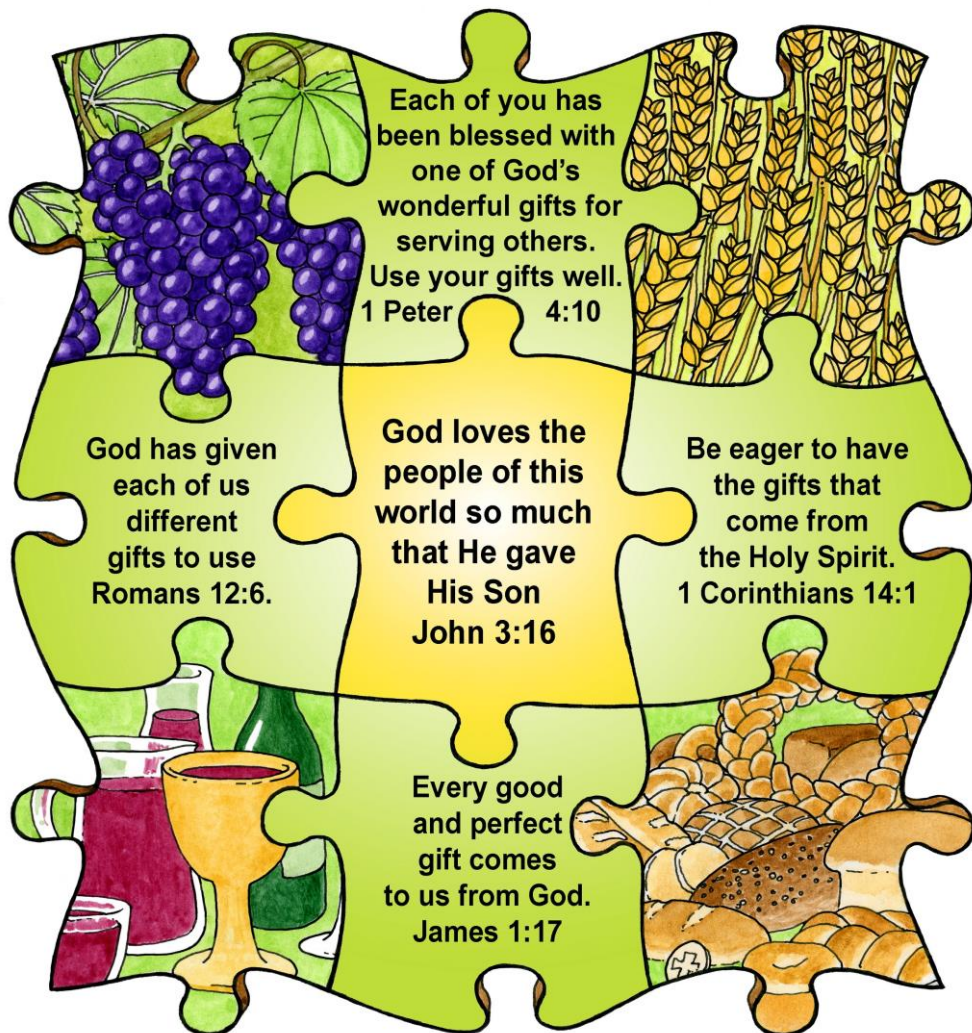


Rushen Parish Magazine

September
2019



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More contact details on the inside of the back cover



A Letter from Liz



At the end of this month we will celebrate our harvest festival where we give thanks for the good gifts that we enjoy as a result of the work of farmers, and the produce of the land, and all that is ultimately from God.

The Bible makes many references to harvest, the festivals in the Old Testament where offerings and thanks were given to God at various points in the agricultural year and in the New Testament Jesus speaks often of the spiritual harvest and Revelation envisages a final harvest; a time when a new heaven and new earth become a reality.

There is also the sense in the Bible of the harvest that comes of what we sow – how we seek and work for the Kingdom of God. The prophet Micah speaks of what God requires of us – ‘to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with God’ (Micah 6:8)

Perhaps in this age we should be asking ourselves whether we seek the Kingdom of God through justice and mercy; buying Fairtrade products whenever possible instead of the alternatives, supporting fairness and justice globally, living in sustainable ways that do not destroy the good gifts of creation given to us by God.

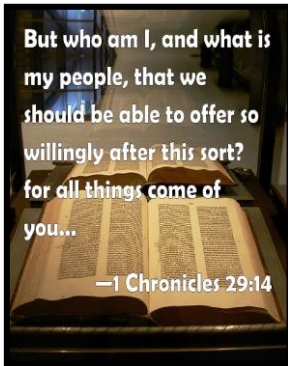
How can we seek justice for a world where the world’s richest 1% own 50% of the world’s wealth and resources whilst the world’s poorest 70% own a mere 2.7% of the world’s resources?

How can we seek justice when we live beyond the world’s resources in developed countries whilst those in developing countries have a far smaller global footprint than we do and yet are suffering disproportionately as a result of deteriorating environmental conditions due to climate change?

As we give thanks for the good gifts we enjoy and our peaceful island life, let us resolve to live in more sustainable ways. Let us resolve to work to bring justice to people who are suffering as a result of lack of resources through no fault of their own. This is the way to truly thank God for the many blessings that we enjoy and to honour God’s creation.

