



A lovely banana cake made by Maryam.
Do we have it before the meal with our
tea or coffee, or do we have it after
the meal?

Kearsley New Jerusalem Church
Newsletter
July-August 2026

**NEW JERUSALEM CHURCH,
BOLTON ROAD, KEARSLEY
July — August 2026**

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THE FAITH OF THE NEW JERUSALEM CHURCH

There is one God, who has the Divine Trinity in him, and He is the Lord Jesus Christ.

The faith that saves is to believe in Him.

Avoid evils because they are the devil's and come from the devil.

Do good things because they are God's and come from God.

These good things should be done on a person's own initiative as if they come from him, but he should believe that they come to him and through him from the Lord."

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

We believe that religion is about how we live and the religious way is to do good..

**SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL
BEGIN AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK.**

WORSHIP LEADERS

July 2026

Sunday 5th July	Revd Brian Talbot (Family Holy Supper)
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Sunday 12th July	Revd Brian Talbot
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Sunday 19th July	Revd Brian Talbot
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Sunday 26th July	Revd Brian Talbot
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August 2026

Sunday 2nd August	John Ford
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Sunday 9th August	Alison Presland
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Sunday 16th August	Ray Kennion
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Sunday 23rd August	Revd Brian Talbot
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Sunday 30th August	Revd Brian Talbot
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September 2026

Sunday 6th September	Revd Brian Talbot (Family Holy Supper)
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ACTIVITIES

Mondays	Whist Drive	1.30 pm
Thursday 16th July	Circle Dancing	2 pm
Tuesday 28th July	Annual Meeting of Conference	
Friday 31st July		
Tuesday 25th August	Church Council	7.30 pm
Thursday 27th August	Circle Dancing	2 pm

.Church News:

Members of our congregation need to be aware that Primrose Street, the street on which the Kearsley West Primary School is, is closed between 3 pm and 3.45 pm. You can receive an access permit from the school office. Please take this into account when visiting the church during the afternoon.

We had a lovely service on Sunday 21st June. It was not only New Church Day, but Fathers' Day. We made 6 new members: Lesley Saunders, Maryam, Amin, Marzi, Sohrab and Parisa. Then after the service we had a lovely banquet. We tasted Nigerian, Iranian and British food. It was a magnificent feast, great fellowship and a very enjoyable time was had by all.

Ministers' Message: Verified Near-Death Experiences

I have read two books recently, in which believers in Near Death Experiences and the after-life, have taken on the

sceptics. They have looked at their arguments, and explained carefully why they don't fit all the data. They have looked at their speculations and their attempts at justifying a non-belief in the after-life, and found them wanting. They have challenged their presuppositions and shown how weak they are.

I suppose I'm a bit of an optimist. If someone says they've experienced something, such as a deceased relative in a dream, which I have, I tend to believe them. It's not just because of my experiences. If someone tries to dispute that, I'm happy to hear their arguments and explanations. I would hate to be close-minded. Even sceptics have something to offer, which will deepen our understanding.

Swedenborg talks about those who have an "affirmative attitude", which leads to "perfect intelligence and wisdom", while a "negative attitude" leads to "utter stupidity and insanity". Whenever Swedenborg reduces reality to two options, I look for grades or shades of grey.

We can dismiss anything by using philosophy, or theology, or other academic disciplines. But what if authors use these disciplines to show that Near Death Experiences are real?

So what are the issues that need explanations either from believers or sceptics:

- some people are able to hear and see what doctors, nurses and paramedics are doing, while resuscitating them, and are able to tell them in detail after they have been resuscitated.
- there are shared NDEs, in which a person accompanies an NDEr
- when an NDEr remembers an angelic guardian, and later looking through family photo albums, identifies

the guide as a family member, from one or more generations back

- when a deceased family member tells a lady NDEr that she will bear one or more children and it comes true!

