

TRIBUTE TO THE QUEEN

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Mouse Makes

...Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Second who passed peacefully from this life, on Thursday 8th September at her beloved Balmoral Castle.

As I have seen the coverage of her death, and many tributes to her, one word has been noticeable – **constant**. Her constant love, her constant service.

Each year the Wesleyan Reform Union agrees a resolution of loyalty to the monarch and sends a letter of greeting. Just under 3 months ago, this was part of what was sent to her.

'We give thanks to almighty God for your inspirational Christian witness to our nation and commonwealth. We congratulate you on this Platinum Jubilee year of your reign and express our thanks for your faithful service and devotion which remains as visible now as at the beginning.' Speaking again of her constancy.

Through the good times and the difficult ones, both nationally and personally for her, she has been constant on leaning on almighty God. Many times she has made reference to the strength of her faith and her reliance on the teachings of Jesus Christ. She saw her role as to serve which she did with utmost dedication. She was constant in her commitment to the calling she had received.

These were her words in 2008

'I hope that, like me, you will be comforted by the example of Jesus of Nazareth who, often in circumstances of great adversity, managed to live an outgoing, unselfish and sacrificial life



... He makes it clear that genuine human happiness and satisfaction lie more in giving than receiving; more in serving than in being served.'

On Friday I watched some of the tributes in the House of Commons. One MP chose words from the Bible to sum up both Queen Elizabeth's life, a constant life of service through faith and her future hope.

2 Timothy 4 v 7, 8

'I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me'.

We must pray too for King Charles III – that will take some time to get used to saying – for him too – let us pray that he will follow in his mother's example – and grow in faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rev P Hearson

Rushden High Street Church

WOMEN OF ACTION



It Finally Happened

At Church on the Rock for many years we had an excellent group for the women of the church which closed after probably thirty years of service to the elderly in the locality. Together they enjoyed the word of God with a speaker each week and they even went on holiday for a week together in latter years. Meals too were cooked each month for all to enjoy. This group has been fondly remembered and lifelong friendships were enjoyed. **The ladies who ran the group due to circumstances were no longer able to invest the time and energy needed to the group, and so with heavy hearts this group stopped.** That it was the right season to change was felt by the leaders.

Since then, a number of years has passed, and we have tried various incarnations of a Ladies group. Each time we have prayed for the Lord to lead us

forward by His hand and been in regular prayer for the group. None of these groups have free time in the week; The timing succeeded over the years. **I feel that some of reasons for this were:** Many women now work and have less of the meetings may have clashed with other local groups but overall, I feel that the Lord's hand was not on the groups we tried to initiate. Were they in our own strength we were trying to make them go forward? Maybe. Each time we had to recognize that we needed to try again. (I know you will not mind that I am honest with you.)

This year in the spring. After again discussing and praying things through as leaders. We recognized the blessing of our Men's breakfast which now sees a number of men coming along on a bi-monthly basis for cooked breakfast, a time of sharing and fellowship. **We asked ourselves the question would this work as well for a group of women and we decided to try it.**

Since then, we have met in April, June and August. We invite our friends at our sister church of Ebenezer to join us.

Each time there has been a mix of all ages. We enjoy a hearty breakfast cooked by Carl. Some ladies have shared quite deep issues such as divorce and trauma. **Mainly though, we have talked about how we grow in God's love as well as all the usual domestic stuff of life.** The first time we focussed in on what it means to be a daughter of Zion. We are now looking as what it means to have a pure heart, a group of studies which encourages us to keep our hearts pure for God. For out of our heart flows the WELLSPRING of life. (Prov. 4.23) **I am sure that our Lord Jesus Christ has many rich blessings which he intends for us to enjoy. Be blessed.**

If you live in the West Midlands or locally our **next meeting is at 10.30 am on Saturday October 29th.** You would be more than welcome to join us.

Pastor Jackie Clarke
Church on the Rock

THIS SERIES OF STUDIES IS BEING PREPARED FROM A BOOKLET ENTITLED "READ MARK LEARN"

Study number 2 — Mark chapter 1 verses 12- 28 (Please read)

Three Great Possessions

This passage includes the calling of the first disciples and a remarkable incident at Capernaum, but let us concentrate on just one verse and notice three great possessions which are now ours as Christians. In verse 17 we will find first of all -

A Person to Follow. Jesus found Simon (Peter) and his brother Andrew by the lakeside and commanded them *"come follow me"*. Immediately they turned their backs on everything else and followed Him and were never the same again! Now that He has called us to Himself let us be determined to follow Jesus, and to make Him our Pattern, our Standard and our Guide in every part of our lives. Secondly, notice that the verse also speaks of -

