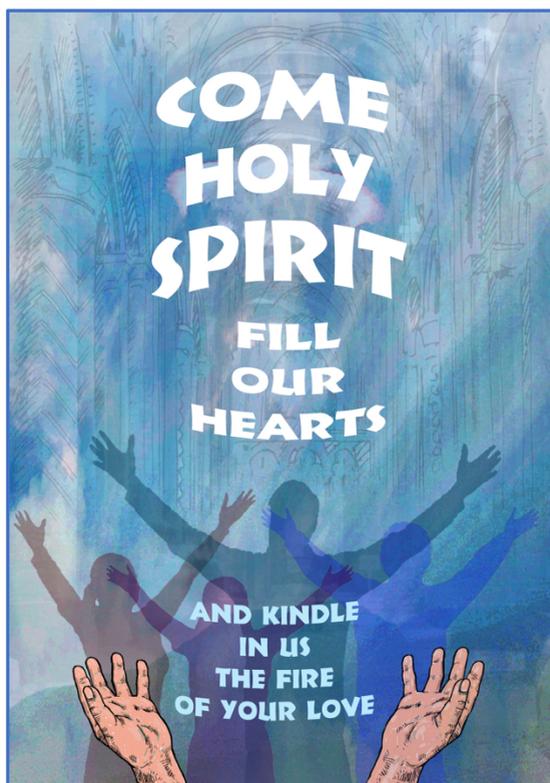


The Holsworthy Benefice Magazine May 2019

**For the Parishes of the United Benefice of
Holsworthy, Bridgerule, Hollacombe,
Pyworthy with Pancrasweek**



www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk

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If you have anything you would like to be considered for publication in our magazine please give it to the editor by the 20th of the preceding month. It can be sent by email or hand written. Our printer in Bude can usually reproduce photographs to a reasonable standard. If you want any hard copy or pictures returned please ensure your name and address is on the back.

This magazine is produced for the churches of St. Peter and St. Paul Holsworthy; St. Bridget's, Bridgerule; St. Petroc, Hollacombe; St. Swithun, Pyworthy; St. Pancras, Pancrasweek; and is the only publication promoting the views and vision of the benefice.

The contents of this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views of the individual PCC's but are those of individual contributors.

Mission Community Prayer

Lord of the Church, hear our prayer for the Holsworthy Mission Community: Set our hearts on fire with love for you. Claim our worship and wealth, our abilities and our time, that we be worthy stewards of all that you have given. Save us from complacency and fear of new ways; inspire us with vision; make us a power-house of prayer, a community of loving service, and faithful witnesses to your kingdom as we grow daily in and through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

From the rectory

Easter blessings to you all. The churches are still looking wonderfully decorated as we continue to celebrate Easter. Eastertide is 50 days long and concludes with Pentecost on 9th June. During this time we celebrate the Ascension of Christ and Corpus Christi which is the Thanksgiving for the Institution of the Eucharist.

Sometimes it can be difficult to hold onto the joy and hope that the risen Lord has given us. Especially when we watch the news and hear of trouble in families and experience distress amongst our own family and friends. Yet Jesus didn't just raise from the dead, he suffered first.

The Lord, our God, is not a distant God looking on us from afar. God, Christ has experienced pain and suffering and has walked this earth with us. God in the form of Jesus did this because he loves us, everyone of us and all equally.

We are not God's puppets or toys - we have been given free will, but that doesn't stop the pain that we feel and experience from affecting the Lord our God. God is with us in all our joy and in all our pains and most importantly has put an end to death by first dying on the cross and then raising to give us all life everlasting.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

Yours in Christ.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mother Elizabeth". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed text "Yours in Christ."

News from the Churches in our Benefice

First of all - Apologies from your editor

I am very sorry that this issue is somewhat late. Unfortunately I experienced a computer breakdown over Easter and although we eventually managed to get the computer running again the poor machine has been limping along ever since, I have managed to put this magazine together with the computer running about 80% slower than it should. It has taken much longer than the three days it usually takes to get the magazine ready for printing. The poor old computer is eight years old now so in computer years that is quite old. A new computer is on order so hopefully by June I will be back on track.

St. Peter and St. Paul, Holsworthy

Easter 2019

What a busy Easter we had at Holsworthy, we had the usual range of Holy Week Services including Maundy Thursday with washing of feet, three types of worship on Good Friday, Holy Saturday when we lit the pascal candle from a roaring fire outside and renewed our baptismal vows by the font inside and all this culminating in an excellent well attended Easter Sunday Eucharist. This year we also had the Stations of the Cross. Some services were better supported than others, the surprise being the good attendance again at the Tenebrae service on Good Friday evening.



St George's Day

Once again we celebrated the Patron Saint of England. The afternoon began with crafts in church, for adults and children, then there was the parade from the square to the church for a short act of worship. Attendance was a little bit down on last year but of course April 23rd was during the school holidays this time so some children will have been doing other things. Still we had a cool time and some excellent costumes and model dragons were produced.

