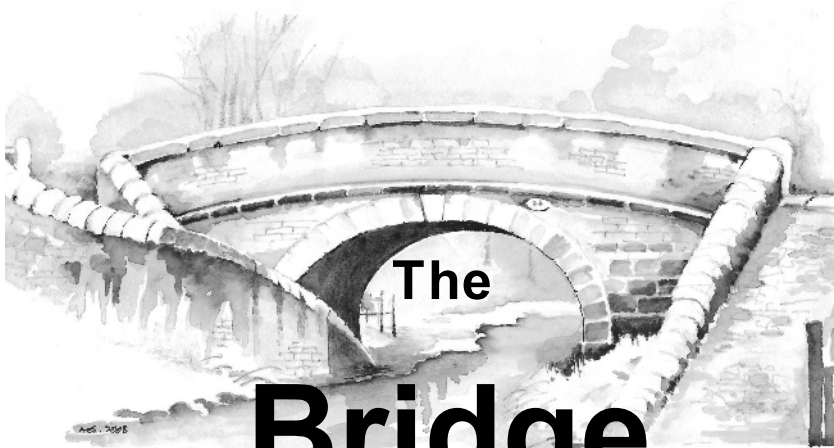




Special Online
edition during
Coronavirus
pandemic



**Parish magazine serving the
communities around the churches of
The Sibsey and Carrington Group
&
The Brothertoft Group**

May 2020

Serving Sibsey, Frithville, Carrington, New Bolingbroke, Westville, Sibsey Northlands, Wildmore, New York, Brothertoft, Langrick, Kirton Holme, Hubbert's Bridge, Amber Hill, Holland Fen, Gipsey Bridge, Langrville, Anton's Gowt and those with connections to the area.

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METHODIST CIRCUIT MINISTERS Superintendent Minister	Rev'd Julie Doddrell (Rest day Friday)	01205 316524
Circuit Office (Mon-Fri am)	Email: centenarymeth@gmail.com	01205 355543

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thebridgemag@outlook.com 01205 750336

Websites

www.kirtonholmechurch.co.uk
www.achurchnearyou.com



**The Sibsey Group of Churches can be found on Facebook
search for Sibseygroupofchurches**



The Queen's message to the UK and Commonwealth

I am speaking to you at what I know is an increasingly challenging time. A time of disruption in the life of our country: a disruption that has brought grief to some, financial difficulties to many, and enormous changes to the daily lives of us all.

I want to thank everyone on the NHS front line, as well as care workers and those carrying out essential roles, who selflessly continue their day-to-day duties outside the home in support of us all. I am sure the nation will join me in assuring you that what you do is appreciated and every hour of your hard work brings us closer to a return to more normal times.

I also want to thank those of you who are staying at home, thereby helping to protect the vulnerable and sparing many families the pain already felt by those who have lost loved ones. Together we are tackling this disease, and I want to reassure you that if we remain united and resolute, then we will overcome it.

I hope in the years to come everyone will be able to take pride in how they responded to this challenge. And those who come after us will say that the Britons of this generation were as strong as any. That the attributes of self-

discipline, of quiet good-humoured resolve and of fellow-feeling still characterise this country. The pride in who we are is not a part of our past, it defines our present and our future.



The moments when the United Kingdom has come together to applaud its care and essential workers will be remembered as an expression of our national spirit; and its symbol will be the rainbows drawn by children.

Across the Commonwealth and around the world, we have seen heart-warming stories of people coming together to help others, be it through delivering food parcels and medicines, checking on neighbours, or converting businesses to help the relief effort.

And though self-isolating may at times be hard, many people of all faiths, and of none, are discovering that it presents an opportunity to slow down, pause and reflect, in prayer or meditation.

It reminds me of the very first broadcast I made, in 1940, helped by my sister. We, as children, spoke from here at Windsor to children who had been evacuated from their homes and sent away for their own safety. Today, once



again, many will feel a painful sense of separation from their loved ones. But now, as then, we know, deep down, that it is the right thing to do.

While we have faced challenges before, this one is different. This time we join with all nations across the globe in a common endeavour, using the great advances of science and our instinctive compassion to heal. We will succeed - and that success will belong to every one of us.

We should take comfort that while we may have more still to endure, better days will return: we will be with our friends again; we will be with our families again; we will meet again.

But for now, I send my thanks and warmest good wishes to you all.

Elizabeth R



Support line

Anyone in self-isolation in Lincolnshire can now call 01522 782189 (7 days a week 9am-5pm) or register for help at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/coronavirus/requesthelp.

NHS NHS Volunteer Responders

With 750,000 volunteers signed-up if you need help to collect shopping, medication, other essential supplies or just a check-in and chat due to self-isolation or if you are feeling lonely or vulnerable please call 0808 196 3646 (8am-8pm). Carers and NHS staff may also refer the people they care for with their agreement. Further information can be found at <https://volunteering.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk/nhs-volunteer-responders-portal>

Shielded

vulnerable people needs

If you received a letter from the government or NHS to say that you are extremely clinically vulnerable and at high risk from coronavirus due to health conditions you should register for support or someone on your behalf should do this at www.gov.uk/coronavirus-extremely-vulnerable You can update this as needed even if you do not need help at the time it is filled in it will make it possible for the Coronavirus Support Team to keep you informed as circumstances change in the next few months. If you are not online call 0800 028 8327. Help may include food packages, prescription delivery, transport to medical appointments and regular contact if you need it.



COVID-19 Community Support Network Sibsey

Join the Facebook group or use the app Nextdoor. A leaflet was delivered to all homes in Sibsey when it was launched. A campaign to get a Volunteer in Every Street (VEST) has also ensured that there is a local volunteer nearby if you need help.

The network is providing support to those self-isolating at home in Sibsey by collecting prescriptions, shopping and keeping in touch online and by phone. You can email Kerryfrancis75@icloud.com for more information. If you need a chat with someone call Diane on 07930 385 112.

If you have a sewing machine and want to help the Big Scrub Sew call Kim on 07766 710073 who is working with Sibsey's professional sewer, Kate, to produce scrubs for our essential key workers.

Keep busy, stay safe and be kind to each other.

What is the best way to talk about death?

What is the best way to talk about death?

A leading terminal illness charity, Marie Curie, advises that euphemisms are not helpful, and that using direct language about death is the best approach when in a hospital or while talking to children.

The euphemisms include: 'popped their clogs', 'kicked the bucket',

'passed away', 'pushing up daisies' and 'leaving this mortal coil.'

Matthew Reed, Marie Curie's chief executive, says that research has found that the nation "has at least 50 completely different ways of talking about death, which suggests society still has some way to go to feel comfortable about talking about dying, death and bereavement.

