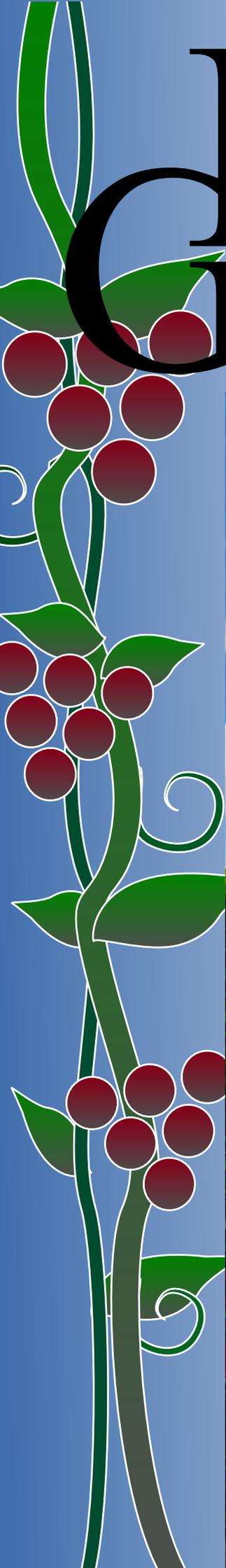


Parish Grapevine

A monthly round-up of
news, views, events
and services at
St George's, Heaviley,
SK2 6NU,
and St Gabriel's, Adswold
in the
Parish of St George, Stockport.
www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk



Who's Who in the Parish of St George, Stockport

Vicar	Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall <i>vicar@stgeorgestockport.org.uk</i> 456 9382	Praise and Play	Parish Office 480 2453 For 0-4s and their carers. Meet every Monday in term time, 9-11 in church. Story time at 10am.	Choir	James Hibbert 07365 519207 <i>actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com</i> Practise Thursdays 7.30-9pm in the vestry. Sing on Sundays at 10.15am and 4pm services.
Assistant Curate	Rev. Dr Janine Arnott <i>rev.janinearnott@outlook.com</i> 612 1048	St Gabriel's		Church Cleaners	Dorothy Walton 483 3088 Meet on 1st Tuesday of every month 9.30-12 noon.
Readers	Michael Coupe (Emeritus) 612 0222 Peter Hall 456 9382	Messy Church	Rev. Canon Elaine Chegwin Hall 456 9382 For children and their parents. Meet occasionally, usually Saturday mornings.	Church Flowers	Marjorie Lees 483 3676 Jean Hayden (<i>donations</i>) 483 2367
Pastoral Worker	Audrey Manzano 494 7054	Uniformed Groups with connections to St George's		Church Gardeners	Stan Berry 439 4641 (<i>mobile: 07786 548204</i>) Meet on Tuesdays 9.30-12.30.
Churchwardens	Andrew Regan 440 0408 Hazel Jenkins 483 4679	Rainbows	Trisha Brown 07403 353 175 Sue Kirkland 07854 101 918 For girls aged 5-7. Meet Fridays 6.15-7.30pm in the Parish Room.	Coffee Mornings (Weds)	Olwen Smith 483 6548 Wednesdays from 10.30am in the Parish Room.
PCC Secretary	Andrea Webb Reilly 07400 883938	Brownies	Rachel Lockett 775 2755 Voni Walker 07956 674 241 For girls aged 7-10. Meet Thursdays 6.30-8pm in the Parish Room.	Cursillo	Irene Hinde 456 1892 Usually meet on last Wednesday of the month. 7.30pm at different venues.
PCC Treasurer	Steven Kelly 439 9458	Guides	Heather Worth 07894 507 466 For girls aged 10-14. Meet Thursdays 7.30-9pm in the Parish Room.	Handbells	Debbie Heaton 07981 331 758 Play for All-Age and Taizé services, plus other special events. Ringers of all ages (with or without experience) always welcome. Rehearsals in church arranged around the ringers' availability.
Parish Office	Marion McCall 480 2453	Beavers	Bill Frith 439 3232 For boys and girls ages 6 and 7 Meet Fridays 6-7pm at rear of Trinity Methodist Church.	Linen Guild	Pat Rigley 487 1999 Maintain the church's linen.
Magazine Editor	Richard Parr 439 8644	Cubs	Bill Frith 439 3232 For boys and girls ages 8-10½. Meet Fridays 7.15-8.45pm at rear of Trinity Methodist Church.	Magazine Editorial Group	Richard Parr 439 8644 Meet monthly to plan future issues.
Safeguarding co-ordinator	Will Hesson 480 0630	Scouts	Elizabeth Goodred <i>Elizabeth.goodred@stockportscouts.org.uk</i> For boys and girls ages 10½-14. Meet Wednesdays 7-9pm at rear of Trinity Methodist Church.	Mothers' Union	Pat Durnall 483 4837 Meet on 2nd Monday of the month in church at 2.15pm.
Website	www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk	Other Groups and Activities		Singing Group	James Hibbert 07365 519207 <i>actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com</i> Sing about once a month at the All-Age Service, with one practice beforehand. All welcome.
Webmaster	Peter Hall 456 9382	St George's			
St George's Primary School		Bell ringers	Anne Mayes 485 6477 Practise Mondays 7.45-9pm. Ring on Sundays 9.45-10.15am. Meet in the tower.		
Headteacher	Deborah Grindrod 480 8657	Bible Reading Fellowship Notes	Janet Neilson 483 9025 Notes are ordered on request.		
St George's Deputy Wardens	John Hardy 01663 764 462 Will Hesson 480 0630	Bible Study Groups	<i>contact the clergy</i> Study groups and courses are arranged from time to time.		
Verger	Ian Staley 456 3093	Chancel Guild	Meet on 2nd Tuesday of every month, 9.30-12 noon to care for the chancel.		
Director of Music	James Hibbert 07480 111 179 <i>actingdirectorofmusic@gmail.com</i>				
Bookings for Parish Rooms	Parish Office or 480 2453 Judith Swift 483 8681				
St Gabriel's Secretary	John Sutcliffe 286 2301				
Bookings	Parish Office 480 2453				
Children's Activities					
St George's Children's Corner	Available for children (and parents) during services. Equipped with books, crayons and soft toys.				
Sunday Club	Louise Clark 483 3703 For children of nursery and school age. Meet during the 10.15am Parish Communion service most weeks during term time.				
Junior Choir	James Hibbert 07365 519207 Practise 6.30-7.30 on Thursdays in the vestry; sing on Sundays for 10.15am service.				

Front cover photo

Azaleas in bloom

(photo by Andrew Regan)

From the Editor:

Dear Readers,

AS YOU MAY have gathered from last month's article on Jane Austen, as well as this month's follow-up quiz, I have spent a fair amount of time reading during the 'lockdown'. Apart from rereading several of Austen's novels, I have enjoyed Robert MacFarlane's book, *The Old Ways*, which describes his walking adventures along ancient tracks and paths. I'm currently reading *Wrights & Wrongs*, the autobiography of Peter Wright, dancer, choreographer and for a long time the artistic director of Birmingham Royal Ballet. All very entertaining, and also, sadly nostalgic, at least for the time being. As I write this, I should have been walking the South Downs Path again; two visits to watch ballets have also been cancelled. **And no football!** – especially Manchester City's highly-anticipated clashes with Real Madrid and Liverpool!

However, compared with those people who have suffered from coronavirus, those who are lonely and totally separated from family and friends, and those who have lost their jobs, or who are in danger of doing so, I am in clover, and very, very lucky. Warm, well-fed – and with lots to read – it's a life that millions of people around the world would be delighted to enjoy even when the virus has passed. It's perhaps easy to remember our own hardships, real and important though they are, and forget the rest of the world. I was reminded of this when watching some of the television programmes celebrating VE Day, and realising how many millions of people, all round the world, had been affected by and suffered during the second world war.

It has been moving to learn how many people from different countries are listening to and watching our online services, so effectively broadcast by Elaine

and her team. As Psalm 100 puts it, 'Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth!' Verse 3 continues, 'He made us, and we are his', and that wonderful reassurance is certainly something to enable us to 'Come before him, singing with joy', even in these difficult times.

The novelist and poet, Thomas Hardy, though sometimes ambivalent in his beliefs, wrote a poem called *A Wasted Illness*, describing his eventual recovery from a long and dangerous illness. In it he wrote of his recovery:

'And all was well:
Old circumstance resumed its former show,
And on my head the dews of comfort fell
As ere my woe.'

