



# All Saints Guildford

*Joyfully Living Jesus*

Welcoming Everyone

Growing Disciples Deepening Community



## MARCH 2025

# WHOS WHO

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
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If you'd like to feature anything in the magazine, we would love to hear from you! Articles should be emailed to **allsaintsmag@gmail.com** by the **15th of the previous month**. We like to keep content varied and interesting so almost anything goes. Please get in touch if you have any questions. Thank you!

## ALL SAINTS SERVICES AND OPENING TIMES

Our pattern of services is as follows:

- ★ Morning Prayer takes place Monday to Wednesday at 9.15am in the church and via Zoom for anyone who would like this option.
- ★ A service of Holy Communion is held in church every Thursday morning at 9.30am.
- ★ An 8am service of Holy Communion is held in church on the first and third Sundays of the month (the third Sunday will use the Book of Common Prayer).
- ★ Our 10am Sunday services follow this pattern:
  - ◇ First Sunday: Café-style Altogether Worship
  - ◇ Second, fourth and fifth Sundays:  
Church Family Communion with Children's Church
  - ◇ Third Sunday: Morning Worship with Children's Church  
*Note: Children's Church is term-time only*
- ★ Each Sunday, we hold 'Tea-Time Church' at 4pm.
- ★ Each Sunday, we record the sermon and this can be found on our YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/@allsaintsguildford](https://www.youtube.com/@allsaintsguildford)



## THOUGHTS FROM THE VICARAGE



As March begins this year, so does Lent – with Shrove Tuesday taking place on the 4<sup>th</sup> of the month, followed by Ash Wednesday on the 5<sup>th</sup>. I'm very much looking forward to our Pancake Party in church on the Tuesday, but also the joint Ash Wednesday service taking place at St. Mary's, Quarry Street, once again this year.

I always find this season of Lent a hopeful one in the life of our church. We begin to focus our thoughts towards Easter, and all that means for us as Christians – as we reflect once again on the suffering, death and the resurrection of Christ. 'Hope' is an entity in short supply in our world today, as we watch the unfolding of events in the conflict between Israel and Gaza, and the unpredictable nature of the Trump administration. 'Hope' can be in short supply in the wider church, with the recent resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and ongoing revelations of wrong-doing among our senior leaders.

And so the Lent book we've chosen for this year is 'Wild Bright Hope'. It gathers together twelve reflections from up-and-coming Christian writers, writing about what gives them hope. The strength of the book is the huge diversity of reflection, from people in highly significant roles, and taking in a global perspective. Chapters include: Reimagining day to day; Hope and the Church of England; A vision for hope in politics; and Hope in suffering. If you're short on hope at the moment, please do come and join us as we study this book together (five Wednesday evenings at the Vicarage starting on 12<sup>th</sup> March, and Friday afternoons in the Reading Room beginning on 14<sup>th</sup> March).

Despite all that's happening in the world around us, Lent is a time of hope – hope that is to be found in our living and risen saviour, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Beverly*

## MISSION FOCUS: CLARE AND ANDREW KOENS

with Levi, Heidi and Eowyn in Papua New Guinea, working with Wycliffe Bible Translators



It is a real privilege to have known Clare for many years, from when we were in the same home group, whilst she was teaching at Sandfield School. Peter and I supported her as she applied to Wycliffe and then went out to PNG as a Primary School teacher in about 2005. There she met Andrew, an American who grew up in Peru where his parents were serving with Wycliffe, and they got married in Guildford in 2007.

So it was really special for us to introduce them to All Saints and for the church to contribute to their support and pray for them over the past six or seven years. It is especially exciting that Queen Eleanor's School is looking to develop a link with Clare and the Primary School in Ukarumpa.

In January, Andrew recalls his experience of his journey to PNG for the first time:

"23 years ago today, I first set foot in PNG, landing at Port Moresby with colleagues, Tim and Kim, and Justin and Katie, before heading off later in the day to Madang for POC (the orientation course for new missionaries). I remember I was absolutely exhausted. It was shortly after 9/11 happened, leaving the US was a surreal experience with armed National Guard troops and HUMVs (military vehicles) all over the regional airport where I started my journey. In Singapore I had a 21 hour layover, but was afraid to leave the airport because I didn't have a boarding pass for my next flight and in the US they weren't even allowing people into the airport without a boarding pass. I slept (sort of) on a bench in the observation lounge, in a part of the airport which I have never been able to find since, even though I've been through that airport numerous times since then.

"In the morning, I stumbled into an airport Starbucks; this may well have been the first time I ever went to Starbucks; normally I would scoff at paying so much money for coffee, but that day I was desperate. I had no idea what to order, I stood there, the only person in line, squinting at the board, trying to figure out where the "black coffee" was. Finally I gave

up and asked the guy at the register if he had black coffee. "You want an americano?" he asked. I had no idea what that was, but said "Sure." He told me to take a seat and he'd bring it to me, he seemed very sympathetic, and soon brought me not only a big black coffee but also some kind of pastry! To this day that remains my #1 best Starbucks experience."

