



Revd Canon D. Perkins,
The Vicarage, Edensor, Bakewell,
Derbyshire DE45 1PH Tel: 01246 386385
(Church website - www.stpetersedensor.org)

January 2014



Have you decided on a new year resolution? What could you do to improve your well-being? Every year some of us make a resolution and stick to it. Others fall by the wayside pretty quickly. I remember on so many occasions trying to quit smoking on a new year's day. The first day would be ok, by the second and third day I was so grumpy that Margaret used to insist that I went to the shop and bought a packet of fags. Failing is all part of being human. It's nothing to be ashamed of because we can always try again. Being a priest does not make me immune to the temptations that are set before us.

My first parish was at All Saints, Marlpool. I remember standing in the pulpit of that Church at the beginning of Lent and telling the congregation that I was going to stop smoking for Lent. I lasted four days! I eventually went to the corner shop where you could actually buy cigarettes in one's. I lit up and walked back to the vicarage feeling guilty and satisfied both at the same time. Just as I was about to turn into the vicarage drive, a car flashed its lights and peeped the horn. I was trying to put the cigarette out but it was too late I had been seen by someone. On the next Sunday morning from the pulpit I had to raise my hands and admit to failure. I still don't know to this day who it was in that car! You may have had a similar experience to deal with and felt guilty and ashamed. But please be assured, the Lord knows how weak and feeble we can sometimes be. It maybe that we don't say our prayers as often as we ought. It maybe that going to Church sometimes seems like a real effort. We may raise our voice at

someone who really doesn't deserve it – but because we have an issue that is affecting us, we have to take it out on someone.

All of these situations are natural and it is all about being human. We all fail from time to time. The most important thing to do is recognise that we fail, place the situation into the Lord's hands by saying sorry and trying again. I believe that God then gives us strength and courage to walk with him and at the same time grow closer to him.

Have a happy new year and every good wish if you have made a resolution.

Canon Dave



2014 - Gift Aid Envelopes

With 2014 not too far away, now is the time to order your 52 week set of gift aid envelopes.

These are the small blue envelopes which are individually numbered and are personal to you for you to use for your weekly offering.

There is no need to write your details on the front and they are far more convenient than using the larger yellow envelopes, which are really designed for visitors and non regular members of the congregation.

If you would like a set of envelopes for the new year, please ask either Liz Bradshaw or David Jackson.

Telephone Numbers

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - JANUARY

- 11 St. Peter's, Edensor **Wedding 1.30pm** -
Michael Geraint McGrath & Siobhan Mary Tobin
- 12 Bakewell & Ashford Film Society screening of Cold Comfort Farm
7.30pm at the Medway Centre
- 13 **BEELEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** 7.30pm Village Hall
- 14 **BEELEY WI** Monthly Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm
A New You! Practical steps to achieving better physical and mental
health and fitness for the coming year - Alexandra Inch, Health &
Fitness Trainer
Tea & Raffle: Edna & Barbara
- 15 **CHATSWORTH WI** Monthly Meeting 7pm Edensor Tea Cottage
Speaker: Liz Keeley - Victorian Ladies Boarding Schools in Derbyshire
Competition: Victorian artefact
Teas: Mrs Oliver
Vote of Thanks: Mrs Read
- 30 Pilsley CofE School Christingle Service - 2pm St. Peter's Church
(provisional date)

From the Registers

St Peter's, Edensor

24th November ~ Baptisms

Sally Jayne Burchby

Henry Peter Mycock & Lydia Jayne Mycock

30th November ~ Wedding

Adam James Worthington & Kathryn Elizabeth Kitching

Something to keep the brain active over the holiday.....

Fifteen anagrams of Books of the Old Testament

Burns me, Chair haze, Eds jug, Evil is cut, Hail Mac, Hurt,

I jam here, On gloom of sons, Our needy Tom, Rich clones,

See sign, Select as ices, Threes, Tom anneals it, Used ox

Answers can be found on page 19



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.

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'.

St. Peter's Church 100 Club November Draw 2013

1st Prize £30 - no. 9 Julia Hubbard
2nd Prize £20 - no. 16 David Jackson
Funds to church this month - £50

Subscriptions for 2014 are due in January 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 next 'SPICE' Sunday will be 12th January. Remember to bring your 5pence pieces and we'll get the year off to a really good beginning.