God Bless

Liz



All things come from You, and of Your own do we ... not give back much!

*Editor: As Harvest approaches, here the **Ven John Barton** reflects on just what we do give to God... this article concludes next month, in the October issue.*

Soup of the Day, £4.95; roast rump of lamb with vegetables £15.50. Let's forgo pudding, but add a glass of wine, say £5. Plus tip = Total £28. That's from the menu on the George &

Dragon website. I hear it serves good pub grub. My imaginary meal was £28 for one, £56 for two. Come to think of it, that's more than I set aside for God's work last week.

On Sunday mornings, at the Offertory, we will hear the Vicar say: 'Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. And we will reply: '*All things come from You, and of Your own do we give You.*'

It's a quote from the Old Testament. King David had been collecting materials to build and decorate God's Temple. He had himself given huge amounts of silver and gold, and all the tribal chiefs had collected contributions from the people. Then there's this surprising comment: 'The people had given willingly to the Lord and they were happy that so much had been given. King David was also extremely happy.'

So giving money away makes you happy!

The story continues with the King, praying aloud to God like this with all the people watching: "Everything in heaven and earth is yours... all riches and wealth come from you... my people and I cannot really give you anything, because everything is a gift from you, and we have only given back what is yours already."

Giving to God is us only giving back what He has given.

How much should we give back to God? The Bible refers to setting aside one tenth of our income for God. It's called a tithe. That is, 10%.

Then there is the story of the widow who gave a tiny amount to the Temple in Jerusalem, but it was a real sacrifice because it was all that she had. When Jesus saw it, He said she had given more than rich people.

It's not the amount we give, it's the percentage of what we have that matters.

.....concludes in October



St Mary's Ladies Working Party

We have had our summer break and resume our regular meetings on Tuesday 3rd September, at 2.15pm.

The children of Chernobyl have returned home to Mogilev having experienced what we can only hope has been a life improving visit, complete with lots of fun. We were delighted to receive a framed certificate of thanks for 'generosity and support' from Norman Rivers, "Presented

in appreciation to St Mary's Church, Ladies Working Party, whose donation sponsored two of the children from Belarus who visited the Isle of Man in 2019." Our thanks to everyone who assisted us in raising this money. We all look forward to seeing the children again next summer.

Beach Mission has, we hope, had a successful and rewarding time here in Port St Mary and we look forward to their return next year.

We appreciate the help we have received over the year from many people, especially from the wardens Peter Hayhurst and Gerry Callister. Thank you all very much.

With love and very best wishes to everyone for a happy summer time, despite our somewhat less than summery weather. We also pray for those suffering from poor health.

Pat Thomson

C of E and Methodists inch closer to communion with each other

The General Synod has recently given its backing to further steps towards bringing the Church of England and the Methodist Church in Great Britain into communion with each other.

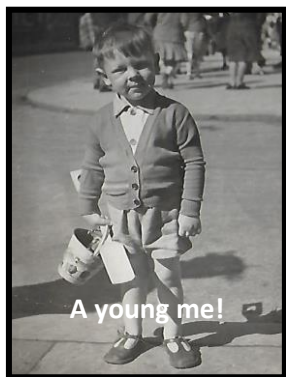
Members voted in favour of starting work on drafting a series of texts including a formal declaration of a new relationship of communion between the two churches.

The texts would include inaugural services to mark this new relationship and practical guidelines on how ministers from each church could serve in the other.

The Bishop of Coventry, Christopher Cocksworth, called the Methodist Church "our close historical cousin and covenant partner".

The Revd Joyce Jones, from the Diocese of Leeds, said: "Our unity is vital for our mission. If people see our two churches separately then they won't see Christ easily. If they see us loving one another and working together to serve Christ, they are more likely to be drawn to faith."

Parish Pump



Where has it all gone wrong?

When I was a boy I used to love going to Sunday School. It was a sort of extension to school in the week, the only difference being that we learned about Jesus and other wonderful people depicted in the Bible. In addition we were given a reward for attendance, and if that was good, a book, usually about Bible stories, at the end of each year. Not only that, it gave my parents the opportunity to go church without their son becoming bored with the general goings on in the Book of Common Prayer service, and a

lengthy sermon, the content of which I couldn't comprehend. Following Sunday School I went to the church youth club, which met on Friday evenings, and this usually culminated in having chips with loads of vinegar from the local chippy! During the club there was always a time of reflection and prayer during which everyone took part.

I valued that time in my life because it gave me an opportunity to be with others not necessarily from my own primary and secondary school, and to socialise and discuss all sorts of things about life in general. I also had the opportunity to give my own thoughts about the teachings of Jesus, and the wonderful example He gave to us all. I am sure it made me the more rounded and caring individual which I hope I am today.

Since those times I have attended many churches all of which have had their own approach to teaching children about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. The one before I came to the island was quite revolutionary in making the congregation go out of the service to another place during sermon time, and allowing the Sunday School to stay in church for their lessons. Believe me it worked! Sadly though, as time went by, the numbers of children dwindled, and Sunday School became no more.

