

HOPE HERALD

News, views & comment from
St James Church, Hope

March / April 2021



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FOR YOUR DIARY

Our Church is open for
Holy communion service
Sundays at 10.00am

The Wednesday service will be discontinued until further notice



Happening in April

Details of Easter services and the Annual Parish meeting are on page 6

E-mail for all church matters:

Stjames.hope@gmail.com

Website: stjameshope.co.uk

*A blessed and restful Eastertide be with
all our readers*

FOR MORE DETAILS SEE WEEKLY bulletin OR ASK CHURCHWARDENS



Letter from The Vicar

March/April 2020



YOU WOULD be hard pressed not to have heard the furore that has broken out after the interview of Harry and Megan with Oprah Winfrey in the previous weeks. There has been a great deal of anger from those who feel that a young couple have been treated terribly by what they view as an out of touch and racist family. On the other side there has been equal fury at what they see as someone lying about the royal family and causing trouble for them.

I, like you, don't know the truth about what has happened, though, no doubt like you, that hasn't stopped me forming a view about who and what I believe.

What is clear to me, however, is the hurt this family is going through, no matter the rights and wrongs of the situation,

and that the response by so many has not been to seek a way to find healing but to pick a side. Arguments and disagreements can so often result in a situation where who is right or wrong starts to matter less than whose side you are on and showing you are right.

There is very rarely a situation where one party is wholly to blame and there are often faults on both sides, that doesn't mean to say that there is always equal blame, but that what matters more is less about who is at fault, but what has happened, how it has made those involved feel and most importantly how can we make peace and move forward.

We are called as Christians to love our neighbour and to love our enemy, to forgive not only seven times but seventy times seven. These were not just words for Jesus; when He was nailed to the cross those who had put him there mocked Him and jeered at Him, but he did not spit back with angry or

vicious words, He simply said "Father forgive them they know not what they do".

I appreciate that it can be very hard to do sometimes to forgive, but that doesn't mean we don't have to do it, or at least try. I hope that the royal family can find reconciliation together and that there may be some healing for all of them, for them and for us, if we love someone then they are worth doing the hard work for, to have honest conversations when we are hurt and upset, to really listen to one another and say sorry for the pain, seeking to make amends and heal together.

If we can do this we can come through our times of trial and pain, and into the peace and joy of that Easter morning as the world is turned upside down by the love and power of God.

God bless and stay well

Gareth

Maunday Money 2021

Special interest for St James

THE TRADITION goes back to the middle ages, when English monarchs washed the feet of beggars in imitation of Jesus washing the disciple's feet on the day before Good Friday. He or She presented gifts and money to the poor. Over time, additional money was substituted for the clothing and other items that had once been distributed. The custom of the monarch washing the commoners feet did not survive the 18th century.

In 1931 Princess Marie Louise was at Royal Maundy, and afterwards suggested that her cousin, King George V, make the distributions the following year, which he did, beginning a new royal custom.

The gifts by tradition are bestowed on the day before Good Friday by the reigning monarch. The recipients are pensioners – a man and a woman for each year of the Sovereign's life, chosen for their serv-

ice to their churches and communities.

The coins are presented to the recipients in two leather purses, a white one containing coins to the value of the same number of pence as the years of the monarch's age, and a red purse containing a £5 and a 50p coin. In most years there are fewer than 2,000 complete sets of Maundy money; they are highly sought after by collectors.

This year, Sylvia McGreal, has been nominated by Bishop David to be a recipient of the Queens Maundy Money in recognition of the Christian service she has given to the church and to the community. As most of us know, Sylvia has been a regular member of our congregation here at St James for many years. She has also been involved with the guides and brownies movement for what seems like forever.

Many Congratulations Sylvia



From the Churchwardens



HELLO AGAIN everyone, we hope you are all staying safe and keeping well.

There are lots of things going on at the moment, both at church and in the hall. Let's start with church. Most of the recipients of the weekly bulletin will know we had a flood in the cellar in January, resulting in two and half feet of standing water languishing on the cellar floor and covering the bottom half of the boilers burner unit.

We quickly organised the services of Mark Smalley, our go to emergency builder. Mark came round on the Saturday and bailed/pumped out the water and, trusting in good fortune, we hoped the heating would come on as scheduled on Sunday morning. Sadly it wasn't to be!