Thank you.

HAPPY NEW
YEAR
2014





KATHER'S KITCHEN

You are invited to a WILD WINTER POP-UP DINNER

at Beeley Hill Top Cottage

on

Friday 24th January 2014

at 7.30 for 8.00pm

Tickets £30 in aid of St Anne's Church, Beeley
To book your place, please telephone 01629 732794
or email rupert.turner@btinternet.com



A WILD WINTER DINNER OF THREE COURSES

Wood pigeon pâté with wild yeast sourdough or
Beetroot and orange soup with horseradish crème fraîche

Braised wild boar with red wine, maple smoked bacon & juniper berries or
Chard, wood sorrel and goat's cheese tart

Served with seasonal vegetables

Montezuma chocolate pot with lavender shortbread or
Orange blossom and rosehip rice pudding or
A selection of local cheeses served with crab apple & rosemary jelly

Tea, coffee and chocolates

BRING YOUR OWN WINE



www.katherskitchen.co.uk



Kather's Kitchen



@katherskitchen



Traidcraft

Sales this month totalled £1641 helped by £222 at the Great

Longstone Coffee morning, £88 at the Choral Society Concert, £94 at the Carol Service at the Agricultural Centre and £52 at the Bakewell Mothers' Union Service.

Last month Traidcraft produced yet another new product. It's a cook book with a difference, called 'bake a difference'. Many of the recipes were donated by fair traders and all feature fairly traded ingredients. The first recipe in the book, Auntie Glad's lemon cake, was donated by Mary Nunziato who was given it by a church friend. Traidcraft's professional cookery writer said it was not just the best recipe received but the best she had ever baked or tasted.

Unlike most Traidcraft products the cook book was not produced by a co-operative in a developing country. However a product such as this provides income to meet overheads so that even more of the proceeds from normal sales are passed directly to the producer groups who need it most.

If you would like to order a copy of 'bake a difference', please let me know. The cost is £12.99 and you will not only have a valuable source of new recipes, you will know that you are helping more people become self supporting.

Thank you for all your support through 2013 - I will let you know what our total sales for the year were next month.

Peter Bird (01629 813087 – pabird@gmail.com)

With that in mind.....read on

What can you cook?

Here's a tasty New Year's Resolution for you to consider: during 2014, make an effort to learn some new recipes off by heart. It seems that one in ten of us know fewer than two recipes off by heart, and more than half of men are unable to prepare even toad-in-the-hole or macaroni and cheese without help.

Most of us have about 10 recipes in our repertoire, with bangers and mash and spaghetti bolognaise being included by just about everyone. Most of us can also produce some sort of roast dinner, cottage pie or stir fry. But William Sitwell, editor of Waitrose Kitchen, hopes for greater things for us all: "By learning a few more simple recipes people will start to vary their diet and find cooking for their family or friends more rewarding."

Health myth about juicing

Drinking smoothies and blended fruit juices may actually be BAD for your health. These drinks massively increase the amount of sugar that you are consuming, according to health experts.

The recent boom in the sale of juicers follows their celebrity endorsement from people such as actress Gwyneth Paltrow. Lakeland, the kitchenware retailer, has reported that sales of juicers have rocketed by 4,000 per cent and John Lewis reports sales of juicers have risen by 2,600 per cent in the past year.

Juicers extract the water and nutrients from a fruit or vegetable while discarding the tough fibre which aids the digestive system. The resulting drink may be delicious, but consider this: one smoothie from Innocent – 'pomegranate, blueberries and acai superfood' contains 34.3g of sugar

in a 250 ml bottle, while a 500ml bottle of squeezed orange juice from Pret a Manger contains 51g of sugar. This compares with only 39g of sugar in a 330ml can of cola.

As one expert put it: "Think of eating one orange or two and getting filled. Now think of drinking a smoothie with six oranges and two hours later it does not affect how much you eat. ... smoothies do not affect our overall food intake whereas an orange does." The health experts are concerned because they say that the long-term effects of sugar consumption are the same, whether it comes from natural sources such as fruit or in the form of artificial sugars added to soft drinks.

So here's a New Year's resolution to consider: why not swap a smoothie or two for real fruit each week?