Jane Austen, unlike Hardy, was a committed and practising Christian throughout her life, with clergymen playing central roles in several of her novels. A number of the prayers she composed have been discovered and published. I particularly like these sentences, which come towards the end of one prayer:

'May thy mercy be extended over all mankind ...
Look with compassion upon the afflicted of every
condition, assuage the pangs of disease, comfort the
broken in spirit.'

So may we all keep well and cheerful, and may we all be able to say, along with the Psalmist:

'We are his people, the sheep of his pasture... Give
thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is
good.'

God bless you all. Richard Parr. Editor.

Services and events during coronavirus restrictions

See [page 9](#) for details of online services and events from St George's in June during the current coronavirus restrictions.

What's Where...

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| P 2 Who's who | P 15 Thank you to the NHS and Just ponder on this |
| P 3 Editorial | P 16 Quiz for adults only and Mother Nature |
| P 5 Clergy letter and Building a grandfather clock | P 18 Blogs, Lockdown, you and IT, John Habgood and Remember traffic jams? |
| P 6 Parish News | P 19 Jesus calming the storm of Covid-19 |
| P 7 Poems of Encouragement and Feeding the Front Line | P 20 Trinity Sunday and Christians and the bubonic plague |
| P 8 Oh! What a Lovely War! | P 21 June 1940 – a month to remember, Refugee Week and Terry Waite |
| P 9 Live Streamed Services and Events in June | P 22 Recipe, Gift of sleep, and World War Two quiz |
| P 10 Children's Page | P 23 Cartoon, Puzzle solutions, and Watching a live-streamed service! |
| P 11 Children's Book Quiz answers | |
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Interested? Contact the Editor: e-mail ricmar77@gmx.com or tel. 0161 439 8644.

GRAPEVINE would like to thank all our loyal advertisers

for their understanding and backing during this difficult period.

If you can, please continue to support them.

Grapevine magazine is in digital form

Please note: Grapevine magazine will be published in **digital form only** during the current coronavirus restrictions. Copies can be downloaded from our website at www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk



Elaine writes:

When you think of ukulele players you might think of George Formby, Israel Kamakawiwo'ole or Tiny Tim, all known for their distinctive voice, appearance or character. Paul McCartney and George Harrison were said to be fans of the instrument, along with Neil Armstrong, the famous astronaut.

There is a renowned Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain which plays around the world to packed audiences.

It has become the instrument of choice in many schools, taking over from the recorder, and I know my great niece, Elizabeth, is becoming really quite accomplished at seven from learning at school and practising at home. Her Mum, Charlotte, caught her enthusiasm and now also has a ukulele. I dragged mine out from behind a cupboard somewhere and we are learning together in this lockdown with weekly Skyped ukulelethons every Sunday afternoon.

The thing is, I'd had the ukulele for ages, as a gift. It was my uncle's, and it has travelled round with me from house to house without it being taken out of its case.

All of us have gifts which we can carry around from place to place and we never open the packaging.

We keep them safe and secure and never use them. We may be embarrassed to share them, feel we're being boastful or worried that we might mess up.

We forget they are there because the effort of developing something about ourselves is too much trouble. But God gave us those gifts and longs for us to use them in his service.

Pentecost is a great reminder of those gifts and the frightened, timid, underdeveloped disciples were given a new lease of life through the power of God's Holy Spirit. They found things about themselves that they had never thought possible. They spoke boldly, stood firm in times of challenge and changed the world around them by spreading the Good News with confidence.

God fills us, too, with his Holy Spirit, and we can have that new, energised life in Christ which enables us to think in terms of opportunities and to use our gifts in the way that God always meant us to.

Apparently the name ukulele means gift from here and, for me, it's a good reminder to use the gifts that we have been given, to take them out of the case we have been carrying them in and to be transformed by what God can do.

With every blessing,

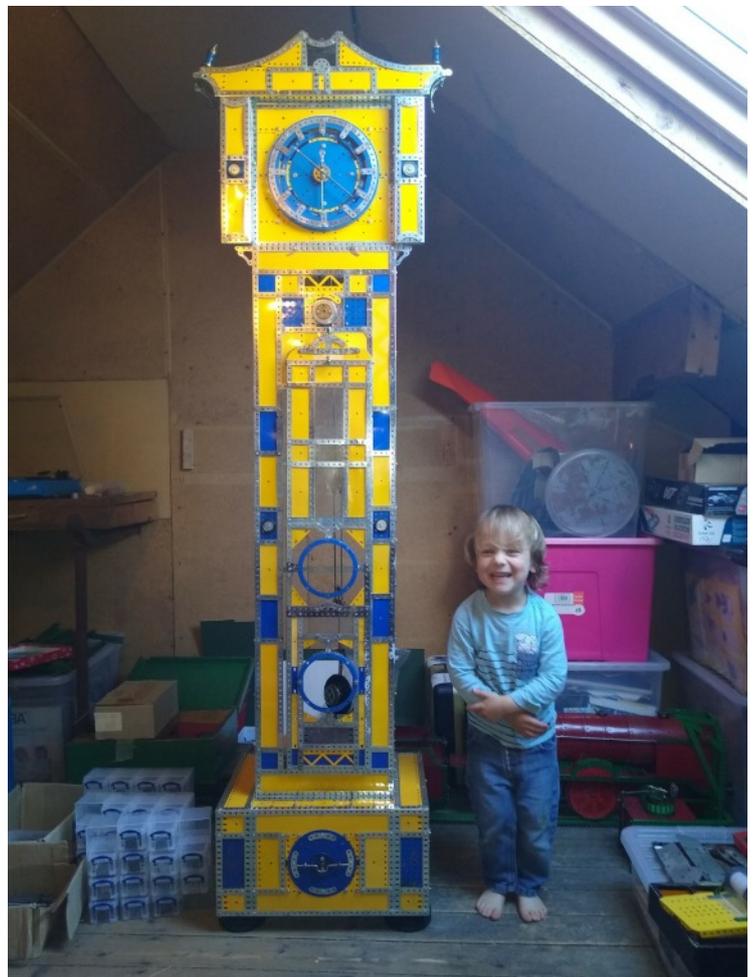
Elaine

Building a grandfather clock in Meccano

IT STARTED on the 5th May, with a photograph of a box and the caption "The vicar's husband has been seen climbing the ladder into the attic. He's building something (again)! Can you guess what? Add a comment if you have an idea. He may even offer a prize for the first correct guess. He's promised to post more photographs as it progresses." Three weeks later Kathryn Coulson correctly identified the various photographs as a Grandfather Clock, and she is now the proud recipient of a Wentworth Jigsaw Puzzle (fiendishly difficult for something of only 40 pieces!)

It is still far from finished, but it now stands at 1.24 metres high (7'4" in old money.) The case is complete, but Peter is now attempting to get the "tick-tock" bit built and working.

Here is a picture of the current clock case next to grandson Aneurin.



Parish News Roundup

Holy Baptism

None last month

Holy Matrimony

None last month

Funerals

5th May Barbara Perris

27th May Clive George Humphries
Thomas

28th May Phyllis Allen

28th May Edna Tootell

Flowers in church would normally have been sponsored by:

Main Altar Flowers

3rd May from the Mothers' Union

17th May from the Grundy family – in memory of Ken and Joan Grundy

24th May from the Wednesday morning Coffee Group – for loved ones

Mothers' Union offers a range of resources

The Mothers' Union has made a very practical response to the coronavirus.

As their website explains, "We know that our work and experience in re-building communities and supporting family life is going to be more important than ever once the threat of Covid-19 subsides. Our members will be some of the first in line to support those around them."

In the meantime, MU has drawn together a range of resources to "help nurture our members and their friends and neighbours through this challenging time." The resources will "help combat feelings of loneliness, nourish faith and help you continue to feel connected to your friends and community."

These include: rainbows, prayer cards, prayer resources, puzzles resources, and Bible study resources. More info at:

<https://www.mothersunion.org>

New Bishop of Chester

The Rt Revd Mark Tanner has been named by Downing Street as the next Bishop of Chester, succeeding the Rt

Parish News Roundup

Revd Dr Peter Forster who retired in September 2019.



Bishop Mark is currently the Bishop of Berwick in the Diocese of Newcastle, a post he has occupied since 2016.