As people arrived on the Sunday morning, they were welcomed by a freezing cold church. What could we do other than cancel the service? Not a bit of it. Everyone, all hands to the pump, re-organised the chairs in the Lady Chapel (socially distanced of course), switched on the three overhead heaters, plugged in a portable electric heater and the service went ahead as usual. There's no stopping the folk of Hope when they get their determined head on. After all this was only going to be a one week hiccup, or so we thought.

The engineers arrived the following Tuesday, removed the burner unit from its fixings in order to assess the damage and ascertain which parts needed replacing. Sadly the electronics were waterlogged and the pump itself seized up. Leaving no other option but to replace it at an estimated cost of three and a half thousand pounds.

Due to issues with suppliers, we are still waiting for the new burner unit to be delivered to our engineers. The latest esti-

mate indicates it will be delivered week commencing 22nd March.

Where did the water come from? First we thought the heavy rain we had experienced had found its way down the cellar steps and made its way under the door. Then we noticed a trickle from the brickwork, some six foot up the cellar wall. The only possible explanation we could think of for the flooding was; a rise in the water table. Because, in living memory, we have never had flooding down there before, we felt we needed to install a sump pump. This work has now been completed and all our fingers well and truly crossed we will not get a repeat performance.

Going back to the determination of our congregation, the numbers attending the Sunday service are holding up very well, despite the cold, despite the edict to wear a mask and despite the fact we can't sing hymns.

Moving on to the hall. We have resurrected the grant application to Virador waste. Although we managed to get two quota-

tions for complete refurbishment of the hall including new toilets, new ceiling, new lighting system and emergency lights and a new accessible toilet (Formally known as disabled toilet), we are struggling to find a builder to furnish us with the third quote. The total cost is going to be around £50,000 + VAT. Ideally

we would have liked the work to have been carried out while the hall was closed for lockdown, but the grant process is long and convoluted as anyone involved in such activities will know.

On that note, and with spring and summer to look forward to and the probability/possibility of lockdown restrictions be-

ing lifted, we would like to wish you all a better year this year.
God Bless

*Bob and
Trevor*

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

SUNDAY 18TH APRIL AFTER MORNING SERVICE

THERE WILL BE IMPORTANT BUSINESS INCLUDING
ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS & PCC MEMBERS
EVERYONE ON THE ELECTORAL ROLL SHOULD
TRY TO BE THERE THERE

Services during Holy Week & Easter



Palm Sunday	10.00 am Holy Communion
Thursday April 1st:	7.30 pm Maundy Thursday Service
Good Friday	2.00 pm The Last Hour (at St John's)
Saturday April 3rd	6.00 pm Easter Vigil
Easter Day	10.00 am Easter Eucharist

Late Extra:

The road to glory

CURRENT HEADLINES are telling me that society is hard on women and that the law does not do enough to protect them. I've no quarrel with that, though some would say that the law does not do enough to protect anybody, of any age or sex. Nevertheless, for women who want to be free to make their own decisions and to have careers of their own, things are better now than they were 150 years ago. When Thomas Hardy's book 'Far from the madding crowd' was published as a magazine serial, it caused a sensation.



His heroine Bathsheba Everdine, is a young unmarried woman determined not to be tied down in a world dominated by men. She has relationships with three of them

and her situation struck chords in the hearts and minds of women everywhere. If in the end she surrendered, at least it was to true love rather than momentary passion, position or wealth. The man who won her had faithfully served her and steered her through various troubles, only to be vilified and rejected as one unworthy of her.

His name was Gabriel Oak. At the beginning of the book he is a sheep farmer with good prospects. He has a huge flock, including more than 200 ewes, many of which are about to give birth. In one night, in less than an hour, he loses everything when one of his sheep dogs goes mad, rounds up the flock and drives the whole lot over a cliff into a deep pit.

Gabriel, forced to look for work, applies for the job of shepherd on Bathsheba's farm. For a man to be in service to a woman was a rare thing in those days. The book is a good read and worth the effort. There are also two movie versions of it. The older version (1967) is much more faithful to Tho-

mas Hardy's original.

Spring means different things to different people. There used to be a spell of warmer weather towards the end of March in every year, but global warming has put paid to that. There is at least the clear sign that daylight is lasting longer and the introduction of British Summer Time before Easter arrives will be confirmation of it.