Sunny day An astronomer went to Darkest Africa to observe a total eclipse of the sun, when he was captured by cannibals. The eclipse was due the next day around noon. To gain his freedom he planned to pose as a god and threaten to extinguish the sun if he was not released. But the timing had to be just right. So, in the few words of the cannibals' primitive tongue that he knew, he

asked his guard what time they planned to kill him.

The guard replied: "Tradition has it that captives are to be killed when the sun reaches the highest point in the sky on the day after their capture, so that they may be cooked and ready to be served for the evening meal."

"Great," the astronomer replies.

How will the after-effects of the credit crunch affect your life 2014?

We all know the story: in August of 2007 the economic boom went bust, when the worldwide credit crunch began with the troubles of a French investment bank. The credit crunch turned into a financial crisis, which turned into a nasty and deep recession. Businesses collapsed, salaries were frozen, interest rates were slashed and the age of austerity arrived. Now we are told that economic prosperity is around the corner. But how did the credit crunch affect you? The life you now see as 'normal' may have been affected in some of the following ways:

1. The £10 Friday feast. When we could not afford restaurants, canny supermarkets stepped in with a new trend: dine-in-for-£10. The upmarket ready meal's day had come: now it is a staple of millions of us on a Friday or Saturday night.

2. Bricks and family life. We couldn't afford to move up, and our children could not afford to move out. So we crawled into our lofts and cellars and 'did them up' instead. Meanwhile, divorce fell by 23 per cent – who could afford another home?

3. Sobriety. We drank less: from on average 9.2 litres of pure alcohol a

year to less than 8 litres. The hike in VAT helped here.

4. Cleaner air. We couldn't afford new cars, and we drove our existing ones less. Government statistics suggest that particle pollution fell by 14 per cent in towns, and now an extra one million people cycle regularly.

5. Grow your own. Buying and eating local produce and growing-your-own soared in popularity. Now we are proud to make our own sandwiches; there has even been a boom in lunch-box sales!

6. Bad teeth. We stuffed ourselves with sweets and chocolate to cheer us up, but also cut back on expensive visits to the dentist. The result was predictable, as the British Dental Association recorded a rise in emergencies...

7. Shopping. Food was expensive! So we turned to funny sounding supermarkets like Lidl and Aldi – and fell in love with them. Value ranges became a huge success, as did round-pound pricing (£2 rather than £1.99, so we could more easily watch our budget as we went up the aisles.)

8. Farewell puddings. When we ate out, we trimmed our bills, and the sweet trolley suffered. 96 million fewer puddings were consumed on restaurant premises in 2012. (Instead, we enjoyed making cupcakes at home.)

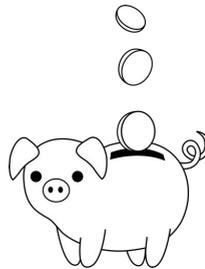
9. Adverts on TV The broadcasters put pressure on Ofcom, the regulator, to help them attract revenue: and so channels were allowed to up the ads. Now TV dramas share their hour with not seven minutes of adverts, but 12. (Which is why you seem to spend so long on those Viking River Cruises.)

10. Bye-bye pets. Many of us were not willing to share the hard times with our pets: the RSPCA reported that the number of abandoned cats and dogs rose by 65 per cent.

11. Fashion changed. We spent less time out on the town, and more time in on the couch; the sale of pyjamas went up. (And curiously enough, Y-fronts for men.)

12. Staycations and glamping. We thought up new exotic words such as setjetting, sofalize, glamping and staycations to persuade ourselves that two weeks on a damp campsite in Norfolk was as glamorous as St Tropez. It wasn't.

What will you change in your lifestyle when times get better?



At the End of the Day –

Enjoying Life in the Departure Lounge

By David Winter, BRF, £6.99

In the UK today over 1.4 million people are aged 85 or over. Their numbers are predicted to double in the next 20 years and nearly treble in the next 30. Such statistics are often viewed as a problem: not least for the NHS. But what about the over 80s themselves? How do they view life in their latter years? With anxiety, fear of the ageing process, or is there a case for regarding old age as an ongoing adventure to be explored and enjoyed?