"It illustrates that there is a lot more to cultural adjustment than you might think! (I once had a panic attack trying to buy cheese in a French supermarket, whilst on home leave from Bangladesh – overwhelmed by choice!)"

So Clare and Andrew have been there for a very long time, and especially for the children, Ukarumpa is home. Ukarumpa is the centre of operations for the work of Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL) Branch, with whom Wycliffe translators work, in Papua New Guinea. The centre itself is about 1.5km (1 mile) in diameter and is located in the Aiyura Valley of the Eastern Highlands Province.

In addition to missionary and citizen staff housing, the centre includes various services designed to support residents and Bible translation around the country. These services include a store, a clinic, a construction and maintenance department, a computing and technical services department, a training centre, an auto maintenance shop, and a central branch administration building. The Staff Care and Youth Ministry departments are active, and each runs its own designated facility. Just down the road from the main centre is the aviation department with its own maintained grass airstrip and both helicopters and airplanes. The population of Ukarumpa averages between 500-800 people. As you can see it is a small close-knit international community, and the International school a vital part.

Clare now spends most of her time supporting missionary families, and Andrew continues to use his expertise in keeping the many vehicles and small motors, generators, etc running. Levi, (16), Heidi (13) and Eowyn (11) are all studying at the International School in Ukarumpa. One of the things they find hard is the frequent movement of people, as families come and go, some going on home leave for a year or so, some returning to their home countries permanently. Therefore friendships can be transient which is unsettling, and Clare and Andrew have to be flexible on occasions, in helping out in roles when others leave. They wrote a card

recently (now on the notice board in the foyer) which said:

“To all at All Saints. Thank you so much for your ongoing partnership with us as we serve in Papua New Guinea with Wycliffe Bible Translators. We are so grateful for your prayers and encouragement, your regular gifts, and for all who have taken part in special events for us. With love from Andrew, Clare, Levi, Heidi and Eowyn.”



**Please note the next event to support the Koens will be the Lent Lunch on Sunday March 9<sup>th</sup>. Please come and join us.**

*Carolyn Nicholls*

# Mothering Sunday

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH  
SUNDAY 30TH MARCH

We'll be celebrating at both our  
10am and 4pm services  
with posies of daffodils





## HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR TIME AT ALL SAINTS



Peter and I came to worship at All Saints in the autumn of 2013, moving from St Saviour's because we felt God was nudging us and we felt it was important to be part of a local community. Peter went off to work with The Leprosy Mission in Kathmandu, Nepal, the following January for about 12 months, and has travelled to and fro to a number of countries since then until Covid stopped him travelling.

We have been involved in serving All Saints in various ways at different times – with the premises, mission, Friday Group, prayer breakfasts, pastoral care, choir, cashier, toddlers' group and lots of different things in between. But the most significant role for me has been as Churchwarden. When Beverly asked me to be Churchwarden, and believed I could do it, then I needed to seriously pray and consider my response. Apart from not really knowing what it might involve, I felt I should do it. Many times over the years we have proved God's promises that when He calls us to do something, we need to respond and He will equip us. This was no different.

Being Churchwarden has been a privilege. Yes, it has been difficult at times; yes, it has been hard work sometimes; and yes, I have made mistakes many times. But what a joy to be involved; to get to know so many people and make so many friends; to be useful. I have had to learn a lot, to apologise many times, to trust God.

I am so grateful to Peter for supporting me, and for good health and strength to keep going, and to Beverly for all that I have learnt from her.

We have been richly blessed. We shall miss everyone. But we believe in a faithful God. He has gone before us all these years and we trust Him for all that lies ahead.



*Carolyn*





# Lent Lunch

Sunday 9th March  
12 noon in the hall



No need  
to book



## **Donations to the Koens Family**

Join us for a bread and soup lunch as we consider the valuable support that the Koens family provide to the Wycliffe Bible translators in Papua New Guinea.



# ***Pancake Party!***



**Shrove Tuesday**  
**4th March, 5pm-6.45pm**  
**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH HALL**

Join us for pancakes cooked and  
flipped by the Vicar!  
Selection of toppings available.

**Donations welcomed.**  
**No booking needed - just turn up!**

All Saints Guildford



*Joyfully living Jesus*



## **Sunday 16th March**

### **11.15am in church**

Please join us for our annual meeting to hear about the past year, plans for the coming year and to elect new members to the Parochial Church Council (PCC).

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Notice convening the meeting to be taken as read
2. Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting for 2024
3. Revision of the Electoral Roll
4. Election of people to the PCC
5. Annual reports for the church
6. Financial statement for the year ending 31 December 2024
7. Appointment of auditor
8. Review of safeguarding
9. Appointment of Parish Safeguarding Representative
10. Year's report by the vicar
11. Church Development Plan
12. Questions and points of interest
13. Closing prayers

The agenda looks long but will last only about an hour and it's a great opportunity to feel fully involved in our church family.

