STPAUL'S NEWS

May 2023



SERVICES

Sunday 7th May Fifth Sunday of Easter

10.00 am Joint Coronation Service

Minister: The Vicar Preacher: Daphne Pilcher

No Evening Service

Sunday 14th May Sixth Sunday of Easter

10.00 am Parish Eucharist with Baptism

President: Rev. Nicholas Burton

Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 am Family Service

at the Church Centre + Zoom Lead: Wendy Anderson Link: Liz Goddard

6.30 pm Evensong (BCP)

Minister: The Vicar

Thursday 18th May Ascension Day

8.00pm Festival Eucharist

President& Preacher: The Vicar

Sunday 21st May Seventh Sunday of Easter Sunday after Ascension

10.00 am Parish Eucharist (CW)

President & Preacher: The Vicar

10.00 am Family Service

at the Church Centre + Zoom Lead: Daphne Pollard Link: Susan Powley

6.30 pm Evensong (BCP)

Minister & Preacher: The Vicar

Sunday 28th May Pentecost

10.00 am Matins (BCP)

Minister & Preacher: Rev. Nicholas Burton

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: The Vicar



DIARY

Wednesday 3rd May

10.30 am Julian group meets at 30 Chancellor House. 8.00 pm Family Service meeting at the Church Centre

Thursday 4th May

All Day – Local Council elections

The Church Centre is being used as a Polling Station so there is **no Lunch Club** on this day

Saturday 6th May

The Coronation of King Charles III

Sunday 7th May

11.00 am Bring and share lunch at the Parish Church/Lodge

Wednesday 10th May

4.00 pm Lunch Club AGM – at the URC

Thursday 11th May

2.30 pm Parish Fellowship Communion

Church Centre

3.00 pm Parish Fellowship AGM

Followed by Coronation Tea Party

Wednesdays throughout the month

Charlie's Angels Kitchen 12 – 2 pm

Charlie will endeavour to keep the 'pay as you feel' café open for lunches every Wednesday. Whenever possible it will operate from the Church Centre Car Park, if too windy for safety it will move into the Church Hall. You can check dates on her website www.charliesangelskitchens.co.uk

Thursdays throughout the month (except 4 May)

12 for 12.30 Rusthall Lunch Club at the

Church Centre

Fridays throughout the month

12.30 pm Community Larder - Church Centre

Magazine Article Deadlines

14th May for June 11th June for July/August 13th August for September 17th September for October

15th October for November

13th November for December/January 2024

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.

Magazines are posted on the Parish website by the 1st of the month. Photocopies of the magazine will also be made available in our churches for those who cannot access the magazine online. Please contact Ginette di Palma at the Church Office (TW 521447) if you are finding it difficult to access a copy.

From the Vicarage

Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia! Thank you 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. Thank you also to the Reverend Anthony Hammill who conducted the Easter service with Holy Communion at the Church Centre.

I would like to thank all those who attended our Annual Parochial Church meeting (APCM) this year. The attendance was appreciably more than it has been in recent years. Special thanks to Clive McAllister and May Graves who stepped down from being Church Wardens after 13 and 7 years respectively of dedicated service to the Parish of St Paul, Rusthall and unstinting support to me. They have stepped down as Wardens but will continue to be active members of our worshipping community. We wish them well in their new endeavours and hope that Clive might take up playing Folk music again - something he had to give up during his tenure as Warden. And, who knows, May might just enjoy having some more evenings off, especially Mondays. My thanks also go to Verena (Vreni) Gould who stepped down from being a Deanery Synod Representative and member of PCC and Susan Powley who stepped down from being Deputy Church Warden.



It would be remiss of me not to welcome our new Church Wardens in the persons of Christopher (Chris) Reece and Roderick (Rod) Garcia-Fermer. My thanks and appreciation to them and everyone who offered themselves for election and re-election onto the Parochial Church Council (PCC). I look forward to working with them as, together, we continue to seek ways of being effective witnesses and faithful disciples of Christ. Please pray for Chris and Rod, and other members of the PCC: Mione Palmer, Pat Cripps, Chris Dobson, Margaret Brown, Graeme Anderson, Tony Bourne, Sue Hare, Daphne Pilcher, Nic Farman, Jean Kerr, Elaine Bruce and Tim Harrold.

I would also like to publicly thank everyone who contributed towards the cost of installing the two new boilers and flues at the Parish church. Thanks to your financial support – and the swift response and professionalism of the Engineers, we were able to resume worship at the Parish Church on Palm Sunday. Our time of worshipping together at the Church Centre with family service was truly special and I hope that, going forward, we will build on the relationships that were nurtured and the experiences gained during that time together as a parish.

It was sad to have to say goodbye to three of our staunch members recently – Jean Steyn, Pam Munro and David Vernon – but to have their funerals at the Parish Church in the same week in Easter Season was providential. Jesus' resurrection gives us a very unique hope – not just of believing but of living our lives in the knowledge of 'the resurrection of the dead'. Jesus, our resurrected Saviour and Lord reassures us that, as disciples of his, we shall all be raised on the last day (John 6:39) - and our bodies though perishable will be transformed and raised imperishable (1 Corinthians 15:42) as we take our place in eternity and reside at the place Jesus Christ has prepared for his disciples (John 14:3). What a day of rejoicing that will be.

I will end with a prayer that was regularly said by one of these, our three Christian stalwarts: 'Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening into the house and gate of Heaven, to enter into that gate and dwell in that house, where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light; no noise nor silence, but one equal music; no fears or hopes, but one equal possession; no ends or beginnings, but one equal eternity, in the habitations of thy glory and dominion, world without end'. Amen.

