

May 2021



The Bridge



BEELEY WITH EDENSOR
including CHATSWORTH, CALTON LEES & PILSLEY
PARISH MAGAZINE

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

May 2021

On Thursday 13th May, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Ascension. The day when Jesus ascended into heaven 40 days after his resurrection. (Luke 24: 44-51)

There is an ancient mosque built over a rock on the Mount of Olives, outside the old city of Jerusalem. It isn't used for services and is completely empty except for a glass case over a place where the bare rock forms part of the floor. In the rock is an indentation said to be the footprint left by Christ as he ascended to heaven.

Jerusalem is a holy city for the three great religions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. The footprint in this rock is a place of pilgrimage for both Christians and Muslims, who may light a candle and worship silently at the site where Jesus was last seen on earth. For Muslims, the site gives a memory of Jesus, a great prophet, but for Christians, this small, unassuming place bears witness to the continuing life of the risen Christ.

What are we to make of the story of the ascension as told in the New Testament?

Interestingly, only Luke, the storyteller, gives any details about the ascension. He is the one who brings us the delightful details of the Christmas story and the excitement of the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and also elaborates on the story of the ascension. Luke ends his Gospel with the briefest of statements, "While Jesus was blessing his disciples, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven." Clearly whatever happened on that occasion had a profound effect upon the disciples, for they all returned to Jerusalem devoting themselves to saying their prayers. Perhaps the disciples learned more during their weeks with the risen Jesus Christ than they did during his three years of earthly ministry. After the ascension of Jesus the disciples were no longer the shrivelled, terrified human beings that they had been after he was crucified. We know that when Jesus died, the disciples were distraught, but after he ascended, they were full of confidence

and deep spirituality. What made the difference? On both occasions Jesus had gone, apparently to be seen on earth no more, so we might have expected the disciples to be even more distraught than they were after his death. But somehow, meeting with the risen Christ transformed their lives. Terror and anguish were replaced by prayerfulness, enthusiasm and confidence, as they realised that a new dimension of life continues after death. They knew that they were now on a mission to share that message with the world. We are the heirs of those first followers of Jesus. We didn't know Jesus in the flesh, and though we may feel that as a loss, it isn't an experience we need. We have been appointed God's agents in the world, and God has given us the necessary skills. The Church founded by those first disciples is now our Church, and their responsibility is ours. We need to be reminded that this small group of men and women from rural Palestine, followers of an itinerant rabbi executed by Romans, succeeded in spreading throughout the world the amazing message that the God of Israel is the creator and saviour of all the nations.

As those first disciples had their lives transformed by meeting with the risen Christ, let us allow Jesus to transform our lives also and have the confidence and enthusiasm to share our faith with others.

Every Blessing
Canon Dave

From the Register - St. Peter's, Edensor

15th April ~ Funeral service followed by burial

Charles Albert Peter Blackshaw (know as Peter) aged 87 years

Telephone Numbers

<u>St. Anne's</u>	Wardens:-	Rupert Turner	01629 732794
		Fiona Swain	<i>ex directory</i>
<u>Both Churches</u>	Treasurer:-	Fiona Lichfield	01629 813382
	Safeguarding:-	Sarah Porter	01629 312168
			0786 669 5132
<u>St. Peter's</u>	Wardens:-	Elizabeth Bradshaw	01246 582421
		David Jackson	01246 583452
	Treasurer:-	Mark Titterton	01246 582245
		e-mail: mtitterton@me.com	

A Message from Pilsley Post Office & Village Shop



In these difficult times, especially with our maturing local residents still being careful, I am very happy to deliver any emergency grocery items/essentials to you in Pilsley and Edensor. We can arrange payment over the phone by card.

Let's show that the Pilsley and Edensor community can support each other!

Best wishes
Sarah Titterton

Sarah is also able to collect prescriptions from Baslow surgery for residents of Pilsley and Edensor, just contact her to let her know.

St. Peter's Church, Edensor - APCM

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners to elect two churchwardens and an assistant churchwarden will be held on **Sunday 16th May at 11.45am in Church**. All residents of the ecclesiastical parish of Edensor and on the local government electoral roll, or those on the church electoral roll, are entitled to vote.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will follow this meeting and only those on the church electoral roll may vote at this meeting. However, it is open for anyone else to attend.

Please supply Christine Robinson with your email address if you would like to receive the Annual Meeting documents via email.

Her address is chris.robinson@w3z.co.uk

Documents will include:

Minutes of the 2020 APCM
2020 Accounts and Examiner's Report
Steeple Keeper's Report
Electoral Roll
Annual Church Report

Deanery Synod Report
Nomination forms for Churchwardens,
PCC membership, and Deanery Synod
membership
List of current PCC membership

Easy Fundraising

If you already SHOP ONLINE, or if you haven't yet done so, then why not use Easy Fundraising and help raise money for St. Peter's Church? There is no extra cost to you and a percentage from your purchase will come back to the church.



To Register

- Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- Click on **Register**
- Choose **Saint Peter's Church - Chatsworth Park** as your charity and fill in the rest of the form

To Shop

- Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- Search for your store in the alphabetical list
- Go ahead and shop

Choose from over 2000 of the UK's best-known retailers including names such as Amazon, M&S, Argos, John Lewis and HMV and when you shop using the links on the easyfundraising site up to 15% from every purchase you make is donated to St. Peter's Church.

