

OPEN DOOR

April/May 2024



Tortoiseshell butterfly feeding on blackthorn blossom in Messing. Photo taken by John Firman

**For Churches in Tiptree, Tolleshunt Knights,
Great Braxted, Messing & Inworth**



£1.00

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Sunday 5th May 2024.

Items for the magazine: can be emailed to thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com or delivered to St Luke's Parish Office or sent to m.borgartz@btinternet.com

FROM THE TEAM RECTOR

Happy Easter! I hope you remembered to put your clocks forward too. My parents forgot to do so one spring when the clocks went forward at Easter and we arrived at church just in time for the end of the service. We all had to jump back into the car and drive to another church with a later service. Thankfully, my alarm clock now changes itself magically so there is no risk of my missing a church service, which would be truly embarrassing.



I love Easter because it is all about the triumph of hope over despair and love over death. Easter tells us death is painful, but death doesn't have the last word. Easter reminds us that God so loved the world that he sent his Son into the world for the sole purpose of making it possible for us to live for ever with God. Easter reassures us that God's love holds greater power than all the evil things human beings are capable of doing to one another. Easter is God's "yes" to the human race.

It has been a tough winter – images of devastating war on our television screens, many people struggling financially, hospital waiting lists growing ever longer, a number of deaths in our church and village communities. Easter offers us a hope to hold onto that this world is not all there is and that, one day, sorrow and war and grief will be no more.

Sadly, we are once again without a Team Vicar in our parishes. I can't tell you much yet, but conversations are already underway about what the options might be for filling our vacancy and the other vacancies currently in churches in our deanery.

Whatever you are doing this Easter, may you know God's peace with you and may the Easter hope be a light to guide you through each day.

Anne-Marie



The Treasure of Easter!

Canon Paul Hardingham considers what Easter has given us

It's amazing what treasure can be unearthed with metal detectors! In this season of Easter, let's rediscover the greatest unburied treasure of the Resurrection.

The Apostle Peter reminds us that God *'has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.'* (1 Peter 1: 3,4). What does he say about this treasure?

On the one hand, it is the *reason for hope*. Peter was writing to Christians in Asia Minor (modern day Turkey) who faced persecution under the Emperor Nero. In an uncertain world we know that Jesus suffered, but by His resurrection has secured eternal life for us. This inheritance not only guarantees life now, but also for eternity, as it *'is kept in heaven for you'* (4). Do we share this confidence? D.L. Moody, the 19th Century American evangelist, spoke of the time when people would read his obituary: *'Don't believe a word of it! At that moment I shall be more alive than I am now'*.

On the other hand, this treasure is a *source of joy*. This unburied treasure fills us *'with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.'* (8,9). We face all kinds of trials in our lives, but God uses them to refine our faith and character, *'These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith – of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire – may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed.'* (7).

We reflect this treasure by developing the Jesus' character and becoming more holy, obedient and loving.

'Christmas is the promise, and Easter is the proof!'

Parish Pump

More than £250,000 distributed in conservation grants

More than £250,000 was distributed by the Church of England last year to support conservation projects in parishes, including work to preserve wall paintings, baptismal fonts, stained glass windows and rood screens.

A total of £255,585 has been awarded for 123 projects in 34 dioceses – with the number of grants up 20% on the year before - to help churches maintain and preserve significant cultural and historical items, including paintings, doors, chairs, clocks, and organs.

The grants, from donated funds, including major funder, the Pilgrim Trust, were distributed by the Church of England's national Cathedrals and Church Buildings team.

Parish Pump

Appreciating Johann Sebastian Bach

Three hundred years ago, on 7th April 1724, the German composer Johann Sebastian Bach's *St John Passion* was performed for the first time, at a church in Leipzig.

It was put on as part of Good Friday Vespers at St Nicholas Church, having been transferred from St Thomas at the last moment by the music council. Bach, who had just turned 39, agreed to the move, while pointing out that the booklet had already been printed, there was no room immediately available for the musicians, and the harpsichord needed some repair. These problems were overcome.

Bach was already highly regarded, but primarily as a harpsichordist and organ expert. Later seen as one of the best composers of all time – renowned for such works as the *Brandenburg Concertos* and his *Mass in B Minor* – he was one of a large family of north German musicians. He is widely praised as a great synthesiser of styles and traditions.

The *St John Passion*, written during his first year as director of church music in Leipzig, was designed to be used as part of a church service. It follows John 18 and 19 in the Luther Bible, but the writer of the libretto is not known. A possible earlier Passion, written in Weimar, is lost.

Nowadays the *St John Passion* is heard mainly in the 1739–1749 version, which was never performed in Bach's lifetime, though he made many revisions to the original before his death.

Parish Pump

The government wants to improve your teeth

Fluoride is to be added to more of our drinking water, to help improve the nation's teeth. It is part of the new NHS Dental Recovery Plan, the biggest expansion of the health measure since the 1980s.

At present, only five water companies add fluoride to water in the UK. They are mainly in the North-East and West Midlands, and less than 10 per cent of Britons. The initial expansion will provide fluoride to 1.6 million more people, in areas including Northumberland, Teesside, Durham and South Tyneside.

Fluoride is a naturally occurring mineral found in water. It has been proven to make teeth stronger and reduce decay. Sir Chris Whitty, the Chief Medical Officer for England, has claimed that adding fluoride to water supplies could reduce cavities by 17 per cent among the richest and by 28 per cent among the poorest.

Parish Pump

24th May - John & Charles Wesley, evangelists & hymn-writers

Methodists observe Aldersgate Day or Wesley Day on the 24th of May

John and Charles Wesley were the founders of Methodism. Two of 19 children born to Samuel and Susannah Wesley of Epworth Rectory in Lincolnshire in 1703 and 1707, their father was the local rector, while their mother was a spiritual inspiration to her many children.

Both John and Charles went to Christ Church, Oxford (1720 and 1726). John was ordained, and Charles and some friends formed a 'Holy Club' while still at college. It consisted of men who dedicated themselves to Bible study, prayer, fasting and good works. Such regular disciplines soon earned Charles the nickname 'Methodist'. The name stuck.

Both Charles and John felt called to the mission field, and so in 1735 they sailed to Georgia. Their time among Indians in America was not a success – they struggled for any real spiritual authority in their ministries. Feeling failures, they returned to England in some depression. John summed it up: "I went to America to convert the Indians; but, oh, who shall convert me?"

Then the Wesleys made friends with some Moravians. They stressed that salvation cannot be earned, but must be received by grace through faith in Christ. Charles was the first to experience this 'true' conversion, when on Pentecost Sunday, 21st May 1738, he wrote that the Spirit of God 'chased away the darkness of my unbelief.' Only three days later, on 24th May, 1738, it was John's turn. As he wrote in his journal:

"In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed."

John and Charles Wesley then devoted the rest of their lives to sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. In doing so, they turned England upside-down. When the established Church threw John out, he took to the fields, preaching to coal miners and commoners.

His itinerant evangelism took him 250,000 miles on horseback and to preach over 40,000 sermons. His small 'societies' attracted some 120,000 followers by the time of his death.

Charles became the most prolific and skilled hymn-writer in English history, writing hymns that are sung widely today, such as 'Love Divine, All Loves Excelling.' In all, he wrote more than 6,000 hymns.

The legacy of the two brothers lives on. As well as Methodism, their teaching has widely impacted the holiness movement, the Pentecostal movement, and the charismatic movement.

Parish Pump



FOSL



Hi, I'm Sandra Redgewell and I have recently taken over from Sheila Gunson as Team Leader of Friends of St Lukes (FOSL) Events Committee.

I am delighted to have been offered this opportunity to work with St Luke's Church in producing and managing profitable, enjoyable events for the congregation and the wider community with a view to helping with the upkeep of the Church and hall.

I have lived in Tiptree since 1991 and in 2019 and 2022 was instrumental in running the Tiptree Christmas Fayre. Although I have now moved away from that event, I am enjoying working with the FOSL team putting my strong organisational skills to good use.

I took early retirement in 2017 but prior to that, I was an Office and Human Resources Manager for several major companies in the city of London. I am also a Tiptree Parish Councillor and have been since 2019. I also sit on the sub committee for Planning and also the council's staffing committee.

I enjoy music, predominately 70's and 80's and going to live events although I tend to go to more local events now rather than the larger ones in London. My first love however is Motor Sport and I have been part of the British Touring Car Championship since 1994 and travel all round the country supporting my chosen team – only missing two race weekends in that time (other than the Covid period). Because I have been going for so long, many of the drivers are now personal friends. I also follow F1 but feel it does need a bit of a shake up to make it interesting again!