The Arscott Ladies Choir

On Sunday 28th April we had a concert in church given by the Arscott Ladies Choir, this was held in aid of church funds. What an excellent choir this is. Very tight on timing and perfectly in tune. What impressed me even more was the ability of the ladies to sing in harmony without a copy of the music to look at. The result, the ladies looked out at the audience and we could hear every word. Well done ladies.

The musical director, Ingrid Bray, should feel justly proud of the choir and special mention should also be made of their accompanist, Myrtle Rooke, who played so well. What we were not expecting was the extra stand-up comedy from Ingrid, the musical director, she certainly had some funny tales for us. To keep the audience involved we also had some Sankey hymns to sing, accompanied on our church organ by John Timbury. The repertoire of the choir is quite varied, we were treated to twelve songs, some examples of what they sang included; Love Can Build a Bridge, Hallelujah, Thank You For The Music, For The Beauty of the Earth, Bridge Over Troubled Water and A Clare Benediction.

Thank you to Heather Prouse, who sings in the Holsworthy church choir, for suggesting they come and entertain us. The concert was well supported and ended



with a lovely tea. Thank you to everyone who helped with that and to all those who helped to clear up at the end. The sum of £333 was raised.

Let's hope they can come again, but in the meantime if you hear of a concert they are giving I suggest you go

and hear them.

The Friend's of Holsworthy Parish Church St Peter's Monthly Jackpot Draw

The first draw took place on April 20th 2019. The two lucky winners were;
1st Prize, ticket number 73, Kerry from Ashwater
2nd prize, ticket number 70, Nigel from Molesworth Way.

You can still purchase a ticket, now that there are only eleven months left the price of the ticket to be included in the May draw drops to £11. Please speak to Helen Narborough our treasurer or a member of the PCC if you would like to purchase a ticket.

Advance Notice - St Peter's Fair Week - 6th- 14th July This year in the church for St Peter's Fair.... Collections!

We invite people to bring their collections to display for people to look at. Be it teddy bears or postcards, model trains or vintage tools or whatever it is you have collected. If you have a collection and would like to put it on display please contact Carol Weston on 01409 259371, cwc Carolweston@gmail.com and book space.

The church will be open for people to set up on Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th from 2-5pm (others times by arrangement). We do ask that people who would like to display their collections give a couple of hours stewarding in the church during the Fair. There will be a rota to sign up on by the door.

The church will be open that week as follows;
Wed 10th July after the Pretty Maid Ceremony at 12 noon until 4pm.
Thursday 11th - Saturday 13th July 12noon until 4pm.

Drinks and cakes will be served during opening times.

There will be a ploughman's lunch with dessert served on Thursday 11th. Tickets available in June from Bob Beckford, Mary Osbourne and Helen Narborough.

If people would like to make a gift to the church there will be a donations box outside the church the morning of Fair Wednesday and then inside the church for the rest of Fair Week.

St. Petroc, Hollacombe

by Margaret Stacey

SERVICES FOR MAY

Sunday May 5th 3pm Evensong.

Rev Elizabeth Burke

Sunday May 19th. 9.30am. Holy Communion.

Rev Richard Freeman

Sunday June 2nd. 3pm PATRONAL FESTIVAL.

Tea to follow.



Easter Day at Hollacombe was celebrated in Traditional Style commencing with the lighting of The Paschal Candle & then the Altar Candles and the Blessing of The Easter Garden and the new Altar Linen used for the first time by Rev Stuart Wilson who also welcomed a good number of people for The Easter Communion Service and William Bevins now 1year old who was Baptised at Hollacombe Church last year. Chocolate Bunnies & eggs were enjoyed after the service.

Our grateful Thanks to Rev Stuart Wilson who left us to conduct another service at Thrushelton a little later in the morning. We are indeed indebted to Stuart for his kindness to us at Hollacombe.

We celebrate our PATRONAL FESTIVAL this year on Sunday 2nd June (Coronation Day) with Sung Evensong and our own St Petroc hymns followed by our traditional tea.

Please note in advance as we have 3 services in June (2nd, 16th & 30th & Rev Burke is away in July) there will be NO evensong on July 7th.

Benefice Service on June 30th * 10am.

THE PARISH NOTICE BOARD erected to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II by the people of the parish which is situated outside the church gate has been renovated and beautifully restored by Mr Ron Gerry & Mr Chris Osbourne. Our grateful thanks to you gentlemen, it is an asset to be able to use it for church notices. Hopefully the residents in the parish will find it beneficial too.



Advance notice

Coffee Morning Wednesday June 12th 9:00am- 12 noon

There will be a coffee morning in aid of church funds for both the church of St. Peter and Paul Holsworthy and the church of St. Petroc Holcombe. Please keep your eye on the Sunday news sheets leading up to this event for donation to stalls and for prizes. The news sheets are on the website, you can search for it on the site or type in the page details.

www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk/control/content/page.php?page_id=98

Please try to keep the morning free so that you can support our churches by either drinking coffee, or making it, washing up, staffing a stall or whatever else is required.

