

February 2014



'The  
Bridge'



BEELEY WITH EDENSOR

*Including CHATSWORTH, CALTON LEES & PILSLEY*

PARISH MAGAZINE

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February 2014

On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February the Christian Church throughout the world celebrates the day when Mary and Joseph presented their son Jesus in the Temple at Jerusalem. The day is called **Candlemas**. It was the custom for a Jewish family to seek God's blessing on the birth of a new child. This would have been a day of great celebration, joy and pride. In the early days of television advertising, commercials always showed immaculate homes and impeccably behaved families. Father was the breadwinner, always middle class, setting off to work with his briefcase. Mother was as neat and tidy as the house she spent her entire day keeping that way. Children were polite and well behaved. Everyone was happy and smiling. For many young couples bringing up their children, this must have seemed the way family life should really be. All sweetness and light.

Eventually, people admitted that these commercials did not reflect real life at all. Not only that, but they were doing real harm. People looking at these impossibly beautiful homes, these unrealistically happy families, compared them with their own and felt totally inadequate. Gradually, commercials have changed to reflect the complexities of family life – and not only because patterns of life have themselves changed. These days, television couples occasionally argue. Children squabble, storm off and slam doors. There is recognition that, even in the best-regulated families, life has never been all sweetness and light.

Of course there was great joy for Mary and Joseph when they took Jesus to the Temple. However, as we read stories in the Gospels, we learn that Jesus caused his mother Mary grief when he went missing in Jerusalem only to be found listening to the teachers in the Temple. Later, we read about Mary suffering agony watching her son die upon the cross. Over the years, Jesus must have caused his mother a great deal of heartache.

In our Christian life, as in our private lives, there will be sorrow amidst the joy. Our families and our close friendships can be the source of great

happiness, but because we invest so much time and emotion in them, and because we are all flawed human beings, they can also cause us heartache, which in turn makes us feel inadequate. If we stop expecting the perfect relationships of the television commercials, if we accept that love can bring sorrow, our lives will be more rewarding.

In the same way, our relationship with God needs to be realistic. If we turn to Christ expecting instant cures, a straight path, sweetness and light, what happens when we find that we still have doubts, or that life's problems have not all gone away? We either suspect that we have failed and are not 'good Christians', or that God has let us down. Neither is true. In this life we are bidden to take up our cross and follow the one who was tested as we are. May we trust him to walk with us through sorrow and through joy, until we enter into his light and share his glory.

Every blessing  
Canon Dave

### *BEELEY VILLAGE HALL*

*Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 7.30pm - tickets £10 each*

Canon Dave Perkins  
will give a talk on his journey:

FROM GASMAN to GOD'S MAN

Followed by nibbles and soft drinks, and then a singalong of well known songs to Dave's guitar accompaniment. Bring your own alcoholic drinks if you like - glasses will be provided.

*Proceeds to St. Anne's Church, Beeley  
Tickets from Canon Dave/Judith Fraser-Martin*

#### Telephone Numbers

St. Anne's	Wardens:-	Rupert Turner	01629 732794
		Fiona Swain	ex directory
	Treasurer:-	to be confirmed	
<u>St. Peter's</u>	Wardens:-	Elizabeth Bradshaw	01246 582421
		David Jackson	01246 583452
	Treasurer:-	Mark Titterton	01246 582245
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:mtitterton@btinternet.com">mtitterton@btinternet.com</a>	

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY -FEBRUARY

- 11 **BEELEY WI Monthly Meeting** 7.30pm Village Hall  
'Gas Man to God's Man' The life and times of the vicar of the parish -  
Canon Dave Perkins      *Tea & Raffle - Janet*
- 13 Pilsley CofE School Christingle Service 2pm St. Peter's Church
- 19 EDENSOR WI Monthly Meeting 7pm Edensor Tea Cottage  
*Speaker:* Les Bayton - A Day in the Life of a TV extra + comic verse  
*Competition:* A ditty      *Teas:* Mrs Blackwell  
*Vote of Thanks:* Mrs Brewer
- 24 **Beeley Parish Council Meeting** 7.30pm Village Hall  
Everyone welcome

### **Early Notice**

22<sup>nd</sup> March at The Cavendish Hall, Edensor 7.30pm

*An evening's entertainment by*

'The Travelling People Folk Band' - featuring Canon Dave

Tickets £12.50

Nibbles will be provided and the bar will be open

**Early booking recommended!**

*Tickets from Canon Dave, the Churchwardens,  
Edensor Tea Cottage or Pilsley Post Office*