JUST GIVING AT ST. PETER'S

We now have a **JustGiving** page, where people can donate to St Peter's at any point, the link is <https://www.justgiving.com/edensor-stpeters>.



If you normally give to St. Peter's through an envelope in Church, you can still support our mission by giving online and following the link at Just Giving. <https://www.justgiving.com/edensor-stpeters>.

It was 70 years ago, on 3rd May 1951, that the Festival of Britain and the Royal Festival Hall in London were opened. The aim of the Festival was to lift the nation's spirits by celebrating British industry, arts and science.

It also 70 years ago, on 9th May 1951, the Lake District National Park was established. It was Britain's second national park.

ST. ANNE'S, BEELEY

TheGivingMachine is a unique registered charity that enables you to generate sales commissions with every online purchase. They convert these commissions into free donations for the schools, charities and other community

organisations you choose. **St Anne's, Beeley** is one of the organisations you can support. The donation is calculated without going via another website so doesn't affect your shopping experience.

Please sign up at <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk>



St. Peter's Church 100 Club March Draw 2020

1st prize £30 no. 68 Julia Hubbard

2nd prize £20 no. 4 Nancie Park

Funds to church this month - £50

Thank you to everyone who supports the 100 club.

Ann Hall

Items for the **JUNE** magazine should reach me **NO LATER THAN MONDAY 17th MAY -**

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

'The Bridge' Parish Magazine £1 per copy (£12 per year).

Did you know that it was 90 years ago, on 1st May 1931 that the Empire State Building in New York City was officially opened?

Beware of the dog

Be careful if you are looking to buy a puppy. Make sure you know where it *really* came from. A spokesman for the RSPCA warns of a spike in the number of illicit dog breeders and dealers who are conning the public.

The number of dogs imported from the EU increased by 52% from 2019 to 2020 until last year it stood at over 60,000. More than half of these puppies came from Romania and were brought in by criminal gangs. Dogs that were worth £50 in Romania have been sold for 10 times that amount in the UK, according to the Animal and Plant Health Agency.



Dales in the pink this spring

The beautiful Derbyshire Dales is all set to be in the pink of condition this spring.

The District Council, whose Clean & Green Team keep streets clean, is getting welcome voluntary support from litter pickers, who use pink bags provided by the council.

A spokesperson said: “The bags are pink to distinguish them from fly-tipped rubbish. Local residents on their regular walks who want to pick up litter to help keep their environment clean use the bags and we collect them when they are full.

“The bags are often left for collection by our litter bins but where there are no bins nearby the litter pickers report the location for us to collect. We aim to pick up the bags by the next working day.”

With this year’s Great British Spring Clean taking place between 28 May and 13 June, the council is encouraging community groups and individuals to step forward to join the campaign.

If any local community wishes to take part in the campaign or organise a litter pick at any time of year contact the District Council’s Community Development Officer Emma Mortimer by email at Emma.mortimer@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

Nectar in your garden

Our home gardens are now the largest source of food for insects such as bees and wasps in towns and cities.

They yield 85 per cent of the nectar produced in urban areas, according to a study published in the Journal of Ecology.

Three such gardens will generate about a teaspoon a day of the sugar-rich liquid which is found in the flowers that the pollinators drink for energy. A teaspoon of nectar is the equivalent of more than a ton of

food for an adult human, and it is enough to fuel thousands of flying bees.

One ecologist has called home gardens “pivotal” in promoting biodiversity in urban areas across the county. Gardens are thought to cover 29 per cent of the land in urban areas, which is six times the area of parks and 40 times that of allotments.

The research was carried out in partnership with the universities of Edinburgh and Reading and the Royal Horticultural Society.

Wildflowers making a comeback

Derbyshire Dales District Council is working with local people to address an alarming decline in wildflowers on local road verges and open spaces.

Councillors recently voted unanimously to take steps to increase biodiversity - and already 12 pilot sites have been created across the district.

At these sites verges are being cut less frequently to reverse a decline across the whole country that has seen 97% of wildflower meadows lost in a century.

The council is working with and supporting local community groups such as Wilder of Wirksworth, where volunteers have been sowing wildflower seeds and potting on wildflowers from members' gardens to plant out in the verge on the corner of Summer Lane.

A District Council spokesperson said: "Road verges are vital habitats for plants, invertebrates, small mammals and birds and form green corridors linking wild spaces.

"Sadly the biodiversity of road verges has declined dramatically due to being mowed too regularly, at the

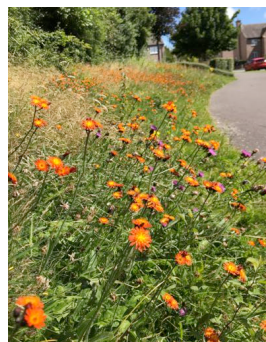
wrong time of year or neglected and allowed to develop into scrub.

"As a council we are responding to requests from local residents to cut verges less frequently and allow plants to flower, set seed and flourish.

"Most of our pilot sites are home to wildflowers already and they are being left uncut until late summer. A couple of the sites are typical grass verges and here we are supporting local community groups in creating new wildflower zones."

The council will learn from the pilot sites and look to extend the number of wildflower verges next year, while supporting additional community groups that wish to create their own.

As well as road verges, the project will focus on parks and open spaces in the district, creating "wildlife corridors" and educational messages and information with help from local schools.



