



# The Bridge



BEELEY WITH EDENSOR

*Including CHATSWORTH, CALTON LEES & PILSLEY*

PARISH MAGAZINE

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

March 2014

Ash Wednesday on 5<sup>th</sup> March marks the beginning of Lent, that period of fasting and inner preparation for Easter that the Church has undertaken since early days.

The message of true fasting will be illustrated differently in different places. The priest in rural Africa cannot give the same advice for fasting as the priest in a well-to-do European suburb. Where the Christian struggles to eat a balanced diet with daily protein, as in many poor communities around the world, the suggestion to cut their diet at all during Lent is to miss the point. The Christian who has an abundance of luxury foods, and is asked merely to give up chocolate during Lent, is also to some extent, missing the point. Christians who are encouraged to spend more time in prayer and bible study during Lent might be getting closer to the point, and might be led to reflection on how the whole of life is lived.

But what is true fasting in God's eyes? To do justice, to serve others, to rebuild, repair, raise up and restore the lives around us. When we look at the lives of any saint in history or even alive today, what we see is humility, holiness and love in lives spent in the God-given work of reflecting God's love through God's Son and in the power of the Spirit in our world – every day.

So let us try to do it differently this year! If you decide to give up a luxury, all well and good. But let us also try to live in a new way, to be different, do something of benefit to others. Let us spend more time in dedicated prayer and study of the Bible, and seek to hear God, see God's face in lives around us, and then in our own. As St. Teresa said, we are God's hands and feet in the world now – let's be those hands and feet, mouths and ears, eyes and hearts,

and seek to turn our world the right way up in God's name. Let's not just live this way for the period of Lent this year, but use this time to plan and begin radical lifestyle changes to continue well after Lent has ended – lifestyle changes that carry the possibility of changing the world.

Every Blessing  
Canon Dave

## LENT COURSE

It is planned to run a Lent Course each week during the season of Lent. The material for the course is still being explored. At the back of each church there is a list for people to sign. Depending on how many decide to take part, it is intended to meet at a different house each week. If you are willing to host an evening, please indicate that on the list.

Thank you.  
Canon Dave

*From the Registers*

*St. Anne's Church, Beeley*

*30<sup>th</sup> January 2014*

*. A Thanksgiving Service (following cremation) for the life of  
John Myler Hughes aged 77 years*

### 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 - MARCH

- 11     **BEELEY WI** Monthly Meeting 7.30pm Beeley Village Hall  
 Flamenco Dancing - Learn the basic steps and origins of this beautiful dance (older children welcome).  
 Nemmy Hatch, Flamenco Dance teacher  
*Tea & Raffle: Sheila*
- 19     **CHATSWORTH WI** Monthly Meeting 7pm Edensor Tea Cottage  
 Speaker: Heather Vickers - Felt Brooches  
 Competition: Best brooch  
 Teas: Mrs Watts  
 Vote of thanks: Mrs McDowel
- 22     The Cavendish Hall, Edensor 7.30pm (*see page 5 for more information*)  
*An evening's entertainment by 'The Travelling People Folk Band'*
- 29     Wedding - St. Peter's 1.30pm  
*Alexander Scarratt & Rachael Philippa Stubbins*
- 31     Beeley Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm Village Hall. All welcome

### EASTER LILIES AT ST. ANNE'S



If you would like to make a donation towards Easter Lilies for St. Anne's, contact Pauline Mather or Gladys Hopkins.

### EASTER LILIES AT ST. PETER'S

Once again we shall be having Easter Lilies in Church. Members of the congregation, and anyone else, are invited to 'buy' a lily by donating £4 (or more) per lily and to complete a card in memory of a loved one. The cards will then be displayed in Church over the Easter period.



Cards need to be filled in and returned by Palm Sunday - April 13<sup>th</sup>

For more information or to order a lily contact:

Liz Bradshaw 01246 582421 or Mrs Penrose 01246 583197

*An evening's entertainment by*  
**'The Travelling People Folk Band'**

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

**Tickets £12.50** available from  
*Canon Dave, the Churchwardens or Edensor Tea Cottage*

Nibbles provided ~ BAR AVAILABLE

***Still a few tickets left - but hurry!***

*Proceeds to St. Peter's Church, Edensor*

**St. Peter's Church  
100 Club  
January Draw 2014**

1st Prize £30 - no. 37 Margaret Thomas

2nd Prize £20 - no. 9 Nadine Harrington

Funds to church this month - £50

In 2013 the 100 Club raised £630.35 for  
the Restoration Fund.

