

A stylized graphic on a yellow background. It features a large, flowing shape in shades of red and orange, resembling a flame or a ribbon. To its right, a blue ribbon-like shape flows downwards. The overall effect is dynamic and artistic.

may 2020

grapevine

50p

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

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grapevine may 2020

We were holding back from going to press until getting confirmation that social distancing and other measures will continue for at least another three weeks. Instead of dwelling on what we're missing let's celebrate the imagination, enthusiasm and care being shown in arranging for our lives to go on flourishing, despite everything.

We shall continue to publish grapevine both in print and on line at **stmaryschurchrushden.org** so do keep your contributions coming. This website is still the best place to keep up to date with the situation as it affects us and our churches, particularly because Sue Prior is preparing Notices and highlighting what we need to know in a confusing situation.

If you are not able to access a PDF version of grapevine then contact Pam Bailey to arrange delivery of a paper copy. *Jude Curtis, Editor*

**NB This month's daily prayers are now incorporated on p 13*



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Items for the June grapevine

should be sent by

**Sunday 10 May
to Jude Curtis**

either by email:

missjudecurtis@btinternet.com
or dictated or texted to Jude on
07899 912810

Steve speaks . . .



Dear Church!*

I write to you on Easter Tuesday morning (after a timely reminder from Jude!) COVID-19 may halt the progress of nations, but not of *grapevine*!

We have all just celebrated what must be one of the strangest Easters of our lives. Now, after three weeks of lockdown, it is becoming clear that we will be in this situation for some time to come. This will not be a sprint, but much more like a marathon.

It has been amazing to see how quickly the advertising industry has adapted their messages to COVID-19 and, especially, to lockdown. Most of us aren't quite so nimble! However, adjustments have to be made in our individual lives and in our life as a Church.

I am planning for May's worship to be recorded and posted on both Facebook and YouTube as it has been during the past month. I am an absolute beginner in this and appreciate all your encouragement, forbearance and suggestions, as well as the help of all those who have contributed (and especially Jaz Shaw) without whom it would not be possible. As we are all learning and adapting, there will undoubtedly be mistakes, experiments and - hopefully - some improvements along the way. Thanks also to Sue Merrifield and Helen Smedley who are continuing their children's work – both posting online for Bumps and Babes and physically handing out packs for Holiday Club children.

In our Sunday Services, we will be looking at the *Post Easter* experiences of Jesus's disciples – their meeting in the upper room, his meeting with Thomas, the experience of two people on the road to Emmaus as well as Jesus's promise of the Holy Spirit, his Ascension and his pouring out of the Holy Spirit on the Church at Pentecost - which is Sunday 31 May.

In the daily Bible readings (please see page ?), we will continue on our journey with John. I hope many of you will feel that following these readings – though we can't be together – is a way to continue to feel a part of our church body. I appreciate that many of you will do this in addition to other prayer and Bible readings. Perhaps we also have additional time at the moment which makes this possible.

Pastorally, we continue to look after one another through phone calls, text

messages and other social media. My thanks to all those who are helping to keep in touch with our congregations through phoning members of their home groups and other groups. I am also aware of many others in our congregations who are staying in touch, contacting one another to encourage and support, and offering practical help where necessary. As the old BT commercial has it: “It’s good to talk” and especially important when we are physically isolated from one another.

I was always amazed at how the food box filled up each week as it sat at the back of church for the past few years. I am happy to report that since it has been outside The Rectory front door it has continued to fill: people have not forgotten the needs of the less fortunate in our community and are continuing to bring contributions to the box. Either Sue or I bring it to the Food Bank each week – sometimes twice. This is especially important at the moment, when many jobs and livelihoods have been interrupted.

For many of us, the present time feels as if life is ‘on hold’ because normal habits and patterns of life, work and relaxation have been broken. We all look forward to when we can worship in one another’s presence in our familiar church building once again. But life is not on hold! Just look at the trees, shrubs and flowers outside. New buds are forming; young leaves are unfolding; and the grass refuses to stop growing. The resurrection is about *new life*! Although Jesus was raised to life by the Father, his *new life* was not exactly the same as the old. So, too, in these strange times, we experience in a new way Christ’s life in us through the Holy Spirit. We express it and share it with one another in new ways – ways which will often feel strange to us – ways which would not be our preferred manner of “being church”! – but ways which can still be faithful expressions of the *new life* which Jesus died and rose to give to us, as we live our lives in dependent trust upon him.