Popular author and broadcaster David Winter offers an insightful first-hand view of life in the somewhat slower lane of life for the UK's growing, ageing population.

“When I reached four-score years, I realised that I had moved into a phase of life as excitingly different as becoming a teenager. I was now old —not ‘elderly’, or ‘getting on a bit’ or a ‘senior citizen’, but old. ... This book is an attempt to record what it is like finally to move into the departure lounge of life, awaiting the call to board our flight from this life to whatever it is that God has planned for us at its end.”

A hymn for Epiphany

Epiphany, 6th January, is also known as 'Twelfth Night', or the last night of the Christmas festival. According to the song, it is also the day when that over-enthusiastic 'true love' of yours dumps no less than 78 presents on your doorstep, among them a dozen leaping lords of the realm and a final partridge – to go with the 11 you have already been given.

In many parts of the world January 6th is celebrated as Christmas Day. As we Western Christians are packing away our tree, the Greek Orthodox world and Catholic Spain are giving presents and celebrating the wise men, or magi. For what better time to give presents to each other than on the day the wise men presented gold, frankincense and myrrh to the infant Jesus?

As the famous carol 'We Three Kings of Orient Are' puts it:

*Born a king on Bethlehem plain
Gold I bring to crown him again –
King for ever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign.*

*Frankincense to offer have I;
Incense owns a deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, all are raising,
Worship him, God most high.*

*Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb...*

What do we make of these presents? Gold is for kingship, proclaiming a royal child. Frankincense carries a feeling of worship about it: it was used in the temple, and indicated access to the presence of God. Frankincense is thus for worship and incarnation. The third gift, myrrh, finds its place at Calvary. After the crucifixion, Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea prepared Jesus' body for burial, using myrrh as an embalming fluid. (Thus when the wise men visit the baby Jesus, the shadow of the cross falls on the crib.) But myrrh is also symbolic of love, so you could say that the third gift is about adoration as well as death. Christ's death on the cross is for love of the Church, his bride.

As for the magi, they were NOT Jewish grandees, but foreign Gentiles. And so it was clear, even as early as the manger in Bethlehem, that Jesus was not just the Messiah for the Jews, but the Saviour of the whole world.



Canon David Winter, former Head of Religious Broadcasting at the BBC, recalls the 200th anniversary of the trial of people who hated 'new technology'...

The Way I See It: ARE YOU A LUDDITE?

Are you a Luddite? According to the Oxford Dictionary a Luddite is someone who is 'opposed to new technology'.

The first Luddites - who probably got their name from one of their activists, a certain Ned Lud - smashed mechanical looms, which were being introduced in the Lancashire mills at the time. They believed that traditional skills would disappear and many people lose their jobs because of these clanking new machines. Exactly two hundred years ago this month the trial began of 66 people accused of criminal damage. Seventeen of them, unbelievably, were executed, and others were sent in prison ships to Australia.

So, the question again: are you a Luddite? Am I? Like many people of my age I do find aspects of modern technology irritating and at times impenetrable. I have never yet managed to get the right ticket at the right price out of a railway ticket machine, for instance. What was wrong with a person behind a window selling you one (apart, of course, from the fact that they had to be paid). On the other hand, I love

my computer, would miss e-mail and regard online banking as a boon.

The first Luddites were largely motivated by what they saw as the inevitable human cost of technological advance. Machines, they thought, would end up doing everything and we would all be left unemployed and useless. They were wrong, of course. In a few decades the Industrial Revolution made Britain one of the economic giants of the world, with those very looms supplying cheap clothing for people all over the world. The 'dark Satanic mills' brought prosperity to Victorian Britain, though unequally spread. A few got very rich. Millions worked long hours in horrible conditions to produce the profits. They were not 'unemployed and useless', but exploited.

If we see those Luddites of 200 years ago as being primarily concerned about the human consequences of modern technology, then I suppose their present-day successors are those who oppose 'fracking' or HS2 or genetically modified crops. Whatever we think about those particular cases, they remind us, like those Luddites of long ago, that actions have consequences - and not all of them are necessarily good.

The Silver Line

At last there is a UK-wide, 24 hour umbrella organisation which links older people to the support services in their local communities. Founded by Esther Rantzen CBE, and launched at Christmas, The Silver Line will connect lonely elderly people with a variety of their local services and activities. In the same way that ChildLine, founded by Esther in 1986, helped abused children, The Silver Line will support older people who are experiencing abuse or neglect, and make sure they are protected.