↑ verge planting -
Wildflowers at Morledge in Matlock

The Padley Centre

We continue to collect food and clothing for the Padley Centre in Derby. The days may be getting longer and slightly warmer but the nights continue to be cold and we should still bend our thought to those less fortunate people who know what it is like to be hungry, homeless and cold. Canon Dave has been delivering donations throughout the last few months - the Padley has a booking system for dropping goods off.

They still need warm clothing for adults, including waterproofs, warm socks, gloves, hats and scarves etc. also unworn underwear and sleeping bags are always very much appreciated. **Food** - tins of meat, fish, soup and tomatoes; dried pasta; rice; biscuits and chocolate and any other 'treats'; also toiletries including toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap and feminine hygiene products.

Donations can be brought along to a Sunday service if you are able to attend, or you can phone Canon Dave to arrange to drop them off at the Vicarage. Alternatively, you can phone David Jackson if you are in Baslow or Liz Bradshaw if you are in Pilsley and arrange to drop them off with them.

The Padley Centre also now accept:

Blankets – any size since if not used in the centre they can sell them in the shop.

*Bedding – sheet, pillows and pillow cases **but not duvets or pillows** due to health and safety reasons.*

How to keep ground coffee fresh

The battle rages: just where IS the best place to store your ground coffee?

Sainsburys, Morrisons, Asda, Marks & Spencer and Ocado are among the supermarkets that advise you keep fresh ground coffee in a fridge or freezer after opening.

But Tesco, Waitrose and Harrods advise that you store ground coffee

and beans in a cool, dry place such as kitchen cupboard.

Many coffee experts warn that storing your coffee in the fridge is wrong because coffee easily absorbs aroma, moisture and flavours, and can be tainted by fish, meat and cheese.

Martin Isark, founder of the Can I Eat It website, laments: "So much coffee is spoilt by poor storage, which makes the coffee producers want to weep..."

Bishop of London welcomes plan to make non-fatal strangulation a crime

Following the recent announcement that the Government will introduce an amendment to the Domestic Abuse Bill to make non-fatal strangulation a specific criminal offence punishable by five years' imprisonment, the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, said:

"It is extremely welcome news that the Government is acting to criminalise strangulation through the Domestic Abuse Bill.

"I look forward to the culmination of the ground-breaking bill in legislation. It is the product of the persistence of an enormous number of brave women."

Bishop Sarah paid tribute to them and also to those who steered the bill through the House of Lords, namely Baroness Newlove, Baroness Wilcox of Newport, Baroness Meacher, and the government minister Lord Wolfson of Tredegar.

She said: "Together, we have joined forces to make sure the efforts of campaigners, researchers, and legislators have not been in vain."

PEAK MUSIC SOCIETY 2021 SPRING/SUMMER SEASON CAVENDISH HALL, EDENSOR, DE45 1PJ

Concerts start at 7.30pm (doors open 30 minutes before performance)

☞ If social distancing requirements are in force, there will be an additional performance at 4pm

☞ Membership Subscription for Summer 2021 - £45.00 (includes access to 3 concerts)

Tickets (from £20) for non-members may be available by contacting
tickets@peakmusicsociety.org.uk / 01629 640482

Wednesday 19 May 2021 - Red Priest: *Albinoni, Bach, Handel, Vivaldi, Tartini*

Thursday 10 June 2021 - Tim Horton (piano): *Debussy, Mozart, Chopin*

Tuesday 29 June 2021 - Brodsky Quartet: *Borodin, Schubert, MacMillan, Shostakovich*

Live Music Returns to the Peak

After over a year of cultural starvation, the Peak Music Society is back to feed your soul with a stimulating series of classical concerts. We kick off on 19 May 2021 with that amazing baroque group Red Priest, follow up with pianist Tim Horton on 10 June and complete the summer with the stunning Brodsky Quartet on 29 June. At just £45 for all three concerts, take up of seats is already brisk to say the least! After no live music for over a year, our musicians are as excited as we are in the audience to enjoy the true sounds of music in a fabulous setting on the Chatsworth estate. Call us now to guarantee your seat, or if you aren't able to commit to all concerts, give us a call to check whether individual concert tickets are available.

Described by BBC Music as “sheer technical wizardry, charismatic showmanship and expressive devilment”, Red Priest will entertain us with the soaring delights of Vivaldi and Albinoni through to Handel and JS Bach.

To ensure everyone's safety and compliance with social distancing, we will only be able to release tickets in advance and not on the door, unless government regulations change to permit us to do so. We will be organising seating to ensure that everyone is safe and we are fully compliant with necessary social distancing measures. Should the situation change and concerts not be permitted rest assured that we will refund the balance or allow carry over of tickets to a future performance.

We look forward to seeing you at the Cavendish Hall, Edensor, as we enjoy the sounds of music live once more. Call us now to make sure you don't miss out - 01629 640482 or email us at tickets@peakmusicsociety.org.uk

Borders and Belonging – the Book of Ruth – a story for our times (Review...)

By Padraig O Tuama and Glenn Jordan, Canterbury Press, £11.69

A leading poet and a theologian reflect on the Old Testament story of Ruth, a tale that resonates deeply in today's world with its themes of migration, the stranger, mixed cultures and religions, law and leadership, women in public life, kindness, generosity and fear.

