

# Parish News

*Kington, Huntington & Titley*

*July 2021*



# SARGEANTS BUSES FOR KINGTON

FROM 3rd September 2020

email: [mike@sargeantsbros.com](mailto:mike@sargeantsbros.com)  
Tel : 01544 230481

Mill Street, Kington  
Herefordshire  
HR5 3AL

**HEREFORD** 461 via Lyonshall 462 via Eardisley  
Journey times vary Kington to Hereford approx 65minutes

## Departs Mill Street Car Park, KINGTON

	461	461	461	461	461	461	462	461	461	461	463
Mon-Fri	0645	0720	0850	0950	1050	1150	1250	1350	1450	1540	1710
Saturday	-	0720	0850	0950	1050	1150	1250	1350	1450	1540	1710

## Returns Railway Station, HEREFORD

	461	461	462	461	461	462	461	461	Sat/Hol	Sch	461	461
Mon-Fri	0748	0900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	1615	1700	1815
Saturday	-	0900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	-	1700	1815

## LLANDRINDOD WELLS

### Departs Mill Street Car Park, KINGTON

	461	461	461	461	462	461	461	462	461	461
M-F Coll Days	0600	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810
M-F Coll Hols	-	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810
Sat	-	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810

### Returns from Railway Station, LLANDRINDOD WELLS

	461	461	461	462	462	461	463	462	461	461
M-F Coll Days	0638	0900	1108	1208	1308	1408	1600	1708	1808	1850
Sat & Coll Hols	-	0900	1108	1208	1308	1408	1605	1708	1808	1850

## KNIGHTON Route 41

### Departs Mill Street Car Park, KINGTON

M - F	0610	0820	1010	1210	1520	1730
Sat	-	0820	1010	1210	1520	1730

### Departs Bus Station, KNIGHTON

M - F	0642	0911	1111	1307	1617	1805
Sat	-	0911	1111	1307	1617	1805

## TOWN SERVICE

Tue & Fri Arrives Serves all areas of Kington  
DOCTOR'S SURGERY 10.02 & 11.20

## ARROW VIEW

Tue & Fri Departs Kington Museum 9.20 11.15  
Departs Arrow View 9.30 RQ

TIMETABLES FOR ALL SERVICES AVAILABLE ON MOST BUSES  
& OFFICE IN MILL STREET

Also available on [www.sargeantsbros.com](http://www.sargeantsbros.com)

# THE KINGTON PARISHES



St Mary, Kington      St Thomas a Becket, Huntington  
St Stephen, Old Radnor      St Mary, Kinnerton      St Peter, Titley  
[www.kingtonparishes.org.uk](http://www.kingtonparishes.org.uk)

## CLERGY

**Rev Ben Griffith**      The Vicarage, Church Road, Kington HR5 3AG      01544 230525  
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## ASSISTANT CURATE

**Rev Linda MacDermott**      5 Gravel Hill Drive, Kington, HR5 3AE      01544 239395  
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**Rev Denis Parry**      33 Mill Street, Kington HR5 3AL      01544 230550  
**Rev Tony Jardine**      9 Park Green, Kington      01544 239160  
**Rev Paul Buckingham**      The Cottage, Prospect Lane, Kington HR5 3BE      01544 231357

## READER

**Rob MacCurrach**      33 Cutterbach Lane, Kington, HR5 3EH      01544 231848

## CHURCHWARDENS

**Kington**      Miss Ann Edwards      01544 230271  
6 Headbrook, Kington HR5 3DZ  
Mr Rodney Bowdler      01544 231501  
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**Huntington**      Mrs Christina Powell      01544 370655  
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Mr Peter Kelly      01544 370266  
Greenfield Farm, Huntington, Kington HR5 3PZ

**Old Radnor**      Mr Michael Jones      01544 370259  
Weythel Farm, Old Radnor, Presteigne LD8 2RR  
Mrs Rosemary Watkins      01544 230174  
Dunfield Bungalow, Stanner Rd, Kington HR5 3NN

**Kinnerton**      Mrs Ruth Jones:      01547 560207  
Upper House, Kinnerton, Presteigne, LD8 2PE  
Mrs Sue Thompson      01547 560333  
Court Farm, Kinnerton, Presteigne, LD8 2PE

**Titley**      Mr Dick Allford      01544 231052  
Pinecroft, Titley, Kington, HR5 3RL

## MAGAZINE EDITOR

Miss Freda Lymath      [freda@sparkiesofkington.com](mailto:freda@sparkiesofkington.com)  
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St. Mary's, Kington PCC is a registered charity and its number is 1185453

## Letter from the Bishop of Hereford

As you read this the Wimbledon tennis tournament will be well underway, albeit with reduced seating capacity. A recent development in coverage has been the thrusting of a microphone into the players' faces immediately after the final. It usually starts with the question, "how are you feeling now you have won/ lost?" with the cameras poised to zoom in at the first sign of moisture around the eyes. Gone are the delightful days of Ili Nastasi, who when asked by a reporter how he felt after losing, replied, "absolutely fantastic, next stupid question!"



A few weeks ago, the Japanese tennis player Naomi Osaka was forced to withdraw from a tournament because she refused to participate in post-match publicity. Quite rightly, she suggested that to put losing players under that sort of pressure in public wasn't good for their mental health. Some would say, that being in the public eye makes you fair game. But this isn't the same as the press offering proper scrutiny. It's using the pain of others as a form of entertainment. You see it all the time in certain news programmes. The same zooming in as the tears flow; the same probing questions to elicit an emotional response.

I think Jesus is mercifully more respectful of our privacy than that. Even if Christians have a dispute with one another, he suggests trying to deal with it in private first, not sharing our grievances through blind copied emails. It may be that over this time of COVID disputes have festered electronically. As we can more freely meet face to face, it will be good to get back into the habit of these private conversations.

+Richard

### Introduction to Preaching

Have you ever wondered about preaching?

We are holding an informal and relaxed preaching workshop, where we will explore:

- What a sermon is
- Tips for research and writing
- Ideas for delivery
- Opportunity to practise

Come along and see what it's all about. Whoever you are, you are welcome.