To be even more involved, you might like to consider being on the PCC.

We need new PCC members and also a new Churchwarden. If you think you could serve All Saints in this way, please have a chat with Beverly.

We will be electing new members to the PCC as we give thanks to those now finishing their time on the PCC:

- Henrietta Harding
- Katherine Hopwood
- Paddy Payne
- Annie Twidell
- Andy Wells
- Martyn Whiteman

We also give thanks to Sophie Robson-Bravery and Jan Knott who have served on the PCC during the year and have now stepped down.

Finally, we must also say a fond farewell to Carolyn Nicholls who has served two terms as Churchwarden in her time here at All Saints. The PCC will very much miss her wisdom and energy.

*Trish Tye*  
*PCC Secretary*



The Parent Staff Association at Queen Eleanor's has launched a fundraising campaign (closing 7th March) to raise money for the purchase of new computers.

The school's current computers are over ten years old and do not have enough memory to run basic applications efficiently. Completing simple tasks, for example opening an internet browser to find a picture, copying the picture and pasting it into an open word processor document, can take a long time. The children then have less time to work through the computing curriculum. Please consider supporting this campaign if you are able to. A Crowdfunder page has been set up for donations:

[crowdfunder.co.uk/p/queeneleanors-new-computers](https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/queeneleanors-new-computers)

Thank you!





**All Saints Guildford**  
*Joyfully Living Jesus*

Welcoming Everyone

Growing Disciples Deepening Community

# Lent Course 2025

**Every Wednesday between 12th March and 9th April**  
**7.30pm at The Vicarage**

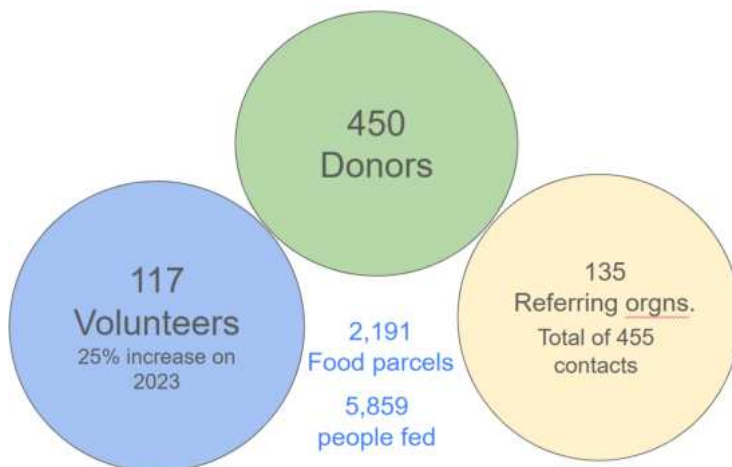
We will be studying the Archbishop's Lent Book for 2025  
**'Wild Bright Hope'**



If you'd like to come, please purchase a copy of the book  
and let Trish know:

[allsaintschurchgfd@gmail.com](mailto:allsaintschurchgfd@gmail.com) / 01483 563173

## NORTH GUILDFORD FOOD BANK: 2024 AT A GLANCE



Food Bank Manager, Jessica, says:

Your donations have enabled us to cope with demand that was up **27% on 2023**, for which we are incredibly grateful. We really could not do this work without your support. Our clients are so grateful for the support they receive and the addition of a supermarket voucher with their December parcel often resulted in tearful reactions. Below is just one message of thanks we received in late December from a lady who had had to flee her home for her own safety.

"I just wanted to thank you for the amazing food parcel and vouchers. I am blown away at how much was there and so grateful for you bringing this to me today and saving my Christmas"

Going onto 2025, we'd like to encourage ongoing regular donations from as many of our donors as possible. If we know our expected income, we can have more confidence that we will not have to undertake any significant fundraising activity early on this year. Our efforts can therefore be focused on our clients and ensuring we are offering the best possible support we can. January 2025 has started busy, with food parcel numbers up **13%** on last year January. This has been our busiest January in the 12 year history of our food bank.



# HEDGEHOG HIGHWAYS TALK

Join us on **April 6th, 3pm**, at **All Saints' Church** on Vicarage Gate for this fun all-age talk by Dr Tara Pirie of Surrey Uni. Borrow tracking tunnels to see if there are hedgehogs in YOUR garden, and learn how to create a welcoming habitat for our prickly friends.

An All Saints & OVRA event.

*Hedgehog Friendly Neighbourhood*



**DON'T  
FORGET  
YOUR  
GLOVES &  
WELLIES!**



# BIG BUILD UPDATE



Patience is a virtue. Following an administrative problem between the architects and the Diocesan Advisory Committee, we are still waiting for approval of the final plans which the steering group approved in January. We are sad to lose Carolyn Nicholls and Sophie Robson-Bravery from the steering group but are pleased to welcome Jon and Becky Salmon in their place. Jon, in particular, with his knowledge of planning, could help us safely negotiate the next steps with GBC.

