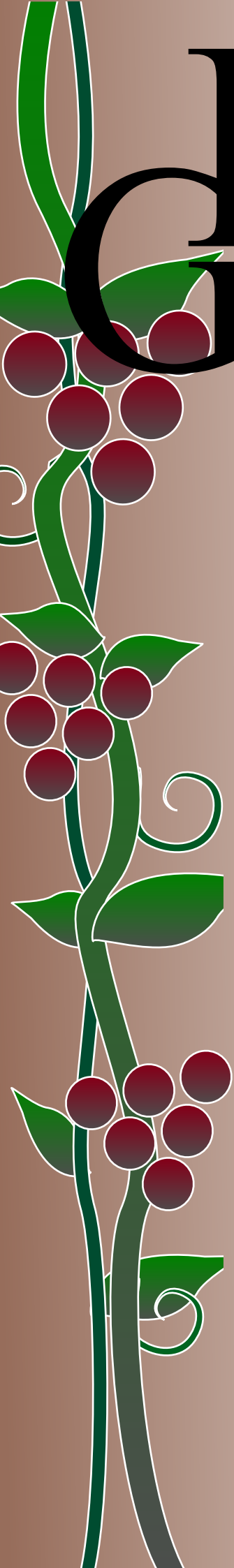


Parish Grapevine

A monthly round-up of
news, views, events
and services at
St George's, Heaviley,
SK2 6NU,
and St Gabriel's, Adwood
in the
Parish of St George, Stockport.
www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk



Who's Who in the Parish of St George, Stockport

Vicar	Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall <i>vicar@stgeorgestockport.org.uk</i> 456 9382	Praise and Play	Parish Office 480 2453 For 0-4s and their carers. Meet every Monday in term time, 9-11 in church. Story time at 10am.	Choir	James Hibbert 07365 519207 <i>actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com</i> Practise Thursdays 7.30-9pm in the vestry. Sing on Sundays at 10.15am and 4pm services.
Assistant Curate	Rev. Dr Janine Arnott <i>rev.janinearnott@outlook.com</i> 612 1048	St Gabriel's		Church Cleaners	Dorothy Walton 483 3088 Meet on 1st Tuesday of every month 9.30-12 noon.
Readers	Michael Coupe (Emeritus) 612 0222 Peter Hall 456 9382	Messy Church	Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall 456 9382 For children and their parents. Meet occasionally, usually Saturday mornings.	Church Flowers	Marjorie Lees 483 3676 Jean Hayden (<i>donations</i>) 483 2367
Pastoral Worker	Audrey Manzano 494 7054	Uniformed Groups with connections to St George's		Church Gardeners	Stan Berry 439 4641 (<i>mobile: 07786 548204</i>) Meet on Tuesdays 9.30-12.30.
Churchwardens	Andrew Regan 440 0408 Hazel Jenkins 483 4679	Rainbows	Trisha Brown 07403 353 175 Sue Kirkland 07854 101 918 For girls aged 5-7. Meet Fridays 6.15-7.30pm in the Parish Room.	Coffee Mornings (Weds)	Olwen Smith 483 6548 Wednesdays from 10.30am in the Parish Room.
PCC Secretary	Andrea Webb Reilly 07400 883938	Brownies	Rachel Lockett 775 2755 Voni Walker 07956 674 241 For girls aged 7-10. Meet Thursdays 6.30-8pm in the Parish Room.	Cursillo	Irene Hinde 456 1892 Usually meet on last Wednesday of the month. 7.30pm at different venues.
PCC Treasurer	Steven Kelly 439 9458	Guides	Heather Worth 07894 507 466 For girls aged 10-14. Meet Thursdays 7.30-9pm in the Parish Room.	Handbells	Debbie Heaton 07981 331 758 Play for All-Age and Taizé services, plus other special events. Ringers of all ages (with or without experience) always welcome. Rehearsals in church arranged around the ringers' availability.
Parish Office	Marion McCall 480 2453	Beavers	Bill Frith 439 3232 For boys and girls ages 6 and 7 Meet Fridays 6-7pm at rear of Trinity Methodist Church.	Linen Guild	Pat Rigley 487 1999 Maintain the church's linen.
Magazine Editor	Richard Parr 439 8644	Cubs	Bill Frith 439 3232 For boys and girls ages 8-10½. Meet Fridays 7.15-8.45pm at rear of Trinity Methodist Church.	Magazine Editorial Group	Richard Parr 439 8644 Meet monthly to plan future issues.
Safeguarding co-ordinator	Will Hesson 480 0630	Scouts	Elizabeth Goodred <i>Elizabeth.goodred@stockportscouts.org.uk</i> For boys and girls ages 10½-14. Meet Wednesdays 7-9pm at rear of Trinity Methodist Church.	Mothers' Union	Pat Durnall 483 4837 Meet on 2nd Monday of the month in church at 2.15pm.
Website	www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk			Singing Group	James Hibbert 07365 519207 <i>actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com</i> Sing about once a month at the All-Age Service, with one practice beforehand. All welcome.
Webmaster	Peter Hall 456 9382				
St George's Primary School					
Headteacher	Deborah Grindrod 480 8657				
St George's Deputy Wardens					
	John Hardy 01663 764 462 Will Hesson 480 0630				
Verger	Ian Staley 456 3093				
Director of Music	James Hibbert 07480 111 179 <i>actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com</i>				
Bookings for Parish Rooms					
	Parish Office or 480 2453 Judith Swift 483 8681				
St Gabriel's					
Secretary	John Sutcliffe 286 2301				
Bookings	Parish Office 480 2453				
Children's Activities					
St George's Children's Corner					
	Available for children (and parents) during services. Equipped with books, crayons and soft toys.				
Sunday Club	Louise Clark 483 3703 For children of nursery and school age. Meet during the 10.15am Parish Communion service most weeks during term time.	Other Groups and Activities			
Junior Choir	James Hibbert 07365 519207 Practise 6.30-7.30 on Thursdays in the vestry; sing on Sundays for 10.15am service.	St George's Bell ringers	Anne Mayes 485 6477 Practise Mondays 7.45-9pm. Ring on Sundays 9.45-10.15am. Meet in the tower.		
		Bible Reading Fellowship Notes	Janet Neilson 483 9025 Notes are ordered on request.		
		Bible Study Groups	<i>contact the clergy</i> Study groups and courses are arranged from time to time.		
		Chancel Guild	Meet on 2nd Tuesday of every month, 9.30-12 noon to care for the chancel.		

Front cover photo

St George's Church is re-opening for private prayer (see page 5)
(photo by Andrew Regan)

From the Editor:

Dear Readers,

I HAVE BEEN reading with great pleasure the Collected Stories of Elizabeth Bowen, the Anglo-Irish writer, who died in 1973. Her short stories seem, at first glance, to be quite inconsequential, although beautifully written, with vivid descriptions of her characters, and the houses and places where they live. As you read further, though, you begin to recognise how profoundly and sensitively she explores human experience, both sadness and joy. Every story leaves you aware that some aspect of life has been presented and illuminated. In one of these stories, Sunday Evening, published in 1923 when Bowen was only twenty-four, she describes a group of friends, three of whom are women, listening to the sound of church bells as the sun sets and darkness gradually enfolds the room where they are sitting.

They have all attended morning service, and heard a sermon about "The first woman" – Eve. One of the ladies imagines Eve's first night in the Garden of Eden and wonders if she might have felt fear, 'watching the light go out of the world'. Her imaginative comment leads to a discussion among the characters that encompasses faith, or the lack of it, the sadness but inevitability of time passing, and the changes that time brings. In the mere six pages of the story, we learn a great deal about all the characters, and their hopes and fears. The story ends when light is abruptly turned on with the arrival of the servant to remove the tea things.

It seems to me that light is also an important image in the Bible. "Let there be light", of course, are the first words we hear God speak in Genesis, and John's Gospel describes the coming of Jesus as 'the light' that 'shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.' The life, death and resurrection of Jesus 'brought light to everyone'. During these dreadful months of the pandemic and the lockdown, it can be easy to feel that we are in the darkness, not helped by news of the sudden and

shocking murder of innocent people enjoying sunshine and fresh air in a public park.

For Fathers' Day, my six-month old granddaughter, Rhian, sent me a book about grandpas, (I think she might have had a little help from her Mummy!) which included the lines:

"If I feel a little scared at night,
I will sometimes call out for you.
You make me feel SAFE and sound.
You make all the monsters go away."

(The little girl in the book also said, "I can hear all your dreams, Grandpa. You SNORE so loud that everyone can hear!" But that can't have meant me!)

Sometimes, though, we are all frightened and disturbed by the darkness in our lives and in the world around us, a darkness that can seem so complete. Jesus knew this and understood – and understands. He told the people listening to him that "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." He is saying the same thing to us all during these difficult days. 'The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone,' HAS come into the world, and remains with us. Hallelujah!

We normally produce a double issue of Grapevine for July and August, and allow the team to pack their buckets and spades and enjoy a summer holiday. This year is different, of course, and we plan to issue an edition of Grapevine in August, although almost certainly still online. It will be a shorter magazine, but we hope you will enjoy it. As Elaine has written in The Lance, we are always delighted to receive any contributions for Grapevine. We hope to hear from you!

God bless you all, and keep you all safe and well.
Richard Parr. Editor.