I love going on holiday and since being retired take several a year. Predominately at Warner's locations (I'm trying them all!) or coach holidays in the UK. There are so many lovely places in our country, I don't feel the need to travel further afield. I love Scotland (My ancestors on my Fathers side are all Scottish) so I try and have a holiday there at least once a year. I also enjoy cooking and socialising with friends.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity for working with FOSL. I will do my best and I hope you will enjoy attending the events we put on for you all.



Sandra



Messy Church !



Join us here at
St Luke's Church:
after school on

Friday 3rd May
Friday 7th June
& Friday 5th July
from 3 pm to 5.30 pm

For:

**A simple
meal**

Songs

Friends

Games



Activities

Stories

Crafts

a short service

Revd Anne-Marie Renshaw: 01621 815260

St Luke's Church, Church Road Tiptree, CO5 0SU



Find us on Facebook: /tiptreestlukes

The story of aspirin

You will probably have taken aspirin, in one form or other, many times. But how much do you know of its history?

It was 125 years ago this month, on 6th March 1899 that the German pharmaceutical company Bayer first patented aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid).

But this is based on salicylic acid, which was used in herbal medicines as far back as Sumerian times, in 2500 BC. It was then that the Assyrians used willow leaves for rheumatic disease. The Egyptians also used willow leaves, as well as myrtle, to ease joint pain or inflammation.

In Greece, Hippocrates (460-377 BC) recommended an extract of willow bark for fever, pain and childbirth. And even the peoples of ancient China, Rome, and Native America all discovered and used plants containing salicylic acid.

Fast forward to Chaucer's 14th century, and the Knight's Tale recommends the use of meadow sweet for pain, another source of acetylsalicylic acid.

In 1763, some science was introduced, when an English clergyman, the Revd Edward Stone, used willow bark to successfully treat fever 'ague' in 50 of his parishioners. He carefully documented it all for the President of the Royal Society.

In 1828, Johann Andreas Buchner, a Professor of Pharmacology at the University of Munich, purified salicin from willow bark.

In 1859, Professor Hermann Kolbe, at Marburg University worked out the chemical structure of salicylic acid and made it synthetically.

In 1897, Dr Felix Hoffman, a German chemist at Friedrich Bayer and Co, managed to produce pure stable acetylsalicylic acid (ASA). His discovery was the *first time* that a drug had been made synthetically, and so it was the birth of both aspirin and the pharmaceutical industry.

Finally, in early 1899 the new compound was named and registered Aspirin. The 'A' comes from acetyl and 'spir' from the first part of *Spirea ulmaria* (Meadowsweet) a botanical source of salicylic acid.

So next time you take an aspirin, think of the Assyrians chewing willow leaves, 4,000 years ago.

Parish Pump



This year's the Bishop of Chelmsford's Lent Appeal is raising funds to support the Diocese of Jerusalem's Healthcare Ministry.

The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem is home to about 7,000 Anglicans worshipping in 28 congregations across five separate countries or territories: Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria and Israel.

Inspired by the parable of the Good Samaritan, the ministry of healthcare is an important and growing ministry in the Diocese, one offered to those in need regardless of race, religion, or ability to pay. The diocese's healthcare institutions range from homes for the elderly, to therapeutic residential facilities for special needs students, to clinics, rehabilitation centres and hospitals.

The need for support for the Diocese of Jerusalem's healthcare ministry is particularly pressing at this time of war in the Holy Land.

Commenting on this year's Appeal, The Right Reverend Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, The Bishop of Chelmsford said:

"The funds raised through the 2024 Bishop's Lent Appeal will help the Diocese of Jerusalem continue to offer essential health care to those in need, regardless of race, religion, or ability to pay. I am pleased that we are able to contribute to this important ministry at a time when it is needed more than ever".

You can read more about the Diocese of Jerusalem's healthcare ministry and the Bishop's Lent appeal on the Diocesan website:

<https://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/about-us/our-faith-in-action/bishop-of-chelmsford-lent-appeal-2024>



2024

EVENTS AT ST LUKE'S

FRIENDS OF ST LUKE'S & MORE!

Diary Dates for 2024

27th April – Andy Brush Jazz Quintet in the Hall
doors open 7 for 7.45 pm

29th June – Barn Dance with caller John Dorset, 7.30 pm

28th September – Cancer Awareness Day

12th October – Quiz Night in the Hall

23rd November – 60s Night in the Hall

30th November – Christmas Tree Festival Opens, with a festive Bazaar in the Hall and decorated trees in the church

Look out for details of our events on Facebook, on our posters and in the weekly newsletter. If you would like to come along to any event please contact foslbookings@gmail.com or call the church office and leave a message, 01621 819557

We look forward to seeing you!

Books of the Bible

Canon Paul Hardingham

Genesis

As the title suggests, Genesis is primarily about beginnings. In chapters 1-11, it records the creation of the heavens and the earth and human beings; marriage and family; sin's effect on society and the world. The following chapters record God's dealings with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph, and their families. In this story of the Patriarchs we see God establishing a people called to bless the world, as He blesses them.

The book of Genesis is key to understanding the whole Bible. It is supremely about relationships; the relationships between God and the created order, God and human beings, and between human beings themselves. Fundamentally man has been created in the image of God, so that he can relate to God in a personal way: *'God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them'* (1:27). However, Genesis plots how this relationship was broken by sin, when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, resulting in the fall of human beings and the created order. By creating people with free will, God risked the possibility that they might reject Him. This is inherent in His love for human beings.

In Genesis, God enters into covenants with the world (the rainbow following the flood) and with Abraham and his descendents (circumcision), pledging His love and faithfulness to them and calling them to respond to Him in faith. It reminds us that God is fundamental to living. Without a sense of the centrality of God's place in our lives, we can never get our lives right.

Exodus

Exodus is the second book of the Old Testament. Its name means departure, reminding us that Israel's flight out of slavery in Egypt is the major focus of the book.

Exodus is a book of two halves! The first part (chapters 1-19 & 32-34) is the story of an oppressed people who are delivered from slavery into a life of freedom. The second half (chapters 20-31 & 35-40) consists of detailed instructions about the life and worship of God's people. The book introduces us to their *salvation* or deliverance, as *story*. God's promises to Abraham are fulfilled as the people journey to the Promised Land. He also renews His covenant with them at Sinai, expressed in the Ten Commandments (20: 1-17).

At the heart of Exodus is the person of God Himself. In chapter 3 God reveals His name as YHWH or *'I am who I am'* (3:14) to Moses. This is the name by which God is known throughout the Old Testament, expressed in the title *'the LORD'*. To know God's name is to know Him, as well as His character ie His justice, truthfulness, mercy, faithfulness and

holiness. He is the God who controls history, delivering the people out of Egypt, while the death of the Passover lamb points us to Jesus' death on the cross (1 Corinthians 5:7).

God's promises of help remain true for us today: *'Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today'* Exodus 14:13.

'This Exodus story continues to be a major means that God uses to draw men and women in trouble out of the mess of history into the kingdom of salvation.' (Eugene Peterson).

Leviticus & Numbers

These books are concerned with Israel's wandering in the desert, on their journey from slavery in Egypt to the promised land of Canaan.

Leviticus focuses on the regulations about worship, ceremonial cleanness, moral laws and holy days. The key theme is that of *holiness*, as every detail of our lives is affected by the presence of a holy God. The aim of the sacrifices, feast and Sabbaths was to enable the people to enter God's presence. We should see the instructions and practices in Leviticus as pointing to Jesus. He totally fulfilled the law through the sacrifice of His life, as Easter reminds us. He demonstrated the love and holiness of God, so that we can share His life: *'Be holy, because I am holy'* (1 Peter 1:16, cf Lev 11:44-45; 19:2; 20:7).

The book of Numbers tells the story of Israel's journey through the wilderness. The people were coming to terms with their *identity* as God's people and the *call* to serve Him. They didn't always respond with faith, gratitude and obedience, but with unbelief, ingratitude and rebellion. As a result of their refusal to enter Canaan (ch 14), they were condemned to spend the rest of their lives in the desert. However, God in His grace allowed their children to enter the Promised Land. The book reminds us that the Church is called to be a community that honours God, learns how to deal with sin in ourselves and others, and lives out love and justice in daily life.

'The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.' (Numbers 6:24-26).