Alternate Thursdays 7.30 – 9pm, St. Mary's Church, Kington

For more information, email or call:

Revd. Linda MacDermott. (contact details on front page)

## View from the Vicarage

### I Want to Be.....

Dear Friends

Back in the days when it was possible for me to be one without any sense of irony, I was a member of a youth theatre group. One of the productions that we staged was a performance of a musical which had been written by our producer/director entitled, "I want to be"



Unsurprisingly perhaps, "I want to Be" was the entirely fictional story of a group of talented children and as I recall, their less than enthusiastic parents, negotiating the minefields and pitfalls of aspiration and particularly those who dream of entering the acting profession. If you can remember "Fame" and its popularity, I want to Be was our local equivalent or is that imitation?

Surely one of the most exciting things for adults to hear and especially adult relations and teachers is young children describing what they want to do when they themselves are adults. I'm reasonably confident that the majority of us can recall our own dreams and aspirations of what we hoped to become once schooldays were past.

For myself, I think that, in retrospect, I knew from the age of about 7 that I would be ordained, but it was only one among a competing catalogue of ideas, dreams, aspirations and, as it turned out, impossible possibilities. I'm sure that nobody reading this would be surprised to discover that becoming an international sportsman or athlete figured absolutely nowhere at all in my own catalogue of dreams. Physical education in school, especially senior school was one of my regular nightmares that had an unerring ability of becoming true! How I longed to be ill on Games' Days! Maybe it's got a great deal to do with the fact that my earliest education was entrusted to nuns, that my complete disinterest in sport was a cause of considerable surprise. I remember particularly being quizzed by an astounded nun about my lack of interest in football being told; "But it's a big man's game!!" to which I replied with all the confidence and insouciance of youth; "I don't care if it's a big man's game, I still don't like it!" To the childish me, the idea of running around getting wet chasing a ball that even if I could meet up with it, in itself a remote possibility, was extremely unlikely to do anything that I or more significantly anybody else who happened to be present might actually hoped or expected. Now I have to admit to some anxiety that admitting this during the European Football Championship is probably akin to a confession of national disloyalty! I do sincerely hope that all of our national teams(all right, one in particular) perform well in this competition and I'm deeply impressed by the way in which sport can and so often does unite people in pursuit of something greater than themselves and I also admire the gesture of solidarity that the England players are continuing to show despite criticism from some of their own supporters.

However, I was never destined to be one of them, indeed I've often felt that the following lines by Janet and Alan Ahlberg could have been written about me:

"When we pick teams in the playground,  
Whatever the game might be,  
There's always somebody left till last  
And usually it's me."

They may not be sporting, but all of us have dreams, aims and aspirations. That is a perfectly natural part of the human condition; indeed the ability to think beyond the provision of shelter and nourishment is what makes us human. Regrettably, for too many, particularly it seems the young, the long months of the Coronavirus Pandemic have seen too many legitimate hopes, dreams and aspirations disrupted if not actually shattered. Our hearts go out to all of those who've had to cope with education or employment plans thrown into confusion. How can we remain impassive alongside the litany of medical procedures and life altering treatments delayed or cancelled? All of those who've been affected need our practical support but also our prayers. Please don't imagine that prayer is a soft or backstop option! Prayer is and can be a powerful agent of change and transformation. Knowing what God desires for us and listening attentively to him is far more effective and transformative than most of us imagine most of the time. Prayer can and does change lives!

There's a joke I've loved for many years: "How do you make God laugh?" answer: "You tell him your plans for the next five years!"  
To which I have a rejoinder: "How does God make you laugh?" Answer: "He tells you what his plans for you are!"

The dreams and aspirations of how my future would be that I had as a child are in many respects, but by no means all, unfulfilled, as they were always destined to be. I'm sure that's probably true of at least some of yours as well. For me, I couldn't be happier, married as I never expected to be and living somewhere that excites me every time I open my eyes and step out into it. I didn't become a professional actor or a diplomat as I dreamed or even a professional singer as others did. Let's be honest. Who really wants to be that when you can be Vicar of the Kington Parishes instead?

Surely what matters most is not the occupations that we have but rather the people that we become. It's about being truly authentically the people that God calls each of us to be, in short being truly the best of ourselves. The challenges, disappointments and disruptions, although they may seem catastrophic at the time, can and so often do reveal previously hidden aspects of our personalities, just perhaps not quite so well concealed as my sporting prowess. Let's leave the last word to Rabbi Zusya, one of the Jewish rabbis of old who said: "In the world to come I will not be asked 'Why were you not Moses?' I will be asked, 'Why were you not Zusya?'"

Let's hope and pray that a similar question won't be asked of us.

With my love and prayers as always

Ben.

## Kington Parishes Service Schedule for this month

*Dependant on Government announcements,*

*please see our website for up to date information.*

All services in Kington marked \* below will be available via livestream at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCho108zE6VUpNGQAmmfA9OA>

### Sunday, 4th July: Trinity V: Green Titley only: St Peter: Red

*Ezekiel 2:1-5 Psalm 123 2Corinthians12: 2-10 Mark 6: 1-13*

8.30am:	Holy Eucharist:	Titley
10.00am:	*Holy Eucharist:	Kington
11.30am:	Holy Eucharist:	Kinnerton
6.00pm:	Evening Prayer:	Old Radnor

### Sunday, 11th July: Trinity VI: Green

*Amos 7: 7-15 Psalm 85: 8-end Ephesians 1:3-14 Mark 6: 14-29*

8.30am:	Holy Eucharist(BCP):	Huntington
10.00am:	*Holy Eucharist:	Kington
11.30am:	Holy Eucharist & Holy Baptism:	Old Radnor
6.00pm:	Evensong:	Kinnerton

### Sunday, 18th July: Trinity VII: Green

*Jeremiah 23:1-6 Psalm 23 Ephesians2:11-end Mark 6: 30-34, 53-end*

8.30am:	Holy Eucharist:	Kinnerton
10.00am:	*Holy Eucharist:	Kington
10.00am:	Holy Eucharist:	Titley
6.00pm:	Junior Praise:	Old Radnor

### Sunday, 25th July: Trinity St. James: Red

*Jeremiah 45:1-5 Psalm 126 Acts 11:27-12:2 Matthew 20:20-28*

10.00am:	*Holy Eucharist:	Kington
11.30am:	Holy Eucharist:	Old Radnor
6.00pm:	Evening Prayer:	Huntington
6.00pm:	Evening Prayer:	Kinnerton

\*Services live-streamed



## Saints Days in July

### 1st July Theobald (1017 – 1066) - choosing God, not money

If you are thinking of turning your back on wealth and privilege, in order to do something you feel God is calling you to do, Theobald may be the saint for you. He was born into an aristocratic family at Provins in France. But he became a hermit with a fellow ex-soldier in the Pettingen Forest in Luxembourg. They later moved to Salanigo in Italy. Theobald's holy life attracted so many followers that he was canonised by Pope Alexander II in 1073.

