

ST PAUL'S NEWS

May 2024



ONE POUND

SERVICES

Sunday 5th May

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Parish Eucharist with Baptism (CW)
President & Preacher: : The Vicar,
- 10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom
Lead: Liz Goddard
Link: Rosemary Romano
- 6.30 pm Compline
Minister & Preacher: The Vicar

Thursday 9th May - Ascension Day

- 8.00 pm Eucharist (CW)
President & Preacher: The Vicar

Sunday 12th May

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Parish Eucharist (CW)
President & Preacher: Rev. Nicholas Burton
- 10.00 am Confirmation Service at St Mark's
The Vicar
- 10.00 am Family Service Songs of Praise at the
Church Centre + Zoom
Lead: Jean Kerr
Link: Karen Miller
- 6.30 pm Choral Evensong (BCP)
Minister: The Vicar

Sunday 19th May

Pentecost

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Joint Parish Eucharist (CW)
President: The Vicar
Minister & Preacher: Rev. Nicholas Burton
- 6.30 pm Evensong (BCP)
Minister & Preacher: The Vicar

Sunday 26th May

Trinity Sunday

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Matins (BCP)
Minister & Preacher: Rev. Anthony Hammill
- 10.00 am Family Service with Holy Communion at the
Church Centre + Zoom
President: The Vicar
Link: Chris Bassett
- 6.30 pm Parish Eucharist (CW)
President & Preacher: Rev. Nicholas Burton

DIARY

Wednesday 1st May

- 10.30 am Julian Meeting at 20 Chancellor House
2.00 pm Private hire of Lodge

Thursday 2nd May

POLLING STATION AT THE CHURCH CENTRE

- 6.00 pm Youth Council in the Lodge

Monday 6th May

Bank Holiday

Parish Office closed

Wednesday 8th May

- 8.00 pm Family Service Meeting, Church Centre

Thursday 9th May

- 4.00 pm Squirrels at the Parish Church & Lodge

Saturday 11th May

- 11 am-2 pm Rusthall St Paul's School Fair

Wednesday 15th May

- 1.30 pm Muskerry Court meeting – the Lodge

Thursday 16th May

- 7.45 pm APCM at the Church Centre

Saturday 18th May

- 9.00 am RSCM music exams – Parish Church
(all day)

Monday 27th May

Bank Holiday

Parish Office closed

Wednesdays throughout the month

- 9.00 am Play Time at St Paul's - Church Centre

Thursdays throughout the month

- 12 for 12.30 Rusthall Lunch Club - Church Centre

Fridays throughout the month

- 12.30 pm Community Larder - Church Centre

Magazine Article Deadlines

Please submit articles for the 2024 magazines in accordance with the following deadlines:

June by Sunday 12th May
July/August by Sunday 16th June

The time between the deadline and magazine issue is to allow for typing, formatting, proofreading, and compiling the magazine. These all take time and have to be fitted around the volunteer editorial team's other commitments. We would therefore be very grateful if you would keep to the deadlines set. Please send items for publication to magazine@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk.

From the Vicarage

May 2024

Easter greetings to you all and a big thank you for your involvement in the life, ministry and mission of the Parish. Special thanks to the Flower Team and all those who were involved in decorating the Church buildings for our celebrations of the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ at Easter. It was like a mini-Flower Festival at the Parish Church. Thanks also to those who took part in the Procession of Witness in which over 30 people 'braced' the rainy weather and demonstrated their commitment to our Lord. Thanks also to the Reverend Nicholas Burton for his involvement in the 3 hour service on Good Friday.



I don't think I've mentioned it through this medium before. Preparatory plans to celebrate the Demisemiseptcentennial anniversary (175th anniversary) of the Parish church in 2025 are under way. It will be a year-long celebration and we would like the whole community to be and feel part of it. Please contact Chris Dobson via email: dgrusthall@gmail.com or telephone: 07757 680165 with your thoughts/ideas on this.

While on the 'information sharing mode', we will be having our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on Thursday the 16th of May at 7:45pm at the Church Centre. It would be great to see as many of you as possible there. Please remember that you have the right to vote or be voted for to join the Parochial Church Council (PCC) if you are on the Electoral roll of St Paul's Parish, Rusthall.

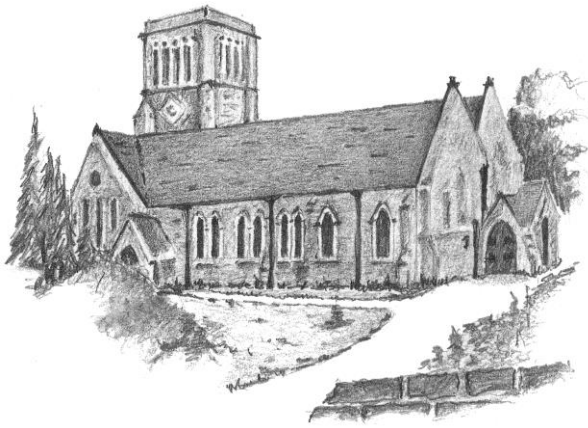
I recently browsed through a book entitled 'Burnout' by Myron Rush. It is quite an old book but I found it very useful. It deals with the factors and forces that cause/contribute to burnout. Having read Cherry's article in the April magazine, I couldn't help but smile when I read one of the causes of burn out: 'excessive contact with people's problems' (p.28). I was quite encouraged to read that feeling called to one's role/job (vocation) is quite important in avoiding burnout. When I was 'testing' my vocation all those years ago and was a bit reluctant to, as it were, jump in with both feet, I remember someone urging me to listen to the encouraging things that people were saying about me and to see it as God speaking to me through them. I appreciated their comment but stated that if God was capable of speaking to others about me, then God is also capable of speaking to me about myself – and until that happened, I told him that I will wait. I took that stance because I knew that, generally, things can get difficult in life and going into ordained ministry without being sure that God was calling me into it was something I wasn't prepared to do. I wanted to be able to go back to God and say 'God, you called me into this so you need to....'

This is something that I do constantly – and it truly helps me to stay focused on what God is doing in and through me. It helps me to remember that I am not called to be a lone ranger but to try and involve others – challenging as that can sometimes be. Sometimes it may seem easier to work alone but as Disciples of Christ, we should never do alone that which could be done with others. Working with and walking alongside others encourages and strengthens us and prevents us from ultimately making what Rush calls the 'Elijah Decision' (p.59).

As we journey through life, may we always be aware that we are doing so in the company of others, and draw strength and encouragement from one another but, ultimately, from God 'in whom we all live, move and have our being'. Amen.

Ronnie

ST PAUL'S 100



NUMBERS
£10 PER MONTH

PRIZES

£100 1ST
£ 60 2ND
£ 40 3RD

NUMBERS AVAILABLE
FROM CHRIS DOBSON ON
07757 680165

WINNING NUMBERS
April

81 (£100), 59 (£60) AND 90 (£40)



Rusthall Community Larder

What is it?

A community larder receives donations of surplus short date food from supermarkets to offer to people in our community.

When and where is it?

Our community larder will be in the St Paul's Church Centre every Friday between 12.30 and 2.00 pm

Who can use it?

Anyone can come and visit the community larder. There are no restrictions, no booking necessary, just turn up with a carrier bag to fill.

How much does it cost?

We suggest a small cash donation of £2 or as much as you can afford. For this you can take away a bag full of quality food.

We'd love to see you!

For more information please email contact@rusthallvillage.org or telephone 07805 475397

Editorial – May 2024

May is here and the countryside is definitely green again. Woodland walks now contain two of my favourite colours, the glorious carpet of bluebell blue and the vibrant lime green colour of new beech leaves. Although it still feels a bit chilly to me, Tunbridge Wells is showing off its rhododendrons already – it's like they know they don't have to be in time for the non-existent Cricket Week! Plenty of time to admire the hedgerows along Langton Road at the moment, with road works lasting into June. Another set of roadworks will be starting this month on the A26/A21 Quarry Hill Road junction, and those will be continuing until mid-November.