Proceeds to St. Peter's Church

*From the Registers*

*St Peter's, Edensor*

*22<sup>nd</sup> December ~ Baptism ~ Grason Philip Michael Firth*

*12<sup>th</sup> January ~ Baptism ~ Oliver Mark Robert Coles*

*31<sup>st</sup> December ~ Thanksgiving Service for the life of  
Frances Dura (Bobby) Clarke aged 81 years*

*9<sup>th</sup> January ~ Interment of: Ashes -  
Frances Dura (Bobby) Clarke*

*11<sup>th</sup> January ~ Wedding ~*

*Michael Edward Geraint McGrarth & Siobhan Mary Tobin*

## REMINDER

### 'THE BRIDGE' Magazine Subscription

Your magazine subscription for 2014 is now due - £7.20. Please give the money to the person who delivers your copy of the magazine or if I post it to you please include a book of 12 stamps with your subscription. Those who live in Beeley and have a copy of the magazine delivered should give their subscription to Pauline Mather.

Cheques should be made payable to Edensor PCC.

Thank you for your continued support and remember we always welcome any suitable items for possible inclusion in 'The Bridge'.

Items for the **MARCH** magazine should reach me **NO LATER THAN MONDAY 10 FEBRUARY**

Mail to: [liz.bradshaw@w3z.co.uk](mailto:liz.bradshaw@w3z.co.uk)

'The Bridge' Parish Magazine 60p per copy (£7.20 per year.)

### **St. Peter's Church 100 Club December Draw 2013**

1st Prize £30 - no.35 Stan Liddicot  
2nd Prize £20 - no.8 Daphne Feeney  
Funds to church this month - £50

Subscriptions for 2014 are now due at £12 per number held.

Please make out cheques to:-

St.Peter's Church  
100 Club.

Thank you for your continued support.  
Ann Hall

### 'SPICE' SUNDAY

The 'SPICE' Sunday held on 12<sup>th</sup> January raised £54.05 for St. Peter's Church.

The total amount collected during 2013 was £230.85. We still have a long way to go to reach Tony's original goal of £1,000 in a year! However, every little helps so thank you for your continued support with this fundraiser. The next 'SPICE' Sunday is 13<sup>th</sup> April.

**BASH - Bakewell and Ashford Film Society will be screening the following films during this season:**

- 9th February: Summer in February (2013)
- 9th March: Skyfall (2012)
- 13th April: Intouchables (2011)
- 11th May: The Illusionist (2006)
- 8th June: A Late Quartet (2012) plus AGM & Summer Social.

Membership forms are available on the society's website ([www.bashfilms.org.uk](http://www.bashfilms.org.uk)) or from The Medway Centre. Membership is £15 for the rest of the 2013-14 season of 6 films. Temporary membership for 2 films is £8 or you may attend 1 film as a guest of a member for £5. Contact Cheryl Mayfield, 22 Catcliffe Cottages, Bakewell DE45 1FL ([cherylmayfield@stainedglass1.plus.com](mailto:cherylmayfield@stainedglass1.plus.com)) 01629 814770. Members may also borrow films free of charge from the society's growing DVD/Blu-ray library.

**Happy Birthday Pips!**

*Nigel Beeton celebrates the birthday of the 'Pips'.*

*A very familiar friend celebrates an anniversary on the 5th February! Not many days go by where we don't hear the Greenwich Time Signal, more affectionately known as the 'pips', and the pips were first broadcast 90 years ago, on 5th February 1924.*

Punctuality?  
A necessity!  
For today, you see  
Our buses, trains and ships  
**May** run on time  
But we don't mind  
The time we find  
By tuning to the pips.

*At the third stroke  
It will be  
Three twenty-three  
Precisely.*

*Pip, pip, pip, pip, peep!  
And now, here is the news  
And here is John Snagge  
Reading it.*

*So life goes on  
All timed along  
By Greenwich song  
As past it gently slips;  
To time we keep  
Awake, asleep  
Pip pip, pip, peep!  
Happy Birthday to the pips!*

## **Good deed of the day becomes a thing of the past**

When did you last do someone a good turn? Probably not today – or yesterday, or the day before that.... it seems that nine in 10 of us admit that we regularly go through a day without performing an act of kindness towards anyone. In fact, almost a quarter of the population admit they could not even remember the last time they went out of their way to help someone. A third of us say that we never even consider helping an older person.

The survey, by the charity Friends of the Elderly, aims to persuade people to perform acts of kindness that they might never have considered before, for older people in particular.