### 2nd July John Francis Regis (1597 – 1640) – patron saint for relief workers

Do you ever admire relief workers? Those hardy folk regularly appear on our TV screens, actively seeking out the disease-ridden, starving, destitute people of the world, instead of avoiding them, as most of us try and do.

John Francis Regis could be a patron saint of relief workers. It all began back in the early 1600s when he was ordained a Jesuit priest in Toulouse, a town raging with plague. Instead of fleeing for his life, John Regis decided to stay and minister to the plague victims.

Somehow he survived, and was then sent by his bishop to do mission work in Pamiers and Montpellier. For years John taught and preached Christ's love, and also put it into action: he collected food for the hungry, clothing for the poor, visited prisoners, and even set up some homes for desperate ex-prostitutes.

In mid-September of 1640 John had a premonition of his approaching death. He took a three day retreat in order to calmly prepare himself for it – and then he went back to work. Over Christmas, while helping the poor, he caught a chill. By 31 December he was dying of pneumonia, but at peace: he had been granted a vision of heaven, and could not wait to get there. His was a life well lived – he was “a good and faithful servant”.

### 3rd July St Thomas the Apostle – confused and doubting

Thomas, one of Jesus' 12 apostles, was an impulsive, confused, honest sceptic. Jesus could understand and work with such a man. Thomas' impulsiveness was evident when Jesus prepared to visit Lazarus in Bethany. It was a dangerous trip to make, because of the Jews, but Thomas urged his fellow disciples: “*Let us also go, that we may die with him.*” (John 11:16) Instead, Jesus brought Lazarus back to life.

Thomas' confusion is shown in later talks with Jesus. He was not really sure where Jesus was going long-term (John 14:5). But Jesus accepted this confused commitment, and began to untangle it, patiently explaining: “*I am going to my father*”, and “*No one comes unto the Father but by me.*”

Finally, Thomas' honest scepticism is revealed after the Resurrection, which he flatly refused to believe - unless he could touch the wounds of the risen Jesus. Sure enough, Jesus appears - but instead of scolding him, shows him the wounds. Thomas responds: “*My Lord and my God*” (John 20:26ff).

Thus Doubting Thomas' honest doubts, turned to honest faith, have become a reassurance for thousands of men and women across the centuries, who also want to follow Jesus, but who require some proof of this amazing event - the Resurrection. In Doubting Thomas' complete affirmation of faith, after meeting the risen, crucified Christ, they can find support for their own faith.

*(continued on page 23)*

## St. MARY'S CHURCH, KINGTON

We have been pleased to see more of our “Sunday morning regulars” together with some visitors joining us for our Sunday services. We look forward to the day when we can resume coffee and the fellowship time it brings following services, together, of course, with being allowed to sing. Meantime we say a big thank you to the choir and to Ben and Philip who provide music at our services.



Work on the roof is progressing and soon we hope the scaffolding will come down. We thank you for your patience as access from the northside is restricted and particularly we apologise to those anxious to be able to gain access to the Garden of Remembrance.

Best wishes

*Ann Edwards and Rodney Bowdler*

### KINGTON COMMUNITY SHOP

We have been allocated a slot in the shop from Saturday July, 24th - Friday 30th. This is to help us raise money for the Church Choir. In particular, for new music and to replace some of the worn out robes.

We need your help!

- Please have a rummage round and see if you have anything we might sell in the shop
- Do you have items we might be able to raffle?
- Are you able to offer to staff the shop for a half day slot during that period?
- Come and spend some pennies (and pounds) with us during that week.

Please let me know if you are able to help in any way, either by phone on 239357, or by email to philip.sell@yahoo.com. I am happy to come to collect things from you, if that helps. Or bring them along to church.

MANY THANKS !!

*Philip Sell (Organist And Choirmaster)*

### *Message from the editor*

Once again I've been able to put together a Parish News full of interesting accounts that have been sent in to me, and I thank all the people who have done so. However, we still need to know what is going on in Kington, so please, if you have any activities planned during the summer months such as fetes, garden parties, jumble sales, car boots etc, I'd be really pleased to hear from you.

I've been able to include a few recipes using seasonal ingredients, including strawberries, so it would be nice to receive some more for August next month. If you have a favourite recipe - particularly if it uses fruit or vegetables that have been grown locally and are in season - I'd be very pleased to publish them. Perhaps we could have a Kington Cookbook

*Freda (Editor)*

## Praying the alphabet

**B** Summer is really here now as we get to the letter B. We pray first thing in the morning and it is like having a good meal before the day starts. We sit quietly and remember God's power and love, then pray for our family and community. We also have snacks during the day.....that is quick arrow prayers as different excitements or needs crop up.

Using the letter B, this month we will be praying for the birds and bees, broken people, babies, brothers, Brazil and bus drivers. Enjoy thinking of your own things beginning with B to add to the list.

If you want someone to pray for you or with you contact:

Rev Ben 01544 230525    Rev Linda 01544239395    or Trish 01544 231848

## Plant Stall

All proceeds to St Marys and Yemen's children

The plant stall is laden with perennials including Roxanne perennial geraniums. We have loads of Cosmos and Tagetes of differing shapes and sizes. Do ring me if you need me to collect plants, or come for a walk up Cutterbach Lane to buy or deliver.

Mint, lovage, sorrel, parsley and some small lettuce are on the £1 shelf.

Thanks to all who are bringing plants and pots.

*Trish MacCurrach 01544 231848*

## The Kington & District Community Shop

We successfully re-opened the shop in May to the delight of all its customers. The Marches Maker Festival had a very profitable first week. Their artistic window display has set a very high standard to aspire to!