The running total now stands at  
£3,893.63 raised in 6 years. Thank you  
to all members, past and present.

We now need 4 more members for  
2014 to enable us to raise a further  
£600 this year.

Ann Hall

**St. Anne's & St. Peter's  
Churchyards**

Spring is just around the corner, so  
we would appreciate it if everyone  
who has placed Christmas wreaths  
etc. on graves or cremation plots  
could make sure that they are  
removed as soon as possible, if this  
hasn't already been done.

This makes mowing a much easier  
task and no one wants to see old,  
dead Christmas flowers in the  
churchyards.

Also a reminder that only fresh  
flowers should be used in the  
churchyards.

Thank you.



**- to parish magazine subscribers in Beeley!**

I have been asked to remind those people in  
Beeley who have a copy of the parish magazine  
delivered, and who have not yet paid their 2014  
subscription, that payment is now due - please  
give your subscription to Pauline Mather AS  
SOON AS POSSIBLE - £7.20.

If paying by cheque please make it out to Edensor PCC. Thank you.

## **CHATSWORTH HEALTH CLUB**

*Supported by St. Peter's Church, Edensor*

### **This year Chatsworth Health Club is proud to be sponsoring DERBYSHIRE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ABUSE SERVICE**

There are 3 refuges in Chesterfield which have the capacity to accommodate 22 women and 40 children.

The women and children usually flee in a hurry after an incident and are identified as being at a very high risk of homicide. Last year they accommodated 92 women and 124 children.

Every month we are going to collect 'SPECIFIC' items that will help them start to rebuild their lives. Any contribution in the baskets will be gratefully received and make a huge difference. In March we will be collecting Easter eggs etc. as a treat for the women and children there at the time.

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING US TO SUPPORT THEM**

**SUSIE**

**P.S.** If you have any unwanted household goods that are in full working order, i.e. kettles, irons, hoovers, bedding, children's toys, buggies, cots etc. we can arrange for these

## **Bakewell Oxfam Supporters Group invite you to**

### **A GRAND JUMBLE SALE**

**At Bakewell Town Hall**

**Monday March 10th  
From 9.30.am - 12.00noon**

There will be stalls selling Clothes, Bric-a-Brac, Toys, Home Produce, Books, Soft Furnishings, Jewellery\* and a Tombola stall

Refreshments will be available

Entrance 30p

## **h Helen's Trust**

### **Wendy's Woofie Walk is back!**

This well loved local event returns this year on **6th April**. The dog walk was started in 2007 and originally organised by local dog lover, Wendy Bowering. Wendy received support from Helen's Trust and after her death, in 2008, her family continued to organise the walk in her memory. A well loved local event, the walk has raised invaluable funds for Helen's Trust, a local charity which enables people of any age with any terminal illness to remain at home throughout their illness. Entry forms and sponsorship forms are available on our website [www.helenstrust.org.uk](http://www.helenstrust.org.uk).

### **Helen's Trust Chatsworth 10k and 3k**

Our annual run takes place on **4th May** and we are pleased to announce solicitors, Irwin Mitchell, as main event sponsors. Entry is

now open. This year we have introduced prizes for our top U16 3k fundraisers (donated by Kick Off Sports in Matlock). Visit the dedicated 10k area on our website for details [www.helenstrust.org.uk](http://www.helenstrust.org.uk)

### **Great North Run places**

We still have a few Great North Run places remaining for this year's race on 7th September 2014. Places cost £50 and we ask for a £150 fundraising minimum. Contact Helen if you are interested [helen.carr@helenstrust.org.uk](mailto:helen.carr@helenstrust.org.uk).

### **Do you, or someone you know, need our help?**

Anyone can call Helen's Trust for help, advice and information about the services we offer. Our clinically experienced Referrals Coordinators, Gill and Sylvia, can organise care, carer respite, equipment, or any other services or support that enable a person with terminal illness to remain in their own home. Contact them directly on 07780 331715 or 01629 812759.

### **Love me, love my smelly dog**

Crufts Dog Show will be full of thousands upon thousands of the most glossy and silky dogs imaginable this month. But sadly, that is not the full story.

More than one in 20 dog owners say they have had a relationship ruined due to their pet's bad smell or muddy paws. More than a quarter admit that their friends even refuse

to visit them because of their dog. And more than a half of dog owners suspect that they are not invited to their friends' homes for fear they bring their pet along with them. Byotrol, a pet care company who carried out the survey, encourages owners to make the few small changes needed to their dog's hygiene to ensure they smell of roses.