May is a busy month, including 2 Bank Holidays, Ascension Day on 9th May, Trinity Sunday on the 16th and Whitsun on 19th. Polling Day for the TW Borough Council is on 2nd May, our local Confirmation Service will be held at St Mark's Church on 12th and the Parish Meeting and St Paul's Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on 16th May. Lots to put in your diaries!

The church remembers four of its most influential writers during May, the Venerable Bede (25th), Julian of Norwich (8th) and brothers John and Charles Wesley (24th). Bede was a monk at Jarrow, Northumberland, and is still considered the most learned Briton of his time (672 – 735 AD) who wrote on theology, history and grammar and used his skills of translation to disseminate the works of ancient Greek writers such as Pliny the Elder, Virgil and Ovid. Julian was an anchoress (circa 1343 – 1416 AD), an early form of monk/nun who withdrew from secular life, like a hermit, but committed to living in one place – in Julian's case this was a small cell attached to the church of St Julian in Norwich. Sadly the cell was demolished at around the time of Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries. While Julian was ill she received a number of revelations which she wrote down in her book, Revelations of Divine Love, which is the earliest surviving work in English written by a woman. Although she never left her cell, she was able to see into the church through a window and spoke to those who came to seek her advice. John and Charles Wesley came from Lincolnshire, sons of a Rector they were from a family of 19 children. Older brother John (1703-1791) was a theologian, cleric and evangelist who led the Methodist movement hoping to change the Church of England from within. Charles (1707-1788), also a cleric, wrote over 6500 hymns to support the regular worship advocated by the 'methodical' approach. His name crops up in services throughout the year as author of 'Christ the Lord is risen today', 'Come thou long expected Jesus', 'Lo he comes with clouds descending', 'Love divine all loves excelling', 'Hark the herald angels sing' and 'Jesu Lover of my soul'.

Rather appropriately, this year's Eurovision is being held in Malmo, Sweden, 50 years after Abba won in 1974. They were known for flamboyant costumes but there was a financial reason for this as Swedish law only gave a tax deduction for 'work clothes' if they could not be worn except for performances. Dressing up is definitely allowed if you attend a Eurovision Party on 11th May.

You can read about the Youth Council's preparations for bee hives further on in the magazine. It is World Bee Day on 20th May followed by International Day for Biological Diversity on 22nd, times to think about what we can do to reduce climate change, improve sustainability and food security. The 20th-24th May is Walk to School Week, which hopes to both promote an active lifestyle and reduce transport use. Be on the lookout for inexperienced road crossers though.

May sees the transition from winter sports to summer ones. The FA and Scottish Cup finals are on 25th May. There will be three Grands Prix during the month, USA on 3rd-5th, Italy on 17-19th and Monaco 24-26th. I will be glued to the Giro d'Italia from 4-26th May while Sue concentrates on the US PGA Golf 16-19th, but we will both be watching the French Open Tennis from 20th May – 9th June. The Olympic flame has been lit and sent on its long journey to call on people from around the world to gather in Paris for the Olympic Games.

Finally may I put in a special plea for prompt submission of articles for June by 12th May please – and that includes you, Ronnie! Sue is going to be on holiday during the month and I have two days of cataract surgery and don't yet know how this will affect my sight and ability to drive and type. I must admit that I am both eager for and petrified by the thought of this surgery. Fingers crossed it all goes well! Please think of me on 7th and 21st May.

Deborah Bruce and Sue Hare

Churchwarden's Notes



We are thankful that spring has arrived at last, with the lighter evenings and the birds singing.

It was good to see so many people attending the services over Easter and on Easter Sunday we had 170 people in the congregation.

We would like to thank everybody for all their hard work over this period, especially the flower team. The church looked beautiful.

We would also like to thank the choir for all the music they provided during all of Holy week.

There are other people in the background that have worked hard over Easter that need thanking.

Some of you may have noticed that there is a broken war grave headstone lying on top of the grave. Just to inform you that the war grave commission have been contacted and they are processing the necessary repairs and will be replacing it when they are able.

Some very keen and energetic youth council members and others have laid the foundations for the upcoming installation of the beehive. We would like to thank them for all their hard work.

Lastly just to say that the roof repairs are ongoing. Hopefully by our next warden's notes we will have a roof that does not leak.

Rod Garcia-Fermer and May Graves



Being a Christian Today

What does it mean to be a Christian today in a world so different from the time of the first Christians? And how does Christianity show itself 2000 years or so after the death of Jesus? The modern world is intelligent, has been learning for many years and is creating new experiences every day.

Christianity needs to show itself to be a religion relevant to today's world as it continues to celebrate the joys of creation and the marvels of evolution; and its actions of love, compassion, acceptance and forgiveness as demonstrated in the life of Jesus of Nazareth. It needs to be a practical religion as its members listen, empathise and act in such a way as to show concern for the elderly, those in need, in pain or dying. It has to be concerned about personal justice – or equality of opportunity. And also show concern about social or collective justice and the impact on how we live our lives together in fairness.

For Christians, God may be experienced in stillness, silence, in an awareness of the real and deep nature of their being and in the sensitive depths of their relationships with others. At the same time, we hold that the Bible is an inspired collection of writings by different people, from their own experiences and backgrounds, it is fallible and constantly open to intelligent interpretation. It is a set of writings by men and women who were inspired by their relationship to a significant and sacred otherness they call "God", as may be seen in love, compassion and forgiveness.

So the Christian church today can be seen as a set of local and national gatherings of people who are inspired by the spirit of God to a way of life that follows the example of Jesus of Nazareth. They do so by serving the needs of their neighbours and those in need throughout the world. Christians bring their passion for their neighbourhood and the world into a weekly gathering which celebrates the gift of love, the teachings of Jesus and the power of the spirit of God to transform lives. A transformed life is one changed from self-centredness to a focus on the gifts of love, compassion and forgiveness for and of other people, as demonstrated by Jesus.

Christians are also called to continue to learn more about Jesus, the Bible and how to continue to make relevant their service of others. They also try to keep aware of world events and bring their concerns into their Sunday meetings and in their devotional lives at home.

In other words, a Christian life is not dependent on merely accepting a set of beliefs handed down since the church became established as a national religion under the Roman Emperor Constantine; but is a life of “faith” in which Christians trust in the power of the love of God shown in the life of Jesus of Nazareth. They demonstrate their faith by their commitment of their lives to serving others in his name.

Their understanding of the word “God” is that God is a spiritual being who is only experienced in ways such as contemplation, meditation and silence. God is therefore not a being who can be experienced in a direct face to face manner, but in the quality of our relationships with each other and the world. God is not therefore, a person, or even a supernatural person but a presence felt in loving relationships, and a power experienced in acts of selfless giving.

A 21st century way of living Christian life is about being unafraid to ask questions about God, the Bible, the Church and faith in practice; and is not so dependent on accepted answers agreed by Bishops, Ministers and Popes. It is about how to consider from all our past teachings, readings and learnings how to live in a compassionate lifestyle today and every day. In both Action and Contemplation.

Those who are committed to living in such a lifestyle are sustained by the power of God who is love; love which is shared, shown and felt in the companionship of other Christians – in study, work, silence, in families, small groups and neighbourhood meetings and so on; in sharing experiences about the practice of Christianity today; by watching films, DVDs, TV programmes and listening to podcasts etc.; by attending meetings led by the leading practitioners of practical Christianity today - people such as Karen Armstrong, Diana Butler Bass, Barbara Brown Taylor, Robin Meyers, Brian Maclaren and Peter Rollins; by reading books by the above as well as Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan and Jack Spong.

Organised national groups are offering support and encouragement to help in the development of Christian faith for the 21st century. Groups such as the Progressive Christianity Network (PCN Britain), The Sea of Faith, Modern Church, Free to Believe and Christian Awareness in a New Age (CANAN).

Each of these organisations is providing lively networks, local and national, to stimulate thinking and encouraging appropriate action for today’s times. They publish journals, websites and provide a forum for discussion and local action.