Notable Dates:

AGM Conference 2026

Tuesday 28th July 2026

– Friday 31st July 2026

Unpacking the New Church

“In the beginning was the Word.... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us”

John 1:1,14

The 219th Annual Meeting of The General Conference of the New Church will be held at the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 1AU from Tuesday 28th July to Friday 31st July 2026. We hope that you will join us and enjoy taking part.

- Tuesday afternoon 28th July – Adults and All Age Groups
- Wednesday 29th July – Spiritual Day
- Thursday 30th July – Business Day
- Friday morning 31st July – Review Day

A full programme of activities each day will be sent out nearer the time.

We intend to live stream via Zoom, the Keynote speech, the Conference Service and the Business Day. If you wish to join

the live stream, then please email paul.crone@generalconference.org.uk no later than Thursday 16th July 2026.

August 6: The Transfiguration of Our Lord (Celebrates Christ's divine glory on the mountain)

June quiz answers

Answers

1. Piccadilly Circus, 2. Gin, 3. Rodham, 4. Dolly Parton, 5. Dick Fosbury (The Fosbury Flop), 6. Gas, 7. The Chair, 8. Super Trouper, 9. Edward VI, 10. A clock or a watch, 11. East of Eden, 12. Centre Parcs, 13. Charlie (Bigham, Checkpoint Charlie, Charli XCX), 14. West Ham United, 15. The Mona Lisa, 16. Goldfinger, 17. Change colour, 18. Romeo, 19. Fluke, 20. A pair of binoculars

We have a 'bumper-edition' with the theme of summer, for the July & August Quiz.

1. Which British seaside attraction is 158 metres tall?
2. At 1.34 miles, where is the longest pleasure pier in the UK?
3. Which group had a Top 10 hit with Summer Sunshine in 2004?
4. What was the name of the ITV holiday show fronted by Judith Chalmers which ran from 1994 to 2003?
5. Thunderstorms are most likely to hit the South East of England.
True Or False
6. When does summer official start?

7. The month of July is named after which famous historical person?
8. What British show starts every year in September and ends just before Christmas?
9. Which month are most babies born in in Britain in Summer?
10. 'The First Day of Summer' is an annual public holiday celebrated in which European country in April?
11. Can you give the first line of Grease's 'Summer Nights' lyrics?
12. Which feast day falls on July 15 every year?
13. Who was credited with saving 77 lives during seven summers working as a lifeguard at Lowell Park, Illinois, starting in 1926?
14. Which singer was known as the 'Queen of Disco'?
15. Who met and fell in love with Marge Bouvier in a 1974 summer camp?
16. Which novel is told partly by its heroine Esther Summerson?
17. The "dog days of summer" are named after the Dog Star; what is the better-known name of this star?
18. What term is often given to a period of dry hot weather that occurs in the autumn?

19. 'Shall I compare thee to a summer's day' is the first line of which William Shakespeare sonnet?
20. What was the first name of Clegg in the sitcom Last of the Summer Wine?
21. The summer solstice occurs in the Southern Hemisphere during which month?
22. 'In the Summertime' was a debut single and big hit for which British rock band?
23. Name the fictional seaside town that is the Australian sitcom Home and Away?
24. By what two names is the character Puck also known in the play A Midsummer Night's Dream?
25. Who sung the song 'Summer', which received nominations for British Single of the Year at the 2015 Brit Awards?
26. One Summer, a 1983 British TV drama by Willy Russell, gave which English actor his first break as sixteen-year-old Billy Rizley?
27. Castel Gandolfo is famous for being whose summer residence?
28. Name the cities which hosted the following Summer Olympics:
(a) 1952, (b) 1960, (c) 1972, and (d) 1988?
29. What is the Italian word for summer?

Weather lore

The Dog Days of Summer

- **Timeline:** July 3 to August 11.
- **The Lore:** Far more than just a phrase, this period gets its name from Sirius, the "Dog Star," rising and setting alongside the Sun. Ancient Greeks and Romans believed the combined heat of these two celestial bodies caused the most sultry, stagnant, and oppressive weather of the year.