Certainly Christians are called upon to show compassion. As St Paul wrote to the Thessalonians: 'Now concerning brotherly love, you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another...'

1 Thess. 4:9

## **Half a million pounds for Cathedral improvements**

Thirteen cathedrals have been awarded grants totalling nearly half a million pounds to help repair and enhance their buildings for the future. £350,000 will be awarded from the Cathedral Fabric Repair Fund, a partnership between the Wolfson Foundation, the Pilgrim Trust and the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England (CFCE), all organisations with long records of supporting England's historic church buildings and their contents.

Over the past three years the Fund has awarded more than £2.4 million for essential works to keep

cathedrals weatherproof. The backers of the Cathedral Fabric Repair Fund hope to see additional supporters joining the scheme so that it will continue into the future. It has been estimated that England's cathedrals need more than £10 million pounds a year simply for their routine care and maintenance – and they receive no direct government funding.

This year's 10 successful applicants were Birmingham, Coventry, Exeter, Liverpool, Norwich, Peterborough, Salisbury, Southwark and St Albans cathedrals and York Minster.

## **Bishops welcome Participant Observers to first meeting**

The House of Bishops of the Church of England recently welcomed eight women as participant observers to its meetings. The welcome followed the election of the eight senior women clergy from regions across the country.

Last February (2013) the House decided that until such time as there are six female members of the House, following the admission of women to the episcopate, a number of senior women clergy should be given the right to attend and speak at meetings of the House as participant observers. The necessary change to the House's Standing Orders were made in May.

Elections for the eight senior women clergy were held in autumn of last year and the following were elected:

- **East Midlands** - *Ven Christine Wilson, Archdeacon of Chesterfield*
- **West Midlands** - *Revd Preb. Dr Jane Tillier, Preb of Lichfield Cathedral*
- **East Anglia** - *Ven Annette Cooper, Archdeacon of Colchester*
- **South and Central** - *Ven Joanne Grenfell, Archdeacon of Portsdown*
- **South East region** - *Ven Rachel Treweek, Archdeacon of Hackney*
- **South West region** - *Ven Nicola Sullivan, Archdeacon of Wells*
- **North East** *Very Revd Vivienne Faull, Dean of York*
- **North West** - *The Rev Libby Lane, Dean of Women in Ministry, Chester Diocese*

### **How to improve your creativity**

Would you like to be able to think more creatively? Then – get moving. Scientists have discovered that regular exercise such as going for a walk or cycling really does improve creative thought. Now research by Lorenza Colzato, a cognitive psychologist, has found that people who exercise four times a week are able to think more creatively than those who exercise less.

Prof Colzato said: “Anecdotal literature suggests that creative people sometimes use bodily movement to help overcome mental blocks and lack of inspiration. We think that physical movement is good for the ability to think flexibly, but only if the body is used to being active. Exercising on a regular basis may thus act as a cognitive enhancer, promoting creativity in inexpensive and healthy ways.” The results were published in *Frontiers of Human Neuroscience*.



*14<sup>th</sup> February  
Saint Valentine's  
Day*

Saint Valentine's Day, many believe, was named after one or more Christian martyrs and was established by Pope Gelasius 1 in 496 AD. Valentine of Rome was martyred about 269, and this day usually 'belongs' to him.

The first recorded association of Valentine Day with romantic love (1382) is from Geoffrey Chaucer. He wrote, 'For this was Saint Valentine's Day, when every bird cometh there to choose his mate.' This poem was in honour of the first anniversary of the

engagement of King Richard II of England to Anne of Bohemia. Valentine's Day is referred to by Ophelia in Hamlet (1600-1601).

*To-morrow is St Valentine's day  
All in the morning betime  
And I a maid at your window  
To be your Valentine.*

The modern mention of Valentine's Day can be found in a collection of English nursery rhymes (1784).

*The rose is red, the violet's blue  
The honey's sweet, and so are  
you  
Thou are my love and I am thine  
I drew thee to my Valentine.*

*Every year the week which includes Valentine's Day is designated National Marriage Week, so with this in mind.....*

## **Marriage is good for you!**

Your spouse may drive you crazy at times, but did you know that marriage is physically good for you? Research has found that its benefits range from reducing mental health problems, to increasing life expectancy, to increasing health and happiness in general. No one knows quite why – perhaps it is just as the Bible says: that it is not good for man to be alone. Marriage certainly provides built-in company and mutual support in the ups and downs of life.

To celebrate YOUR marriage in this month of love, what about trying one

or more of the following with your spouse?