John Donne (1572 - 1631)

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Editorial

April turned out to be wet and cold but despite that the sun we did have made all the spring flowers pop out to cheer us up. The new boilers were installed at the church so that diversity of worship has returned. As a member of the choir it was interesting to sing in the very different acoustic of the Church Centre. We had to make sure the sound wasn't over-powering rather than making sure we could be heard at the back of the church. The big anthems to organ accompaniment had to be kept on hold, so it was lovely to let rip at Easter. The flower team did a marvellous job too, finding all sorts of new places for flowers.

This May will be remembered for the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla – and the additional Bank Holiday provided to celebrate it, meaning that there will be Bank Holiday Mondays on 1st, 8th and 29th May this year and only 2 full working weeks. Let us hope that the weather is fine and the threatened protests come to nothing. There is a lot more about the coronation inside the magazine.

No sooner have we partied to celebrate the Coronation, but the following Saturday we get to party again because it's Eurovision! We are, of course, acting as surrogate host because last year's competition was won by Stefania by The Kalush Orchestra from Ukraine, with the UK entry of Sam Ryder's 'Spaceman' a close second. We will have to see how Mae Muller will do in Liverpool with her own composition 'I wrote a song'.

It was lovely to have a visit from two of the parishioners from St Peter's, Mabelreign, our link parish in Harare, Zimbabwe. Lucy and Mike Mvumbe explained that their situation had improved greatly from the time when they were locked out of their church and holding services at the roadside. Their congregation had grown considerably and they now had a satellite church – St David's – about 5 km away. They reminisced about their visits to the parish and reminded us that it was now the turn of St Paul's to visit St Peter's.

The choir no longer climbs to the roof of the tower to greet Ascension Day [Thank Goodness!], but there will still be a special service on the evening of Thursday, 18th May at 8 pm.

You may remember reading an article from Elsie Emes' son Paul in the March magazine. At the time he was providing humanitarian aid – mainly water – in Darfur, the west of Sudan. He is now in Khartoum where fighting has recently broken out. Please hold Paul, and his wife Julia in your prayers as UNICEF try to evacuate them.

Please get your articles for the June magazine in by 14th May. Please don't be late – I have a wedding cake to get ready for my son's wedding! I shall be doing it while watching the Giro d'Italia with any luck – first Grand Tour of the year.

Deborah Bruce and Sue Hare

From The Registers

Baptisms – we welcome as newly Baptised members of the church Luna Ariadne Ophelia Foxwell Elliot Kit Foster Blackden

At rest – the sympathy of the Parish is extended to the family and friends of:

David Bowater Vernon

Valerie Adams

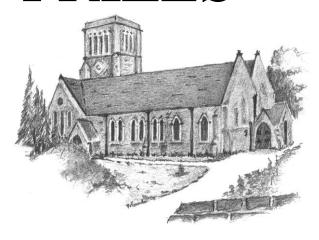
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Churchwarden's Notes



Dear Fellow Parishioners,

Well, this really is our last wardens notes. They have proved an interesting challenge over the many years we have had to report on various crises with the occasional element of light relief to help make potential doom laden issue slightly more palatable.

We would have liked to have resolved our financial Parish worries but feel we have at least brought our precarious financial situation to your attention and believe our Parish prayer day will help to bring these worries to a satisfactory conclusion.

We both feel very conscious of the privileged position we have held within the parish and are so grateful for your unending support.

It is with a sense of humility for ourselves, but a feeling of pride in our parish that we now hand over the reins of responsibility to our two new wardens.

So, with our final Benediction we as usual wish you all Love and Peace and we remain as ever your humble servants.

May and Clive



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Our new Churchwardens

Chris Reece taught for 35 years, mainly Modern Languages, this included 18 years at Dulwich College, which was very special. He organised Bridge and Golf for the pupils and dabbled in beginners' Russian as part of the 6th form optional studies programme.

He has a wide experience of life, having lived and worked abroad in central Europe and having been involved in various areas of social work, the highlight was at the Hospice in the Weald on the reception desk on the ward.

Present hobbies include bowls, working as an usher at Trinity and classical music: singing in two choirs and he is hoping to return to playing the organ for fun. Long term aim is the final movement of Widor's fifth organ symphony, possibly in abridged form!

Rod Garcia-Fermer left Sandown Court School in 1975 and after training at Tonbridge College qualified as an electronics engineer. installed all sorts of alarms, has repaired numerous electrical cables, including work on substations and he worked for 16 years as a compliance officer.

He brought up 3 teenage daughters by himself. This taught him a lot about life and how to interact with people.

He tries to be caring and open-minded.

He enjoys drawing nature, but he will never be a Picasso!!

They feel that they can work as a team and their skills complement each other. The immediate period will be learning about keys (!) and gradually implementing the Action Plan, which was the result of the day of prayer.





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

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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

A Musical Note



As always the choir was very busy with services during Easter week. We had a wonderful service of Readings and Music for Easter on Easter Sunday evening in place of Evensong. Tim Cripps had kindly found some beautiful readings for the service and these were interspersed with hymns and anthems. This year our anthems were This joyful Eastertide - arr. Ledger, Hosanna to the Son of David - Weelkes, O Salutaris Hostia - Elgar, Ave Verum Corpus - Mozart, God so loved the world -Stainer, My Beloved Spake - Hewitt Jones, Now the Green Blade Riseth - Lindley and Blessed be the God and Father - Wesley. The service was great fun to sing and the choir were on great form; I think the thought of the Prosecco at the end of the service was an excellent motivational tool! My thanks in particular to Debbie Millar for her fabulous solo in Blessed be the God and Father and to Alasdair Friend for his wonderful playing at this service. Huge thanks to all of the organists and to the whole choir for their work during Holy Week.