There are 10 million older people (over the age of 65) living in Britain today. Many of them are living alone. Sadly, isolation and loneliness take a big toll on older people: it has been shown to

shorten life, creating depression, hastening the onset of dementia, and causing physical effects such as malnutrition; 40% of older people, according to a 2011 survey do not know where to turn for help.

Esther Rantzen CBE, Chair and Founder of The Silver Line says: "Millions of older people are lonely some or all of the time. At The Silver Line we believe older people have a great deal to offer, and deserve respect, and we have proved during our pilots that by offering information and friendship, we can support older people, and lift their confidence and self-esteem." For more details, please email info@thesilverline.org.uk or go to www.thesilverline.org.uk The number to ring is: 0800 328 8888.

Think happy thoughts – and help your immune system

A stressed mind can put your body at risk. If you constantly think about negative things, and dwell on stressful events in your life, you could weaken your immune system and make yourself more susceptible to illness.

A recent study has found that simply thinking about negative events, even if they are only imagined, can increase the levels of inflammation in your

body. This inflammation, associated with the body's response to trauma and infection, can weaken the immune system and has been linked to a number of conditions such as heart disease, cancer and dementia.

St Paul urged a better way of coping with the threats in our lives: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." (Phill. 4:6)

Greater Love – World War 1 Remembrance resources for churches

The Queen is to lead the nation in commemorating the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War at a service in Glasgow Cathedral on 4 August 2014 where she will be joined by other heads of state.

The day will end with a vigil at Westminster Abbey where a single candle will be extinguished at 11pm, a century on from the moment when, in the words of Sir Edward Grey, Britain's foreign secretary at the time, 'the lamps are going out all over Europe'.

In the UK's villages, towns and cities in 2014, communities will mark the centenary of the start of World War 1. As a nation we will honour the fallen, recognising their service and sacrifice for our country, and we will remember all who have served and suffered as a result of conflict.

HOPE is providing ideas and resources for churches and communities commemorating the centenary of the First World War. Called 'Greater Love' they are available now from www.hopetogether.org.uk/greaterlove

Roy Crowne, HOPE's Executive Director, says: "Remembrance is a

key moment in the calendar when communities expect the church to play a part. It is a natural season to serve and connect with your neighbourhood.

"When communities gather in acts of Remembrance, Christian leaders are often invited to give a lead with prayers and readings. As we remember the millions who lost their lives as a direct result of World War 1, people all over the country will observe two minutes of silence. At this poignant moment, many individuals and communities reach out for a spiritual dimension to life.

"Let's bring the church to the heart of these Remembrance moments. My prayer is that we come together, find out what is going on in our village, town or city, and join in so there is a church presence at every memorial service: the church echoing the heart-beat of its community and pointing to the "greater love" Jesus has for us."

HOPE is working together with churches across the spectrum of denominations to spread Christian hope through words and actions. Find out more at www.hopetogether.org.uk

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’:

‘The Holy Kinship’ by Geertgen tot Sint Jans

The Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam is one of the great art galleries, not just of Holland but of the world. It reopened in April of last year after a ten-year period of extensive restoration and renovation. It contains some of the greatest paintings of Rembrandt, including the majestic and imposing ‘The Night Watch’, and other Dutch masters of the 17th century: Vermeer, Franz Hals, and Jan Steen. But it also houses items related to 800 years of Dutch history and almost a thousand objects of art from the 12th century to the present day. Each month in this year we shall be visiting twelve of these works chosen to inspire and deepen our Christian faith. The website provided by the Rijksmuseum will give more information about each of them.

We open the year with a painting by Geertgen tot Sint Jans. He took his name from the monastery of St John in Haarlem where he was a lay brother in the late 15th century. Geertgen died when he was only

28, but in that short period produced a dozen works of great beauty and precision. Among them is ‘The Holy Kinship,’ depicting a popular theme in artwork of that time. It is based on a medieval legend that Anne, the mother of our Lady, was the grandmother of Jesus, but also of five of the 12 apostles. Along with St John the Baptist, they were cousins of our Lord.