Parish Pump

Witham Deanery

The Witham Deanery is looking for a Secretary to take minutes for Deanery Synod 3 evening meetings a year, and for 3 daytime meetings of the Standing Committee a year. The role will be paid at between £12 - £14 per hour. To find out more please contact Simon Garwood simongarwood@simonliz62.plus.com .

Applicants do not already have to be Synod members.

Reflecting Faith: Lychgates

The Revd Dr Jo White considers church gates

On the moors near to where I used to live in West Yorkshire, there were a couple of large stones with crosses marked on them. Many people thought that they were boundary or marker stones, and in so far as they marked the way towards the oldest church in that area they were. To be more exact, they were on the route towards the oldest churchyard.

In ages past bodies were carried by hand, sometimes over long distances, and there were restrictions placed on where they could be laid to allow the bearers to rest. These two stones were 'resting' stones.

When a body arrived at the church for burial, it would again be put down while the administrative formalities were carried out, and again the bearers could rest. So, a resting stone was placed at the edge or start of the consecrated land around the church.

The priest conducting the funeral would meet the cortege here, not originally out of respect, but rather to receive the required legal certificate for burial before he allowed them to enter the church grounds.

Because of typical English weather - rain and wind - it was usually sheltered, and benches were built for the bearers. There would also be a cross within the construction to signify the start of holy land. This is what today we call the 'lych-gate'; lych coming from the anglo-saxon word *lich* or *lic*, related to the modern German word *leiche*, all meaning corpse.

Few old lychgates remain today, as many were destroyed or damaged after the Reformation, and most of those that survived were constructed of timber and have since decayed. In the eighteenth century, when the use for the resting stones and thus lychgates declined, many were removed and replaced with gates, often retaining the shelter as it continues to be a meeting place for the priest to receive funeral parties.

Parish Pump

Open Door

Open Door is your parish magazine and we welcome contributions. If you have anything that you think may be of interest to others, let us have it. It may be recipes, gardening tips, stories from your past, (either personal experiences or memories of events.) Local history, information on interesting features in your church and the story behind them. Interesting holidays such as Ruth and Michael's to Norway last year. Photographs are welcome.

Editor

Moses and climate change

When Moses went up the mountain one day to meet with God, the Lord said he had both good news and bad news for him. Moses asked, "What's the good news?"

God replies, "Moses, I shall visit plagues upon the Egyptians. I shall cause their rivers to run red with blood. I shall cause frogs to infest their houses, and lice to infest their bodies. I shall cause flies to swarm upon them. Their cattle shall die; boils will infect both man and beast. I shall cause hail to destroy their crops; and locusts shall devour anything green that is left in their land. Darkness will cover their land for three days and nights. I shall then lead you through the wilderness as a pillar of cloud by day, and pillar of fire by night. I shall split the waters of the sea. I shall feed you with Manna that forms upon the ground until the children of Israel reach the Land flowing with milk and honey."

Moses replied, "That's GREAT, Lord! What could possibly be the bad news?"

"You, Moses, shall write the Environmental Impact Statement."

Parish Pump

Parent & Toddlers at St Luke's

Meet here every
MONDAY morning
9.15am - 11.15am

(includes holidays, but not bank holidays) photo by Marcus Spiske Unsplash



Everyone welcome! Parents
or carers, grandparents,
friends and childminders.



Meet up, have a chat, relax and play!



There is a small charge of
£2.00 per family - drinks &
biscuits are included



Further information from Margaret Peek 01621 810804
or Maureen Horn 01621 817497

Book the Hall

for your meeting, group or event

we are in St Luke's Church Extension, St Luke's Church,
Church Road, Tiptree, CO5 0SU



**Good rates and
improved facilities!**



Hourly Rate:

£20 - regular bookings

£23 - one-off bookings

both including use of all facilities & kitchen

Wi-fi available for group leaders or speakers

(discuss your needs when making your booking)



Bookings & Enquiries to:

Gareth Williams: 01621 818069

Email: hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com

Why not give us a call?

We now have a Facebook Page www.facebook.com/tiptreechurchhall/

Regular Hall Bookings, at St Luke's:

For all hall bookings call Gareth Williams

01621 818069

Email: hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com

Weekly	Morning:	Afternoon	Evening
Monday	Parent & Toddlers	JIKO RYU Karate Club	
Tuesday	Tiptree Volunteers Coffee Morning, (2 nd & 4 th Tues)	Pilates, Up in Lights Dance Academy	
Wednesday	Slimming World, WEA* (autumn/winter)	U3A Line Dance (2 nd & 4 th Wed)	regular private booking*
Thursday	Sound Collective Coffee Morning & Choir	U3A Choir (2 nd & 4 th Thurs)	
Friday	Tiptree Art Club	Pilates	
Sunday	Coffee after Service	KYDS Youth Drama Society	

**term time only*

Monthly

Sunday	Sunday Club (3 rd Sunday morning)
Tuesday	Little City (1 st Tuesday morning)
Wednesday	Tiptree Tipplers (3 rd evening in month)
Thursday	U3A History (1 st afternoon), Tiptree Garden Club (1 st evening), Flower Club (2 nd evening), St Luke's Ladies Group (3 rd evening)
Friday	Messy Church (1 st Friday afternoon), Priory Heath WI (2 nd Friday afternoon in the month)

If you are interested in making contact with any of the groups listed, please contact the Hall Bookings Administrator on hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com

Find us on Facebook:  /tiptreechurchhall

March 2024

Do you remember your own PIN number?

Nearly one in five of us can't. We are so used to paying by contactless that when we have to withdraw cash or type our PIN into a card reader, our minds go blank.

'Contactless' payments hit a record high last year. A staggering 93.4 per cent of all in-store card transactions up to £100 was made using contactless, rather than cash or PIN and card reader.

According to Barclays, we now depend on contactless payments and smartphone technology so much that more than a fifth of young people now leave their wallets at home when they go shopping.

Contactless technology was first introduced by Barclaycard 17 years ago. It had a spending limit of £10. The limit was increased during the pandemic, to reduce physical contact in shops, rising to its current £100 limit.

Parish Pump

WEA EVENTS

UPCOMING

DISCOVERING UKRAINE THROUGH ITS CULTURE

MARINA BURRELL

APRIL 24 - May 29

WEDNESDAY 11 - 1.00PM

6 SESSIONS
(TUTOR ON ZOOM)

VENUE:
ST LUKES HALL CHURCH ROAD,
TIPTREE CO5 0SU

COURSE NO: Q00013761
COST: £50.40

ANDRII BONDARENKO - OWN WORK

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.WEA.ORG.UK (SEARCH FOR TIPTREE)
OR TELEPHONE 0300 303 3464.
QUOTE COURSE NUMBER

WEA REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1112775 E&W

Why saying hello is important

By the Revd Peter Crumpler, a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, and a former communications director for the C of E.

What lessons can Christians learn from a London rail worker who was recently honoured by King Charles, for talking 29 people out of taking their own lives?

Maybe something about the power of conversation and being willing to ‘stop for a chat.’ Rizwan Javed helped to save each life over a period of eight years, by being alert and approaching vulnerable individuals in difficult situations. He was awarded an MBE in the New Year Honours earlier this year.

Rizwan was alert, and willing to engage people in conversation.

Anglican priest Jemima Prasadam’s style of talking with people has been described as ‘bus stop theology.’ She put it into action on the half-mile walk from her home to the church in Lozells, an inner-city area of West Birmingham, with high unemployment and poverty.

Her engaging approach is featured in *Stick with Love*, a recent book by Arun Arora, Bishop of Kirkstall in northern England.

She explained: “I don’t go out looking to talk to people, but I am ready to do it. I don’t pass anybody without saying ‘Hello’ and when I leave, I always say ‘God bless you.’ Meetings happen on a daily basis, but often only last as long as it takes for the bus to arrive.

“People often say they are not religious, but I say we are all spiritual beings, and they agree. So, I simply tell them that weak and simple people like me call that God.”

Sadly, we are living in a society where conversations are being closed down. People who might have chatted on the bus or train, are now deeply involved with their mobile phones.

Supermarkets are phasing out staffed checkout points, so that elderly people and others who live alone are deprived of those conversations that can make a difference to their day.

Jesus asked questions as a vital component of His earthly ministry. His deep conversation with the Samaritan woman at the well in John 4 begins with Him asking for a drink.

Maybe we, as Christians and churches, need to be looking out for more chances to start conversations, to give people the opportunity to open up about their lives. In our busy, rushing-around world, there are many people out there who are just longing for a chat...