St. Bridget, Bridgerule

Creative Church at Bridgerule Primary School every Wednesday 4-5pm.

Everyone welcome - This is informal church with crafts.

Bridgerule Spring Lunch - 26th May in the Village

Hall. Tickets from Mrs. Harris

Mothering Sunday Benefice Service

The Mothering Sunday service at Bridgerule was rather special because the Right Revd Robert Atwell, Bishop of Exeter was there to conduct a baptism and confirmation in addition to the Eucharist. It was good to see so many worshippers from the other Benefice churches in attendance. The photos have been kindly sent

to us by Dawn Bewes and show Bishop Robert with the candidates and the two churchwardens of St. Bridget's church and Mother Elizabeth.



General News From The Parish Pump

From the Diocese

Appointments

Revd Derek Arnold has been appointed as Rural Dean of Hartland and will be commissioned at a service on 22nd May 2019 at 7.30pm in Holy Trinity, Westward Ho!

Revd Richard Freeman has been appointed as Rural Dean of Holsworthy and will be commissioned at a service in St John the Baptist, Bradworthy at 7pm on Tuesday 4th June 2019.

Retiring

Revd Preb Kathy Roberts retires as Rector of Black Torrington, Bradford with Cookbury, Thornbury and Highampton and Dean of Women in Minsitry on the 30th April 2019.

Revd Jane Lucas retires as Rector of Ashwater, Halwill, Beaworthy, Clawton and Tetcott with Luffincott on the 31st May 2019.

Summer trains between Okehampton and Exeter

GWR, in association with Devon County Council and OkeRAIL (Okehampton to Exeter Railway) are running the Summer Sunday service again every Sunday from 19 May until 8 September 2019.

This is a fantastic affordable opportunity to take a journey on part of what was the main line between London Waterloo and Plymouth. It is a smooth ride with loads of beautiful scenery. Here is the timetable.

Exeter to Okehampton timetable

St. James Park	0857	1100	1426	-
Exeter Central	0900	1103	1429	-
Exeter St. Davids	0904	1108	1434	1705
Newton St. Cyres	-	-	1442x	-
Crediton	0914	1119	1448	1715
Sampford Courtney	0941	1145	1514	1741
Okehampton	0950a	1154a	1522a	1750a

Okehampton to Exeter Timetable

Okehampton	0953	1214	1552	1756
Sampford Courtney	1001	1222	1600	1804
Crediton	1026	1247	1626	1830
Newton St. Cyres	-	1251x	-	-
Exeter St. Davids	1037	1301	1636a	1841a
Exeter Central	1040	1304	-	-
St. James Park	1042a	1306a	-	-

x = Stops on request. Please tell the Conductor if you wish to leave and signal to the driver if you wish to board.

a = Arrival time.

Unfortunately the last train back from Exeter to Okehampton does not start at Central Station, it did last year, but we found this very useful information about connecting services on the Dartmoor Railway Supporters' Association website, published here in good faith, however please do check for yourself.

As the last 2 up services terminate at St. Davids, and the **last down service starts from St. Davids**, the following connecting services to or from Exeter Central may be of interest:

The 1552 Okehampton departure connects with 1646 St. Davids departure to Exeter Central arriving 1649.

The 1651 Exeter Central departure connects with 1705 St. Davids departure to Okehampton.

The 1756 Okehampton departure connects with 1846 St. Davids departure to Exeter Central arriving 1849, or 1925 St. Davids departure to Exeter Central arriving 1928.

The Dartmoor Railway Supporters' Association run heritage trains between Okehampton Station and Meldon Viaduct, more information can be found on their website.

www.dartmoor-railway-sa.org/services

Note

We suggest that you check the GWR train is running before going to Okehampton. Phone GWR on 0345 7000 125 or go to their website at www.gwr.com

Potholes galore

When you drive, are you often swerving to avoid potholes? You are not alone. And the outlook is not good: more than 40,000 miles of Britain's road are at risk of crumbling within five years, a major potholes survey has found. Council figures show that a fifth of the country's roads are in 'poor condition'. Some 1.86 million potholes were filled in during 2018/early 2019, but there are thousands more of them out there.

Missed appointments with your GP

If you can't make an appointment, do you warn your surgery? Too many of us forget to do so: missed appointments with our GPs cost £216million a year – the equivalent of 2,325 full-time family doctors. No wonder that NHS England is urging people to cancel rather than simply not show up.

Sadly, more than 15million GP practice appointments – one in 20 – are wasted every year as patients failed to attend without cancelling. As one doctor points out: "It can be a frustrating waste of resources for GPs, and also for other patients who are struggling to secure an appointment for themselves. We would urge people to let us know if they can't attend as soon as possible, so that we can offer that time to someone else who really needs it."