So where has it all gone wrong? I blame the way in which society has changed over the years. The emergence of sports clubs which have their fixtures, or training, on Sunday mornings; the opening of shops on Sundays; the rise in information technology; enjoyment of television programmes for children, some perhaps not suitable; the number of family break ups where children go and see a parent no longer living with them, and the use of social media, which seems to bring such misery to the youngsters that use it. The list is endless, and I'm sure that you could add to it. Sunday is now no more special than any other day of the week and, worshipping our Lord and Saviour, a chore for most, and probably not given a second thought. It is no wonder that crime seems to be rising and there is so much violence vividly portrayed on our television screens.

When Pauline and I came to the island we worshipped in a parish where there was an active Sunday School at two of its churches. In addition a group called RUSH was

introduced for primary aged children, which met weekly, and where Christian values were instilled in the children who attended as they enjoyed activities designed for them. Following this 'The Future' for older children was organised, and it too met once a week with a similar ethos. We were so pleased to see such activities alive and well in the Parish of Rushen. Sadly though, one by one, these important accomplishments, run by faithful and dedicated lay people for whom I have so much respect, have dwindled, and at the beginning of this year there was only one Sunday School, and it seems that this, the St Mary's Sunday School, is about to fall too. It is without doubt a huge blow for St Mary's, and for the parish as a whole. It is true that we now have Messy Church on Saturdays once a month, and 'Porch Church' at St Catherine's Church during a service, ably run by Wendy Heaton, and both of these initiatives deserve merit. Alas though, the once revered Sunday School culture is now on its way out, and I personally don't think it will ever be replaced. It was the one place which I felt helped me to be the person I am, it was a place of love and security, where friendships for life were formed, and where the Love of God excelled. It now seems no longer to exist, and I am concerned.

All we can do is pray for a change in the way life seems to exist, and where wealth and egocentricity seem to be in charge. I sincerely hope that one day, in the not too distant future, there will be a change of heart, and that someone will come along, just like Robert Raikes did in July 1780, and start a new wave of teaching children on Sundays, so that the world can become a better place, and the children can understand about the Love of God.

Moses said *"Gather the people together, men and women and little ones and the stranger who is within your gates, that they may hear and that they may learn to fear the Lord your God and carefully observe all the words of the law, and that their children who have not known it may hear and learn to fear the Lord your God as long as you live in the land which you cross the Jordan to possess"* (Deuteronomy 31:12-13)

David Bowman

Modern art

A local artist had been commissioned to paint scenes around the parish. He was showing them off to the vicar.

Artist: That is the inside of your church on a Sunday morning.

Vicar: I don't see me in the pulpit.

Artist: That's because you had finished preaching.

Vicar: But where is the congregation?

Artist: They've gone home for Sunday lunch.





News from St Catherine's & Kirk Christ



A book, written by the Rev'd Joe Heaton, has now been published. It covers the history of Kirk Christ from the earliest times to the present day. It is priced £7 and is available in all of our churches for those of you wishing to purchase a copy.

At Kirk Christ there has been a wedding, and a wedding blessing during the past month.

At St Catherine's Church there has been a wedding and two baptism services. Details can be found on page 16.

Now that summer is here it is hoped that everyone is enjoying the good weather when we have it. In our prayers we will be remembering those who will soon be returning to school, or are entering further education in the autumn.

Gerry Callister



Rushen Branch Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union will be holding its opening Communion Service at Kirk Christ Parish Church on Monday 9th September 2019 at 2pm. The Rev Brian Shepherd will preside. Guests are most welcome.

Elsie Faragher

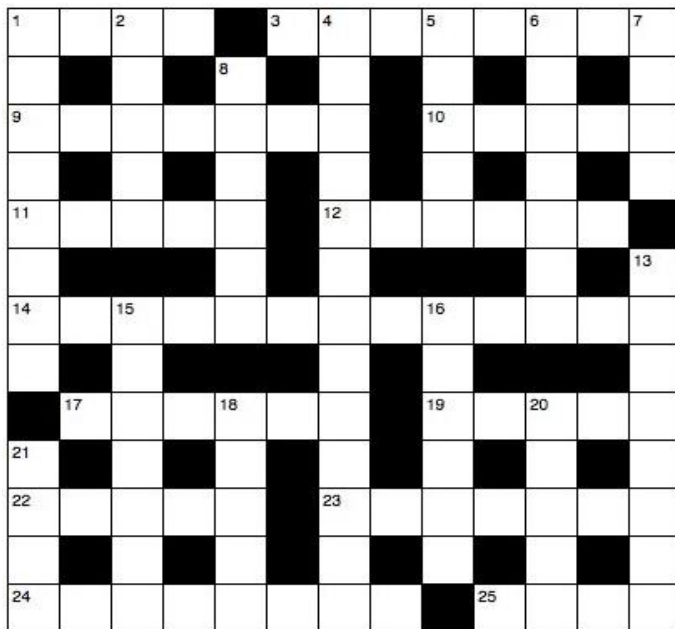
The Parish of Rushen Summer Concerts 2019 St Catherine's Church, Port Erin

5 th September:	Lon Dhoo Male Voice Choir
12 th September:	Rushen Silver Band
19 th September:	Musicale
25 th September:	Sheeanyn Millish