God in Music

The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series looking at great works of music.

‘Glorious the song when God’s the theme’:

Allegrì’s Miserere

In the 1980s thanks to Godfrey Smith, a columnist for The Sunday Times, there was a series of letters about particular pieces of music that have the TQ – the Tingle Quotient. As we listen, the music sends a shiver of excitement up and down the spine and opens out for us a new world of beauty and wonder.

The letters started with a novelist writing about his travels across the Sahara. In moments of desolation and loneliness he would think of music that meant the most to him and which he thought he might never hear again. Then a schoolmaster in Rochester wrote of a production of ‘Romeo and Juliet’ where the funeral scene virtually brought the house down. Juliet entered a darkened school hall, lit only by glimmering candles with music sung that brought the audience to tears.

For both novelist and schoolmaster, the work that had that TQ factor was Allegrì’s *Miserere*. It provided consolation in the cold desert nights, and it created the impact in that production of Shakespeare’s play. Other readers supplied their list of TQ music, and always the *Miserere* was in the top five. I suspect that this music strikes the TQ for many of you as well.

Why is it, I wonder? We can provide an answer by talking of the contrast between the plainsong sung by the men’s voices and the responses from the choir that lead to that small group of solo voices where the treble or soprano reaches a high C and comes down the scale to the cadence. We can point to the intriguing history of this work for the setting by Gregorio Allegrì (1582-1652) was the exclusive possession of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican. To copy the music was a crime punishable by excommunication.

In spite of this, a 14-year-old Mozart heard the piece in 1770 and wrote it down from memory, paying another visit to verify some of the notes he had copied down. The Emperor, Leopold 1, the king of Portugal, persuaded the Pope to grant him a copy. When it was performed in his own imperial chapel, he was disappointed. He even thought the Pope had palmed him off with an inferior work. Then he realised that the beauty and magic of the music lay in its being sung in the Sistine Chapel where the plainsong and the high C cadences could ring out among the pillars and arches of that great building.

The *Miserere*, or Psalm 51 is the heart-felt cry of the Church for mercy. As one of the penitential psalms, it is a very personal expression of sorrow for sin and a moving appeal to God for mercy and restoration.

In Allegri's setting that high C is reached as the individual acknowledges his sin, and again as he cries for mercy and finally as he proclaims that his tongue will sing of God's grace and righteousness. A single voice in the music scales the heights of heaven to represent all of us as we turn to God with that same awareness of sin, that same plea for mercy, and that same affirmation that we will then turn to God with thanksgiving and the offering of a humble and contrite heart.

And so with the psalmist and with Allegri, we can pray 'Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness.'

Parish Pump

Psalm 51

A Psalm of David, when the prophet Nathan came to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

¹Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.

²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴Against you, you alone, have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence
and blameless when you pass judgement.

⁵Indeed, I was born guilty,
a sinner when my mother conceived me.

⁶You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret
heart.

⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have crushed re-
joice.

⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.

¹¹Do not cast me away from your presence,

and do not take your holy spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.

¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

¹⁴Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your de-
liverance.

¹⁵O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

¹⁶For you have no delight in sacrifice;
if I were to give a burnt-offering, you
would not be pleased.

¹⁷The sacrifice acceptable to God is a bro-
ken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you
will not despise.

¹⁸Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem,

¹⁹then you will delight in right sacrifices,
in burnt-offerings and whole burnt-
offerings;

then bulls will be offered on your altar.



Mothers' Union and families at St Luke's Messy Church working together to provide birds with places to nest this spring.

Birds make nests to have somewhere safe to lay their eggs and, when the baby birds hatch, to nurture them. Places that are good for nests are more difficult to find in our modern world, so the children have been helping the birds by making 27 nesting boxes which they have put up in their gardens.

The Mothers' Union in our Benefice provided the materials for the nest boxes, cutting to shape 162 pieces of larch wood, drilled with 621 pilot holes for the nails and screws, plus the important entry hole 25mm in diameter. This size makes the boxes suitable for Bluetits. The box in our garden was adopted by a pair of Bluetits within 18 hours of being put up.



Families are welcomed to Messy Church monthly at St Luke's (usually on the first Friday, 3.15 t 5.30pm) for craft activities, worship and a cooked meal. Details are on St Luke's Facebook Page. There is no need to book.

Mothers' Union is a global Christian movement working with people of all faiths and none to develop communities, strengthen families and advocate for change. There are 4 million members, 1500 members in our Diocese. Our local branch is based at Copford and Easthorpe. Membership is open to anyone, male and female, single or married, of any faith or none and we welcome all. Please contact me if you would like to know more.

Revd Michael Hatchett
michael.hatchett@yahoo.co.uk



JAZZ @ ST LUKE'S

27th April 2024 Church Road, Tiptree, CO5 0SU

The Andy Brush Quintet
featuring vocalist Jessica Sillett

Doors open 7pm - Music 7.45

Refreshments available in the
interval for a donation



Tickets £12 available from The Computer Guys
Unit 1, 100 Church Road

Advance ticket reservations call the church office on
01621 819557 or email foslbookings@gmail.com

All in the month of April

It was:

90 years ago, on 3rd April 1934 that British inventor Percy Shaw patented the Cat's Eye reflective road stud. He set up a company to manufacture them in 1935 and in 1937 he was awarded a government contract to mass produce them for national use.

300 years ago, on 7th April 1724 that the German composer Johann Sebastian Bach's St John Passion was performed for the first time, at a church in Leipzig.

75 years ago, on 4th April 1949 that the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) was founded.

Also 75 years ago, on 7th April 1949 that the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical South Pacific was opened in Broadway.

200 years ago, on 19th April 1824 that Lord Byron died. One of the greatest British poets and a leading figure in the Romantic movement, he died of sepsis/fever while fighting for Greek independence from the Ottoman Empire. Aged 36.

30 years ago, on 26th April 1994 that the first post-apartheid multiracial elections were held in South Africa, with 18 million blacks eligible to vote for the first time. Nelson Mandela was elected president, and took office on 10th May.

All in the month of May

It was

45 years ago, on 3rd May 1979 that Margaret Thatcher became Prime Minister

530 years ago, on 4th May 1494 that Christopher Columbus discovered Jamaica during his second exploration of the New World

70 Years ago, on 6th May 1954 that Roger Bannister became the first man to run a mile in under 4 minutes

220 years ago on 18th May 1804 that Napoleon Bonaparte became Emperor of France, snatching the crown from the hands of Pope Pius VII during the actual coronation ceremony, and then crowning himself.

180 years ago, on 24th May 1844 that telegraph inventor Samuel Morse sent the first official telegraph message, "What hath God wrought?"

65 years ago, on 30th May 1959 that the first full size hovercraft, the SR-N1, designed by Sir Christopher Cockerell, is launched and tested at Cowes on the Isle of Wight.



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Mannequin

INTERIORS

BY RUTH HOLDING

Wordsearch

St George of the Golden Legend

St George is Patron Saint of England, but he never actually came here. He was a Christian officer in the Roman army under Diocletian, who refused to abandon his faith during the Terror. George was therefore martyred in Palestine about 300 AD. His courage became legendary, and St George became the example of a Christian fighting-man, a powerful helper against evil powers affecting individual lives. He was the soldier-hero of the Middle Ages. In the Golden Legend of the 13th century, Jacobus de Voragine tells the story of how St George helped rescue the people of Sylene in Lybia from a dragon, especially the princess, who had been offered to the dragon as a sacrifice. With the dragon dead, and the princess returned to her father the King, the people of Sylene converted to Christianity.



George
Patron
Saint
England
Officer

Roman
Army
Diocletian
Terror
Martyred

Palestine
Courage
Example
Helper
Evil

Soldier
Hero
Golden
Legend
Dragon

Princess
converted

St Luke's Ladies Group

20 June Annual General Meeting

18 July Painting Demonstration - Caroline Stevens

Various local charities are supported every year.
Look out for details about outings on the noticeboards.