"While most of us say we are comfortable talking about dying and death, the reality is that many of us are not making any preparations, as it feels a long way off or something that will cause unnecessary upset, both for us and the people around us. But we need to plan more for the end of life, while there is still time to do so."

When texting can be dangerous

When you go out for your daily exercise, don't text anyone. It is safer for you.

A recent study has found that people who text while they walk are twice as likely to have an accident or near miss with a car, as those who are talking on the phone.

The authors said: "Texting or browsing requires a pedestrian to repeatedly divert their eyes away from the walking environment and traffic, towards the screen of the phone, to type and read messages. ...Given the ubiquity of smartphones, social media, apps, digital video and streaming music... distracted walking and street crossing will be a road safety issue."



VE Day 75 Commemorations

Events will take place on 8th May to remember the Victory in Europe Day 75 years ago.



Details have been announced on <https://ve-vjday75.go>

v.uk Pay

tribute at 3pm with a 'Toast to the Heroes of WW2' by raising a glass at home. Stand up and say, 'Toast - To those who gave so much, we thank you'. Also you can put up your bunting. You can make your own VE Day Great British Bunting. Download everything you need at bbc.co.uk/makeadifference

A two-minutes silence of remembrance at 11am. Royal British Legion (RBL) plan to have a livestream at 11.15am on their website and Facebook.



From 8pm on BBC1 a VE75 show will include a message from HM The Queen and a national sing-along to 'We'll Meet Again'.

RBL also have learning pack resources for families on their website.

How World War II stopped Tokyo's Olympic Games in 1940

This year's Tokyo Olympic Games have been postponed for a year because of coronavirus. Yet 80 years ago, the Tokyo Games scheduled for May 1940 were cancelled completely, because of World War II.

Originally rescheduled for Helsinki, they were eventually abandoned, and the Olympic cycle did not restart until 1948 in London.

The cancellation proved to be a wise decision, because by the same month, May 1940, the war had escalated dramatically. On 10th May Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain resigned and was succeeded by Winston Churchill, and between then and 28th May Germany invaded Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

Also, on 10th May Germany dropped its first bombs on England, at Chilham and Petham, near Canterbury, and on 13th May Churchill gave his first speech in the House of Commons, saying: "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat."

The next day the Home Guard – Dad's Army – was established, and by the end of the month the battle for Dunkirk was raging, with nearly 340,00 soldiers being rescued by a makeshift fleet of about 800 boats, crossing the English Channel to avoid the onrushing German army. This prompted the phrase 'Dunkirk spirit', still in frequent use today.



T.J.W.

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Letter from the Vicarage

My Dear Friends



I write this just after hearing that we will now be in lock down for at least another three weeks, hopefully some brighter news may soon emerge

as you are reading this in May! We have heard and continue to hear of people doing so much for our wonderful NHS and other key workers holding things together for us as we go through this difficult time, things which are truly joyful and amazing.

From Captain Tom no doubt heading toward an astonishing £30 million pounds in sponsorship, to the wonderful messages and tokens of appreciation from children all whose contributions speak strongly of a common commitment to help and to encourage others. The Sibsey Covid 19 Volunteer Group is a more local response to those who are currently in need and I am delighted that the “Vest” campaign placing a volunteer in every street is going so well. It is really reassuring to know that there is someone local who will happily take a call from us whether we have a particular need or simply the need for a friendly voice on the other side of the phone.

I too have had many phone calls simply asking me to hold particular people in my prayers which I do every day, as well as holding you all in my prayers that the Lord will watch over you and keep you safe. Although things continue to be difficult what I want to say personally is a big thank you to everyone whom I have met or spoken to, it is strange moving into a new parish and not being able to mix with you all, but I have been really encouraged by those with whom I have spoken with on the phone, or out walking my dogs or running to keep fit in the glorious Lincolnshire sunshine, your welcome, your friendliness and your resolve is truly amazing. As the weeks go by let us use the time we have to continue to build on these strong foundations, to have quality time with all in our households and to find new ways of keeping in touch with our families, friends and neighbours. For as HRH Prince William has recently said, keeping in touch with others and talking things through is really essential for our mental well-being.

Keep well, look after one another and please be assured of my prayers.

With my every blessing
Your new Vicar,

Clive.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Together in Christ

Called to love, to worship and to serve God

Big Night In

Thursday 23rd April at 7pm on BBC One a joint 3-hour Comic Relief and Children In Need telethon raised £47million on the night with further funds still rolling in.

Broadcaster, Louise Minchin, undertook a 100-mile #TheBigBikeIn cycle ride to help raise funds and invited others to participate with her virtually from home.

Rev'd Clive and Carolynne spent 3 hours on the turbo and treadmill covering 40 miles and raising some money for her sponsor page.



National Garden Scheme



With current restrictions preventing people visiting any gardens the scheme has gone virtual.

Visit www.ngs.org.uk to follow the links to all the online garden visits available. Sign up for the emails and receive regular updates when new gardens come on stream.

Originally set up in 1927 to support district nurses, the National Garden Scheme now raises millions of pounds for nursing, hospices and health charities each year. NGS also supports charities doing amazing work in gardens and health, grant bursaries to help community gardening projects and support gardeners at the start of their career.

In 2019, NGS donated £3 million, and over 80p in every £1 raised at the open gardens goes straight to the beneficiaries. If you would like to make a donation please visit the website and Help Support Nurses.

You can enter an NGS Gardening Quiz with 125 clues and questions available on our church websites.

Local road closures

Subject to change due to Government restrictions. West Fen Drainside, Frithville 20/4-1/5; Kirton Holme Road 4-6/5; Brothertoft 15-18/6. Local diversions will apply. Latest roadworks information on

Five Tips for Tackling Loneliness and Isolation

The Church of England has published a leaflet giving five tips to help loneliness:

- Pray. Light a candle, if safe, and pray for hope, faith and strength to keep loving and caring for each other during this time of struggle.
- Talk about how you feel. This may be difficult if you are self-isolating, but do use the telephone, internet, and social media. If you need to contact a counsellor this can be arranged by your GP, or via local agencies, or privately. Samaritans are there 24 hours a day, every day, and it's free to call them on 116 123.
- Focus on the things that you can change, not on the things you can't.
- Look after yourself - physically, emotionally, spiritually. Plan in things that you enjoy at regular intervals during the day – a TV programme, a phone call, a book, a favourite dish, a game.
- Look after others. Even if only in small ways, but do what you can: a smile, a kind word, writing a letter or an email.