Ruth's story speaks directly to many of the issues and deep differences that Brexit has exposed and to the polarisation taking place in many societies. Padraig O Tuama and Glenn Jordan bring the redemptive power of Ruth to bear on today's seemingly intractable social and political divisions, reflecting on its challenges and how it can help us be effective in the public square, amplify voices which are silenced, and be communities of faith in our present day.

Remembering an outstanding astronomer

by Tim Lenton

It was 150 years ago, on 11th May 1871, that John Herschel – British astronomer, mathematician, chemist and pioneering photographer – died at the age of 79. Among other things, he named seven of Saturn's moons and four moons of Uranus, as well as investigating colour blindness. He was also President of the Royal Astronomical Society three times.

He was the son of Sir William Herschel, a distinguished scientist who had moved from Germany to Britain and later discovered the planet Uranus, thus creating a pronunciation problem that still hasn't gone away.

Sir John Herschel, himself knighted in 1831, made many contributions to

the science of photography and invented the blueprint. He was also deeply interested in the philosophy of science and pioneered an inductive approach to experiments and the construction of scientific theories.

Between 1834 and 1838 he worked in South Africa with his wife Margaret, studying and photographing Cape flora as well as continuing his astronomical interests. It was here that he met Charles Darwin, on his way home in the HMS Beagle, and had a significant influence on him.

Sir John also developed and backed the use of the impressive Julian day numbering system in astronomy.

Is there life without the BBC?

Could you live happily without the BBC? Just try it for two weeks.

That was the recent challenge of the corporation's outgoing chairman, Sir David Clementi, to a group of critics who said they resented the licence fee.

Apparently, nine days later, two thirds of the critics had changed

their mind and said that the licence was worth every penny. Sir David observed that when "things that they took for granted are removed from them, they realise how valuable the BBC is."

So he encourages anyone else who thinks that the licence is not worth £3 a week, to try life without the BBC. "I think that most people would find it very hard to cope."

Brief Notes from St. Peter's PCC Meeting held via Zoom on Monday 29th March 2021

Eight members of the PCC were present and apologies were received from one other.

Canon Dave opened the meeting with prayer.

Mowing & Maintenance of the Churchyard: Canon Dave reminded the meeting that funds received from Edensor Day always contribute towards the churchyard maintenance, but with no Edensor Day in 2020 or 2021 due to the pandemic, the cost of this will be a challenge this year. Richard Finney, who has maintained the churchyard very well for many years, decided to retire at the end of last year. Quotes were received from three people for the work - with one person subsequently withdrawing his quote due to other work commitments. The other two quotes were from William Brindley at £891 per month for 7 months = £6,237 and Philip Moseley at £600 per month for 7 months = £4,200. Both these people have the necessary equipment and insurance. There may be additional cuts to the grass earlier or later in the year, depending on weather conditions so flexibility on both sides would be needed. It was proposed by David Jackson and seconded by Liz Bradshaw that Philip Moseley's quote be accepted and the meeting agreed.

The fenced in part of the Churchyard: The PCC had been asked to discuss this area of the churchyard, and felt that even when the sheep are there it is not as tidy as we would like it to be. Knowing this was up for discussion, Canon Dave had asked the three people quoting for the main churchyard maintenance to also give a quote for the old part of the churchyard - William Brindley: £180 for one cut per month and Philip Moseley: £150 for one cut per month and £200 for two cuts per month. The idea of applying for a special certificate to have this part of the churchyard officially closed, so that the Local Council would then maintain it, was discussed. However, with Council budgets under pressure it was felt that it would be better to continue to maintain it ourselves and have control of how often it was cut. The meeting decided to go with Philip Moseley and two cuts per month, which would be a total of around £5,600 per year (£4,200 + £1,400); this was proposed by David Jackson and seconded by David Hartington and the meeting agreed. Liz Bradshaw would let David Howlett, Farm Manager, know that the sheep were not required this year.

Canon Dave said he would put a message in the parish magazine thanking Richard for his work over many years and to make parishioners aware of the need for contributions towards the upkeep of the churchyard. Canon Mark said that in other parishes it is often the practice to write to those parishioners who are not regular members of the congregation, and ask them to join a patronage scheme with regular giving towards the upkeep of the churchyard. Canon Dave said he will discuss this further with the two churchwardens.

Church Pews: Now that the toilets project has been completed, we have lost storage space under the tower. Canon Dave proposed that 8 small pews are sold and the money raised used to buy lightweight trestle tables and stacking chairs, which would be stored in the Vicarage garage. The large cupboard would also go into the garage and the square wooden table be placed where the cupboard now is, at least for the

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time being. We need a Faculty for the disposal of the pews and Liz Bradshaw said that the Chatsworth archivist, Fran Baker, had been very helpful in coming up with original plans showing pews under the tower and under the large north and south windows. It seems reasonable to assume that the 8 pews now surplus to requirements, 7 without book rests, are some of those. David Jackson proposed that we take steps to sell the pews and this was seconded by Liz Bradshaw. Canon Dave said he would mention this to the architect on Wednesday and ask for advice on who to ask for a valuation and where to sell them. The Faculty will now be applied for.

Appointment of Governors to Pilsley School: Canon Dave said that we needed an official minute regarding the appointment of school governors, and he will then contact the Diocese to inform them.

