

All Saints' Church Thornton Hough

The Magazine



April - May 2021



Welcome letter from the Vicar

Are We Nearly There Yet?

Long journeys with children are often punctuated with the chorus, “Are we nearly there yet?” Whether it is the pent-up, impatient excitement of reaching the destination, boredom as you sit nose-to-tail on the motorway, or just a knowing, teasing joke, it is a familiar cry.



Distractions, in the form of following the journey on a map, (perhaps leave that one for passengers with stronger stomachs!) or a competition to see who can be the first to spot a familiar landmark, or games of I-spy or making words out of the registration plate of the car in front can be helpful. Failing that, the incentive of a treat at the next service station may bring some relief.

It’s easy to think that “Are we nearly there yet?” is something which only children say, and that adults are immune to this way of thinking. However, in these uncertain times as we wonder whether we will be able to return to somewhere called “normal”, it is evident that the question is one which we all ask in different ways. How do we cope with being told “not yet”? How do you respond to the expression, “All in good time.” Whose time?

As I write, we eagerly anticipate the unfurling of the tight buds of leaves and the greening of our countryside. It seems to have been quite a late spring. Yet, when the temperatures and amount of daylight are right, we know that spring will come.

The forty days of Lent can seem like a long haul, but this time prepares us for the solemnity of Good Friday, and, in three days, the joy of Easter Sunday. “Are we nearly there yet?” Not yet, for we anticipate Ascension Day in May, and then, in a time to come, we have the promise that Jesus will return.

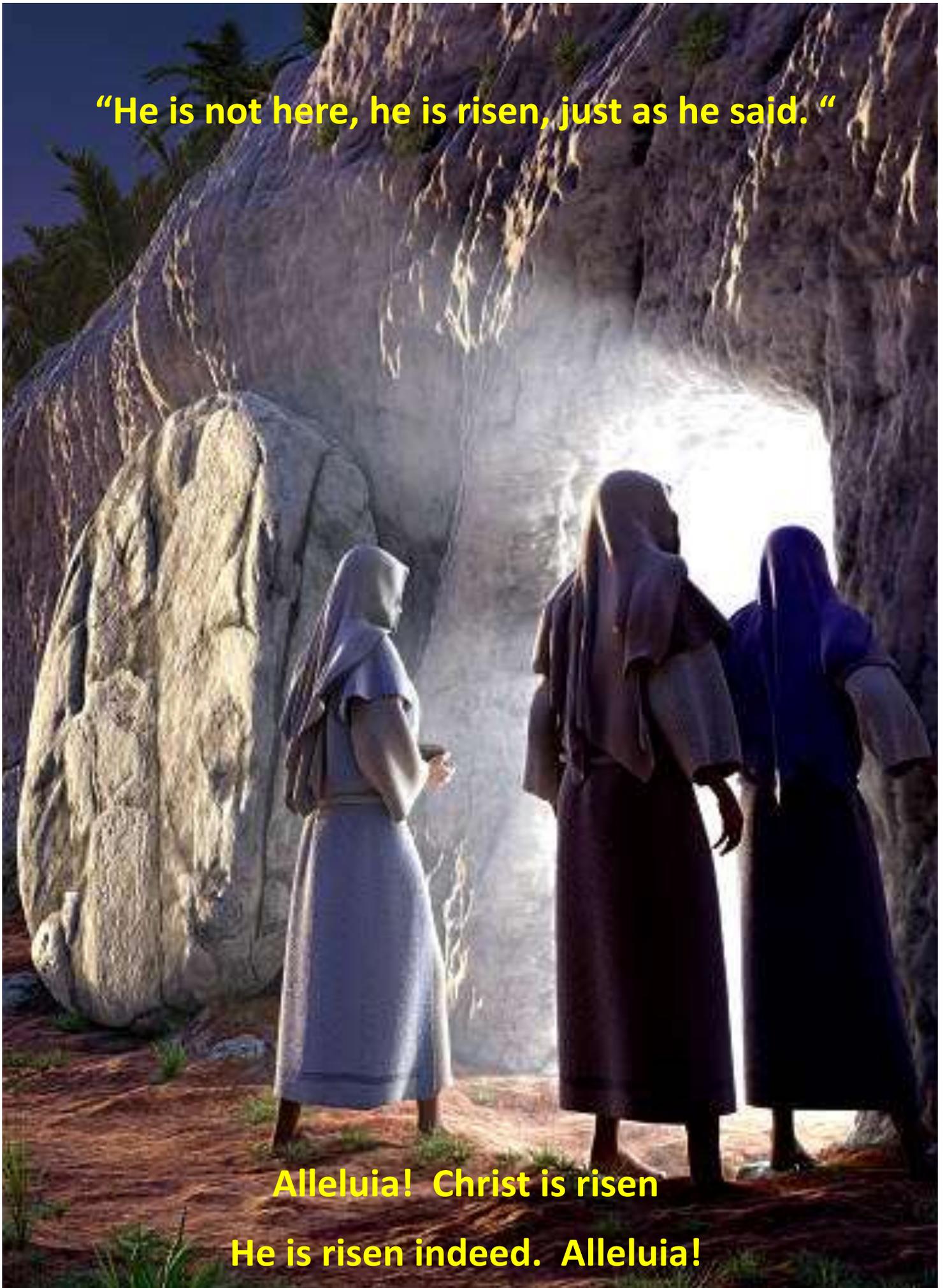
Rather than being in an anxious state about when or whether we have arrived at our destination, now is a good time to practise living with the provisional: “for now.” We don’t have a full understanding of the future ahead of us, and some of our steps may falter. Yet we should not let that deter us from living with hope, giving thanks to God for his goodness and sharing his gifts with those in need. That is living by faith.

“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.” (Hebrews 11:1)

With Love and blessings

Vicky

“He is not here, he is risen, just as he said. “



**Alleluia! Christ is risen
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Notes on the PCC meetings on 9th February and 15th March

The beginning of 2021 started in lockdown and the PCC have been forced to meet via Zoom again. Some members are unable to access this, but we have taken care to keep everyone informed about what is happening and all have had the chance to vote on proposals.