Go to:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/faiith-action/mental-health-resources/dealing-loneliness-and-isolation-five-top-tips>

Top Ten Silliest Questions asked on a Cruise Ship

- Paul Grayson, Cruise Director for the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line

1. Do these steps go up or down?
2. What do you do with the beautiful ice carvings after they melt?
3. Which elevator do I take to get to the front of the ship?
4. Does the crew sleep on the ship?
5. Is this island completely surrounded by water?
6. Does the ship make its own electricity?
7. Is it salt-water in the toilets?
8. What elevation are we at?
9. There's a photographer on board who takes photos and displays them the next day... the question was asked: 'If the pictures aren't marked, how will I know which ones are mine?'
10. What time is the Midnight Buffet being served?

Baby sitting

We encouraged our 18-year-old daughter to find a job to help pay for her college education. One day she came home with five applications, and later that evening we read them. Under 'Previous Employment', she listed 'Baby sitting'. And under 'Reason for Leaving' she wrote, 'They came home'.

Incomplete

I'm not a complete idiot. Some parts are missing.

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COVID19 - What we know so far

A new coronavirus appeared in late 2019 in China around the city of Wuhan. It caused COVID19 a disease with various symptoms such as a high temperature and a dry cough. Some people developed respiratory problems and pneumonia. Deaths occurred which rose to over 2,500. China imposed a strict lockdown of the city and Hubei province from 23 January and it lasted 76-days.

The disease does not show symptoms for up to 7 days but infected persons start spreading it shortly after infection or may develop just mild symptoms making it very difficult to identify. The average transmission rate, if left uncontrolled, seems to be up to 3 further people catching it once a person is infected. This is why the virus was being spread quickly through the human population. As there is no immunity in the population or treatment it quickly affects large numbers which then overwhelm health systems potentially causing healthcare and public services to collapse.

The disease has spread to most countries in the world and governments have imposed social and economic lockdowns to stop travel, social gatherings, workplaces operating, applied strict social distancing and orders to stay at home. The aim has been to reduce the infection transmission rate to less than one person being infected by those infected so that the outbreak reduces over time.

Epidemiologists who specialise in disease control have developed these plans tackling rampant infectious diseases such as Ebola, flu, SARs and Mers over the last few decades. Modelling of Covid19 suggested that if no lockdowns had been imposed then deaths in the UK could have reached 500,000 people. In the 1918-19 flu pandemic, a century ago, 228,000 deaths occurred in the UK so the threat was realistic. Currently in the UK over 20,000 deaths have occurred. It is estimated that over 2million UK people have been infected so far. It is not known if catching the disease will give any immunity. In 1918-19 it was the second wave that was most virulent and dangerous affecting 20 to 30-year old people more heavily than the first wave. Viruses mutate and this means that over time any vaccine or immunity may become ineffective. Modern science and medicine is now expected to be effective at controlling the outbreaks.

Increased testing for Covid19 and contact tracing of anyone found to be infected will place people into self-isolation and eventually reduce disease transmission so COVID19 can be eradicated globally.

In conclusion, remember, most people will survive this pandemic and the measures taken are to protect us. Follow the guidance given by the Government, your doctors and medical team. Observe social distancing, wash hands frequently, and take precautions if you have to go out to work, to exercise or to shop.

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Kirton Holme and Hubberts Bridge Never Forgotten Club

Mrs Peggy Beasley

Little did we know that on the day we met for our Club Lunch on Thursday 12th March things were going to change drastically for us within the next few days. We didn't know that this would be the last time we would meet for the foreseeable future because of the virus and also, tragically, because we were about to lose our Club Secretary, Peggy Beasley.

Peggy had been taken in to hospital on the 16th March and had to undergo an emergency operation which she, sadly, did not survive.

Peggy and her husband, Bert, came to live in Hubberts Bridge in the summer of 1995 and both joined the Club on their arrival, becoming very keen and eager members. Peggy took on the role of Club Secretary which she continued to perform for 12 years until the day she died. Sadly, her husband, Bert, died in 2014.

An active member of our community, Peggy always involved herself in the activities going on in the village including Bingo sessions at the Community Centre and coffee mornings at Kirton Holme Church.

She was also an avid knitter and could turn her hand to making anything.

On behalf of the Never Forgotten Club I would like to say how much we will all miss Peggy and offer our condolences and sympathy to her children Charles, Angie, Deborah and Julie and her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Jenny Leafe

With appreciation to Glynis and Hilary Wilkinson for their assistance.

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

We are now in lockdown along with many MU members in many parts of the world. Yet we have so much to be thankful for. More than ever now, we need to draw on our strong faith to help us cope in this extraordinary situation. Mothers' Union members, as well as offering prayer will help in whatever way we can. The wonders of Skype, Facebook and Zoom is enabling us and our families to stay together. Thank you for all your support for your churches, your communities and your Mothers' Union. You are wonderful people. GOD Bless you all.

Elizabeth Page

Diocesan President

www.mothersunion.org

Contributions to The Bridge

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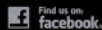
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The wisdom of afternoon tea

My wife and I were at one time missionaries with the Overseas Missionary Fellowship. We joined them in 1975 after a period of training at their headquarters in London. While we were there, we met the hostess of the Mission Home, a matronly lady who had herself served overseas. She was a formidable person, but with a soft heart, and a depth of spiritual wisdom.

I remember her offering to our group of would-be missionaries this piece of sage advice: “The missionaries who stay the longest on the field are those who have their afternoon tea.” It struck me then as being very profound, and it is a life rule that I have followed ever since, with great benefits.

This practice of course is typically British, but valuable none the less. For us, a cup of tea is the answer to everything. “Let’s make a cup of tea,” we say in any crisis. It soothes and refreshes and helps us get things in perspective. Somehow things seem much brighter when you have had a cuppa, especially if shared with friends or colleagues.



But there is more to the custom of afternoon tea. This little ritual gives us permission to stop in the midst of a busy day and rest a while. It enables us to make contact with others, and to step back from whatever is filling our mind at the time. And over time, these little oases are the way we care for our souls as well as our bodies.

We read that Jesus, when He was tired, sat down by the well at Sychar (John 4:6). He gave Himself permission to stop and have a break. I like to think on that basis He would heartily approve of afternoon tea.

Revd Tony Horsfall

Lesson

All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.

Good view

At his wife’s insistence, a man purchased a home on a hilltop in a very exclusive section of the community. “I’ll bet there is quite a view from way up there,” said his friend enviously.

“Yes,” replied the homeowner in a resigned manner. “On a clear day you can see the bank that holds the mortgage.”

Rings

They have Dial-a-Prayer for atheists now - you call up and it rings and rings but nobody answers.

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Details can be usually found elsewhere in The Bridge.

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Church of England provides digital resources

There are a range of new and existing Christian resources available for people to engage with at this difficult and challenging time in the life of the nation and the world:

Weekly service broadcasts - these be made available each Sunday through the Church's Facebook page, website and YouTube.