## **A Short History of Baslow and Bubnell**

**by John Sheldon 1975**

John Sheldon, known to locals as Jack, was born and bred in Baslow and was headmaster of Baslow School from 1934 to 1970. He had an enquiring mind, and was fascinated by Baslow, its location, its history and its people. When he retired he set himself the task of writing a history of the village.

Unfortunately he died before he could finally complete it. It was collated, edited and published by his friend and local general practitioner Dr S M Evans.

The book is really a collection of extracts, summaries and recollections, rather than a formal history and includes the work of a local history group from the 1920s. But it is an important and fascinating work about Baslow.

The book had been out of print, however, a substantial number of copies have now come to light in an attic. Some have slight external staining, others have a duplicate page but otherwise they are all in good condition.

They are available for £10, either from

David Dalrymple-Smith email [dds@w3z.co.uk](mailto:dds@w3z.co.uk) or 01246 582199

Ashenfell House, Church Lane, Baslow, DE45 1SP

Or The Art Gallery (Norman Tomlinson), Church Street, Baslow

David Dalrymple-Smith

### **Money worries drain your brain power**

Worries about finance can effectively reduce your intelligence. Such fretting uses up brain power and limits your ability to make good decisions, research at Harvard University has found.

People with fewer concerns had more 'mental bandwidth' to focus on

matters such as education, training and time management. In fact, the 'cognitive deficit' suffered by someone with severe financial problems can be as harmful as losing an entire night's sleep, or losing 13 points of your IQ.

Proverbs may have had a point when it observes: 'give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me.' (Proverbs 30:8)



## 1 March - St David's Day – time for daffodils

1 March is St David's Day, and it's time for the Welsh to wear daffodils or leeks. Shakespeare called this custom 'an honourable tradition begun upon an honourable request' - but nobody knows the reason. Why should anyone have ever 'requested' that the Welsh wear leeks or daffodils to honour their patron saint? It's a mystery!

We do know that David - or Dafydd - of Pembrokeshire was a monk and bishop of the 6th century. In the 12th century he was made patron of Wales, and he

has the honour of being the only Welsh saint to be canonised and culted in the Western Church.

Tradition has it that he was austere with himself, and generous with others - living on water and vegetables (leeks, perhaps?!) and devoting himself to works of mercy. He was much loved.

In art, St David is usually depicted in Episcopal vestments, standing on a mound with a dove at his shoulder, in memory of his share at an important Synod for the Welsh Church, the Synod of Brevi.



**Traidcraft**

Sales this month were a rather depressed £346, typical of this time of year. However, the new Spring/Summer catalogue is now available in its more compact form to save paper and postage, and has some very interesting innovations. I mentioned last month Traidcraft's efforts to re-introduce Palm Oil production into Africa. This is one of the world's most traded commodities and is in more than half the packaged products we buy from the shops. The new range of fairly traded cleaning materials is featured on pages 63-65 of the catalogue, and I have several of most of these items for you to try.

only such to tell the story of Easter. The basic eggs are fairly traded milk chocolate, cost £3.95 each, contain a bag of chocolate buttons and generate a 10p donation to Traidcraft Exchange. There is also a Special Edition with an olive wood cross and an orange choc bar, and a Sharing Box for use in an Easter Egg hunt. All of these are illustrated on page 61.

Also take a look at the wide range of ground coffees on p.45, the delightful cards on p.40/41, the Easter gifts on p. 21 and the interesting garden items on p.11. Do, please, look out for the catalogues or give me a call. Happy shopping!

Easter is rapidly approaching so don't forget your Real Easter Eggs - the

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

## **Waste not...**

There's very little wasted in the Bible. The Israelites were given only enough manna for each day. There are laws in Deuteronomy about keeping the camp neat and tidy. Elijah was brought just enough daily food by ravens. In the New Testament we find Jesus being very efficient when it comes to resources and waste. He turns water into wine, multiplies fishes and loaves and then commands that all the pieces be carefully gathered up, so that none should be wasted.

21 centuries later and in the UK things could not be more different. The anti-waste organisation Wrap ([www.wrap.org.uk](http://www.wrap.org.uk)) reckons that about 600 million tonnes of products and material enter the UK economy each year – and only 115 million tonnes of all this gets recycled. We throw away something like seven million tonnes of food and drink each year – most of which could have been safely consumed. And nearly 25% of the waste electrical and electronic equipment that is taken to household waste recycling centres

each year could be re-used – saving about £200m gross a year.