The Junior Choir also had fun on the morning of Holy Saturday creating the Easter Garden.



On the Wednesday after Holy Week, Choral Evensong on Radio 3 came from St. John's College, Cambridge sung by St. John's Voices. George Palmer who has been singing at Rusthall since he was eight years old was singing for this amazing service. If you didn't hear it at the time then do have a listen on BBC Sounds, it was a brilliant evensong.

With the Coronation fast approaching, the choir has started looking at some of the music for our service on 7th May. We will be singing Zadok the Priest by Handel and I was glad by Parry as well as The Call of Wisdom by Todd (Head Chorister Jess's favourite anthem) at this service. I do hope that we will have a big congregation for this service especially as it is a joint service.

On Saturday 15th July the choir will be singing Evensong at Westminster Abbey. As this is quite a local evensong it would be lovely to see some of the congregation supporting us at this service, so if you fancy a day out in London then why not come along and hear us sing there. We were blown away by how welcoming they were when we visited last summer during choir camp so we are really looking forward to singing there soon.

St Paul's Parish Fellowship

Mr Garret's Fireside Theatre, History of Drury Lane

At our last meeting on 13 April we were treated to a whistle stop tour of the history of the Theatre Royal in Drury Lane. Dave Allen, our speaker, worked there for the six years as Assistant Head Flyman, before training as a producer. He met and mixed with famous actors and performers and enthused us with his love and knowledge of the theatre. He had plenty of anecdotes up his sleeve and we were well entertained by his talk.

Future Dates

Thursday 11 May at 3pm 2.30pm Communion in Church Centre, followed by AGM and Coronation Cream Tea.

Thursday 8 June at 3pm Elaine Bruce, BBC producer "Impartiality – can the media ever get it right?"

Thursday 13 July Outing to Great Comp Garden, Great Comp Lane, St Mary's Platt, Sevenoaks TN15 8QS A hidden gem!





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St Paul's Church Youth Council

The Youth Council has now held two very successful meetings, complete with pizza and chocolate cake!

They have shared some excellent ideas and are keen for their united 'voice' to become an important part of our Rusthall community. They have placed their top priority as supporting the construction of a crossing across the Langton Road thereby linking the village with the church. None of them are currently happy or confident in crossing the road, relying on parents to drive them We enjoyed an extremely to The Lodge. interesting and informative visit from Dave Funnell who has placed the crossing as a foremost priority in his manifesto for the upcoming elections and Councillor Peter Lidstone who is also the TWBC Cycling and Active Travel Champion and chairman of the Joint Transportation Board. Both were very impressed with the Youth Council's enthusiasm and we look forward to working with them.

The Youth Council will also be running the BBQ and the Jumble Sale at the upcoming Church Summer Fayre on June 17th and are organising various fundraising activities including cake sales and a mammoth car washing Saturday. In between we find time for fun!

Our next meeting is Thursday May 4th at 6pm in The Lodge behind the Parish Church. Everyone aged between 11 and 17 is very welcome. We look forward to Parish Councillor Paul Gripper joining us. Either just turn up on the 4th or if you would like more information email stpauls.cyc@gmail.com

Angela Culley, Jean Kerr, Nicola Brookes





Rusthall Community Cinema



Mrs Harris Goes to Paris (2022) Cert PG

Doors open: 6.30pm Saturday 13th May 2023

Director: Anthony Fabian Genre: Drama, Comedy

Runtime: 115 mins

Starring: Lesley Manville, Isabelle Huppert,

Lambert Wilson



National Theatre Live Best of Enemies - Cert 12A

Doors open: 2pm Sunday 28th May 2023

Writer: James Graham
Director: Jeremy Herrin
Genre: Filmed Live Theatre

Runtime: tba

Starring: David Harewood, Zachary Quinto



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Animals of the Bible Part 4

We have already thought about the beasts of burden and how they were most important for food, clothing, and for all sorts of useful work, but we must not forget the dog. It was the first animal to join forces with man and in fact dogs can do a bigger range of jobs than all the other animals put together.

I suppose we can say that the beasts of burden were for man to use – but to use properly and carefully. This was pointed out to the Israelites quite early in their history. At first the Hebrews were mostly pastoral people, depending for their living on flocks and herds. When they left Egypt to return to Palestine they took their livestock with them.

It is interesting to note that the first laws of prevention of cruelty to animals were made and written down in the Bible. They were included in the Laws which God gave to Moses. The new homeland of Palestine was hard to man and beast and all had to work hard to survive, but because of these humane laws the animals belonging to the Israelites probably had an easier time than those belonging to the heathen nations round about.

The Jews were strictly forbidden to work on the Sabbath Day, but there were exceptions to this rule where animals were concerned. The cows had to be milked, and it was their duty to see that all their animals were supplied with water to drink. We read that if an ox or an ass fell into a ditch they had to rescue it, even if it meant hard work. As Jesus told in one of his parables if even a single sheep was lost the shepherd would go to great lengths to find it again.

Birds are also mentioned in the Mosaic laws. If a man came across a nest of one of the birds suitable for food he was allowed to take only the eggs or the young birds, but he was not allowed to kill the hen bird. This may seem to us to be decidedly cruel, but we need to remember that in most eastern countries, even today, no hunter would dream of setting a bird free to nest again.

