

october 2019

*"Rejoice with me; I have found my
lost sheep"* Luke 15.6



grapevine

50p

the magazine of st mary's church rushden
& st peter's newton bromswold

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grapevine
October
2019



Monthly event for dads, stepdads, granddads or male carers and their younger children [0-6 yrs]. Children enjoy a range of toys including bouncy castle, sit-on cars and inflatable ball pool.

Saturday 19 October

9.30am—12noon
St Mary's Church Hall
Adults £3: children free
Just turn up!

Items for the
November grapevine

should be sent by

Sunday 13 October

to Jude Curtis

either by email:

*missjudecurtis@btinternet.com
or [as a last resort] left in the
letterbox outside the office*

*Please include your name and
phone number with any
submission in case we need to
contact you.*

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From Phil ...

I wonder if you have ever been lost? **Really lost?**

Sometimes people get lost because they are given **wrong** directions: sometimes because they don't follow **right** directions. We won't know they were **wrong** directions until someone tells us, and then we need to listen carefully and change direction. Sometimes though we **know** that we are lost and going in the wrong direction **and** what the right direction is, but we choose to ignore it.



In Luke 15.1-7 Jesus was speaking in a setting where the self-righteous thought that they were good enough for God, without Jesus. And that Jesus shouldn't have been associating with bad people who had done bad things.

So Jesus told the **Parable of the Lost Sheep** about ... a lost sheep! The one in this story gets separated from its flock, and thus the care of the shepherd, and so was in danger of being attacked by wolves or wandering into the wilderness and starving itself from lack of food. Jesus wants us to understand that **being lost is dangerous**.

So what does that mean for us? Well, first, remember *why* Jesus told this story. There were people there who thought that they were good enough for God, and because Jesus was a holy man and a teacher he should not be associating and eating with sinful people. And the closing verse of the passage, verse 7, helps us understand the spiritual meaning of the parable.



The message is simply that the kingdom of God is **not** for people who think that they **don't** need to be rescued by God but for people who **do** think they need to be rescued by God. As verse 7 says, the kingdom of God is for people who repent.

Repentance is a turning **away** from something and a turning **to** something - Turning **away from** a life lived **against** God and **for** ourselves, and turning **to** God and allowing Jesus to rescue, forgive, restore, and return us to the fold.

At heart, repentance involves saying to God: “I can’t save myself and I need you to rescue me. I’ve sinned, I **am** a sinner, I need to be forgiven. God, please forgive me, I will now live **your way**” – that’s repentance.

And that’s who the kingdom of God is for, people like that, people who repent. So the underlying message is that without Jesus we are spiritually lost - just lost sheep. We might think we’re fine: but if we haven’t turned to Jesus for forgiveness and accepted him as our Lord and Saviour then we are spiritually lost.

I tell you ...
There will be more
rejoicing in heaven
over one sinner who
repents than over
ninety- nine righteous
persons who do not need
to repent

Luke 15. 7 NIV

But the good news from the parable is that Jesus is looking for those very lost sheep. Jesus is seeking us out because he loves us. In our lost-ness he wants us to be found by him.

But there are some issues with our hearts and minds when we think about these things. Maybe we think that God wouldn’t be looking for us if he really knew what we were like: knew all the things we’ve ever thought, said and done. But, hang on, these are exactly the people Jesus is eating with in this passage. Those who were thought of as publically unclean and sinful.

So there is nothing we might have done that would turn Jesus away from seeking us. Nothing. Jesus is precisely for those people who know they are sinful because he is full of searching love. So seek God and let yourself be found by Him. Amen.

Rev Phil Nightingale



This ‘Lost Sheep’ Edition is inspired by Don Merrifield’s super preaching on Luke 15.1-10 in September, and triggered by the exchange he quoted between the little boy who interrupted his RE teacher, the great Gervais Phinn, with, “What breed were they?” Phinn, puzzled, asks, “Why does that matter?” The child replied, ‘Well if they were Blue Faced Leicesters they would just scatter the moment you left them – but if they were Herdwicks they’d stay put together for ages!’ It’s that grasp of what matters that I want to write about: and we’ll get back to sheep in the end, lost or otherwise.

Recently I was snatching a few moments of Christian Meditation - I stress *Christian* or you will think this is some kind of leftie leftover from my [allegedly] misspent early adulthood. Anyone who’s been to one of Ruth and Tony’s Contemplative 6.00pm Services will have a good idea of the benefits and beauties of silence in the presence of God. With practice you can do this almost anywhere, but the trigger this time was to settle into a place of total contentment, and in a flash I was, in heart, soul and mind’s eye, on the cliffs above Portpatrick in Galloway, staring out over the North Channel to the Antrim Hills, arms resting on a farm gate that separated nothing from nothing and surrounded by - OK, yes - sheep.

To reach this early point on The Southern Uplands Way involves an extraordinary negotiation of what looks like vertical rock face. With the help of chains. Reaching the top I found myself eyeball to eyeball with a sheep - he, she or it on solid ground, and me hanging in mid air [OK, I may exaggerate here]. After one swift look at the intruder the sheep went back to tearing grass and I’m speedreading through my life manual to find the bit on ‘How to push aside an animal heavier than yourself from an inferior position’. The next bit is a tad hazy thirteen years on, but sometime later I’m on *terra firma* and the sheep is walking away pretending that it meant to all along. In relief I draped myself on the convenient and incongruous gate and, in an instant, found myself washed in a massive wave of relief, gratitude, tearfulness, utter happiness and total content, such that the colours of the sky, the smell of salty air, sheep, torn grass and those strange boggy bits that seem so oddly

counterintuitive at such an altitude; the temperature, humidity and softness of the air. It's all seared into me like hard data capture: as if written to hard drive.