For some Spring means the gradual greening of the

trees and the appearance of catkins and other early blossoms. For the poet Wordsworth it was crowds of dancing daffodils. In our gardens these are followed by tulips, and by the beginning of May our woodlands will be carpeted with bluebells. Birds reappear in our gardens, picking up bits and pieces to make nests.

Despite all that, however, since childhood the approach of Spring has been signalled for me by the appearance of new born lambs in local fields.

There were more farms about then, and my guess is that even around here sheep would not have been an unfamiliar sight.

Sheep are not very sensible creatures. They fall into holes, get tangled in wire fences, get their heads stuck in hedges and wander onto roads. Often, if one finds a way out of a field, the whole flock will follow. They cannot judge the consequences of what they are doing. They are not difficult creatures ordinarily. If you find them and bring them back, they will just carry on where they left off as if nothing happened. It is in their nature to stray, and nothing you could do would ever change their ways.

The prayers I've been using every day in Lent have reminded me that we are just the same. The 1st Letter of St. Peter tells its readers that before they became Christians they

were 'straying like sheep', and to be honest, the straying goes on till the day we die. The opening lines in my Lent prayers were a plea to God not to be hard on us, because in his sight 'shall no one living be justified'. God suffers and endures what we are for the sake of what we can become. What happens to us when we die depends entirely on his loving mercy. A ticket to heaven is not something I can earn. If we consciously decide to do our best to be guided by God's authority, even though we stray, he will bring us through. In the Lord's Prayer we pray that God's will may be done on earth as it is in heaven. What anguish we have suffered over the last year as thousands of people have died without sight of their loved ones, and the desperation of those bereaved in such circumstances is unimaginable. 'Where has

God been in all this?', many have asked, and the answer must be that he has been exercising his will to decide what is best for us and the rest of his world. He has been ensuring that there is no kind of death and no experience of death which will ever be the end of us.

As Jesus said in the Garden of Gethsemane, echoing our cry that the will of God is sometimes very hard, 'Father, not my will but yours'. The disappointment of not being able to be wholly good is a burden we have to carry until life in this world ends. Conscious of failures, needful of forgiveness, we walk the way of the cross, and with the help of God we shall find, like Jesus, that it is 'none other than the way of life and peace'. It is the road to glory.

DGB

In praise of the afternoon nap

A SHORT nap in the afternoon improves your memory and keeps your brain more agile.

People who nap tend to speak more fluently, have greater mental agility, and remember things better than those who do not sleep.

Even a five-minute nap can offer your brain a chance to down-time and replenish itself, so that it is 'good to go' again.

If you want longer than five minutes, try to stop at 40 minutes, before you enter the deepest stage of sleep. If you do

carry on, sleep for two hours, which is a full sleep-cycle. The study was published in the British Medical Journal.



Happy Passover .. Happy Easter

ONCE IN A WHILE, an event happens in the history of a nation that is so important, that it remains in the national psyche and national memory. The Storming of the Bastille, the End of World War I, the Fall of the Berlin Wall, independence from a colonial power, 2020 as the Year of COVID, etc. For Jewish people, the event that stands out happened over three thousand years ago, is celebrated every year, and is the festival which we call “Passover” and Jews call “Pesach”. It commemorates the “passing over” of the Israelites from the punishment the Egyptians brought down on themselves, their subsequent escape from slavery, and their new found freedom in the Promised Land. It is recorded in the Book of Exodus, and recounted every year in every Jewish family.

The Passover has been linked to our Easter celebrations from the beginning. In English, this link is not apparent in the name “Easter”, but in many other languages, the relationship is clear (French = Pâques; Dutch = Paas ; Welsh = Pasg). The Passover festival is celebrated for seven

days, beginning on the evening of the Jewish lunar month of Nizam (usually in April), and begins with a special family meal called “seder”. The meal generally consists of roast lamb shank; “bitter” herbs – usually hyssop or horseradish; a mixture of grated apple, chopped nuts, honey, wine and cinnamon called “charoset”; fresh greens – often parsley; more bitter herbs – usually lettuce or carrot tops; a bowl of salt water; three pieces of unleavened bread; and four cups of wine each (fruit juice for the kids!). During the meal, the youngest in the room asks four questions relating to the symbolism of the meal. Each question starts with the words, “Why is this night different from all other nights and...?”, and are;