The sheep has the distinction of being one of the first individual animals mentioned plainly by name in the Bible. We are told that Abel was a keeper of sheep. Sheep were tremendously important to the Hebrews. The Old Testament uses 14 different words for the various ages and sexes of sheep. However when we come to the New Testament many people were living in towns and so sheep had become less important. In fact there are only four Greek words for sheep here, but in the whole

of the Bible sheep are mentioned over 300 times, which is more than any other animal.

The sheep is a sociable animal and it prefers going about in flocks, as a farmer knows only too well, in that when one sheep finds a gap in a hedge all the rest will follow. But on the other hand there is safety in numbers and in the wilds of early Palestine this was an advantage.

Wool is first mentioned in the Bible in the time of Moses. It was used in weaving cloth for the thicker clothes and warmer blankets needed in the cold winter weather. Although wool is really hair, it has a special quality that hair does not have and this is one of the reasons why it is so useful. When strands of wool are twisted together they cling to each other and form a thread which, in turn, can be knitted or woven into different types of cloth. This job of converting wool into cloth was, in Bible times, always the job of the women.

But it was not only for wool that sheep were valuable the Hebrews. To the pastoral people sheep were most of their living. The milk was rich and creamy, and it was often made into cheese – usually of a sour form rather like yoghourt. Fresh milk does not keep well in a hot climate and the cheese made was very refreshing. The skins were either used as leather or as coverings, with the wool left on to make a warm cloak or even a floor mat. Sheep also provided them with most of their meat.

Sheep are really grazers and so it was the shepherd's job to move the sheep around and make the best use of whatever grazing he could find. These early sheep certainly didn't have humps, but the next best thing was a fat tail where they could store up plenty of fat to cope with lean times. Over the years the breeds have changed and probably Jacob would not recognise the breeds which we know today.



Daphne Pilcher





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7.30PM CHAPEL OF ST AUGUSTINE TONBRIDGE SCHOOL

Finding the way in a land without maps

As I write there is news that the rehearsal for the Coronation procession; went spectacularly wrong after one group (I hope it was not the military) took an incorrect route and by the time they had regained the right route the procession was very late and had run over time. It will of course be all right on the day but hence the title of this month's contribution to the magazine.

I have based the sermon on the readings below which are those loosely set for the sixth Sunday after Easter. I say loosely because I have ignored Acts which must be read and gone for the other suggested reading from 1 Peter in conjunction with John Chapter 14.

It is a fact that the reading from John's Gospel is often referred to as the 'farewell Discourse' which is why the first six verses are often chosen for funerals and yet, whilst this is technically accurate, this description bleeds the words of Jesus of their intimacy and power. It suggests a collection of words for us to admire, rather than a living word by which we can be inspired and even transformed. Is it possible, therefore to restore something of that vitality to Christ's words? Can we allow the Spirit of truth to breathe new life into the words we have heard and, in the process, save us with the kiss of eternal life?

On the eve of his Passion, Christ gathers his disciples. He speaks to those who gave up their livelihoods and domestic security to become his followers. But this is more than a poignant exchange of of 'goodbyes' or an opportunity to express what each has meant to the other. This is nearer to the captain addressing his team at the half time break empowering the team to remember that they were playing for the shirt and the people who had paid good money to support you. In my sporting days I heard many of these talks, be it soccer or cricket humming with energy and directness. But in John 14 this was Christ mapping out for his disciples the future of his Church, giving them 'the reason for the hope' (1 Peter 3:15) that they are to share with others.

For many people, including myself, maps have become largely redundant. Instead, I like many others, rely on the voice of the car sat nav or our phones. I remember once driving to some reception in a stately pile in Oxfordshire and the way in was down a private drive which was largely concealed from the road. I drove past it four times and in the end the lady's voice with the Sat Nav said 'You

have finally arrived at your destination' and I am pretty certain there was heavy emphasis on 'finally'. The one thing that I really learnt from my O level in Geography was how to read an ordinance survey map but for me and many others the ability to read a map or orient ourselves by using physical landmarks has been lost to us (including perhaps the Coronation procession!). The technology now does the heavy lifting because we are no longer required to visualise or imagine the final route to our destination. All we have to do is follow the instructions which is fine for navigating the lay of the land but it can lead to problems, as demonstrated above, and particularly when we are travelling along the pilgrim way to our heavenly destination.

The story is well known in John's Gospel because Christ tells us the way and we are told that we should know the way and they ask how can we know the way? A bit like using the sat nav and losing the signal or not paying enough attention and so Christ has to give them the pep talk. "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life'. he is the destination.

There is something more, however, and that is that Christ has been their guide during his earthly life and now through that life, death and resurrection Christ reveals that those who follow him are known and loved by God. What's more he assures us all that when he is no longer physically present he will send another Advocate who will continue to reveal the mysteries of Paschal faith.

We can be confident that Christ is present to us. With this certainty, we are able to risk everything to follow him. Doing so we flourish as human beings and are commissioned to be ambassadors of hope to our brothers and sisters ignoring and turning away all that is bad in favour of the ways of peace, 'Courtesy and respect' (1 Peter 3: 16)>

Christ is the Way, because he is the truth and the life. He has travelled the only way to the Father, that is, the way of the Cross that leads to final glory. Where has he gone, we must follow and take our place on the path of righteousness. When we travel that way, guided by the Holy Spirit, the house of the Father comes into view and our every step becomes a declaration of hope. No Sat Nav is needed, we can find our way without a map. Amen.