The Proverb: "Dog days bright and clear, indicate a happy year."

St. Swithin's Day (July 15): One of the most famous pieces of British folklore: *"St. Swithin's Day, if it do rain, for forty days it will remain. St. Swithin's Day, if it be fair, for forty days 'twill rain no more."* Historically based on a delayed burial due to heavy rains in 971 AD, this lore occasionally holds true as meteorological jet stream patterns often settle during mid-July.

July Rain: *"If the first of July be rainy weather, it will rain more or less for three weeks together."*

Cicadas (August): *"When cicadas are heard, dry weather will follow, and frost will come in six weeks."*

August Fogs: *"For every fog in August, a snow will fall in winter."* A very misty August morning, or a high number of foggy days, is traditionally believed to indicate a severe winter with plenty of snow.

Ant Hill Heights (July): *"If ant hills are high in July, the coming winter will be snowy."* This lore suggests insects build

higher, fortified mounds in summer to prepare for deep winter snows.

Seven Sleepers' Day (June 27 / Early July): In various European traditions, if the sun shines on the Seven Sleepers' Day, you can look forward to seven weeks of warm, stable summer weather for July and August.

July and August in the garden

Core Gardening Tasks for Summer

- **Deadheading:** Regularly snip off faded flowers from bedding plants and perennials to redirect their energy away from seed production and encourage a second flush of blooms later in the season.

Lawn Care: Let your grass grow a little longer during dry spells to retain moisture, or leave sections unmown to provide a crucial habitat for young amphibians and garden insects.

Sowing

What to Sow: July and August are perfect months to sow seeds for quick crops and next year's spring blooms. You can start fast-growing crops like radishes, rocket, and winter lettuce. In late summer, look into sowing biennial seeds (like foxgloves and wallflowers) for next spring.

Wildlife and Biodiversity

- **Supporting Visitors:** Access to fresh water is critical for birds and hedgehogs during the drier months. Top up bird baths and shallow dishes daily, keeping them clean to prevent the spread of disease.

- **Planting for Pollinators:** Add late-summer blooming plants like *Echinacea*, *Rudbeckia*, and *Lavender* to provide an important nectar source for bees and butterflies.

Poetry Corner

Bed in Summer **Robert-Louis Stevenson**

In winter I get up at night
And dress by yellow candle-light.
In summer, quite the other way,
I have to go to bed by day.

I have to go to bed and see
The birds still hopping on the tree,
Or hear the grown-up people's feet
Still going past me in the street.

And does it not seem hard to you,
When all the sky is clear and blue,
And I should like so much to play,
To have to go to bed by day?

The Summer Day **Mary Oliver**

Who made the world?
Who made the swan, and the black bear?
Who made the grasshopper?
This grasshopper, I mean –
the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down –
who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.
I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,
which is what I have been doing all day.

Tell me, what else should I have done?
 Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
 Tell me, what is it you plan to do
 with your one wild and precious life?

July-August Wordsearch

Caesar calendar Cancer Capricornids Conference
 cricket Cygnids Dogdays eighth football Gregorian
 Julian Julius larkspur Leo Perseids Ruby
 Seventh Virgo.

There is a bonus word for the Circle Dancers!

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

Sunday	Deacons	Refreshments
Sunday 5th July	Ray and Sam Ken- nion	Roy and Pauline Partington
Sunday 12th July	John Ford	Lesley, Marzi and Parisa
Sunday 19th July	Roy Partington	Jean Ford
Sunday 26th July	Maryam	Alison Presland
Sunday 2nd August	Ray and Sam Ken- nion	Roy and Pauline Partington
Sunday 9th August	John Ford	Lesley, Marzi and Parisa
Sunday 16th August	Roy Partington	Jean Ford
Sunday 23rd August	Maryam	Alison Presland
Sunday 30th August	Sohrab	Parisa



On page 4 I mentioned our New Church Day feast!



On page 4 I mentioned our New Church Day banquet on Sunday 21st June 2026