Very high Covid infection rates locally had necessitated a **suspension of public worship** and this was reviewed again at the end of February. Risk assessments have been revisited and I am happy to say that we returned to church again for Passion Sunday, March 21st; singing is not allowed by the congregation or by the choir.

We will be able to meet in church in Holy Week and then celebrate together on **Easter** Sunday. This will be even more meaningful this year as we were in lockdown last year.

During the lockdown **online services** have been recorded and made available on YouTube each Sunday morning. Email links to the services have been sent to those on the contact list and links are available on the church website. Vicky has received some positive comments on the services. Printed reflections were posted out to those who couldn't access the Internet.

Lenten Conversations, our Bible study course for Lent, was conducted using Zoom and available for people to follow on their own at home. We are gradually learning to embrace the technology! The course was prepared by Rob Green, a friend and former colleague of Vicky's. This year's Lenten Reflections have given us 'the opportunity to travel together through some roads less travelled in the Bible'.

In February we discussed **cots2tots**. Sadly, we have not been able to meet for over a year now due to the challenges of social distancing and helpers no longer able to help. Once we start to emerge from all the current constraints, we will need to review the way forward, not only for cots2tots but for all our church activities. With prayer and reflection, we hope to find a way out which will help our church to move on, serving our community and drawing people in again.

The **End of Year Financial Statement for 2020** was accepted by the PCC at the February meeting. Open plate giving had plummeted due to the pandemic, but the final result was better than had been feared due to a donation of £2,000 by the Diocese, £2,000 from the Leverhulme Trust and some very generous donations from a few people.

The money in the Bible Fund is ready to buy the new Bibles once public health considerations allow us to have books in church again.

Bishop Keith has now retired. As we were unable to meet in church it was difficult to respond as a congregation, so the PCC voted in February to make a donation of £100 from the church to the Diocesan Fund collecting for a gift for him. He has supported the Parish over the years and was particularly helpful during the interregnum when Vicky was appointed.

Rachel Brothwell was thanked for selling her wonderful **Christmas cakes** in December. She raised £167 which was paid into the church bank account.

In March, the PCC discussed the **Parish's investments** and agreed to review their governance.

The Annual Report was accepted by the PCC at the March meeting. Thank you to all those who contributed, not only to the report but throughout the year, keeping everything ticking over and helping our church community to find their way through such a challenging time. Although it had been a difficult year there were some positives including the celebration of the Harvest Festival.

We are still waiting for the Quinquennial Report on the church and the church grounds. A blocked downpipe caused a challenge which needed sorting, but more extensive work is still required.

In March we were suddenly confronted by the **collapse** of a section of **boundary wall** near the entrance to the driveway on Church Road. (see picture below). The PCC Standing Committee had to meet via Zoom to discuss our response. The local council were contacted to put up safety barriers, the road was cleared, the Diocese (a faculty is needed), the Church Architect, and the insurance company have all been contacted. Peter Arch and Derek Machin are now coordinating the project.

The vergger has **tidied up the churchyard**, removing old Christmas decorations. The vicar is now monitoring it so that it is kept attractive and safe for all who visit and maintain it.



*Sue Stinson
PCC Secretary*



Rose is caught in a cycle of climate chaos. From severe drought to flooding, extreme weather robs her of what she needs to survive: a reliable source of water.

When she was a child, Rose remembers how often the rains would fall, giving fruit to the baobab trees and providing plenty of nutritious food to eat.

‘When I was a young girl, there was plenty of food,’ Rose says. Now, the rains are totally unreliable. The climate crisis has galvanised extreme weather and Rose’s community are feeling the brunt of it. For months at a time, Rose and her family lives with drought.

Rose strives to provide for her grandchildren who live with her. She does all she can to give them happy childhoods, like the times she remembers when there was plenty of food. But the climate crisis is driving her to the brink.

In times of drought, Rose sets out on a long and dangerous journey every morning to collect water for her family. She walks on an empty stomach.

‘Because I am old, I can’t walk very fast. When I get home I just rest in the evening. I have no energy to do anything else,’ Rose says.

Even when the rains do come, relief for Rose is often short lived.

There is a nearby earth dam just minutes away from Rose’s home. It should be a lifeline. But it’s not wide enough or deep enough for everyone’s needs. It runs out of water too quickly.

Imagine how dispirited Rose must feel watching the rain fall for days, only to find the dam empty just a short while later.

What's more, the rains are much heavier than they should be, putting Rose's community at risk of flooding.

Rose is over 60 years old and simply won't have the strength to fetch water from further afield for much longer.

We need to fight this climate crisis together.

How to support Christian Aid.

Visit the Christian Aid website at <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/> to find out how to support their work. If you don't have access to the Internet. You can send them a donation by post by sending a cheque, payable to Christian Aid, to Christian Aid, 35-41 Lower Marsh, London SE1 7RL. We shall be collecting for Christian Aid during Christian Aid Week (May 10-16) in All Saints' Church.

Please remember the work of Christian Aid in your prayers.

[Material from the Christian Aid website.]

Scams by Phone, emails and texts

Please be very vigilant when responding to emails and phone calls which come unexpectedly. I had one last month saying my National Insurance had been compromised and I was to press 1 on the key pad to initiate an investigation. My name was not used, just a message given by an automated voice. I hung up without doing anything!

Somebody else had a phone message to say that there was a parcel waiting to be delivered but needing extra postage of £2.15 and requesting payment to be authorised. As she was expecting a parcel she paid the £2.15. The bank rang up a short while later asking if they were to authorise a purchase costing over £700 made in Sussex ! Needless to say the bank card was cancelled and no money was lost.

Another popular scam is to say a friend of theirs needs to buy a voucher urgently but couldn't get to a bank as they were in a traffic jam or similar. Could a voucher be sent to an email address to help them out.

These are becoming very common—so don't get caught out by unusual correspondence / requests.