Tristram Stuart, a prominent campaigner on food waste, argues that the culture of waste has permeated the entire food chain. Farmers and other producers produce too great a surplus; supermarkets throw away perfectly good food and consumers buy far more than they can possibly eat or drink. The result is a waste crisis that is squeezing both the environment and society. And meanwhile precious land is being turned into landfill in order to accommodate the food mountain in the UK.

Meanwhile, FairShare, the UK's leading food redistribution charity, is making quality surplus food available to the nation's most disadvantaged. In 2012/13, the food redistributed by FareShare contributed towards more than 10 million meals. The FareShare Community Food Network has over 1,000 Community Members across the UK receiving food, training and advice, and every day an average of 51,000 people benefit from the service FareShare provides.

## **What a mess smile....**

*Boy to school chaplain:* Christianity has been in the world for 2000 years and look at the state of it.

*Chaplain:* Water has been in the world for longer than that, and look at the state of your neck!

## **8<sup>th</sup> March - Woodbine Willie - bringing love with cigarettes and the Bible**

Here's a 'saint' that the Church of England remembers from the 1<sup>st</sup> World War - the Rev. Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy, MC, or 'Woodbine Willie', as everyone knew this popular, much-loved army chaplain on the Western Front.

Studdert Kennedy (27 June 1883 – 8 March 1929) had been born in Leeds as the seventh of nine children. After reading divinity and classics at Trinity College Dublin, he'd studied for ordination at Ripon Clergy College, and served his curacy at Rugby. By the time war broke out in 1914, Studdert Kennedy was vicar of St Paul's Worcester. He soon volunteered to go to the Western Front as a chaplain to the army. Life on the front line in the trenches was a desperate affair, but soon Studdert Kennedy had hit on a way of bringing a few moments of relief to the stressed out soldiers: as well as good cheer he gave out copious amounts of 'Woodbines', the most popular cheap cigarette of the time.

One colleague remembered Kennedy: "he'd come down into the trenches and say prayers with the men, have a cuppa out of a dirty tin mug and tell a joke as good as any of us. He was a chain smoker and always carried a packet of Woodbine cigarettes that he would give out in handfuls to us lads. That's how he got his nickname. He came down the trench one day to cheer us up. Had his

Bible with him as usual. Well, I'd been there for weeks, unable to write home, of course, we were going over the top later that day. I asked him if he would write to my sweetheart at home, tell her I was still alive and, so far, in one piece... years later, after the war, she showed me the letter he'd sent, very nice it was. A lovely letter. My wife kept it until she died."

Kennedy was devoted to his men, so much so that in 1917 he was awarded the Military Cross at Messines Ridge, after running into no man's land in order to help the wounded during an attack on the German frontline.

During the war, Kennedy supported the British military effort with enthusiasm, but soon after the war, he turned to Christian socialism and pacifism. He was given charge of St Edmunds in Lombard St, London, and took to writing a number of poems about his war experiences: *Rough Rhymes of a Padre* (1918) and *More Rough Rhymes* (1919). He went on to work for the Industrial Christian Fellowship, for whom he did speaking tours. It was on one of these tours that he was taken ill, and died in Liverpool in 1929. He was only 46.

His compassion and generosity in the face of the horrors of the Western Front was immortalised in the song 'Absent Friends': "Woodbine Willie couldn't rest until he'd/given every bloke a final smoke/before the killing." He himself had once described his chaplain's ministry as taking "a box of fags in your haversack, and a great deal of love in your heart."

*Philip Barron considers the threat to the environment...*

### **Closing the climate gap**

Many concerns are being sounded about the warming of the global climate system, which poses an urgent threat to society. Experts say that there is a wide gap between countries' pledges to cut emissions and the reductions needed to limit warming to between 1.5 and 2.0 degrees C, but who has the power to close that gap?

This is a spiritual challenge. How do we live in ways that protect the environment on which we depend? Major developing nations like Brazil, China and India point to historical emissions by industrialised countries, saying that these should bear the brunt of emission cuts and of financial provision for poorer nations. The European Union and USA want all countries to make commitments.

At a recent conference in Warsaw it was decided that all countries should

make 'contributions' rather than 'commitments'. Vulnerable countries like the Philippines (still suffering the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan) want to see a financial mechanism for relief after extreme weather events. Some countries, such as the USA, resist the idea that carbon emitters should be liable for damages.

The conference agreed that funds will be made available but they will come under the heading of support for adaptation to climate change, rather than compensation for damage.

One has to bear in mind that governments do not control greenhouse gas emissions, as much of the power is focussed in fossil fuel companies and financial institutions. We are all perpetrators and potential victims. We must accept the Transition Movement's mantra that "everyone is needed", taking responsibility for both the problem and the solution.