Just as a plant will find a way to sprout through the cracks in the pavement, so the Resurrection Life of Christ Jesus grows and shows itself in and through us, even with the obstructions of lockdown. *Alleluia!*

Steve

*You may think it odd that I have been addressing you all – the members of our congregations - as “Church” since the lockdown. I hope you don’t mind my doing this. While it is a bit stark, I feel it is a way of reminding us that we are not dependent upon the building – as beautiful as it is and as much as we may miss meeting there. It is in our meeting together that we are the Church, not in the stones and mortar in which we meet.



“I will not live another day without freedom!” No! Not me!! * This is Snow White’s demand for personal freedom in the 2012 film ***Snow White and the Huntsman***. It’s a turning point of the film: probably evoked an audible cheer from the audience when it was premiered. The last few weeks render it a statement we can no longer take for granted as part of our democratic heritage. Her reaction is one I have always, utterly supported. Now everything feels different.

Weeks ago when the prospect of near isolation was only on the horizon I adopted the entirely Romantic view that I would use the opportunity to drift from academic obsession to artistic pursuit then segue into major cookery projects whilst treating the entire episode as a practice run for the greater isolation of advanced old age [well, I never could avoid the melodramatic]. Others assumed that they might spend the whole time spring-cleaning and preparing for the next Jumble Sale.

And yet life isn’t really like either of those scenarios. It goes on. Tomato plants continue to grow with enough care and attention; the Choir Director became a grandmother [again!]; significant birthdays and anniversaries arrived and were celebrated - often more imaginatively than before.

We go on ‘being Christian’ in ways we couldn’t imagine a few months ago. Many have, like Bishop John found new ways of ‘holding hands in the Spirit ... rooted in daily prayer and Bible reading at home’. [p11] This was clear to me talking to people about how they’d ‘done’ Easter this year. Yes, the act of common worship on line was an opportunity to reinforce the fact that we are all in this together but what was stressed to me [usually with surprise: often deep joy] was the contrast to other years that creating a ‘different’ Easter brought about. Several talked about the peace of separating worship from the worldly considerations of preparations for a big family gathering, complicated cooking, contribution to a church service and eventual exhaustion. Instead several told me they spent the whole morning with God - a rare luxury. It did them, they said, the world of good, bringing a rare and comfortable closeness.

My own on line ‘gifts’ were two-fold: watching Sue Merrifield doing Bumps & Babies on April 6 and joining in [particularly with the Big Amen!], and discovering a little cache on the Diocesan website of ‘Bishop Donald’s Videos’. His admirably short message ‘Casting ourselves on God as we stand at the foot of the cross this Holy Week’ on April 8 *** had a huge impact on me, provoking the kind of thought and reflection which more flamboyant or wordy presentations have not. In 3.49 minutes it set the scene for the whole of Easter, internalised it and made it personal and accessible to me. I’m very glad to say it was not a polished performance.

Just for the record my chosen ‘academic obsession’ concerned the many, many references to figs [*figus carica*] in the Bible and particularly those referring to its flowers. I have grown figs for 20 years but never, ever seen a flower. You can go to bed and the whole tree is a grey, dead, sleeping, wintry thing and come out with your espresso at dawn and find incipient figs and leaf sprouts growing together. Deep observation and on line research, thankfully, established that I’m not the only one confused, fascinated and frustrated. The fig tree is dioecious** which means it is either male or female, not both. The intricacies of its DNA are still being studied in China [with research being posted in the academic press even in Feb 2020]. Unless you have a fig orchard you therefore need both in the pot/planting hole to cross-fertilise. For the first time I twigged [!] that my tree has two stems [has had for 20 years and I didn’t notice]. At which point I am happy to move on and just enjoy the fruit later.

A much more exciting nature study was triggered by the arrival of the first wren I have ever seen in my backyard. Unasked it was chomping away at the greenfly covering an old English rose I brought with me from Raunds. Now there’s both cooperation and Mindfulness for you.

Take care. Stay safe.

Jude Curtis, Editor

*substitute ‘freshly squeezed orange juice’ for ‘freedom’ and that is another matter!

** Note from our Scottish Correspondence

“Dioecious sounds like a Greek god: wasn’t he in *The Song of Achilles* that we recently read?”