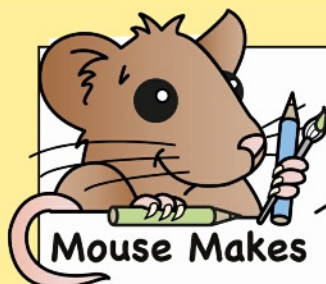
1. Why is the food dipped firstly in the salt water, and secondly in the “charoset”?
2. Why is unleavened bread eaten?
3. Why are bitter herbs eaten?
4. Why is the meat roasted? (After the destruction of the second temple in Jerusalem in 70 A.D., the question was changed to,

“Why do we recline at the table?”)

SPOILER ALERT ! I am now going to try and give you the answers, which relate to the Exodus narrative.

1. The salt water symbolises the sweat of the Israelites as they worked as slaves, and their tears, crying for freedom. The “charoset” is sticky and symbolises the mortar which was used to stick the bricks that the Israelites were forced to make.
2. Unleavened (flat) bread is used, as the people had to flee Egypt in a hurry, and had no time to make allow bread dough to rise.
3. The bitter herbs represent the bitterness of slavery in Egypt.
4. The roast meat represents the animal sacrifices which the people made on the night of the Passover (Ex 12v 1-11), using the blood on their door lintels, to identify and Passover them. The sacrifice continued to be made in the Temple in Jerusalem. The question about reclining refers to the fact that kings ate in a reclining position, and that now the Israelites were free to eat “as kings”, rather than as slaves. The egg and the

Junior Pages



Mouse Makes

Can you find these names of **Jesus** in the word search?

SON OF GOD

Matthew 3:16-17



KING OF KINGS

Revelation 17:14

PROPHET

Luke 24:19



PRIEST

1 Timothy 2:5

ROCK

1 Corinthians 10:4

LORD

1 Corinthians 1:9

AMEN

Revelation 3:14

LIFE

John 11:25-27

MESSIAH

John 1:41

SHEPHERD

John 10:11

LIGHT

John 8:12



WORD

John 1:1-50



BREAD

John 6:35

CREATOR

1 John 1:3



CHRIST

Matthew 16:16

SAVIOUR

John 3:16-17

HOLY ONE

Mark 1:24

VINE

John 15:5



DOOR

John 10:9

THE WAY

WAY

John 14:6

LAMB

John 1:29



V L I F E W D
D I A L A R O C K
C M H M O M S R E H C
H E O B R E A D O O R
R S L W D N V I N E E
I S Y A P R I E S T A
S I O Y P R O P H E T
T A N J E S U S T D O
S H E P H E R D E D B R
K I N G O F K I N G S
D S O S O N O F G O D
L I G H T

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Matthew 26:20-25, 31-35, Mark 14:17-21, 27-31
Luke 22:22, 31-34, John 13:21-30, 36-38

The Jewish leaders wanted to kill Jesus.
One of Jesus' disciples, Judas, had
accepted money from them to betray him.

As Jesus and his disciples ate the
Passover meal, Jesus said



John was sitting
next to Jesus, so
Peter said



So John asked Jesus



It is the person I give
this piece of bread to.



Jesus dipped a piece
of bread in sauce, and
gave it to Judas.



What you are about to do
you must do quickly.



Why has Judas gone out?



They continued
the Passover meal



Jesus then told the rest of the
disciples



Peter said



Before tomorrow morning
you will have denied you
even know me 3 times.



Even if I have to die, I
will never disown you!



(From page 9)

greens symbolise Spring , as the festival falls during the Springtime.

The number four is repeated in the questions ,but what it represents is rather uncertain. Most likely, four represents the “unspeakable Name of God”, as well as God’s four promises to the Hebrews in Egypt – rescue from slavery, taking out of Egypt, redemption, and bringing the Israelites to the Promised Land..

As Christians, we read that Jesus made his final trip to Jerusalem,

which we celebrate on Palm Sunday, for the Passover festival (John 12 v12).All four gospels recount that Jesus celebrated the Passover meal with his disciples before he was arrested, sentenced and killed. The unmistakable focus Jesus puts on Himself being the sacrifice to rescue mankind, free us from slavery, clear our debts, and bring us to the Promised Land, could not have been lost on all those people gathered around that Passover table!