Foster Care Fortnight 13th to 26th May

This fortnight is the Fostering network's annual big push to raise the profile of fostering, and to show how foster care can transform children's lives. It also serves as the UK's biggest foster carer recruitment campaign.

The need is huge: thousands of new foster families are needed every year to care for children in need. These children range from being older children, sibling groups, disabled children and even unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

Do you have what it takes to be a foster carer? As one experienced fosterer says: "It's not about age, marital status, sexuality, experience, cultural or religious beliefs and practices; it's about wanting and being able to respond to a child and help them develop and thrive. Time and energy are the greatest commitments, from the moment you first make your application."

One foster carer says that what makes it all worthwhile for her is "the quiet moments when a child has been out and tells you they are glad to be home again,

or in watching a child who has never bathed before play in a bath of bubbles. Their giggles and happiness are a gift that's priceless."

For more details <https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/fcf19>

Sweet dreams

Do you, or don't you? Many of us feel reluctant to admit that we would like to do it, even if usually we do not. Have a snooze after lunch, that is.

A 20-minute nap seems to work wonders – many studies find that people awake feeling refreshed, with their energy levels renewed and with a much-improved mental focus.

But getting the chance to have your kip is rarely easy, as most work-places in the UK frown on workers falling asleep on their desks. How different from the Far East, where in Vietnam workers drape themselves over their scooters to sleep, or where in Tokyo and Hong Kong businessmen often sleep in public places.

The Japanese even have a polite term for it: *inemuri* – 'being present while asleep'. Dropping off to casual sleep has been recorded in Japan since the 10th century. Some UK companies are sympathetic. One CEO of a major advertising company agrees that "a powernap mid-morning or mid-afternoon sets you up for the rest of the day. You are much more alert, and it also promotes creativity."

Editor: 65 years ago this month, an outstanding athlete broke the records book.

By Tim Lenton.

Roger Bannister and the four-minute mile

The first person to run a mile in under four minutes was Roger Bannister, who did it 65 years ago, on 6th May 1954, at the Iffley Road track in Oxford. His time was 3:59.4 – the announcement drowned out by wild applause from the crowd after announcer Norris McWhirter said the word "three".

Bannister was born in 1929: his father was a Methodist and his mother a Unitarian Sunday school teacher.

His world record lasted for only a few weeks, but because he was the first to achieve what many had thought impossible, he remains a household name. He himself always believed his successful 40-year career practising medicine – he was a neurologist – was a far greater achievement.

He was knighted in 1975 and was Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, from 1985 to 1993. After his marriage to Swedish artist Moyra Elver Jacobsson in 1955 he became friends with the Rector of All Souls', Langham Place, the Rev Dr John Stott.

He was baptised at All Souls: his sponsors were his two friends who had helped him to the four-minute mile – Chris Chataway and Chris Brasher. One of his four children is the Rev Charlotte Bannister-Parker, an associate priest in Oxford.

YOU are ALL invited

to Holsworthy Methodist Church,
Bodmin Street

on Saturday,
4th May, 2019

To celebrate the re-opening of the hall

3pm Short welcome service with the chairman of the Plymouth and Exeter Methodist District, the Rev Graham Thompson

Followed by the opening and re-dedication of the refurbished hall

Afternoon tea Gift Day

Holsworthy Methodist Church

Thursday Group Programme 2019

May 16th
“VISIT TO A GARDEN CENTRE”

May 30th
AGM Followed by Hilary Vivian

All meetings at 7.30pm unless stated otherwise, for further information please contact Doreen Buckingham (Tel: 253462)

Smile Lines

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?

Benefice Services for May - <http://www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk/services/benefice-calendar/>

	Bridgerule	Hollacombe	Holsworthy	Pancrasweek	Pyworthy
Easter 3 5th May	11.15am Rogation Sung Eucharist	3pm Rogation Sung BCP Evensong	9.30am Rogation Sung Eucharist with Baptism		9.30am Rogation All Age Service
3rd May		10am Eucharist followed by no cost Cafe			
Easter 4 12th May	11.15am Morning Prayer		9.30am Sung Eucharist		11.15am Sung Eucharist
10th May		10am Eucharist followed by no cost Cafe			
Easter 5 19th May	11.15am Sung Eucharist	9.30am Sung BCP Holy Communion	9.30am Sung Eucharist		9.30am Morning Prayer
Easter 6 26th May			9.30am Sung Morning Prayer	9.30am Sung Eucharist	11.15am Sung Eucharist
Thursday 30th May	ASCENSION 7pm Benefice Sung Eucharist, Holsworthy. Drinks afterwards.				
The Visitation 31st May	10am Eucharist followed by no cost Cafe				
We continue to celebrate Easter and the Ascension of Christ					

This chart was correct at the time we went to press. Please check on the back of your weekly service sheet for any last-minute changes or take a look at the Benefice Calendar on our www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk/services/benefice-calendar/

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Musicians (and singers) Wanted

For Occasional Playing for free at
the Sunday Service in
Holsworthy Church



This is your chance to play with a
group of musicians.