*** go to peterborough-diocese.org.uk then Welcome, then Coronavirus and Bishop Donald’s Videos is top of the list.

St Mary's News

St Mary's Annual Vestry & APCM on Tuesday 7 April 2020 ... Just to repeat the report in April's grapevine

- "In light of the Government guidelines and following the recommendations of the Archbishop of Canterbury the 2020 APCM due to take place on 7 April 2020 was postponed until further notice. The Peterborough Diocesan secretary has given Steve Prior permission to temporarily extend the PCC and Deanery synod members until further notice. He has also been given the authority to make the following appointments:

Paul Adams is appointed Church Warden. Kate Woodfield continues in her role as Church Warden. Jennie Bone is appointed as the PCC secretary.

"The PCC meeting scheduled for Tuesday 5 May 2020 has been cancelled.

Martin Compton

Church Fete

The sensible decision has now been taken that the **St Mary's Church Fete planned in June will not go ahead.**

Lent Collection

This year's Lent Collection will still be sent to **tearfund**. Contact our Treasurer, Robert Bates to discuss paying "remotely" (01933 358005 or email:



robertbates1947@btinternet.com). Unfortunately, if you have collected cash it will have to wait until after the lockdown to count it up and send it off.

Ben is one!

Martin Tanner sends news that grandson Ben has just turned one - see photos on *The Back Page* - and thanks all of us for our prayers. He goes on, "Amazingly the fluid has all gone from his lungs and he hasn't been in hospital for seven weeks! He seems to have turned a corner, is almost crawling and, though he hasn't said an actual word yet, is making all kinds of sounds that suggest he is not far off doing so." *Thank you Martin for sharing that: just what we needed. Ed*

Happy Birthday - Anne Riley

Anne would like to thank everyone for the cards, gifts and greetings on her **Eightieth Birthday on Friday 20 March**. On **page 15** you can see her showing off one of her more unusual presents!

Warmest Birthday Greetings also to **Marion Bates** who was **70** on **Friday 17 April** and to **Jean Lathwell** who turned **91** on **Easter Sunday!**

Peter and Jeannie Chamberlain would like to thank everyone for the lovely card, gift and good wishes on

St Mary's & other local News

the occasion of their **Golden Wedding on 11 April!** ...

"Thank you everyone from T&C ... for the lovely gift delivered to our doorstep to celebrate our **Diamond Wedding on Thursday 2 April** and when we meet again we will celebrate!" **"Thanking every one at St Mary's** for the card and gift and good wishes on our Diamond Wedding anniversary" - see p15

Ellen & Graham Inwood

Dates to remember:

Ascension Day: Thursday 21 May

Pentecost/Whit Sunday 31 May

From the Register

Funeral

Pamela Smith [68]

Monday 23 March

Voluntary Organisations Answer the Call

"A big thank you to our NERC (Northamptonshire Emergency Response Corps) voluntary organisations who were there for the community



over the Easter Bank Holiday. The **Community Resilience Hub** were operating throughout the four-day weekend and any important requests for help were sent over to the now fully operational

volunteers' planning and operations cells, from where tasks to assist those in need were allocated. We're glad that there was only light demand over the long weekend but it was all dealt with most efficiently."

Received through Neighbourhood Watch

New Covid-19 Helpline

The new support line that can be reached on 0300 126 1000 [option 5] allows those who cannot leave their homes under current restrictions, and those who have nobody to call upon for help, to request support in getting access to food, prescriptions and other vital services that they require.

The **Customer Service Centre** at Northamptonshire County Council will be managing the helpline. Individuals receive the care and support appropriate to their needs. The **Community Resilience Service** will co-ordinate requests for help in conjunction with District and Borough Councils linking them with volunteers, community groups etc. Stay safe.

Christine MacKenzie



Gardeners' Report



I am sitting at the dining room table on Wednesday 1 April as, due to the lockdown, there is no gardening; so I'm writing this for the May edition of Grapevine.

For those unable to get out [and that includes me] you just have to imagine the churchyard as it is now. The multitude of hyacinths that are flowering all pink and numbering in the thousands. The daffodils will be past their best now but the tulips should be coming into their own. Unfortunately, the weeds might also be flourishing but with all of us unable to be there they will have to do their worst. Marion has set cosmos and tobacco plant seeds so hopefully we will be able to get them planted if the restrictions are lifted in time so that there is a colourful display in the summer.

We were kept busy after Christmas with all the fuchsias cut back and the roses have all been pruned, though whether to Monty Don's standards I'm not sure but time will tell when they start flowering.