For those still wondering my intended destination was Killantringan Lighthouse and I *did* make it. Then I took a 'short cut' that added an extra eight miles to the circular route. I was wearing jeans - yes, I know, I can hear the sharp intake of breath from 'real' walkers from here! I had no map, nor compass and only a bottle of water slipped at the last minute into the long riding mac that was a [now treasured] cast off from Gill Morrison. The Galapagos hat was still a youngster.

"Just a thought ..."

"The world is simple. It's just a matter of cafés where they like you and cafés where they don't."

*Writer, Jean Rhys, according to
Hanif Kureishi*

I looked so much like a hunt saboteur that the shoot underway on the landward side of the hill came to a halt in respect till I'd passed through on the other side. A couple of hours later I even waved back as they overtook me on the lane down to Dunskey House for a stiff wee one and delicious lunch [them, not me], all lounging in the back of a Landrover, festooned with slaughtered game. I refused the proffered lift and only went back to limping after they were out of sight.

That was all of thirteen years ago and more. Now I've got Brasher boots, Craghoppers/North Face gear, more OS maps of the British Isles than is really sane, Troop backpacks in two sizes and more importantly I do know a Leicester from a Herdwick and even a Border Leicester from the original breed. I could even make a guess now, looking back, at the farmer's name.

So I name this now an Interim Destination and discovered then that life *can* be made up of them. It wasn't the original destination, the Lighthouse, that made that moment special. Professor Mark Williams' introduction to Time Stead's book on Christian Mindfulness sums it up really well, "Words, whether they are spoken, or thought, or written present us with a world of ideas that is so good at representing reality that we unwittingly use them as a stand in for the actual experience" and "Mindfulness means awareness, a lucid and appreciative 'knowing' what we are doing as we are doing it". Amen to that.

Jude Curtis, Editor

Tim Stead, *Mindfulness and Christian Spirituality - Making space for God*
(London: SPCK, 2016, px).

St Mary's News

Ladies' Group

We welcomed the **Rev Kim Shorely** to the group last month. She is a Methodist Minister looking after five churches in the Nene Valley Circuit. She began as a worship leader and was then ordained last year.

She likes to communicate the Gospels differently: exploring faith in a story-telling format. She demonstrated this 'Godly play' using the Lord's Prayer as an example and this encouraged us to think more fully about this prayer that Jesus taught us. We thank Kim for sharing her valuable time with us.

Mrs Edna Payne comes to us on 9 October. She will be speaking about 'Josiah Mason' - if that makes you curious please come along and enjoy our fellowship. Contact Cynthia 359590 for further details.

The Children's Society News
The Annual Box Opening and Coffee Morning has been arranged for **Saturday 5 October** in the Church Hall from 10.00-12noon with various stalls. Everyone welcome.



You are also invited to a **Concert** by **The Millers Entertainment Group** entitled 'Nothing but Sea and Sky' on **Saturday 19 October** in St Mary's Church Hall starting at 4.30pm.

Tickets are £4.50, including Tea and Gateau and available from Mary on 01933-315383 or Chris 418399.

Looking further ahead: Saturday 7 December -- The Annual Christingle Service.

Jumble Sale

The Jumble Sale held on **Saturday 7 September** was a great success, raising £322.54 for Mission Funds and Recovery House. Thank you to all who came to support and for everyone who helped in any way.

Edna, Jose & Martin

John Dixon and the Lectern Bible

The new Lectern Bible, donated by John's family, was dedicated at the 9.30am Service on 1 September, with these words from his daughter, Helen.

"Many of you know my Dad, John, and many of his friends are here today. He was a Reader for over fifty years until his Parkinson's stopped him from being able to continue. He was made Reader Emeritus by the Bishop last year.

"Being a Reader was a very important part of Dad's life, called by God to serve in this way. He was licensed in Coventry Cathedral a month after it opened in 1962. He

St Mary's News

had his licence transferred to Peterborough Diocese after Mum and Dad moved to Rushden in August 1963. At that time being a Reader was rather different from today. Although 'attached' to a church they took services all over the place. Dad has taken services in most of the churches which are now in the Higham, Thrapston, Wellingborough and Corby deaneries. After he retired Dad took communion out to several people who could not get to church, as well as taking funerals.

"When we heard that people wanted to have a Lectern Bible to go with the new Pew Bibles we decided this would be a perfect commemoration of his work as a Reader.

"Dad is now being well looked after at Rushden Park nursing home and a highlight for him there is the Wednesday morning church service."

Thank you ... to all my friends at St Mary's for the lovely card and book you gave me for my Eightieth birthday. I had a lovely day. Thank you and God Bless. Rita Nutter



From the Registers

Wedding

Saturday 7 September

Nikki-Louise Buckoke and
Alexander Thomas Adams

Flower Rotas

October 2019

Behind the Communion Table

- 6 Peter White arr. by Jude Curtis
- 13 Ladies' Group
- 20 Paula Williams
- 27 Judy Perkins arr. by Jude Curtis

Thank you again to our new flower arrangers: do keep the offers of help coming!

Memorial Chapel

- 13 Julie West

*If anyone wishes to give flowers in memory of loved ones please contact me, **Brenda Dixon, 358982***



"How lovely to hear from ewe!"

St Mary's News cont . . .