### **Is our sugar in a jam?**

Did you know there is such a thing as a jam directive? It comes from the European Union and the latest wants there to be less sugar in British jam. But plans to reduce our jam's sugar level from 60 to 50 per cent is worrying some MPs. Tessa Munt, Lib Dem MP for Wells, warns: "by reducing the percentage of total sugar, the characteristic gel-like consistency of jams and marmalade will be lost. The result will be an homogenised spreadable sludge... I'm quite worried because I think this is going to be the end of the British breakfast as we know it."



## 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 TWO MOTHERS'**

*by Dutch sculptor Frans Stracké*

Each month we are visiting the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam to explore a work of art in its extensive collection. The Rijksmuseum reopened last year after a decade of restoration, and March's sculpture can be found on the first floor. It is a statue of a young mother and focuses our attention on the fourth Sunday of Lent which we know as Mothering Sunday. This is the day when we traditionally give thanks for three mothers: mother Church, our own mothers and mother Mary – three mothers, who each watch over their offspring with love and care. Motherhood of course is a mixture of joy and sometimes sorrow. The pride and happiness of seeing children grow go hand in hand with worry and concern over their wellbeing. As an Italian proverb expresses it: 'Little children headache; big children heartache.'

When we look at the life of our Lady in the Gospels, we meet there times of joy and times of worry and sadness. In the Middle Ages the

Church proclaimed the seven joys of Mary –those key moments in her life from the Annunciation to her Son's Resurrection – but also the seven sorrows of Mary. There we think of the flight to Egypt and losing the 12 year old Jesus on pilgrimage through to the cross of Calvary, and realise how much Mary would have known of loss and sadness as a mother.

In the sculpture called 'The Two Mothers' we see a vivid depiction of the joys and demands of motherhood. The work was created in 1893 by the Dutch sculptor, Frans Stracké. He is now remembered for his impressive memorials, which are on a grand scale, but in this intimate scene he has portrayed a young mother with a child carried on her left arm. The other mother is the dog at her feet who is looking up to her new-born puppies, nestling in the folds of her clothes. It seems a gentle, sweet scene. But we look again and realise there is a world of hardship and struggle here. The mother is barefoot: she has been fishing in the sea with a net. But there are only two fish in her pocket and the net behind is empty. And yet there is a purpose in her step and a calm resilience in her young face.

The dog is worried over her puppies. The mother has to look after her own child as well as the

new litter. A world of demand and responsibility sits on her shoulders. Both child and animals call on her love and care, and she wants the best for them all. It is that over-arching love and care that we give thanks for on Mothering Sunday: the love and care of our mothers and those who are concerned for us, of mother Mary watching over her son's growth to maturity and ministry, and of our mother the Church, feeding us in the

sacraments and guiding our pilgrimage through life. We think of that maternal care that has nurtured us in our families and in the family of the Church – a care that remains constant, true and watchful on whatever path we take through life. It is a care that reveals the truth of another proverb – this time from Spain: 'An ounce of mother is worth a pound of clergy.'

### **30 March - Mothering Sunday – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

There is an old Jewish saying:

*God could not be  
everywhere, and therefore He  
made mothers.*

Mother Church, Mother Earth, Mother of the Gods - our human mothers - all of them have been part of the celebration of 'Mothering Sunday' - as the fourth Sunday in Lent is affectionately known. It has been celebrated in the UK since at least the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

In Roman times, great festivals were held every Spring to honour Cybele, Mother of all the Gods. Other pagan festivals in honour of Mother Earth were also celebrated. With the arrival of Christianity, the festival became one honouring Mother Church.

During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as 'live-in' servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families - which is how 'Mothering Sunday' got its name. This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. In some places the day was called Simnel Day, because of the sweet cakes called simnel cakes traditionally eaten on that day.

In recent years the holiday has changed and in many ways now resembles the American Mothers' Day, with families going out to Sunday lunch and generally making a fuss of their mother on the day.



## Examining your Life

Two brothers fulfilled their mother's last wish by hiring a small plane to carry them out to sea where they might scatter her ashes. One of the two pilots opened the cockpit door and the brothers immediately emptied the contents of the urn into the wind. But a stiff breeze blew the ashes back into the cabin, dusting the four startled occupants. A moment's stunned silence, and then one of the young men sighed, "Just like Mom – she was always all over everyone."

Maybe she was a critical person. But children, especially, often feel as if parents are "always all over them" when all those parents usually want is for their children to be the best they can be.