The council started cutting the grass at the beginning of March so the churchyard was looking much tidier [unlike the gardening team].

We are all missing our Wednesday mornings - gardening and putting the world to rights.

All the best to everyone. *The Gardening Team*

PS Looking back at all that I have written: this is the entry for 11 years ago:

Wednesday 1 April 2009

"A really lovely day to be out doing the garden with the sun shining and just the right temperature. Mind you we have had to water some of the beds as the polyanthus were wilting. The roses have now been sprayed against the dreaded Black Spot. All the small flowerbeds have now been weeded and tidied up and the grass in the Garden of Rest has been cut as has the rest of the Churchyard so with all the hyacinths (all 2,000 of them) now coming into bloom we think that it is looking a picture. Much to my relief the Sambucus is shooting so Fred and I are now in the clear."

From Bishop John ...

Faith in Troubled Times

Three thousand years ago, a person of deep faith wrote – and the people of God first sang – some of the most beautiful words in history:

“The Lord is my Shepherd, I will not want. He feeds me in green pasture.” (Psalm 23: 1,2)

They voice a confident trust that with God as their shepherd, they will not wander:

“He leads me besides still waters. He restores my soul.” (2, 3)

With remarkable faith, they declare that whatever life may bring, with the Lord as their shepherd, they will not worry. They sing of God’s ever-presence besides them at the darkest times:

“Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me. Your rod and your staff comfort me.” (4)

We are living through extraordinary and disturbing times. The coronavirus is causing death and deep disruption to our normal patterns of living. Tragedy has included members of the diocesan family. The total lockdown, self-isolation, suspension of public worship and closure of church buildings means that we have had no option but (in the phrase of the Archbishops) “to become a different sort of church”.

People have found new ways of caring for each other. Good neighbour schemes have emerged. Our telephones have been busy. Many have shopped for

the housebound, clapped in the street, lit candles, and put teddy bears and NHS rainbow signs in their windows. Many churches have produced deeply moving acts of worship online. I’ve discovered social media I didn’t know existed! We have found new ways of being “together apart” and “holding hands in the Spirit”.

I believe as a Church we have rediscovered that our spiritual lives must be rooted in daily prayer and Bible reading at home, not just Sunday worship in church. Jesus is with us wherever we are – we hold on to his promise that he will be with us whatever happens.

I have recently become chair of a small national charity called ReSource whose aim is to help “little, local and ordinary churches” draw on the Holy Spirit for discipleship and mission. The Director has written these helpful words: “Whatever these coming days hold, let’s be mindful of one another, alert to the cry of a hurting world, and confident in the love of God, from which nothing can separate us.” May God bless us all.

With my love, prayers
and best wishes,
*Rt Revd John Holbrook Bishop of
Brixworth*



News from Newton - Prayers



Along with the rest of the Parish most events and services in the near future, including the **Annual Vestry & Annual Parochial Church Meeting planned for Wednesday 1 April** have been **postponed or cancelled**. **Jenny Burt** has been appointed as interim **Church Warden** until the APCM can be held and **Joyce Dangerfield becomes Treasurer** likewise.

A decision about continuing with **Newton Fete on Saturday 4 July** will be made at **the end of May**.



The Priestly Blessing

The LORD bless you
and keep you:
The LORD make his face to
shine on you
and be gracious to you;
The LORD turn his face towards
you and give you peace!

Numbers 6. 24-26

"Just a thought ..."

*"Many complain of their
memory, few of their
judgement"* Benjamin Franklin

*"A man's virtue is to be
measured not by his
extraordinary efforts, but his
everyday conduct."* Pascal

*With thanks once again to Jan
Wildman, whose husband compiled
several volumes of sayings and
thoughts that made sense to him
and I dip into from time to time. Ed*

Deuteronomy

*Back in December 2019 I challenged
everyone to join me in reading
Deuteronomy in April 2020. If you
did you would have discovered this
entirely appropriate summary of
how to live your life, which has
aged extremely well!*

**¹² What does the LORD your God
ask of you but to fear the LORD
your God, to walk in obedience to
him, to love him, to serve the
LORD your God with all your heart
and with all your soul.**

Deuteronomy 9.12

Daily Bible Readings for May 2020

Reading the Bible allows God to speak to us through his Word. During the current crisis, we may not be meeting together, but we can retain a sense being the church by all reading these Bible verses each day, even if we also use another Bible reading plan. I hope you will find this a useful way of reminding you that you are part of Christ's body as we follow through Readings in the Gospel of John together.