ACF

A church fellowship for anyone from anywhere

I hope you are keeping well.

As I write this report it is exactly one year since we had our last ACF meeting on Wednesday 11th March with James Hennessey from Wirral Youth for Christ. Little did I know that when I agreed to take over from Eileen that it would be such an unusual time for us all. I was just settling into my role when everything ground to a halt and I have spent the last year cancelling talks and rebooking them. Now that we are into 2021, I am once again having to cancel talks and book them in for 2022.

As we all get vaccinated and infection rates improve, we are starting to see the light at the end of what has been a very long tunnel. The Government has set out a time line for coming out of lockdown and heading towards normality, hopefully on 21st June. With this in mind I am looking ahead to when we can resume our fellowship meetings and coffee mornings again.

Therefore, I am hoping that we can return to ACF meetings on:

Wednesday 14th July at 2.15pm Summer Strawberry Tea

This could follow the usual format with a selection of cakes, scones, strawberries and cream. However, depending on how people feel at the time it may be more suitable to just start with a cup of tea and a piece of cake. We will also be used to meeting our friends outside, so depending on the weather people might feel more comfortable setting up outside on the grass. Let me know how you feel and I can give you more details in the next magazine.

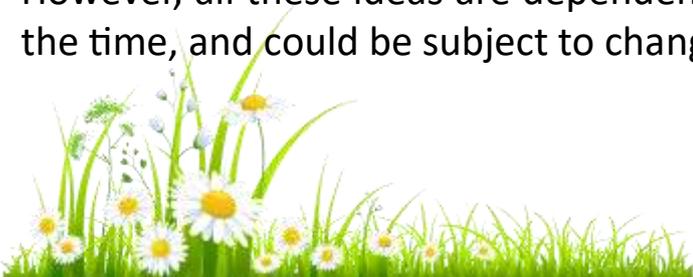
We don't usually have ACF meetings or coffee mornings in August but in order to introduce fellowship gradually I was wondering about perhaps holding the first coffee morning in August. This could possibly be held on Wednesday 11th August at 10.30am.

This would then lead us into returning to our normal meetings in September with ACF on 2nd Wednesday and coffee morning on 4th Wednesday of the month. I hope to discuss these thoughts with members in the coming weeks and have a plan to report in June.

However, all these ideas are dependent on the current situation and guidance at the time, and could be subject to change.

Helen Tankard

0151 648 0181





Richard Burnett,
Partner, Hillyer
McKeown

Hello Everyone!

It strikes me that, as our population is living longer, it is more important than ever to think about our mental and physical health and wellbeing. Below, I have put together some practical steps you can take to protect yourself and your loved ones.

Making a Will can be a difficult thing to think and talk about, but putting in place well thought out plans can offer peace of mind, knowing your wishes will be carried out in the way you want them to be.

My advice is to not wait until things change, but to plan ahead. Welcoming a grandchild, downsizing your home or thinking about care home fees are life events that can typically remind people to update or make a Will. We also help people through difficult moments in their lives, following the death of loved ones.

Trust & Estate Planning

Seeking advice on planning for the future for you and your loved ones?

We regularly support people who are seeking advice about inheritance and succession planning, or who are unsure what to do if a family member has become ill or can no longer make their own decisions.

You might also want to consider a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) legal document. An LPA allows you to choose one or more people to make decisions for you including about property of finances, or act on your behalf if you cannot deal with matters yourself.

Business Wills

If you have a Will, does it protect both your personal and business assets?

If you (or a family member) own a business our unique Business Will service can set out detailed plans for you and your business.



Speak to us about protecting yourself, your loved ones and your business should something unexpected happen.



What to do next?

Contact us for a free, no obligation discussion with a member of our Wills and Probate team in Birkenhead, Chester or if you prefer, in your own home.



rhb@law.uk.com



01244 318 131

Spring on The Farm.



Spring at Westwood is a busy time of year. Martin and I have been busy with cows calving and they've given us lots of girls this year so the future of the Westeric herd is looking bright!

It's been a challenging winter to say the least. With all the wet weather and flooding our working days have certainly been lengthy, however with all hands on deck, we have pushed through. Gemma has been busy baking, providing Martin and I with plenty of treats to keep us going and Sarah and Kerry have been keen to give us a hand fixing the tractors. The hedges have all been trimmed in time for the birds nesting and slurry is getting spread to kick start the grass growth ready for silage.

As I write it's still a bit cold to put fertiliser on, but as the daylight hours are getting longer this soon will have



happened, together with ploughing and sowing spring barley. All the sheds have been mucked out, ready to be spread on the maize ground for sowing in May and hopefully we will have enough silage to restock the clamps ready to feed the cows and see us through this coming year!



The cows have been quite happy on their comfy mattresses this winter in their nice warm sheds and they have had a treat this year as we've fed them some fodder beet which, being full of sugar, has made them very happy. Sarah says that they are looked after better than we look after ourselves and I'm inclined to agree!

Soon when it warms up, it will be time to turn the cows out to grass. This is always a lovely time of year and most definitely our favourite day- it's such a reward. After a long winter indoors the cows run round like children and it is a joy to watch. A cracking time to take photos and share with others our excitement, this time of year on the farm. As well as making our life easier, it is much better for them to get some proper fresh air and some sun (hopefully!) on their backs. Talking about sunny weather, there has been some excitement already on the farm this year as we've installed some solar panels to make the most of the sun and help to reduce our energy usage.

It will soon be time for cutting grass and lucerne ready for silage over the summer months and hopefully we'll have a nicer summer than we've had for the last two years, something that would make our life and the girls a lot easier! It'll for sure be busy this year but as ever my dad David will oversee all the jobs and make sure it's done to the best that we can make it. The September just gone, we celebrated my Dad's 50th year of farming here at Westwood, an achievement that makes us all proud and inspires Martin and I to continue in his footsteps for many more years to come!