Time to Pray app and Easter Pilgrim app - everything you need for Prayer During the Day, with variations according to the day of the week and the season of the Church's year. Download for free.

Daytime prayer and Night prayer service audio - building on the existing daily prayer feed, this includes daytime prayer and night prayer for each day. It will be available as a downloadable app in the coming weeks.

Live streaming services from churches - AChurchNearYou.com now lists hundreds of churches offering livestreams of services from across the country.

The BBC's Daily Service and Sunday Worship

Prayer for the day - each day the Church of

England publishes audio and text of the Prayer for the Day.

Smart speakers – daily prayer and audio content can be accessed via our smart speaker apps.

Mental health reflections – 13 daily reflections that seek to provide hope, reassurance and comfort.



For further information about all the digital resources please visit www.churchofengland.org and look at the guidance about coronavirus and digital resources.



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

Daily Hope, introduced by Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services or access digital resources during the period of restrictions in mind.

All calls to this phone service are free.

"In light of the challenges we now face, it is time for us all to rediscover that same spirit that saw us through the War"

Dame Vera Lynn
(Age 103)



Get coronavirus support as a clinically extremely vulnerable person

If you have received an NHS letter advising to shield yourself and you need more help please register here

www.gov.uk/coronavirus-extremely-vulnerable

Or phone 0800 028 8327



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Write to us explaining your present need, with as much information as possible.

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PE22 0SY. Tel. 01205 751318.**

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Life in quarantine

Full marks to Jamie Oliver for his Channel 4 series, 'Keep Cooking and Carry On'. He showed us how to make tasty meals with basic ingredients and a minimum of fuss.

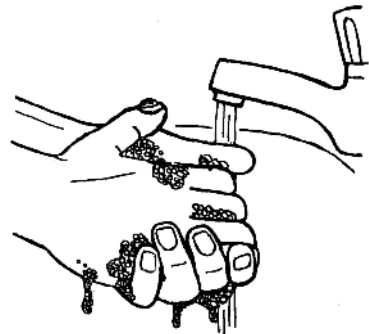
The pandemic prompted other encouraging responses. One mother in the 'at risk' category said her adult children thought she was immortal until now. Now they ring her every day to see how she's getting on. An elderly clergyman had offers to shop from two new neighbours whom he hardly knew. The whole nation stopped taking the National Health Service for granted and started showing gratitude. Telephone, television, the internet and email prevented many from going stir-crazy. Some even tried the cryptic crossword, though newcomers should be warned it takes years to learn its secrets!

The isolation was tough for many. Isolated families had to get used to each other's company and foibles for long periods, away from the park or beach. Couples were parted from each other by distance or illness. Those living alone were cut off from visitors and communal activities. Churchgoers missed Holy Communion at Easter for the first time. That should help us identify with millions of Christians across the world who have to pray in secret because their neighbours would persecute them if they did so publicly.

Alone-ness, rather than loneliness, can be productive. Albert Einstein valued time alone, when he could "go for long walks on the beach so that I can listen to what is going on inside my head." Isaac Newton's greatest discoveries began when he escaped the effects of the bubonic plague, by returning home to the family farm in Lincolnshire. He had time to observe what was going on around him and, yes, that did include watching the famous apple fall.

When the bubonic plague was at its peak, the Reformer Martin Luther wrote: "I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, He will surely find me and I have done what He has expected of me, and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others."

The Ven John Barton



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Ascension

This month the Church celebrates the Ascension of Jesus, the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and the fact that our God is a Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. After the Resurrection, Jesus was seen on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He encouraged his disciples, and said that He was sending them to all corners of the earth, as his witnesses. 40 days after Easter (Thursday 21 May 2020), Jesus ascended into heaven; his work on earth was done.

The disciples returned to Jerusalem, and on the fateful morning of Pentecost

(Sunday 31st May 2020), there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind.

Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues – to the astonishment of those who heard them. That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell all those who believed in Jesus: the Church was born. And so we have a triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Wordsearch

Find the 20 words in the paragraphs above that are hidden in the Wordsearch puzzle on page 24.



Loneliness at the Virtual Chelsea Flower Show, 19th – 23rd May

All sorts of themes are chosen for the Chelsea Flower Show, but this year's theme turned out to be scarily appropriate for the Spring of 2020: loneliness and mental health.

For, according to Sue Briggs, RHS Director General, “many feel they need gardening in their life now more than ever before, for their mental and physical wellbeing during this national emergency.”

Writing on RHS website (www.rhs.org.uk), Sue Briggs says: “This applies to everyone from those who are having to self-isolate to families planning, maybe for the first time, to grow their own food.”

And so, “for these reasons, and to do more to support the industry, the RHS will create a Virtual RHS Chelsea Flower Show, to celebrate our great horticultural industry and gardening heritage.” The Virtual Show will run from Tuesday 19th May to Saturday 23rd May.

Guy Barker, chief horticulturalist at the RHS said: “Nurturing plants can make you less lonely and release you from troubles.”

Help for parents

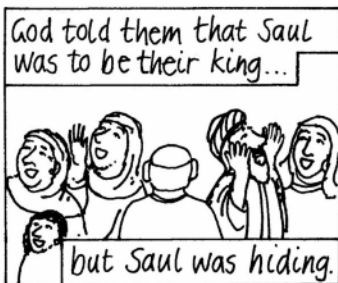
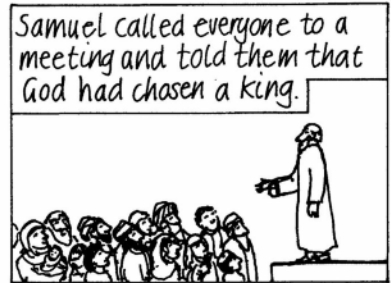
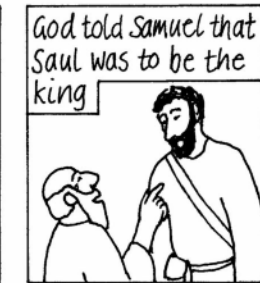
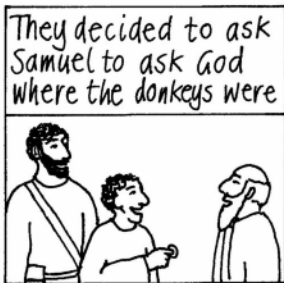
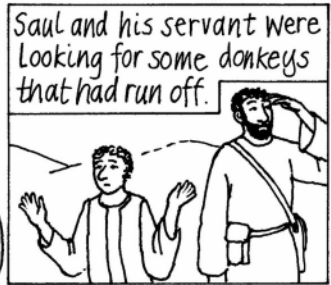
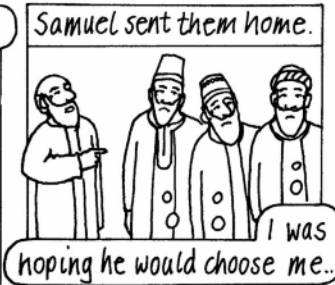
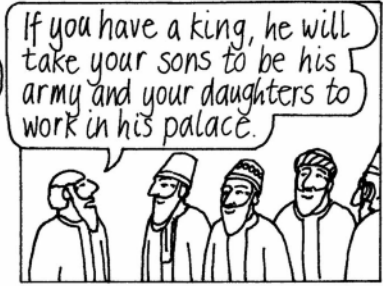
New York and Frithville Primary Schools recommend some websites - BBC Bitesize and the Education Endowment Fund and other online resources supporting children with home learning.