Report of the PCC meeting 3 September 2019

- **The Parish Picnic** took place on 31 August 2019 with approximately 60 people. This year had more children attending. The volleyball matches were popular and the afternoon was enjoyed by all. The PCC thanked H Smedley for organising the event and her parents for providing beef burgers and their neighbours for the sausages. The PCC agreed that the parish picnic will take place at the same time on Saturday 5 September 2020.
- At the **Party in the Park**, people stopped and had good conversations. Those who volunteered were a great help and it would be good to have more next year.
- **Holiday Club** had 40 children attending. This year's theme was "Fishy Tales" which was well presented by Jaz and Helen. The artwork currently on display in the church was excellent. The children enjoyed being at the club.
- **Monthly Craft & Coffee (or Tea)** morning has been well-attended at the July, August and September sessions. The people have enjoyed making the crafts and talking together. Each session has had new people attending.
- The new Church Bibles were put in place earlier in the year. We have now recycled the Bibles that were beyond repair and returned 24 to

people who originally donated them. The remaining 60 Bibles and the lectern Bible were passed on to St Peters & St James Church in Brackley, where the new vicar is a friend of P Nightingale. They previously had no Bibles in the pews so were very pleased to receive them. The PCC thanked Mrs B Dixon and her family for their donation of the new lectern Bible, which was presented to the church in commemoration of John Dixon's many years as Reader, at the 9.30am service on Sunday 1 September 2019. Brenda was able to provide the first reading at this service at which the Bible was dedicated to the glory of God.

The clocks go back at 2.00am on Sunday 27 October



Prayer, Praise & Presence

*Please join us for a time of informal contemporary worship, intercessory prayer and prayer ministry at 7.45pm on the **Third Thursday** of each month in St Mary's Church*

next meeting - 17 October



Book Review

Travels with a Primate, Terry Waite, Harper Collins/SPCK

Many of us will remember Terry Waite for his imprisonment as a hostage in the Middle East. This book recalls his earlier work with the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, when he was tasked with organising the Archbishop's tours of the Anglican Communion world-wide. Terry had a huge admiration and fondness for Dr Runcie but the organisational nightmares of getting any member of 'the great and the good' from A to B on time and in one piece can be imagined. When this is combined with an Archbishop who hates to offend those he has met previously and takes a keen interest in those he is currently meeting, especially in those far-flung churches which only get a visit from the Archbishop once in a blue moon and are therefore determined to make the most of it, Terry is herding cats.

In places 'laugh out loud', in others poignant, Terry takes the reader through the necessary stages of an Archiepiscopal tour and, in the process, also shines a light on duties of the Archbishop of which most of us have no idea. The characters are beautifully drawn with a sly, loving humour - Bishop Richard Chartres in his role as Chaplain, writing everything with a quill pen comes to mind. A lovely fireside read as days draw in, and an ideal present to cheer the sick!

Anna Kingsmill-Vellacott

FEEDBACK



"As I finish my lunch with a piece - well two pieces really - of Lidl dark chocolate every day, I'm glad to read [in the September grapevine] it staves off depression! JW

On the saga of the Galapagos hat [March & April]: "Sorry to hear about Galapagos hat, you had quite a history together didn't you! Hope you're managing to bond with your new one. Let's face it they can take a while to really feel like "yours" and become just deformed enough to feel right." SS

September: "And there was me thinking Mrs B's was the inspirational backdrop for your writings. Love the thought of you working surrounded by such artefacts. Whenever ... I found literary pieces needed attending to, I seemed to find inspiration and a dogged determination to get on top of the ironing and domestic chores." SH

"The description of your dining table made me giggle - it could have been mine!" DW

Feedback welcome: good or bad! Preferably by email, but a note left at the back of church works too. Ed

You might also like to know ...



A Few Last Words on plastic and other eco-issues ...

Walkers Crisp packet recycling

Walkers are now in partnership with recycling company **TerraCycle** to accept all those empty crisp packets littering our streets and contributing to the dead weight of unsustainable plastic in our waste. And not just Walkers brand: all crisp packets are eligible [but not Pringles tubes!] Our nearest collection point is also one of our advertisers, **Noble Eye Care at 89, High St, Rushden** and they are happy for us all to use it - *more detail about the benefits at walkers.co.uk/recycling*

Plastic bag tax

Critics complained that the plastic bag tax was another example of the nanny state. But since it came in, sales of plastic bags at the big seven supermarkets have fallen by 90%. In 2018-19 alone a staggering 490 million fewer bags were sold than the previous year. Sometimes nanny does know best ...

*Daily Mirror Editorial, 1 August 2019 [to prove I don't just read i newspaper - next month *The Racing Post!* , Ed]*

East Northants Community Leaders' Lunch will be taking place

on **Wednesday 2 October**: 11.30am for 12 noon at the **Frontier Centre**. Full details were in September's magazine: updates available from Andrew Presland. *Tickets available at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/east-northants-community-leaders-lunch-tickets-67601908127>: no need to pay in advance: £5 will be payable on the door*

Together in Prayer & Praise:

The next united churches' meeting is on **Sunday 20 October** at 7.30pm at **Highfield Community Baptist Church**

Rushden & Newton Bromswold WI

Thursday 10 October
AGM & Harvest Supper
Competition - A nut

Thursday 14 November
Margaret Burgon
'It could only happen at a wedding'
Competition - A horseshoe

All meetings unless otherwise stated held @ 7.30pm at Rushden Town Bowls Club, Northampton Road, Rushden, NN10 6AN
Visitors welcome £3.50 includes refreshments
Contact 01933 317846

News from Newton

Altar Flowers for October

6 Mrs Beeby & Mrs Burton

20 Mrs Hollis & Mrs Porter

Church Bike Ride

The Northants

Historic Churches

Trust Church Bike

Ride took place on

Saturday 14 September and it was a lovely sunny day for the ride, unlike some years where it has rained all day.