The minute therefore reads: On Monday 29th March 2021, St. Peter's Edensor Parochial Church Council met and confirmed the appointment of Governors at Pilsley Church of England School. 7 members were in attendance:

Christopher Hubbuck as a Foundation Governor at a meeting on 29th January 2019

Josie Coyne and Andrew Wood as Governors at a meeting in early spring 2020

Richard Sherwood as a Foundation Governor at a meeting on 21st October 2020

These appointments were confirmed and proposed by Cynthia Gordon, seconded by Liz Bradshaw, and all members of the PCC were in favour.

Opening of the Toilets: Canon Dave said that as the work on the toilets will be signed off this Wednesday, should we have a small ceremony on Easter Sunday and ask the Duke and Duchess to officially declare them 'Open'? Some thought we should wait and have a larger celebration, but others thought that in the current situation we should just get on with it and declare them open, so this will happen on Sunday, when they will be blessed and the project declared 'completed'.

The meeting closed with the Grace

Do you love a bargain?

Some people adore bargains, promotions, and cut-price items. They are the ones who always forage out reduced clothing and food, collect coupons and loyalty points with great care, and are at the front of the queue to bag items on Black Friday.

Now a new study has found that such deal-prone bargain-hunting may be more than a preference – it may even run in your genes. It could be a tendency which is passed on genetically as well as learned.

The study was published in the Journal of the Association for Consumer Research.

Being brave?

Tony Horsfall considers what happens when you have no courage left.

Some time ago I was helping my grandson George into his car seat in the back of my car, when I accidentally banged his head. He started to cry. 'Come on, George, be brave,' I said.

'But I don't want to be brave,' he objected.

I guess we all know that feeling. Sometimes life is hard, and we know we have a need for courage, but somehow, we just don't want to be brave. We would rather give in, surrender to the difficulties, and wallow in self-pity.

The Bible seems to constantly exhort us to be brave, to be strong, to take heart, to be courageous. And life during a pandemic certainly calls for us to make a courageous response. But occasionally we may

feel overwhelmed and ready to give in or give up.

Perhaps you are reading this at just such a moment. Maybe this comes as a message to you from God so that you do not lose heart. He knows you, and He sees your situation. And He speaks to encourage you, as He did to the church at Philadelphia: 'I know that you have little strength' (Revelation 3:8).

He is the compassionate and understanding God who draws alongside us, to give strength to the weary and power to the weak (Isaiah 40:29). You don't have to do anything, simply turn to Him in your need and ask for help.

You will discover, as the apostle Paul did, that when you are weak, then you are strong. His power will be demonstrated through your weakness. You can do whatever is required of you because He will give you strength.

The puppies

A client brought a litter of Golden Retriever puppies to the local veterinary clinic for inoculations and worming. As the look-alike pups tumbled over and under one another in their box, the experienced vet realised it would be difficult to tell which had been treated and which hadn't. So, the vet turned on the water tap, wet her fingers and gently

moistened each dog's head as she finished giving it the necessary shots.

After the fourth puppy, the vet noticed her hitherto talkative client had grown silent and was looking rather reverent. As the vet sprinkled the last pup's head, the owner leaned forward and whispered, "Thank you so much. I hadn't realised you baptised them, too."

13th May: Ascension Day, 40 Days with the Risen Christ

40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. These are the 40 days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to His disciples, following His death and resurrection. (*Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; and John 20.*)

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those 40 days. Jesus was seen by numerous of His disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged His disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent Him, He was now going to send them - to all corners of the earth, as His witnesses.

Surely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records the story with great poignancy: 'When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, He lifted up His hands - and blessed them.'

As Christmas began the story of Jesus' life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with His return to His Father in heaven. Jesus' last act on earth was to bless His disciples. He

and they had a bond as close as could be: they had just lived through three tumultuous years of public ministry and miracles – persecution and death – and resurrection! Just as we part from our nearest and dearest by still looking at them with love and memories in our eyes, so exactly did Jesus: 'While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven.' (*Luke 24:50-1*) He was not forsaking them, but merely going on ahead to a kingdom which would also be theirs one day: 'I am ascending to my Father and to your Father, to my God and your God...' (*John 20:17*)

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history. Imagine being one of the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus, and to have Him look on you with love. No wonder then that Luke goes on: 'they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.' (*Luke 24:52,53*)

No wonder they praised God! They knew they would see Jesus again one day! 'I am going to prepare a place for you... I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.' (*John 14:2,3*) In the meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel to every nation on earth.

100 years of the British Legion

by Tim Lenton

One hundred years ago, on 15th May 1921, the British Legion was founded in the aftermath of the First World War, to provide support to veterans of the British Armed Forces, their families and dependants.

It was created at a time when two million people were unemployed. More than six million had served in the war: of those who came back, 1.75 million had suffered some kind of disability, and half of those were disabled permanently.

Four organisations came together at the instigation of Lancastrian Lance Bombardier Tom Lister, who was angered at the Government's unwillingness to help, and Field Marshal Earl Haig, who had been

Commander in Chief of the British Forces. The Legion campaigned for fair treatment of those who had given everything for their country, and it continues this work today.

In 1922, the Legion's poppy factory opened in the Old Kent Road, London, with 40 disabled men manufacturing 1000 poppies a week. The first Poppy Day was held that same year. The Festival of Remembrance began in 1927, and the Legion became 'Royal' in 1971 – 50 years ago – on its golden anniversary.