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Samuel 8:1-10:1, 17-24

Samuel had been a good leader of Israel but he was now old. The leaders of the twelve tribes came to talk to him...



Sudoku challenge

Enter numbers into the blank spaces so that each row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9 without repeats.

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

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Our church warden is not letting people into the church just now

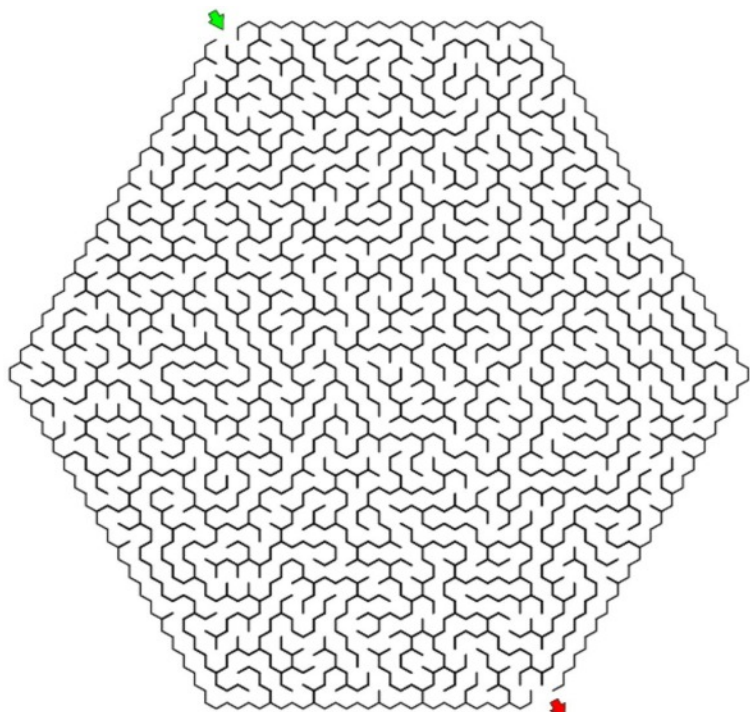
Wordsearch

Find the 20 words hidden in this Wordsearch puzzle.

The clues are found in the article about Ascension on page 22.

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

Maze - find your way from top to bottom



Solutions for April edition

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

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

From The Registers

Funerals “May they rest in peace”.



Clifford (Cliff) George Wilson aged 76
Burial at Langrick, on 28th April at 3pm.

Joan North aged 90 at Boston Crematorium on Friday 1st May.

Barrie Smith aged 81 at Boston Crematorium on Friday 27th March.

Wilfrid (Wilf) Ernest Walmsley (age 75 at Boston Crematorium on
Tuesday 21st April.

Doreen Bell aged 85 burial in Sibsey Cemetery on Thursday 23rd
April.

Memorial Services will be held once current restrictions are eased if
families want one.



**This month sees the first anniversary of the death of the
following parishioners. We remember them and their families
and friends at this time**

None notified this month

If you would like to add someone's name to the Book of
Remembrance in St Margaret's Sibsey contact
the churchwardens.

Prayer requests

If you would like prayers said in church for you at a time of illness this can be
arranged. If the request is for another person the prayers will not be said in
public for confidentiality reasons. Contact the Clergy or Lay Ministers listed
inside front cover.

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Leave your dandelions alone

When mowing your lawn, avoid cutting your dandelions. That is the advice of the president of the British Ecological Society, Prof Jane Memmott. It will help to save the bees.

She explains: "Dandelions are a fantastic source of pollen and nectar for the early pollinators in particular. If they were rare, people would be fighting over them, but because they're common, people pull them out and spray them with all sorts of horrible things when they should just let them flower. If you leave the lawn to three or four inches, then dandelions, clover and daisies can flower and then you end with something like a tapestry, and it's much nicer to sit there and watch the insects buzzing about."

Prof Memmott encourages everyone to get a bee hotel for their garden. "There's nothing nicer than being sat in a chair with a glass of wine and watching the bees going in and out of your own personal little beehive. Even just a potted plant on a doorstep will provide lunch for a bee or a fly or a butterfly."

The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) has called on people to allow flowers to grow on their lawns, instead of insisting on smooth green surfaces.

The reason is because nearly 7.5million acres of meadows and pastures rich in wildflowers have

been lost since the Thirties, thus removing a vital source of food for pollinators, many of whom are now in steep decline.

The nation's 15 million gardens could help a lot in supporting bees, butterflies and other bugs looking for nectar.

Take exercise for even half an hour a day – and lower depression!

Here is some good news for us all: if you are feeling low, get moving. A recent study at Harvard has found that even just half an hour of exercise a day can lower the risk of depression by 17 per cent.

So – even though we are told to stay home at present, do a work-out in your living room, run around the garden a dozen times, or run up and down your staircase 20 times - anything to get your heart pounding and your body moving!



The twins had been doing Messy Church at home.