Friday	1 May	John 6.52-59
Saturday	2 May	John 6.60-69
Sunday	3 May	John 10.1-10
Monday	4 May	John 10.11-18
Tuesday	5 May	John 10.22-30
Wednesday	6 May	John 12.44-end
Thursday	7 May	John 13.16-20
Friday	8 May	John 14.1-6
Saturday	9 May	John 14.7-14



*Do not let your
hearts be troubled
and do not be
afraid.*

John 14.27

Sunday	10 May	John 14.1-14
Monday	11 May	John 14.21-26
Tuesday	12 May	John 14.27-end
Wednesday	13 May	John 15.1-8
Thursday	14 May	John 15.9-11
Friday	15 May	John 15.12-17
Saturday	16 May	John 15.18-21

Sunday	17 May	John 14.15-21
Monday	18 May	John 15.26-16.4
Tuesday	19 May	John 16.5-11
Wednesday	20 May	John 16.12-15
Ascension Day	21 May	Luke 24.44-end
Friday	22 May	John 16.20-23
Saturday	23 May	John 16.23-28



Sunday	24 May	John 17.1-11
Monday	25 May	John 16.29 - end
Tuesday	26 May	John 17.1-11
Wednesday	27 May	John 17.11-19
Thursday	28 May	John 17.20-end
Friday	29 May	John 21.15-19
Saturday	30 May	John 21.20-end

Pentecost

31 May John 7.37-39

What are we doing?

10





8



Clockwise from above: Anne Riley, Spring!, Ellen & Graham Inwood, Newton's cowslips, Sue Merrifield's Bumps & Babies on Facebook, Newton churchyard, St Mary's many hyacinths.



8

Meet the Congregation – Clive Brocklesby

Baby boy number three was born to Ruby and Sid Brocklesby on 24 April 1958. Father was an engineer and mother stayed at home in charge of the family. They lived in the Queens Park area of Bedford.



Clive's pre-school memories are vague – so we bypass them – and go to Queen Park Primary and Junior School. Sadly the thing he enjoyed most about school was going home! And things didn't improve much when he went to Westfield Senior School: though he does admit to enjoying Art! It won't surprise you that he left school at sixteen!

Clive started work as a Storeman at Bedford Hospital and then a Porter. It was through his job he met Jane, a nurse, in 1979. She came from Rushden and they began going out together. He got very tipsy one night, proposed and Jane accepted ... that, he says, is the best thing he's ever done!

They married at St Peter's, Rushden on 10 October 1981, and then took a honeymoon in Great Yarmouth. On their return they lived in Winchester Road in Rushden.

Their son, Andrew, was born in 1985, followed by Jessica in 1988. They are both now grown up and have children of their own. Clive says it's his grandchildren that bring the biggest smile to his face!

Roving Reporter

Those questions

Person with most influence?

Mike Talbot

Hobbies?

Gardening

Guests to dinner?

Spoilt for choice! The Queen,
David Bowie, Gandhi or
Freddy Mercury

What would you serve?

Fish & Chips!

Favourite Places?

Great Yarmouth & Scotland

Proudest Moments?

Seeing my children born

Favourite Saying?

Always look on the bright
side

Mission Matters - Derek & Jane



“We are all in this together”

You will have heard those words many times recently, and, for some of the older ones among us, they will have reminded us of wartime. We are all called to help each other in any way we can during this global crisis. Our Mission Partners, Derek and Jane Waller, working in Madagascar, are more than likely also caught up in this difficult situation. Please pray for them and their associates that they be kept safe. No doubt they will be worrying about their family back in the UK - pray that they too may be safe and well.

Thank you for all your prayerful and financial support for our mission partners both abroad and here in the UK.

This is just a brief article but nonetheless I hope it shines a small light into how much we can all help those who have answered God’s call and taken his Good News to faraway places. Stay safe. Keep well.

From all of us on the Mission Committee, Jose

on behalf of the Mission Group: Sue Eagles, Martin Compton, Sue Prior, Jose Smith & Edna Wadsworth

Postscript

In a very recent email from Derek and Jane they have had two cases of the Coronavirus in Tuileri where they are based. Presently they are concentrating on educating people in hygiene steps to help combat the virus, whilst they wait on the Lord and trust in Him.



Fun!



The twins had been doing Messy Church at home.