The steering group has agreed that we should tell the wider community about our plans and is arranging an evening event for Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June. Make a note now, and let everyone in the parish know.

We have almost reached our first financial target of raising £300,000. Currently we have achieved around £275k and the total continues to grow with your kind help. The difficult task of searching and applying for grants has been passed to the Finance Vision Group.

*Robin Holdsworth*

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Join the Biggest Hour for Earth

**Switch off.**

**Give an hour for Earth.**

**8.30pm 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

earthhour.org



Holy Trinity  
St Mary's

A Joint Service  
for Guildford Town Centre on

**Ash  
Wednesday**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 8.00pm, St Mary's Church, Quarry Street

**All welcome to join a 'scratch' choir for this service to sing  
William Byrd's Three Part Mass.**

Contact Helen Lee, director of music at St Mary's ([hmllee@ntlworld.com](mailto:hmllee@ntlworld.com)) if you would like to take part. Rehearsal will be 7pm on the day.

# All Saints' HEAR HERE CLINIC



## **ALL SAINTS' CHURCH**

Vicarage Gate  
Guildford  
GU2 7QJ

Provided by NHS  
trained volunteers.  
Re-tubing, ear  
moulding and  
battery replacement,  
*NHS supplied  
hearing aids only.*

### **For more information:**

allsaintschurchgfd@gmail.com  
01483 563713

**MONTHLY**  
**Third Monday**  
**of the month**  
**2pm-3pm**

March 17th

**April 28th**

May 19th

June 16th

July 21st

August 18th

September 15th

October 20th

November 17th

December 15th

**No need to book,  
just drop in for  
FREE hearing aid  
maintenance,  
battery changes  
and advice**

## LONDON UNDERGROUND: WASTE-FREE WI-FI

It's one of those chance conversations that just gets the mind bubbling. He may be the worship band's awesome drummer of a Sunday, but during the week, James Heaphy has his head firmly underground, managing all things IT in the Tube and other Transport for London systems. And, as he explained to me last Sunday, he was up against one of those problems that the rest of us would simply never know existed: what DO you do with 4,000+ industrial Wi-Fi routers that are being replaced and are no longer needed?

I think James would have been excused for scratching his head, not really knowing the answer, and simply sending them to the tip. Because other options aren't easy to find.

But James, along with over 3,000 of his colleagues, had just completed a Carbon Literacy Project training course at work. It's a one day training course that teaches you about carbon emissions in your life, in your diet, in your workplace. And at the end of the training, if you want to be certified as 'carbon literate', you need to make a pledge. James pledged that he was going to avoid sending the routers to landfill, and to recycle these devices in as carbon efficient a way as was commercially sensible.



And the solution he found is priceless, to coin a phrase. The Royal Mint, no longer making as many coins as it used to in the move to a cashless society, is diversifying into recycling tech-waste. There's gold in them thar routers, (and mobiles, and laptops) and they are stripping things down and extracting the metals. But 4,000 of the same product, all at once? It's a dream – they can create a production line and do one after the other. And for James it's an answer to a real melon-twister of a problem. Double bubble – everyone is happy. Not least mother nature, saved from routers dumped into landfill, seeping plastics and metals into the soil.



It's a wonderful story of circular economy, collaboration, where there's a will there's a way mindsets, and, not least, the enduring meaningfulness of making good on a pledge. A quiet but deeply resonant act.

If you'd like to know more about saving carbon in your life, and especially at work, look out for (or perhaps suggest) Carbon Literacy training: [carbonliteracy.com](http://carbonliteracy.com).



FYI – The Wi-Fi router is the box with all the antennae. This one (left) is at Wembley Park!

*Alison Moulden*



## **Guildford Travel Club**

*travel for travel's sake*

On **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March** Jo Bowen will guide us through the sights and sounds of Uganda to showcase what we can see and do in this inspiring and varied country with incredible safari experiences.

Then on **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March**, Stephen Venables, the first Briton to climb Everest without oxygen, recounts highlights from a mountaineering career spanning five decades and seven continents.

Visit [www.guildfordtravelclub.org.uk](http://www.guildfordtravelclub.org.uk) for our full programme.

Contact our membership secretary, **Barbara Rogers** on **07899 868128** or email [info@guildfordtravelclub.org.uk](mailto:info@guildfordtravelclub.org.uk) if you wish to join the club or attend as a visitor.



# Guildford Repair Café

Throw it away? No way!

Got a mower on the blink? Holes in your pockets? A lamp that doesn't work anymore?