At first membership of the Legion was confined to ex-Service personnel, but it was expanded to include serving members of the Forces in 1981.



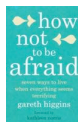
How Not To Be Afraid – seven ways to live when everything seems terrifying

By Gareth Higgins and Kathleen Norris,
Canterbury Press, £14.99 (Review)

We live in a time where we seem more afraid than ever. The rise of populism, polarisation and aggression in politics, the media and popular culture, and the climate crisis have coincided with the collapse of previously cherished norms and expectations about economic

stability, community life, and even the future of the planet.

And all this before the pandemic struck. No wonder we are overwhelmed by anxiety. Popular speaker, storyteller and activist Gareth Higgins exposes the root causes of fear and shows how we can break its power through life-giving stories, simple spiritual exercises and practical steps to take as individuals and communities.



24th May: The hymns of the Wesleys

by Canon David Winter

Later this month the Church calendar celebrates the lives of John and Charles Wesley. John's great gift to the Christian cause was the little matter of founding the world-wide movement known as Methodism. His brother Charles had an equally profound impact through his hymns. He actually wrote over 6,000, most of which aren't sung nowadays, but among the ones we do still sing are all-time favourites – 'Love divine, all loves excelling', 'O for a thousand tongues to sing'. 'Jesu lover of my soul', 'Hark the herald angels sing' – and scores more.

40 years ago almost everybody knew quite a lot of hymns, but sadly that's no longer true. Traditional hymns aren't usually sung at school assemblies, not even in church

schools, and while the audience for 'Songs of Praise' on BBC TV is substantial, most of those watching are over 50.

With only about ten per cent of the population even irregular church-goers there is inevitably a lack of familiarity with hymns of any kind. Christmas carols are an exception, as is 'Jerusalem' and 'Amazing Grace', because they are frequently heard outside church.

Singing hymns is a wonderful experience at its best – just ask a Welsh rugby crowd singing 'Bread of heaven'! It seems a pity to lose it.

It's not a bad idea to take ten minutes and think about what is your favourite hymn, and why – ancient or modern doesn't matter. Then try singing it in the bath or under the shower – a very purifying experience!

What did I do with the car?(Smile...)

As I left a meeting at our church, I could not find my car keys. They were not in my pockets. They were not in the church. Then I thought – I've left them in the car! As I burst through the doors of the church, my heart sank: the church car park was empty.

With a heavy heart I called the police, confessed that I had left my keys in the car, and that it had been stolen. Then I made the really difficult call: "Darling," I began (I always call her 'darling' at

moments like this). "Darling, I have left my keys in the car, and it has been stolen."

There was a little gasp. "You did not *have* the car. I dropped you off. Remember?" My heart sang as relief flooded through me. "Of course! Thank God! Well, come get me quick – I am already running late... what is keeping you?"

My wife replied with ominous calm: "What's keeping me? I'll tell you what's keeping me. The police are here. They think I've stolen our car..."

We Chose to Go to the Moon

*The Revd Canon Paul Hardingham
on the challenge of commitment.*

On 25th May 1961, President John F Kennedy announced to Congress that the United States 'should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to the Earth.'

This reflected the United States' desire to catch up with the Soviet Union in the space race. Although an extremely challenging goal, it was finally achieved on 20th July 1969, when Apollo 11 commander Neil Armstrong stepped on to the Moon's surface.

Such a challenging mission required commitment and sacrifice from many people. What is our mandate, as the people of God in today's world? What challenge have we been entrusted with by God that requires our absolute commitment and sacrifice in these difficult days? When Jesus ascended into heaven, His last words to His

disciples were significant: 'But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' (Acts 1:8).

However, we have the gift of the Holy Spirit to empower our witness: 'you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you' (1:8). The Spirit enables us to display the fruit of Jesus' character and gifts us to be effective witnesses.

'We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard' (JFK, 12th September, 1962 at Rice University).

Our mission is to be witnesses for Jesus, making Him known in our workplaces, to our families and friends, as well as the wider community. A credible witness speaks of what they know personally. What is my story of how Jesus has changed my life?

It was 65 years ago, on 24th May 1956, that the first Eurovision Song Contest was held in Lugano, Switzerland. It was won by Switzerland.

30th May: Trinity Sunday, celebrating our God who is Three Persons

Trying to explain the doctrine of the Trinity has kept many a theologian busy down the centuries. One helpful picture is to imagine the sun shining in the sky. The sun itself – way out there in space, and unapproachable in its fiery majesty – is the Father. The light that flows from it, which gives us life and illuminates all our lives, is the Son. The heat that flows from it, and which gives us all the energy to move and grow, is the Holy Spirit. You cannot have the sun without its light and its heat. The light and the heat are from the sun, are of the sun, and yet are also distinct in themselves, with their own roles to play.

The Bible makes clear that God is One God, who is disclosed in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit. For example:

Deuteronomy 6:4: ‘Hear O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one.’

Isaiah 45:22: ‘Turn to me and be saved... for I am God, and there is no other.’

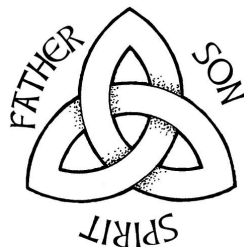
Genesis 1:1-2: ‘In the beginning God created.... and the Spirit of God was hovering...’

Judges 14:6: ‘The Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power...’