Recommended Bible Readings:-

1 Peter 3: 13-22 John 14; 1-21

Tim Cripps



TWODS are delighted to bring you Ian Fleming's fantasmagorical adventure with everyone's favourite car, 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang'!

Chitty's eccentric inventor, Caractacus Potts and his enchanting children Jeremy and Jemima, join confectionery heiress Truly Scrumptious and batty Grandpa Potts to outwit the dastardly Baron Bomburst and the evil Child Catcher in this non-stop adventure for all ages.

Based upon the book by James Bond creator Ian Fleming and adapted for the stage by Jeremy Sams, 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' boasts sensational sets, stunning special effects and features all the Sherman & Sherman singalong favourites, including 'Truly Scrumptious', 'Toot Sweets', 'Hushabye Mountain' and the Oscar-nominated title song 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang'.

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STOP PRESS

Come and meet the cast of TWODS' Chitty Chitty Bang Bang in Calverley Park, including the main star Chitty herself!

From 12.30 on 20th May.

With sweets for sale in Truly Scrumptious' Tuck Shop and photo opportunities available, it is an event not to be missed!

Down the Garden Path

I know a bank where wild thyme blows, Where oxlips and the nodding violet grows, Quite over-canopied with luscious woodbine, With sweet musk-roses and with eglantine: There sleeps Titania sometime of the night, Lulled in these flowers with dances delight.

A Midsummer Night's Dream (Oberon, Act 2 Scene 1)



Titania sleeping in the moonlight protected by her fairies.

John Simmons (1823-1876)

What is Shakespeare doing in my garden? The answer was going to be a celebration, until a badger or fox dug up and destroyed my treasured Oxlips! Looking very much like a robust Cowslip

it grows well on the South Downs, where, which is many years ago, I collected few a seeds and enjoyed watching them flourish, until now! (I support the local Badger Protection Group, there's the thanks I get!!)



What do we know about the other plants admired by 'The bard of Avon'?

Wild thyme was probably Thymus drucei – one of many belonging to this family, including the one used in our cooking.



The 'nodding violet' is enjoyed by most of us and the second part of its name 'odorata' is well-earned. (It must have been a breezy day when Shakespeare saw

them as, being short stemmed, they are not renowned for their nodding!)

Woodbine is the honeysuckle we find in woods and hedgerows as well as the many cultivars which now grow in our gardens.



'Musk' roses I can only presume are one of the four listed as 'wild' – Field, Burnet, Sweet and Dog. The most common of these is Rose canina or Dog Rose so perhaps that was the one admired by William Shakespeare as he



explored the countryside around Stratford-upon-Avon. (And so did I for the first thirty years of my life!)

Eglantine brings us to another 'wild' rose – R. Rubiginosa, also known as 'Sweet Briar'. Even botanists admit that these last two are similar except for the prickles on one are 'unequal' while the other are 'broad-based'!! I'm amazed that William Shakespeare actually stopped to inspect them that closely. As for myself – I'm overloaded with so much culture, I think it's time to watch TV!!

Elsie Emes

P.S. Thanks to the kind person who discovered that my Thunbergia was African Sunset.

Coronation Memories

I asked if anyone had memories of the last coronation and received the following contributions. I wonder what our memories of this year's coronation will be in 2093? Editor



Yes, I was at Queen Elizabeth's coronation! A great friend was a soldier in the Royal Horse Guards and was given some tickets to give away.

I spent the night before the service on the floor of an elderly aunt who lived in Pimlico, because ticket holders had to be in their seats really early on the day. My seat was in a tiered construction like a football grandstand, with mobile toilets underneath, and were on Piccadilly opposite Green Park.



I remember being very excited when the parade took place in the pouring rain, and cheered the Queen of Tonga who refused to have any cover from the rain. She smiled and waved enthusiastically at all the people along the route. Our Queen passed by in the Golden Coach all too quickly.

I had been a tiny part of a glorious occasion - I had given my respect, my promise as a Girl Guide to "do my best" in the coming years whatever the

future held. Then I joined the crowd to take a train home, still in the rain but eager to describe the day to my parents and friends.

Many memories were recalled when we spent nine hours in the queue to walk past the Queen's coffin lying in State. But at least it wasn't raining!

Shirley Barter



My only memory of the day was going to a friend of the family's house round the corner to watch it on television - the first time I'd seen one.

Bill Barter



In 1953 at the age of 15½ I was at school in Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey, which had been founded by the *first* Queen Elizabeth, and was an enthusiastic cadet in the army section of the Combined Cadet Force (CCF). The father of one of my comrades happened to be the political correspondent of a national newspaper and so had easy access to the Houses of Parliament and the press restaurant. He had acquired two tickets for breakfast there on Coronation Day and, not requiring them himself, gave them to his son who chose me to accompany him to London.

Military uniform seemed the appropriate dress for the royal occasion and so we decided to wear our CCF khaki battle dress with beret and boots, which like our brass badges were highly polished.

After breakfast, we came out of the palace onto the pavement into what I think was a restricted, and possibly a ticket only, area, but because we came from inside the parliament building we were not challenged by the police. So, with military bearing, we stood our ground and had a wonderful view across Parliament Square.

As it was the first such occasion since the end of WW2, the pomp and grandeur of the procession to and from the Abbey was breath taking and after the ceremony, being so close to the road, I had an

awe-inspiring sight of our newly crowned Queen in the golden coach.