Humorist Franklin Jones said, "Honest criticism is hard to take, particularly from a relative, a friend, an acquaintance or a stranger." And Norman Vincent Peale adds this: "Most of us would rather be ruined by praise than saved by criticism." Few of us enjoy the experience when others point out areas for improvement. After all, who wants to hear what they don't want to hear?

Criticism IS hard to take and I'll opt for praise over criticism every time. I hold that encouragement is often more effective than criticism. I will work harder and with more

enthusiasm when I am encouraged, and I know I can get the best out of others if I spend more time pointing out what they did right than what they did wrong.

But that said – honest and objective feedback is a necessity. To shy away from fair criticism, spoken by someone trusted, may be a great mistake. Those who are wise will occasionally seek out somebody they trust to hold a mirror before them in order to see themselves more accurately. To know the truth and to see ourselves clearly, as reflected in the eyes of a friend, is an immeasurable gift.

And here's the surprising truth: As you gaze at yourself in the mirror held by another, you will see far more than your flaws. You also will see the beauty that is uniquely you; beauty that others see clearly and you may hardly know exists. That is also part of the truth about you.

If you're courageous enough, allow a trusted friend to hold that mirror before you. Plato says, "The unexamined life is not worth living." But a life properly examined makes living worthwhile.

By Steve Goodier  
[www.LifeSupportSystem.com](http://www.LifeSupportSystem.com)

*(This article was printed with the permission of The Parish Window)*

## **The Way I See It : MINE'S BIGGER THAN YOURS**

*by David Winter*

125 years ago this month the Eiffel Tower was opened. It was actually the entrance arch to the 1889 World Fair and named after its builder, Gustave Eiffel. At 324 metres it was then the tallest structure in the world. Indeed, it kept that title until 1930, when the Chrysler Building in New York marginally eclipsed it. However, very few buildings no matter how tall have eclipsed its global appeal. Its 250 millionth visitor clocked in three years ago. As a cultural icon of France and as a defining image recognised world-wide it is unsurpassed.

Of course since 1930 there have been many taller buildings erected in various parts of the world - America, Europe, the Far East and the Middle East. We've got some pretty big ones in London, for that matter (though 'pretty' is perhaps not the right adjective for many of them). We're still obsessed with size. Human beings of the male gender still like to claim that they've caught the biggest fish in the lake (even if it got away). 'Mine's bigger than yours' is a standard playground claim, be it a conker, gobstopper or bruise on the shin.

It's a trait beautifully captured in the story of the Tower of Babel in the Bible (Genesis 11:1-9). It probably relates to a period when men in the

Middle East were very keen to build ziggurats - great rectangular stepped buildings, sometimes topped with a temple. In the biblical story human beings (men, I'm sure) had the bright idea of building one so big that it would have its top in the heavens. Thus, they hoped, they would 'make a name for themselves'. Their plan was thwarted by the Lord, who 'confused their language', leaving the would-be builders at odds with each other and the project hopeless. 'They left off building the city', Genesis wryly observes.

It's a strange story, but it neatly captures a familiar human ambition, the desire to be 'top'. Over the centuries, it has caused enormous suffering - jealousies, wars, plots, revolutions and assassinations. In the long term it cannot bring happiness or satisfaction. When Jesus caught his disciples arguing about rank and status, asking 'who is the greatest?', he soon put them right: 'Whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all' (Mark 10:33,34).

Lent starts early in March. A time, perhaps, for reassessing our ambitions - including any lurking desire to be the 'greatest' or own the 'biggest'. Small is beautiful, and so is the role of the faithful servant. I must admit, however, that I still love the Eiffel Tower (and secretly wish I'd built it).





THE GREAT WAR  
1914 - 1918

## THE WAR TO END ALL WARS: Part: 3 THE TRENCHES

*David Winter*

The trenches are the defining visual image of the Great War. Both sides created them when it became obvious that for all the 'pushes' and counter-attacks not much was happening geographically. A hilly ridge would be taken, at enormous human cost. A month later it would be recaptured. The trenches stretched for hundreds of miles across northern France, once the earlier ones in southern Belgium were abandoned, and they became 'home' to hundreds of thousands of soldiers.

The trench was a narrow but deep ditch, designed to shield the men who were on look-out duty from enemy fire. Behind the trenches were the living quarters - dug out of the earth, usually with roofs of corrugated iron, where there were bunks for sleeping and rudimentary facilities for washing and eating. Hot food came from the Company cook-house behind the lines. 'Too much bully beef', my father complained - corned beef, to us. Very nice as an occasional choice, but a bit unexciting as a regular diet. Surprisingly, perhaps, to those of us who only know of the War from films and books, in between major

outbreaks of fighting the trench provided an adequate if modest degree of normality. Every day, my father told me, the newspaper seller would visit with copies of the *Daily Mail*. No escaping from the football results and news from home.