John 1:1-3: ‘In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.’

Luke 24:49 actually manages to squeeze the whole Trinity into one sentence. Jesus tells His disciples: ‘I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power (the Holy Spirit) from on high.’

In other words, the sun eternally gives off light and heat, and whenever we turn to its brilliant light, we find that the warmth and life there as well.



Emails - a blessing or a problem?

David Pickup, a solicitor, considers the challenge of dealing with emails.

With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. (James 3 v 9-10)

I wonder what St James would say about emails! He had plenty to say about how what we say can cause lots of damage. He wrote that the tongue is a like a spark which starts a forest fire. It is easy to say a thoughtless thing or inadvertently spread gossip or speculation.

Emails are a great way of communicating. You can send a message to someone in the same parish or across the world almost instantly. Lawyers always ask, "have you got evidence in writing?" Telephone calls or face to face conversations are still evidence but it

is difficult to prove what was said. Conversations are recorded so you can see the chain of who said what and when. Emails are quick and free.

Emails can, however, easily be harmful. You can accidentally send a personal or private message to the wrong person or even worse copy it to lots of people. It is also difficult to judge the tone of an email, whether it is light-hearted or serious, cross or joyful. When we are on the telephone or speaking face to face it is easier to tell whether the speaker is feeling angry or light-hearted.

Sometimes we need a break. Emails are good but many people find you can never get away from them and constantly check for business messages while at home or on leave. Perhaps we should not send emails to the vicar on a Sunday night while she is watching Strictly. Some discussions are better face to face, and always double check who you are sending it to or copying to.

Be kind to each other

Colin Hammacott praises the wonderful everyday blessing that anyone of us can give.

'And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.' (Matthew 10:42)

During the Covid-19 pandemic, there have been thousands of shining

examples up and down the country of people going the extra mile to help the elderly, vulnerable and those at risk. The helpers have been shopping, cooking meals, making regular telephone calls, and checking that needs are being met. We must sincerely hope that these acts of kindness will continue well beyond the coronavirus outbreak.

Could an open-plan house damage your marriage?

Think twice before you knock down internal walls in your house and move over to open-plan living. If you are married, it does not lead to happiness.

So says Sarah Beeney, the TV property presenter. She points out that open-plan living means that “you cannot shut a door” after rowing with your partner.

The star, who is married with four children, admits she has no plans to

knock down walls in their new house. Speaking recently to Prima magazine, she said that people are too often “fooled into thinking that open-plan living is the solution to happiness.”

She went on: “I’m not convinced that taking down every wall and living in an aircraft hangar is actually that great. Sometimes it’s nice to not have to see the other’s face or hear them.”

Famine may be on the way

That is the stark warning of the Disasters Emergency Committee coalition of UK aid agencies, who says that the economic devastation caused by the pandemic is leading to increasing hunger in poorer countries.

Thousands are likely to die this year as the knock-on effect of Covid-19 worldwide has left millions less able to afford food. South Sudan and Yemen are already on the brink of famine, and Afghanistan and

Democratic Republic of the Congo are also in deep trouble. Just at a time when Covid-19 and wars have crippled the economic and health systems of many countries, humanitarian funding has dropped as donor countries also struggle.

Saleh Saeed, the committee’s chief executive, explained: “People living in places made perilous by conflict, violence and climate disasters are coping as best they can, but the odds are stacked against them. The knock-on effects of the pandemic have crippled economies, making the world’s poorest people even poorer.”

Finding *(Smile...)*

The shin bone is a device for finding furniture in the dark.

God in the Sciences

This series is written by Dr Ruth M. Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith. www.faraday.cam.ac.uk/churches and <http://www.cis.org.uk>

Finding Expression – and God’s Response – in Lament

The question of suffering comes up regularly in discussions about science and faith. I once visited a school to speak to some of the older teenagers. One of the pupils had sadly passed away from cancer a few weeks before and his classmates asked, “How could God let this happen?” Of course, these young people’s questions about where God was in this situation were important. But the chaplain also gently reminded the class that their friend’s family were Christians, and that they were finding that their experience of loss had brought them even closer to God than before.

One way that grief can bring us near to God is when we share it with Him, telling Him exactly how we feel. The biblical writers had no scruples about expressing themselves to God, giving vent to emotions we often hold back in a church context. As my colleague Roger Abbott has written in his book on ‘Unanswered’ Prayer, “Let

us not confuse reverence with spiritual prudishness. Perhaps honesty, the way it feels, is precisely what God is waiting to hear from us.”

About one third of the Psalms express some form of grief. The book of Job is a series of responses to one man’s suffering as he loses his children, property and health in quick succession. Lamentations is also one long outpouring of sadness at what happened to Israel under the Babylonians. Some of the prophets, especially Jeremiah, also express their pain at these sorts of events – which reflect something of God’s own feelings at the suffering of His people.

Most of these biblical authors would have had access to Scriptures that encouraged them to turn to God whatever the circumstances.

Emboldened by their knowledge of His character and promises, these divinely inspired writers even express their anger to God about the things He lets happen, or complain that He seems to act unfairly or ignore them in their plight. Not only do these people let out all their feelings without fear of reprisal, but they also clearly expect a helpful answer. Some record a resolution to their troubles – often simply because God speaks to and comforts them, enabling them to keep going. *Continues over page.....*

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The biblical writers demonstrated that God can handle pretty much anything – anger, blame, bitterness – if we are actively looking to Him for

help. As Pete Greig of the 24-7 prayer movement has written, “pain that is not expressed can never be transformed”.