Apart from much teaching, Christianity has a number of rituals. The Christian church incorporates in worship what people are experiencing in everyday life – pain, joy, suffering, gratitude etc. These rituals become especially vital at Christmas, Easter, Harvest, Mothering Sunday and local festivals. Ritual is practised in many places, such as funerals, weddings, in schools, and as seen on TV, for example a royal wedding or funeral.

The church is often a showcase for the arts, in drama, music, woodwork, stonework, wall paintings and a gallery for pictures. Perhaps the most moving aspect of ritual is experienced when accompanied by choral singing, both led by a choir and when a congregation sings.

Christianity is alive and kicking despite its apparent slow death in some places. For Christianity is a movement not a structure. It’s a spirit filled body that is, in new and relevant ways, constantly learning how best to present and demonstrate what the death and life of Jesus of Nazareth means for the world in the 21st century. It is a way of life open to anyone, independent of creeds and regulations. A truly dynamic way of being that can make sense for all who participate in loving and caring for the world today.

So let’s go forward, ready to meet Jesus again - for the first time.

Discussion ideas

- 1 What does being a Christian mean for you today - as an individual and in groups?
- 2 How do these meanings of faith show themselves in your practice?
- 3 What would you like to see in a 21st century church in your community?
- 4 Who inspires you to be a Christian today? How?
- 5 What books, DVDs, films and TV programmes have inspired you and encouraged you?
- 6 What churches and meetings have helped you on your Way?

Revd Tony Rutherford



01892 825505



HENRY PAUL FUNERALS

Contemporary and Traditional Services

Henry Paul Funerals is a traditional family run funeral directors purposely dedicated to providing distinct levels of service, choice, dignity and care to bereaved families in Pembury, Tunbridge Wells and surrounding areas.

24 Hour Emergency Service • Home Visits • Private Chapel of Rest • Full Fleet of Modern & Vintage Vehicles • Floral Tributes • Catering • Memorial Masonry • Pre-paid Funeral Plans • Repatriation



10 High Street, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 4NY

www.henrypaulfunerals.co.uk



WELHAM JONES

An independent family owned company

Funeral Directors & Monumental Masons



For information or advice please contact either
Simon Welham, Pam Pines or Jackie Fullerton on

01892 300330

39 Crescent Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 2 LZ



www.welhamjones.co.uk

tunbridgewells@welhamjones.co.uk



Sermon for May

The month of May presents plenty of opportunities for the preacher. There is the Ascension on 9th May, Pentecost 19th May, followed by Trinity on 26th May. You will hear plenty on those subjects from whoever is preaching but I want to take Sunday 12th May, the seventh Sunday of Easter, the Sunday after Ascension with the set lectionary reading from the Acts of the Apostles 1: 15-17 and 21-26.

I wonder how many readers have wondered why certain verses of the lectionary readings are omitted? I would like you to imagine 1961 when I was in a class of thirteen year old testosterone filled and pubescent boys when our RE teacher examined this topic and read to us the missing verses and in the words of the Authorised version of the Bible - "Now this man purchased a field with iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder and all his bowels gushed out." - at which point the class erupted and the hapless RE teacher fought gamely to restore order whilst dealing with some of the more ribald suggestions from the class as to what had just happened. The new revised Standard version (which we use at St. Paul's) records the event in much the same way.

The reading as prescribed above seems to move seamlessly from verse 17. Judas being allowed his share in our ministry, to verse 21 that those who accompanied the Lord Jesus must become a witness with us to his resurrection. The point being - was the middle part of the suggested lectionary reading omitted because they contradict St. Matthew's account of Judas's death or were they omitted because bowels rushing out was considered too gruesome for young and old to hear. Of course there are many parts of the Bible, particularly in the Old Testament, which might be seen as offensive and have to be taken into context to assist understanding. Our teacher, once order had been restored, had an interesting proposition for the class to consider.

You see this is a story about Judas, how he had acquired a field for his wickedness and then the rest is the consequence, unpleasant as it might seem. So what do we know about Judas. There are several clues that he was one of Christ's closest friends. The mere fact that the Gospels do not record his call to discipleship may indicate that he was signed up before any of the others were there to witness it. The appointment of group treasurer suggests he was a man of integrity. We should also note that at the last supper he was reclining immediately alongside Jesus because Jesus passed him a piece of bread. So the clues are there that they were friends.

At the last supper Jesus tells Judas be quick about your business! Perhaps we can imagine an air of resignation in the light of what was to come but maybe he is referring to instructions he had already given the disciples he trusts most? After all, on arrival at Gethsemane Jesus waits hours for something to occur. The disciples nod off several times. Jesus says the same prayer several times; but he still waits. For what? Judas and the soldiers? It reads that Gethsemane was the agreed meeting place and all part of a predetermined plan. Which, of course, we say was God's master plan to redeem the world by sending his son to die. If Judas had a crucial role in that what is his problem? Food for thought me thinks.

Judas never lived to appreciate the part he had played. His story reminds us not to condemn others when we cannot see the whole picture, but also - perhaps more importantly - not to condemn others either. We Christians make a commitment to do God's will; but then we have to accept, humbly, that we may never get to see how our allotted tasks played a small but vital part in a much bigger plan.

I would encourage readers to look at the missing verses, whenever they come up, and see what you think. It is easy to help you with your own opinion by accessing commentaries which will give you a steer. We never stop learning and our quest for knowledge is never assuaged.

Recommended reading:-

The Acts of the Apostles 1: 15 to the end.

Tim Cripps



An Amateur production by arrangement with The Really Useful Group Ltd.

JOSEPH and the AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

29 MAY - 1 JUNE

Lyrics by Tim Rice · Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber

"Way way back many centuries ago.."

Experience the magic of **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**, a sensational musical that will leave you spellbound!

Join Joseph on his extraordinary journey, filled with dazzling costumes, infectious music, and breathtaking dance numbers.

This timeless tale of dreams, love, and forgiveness will captivate your heart and ignite your imagination. With its unforgettable songs like 'Any Dream Will Do' and 'Go, Go, Go Joseph', this show is a must-see for theatre enthusiasts of all ages.

Don't miss your chance to be swept away by the vibrant colours and enchanting story of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.

Book your tickets now and prepare to be amazed!

Our next production is at the Assembly Hall Theatre on 29 May to 1 June 2024

HALF TERM family friendly shows each day at 2pm and 7pm.

BSL signed evening performance on Thu 30 May

Tickets – Adults £25, OAP's £25, Children £19 incl. £3 booking fee
or contact Paul & Shirley Barter on 01892 530937 to save paying the booking fee.

A Musical Note



The choir had a busy Easter with services throughout the week and culminating with a service of Readings and Music for Passiontide and Easter on Easter Sunday evening. Tim Cripps had chosen some beautiful and interesting readings for the evening and we sang music which I hope complimented these readings well.

One of the anthems that we sang was Maurice Duruflé's beautiful Ubi caritas which unusually uses the sopranos sparingly, giving the melody instead predominantly to the altos. His Ubi caritas which was composed in 1960 is based on the antiphon for Maundy Thursday to be sung during the washing of feet. The text depicts the spirit of God's presence in the sharing of love between Christ's disciples. As a boy, Duruflé was a chorister at Rouen Cathedral and as an integral part of his education he studied Gregorian chant. This then became the primary structural element in his own compositions, including his Ubi Caritas. Sadly, due to his obsessive self-critique and constant reworking of everything he wrote, he only had fourteen works published during his lifetime. Given the exquisite harmonic writing within his compositions it seems such a shame that he didn't feel able to share more of his music publicly. Duruflé also resented the implication by critics that his music was too conservative, writing at a time in which the more experimental genres of aleatoric music and minimalism were starting to dominate the compositional landscape. I think he was right to feel affronted by this lack of critical recognition, his music is a fascinating and progressive reinvention of plainchant and his compositions are still widely performed today, meaning that they have stood the test of time. If you have never heard the Duruflé Requiem, I would urge you to listen to this exquisite composition, it is quite simply stunning.