This year, Passover will be celebrated from 27th March until 4th April, at the same time as Christians celebrate Holy Week and Easter. Both celebrations are full of joy and hope that even though our tribulations may be many, God promises to rescue us and free us from all those things which keep us enslaved.

“Chag Pesach Samech” (Happy Passover) and Happy Easter.

Bob Hedley

The coming Judgement Day

AS THE NICEAN CREED puts it, “He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.” This phrase echoes numerous passages in the Bible. Here’s one: “I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.” We get one go at this.

In the British legal system, there is an unusual provision for the Court

itself to appoint a Counsel to represent a defendant who doesn’t have one and is facing serious charges.

Something like that is implied in some of the biblical descriptions of Christ’s intervention on behalf of humanity: Jesus Himself is described as our Advocate: “But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father – Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.”

The late Lord Hailsham, a distinguished lawyer who became Lord Chancellor, was asked how he would face God when he died. “I will

throw myself on the mercy of the Court,” he said.

On Good Friday, take heart meditating on this text: “There is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all people”. [1 Timothy 2]

On Easter Day when church bells ring out to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from death, we do not forget the immense cost of God’s perseverance with us, for Christ’s body continues to bear the scars of Crucifixion. Nor is this the end of the matter.

World's First ever street collection – Manchester

ON THE 9TH DECEMBER 1886, lifeboats from Southport, St Annes and Lytham were launched in appalling weather to rescue the crew from the sinking ship *Mexico*. Two of the lifeboats capsized with the tragic loss of 27 crewmen. The other lifeboat from Lytham succeeded in rescuing the crew from the ship before it was wrecked off Lytham St Anne's, and returned them safe to shore. But it was a bitter success, it remains the RNLI's worst-ever tragedy.

A Manchester businessman **Sir Charles Macara** was so appalled at the lack of support for the destitute widows and children of the lost men's families, that he decided to organise a collection for them, and instead of asking wealthy donors, he appealed to the ordinary man on the street.

Charles and his wife formed a small team of volunteers and organised the very first Lifeboat Saturday in aid of the appeal. It was the world's first street collection ever recorded.

Every tin can that's ever been rattled in high streets of the world owes its origins to this event, and the tragedy that prompted it and that the public turned out in such numbers and responded so generously, is a sign of the very special respect and affection in which people continue to hold lifeboat men and women of the RNLI.

The public turned out in their thousands to the streets of Manchester **on Saturday 10th October 1891**, as two very heavy lifeboats were dragged through the streets of Manchester by gangs of local men. As they passed watchers were encouraged to throw their

contributions into the Lifeboats .

Estimates put the crowd at 30,000 people and they donated over £5,000 to the charity. By the end of 1893 the Lifeboat Saturday had become established as an annual feature in towns and cities up and down the country. Sir Charles's wife also organised a group of ladies from Manchester, and out of this, the original Ladies Auxiliary Group movement was formed.

Thousands of ordinary people flocked to the city's streets that day to catch a glimpse of something they had never seen before, lifeboat crew members and their lifesaving craft.



The good news about forgetfulness

YOU KNOW the scenario – you go into the lounge, and then wonder what you wanted. Or you need to make a phone call but can't find the phone. You go to the cash point and forget your pin number. Or your car keys are lost in the kitchen, but even when you find them and go shopping, you forget stuff on the list.

If at times you find yourself living in an annoying brain-fog, the good news is that it is not because you are ill or getting old. To varying extents, everyone does it.

A recent study at the University of Edinburgh has found that forgetfulness is as common in people in their 20s as it is in people in their 50s. Although some of the people in the study were worried about getting dementia, a neuropsychiatrist at the university reassured them: "People think that if you are starting to forget things – something like misplacing your keys – that is something to worry about. But it is normal." Good reasons for forgetting things range from the fact that too much was

happening in your life at the time, you were stressed about something, not paying attention to what you were doing, or just too busy thinking about something else entirely.



Chocolate – food of the gods!

THE BOTANICAL name for the cocoa bean is *Theobroma* – which means 'food of the gods.' Millions of us obviously agree – half a million tons of it are consumed in Britain each year alone.

Chocolate makes us feel better. The chemicals it contains trigger the release of endorphins similar to those we naturally produce when we fall in love.