Our church warden is not letting people into the church just now

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Looking Back at St Mary's Magazines

50 years ago

May 1970

Missionary News

The Leprosy Mission: We have recently had news from our newly established work in Bhutan. Gida Kom - 'Happy Valley' - was looking happy at the time, with all creation wanting to praise its Maker. But in Happy Valley there is sorrow, suffering, heartache and darkness. Our missionary nurse goes on to tell us of a few of her patients ... Situ is a Bhutanese lama to whom leprosy has done its worst. He has no hands and grotesque deformities of his feet and face. We greatly value your prayers and continuing support on behalf of our missionaries, and our patients that they may be healed in body, mind and spirit.

[connecting with March 2020
grapevine's article joining up leprosy
and sunsets]

25 years ago

May 1995

The Art of Living

The time between Easter and Ascension has always been particularly important to me. Our gaze is already directed to the last thing of all ... Socrates mastered the art of dying; Christ overcame death as the last enemy [1 Cor. 15.26].

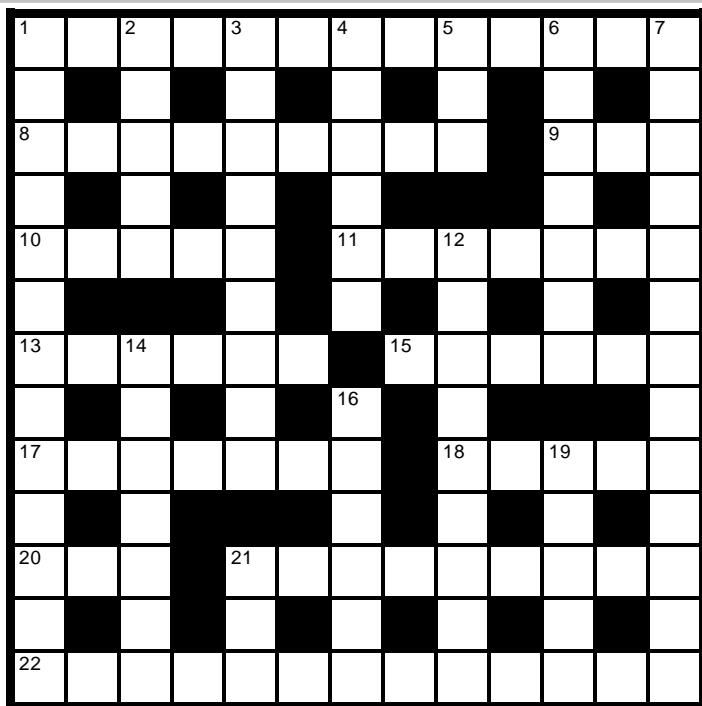
There is a real difference between the two things; the one is within the scope of human possibilities, the other means resurrection. It is not from *ars moriendi*, the art of dying, but from the resurrection of Christ that a new and purifying wind can blow through our present world ... To live in the light of the Resurrection - that is what Easter means.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer
writing from prison
1944

Crossword No 366

ACROSS

- 1 '--- -- on earth do dwell (3,6,4)
 8 --- -- that fixed my choice' (hymn) (1,5,3)
 9 --- de mer (seasickness) (3)
 10 Church tax (5)
 11 Peter ---, actor (7)
 13 Plea (6)
 15 Forgive (6)
 17 Christian woman in 2 Timothy 4:21 (7)
 18 Altar furniture (5)
 20 Consume (3)
 21 Hindu instructor (9)
 22 'The --- -----, Lord, is ended', (hymn) (3,4,6)



DOWN

- 1 Statement of beliefs (8,5)
 2 Jumped (5)
 3 Said (9)
 4 Dais (6)
 5 Cambridgeshire cathedral (3)
 6 Hindi Mo (anag.), primate (7)
 7 Preacher on TV (13)
 12 Italian restaurant (9)
 14 Chapel (7)
 16 Lozenge (6)
 19 Beat with a stick (5)
 21 Speed (1,1,1)

Solution to Crossword No 365





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Belfry Gossip

As stated last time all our bellringing at St Mary's has been suspended until further notice.

All churches are now closed so bellringing has also stopped throughout the country to try to help prevent the spread of this terrible virus. During this time the ringers are maintaining some contact from time to time with the help of phones and computers and trying to keep fit for when ringing starts again.

Apparently, some enthusiastic ringers in the country are keeping their minds active with virtual ringing by some form of link across the internet during this time of shutdown. There is also some hope of development of a multi-ringer ringing program like the multiplayer computer gaming programs, but time will tell.