"It will be hard to say goodbye to the North East," he says, "however, Lindsay and I are really excited to return to Chester where I was ordained, and both of our children were born."

Mark says: "It is an honour and a joy to be appointed to the Diocese of Chester at such a key time in the life of our communities, nation, and Church. In Christ, God offers a gift of hope beyond our imagining; there is no greater joy or privilege than enabling others to step into this freedom and life, whether in deeply practical service or beautiful wonder and worship. God is here for all."

Bishop Mark and his wife, Lindsay, were introduced to the diocese online via a series of live-streamed events. Bishop Mark said, "Although I cannot physically be with you today, I look forward to getting to know the people and communities of the diocese from the coast to the Pennines, as we refresh and renew our service of every member of society within our diocese."

Bishop Christine, the Bishop of Newcastle, says: "It has been a real joy to work with Mark as a key member of the team here. I have appreciated his friendship and counsel, his kindness and great sense of fun and, most particularly, his focus on those whom we are called to serve as Christ's church today. He has been instrumental in helping us establish our Resource Church and imagine new possibilities in terms of ministry and mission. I know the Diocese of Chester

Parish News Roundup

will be blessed through his ministry there."

(text taken from Chester Diocesan website)

Prayer Chain

Ecclesiastes 3 talks about the different times in our lives when we might laugh, when we might mourn and when we might cry.

Life is full of such times and it's a challenge, particularly during these coronavirus restrictions, when we might feel that we are carrying our burdens alone.



In Psalm 55 we are urged to cast our burdens onto the Lord and in Matthew 11 we read reassuring words to those who feel they are heavy-laden, that they will find their rest in Christ.

Can we urge you to approach the members of the prayer chain at those times of anxiety, pain or distress? They undertake to pray for you every day, to journey with you in those times of challenge and to empathise with your situation.

This is a confidential service, ably led by Phoebe MacLeod. We do not require anyone's second names but we do need for you to have sought their permission. We will not share the information with anyone outside of the prayer chain, and we will not come over to check up on any individual when we return to church.

The prayer details come to Phoebe who shares them securely with the group. Prayer commences until such a time as the situation changes. What is hugely important is for the person who has been in touch with us in the beginning, to keep in touch regularly to update us.

If this is a ministry that you would like to be involved with, please speak to Phoebe or Elaine and we would be delighted to welcome you into this very fulfilling role.

July-August 2020

Grapevine magazine dates:

Deadline copy date: **Fri 19th June**

Committee meeting: via email

Poems of Encouragement

Don't let the world undervalue
 What words of encouragement do
 They can lift up a life from the doldrums
 And restore someone's will to win
 through.
 So don't let the chances slip by you
 To encourage, applaud and acclaim.
 For somebody's load will be lightened
 And failure may turn into fame.

If we could see beyond our present
 sorrows
 Beyond the present grief as God can see
 We would be braver, knowing some
 tomorrow
 Will still hold happiness for you and me
 We are so blinded by the moments
 grieving
 So hurt by any trouble, any pain.
 That we forget the joys beyond believing
 The peace that will be ours some day
 again. Mum

Feeding the Front Line

FROM THE outset of the coronavirus discussions we have been chatting with local businesses to see how we could best support them, and how we might work together.

One of our favourite coffee houses, the Funky Monkey on Bramhall Lane, rose to the challenge and started #fuellingthefrontline.

With some online funding from the community, they have been endeavouring to reach all those who

have had to continue to work in essential jobs in healthcare, social and emergency services, schools, residential care homes, funeral directors, cemetery and crematorium staff and refuges. They have also delivered meals to those who have been housebound or who just needed a bit of cheering up.

Elaine, Janine, Peter and Nicola were privileged to be part of the delivery runs and there are some pictures for you to see below.



Stockport Cemetery and Crematorium Staff



Co-operative Funeral care staff Davenport



Janine and a member of staff from the Refuge



Staff from Brian Sharples Funerals in Bramhall



Staff from Robert Good Funerals

St George's floodlighting – sponsorship request form (Please return to the treasurer, Steven Kelly, 5 Holly Road, Bramhall, SK7 1HH).



Name

Phone no

Date of evening requested £10 or £..... donation enclosed (Please make cheques payable to St George's Stockport PCC)

Reason for request (if appropriate)

If you are a taxpayer and would like the church to reclaim the tax on your donation please also complete the following Gift Aid declaration:

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £..... to St George's Church, Stockport. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Title..... First name or initial(s).....Surname.....

Home address:.....

Post Code

Signature.....

Date

Oh! What a Lovely War!

I stumbled across this article whilst looking for something completely different – it's from a Grapevine magazine, September 2005 (yes, I have a complete set from there onwards!) and thought it would be a nice reminder of our good friend, Tril Sutherland, who is back in NZ, the land of her birth.

Rosie

Tril writes: *I can almost hear eyebrows hitting hairlines – but wait, suspend judgment, please.*

AUGUST 2005. Sixty years ago two atomic bombs, dropped on Japan, brought the war to an end. However, this is not written with sixty years of hindsight, with knowledge of Stalingrad, Leningrad, Belsen, Auschwitz, Changi, the River Kwai and other quite unspeakable atrocities.

No, this was New Zealand 1942. Quite apart from the encounters with the Maoris in the early days, New Zealand knew about WAR, having supported Britain in every one since the Boer War. In my youth 'Home', with a capital 'H', meant only one place. Even small towns had a war memorial in a prominent place, bearing campaign names such as Mafeking, Khartoum, Palestine, Gallipoli, from which our soldiers did not return. (In fresher lettering they are now joined by sailors and airmen from theatres of war we know better – North Africa, Italy, Burma, Korea and many more).

In 1942 I was an 18-year old, leaving boarding school after seven years. No TV, no radio, even newspapers censored at school. Our main source of news was the cinema – remember the strong man banging the gong and the magnificent lion snarling? In December 1941 Japan had attacked Pearl Harbour. That we knew. Then it was our war.

I was enrolled at Dental School, training as an NZ State Dental Nurse. It was a reserved occupation as we were to be responsible for the dental health of every schoolchild in the country. But we were in Wellington, the capital, and it was all happening there. The harbour was full of shipping, as NZ became the base for American services in the Pacific – supplies, hospitals, recuperation and recreation, even a Japanese POW camp. (One of our tutors served as Dental Officer there and told us that many of the prisoners had mouths full of gold teeth – as safe a way as any to carry one's wealth).

Our course was intensive and we worked hard. In our spare time we played hard too, and it was fun. We rolled bandages and packed dressings for the Red Cross, we manned Services Clubs, preparing meals and pouring endless cups of coffee, admiring hundreds of photos of sweethearts, wives and babies 'back home', dancing with anyone who asked you, provided he was sober enough to stand! In the process we learned a whole new language and our knowledge of US geography improved a lot! We wrote screeds to our own family and friends overseas, and waited anxiously for letters back, hoping other folk were doing the same for them, providing TLC but not too much

'L'! I still have a pair of pilot's wings, which had been pinned on a proud chest somewhere in Canada.

We formed a close-knit group and did most things together. Once we pooled our resources and decided to advertise for an old car; 'Ten young lady students require a cheap, conscientious, commodious conveyance.' We had one reply offering us an army truck and 10 chauffeurs! Life was exhausting but FUN! Not one of us ended up a GI bride and several married childhood sweethearts when the war was over. But we did form friendships, some of which last to this day. I met my husband at a Services dance when he was on 'Embarkation Leave'. Since he had two left feet I'll never know what he was doing there, but we had 50 happy years together thanks to the war.

'What about this war?' you ask. Well it wasn't like your war with tight rationing, childhood separation, air raid shelters, bombing and devastation. Ours might seem a quieter war. The Japanese did patrol our coasts and did sink several ships, not with battleships and cruisers, but silently, stealthily, with submarines, creating a perpetual fear of invasion somewhere along our continuous coastline.

The Home Guard was our first line of defence. My father, being too young for the 14-18 War, and too old and short-sighted for this one, was a foundation member. Yes, there was a touch of Dad's Army, but they worked incredibly hard providing round-the-clock vigilance and planning and preparing escape routes, hideouts, stashes of food and ammunition. From our farm, those who were at home were to hide in a wide creek full of thick flax bushes (Formium Tenax to you Garden Gnomes). Sounds hilarious now but it was deadly serious then.