But nutritionists warn against using chocolate as a pick-me-up, especially in the evening. Chocolate eaten before bedtime can

cause blood glucose levels to plummet during the night, which will disrupt your sleep. Chocolate eaten in quantity every day can lead to mood and energy swings, weight gain and poor immunity. If you have mad cravings for it, you could have a problem with blood sugar, or a deficiency in magnesium, copper, zinc or iron.

But occasional consumption of cocoa can provide medical benefits. Chocolate containing 60 per cent or more cocoa solids is rich in essential trace elements and nutri-

ents such as iron, calcium and potassium, and many vitamins. Cocoa is also the highest natural source of magnesium.

Good as all this may be – most of us enjoy chocolate simply because of its high sugar and caffeine content. Chocolate simply gives you an instant sugar hit, providing a sudden burst in energy, unfortunately followed by a slump and the desire for another sugar-fix.



The drums of Borneo

A MISSIONARY went to Borneo. Accompanied by a local guide, he sought out a very remote clearing in the forest of



Sumatra for building a church to reach the people living there. Around dusk of the first day, he was sitting by the campfire with his guide when in the distance, they heard tribal drums begin. As the minutes passed, the drums got louder. The guide was uneasy. "I don't like the sound of those drums."

Soon the dusk turned to evening. The drums got louder, and closer. The

guide now kept glancing around him. He said again to the missionary, "I really don't like the sound of those drums."

Then evening turned to dead of night. The two men sat close to their fire, listening with dread. The drums got louder and louder, until it was obvious that the drummers must be almost upon them. The guide said again, "I really don't like the sound of those drums."

Suddenly the drums stopped, and a voice from the darkness cried out, **"Hey man, he's not our regular drummer!"**

Just a thought

Should Boris's way out of lockdown be called

"The road to de-mask us?"

CROSSWORD

ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1 abrupt, 4 gambol, 8 counter, 10 pains, 11 distort, 12 rifle, 13 Amontillado, 19 varnish, 22 skill, 23 rallies, 24 finish, 25 dragon. **DOWN:** 1 arcade, 2 routes, 3 patio, 5 apparel, 6 briefed, 7 listed, 9 retriever, 14 million, 15 nonplus, 16 massif, 17 chosen, 20 ruler, 21 icing.

Where did the Easter Bunny come from?

THE EASTER BUNNY is a gentle figure of folklore, who seems to have first come from the German Lutherans. They depicted him as a rabbit who brought coloured Easter eggs to children. The idea of an egg-giving hare went over to the US in the 18th century, when Protestant German immigrants in the Pennsylvania Dutch area told their children about the 'Osterhase'. Hase means hare, and according to the legend, on-

ly good children found the hare's gifts of coloured eggs, placed in the nests that they had made in their caps and bonnets before Easter.

The Easter bunny became a prominent symbol of Easter. Rabbits, prolific procreators, are an ancient symbol of new life. Easter eggs are said to represent Jesus' emergence from the tomb and resurrection. Decorating Easter eggs dates back to at least the

13th century. One possible reason for the custom was that in those days eggs were forbidden during the Lenten season. So people would paint and decorate them to mark the end of the period of penance and fasting, and then eat them on Easter as a celebration.



Priestley Players A.D.S.

ONE MORNING over breakfast, a few days ago, Sandra, my wife, 'suggested' that it would be a good idea to tidy up the loft as we might need the storage-space during the up-coming renovations. I knew the temperature in the loft would be little above brass monkey figures. However, I prepared to ascend the stairway to heaven.

The loft space was just as cold as I had anticipated but the scattering of household and personal items was not as bad as I had been led to believe. Within a short time I was able to bring some sort of order to the proceedings. Boxes neatly stacked and displaying labels as to their contents,

There was one quite large, dust covered box that was intriguing me. There was no label to identify it, only two pieces of grimy, frail string trying desperately to hold it together. The act of moving the box to the centre of the floor was too much for them and they gave up the struggle, falling exhausted to the floor – their job done!

The contents of the box turned out to be memorabilia from the early years of Priestley Players. There were scrapbooks with

press cuttings and pictures from the local papers detailing our early shows: *'Haul for the Shore'*, *'The Happiest Days of your Life'*, *'The Love Match'*, *'Hobson's Choice'* *'Gaslight'*

There were several photo albums full of pictures of the Society members and the cast members, most of whom I could remember-how young we all looked then, 50 years ago. Though some names slipped my memory- old age creeping on? There were also photos of those friends who had taken their final curtain and were now performing on that higher stage.

