denys
marionhitchins@yahoo.co.uk
07766 745503

Rev Margaret Hague

Lead Anna Chaplain for Older People
Southampton West (Lord's Hill & Maybush)
margaret.hague@caraway.uk.com
07564 026471

Carol Kidd

Anna Chaplain for Older People
Harefield & West End
carolkiddannachaplain@gmail.com
07842 244876

If you know of anyone who would like to receive a free monthly copy of Vintage Adventure @ Home please contact us and we will happily add them to our mailing list.

caraway@caraway.uk.com, or write to us at:

59 Brookvale Road, Highfield, Southampton, SO17 1QS or phone

07535 164014 (leave a message and we will return your call)

Monthly copies are also available to download on our website

caraway.uk.com

Image credits in this pack**Acknowledgements****Contributors in the pack****Editor**

September 2025

Shutterstock | The Noun Project | Pixabay

Golden Carers

Frances Tyson | Cynthia Martin | Gillian Gain | David Corfe | Jo Ladkin

Cynthia Martin

Messy Vintage

from The Bible Reading Fellowship