If you are interested please
contact Mother Elizabeth on

01409 255490 or 07990 978485



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High Days and Holy Days in May

10th May - Comgall

Here is a great saint for all teachers, head teachers and principals of educational institutions, and indeed anyone whose vocation is to train and equip others.

For Comgall (c 516 – c 601) was founder and first abbot of Bangor, which became the largest monastery in Ireland. And large means LARGE – for including several daughter houses, the total population is reckoned to have been 3,000.

If you have ever run an educational institution of 3,000 pupils (!), you will know it takes a special kind of person to cope with that, and Comgall seems to have been perfect for the job. A biographer at the time called him ‘the outstanding father of the monks in Ireland, known for his insistence on study and strict discipline.’

Comgall’s rule had what it took to succeed: it was ‘strict, holy and constant’, both ‘graced with the hope of salvation and made perfect in love’, according to the 7th century writer Antiphoner of Bangor. Above all, followers were to love Christ, and reject the love of money.

Comgall also had a gift for friendship, for on the death of a close friend, he wrote in grief: ‘My soul-friend has died and I am headless; you too are headless, for a man without a soul-friend is a body without a head.’

Like heads and principals today, Comgall knew a lot of important people. He had trained Columbanus and knew Columba, whom he visited on Iona. They even preached the Gospel together in Inverness, to the pagan chieftain Brude.

15th May - Matthias the Apostle: called by lots

Have you ever happened to be in the right place at the right time, with certain qualifications, and suddenly realise that God is singling you out for a special task? If so, Matthias is a good patron saint for you!

In Acts 1 (15 – 26) the apostles had a task to do: Judas had committed suicide, and a new apostle needed to be chosen. He had to have been a follower of Christ from the Baptism to the Ascension, and also a witness of the Resurrection in order to qualify. In the event, the choice fell to one of two: Joseph Barsabas and Matthias.

Lots were drawn, and Matthias was chosen. How confident he must have felt in his calling: what encouragement that would be when the going got rough in later years! Matthias is thought to have ministered in Cappadocia and even Ethiopia. His

emblem is usually an axe or halberd, regarded as the instrument of his martyrdom. His supposed relics were translated from Jerusalem to Rome by the empress Helena.

21st May – Helena: Protector of the Holy Places

Helena should be the patron saint of all mothers who help their sons achieve great things.

Helena was born at Drepanum in Bithynia about 250. Although only a stable-maid or innkeeper's daughter, she caught the eye and affections of a Roman general, Constantius Chlorus, while he was stationed in Asia Minor on a military campaign. She bore him a son, Constantine, in about 272.

But Constantius was ambitious, and when he became co-emperor (Caesar) in the West in 292, he abandoned Helena in order to marry the stepdaughter of his patron. Helena and her son were sent to live in the court of Diocletian at Nicomedia, where Constantine grew up as a member of the inner circle. Helena never remarried, and lived close to her son, who was devoted to her. Then, in 306, Constantius died, and Constantine became Augustus of the Roman Empire. He brought his beloved mother to live at the imperial court.

When Constantine became the first Christian emperor of Rome, Helena also became a Christian. She was devout, dressing modestly, and giving generously to churches, the poor, and to prisoners. But soon Constantine had other plans for her: they agreed that she would help him locate the relics of Judeo-Christian tradition in Palestine. To aid her, Constantine gave her the title Augusta Imperatrix, and unlimited access to the imperial treasury.

And so, from 326-28, even though she was very old, Helena explored the Holy Land on behalf of her son, the Emperor. She went to Bethlehem and founded the Church of the Nativity. She went to the Mount of Olives and founded the Church of Eleona. She went to Calvary and tore down a temple built to Venus over the tomb of Jesus. Constantine then ordered the building of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Helena also seems to have founded the chapel at St Catherine's Monastery.

Helena died in 330 in the Holy Land, with Constantine at her side. He brought her body back to Constantinople and buried her in the imperial vault in the Church of the Apostles.

We owe to this special mother and son the preservation and honouring of the most famous sites of Christianity.

26th May - Rogation Sunday (Sunday before Ascension)

Rogation means an asking of God - for blessing on the seed and land for the year ahead. It is appropriate in any emergency, war, plague, drought or foul weather. The practice began with the Romans, who invoked the help of the gods Terminus and Ambarvalia. In those days a crowd moved in procession around the cornfields, singing and dancing, sacrificing animals, and driving away Winter with sticks. They wanted to rid the cornfields of evil.