MEETING IN THE CHURCH EXTENSION
3rd THURSDAY IN THE MONTH
at 7.30pm
ADMISSION £4.00
INCLUDES RAFFLE
& REFRESHMENTS



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Baptisms

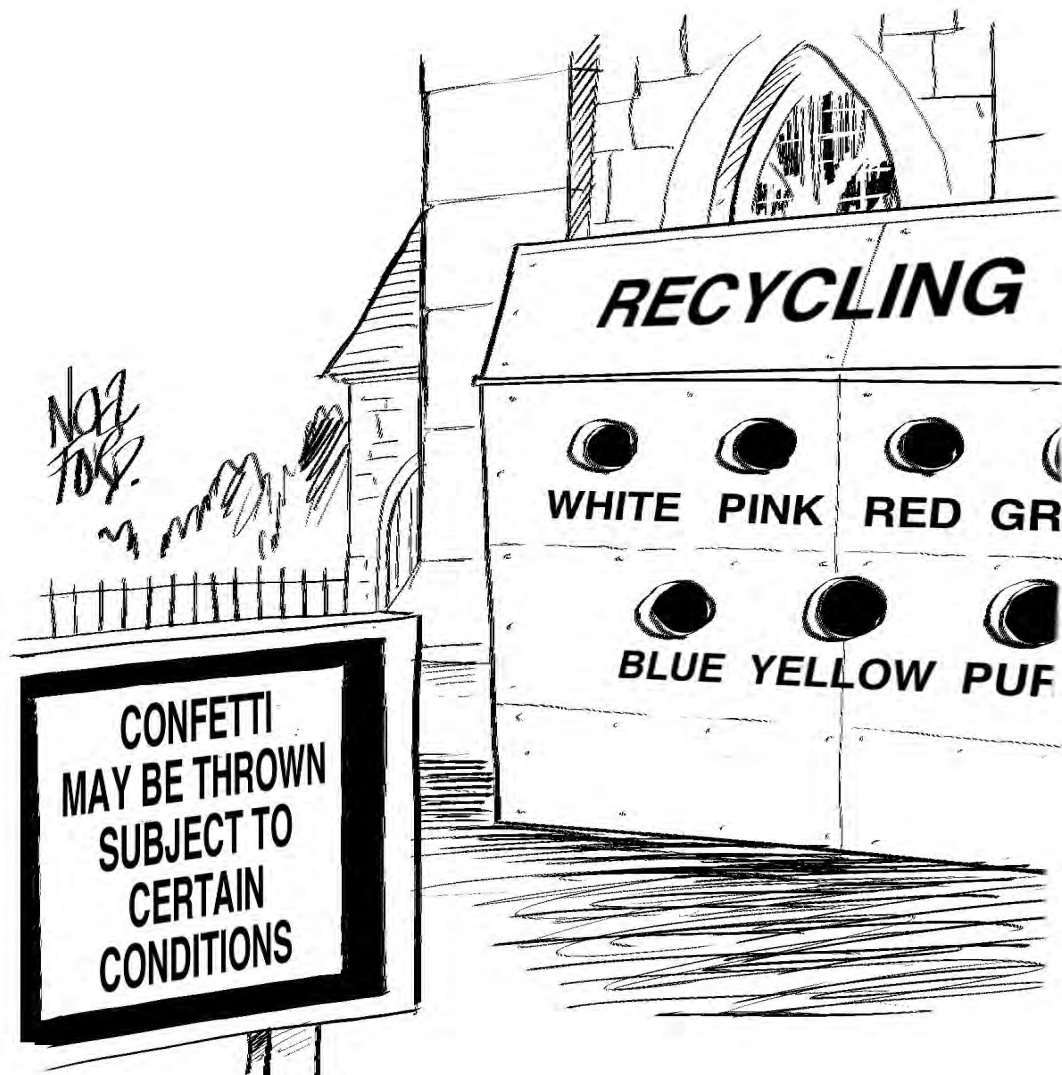
21 January	Theodore Abbott-Bailey	Great Braxted
11 February	Alfred Johnson	St Luke's

Weddings

10 February	Christopher Jones & Sabrina Roberts	Great Braxted
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Funerals

6 February	Daphne Norman	St Luke's
19 February	Howard Redgewell	Colchester Crematorium
20 February	Paul Reeve	Messing
14 March	Pamela Archer	St Luke's
15 March	Gwynneth Young	St Luke's
18 March	Kathleen Hayhoe	St Luke's
20 March	Reginald Riley	St Luke's





Are you free on Friday mornings?

Why not join us at:

Tiptree Art Club

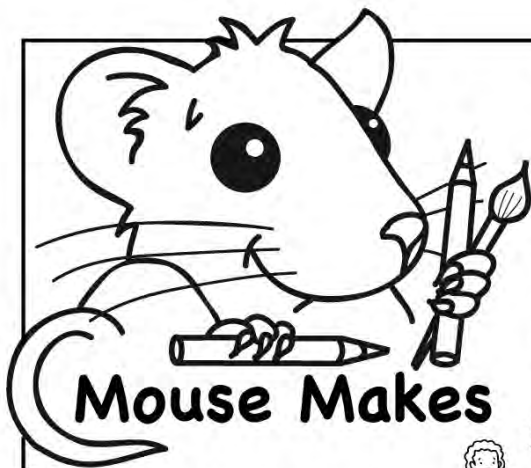
We are a friendly group who meet every Friday morning in St Luke's Church Hall. We have a variety of levels and styles, and guidance is available. We also have occasional workshops by professional artists and hold an annual exhibition.

**Come along to any Friday morning from
9:30 – 12:00 for a chat.**

Or contact us on:

07484 105120 | tiptree.artclub@gmail.com





Some time after Jesus had risen a few of His disciples met together to go fishing. They fished all night but caught nothing. As the sun rose a man on the shore asked; "Have you caught anything?" "Not a thing" they answered.



He said to them "Throw your net out onto the right side of the boat and you will catch some." So they did and they and they caught so many fish they could not pull in the net.

Then John recognised the man, "It is the Lord!"



READ

the story in **John 21**



How many times had the risen Jesus revealed himself to the disciples before this?

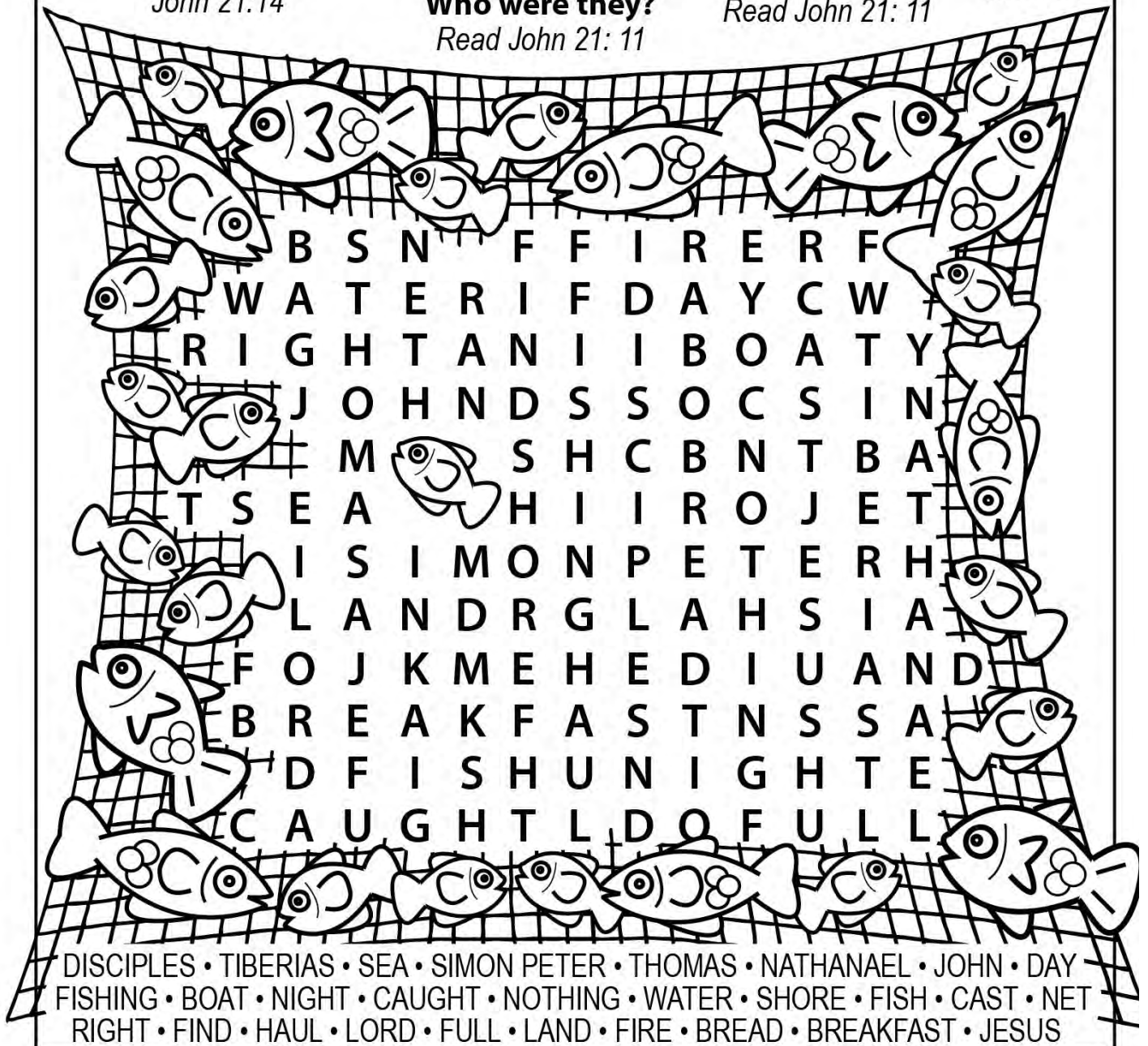
Read John 21:14



How many disciples were there? Who were they?