Organisations fundraising in the shop this month:

Kington Community Choir	26th June - 3rd July
Knill Church	10th - 17th July
Music at St.Mary's Church	24th - 31st July

*Richie*

## Kington Bowling Club

The Bowling Club opened for the season on May 1st when members came together to enjoy playing a game of bowls once again and we have been delighted to welcome new members to the club. We have played a number of matches both home and away and the Club and County Competitions are also underway. The Club night is always on a Monday at 6.00 pm when anyone who is thinking of joining for the first time or would just like to have a couple of 'Taster Sessions' will be made very welcome, all the equipment needed to try out the game will be supplied. For more information please contact our Club Captain, Dick Allford on 01544 231052 or visit our website for more details.

*Sue Price*

## Reader Writes

His Royal Highness the King, enjoying the early morning summer sun, reached forward and pulled his spaniel's silken ears with affection. It was time to explore his gardens together and look for the tell-tale signs of rabbits in the flower beds and badgers digging up the lawn. Good Heavens, he thought, draining his mug of strong tea, I'm in my 90th year and it's already almost 20 years since the pandemics started sweeping the world. How ignorant and how reckless we were then, stretching the natural environment beyond its natural capacity to renew and heal. Whether lethal viruses or cataclysmic weather patterns, we were counting the costs. Yet, things had changed.

Many of the King's cherished environmental projects had been borne on the rising tides of realisation and good will. Politicians had at last been made to listen. Prevailing free market doctrines that had driven so much self-harming economic change had veered towards broader human values and sustainable living. Just look at farming in our own country he thought. Welsh sheep had left the uplands, deer had come in, "rewilding" had happened naturally. Native forests were establishing, softwood plantations emerging, beavers were well established, slowing upland drainage, and wonderfully he even had pine martens in the garden taking the squirrels. It should also be added that some idiot allowed a pack of wolves to escape from a nature park; they too were spreading.

He placed his bible beside the empty mug and enjoyed some final prayerful moments. He'd always loved that passage: "*Do not be anxious about your life .....Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?*" Matt6:25. Yes, I must book a call with that young Archbishop; she was putting environmental stewardship of God's creation right at the centre of the Church's mission. But isn't the Church about people, many had asked? Well yes, but the whole of creation had been reconciled to God by Christ, people and all of life. At last the Church itself was being rewilded, but of course not always in ways that thrilled the traditionalists.

At last the spaniel was racing across the dewy Cotswold lawn on the trail of an overnight fox, and the King was heading for the veg patch to see what the pigeons had been up to. Bugling calls above made him look up; oh glory he muttered, bee eaters! They were now breeding here which was exciting even if the reasons were worrying. We all have to change; he had refused to fly for many years now, and indeed his travelling and official engagements were mostly digital. How slow we had been to learn; but at last aircraft overhead were a rarity. The King's big focus had always been on the sequestration side of the carbon equation. The soil itself, when regeneratively farmed, was swallowing up carbon and growing in fertility.

And other more radical changes were underway, a sort of reversal of the Enclosures. Most of his agents were apprehensive but now there was permitted access to all Crown estates; '*fewer pheasants, more peasants*' as one of those scurrilous papers put it. Some things don't change, but that includes God himself who values us and commands us in turn to care for his creation.

*Robert MacCurrach*



## ST THOMAS à BECKET, HUNTINGTON CHURCH NEWS

### Christina (Churchwarden):

Our belated good wishes are sent to Christina following her recent foot surgery. Once again she convalesced with her daughter, helping her make a speedy recovery. It is good to see her home and back at church.



### Huntington Fete Cancellation:

Unfortunately COVID 19 is still very much present, with the new Delta (Indian) variant on the rise. Therefore, due to the potential risk of spreading COVID 19 and placing visitors to the fete in danger we have decided that there is no alternative but to cancel the fete once again this year. Social distancing at this type of event is impossible and the health and wellbeing of fete visitors and those working on the fete is the overriding consideration.

### Friends of St. Thomas à Becket - August Event Cancellation - Lower Gaer Open Garden:

Unfortunately this event is also cancelled, for the same reasons as above. Hopefully we will be able to hold this event next year. In the meantime, we are creating even more borders, with existing borders maturing nicely, so there will be even more to see in the future.

### New Seasons Spring Honey:

My bees provided me with an early crop of spring blossom honey this year and there are now 1lb and ½ lb jars for sale on our new produce stand in church, together with various jams, chutneys and elderflower cordial. All proceeds go to the church.

*Susan Maiden*

### Silence and Prayer at Huntington Church

Usually we sit together in silence in public spaces when we're waiting for something like a bus or train or a doctor's appointment. In this silence we want the thing we're waiting for to happen and we are set apart from everyone else even though our experience is common.

Choosing to come together in silence is not the same. The experience is shared - the silence is shared and that in itself can be enough.

Silence and prayer sessions at Huntington are on alternate Wednesdays at 3pm for half an hour. What each of us does is up to us - it might be praying, reading, meditating or just winding down. Before Covid we had a cup of tea afterwards but there's still the chance to meet outside when we leave the church.

The sessions in July are on the 7th and 21st. Everyone is welcome. Please just turn up before 3pm or if you have any questions, please call Will Shone on 01544 370391. We also have a mailing list to remind people of the dates each month. If you'd like to be added to this please call or email [info@huntingtonchurch.co.uk](mailto:info@huntingtonchurch.co.uk)

*Will Shone*

### Celebrating the 850th Anniversary of the murder of Thomas Becket

Last year marked an important double anniversary for the extraordinary figure of Thomas Becket. It was 850 years since his dramatic murder on 29th December 1170 in Canterbury Cathedral and 800 years since his body was moved to a spectacular glittering tomb in the Cathedral's Crypt. Members of each church dedicated to St Thomas (there are over 900) were to visit Canterbury for a day of special services and celebrations, Ben Griffith and myself were looking forward to attending on behalf of Huntington. Sadly because of COVID

it was cancelled. Huntington Church were still keen to mark the anniversary and Geoffrey Treasure has very kindly donated a Thomas a Becket rose to mark this special year. Before retiring to Winchester Geoffrey was a regular attender here in Huntington and he is much missed. The Thomas a Becket rose has crimson-red, medium blooms which will repeatedly flower throughout the summer and will grow into a large shrub. There are buds now forming and it shouldn't be too long before it's in flower.