The trouble was that periodically the senior officers would decide that it was time for another desperate attempt to dislodge the enemy. Bayonets would be fixed, ashen faced young men would line up in the trenches awaiting the signal - usually a blast on a whistle - which would summon them to climb the steps out into the open, there to face, inevitably, the devastating fire of the German machine guns. It was some time into the War before the Allies were equipped with these deadly weapons, and it was the multiple, sustained rain of bullets that caused most of the casualties.

Above all this was the constant barrage of the big guns, firing from both sides but well behind the lines. Their thunderous roar could be heard at times far away across the Channel in Kent. Most of the shells simply exploded in the soft soil of Flanders or the Somme - they are still being ploughed up by farmers today, a century later. But some were what became known as 'direct hits', and those could be devastating.

In the midst of all this - the mud, the

stench, the noise and the imminent possibility of death - were the soldiers themselves. Among them moved the medics, the nurses, the chaplains - agents of care and compassion in a world which

seemed to have gone mad. Some soldiers simply couldn't stand it. 'Shell-shocked' was the diagnosis in those days. The wonder is that anybody could.

## **Reflecting on the Glory of God** :Paul Hardingham

King David is described as a 'man after God's own heart' and in the Psalms we are given insights into this inner life. As a shepherd, David would have meditated on the wonders of the night sky. His response of praise is recorded in Psalm 8, 'Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!' (1,9).

What did David see? He reflects on God's glory in the skies and considers 'the moon and the stars, which you have set in place' (3). With his naked eye David could have seen up to 2-3000 stars, yet with the Hubbell Space telescope we have seen the vastness of space. Our own galaxy, the Milky Way, consists of 300 billion stars yet it's one of up to 500,000 billion galaxies in the whole universe! With David, we can see how creation reflects God's character and is shot through with his purpose. In describing creation as the 'work of his fingers' (3), David is comparing God with an artist. Just as a great artist is recognised in his works, so this is also true of God. Along with creation, God is also working out his plan and purpose in the joys and the struggles of our lives.

How did David feel? Like David we can feel very small and insignificant in a vast universe: 'what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?' (4). However, this psalm affirms the truth that we are made in the image of God, having a unique place in his creation. We are created as a little lower than the angels and responsible for the created order. Therefore, our significance comes from being able to relate to God, to grow in his likeness and make him known.

How can we be sure of these truths? David understands God cares, with the implication that he 'visitest' us (4: Authorised Version). He looks to the coming of Jesus, which is our unique evidence of God's love for us. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, God makes it possible for us to know his life, forgiveness and peace.

The Hubbell Telescope has taken a picture of the Whirlpool Galaxy, about 23,160,000 light years from earth. At the centre of the galaxy there is a cross shape, highlighting how God's love lies at the very heart of our universe. 'Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!'

80 years ago, on 26th March 1934, the Driving Test was introduced into the United Kingdom. Nigel Beeton writes: 'Actually, my father, who was born in 1932, never took one – a sergeant in the army bellowed at him to take a lorry load of troops somewhere, and a protest from Dad that he had no licence cut no ice. A quick squiggle on a form and Pa was on his way – and he's still driving today! (I wonder if anyone told the troops in the back?) The rest of us, however, will have experienced something like this':



### *The Dreaded Driving Test*

Sitting in a waiting room  
Nerves a shredded mess  
Waiting for the call of doom!  
The dreaded driving test!

Then you're in the driving seat  
Can't back out now – too late!  
Just getting moving's quite a feat  
Why must that gearbox grate?

"Please make it face the other way,  
By using reverse gears  
Then stop it quickly when I say  
And please dry up those tears!"

The whole thing passes in a blur  
Although you've done your best  
And then he says that "I concur  
That you have passed your test!"

By Nigel Beeton



### **WE ALL NEED A TREE**

I hired a plumber to help me restore an old farmhouse, he had just finished a rough first day on the job: a flat tyre made him lose an hour of work, his electric drill packed in and his ancient pick-up refused to start.

While I drove him home, he sat in stony silence. On arriving, he invited me in to meet his family. As we walked toward the front door, he paused briefly at a small tree, touching the tips of the branches with both hands.

When opening the door he underwent an amazing transformation.. His face was wreathed in smiles and he hugged his

two small children and gave his wife a kiss.