On my return home that evening I joined my family at the home of my Uncle and Godfather to watch the black and white recordings of the day's events on the box – he being the only relative to own (or hire) a TV set.

After my school's royal patronage and seeing Her Majesty on her Coronation Day, I kept a royal connection in later life, being conscripted into National Service in the ROYAL Artillery, moving to ROYAL Tunbridge Wells where I joined the ROYAL British Legion.

I end with a prayer, usually set to music, GOD SAVE THE KING.

David Fenner



I lived and grew up in the small village of Markbeech. I attended Hever School where there were only 2 classes, infants and juniors.

In early February 1952 our junior class were exercising in the Hall to Music and Movement from BBC Radio when suddenly the music stopped and then a male voice announced "This is London".

We were told to sit down on the floor by our teacher. The message continued to explain that "King George VI had died at his Sandringham home." Then mournful music followed – for several days.

After the King's funeral we were encouraged to prepare for the Queen's Coronation on 2nd June 1953. We produced drawings, paintings and decorations and learnt traditional British songs.

Our village prepared for celebrations. There were only two residents who had televisions (black and white only and 9" screens) so the villagers split in half and walked to the two venues to watch.

The weather was overcast, damp and grey, but it didn't dampen our spirits! We all returned to the Village Hall for our Coronation Tea – all very enjoyable.

Daphne Hodges



I remember the wonderful Coronation on 2nd June 1953 of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II when

I was just a few weeks off my fifth birthday and the whole country joined in celebration. We did not have a television but Mum and Dad were determined that I should not miss the spectacle so we set off early from our home in Mottingham, South East London on a workman's special train. The only problem on the actual day was the typical British weather...it poured with rain! But that didn't deter us or indeed people all over the country from holding parties in the decorated streets of their towns and cities. We joined ours in Luxfield Road. South East London later in the day. In London, the roads were packed with people waiting to see the processions that took place. I remember that the crowds were densely packed as we made our way from Charing Cross Station and they refused to be downhearted by the weather, indeed most of them had spent the night before on the crowded pavements, waiting for this special day to begin.

I clearly remember sitting on my Father's shoulders in the Haymarket cheering the Queen and the many others in in the procession, two miles long, particularly Queen Salote of Tonga, a lady of some considerable size, who had been given an open top carriage all to herself. Despite the rain she enjoyed herself by waving to everybody to great cheers from everyone. There were so many military bands and processions of soldiers as well as visiting Kings and Queens. Dad told me later that the procession took 45 minutes to pass any given point and his shoulders were more than a bit stiff the following day. We went home with ceremonial mugs, which we still have, made specially for the day.

We joined in the street party and I devoured many sausages!

One amazing fact is that three of the current Muskerry Court residents were standing within yards of each other and survive to tell the tale seventy years on.

God Save the King!

Tim Cripps





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Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla

Saturday 6th May

For anyone under 70 this will be the first coronation in their lifetime, and you would need to be very old indeed to remember the last coronation of a King as King George VI and Oueen Elizabeth were crowned on 12th May 1937. It is usual for there to be a significant gap between the death of one monarch and the coronation of the next so that a period of mourning can be observed and plans made. As usual with things to do with the British Constitution, there is little set down and each coronation service is a mixture of following longstanding traditions and introducing something new. A coronation is not necessary to 'make' a monarch, the heir apparent succeeds to the throne immediately upon the death of the monarch. However, an Accession Council meets at St James' Palace to decide the wording of the various proclamations, and the new monarch is required to make a number of oaths. The coronation is something akin to a religious blessing of the new monarch. The main sections of the service are the **Recognition** of the authority of the new monarch, the **Oath** that he will rule with mercy and according to the law, the Anointing with holy oil, and the **Investiture** with the crown and other symbols of his responsibilities.

The venue is the most settled thing, all monarchs since William the Conqueror in 1066 have held their coronation in Westminster Abbey and all crowned after Edward I have sat upon a wooden throne containing the Stone of Destiny (also known as the Stone of Scone) which Edward seized from the Scottish kings.

The Crown and other regalia collectively known as The Crown Jewels, are less ancient. After the execution of King Charles I, and formation of a Commonwealth, Oliver Cromwell ordered the destruction of the Crown Jewels. Gemstones were removed and sold and the gold was used to make coins. Only two crowns survived because they were worn by royal women who had married in Europe and were safely out of the country. When the monarchy was restored a replica set of Crown Jewels was made for the coronation of King Charles II in 1661. It is these which will be used during the coronation of King Charles III. He will be crowned using St Edward's Crown, which is extremely heavy, so by the time he leaves Westminster Abbey he will be wearing the more modern Imperial State Crown.

The King will be invested with other symbols of his power and responsibilities, the orb and sceptre. The sceptre was made more splendid in 1910 with the addition of the 530 carat Cullinan I diamond. He

will also be anointed with a newly created oil which omits the animal products such as ambergris that were included in the oil used to anoint his mother. The oil has been created using olive oil from the Mount of Olives near Jerusalem with the addition of sesame, rose, jasmine, cinnamon, neroli, benzoin, amber and orange blossom. It has been made and consecrated at the Monastery of Mary Magdalene in Gethsemane, the burial place of Princess Alice of Greece, the King's paternal grandmother. It is kept in a golden ampulla in the shape of an eagle and poured through the bird's beak into the coronation spoon, which is the oldest object in the crown jewels. It has been used since the 12th century and was saved from the 1649 destruction because it was bought by one of King Charles I's officials. After the restoration he returned it so that it could be used at the coronation of Charles II.