Read John 21: 11

How many fish did they catch? Read John 21: 11



Colour in all the fish

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The Easter Glow

In the aftermath of Easter, we consider the road to Emmaus.

For three years Jesus had held the tiny band together, through journeyings, storms and opposition. And now – following a public trial and execution – He was gone.

Take away the dominant figure, and an organisation can quickly crumble. Take Theudas, an earlier messianic claimant. Once killed, his 400 devotees melted away. Then there was Judas the Galilean. When he, too, was removed, the movement scattered.

Now, it was Easter Day. Here were two disciples walking to Emmaus. As far as they were concerned, their leader was dead. The ‘scattering’ process had already begun. It had started on that fateful Thursday evening of Christ’s arrest, when Jesus had quoted to His disciples from the prophet Zechariah: “It is written ‘I will strike the shepherd and the sheep of the flock will be scattered’” (Matthew 26:31).

The dream was over. “Let’s go home - back to Emmaus.” *Yet Luke 24 is the glowing account of the entire re-building of a worldview.* As the apparent Stranger joins the two, it was like the uncorking of a bottle; the story pours out. Surely *crucifixion and the future Redeemer of Israel had nothing to do with each other!*

Then began a fascinating Bible study on the road. Evidently in their studies, the two had skipped the passages that spoke of a suffering Messiah. The Stranger says, “Let me fill in those bits for you.” Now the figures of a Conquering King and a Suffering Servant begin to coalesce into a single photo fit. Then, at supper with the two, comes the familiar action of the breaking of bread, and – *Why.... it’s Jesus.*

The disciples rush the seven miles back to Jerusalem. They can’t keep the glowing news of the risen Christ to themselves!

If Jesus had not been bodily raised from the grave, the demoralised movement – like those of Theudas and Judas the Galilean - would have folded within days. And you and I would never have heard of Him!

Parish Pump

The Resurrection is the central theme in every Christian sermon reported in the Acts. The Resurrection, and its consequences were the ‘gospel’ or good news which the Christians brought; what we call the ‘gospels’... were composed later....

The miracle of the Resurrection, and the theology of that miracle, comes first:

the biography comes later as a comment on it.

CS Lewis in ‘Miracles’.

50 years of ABBA!

Fifty years ago, on 6th April 1974, the Swedish pop group ABBA won the Eurovision Song Contest with their song *Waterloo*. It was the first time that Sweden won the contest. ABBA went on to be one of the most successful groups in music history.

The victory, in Brighton, was just the first step on the road to conquering the world, as far as pop music was concerned. The songs, written mainly by Björn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson, were matched by the passion, exuberance and good looks of singers Agnetha Fältskog and Anni-Frid 'Frida' Lyngstad, who later married them – and even later, divorced them.

The name of the group came from the initials of the four Christian names. Some have suggested a link to the biblical Abba and looked for Jewish themes in their songs, but this is wishful thinking. While Anni-Frid (who was born Norwegian) may be Christian, Björn is definitely an outspoken atheist. In fact, ABBA is the name of a Swedish canned fish company that had to give permission for the singers to use it – a decision they are unlikely to have regretted.

Both *Waterloo* and ABBA achieved worldwide superstar status quickly – no small feat for a group performing in a language that is not their own. The film *ABBA – the Movie* and the musical *Mamma Mia* and its sequel, featuring their compelling songs, were huge successes. It is estimated that the musical has been seen by more than 60 million people worldwide.

ABBA hit the jackpot again when their revolutionary new project, *ABBA Voyage*, launched in 2022. In it, Agnetha, Björn, Benny and Anni-Frid perform their love-songs digitally with a live 10-piece band, in a purpose-built ABBA arena at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London. Not bad for four divorcees in their 70s.

Parish Pump

APCM Dates

Inworth

Sunday 21 April (after 11.15am service)

Messing

Thursday 2 May

St. Luke's & Great Braxted

Sunday 12 May at 11am

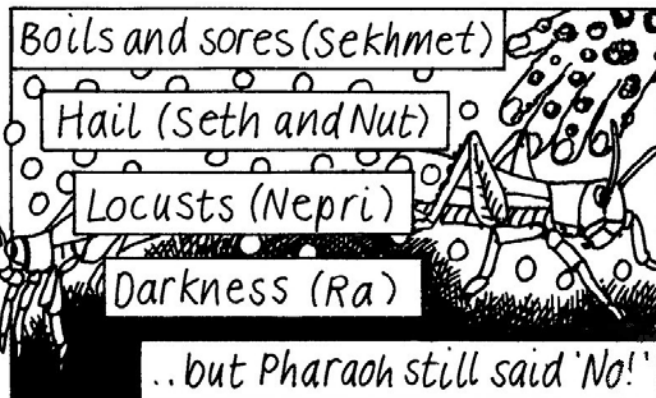
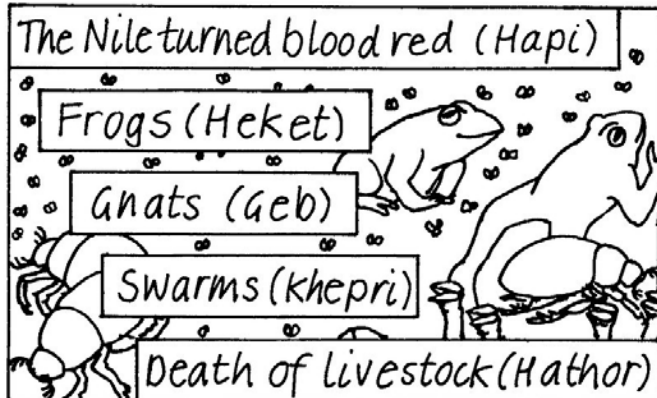
Please remember that to vote at the APCM you need to be on the Electoral Roll. If not already on the roll, ask for a form and return it as soon as possible.

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Exodus 7:14-10:29, 12:21-23, 29-33, 14:5-29

God told Pharaoh to let the Hebrew slaves leave Egypt, but he refused. God then showed his power over Egypt (and its gods)...



God told the Hebrews to prepare to leave, and each family to kill and cook a lamb. He told them...



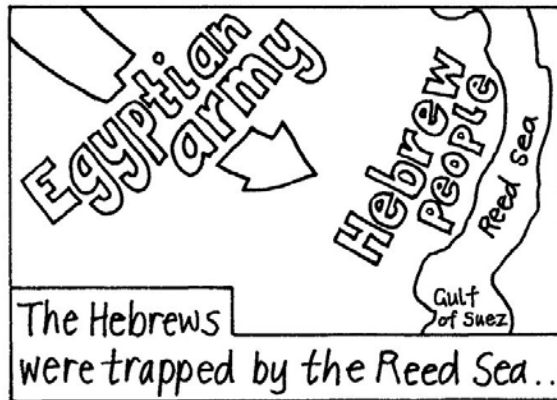
Mark your house door with the lamb's blood.



That night, in each un-marked house, the eldest son died.



The Hebrews left Egypt...