My thanks to the whole choir for their incredible singing and outstanding commitment during Easter week. In particular I would like to thank Alasdair for his amazing organ playing on Easter Sunday at both services and to those who sang solos and read so brilliantly. Also a huge thank you to Eleanor and Fergus who came along on Easter Saturday to make the Easter garden which looked amazing.

Since my last article we have welcomed Bella and Teddy as full members of the junior choir as they have completed their probationary period. We have also gained a new adult singer in Lisa, which is lovely.

It is going to be a busy summer for the choir starting with my nephew Edward's baptism on Sunday 5th May during the 10am service. Jennifer and Nic have chosen some excellent music for this service including a brand new anthem by Philip Stopford which we have just started learning. We are singing Evensong at Gloucester Cathedral on Saturday 1st June, the full weekend of services at St. Paul's Cathedral on 3rd and 4th August and another weekend away to sing at St. Alban's Cathedral on 7th and 8th September. We will be having our summer concert at 6.30pm on Saturday 29th June so please do put the date in your diary and come and join us for a very jolly evening of music making.

Fiona Johnson

Grounded in Tradition?

The Reverend Richard Coles told of the following at a recent literary event.

If something happens once it is a coincidence. If it happens twice it is a tradition.

Before he was ordained Richard Coles visited many churches to observe their customs and noticed a dramatic moment in one Easter procession when the celebrant suddenly flung himself to the ground. When asked why, Coles was told that the priest had witnessed his counterpart do this. Impressed by the piety Reverend Coles introduced this to his Parish. Several years later he met the Vicar who had thrown himself to the floor. Rev. Coles asked where he got the idea from only to be told he had tripped up but the tradition became too good to stop.

Tim Cripps



Hendley

Removals & Storage

Tel: 01 892 837207

Email: info@hendleyremovals.co.uk

Web: www.hendleyremovals.co.uk

“Your local family run movers & storers”



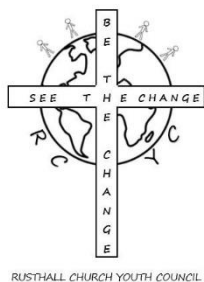
Blackham Village Market
SATURDAY 4TH MAY
10.00AM TO 12.30PM

Coffee/Tea & Cakes served from 10am

Lots of lovely produce for sale: homemade pasties, cakes, scones, free range eggs, bread, bird food, honey, handmade craft items and lots more

SEE YOU THERE!

St. Paul's Church Youth Council



Bee News



The Youth Council's Bee Work Party was fantastic! Despite it being Easter Week with some on holiday and others performing on stage, a dedicated group of 10 duly turned up with enthusiasm and tools and we all enjoyed a terrific session ending in a well deserved BBQ. They dug, planned, laughed, ate and carried the heavy slabs.



Please look behind the Lodge by the wall and you will find a super plinth just waiting for the hives. We were very grateful for both Ronnie and Chris' manual help and strength and for all the visitors who turned up to support and encourage. Their presence and time was hugely appreciated. We will now just erect the fence and gate - much easier than digging clay!



We have become the proud owners of a beehive which Chris is busy putting together - see picture left. The Youth Council are about £70 short for a second hive, so will be holding a 'bee themed' raffle and another bacon and egg breakfast on Picnic Day.

Meetings



We celebrated our first birthday in April with chocolate cake, balloons and a fountain candle.



Mark McCoughlin joined us to speak about his work in the Prison Service. Our members were fascinated and asked some excellent questions, so much so we ran well over time.

Diary Dates

Thursday 2nd May - We look forward to welcoming Ranger Dan

Thursday 6th June - Community Police

The Youth Council are a particularly friendly bunch and always welcome new members. First Thursday of every month, 6 to 7.30 pm in The Lodge.

E. R. HICKMOTT & SON



41, GROVE HILL ROAD
TUNBRIDGE WELLS
Tel: (01892) 522462 (two lines)
Fax: (01892) 533807



FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Members of N.A.F.D and S.A.I.F.

The only long established family-owned funeral directors in Tunbridge Wells.

Golden Charter Pre-payment funeral plans available.
Owned and run by the family in Tunbridge Wells for six generations.
Twenty-four hour emergency service – Qualified Funeral Directors.



www.RusthallVets.co.uk

20 ASHLEY GARDENS,
RUSTHALL,
TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
KENT, TN4 8TU.
Telephone (01892) 511715

Monday to Friday
9.00-11.00 am 4.30-6.30 pm
Saturday
9.00-11.00 am closed



Secretarial Services

Faxing
Photocopying
Typing
Handmade Greetings Cards
Stationery Items

1 High Street
Rusthall
TN4 8RL

01892 515188

suzanne@kmj-secretarial-services.co.uk

75 years of my ponderingand before I forget!



Sometime in the summer of 1949, seventy five years ago, I became a choirboy at St Peter & St Paul's Church at Seal where I attended the primary school. My father, a tenor, who'd sung in choirs since 1924, took me on the uncomfortable crossbar of his huge bicycle (perhaps he thought it would help my vocal range). I doubt that PC Taylor would have caught us on his Police pedal bike. After three years I was rewarded with a bike of my own for failing the 11+ and promptly got a seven mile 28 newspaper round getting up at 6am that paid 12s 6d (62½p) a week.

It was a boys only choir and limited in size as there were only fifteen cassocks. Mine was a hand-me-down from Danny Webb who had drawn a huge letter W on his knee using a new-fangled Biro during another boring 35 minute sermon — I always felt very self-conscious in processions as it showed up as the letter M — didn't he realise it would appear upside down? New boys had to suffer the indignity of the initiation ceremony of being thrown by the other boys into a holly bush—still there but now an ugly holly tree.

The audition was easy and I was allowed to choose my own hymn—Ride on, ride on in Majesty. Mr S B Sargeant was the choirmaster and easy going on us lads. We were paid 3d for each attendance making 3s 4d (17 pence) a quarter—three months.

The leading soprano, Mrs E Morgan, ran the village sweet and wool shop — but there was still war-time sweet rationing in place well into my teenage years and my ration coupons were held by my mother to buy sugar. However, we could get small straws of liquorice for a farthing (¼d = 960 to the £) and Sharp's toffees from Maidstone—I think a ha'penny each (½d = 480 to a £) and Wrigley's chewing gum was available off-ration. My money was spent on buying Dinky toys, Hornby trains — which I still have — and model aircraft kits.

Saturday mornings at the cinema was a waste of time due to the awful rowdy behaviour of other kids. One of my friends, Derek Hodge, had to spend his Saturday mornings once a fortnight queuing at the barbers having his hair cut even shorter.

Our verger, Mr S Baker, could be very strict and lined us up in height order — tallest at the altar end of the choir stalls and made sure we had polished black shoes. The same would happen at school assembly. Plimsolls, now called trainers, were forbidden. One day Mr Baker playfully hit Roy Mitcheson on the head with the orb and cross and put a dent in the ball — not Roy's head. My red ribboned medal I'd taken home to polish was in my haversack (back-pack) and I'm afraid some black indian ink was spilt on it and I said it was lost. I still have that too! (I might wear it one day).

We had to wear ruffs that were really rough on the neck. The local Seal Laundry heavily starched and beautifully ironed them at least three times a year which made the ruffs very hard and stiff. The ruffs looked brilliant but were most unpleasant to wear.

The vicar, Rev L Hills MC, had been a padre in the trenches of Flanders in the First World War and had the foresight to get the stained glass windows replaced with clear glass for the duration of WW2. He, or the churchwardens, was right to do so as a Doodlebug flying bomb landed in the field at the east end. I was actually disappointed when in the 1950s the stained glass was put back in — it meant we could no longer see the trees and antics of the birds or the fighter aircraft — Spitfires, Hurricanes and Meteor jets, from nearby Biggin Hill RAF base. We had detailed knowledge of each type, especially the new jets.

We would go to Rochester Cathedral several times a year to sing Evensong and travel there by Davis's cream and brown Bedford coaches — we'd groan when the one with wooden park-bench seats was used. One memorable journey — when we were near Cuxton — we could see down on the River Medway a big Short Sunderland four-engined white flying boat taxiing towards Strood. They were built at Rochester but why was it there in 1950? The factory had closed in 1947.