Andrew Hughes Westwood Farm



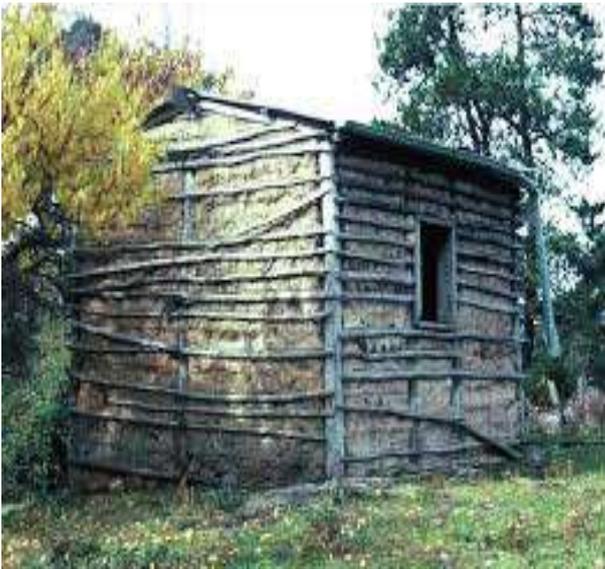
POETRY CORNER The Lake Isle of Innisfree - William Butler Yeats

I will arise and go now,
and go to Innisfree,
And a small cabin build there,
of clay and wattles made;
Nine bean-rows will I have there,
a hive for the honey-bee,
And live alone in the bee-loud glade.



Lough Gill Co. Sligo, looking towards Innisfree

And I shall have some peace there,
for peace comes dropping slow,
Dropping from the veils of the morning
to where the cricket sings;
There midnight's all a glimmer,
and noon a purple glow,
And evening full of the linnet's wings.



Wattle and daub hut

I will arise and go now,
for always night and day
I hear lake water lapping
with low sounds by the shore;
While I stand on the roadway,
or on the pavements grey,
I hear it in the deep heart's core.



Flock of linnets

WB Yeats (1865-1939) was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature in 1923 for “inspired poetry which in a highly artistic form gives expression to the spirit of a whole nation”. This early work, first printed in 1886 and published in 1889 in the collection *Wanderings of Oisín* (an Irish hero) was written in England, while his family was living in Bedford Park, Chiswick, a rather lovely leafy suburb of West London. He would be recalling family holidays in County Sligo, near Lough Gill.

It was written before his momentous meeting with Maude Gonne, the English-born Irish nationalist, who converted to Catholicism (he was Protestant) and whose unattainable love dominated his life, but already it has a yearning and lyrical sadness which permeate pretty well all his work.

Although some (mostly American) commentators take it to be a call to leave capitalism and get back to nature, Yeats is not seriously contemplating physical labour: chopping down trees to make a glade, coppicing hazel branches for uprights and weaving in willow for horizontals and daubing the wattle with clay to make a building, and then planting and cultivating beans and keeping bees. These are references to the contemplative life of a hermit.

Innisfree (Heather Island) does exist: the Sligo one is uninhabited and accessible by boat, but this is an idealised, mystical scene, conjured by the man who helped found the Abbey Theatre, wrote many plays, was greatly interested in all types of performance, masks, the occult, séances, the supernatural, the mystic. Wattles are the flaps of skin on turkeys' necks, not building materials. Crickets don't really sing in the morning, they chirrup their single note in the night. Flights of linnets arriving at a field of flax seeds (linen, from which they are named) are certainly a fabulous sight, but hardly common, even in autumn. It's all imaginary, and spell-binding.



The linnets had a particular meaning for Yeats, symbolising art in the face of adversity, because it can sing in very turbulent conditions, clinging to a very prickly perch. Yeats deplored the “arrogance and hatred” which were tearing Ireland apart at the turn of the century, and wrote longingly of the “custom and ceremony” which can counteract them. In his *Prayer for my Daughter*: “If there’s no hatred in the mind/Assault

and battery of the wind/Can never tear the linnets from the leaf.”

Many of his poems use refrains, almost like incantations: “I carry the sun in a golden cup/The moon in a silver bag” (*Those Dancing Days are Done*), and “Like a long-legged fly upon the stream/His mind moves upon silence” (*Long-Legged Fly*) and here we have the Biblical “I will arise and go” (Luke 15:18) with the very Irish sentence ending “now”, repeated.

Influenced by William Blake, whose *Complete Works* he co-edited in 1894, and Percy Bysshe Shelley, after whom he saw himself as “the last of the Romantics”, Yeats brought Irish legends and myths to a wider audience, had an active political life working towards Irish Nationalism, and wrote many lovely, memorably haunting poems.



Caroline Lancelyn Green

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Easter Quiz

1. Who had a dream and warned Pilate to have nothing to do with Jesus?
2. What Sunday ends Eastertide?
3. When being interrogated by Herod, how did Jesus respond?
4. For which Passover animal was Jesus said to be the allegory?
5. How many days passed before Jesus appeared to the disciples?
6. Which European nationals discovered Easter Island and in which year?
7. How long did the darkness last when Jesus was on the cross?
8. Easter Day fell on 6th April many times in 20th Century, but what else begins on that date in the UK each year?
9. Which New York city street hosts the annual Easter Parade?
10. Which 3 animals are traditionally associated with Easter?
11. How many coins did the chief priest give to Judas to betray Jesus?
12. Who wrote the traditional Easter hymn "Christ the Lord is risen today"?
13. It is derived from "Mandatum", but what does "Maundy" mean?
14. Which two actors were the main stars of the American film "Easter Parade" in 1948?
15. On what hill was Jesus crucified?

Answers on Page 27

A Prayer for Easter

Dear Lord

I lift my eyes to heaven
to search for the one true God
whose love encompasses
the whole world.

You gave us your son, Jesus Christ,
to come into this world of ours
to die on the cross that mournful
day,

only to rise on the third day
to save us from all sin.