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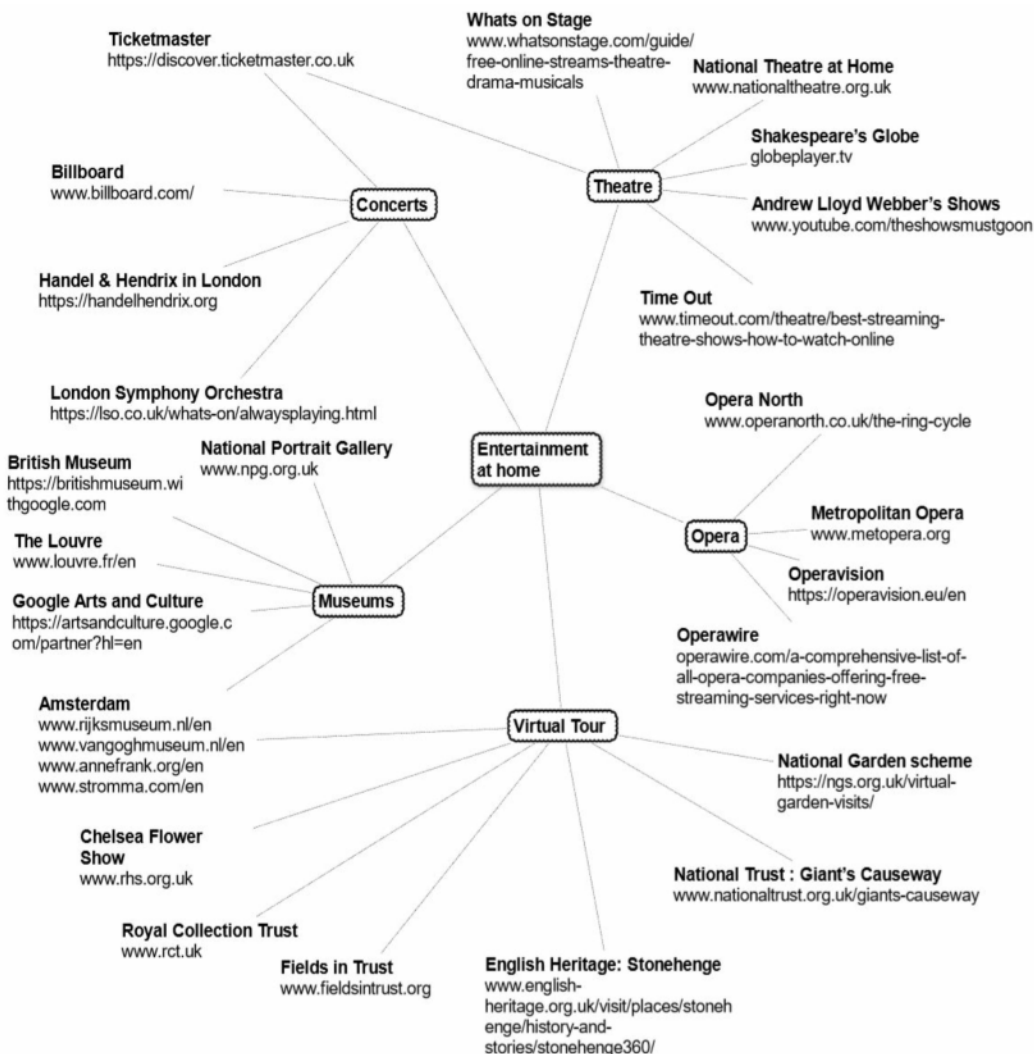


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Virtual Things to do and places to explore

During the global lockdown there has been a move online so that you can explore many of the places and experiences yourself from your desk or armchair. Places like museums, the Giant's Causeway, Stonehenge, open gardens, Waterloo Room at Windsor Castle and the Chelsea Flower Show are now online. The National Theatre at Home, many West End Theatres, orchestras, musicians and bands continue to put shows and concerts online. As there are now plans to relax lockdowns in some countries it won't be long before some of these opportunities expire so enjoy while they exist.



Florence Nightingale – the founder of modern nursing

Florence Nightingale was born 200 years ago, on 12th May 1820. Best known as the Lady with the Lamp who saved many lives in the hospitals of the Crimean War, she was also a social reformer, a statistician and the founder of modern nursing.

She was named after the Italian city of her birth, but the family moved back to England the following year, and she was brought up in Derbyshire. Here – and elsewhere – she had several experiences that she believed were calls from God to devote her life to the service of others.

She never married, but among her several close friends was Sidney Herbert, who became Secretary of War and helped to make her work in the Crimea possible. Some claim that she reduced the death rate in hospitals there from 42% to 2%. She introduced hand-washing and other hygiene improvements, but she never claimed personal credit for reducing the death rate.

Her work inspired nurses in the American Civil War, and in 1883 she became the first recipient of the Royal Red Cross. In 1907, she was the first woman to be awarded the Order of Merit. She died in 1910. Her image appeared on the reverse of £10 banknotes issued by the Bank of England from 1975 until 1994.

WHO (World Health Organisation) had named 2020 as the ‘Year of the Nurse and Midwife’ because of the 200th anniversary of Nightingale’s birth. It is a fitting tribute to her that the emergency hospital opened at the ExCel Centre in London and other cities are called the NHS Nightingale Hospitals.

Why Jesus walked on water

A tourist, planning a trip to the Holy Land, was aghast when he found it would cost £50 an hour to rent a boat on the Sea of Galilee. "Goodness," he objected to the travel agent. "In England it would not have been more than £20."

"That might be true," said the travel agent, "but you have to take into account that the Sea of Galilee is water on which our Lord Himself walked."

"Well, at £50 an hour for a boat," said the tourist, "it's no wonder He walked."

Worth remembering

A man felt he was overloaded in the ‘trouble shooting department’ of his office, until he found this memo on his desk. "Be thankful for the problems, for if they were less difficult, someone with less ability would have your job."

A wee bit too pious

A Scottish lady invited a gentleman to dinner on a particular day, and he accepted with the dour reservation: "If I am spared." "Weel, weel," she replied briskly, "If ye're deid I'll no expect ye."

Websites for the Nine Churches

There are 9 churches in the two Groups and each has now got a live website on www.achurchnearyou.com. The number of page views on each website is monitored and this table shows how many page views have occurred over various periods as counted on Sunday 26th April 2020. It is possible to access other local church websites and the Church of England website to see online services each week.

	Last 7 days	Last 30 days	Last 12 months
Christ Church, Kirton Holme	138	701	2308
All Saints, Holland Fen	109	607	2604
St Gilberts, Brothertoft	112	641	2848
St Margarets, Langrick	99	575	3393
St Peter's, Wildmore	107	567	2748
St Peter's, New Bolingbroke	110	686	2622
St Paul's, Carrington	96	518	2573
St Peter's, Frithville	114	536	2566
St Margaret's, Sibsey	224	1109	5028
Total page views	1109	5940	26690

Nine Church websites

Material on the 'A Church Near You' (ACNY) church websites is being updated each week with Reverend Clive's sermon, a Morning Worship for use at home, weekly news updates and videos. Similar updates take place on the Sibsey Group of Churches facebook page and Kirton Holme Church website. Most changes occur weekly in time for Sunday.

A Quiz sheet in aid of the National Garden Scheme provided from Shropshire (£2 to enter) with 125 questions and clues is now on the websites. Deadline 22nd May if you wish to enter.

The Easter Activity workbook with pictures and wordsearch remain on the 9 ACNY church websites.

You can join the email list on each ACNY website. Please invite others to join. If you have material to go on a church website please let Reverend Clive know. You can send Reverend Clive a message through each ACNY church website through the Get in Touch section.