Hymn books were A&M and we used the red Cathedral psalter with a separate chant book so we had to hold two books—and had to learn to read Roman numerals quickly to find the right psalm, e.g. Psalms 48 or 119 (XLVIII or CIXX).

It was always Mattins at 11am and Said Communion for a few at 12.15. Evensong was at 6.30, but the congregation declined rapidly when the 26-part BBC drama of The Forsyte Saga began in 1967 — no catch up TV then.

Some memorable mischief-making comes to mind. At least one boy (not me) managed to get the grill open into the crypt and inspect the mediæval mummified coffin contents, another boy hiding in the church and letting us all back in when the adults

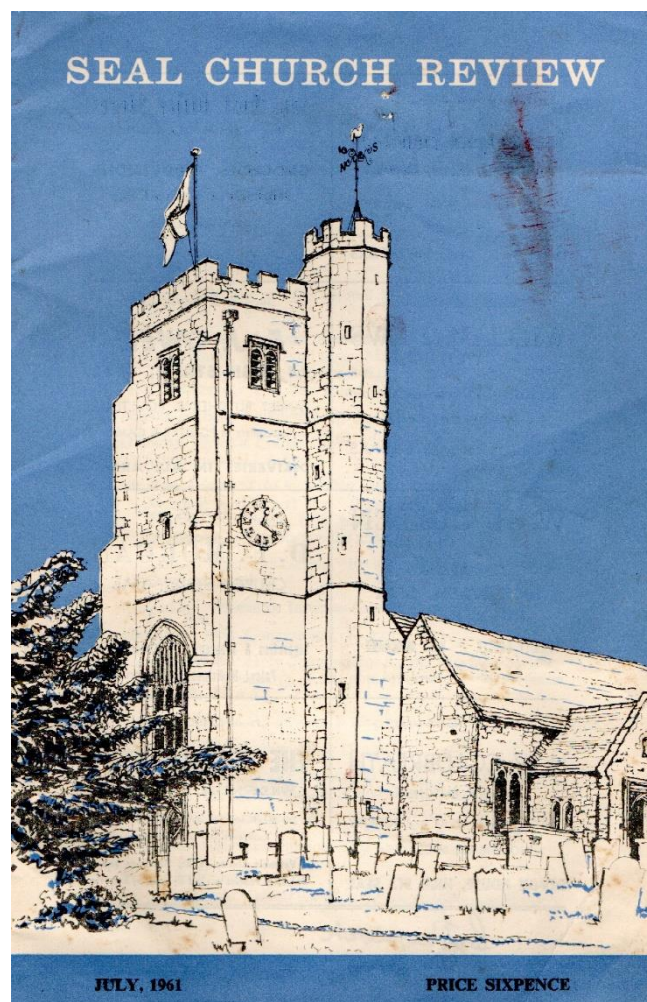
were gone so that we could blow into the dismantled organ pipes when it was being rebuilt. Fireworks were cheap, a penny or tuppence for a banger, and could be bought by us boys from Mrs Morgan and we would let them off with spectacular noise by lighting and placing them in the holes of war-time concrete tank traps or in the drainage pipes of a stone wall. Jumping cracker fireworks were best put under a metal dustbin lid. Great fun was had and I think they were thru'pence (3d) each.

I soon got the enjoyable job of winding the church clock and found interesting records of the clock's performance in the 1850s and 1860s written on the walls. I assume that the clock winder then got his time from the railway station at Bat & Ball or Kemsing. It was a heavy job that meant lifting a portable gearbox and handle on to the main shaft in order to wind the clock weights up by hand. I would advance the time slightly until it struck on the hour, stop the pendulum and wait for pips on the small transistor radio that I had, and then swing and restart the clock bang on time. As the weather got warmer then the clock got slower and it took two of us on different floors in the tower to lift, shorten and adjust the stroke of the very heavy pendulum to keep it in time.

Weddings were frequent, two or three a month and rising to two weddings on Saturdays in the spring. This was because of an income tax refund given to married couples and the nearer April 5th they married the more tax refund they got back. On one Saturday we had three weddings, one in the morning, two in the afternoon. It became interesting as bride number two was late and bride number three had to wait at the lychgate — very amusing as guests were arriving and getting confused assuming they were either late or early.

As teenagers we were paid well, 2s (a florin=10p) for a 'bride-from-council-estate', half a crown (12½ p) for a 'suburban house bride' and 3 bob (15p) when a red carpet would be rolled out to the lychgate. There were many interesting incidences of grooms not being well, fainting brides or grooms, some crying, some visible shot-gun weddings and a few with the groom's left shoe insole marked with the letters HE and of his right shoe LP placed there secretly by a family joker. Hymns were always 'Praise My Soul, Lead Us Heavenly Father Lead Us, Love Divine, Peace Perfect Peace and Jesu Joy thrown in for luck!

My first encounter with alcohol was at the Vicar's daughter's wedding when the choir were invited to the reception and a friend of my dad was the waiter, generously refilling our glasses. I would have been about twelve. The bus journey to see my grandparents immediately after was amusing and my dad and I, both being merry, were appalled when our teacher, who had taught my dad in the 1920s



This is a very early drawing by David Peacock which made the cover of the Seal Parish Magazine and demonstrates his early talent. His drawings have also been featured as covers of St Paul's News several times more recently.

and me 30 years later, got on the bus and made conversation with us.

The frequency of weddings declined, not helped by vicars who rigidly imposed the parish rule. Not many years ago one of Rotherfield's more recent vicars refused to marry a couple because he claimed the bride's farmhouse front door, which they never used, was in the neighbouring parish of Crowborough — the parish boundary ran through their farm!.

A blind organist was appointed at Seal, Michael Campbell, a music teacher at Dorton House (Blind children's school formerly Wilderness House, seat of Lord Hillingdon). Incredible that Michael memorised the music and held under his arm a cardboard sheet of braille. All went very well but he would occasionally forget how many verses to the hymns, so we would repeat the first in unison to avoid his embarrassment. The psalms were also written in braille.

My father and I sang with the Sevenoaks Player's productions of Gilbert and Sullivan where Tony Gould [one of our retired organists] was in the

orchestra. I did three shows but hated the grease make-up and the smelly costumes. Dad auditioned for The Royal Opera House but turned the job down after much deliberation. What a pity.

In 1966 I moved to Hawkenbury and joined the Orpheus Male Voice choir, meeting Iain Hamilton and Tony Bourne. John Francis would often ask me to be a guest at St Paul's. I joined St Alban's church at Frant where Len Lazell was organist and his young son Steve sang alto. We had a good time there, especially at The George Inn after services. Len was instrumental in discovering that the organ was built by a Frenchman, August Gern, in 1891. Only recently have I found out that my grandfather's grandfather was baptised at Frant in 1806 and his father married in Rotherfield in 1793.

In the 1980s I joined St Denys' at Rotherfield, a small, disorganised choir with an elderly choir secretary who would write out by hand, probably in front of the TV the night before, a service list for each member of the choir. Invariably hymn, chant and psalm numbers would be different by the time the 12th sheet was written. She collapsed in the choir stalls mid-service, which was halted while she was stretchered out by paramedics. Similar events happened on more than one Sunday. I was dialling 999 in the telephone box opposite the church, fully robed and surpliced, being asked for the street address—in the days before mobile phones.

The Rector, Bruce Hayllar, an ex-paratrooper from WW2, had the foresight to have the value of Church building insurance raised one week before the spire blew down in the hurricane of 1987. Services continued even though rain was coming in from the damaged roof. The spire was replaced two years later in sections of aluminium framework. The pipe organ was replaced with an electronic keyboard. I then sang for fifteen years at St. Mark's, Mark Cross, a small group but at least we had a single manual pipe organ with pedals, and it was mainly Mattins with no evensong services.