Our talented volunteers offer free\* help with small repairs

The Hive, Park Barn Drive, Guildford, Surrey GU2 8EN



## 2025 Dates

3rd Saturday of every month 10am – 12 noon  
come early to ensure time for your repair

|             |           |              |
|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| 18 January  | 17 May    | 20 September |
| 15 February | 21 June   | 18 October   |
| 15 March    | 19 July   | 15 November  |
| 19 April    | 16 August | 20 December  |

Enjoy a coffee and a sweet treat, meet others, share ideas and be inspired

\*donations welcome



Guildford repair café



guildford.repair.cafe

Repair.cafe.guildford@gmail.com

07306 029410



GUILDFORD  
BOROUGH





So far in Creative Corner, we've had a short story and some poetry. This month, I want to tell you about knitting for babies in the Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU) at The Royal Surrey Foundation Trust.

A while ago, we noticed this message on Facebook from Zoe:

*"Are there any knitters/crocheters on here? I work on SCBU at RSFT and all our lovely knitted blankets have literally disappeared. Not sure if the Grinch stole them or the washing machine ate them! We are looking for anyone who is willing to knit and donate blankets (patterns without holes for fingers and toes to catch on). No bigger than 50cm by 60cm and no smaller than 40cm by 50cm. Also we ask no yellow or brown as it makes jaundiced babies look an even worse colour!"*

I have knitted a bit, mostly small items for babies and so I thought I'd help out with this. (An ulterior motive is that knitting in the evening stops me nodding off in front of the TV... how elderly!)

Angie found me a great pattern (see next page) and I'm on my third one. The blankets can be dropped at the hospital reception.

Here are my blankets, with modelling by 'Ted':



*Trish Tye*

*Ready  
Steady  
knit*

*Charity  
projects*

## Special care baby Blanket



The blankets will be given to the special care baby unit at Newcastle RVI hospital where they will be used for the babies when they move from the incubator into a bassinette on the road to recovery. Finished size of blanket approx 45cm x 60cm (18" x 24").

Materials: Double knitting yarn (uses approx 370yds) and 4mm needles

Cast on 98 stitches

Knit 8 rows in garter stitch (Knit every row)

Pattern as follows;

1st Row; K5, (P11, K11) repeat to the last 5 stitches K5

2nd to 12th rows; Repeat row 11 times more, (12 rows)

13th Row; K5 (K11, P11) repeat to last 5 stitches K5

14th to 24th rows; Repeat row 13 eleven times more. (24 rows in total)

These 24 rows form the pattern. Knit in pattern until work measures approx 23 inches (57cm) ending with a 12th or 24th row.

Knit 8 rows in garter stitch. Cast off.

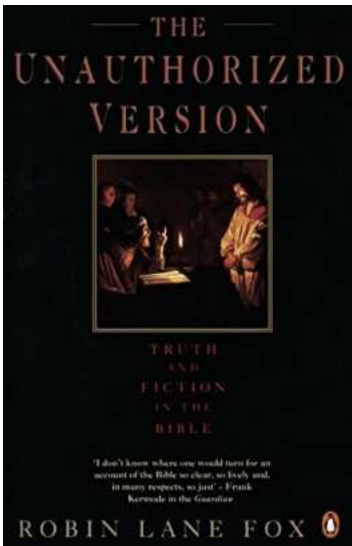
Ready Steady Knit, 17b (off) Front Street, Prudhoe NE42 5HN

Tel: 01661 830671



## BOOK REVIEW

*This month, we are delighted to share with you a review by Richard Hemingway, a long standing member of All Saints. Personal input to the magazine like this is fantastic. If you would like to contribute an article, please get in touch with the magazine team (contact details on page 2). Thank you!*



### **The Unauthorised Version: Truth and Fiction in the Bible** **Robin Lane Fox**

Although this fascinating and challenging book was first published over 30 years ago, it remains very much a book of value in the third decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century for Christian readers, especially for those who have enquiring minds in the field of historical research.

Robin Lane Fox is now in his late seventies, and besides being an author of several books on ancient history, he has also written a weekly gardening column for the Financial Times for many years, and is an ardent opponent of the fashion for garden gnomes! Although he confesses to be an atheist, he is nevertheless an admirer of the Bible, and has also written a book on the life of St. Augustine. At one time, he was a Fellow of Worcester College Oxford, and has had a distinguished career at Oxford University in the field of ancient history.

His book, *The Unauthorised Version*, is not in any way an attack on Christian believers, but examines objectively a number of accounts in the Bible which are put forward in the original text as historical facts. So it is not a book for the faint-hearted, rather it gives the Christian reader an opportunity to test one's ability to seek and maybe find a deeper underlying truth in the text, even if the written word is shown to be inaccurate. "What is truth?" is of course one of the stand-out questions (recorded in

John's Passion narrative), and which remains, for every Christian, a question which will never be resolved in our earthly lives.