About 465 the Western world was suffering from earthquake, storm and epidemic. So Mamertius, Bishop of Vienne, aware of the popular pagan custom, ordered that prayers should be said in the ruined or neglected fields on the days leading up to Ascension. With his decision, 'beating the bounds' became a Christian ceremonial. Rogation-tide arrived in England early in the eighth century, and became a fixed and perennial asking for help of the Christian God. On Rogation-tide, a little party would set out to trace the boundaries of the parish. At the head marched the bishop or the priest, with a minor official bearing a Cross, and after them the people of the parish, with schoolboys and their master trailing along. Most of them held slender wands of willow.

At certain points along the route - at well-known landmarks like a bridge or stile or ancient tree, the Cross halted, the party gathered about the priest, and a litany or rogation is said, imploring God to send seasonable wealth, keep the corn and roots and boughs in good health, and bring them to an ample harvest. At one point beer and cheese would be waiting.

In the days when maps were neither common nor accurate, there was much to be said for 'beating the bounds' - still very common as late as the reign of Queen Victoria. Certainly parish boundaries rarely came into dispute, for everyone knew them. (Do you know yours today?)

30th May - Ascension Day: 40 Days with the Risen Christ

40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day. These are the 40 days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to His disciples, following His death and resurrection. (Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; and John 20.)

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those 40 days. Jesus was seen by numerous of His disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged His disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah. Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent Him, He was now going to send them - to all corners of the earth, as His witnesses.

God in the Arts

Editor: The National Gallery at Trafalgar Square in London houses one of the finest collections of European paintings in the world. It is home to 2,300 works spanning the centuries of artistic creation. During this year we shall be journeying through the gallery to explore one of those treasures each month. By the Rev Michael Burgess.

Still Life with Strawberries, Gooseberries and Asparagus: Adriaen Coorte

The 6th Sunday of Easter is traditionally Rogation Sunday, when we give thanks for the fruits of the earth and pray for all who work on the land. Rural churches often celebrate nature's cycle from seeds sown to crops harvested with Plough Sunday, Rogationtide, Lammas and Harvest.



Jesus in His teaching pointed out the miracle of that cycle in the seed – sown in the soil, but springing up to new life; a small beginning that becomes a great plant; a single seed that is multiplied. This month of May marks two seasons in that growth: the harvesting of asparagus and the gathering of strawberries.

They are two signs of the fruitfulness of nature depicted in this beautiful, intimate painting that was given to the National Gallery two years ago by the Dutch collector, Willem van Dedem. It was painted in 1703 by Adriaen Coorte. We know little about him apart from the fact that he lived in Holland and has left us a garland of canvases, all displaying what has been called 'a wondrous tenderness.'

This painting is an ordinary, unpretentious scene. There is no moral lesson here, no symbolism: simply a depiction of the beauty of creation in miniature. The bowl of strawberries and the bunch of asparagus lie on a stone ledge with some gooseberries and a plum. Each a gift of nature to enjoy and share, and to find there a token of God, the giver of all good things.

'For everything there is a season,' and in this month of May with Adriaen Coorte, we give thanks for this bounty of the earth and we pray for farmers and agricultural workers. But more than that – as the hymn tells us, 'we thank thee then, O Father, for all things bright and good.'

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The procession had taken the scenic route



"...and then, as the organist hits us with a cool hip-hop riff, you kick off the wedding vows in a smokin' rap style..."

All in the Month of May

It was:

500 years ago, on 2nd May 1519 that Leonardo Da Vinci, the Italian artist, scientist and inventor, died.

200 years ago, on 24th May 1819 that Queen Victoria was born. (She reigned from 1837 to 1901)

175 years ago, on 3rd May 1844 that Richard D'Oyley Carte, British theatrical impresario, was born. He built the Savoy Theatre and the Palace Theatre in London, managed some of the most important theatrical stars of the era, and founded a touring opera company.

125 years ago, on 21st May 1894 that the Manchester Ship Canal was officially opened.

100 years ago, on 18th May 1919 that Dame Margot Fonteyn, British ballerina, was born. (Died 1991)

75 years ago, on 20th May 1944 that Joe Cocker, British blues/rock singer and musician was born. Noted for his gritty, raspy voice. (Died 2014.)

70 years ago, on 5th May 1949 that the Council of Europe was founded.

65 years ago, on 6th May 1954 that British athlete Roger Bannister became the first person to run a mile in under four minutes. (Three minutes, 59.4 seconds in Oxford.)

50 years ago, on 11th May 1969 that the Monty Python comedy group formed.

40 years ago, on 3rd May 1979 that the British General Election was won by the Conservative Party, and Margaret Thatcher became Britain's first female prime minister. The election was triggered when Mrs Thatcher instigated a no-confidence vote against James Callaghan's Labour government on 28th March.

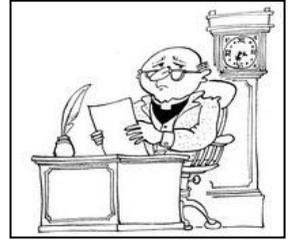
25 years ago, on 6th May 1994 that the Channel Tunnel linking England and France was officially opened.