We know that the service has been shortened, though it is still likely to last two hours. There is a Queen to be crowned and anointed too this time. The number of seats in Westminster Abbey will be fewer, the Abbey was closed for six months before the Queen's coronation so that huge grandstands could be built to provide seating for just over 8000 guests. Only 2000 guests are expected this time. King Charles quickly made it known that he wanted a smaller coronation in these straightened times. Several new pieces of music have been composed for use during the service. It will surely be a relief for the composers who have had to keep the existence of their compositions secret for many years!

The processional route is also considerably shorter, just down The Mall, through Admiralty Arch, down Whitehall, around Parliament Square and into the Abbey. There will be no excursions into the West End along roads lined with huge stands as remembered so clearly by members of our parish. However, the 1762 Gold State Coach will be used and military rehearsals in the early hours have already been spotted, so we shall not be deprived of all pageantry.



There are sure to be plenty of jewels, trains and finery on display amongst both the participants and guests at the coronation, but King Charles has seemingly opted to forego the breeches and stockings as worn by King George VI in favour of a military uniform, so more like that worn by

King George V – but where will they put the garters? We will just have to watch and see, committing it all to memory.

Deborah Bruce



COMMUNITY LARDER

What is it?

A community larder receives 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 12:30pm and 2:00pm

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.

Please help us all stay safe by wearing a face mask, respecting social distancing and using the hand sanitiser provided.



WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU!

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

Poems for May

Our daylight hours are still lengthening and 16th May is the UNESCO International Day of Light, celebrating light for, among other things, its place in the worlds of science, culture and education. Here two living poets flesh out that awareness of what light can mean in our daily spiritual lives.

Susan Barber

Look For The Light

look for the light in the darkness,

the light which makes its way

among the bombs and broken lives,

offers blankets and shoulders to cry on,

puts on kettles and bandages,

mends what it can and asks

for not one thing back, as it wraps

in its arms the troubled night,

cradles it, in its soft, pale light.

Brian Bilston

Blessed Are You Who Bear The Light

Blessed are you who bear the light in unbearable times, who testify to its endurance amid the unendurable, who bear witness to its persistence when everything seems in shadow and grief.

Blessed are you in whom the light lives, in whom the brightness blazes your heart a chapel, an altar where in the deepest night can be seen the fire that shines forth in you in unaccountable faith, in stubborn hope, in love that illumines every broken thing it finds.

Jan Richardson





Activity Pages

Try this word search which contains words all connected in some way, past or present with the church – people, buildings and services. At the end you will be left with six unused letters which will make up a well-known Old Testament figure. The words are written forwards, backwards and diagonally.

N	Ο	Ι	T	A	M	R	I	F	N	O	C
A	В	S	N	O	C	A	E	D	T	Н	J
T	C	L	D	X	S	I	Ο	S	A	N	P
S	Ο	A	A	U	I	R	A	P	O	K	Ο
I	L	C	P	Н	A	F	E	C	N	C	Н
R	L	Ι	Н	R	P	L	I	O	E	Η	S
C	E	P	R	A	I	Y	M	C	A	О	Ι
							M R				I B
	C	Ι	M	Е	L	E		P	U	Ι	В
A S	C T	I E	M L	E F	L H	E I	R	P C	U P	I R	B H
A S	C T N	I E S	M L H	E F T	L H O	E I E	R S	P C T	U P O	I R N	B H

AGAPE ALB ANTHEM APOSTLE ARCHBISHOP CHAPEL COLLECT CRUCIFIX FAST FRIAR INCENSE MONK PRIEST	AISLE AMEN APOCRYPHA APSE CHALICE CHOIR CONFIRMATION DEACON FONT ICON LAUDS PICA RITE
SACRISTAN SIN	SEE
0114	

Creatures of the Seaside

The following are all names of creatures connected with the seaside. To find out what they are you need to put a vowel in the circles and a consonant in the squares.

1.	В
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	F

6.



8. B B

10. Y _____

Twenty Questions to Test You

- 1. What is the third letter of the Greek alphabet
- 2. Earths nearest star
- 3. Which festival celebrates the birthday of the Christian church
- 4. Which Bohemian saint figures in a Christmas carol
- 5. The capital of Morocco
- 6. What was a Roman Catholic bid for power in the

17th century

- 7. What is the name for a German beer mug
- 8. What was the island of Napolean's exile
- 9. Who was the well-known Quaker associated with prison reform
- 10. What in the New Testament was an unfruitful tree

- 11. Who was healed from leprosy by bathing seven times in the River Jordan
- 12. Another name for calfskin parchment
- 13. Who was India's first Prime Minister
- 14. Name Rome's famous fountain
- 15. What is the name of the Stone Circle near Marlborough
- 16. What is the name given to the song of Simeon sung at Evensong
- 17. Who was Kipling's Lone Wolf
- 18. Which day precedes Lent
- 19. A cross bearing the image of Christ
- 20. Name the blind beggar healed by Jesus near Jerusalem

This is a **crossword with a difference**. You have been given all the answers – all you have to do is fit them in.

	1.			2.					3.	
4.		5.					6.			
						7.				
										8.
			9.			10.				
								11.		
	12.									
					13.					
				14.						

Apples Cedar Cheese Danube Egg Face India Iran Island Knife Lisbon Nile Pisa RedSea Shop Soap Sou

On the Move

The last letter of each answer will be the first letter to your next answer.