We celebrate his rising

And sing of His glory

with cheerful hearts and voices to
find what each day brings:

the peace, faith, hope and joy
to all the world this Easter Day

Amen

Thoughts for the month of April

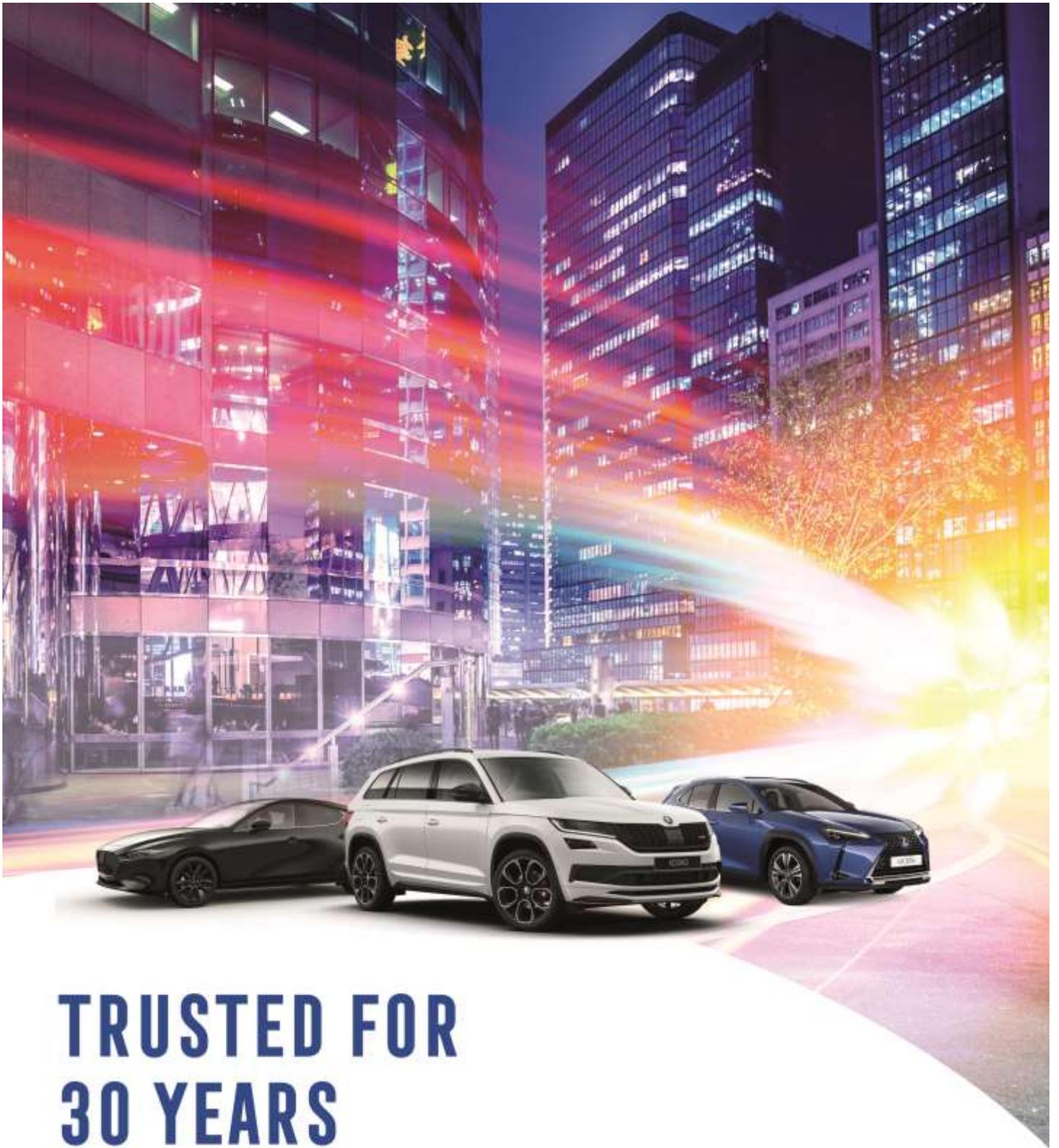
The month of April this year is when we remember Easter and the rollercoaster of feelings from the arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem to his trial and crucifixion on the cross, and to his resurrection on the third day. April is also the month of new life in the garden, fed by the April showers bringing green shoots to the fore and brightening our days. It is also the month when England celebrates their Saint on St George's Day, 23rd April. There is much to be thankful for April and much to enjoy.

Annual Parish Meetings April 25th 2021

These will take place on Sunday April 25th at 11:30am, following the 10:30am service. Please make it a priority to attend these important meetings.

Nomination forms for churchwardens, PCC members and Deanery Synod representatives will be available at the back of church. Please consider who might be able to serve in one of these roles at All Saints'. For further information please contact the Vicar, churchwardens or PCC Secretary.

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts for 2020 will also be available to collect from church.



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David Woodhouse - a Tribute

Many people move far from their place of birth: however despite spending time abroad doing his National Service, David didn't stray far from home. Indeed, he was born on the top stair at The Stray, and lived in Stray Bungalow throughout his long and interesting life.

As an adult David was a very generous and mild-mannered gentleman. In fact, he was the perfect gentleman; he would always take off his cap when a lady entered the room. However, as a child I think he could be quite mischievous at times. One of his exploits involved a wartime horse adventure: Squeak Edwards (a jockey and friend), along with David and two other friends decided to borrow a horse. They ended up being caught in a daylight raid by the Germans. The horse bolted, the girl in their group fell off, and they ended up on Parkgate front. They left the horse there and made their ways home. David got into trouble twice over: once for taking the horse, and again for being late home.

David was 11 when his father, who had been Head Gardener for Mr Taylor at Cherry Farm, died. David was then sent to Monkland, Herefordshire to live with his Aunties Lizzie and Jessie. They wanted him to train as a vicar so at this point he decided to come back home again and get a job. At 18 years old, David went into National Service, in the Army, in the Royal Signals. Unfortunately, by accident he managed to break the Training Sergeant's foot during Armed Combat training, and was sent out of the way and given the role of "post man", driving a scout car to various camps. In what sounds like something out of a Cold War thriller, his duties involved a mission to the Black Forest, where he had to pick up a man from a churchyard and drive him back to West Germany, pursued by Russians as he took the man to a waiting US ship. On other occasions, he got caught up with exploding cars at Checkpoint Charlie, and drove along the coast, chased by Russians.