VE Day Food Ideas

We may not be able to have a street party but you can have a picnic in the garden or on the doorstep and decorate your home.



A few 1940's food ideas include;

- Sole Otero, Scotch Hotpot, Potato Piglets, Oxford Potato Soup, Woolton Pie, Mock Egg Salad, Potato Floddies.
- Egg and sausage pie, Cauliflower Cheese with Bacon, Spam Hash, Cheese whirls, Vegetable pasties, homity pie.
- Iced fairy cakes, Victoria Sponge, Carrot scones, The National Wheatmeal loaf, Wartime almond biscuit, Eggless, butterless and milkless cake, Golden syrup cake.
- Trifle, Jelly.
- Sandwiches filled with cheese and lentil savoury, beef paste, fish paste, jam, spam and marmite.
- Tea, ginger beer, lemonade and beer to wash it all down.

Lots more ideas online or in those recipe books. Don't try them all at once!

On the Perils of a Scout Camp

From: The Rectory, St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren,

It seems that the basics of parish ministry are no longer taught in theological colleges. Don't you know anything about consulting your diary in public? When you are asked if you are free on a certain date, accepted practice is to open it so that the enquirer cannot quite see. You then shake your head sadly, saying you are committed to blessing a new tea urn, or on some other vital ecclesiastical activity that day. Then you regretfully give your apologies. You do not open the thing in full view of your enquirer, so he can see the blank pages! Really, it serves you right that you are now committed to going on Scout camp.



The last time I agreed to pay the Scouts a visit was when I found that there was a splendid restaurant only a mile away from their camp. I arrived and parked my car by the side of the river where they were all canoeing, wound down the car window and made encouraging noises for some minutes before explaining I had to find a garage for petrol.

Several hours later, after an excellent lunch, I drove to where they were now rock climbing, wound down the car window and made encouraging noises for some minutes before explaining that I had a standing committee to return to that evening. It was a splendid day.

You, however, will experience the charms of two days under canvas. Whatever site for your tent you choose, it will be the one that floods first. The early hours will undoubtedly find you wading about in water in the pitch dark, retrieving your sleeping bag and clothes – which you will then have to wear for the rest of the day. Watch out for the food, as well: all camp food contains grass and usually sheep droppings. This will make you ill, though for some reason Scouts thrive on it.

Whatever the weather and whatever activities you do each day, you will end up wet, chilled and bruised. At least your evenings will be warm, for you are bound to spend them at Casualty, with youngsters suffering from sprained ankles or dislocated shoulders.

My only advice is to use those hours in Casualty to practise the art of opening your diary in a way that only YOU can see it.

Eustace

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Becoming Un-busy

And the people stayed home. And
Aread books, and listened, and
rested, and exercised, and made
art, and played games, and learned
new ways of being, and were still.

And listened more deeply. Some
meditated, some prayed, some
danced. Some met their shadows.
And the people began to think
differently. And the people healed.

And, in the absence of people living
in ignorant, dangerous, mindless,
and heartless ways, the earth
began to heal. And when the danger
passed, and the people joined
together again, they grieved their
losses, and made new choices,
and dreamed new images, and
created new ways to live and heal
the earth fully, as they had been
healed.

Kitty O'Meara

Royal Mail suspends Saturday deliveries

From 2nd May, temporarily due
Fto high staff absences, there
will be no postal delivery on
Saturdays across the UK. Postal
collections, Special Delivery and
parcels service will continue as
normal.

Meow

“WWhat is your kitty’s name,
James?” asked the visitor.

“Ben Hur,” said James.

“That’s a funny name for a cat.

Why did you name it that?”

“Well, we just called him Ben - until
he had kittens.”

And a Timely Prayer

Loving God,

If we are ill, strengthen us.

If we are tired, fortify our spirits.

If we are anxious, help us to
consider the lilies of the field and
the birds of the air.

Help us not to stockpile treasures
from supermarkets in the barns of
our larders.

Don’t let fear cause us to overlook
the needs of others more
vulnerable than ourselves.

Fix our eyes on your story and our
hearts on your grace.

Help us always to hold fast to the
good,

See the good in others,

And remember there is just one
world, one hope,

One everlasting love, with baskets
of bread for everyone.

In Jesus we make our prayer,

The one who suffered, died and
was raised to new life,

In whom we trust these days and all
days,

Amen.

*Revd Barbara Glasson, President
of the Methodist Conference*

Lincolnshire Libraries

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getting a temporary card number
and PIN. Online material can be
found at <http://bit.ly/lleservices> .

Renewal dates for any physical
books and items borrowed are
being automatically extended during
the lockdown period.

Time for a Smile

Little Tommy's Sunday School teacher heard him use some questionable language. She was shocked and said, "Tommy, don't you ever use such language again, and certainly not where your friends and I can hear it. Where on earth did you learn that?" "I got it from my dad, Miss," replied Tommy. "Well, your daddy should be ashamed. I hope you don't know what all that means." "Oh but I do," said Tommy, "It meant the car wouldn't start when we were ready to come to church this morning."

Do you sometimes get pestered by unwanted telephone calls from people who want to either sell you something or get you to take part in a survey? If you see a number on your phone you don't recognise, try answering the phone with, "Hello, thanks for ringing. You're on the air now!" Most of them will hang up.

Children have clearly started to develop when they stop asking where they came from and are not keen to tell you where they are going.

Suburbia is a place where they often cut down beautiful God-given trees and then name streets after them.

I don't care what is written about me, so long as it isn't true. (Katharine Hepburn)

A country conference centre which was much used by church groups had as its motto, "There are no problems here, only opportunities." A minister booked it for a weekend retreat with a group from his church. The day arrived and they all signed in and were shown to their rooms. A few minutes later the minister returned to the reception desk and said he had a problem. The receptionist responded with a smile and said, "Sir we don't have problems here, only opportunities." The minister said, "Call it what you like, but there's already a woman in my room."

Two friends were discussing the vicar's sermon on tithing. "Times are difficult," said one, "but it seems an important subject and I suppose we should follow what he said." His friend commented, "I wonder, though, how far you can take this tithing business. For instance, in this time of shortages, if I managed to buy thirty toilet rolls, would I be expected to give three to the church?"

(This is a translation of a poster found in a church in France)

When you enter this church it may be possible that you hear 'the call of God'. However, it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile. Thank you for turning off your phones. If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place and talk to Him. If you want to see Him, send Him a text while driving away.



Christian Aid Week 10-16 May 2020

Dear supporters.

As all of our thoughts are on the Covid-19 situation, we wanted to share an update on Christian Aid's response. We value our volunteers enormously and want to ensure you all keep safe when fundraising for Christian Aid Week. The health and safety of our community, including loyal supporters like you, is of the utmost importance to us, and we are monitoring the situation on a daily basis.