Concerts commence at 7.45pm
Admission Free - Retiring Collection
Refreshments in Church Hall following concerts

September Crossword



Across

- 1** 'A little later someone else saw Peter and said, "You — are one of them"' (Luke 22:58) (4)
- 3** Giving (1 Peter 2:5) (8)
- 9** They came to Jerusalem seeking an infant king (Matthew 2:7) (3,4)
- 10** 'An athlete... does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the — ' (2 Timothy 2:5) (5)
- 11** Pacifist, temperance advocate, open-air preacher, leading 20th- century Methodist, Donald — (5)
- 12** 'Come quickly to — — , O Lord my Saviour' (Psalm 38:22) (4,2)
- 14** 'The God of Abraham, — — — , the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus' (Acts 3:13) (5,3,5)
- 17** Sear by intense heat (Revelation 16:8) (6)
- 19** 'It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust — — ' (Psalm 118:8) (2,3)
- 22** Goods (Nehemiah 13:15) (5)
- 23** i.e. train (anag.) (7)
- 24** Surrounding area (Luke 24:50) (8)
- 25** 'Righteousness will be his — and faithfulness the sash round his waist' (Isaiah 11:5) (4)

Down

- 1** Elegant and creative (Exodus 31:4) (8)
- 2** 'Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all — , but we will all be changed' (1 Corinthians 15:51) (5)
- 4** 'I... delight to see how orderly you are and how firm your — — — is' (Colossians 2:5) (5,2,6)
- 5** Enlist (2 Samuel 24:2) (5)
- 6** Of the Muslim faith (7)
- 7** Sharp intake of breath (Job 11:20) (4)
- 8** Woven cloth (Ezekiel 16:13) (6)
- 13** Plentiful (Romans 5:17) (8)
- 15** CIA char (anag.) (7)
- 16** Paul and Silas stopped him committing suicide after an earthquake in Philippi (Acts 16:27–28) (6)
- 18** One of the ingredients in the making of incense for the Lord (Exodus 30:34) (5)
- 20** Episcopal headwear (5)
- 21** Inhabitant of, say, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia or Bulgaria (4)



August Crossword Solution

A	M	A	Z	E	D		O	T	H	E	R	S
P		T		A			A		N			H
P	E	T	E	R		Z	E	B	E	D	E	E
E		A		N		A		L		E		K
A	C	C	U	S	E	R		E	N	D	U	E
L		K				E		A				L
	S	C	R	I	P	T	U	R	E			
U			U			H				P		E
S	H	R	U	B		A	B	A	S	H	E	D
E		H		B		T		B		E		I
F	O	O	L	I	S	H		U	P	S	E	T
U		D		S				S		U		O
L	O	A	T	H	E			L	E	S	S	E

There was a better response during the last competition with five of you having a go. All 10 solutions submitted were correct. Marjorie Gale was the winner with her entry being drawn by one of the nurses at Abbotswood. She received her prize of £5 through the post. All you have to do is complete one or both of September's puzzles on the back page of this magazine and send it or them to me before the last Friday in August. (Editor)

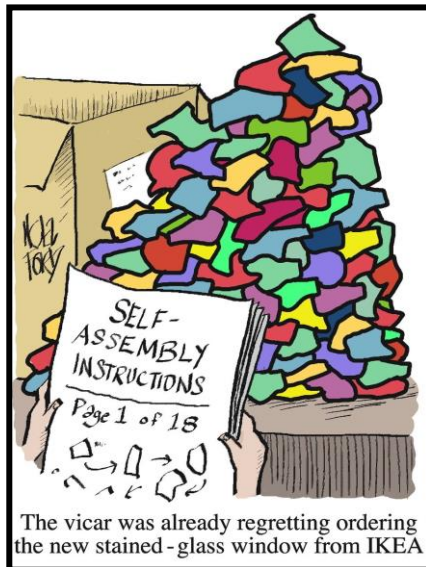
Nigel Beeton writes: Surely the humble robin can out-sing the greatest choir? However, there is another distinction, which is that the greatest choir doesn't sing outside your bedroom window at 4am:

Long before my clock alarms
I hear the robin as he charms
A sleeping world with glorious song.
But he sings loud, and he sings long,
And, as I rub my sleepy eyes
Long before I'm meant to rise
I wish that he would use his beak
Instead the early worm to seek!

August Sudoku Solutions

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

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



The vicar was already regretting ordering the new stained-glass window from IKEA

“Help”

(Margaret Couper)

I’m a Mothering Hedgehog;
In your garden I abide:
Surrounded by thick bushes
And long grass on either side.
There I nurse my hoglets three,
Oh! How vulnerable they be –
Without sharp, defensive quills,
Or protection like me!

Please take care with your strimmer;
Take care with your shiny blade –
My unprotected family,
May be sleeping in the shade.
I’m always very hungry;
I pray I don’t get too thin –
So place some leafy titbits,
Around your wheelie bin.



Water’s a priority
When the weather’s dry and hot;
Leave some in a shallow dish
Then I can swallow the lot!
There’s times I must go searching,
Through the dark and starry night;
‘Hedge-holes’ around the garden
Would help resolve my plight.