A Power to Fashion. Jesus went on *"and I will make you fishers of men"*. What power Jesus has! Power to create (John 1 v 3); power to cure (Matthew 8 v 3); Power to control (Luke 8 v 24); but above all, power to change men's lives. Because Jesus now lives within us by His Holy

Spirit, this power is now ours and is sufficient to deal with all our problems. The Bible says, *"It is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose"*. (Philippians 2 v 3). Thirdly, notice at the end of the verse there is -

A Purpose To Fulfil *"I will make you fishers of men"*. It is a marvellous thing to know that God has a pattern and a purpose for our lives, and we can be sure that we will gradually see it working out as we follow Him daily. Whatever that purpose might be, there is no doubt that it includes being a *"fisher of men"*. Don't be ashamed of our Saviour and pray now that He will use us to draw others to Him. See that you commend the Lord Jesus to others, not only by what you say, but by how you live. Matthew 5 v 6 puts it perfectly. *"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be filled"*.

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith".
(Hebrews 12 v 2)

Prepared by David Shuttleworth
Jump WR Church

THOUGHT FOR
THE DAY



WHAT'S ON

QUIZ WINNERS

At a recent visit of the WRU President, the WES, **Rushden High Steet Church, hosted a Quiz Evening** with tea and cakes.

Mr Tim Hearson, ably assisted by Robyn, was our question master.

There were 9 who attended from **TLC Bozeat**, so we decided to make two teams, men's and ladies.

The ladies were delighted to be overall winners coming away with the President's Cup and a box of Quality Street!

The men are determined to beat us in the next quiz showdown!!



News From Mandritsara

Griffydam church has a strong affiliation with the Good News Hospital, and following is an article recently written for Contact by our brother Nathan, who is currently working there.

Tonga soa, bienvenu and WELCOME to the Good News Hospital in Mandritsara, Madagascar.

I'm sure it's been a long trip, but you've finally made it to the North-East Corner of Madagascar and it's my pleasure to welcome you! Why don't you unpack and settle into the Oasis guesthouse whilst I tell you about the hospital...

We're out here serving the 250,000 people of Mandritsara District (and others who've come from further afield!) offering life saving medical care and holding out the life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ to anyone who walks through the gate. He came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10) and these really are the lost: a poor region of a poor country. As you'll have seen on

your journey, most of the people of this district are subsistence rice farmers, only a minority of whom would have more than primary-level education. **As you can imagine, medically the needs are enormous:** our inpatient/paediatric team are fighting a running battle against rampant malaria, tuberculosis, malnutrition and typhoid, whilst the maternity ward sees about 200 life-saving caesarean sections a year. Our surgical colleagues meanwhile are dealing with pretty much everything under the sun, from tumours to trauma (injuries from cattle horns being a particular problem!) and the eye department remove dozens of cataracts every month to give people their sight back. All of which we do for as little cost as we can to the patients, although it's simply not possible to do everything completely free of charge.

Wrapped up with all that medical activity though is a living breathing

gospel work- three Malagasy pastors employed as an evangelism team co-ordinate a series of gospel talks on the wards and in outpatients every morning, and we're doing our best to keep alive the vision of an every-member ministry where everyone from the chief of medicine to the lab technicians has their eyes and ears open to the Spirit's prompting to share stories of Jesus and His call to repent as well as medical advice with their patients. Nothing's forced, no-one's pressured into believing, but **almost everyone will have the chance to hear the gospel at some point, and for all our sin and weaknesses and limitations, it really is medicine AND mission that we're doing...**

Anyhoo, sorry, I'm rambling on! Will let you unpack and then we can take the tour...!

<https://www.mandritsara.org.uk/pray>

Nathan

A Floral Tribute



The poet laureate, Simon Armitage, has written a beautiful poem to honour Queen Elizabeth II after her death in September. In the first verse he refers to himself "I have conjured a lily to light these hours, a token of thanks". In it, Armitage thanks the Queen for her gift of a "promise made and kept for life".

Notice that the poem is a double acrostic, with two verses consisting of nine lines, the first letters of which spell **ELIZABETH**.

I especially love the opening lines, "Evening will come, however determined the late afternoon". A reminder that our times are in God's hands and the Prime Minister read from Ecclesiastes 3 v1 and 2, "To every thing there is a season... A time to be born and a time to die".

Daphne Hodkinson

Evening will come, however determined the late afternoon,
Limes and oaks in their last green flush, pearled in September mist.

I have conjured a lily to light these hours, a token of thanks,
Zones and auras of soft glare framing the brilliant globes.

A promise made and kept for life - that was your gift -
Because of which, here is a gift in return, glovewort to some,
Each shining bonnet guarded by stern lance-like leaves.
The country loaded it's whole self into your slender hands,
Hands that can rest, now, relieved of a century's weight.