1. Romance each other - go out on a date! – and let it turn into a special night.
2. Write your spouse some love notes and leave them in unexpected places.
3. Re-affirm your wedding vows – alone, with friends, or even at church.
4. Invite some other married couples round for dinner and watch a good film together.
5. Buy a book or DVD on how to strengthen your marriage even more.
6. Go back to the place where you had your first date – or that first special meal....

## Sugar Lips

Kissing has always been special between lovers. As far back as bible times lovers were saying, *'Let him kiss me.... for your love is better than wine....'* (Song of Solomon 1:2)

Since Elizabethan times, lavender kissing comfits have been popular. Comfits are strongly flavoured sweets coated with many layers of liquid sugar, flavoured with orange, rose, violet or lavender flower water.

Here's how to make them: Mix 170g of very finely ground granulated white sugar with 118cl hot lavender water and add a few drops of blue food colour. Pour into a heavy-bottomed saucepan or small cast iron skillet and stir over a low heat, until the sugar melts and becomes clear. Pour about 118cl of coriander, caraway or fennel seeds, pine nuts or almonds into the bowl. Shake this bowl gently while spooning the syrup

over the contents, until all are covered. Keep stirring the nuts or seeds with a fork until they are white and separated. Keep on coating them sparingly but repeatedly, with more syrup. Finally, place on a baking tray, to cool. Feed them to a loved one, and then – kiss!

Lavender water: (the English species *L. Angustifolia* works best) Pour 1.14 litres of boiled distilled water over 473cl lavender flowers and stir well. Cover and infuse for 48 hours, stirring every so often. Strain and then stir in 37cl of vodka. Pour into bottles and cover. Just one more reason to grow lavender in your garden this year!

*NB I haven't yet tried this recipe personally but would be very interested in tasting the results if anyone else makes them!*



### **Fair Trade Fortnight goes bananas....**

Fair Trade Fortnight this year (24 Feb – 9 Mar) will see the launch of a new campaign to increase the sales of Fair Trade bananas. Although more than 1.2 billion Fairtrade bananas are now sold in the UK each year, that is still only one in three of the bananas sold.

So 'Abolish the Unfair Banana' aims to carry on transforming the banana industry, in order to ensure that those at the sharp end of the supply chain – the millions of struggling banana farmers – get a fair deal. The campaign is the next part of Fair Trade's three year initiative to Make Food Fair.

*Most people have heard of rural deans, archdeacons and bishops.... but how many people have a clear idea of what these clergy actually DO? In the first of a three part series, Steve Jenkins explains...*

## **So, what is exactly IS a rural or area dean?**

If a Church of England diocese is a business and its bishop is the managing director, an archdeacon is the head of a division and a rural dean manages a department: not quite an accurate description but not a bad comparison. When the call centre cannot answer your problem and you ask to speak to a manager, the next voice you hear is probably the equivalent of the rural dean.

Another way to look at it is to see the rural dean, often known as the area dean, as the senior vicar in a large group of churches and parishes. Such a group, maybe a couple of dozen parishes, is a deanery. The rural or area dean chairs all the clergy of the area when they come together with lay people elected by each parish in a council called the deanery synod.

Synods are the Church's equivalent of Parliament (General Synod), County Councils (Diocesan Synod) and local councils (Deanery Synod), where both spiritual and administrative matters can be discussed democratically and planning and policy shaped.

Rural dean is, in fact, an ancient office with certain specified responsibilities: the incongruity of a priest in the middle of a city being called a rural dean led to many now being called area deans. In many instances, the duties of rural dean are discharged by a vicar as a temporary addition to his or her responsibilities, in return for a small honorarium. Rather than seeing the rural dean as the line manager for other vicars, therefore, the relationship is nearer to that of the Archbishop of Canterbury with other bishops: not the boss but first among equals.

As an officer of the bishop the rural dean's key roles include looking after parishes that are between vicars, ensuring everything keeps going and helping in the process of finding a new vicar; chairing meetings of all the clergy within the deanery; co-chairing, with an elected layperson, meetings of the deanery synod; and carrying out visitations and inspections on behalf of the archdeacon to ensure the good order of the fabric and the general welfare of parishes.

It's not all about admin, however. Being the priest of a parish is not always as quiet and calm as you might think. Clergy can be affected by pressure just like anyone else and rural deans are expected to care for the clergy of their deanery as well as for the parishes. They listen to

vicar's problems, as well as those of parishioners, and help in whatever way they can.