To celebrate the St Thomas a Becket anniversary and to say thank you to Geoffrey we will be holding a dedication ceremony in August, all will be welcome. Look out in the August edition of the Parish News to check the date and time. We have a Pilgrim's Token in Huntington on display.

At the British Museum until 22nd August there is a fantastic exhibition - Thomas Becket murder and the making of a saint - which is highly recommended if you are in London. There are online events too. <https://www.britishmuseum.org/exhibitions/thomas-becket-murder-and-making-saint>

*Fiona Shone*

## July Wordsearch

If you ever struggle with doubt, take heart: so did one of the apostles, whose Feast Day is this month. St Thomas just could NOT believe that the Jesus he had seen crucified and dead on the cross could ever come back to life. But Thomas was an honest sceptic, because he really wanted to know the truth. Jesus could help such a man. And so he appeared to him and the other disciples. Instead of scolding him, Jesus simply showed him the wounds. Thomas's response was immediate: "My Lord and my God" (John 20.26ff). Ancient legends tell how Thomas went on to India as a missionary. There are rumours that Thomas even built a palace for a king's daughter in India, and thus he is the patron saint of architects. It is believed that he was martyred by a spear on 3 July, 72 AD in Mylapore, near Madras. 46 ancient churches in England were dedicated to him.

Thomas    Showed  
Doubt     Saint  
Apostle    madras  
Cross  
Dead  
Truth  
Sceptic  
Wounds  
Lord  
God  
Appeared  
India  
Patron  
Martyred  
Spear  
Mylapore  
Missionary



## Important news from Kington Medical Practice

### GENERAL PRACTICE DATA FOR PLANNING AND RESEARCH (GDPR)

The GDPR scheme was quietly announced by the Government last month. Under this scheme from July all data, held by GPs about their patients will become part of a central database that can be accessed by researchers and private corporations. Patients are able to opt out of the scheme but must do so by 1st September 2021

Dr McCaffrey has kindly sent me the following details regarding how patient data is currently used by the Practice and the link for further information and information on how to opt out.

Dr McCaffrey writes:

Quote:

NHS Digital is the organisation that manages how information is moved between and outside of NHS organisations. For info and opting out processes please see <https://digital.nhs.uk/about-nhs-digital/our-work/keeping-patient-data-safe/how-we-look-after-your-health-and-care-information/your-information-choices>

What is really important to highlight is that there are different data sharing activities. One is that we have our GP computer system, EMIS, in different parts of the local NHS and this improves the care we deliver. The Out of Hours Service, A&E, District Nurses, Palliative Care Nurses, Physiotherapists etc can see individual health records and GP's can see the community records. I cannot tell you how important this is; it is absolutely critical to providing the best care we can in a timely manner.

Another part of data sharing is collecting information for planning, policy changes and research. If patients opt out of this then their direct day to day care would not be harmed. I am not an expert in this! I would say though that, as the Clinical Director of our Network, I have been given our network 'profile' which gives me the health data such as the percentage of patients with obesity and diabetes. I am also given population profiles such as the percentage of elderly patients living in poverty. Our network has had a meeting to look at our profile and we are setting priorities and will set out a local strategy with the Local Authority, Voluntary Sector, Health Care Trusts (Wye Valley and the trust responsible for Mental Health care) to tackle issues affecting our network population (the North and West of Herefordshire). This is a way to communicate, co-ordinate and act to deal with current and emerging population health issues at a more local level.

I think most patients will appreciate the value of the above but will rightly have concerns about information obtained from their record being 'moved' somewhere else. I would advise looking at the link copied above and opting out as described on the site and the Practice website if there is concern.

Practices have received a Data Provision Notice to essentially instruct us allow our data to be uploaded on the first of July. If we do not 'flip the switch' we are not complying with the law and could, in theory be taken to court. The British Medical Association will issue further guidance as the 1st July approaches as legal advice is being sought.

End Quote

*Kay Birchley*

## Lockdown Lodge: More tales of Jane Mk1 a 1931 Austin 7

An extract from the log dated 1961.

As the 10 year test of vehicles becomes compulsory on the 15th February 1961 Jane has been taken to Stringers of Melksham for attention to the following points:

a) Steering b) Brakes c) Lights (plus fitting of rear stop lights) d) M.O.T test

Dated 2nd Jan 1961.

9/1/61 Well done Janes passed the M.O.T. Total cost £9-7s-4d

30/1/61 Road fund tax paid £4-12s-6d

(It's hard to believe that 60 years have passed since the M.O.T was introduced !)

Following the success of Jane's M.O.T, I returned the car to Stringers for a major over haul, including the relining of the clutch. These repairs cost £ 23-3s-10d dated 25th April 1961. I wonder what the cost would be at today's prices?

I was able to use Jane as every day transport until March 1962 travelling regularly from RAF Melksham to Old Sodbury, a round trip of 44 miles.

Sadly, a survey of the car revealed

1) Wood rot 2) Leaking roof- Bostic repair failed 3) Prop shaft bearings u/s  
4) Overall cost of repairs considered. Regrettably economic considerations outweigh affections. Decided to put Jane to rest R.I.P. (I have often regretted this decision.

Farewell Jane and welcome to 'the Flying Flea' a 1934 two seater Austin 7, registration number UF 7481.

It was painted red and came with a hood that billowed around like a windblown loose tarpaulin on a hayrick. There were no side screens on the driver or passenger doors and the winter of 1961 was rather a chilly time. There was no internal heater fitted!

I had moved from RAF Melksham to RAF Rudloe Manor taking charge of a small Medical Centre served by a civilian doctor plus a resident nurse and an RAF nursing attendant. I was now only 17 miles from home. I had no garage and on icy Monday mornings I would put a hot water bottle on the distributor and the car always started using the starting handle. A few vigorous turns of the handle and the engine would burst into life.

I desperately needed a mug of tea before starting work at the medical centre after driving from home. After a particularly hard frost at Rudloe Manor I wondered why the car wouldn't start. I lifted the bonnet and saw a core plug at the rear of the cylinder head standing on a column of ice.

I managed with the use of a small heater and a tarpaulin covering the engine, to thaw out the engine without damage. I then discovered that a sixpence fitted exactly, replacing the damaged core plug adding to the car's value.