Of course there was a cost. 10,000 from our tiny population didn't come home, as war graves round the world bear witness; and many who did were physically and mentally scarred for life, having endured unimaginable experiences. My happy memories of the comradeship, the excitement, the satisfaction of feeling useful are tinged with several not so bright.

On a lighter note, a school friend joined the NZWRAC and went overseas to Italy driving some 'top brass', which seemed pretty glamorous stuff to us at home. However, she was invalided home rather ignominiously, her coccyx not standing up to driving a jeep over rough roads.

Two strange and sad incidents affected our family in unexpected ways.

Delightful twin boys worked on our farm – Claude and Arthur – they had flaming red hair and freckles. They belonged to the Plymouth Brethren church and so were 'conscientious objectors'. However, they both volunteered to go overseas in a non-combatant capacity with the Red Cross. One drove an ambulance and the other was his

medical orderly. Yes, you will have guessed – they were both killed by the same shell.

The other incident was even more bizarre, sadder in its way and closer to us. Imagine two young soldiers on guard duty at an isolated post one dark night. To while away the hours one says, 'If a Jap popped up from behind that rock, what would you do?' The other answers, 'I'd shout "Who goes there? Friend or foe?" and if he didn't answer sharpish I'd get him in my sights and fire'... And he did, pointing the weapon at his companion, and the safety catch was off. We, away from home, heard the story before the names were released. One was the brother of a close school friend, the other my step-mother's younger brother. Which case is the sadder, the one who died or the one who lived?

Tril Sutherland 2005



Photo by Hazel Jenkins, who visited Tril in New Zealand earlier this year

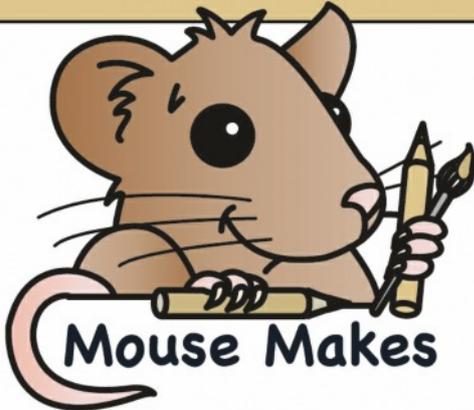
Live-Streamed Services and Events from St George's in June

WHILST OUR church buildings are closed, the real Church and its people are very much engaging with and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. Please do join us.

All of the services and events below will be streamed live on Facebook. Please search for our Facebook page @stgeorgeschurchstockport or use the link from our web page to find us. The services and events can also be played back on demand after the live stream has ended.

Monday 1st June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Tuesday 2nd June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Wednesday 3rd June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Thursday 4th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Friday 5th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
 1pm Messy Church Bake Off
Saturday 6th June: 1pm Messy Church Craft
Sunday 7th June: **Trinity Sunday**
 10.15am Holy Communion
 5pm Story time for children
 9pm Compline
Monday 8th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Tuesday 9th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Wednesday 10th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Thursday 11th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Friday 12th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
 1pm Messy Church Bake Off
Saturday 13th June: 1pm Messy Church Craft
Sunday 14th June: **Second Sunday after Pentecost**
 10.15am Holy Communion
 5pm Story time for children
 9pm Compline

Monday 15th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Tuesday 16th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Wednesday 17th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Thursday 18th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Friday 19th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
 1pm Messy Church Bake Off
Saturday 20th June: 1pm Messy Church Craft
Sunday 21st June: **Third Sunday after Pentecost**
 10.15am Holy Communion
 5pm Story time for children
 9pm Compline
Monday 22nd June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Tuesday 23rd June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Wednesday 24th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Thursday 25th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Friday 26th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
 1pm Messy Church Bake Off
Saturday 27th June: 1pm Messy Church Craft
Sunday 28th June: **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**
 10.15am Holy Communion
 5pm Story time for children
 9pm Compline
Monday 29th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Tuesday 30th June: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Wednesday 1st July: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Thursday 2nd July: 9.30am Morning Prayer
Friday 3rd July: 9.30am Morning Prayer
 1pm Messy Church Bake Off
Saturday 4th July: 1pm Messy Church Craft



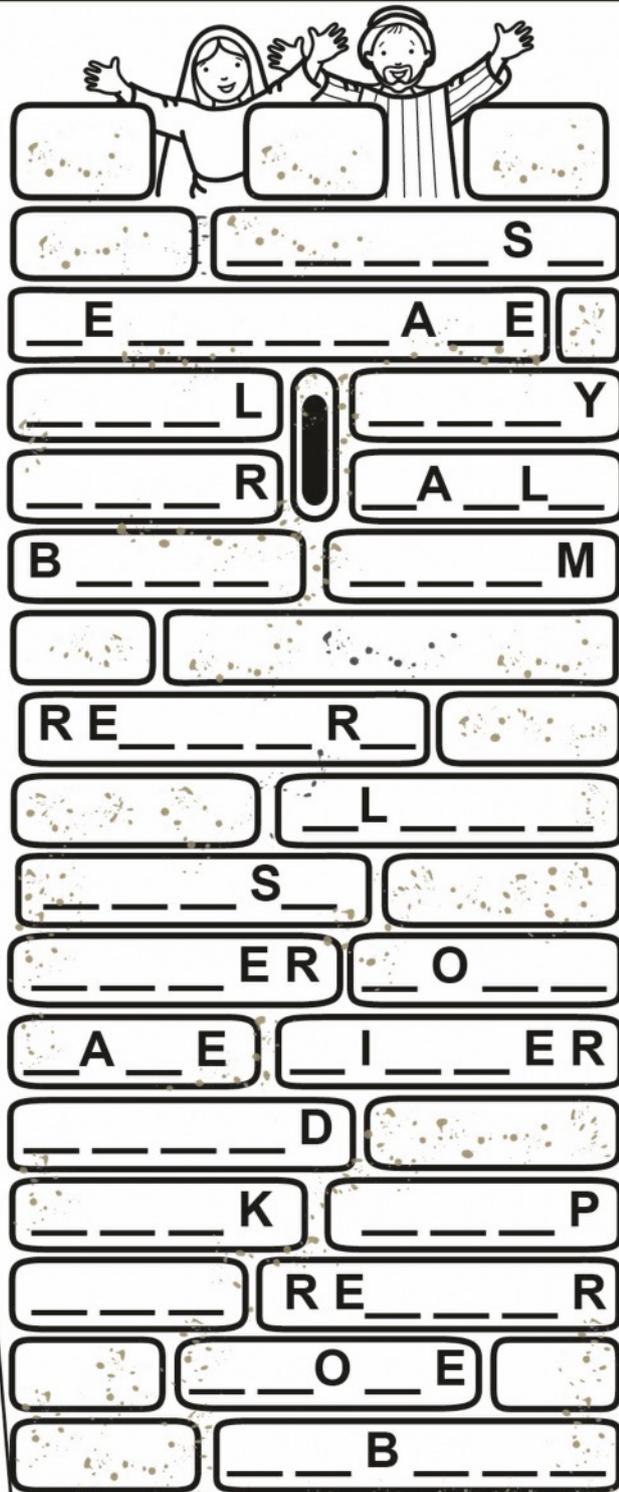
When Nehemiah heard that the walls of Jerusalem were in ruins he sat down and wept. For days he fasted and prayed before God.

Finally the opportunity came for him to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls, but it was not going to be easy...

READ Nehemiah's story in the *Old Testament* book of **Nehemiah**, chapters 1-7

Here is Nehemiah's list of all the things that needed to be done to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. Fill in the missing gaps on the tower to help rebuild the wall.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> PRAY | <input type="radio"/> GATE |
| <input type="radio"/> RUBBLE | <input type="radio"/> BEAM |
| <input type="radio"/> REPAIR | <input type="radio"/> BOLT |
| <input type="radio"/> RESTORE | <input type="radio"/> BAR |
| <input type="radio"/> BUILD | <input type="radio"/> STEP |
| <input type="radio"/> WORK | <input type="radio"/> TOWER |
| <input type="radio"/> STONE | <input type="radio"/> HOUSE |
| <input type="radio"/> TIMBER | <input type="radio"/> POOL |
| <input type="radio"/> WALLS | <input type="radio"/> FINISH |
| <input type="radio"/> FLOOR | <input type="radio"/> DEDICATE |
| <input type="radio"/> ROOF | <input type="radio"/> DOOR |
| <input type="radio"/> CELEBRATE | |



Word search grid containing the following words and gaps:

- REPAIR
- STONE
- WALLS
- CELEBRATE
- HOUSE
- FINISH
- DOOR
- PRAY
- BEAM
- BOLT
- BAR
- STEP
- TOWER
- POOL
- DEDICATE
- DOOR

How many gates were repaired?
Who re-built them?