Now, thoughtful commissioners,
Erect clear signs that convey:
“Hedgehogs in the area!
Reduce speed along this way.”
Consequently, our numbers
Will not fade-away or die
Because upon helpful friends
We know we can rely!



Thank you! Mrs Tiggy-Winkle
(Ref. Beatrix Potter)

*“Even the sparrow has found a home,
And the swallow a nest for herself,
Where she may have her young.”*
(Psalm 83 Verse 3 N.I.V.)

Canonisation of John Henry Newman

The Church of England has warmly welcomed the announcement by Pope Francis that John Henry Newman is to be canonised later this year.

Newman, a former Anglican priest who became a Roman Catholic in 1845 – midway through his life – and eventually a Cardinal, is regarded as one of the most influential figures from his era for both Anglicanism and Roman Catholicism.

An important theologian, preacher and pastor in his years as an Anglican priest, he was one of the key leaders of the Oxford Movement that heralded a revival in the life of the Victorian Church of England that spread around the Anglican Communion.

A delegation representing the Anglican Communion and the Church of England will be present at the canonisation in Rome on 13 October 2019.



Gardening – the ultimate green and Sustainable occupation – or is it?

By Perfectplants.co.uk: an on-line shop offering delivery to your door of plants, gifts and accessories: Tel: 01323 833479

The new school year is just about here, marking a great time to start afresh with new aims and aspirations. There's one major topic that nobody could have missed during the last couple of years. Plastic waste and the health and cleanliness of the planet has now moved towards the top of the agenda for most of the UK's environmentally conscious folk.



Our gardens are the perfect place to start. By nature, plants themselves are perfectly balanced. They grow organically, they bear fruit and seed, providing food for living things. Eventually they die and return everything and more back to the soil. Even water that is used to help plants thrive is recyclable in terms of photosynthesis, evaporation and rain.

It's the things we buy that can pose a sustainability issue. Plant pots, for example, are generally made from single-use plastic. We don't need David Attenborough to tell us how environmentally unfriendly this can be. Plastic transporting trays are often made from similar one-use-only plastic too.

Next, there's the issue over peat-based compost, with the majority of 'multi-purpose' compost offered for sale containing between 70-100 per cent peat. Environmentalists agree that we need to protect our precious peatbogs as they provide unique habitats for insect, plant and bird life that is dependent on this particular habitat.

It is perfectly possible to garden sustainably. The National Trust is now on a pathway to replace environmentally unfriendly containers with more sustainable alternatives. Several garden centres have introduced recycling schemes whereby their customers can bring back pots and trays for re-use. Many nurseries are now on a pathway to use peat-free compost. Defra now has a long-term environmental plan which aims to stop plastic from entering the ocean and major retailers are being encouraged to adopt more sustainable practices. Consumer demand could do much to speed up the process.

Here are a few ideas for gardeners:

- More than 60 million pallets are thrown away each year in the UK. They can be used in gardens to make compost heaps. They also make excellent kindling wood for a barbecue or wood fire. Or how about making pallet-based nest boxes and simple feeders for birds?
- Bird-scarers can be made from unwanted CDs tied onto old bamboo canes.
- Scarecrows can be created from old fabric, stuffed with hay.
- Plant labels can be formed from plastic cartons.
- Micro ponds could be created from plastic containers.
- If you've already collected an array of plastic pots, make sure you re-use them or take them to a nursery that practices recycling.
- Adjust your buying habits and choose only outlets that support sustainability. If you're feeling pro-active you can message the managers and highlight your feelings about the matter.
- Grow more plants from seed or cuttings, thereby reducing the need for retail pots.
- You might justify getting a (recycled) greenhouse in order to extend your propagation efforts.
- You can even buy sustainable garden furniture, with some of the latest designs being made from plastics recycled from the ocean.

Once you get into your eco stride, it all becomes an established way of life. Enjoy turning green!

Plants Ltd is an on-line supplier of garden plants, house plants, garden equipment, furniture and gifts for all seasons www.perfectplants.co.uk

Say it slow

On a beautiful late summer's day, two American tourists were driving through Wales. They reached Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwylllantysiliogogoch (yes, that place in Wales) and stopped for lunch.

Still gazing in fascination at the place name on the sign outside, one of the tourists approached the waitress and said: "Before we order, I wonder if you could settle an argument for us. Can you pronounce where we are, very, very, very slowly?"

"Sure," the girl shrugged. She leaned over the counter and said: "Burr-gurrr-king".



All in the Month of September

500 years ago, from 20th Sept 1519 to 1522, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan led a Spanish expedition to the East Indies. It became the first circumnavigation of the world. But Magellan was killed in a battle with natives in the Philippines in 1521.

125 years ago, on 1st Sept 1894 the General Post Office in the UK sanctioned the use of picture postcards and introduced a half-penny postage rate for them. This led to a boom in picture postcards and the extensive photographic documentation of towns and landscapes. **Also on 28th Sept 1894**, the British retail chain Marks and Spencer was founded when Michael Marks acquired his first permanent stall in Leeds covered market and invited Thomas Spencer to become his business partner.

100 years ago, on 12th Sept 1919, Adolf Hitler joined the fledgling German Worker's Part, which would later become the Nazi Party.