Soon after carrying out this emergency repair I attended a retreat at the RAF Chaplains School at Dowdeswell Court near Cheltenham. On such occasions civilian dress replaced our uniform. I needed to call in at home to collect a suit

As I left for Rudloe Manor travelling towards Corsham, it began to snow quite heavily. Unfortunately the windscreen wiper, fixed on top of the windscreen could only be operated by hand.



As I turned off the main road, following my cross country route, I noticed a police car parked by a field gate. Sure enough, the police car followed me and I was pulled over. I politely produced my driving licence, insurance certificate and MOT certificate (always essential in those days to carry documentation -especially when driving an old car). All things in our modern world are digitally recorded and produced on a screen by the press of a button! The police officers then checked the lights, the horn, tyres and brakes and all seemed well. Then came the question "What about the windscreen wiper"? (not covered by the MOT in those days). I replied that snow had probably clogged the electric motor and then demonstrated working the wiper by hand. I was let off with a caution, but told that if I stopped between Corsham and Cheltenham I would be booked. Help! I had visions sent out on the police airways "Look out for a red two seater Austin 7 with a faulty windscreen wiper!" I then remembered that a former next door neighbour called Jock worked in a garage at Acton Turville on my route home. I called in and explained my predicament. "Help, I've been stopped by the law!" Jock came to my rescue and after tracing the wires from the wiper to the battery under the drivers' seat, found they were not connected to the electrical circuit.

He fixed the fault in about 10 minutes. Great relief all round. He refused any form of payment. So I promised him a pint of beer when we next met in the pub. The remainder of the journey passed without incident and the snow storm had abated.

On arrival at Dowdeswell Court I rang the bell and was greeted by the resident chaplain. He took me straight into the kitchen and told me to stand in front of the Aga to get warm. He then made me a steaming hot cup of coffee. Such wonderful hospitality I thought. On entering my room, I looked in the mirror and saw an ashen grey face pinched with cold. I took ages to warm up!

On returning to RAF Rudloe Manor I decided winter motoring in a two seater open tourer was not for me and so, I sold the car for £5- this included the sixpenny core plug!

*Tony Jardine*

## More Tales of Narrowboat Theodora

### Of Brasso and Windmills 3rd March 2008

Last night we moored on that flight of locks known as "Napton". If you ever see English Tourist Board literature about the canals I am sure that the Napton Locks will be pictured somewhere.

This morning was Monday morning and, as all you good people will know, Monday morning is a morning when everyone who can, works. I can say that it is the same for us. You all think that we are merely swanning about on the canals enjoying ourselves. That is not the case. Work is there and it has to be done. One of the tasks that I have been denying myself is the polishing of the brass. Bright brass on a boat lifts the heart. Dull brass makes one think: "Sluggards! Why don't they get the Brasso out and make that boat look cared for." Having had such thoughts directed at Theodora for the past year and having only allowed no. 1 son and no. 1 daughter in law to polish the tiller on one occasion while they were on the Trent and Mersey, the brightwork (nautical expression) had turned into dullwork. This could not be allowed to continue. I had been reserving the first use of the KGGs tiller pin until we had smartened up the boat. I relented in the resolution and said that such a tiller pin should not be out of use. It should be on display. So I polished up the brass tiller. I polished up two of the brass bands on the stove chimney and all the time I looked around me and thanked God for his good earth. Sheep in the fields to left and right, the black and white of the balance beams down the hill behind and up the hill ahead, the brightness of the sun reflected in the newly polished brass, the blue of the sky and the white of the clouds, all of these made the perfect English scene. I installed the said tiller pin, Margaret installed the plaited tassel that goes underneath and then photographed it. (And now I can't find the photo so you will have to imagine it.)

I had steered through the first five locks last night. The conditions had been perfect with not so much as a breath of wind. This morning it was Margaret's turn to steer so she did. This morning there was a fresh breeze. Very fresh actually. At the top lock it was necessary to wait for me to get myself and Holly (mixed breeds terrier) aboard. The towpath was on the windward side. The wind blew and the Theodora took it into her head that what she most wanted to do was to put her bow right across the canal. Lots of engine and a centre line were insufficient to gainsay her. "Bother!" said Margaret and "Blow!"

The rest of the day was a perfect canalling day. The canal wound about as only the Oxford knows how. Over one length you steam seven miles along the water to cover two and a half as the crow flies. The canal cognoscenti will say, wisely "Ah, the Oxford is, in a good number of places, a contour canal." Those less knowledgeable will need to have it explained that the

great James Brindley cut down on the use of expensive tunnels or locks as far as possible so the canal followed the contours of the land winding around hills rather than going through or over them. Yes, I know that Brindley did not survey the route but he was a strong influence on Samuel Simcock who did. The result for us who don't need to make a living by transporting essentials is that we have a canal of real beauty. (Now being defaced by HS2)

The weather forecast had said at 0755hrs that we were in for wind, rain



### Easy Sudoku

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

### Intermediate Sudoku

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



snow and sleet. We were, but not until late morning and some of the afternoon. Warm woollies and windproof coats kept out the worst of the hail and sleet until four o'clock when the magic waterproof knitted gloves had allowed enough heat to seep away from my hands to cause a degree of anguish. In the nick of time we arrived at a convenient place to moor at Fenny Compton wharf among a number

of other narrow boats. They have to be narrow because the Oxford is a narrow canal.

I am sure that those of you who like numbers will be delighted to hear that our fuel consumption is often in the region of 1.25 litres per hour and while the engine is running that supplies all the heating and hot water. Good night. Nick

What about the windmills, then? In order to discover the windmill you will have to have a look at almost any picture of the flight of locks at Napton on the Hill.

### **White Vans, White Water, White Knuckles 11 March 2008**

Down the peaceful Oxford canal. All is beauty, all is calm and all is well. We stopped for one night in a quiet place between the M40 and a fairly busy railway. I thought that we would have a noisy night of it but no. Something about the acoustics of the area meant that it was quiet. In the late evening at about 6 o'clock, I took Holly for a short walk along the towpath. I was astounded to see more white vans than I have ever seen in one place together. About 50 of them were all doing the same speed and regularly spaced apart. That is what they would be doing if they were all doing the same speed, I suppose. These white van were riding a goods train and bound from the Oxford area, all off to improve the lot of delivery men oop north.