What's Where...

- | | | | |
|------|---|------|--|
| P 2 | Who's who | P 14 | Answers to adults' quiz, New must-have item, and Recipe |
| P 3 | Editorial | P 15 | A Short Walk in Bramhall |
| P 5 | Clergy letter and St George's re-opening | P 16 | Mondegreens and Did I hear you right? |
| P 6 | Parish News | P 18 | Lockdown Lingo and Recipe |
| P 7 | A Curious Curacy and Floodlighting form | P 19 | Forever Football |
| P 8 | Returning Home | P 20 | As Fine Silver, Buttercups and Barnardo's |
| P 9 | Live Streamed Services and Events in July and The Empty Quarter | P 21 | Holy Days in July |
| P 10 | Children's Page | P 22 | Riddles and Papyrus |
| P 11 | Colouring-in page | P 23 | Cartoon, Puzzle solutions, Free national phoneline and Do You Remember When? |
| P 13 | Puzzles and cartoon | | |



JONATHAN ALCOCK & SONS

INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS SINCE 1863

Brook House, Brook Road, Cheadle, SK8 1PQ

Tel. 0161 428 2097

www.jasfunerals.co.uk

Family-run

24 Hour Service

Private Rest Rooms

Golden Charter Funeral Plans



Serving the community since 1863



GEORGE HILL

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

71, London Road, Hazel Grove, SK7 4AX

Tel. 0161 483 3414

www.ghfunerals.co.uk

Family-run

24 Hour Service

Private Rest Rooms

Golden Charter Funeral

Plans



Serving the community for over half a century

Would you like to advertise in this magazine?

There are 10 issues of Grapevine magazine a year

Approximately 300 copies are printed each month. The current rates per issue are:

Full page: £50 Half page: £30 1/3rd page: £20 Quarter page: £15 1/6th page: £10

We can assist with the design of your display, if necessary, and make no charge for this.

Interested? Contact the Editor: e-mail ricmar77@gmx.com or tel. 0161 439 8644.

GRAPEVINE would like to thank all our loyal advertisers

for their understanding and backing during this difficult period.

If you can, please continue to support them.

Grapevine magazine is in digital form

Please note: Grapevine magazine will be published in **digital form only** during the current coronavirus restrictions. Copies can be downloaded from our website at www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk



Elaine writes:

All right, but apart from the sanitation, the medicine, education, wine, public order, irrigation, roads, a clean water system, and public health, what have the Romans ever done for us? Monty Python.

It made me think about this time we're living in when it would be easy to say *What has the lockdown ever done for us?*

True it's been tough; it's been challenging; it's been boring; it's been isolating; it's been painful; it's been tiring but what has the lockdown done for us?

The lockdown has helped us to see life differently, maybe to appreciate things a bit more, perhaps to be kinder to our fellow human beings.

The lockdown has given us time to be in touch with those we always meant to get round to phoning, or sending a card or writing a letter, sending a text or email. To hear their voice and listen to their news.

It's given an opportunity for some of us to go and walk around our neighbourhood, seeing houses and

streets and shops that we never knew existed: to encounter the countryside through previously unknown cut-throughs and pathways. We can meander with God through his creation and listen to birdsong usually drowned out by traffic, singing to ourselves or out loud "How Great Thou Art". *When through the woods and forest glades, I wander, and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.*

It's allowed us to reflect on the importance of life and health and the reality of death, to applaud the sacrifice of so many who care in all their various front-line jobs.

It's enabled us to journey with people on a deeper level, regular conversational check-ups to relatives and friends instead of brief well-meant touching-base chats.

It's allowed us to worship together as a community gathered from all over the world and has encouraged us to have a go when initial fears may have made us play safe.

Consider all the work thy hands hath made

What has the lockdown ever done for us?

With every blessing,

Elaine

St George's Church is re-opening for private prayer

Following careful thought and attention, we are now in a position to be **open for private prayer** twice a week from **11am to 12 noon on Wednesdays and Sundays** starting on **Sunday 5th July**.

We will still be following strict hygiene regulations and everyone who enters the church by the south door will be requested to use the hand sanitizer and to follow a clearly laid out path to the chapel. Please do not sit anywhere in the main body of the church.

Two stewards will be on site to ensure that everything goes smoothly so we ask you to follow their instructions especially regarding social distancing. We regret that toilet facilities will not be available at this time.

As you will appreciate, coronavirus is still a very real threat, despite the relaxation of some regulations so can we ask you to refrain from coming to church should you be experiencing any covid like symptoms such as a new cough, raised temperature, loss or change of taste or smell?

Up to date information is available via chester.anglican.org or churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches.

Services and events during coronavirus restrictions

See **page 9** for details of online services and events from St George's in July during the current coronavirus restrictions.

Parish News Roundup

Holy Baptism

None last month

Holy Matrimony

None last month

Funerals

21st May Jaqueline Heywood

8th June Marion Pearson

10th June Doreen Norris

Communion Flowers were sponsored by:

31st May Mike and Jose Westwood – in memory of Nellie Westwood

7th June Remembering John's birthday, with love from Janice Puddifoot and family

14th June Giving thanks for the gifts and talents of the Flower Fairies, from Elaine

21st June from Margaret Sharrard – for Julian

28th June from Jean Norton – in memory of Mary and Bill Heavyside

Jean Davison

Those members of the congregation who remember Jean, may be interested to know that she is no longer living in Cale Green Nursing Home. She has been moved to:

Appleton Manor,
Lingard Lane,
Bredbury,
Stockport
SK6 2QT
Telephone: 406 7261

She remains well and cheerful, but, of course, is still unable to receive visitors.

Samaritans

Tel: 116 123

People make contact with Samaritans for many different reasons.

Why Samaritans?

We're carefully trained to put aside any personal beliefs. We won't give you a label, a diagnosis or a prescription.

Parish News Roundup

And because you're talking to a stranger, you don't have to worry about our feelings.

We're always here

We're always open, round the clock, every single day of the year.

We're confidential

We want you to feel safe while talking to us, so you can tell us how you're really feeling.

We support everyone

Our name is an historical accident.

When the Daily Mirror first found out about our service, they described us as "Good Samaritans", and the name stuck.

You do not have to be religious in any way to volunteer or to get in touch – we talk to people of all faiths and of no faith.

Volunteers do not impose their own religious, political, philosophical beliefs on anyone who contacts us.

Talk to us

"They are there when all your friends are asleep and you are alone in the world, full of thoughts."

Talk to us any time you like, in your own way, and off the record – about whatever's getting to you.

You don't have to be suicidal.

New Archbishop of York to be confirmed

Bishop Stephen Geoffrey Cottrell will be confirmed as the 98th Archbishop of York this month.

The service, at 11am on Thursday 9th July, will be broadcast entirely via video conference due to the Coronavirus restrictions.

The service, which had been due to take place in York Minster, will be in two parts. A legal ceremony, with readings, prayers and music, will be followed by a film marking the start of Bishop Stephen's ministry as Archbishop of York.

Parish News Roundup

Bishop Stephen Cottrell says: "I am looking forward to beginning my ministry as the 98th Archbishop of York. This isn't quite how I imagined it would begin. It is certainly the first time an Archbishop's election will have been confirmed via video conference. But we're all having to re-imagine how we live our lives and how we inhabit the world.

"These are difficult times. My hope is that through this service the love of God that is given us in Jesus Christ will shine out, perhaps even to those who, while never attending a service in York Minster, might have a look online.

Following in the footsteps of my many predecessors, I look forward to serving our nation and bringing the love and peace of Christ to our world, especially here in the north."

The service will be available on the Church of England website. Arrangements for Bishop Stephen's enthronement service will be announced later in the year.

Happy 90th birthday!

Congratulations to Dorothy Walton on her 90th birthday on 2nd July, from the Garden Gnomes.

News of Kim's BAP Interviews

Kim Regan has just heard the outcome of her Bishops' Advisory Panel interviews in June, and Bishop Keith was pleased to be able to tell Kim that she has been selected for ordination training. Kim will start her training in September at All Saints Centre for Mission and Ministry in Manchester, and her course will take two years.

Congratulations, Kim!

August 2020

Grapevine magazine dates:

Deadline copy date: **Fri 17th July**
Committee meeting: via email

A Curious Curacy



I'M WRITING this article exactly a year after I left residential theology college and headed back to Chester Diocese to prepare for ordination. Two weeks later I was ordained on a glorious sunny June day in a lovely moving ceremony with 20 other ordinands (student clergy). My curacy at St George's promised to be busy and challenging but relatively uneventful. Less

than one year later and the world looks a very different place and my curacy looks nothing like I imagined.

If you are unfamiliar with the Church of England ordination process, this is how it works. After selection, an ordinand trains at theology college for two to three years. An ordinand is then ordained a deacon and starts a curacy (a training post) at a parish church under the supervision of a priest. After a year, a deacon can become a priest but remains in the curacy training post for another one to two years.

The transition from deacon to priest is not automatic and it's much more than a natural progression. The role of the deacon is very much one of watching and learning, serving and 'being'. The role of a priest is a little different. A priest also has responsibility for the spiritual and pastoral care of a parish and for sustaining and shepherding the community of Christ alongside the bishop and their fellow priests, including presiding over Holy Communion. This last bit is really important.