By way of example, Robin Lane Fox examines the account in chapter 2 of St. Luke's Gospel of the story of the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. Luke, and indeed all the Gospel writers, record Joseph and Mary as resident in Nazareth, in Galilee. The inscription on the Cross of Jesus at his death famously states he was "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews". So Luke tells a story of Joseph taking Mary to the town of Bethlehem in Judea for the purpose of complying with a census ordered by Augustus, the Emperor. Robin Lane Fox produces evidence to demonstrate that this was almost certainly a census for taxation purposes, and certainly did not apply to "all the world", as Luke asserts. No Roman census would have compelled a man to go, because of his remote ancestry (descended from David) to his family's town. So Luke's story, he says, has to be "historically impossible and internally incoherent"!

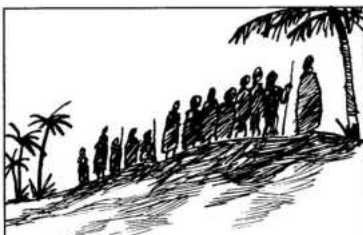
It is best not to be distracted by this assertion, but to take the story as it comes, and move on, as there is much in the book which explains how the books in the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, came to be written. Robin Lane Fox writes as an ancient historian, accustomed to reading biblical narratives like other narratives which survive from the ancient past. He sifts the evidence fairly, both written and archaeological. The chapter on why the four Gospels give varying accounts of the trial and condemnation of Jesus is particularly well expressed, and a valuable asset as we approach Passiontide and Easter.

*Richard Hemingway*

# The Doctor and the Patient



JESUS HAD MANY FRIENDS



BUT SOME WERE EXTRA SPECIAL. THESE WERE HIS 'DISCIPLES'.

JESUS ONCE ASKED A TAX-COLLECTOR CALLED 'MATTHEW' TO BE ONE OF HIS TEAM



MATTHEW AGREED TO FOLLOW JESUS

JESUS WENT TO HAVE A MEAL AT MATTHEW'S HOUSE

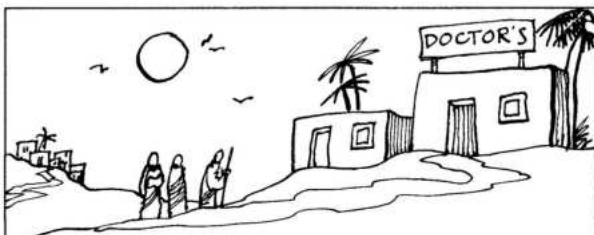


BUT MANY PEOPLE COMPLAINED ABOUT THIS. THEY THOUGHT MATTHEW WAS A BAD MAN - AND JESUS SHOULD IGNORE HIM.



JESUS' REPLY WAS VERY STRAIGHT FORWARD.

HE EXPLAINED THAT MATTHEW NEEDED HELP, NOT CRITICISM.



"IT'S NOT THE WELL THAT NEED A DOCTOR - BUT THE SICK!"  
see Luke 5:27-32





# Greenbelt Talks

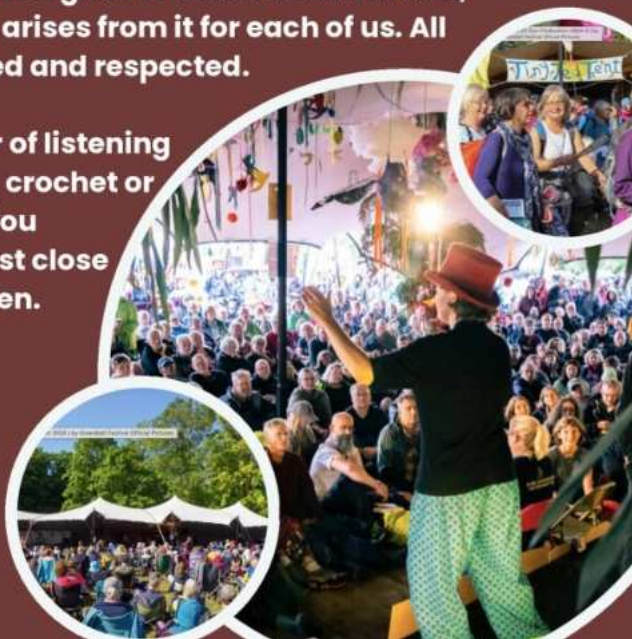
## The Listening Lounge

Join us to listen to talks from this year's Greenbelt Festival – an inclusive, liberal theology space where all faiths and none assemble in a field in Kettering for a weekend of artistry, activism and belief.

We'll listen to a theological or social activism talk, and discuss what arises from it for each of us. All views are accepted and respected.

It's about an hour of listening – feel free to bring crochet or doodling to help you concentrate, or just close your eyes and listen.