And then they make sure that communication between the parishes and the bishop is working. They pass on messages from the bishop and send back responses, as well as

making sure that the bishop hears of any problems in the parishes.

So, you might see rural and area deans as a cross between council chair, line manager and agony aunt.

*Here are some modern 'insights' on an age-old Psalm...*

## **What the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm is really all about**

**The Lord is my Shepherd** - *that's relationship.*

**I shall not want** - *that's supply.*

**He makes me lie down in green pastures** - *that's rest.*

**He leads me beside the still waters** - *that's refreshment.*

**He restores my soul** - *that's healing.*

**He leads me in the paths of righteousness** - *that's guidance.*

**For his name's sake** - *that's purpose.*

**Yes, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death** - *that's testing.*

**I will fear no evil** - *that's protection.*

**For You are with me** - *that's faithfulness.*

**Your rod and your staff, they comfort me** - *that's discipline.*

**You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies** - *that's hope.*

**You anoint my head with oil** - *that's consecration.*

**My cup runs over** - *that's abundance.*

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life** - *that's blessing.*

**And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever** - *that's security!*

## **Prepared?**

I am ready to meet my Maker. Whether my Maker is prepared for the ordeal of meeting me is another matter. (Winston Churchill, on his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday).

## The Way I See It : Surfing the Web - 22 years after it first began

I suppose all of us, even if reluctantly, are familiar with the strange code 'www' - the prelude to a domain name for the internet. Tap it in, and at once you are somewhere else - a shop, a charity, a government organisation, a vet or a dancing school. I don't suppose anyone knows how many of those strange 'www' names there are, but I think we'd be in the realms of Abraham's 'stars in the sky' or 'grains of sand on the sea-shore'.

The letters stand, of course, for 'world wide web', and this month is the 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of its birth, the brain-child of a British computer expert, Tim Berners-Lee. It may seem to have been around forever, but in fact it's a mere whippersnapper. The next time you fume at the endless advice on the phone to 'go to our web-site', think of Mr Berners-Lee and you'll know who to blame!

In fact, the world wide web is now an inescapable part of life for most people all over the world, and even those who aren't on the internet are aware how dependent so much of modern life is on its working. Via the keys on an ordinary computer, or even the buttons on a Smart-phone, people

can have access to an unlimited source of information, advice and resources. Increasingly people choose to shop online (or to cheat a bit, see it in the shop, and then go online to buy it at a discount!). It is a source of facts and information, from train times to the names of medieval monarchs. In one sense we are drowning in a sea of information, all there at our fingertips (literally) but daunting in its volume. "No", we sometimes feel like screaming, "I don't want to 'go to our web-site', I just want to talk to a human being."

I used to wonder, as a child, how God could possibly cope with everybody's prayers - millions of us, presumably, all trying to get through to him at once. How could I think of my little request making its way through this vast traffic jam to the Eternal Ear? Well, 'www' offers hope! If Mr Berners-Lee could work out a way to do it, surely it's not beyond the Creator of the universe?

*By David Winter*

[www.davidwinter-author.co.uk](http://www.davidwinter-author.co.uk)



Philip Barron considers some do's and don'ts of recycling.

## Are you a smart recycler?

Most readers of this magazine will be recycling their waste regularly, but some will be better at it than others. Of course, much depends on how your council organises collections, but here are a few tips.

If you can remove labels and lids from glass jars and bottles, that's great, but don't worry too much because in the recycling process, items are re-washed. After crushing, any non-glass objects are removed. Removing caps and lids from plastic containers is more important.

Plastic caps are often made from a different polymer type, and therefore have a different melting point to the bottle itself. Too many lids will contaminate the

load, so remove and throw away plastic caps where possible. A plastic ring around the neck of a bottle can be left on.

It's best to remove paper clips, staples and plastic envelope windows from paper, but small amounts won't affect the recycling process unduly.

Bear in mind that paper fibres cannot be recycled if they are contaminated with food, so it's best to put greasy wrappers into your compost or main rubbish. Use tissues as compost, as their dense fibres make them unsuitable for paper recycling.

The website Waste Online has a detailed list of common types of plastic and the identifying symbols you will find on packaging.



## National Nest Box Week



Whether human or feathered, it is well known that love-birds like to nest together. This is why the British Trust for Ornithology has chosen Valentine's Day to open National Nest Box Week (14 – 21 Feb).