The transition from deacon to priest and the distinction between the two roles is reflected in the promises we make at each ceremony, promises we say in public to the bishop and in front of our peers. The laying on of hands by

the bishop and fellow priests at the priesting ceremony is also an important spiritual part of the service as this is when the bishop invokes the Holy Spirit to equip the priest for the specific role they are called to fulfil.

My own priesting ceremony was due to take place on 20th June 2020. Sadly, that ceremony won't take place. Gatherings in enclosed spaces and the laying on of hands is not permitted due to Covid-19. Instead, I will remain a deacon for the time being. Hopefully the ceremony will be rescheduled for the autumn but there is no guarantee and the future remains uncertain.

The closure of church buildings and suspension of occasional offices (weddings, baptisms and church funerals) also means part of our training is on hold. Three months is a long time when a curacy is time-limited and the Church works in seasons. As first-year deacons, we've missed spending our first Easter in a parish church, we've probably missed taking our first weddings, our first APCM, and many other 'firsts' along the way. We won't get the chance to do those things for another year.

However, perspective is important. Anyone who has taken photographs will know how perspective can change the whole look and feel of the overall picture. If I look straight down a fixed lens now all I can see is minute detail. But if I zoom out, I can see the bigger picture. My curacy may not look as it should, but there is a bigger picture. I have experienced and learnt many of the things I needed to, just in a different way. I've reflected on some key ministerial issues, just from a different angle. I've also learnt many new things that were never on the curriculum at vicar school! Live-streaming morning prayer, painting bread, racing ducks, and sourcing hand sanitiser to name just a few!

As curacies go, this year will probably go down in history as one of the more unusual years in the Church of England, but it will definitely be memorable!

Janine

St George's floodlighting – sponsorship request form (Please return to the treasurer, Steven Kelly, 5 Holly Road, Bramhall, SK7 1HH).



Name

Phone no

Date of evening requested £10 or £..... donation enclosed (Please make cheques payable to St George's Stockport PCC)

Reason for request (if appropriate)

If you are a taxpayer and would like the church to reclaim the tax on your donation please also complete the following Gift Aid declaration:

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £..... to St George's Church, Stockport. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Title..... First name or initial(s).....Surname.....

Home address:.....

Post Code

Signature.....

Date

Returning Home

IN TWO PREVIOUS articles I have described our amazing trip to New Zealand where we were reunited with Tril Sutherland and visited several interesting churches. Just before we leave that beautiful country I would like to share two exciting experiences with you. New Zealand is known by many as the adventure capital of the world with beautiful Queenstown its epicentre. In the March edition of Grapevine there were pictures of me hurtling down a zipwire in Queenstown and I was very impressed with how much work the company was putting into environmental education and preservation of the natural area. Let me just tell you that on the last of the zipwires we were encouraged to shout out loud into the forest as we flew through the air. So down I went shouting 'God is good' for all I was worth!



I was strapped in the harness, which was attached to a demountable bar, I sat on the back of the boat and then the pilot gradually opened the throttle and I floated up into the air. It was a fantastic sensation, floating above the lake on a glorious sunny day. The views were amazing and the most striking thing was how quiet it was. No traffic, no chatter or clatter, just total peace. I opted to take up a GoPro, a robust waterproof camera which was set to make a continuous video with a still shot every seconds. This was all recorded on an SD card, just like the ones in your digital camera and phone, so I have an amazing record of the trip. Would I do it again? You bet I would!



My other adventurous activity was to parasail above Lake Taupo in North Island. It is a very large lake, reminiscent of Lake Geneva but without the high mountains. To parasail you go out in a small motorboat, are strapped into a harness and onto a bar which is attached to a parachute. The speed of the boat fills the parachute with air and up you go. I was a passenger on the trip with Kyle from Seattle and he gallantly suggested I went up first.



Hazel Jenkins

Live-Streamed Services and Events from St George's in July

WHILST St George's Church is re-opening for private prayer from Sunday 5th July, services of public worship will take a little longer before we are ready to hold these in church. In the meantime, we will continue to live-stream services, messy church or story time every day. Please do join us.

All of the services and events below will be streamed live on Facebook. Please search for our Facebook page @stgeorgeschurchstockport or use the link from our web page to find us. The services and events can also be played back on demand after the live stream has ended.

Sunday 5th July: Fourth Sunday after Trinity

10.15am Holy Communion
5pm Story time for children
9pm Compline

Monday 6th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Tuesday 7th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 8th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Thursday 9th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Friday 10th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer
1pm Messy Church Bake Off

Saturday 11th July: 1pm Messy Church Craft

Sunday 12th July: Fifth Sunday after Trinity

10.15am Holy Communion
5pm Story time for children
9pm Compline

Monday 13th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Tuesday 14th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 15th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Thursday 16th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Friday 17th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer
1pm Messy Church Bake Off

Saturday 18th July: 1pm Messy Church Craft

Sunday 19th July: Fourth Sunday after Trinity

10.15am Holy Communion
5pm Story time for children
9pm Compline

Monday 20th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Tuesday 21st July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 22nd July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Thursday 23rd July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Friday 24th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer
1pm Messy Church Bake Off

Saturday 25th July: 1pm Messy Church Craft

Sunday 26th July: Seventh Sunday after Trinity

10.15am Holy Communion
5pm Story time for children
9pm Compline

Monday 27th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Tuesday 28th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 29th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Thursday 30th July: 9.30am Morning Prayer

Friday 31st July: 9.30am Morning Prayer
1pm Messy Church Bake Off

Saturday 1st August: 1pm Messy Church Craft

The Empty Quarter

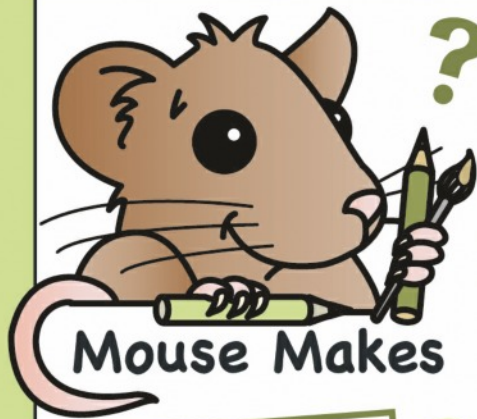
I WAS INTERESTED to read about Prince Harry's plan to organise an expedition for veterans across the great sand desert of southern Arabia. The Rub' al Khali, or Empty Quarter, was crossed famously in 1946-48 by the great explorer Wilfred Thesiger. He travelled with Bedu companions, wearing Arab clothing, riding camels, and on foot. In those days, the Empty Quarter was almost completely unexplored, and Thesiger's two crossings became an epic of desert exploration. His book describing the expeditions, *Arabian Sands*, has never been out of print since its first publication in 1959, and is both descriptive and gripping.

Nowadays, you can take overnight trips into the edge of the desert, in a 4 by 4, camping in the dunes, and listening to stories of the Bedu, while watching the stars – as Thesiger did. However, Thesiger and his companions came very close to running out of water on several occasions, as well as having to cope with sandstorms,

hostile tribes who would have killed them all, no maps and a dangerous lack of grazing for their camels.

Harry's Heroes in their expedition next year will not have quite these hardships to contend with, but they will face the same heat and arduous terrain in their 400 km. trek. Margaret and I spent two weeks in Oman a few years ago, and stayed in Salalah for a few days, on the Arabian Sea, where Thesiger set out from. He was accompanied by 'Bait Kathir, a ragged-haired tribesman [with] wild appearance.' Without a haircut for months, I feel empathy with these Bedu! Our guide was a Russian lady, who spoke Arabic and wore traditional Omani dress. We didn't make it into the Rub'al Khali, but I did make friends with a particularly charming camel, who seemed very willing to welcome a stranger and foreigner – as did all the Omanis we met.

Richard Parr



WHO AM I?

The last letter of one name is the first letter of the next name.

P			L
---	--	--	---

- Wrote 13 New Testament letters
- He wrote the third Gospel

--	--	--	--

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| I | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
- Mother of John (Luke 1:3)
 - Sarah's servant (Genesis 16:21)

		R	
--	--	---	--

- Joseph's mother (Genesis 29:35)
- His wife turned to salt (Genesis 11:31)

			I
--	--	--	---

- Paul's friend (2 Corinthians 8:27)
- A brother of Jesus (Matthew 13:55)

N			
---	--	--	--

- Ruth's mother-in-law. (Ruth 3:1)

IT'S A PUZZLE!

God sent 9 plagues on Egypt...
What were they?
 Change each letter to the one after it in the alphabet to find out.