- 1. Long distance bus.
- 2. 'Plane' which does not need a runway
- 3. Used for moon flights
- 4. Bus on rails
- 5. Old make of car
- 6. Might cross the channel in one
- 7. Make one to escape from a desert island
- 8. Boat used to tow others
- 9. Found on the waterways of Venice
- 10. Used to take sick to hospital
- 11. Type of train
- 12. Desert transport
- 13. Large van
- 14. Boat used for racing
- 15. Large boat used in fishing
- 16. Make of car.

Find the five birds hidden in the maze. You may move one letter to the next, up or down, left or right, but never diagonally. You pass through each letter once and only once on the way out.

L	A	С	D	S	T
В	Н	K	R	R	A
U	S	В	Ι	L	Ι
R	Н	Т	START -	G	N
О	R	Т	Ι	В	L
В	Ι	end N	Т	Е	U

1				2				
	7			8		9		
				12				
		15				13		
					16			3
6	11			14			10	
			5			4		

Try these Riddle-me-Rees

- 1. My first is in both oar and boat My seconds in water but not in moat My third is in in but not in out My fourth is in both round and about My fifth is in near but not in by My whole is a star found in the sky.
- My first is in bunk and also in bed
 My second's not in hand but is in head
 My third is in leg but not in lip
 My fourth is in chip but not in hip
 My fifth is in should but not in could
 My whole is a well-known tree from the
 wood.

How the Months for their names - Part Two

JUNE

This month is named after Juno, the queen of all the gods and in June the Romans worshipped her.

JULY

This month was named after Julius Caesar because his birth fell in that month. July was not its first name, but it was renamed during his reign to do him honour. He was a great soldier and statesman.

AUGUST

This month was also renamed in honour of another great Roman leader – Augustus Caesar. He was Julius Caesar's nephew and heir. He won a great number of battles and was in fact proclaimed the first Emperor of Rome.

SEPTEMBER

September may be the ninth month of our year, but its name means seventh. This is because in the first Roman calendar the year began with March and ended with December. It was not until later that the Romans made their calendar right by putting January and February at the beginning of the year.

Every September the Romans held some famous sports called the Actian Games in honour of the god Apollo, the god of the Sun. At these sports there was wrestling, boxing, chariot racing, and running races. The first prize was always a laurel wreath, because the laurel was Apollo's favourite tree. It is because of this that even today we sometimes use the expression' they have won their laurels'.

ANSWERS

Creatures of the Seaside

Wordsearch – the well-known Old Testament figure was JOSEPH

Cre	atures oj ine	seus	iue												
1	Crab	2	Shrimp	3	Prawn	4	Limp	et 5	Starfi	ish 6	Co	ckle	7	Wh	elk
8	Lobster	9	Jellyfish	10	Oyster		-								
			,		3										
Cro	Crossword with a difference														
Acı	COSS														
1.	Apples	4	Cheese	7	Nile	9	India	. 12	Soap	13	Da	nube	14	Rec	l Sea
Do	wn								-						
2	Lisbon	3	Face	4	Cedar	5	Egg	6	Pisa	8	Kn	ife	9	Irar	1
10	Island	11	Sou	12	Shop										
					•										
Tw	enty questio	ns to i	test you												
1	Gamma		2	Sun	3	Whit	sun/P	entecost	4	Wences	slas	5	R	abat	
6	Gunpowo	der pl	ot 7	Stein	8	Elba			9	Elizabe	th Fry	y 10) F	ig	
11	Naaman	_	12	Vellun	13	Nehr	u		14	Trevi		15	5 A	vebu	ry Ring
16	Nunc Dir	nittis	17	Akela	18	Shrov	ve Tue	sday	19	Crucifix	(20		artim	
Bire	ds hidden in	the n	ıaze												
Thr	ush		Blackb	oird		Starling	g	Blu	etit		Robi	n			
						•	,								
Riddle-me-Rees															
1	Orion		2 Beec	h											
On	the move														
1	Coach	2	Helicop	ter :	3 Rocl	cet	4	Tram	5	Morris	6	Stear	ner	7	Raft
8											_			14	
15	Trawler		Rover						_ _			,	,		
1 8 15	Coach Tug Trawler	2 9 16	Helicop Gondol Rover		3 Rock 10 Amb	ket bulance	4 11	Tram Electric	5 12	Morris Camel	6 13	Stear Lorry		7 14	Raft Yacht

General Information

Organisations

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,		St Paul's Parish Fellowship	
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Miss Daphne Pilcher	521691	Mrs Vreni Gould (Secretary)	522185
Churchwardens		iviis vielii Gould (Secretary)	322163
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Mr Chris Reece	524880	Group Scout Leader Gavin Cons	
Deputy Churchwardens		Email – rusthallscoutgroup@gr	nail.com
Mr Graeme Anderson	532922	Scout Membership Secretary	
Mrs Margaret Brown	680455	Merissa Patrick	
Mr Chris Dobson	539539	Email	
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		Guide Guiders	
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Clive Brown	501.445	Brownie Guiders	
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-		Mrs Mary Saunders	319872
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Executive Headteacher – John Tutt	520582	Alex Britcher	07967 011467
		THE DIRECTOR	01/01/011401
Churchyards		Rusthall Parish Council	
Enquiries to the Parish Office		Council Clerk	07805 475397

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.

Rusthall Bonfire and Fete Committee

Annie Softley 548366

Friends of TW and Rusthall Common

Clive Evans 534040



The Parish Office

Parish Administrator - Mrs Ginette di Palma

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