Also 25 years ago, on 10th May 1994 that Nelson Mandela was inaugurated as South Africa's first black president after many years of white rule.

May 2019 – Letter from St. James the Least of All

The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...

Happily, the Church of England still retains some singular parish clergy. Take the parish of St. James-the-Least in the county of C..... for example. Here the elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to Darren, his nephew, a low-church curate recently ordained...



On the tribulations that await a curate in his first parish...

The Rectory
St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

So, your bishop is dropping hints that you should begin to consider a move to having your own parish – ‘not forever in green pastures’ comes to mind. Do not be too hasty to leave; remember that a curate can do no wrong, but a vicar can do no right. That means that as soon as you get your own parish, you will be held accountable not only for everything that goes on inside the church, but also for the goal average of the local football team and the state of the economy. And if it rains for your first Summer Fete, you will be told reproachfully that this never used to happen when ‘the former vicar was here’.

As you begin to ponder this momentous decision, allow me to give you a few pieces of advice. It will be assumed in the parish that every new incumbent is bound to be worse than his predecessor. The greatest compliment I ever received when leaving a parish came from an elderly parishioner: “I've known six Rectors of this parish; you weren't the worst.”

Naturally the church you go to will have asked for a married man between 30 and 35 with a wife who will not have her own job but who wants to devote her entire life working for the parish – and it will be a definite

advantage if she is a brilliant organist, professional caterer and fully computer literate. They will expect you to have two children, one of whom should be of primary school age, so he can attend the local Church school, where you will naturally wish to be chairman of governors and coach of the football team.

They will want you to have exceptional talents for attracting young people - but for young people who enjoy the sorts of Services that the present congregation prefer - and you should have the ability to stop a baby crying during Mattins with the briefest of glances. They will want you to bring 'a breath of fresh air' into parish life without changing anything. They will hope you will shun holidays, preach short sermons and be able to run a tight jumble sale.

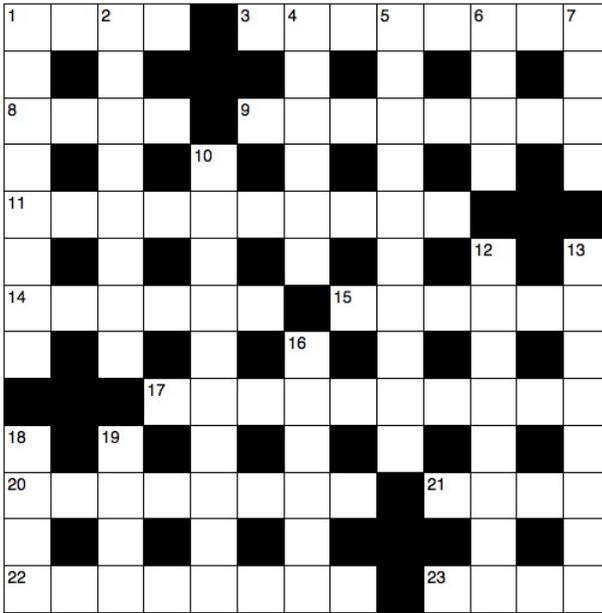
Your CV is a little thin. If you could acquire a wife and family within the next six months, become an expert flower arranger and qualify as a football referee, chartered accountant and trained electrician and plumber, it would prove very helpful. If in addition, you learned how to service photocopiers, had a mini-bus available for church outings, were an heir to a family firm producing a single malt whisky and could provide reliable horse racing tips, your choice of parishes would be endless.

On the other hand, my advice would be to stop attending all meetings where you know the bishop may be present; out of sight, out of mind. Have your phone disconnected, your letterbox sealed and only appear in public wearing dark glasses and a false beard. Keep your head down, lay low, hold on to the charmed life of being a curate for as long as possible. Life will never be better.

Your loving uncle, *Eustace*

The Puzzle Pages **May 2019 Crossword**

(The solution to this crossword puzzle can be found on page 28)



Across

- 1 Infant (Luke 2:12) (4)
- 3 Luis must (anag.) (8)
- 8 What Jesus called the devil (John 8:44) (4)
- 9 'My God, my God, why have you — me?' (Matthew 27:46) (8)
- 11 Anglican form of church government (10)
- 14 'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like — ' (Isaiah 40:31) (6)
- 15 Ministers of religion (6)
- 17 Make stronger (1 Thessalonians 3:13) (10)

- 20 Devoutness (1 Timothy 2:2) (8)
- 21 The father of Jesse (Ruth 4:22) (4)
- 22 Pool where Jesus healed a man who had been an invalid for 38 years (John 5:2) (8)
- 23 '[Jesus] said to them, " — here and keep watch"' (Mark 14:34) (4)