How long did it take to finish the walls?

ANSWERS!!!

WARNING! FOR CHILDREN ONLY!

No one over 14 was allowed to enter this quiz unless given permission by and assisted by A CHILD!

THESE QUESTIONS were all about BOOKS. Some were quite easy; others VERY hard.

1. What is the name of the only member of Enid Blyton's *Famous Five* who is not a boy or a girl?
TIMMY THE DOG
2. In Philip Pullman's *Dark Materials* books, the heroine is originally called Lyra Belacqua. But what new name is she given, and who gives it to her?
LYRA SILVERTONGUE: THE ARMoured BEAR, IOREK BYRNISON
3. In the *Harry Potter* novels, what are the names of the four houses at Hogwarts?
GRYFFINDOR, HUFFLEPUFF, RAVENCLAW, SLYTHERIN
4. C.S. Lewis wrote a series of stories about the Kingdom of Narnia. Can you complete these titles? *The Lion, the Witch and; Prince*
THE WARDROBE; CASPIAN
5. Which authors wrote *The Jolly Postman* and *The Jolly Christmas Postman*?
JANET AND ALLAN AHLBERG
6. Who wrote about the adventures of Tom Kitten and Pigling Bland?
BEATRIX POTTER
7. Which fairy tale character was 'the most beautiful child on earth', but was told to "Let your hair down"?
RAPUNZEL
8. What is the name of 'The Mystery Cat' who features in a famous poem – and musical?
MACAVITY
9. What was the name of the dragon who guarded the treasure in *The Hobbit*? And who killed him?
SMAUG was killed by BARD THE ARCHER
10. What is Paddington Bear's favourite breakfast (and lunch and tea!)?
MARMALADE SANDWICHES!
11. Which famous detective lived at 221 B Baker Street?
SHERLOCK HOLMES

12. What is the name of the series of books by Philip Reeve which describes moving cities that eat other cities?
THE MORTAL ENGINES SERIES

13. What famous American writer took his pen-name from a term used on Mississippi steamboats?
MARK TWAIN (It meant "two fathoms deep")

CONGRATULATIONS to CORA FOULKES, AGED 11, who was the only entrant, and who scored a brilliant 15 out of 20. Well done, Cora!

UNFORTUNATELY, no one took up the challenge to tell me about their favourite book, so I'll tell you about one of mine!

It's **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS** by KENNETH GRAHAME, first published as long ago as 1908.

The book is set in the countryside where Grahame lived, close to the River Thames. It deals with the adventures of Mole who, on a lovely spring morning, finds that he doesn't much enjoy spring cleaning. He escapes into the fresh air and sunshine, and meets Rat. Then his adventures begin...!

The story has lots of great characters, including wise old Badger, and the far from wise Toad, who is always getting into trouble. If you want to find out how he has to escape from 'the stoutest castle in all the length and breadth of Merry England', where his escape includes dressing as a washerwoman, being chased by a train and flung into a canal, then ... you'll have to read the book!

My favourite chapter is probably the one called *The Wild Wood*, when Mole finds himself alone and lost in the wood with night and snow coming on. 'Then the pattering began.' Read this by a warm radiator with a cup of hot chocolate, and with Mum or Dad not too far away! But it does end happily!

I'd really like to hear about your favourite book, so do let me know. The *Grapevine* email address is in the magazine. Have a GOOD MONTH!!!

Richard Parr

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Sudoku puzzle: easy

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

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Sudoku puzzle: intermediate

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

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(Answers to all puzzles are on p. 23)



Crossword

1		2			3	4		5		6		7
8					9							
				10								
11												
									12		13	
14						15						
					16							
			17									
18		19										
20									21			
22									23			

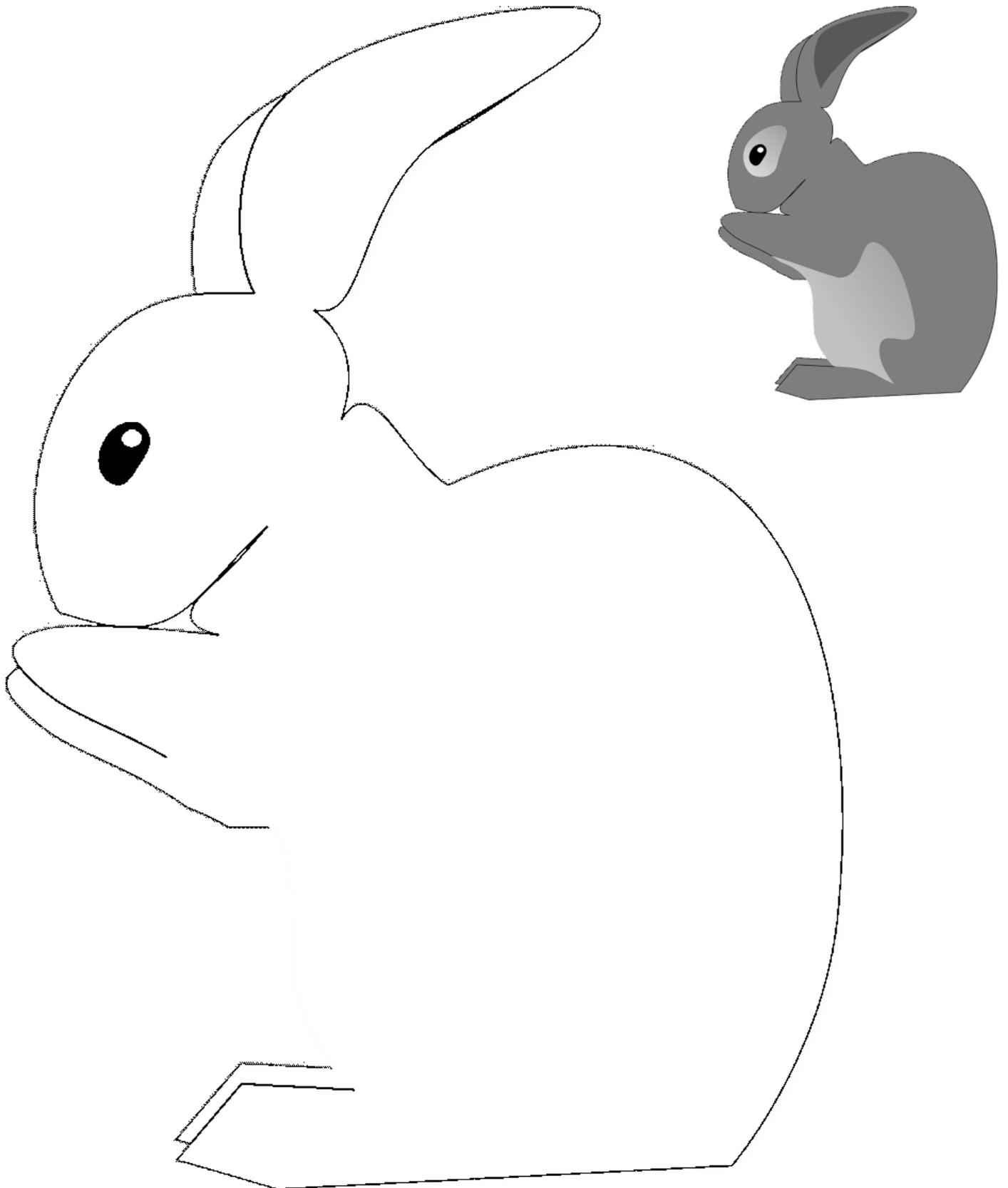
Across

- 1 See 23 Across
- 3 Where the thief on the cross was told he would be, with Jesus (Luke 23:43) (8)
- 8 Invalid (4)
- 9 Blasphemed (Ezekiel 36:20) (8)
- 11 Adhering to the letter of the law rather than its spirit (Philippians 3:6) (10)
- 14 Shut (Ecclesiastes 12:4) (6)
- 15 'This is how it will be with anyone who — up things for himself but is not rich towards God' (Luke 12:21) (6)
- 17 Mary on Isis (anag.) (10)
- 20 Agreement (Hebrews 9:15) (8)
- 21 Native of, say, Bangkok (4)
- 22 Deaf fort (anag.) (5-3)
- 23 and 1 Across 'The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of — to work it and take — of it' (Genesis 2:15) (4,4)