As this virus spreads across the world, love rises up in response. You've already shown incredible kindness to your neighbours. Now is the time to reach out to your neighbours both near and far.

Your love protects. From storms, from drought, and now from coronavirus. Your love protects our global neighbours battling the spread of this illness. Your love protects. With soap, clean water and medical supplies.

By supporting us this Christian Aid Week, you can reach out and protect more of your neighbours today.

Advice for Christian Aid Week

Many of you will have been planning house-to-house collections and events. Under the current circumstances, sadly, house-to-house collections and delivery-only collections should not go ahead.

Instead, Christian Aid Week is moving online! We are building a vibrant, virtual Christian Aid Week so you can take part with our online community. We would love you to join in to show love for our neighbours near and far, as a global family.

During Christian Aid Week

It's more important than ever that we come together as a community to worship and to share fun and fellowship. That's why during Christian Aid Week we will be live-streaming worship each day and hosting a fun daily quiz to join and raise funds.

New resources for Christian Aid Week

Our new resources are designed to help you pray, raise funds, and connect with friends and family during this time of coronavirus including prayer resources, how to run a virtual quiz or other fundraising, and ask your friends and family to donate using an e-envelope.

Our global response

Christian Aid and our partners already have experience of limiting the spread of infection during the Ebola crisis, and we will build on this experience to continue to stand together with communities living in poverty during this period. If infection rates start to develop as they are in Europe, then people in poorer countries will be hit even harder. Many are already living with reduced health resilience because of extreme poverty, or in overcrowded humanitarian camps and in countries which do not have the healthcare infrastructures needed to combat widespread disease. We will be working on the ground to help prepare communities to limit the impact of Covid-19. Please pray for us in this vital work and support us where you can by making an online donation.

We are praying for all those affected by this new virus, both in Britain and overseas, for all those working on the frontline and for wisdom for our leaders. We will continue to monitor the situation as it evolves. During this challenging time, we all need to take seriously the science and advice being offered, remaining calm but vigilant. If you have any specific concerns

or questions please email us at info@christian-aid.org or call our helpline on 020 7620 4444.

I am keeping you all in my prayers.

With every blessing,

Amanda Khozi Mukwashi

CEO, Christian Aid

How to donate

Last year we raised £8million. Full details are on our website at www.christianaid.org.uk/give-money/make-donation

Including

- Ongoing direct debit
- Online cash donation
- CAF card donation
- Telephone donation on 020 7523 2269.
- Bank transfer - phone 020 7523 2226
- Payroll giving - email info@christina-aid.org or call 020 7523 2046.
- Send an e-envelope to neighbours, friends and family - <https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk>
- Look at our website for lots of other fun virtual fundraising ideas.

Funerals during the coronavirus restrictions

Funerals have changed almost beyond recognition under the strict new rules to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

Church of England funerals may now take place only at crematoria or at gravesides. Only immediate family may attend, and they must keep their two-metre distance.

To help those who are grieving-at-a-distance at this difficult time, the Church of England has published a simple guide. It provides both prayers and also suggestions of how people can pay their own tribute at home to the person who has died.

These include finding a photograph of the person who has died, writing down memories of them, and lighting a virtual candle in memory of their loved ones.

The Revd Canon Dr Sandra Millar, Head of Welcome and Life Events for the Church of England, said: "It's so difficult when you can't go to a funeral... to say your last goodbye and know that your special person's life has been honoured, prayers offered, and God's love experienced."

More details at: [https://www.churchofengland.org/Life Events](https://www.churchofengland.org/Life%20Events) .

Reverend Clive will give current advice and information if you contact him regarding any life event such as a death, birth or marriage.

VE Day – the end of World War II in Europe

VE Day (Victory in Europe) – was celebrated 75 years ago this month, on 8th May 1945, marking the end of World War II in Europe. It was marked with a public holiday.

The previous day the formal act of military surrender had been signed by Germany, and celebrations broke out when the news was released. Big crowds gathered in London, impromptu parties were held throughout the country, and people danced and sang in the streets. King George VI and his family appeared on the balcony of Buckingham Palace, and Churchill made a speech to huge applause. The two princesses Elizabeth and Margaret mingled with the crowds outside.

Many went into churches to give thanks – and to pray for those still involved in the war in the Far East, because the real end of the war, Victory over Japan, would not happen until 15th August. At St Paul's Cathedral there were ten consecutive services giving thanks for peace, each attended by thousands of people.

The celebrations masked the fact that so many had lost family and friends, as well as possessions and homes. But for the moment normal social conventions broke down, strangers embraced, and love was in the air. *Tim Lenton*



Remembering VE Day

I was 15 in May 1945, when Britain celebrated VE Day. It stood for Victory in Europe and followed an agreement by the Allied powers following the German surrender. Needless to say, although the war with Japan was not over, it was a noticeable moment. No more bombs, missiles and blitz – and the ‘boys’ would come home!

I have two very clear memories of the day itself. The first was the street party which took place in our road on a housing estate in North London. With official permission, the road was closed off, tables were set up, food and drink were served. We spent the afternoon in races and competitions. Dads, mums, teenagers and children then sang the wartime songs, and ‘Jerusalem’ and ‘God save the King’.

The other memory is an image of a sailor kissing a young woman - surrounded by happy laughing people. This iconic photograph was in one of the papers the next day, then on camera newsfeeds and is in just about every journalistic library. Somehow it captures the mood of the day – freedom, warmth, the good things of everyday life.

VE Day did indeed mark a turning point, though not everything was going to be easy in the post-war years. But the hideous shadow of war had gone and 75 years later it has yet to return to these shores, thank God.

David Winter

The voyage of HMS Beagle

Two hundred years ago, on 11th May 1820, the British Royal Navy sloop HMS Beagle was launched. It was the ship that took Charles Darwin on the voyage around the world between 1831 and 1836 that led to his putting forward the theory of Evolution.

HMS Beagle was one of 100 ships of its class, known as coffin brigs because they handled badly and were prone to sinking. But its captain on Darwin’s voyage, Robert FitzRoy, made some critical changes to its superstructure and weaponry.

This was the second voyage of the Beagle; the first had resulted in the suicide of its depressed captain. FitzRoy was able to recruit Darwin, who was intending to be a clergyman, though he had recently graduated as a naturalist, as someone of a like mind who could be relied upon to research geology and natural history ashore.

The voyage lasted five years instead of the intended two, and Darwin became famous after publishing his journal, usually known as *The Voyage of the Beagle*, which was an intriguing travelogue as well as hinting at Darwin’s theories on species.

The ship itself was believed lost, but in 2004 its remains were thought to have been located beneath an Essex marsh.

Tim Lenton

Print this page off and then colour it in.