He was still only 20 years old when he returned and was demobbed. He used to enjoy playing football for Willaston in any spare time he had. When David was 20 he met Mollie Bailey when dancing at Neston Dance Hall. Their first date was to Ness Gardens, but it was a long courtship: after six years' dating, Mollie asked, "Are you ever going to marry me?" David took her straight down to the Vicar at Parkgate Road and made the necessary arrangements, and they were married in August 1955.

Mollie was definitely the boss in the house, and David let her get on with such things. He was busy with work. He joined the drainage gang with the Ministry of Agriculture, digging ditches by hand. His swift, pristine work earned him the nickname "The Fastest Digger in the North-West."

After ten years with the Ministry of Ag he was made redundant, and set up his own business. He was always in demand, with regular work with Fisher German and also for other clients, such as the Leverhulme Estate and Chester Zoo. David's memory for places where he had worked and the location of the drains he had dug was phenomenal. He would take the family on drives and instinctively know where the drains were.

Even after hard days of digging for work, David loved gardening; his pristine vegetable plot at Stray Bungalow was testament to his efforts. He liked nothing more than giving away his vegetables to friends, family and passers-by.

The family was very special to David. He and Mollie had five children: Trisha, Caroline, Jayne, Linda and Richard. He would take them with him whilst working, and all five children learned to drive on Frodsham Marshes. Family life was firm, simple, stable and happy. They didn't even have a phone at home until Caroline went to Canada. Richard went on to work with his father, and then, as David grew older, he would come and work with Richard. Even as recently as this January, David was out with Richard on a job, lifting block paving.

He also adored his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

David had a strong faith, and would always say his prayers at night. He kept a Bible by his bed and Caroline read the lesson from it in church. He was sidesman and Deputy Warden at All Saints' Church, and although he spent some time in the congregation at Willaston and then Neston, he returned to All Saints', continuing to help welcome people until last year.

He had a full and wonderful life, and this tribute can only touch on some of the recollections of this legend of a man. God bless you, David Woodhouse.



Chris Cade – A Tribute

This is a love story – for Chris’s life was always bound up with expressions of love and hospitality. If we want to give it a title, maybe “What Christine Did Next” would be the most appropriate.

Chris’s parents met through working at Lever Brothers: her father, George Brockbank, began working there at 14; he mixed the perfume on the balcony above, while below Nell, her mum, wrapped the soap. They courted for ten years before they married, as Grandma Brockbank didn’t want to let her precious George go! They had two daughters, Joan and Christine, six years in age apart because of the war, but this didn’t mean they weren’t close, quite the opposite. The girls were brought up on New Chester Road and Port Sunlight.

Christine left school at 16, much to her head teacher's disappointment - she would have liked her to stay on at school - and started work at an insurance company in Liverpool. Her pioneering spirit showed through even then, as she was the first female to pass the exam to become a broker.

Love and Lever Brothers came together again when Chris met Mike: On Valentine’s Day 1961 Chris went to her very first dance at Hume Hall with her big sis Joan and Joan’s Lever Bros work mates. Joan was good mates with Alan and it was Alan that dragged his best mate Mike along. That was the night Chris met Mike. After the dance finished at midnight, the group of seven, three boys and four girls, went off back to Joan and Chris’s house. Most of the group went off to bed – three lads in one bed – but Chris and Mike carried on chatting. Joan recollects that in the morning Nell was surprised to see all of them at the breakfast table. After that, Mike was a feature at the Brockbank home (in fact they couldn't get rid of him). And little Christine and big Mike fell in love!

Chris and Mike married at Christ Church, Port Sunlight, in March 1963, when Chris was just 18. Two months later the whole family enjoyed a fantastic holiday to Scotland. George bought a car – a Rover 90 – and Mike did the driving.

By the age of 24, Chris was mother to three children: Phil, Jenny and Pete. When the children were all at Primary School, she began a new adventure, driven by her passion for reading and love of children. She had to take English A Level in order to qualify to begin her Teacher Training at Ethel Wormald College, where she was a mature student and specialised in English. It was here she met Margaret and Margaret, fellow students that became life long friends. She was awarded her Certificate in Education on 1st January, 1976.

She was an avid reader: she got to the Harry Potter series of books and The Hunger Games before her children did! As well as enjoying emerging authors, she also enjoyed the classics of English literature.

Her capabilities as a teacher and leader saw her thrive in education. After beginning as a Reception teacher at Town Lane Infants', she went on to be Deputy Head at Kingsway, Wallasey, and then was Head at Bromborough Pool and finally a larger school headship at Holy Trinity, Hoylake. She completed a Masters Degree in Education Management by 50, writing a dissertation on Quality of Education: Managing the Implementation of a Quality System. By 55 Chris and Mike had another adventure calling them in France and she retired.

Between 1968 and 2000, Chris and Mike had lived in three houses: Jackson Close in Bebington, at Raby Mere for nineteen years, and then Parkgate. During their years in Raby Mere with a young family on what was then a new estate, they and the children made lots of friends; some of them became life long friends for the whole family. The family's long association with Thornton Hough was forged during this period.

New adventures awaited: Chris and Mike had always loved going to France, with Mike doing the driving through the country as part of the experience, the family holidaying in gîtes and absorbing the culture and language as they met people. They went to night school to improve their French, and once Chris had retired from her Headship, they set about their move to France, relocating to a villa in a tiny village called Fox Amphoux in rural Provence, which they had come to know and love over many years. For someone with a real phobia of mice, this could be a bit tricky. Nevertheless, they immersed themselves fully in community life; Chris even began thinking in French. They were part of the local Amitié group, and would share hospitality with other families: bouillabaisse swapped with English teas. The Aioli, being the families favourite festival, was in August. Chris and Mike would ensure any visiting family and friends enjoyed and were part of the village celebrations.