Another album revealed pictures from our Christmas Parties, usually held at our house and going under the non-deplume of "Reindeer Racing". This annual event was staged to raise money for The Rainbow Charity Children's Trust. After the Pie & Peas Supper followed by Apple Pie & Cream the culmination of the evening was the Reindeer Racing. Six deer moving around a six lane track painted on a board. The progress was determined by the throw of two dice, one conventional numbered, the other displaying the colours of the deer on



its faces. Stakes were multiples of 20p per reindeer each race. The winner receiving half the stake money, the rest going to the charity. Over the years the race meetings raised over £1000. In fact one year the race meeting was attended by no less than the Mayor & Mayoress of Salford, in full ceremonial dress. I have often wondered what the neighbours thought when the mayoral car pulled up and stayed for several hours!

Sitting on the loft floor I was oblivious of the cold, lost in my own little bubble. Hoping that as we draw nearer to the conclusion of this dreadful pandemic we might soon be able to meet up again.

I was brought back to reality by a shout from downstairs, which came echoing along the hall, "Roger." It was Sandra, summoning me for my lunch. Funny how time flies when you are enjoying yourself.

Roger

Partington

(PRO) Priestley Players
(0161) 794 8266

Puzzle Page

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

Difficulty level: Easy.

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

Difficulty Level: Medium

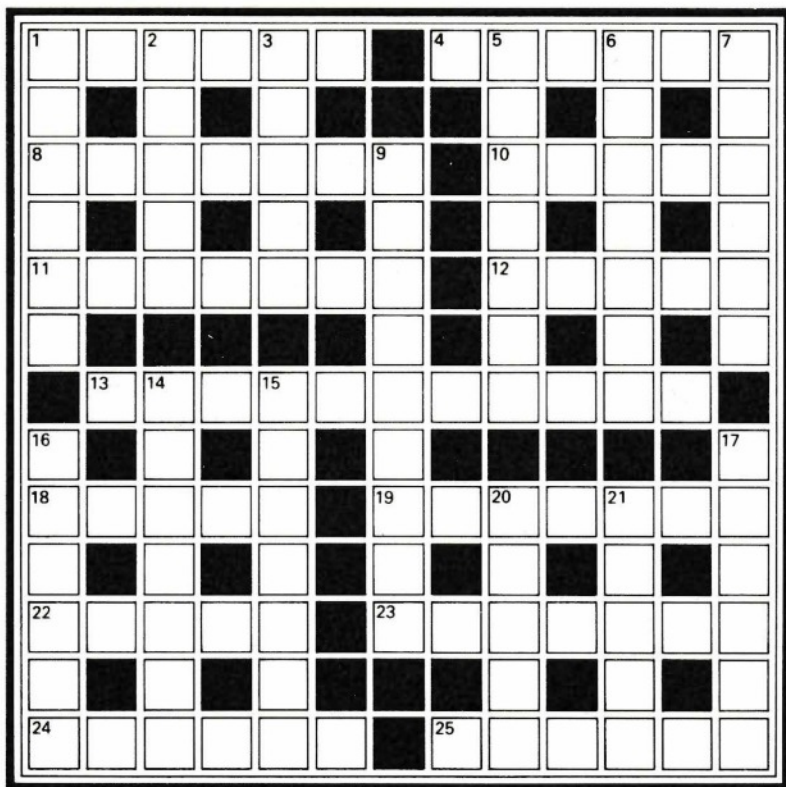
WORDSEARCH

T	O	M	B	R	Y	C	R	I	S	E	N	G
I	E	C	S	A	I	U	O	S	T	A	W	B
C	U	J	R	A	I	R	R	O	O	Y	I	E
P	M	E	E	R	U	T	A	L	N	O	N	T
A	A	R	P	A	G	A	R	D	E	N	E	R
C	R	U	C	I	F	I	X	I	O	N	E	A
A	O	S	A	V	L	N	B	E	A	V	U	Y
T	J	A	E	I	Y	A	A	R	O	L	R	A
E	U	L	G	N	L	N	T	S	E	A	O	L
M	D	E	G	E	T	H	S	E	M	A	N	E
P	A	M	G	G	T	A	B	L	O	O	D	R
L	S	N	E	A	P	B	O	D	Y	E	T	E
E	A	T	C	R	O	S	S	N	A	I	L	S

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah! April brings us to Easter – the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ - the triumphant highlight of the Christian year. As St Paul pointed out, unless Jesus really did rise again, our faith is useless, and we may as well forget any hope of heaven or eternal life.