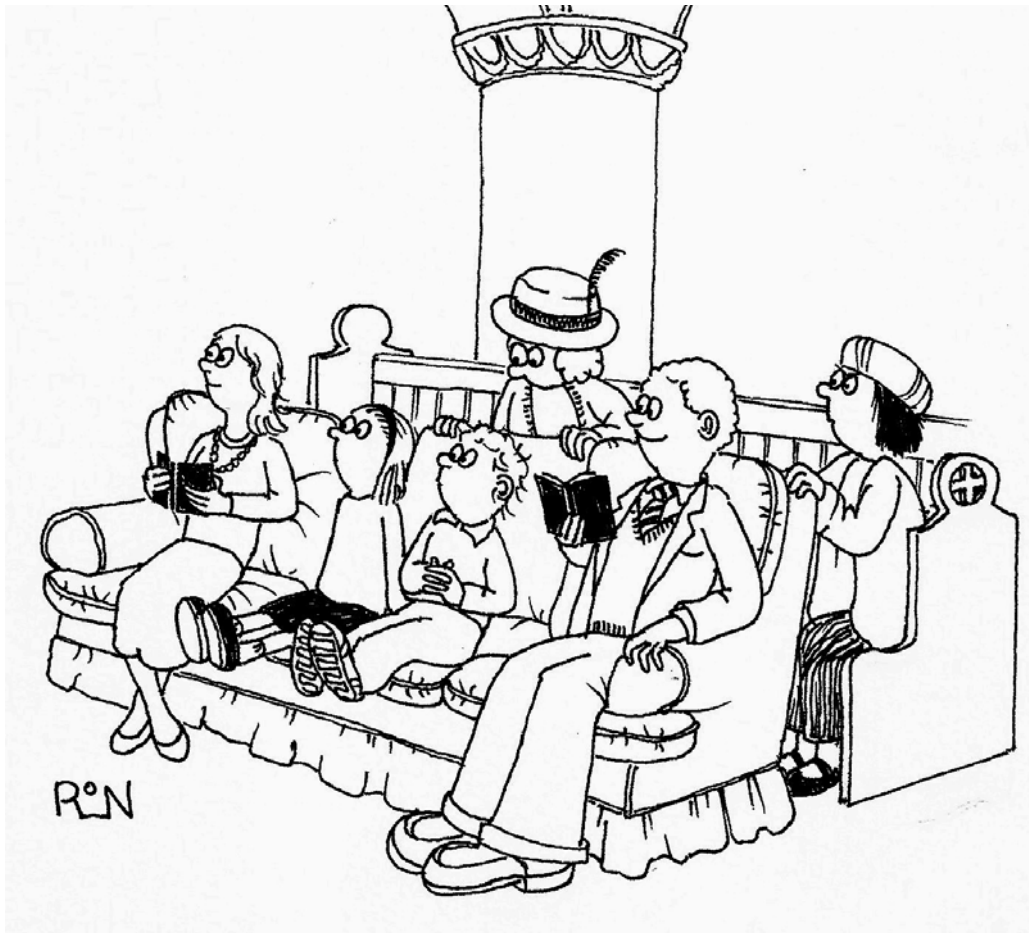


God made a cloud to hide them from the Egyptians..



and sent a wind. By morning the sea bed was dry and they walked across..





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On why a church should always resist change

The Rectory
St James the Least



My dear Nephew Darren

I am not the least surprised you have got yourself into trouble; innovation is never to be encouraged. New ideas tend to cause revolutions. The move from incandescent lightbulbs to energy saving ones may ultimately change the Church of England.

Change is something everyone claims to be in favour of – provided it has no measurable effect on their own lives. I remember as a young curate once suggesting that at the Harvest Supper, tables might be enlarged so that eight people could sit together rather than the traditional six, thus helping more people get to know one another. The response would have been similar if I had suggested we travel to London to murder the Prime Minister. I was firmly told that tables for six had been perfectly adequate for parishioners in Queen Victoria's day. For the rest of my curacy, I was regarded as a revolutionary, to be watched carefully.

So, at your last visit to our church, to suggest that our 11am Mattins might be moved to 10.30am, in order to encourage those who wanted to have more of the day free to themselves, certainly lobbed a hand grenade among the post-Service coffee cups. The only person who was mildly in favour was Colonel Wainwright, who quickly realised that it would give him an extra half-hour at the gin and tonics before lunch.

Should you ever feel that people lack imagination, you should watch them in action when they find reasons for resisting an unwelcome suggestion. One said that the time couldn't be moved, since it would then be too early for the local bus – omitting to mention that none of our congregation travel to church by bus and that the service doesn't run on Sundays anyway. Another pointed out that it would confuse those who didn't attend church – not explaining why if they never attended, it mattered what time the Service was. A third, rather touchingly mentioned that it wouldn't give the rector time to enjoy his breakfast after the rigours of the 8am Service.

Your suggestion did, however, serve one useful purpose; it brought our congregation together in united opposition. They may not necessarily always know what they are for, but they certainly know what they are against. For that, I thank you.

Your loving uncle
Eustace

Parish Pump

What do you think of the weather forecasts?

It seems there is some turbulence between the Met Office and the Royal Meteorological Society.

The Royal Meteorological Society has objected to the recent “deluge” of cautionary statements that the Met Office put out concerning the recent storms. It says that “probably not a day went by” during one week of bad weather, “without a weather warning.” It fears that too many warnings will risk making people “complacent”.

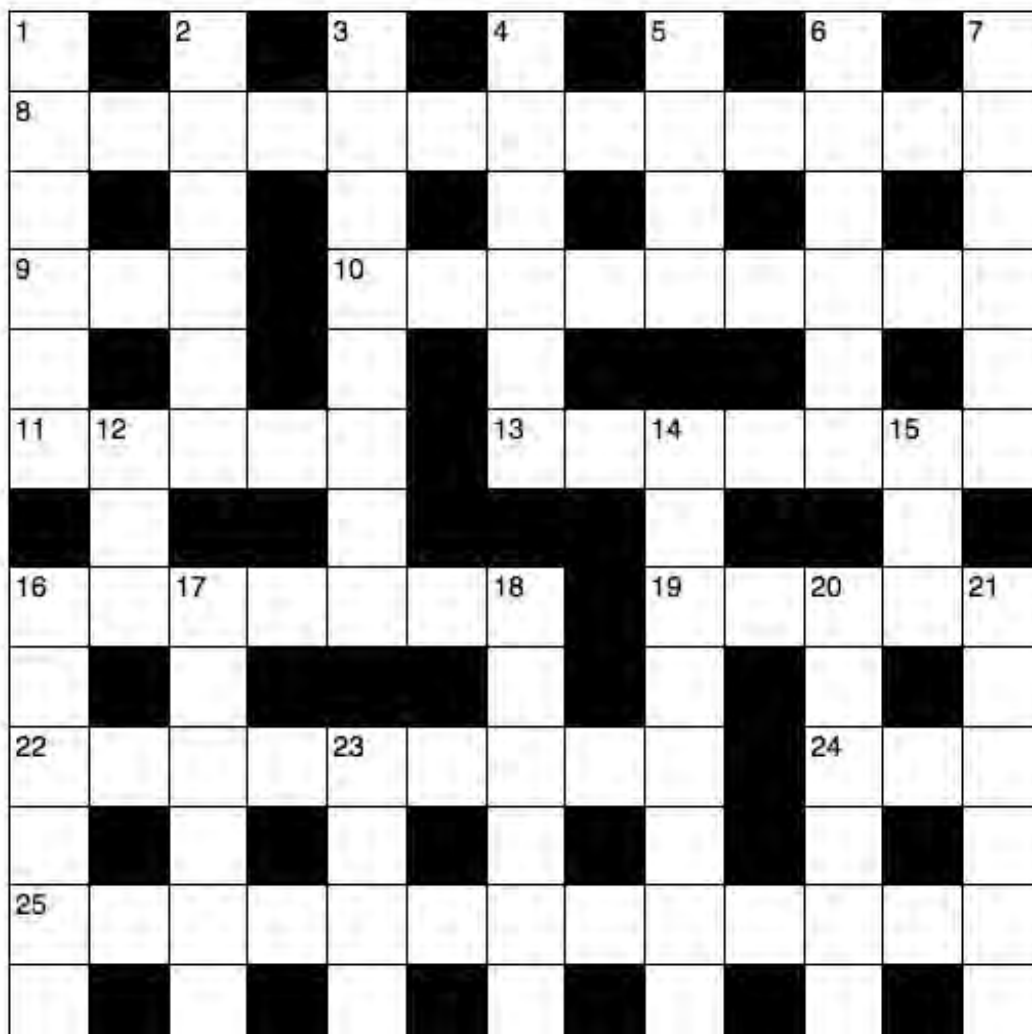
The Met Office, backed by a Cabinet Officer minister, Alex Burghart, disagreed. Responding to an urgent question in the House of Commons, he said:

“The forecasting capabilities of our experts in the Met Office and the accuracy and speed at which they can warn and inform the public of incoming severe weather events does, with no doubt, save lives and protect our homes and businesses.”