We approached the city of dreaming spires and could see few of them. There was much on line mooring (On line mooring is mooring along the canal banks as opposed to mooring in a canal basin.) with a few places reserved for the wildlife. Here the banks are reinforced not with galvanised steel piles but with wooden stakes and bundles of willow wands. It is very nice and the voles that live along that length appreciate being able to climb out and to make their nests. Oxford, unfortunately, having the most beautiful canal named after it, has not done well by its canal. They sold the canal basin to Nuffield College in the 1930's and now there is a car park on the site. There is nowhere to turn a 60 foot narrowboat on the canal so you have to go down Isis lock on to the Isis (Thames) and then turn.

We did a bit of shopping for essentials up the Botley Road and had something of a CS Lewis experience: walking out into essentially rather dreary suburbs and then turning around to see the dreaming spires laid out before us. Different from his experience, though. If I recall correctly he got off the train in the evening on his first visit and as he turned around the evening sun lit up the spires. Our walk was in the morning so we did not get the special lighting effects. It was very good, nonetheless.

Church on Sunday in the Cathedral Church of Christ Church was wonderfully inspiring. It was Passion Sunday and we had the reading about Lazarus and an



uplifting sermon. The choir was wonderful as you would expect, singing Victoria (16th Century, if I recall correctly.) We had arrived early and were chucked out because the scout suspected, correctly, that we were doing the tourist thing. We left obediently, properly chastened, and returned half an hour later having had a walk down Broad Walk.

The Isis is as beautiful a river as you could hope to be on. It is immensely popular, we are told, but not in early March. In the time that we have been on this river we have seen four moving boats, and that includes Theodora. The locks are spacious and would hold about three Theodoras and a couple of cabin cruisers in one go. However we were only ever on our own. The first lock that we came to was mechanised. Press the buttons and no effort required. That was Godstowe and we were keenly watched by two ladies from Texas who were entranced by the process. There are no canals in Texas, they told me.

We stayed overnight at Eynsham, planning to pick up fuel at Lechlade near to the limit of navigation. At Pinkhill we were told that one of the locks was closed because a tree had been blown down but it would only take a day or so to clear it so we plugged on. The river was rising, as was the wind. The rain was falling, though. Theodora has spent a significant amount of time going sideways since we started and this was one of those times when she went more sideways than most. Long Johns on, Guernsey on, vest on, fleece on, waterproof trousers on, scarf on, life jacket on, special wonderful waterproof gloves on, other bits and pieces that I am far too delicate to mention on. It was all very cosy and nice and Theodora's engine worked hard and we moved very slowly upstream. At last and without mishap but with tired arms because there is some fairly extreme steering to be done on the meandering river we arrived at Shifford Lock. We operated the lock ourselves because the lock keeper was off duty and moored up on the bollards as far away from the lock as possible. Mooring up on the river bank was not an option. Remember Kilby Bridge? You can't hold the boat against a high wind and hammer mooring pins in at the same time.

An inspired phone call to the boatyard at Lechlade revealed that he had no diesel for us. This meant that we could not carry on upstream so we phoned around boatyards downstream and found one that would sell us some.

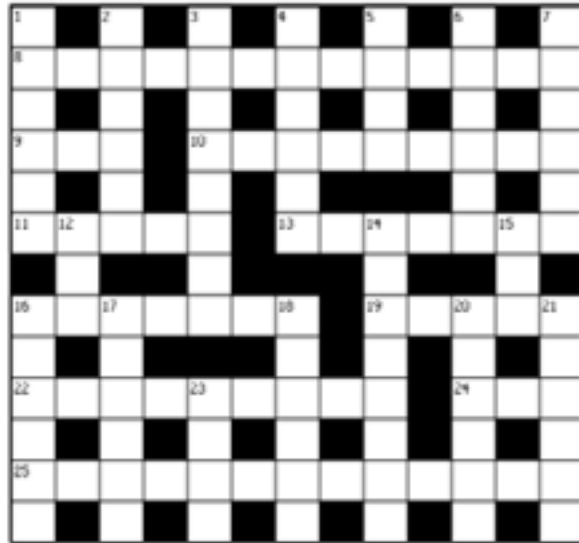
In the morning we turned Theodora around and the nice lock keeper locked us through. He thoughtfully hung up a yellow sign saying "Caution: Rising river levels", and then had to remove it again because he could not open the gate with it hanging there. All was calm and still in the lock. Gently we floated out and observed that the river levels had indeed risen. They had risen far enough to cover the landing stage and the current from the weir was rapid and voluminous and there was a sharp bend in the river to the right as we moved out into the stream. Hurray! More extreme narrow boating. Open up the engine to how you say? The max? Lots of revs and acceleration of 0 – 5mph in 30s. Lots of right rudder to get us around the bend before we were pushed into the bank. What fun! Theodora was mostly in not more than tickover on the way down and we were doing rather more than the regulation 5mph. Just the occasional full power to get us away from the outside of the bend. Did we go aground? I have to confess we did. But only once and we were only stuck for about 10 minutes.

And here we are at the boatyard. Having arrived, filled up with diesel and thought about things we decided to stay for a bit. The gales were coming and the river was rising and very meandery and there were white horses on the river so we stayed on at the safe mooring and listened to the wind and felt Theodora tugging at her mooring lines. We have got a few more jobs done, today, though. HiFi speakers installed, engine soundproofing installed, new bottle of Calor gas and a full tank of water. Even had time to finish a book in the bright sunshine. Still windy, though. Nick and Margaret

## July Crossword

### Across

- 8 Academic who studies history of one of Israel's perennial enemies (13)  
 9 Take to court (Matt 5:40) (3)  
 10 Absence of guilt (1 Kings 8:32) (9)  
 11 Of Tim (anag.) (5)  
 13 Deprive priest of ecclesiastical status (7)  
 16 Where Paul and Barnabas called en route from Perga to Antioch (Acts 14:25-26) (7)  
 19 'The earth is the — , and everything in it' (Psalm 24:1) (5)  
 22 'Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a — message when the body of elders laid their hands on you' (1 Timothy 4:14) (9)  
 24 Raincoat (abbrev.) (3)  
 25 Issue relating to sexual ethics dealt with in the controversial Papal Encyclical Humanae Vitae in 1968(13)