Down

- 1 Struggle between opposing forces (Habakkuk 1:3) (8)
- 2 James defined this as 'looking after orphans and widows in their distress and keeping oneself from being polluted by the world' (James 1:27) (8)
- 4 'The one I kiss is the man; — him' (Matthew 26:48) (6)
- 5 'Be joyful in hope, patient in —, faithful in prayer' (Romans 12:12) (10)
- 6 St Columba's burial place (4)
- 7 Swirling current of water (4)
- 10 Loyalty (Isaiah 19:18) (10)
- 12 'God was pleased through the foolishness of what was —, to save those who believe' (1 Corinthians 1:21) (8)
- 13 Camp where the angel of the Lord slew 185,000 men one night (2 Kings 19:35) (8)
- 16 'There is still — — — Jonathan; he is crippled in both feet' (2 Samuel 9:3) (1,3,2)
- 18 David Livingstone was one (4)
- 19 Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (1,1,1,1)

Rabbit picture to print out and colour in



DO YOU KNOW?

THE BOOK ABOUT RABBITS MENTIONED LAST MONTH IS *WATERSHIP DOWN*, WRITTEN BY RICHARD ADAMS. WELL DONE IF YOU KNEW THIS!

I'M NOT SURE IF THIS RABBIT LIVES IN *WATERSHIP DOWN*, BUT WE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO COLOUR HIM (OR HER!) IN.

Thank you to the NHS, from Stockport Grammar

THE STOCKPORT GRAMMAR SCHOOL community has been so grateful for the amazing work of the NHS, charities and other vital frontline workers during the recent months. We have wanted to do what we can to help.

As staff continued to develop the minds of pupils through a variety of virtual learning methods, SGS has collected equipment donations, raised money for charity and designed PPE equipment.

Now a midwife, former SGS swimming teacher Kristy Franklin took a donation of toiletries from the school community to staff at Stepping Hill Hospital.

After calls for extra PPE equipment, SGS gathered goggles and protective equipment from the Science departments to donate to Stockport NHS Trust and to a local care home.

The Design Technology department boosted these efforts by producing face visors for NHS staff.

To help keep morale high amongst our key frontline workers, Junior School children have made posters to thank the NHS and all those who care for us.

Some of their beautiful paintings appeared on display in the Emergency Department at Macclesfield District General Hospital.



Budding Second-Year chefs made carrot cake as part of their practical work. It was wonderful to see the baking by one of our pupils enjoyed by NHS workers.

Junior School Headteacher Tim Wheeler MBE ran the London Marathon... in his own back garden, completing over 550 laps in full Scissorman costume to raise money for The Little Princess Trust.

Six SGS families raised money for Emmeline's Pantry with their 'Tour De Lockdown' which saw them run, walk and cycle a combined 3,500km.

Just ponder on this for a minute...

2020 - We just have to stay in for a couple of months.

WW II - You have to leave your loved ones and might never see them again.

2020 - But my kids need some fresh air so we're all going to the park.

WW II - Your kids have to be evacuated and live with random good samaritans for their safety.

2020 - I can only Facetime my family and friends, I can't see them.

WW II - I have written letters, I'm hoping they're received and I get a response this year.

2020 - I am trying to order my food shop online, it's taking ages for me to get what I need: alcohol, and all the other foods I'm craving.

WW II - Are you coming to queue up in the line for our rations and eat potato soup every day of the week?

2020 - The government hasn't said we can't go out, they just said we can but only once to exercise so I'm going to go meet my friends and do what I want.

WW II - I'm not going out just in case a bomb drops, so I will stay in listening to some music quietly because the air raid siren might go off.

2020 - Netflix needs to sort the streaming out I can't even watch a series without it crashing.

WW II - We are sitting in the dark around a candle playing cards, keeping as much light in as possible so the warplanes don't see us from above.

2020 - Every man for themselves, so I'm going to stock-pile as much as I can because we are more important than anyone else, never mind the elderly that gave us this freedom.

WW II - I'm so grateful for this community, everyone is helping each other out when and where we can, we must stay strong.

This is the perspective that we should have, we don't know how LUCKY we have it and people still aren't listening.

Stay in, it really is that simple!

contributed by Pamela Ferguson

FOR ADULTS ONLY

AS A FOLLOW-UP to the children's Book Quiz last month and my article on Jane Austen, I thought I would test the *Grapevine* readership on their knowledge of Jane Austen and her novels.

No prizes, unfortunately, but the winners' names (and the answers) will be highlighted in next month's magazine.

GOOD LUCK!

1. Which was the first of Austen's novels to be **written**?
2. In *Pride and Prejudice*, how many daughters do Mr and Mrs Bennet have?
3. By the end of *Pride and Prejudice*, can you name the daughters not yet married?
4. In which novel do the following characters appear? Fanny Price; Miss Bates; Colonel Brandon; Frank Churchill.
5. In which novel does a character famously fall from the Cobb in Lyme Regis? Who is it?
6. In which Austen film adaptation did Emma Thompson and Kate Winslett play sisters?
7. What was the name of Jane Austen's sister?
8. In which city did Jane Austen die and be buried?
9. Which character 'never took up any book but the Baronetage', and in which novel does he appear?
10. In *Pride and Prejudice* which characters live at Longbourn; Pemberley; Rosings and Hunsford?
11. Who declares about music that, "If I had ever learnt, I should have been a great proficient"?
12. Austen's novels usually end with marriages. Who marries Edmund Bertram; Edward Ferrars; Colonel Brandon; Anne Elliott?
13. Which incomplete novel, whose characters include Miss Charlotte Heywood and Lady Denham, was adapted for television last year by Andrew Davies?
14. Which highly unpleasant character in *Mansfield Park* is also the name of a cat in the Harry Potter novels 'with bulging, lamp-like eyes'? **(For this question you are allowed to ask any child you know!)**

Mother Nature

I THINK THAT if you could sit and have a chat with Mother Nature she might say...

I'm sorry but I had to make it happen, you treat this beautiful planet like dirt, you mess it up, you pollute it and you ignore each other on a daily basis, you are all grounded for the foreseeable and already the planet is a better place, you are realising your blessings are in front of you but you normally fail to see them, you are getting to know your children and seeing them through other people's eyes and appreciating their teachers/childminders/nursery nurses in a way you never have before.

You have stopped abusing your NHS and are realising that a cut finger etc. can be treated at home with a little common sense.

You now know that money isn't everything and you can survive on a lot less than you thought. You are pining for hugs with those people you always were too busy to visit or call.

You have had over-the-fence or doorstep chats with those neighbours whose names you didn't even know a month ago.

You have time to breathe and do the things you never had time to do before, baking, doing art or any other hobby you forgot you loved.

Yes, you are grounded, but how lucky are you to be given this break in life to reassess what is important.

Now stop moaning and complaining, I sent good weather, beautiful flowers and the relative silence to hear birdsong all day long.

(from Facebook, contributed by Pamela Ferguson)

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Blogs

WAS BLOG even a word until recently?

Actually, it came into being around 1997 as weblog and then around 1999 was truncated to blog. It's a term which denoted an online diary style of communication from individuals or groups on certain topics or as personal reflections.

It has become big business for some as people share recipes, knitting patterns, faith experiences and interests.

We have been blogging on our website <http://www.stgeorgestockport.org.uk/> and you can easily access it by clicking on the tab near the top of the page.

Various lovely people (including the curate's dog!) have offered their thoughts and reflections over the last few months and it has been a real joy to read them.

I would encourage you to take some time and have a look. Feel free to contribute your own blog entries. They don't have to be long or theologically challenging. Any and every entry is unique and important and we'd love you to take part.

Simply write your blog and send it to vicar@stgeorgestockport.org.uk

Lockdown, you and IT

David Pickup, a solicitor, considers possible saints for IT.

HOW ARE you getting on with technology? The coronavirus pandemic has driven hundreds of millions of us to use it more than ever, as we sit at home in frustrated isolation.

If you are used to digital meetings and Zoom, it is not a problem, but for millions of grandparents wanting to see their families, or non-techie people wanting to see their friends, it has been quite a learning curve. So, is there a patron saint of computers and electronics and all the difficult stuff?