This year Newton had visitors from St Mary's in Rushden, Chelveston, Hargrave and Stoke Doyle.

Remembrance Sunday

St Peter's Church will be holding its Remembrance Service on **Sunday 10 November** at 11.00am.

Christingle

Our annual Christingle Service will be held on **Sunday 1 December** at 11.00am to raise money for The Children's Society.

Not too early to be thinking about ...

The Real Advent Calendar is the UK's only Fairtrade Advent calendar which comes with a **Christmas story-activity book**. The 2019 Real Advent Calendar is a fun way for parents, grandparents and

godparents to share the Christmas story. There is a Fairtrade Chocolate and a line of the Christmas story behind each of the 25 windows. The story activity book has a page for every day of Advent, expanding on the Christmas story and includes some fun challenges.

The Real Advent Calendar is designed to share and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas so that Christ is not written out of Christmas and costs £3.99 each and is available from the **Meaningful Chocolate Company** on-line shop.

Money raised from this year's Real Advent Calendar will help The Funzi and Bodo Trust provide mums and babies from poor African villages with care clinics for pregnant mums, birthing rooms, baby growth and malnutrition clinics.





Free Food

As drought in parts of **Ethiopia** makes food less available and more expensive, millions of pupils are going to school hungry – if they go at all ... While the federal government provides rural schools with free food in times of drought, the task of feeding students in the capital has typically been left to charities ... [but] that changed in January [2019] when the Addis Ababa government launched its own ‘school feeding programme’ for tens of thousands of children, aiming to combat rising urban hunger ... 14-year-old Endale Terefe says ... “I was obliged to come to school with no lunch box and felt sleepy in class. I am now attending the class attentively.”

i newspaper, 9 July 2019

... and in Britain, Trussell Trust Figures

New figures released by the Trussell Trust reveal a 20% increase in emergency food parcels for children in the UK last summer [2018]. No-one is expecting a huge improvement this year. Over a third of all emergency food parcels distributed by food banks in the Trussell Trust’s UK-wide network go

to children, [and] there is extra financial pressure during the holiday period for families who are entitled to free school meals during term time.

But the figures come against a backdrop of soaring food bank use in UK. In 2018-19 this escalated throughout the year with a 19% total increase, and it is expected this trend will continue, prompting concerns that this summer will [have been] the Trussell Trust network’s busiest to date ... While these donations are vital for helping families during the summer, the charity has stressed food banks are not a long-term solution, and more must be done to ensure people have enough money for essentials like food. The Trussell Trust believes tackling delays and gaps in benefits, which affect families’ ability to afford essentials, should be treated as a priority by the Government. The most immediate relief for thousands of people would be to end the five week wait for a first Universal Credit payment, a key driver of need at food banks in the charity’s network.

Go to the Trussell Trust website for more detail and an update now the summer holidays are over. Ed.

The cross stands still while the world turns

In the opening scene of *The Unseen*, a novel by Norwegian author Roy Jacobsen – shortlisted for the Man Booker International Prize 2017 – the local minister, Pastor Johannes Malmberget, is rowed across to a remote island called Barroy. After a difficult two-hour journey, he scrambles ashore – thankful to still be alive, teeters along the landing stage and then “catches sight of something he has never seen before, his home on the main island the way it looks from Barroy”.

This summer, we have been celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 space mission – the excitement of Neil Armstrong’s small step/giant leap on 20th July 1969 as he and Buzz Aldrin became the first human beings to land on the moon. It’s been good to remember the often-forgotten third astronaut, Michael Collins, who remained in lunar orbit and was on the far side of the moon when his colleagues took those famous steps.

All three astronauts shared one particularly special moment, the first sight of something never seen before – the earth the way it looks from the moon. When the astronauts first saw the earthrise, they were struck by how the predominant colour was not green, but blue, as two-thirds of the earth’s surface is sea (indeed, once a day almost all you can see from space is the Pacific Ocean). This was also very clear from the astonishing artwork on

display in the Cathedral recently. ‘Gaia’ by artist Luke Jerram is a seven metre diameter globe, suspended in space. It features detailed NASA imagery of the earth’s surface taken from space, and turns completely every four minutes.

When I saw it in the Cathedral, I thought it looked beautiful and fragile. It filled me with wonder and a feeling of protectiveness. I was reminded that the biggest crisis facing our nation (even more important than Brexit) is the ecological catastrophe that scientists are trying to engage us in addressing.

I was also struck by the astonishing view from the Cathedral Nave of ‘Gaia’ behind the equally beautiful hanging cross. Frank Roper’s 1975 depiction of the crucifixion is 15 feet high, weighs more than half a ton and represents Jesus’ suffering and his watching over the Cathedral. It carries the Latin inscription “Stat Crux Dum Volvitur Orbis” – “the cross stands still while the world turns”.

In this time of great uncertainty, it’s good to be still and recall that God shares our lives and watches over us.

God bless,



+John
Bishop of Brixworth

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Binding up the Brokenhearted

The Diocese of Peterborough is presenting its first Mental Health Training Day on Saturday 19th October.

Entitled 'Binding up the Brokenhearted', the aim of the day is to provide practical advice for local churches to minister more effectively to those with emotional and mental health needs.

The guest speaker at the event is Becky Harcourt, a member of New Wine's National Leadership Team. We caught up with Becky recently for a chat.