80 years ago, on 1st Sept 1939, Germany invaded Poland, beginning World War II.

75 years ago, from 17th to 25th Sept 1944, Operation Market Garden took place. The Allies attempted a massive airborne invasion of German-occupied Netherlands but were forced to withdraw. (The story was told in A Bridge too Far.)

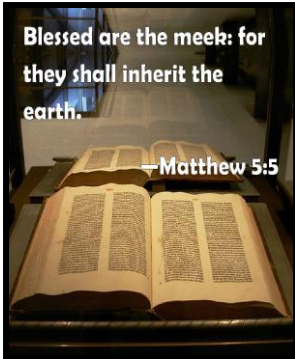
70 years ago, on 30th Sept 1949, the Berlin Airlift ended after 14 months and over 270,000 flights.

65 years ago, on 29th Sep 1954, CERN (the European Organization for Nuclear Research) was established in Geneva Switzerland.

40 years ago, on 29th Sept 1979, Pope John Paul II became the first pope to visit Ireland.

15 years ago, from 1st to 3rd Sept, the Beslan school hostage crisis took place in Russia. Armed terrorists took more than 1,100 children and adults hostage. Russian security forces ended the crisis on the third day, entering the school with tanks and heavy weapons. More than 300 hostages were killed, including 186 children, and hundreds more were injured. **Also on 30th Sept 2004**, the Iraq Survey Group released its final report (the Duelfer Report) on Iraq's purported weapons of mass destruction programme, following the 2003 invasion of Iraq. It concluded that Iraq had not had any weapons of mass destruction since 1991.

10 years ago, on 14th Sept 2009, Keith Floyd, the British celebrity cook, television presenter, restaurateur and writer, died.



The Beatitudes: 'Blessed are the Meek'

The Rev Paul Hardingham continues his series on the Beatitudes. This will conclude in November.

Jesus calls those who live for His kingdom to demonstrate His character: *'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.'* (5:5). Meekness can come over as being *'weak or feeble'*, hence *'Gentle Jesus, meek and mild.'* However, the Greek word means being *tamed*: *'Blessed are those who are*

tamed, under control.' The picture is that of a horse brought under control: strength under submission. Meekness begins with an honest view of ourselves, where we don't have to worry about what others think of us, but trust in what God is able to do in us.

Moses is described as *'very meek, more than all men that were on the face of the earth'* (Numbers 12:3, RSV). Moses was certainly not a weak leader, but he submitted to God's plans for his life. Meekness accepts what comes, even if it hurts, knowing that it's for our good.

A meek person will tame themselves to listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, who shows us how to respond in any situation practically and prayerfully. It means being careful about how we respond to those who provoke us by not being angry or striking out. When we encounter difficult situations or people who wind us up, how are we prepared to pray before speaking? We should not be out of control, but under God's control!

Let's not forget the promise of this beatitude, that the meek person will *'inherit the earth.'* Those who are prepared to let go their rights in this world, will be made infinitely rich in the future.

'The meek man knows at the same time that he is in the sight of God of more importance than angels. In himself, nothing; in God, everything. That is his motto.' (AW Tozer).

Fair cop?

While taking a routine vandalism report at an infant's school, I was interrupted by a little girl about six years old. Looking up and down at my uniform, she asked, "Are you a cop?"

"Yes," I answered and continued writing the report.

"My mum said if I ever needed help, I should ask the police. Is that right?" she ventured.

"Yes, that's right," I told her, and added expansively: "We are always here for you."

The little girl looked reassured. "Well, then," she said, as she extended her foot toward me, "would you please tie my shoe?"

From the Registers

Funerals (July 2019)

Friday 12th July

Linda Preston

Kirk Christ @ 10.30am

Thursday 18th July

Michael James Watterson

Kirk Christ @ 10.30am

Friday 26th July

John Hawkins

St Mary's Church @ 1pm

Weddings (July 2019)

Saturday 13th July

Sarah Pledger & George Henry Linwood

Kirk Christ @ 1.30pm

Saturday 27th July

Chelsea Leigh-Anne Cowan & Samuel T Tipper

Kirk Christ @ 1.30pm

Baptisms (July 2019)

Sunday 7th July

Melanie Ann Hughes

Ethan James Wade

Oscar Henry Wade

Kirk Christ @ 9.30am

Sunday 21st July

Emily Rhoda Melling

St Catherine's Church @ 11am

Safeguarding

The Parish of Rushen is committed to the safeguarding, nurture and care of **everyone** within our church community. If you, or someone you know, are concerned that a child or vulnerable adult is at risk or has been harmed, or are concerned about the behaviour of someone towards children or vulnerable adults, please contact:

Rushen Parish Safeguarding Officer, Claire Jennings (Tel. 830850)

The **Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser** has now been appointed. For more details contact the diocese.

A copy of the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy is available on the Diocesan website: http://www.sodorandman.im/safeguarding_inclusion



I don't mean to sound ungrateful Fred, but when I asked for something to 'represent farming in the community'...



Mothers' Union - Rushen Branch

I do hope that everyone has been able to enjoy the sunny days, when they occurred. I did try to attend our Founder's Day Service at Kirk Andreas on 9th August, but managed only 15 minutes into my journey before atrocious weather forced me to return home. I understand though that despite the miserable weather, there was a good congregation and very welcome refreshments after the service.