The family loved long, idyllic happy summers there, spending all of August together: the grandchildren learned to swim in the pool which Chris and Mike had built there. Phil would drive over to visit from work in Lyon, friends and family came from England and other parts of the world to spend time with them. Chris' love of literature was nourished by reading in French – including Harry Potter. There was always a 'good book' recommendation from Chris to her family and friends when they arrived, always a beautiful meal prepared to share. Nothing was ever too much trouble.

Chris had many hidden talents one of which was her ability to make a meal out of anything! She could rustle up a delicious meal from literally nothing! A family saying - 2 biros and a bar of soap!

Another talent was her amazing picnic making. She was the best picnic maker ever, continually pulling out something else delicious from the picnic bag! How she managed to do this was beyond us all!

This season of their life came to an end, but they soon settled back into life on the Wirral, living close to Wirral Grammar Boys', which enabled the grandsons to come and pop in. In this new chapter, Chris took the opportunity to become more involved with her grandchildren's interests and lives. Making trips to Erddig National Trust to visit Harriet on her lunch hour with the other grandchildren, watching football matches and horse riding lessons was her way to enjoy them and watch them all grow into young adults. She also re engaged with her old friends, making visits and meals with their life long friends Joan, Myra and Gordon, Annie and Mike, Margaret and her friends from working in education. They joined the Unilever Pensioners' Association, through which she and Mike enjoyed days out and short trips away. Chris also booked holidays for just her and Mike to share, they enjoyed visiting Majorca, Madeira and Portugal, still having their own adventures.

She joined the WI with Joan Hignett, and she settled back into life at All Saints' church, not only as a regular member of the congregation, but a very capable, friendly and welcoming sidesperson and volunteer at the weekly Cots2Tots group. She was always busy and helpful, and was much loved and well-regarded by her neighbours.

She continued with her French studies, and her teacher, when informed of her passing, commented that she was such a lovely person, who loved her French songs, and whose language was of a very high standard. She was a confident speaker, although very unassuming.

Chris was always a devoted carer for Mike, and a rock to all the family. She would be quietly protective, navigating round any tensions. She never pushed herself forward, always thinking of others first. Even when so poorly in hospital, she didn't want to drag the family out from their homes, and worried that they hadn't eaten.

Loving, hospitable, caring, passionate yet unassuming: just five traits from the many aspects of Chris's wonderful adventures through life. We give thanks to God for the gift of knowing her, and for the continuing impact of her life on us and many others.





The Red Fox

Thornton Hough • Wirral



You will find us a classic country pub with open fires, wooden floors, good old furniture and lots of rugs and plants.

The bar sits at the heart of the pub, with an array of cask ales on tap, a back shelf crammed with malts and gins and a decent list of over 50 lovingly chosen wines. Our team of chefs continually develop our daily menu with a spine of freshly prepared classic British dishes, complemented by a few more exotic influences here and there.

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The Red Fox, Liverpool Road, Thornton Hough, Wirral, CH64 7TL

Cookery Corner **Almond and Orange Cake** *(suggested by our Vicar)*

For the cake

180g (6oz) margarine, 1 tsp baking powder
75g (2½ oz) caster sugar, 3 eggs, beaten
150g (5oz) self-raising flour
75g (2½ oz) ground almonds
grated zest and juice from 1 orange
a few drops almond essence

For the topping

Grated zest and juice from 2 oranges
30g (1oz) granulated sugar



Preheat the oven to 160°C / Gas Mark 3. Lightly grease and flour a deep 20cm (8 inch) cake tin. Put all the cake ingredients into a large bowl and beat together thoroughly. (Or put in a food processor and whizz together until well combined.) Spoon the mixture into the cake tin. Bake for 50-60 mins until golden and firm to the touch. Mix together the topping ingredients and drizzle over the cake whilst it is still warm. Cool on a wire rack.

You can serve the cake “as it is” at tea-time or with half-fat crème fraiche for a dessert.

Burgundy Lamb *(suggested by Patsy Baker)*

4 oz bacon, 1 medium onion
1 clove garlic, 1 medium carrot
1½ lbs leg or shoulder of lamb
1 tablespoon tomato purée
4 oz button mushrooms
¾ pint red wine
Salt and pepper
1 teaspoon sugar
1 tablespoon flour



Fry the chopped bacon in deep frying pan until crisp. Remove from pan. Fry the sliced onion and crushed garlic in the bacon fat until golden. Cut the lamb into 1" cubes and add with sliced carrots to the onion mix and fry to brown the lamb pieces on all sides. Return the bacon to the pan with the tomato purée, mushrooms, red wine, salt, pepper, sugar and flour. Bring to the boil. Transfer to a casserole and bake at 350°F, 180°C, gas mark 4 for an hour and a half.

Can be cooled, packed and frozen as a whole or in portions if desired.

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Trade	Name	Contact Tel	Mob
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Joiner	Paul Whitehead	353 0493	07762 637374
Painter & Decorator	A Foreshaw	327 4788	07979 233 422
Health & Wellness - <i>Pilates</i>	Peter Heath	644 9279	07808 920 813
PAT Testing	Joey Farrell		07723 997 434
Gas Service	Mike Jones	342 5805	07813 137 134
ACG General Maintenance	Andrew Grover		07384 466 414
Book Keeping	Russ Smith	208 7126	07463 669 418

Following a suggestion from various readers, we have compiled the above list based on their recommendations. if you know of anybody else who would like to be included please inform any of the Editorial Team.

Disclaimer "The above are not recommendations of the editorial team and neither All Saints PCC nor the editorial team can accept any liability resulting from using these organisations/trades people."



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Register of Baptism, Burials and Marriages

Extracts from the Church Registers for March and April 2021

BURIALS	Died	Age	Burial
Colin David Thompson :	19/1/2021	91	11/2/2021

Thoughts for the month of May

Let us give thanks for the many celebrations coming this month beginning with Ascension Day on 13th May when Jesus ascended to heaven to be at the right hand of God and on the 23rd of the month we celebrate Pentecost or Whitsun Day when the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles. During this month we look forward to seeing the May blossom on the trees as a precursor of the beautiful colours of the flowers to come during the next few months. The birds herald what is to come with their songs and the sight and sound of the first cuckoo is eagerly anticipated.