Tell us a bit about yourself, Becky. In particular, what is your involvement with mental health within the Church?



Alongside my husband, I lead All Saints, Woodford Wells on the border of London and Essex. We've been involved in church leadership for 27 years (as long as we've been married) and have two children, aged 20 and 17 – both of whom are on the autistic spectrum. I, personally, have a particular calling to inner healing, which simply means helping those who are struggling with emotional or mental issues to encounter God's grace and goodness. I feel particularly passionate about this aspect of ministry because that is my story. Due to the death of three siblings, one of whom died in an accident when I was looking after her, I desperately needed God's grace and goodness to help me deal

with the mental and emotional damage I lived with for many years.

Gill Hampton, who will also be speaking, has experienced her own journey with her emotional and mental health which has led her to walk alongside others as they navigate their healing in many contexts.



Her story is one of abuse, depression and loss – a feeling of hopelessness that she feared would never end until she met the God of hope who tenderly brought healing and restoration.

Gill is passionate about inner healing and the Church becoming equipped to deal with the increasing rise of mental and emotional health problems, knowing that this can sometimes simply mean involving outside bodies (ie GPs) and being willing to participate in integrated care.

What will your talk be about on the 19th October at the Diocesan Mental Health Training Day?

We'll both be sharing from our stories of how God has met with and restored us as examples of the transformational difference he makes to those of us who are broken and struggling. We will also speak from our experiences of walking alongside others dealing with varying degrees of mental illness.

Mental health seems to have finally been taken seriously within society now. How has the Church responded? Have they led the way or are they lagging behind?

In my experience, I see the Church both nationally and locally doing all it can to respond to mental health challenges. A local church is, after all, simply a gathering of people who come together to worship God. Some churches are blessed to have doctors or other mental health professionals in them but many aren't, and those in church leadership traditionally will not have had any training in mental health. But as most churches want to be a blessing to their community, they are doing what they can to become equipped in this area.

It's helpful to remember that what most people in the world are longing for is to experience true security and to know their life has meaning and purpose. As the Church, we are uniquely positioned in our communities to offer those things by introducing people to a God who knows, loves and accepts them unconditionally, and who holds all things in his hands.

What things can the Church do to improve their response to the subject of mental health within the Church (ie Church attendees)?

I think the most important thing that can happen to improve the response to the subject of mental health within the Church is for people to be open and honest about their own mental health struggles. This in itself breaks down the stigma that has silenced so many in the past. It's often the case that once someone admits their own



experience of depression, anxiety, self-harm etc, others then also feel permission to talk openly. Of course, we need to share appropriately and safely, but we mustn't deny these things or pretend to be fine when we're not. When we operate at that level of unreality, it's very isolating and actually makes things worse.

God designed us to live in community – to need and to be there for each other. For there to be genuine community, there needs to be genuine vulnerability, if not with everyone (which isn't always possible or appropriate, depending on circumstances), at least with a small group that will provide support both spiritually and practically, operating with healthy boundaries and accountability, and knowing when to refer on for appropriate professional help.

What things are the Church doing well in this respect?

Several Christian organisations have been established to help people with mental illness and to equip the Church. Mind and Soul Foundation, Think Twice and Kintsugi Hope are just three doing great work in this area. In local churches, people are

getting educated and learning what they can do to help, and to know what's in their area so they can signpost people to where they can access local authority assistance. Also, with the resources they have, churches are coming up with activities and programmes for their context.

What are your hopes for the future regarding the Church and mental health as we approach the 2020s?

My hope for the Church is that we will love and care for each other as we're meant to, but most of all, that we grow in confidence that God is with us and that Jesus is the answer to every question. Whatever we ourselves, or others, are going through, God is with us and for us.

The truth is that Jesus gave his life to deliver us from all oppression, so when we suffer with mental, emotional or physical issues, which, in this life, we all will, he is with us in them – no matter how we feel. We have hope in him and it's a hope the world desperately needs.

'Binding up the Brokenhearted –

A practical day of resourcing your church' takes place on Saturday 19th October at Christ the King, Kettering (Deeble Road, NN15 7AA) from

10.00am to 4.00pm. Entry is free – donations are welcome. No need to book – bring your own lunch. For further details, email

prevans@standrew.co.uk or call 01604 616375.

October events

Wed 2: East Northants Community Leaders' Lunch at The Frontier Centre, Addington Road, Irthlingborough, NN9 5UF. 11.30am for 12 noon. All welcome to this free event. Suggested donation £5. Contact Andrew Presland via 01933 316927 or andrew.presland.harborough58@gmail.com for more information.

Sat 5: Music in Lyddington presents Atéa Wind Quintet (LE15 9LR). 7.30pm. Prepaid tickets £17, on the door (if available) £20, students £5
www.musicinlyddington.co.uk

Sun 6: Nikolsky Ensemble Concert at Geddington, St Mary Magdalene, NN14 1BG. 6.30pm. Adults £15, concessions £13, students £8. Contact Penny Griffin via 07990 521830 or events@geddingtonweeklychurch.org.uk for more information.

Sat 12: Pastoral Visiting Course at St Mark's, 82 Lincoln Road, Peterborough, PE1 2SN. 10.00am to 4.00pm. This two day course (12th and 26th) will help develop visiting skills and insights. Booking via 01604 887049 or bookings@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Visit www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/events to find events happening near you.

For **Safeguarding training** at all levels: www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/news-and-events/events?tags=safeguarding

Mission Matters

Thank you one and all for your continued support for mission, both by prayer and financially.