Having not had a branch meeting since May, here are a few dates for diaries:

Our first branch meeting after the summer break will be on Monday 9th September, at 2pm, when Rev Brian Shephard will lead our opening Communion at Kirk Christ.

'Mothers' Union South and West Joint Mission Partnership' is again collecting items for the hospital emergency toilet bags and in the case of our branch, we are invited to contribute any ladies shampoo or conditioners. The following day, Tuesday 10th September, at 7pm we will have our Corporate Communion for 'Mothers' Union South and West Joint Mission Partnership' when Canon Margaret Burrows will lead the service in the Cathedral. This will be followed by a Faith Supper, to which every branch is invited to bring one plate each of savoury food and cakes, plus one good raffle prize.

The next Council meeting will be held on 7th October at 7pm, in St Ninian's.

The 'Mothers' Union South and West Joint Mission Partnership' Advent Service will be held on Tuesday 3rd December, at St Catherine's Church, commencing at 7pm. The Mothers' Union charity is the Manx Diabetic Group's "Monitors4Kids", an island wide campaign.

With love and very best wishes to everyone.

Pat Thomson

Always on a Sunday

The irate customer called the newsagents, loudly demanding to know where the Sunday edition of her newspaper was. "Madam," said the newsagent patiently, "We have not delivered your Sunday newspaper because today is Saturday. The Sunday paper is not delivered until tomorrow, on Sunday."

There was quite a long pause on the other end of the phone, followed by a sigh of wakening understanding. "Well, now ... so that's why no one was at church today."

God in the Arts

St Michael the Archangel by Bartolomé Bermejo

*The National Gallery at Trafalgar Square in London houses one of the finest collections of European paintings in the world, with some 2,300 works spanning the centuries. During this year, with the help of the **Rev'd Michael Burgess**, we are journeying through the gallery to explore one of those treasures each month. (Editor)*

When we sing the Sanctus in the Eucharist, we are affirming that our worship here on earth is caught up in the worship offered by the angels in heaven. They praise God around His throne of glory, but they are also agents of His care and guidance in our lives. Leading them is the archangel Michael, and we celebrate his feast with all the angels on 29th September.

Churches were often built in his honour on high places: St Michael's Mount in Cornwall, Mont St Michel in Brittany, and Glastonbury Tor.

St Michael's influence extends both high and low because he is the prince of the angelic host. He is ready to slay the dragon as we read in the book of Revelation. He is armed to fight for light and right over might and darkness.



St Michael's triumph over the devil is the theme of this month's painting by a forgotten Spanish artist, Bartolomé Bermejo. He died in Barcelona around 1501, and only 20 paintings of his exist. Seven are in the National Gallery, and his work has been given a special exhibition there until the end of this month.

As we look at the painting, we can think of St Michael the archangel in Revelation or Milton's 'Paradise Lost' where he leads the 'flaming warriors' who defeat the devil. He dominates the canvas in his glorious armour. At his side is the patron who commissioned this work, and at his feet the vanquished devil, like a nightmare creation of Bosch.

We know only too well that St Michael's battle is reflected here on earth, where the vulnerable and the innocent are threatened by the forces of violence. Light or darkness, truth or falsehood, protection or oppression – those are the mighty opposites that come home to us as we ponder this painting, and pray:

'Lord, give thy angels every day
Command to guide us on our way.'

Children's Page

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Judges 6:1-7, 11-16, 25-35

Once the Israelites had moved into their promised land, they obeyed God, but not for long, so God let other countries invade.

The Midianites invaded every year, and stole all the food the Israelites had grown.



The Israelites had to hide in the hills.



After 7 years, the Israelites called out to God for help.

Gideon was secretly threshing wheat when an angel arrived.



The Lord is helping you, mighty warrior.



I don't mean to be rude, but it doesn't look like he is.

God said

I will give you the power.



But my clan is the weakest in our tribe and I'm the weakest in my family.

I'll be helping you. Start by pulling down the altar built for Baal and build one for Me.



Gideon did as he was told (but he waited and did it at night).



In the morning, people came to complain to Gideon's father.



If Baal is upset, he can take his own revenge, can't he?

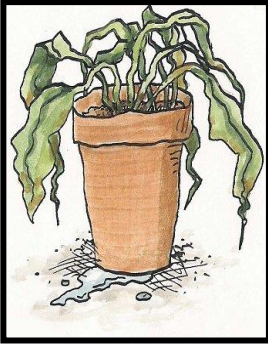


Gideon sent out messages to call men to fight the Midianites..



and 32000 came.

The Story Behind the Hymn



Think of a world without any flowers

Think of a world without any flowers,
Think of a world without any trees,
Think of a sky without any sunshine,
Think of the air without any breeze.
We thank You, Lord,
for flowers and trees and sunshine,
We thank You, Lord,
and praise Your holy name.

Think of a world without any animals,
Think of a field without any herd,
Think of a stream without any fishes,
Think of a dawn without any bird.
We thank You, Lord,
for all Your living creatures,
We thank You, Lord
and praise Your holy name.