The week aims to encourage people to put up nest boxes - not only to protect the wildlife we already have,

but to encourage even more birds to brood in our gardens. The need is greater than ever. Since National Nest Box Week started in 1997, more trees have been cut down, meaning that even more birds have nowhere to build their homes. Nest boxes are a great alternative – it is reckoned that there are now between five to six million boxes across the UK! For details of all the different types of nest boxes, visit:

[www.bto.org](http://www.bto.org)

## GOD IN THE ARTS

*The Rev Michael Burgess surveys works of sacred art that can be found in the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam.....*

*you can see the image by googling the title of the painting and the artist.*

**'He gave us eyes to see them':**

**'CHURCH OF ST ODULPHUS IN ASSENDELFT'**

Light features prominently in the life and worship of the Christian Church as it does in many religions. This month of February opens with the feast of Candlemas when we recall that tender moment as the aged Simeon held Jesus in his arms and proclaimed this newborn child as the light for all nations. Standing in the temple, which would have been ablaze with candles, Simeon saw in Jesus a light that would illuminate not buildings, but the hearts and lives of people everywhere.

Light radiates from another building in this month's painting that hangs in the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. It is Pieter Saenredam's portrayal of the Interior of the Church of St Odulphus in Assendelft. Saenredam, born in 1597, was the only son of a talented engraver. He studied in Haarlem and became a gifted artist in what is known as the Dutch Golden Age. The Calvinism of that time would have frowned upon explicitly religious paintings, and

so Pieter Saenredam with many Dutch artists imbued their canvasses of churches, countryside and portraits with a religious intensity and grace. We sense that in this painting for the church of St Odulphus is all light. It seems to radiate from the walls just as it pours through the windows. So there are no shadows here, no dark recesses in which to hide.

It is a church Pieter Saenredam knew intimately for he worshipped here as a child. His father was buried there, and we see his grave at the front of the canvas on our right. On one of the pews the artist has put the date of the painting: 2 October 1649. Saenredam, as he depicts the calmness of light and the depth of space, invites us into this church to join those in worship and to rejoice in that gift of light. It is the same feeling we have when we enter a Gothic church in this land. In Norman churches the windows are small and the pillars large, conveying a mood of darkness and awe. In Gothic churches the architecture soars up to the heavens and the buildings are suffused with light pouring in from the large windows that open up the walls.

Pieter Saenredam is proclaiming that gift of light in this painting: the light of creation that shines through the windows, and the light of salvation that is the word made

flesh, Jesus. That light is the inspiration for the preacher delivering his sermon here. He may be exhorting the people below to become dwelling places of light, and we might pause to think how that is possible for us. George Herbert wrote a poem on church windows where he describes

human beings as 'brittle, crazy glass', but called to let colour and light in to transform and renew. Through the light of God's grace, he says that each life can become like this church of St Odolphus: a 'glorious and transcendent place.'

## **Scheme launched for would-be young vicars**

Young people are being given a taste of life behind the dog collar with the recent launch of the Church of England Ministry Experience Scheme (CEMES), run by the Ministry Division.

The scheme, which began late last year in four dioceses, is a one year programme of theological teaching, practical experience and personal development for young people aged 18-30 who are

considering future ministry in the church. The scheme was set up to encourage more young people to consider being involved in ministry and focus on the nine criteria used in the selection of clergy.

The scheme is currently being run in the dioceses of Sodor and Man, Newcastle, Peterborough and the Stepney area of London. Ministry Division are working with 15 more dioceses interested in the scheme, with a view to providing a CEMES programme in every diocese.

## **Slow down – it is February!**

How are your energy levels? February is famous for being the time of year when people most want to hibernate – to sleep, to be left alone, and to do as little as possible. So instead of fighting the winter blues this year, why not go with the natural rhythms of nature? Set aside as much time as you can – to do nothing but rest. It is no coincidence that February is when retreat bookings soar: people

want to escape the crowds and renew themselves.

"I think the human spirit is like a daffodil bulb, preparing for the Spring by refreshing its roots, so it can bloom again when the times comes." So says Stafford Whiteaker, former monk, ex-hermit and editor of *The Good Retreat Guide*. The Bible makes clear that God blesses our times of rest: 'In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.' (Ps 4:8)



THE GREAT WAR  
1914 - 1918

## THE WAR TO END ALL WARS: Part 2: Gallant Little Belgium

By David Winter

The posters were everywhere. Lord Kitchener, eyes blazing and finger pointing imperiously, proclaimed 'Your country needs YOU!' And up and down the land during those first anxious months of the Great War young men, often urged on by families and girl friends, responded by lining up at recruitment offices in order to enlist in the Army. Those who didn't, for whatever reason, were in danger of receiving a white feather in an anonymous envelope, the badge of cowardice.