At first glance the painting looks like a medieval version of ‘Praise and Play.’ We see Anne sat on the left with a book on her lap and Mary, clad in her colour of blue, holding Jesus on her left. John the Baptist reaches out to Jesus from the other side of the church interior, with three cousins playing on the floor in the middle. John the Apostle is holding his symbol of the chalice, while James is behind with a long saw. There is a wealth of detail in this painting. We can see trees and buildings through the windows beyond the pillars on the left, and on the altar the scene of John the Baptist’s martyrdom. Our eyes then alight on the sumptuous clothes the adults wear and the various symbolic objects they hold. And then we spot another cousin who is acting as server and lighting the candles on the screen above the altar. Worship is about to begin, and Geertgen invites us to rejoice in this holy kinship and to remember that we are called into church to be part of that family.

In the Gospels we are told that Jesus, on one occasion, was informed that his mother and brothers were outside the house waiting to speak to him. Pointing to the people with him, he declared, 'Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my

brother and sister and mother.' In this new year of God's grace we can commit ourselves anew to following that will in our lives, and we can give thanks that we journey through this year in the company of Jesus our brother – children of the same heavenly Father, our own holy kinship.

'Come before winter'

(2 Timothy 4:21)

Your life is like the four seasons. Springtime speaks of youth, summer of the prime of life, autumn of old age, and winter of eventual death and entering eternity. Do you feel prepared for the winter of your life?

Mark Twain once said: "Some folks get bothered about the Scriptures they don't understand, but it's the ones I *do* understand that bother me." And the Scriptures urge us constantly to take God seriously, to face up to our mis-doings in life, and to take them to God to be dealt with. Jesus is not someone we can think about with vague respect over the years. We have to decide what we really think of him – and act accordingly. If what he says is true, we must respond. Why? Because no one's life is going to go on forever. It is no good ignoring the major issues of life while we busy ourselves with our family and work and friends and interests.

A legend from the streets of Baghdad tells of a wealthy merchant who sent his servant to the market, but he

returned empty handed, saying he had just met Death and she had made a threatening gesture toward him. The servant borrowed the fastest horse from the stable and left Baghdad to flee to Samarra, believing that Death would never find him there.

That afternoon the master himself met Death in the market place and said to her: "Why did you frighten my servant? Why did you make that threatening gesture toward him?"

Death answered: "Sir, you are mistaken: that was only an expression of surprise. I was amazed to see your servant was here in Baghdad, that is all."

"But why?" demanded the master.

"Because I have an appointment with him this evening – in Samarra!" All of us have an appointment in Samarra – some day. The question is not, "Is it coming?" The question is: "Will you be ready when it arrives?"



THE WAR TO END ALL WARS: Part I: Tensions in Europe

THE GREAT WAR
1914 - 1918

On July 28th 1914
the continent of

Europe was at peace, though riven with tensions between the great powers (Germany, Russia, France, Austria-Hungary and Britain). That Sunday morning, however, a sniper, probably a Serbian activist, shot and killed the Archduke Ferdinand of Bosnia-Herzegovina outside Sarajevo railway station.

For a month Europe held its breath as diplomats and politicians from the major nations went into crisis mode. Those involved mostly knew each other - in fact, several were related. Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany, after all, was a grandson of Queen Victoria! Yet long-standing feuds in the Balkans, fierce nationalism, new 'Ententes' between some of the powers, swollen arsenals of weapons and - perhaps most of all - fear of one another paralysed their approach. July passed, and with it the hope of peace.

No one knew, of course, what dark and appalling forces they were about to unleash, but on August 4th the most terrible war of European history erupted. Not surprisingly it has become known simply as the 'Great War'. By the time it ended

four years later it had involved 65 million troops, brought about the deaths of twenty million soldiers and civilians, and injured another 21 million people. It's a truism to say that it changed history, but a glance at any war memorial in Britain is a constant reminder of its cruel cost in human terms. Many villages lost almost all their young men. Families were decimated, children lost fathers, women lost their boy friends. Those who lived through it - my parents' generation - would never forget its consequences.