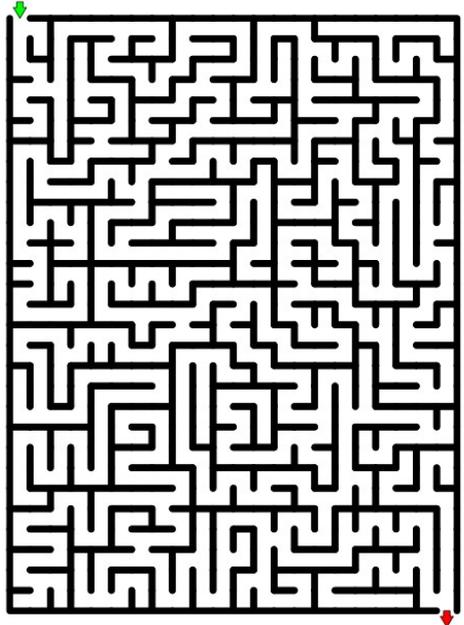
Down

- 1 Follower of Christ (Acts 16:1) (8)
- 2 One of the punishments endured by Paul (2 Corinthians 6:5) (8)
- 4 Soldiers (Exodus 14:9) (6)
- 5 Scholarly study of melody, harmony and rhythm (10)
- 6 'I am God, and there is none — me' (Isaiah 46:9) (4)
- 7 'And how can they preach unless they are — ?' (Romans 10:15) (4)
- 10 Favourable reception (1 Timothy 1:15) (10)
- 12 Hip orbit (anag.) (8)
- 13 End of life (Isaiah 22:14) (5,3)
- 16 'About midnight the sailors — they were approaching land' (Acts 27:27) (6)
- 18 He married Jezebel (1 Kings 16:30–31) (4)
- 19 'According to your great compassion — out my transgressions' (Psalm 51:1) (4)

May 2019 Sudoku (Solution on page 28)

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

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May 2019 Maze

Start top left and exit bottom right

Breath Of Fresh Air Lung Support Group

Our May, Breath of Fresh Air lung support group meeting is on Wed May 15th at Chilsworthy Village Hall 2pm.

The guest speaker will be Shawn Dymond from Holsworthy Museum.

The subject will be Holsworthy in the Victorian era, a very interesting and entertaining talk.

New members are welcome. Tea and refreshments will be served for a voluntary donation of £1.

More details can be obtained for Group Facilitator Wendy Millar on 01409 254085

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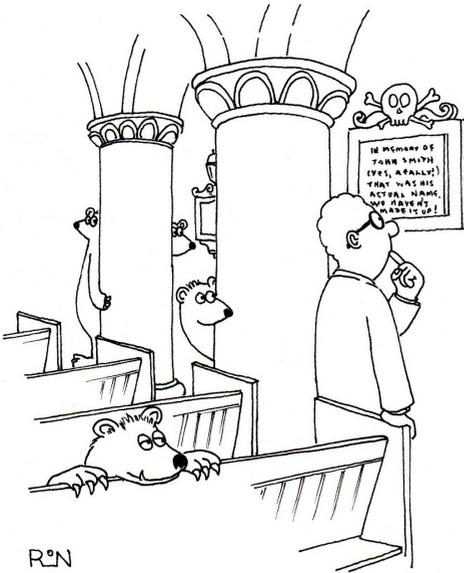
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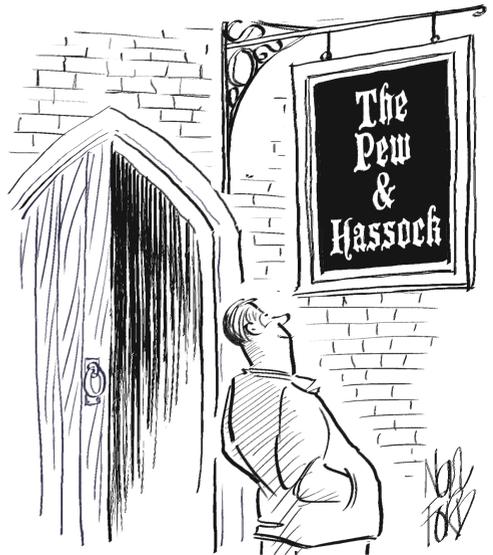
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R.N

*Dennis spent a long time in church
looking for his forbears*



Changing the name from 'St Mark's Parish Church', resulted in a big increase in the number of men attending services

Some Useful Numbers

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elizabethmaburke*icloud.com 01409 255490 or 07990 978485

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Health Centre	253692
Sports Hall	254013
Holsworthy Visitor Centre	254185
Brownies (M Galjardt)	254727
Guides (Jane Crocombe)	211319
Scouts (Cathy Withall)	254803
Town Clerk	253312
Memorial Hall	255450
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Samaritans	116 123

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May 2019 Crossword Solution

B	A	B	Y		S	T	I	M	U	L	A	S	
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B	E	T	H	E	S	D	A		S	T	A	Y	

May 2019 Sudoku Solution

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

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