Having been a frequent guest at St Paul's Rusthall, since the days of John Francis, I've now been here full time for about 15 years and it has been by far the best, well organised and impressive choir, with great emphasis on encouraging young voices and organ scholars, which include two of my grandsons—Miles, now an organ scholar at Cambridge, and Fergus, singing either tenor or bass....who is learning to play the organ with Paul Jeffery.

I consider it a great privilege to be allowed to be with Fiona's wonderful choir — and to my embarrassment I still don't read music. As children our education was dreadfully poor, perhaps it was a shortage of good teachers due to war-time losses and music was not considered important. I was instructed in agriculture, tree felling and food

production. Private music lessons were beyond my family's budget. Thank goodness for a superb technical school and a career as a commercial artist—heaven!

David Peacock MSAI (Member of the Society of Architectural Illustrators)

The Veiled Virgin by Giovanni Strazza



Just imagine the ability to render solid stone transparent. Giovanni Strazza (1818-1875) created this bust of the 'The Veiled Virgin' by carving flawless Carrara marble. It stands as one of the most astounding achievements in the history of sculpture.

Strazza's mastery of the 'wet drapery' technique carried on the tradition of other Italian sculptors like Giuseppe Sanmartino, who a century earlier had crafted a veiled Christ, and of even earlier sculptors in the Renaissance such as Michelangelo who were celebrated for their intricate depictions of fabric folds.

However, in the mid-19th century Strazza pushed this technique to the limits. The delicate layered effect he achieved allows the observer to distinctly perceive Mary's facial features through the translucent veil. The process of how he managed to transform solid stone into something so soft and fluid, using only hand tools, remains a profound mystery.

Poems for Ascension in May

These three poems reflect the joy of spring and the invitation we are given to arise and live life anew each day.

Susan Barber

The May Magnificat

May is Mary's month, and I
Muse at that and wonder why:
Her feasts follow reason,
Dated due to season –

Candlemas, Lady Day,
But the Lady Month, May,
Why fasten that upon her,
With a feasting in her honour?

Is it only its being brighter
Than the most are must delight her?
Is it opportunist
And flowers finds soonest?

Ask of her, the mighty mother:
Her reply puts this other
Question: What is Spring? –
Growth in every thing –

Flesh and fleece, fur and feather,
Grass and greenworld all together;
Star-eyed strawberry-breasted
Throstle above her nested

Cluster of bugle blue eggs thin
Forms and warms the life within;
And bird and blossom swell
In sod or sheath or shell.

All things rising, all things sizing
Mary sees, sympathising
With that world of good
Nature's motherhood.

Their magnifying of each its kind
With delight calls to mind
How she did in her stored
Magnify the Lord.

Well but there was more than this:
Spring's universal bliss
Much, had much to say
To offering Mary May.

When drop-of-blood-and foam-dapple
Bloom lights the orchard-apple
And thicket and thorp are merry
With silver-surfed cherry

And azuring-over greybell makes
Wood banks and brakes wash wet like lakes
And magic cuckoo-call
Caps, clears, and clinches all –

This ecstasy all through the mothering earth
Tells Mary her mirth till Christ's birth
To remember and exultation
In God who was her salvation.

Gerard Manley Hopkins



Heron Rises from the Dark Summer Pond

So heavy
is the long-necked, long-bodied heron,
always it is a surprise
when her smoke-colored wings

open
and she turns
from the thick water,
from the black sticks

of the summer pond
and slowly
rises into the air
and is gone.

Then, not for the first or the last time,
I take the deep breath
of happiness, and I think
how unlikely it is

that death is a hole in the ground,
how improbable
that ascension is not possible,
though everything seems so inert, so nailed

back into itself—
the muskrat and his lumpy lodge,
the turtle,
the fallen gate.

And especially it is wonderful
that the summers are long
and the ponds so dark and so many,
and therefore it isn't a miracle

but the common thing,
this decision,
this trailing of the long legs in the water,
this opening up of the heavy body

into a new life: see how the sudden
gray-blue sheets of her wings
strive toward the wind; see how the clasp of
nothing
takes her in.

Mary Oliver



Song of Songs

My beloved spake, and said unto me,
Rise up, my love, my fair one and come away.
For, lo, the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone;
the flowers appear on the earth;
the time of the singing of birds is come,
and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;
the fig tree putteth forth her green figs,
and the vines with their tender grape give a
good smell.
Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

The Song of Solomon, 2:10-13

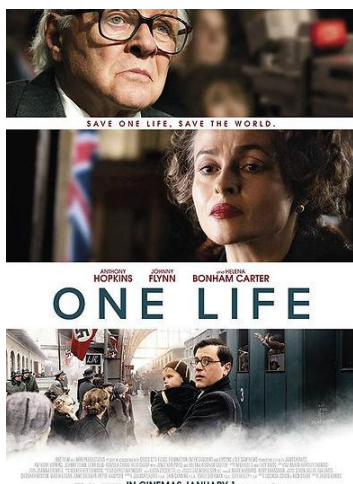


Rusthall Community Cinema



The Miracle Club (2023) Cert 12A

Doors open: 6.30pm Saturday 11th May 2024
Director: Thaddeus O'Sullivan
Genre: Comedy, Drama
Runtime: 1h 30 mins
Starring: Maggie Smith, Laura Linney, Kathy Bates



One Life (2023) Cert U

Doors open: 6.30pm Saturday 25th May 2024 (subject to change)
Director: James Hawes
Genre: Biography, Drama, History
Runtime: 1h 50 mins
Starring: Helen Bonham Carter, Anthony Hopkins, Lena Olin, Jonathan Pryce



Opera: Puccini's La Boheme

Doors open: 2pm Sunday 26th May 2024
Director: Stewart Robertson
Genre: Filmed Live Opera
Runtime: 2 h 35 mins (including interval)
Starring: Plácido Domingo, Jonas Kaufmann, Dmitri Hvorostovsky

The Church Year Part 4

The last two Sundays in Lent are known as Passiontide. The word Passion means suffering and it is a time when we as Christians remember especially the suffering that Christ went through for our sakes. The last week - Holy Week – is perhaps the most poignant.



It begins with Palm Sunday in remembrance of the last entry of Jesus into Jerusalem riding on a donkey. The

Congregation are often given Palm Crosses as a reminder of how people waved palm branches as Jesus rode into Jerusalem. It is surprisingly a Sunday of celebration reminding us of how the crowd shouted Hosanna, but it is also a big reminder of how fickle is the faith of so many. In just one short week those who had cried 'Hosanna' were crying 'Crucify Him'.

Even today, in some rural churches, as people act out the Palm Sunday story a real live donkey is used. Incidentally it is said that the reason for the mark of a cross on the donkey's back is a result of when he bore Jesus into Jerusalem. Palm Sunday sees the start of Holy Week and various church services take place during this week – the most important being those on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. However it is not unusual for churches to hold a 'service' known as The Stations of the Cross.

There is no set date for churches to hold this 'service', but for churches who do, it can in fact be any time during Lent, but most often during Passiontide. In some old churches small plaster plaques of the fourteen stations are a permanent feature of the building, but more often today a series of fourteen pictures are positioned around the church for the occasion. The idea is that Christians of today can walk the traditional route that Jesus walked to Calvary, stopping at each station to say prayers and engage in reflections associated with that station.

So we reach Maundy Thursday. The name Maundy comes from the Latin word Mandatum meaning commandment and it is the day when Jesus first instituted the service of Holy Communion when giving bread and wine to His disciples at the Last Supper. It was also the day when Jesus washed the feet of His disciples, making the point that no one is greater than anyone else and in some churches this symbolic washing of the feet of some members of the congregation is still done.

When Christianity played a much more important part in the life of our nation this action of Jesus was remembered by the monarch, who would wash the feet of a number of poor people on this day at one of our cathedrals. The actual washing stopped during the seventeenth century and instead people who have made an unsung contribution to a city are presented with 'specially engraved' Maundy money by the monarch. The number of people who receive this Maundy money corresponds to the age of the monarch and the ceremony moves to a different cathedral each year. This year 75 men and women received Maundy money at Worcester Cathedral. Basically all the actions of the Maundy Thursday service should serve as a reminder of how Jesus expects us to behave.