Afterwards he walked me to the car. We passed the tree and my curiosity got the better of me. I asked him about what I had seen him do earlier.

'Oh, that's my trouble tree,' he replied 'I know I can't help having troubles on the job, but one thing's for sure, those troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children.. So I just hang them up on the tree every night when I come home and ask God to take care of them. Then in the morning I pick them up again.' 'Funny thing is,' he smiled, 'when I come out in the morning to pick 'em up, there aren't nearly as many as I remember hanging up the night before.'

*(from The Parish Window)*

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

February  
solution



March  
Sudoku



		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		

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## Are you addicted to email?

When did you first check your email today? How often do you check it throughout the day? Will your iPhone spend tonight in your bedroom with you?

This is a true story: recently a man was driving his family home from Cornwall and four hours into the trip, the man could stand it no longer - while roaring up the motorway at 70 miles an hour with his family in the back, he reached for his iPhone and began reading his emails. You are supposed to be shocked by that story - but in reality, are you secretly sympathetic? If so, you are suffering from the tyranny of email.

Some experts explain it this way: the communications technology designed to bring us together is driving us apart. Where once we used to interact with real people, now we make do with fleeting

cyber-friendships on Twitter and Facebook. We have replaced meaningful conversation between close companions with terse 140-character messages and glib one-liners that are supposed to shock, amuse or annoy people we hardly know.

Also, over the months, we are doing our heads in. The more often we scroll down our social-networking pages and the more hyperlinks we follow, the less we are able to concentrate: our attention spans have fractured into a thousand tiny broken fragments.

During this Lent, why not consider curbing your use of the internet? Keep it to set times of day, and spend more time with the people around you. Read something from the Bible each day, and spend a few minutes each morning reflecting on your life and relationship with God. Give God a chance to contact you! He doesn't use social media.

## SERVICES & ROTAS FOR MARCH 2014

<u>ST. ANNE'S, BEELEY</u>		<u>FLOWERS</u>	<u>CLEANING</u>
2	9.30am Holy Communion (CW)	Mrs Turner	Lynda & Fiona
9	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	<i>Lent - no flowers</i>	" "
16	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	" "	Sarah & Jane
23	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	" "	" "
30	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	" "	Rupert & Liz
<u>ST. PETER'S, EDENSOR</u>		<u>SIDESMEN</u>	
2	10.45am Holy Communion	R.S. Sherwood/Diana Walters	
5	9.30am Holy Communion for Ash Wednesday		
9	10.45am Holy Communion	John Bowns/Michael Pindar	
16	10.45am Matins	Mrs Thomas/S. Liddicot	
23	10.45am Holy Communion	Mr & Mrs Gordon	
30	10.45am Holy Communion	Jean Clark & Mrs Jackson	
	<u>COFFEE</u>	<u>CLEANING</u>	<u>FLOWERS</u>
2	M Douglas/Diana Maskery	Mrs Day/Mrs Walters	Cynthia Gordon
9	Judy & Freddie Harding	Mr & Mrs Jackson	<i>Lent - no flowers</i>
16	Mr & Mrs Carter	Mr & Mrs Grimshaw	" "
23	Clive & Joy Thrower	Mr & Mrs Wardle	" "
30	Mr & Mrs Bosett	Mr & Mrs Carter	" "
<u>READINGS</u>	<u>ST. PETER'S</u>	<u>ST. ANNE'S &amp; SUNDAY SCHOOL</u>	
2 Exodus 24: 12-18	Roger Wardle	Annabelle Porter	
Matthew 17: 1-9	<i>Sunday before Lent</i>	S.S. Children in service	
9 Romans 5: 12-19	Trevor Grimshaw	Claire Cadogan	
Matthew 4: 1-11	<i>First Sunday of Lent</i>	S.S. Fiona Swain	
16 Romans 4: 1-5 & 13-17	Gloria Sherwood	Rupert Turner/ Lynda Hinxman/Allegrì	
John 3: 1-17	<i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>	S.S. Claire Cadogan	
23 Exodus 17: 1-7	Molly Marshall	Claire Cadogan	
John 4: 5-42	<i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>	S.S. Fiona Swain	
30 Colossians 3: 12-17	Child from Pilsley School	Fiona Swain	
John 19: 25b-27	<i>Fourth Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday</i>	<i>No Sunday School</i>	

Items for the **APRIL** magazine should reach me **NO LATER THAN MONDAY 17 MARCH.** Mail to: [liz.bradshaw@w3z.co.uk](mailto:liz.bradshaw@w3z.co.uk)  
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