Evening has come. Rain on the black lochs and dark Munros.
Lily of the Valley, a namesake almost, a favourite flower
Interlaced with your famous bouquets, the restrained
Zeal and forceful grace of its lanterns, each inflorescence
A silent bell disguising a singular voice. A blurred new day
Breaks uncrowned on remote peaks and public parks, and
Everything on these luminous petals and deep roots,
This lily that thrives between spire and tree, whose brightness
Holds and glows beyond the life and border of its bloom.

Recipe from the



little sunny kitchen

Ingredients

- **60 grams powdered sugar** but this depends on how sweet you like them, if you in general like sweet cookies, then add 40 more grams.
- **125 grams ghee/butter**
- **250 grams all-purpose flour**
- **pistachios**

Instructions

First you need to mix the ghee/butter with the powdered sugar by hand. Then add the flour to the mixture and mix until it's well combined. The dough should be nice and soft and should not stick to your hands.

Place the dough ball into a bowl, cover with a plastic wrap, and refrigerate for about 1 hour.

After you take it out of the refrigerator, let it rest for 15 minutes. Gently knead the dough for a few seconds and start shaping dough balls (each should approximately weight about 6 grams), place it on wax paper on a baking tray, flatten it using your hand and press a pistachio into each cookie.

Bake in a preheated oven at 150c for 10-15 minutes (but this depends on what kind of oven do you use, when done the bottom of the cookies should be golden in colour but be careful as these cookies burn very easily).

Make sure you give the cookies enough time to cool down because they're very delicate and are easy to break.

Notes:

Ghee may be substituted with clarified butter at its solid state.

Store in a box (not airtight container) at room temperature for up to 2 weeks.

www.littlesunnykitchen.com

New CESA Secretary

Let me introduce you to our new CESA secretary. He is **Pastor Graham Johnson** and he leads the fellowship at "The Little Chapel" in Bedworth, Warwickshire, known as T.L.C.. He is married to Natalie and in September they will be celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary. Graham is very interested in all aspects of Christian Ethics and closely follows and prays for the work of the Christian Institute. He is very involved in his own community and has good links with the other Church leaders in the area. We welcome Graham to this new role and pray that the Lord will inspire him to bring new ideas to the committee.

Daphne Hodkinson (CESA Secretary)



HOT MEALS LEBANON

At conference in June the Overseas Missions Committee announced our new project for the next 12 months. This year we are collecting money to send to Safe Haven orphanage in Beirut, Lebanon to help them to provide hot meals for the children it supports.

Safe Haven have provided us with some typical Lebanese food recipes and being a bit of a foodie, I decided to cook some of them, and Andy helped by taking photos and then taste testing the dishes!

Lindsey or I can email the recipes to you on request.

Please don't be put off by the long list of ingredients. My experience of cooking the dishes was that they are easy to make, tasty

(but not spicy hot), full of nutritious ingredients and very filling.

If you don't have a lot of the spices listed and don't want to buy them all individually then I discovered that you can even buy Lebanese 7 Spice Mix in Waitrose!



We have been thinking about how we can use these recipes to raise awareness and raise funds for this charity along the way.

3. Make the food for a church event and have a sharing meal e.g., Harvest Supper.

1. Make the food for people to buy as a Takeaway. We thought the food tasted even better the following day as the flavours developed.
2. Host a "Pay as You Feel" Dinner Party in your own home instead of going out for a meal with friends.

There is also a biscuit recipe that we plan to make at our mid-week Kids Club at Hampden View and use this to raise awareness of the charity with the children that attend.

Another fundraising idea, that I plan to do for the project is to make and sell jars of Lemon Curd as citrus fruits grow well in that region.

If you have any other fundraising ideas, please let us know and also tell us of any events you plan to run so that we can pray for you.

Anne-Marie Wilcock

OBITUARY



MISS GLORIA WALLIS
(TLC Bozeat Church)

The fellowship at TLC Bozeat is sad to report that Miss Gloria Wallis has been called Home to her Heavenly Father.

Gloria was a Bozeat girl who served her community in various capacities for many years, as well as serving as a parish councillor, she was a member and past President of Bozeat W.I., organiser of the annual Women's World Day of Prayer, and organiser of the fortnightly Women's Fellowship. Gloria represented the Wellingborough Circuit for many years as a delegate at Conference and was well known and respected by her friends across the Union. She was a very loyal and committed member and

trustee at TLC, and we will miss her presence at our services, business meetings and social events. She suffered ill health for many years, but she bore it stoically until she suffered a stroke and kidney failure in 2018 which necessitated her to undergo dialysis 3 times a week. This eventually took its toll, and Gloria died very peacefully on Monday 29th August in hospital. We thank God for her life and witness, her strong faith in her Saviour Jesus Christ never wavered.