The Vicarage,  
7:30–9:30pm  
Tues Jan 21st  
Tues Feb 25th  
Tues March 18th



## 'MENORAH' BY ROGER WAGNER (1993)

Roger Wagner was born in 1957. He works on a small scale with book illustrations, but also creates large canvases that juxtapose traditional religious images with contemporary symbols in a startling and arresting way. The background of 'Menorah' is Didcot Power Station, which can be seen from the windows of the Oxford-London train. The central chimney and the cooling towers around form the shape of the seven-branched candlestick of Judaism. In front of them are the three crosses of Calvary. Around the scene of crucifixion we can see a couple consoling each other in the foreground and isolated individuals wandering in the mud in grief and perplexity.

The menorah would burn in front of the Holy of Holies as a sign of God's invisible presence. In the book of Revelation, St John describes his vision of Jesus the Lamb in the midst of the same seven flaming torches, moving with grace and glory. Here in 'Menorah' the figure of Jesus is insignificant against the immense scale of industrial buildings spewing out pollution into the bright sky.

But it is that figure of Jesus on the Cross who draws us this month in Holy Week and draws us in this painting. The mourners around look like figures in a concentration camp: victims of man's inhumanity to man. The cooling towers are a vivid reminder of our violation and destruction of mother earth. And in the centre we see our crucified Lord. We hear Isaiah's song of the suffering servant that there is no sorrow like this sorrow. We also hear Jesus crying 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' And we can ponder this painting as we ask, Is it a sign of the absence of God, or, like the Me-



norah lit in the temple, a sign of the presence of God? There is human chemistry creating the destruction of life and earth as depicted by Roger Wagner. Can we proclaim a divine chemistry at work which will transform suffering and death into the new life of Easter in the power of the Resurrection?

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**Down**

- 2 'That was why his parents said, "He is — —; ask him"' (John 9:23) (2,3)
- 3 Integrated Services Digital Network (1,1,1,1) 4
- 4 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his — of thousands' (1 Samuel 18:7) (4)
- 5 Concept (John 8:14) (4)
- 6 'Do we, then, — the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law' (Romans 3:31) (7)
- 7 Industrious (2 Timothy 2:6) (11)
- 8 'I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be — in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you (Ephesians 1:18) (11)
- 12 'Out of the same mouth come — and cursing' (James 3:10) (6)
- 14 This was how many of the Jewish leaders described Jesus (John 10:20) (3)
- 15 Vitality (Job 20:11) (6)
- 19 He urged David to kill Saul at Hakilah (1 Samuel 26:8) (7)
- 20 'So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul — with the church and taught great numbers of people' (Acts 11:26) (3)
- 24 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord — — ' (Deuteronomy 6:4) (2,3)
- 25 Parched (Matthew 12:43) (4)
- 26 'In the image of God he created him; — and female he created them' (Genesis 1:27) (4)
- 27 Disparagement (Psalm 15:3) (4)

**SUDOKU**

Solution on page 39

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

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### Crossword answers (grid on page 30)

**ACROSS:** 1, Corinthians. 9, Abandon. 10, Eglon. 11, Spa. 13, Deem. 16, Hi-fi. 17, Abijah. 18, Ohad. 20, Myth. 21, Now see. 22, Knit. 23, Tide. 25, Arm. 28, Nahor. 29, All done. 30, Kind-hearted.

**DOWN:** 2, Of age. 3, ISDN. 4, Tens. 5, Idea. 6, Nullify. 7, Hardworking. 8, Enlightened. 12, Praise. 14, Mad. 15, Vigour. 19, Abishai. 20, Met. 24, Is one. 25, Arid. 26, Male. 27, Slur.



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|  A better cup of tea!         | X          | ✓          |

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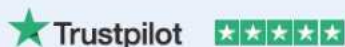
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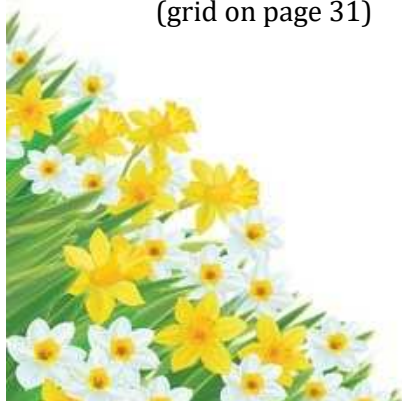
# WORSHIP AND READINGS