Often the Altars are stripped at the end of this day and left bare as a mark of sorrow and sometimes a vigil is held after the service to remind us of what Jesus did for each one of us by His suffering on the cross.

On Good Friday in the morning churches of all denominations often join together for a Procession of Witness around the village or town where they are situated. Perhaps this is more necessary today than it used to be, reminding people of the significance of this day in our calendar. There might be hot cross buns and a drink of coffee for those who have taken part and then many churches will lay on an activity type of service for the local children, introducing them to the importance of the events Christians are remembering.

From midday till 3.00pm services are often held remembering the actual time Jesus was on the cross. Sometimes the first two hours are simply a series of meditations and prayers and not all churches observe this formally, but most gather for the last hour. The seven last words of Jesus from the cross are often incorporated within the three hours.

In some countries the term Black Friday is used because the three hours particularly remember the time mentioned in the Gospels when darkness fell over the land. It is also a reminder to us of the desolation that the disciples must have felt because at that point they saw that they were bereft of their leader. To us we are observing a three day period of 'mourning' until Easter Day when we joyfully sing the hymn Jesus Christ is risen today. We have the benefit of knowing that Good Friday was not – is not – the end of the story.

Next month we will continue the Church year thinking of Easter and probably Easter Eggs.

Daphne Pilcher



MR JOLLY CHIMNEY SWEEP

27 Apsley Street, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 8NU

Tel: 01892 618324 Mobile: 07752 130577

Honest Reliable Friendly Service
Free Smoke Test, Certificate Issued
No Mess, No Fuss

Where there's a will There's a way to help St Paul's

Please help us to preserve the church buildings
and ministry by leaving a legacy to St Paul's
Rusthall in your will.

Thank you

Tamarix Holiday Bungalow Winchelsea Beach



Tamarix is a 2 bedroom bungalow situated in a no-through road, and set in a large fenced shingle and grassed garden. It is ideal for those looking for a quiet and comfortable self-catering accommodation to enjoy a tranquil break along the stunning Sussex coast. Sleeping four, the cottage can be used for a wonderful family holiday or just a cosy break for two. Pets are welcome by arrangement and Tamarix is perfectly situated for walking, bird watching, cycling, and the beach.

Holidays are on a weekly basis only in high season, but short breaks may be possible at other times.

**Weeks for 2024 (April to October) are available
from £650 per week**

Please call 01892 528538 or email
karen_miller_2@hotmail.co.uk
for more information.



Your local independent Estate Agent
...contactable 7 days a week

**We are your local family run
Estate Agents
based in Rusthall High Street**

**We offer a good, personal and
professional service with
competitive fees and flexible
contract terms.**

**Call us today for a FREE Market
appraisal**

01892 515188
sales@kmjproperty.co.uk



Easy Payment Terms

Income from magazine sales is important to us at St Paul's. If everyone paid the £1 cover charge we would raise over £1500 a year, which would not only cover the cost of producing the magazine but also contribute to other costs such as leasing the photocopier.

If you often find yourself fumbling for the right change, perhaps you might like to pay in advance for a year's "subscription", 10 issues for the sum of £10, (you might even feel tempted to be more generous!)

Your contributions are much appreciated.

Please make cheques payable to St Paul's Church, Rusthall and send them to the Parish Office

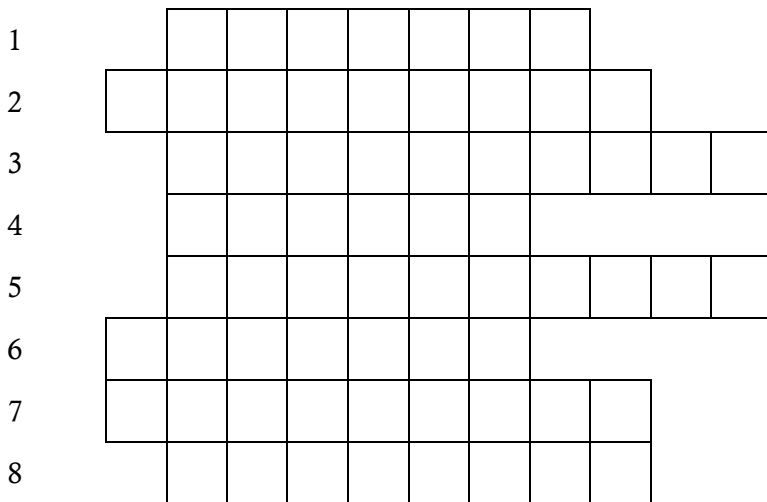
Activity Pages

Our old Nursery Rhymes

How many do you know? How many can you remember? You have been given the initial letter of each word in the first line. What is the rhyme?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. L J H S I A C 2. J A J W U T H 3. O K C W A M O S 4. H D D T C A T F 5. L M M S O A T 6. O M H W T T C 7. L B P H L H S 8. H D S O A W 9. D D B P I T W 10. M M Q C H D Y G G | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. T T T P S S A P A A H R 12. H D D T M R U T C 13. L P F S A T C 14. P P T K O 15. M H A L L 16. J S C E N F 17. H A B B O T T T 18. O A L S T B O S C 19. B B B S H Y A W 20. R A C H T B C |
|---|--|

Find the hidden Mini Beast. Solve the horizontal clues and you will find another mini beast hidden in one of the vertical columns.



1. An insect which sounds like a game
2. This insect sounds like a male hen plus something Cinderella enjoyed if you change the first letter of the second part of the word
3. Another name for newt
4. The largest British Wasp
5. A fly which buzzes around the house and which you do not want to land on food
6. Another name which might be given to number 5
7. A land living relative of crabs and lobsters
8. Beetle well known for its red body and black spots

Word Search - Spot the Transport

All the letters are used once and some more than once

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

- | | | |
|----------|------------|-------|
| BARGE | BUS | CAB |
| CAMEL | CANOE | CART |
| COACH | CORACLE | CYCLE |
| ELEPHANT | HELICOPTER | HORSE |
| LORRY | MULE | PLANE |
| PRAM | ROCKET | SHIP |
| SKIS | SLEDGE | TAXI |
| TRAIN | VAN | YACHT |

Twenty Questions to Test You

- The Swiss mountain range
- Name given to the cup used at Holy Communion
- Name given to any hard shelled fruit
- Name for the Zodiac sign – Twins
- Fingerless gloves
- Capital of Ukraine
- What was the real first name of Marilyn Monroe
- Name of London’s ‘tailoring street’
- Name given to the main part of a church
- What is the alloy of copper and zinc
- Who was the son of Aphrodite
- Name of Noah’s boat
- What area is controlled by a bishop
- Name given to the mountains in Peru
- Names of Isaac’s two sons
- Name of the lion in Narnia
- The capital city of Morocco
- Name given to the Biblical paradise
- What was the home village of Mary, Martha and Lazarus
- What was the Jewish name for everyone who was not a Jew

May is the season for flowers. Try this Flower Cross-Jig

Fit the five letter shapes into the grid. When the diagram is complete the columns contain the names of ten flowers – either gardens or wild.