We are so happy to hear from

Wycliffe Bible Translators that Brian Hodgkin's cataract operation took place in mid September thanks to a cancellation, and has been a success: we stand amazed at what God has done for the Hodgkin family over the many years that we have been supporting them, both in Papua New Guinea and now based, primarily, in the UK.

And, of course, for our other Mission Partners. **Derek and Jane Waller** are doing God's work in Madagascar and very much value prayer as they strive to further His Kingdom here on earth.

As a committee we welcome your enquiries about all the people we support and are so grateful for your private prayers for them. You might be interested in the next **Mid Northants CMS meeting** which is being held in St Mary's Church Hall at 10.30am on **Tuesday 15 October**, when **Ann Moore will be talking about 'God at Work in a Ugandan Hospital'** Please continue to uphold all those whose mission is to share God's wonderful love with all mankind.

God bless you all and thank you once again.

Jose Smith, for St Mary's Mission Committee

[Sue Eagles, Martin Compton, Josie Smith, Sue Prior, Edna Wadsworth]

Prayer Poem Corner



We are rivers

Lord, we are rivers running to thy sea,
Our waves and ripples all derived from thee:
A nothing we should have, a nothing be,
Except for thee.

From a prayer of Christina Rossetti 1830–1894, who was an invalid for most of her life, and also a prolific poet.

Meet the Congregation—Rev Dr Glyn Ackerley

Glyn was born in The Barratt Maternity Home Northampton - like many Rushden children - on November 14 1957. He was the only child of Jim Ackerley, a carpenter, known as 'Taff' as he was Welsh, and Mum, Audrey (nee Tebbutt). They lived in Hayden Rd, moving to Rose Ave when he was two and staying till 1986.

His fondest pre-school memories are of walks with his Grandad, Herbert, along Irchester Rd, past Knuston Farm, to the railway and back. One day Grandad took all the change out of his pocket and asked what he would buy with that? Glyn replied "A bucket of ice cream!"

Glyn began his schooling at Tennyson Rd Infants then Alfred St Juniors - he has fond memories of learning folk songs and country dancing taught by a certain Mr Clarke [David Clarke: still going strong in St Mary's Choir]. He then went on to Wellingborough Tech: now Weavers Academy. The great excitement of the 1966 World Cup is firmly etched on his memory. He enjoyed sport [rugby, athletics and cross country running], acted in plays and had principal parts in Gilbert and Sullivan operettas. On the serious side he studied for Maths, Physics and Chemistry A Levels.

From school he went to City University, London to study Mechanical Engineering, but in his first year had severe appendicitis. He never managed to keep up with the course after that and dropped out at the end of first year, spending a few months at the local Totector shoe factory, then in a proper job at Unilever in Colworth. In 1979 he moved to RAE Bedford, where he worked on military projects which were all very hush hush. Tony Smith worked just along the corridor from him.

But 1984 saw Glyn start training for the ministry at Cranmer Hall in Durham, and he was ordained in Rochester Cathedral in 1987. By 1994 he was Vicar at St Philip and St James, Chatham - known as 'Pip and Jim's'! - a large charismatic training parish and he had six curates while he was there. In 2009 he was appointed Rochester Director of Ordinands, interviewing and supporting those called to the ministry whilst working as vicar of a small church called Shorne. He was awarded his PhD in Theology in 2014, after much hard work. In 2016 he moved to Christchurch, Bushmead, Luton and then took early retirement last year.

His wife, Philippa, was the little sister of his best friend, and he knew her



from the age of six. They met again at YPF [Young Peoples Fellowship] when Glyn was leader and also

in the Music group. She went to train as a nurse at Stoke Mandeville and it was then they began going out. He proposed in Newcastle, down on one knee in front of the statue of Earl Grey! It was supposed, locally, to be lucky to become engaged on the Tyne Bridge, but Glyn thought that was too risky - he might lose the ring in the river! As he proposed a pigeon bombed him on the head ... he was dryly informed that was lucky too!

The couple have three daughters: Sophia who works at Higham Surgery with Philippa; Lydia who lives in the Lake District with husband, David and their little daughter Islay, and Sarah who is a teacher in Chatham.

Now Glyn has retired he has been working on a new book on the Bible, and recently obtained PTO [Permission to Officiate] from the Bishop so we are now seeing him in action at Services. He loves St Mary's and its people, some of whom he has known since he was a boy. He says the teaching he received at St Mary's was the foundation for his life in the ministry.

Roving Reporter

Those questions

Person with most influence?

Rev John Littlewood - a curate at St Mary's: but, of course Jesus, followed by St Paul

Hobbies?

Playing guitar and anything technical to do with guitars. And, if this counts, indulging my gregarious personality meeting new people in the pub [and at church!] Then there's Rugby Union.

Guests to dinner?

Old and new friends

What would you serve?

An authentic curry!

Favourite Place

Good old Rushden - that's why we returned. I particularly like the walk H E Bates used to take to Farndish

Special Treat?

Lemon Meringue Pie

Proudest Moment

Marrying Philippa at St Mary's on 13 December 1986

Favourite Bible verses?

"Very truly I tell you whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me, has eternal life and will not be judged, but has crossed over from death to life."

John 5.4

Local Events and News



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Looking Back at St Mary's Magazines

50 years ago

October 1969

New English Bible Completed

The translation is now complete and the University Presses of Oxford and Cambridge are able to announce that the work as a whole-including the Old Testament and Apocrypha - will be published in March 1970.

The New Testament was published in 1961, with one million copies in print on the day of publication. Estimates were that these would last a year: in fact four million copies were sold within a year of publication... Groups of scholars have continued [the] work ... using the best Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek texts and all the resources of modern biblical scholarship.