Throughout this year the story of that dreadful conflict will be re-told as we mark the centenary of its outbreak. It's surely pointless, so long after the event, to attempt to apportion blame. Thoughts of military conflict between the nation-states involved seem remote and ridiculous today. Yet whatever its immediate trigger, that War, and its strange child, the Second World War, have shaped the modern world.

It must all seem a long while ago now to schoolchildren studying it as history, but for many of us older people it was a conflict that involved our parents or grandparents, and changed their lives for ever. My father enlisted in 1914. He and millions like him had been told they were fighting 'the war to end all wars'. Sadly, it wasn't.

By David Winter, a former Head of Religious Broadcasting at the BBC.

On a lighter note.....

A Message to Our Readers – from the Editor of this

Magazine (*via the Parish Pump
website*)

Some of you have noticed a few typos in the magazine now and then. To improve this I am now using a new set of rules for editing.

1. Verbs HAS to agree with their subjects.
2. Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.
3. And don't start a sentence with a conjunction.
4. It is wrong to ever split an infinitive.
5. Avoid cliches like the plague. (They're old hat)
6. Also, always avoid annoying alliteration.
7. Be more or less specific.
8. Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are (usually) unnecessary.
9. Also too, never, ever use repetitive redundancies.
10. No sentence fragments.
11. Contractions aren't necessary and shouldn't be used.
12. Foreign words and phrases are not apropos.
13. Do not be redundant; do not use more words than necessary; it's highly superfluous.
14. One should NEVER generalise.
15. Comparisons are as bad as cliches.
16. Eschew ampersands & abbreviations, etc.

17. One-word sentences? Eliminate.
18. Analogies in writing are like feathers on a snake.
19. The passive voice is to be ignored.
20. Eliminate commas, that are, not necessary. Parenthetical words however should be enclosed in commas.
21. Never use a big word when a diminutive one would suffice.
22. Use words correctly, irregardless of how others use them.
23. Understatement is always the absolute best way to put forth earth shaking ideas.
24. Eliminate quotations. As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "I hate quotations. Tell me what you know."
25. If you've heard it once, you've heard it a thousand times: Resist hyperbole; not one writer in a million can use it correctly.
26. Puns are for children, not groan readers.
27. Go around the barn at high noon to avoid colloquialisms.
28. Even IF a mixed metaphor sings, it should be derailed.
29. Who needs rhetorical questions?
30. Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement. And the last one...
31. Proofread carefully to see if you any words out.

Many thanks to the person who proofreads for me - anything she misses is usually because I've forgotten to put it there in the first place!

This year much of the C of E lectionary will focus on Mark. So here is a short introduction to this gospel....

The Godspell about Jesus

Mark is the shortest of the Gospels, and most likely the first to be written (about 65 – 70AD). It is certainly the most action-packed!

The gospel of Mark was written by John Mark, whose name occurs often in Acts. His mother lived in a house in Jerusalem, where Jesus' followers met in the early days of the church there. (Acts 12:12). John Mark was cousin to Barnabas, Paul's travelling companion.

John Mark had set off with Paul on the first great missionary tour, but then disgraced himself by going home – not making himself popular with Paul. However Barnabas gave John Mark a second chance, and in later years John Mark won the friendship of Paul. When Paul was in prison John Mark stood by him (Colossians 4).

Mark's gospel was written not when John Mark was in Jerusalem, but later, when he had spent some time with Peter in Rome. Peter had come to love John Mark as his own son. (1 Peter 5:13), and there is a strong early tradition that John Mark set down Jesus' story as he had heard it directly from the apostle Peter.

For example, Papias, writing about AD140, said: "Mark, who was the interpreter of Peter, wrote down accurately all that he remembered, whether of sayings or doings of Christ, but not in order. For he was neither a hearer nor companion of the Lord."

Some years later Irenaeus wrote that Mark's gospel was written "when Peter and Paul were preaching the gospel in Rome and founding the church there." After their deaths, "Mark, Peter's disciple, has himself delivered to us in writing the substance of Peter's preaching."

John Mark wrote his gospel with extraordinary vividness. And he obviously knew he would have non-Jewish readers, because he often explains Jewish customs.

The Gospel begins with a bang: "The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God..." No beating about the bush – here is the purpose and the message right from the opening verse.