| <b>2025</b>  | <b>8am</b>  | <b>10am</b>  | <b>4pm</b>  |
|--|---|--|---|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> March,<br>next before<br>Lent  | Holy Communion<br><br>Exodus 34:29-<br>end, 2 Corinti-<br>ans 3:12-4:2, and<br>Luke 9:28-36(37<br>-43a) | Altogether<br>Worship<br><br>Exodus 34:29-end,<br>2 Corinthians 3:12<br>-4:2, and Luke<br>9:28-36(37-43a)                    | 4pm<br>Tea Time<br>Church<br><br>Exodus 34:29-<br>end, 2 Corinti-<br>ans 3:12-4:2,<br>and Luke 9:28-<br>36(37-43a)  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> March, Ash<br>Wednesday  |   |  | <b>8pm</b> <i>Eucharist<br/>and imposition<br/>of ashes (Joint<br/>service at St.<br/>Mary's Quarry<br/>Street)</i> |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> March,<br>first Sunday<br>of Lent<br>(followed by<br>Lent lunch)                         |   | Church Family<br>Communion with<br>Children's Church<br><br>Deuteronomy<br>26:1-11, Romans<br>10:8b-13 and<br>Luke 4:1-13    | 4pm<br>Tea Time<br>Church<br><br>Deuteronomy<br>26:1-11, Ro-<br>mans 10:8b-13<br>and Luke 4:1-13                    |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> March,<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> of Lent<br><br>APCM and<br>return of<br>commitment<br>letters | Holy Communion<br><br>Genesis 15:1-12,<br>17-18; Philippi-<br>ans 3:17-4:1 and<br>Luke 13:31-end        | Morning Worship<br>with Children's<br>Church<br><br>Genesis 15:1-12,<br>17-18; Philippians<br>3:17-4:1 and Luke<br>13:31-end | 4pm<br>Tea Time<br>Church<br><br>Genesis 15:1-12,<br>17-18; Philippi-<br>ans 3:17-4:1<br>and Luke 13:31-<br>end     |

## WORSHIP AND READINGS CONT.

| 2025  | 8am | 10am  | 4pm   |
|---|-----|---|---|
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> March,<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> of Lent                            |     | Church Family<br>Communion with<br>Children's Church<br><br>Isaiah 55:1-9, 1<br>Corinthians 10:1-<br>13 and Luke 13:1-9 | Tea Time<br>Church:<br>Leaving Service<br>and tea for<br>Carolyn & Peter<br><br>Isaiah 55:1-9, 1<br>Corinthians 10:1-<br>13 and Luke 13:1-<br>9 |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> March, 4 <sup>th</sup><br>of Lent and<br>Mothering<br>Sunday |     | Church Family<br>Communion with<br>Children's Church<br><br>Exodus 2:1-10, 2<br>Corinthians 1:3-7<br>and Luke 2:33-35   | 4pm Tea Time<br>Church<br><br>Exodus 2:1-10, 2<br>Corinthians 1:3-7<br>and Luke 2:33-<br>35   |

**Sudoku solution**  
(grid on page 31)



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

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - MARCH

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Monday 3rd, 7.30pm      | Big Build Group Meeting                                 |
| Tuesday 4th, 5.00pm     | Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party                            |
| Tuesday 4th, 7.30pm     | Altogether Worship Planning                             |
| Wednesday 5th, 10.30am  | Men's Coffee Morning                                    |
| Wednesday 5th, 8.00pm   | Ash Wednesday Service, St Mary's                        |
| Thursday 6th, 7.30pm    | Men's Group 'Exploring the Way'                         |
| Friday 7th, 10.00am     | Baby & Toddler Group                                    |
| Saturday 8th, 9.00am    | Prayer Breakfast  |
| Sunday 9th, 12 noon     | Lent Lunch  |
| Monday 10th, 10.00am    | Pastoral Team Meeting                                   |
| Monday 10th, 12.30pm    | Women's Bible Study Group                               |
| Tuesday 11th, 7.30pm    | PCC Meeting   |
| Wednesday 12th, 12.30pm | Wednesday Lunch Group                                   |
| Wednesday 12th, 7.30pm  | Lent Course - week 1                                    |
| Friday 14th, 10.00am    | Baby & Toddler Group                                    |
| Friday 14th, 3.00pm     | Friday Group  |
| Sunday 16th, 11.15am    | APCM  |
| Sunday 16th, 5.30pm     | Youth Group   |
| Monday 17th, 2.00pm     | Hear Here Clinic  |
| Tuesday 18th, 10.15am   | Eco Church Gold Award Assessment                        |
| Wednesday 19th, 2.30pm  | Dray Court Service                                      |
| Wednesday 19th, 7.30pm  | Lent Course - week 2                                    |
| Friday 21st, 10.00am    | Baby & Toddler Group                                    |
| Saturday 22nd, 8.30pm   | Earth Hour  |
| Sunday 23rd, 4.00pm     | Farewell Service for Carolyn and Peter, followed by tea |
| Monday 24th, 12.30pm    | Women's Bible Study Group                               |
| Wednesday 26th, 7.30pm  | Lent Course - week 3                                    |

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY CONT.

|                        |                                   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Thursday 27th, 7.30pm  | Men's Wellbeing Social            |
| Friday 28th, 10.00am   | Baby & Toddler Group              |
| Friday 28th, 3.00pm    | Friday Group                      |
| Saturday 29th, 9.30am  | PCC Away Morning                  |
| Saturday 29th, 10.00am | Orchard Project Volunteer Morning |
| Sunday 30th            | <i>Mothering Sunday</i>           |

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