What do you think? Is the Met Office playing Nanny, or getting it right?

Parish Pump

Crossword



ACROSS

- 8 'He poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the — ' (Isaiah 53:12) (13)
- 9 'When they had sung a hymn, they went — to the Mount of Olives (Matthew 26:30) (3)
- 10 Comes between Galatians and Philippians (9)
- 11 'Your heart will — and swell with joy' (Isaiah 60:5) (5)
- 13 Muslim holy month (7)
- 16 Ten ears (anag.) (7)
- 19 Under (poetic abbrev.) (5)
- 22 How Abram described himself to God when he complained that his inheritance would pass to a servant (Genesis 15:2) (9)
- 24 'Go to the — , you sluggard' (Proverbs 6:6) (3)
- 25 Debar from receiving Communion (13)

DOWN

- 1 My — for His Highest (Oswald Chambers' best-known book) (6)
- 2 Festival of the resurrection (6)
- 3 'His sons will prepare for war and — a great army' (Daniel 11:10) (8)
- 4 'Let not the — string his bow' (Jeremiah 51:3) (6)
- 5 Name of the River Thames in and around Oxford (4)
- 6 'From then on Judas watched for an opportunity — — him over' (Matthew 26:16) (2,4)
- 7 'But Christ is faithful — — — over God's house' (Hebrews 3:6) (2,1,3)
- 12 Long-handled implement used to till the soil (Isaiah 7:25) (3)
- 14 Order to which monks and nuns devote themselves (8)
- 15 Appropriate (Proverbs 15:23) (3)
- 16 I, uncle (anag.) (6)
- 17 'They gave him — — of broiled fish' (Luke 24:42) (1,5)
- 18 'Weren't there three men that we — — and threw into the fire?' (Daniel 3:24) (4,2)
- 20 Mountain where Noah's ark came to rest (Genesis 8:4) (6)
- 21 'Don't you know that friendship with the world is — towards God?' (James 4:4) (6)
- 23 Prominent architectural feature of large cathedrals such as St Paul's (4)

Tiptree Guild of Beer and Wine Makers

Tiptree Tipplers



Meeting here every 3rd Wednesday
7.30pm for 8.00pm

- A fun night out in a friendly atmosphere
 - Themed nights – see list
- Why not come along & give us a try- no commitment
 - New members always welcomed
- Yearly membership only £35 with no entrance fee

Upon arrival ask for Paul or Bill who will welcome you
and introduce you to our members



Smile

Violets?

When my husband was six years old, he thought the creed included the line: "He suffered under a bunch of violets." It took him years before he realised that he should have been saying: "under Pontius Pilate."

Mothers and teenagers

A woman was confiding in her neighbour just how hard it was for her to get her teenagers out of bed in the morning. The neighbour replied that she never had any trouble at all with her son. "I just open the door and throw the cat on the bed," she explained. The woman was puzzled, and asked how that might help. "Easy. My son sleeps with the dog."

Pewsheets notice that went wrong....

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

Expensive boat

A vicar was planning an Easter pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and was aghast when he found it would cost him £50 an hour to rent a boat on the Sea of Galilee. He protested to the travel agent that the cost was ridiculous. "That might be true," replied the travel agent, "but you have to take into account that the Sea of Galilee is water on which our Lord himself walked."

"Well, at £50 an hour for a boat, I am not surprised!"

Worry

I have so many problems that if a new one comes along today, it will be at least two weeks before I can worry about it.

Wages

Seen on a church notice board: 'Despite inflation, the wages of sin remain the same.'

Heaven

Seen in a parish magazine: "We shall be meeting on Wednesday, when the subject will be 'Heaven - how do we get there?' Transport by bus is available at 6.45pm opposite the King's Arms."

The 5th commandment

In reply to a question in Sunday school, one little boy said that the fifth commandment is: 'Humour thy father and thy mother.'

Choir

The
Tale of the
**TWO
BUILDERS**



**JESUS OFTEN TOLD
STORIES WITH
HIDDEN MEANINGS**



**ONE WAS ABOUT TWO MEN WHO
BUILT THEIR OWN HOUSES**

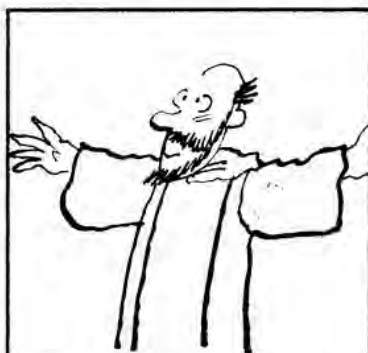


**THE FIRST BUILDER SEARCHED HIGH
AND LOW FOR A GOOD SOLID ROCK ON
WHICH TO BUILD HIS HIS HOME.**

**AT LONG, LONG LAST HE
FOUND THE IDEAL SPOT.**



SO HE BEGAN TO BUILD.



**THE OTHER BUILDER
DIDN'T CARE WHERE HE
BUILT HIS HOUSE**

**HE THOUGHT SOME NICE FLAT SAND
WOULD BE AN EASY PLACE TO BUILD.**



**BUT ONE DAY THE
STORM CAME....**

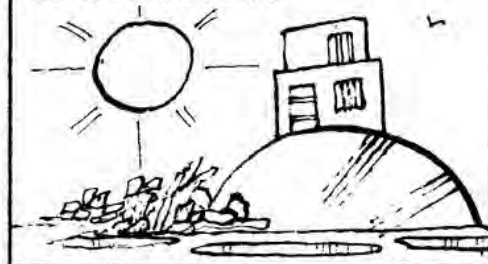


**...AND THE WIND BLEW....AND
THE RAIN FELL....**



**...AND THE HOUSE ON
THE SAND COLLAPSED!**

**BUT THE HOUSE ON THE
ROCK STOOD FIRM.**



**JESUS EXPLAINED -
'IT'S IMPORTANT OUR LIVES HAVE
A FIRM FOUNDATION.'**

Place an advert in our church magazine - *Open Door*
and promote your group, event or business



Open Door is the bi-monthly parish magazine

for the churches of St Luke's Tiptree,

All Saints' Great Braxted,

All Saints' Inworth

and

All Saints' Messing

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Last month's Great Garden Birdwatch found Sparrows and Blue Tits ranked high in Suffolk and Essex, as they did in the SESA W garden. Since being temporarily housebound after a thyroid op, I've grown quite partial to ornithology. Gazing through a window in a cosy room on a winter's day has a certain appeal for a middle aged moggie but don't tell Kenneth, I'd never live it down.

An unprecedented number of rescue cats arrived for rehoming last year. Some were abandoned, some made homeless through their owner's circumstances, many were mothers with young families, some in-kitten with a second litter. We have wonderful volunteers who care for the animals but, like most charities, we struggle to find enough helpers. Currently, we particularly need reliable, conscientious adults to look after the cats on Saturdays. We often have youngsters for a while at weekends until academic commitments draw them away. 'Grown ups' who work during the week want time with their families at weekends and so we fall between two stools. We just need a few good people who could spare a Saturday (or Sunday morning) to feed, clean out and socialise our felines awaiting new homes. If you could help, please email sesawken@gmail.com or phone 07881 785535 for more information.

I must go now as there is activity around the nest box, suggesting months of entertainment ahead for me,

Ollie (the Black) Cat.

Suffolk & Essex Small Animal Welfare,
Registered Charity No.1124029,
Stoke Road,
Leavenheath,
CO6 4PP. Tel: 01787 210888,
email: info@sesaw.co.uk
website: www.sesaw.co.uk



Jenny caring for a cat

Solutions:

U		E		A		A		I		T		A
T	R	A	N	S	G	R	E	S	S	O	R	S
M		S		S		C		I		H		A
O	U	T		E	P	H	E	S	I	A	N	S
S		E		M		E				N		O
T	H	R	O	B		R	A	M	A	D	A	N
	O			L				O			P	
N	E	A	R	E	S	T		N	E	A	T	H
U		P				I		A		R		A
C	H	I	L	D	L	E	S	S		A	N	T
L		E		O		D		T		R		R
E	X	C	O	M	M	U	N	I	C	A	T	E
I		E		E		P		C		T		D

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



**You abundantly water the ploughed fields,
You settle
its furrows and soften the earth
with showers. You bless its growth. Ps 65:10**

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