Think of a world without any people,
Think of a street with no-one living
there,
Think of a town without any houses,
No-one to love and nobody to care.
We thank You, Lord
for families and friendships,
We thank You, Lord,
and praise Your holy name.

Doreen Newport (1927-2004)

What you read here are the thoughts of people who have a real concern about our planet and how we are slowly destroying it. At this time of harvest we all should be considering the words of the hymn just as the writer must have felt about the environment when she wrote it.

The words are almost a prophetic warning about what climate change and mankind's greedy exploitation of natural resources may bring about. Trees are being destroyed, especially the great rainforests which have so much diversity, at a frightening rate. **Think of a world without any trees.** The use of chemical pesticides may well be depleting the bee population, and without bees, much of the pollination of flowers and fruit would simply not take place.

The oceans are overfished, the rivers are either overfished or polluted. **Think of a stream without any fishes.** The ecosystems are so tightly knit that a fall in fish supplies, a collapse in fish stocks, could lead to critical falls in numbers of the sea birds which depend on those. **Think of a dawn without any bird.**

On a radio programme the presenter considered the new trend for milk cows to be treated like battery animals being fed and milked, and not allowed to graze freely. He thought this was a step too far with technology. **Think of a field without any herd.** Animals are still being hunted to extinction across the world, or their habitats destroyed as part of deforestation etc. **Think of a world without any animals.**

We live in a fragmented society, in which the old support networks are fast falling. People are treated like cogs in a bureaucratic machine. Old people are left on their own and their pensions are inadequate in meeting the demand of modern day living. It often seems that those who have scrimped and saved all their life are penalised. **No-one to love and nobody to care.**

It is interesting to note that the writer of this hymn considered the issues of ecology as she put pen to paper. She certainly deserved praise for stating in song the concerns she held in her heart. (Editor)

Rushen Parish Prayer Diary



Heavenly Father look in love on our friends and neighbours. Keep them from harm; bless them in all good things; give them your gifts of kindness and gentleness. Enfold our whole community, friends and strangers, in the peace that only you can give. And give us the wisdom to see your image in the eyes of everyone we meet, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen



September 2019

This is your invitation to pray day by day for:

- 1st Those who entertain us in theatres, on the sports field, or on television
- 2nd Children preparing for the new term at school
- 3rd Children in third world countries who need medical help in order to survive
- 4th The United Nations and peace-keeping forces
- 5th All who are confused in a world of multi-choice
- 6th That world leaders may set good examples
- 7th All who work in dangerous or hostile environments
- 8th Children taken into care and those left at risk
- 9th All whose sight and hearing are failing
- 10th That we may know God's presence in our homes
- 11th All missionaries both at home and abroad
- 12th The Pope and fellow Christians in the Roman Catholic Church
- 13th The fellowship experienced in our four churches
- 14th Integrity and fair dealing in world trade
- 15th All who work with children during court proceedings
- 16th Local singers and musicians
- 17th Our churchwardens and members of the PCC
- 18th The work of the Children's Society
- 19th People we know who are ill, or in pain, and are awaiting treatment
- 20th Funeral directors and the work they do in helping the bereaved
- 21st Members of St Mary's Church Choir and Michael Porter, their choirmaster
- 22nd Children who have been baptised this summer, their parents and Godparents
- 23rd People who receive Holy Communion at home because they are housebound
- 24th Those responsible for opening and closing our four churches each day.
- 25th The PCC Meeting being held this evening in St Mary's Church Hall at 7pm
- 26th The work of charitable organisations in helping those in need
- 27th Peace throughout the world, especially in the Middle East
- 28th Those who go hungry because of failed harvests
- 29th Children of the parish who want to know more about Jesus and His wonderful work
- 30th Good harvests so that those who have been hungry because of famine can be fed

Services September 2019

1 st September (Trinity 11)	8am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion(CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
4 th September	11.15am	Southlands Holy Communion (CW)
	2pm	St Mary's Play & Praise
8 th September (Trinity 12)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
	6.30pm	Alternative Service
15 th September (Trinity 13)	8am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's All-Age Service (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
22 nd September (Trinity 14)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
29 th September (Trinity 15)	8am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (BCP)
	11am	St Mary's Joint Harvest Festival (CW)
2 nd October	11.15am	Southlands Holy Communion (CW)
	2pm	St Mary's Play & Praise
6 th October (Trinity 16)	8am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion(CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer + Baptism(CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Harvest Festival

(Dates and times of services subjects to alteration)

(CW) Common Worship (BCP) Book of Common Prayer

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Articles for the magazine should be submitted to the editor no later than 20th of each month. This arrangement is subject to change.

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Please contact Mr Harry Dawson: 478050/835770
or Mr G Callister: 474924/834627

Sudoku Competition September 2019

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

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

Here are September's puzzles for you to complete. Once again I have made them easy so that everyone can have a go. There is the usual £5 prize for the winner who will be notified at some point during the first few days of October. My address is overleaf for those of you who want to send their entry through the post, or by hand. If you would prefer to hand your entry to a person there is always myself, or one of the churchwardens, who will ensure that I receive it. If you have never entered the competition please do have a go, after all it's only a bit of fun! (Editor)