Most, like my own father, needed no such urging. For him, as he would explain to the end of his life, the war was a moral duty in defence of 'gallant little Belgium', which had been invaded by the German army on its way, it hoped, to northern France. Britain was bound by its treaty obligations - the famous *Entente Cordiale* - to share in the defence of France, so (as my father and millions of others saw it) there was a solemn duty to keep our promises.

That is not, of course, necessarily the way history sees things, but I am sure that most of those young men who

queued up to volunteer did it for one of two reasons, or, more probably, both of them: patriotism and public pressure. Crowds cheered the young recruits as they marched off to training camps. It would, everyone confidently asserted, 'all be over by Christmas'. Defeat was unthinkable. These young men - many of them barely fit, through poor diet or unhealthy backgrounds - would face up to the Kaiser's hordes and crush them. At that point, the country was not an unwilling participant in war, but totally committed to it.

In the event, the euphoria didn't last long - indeed, barely as far as Christmas. The German army, well-drilled and equipped, simply barged its way across Belgium. There were bloody battles at Ypres and Mons, but it was the Germans who did the crushing and the Allies - British and French - who did the retreating.

However hard they fought, at each point where the generals drew a line and said 'no further', the German army simply paused for breath and then swept on. Casualties on both sides were high, and slowly the truth began to filter into the public consciousness at home. This war would not be short; it would not be easily won; and it would be desperately costly.

## Enduring love

This is a true story. Back in the late 1890s a Presbyterian minister called John Chapman was travelling by train through rural Kansas. There was only one other passenger in the carriage, a young man. As the train chugged along, Chapman noticed that the young man was very agitated. Finally Chapman asked if he could help.

Slowly, the young man shared that some years before he had run away from home and done some wild things. Finally, he had written to his parents, telling them that he wanted to come home. But he was afraid they wouldn't want him back.

The young man had remembered that, at a certain point, the railway track passed very close to his parents' home. In a letter he had told his parents that if they could not forgive him, he would understand. But if they could possibly still want him, then they could tie a yellow ribbon on their old apple tree that grew right beside the railway line.

The train would soon pass his home. "But I'm too afraid to look out for the tree." And with that he began to sob.

John Chapman laid a hand on his shoulder. "I'll look out for you." And

so as the young man buried his face in his hands the minister kept watch, peering anxiously out of the dusty train window, seeking an apple tree with hopefully a yellow ribbon around it.

A few minutes passed, and then Chapman declared, "Son, there is a yellow ribbon on an apple tree. In fact, every branch is hanging with yellow ribbons, scores of them."

Well, of course the young man got off at the next stop. John Chapman continued his journey, deeply moved by this sign of parental forgiveness. He told the story often in his preaching, until it became widely known in Kansas, and finally ended up in the pop song 'Tie A Yellow Ribbon Round the Old Oak Tree'.

The story points to one of the greatest doctrines taught in the Bible: the love of God for his people. It was that love that moved the Father to send his Son into the world. In Ephesians Paul writes glowingly of "that great love with which he loved us". John emphasises the same great truth in a magnificent creed of just three words: 'God is love'. Paul put it this way in Galatians: 'He loved me and gave himself for me'.

## Who are you really talking to?

In the early 1950s a well-known department store in Birmingham wanted to extend its premises. Close by this department store was an ideal site. But there was a problem: it belonged to the Quakers, whose Meeting House had been there for well over two hundred years.

Still, why should a bunch of Quakers stand in the way of commerce?

So, the department store wrote to the Quakers, offering to buy the site. Very grandly, they said, "We will give you a very good price for the land. In fact, we'll send you a blank cheque. Please fill in whatever sum of money you think appropriate and we will honour it."

Then they sat back and waited. Weeks passed. Finally a letter arrived from the Quakers. It thanked the department store for their generous offer but declined to accept it. "Our Meeting House has been here for almost two hundred and fifty years," they explained, "much longer than your store. We have no wish to sell our property. However, if YOU would agree to sell YOUR site to us, we are very interested in buying it. We will give you a very good price for it.

Just state your selling price and we will honour it."

The letter was signed 'Cadbury's.'

The department store thought they were dealing with a small, meek congregation of Quakers. Instead they were dealing with the Cadbury's empire. Cadbury's could have bought the department store twenty times over!