Some people say **the patron saint of the internet should be Saint Isidore of Seville, a Bishop and scholar in the seventh century** who wrote a book called *Etymologies* or *The Origins*, in which he tried to record everything that was known. That seems to be a good basis for sainthood, or at least for the internet.

Another candidate is Saint Eligius who lived about the same time. He is quite busy already as the patron saint of goldsmiths, metalworkers, vets, the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME), horses and those who work with them. His main qualification seems to have been his ability to make things.

My suggestion is Zebedee. No, not the character from *The Magic Roundabout* but the father of James and John. After all, consider this: *"James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John...were in a boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and He called them."* (Matt. 4:21)

Ok, it is not the internet, but Zebedee knew about mending a net which would have had both good and bad stuff all over it.

Certainly, whenever I get in an IT muddle during this lockdown, I would welcome any patron saint that was willing to help me!

John Habgood

PENNY BISBY, a member of the Grapevine Committee, has sent us her memories of meeting Dr John Habgood, Bishop of Durham, and for 12 years Archbishop of York. Dr Habgood was a scientist and a promising neurophysiologist before being ordained. He died just over a year ago. He met Penny's husband, Roger, at Salford University during the early 1990s, and then met both Roger and Penny two years later. He visited St Bertoline's Church, Barthomley, near Crewe, where Penny and Roger were married, and which was Penny's parents' church. He recognised Roger immediately.

Dr Habgood's wife was, by all accounts, a very outspoken lady with strong views on the ordination of women! Thank you, Penny!

Remember traffic jams?

ONE GOOD thing about the lockdown is that you'll have spent less hours stuck in traffic this spring.

Recent research has found that in 2019, car-using commuters lost an average of 115 hours stuck in traffic. No surprises that London was the most congested, with people losing 149 hours over the year. After all, London comes eighth in the world for bad traffic jams.

Belfast was the next worst, with 112 hours lost per commuter. That is closely followed by Bristol (103 hours), Edinburgh (98 hours), and Manchester (92 hours).

London and Edinburgh have tied for the title of UK's slowest-moving city centre, with the average speed being about 10mph.

Jesus calming the storm of Covid-19

The Ven. John Barton considers the merits of a dream of reassurance...

THE BBC 'Today' programme that was broadcast on Good Friday included an interview with Hylton Murray-Philipson, a survivor of Covid-19. He had been on a ventilator in Leicester Royal Infirmary, "reduced to the state of a baby".

The programme presenter, Nick Robinson, invited him to describe memories of his time in intensive care. When he said one of the images he had, in a moment of great distress and struggle, was of Jesus calming the storm on the Sea of Galilee, and he would like to think this was Jesus coming to him and helping him in his hour of need, Robinson suggested this was partly because of the powerful drugs he had been given, "which play tricks with the mind".

Later, Robinson apologised and said he didn't mean to demean anyone's faith. But what he had said also betrayed ignorance. While it is true that pain-killing drugs can cause hallucinations, these side-effects are rarely pleasant. It is not uncommon for patients to become agitated, anxious, confused and even prone to violence. Their physical pain will have been reduced, but that may have been at the necessary cost of mental disturbance, the overriding experience being more like that of a storm, than of a sea being calmed.

Back in the 1960s, it became fashionable for some groups to promote the use of illicit drugs because of the temporary sensations they induced. John Lennon of the Beatles said he had "such an overwhelming feeling of well-being, that there was a God, and I could see him in every blade of grass. It was like gaining hundreds of years of experience in 12 hours."

In his new book, 'Morality - Restoring the Common Good in Divided Times', Rabbi Jonathan Sacks chronicles the devastating long-term effects of leisure drugs. He includes cannabis, which he calls a 'gateway drug', because most of those who become serious addicts later began with it.

So what was it that Hylton Murray-Philipson actually experienced, when he was at death's door in that hospital intensive care unit? He knew the biblical story of seasoned fishermen, fearful of their lives because a sudden squall threatened to swamp their boat. Did he recall their alarm because Jesus, asleep in the stern, appeared to be unconcerned at the very moment when divine assistance was most needed? Did not his coronavirus-induced distress match theirs?

The Gospels relate that Jesus woke up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. Is that what Hylton experienced, too? He says it was.

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Trinity Sunday, celebrating our God who is Three Persons

TRYING TO EXPLAIN the doctrine of the Trinity has kept many a theologian busy down the centuries. One helpful picture is to imagine the sun shining in the sky. The sun itself – way out there in space, and unapproachable in its fiery majesty – is the Father. The light that flows from it, which gives us life and illuminates all our lives, is the Son. The heat that flows from it, and which gives us all the energy to move and grow, is the Holy Spirit. You cannot have the sun without its light and its heat. The light and the heat are from the sun, are of the sun, and yet are also distinct in themselves, with their own roles to play.

The Bible makes clear that God is One God, who is disclosed in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit. For example:

Deuteronomy 6:4: 'Hear O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one.'

Isaiah 45:22: 'Turn to me and be saved... for I am God, and there is no other.'

Genesis 1:1-2: 'In the beginning God created... and the Spirit of God was hovering...'

Judges 14:6: 'The Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power...'

John 1:1-3: 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.'

Luke 24:49 actually manages to squeeze the whole Trinity into one sentence. Jesus tells his disciples: 'I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power (the Holy Spirit) from on high.'

In other words, the sun eternally gives off light and heat, and whenever we turn to its brilliant light, we find the warmth and life there as well.

Christians and the bubonic plague of London

The Ven. John Barton looks back on the courage of Christians during the Great Plague of London in 1665

THE REVEREND RICHARD PEIRSON was one of the exceptions. Most of the other clergy in the City of London had fled the Great Plague in 1665, but Peirson stayed behind to look after the parishioners of St Bride's Church, Fleet Street, where he was rector. The parish was densely populated and the pandemic was catastrophic. The church's register records 636 burials that year in the month of September alone, with 43 interred in one day.

Houses of infected people were marked with a red cross on the door, with occupants kept inside for 40 days. Handcarts were pulled along the city streets to cart away the bodies; the drivers' cries of "Bring out your dead", became etched in the memories of subsequent generations. Relatives were banned from attending funerals.

The official count numbered 68,596 deaths in London alone, but other estimates suggested two or three times that number. Bubonic plague – for that is what it was – was incurable. Poor people were fatalistic about it but complained that even their 'spiritual physicians' had abandoned them. Clergy of the Church of England were often supplanted by non-conformist preachers.

It wasn't just the St Bride's rector who put his life in jeopardy by staying at his post. While most wealthy people, along with King Charles II and his court, escaped the plague-ridden city, churchwarden Henry Clarke also

chose to remain at the church. When he succumbed to the illness, his brother William took over. William survived for a fortnight.

Plague cases continued to occur sporadically at a modest rate until mid-1666. That year the Great Fire of London destroyed St Bride's Church and much of the City of London. It was rebuilt to a design by Christopher Wren, but almost obliterated once more in 1940 during World War II before being restored yet again.

Today's rector, Canon Alison Joyce, says that compared with her predecessor, Richard Peirson, she has it easy. Like everyone else, she is confined by the lockdown rules to her rectory next to the church. But her pastoral work continues, and she collates sermons and archive music to create a Sunday webcast service. Alison writes, "these days it is a ministry of telephone calls, emails and Facetime. I offer such practical help and support to the vulnerable as I can . . . I keep a candle burning before our main altar and continue a ministry of prayer."

Alison says she is surprised when people regard the faith as a kind of celestial insurance policy against bad things happening to them. The first followers of Jesus knew that in dedicating their lives to following the crucified and risen Christ, their discipleship would take them into the very heart of darkness, not away from it.

She adds, "Hope is no hope at all unless it can engage with utter despair and meaninglessness."

June 1940 – a month to remember

Tim Lenton looks back on the power of Churchill's speeches.

JUNE 1940 – 80 years ago – was a dramatic month in the Second World War, and one which saw two of the most memorable speeches in English.

As the evacuation of Allied Forces from Dunkirk was completed, recently appointed Prime Minister Winston Churchill told the House of Commons on 4th June: “We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender.”

Surprisingly he did not broadcast it to the nation: it was not recorded until 1949, “for posterity.” When he

spoke, the French had not surrendered, and the idea that “in God’s good time” the USA might conceivably have to ride to the aid of a ‘subjugated’ England actually depressed as many people as it invigorated.