AKNNC
 EQNFR
 FMZSR
 EKHDR
 CHRZRD
 OKZFTD
 GZHK
 KNBTRSR
 CZQJMDRR



FIND THE MISSING HUSBANDS

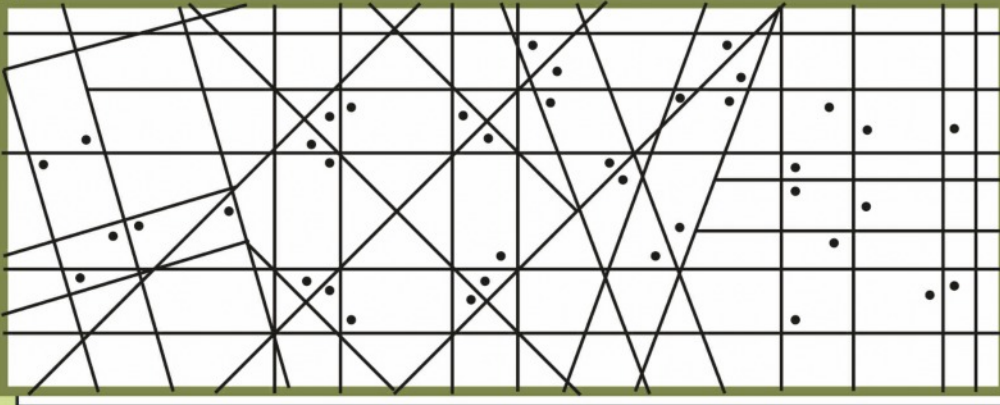
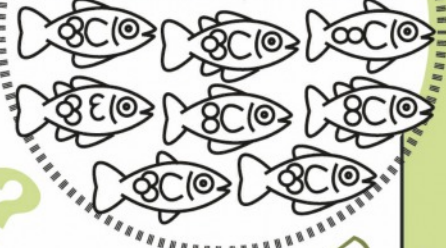
Match the wife to their husband

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| MARY | BOAZ |
| SARAH | JACOB |
| RUTH | ZECHARIAH |
| REBEKAH | JOSEPH |
| RACHEL | ABRAHAM |
| ELIZABETH | ISAAC |



FIND THE FISH

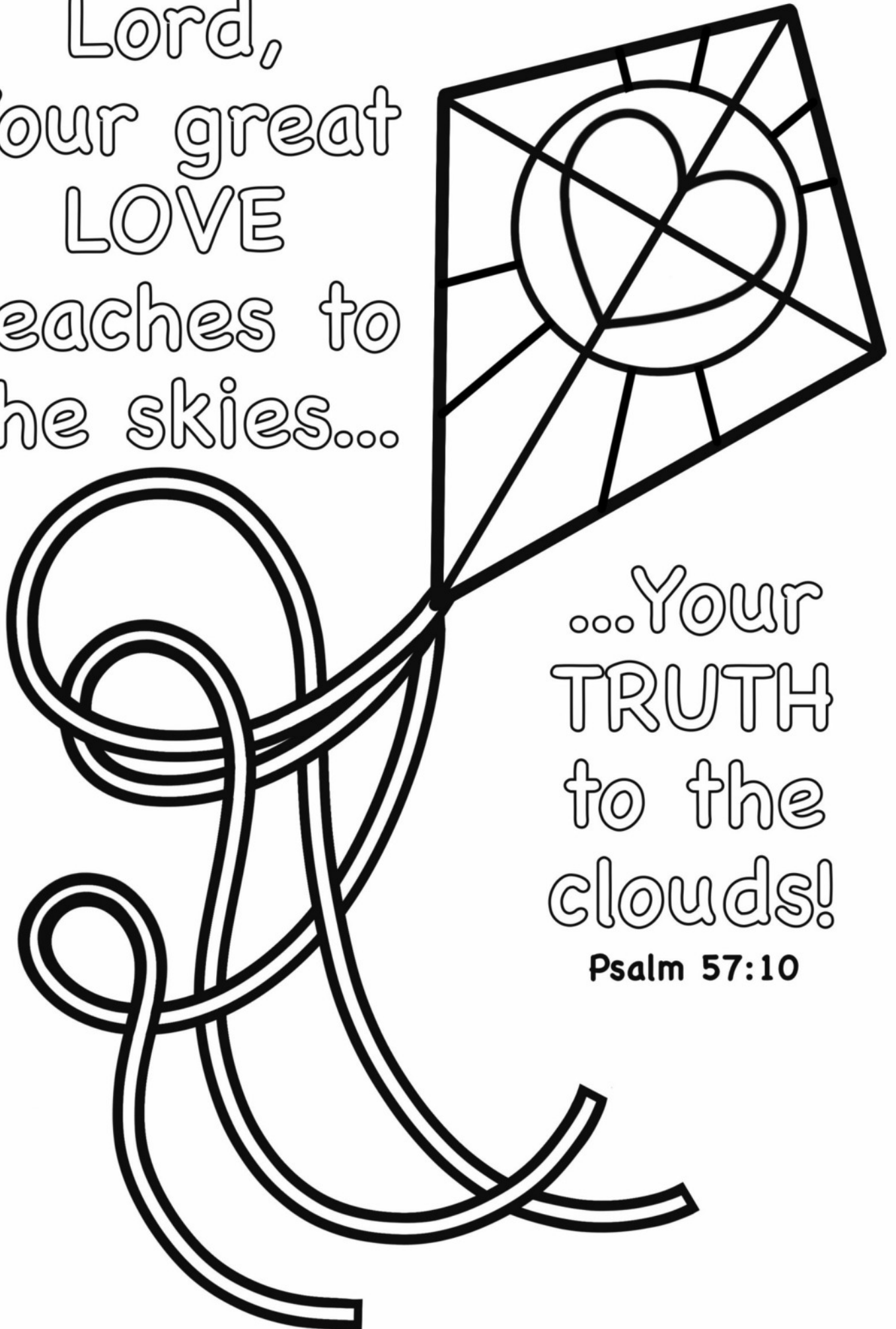
The Disciples have been fishing and have caught TWO fish the same, can you find them?



Colour in all the shapes with a DOT to find out what Jesus wants us to do



Lord,
Your great
LOVE
reaches to
the skies...



...Your
TRUTH
to the
clouds!

Psalm 57:10

The Howe Practice

Formerly Eric Thorniley & Co

Worried about Wills, Probate or Powers of Attorney?

We can offer an online service or, if you have no computer access, a telephone consultation. All fast, efficient, friendly and in complete confidence

Solicitors

2 Waterloo Court,
Waterloo Road,
Stockport SK1 3DL

Telephone: 0161 480 2629

Facsimile: 0161 480 0015

Email: johnhowe@thehowepractice.co.uk



F.W. Jackson & Son

Painting and Decorating
Established 1946

Warwick Jackson

Quality and Professionalism
guaranteed

14 The Fairway
Stockport SK2 5DR

email: wozjackson@yahoo.com

Mobile: 07811 153932

frank aspinall
PRINTERS
digital and offset-litho print and design

Tel/Fax: 0161 480 2707

Email: frankaspinall@hotmail.com



- Business Stationery •
- Booklets • Ncr sets • Envelopes •
- Invoices • Flyers • plus more •
- Competitive prices •

BUILDING 4 UNIT 5, TAMESIDE BUSINESS PARK,
WINDMILL LANE, DENTON, MANCHESTER M34 3QS.

AcornHouse
Chiropody and Podiatry

Professional and friendly clinic

We offer a complete range of foot care solutions
catered to your individual needs

Julie Froggatt-Bailey

M.Sc.Sports Injury & Therapy, B.Sc.(Hons) Pod.Med., M.Ch.S
HCPC Registered Podiatrist/Chiropodist

Acorn House, 15 Garners Lane, Davenport, Stockport, SK3 8SD
Conveniently located near Davenport train station

0161 612 3037



07740 943467



julie-fb@mail.com

www.stockportpodiatrist.uk



Flowers of every description and for every occasion

Gresty's

Flower Services
0161 480 0500



262 Wellington Road South
Heaviley, Stockport.

Free delivery to the Edgeley area

*Call in to Gresty's and take a look
around our fully-stocked premises.*



GARDENING CENTRE AND
INDOOR PLANT SHOWHOUSE
NOW OPEN

Sudoku puzzle: easy

2			3	7		8	5	
	1				8			7
	9	7	5	2	4			
6		5		3				8
	3						6	
7				9		3		5
			6	8	3	7	9	
3			7				2	
	7	9		1	5			3

© 2011 KrazyDad.com

Sudoku puzzle: intermediate

	6		4					
					5	9	4	
1			3				5	7
		9						
	4			6			7	
				7		2		
7	3				6			8
	8	1	9					
					4		3	

© 2011 KrazyDad.com

(Answers to all puzzles are on p. 23)



Crossword

1		2			3		4		5		6	
7					8							
	9			10		11		12		13		14
15												
16												
17	18			19	20		21					
				22								23
24									25			
26							27					

Across

- 1 'I pray that out of his glorious — he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being' (Ephesians 3:16) (6)
- 4 'Saul's father Kish and — father Ner were sons of Abiel' (1 Samuel 14:51) (6)
- 7 'Praise the Lord, O my — ' (Psalm 103:1) (4)
- 8 See 5 Down
- 9 Laws (1 Kings 11:33) (8)
- 13 'Who of you by worrying can — a single hour to his life?' (Luke 12:25) (3)
- 16 Artistry (Exodus 31:5) (13)
- 17 'Your young men will see visions, your — men will dream dreams' (Acts 2:17) (3)
- 19 How David described his Lord (Psalm 19:14) (8)
- 24 'If this city is built and its — — restored, you will be left with nothing in Trans-Euphrates' (Ezra 4:16) (5,3)
- 25 'The holy Scriptures, which are able to make you — for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus' (2 Timothy 3:15) (4)
- 26 Intended destination of arrows (Lamentations 3:12) (6)
- 27 Eve hit (anag.) (6)

Down

- 1 'For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find — for your souls' (Matthew 11:29) (4)