O R

V R

E

R N L

R

A

O C V

H R

D L

O

R C O

I

F

H C L T

W W

C S T

O E

N Y S M

R I E A

L O

T E W

U

T

I U E L

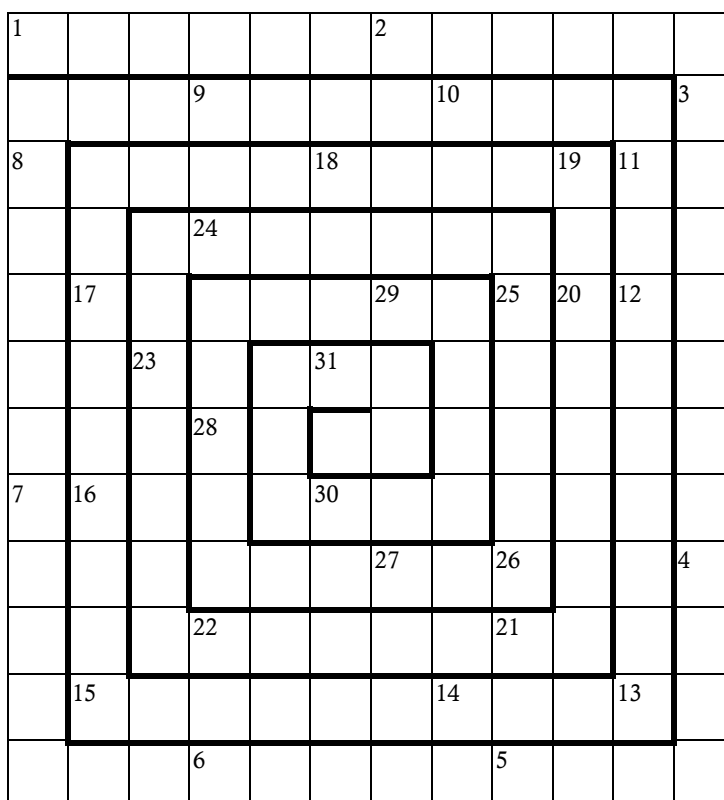
S

E

R L T D

Crossword where the last letter of one answer is the first of the next. All the answers are connected with the Bible or Church.

1. The first book in the Bible
2. First Christian martyr
3. Sixteenth book in the New Testament
4. Autumn Church festival
5. The Doubting disciple
6. White vestment worn by a chorister
7. The rising of Jesus from the dead
8. Synagogue leader
9. Son of Abraham
10. Band of church singers
11. Colour of the Altar cloth on Palm Sunday
12. Area controlled by a bishop
13. Fifteenth book of the Bible
14. The first Patriarch
15. He wrote the second Gospel
16. Position held by Hiram of Tyre
17. Giant killed by David
18. His book follows Daniel in the Old Testament
19. Long white vestment worn by a priest
20. A rite usually performed at a font
21. Name sometimes given to a service of Morning Prayer
22. His strength was in his hair
23. Name given to the main part of the Church
24. A Biblical name for a letter
25. Where Mary and Joseph took the Baby Jesus to escape from King Herod
26. Number of Commandments
27. One of the Creeds of the Church of England
28. An Old Testament queen
29. Name given to the screen behind the altar
30. Town often linked with Gomorrah
31. The name often given to Holy Communion at midnight on Christmas Eve



ANSWERS

Nursery Rhymes

1. Little Jack Horner sat in a corner
2. Jack and Jill went up the hill
3. Old King Cole was a merry old soul
4. Hey diddle diddle the cat and the fiddle
5. Little Miss Muffet sat on a tuffet
6. Old Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard
7. Little Bo Peep has lost her sheep
8. Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall
9. Ding dong bell pussy's in the well
10. Mary Mary quite contrary how does your garden grow
11. Tom Tom the piper's son stole a pig and away he ran
12. Hickory dickory dock, the mouse ran up the clock
13. Little Polly Flinders sat among the cinders
14. Polly put the kettle on
15. Mary had a little lamb
16. Jack Sprat could eat no fat
17. Hush a bye baby on the tree tops
18. Oranges and lemons said the bells of St Clemence
19. Baa baa black sheep have you any wool
20. Ride a cock horse to Bambury Cross

Hidden Mini Beasts

- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Cricket | 2. Cockroach | 3. Salamander | 4. Hornet |
| 5. Bluebottle | 6. Blowfly | 7. Woodlouse | 8. Ladybird |

Minibeast – Crane fly

Twenty Questions to Test You

- | | | | | |
|-------------|------------|---------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 1. The Alps | 2. Chalice | 3. Nut | 4. Gemini | 5. Mitts |
| 6. Kiev | 7. Norma | 8. Savile Row | 9. Nave | 10. Brass |
| 11. Cupid | 12. Ark | 13. Diocese | 14. Andes | 15. Jacob and Esau |
| 16. Aslan | 17. Rabat | 18. Eden | 19. Bethany | 20. Gentile |

Flower Cross-Jig

Working from left to right

Clover Sorrel Thrift Orchid Crocus Violet Nettle Yarrow Sundew Mallow

Crossword where last letter is first of the next

- | | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Genesis | 2. Stephen | 3. Nehemiah | 4. Harvest | 5. Thomas |
| 6. Surplice | 7. Easter | 8. Rabbi | 9. Isaac | 10. Choir |
| 11. Red | 12. Diocese | 13. Ezra | 14. Abraham | 15. Mark |
| 16. King | 17. Goliath | 18. Hosea | 19. Alb | 20. Baptism |
| 21. Matins | 22. Samson | 23. Nave | 24. Epistle | 25. Egypt |
| 26. Ten | 27. Nicene | 28. Esther | 29. Reredos | 30. Sodom |
| 31. Mass | | | | |



General Information

Vicar Rev. Ronnie Williams, The Vicarage, Bretland Road, Rusthall	521357
Associate Priest Rev. Nicholas Burton (c/o Parish Office)	521447
Reader Miss Daphne Pilcher	521691
Churchwardens Mr Rod Garcia-Fermer	
Please contact via email to Churchwardens@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk	
Deputy Churchwardens Mr Graeme Anderson Mr Chris Dobson	532922 539539
Parochial Church Council Secretary Mrs Mione Palmer	667951
Youth Council Angela Culley	07779 098026
Treasurer and Planned Giving Mrs Pat Cripps	521447
Safeguarding Officers Miss Daphne Pilcher May Graves	521691 680274
DBS Officer Clive Brown c/o the Parish Office	521447
Bible Reading Fellowship Secretary Vivienne Sharp	543263
Choir Leader Miss Fiona Johnson	07540 273303
Magazine Editors Deborah Bruce and Sue Hare c/o the Parish Office email – magazine@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk	
Flower Team Mrs Daphne Hodges	533492
Parish Hall Bookings Churchyards Enquiries to Parish Office	521447
Rusthall St Paul's Primary School Executive Headteacher – Mrs Liz Mitchell Head of School – Mrs Lyndsay Smurthwaite	520582 520582

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

All worshippers who are baptised members of the Church of England, and aged over 16, should have their names entered on the Electoral Roll. This entitles them to attend and vote at the Annual Parochial Meeting. Forms for enrolment will be found in the Parish Church or the Parish Office and should be sent to the Vicar.

Organisations

Julian Group Mrs Pat Stevens	529187
Group Scout Leader Gavin Cons Email – rusthallscoutgroup@gmail.com	
Scout Membership Secretary Juliet Waller Email – rusthallscoutgroupwaitinglist@yahoo.co.uk	
Squirrels: rusthallsquirrels@gmail.com Beavers: beaversrusthall@gmail.com Cubs: rusthallcubs@hotmail.co.uk Scouts: rusthallscouts@gmail.com	
Guide Senior Section Helen Deller	07720 252481
Guide Guiders Gemma Bradley	07377 061398
Brownie Guiders Karen Miller (Thurs) rustahallbrownies@btinternet.com Ms Tina Francis (Mon)	545877
Rainbows Mrs Mary Saunders Email – saundii@aol.com	319872
Playtime at St Paul's Liz Mankelow	07840 837968
Rusthall Lunch Club Mrs Ros Rodwell	01892 618538
Rusthall Community Larder Bjorn Simpole	07900 906294
Rusthall Community & Youth Project Barry Edwards	680296
Rusthall Village Association Alex Britcher	07967 011467
Rusthall Parish Council Council Clerk: Alison Stevens	520161
Rusthall Bonfire and Fete Committee Annie Softley	548366
Friends of TW and Rusthall Common Clive Evans	518975



The Parish Office

Parish Administrator - Mrs Ginette di Palma

St Paul's Parish Office, Church Centre, Rusthall Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 8RE

Telephone (01892) 521447

Registered Charity in England & Wales, Number 1132681

Office email: office@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

Magazine email: magazine@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

Website: www.stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

The Office is open on weekday mornings (except Tuesdays) between 10 am and 1 pm.