Now find: Passover, bread, wine, body, blood, betrayal, , Jerusalem, Pilate, Judas, Gethsemane, trial, crucifixion, , soldiers, cross, nails, vinegar, temple, curtain, tomb, angel, stone, risen, gardener, Mary.

Crossword No 35



ACROSS

1. Rudely hasty (6)
4. Frisk? Sounds like a flutter! (6)
8. One who adds up – the bar (7)
10. Sufferings – taken by conscientious people? (5)
11. Twist (7)
12. A firearm – to search and rob! (5)
13. Sherry that's well-known – to all domain (anag.) (11)
18. Type of wrestling – exhausted (3-2)
19. A glossy coat (7)
22. Dexterity (5)
23. Makes a recovery (7)
24. The end (6)
25. Fabulous monster (6)

DOWN

1. A covered walk (6)
2. Puts to flight (5)
3. Paved area adjoining a house (5)
5. Clothing (7)
6. Given instructions in advance (7)
7. Endured (6)
9. Hunting dog (9)
14. Very large number (7)
15. To perplex completely – minus? (7)
16. Group of mountain heights (6)
17. Selected (6)
20. Governor – should help you to go straight! (5)
21. I give a song, they say – sweet stuff! (5)

A few clues may be a bit cryptic
Answers on page 15

THE COMMUNITY HALL

Regular activities using the facilities

MONDAY

NHS Fellowship 12.00 - 15.00 (monthly - 2nd Monday)
(Contact: Lynn Frier 01617890231)

TUESDAY

Yoga group 19.30 - 20.30
(Contact: Vicky Greer: 07717717186)

WEDNESDAY

Rainbows & Brownies 17.30 - 19.00 (weekly in term time)
(Contact: Sylvia McGreal 01617980057)

THURSDAY

Archery 13.00 - 15.00 and 19.00 - 21.00
(Contact: Dominic Vaughan 01612116563
or 07934080596)

FRIDAY

Archery 19.30 - 22.00 (Contact as above)

SUNDAY

Little Gems Sunday School 10.00 - 11.00 am (monthly 1st Sunday)
(Contact: Sylvia McGreal 01617980057)

VARIOUS

Priestley Players Amateur Dramatic Society - request info.
(Contact: Roger Partington 01617948266)

BOOKINGS

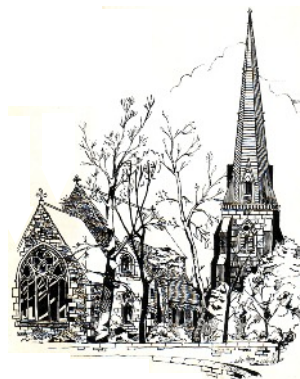
Booking requests, whether for regular or occasional events should be addressed to Mrs Sheila Jones who can be contacted on 01617892863 or 07845492109.



STAFF

Vicar of St. James & St. John

Rev. Gareth Thomas
91 Broomhall Road,
Pendlebury,
M27 8XR
Telephone: 0161 925 0059



Churchwardens:

Mr. T Palmer,
55 East Lancashire Road,
Swinton,
Manchester,
M27 5LY
Telephone: 0161 794 2702

Mr R Hedley
12 Bishop Road
Pendleton
Salford
M6 8PX
Telephone: 07493599241

SERVICES: Subject to Covid 19 restrictions (page 2)

Sunday	10.00 am	Parish Communion (Little Gems: 10.00 am, first Sunday in the month) (Family Service: 10.00 am third Sunday in the month)
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Wednesday	10.00 am	Holy Communion
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Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals etc. by arrangement with Rev. Thomas who may be contacted by telephone, or in person at Church on Wednesdays from 10-30am

Hall Bookings: For bookings and enquiries about the Parish Hall ring Mrs. Sheila Jones on 0161 789 2863 or 07845492109

E-mail for all church issues: Stjames.hope@gmail.com

Website: stjameshope.co.uk