The photograph shows Gloria in her capacity as Parish Council Chairman in the 1990's.

ONE MORE STEP

It seems like just last week that I was starting my first day of primary school, all excited in my uniform with my book bag and packed lunch bag in my hands and suddenly it's September 2022 and I'm going into my last year of secondary school.

September has always brought about a new start within school, but this September feels different. Moving into year 11 brings some new challenges I have to face. As if lockdowns and home learning caused by the pandemic wasn't challenging enough, I'm now faced with having to sit my exams this school year.

It seems I have new responsibilities; teachers are constantly reminding us to 'do well' trying to encourage us to

be the best that we can be. Previously after school clubs consisted of sport, drama and other 'fun' activities but now we have extra English, Maths and Science lessons to ensure we 'do well' with our upcoming GCSE's. My school doesn't use the phrase 'good luck' as they say it's about working hard to ensure we 'do well' and not to leave our success to 'luck'.

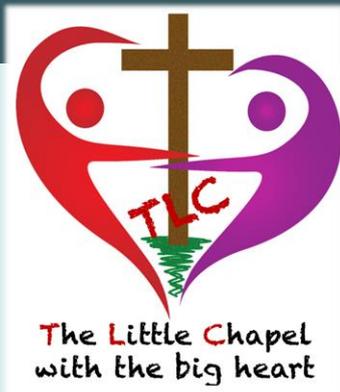
So with this in mind the studying starts - for those who know me can tell you, I'd much prefer to be on the football field or cricket pitch than sitting in a classroom, but I know I need to work hard in order to 'do well' in my GCSEs I'm hoping to go to college next September to continue my studies and hopefully study to become a sports therapist or a PE teacher.



It seems strange to be thinking about a career at 15 years old and having to make choices about my future, but I'm reminded about Jeremiah 29 v11 which reminds me that God has a plan for my life. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Kezia Sykes

Staincross Christian Fellowship



WHAT'S ON

I first met David and Dorothy when they were Youth leaders at Finedon Methodist Church in the 1970's.

He has been joining us in worship for over a year and we are so pleased that he has made us his 'home church'.



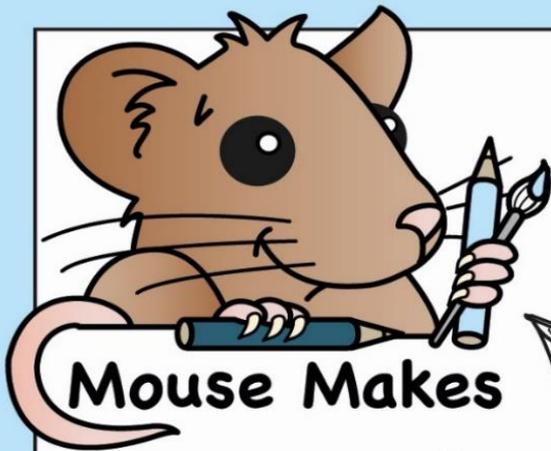
Rev Peter Norton welcomed him, after which we enjoyed a rich time of blessing around the tea. We praise and thank God for bringing David to us and look forward to great times of blessing.

Sue Partridge-Underwood



The fellowship at Bozeat were delighted to welcome Rev David Perrett into membership at TLC.

David is a Church of England vicar, who became Rural Dean in his last benefice, before retiring to Kettering 8 years ago. His late wife, Dorothy, spent her childhood years in Bozeat.



Mouse Makes

READ the full story in the book of Jonah

JONAH'S JOURNEY

Which city did **God** tell **Jonah** to go to?



and why?
Jonah 1:12

Where did Jonah try to go instead?



What did he travel in?

Jonah 1:3

What did God send to stop him?

A great _____

What did Jonah tell the **sailors** to do to make the sea **calm**?

_____ him into the **sea**
Jonah 1:4-16



What did Jonah do?

_____ then what did the fish do?
Jonah 2:1-10

DID YOU KNOW?

In Bible times wearing itchy sackcloth made from goat's hair was a sign of grief and repentance



What swallowed Jonah?

A big _____

How long was he there?

three _____ and three _____

Jonah 1:17

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



When Jonah reached Nineveh he proclaimed God's **message**... the city would be overthrown in

_____ days
Jonah 2:1-10

What did the people do?

F _____

What did they put on?

Jonah 3:1-9

What did God do?

R _____
Jonah 3:10

Find the missing words. Look up the Bible references then look for them and the words on this page in **bold** in the word search