- 2 Where Peter was when he denied Christ three times (Luke 22:55) (9)
- 3 Remarkable early 20th-century Indian evangelist, a convert from Hinduism, — Sundar Singh (5)
- 4 'Now the king had put the officer on whose — — leaned in charge of the gate' (2 Kings 7:17) (3,2)
- 5 and 8 Across: The Lover describes this facial feature of the Beloved thus: 'Your — is like the tower of Lebanon looking towards — ' (Song of Songs 7:4) (4,8)
- 6 'Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled — your waist' (Ephesians 6:14) (5)
- 10 Trout (anag.) (5)
- 11 Easily frightened (1 Thessalonians 5:14) (5)
- 12 The ability to perceive (Ecclesiastes 10:3) (5)
- 13 One of the clans descended from Benjamin (Numbers 26:38) (9)
- 14 "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who — bread into the bowl with me" (Mark 14:20) (4)
- 15 Resound (Zephaniah 2:14) (4)
- 18 Traditional seat of the Dalai Lama (5)
- 20 Precise (John 4:53) (5)
- 21 Build (Ezekiel 4:2) (5)
- 22 Beat harshly (Acts 22:25) (4)
- 23 Darius, who succeeded Belshazzar as king of the Babylonians, was one (Daniel 5:31) (4)

FOR ADULTS ONLY

As a follow-up to the children's Book Quiz last month and my article on Jane Austen, I thought I would test the *Grapevine* readership on their knowledge of Jane Austen and her novels.

No prizes, unfortunately, but here are the answers!

1. Which was the first of Austen's novels to be written? **Northanger Abbey**
2. In *Pride and Prejudice*, how many daughters do Mr and Mrs Bennet have? **Five**
3. By the end of *Pride and Prejudice*, can you name the daughters not yet married? **Kitty and Mary**
4. In which novel do the following characters appear? Fanny Price; Miss Bates; Colonel Brandon; Frank Churchill. **Mansfield Park; Emma; Sense and Sensibility; Emma**
5. In which novel does a character famously fall from the Cobb in Lyme Regis? Who is it? **Persuasion; Louisa Musgrove**
6. In which Austen film adaptation did Emma Thompson and Kate Winslet play sisters? **Sense and Sensibility, 1995; directed by Ang Lee**
7. What was the name of Jane Austen's sister? **Cassandra**
8. In which city did Jane Austen die and be buried? **Winchester**
9. Which character 'never took up any book but the Baronetage', and in which novel does he appear? **Sir Walter Elliot; Persuasion**
10. In *Pride and Prejudice* which characters live at Longbourn; Pemberley; Rosings and Hunsford? **The Bennet Family; Fitzwilliam Darcy; Lady Catherine de Bourgh and her daughter; Mr and Mrs Collins (née Charlotte Lucas)**
11. Who declares about music that, "If I had ever learnt, I should have been a great proficient"? **Lady Catherine de Bourgh**
12. Austen's novels usually end with marriages. Who marries Edmund Bertram; Edward Ferrars; Colonel Brandon; Anne Elliott? **Fanny Price; Elinor Dashwood; Marianne Dashwood; Frederick Wentworth**
13. Which incomplete novel, whose characters include Miss Charlotte Heywood and Lady Denham, was adapted for television last year by Andrew Davies? **Sanditon**
14. Which highly unpleasant character in *Mansfield Park* is also the name of a cat in the Harry Potter novels 'with bulging, lamp-like eyes'? **Mrs. Norris**

The new absolutely-must-have item for your kitchen

Here is a curious winner in the coronavirus crisis: the humble egg cup. It has been flying off the shelves in recent months, as more of us find solace in a cooked breakfast.

At one point, John Lewis had sold out of most of its egg cups, with even the most expensive lines selling out (such as Le Creuset's set of six egg cups for £45, or Emma Bridgewater's set of six for £27.95.)

As Nicola Hattersley, tableware buyer for John Lewis, explained: "One positive from being at home more is taking the time to make mealtimes more of an occasion.

"The humble egg cup – something many of us haven't used since childhood – is gracing tables once again and hopefully we'll see a new generation becoming familiar with 'soldiers' and debating the best way to smash open a boiled egg."

Recipe: Fresh Strawberry Cake

I assume this recipe, which I found online, is American as it uses cup measurements. I have converted it to lbs/grams which is why some amounts may look a little strange.

- 1½ cups/9½ oz/270g plain flour
- 1½ teasp baking powder
- ½ teasp salt
- 3 oz/90g butter
- 1 cup/7 oz/200g caster sugar + 2 tablespoons
- 1 large egg
- 1 teasp vanilla extract
- ½ cup/4 fl oz/125 ml milk
- ¾ lb/350g strawberries, hulled and halved
- Grease a cake tin 8½ – 9 ins and line the base.

Heat oven to 350F/180C/Gas mark 4.

Mix together flour, baking powder and salt. Beat butter and 1 cup sugar until pale and fluffy. Add egg and vanilla and mix well. Gradually add flour mixture, alternately with milk. Beat mixture on slow speed until a smooth thick batter.

Put mixture in greased tin, smooth top. Arrange strawberries on top so they cover the batter. Sprinkle remaining sugar over strawberries. Bake 10 mins then reduce heat to 325F/170C/Gas mark 3 for about an hour until the top is golden and a tester comes out clean. Cool in the tin on a rack. Serve with cream or ice cream if liked.

Pamela Ferguson

A Short Walk in Bramhall

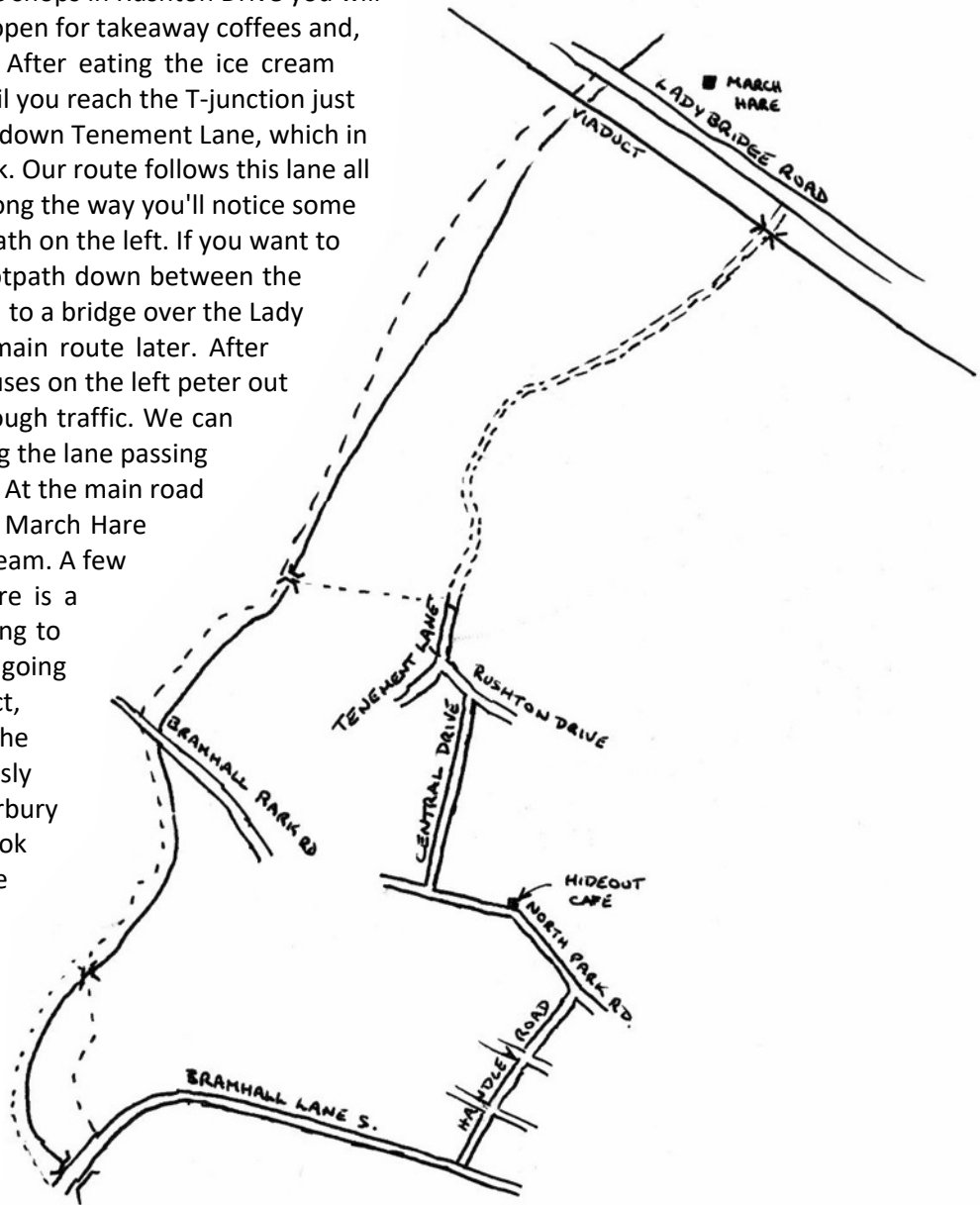
If possible, park on Handley Road, close to the junction with Bramhall Lane. Then walk up Handley Road crossing Abingdon and Earle Road. Many of the houses are Art Deco and if you look closely, you may spot that two still have the curved suntrap or Crittall windows. At the T-junction turn left along North Park Road and go towards the shopping area. At the end of the shops in Rushton Drive you will