The word 'gospel' in Greek is *evangelion* – good news (hence the term evangelist). So where does the actual word 'gospel' come from? The Anglo-Saxons first thought it up, using the term 'Godspell', a word that may mean 'good news' or 'news about God'. It was an apt way to refer to the new faith when it

(continued on page 19)

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

December solution
☞

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

January Sudoku
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continued from page 18

reached them. (Hence ‘Godspell’ for the name of the famous West End musical about the life of Jesus).

Mark opens the action not with the birth of Jesus, but rather with his baptism by John. Then the action moves swiftly towards the crisis of the cross and resurrection. Within this framework, the material tends to be not in chronological order, but rather grouped by subject. The book bustles with action and details. It gives far more detail than Matthew’s in the accounts of what Jesus did, but deals more briefly with Jesus’ teaching.

Mark does not have much that is all his own – in fact - only four paragraphs in all! This is because both Matthew and Luke borrowed heavily from him when they came to write their gospels. And yet we still have something unique in Mark: moving pictures of Jesus in action, convincing us by what he does that his claim to be the Son of God was true. There are fewer stories in Mark than in the other gospels, but these stories are longer, and the detail in them hints of Peter’s remembered eye-witness accounts.

Church-speak

MAGI: The most famous trio to attend a baby shower.

PEW: A medieval torture device still found in many churches.

AMEN: The only part of a prayer that everyone knows.

BULLETIN: Your receipt for attending a church service.

answers to anagrams on p3 - Numbers, Zechariah, Judges, Leviticus, Malachi, Ruth, Jeremiah, Song of Solomon, Deuteronomy, Chronicles, Genesis, Ecclesiastes, Esther, Lamentations, Exodus

SERVICES & ROTAS FOR JANUARY 2014

<u>ST. ANNE'S, BEELEY</u>		<u>FLOWERS</u>	<u>CLEANING</u>
5	9.30am Holy Communion	Mrs M Fearn	All - post Christmas clean
12	9.30am Holy Communion	" "	" "
19	9.30am Holy Communion	Barbara Hawksworth	Mr & Mrs Turner
26	9.30am Holy Communion	" "	" "
<i>2 Feb</i>	9.30am Holy Communion	Mrs K Reeve	Judith & Di
<u>ST. PETER'S, EDENSOR</u>		<u>SIDESMEN</u>	
5	10.45am Holy Communion	Mr & Mrs Wardle	
12	10.45am Holy Communion	R S Sherwood/Diana Walters	
19	10.45am Matins	J Bowns/M Pindar	
26	10.45am Holy Communion	Mrs Thomas/S Liddicot	
<i>2 Feb</i>	10.45am Holy Communion	Mr & Mrs Gordon	
<u>COFFEE</u>		<u>CLEANING</u>	<u>FLOWERS</u>
5	M Douglas/Diana Maskery	Mrs Day & Mrs Walters	<i>Christmas flowers</i>
12	Mr & Mrs Carter	Mr & Mrs Jackson	Wedding flowers
19	Clive & Joy Thrower	Mr & Mrs Grimshaw	<i>Wedding flowers remain</i>
26	Mr & Mrs Sherwood	Mr & Mrs Wardle	Mrs Penrose
<i>2 Feb</i>	M Douglas/Diana Maskery	Mr & Mrs Carter	" "
<u>READINGS</u>		<u>ST. PETER'S</u>	<u>ST. ANNE'S & SUNDAY SCHOOL</u>
5	Isaiah 60: 1-6 Matthew 2: 1-12	Molly Marshall <i>Feast of Epiphany</i>	Anna-Dora Swain <i>No Sunday School</i>
12	Acts 10: 34-43 Matthew 3: 13-17	Christine Robinson <i>The Baptism of Christ</i>	Claire Cadogan <i>S.S. Sarah Porter</i>
19	Isaiah 49: 1-7 John 1: 29-42	Mavis Cunningham <i>Epiphany Two</i>	Fiona Swain <i>S.S. Sarah Porter</i>
26	Isaiah 9: 1-4 Matthew 4: 12-23	David Jackson <i>Epiphany Three</i>	Sarah Porter <i>S.S. Fiona Swain</i>

Items for the FEBRUARY magazine should reach me NO LATER THAN MONDAY 13 JANUARY

Mail to: liz.bradshaw@w3z.co.uk

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