The clock winding motor has eventually been repaired and we hope it will not be too much longer before the clock chimes are heard over the town again.

Tintinnabulum

What else are we up to?

Stir Crazy? Never!

“Just seen a news report about the stresses and strains of self-isolation. It reported that people are going crazy from being in lockdown.

It was strange, actually, because I had been talking about this to the Microwave and Toaster and all of us agreed that things are getting bad.

I didn't mention anything to the Washing Machine, as she always has to put a different spin on everything, and certainly not to the Fridge as he is acting cold and distant.

In the end the Iron calmed me down. She said everything will be fine, which surprised me as she's usually the first one to apply pressure and get steamed up over nothing.

I think she may have been sneaking off to the medicine cabinet . . .”

[with thanks to Ruth Fitch]



"The fruit of the Spirit is
love, joy, peace, patience,
kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness and self control."

If we live by the Spirit, let us also
behave in accordance with the Spirit"



Read
Galatians
5:13-26

How many
other words can you find
using the letters from:

**FRUIT OF
THE SPIRIT?**



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

A M E N

G C H H

R R H E O D

J E E E A P O

P S E R V E V

A R T M I E V E R

C A R E S N E

E A C Y A N H T

I E L O E I T H

D T R R N S

S Y D Y T

L L P

Which
symbol goes
with which fruit?



LOVE • CARE • CHERISH • JOY • DELIGHT • PEACE • ACCORD
AGREEMENT • UNITY • CALM • CONTENTMENT • REST
PATIENCE • TOLERANCE • KINDNESS • COMPASSION • HELP
GOODWILL • GENEROSITY • GOODNESS • HONESTY • INTEGRITY
FAITHFULNESS • LOYALTY • TRUST • GENTLENESS • CONSIDERATE
SELF CONTROL • RESTRAINT • FRUIT • SPIRIT • LIVE • SERVE

Book Reviews

Amanda Brookfield: *For the Love of a Dog*, (London: Anima, 2018)

Amanda had always considered herself a resilient person, someone who bounced back, a positive person. Even when her marriage ended after 26 years and her mother died shortly afterwards. So when she found herself on her knees on the floor, unable to breathe, literally howling she knew it was serious.

The trigger had been the end of a new relationship where the man had simply changed his mind but she had a full-scale breakdown.

A novelist, living in a town, Amanda has never owned a dog before. The book follows her decision to get a puppy, Mabel, and their first year together.

As she writes of getting life back on track whilst training a puppy, (especially with no experience of either), it makes a story that is in turns both heart-wrenching and achingly funny.

Simon Barnes: *On the Marsh – A year surrounded by Wildness and Wet* (London: Simon & Schuster, 2019)

Simon Barnes is a former sports writer turned conservation writer and a passionate birder.

He and his family bought a house near the Norfolk Broads and, later, a further eight acres of marshland behind the house which, they discovered, had much wildlife.

Simon's younger son, Eddie, is a teenager with Down's Syndrome and difficulty with speech. The book follows Simon and Eddie as they spend time watching, researching and enjoying what they see and contains several of Eddie's poems.

Refreshingly, Eddie's condition is simply incidental to the book, the relationship between the two is the key element. A gentle, engaging, read which can be picked up and put down.

Anna Kingsmill-Vellacott



A Poem to think on . . .

And people stayed home

And people stayed home
And read books and listened
And rested and exercised
And made art and played
And learned new ways of being
And stopped and listened deeper.
Someone meditated
Someone prayed
Someone danced
Someone met their shadow
And people began to think differently.
And people healed
And in the absence of people who lived in ignorant ways
Dangerous, meaningless and heartless
Even the earth began to heal.
And when the danger ended
And people found each other
They mourned the dead people
And made new choices
And dreamed new visions
And created new ways of life
And healed the earth completely
Just as they were healed themselves.

Grace Ramsay, 1869

*With many thanks to Carol Allen for sending this in and for the research
accompanying it:*

“Grace Ramsay was the penname of an Irish-French Catholic writer Kathleen (Kitty) O'Meara [1839-1888.] She included it in her novel *Iza's Story* set against the backdrop of the Polish struggle during the occupation of their country by Russia, Austria and Prussia from 1772 onwards. She compared their conflict with that of the British-Irish one at the time she was writing.”

— The Back Page —



16



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