After years of drafting, discussion, checking, re-checking, the manuscripts finally went to the printers at the end of last year, and several printing machines at both

Oxford and Cambridge are already working exclusively on the New English Bible.

25 years ago

October 1994

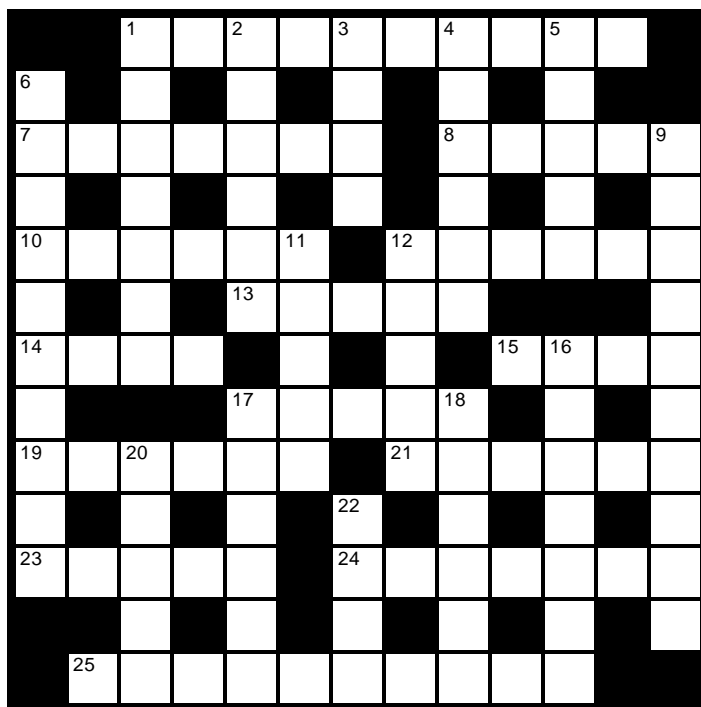
Health Care Sunday this year is on 16 October - the Sunday nearest to the day when St Luke 'the beloved physician' is remembered. The day has been established by a group of Christian organisations involved in health care who want to encourage the whole church to be more involved in prayer for awareness of health concerns.

The aim is to stimulate fellow Christians to go on supporting professional and voluntary carers, who can find themselves under almost intolerable strain at times. And they want the churches to recognise the need also for shared community responsibility at local and national level.

Crossword No 360

ACROSS

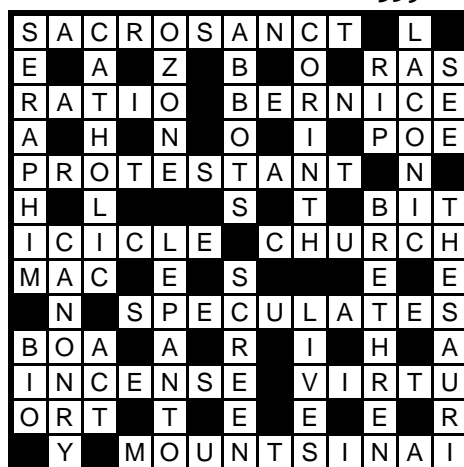
- 1 Matins chant (10)
- 7 Disciple (7)
- 8 Architectural style (5)
- 10 Son of Benjamin (Genesis 46:21) (6)
- 12 Song of -- (Nunc Dimittis) (6)
- 13 -- County, football team (5)
- 14 Lent eg (4)
- 15 -- Boleyn (4)
- 17 Lamps (anag.) (5)
- 19 Cows (6)
- 21 Professional mourner (6)
- 23 Church tax (5)
- 24 Prayer before the epistle (7)
- 25 Part of church reserved for priests (10)



DOWN

- 1 Sob aims (anag.), quantity of living material (7)
- 2 Father of Zabad (1 Chronicles 2:36) (6)
- 3 Performance by two (4)
- 4 Fly larva (6)
- 5 -- in One (5)
- 6 Song of Mary (10)
- 9 Render holy (10)
- 11 Ineffectual (2,3)
- 12 Stem (5)
- 16 Convent (7)
- 17 Pincers (6)
- 18 Ear of maize (6)
- 20 Teacher (5)
- 22 Painful (4)

Solution to Crossword No 359





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Belfry Gossip

Kaylee continues to progress and has started to ring 'Call Changes' as well as rounds, which is a stepping stone to method ringing. In rounds you keep following the same bell, but call changes is what it implies; a command is given (called) for you to follow a different bell. This is to get you used to pulling the rope at different strengths to get the bell in the correct position to follow a different bell. Method ringing is an advancement on call changes because you learn and memorise the path to follow among the other bells instead of the different changes being called.

As well as our regular Sunday morning service ringing, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, celebrating Simon and Cathy's Silver Wedding anniversary, was also successfully rung for one of the Sunday evensongs.

Since the last Belfry Gossip the Wellingborough Branch of ringers has held an outing into Leicestershire: many thanks to Pam for organising it. It was a beautiful sunny day and four churches were visited by ten branch members and four friends. Although the churches were not too distant from the A5 trunk road, several people remarked that they hadn't heard of some of the villages before, even though they had passed close by. We visited Barwell (8 bells), Higham on the Hill (6), Burbage (8) and Leire (6) and our ringing ranged from Plain Hunt to Norwich Surprise Minor.

One visitor, Jim, got up at 4:30am, caught the train from Shoreham and was collected from Wellingborough station at 8:20. He then caught the 5.00pm train back home arriving there about 9.00pm. That's dedication for you and he's 88 years young!