Two weeks later, on the 18th June, with the battle in France lost, Churchill did address the country directly with a rallying call in what must indeed have seemed a very dark hour. “The Battle of Britain,” he said, “is about to begin. Upon this battle depends the survival of Christian civilisation.” He concluded by saying that if Britain were to last a thousand years, people would still say, “This was their finest hour.”

Refugee Week – 15th-21st June

AS THE ANNUAL ‘Refugee Week’ approaches, various Christian relief agencies and campaign groups warn that coronavirus could have a catastrophic impact on the refugees whom they are trying to help.

First, the big picture: according to the UNHCR, “we are currently witnessing the highest levels of displacement on record. An unprecedented 70.8 million people around the world have been forced from home. Among them are nearly 25.9 million refugees, over half of whom are under the age of 18.”

Refugees are especially vulnerable, as their usual homes of makeshift tents or flimsy shelters are overcrowded and without clean water or sanitation, making social distancing and isolation impossible. Also, many refugees are already suffering underlying health conditions and mental health issues.

As the head of the Humanitarian Division at Christian Aid, Nick Guttman, also points out: “Refugees are some of the most vulnerable people in the world. Access to medical facilities is limited and the destabilisation of the global economy is likely to have an impact on their livelihoods and the flow of humanitarian aid.” He warns

that it is only a “matter of time” before it reaches the countries with a high number of refugees: Bangladesh, Syria, Lebanon, Nigeria, Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

Tearfund has highlighted the problem of warning the one million Rohingya people, crowded in camps in Bangladesh. “There is no internet provision in the camps and the mobile network is currently suspended, so getting the message out about the dangers of the virus relies on word of mouth.”

Meanwhile, Open Doors is concerned for the plight of the Pygmy people in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Many fled their rainforest after persecution by Islamist rebels, and are now living in camps, where they are extremely vulnerable to the virus.

Leprosy Mission has warned that India “faces a human timebomb, waiting to explode.” Communities affected by leprosy, malnutrition, overcrowded living conditions and poor sanitation, make “ideal breeding ground for the spread of coronavirus. Social distancing and isolation are impossible in the densely populated areas.”

Terry Waite – on coping with lockdown

TERRY WAITE spent four years in solitary confinement in Beirut. He says: “In isolation, it is easy to become introspective and depressed. All of us, when we are honest and examine ourselves critically, will discover things about ourselves of which we are not especially proud. I had to learn how to grow a greater acceptance of myself and work towards a deeper inner harmony.

“...Today in lockdown, it’s important to keep yourself well. Don’t slob around all day in pyjamas and a dressing

gown. Dress properly and develop a routine. It’s important to have a structure – get up at a certain time, eat regular meals and so on.

If you have faith, then that will give you resources to draw on”, especially if you know some hymns, psalms and prayers by heart. When I was captured, they were there to call on.”

Recipe of the month: Red lentil pâté

12 fl oz water
5 oz red lentils
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 medium onion, finely sliced
2oz mushrooms, coarsely chopped
salt
2 large garlic cloves, finely chopped
1 teasp smoked paprika
1 teasp dried oregano/other herbs to taste
½ teasp black pepper
1 bay leaf
4 fl oz dry white wine
1¼ teasp sherry vinegar

Cook lentils in the water until tender and most of the water is absorbed, about 15 mins. Drain and leave to cool to room temperature. Meanwhile, heat the oil in a pan, add the onions and mushrooms and fry gently for 6-7 minutes until softened. Add the garlic, cook a further 2 minutes, then add spices and mix all well together. Add wine. Scrape up any bits and simmer for about 3 minutes, until reduced by half. Cool slightly. Discard bayleaf. Put in a processor with lentils, vinegar and salt. Process until it is mostly smooth but still has a few bits left in for texture. Check seasoning.

Pamela Ferguson

We can claim the gift of sleep

MANY OF US have had our sleep patterns disturbed in recent weeks. After all, a pandemic, lockdown and growing financial crisis are hardly conducive to relaxation.

But the fact is that, whatever is happening out there, we desperately need our sleep. It is vital for the proper functioning of our brain and heart. Anyone who has ever been deprived of sleep for a period will remember their ever-diminishing ability to perform complicated tasks.

Sleep can also help us solve problems. We go to bed struggling with a decision to make or a relationship to resolve, and we wake up to find a solution presenting itself. The old advice to 'sleep on it' is true: we see things more clearly after sleep.

The Bible considers our sleep as a blessing from God. As Christians, we can calmly commit ourselves to his loving care, secure that he who watches over us "will neither slumber nor sleep" (Ps 121:4). Knowing that God is with us, we can let ourselves go.

If you are having trouble sleeping, why not memorise one of the verses below, and repeat it to yourself as you lie in bed tonight?

'I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the Lord sustains me.' (Ps 3:5)

'In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.' (Ps 4:8)

'In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat — for he grants sleep to those he loves.' (Ps 127:2)

'When you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.' (Prov. 3:24)

'I will refresh the weary and satisfy the faint.' (Jer. 31:25)

As the writer George MacDonald so aptly put it: "Sleep is God's contrivance for giving man the help he cannot get into him when he is awake."

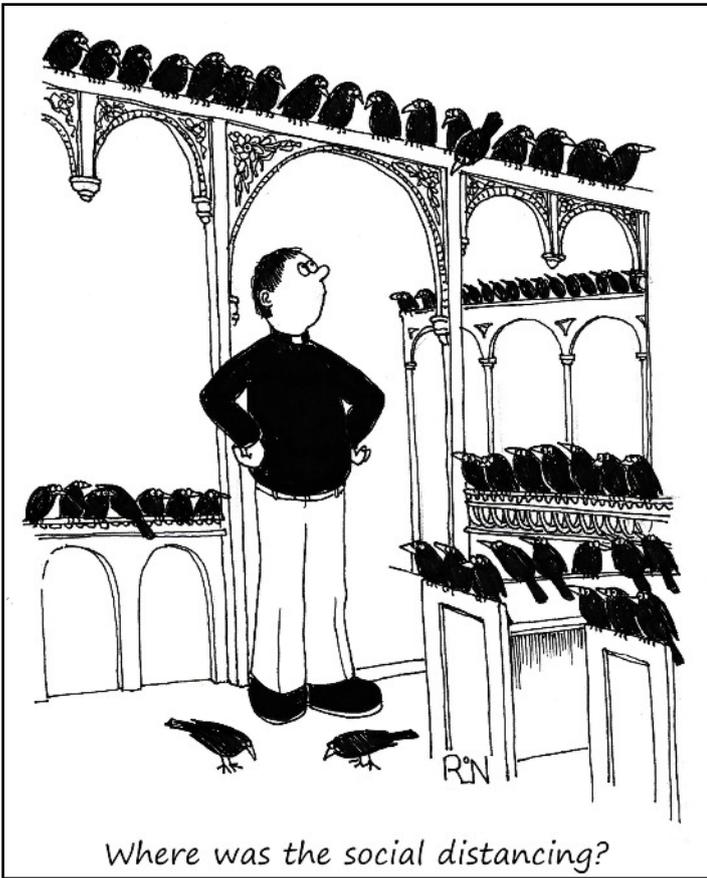
Quiz on World War Two, based on a child's memories

1. What was a 'siren suit' and who was it for?
2. How long were sweets rationed?
3. What was 'snoek' and what did you do with it?
4. What did children ask American soldiers for?
5. What was Woolton Pie?
6. What was the last thing to be de-rationed and when did it happen?

Set by Angela Foulkes. Answers in next column.

Answers

1. It was a 'onesie' with a hood, for children, meant to be put on, night or day, over your other clothes, until the All Clear sounded. Mine was made out of Dad's old mac.
2. Ten years, 1943 – 53.
3. Whale meat, often made into sausages which smelt strongly of fish. You left them!
4. "Got any gum, chum?"
5. A main meal made entirely from vegetables.
6. Meat, in 1954.



Watching a live-streamed service!



We were out and about getting coffee on our daily exercise when we realised that church was about to start... would be rude not to sit outside and listen in! The service was of course actually being streamed from the vicarage!
Lynn and Roberta Warne

Puzzle solutions

Easy Sudoku solution:

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

Intermediate Sudoku solution:

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

Crossword

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

Shining as a light to the world



Shine as a light to the world Mt 5:16



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