find The Hideout Cafe which is open for takeaway coffees and, more importantly, ice creams. After eating the ice cream continue along Rushton Drive 'til you reach the T-junction just after the bungalows. Turn right down Tenement Lane, which in just a few yards becomes a track. Our route follows this lane all the way to Ladybridge Road. Along the way you'll notice some lovely houses and a small footpath on the left. If you want to shorten the route, take this footpath down between the houses, across the end of a field to a bridge over the Lady Brook. Turn left and join the main route later. After several hundred metres the houses on the left peter out and the lane is blocked for through traffic. We can

squeeze past and continue along the lane passing under the West Coast Mainline. At the main road turn left and continue past the March Hare

down to the bridge over the stream. A few metres beyond the bridge there is a footpath sign on the left pointing to Bramall Hall. Take this footpath going

under the seven arches viaduct, keeping to the path through the meadow. The stream is variously known as Bollinhurst Brook, Norbury Brook, Bramhall Brook, Ladybrook and Micker Brook. If you do take a picnic, this is an ideal spot to eat, though you will need to take something to sit on. Continue through the meadows, going through a couple of stiles, before joining up with the short cut on the left. The path continues along the south side of the Lady Brook, going through a more wooded area, before climbing steps up to Bramhall Park Road. Cross the road and drop down into the park. There are a number of paths crossing the park. The easiest is the one with the stream on your left and the lake on the right. This goes all the way to the main drive from Bramhall Lane South. Turn left and follow Bramhall Lane South all the way back to Handley Road.



squeeze past and continue along the lane passing under the West Coast Mainline. At the main road turn left and continue past the March Hare down to the bridge over the stream. A few metres beyond the bridge there is a footpath sign on the left pointing to Bramall Hall. Take this footpath going under the seven arches viaduct, keeping to the path through the meadow. The stream is variously known as Bollinhurst Brook, Norbury Brook, Bramhall Brook, Ladybrook and Micker Brook. If you do take a picnic, this is an ideal spot to eat, though you will need to take something to sit on. Continue through the meadows, going through a couple of stiles, before joining up with the short cut on the left. The path continues along the south side of the Lady Brook, going through a more wooded area, before climbing steps up to Bramhall Park Road. Cross the road and drop down into the park. There are a number of paths crossing the park. The easiest is the one with the stream on your left and the lake on the right. This goes all the way to the main drive from Bramhall Lane South. Turn left and follow Bramhall Lane South all the way back to Handley Road.

Peter Hall

The editor suggests that parking on Handley Road can be very difficult. A better bet might be to park on either Abingdon Road or Earle Road, where there is usually plenty of room.

Mondegreens

THE TV QUIZ was The Chase, the question concerned verbal errors, and the options were 'spoonerism, malapropism, mondegreen'. If you are drawn to TV quizzes, you are bound sometimes to choose the wrong answer – that is part of the attraction, and also allows you to claim that your pastime is 'educational' when faced with unsympathetic family members! This was, however, quite different, a real shock to the system!

My immediate reaction was, of course, to ask family and friends, including our editor, whether they knew about mondegreens. It was both a puzzle and a relief to find that the word was unknown to them too. From that moment, the search was on!

It was reassuring to find that the first mention of 'mondegreens' is as recent as 1954. It was coined by the American writer, Sylvia Wright, who remembered her mother reading to her a Scottish poem containing the lines,

"They have slain the Earl o' Moray
And laid him on the green."

As a little girl, she had thought that two victims were involved, the earl **and 'Lady Mondegreen'**!

That example is as full an explanation as anyone could need of what mondegreens are – mistakes based on mishearing and replacing verbal material. Every family must have a store of them, most involving songs, poems, plays, Bible quotations, Scripture. The big surprise should probably be that the world had to wait until 1954 for a name for them.

We are probably all aware of children's mistakes, such as the second of the three kings announcing "Frank sent this"; the Bony M song "my ears are alright" (the

Israelites); my mother, Eveline Victoria, trying as a child to avoid the national anthem because she thought it said, "Eveline Victoria, happy and glorious". Children's errors are often found by accident, as when a little girl said, after trying to join in with the national anthem, "I am glad, Mum". "Why?" queried the mother. The reply was "That God saved the Queen".

Until the middle of the last century, schoolchildren in this and many other countries were expected to learn by heart quite long passages of both prose and verse, and there must have been endless opportunities for mishearing and substituting text.

Some mondegreens have proved more acceptable than the original wording, "calling birds" now replacing the earlier "colly" which meant 'coal black'. A phrase in "Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer" has had a charmed life: the phrase, "all of the other reindeer", was replaced by "Olive, the other reindeer", which has now become the title of both a book and a musical!

The results of mishearing song lyrics can be amusing: ABBA "Gimme gimme gimme a man after midnight, Take me to the doctors at the break of the day" (through the darkness to); Madonna "Poppadom preach"(Poppa don't preach); Eurythmics "Sweet dreams are made of cheese" (are made of this).

Favourites will probably always be those produced by children in one's family. Ours has to be a small cousin living in Dorset and singing – no one knew why! – his version of the Irish song featuring County Down: "From West Bay up to Danny Kaye ..." So, time to 'fess up', what's yours?

Angela Foulkes

Did I hear you right?

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

Acts 2:1-6

That always sounds like such an exciting passage with the followers gathered together and given the ability to understand each other's languages.

Wouldn't that be a great gift? To be able to hear and to understand everything?

For those of us with hearing impairments, it's easy to miss the message. For those for whom English is a second

language, many authorities publish information in various languages plus braille. There are audio versions and online versions, provided to ensure that everyone has access to information.

I am particularly impressed at the efforts of the Canal and River Trust which we noticed on a recent walk on the towpath from Whaley Bridge to Buxworth Basin.

Determined to cover all bases in the fight against animal litter, they have written to the dogs themselves – maybe in the hope that they will translate it to their owners!!!

Elaine



Jean is always up for a spin on the dancefloor

We believe in tailoring our care to what each and every person loves. Whether it's toe tapping music or two lumps in your tea. If you're happy, we are too. See for yourself how we choose to live life in colour.

Residential Care

Dementia Specialists

Visit our website or call for more information



boroughcare.org.uk



0161 475 0140

Follow us



borough care 
Life in colour



Est. 30 years

Raymond Massey

Interior Painter & Decorator

All Decorating Work

Wallpapering Only, if required



0161 480 0399

Free Estimates

KNUTTONS

S. M. Evans BSc FCOptom

For Complete Professional Family Eye Care
Including
Disposable Contact Lenses Monthly and Daily

*Extensive Range of Quality Frames
at Reasonable Prices*

132 Bramhall Lane, Davenport, Stockport
Tel: 0161 456 3623



GMC Home Solutions Ltd

A local company covering a 7-mile radius from this parish.

We offer solutions from small repairs and replacement glass units to full extensions and everything in between. We specialise in:

- Resin driveways and landscaping
- Extensions
- Full house refurbishments
- Flat roofs and re-roofs
- Conservatory roof replacements
- Windows, doors, patio doors in upvc, aluminium and timber
- Replacement failed sealed units
- Kitchens, bedrooms and bathrooms

All our work is carried out by fully experienced and approved tradespeople and includes a guarantee and is project managed and inspected.

Please contact us on 01618186988, or direct on 07989470234.



Lockdown Lingo

'Lockdown lingo' - are you fully conversant with the new terminology? Here are a few terms to get you in the groove:

Coronacoaster

Ups and downs of your mood during the pandemic. You're loving lockdown one minute but suddenly weepy with anxiety the next. It truly is 'an emotional coronacoaster'.

Quarantinis

Experimental cocktails mixed from whatever random ingredients you have left in the house, the boozy equivalent of a store-cupboard supper. Southern Comfort and Ribena quarantini with a glacé cherry garnish anyone? These are sipped at 'locktail hour' i.e. wine o'clock during lockdown, which seems to be creeping earlier with each passing week.

Blue Skype thinking

A work brainstorming session which takes place over a video conferencing app. Such meetings might also be termed a 'Zoomposium'. Naturally, they are to be avoided if at all possible.

Coronial

As opposed to millennials, this refers to the future generation of babies conceived or born during Coronavirus quarantine. They might also become known as 'Generation C' or, more spookily, 'Children of the Quarn'

Furlough Merlot

Wine consumed in an attempt to relieve the frustration of not working. Also known as bored-eaux or cabernet tedium'.

Coronadose

An overdose of bad news from consuming too much media during a time of crisis. Can result in a 'panicdemic'.

The Elephant in the Zoom

The glaring issue during a video conferencing call that nobody feels able to mention e.g. one participant has dramatically put on weight, suddenly sprouted terrible facial hair or has a worryingly messy house visible in the background.

Quentin Quarantino

An attention-seeker using their time in lockdown to make amateur films which they are convinced are funnier and cleverer than they actually are.

Covidiot

One who ignores public health advice or behaves with reckless disregard for the safety of others can be said to display 'covidiocy' or be 'covidiotic'. Also called a 'lockclown'.

Goutbreak

The sudden fear that you've consumed so much wine, cheese, home-made cake and chocolate in lockdown that your ankles are swelling up like a medieval king's.