Ode to the Spell Checker

Eye have a spelling checker
It came with my pea sea
It plainly marques four my revue
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.

Eye strike a key and type a word
And weight 4 it 2 say
Weather eye am wrong oar write
It shows me strait a weigh

As soon as a mist ache is maid
It nose bee fore two long
And eye can put the error write
It rare lea ever wrong

Eye have run this poem threw it
I am shore your pleased two know
Its letter perfect all the weigh
My chequer tolled me sew

*Attributed to Professor J H Zar
and Submitted by M Basnett*

Easter Quiz Answers

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----|-------------------------------|
| 1. His wife | 9 | 5th Avenue |
| 2. Pentecost Sunday / Whit Sunday | 10 | Chicks, Bunnies and Lambs |
| 3. In silence | 11 | 30 |
| 4. Lamb | 12 | Charles Wesley |
| 5. 40 days | 13 | Commandment |
| 6. Dutch in 1722 | 14 | Judy Garland and Fred Astaire |
| 7. 3 hours | 15 | Calvary |
| 8. Tax Year | | |



Sunday Bible Readings

April - May 2021

March

Sunday 28th

Palm Sunday

Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-28

Mark 11: 1-11

April

Thursday 1st

Maundy Thursday

Ex 12: 1-4, 11-14

John 13: 1-7, 31b-35

Friday 2nd

Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

John 18:1-19:42

Sunday 4th

Easter Day

Acts 10: 34-43

Mark 16: 1-8

Sunday 11th

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35

John 20:19-30

Sunday 18th

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-19

Luke 24:36b-48

Sunday 25th

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12

John 10:11-18

May

Sunday 2nd

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40

John 15:1-8

Sunday 9th

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48

John 15:9-17

Thursday 13th

Ascension Day

Acts 1:1-11

Luke 24:44-53

Sunday 16th

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:15-17,21-26

John 17:6-19

Sunday 23rd

Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21

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

Sunday 30th

Trinity Sunday

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

Please let us know your thoughts on the inclusion of the Bible Readings in the Magazine. Do you enjoy reading them in advance or make use of them after the service. Perhaps you would prefer to listen to them in the service. Thank you



Parish Diary

Please note that because of the present situation, all dates are subject to change at short notice. Any changes will be announced on the website and on the weekly service sheets.

April

Thursday	1		Maundy Thursday
		7:00pm	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
Friday	2		Good Friday
		10:30am	Good Friday Meditation
Sunday	4		Easter Sunday
		8:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10:30am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
Sunday	11		Second Sunday of Easter
		10:30am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
Tuesday	13	7:30pm	PCC Meeting
Wednesday	14	10:30am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
Sunday	18		Third Sunday of Easter
		8:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10:30am	Morning Prayer (Common Worship)
Wednesday	21	10:30am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
Sunday	25		Fourth Sunday of Easter
		10:30am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
		11:30am	Annual Meetings
Wednesday	28	10:30am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)

May

Sunday	2		Fifth Sunday of Easter
		8:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
		10:30am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
Wednesday	5	10:30am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
Sunday	9		Sixth Sunday of Easter
		10:30am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
Monday	10		Start of Christian Aid Week 2021
Thursday	13		Ascension Day
		7:00pm	Holy Communion (Common Worship)

May

Sunday

16

Sunday after Ascension Day

Seventh Sunday of Easter

End of Christian Aid Week 2021

8:00am

Holy Communion (BCP)

10:30am

Morning Prayer (Common Worship)

Wednesday

19

10:30am

Holy Communion (Common Worship)

Sunday

23

Pentecost

10:30am

Holy Communion (Common Worship)

Wednesday

26

10:30am

Holy Communion (Common Worship)

Sunday

30

Trinity Sunday

10:30am

Holy Communion (Common Worship)

June

Wednesday

2

10:30am

Holy Communion (Common Worship)

Lenten Conversations 2021 – Experiences on the Bible’s Back Roads

Up to eight people participated in Zoom conversations to reflect on our Lenten Bible readings, “On the Bible’s back roads: where old stories and our stories meet.” We have explored a mixture of Old and New Testament characters and topics over seven weekly sessions. There have been some fascinating – and quite unpronounceable – characters, such as Bezalel and Oholiab, and Balaam’s talking donkey.

It has been a lot of fun as we have enjoyed conversations together and shared our learning. Exploring the Bible as a group can be more challenging than simply reading the Bible reading notes alone as each person brings different responses to discussions, but this has also enriched our thinking. We have been prompted to look at fairly short passages for the studies, but have often found ourselves looking at the wider context, reading through further chapters and cross-references.

We have learned more about our foundations of faith: a sense of looking at our place in a huge family, and how we respond to others. We saw God revealing his nature in all kinds of situations and ways. Many of the passages were concerned with outsiders, such as the Samaritan woman at the well, which made us consider how we work to break down “them and us” situations.

We are grateful to Rev Rob Green for these notes, which have allowed plenty of space for reflection rather than “spoon-feeding” us. If you have missed out on them during Lent, do pick up copies of the leaflets at the back of church or download them from the church website or Rob’s blog: revrobgreen.wordpress.com

Who to contact about our groups

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Bible Study and Prayer Shirley McEvoy 336 3449

Home Group Alice Jones alice@allsaintsth.org.uk

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A Church Fellowship (ACF) Helen Tankard hdt1426@sky.com
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The Magazine

Thank you to all those who have contributed articles, photographs and ideas for this edition of *The Magazine*. Contributions for future editions of *The Magazine* are very welcome. Please contact any member of the editorial team with your ideas and articles. Articles may be submitted in any reasonable format and should not be subject to any copyright restrictions.

The deadline for submission of materials for the next edition is

17th May 2021

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