Halfway through the day several of us refreshed ourselves with lunch in the sunshine in the pub garden alongside the canal. We were welcomed with tea/coffee and biscuits at some of the churches, and all had toilets. It is always really nice to go to other churches not only to ring on the different bells, [because all rings of bells are different as are the ringing rooms,] but also to get the chance to look around them, because no two churches are the same.

Before next time the Guild will have held its Summer Festival and 8-bell Striking competition, which will be based here at Rushden.

Tintinnabulum

Diary

October

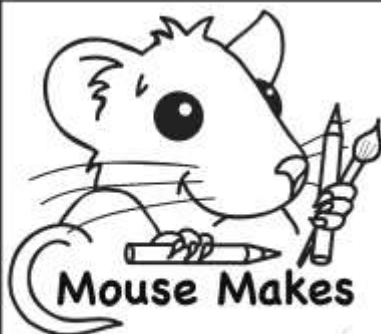
- 1 **Tuesday: 10.00-12noon - Craft & Coffee [or Tea]** - in St Mary's Lower Hall - every month on the first Tuesday
- 2 **Wednesday: 11.45 for 12noon--East Northants Leaders' Lunch:**
Speakers are Julia Smith (Customer and Community Services, East Northants Council), **Ed Walker** from Hope Into Action and **Jo Burns** from East Northants Community Services- - booking details on pg
- 5 **Saturday: 10.00-12noon--Children's Society Box Opening and Coffee Morning** in the Church Hall, various stalls, all welcome
- 9 **Wednesday: 2.15pm--St Mary's Ladies' Group** in the Church Hall: Mrs Edna Payne, *Josiah Mason*
- 12 **Saturday: 9.30-4.00pm--St Mary's Parish Day Away at Christ the King, Kettering:** the topic will be the Book of Ruth
- 15 **Tuesday: 10.30am--Mid Northants CMS Meeting** in St Mary's Church Hall - 'God at Work in a Ugandan Hospital', speaker Ann Moore.
- 16 **Wednesday: 7.00 for 7.30pm--Higham Deanery Synod Open Meeting** at Stanwick Parish Church: Linnet Smith talking on supporting people with dementia. All welcome
- 19 **Saturday: 4.30pm--Children's Society: The Millers Entertainment Group present "Nothing but Sea & Sky"** in the Church Hall. Tickets £4.50 to include Tea & Gateau, see p8 for contacts.

November

- 5 **Tuesday: 10.00-12noon - Craft & Coffee [or Tea]** - in Lower Hall
- 13 **Wednesday: 2.15pm--St Mary's Ladies' Group** in the Church Hall: *Let's make an angel*
- 30 **Saturday: Christmas Craft Day**, in the Church Hall

December

- 3 **Tuesday: 10.00-12noon - Craft & Coffee [or Tea]** - in Lower Hall
- 7 **Saturday: 2.30pm -- Children's Society Christingle Service in Church**
- 11 **Wednesday: 2.15pm--St Mary's Ladies' Group** in the Church Hall: *Our favourite readings and carols*
- 14 **Saturday: 10.00-12noon -- Choir Coffee Morning** with Carols and those special mince pies. In the Church Hall

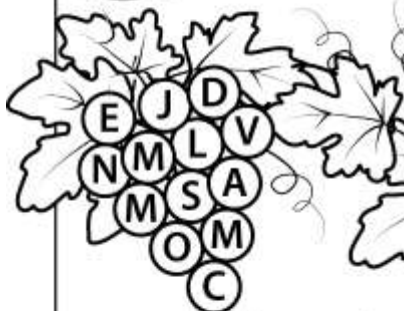


THE TRUE VINE

Jesus said:

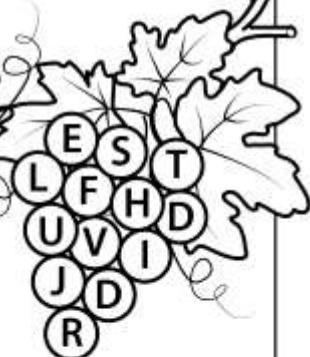
"I am the **vine**;
you are the **branches**.
The one who remains
in me -and I in him -
bears much **fruit**,
because apart
from me you can
accomplish nothing."

John 15:5



"My **commandment** is this -
to love one another just
as I have loved you."

John 15:12



"No one has greater
love than this -
that one lays down
his life for his friends."

John 15:13



You can read
Jesus' teaching on
The True Vine in:
John 15:1-17



Each of the word
in **bold** on this page
is hidden in the
bunches of grapes.
Can you work
out which bunch
each word is in?

How many other
words can you make from:
THE TRUE VINE

Services for October 2019

St Mary's
Rushden

St Peter's
Newton Bromswold

6 October - Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am	All Age Holy Communion		
11.15am	Morning Prayer	11.00am	Family Service
6.00pm	Evening Prayer		

13 October - Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am	All Age Service		
11.15am	Holy Communion	11.00am	Family Communion
6.00pm	Evening Prayer		

20 October - Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am	All Age Parade Service		
11.15am	Morning Prayer	11.00am	Morning Prayer
6.00pm	Holy Communion		

27 October - Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am	Informal Fourth Sunday Service		
11.15am	Morning Prayer	11.00am	Family Communion
6.00pm	Evening Prayer		

Also Weekdays @ St Mary's

Mondays 10.00am Bumps & Babes @ Church – every week in term time

Thursdays 10.30am -- Holy Communion [BCP] – every week

Third Thursday of the month - 7.45pm - Prayer, Praise & Presence



— The Back Page —