Antisocial distancing

Using health precautions as an excuse for snubbing neighbours and generally ignoring people you find irritating.

Mask-ara

Extra make-up applied to 'make one's eyes pop' before venturing out in public wearing a face mask.

Covid-10

The 10lbs in weight that we're all gaining from comfort-eating and comfort-drinking. Also known as 'fattening the curve'.

...and finally, finally, one sentence to sum up 2020, so far: at one point in March one loo roll was worth more than a barrel of crude oil.

contributed by Kate Stephenson

Recipe: One-Pot Mediterranean Chicken with Rice

This recipe was originally for orzo but I have adapted it to use rice; you might like to try it with orzo. I served it with some green vegetables.

1½ tsp smoked sweet paprika
1½ tsp ground allspice
½ tsp turmeric
½ tsp salt
6 chicken thighs, skin removed
olive oil
1 onion, diced
1 celery stick, diced
1 medium carrot, diced
6 garlic cloves, peeled and left whole
4 mushrooms, thickly sliced
handful cherry tomatoes
juice of 1 lemon
500ml chicken stock (1 chicken stock cube dissolved in 500ml boiling water)
150g rice

A handful of fresh parsley, roughly chopped, plus extra to garnish

Combine paprika, allspice, turmeric and salt. Coat chicken thighs in this mixture and put aside for 10 minutes. Preheat oven to 200C/fan 180C/gas mark 4.

Put olive oil in an ovenproof casserole and heat to medium. Add chicken thighs and sauté for a few minutes until they start to brown, then turn and brown on the other side. Remove from the pan and set aside.

Add a little more oil to the pan then gently fry the onion, carrot, celery, garlic and mushrooms for about 5 mins until the onion is soft. Add tomatoes, lemon juice and 100ml chicken stock, scraping up any bits stuck to the bottom of the pan. Return chicken to the pan. Cover with lid (or a piece of foil) and cook in the oven for 30 mins.

Remove the pan from the oven, add the rice, parsley and remaining 400ml stock. Return to the oven for 15-20 mins, uncovered. Serve garnished with the extra parsley.

Pamela Ferguson

Forever Football

DEADLOCK, HEADLOCK, LOCKDOWN – you can't keep a good game down!

Take one football, one wall, one bag of jumbo chinks, four young children, and soon you have one goal filling the largest space available, one model of the appropriate size to indicate a goalkeeper's outline, markings in the corners representing the best aim for penalties, plus a thoughtful rainbow to remind us of the NHS in these difficult days – what more can you ask?



The answer is, some way of dealing with the tendency of chalk dust to come flying off the wall after every strong, well-aimed kick. A temporary solution was found when an eccentric adult built a 'virtual goalkeeper' – needless to say, the riotous laughter greeting his first few kamikaze saves was not long-lasting – he took too much corrective surgery!!



Angela Foulkes

MAXWELLS

*FINE ART, ANTIQUES AND
GENERAL AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS*

*YOUR LOCAL AUCTIONEERS
FOR OVER 30 YEARS*

**BUYING OR SELLING,
WE HAVE THE MARKET PLACE!**

Maxwells are a local family firm and are able to tailor their service to meet their clients' requirements. They are helped by an excellent team of friendly staff.

Monthly Antiques Auction and
quarterly specialist Collectors' Auctions

Professionally qualified valuations for Probate

Free pre-sale valuations available every
Thursday 12.00 – 4.00pm

www.maxwells-auctioneers.co.uk

The Auction Rooms, Levens Rd.,
Hazel Grove, Stockport, SK7 5DL.

0161 439 5182

Funeralcare



Here for you

Our caring and professional team is here to guide and advise you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

We're here when it matters most

Our services also extend to:

- Pre-paid funeral plans - Memorial masonry - Floral tributes

Davenport Funeralcare
214 Bramhall Lane,
SK3 8TE
0161 456 1709

Stockport Funeralcare
53 Wellington Road South,
SK1 3RU
0161 480 2065

coop.co.uk/funeralcare

As Fine Silver

MALACHI 3:3 says: "He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver."

This verse puzzled some women in a Bible study. They got to wondering what this statement meant about the character and nature of God. One of the women offered to find out the process of refining silver and get back to the group at their next Bible Study. That week, the woman called a silversmith and made an appointment to watch him at work. She didn't mention anything about the reason for her interest beyond her curiosity about the process of refining silver.

As she watched the silversmith, he held a piece of silver over the fire and let it heat up. He explained that in refining silver, one needed to hold the silver in the middle of the fire where the flames were hottest, so as to burn away all the impurities.

The woman thought about God holding us in such a hot spot, and then she thought again about the verse that

says: "He sits as a refiner and purifier of silver." She asked the silversmith if it was true that he had to sit there in front of the fire the whole time the silver was being refined.

The man answered that yes, he not only had to sit there holding the silver, but he had to keep his eyes on the silver the entire time it was in the fire. If the silver was left a moment too long in the flames, it would be destroyed. The woman was silent for a moment. Then she asked the silversmith, "How do you know when the silver is fully refined?"

He smiled at her and answered, "Oh, that's easy – when I can see my image in it."

If today you are feeling the heat of the fire, remember that God has his eye on you and will keep watching you. His aim is not to abandon or destroy you, but to refine you – until he sees his image in you.

Buttercups – treasure in our countryside

BUTTERCUP! What a delicious name! Rumour has it that, as they were frequently to be found in meadows where cows grazed, they were responsible for butter's yellow colouring. So the name was an obvious choice.

However, since buttercups are poisonous and therefore are avoided as far as possible by our four-footed friends, this is somewhat unlikely. But surely, we all remember having a buttercup held under our chin to see whether the reflection proved that we liked butter! The shiny surface of the petals actually has two real purposes. Firstly, to help attract insects and secondly to act as a kind of mirror to aid the temperature regulation of the plant's reproductive organs.

We are fortunate that buttercups do not suffer from the same unpopularity as other poisonous plants, because if eaten, not only do they taste nasty, but the poison will also cause blisters in the mouth of the consumer.

Extensive handling can also damage the skin, but presumably the size of bunch that many of us picked as children did not count as 'extensive'. Fortunately, health and safety experts do not yet seem to have forbidden this source of pleasure for little people. Incidentally, the poison is reduced as the plant dries, and hay that includes buttercups is safe for cows and horses to eat.

Buttercups help form the traditional view of the British countryside. Differing varieties range in height from small to quite tall and although at their peak in early summer, the golden blooms can often still be seen in mid-autumn. Jan Struther, who wrote 'Lord of all hopefulness' also wrote a children's hymn entitled 'Treasure'. It starts:

*Daisies are our silver, buttercups our gold:
This is all the treasure we can have or hold.*

Kirsty Steele

Remembering the man who founded Barnardo's

IT WAS 175 years ago, on 4th July 1845, that Thomas Barnardo, the humanitarian and philanthropist, was born in Dublin. He founded Barnardo's, a charity which continues to care for vulnerable children and young people.

The son of a furrier, he worked as a clerk until converted to evangelical Christianity in 1862. He moved to London, intending to study medicine and become a missionary in China. He never qualified as a doctor – despite being known as Dr Barnardo – and soon decided that his real calling was to help poor children living on the streets of London, where one in five children died before their fifth birthday.

He opened his first home for boys in 1870 and soon vowed never to turn a child away. Most Victorians saw poverty as shameful, associating it with poor morals and laziness, but Barnardo refused to discriminate. He made sure boys were trained and found them apprenticeships.

When Barnardo died in 1905, he left 96 homes caring for more than 8,500 vulnerable children, including those with learning difficulties. Because he believed that children should ideally grow up in a family setting, in 1887 he introduced an early form of fostering – boarding out children to host families.

Tim Lenton

Holy Days: 3rd July St Thomas the Apostle – confused and doubting

THOMAS, one of Jesus' 12 apostles, was an impulsive, confused, honest sceptic. Jesus could understand and work with such a man. Thomas' impulsiveness was evident when Jesus prepared to visit Lazarus in Bethany. It was a dangerous trip to make, because of the Jews, but Thomas urged his fellow disciples: "Let us also go, that we may die with him." (John 11:16) Instead, Jesus brought Lazarus back to life.

Thomas' confusion is shown in later talks with Jesus. He was not really sure where Jesus was going long-term (John 14:5). But Jesus accepted this confused commitment, and began to untangle it, patiently explaining: "I am going to my Father", and "No one comes unto the Father but by me."

Finally, Thomas' honest scepticism is revealed after the Resurrection, which he flatly refused to believe unless he could touch the wounds of the risen Jesus. Sure enough,

Jesus appears, but instead of scolding him, shows him the wounds. Thomas responds: "My Lord and my God" (John 20:26ff).

Thus Doubting Thomas' honest doubts, turned to honest faith, have become a reassurance for thousands of men and women across the centuries, who also want to follow Jesus, but who require some proof of this amazing event, the Resurrection. In Doubting Thomas' complete affirmation of faith, after meeting the risen, crucified Christ, they can find support for their own faith.

Ancient legends tell how Thomas went on to India as a missionary. There are rumours that Thomas even built a palace for a king's daughter in India, and thus he is the patron saint of architects. It is believed that he was martyred by a spear on 3rd July, 72 AD in Mylapore, near Madras. 46 ancient churches in England were dedicated to him.