Sometimes life gives us hard knocks. Problems mount up and threaten to overwhelm us. We can feel alone and very vulnerable, very weak. But we can take heart in remembering that we are never alone. God has not forgotten us. Only our dimness of vision prevents us from seeing his great presence and power and provision. We do not need to fear, but to trust God. He is bigger and more powerful than anything which tries to overwhelm us.

Whatever problems 2014 throws at us, remember, we've got 'Cadbury's' on our side.

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

January solution  


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

February Sudoku  


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*Review*

**Feast + Fast - Food for Lent and Easter**

*By Christina Rees, DLT £8.99*

As Lent approaches you may be wondering how best to mark it. Lent is traditionally a period of abstinence, so should you deny yourself little luxuries such as chocolate or alcohol? Or should you do something positive and, if so, what? How best can you nourish your body and soul through this special period in the year?

Christina Rees takes us on a

spiritual and culinary exploration of the Christian traditions around fasting and feasting in Lent and Easter. Christina examines the significance of our daily meals and includes recipes for quick but satisfying breakfasts, lunches and dinners through the forty days of Lent, as well as ideas for an Easter feast to savour, rich in symbolism and style. Full of spiritual wisdom as well as inspiring ideas for down to earth living, Feast + Fast offers simple and delicious nourishment to sustain you on your Lenten journey.

**Clergy conference (Smile...)**

A young curate went to a conference at which most of the gathering consisted of bishops, archdeacons and high officials of the Church. The weather was very cold and it was natural perhaps that the older clergy should cluster around the cheerful fire in the dining room as often as possible.

The curate thought that it was about time he did something about this, so

next morning he said in a loud voice: "I had a strange dream last night, I dreamt I had died and gone to hell". After a few moments of dead silence one of the number said "and what did you find there?"

"Just the same as here," was the reply. "I couldn't get near the fire for bishops."

SERVICES & ROTAS FOR FEBRUARY 2014

<u>ST. ANNE'S, BEELEY</u>		<u>FLOWERS</u>	<u>CLEANING</u>
2	9.30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)*	Mrs K Reeve	
9	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	“ “	Judith & Di
16	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	Mrs Swain	
23	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	“ “	Sarah & Jane
*For a trial period the first Sunday in the month at St. Anne's will now be Common Worship (CW); the other Sundays will be Book of Common Prayer (BCP)			
<u>ST. PETER'S, EDENSOR</u>		<u>SIDESMEN</u>	
2	10.45am Holy Communion	Mr & Mrs Gordon	
9	10.45am Holy Communion	Jean Clarke & Mrs Jackson	
16	10.45am Matins	Mr & Mrs Machin	
23	10.45am Holy Communion	Mr & Mrs Wardle	
2 Mar	10.45am Holy Communion	R.S.Sherwood/Diana Walters	
<u>COFFEE</u>	<u>CLEANING</u>	<u>FLOWERS</u>	
2	M Douglas/Diana Maskery	Mr & Mrs Carter	Mrs Penrose
9	Mr & Mrs Carter	Mrs Boyd/Mrs Robinson	Janet Cosgrove
16	Clive & Joy Thrower	Mr & Mrs Nelson	“ “
23	Mr & Mrs Sherwood	Mr & Mrs Harding	Cynthia Gordon
2 Mar	M Douglas/Diana Maskery	Mrs Day/Mrs Walters	“ “
<b>NB</b> There still seems to be some confusion at St. Peter's over when the cleaning should be done. The date on the list in line with your name is the <u>Sunday the church should be cleaned for</u> , e.g. 2 Feb, Mr & Mrs Carter would do their cleaning either Thursday, Friday or Saturday before that date - 30 <sup>th</sup> , 31 <sup>st</sup> or 1 <sup>st</sup> . I do hope this clarifies things as we had two lots of cleaners in the same week recently! Any problems speak to the churchwardens.			
<u>READINGS</u>	<u>ST. PETER'S</u>	<u>ST. ANNE'S &amp; SUNDAY SCHOOL</u>	
2	Malachi 3: 1-5 Luke 2: 22-40	Duke of Devonshire Candlemas (The Presentation of Christ in the Temple)	Oscar Porter Children in the service
9	1 Corinthians 2: 1-12 Matthew 5: 13-20	John Bowns Fourth Sunday before Lent	Fiona Swain S.S. Claire Cadogan
16	1 Corinthians 3: 1-9 Matthew 5: 21-37	Martin Venning Third Sunday before Lent	Sarah Porter No Sunday School
23	Romans 8: 18-25  Matthew 6: 25-34	Bob Carter  Second Sunday before Lent	Rupert Turner/ Lynda Hinxman-Allegri No Sunday School