Nigel Beeton writes: “A few weeks ago, the UK paused to remember the devastation that Covid-19 has caused. Who could imagine that in just a year such a thing could happen.? What a tribute to those who laboured long and hard to achieve that.

I realise that some of us still await the first dose of the vaccine, and I hope that they will soon get it. I also realise that some vaccinators are men; it was just that, for me, on both occasions I met **A Lady with the Shot.**

So, begging pardon for the awful pun, and to Alfred, Lord Tennyson for crimes against his masterpiece, here is my poem.”

A Lady with the Shot

On either side the dangers lie
We may sicken, we may die;
We cannot drive, we cannot fly,
We must wear masks, but some ask,
“why?”
“It’s just a massive plot!”
Though some may protest loud and shrilly
We have to tell them, “don’t be silly,”
There’s just one route from fear so chilly:
The COVID vaccine shot!

Through long and anxious toilsome days
They sought for virus-killing ways,
It’s hard to find the words of praise—
Their skill and knowledge just amaze!
They loosed a Gordian Knot!
For months the news had gone so badly
How nice to turn from thinking sadly
And go and meet so very gladly
A lady with the shot!

And now must all folk gladly share
The vaccine which, with equal care
Protects all people, everywhere
If it’s use is wise and fair.
We must share what we’ve got.
And then at last this virus stealthy
Will threaten no-one – poor or wealthy
No more masks to keep us healthy
This clever vaccine shot!

By Nigel Beeton



Baslow Health Centre – Church Lane, Baslow

www.baslowhealthcentre.co.uk

Appointment Times: Clinicians are still available for consultations and medical advice. Please contact the surgery and a GP or Nurse will call you back to discuss your concerns and if necessary arrange to see you in person. Many problems can be dealt with over the telephone.

Patient Online: Have you registered to use the online service? This allows you to book or cancel appointments on line (during normal service) and order your repeat medications. You can also request access to your Summary Care Record, and Detailed Coded Data contained within your medical records. You can also look at your test results.

Telephone Numbers:

Reception: 01246 582216

Surgery Fax: 01246 583867

District Nursing Team 01332 564 900

Health Visitor: 01629 816633

Normal Surgery Opening Times

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri
8am-6.30pm;

(closed Bank Holidays)

(Phones 8am – 6.30pm Mon - Fri).

Surgery Closure for training -

Wednesdays from 1pm: 12th May; 9th June & 14th July.

Ordering Repeat Medication

You can order repeat medications in the following ways:

- In writing or with our on-line access service
- Return your repeat request form to surgery by Post or Fax

Please allow **three** working days before collection and **collect between 8am and 5pm**

Prescriptions can be collected via the side window near the back door.

Samples – if you need to leave a sample with us please ensure it is labelled with your name and date of birth and returned in a bag, if provided, either through the letterbox or at the side window.

Test Results – Please ring for test results after 2.30pm as we do not receive test results back from the hospital until lunchtime.

**For Urgent Calls when
we are closed call 111**

READINGS & ROTAS FOR MAY 2021

St. Anne's, Beeley 9.30am (pre-booked places only)

please phone Canon Dave Perkins 01246 386385 to reserve a place

Sunday 2nd May: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8: 26-40

Reader: Rupert Turner

Flowers & Brasses: Fiona Swain

John 15: 1-8

Sunday 16th May: Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26

Reader: Fiona Lichfield

Flowers & Brasses: Fiona Swain

John 17: 6-19

Sunday 30th May: Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6: 1-8

Reader: Claire Cadogan

Flowers & Brasses: Fiona Lichfield

John 3: 1-17

May cleaning: Claire Cadogan

St. Peter's, Edensor - 10.45am (pre-booked places only)

please phone Canon Dave Perkins 01246 386385 to reserve a place

Sunday 2nd May: Fifth Sunday of Easter (Holy Communion)

Acts 8: 26-40

Reader: John Caws

John 15: 1-8

Stewards: Margaret Perkins & Liz Bradshaw

Sunday 9th May: Sixth Sunday of Easter (Holy Communion)

Acts 10: 44-48

Reader: Diana Walters

John 15: 9-17

Stewards: Sue & Roger Wardle

Thursday 13th May - 9.30am Holy Communion for Ascension Day

Sunday 16th May: Seventh Sunday of Easter (Matins) (followed by APCM)

Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26

Reader: Mike Woodcock

John 17: 6-19

Stewards: David & Margaret Jackson

Sunday 23rd May: Feast of Pentecost (Holy Communion)

Acts 2: 1-21

Reader: Roger Wardle

John 15: 26-27, 16: 4b-15

Stewards: Roger Sherwood & Diana Walters

Sunday 30th May: Trinity Sunday (Holy Communion)

Isaiah 6: 1-8

Reader: Trevor Grimshaw

John 3: 1-17

Stewards: Margaret Perkins & Liz Bradshaw

Cleaning rota for May - Please phone the Vicar to arrange your cleaning day and time to collect the key. Thank you.

2 Mike Pindar & Jennie Ball

23 Trevor & Jackie Grimshaw

9 Mrs Day & Mrs Walters

30 Mr & Mrs Wardle

16 Mr & Mrs Jackson