15th July St Swithun (or Swithin) – saint for a rainy day

ST SWITHUN is apparently the saint you can blame for rainy summers. It is said that if it rains on his special day, 15th July, it will then rain for 40 days after that. It all began when Swithun was made Bishop of Winchester in 852 by King Ethelwulf of Wessex. It was an important posting: Winchester was the capital of Wessex, and during the ten years Swithun was there, Wessex became the most important kingdom of England.

During his life, instead of washing out people's summer holidays, and damping down their spirits, Swithun seems to have done a lot of good. He was famous for his charitable gifts and for his energy in getting churches built. When he was dying in 862, he asked that he be buried in the cemetery of the Old Minster, just outside the west door.

If he had been left there in peace, who knows how many rainy summers the English may have been spared over the last 1000 years. But, no, it was decided to move Swithun. By now, the 960s, Winchester had become the first monastic cathedral chapter in England, and the newly installed monks wanted Swithun in the cathedral with them. So finally, on 15th July 971, his bones were dug up and Swithun was translated into the cathedral.

That same day many people claimed to have had miraculous cures. Certainly everyone got wet, for the heavens opened. The unusually heavy rain that day, and on the days following, was attributed to the power of St Swithun. Swithun was moved again in 1093, into the new Winchester cathedral. His shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the middle ages. The shrine was destroyed during the Reformation and restored in 1962. There are 58 ancient dedications to Swithun in England.

30th July William Wilberforce, Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson

DURING THE 18th century many people in England were involved in the campaign to abolish the slave trade. The CofE remembers especially William Wilberforce, Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson, three very different but all tireless campaigners against the evil practice.

Thomas Clarkson (1760 – 1846) was an Anglican clergyman and one of the most prominent of the anti-slavery campaigners. In 1787 he helped form the first Abolitionist Committee, and his energy and hatred of injustice made him a 'moral steam-engine'. He travelled hundreds of miles, gathering evidence from people caught up in the slave trade, from ship captains to doctors.

Olaudah Equiano (1745 – 1797) had been kidnapped in Nigeria, sold into slavery and sent to the West Indies. When he finally escaped, he made his way to London and

became one of the most prominent black campaigners. His brutal autobiography of 1789 ran to nine reprints, and was translated into many languages, bringing home to people the horrors of the slave trade.

William Wilberforce (1759 – 1833), of course, became the main figurehead in Parliament. He came from a wealthy family in Kingston-upon-Hull, and represented the town in Parliament. He was recruited by Thomas Clarkson, who saw the need for a brilliant advocate within Parliament. Wilberforce was an inspired choice: not only wealthy and well-connected, but a gifted orator with a social conscience, especially after his conversion in 1785. He made his first speech in Parliament against slavery in 1789, but it was not until 1807, after a debate that raged for many years, that the Abolition Act was finally passed.

Riddles

1. What has to be broken before you can use it?
2. What month of the year has 28 days?
3. What is full of holes, but still holds water?
4. What has teeth but never bites?
5. What is always in front of you but can't be seen?
6. You see a boat filled with people, yet there isn't a single person on board. How is that possible?
7. David's parents have three sons, Snap, Crackle and ? What's the name of the third son?
8. What has many keys but can't open a single lock?
9. What can you hold in your left hand but not in your right?
10. Where does 'Today' come before 'Yesterday'?
11. What can't be put in a saucepan?
12. What goes up and down but can't move?
13. It belongs to you but other people use it more than you do?
14. What has lots of eyes but can't see?
15. What has one eye but can't see?
16. What has many needles but doesn't sew?
17. What has hands but can't clap?
18. What has a head and a tail but no body?
19. What has a bottom at the top?
20. What has four or more wheels and flies?

ANSWERS.

1. An Egg.
2. All twelve of them.
3. A Sponge.
4. A Comb.
5. The Future.
6. All the people in the boat are married.
7. David.
8. A Piano.
9. Your right elbow.
10. The Dictionary.
11. Its Lid.
12. A Staircase.
13. Your name.
14. A Potato.
15. A Needle.
16. A Christmas Tree.
17. A Clock.
18. A Coin.
19. Your legs.
20. A Refuse Collection lorry.

Compiled by Albert Barber and Christina Hamilton, BBC Pensioners Association.

Contributed by Peter Pilbeam

PAPYRUS

PAPYRUS is the national charity dedicated to the prevention of young suicide.

papyrus-uk.org 0800 068 41 41

Suicide is the biggest killer of young people – male *and* female – under 35 in the UK. Every year many thousands more attempt or contemplate suicide, harm themselves or suffer alone, afraid to speak openly about how they are feeling.

Our vision is for a society which speaks openly about suicide and has the resources to help young people who may have suicidal thoughts.

We exist to reduce the number of young people who take their own lives by shattering the stigma around suicide and equipping young people and their communities with the skills to recognise and respond to suicidal behaviour.

PREVENTION: Many young suicides are preventable

PASSION: Those who are touched personally by a young suicide have a unique contribution to make to our work.

HOPE: No young person should have to suffer alone with thoughts or feelings of hopelessness and nobody

should have to go through the heartbreak of losing a young person to suicide

LEARNING: There are always lessons to be learned from listening to young people at risk of suicide, those who give them support and those who have lost a young person to suicide.

PAPYRUS was founded in 1997 by a mother from Lancashire, Jean Kerr, following the loss of her son to suicide. PAPYRUS was initially set up as the Parents' Association for the Prevention of Young Suicide, hence the name PAPYRUS.

SUPPORT: We provide confidential support and advice to young people struggling with thoughts of suicide, and anyone worried about a young person through our helpline, HOPELINEUK.

EQUIP: We engage communities and volunteers in suicide-prevention projects and deliver training programmes to individuals and groups.

INFLUENCE: We aim to shape national social policy and make a significant contribution to the local and regional implementation of national suicide prevention strategies wherever we can.



Puzzle solutions

Easy Sudoku solution:

2	6	4	3	7	1	8	5	9
5	1	3	9	6	8	2	4	7
8	9	7	5	2	4	1	3	6
6	4	5	1	3	2	9	7	8
9	3	1	8	5	7	4	6	2
7	2	8	4	9	6	3	1	5
1	5	2	6	8	3	7	9	4
3	8	6	7	4	9	5	2	1
4	7	9	2	1	5	6	8	3

Intermediate Sudoku solution:

3	6	5	4	9	7	8	2	1
8	2	7	6	1	5	9	4	3
1	9	4	3	2	8	6	5	7
2	7	9	8	4	3	5	1	6
5	4	8	2	6	1	3	7	9
6	1	3	5	7	9	2	8	4
7	3	2	1	5	6	4	9	8
4	8	1	9	3	2	7	6	5
9	5	6	7	8	4	1	3	2

Crossword

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

Free national phonenumber bringing worship and prayer

GOVERNMENT FIGURES show that 2.5 million people aged 75 and above have never used the internet. And so, to help them, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, recently launched a free national phonenumber to bring worship and prayer into the homes of those without access to the internet.

Daily Hope, which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044, offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England.

Do You Remember When?

Nobody ever applauded themselves, however clever they felt they were.

If you were asked a question, your answer did not have to start with "So, ..."

No-one said, "You are joking me."

And, before March 2020, it is virtually impossible that anyone could ever have said, outside their front door – or even inside it! – "I miss having the clap this week"!

Angela Foulkes

Shining as a light to the world

Shine as a light to the world Mt 5:16



Garden Pride Landscaping

Leading specialists in: Landscaping • Paving • Decking • Lawns • Fencing • Water Features • Garden Lighting

12 Seymour Road, STOCKPORT, SK2 6ES

07966 284424 or 0161 456 1815

www.gardenpride.net

POPPIES

Domestic & Commercial
Cleaning Specialists

"More than a
Cleaning Service"

Let Poppies of Stockport take care of your home and give you back your free time.

Call or Click 0161 300 4530

www.poppies-stockport.co.uk

- Weekly-Fortnightly-Monthly
- House Moves (in or out)
- Eldercare Services
- End of Tenancy
- Before or After Parties
- During Pregnancy or Illness

Professional, Reliable & Properly Insured since 1980

IAN MANN *Funeral Directors Ltd*

When you need someone who cares...

...24-Hour Independent Service

IAN MANN *Funeral Directors Ltd*
24 Hour Independent Service 0161 439 5544



4 Woodford Road
Bramhall, Stockport,
SK7 1JJ
0161 439 5544

128 Lower Bents Lane
Bredbury, Stockport,
SK6 2NL
0161 430 4410

90 Lower Fold
Marple Bridge, Stockport,
SK6 5DU
0161 427 9466

FREEPHONE 0800 915 1202

Private Chapel of Rest • Pre-Paid Funeral Plans • Monumental Work

August 2020 Grapevine magazine dates:

Copy deadline: Fri 17th July
Committee meeting: via email

Printed by: Frank Aspinall & Co, Building 4 Unit 5,
Tameside Business Park, Windmill Lane, Denton,
Manchester M34 3QS. email: frankaspinall@hotmail.com

Contributions to the Editor: Richard Parr. Tel. 0161 439 8644.
Please e-mail contributions to: ricmar77@gmx.com and also
send a copy to: andrew@andrewregan.org.uk
Please give your name and telephone number.
Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the
editorial team.