### Down

- 1 'The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a — for many' (Matthew 20:28) (6)  
 2 Upward slope (Nehemiah 3:19) (6)  
 3 'God blessed them and said to them, "Be — and increase in number"' (Gen1:28) (8)  
 4 'What God has — together, let man not separate' (Matthew 19:6) (6)  
 5 One of the partners which, with BEA, formed British Airways (1,1,1,1)  
 6 'This will be a — — you. You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger' (Luke 2:12) (4,2)  
 7 Takers (anag.) (6)  
 12 'But the things that come — of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man "unclean"' Matthew 15:18) (3)  
 14 'Then I set bowls — of wine and some — before the men of the Recabite family' (Jeremiah 35:5) (4,4)  
 15 Levitical eating laws were much concerned about animals 'that chew the — ' (Leviticus 11:3) (3)  
 16 Llama-like animal noted for its wool (6)  
 17 The seed which fell among these was choked by them as it grew (Luke 8:7) (6)  
 18 Launch an assault against (Genesis 14:15) (6)  
 20 'Neither can you bear fruit unless you — in me' (John 15:4) (6)  
 21 John says of the healing of the royal official's son, 'This was the — miraculous sign that Jesus performed' (John 4:54) (6)  
 23 Inflict pain on (Acts 7:26) (4)

### Last Month's Answers

Across 1 Care 3 Paradise 8 Null 9 Profaned 11 Legalistic 14 Closed 15 Stores 17 Missionary  
 20 Covenant 21 Thai 22 Trade-off 23 Eden Down 1 Conflict 2 Religion 4 Arrest 5 Affliction 6 Iona  
 7 Eddy 10 Allegiance 12 Preached 13 Assyrian 16 A son of 18 Scot 19 DVLA

## Biblical Names Quiz - each answer includes the name of a person in the Bible

- The 16th President of the United States
- 1967 Tom Jones hit
- Lead character played on stage over the years by Donny Osmond, Jason Donovan and the winner of BBC One's "Any Dream Will Do" in this Webber / Rice musical
- American singer, songwriter, and actress, the fifth child of Billy Ray Cyrus, sister of Miley & named one of Time's 30 Most Influential Teens in 2017
- Editor of the Sunday Mirror 1987 to 1991 & the Sunday Express 1991 to 1994, and mother of Claudia Winkleman
- Album released by U2 in 1987, or a National Park in California
- In 1966, Clint Eastwood played "the Good", Lee Van Cleef was "the Bad", but which actor played "the Ugly".
- Stuart Goddard was a successful pop singer with no1 hits Prince Charming, and Stand and Deliver in 1981. How was he better known.
- Australian F1 driver 2011 to date, has won races with Red Bull, and plans to drive for McLaren from 2021
- National airline of Poland

(Answers on page 24)

## Hereford Cathedral Open Gardens - 10 July 2021

Due to its success last year, we are running a series of Open Gardens events between May and September 2021. Our team of volunteer gardeners have been very hard at work to ensure the gardens are ready for this summer!

Visitors will be able to explore the Chapter House, Cloister garden, Canon's garden, Dean's garden and the Bishop's garden at their own leisure with our team of volunteer garden guides on hand to answer any questions. Spaces for the Open Gardens will be limited as to ensure that social distancing remains possible for visitors throughout their visit.

There will be three sessions throughout the day:

Session One: 10 - 11.30am Session Two: 12 - 1.30 pm Session Three: 2 - 3.30 pm

Please ensure that you book for the correct time slot as we will not be able to change this once your ticket has been booked.

Accessibility Information: Chapter House & Cloisters Garden are both easily accessible for wheelchairs. Canon's Garden, Dean's Garden and Bishop's Garden have some areas with sloping lawns, gravel paths and a few steps but more accessible routes throughout the gardens can be suggested. If you require a carer's ticket for this event or any further details on accessibility, please contact [events@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:events@herefordcathedral.org)

Questions and queries can be directed to [events@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:events@herefordcathedral.org)



## All the trees of the wood shall clap their hands! (Isaiah 55.12)

And so they jolly well should when, as sentient beings (for such they are) they learn of Her Majesty's Green Canopy initiative. What a wonderful example to us all! We should all clap our hands! God save the Queen!

I had hardly retired in 1999 before I was roped in to serve the New Radnor group of five parishes during their interregnum, including Evenjobb, Llanfihangel-nant-Melan, Colva and Gladestry. So it was, that as part of the millennium celebrations, I found myself helping teachers and children from Gladestry's delightful little Church in Wales School to plant several hundred sapling trees in Llanhaylow Wood, about a mile out of the village. We drove up there recently and explored that lovely place, which is looked after by the Woodland Trust, who have provided staircases for the steep bits and little bridges over streamlets, just like those provided for us so helpfully in our local Park Wood. We had hoped to identify the trees we had planted at that time, but I couldn't recall the exact area, and there were many possible plantings. Funny to reflect that those children who took part will be round about thirty years old now, some possibly married with children of their own!

We are so very fortunate, living where we do, to have a well wooded landscape to enjoy. The Hergest Estate especially, with its lovely little arboretum up in the gardens, its frequent new plantings, such a variety of trees all carefully labelled, and so much of it open for the public like you and me to enjoy. Giles and I, while Emma's at work, love to take our coffee into Park Wood and, having season tickets, enjoy being allowed to explore the various paths, each designated according to its particular characteristics. Then there's the Recreation Ground and the footpath through the School Field with its three wonderful oak trees. And we have other woods in the vicinity – Worsell Wood, Wapley Hill Fort, Burfa Bank, the Smatcher to name but a few. In every direction lovely trees are to be seen. And on Bank Holiday Monday Emma, Giles and I took our coffee and walked up to Bradnor Coppice, this one looked after by local volunteers, and then along the footpath up onto the golf course. And what a lot Kington owes to its volunteers! In this instance to KLEEN who do so much for our community.

I love all trees, but perhaps especially oaks. To think that centuries ago much of Great Britain was clothed with oak forests which provided wood for building and for the construction of ships. Apparently to build a 3-decker battleship it was necessary to fell up to three and a half thousand mature oaks (each about 150 years old) – 900 acres of forest just for one ship!

An oak, it is said, takes 300 years to attain full maturity and 300 to stand, followed by 300 years of gradual decline. So the ancient oak at Eardisley (pictured here) is doing pretty well. It was born probably in the twelfth century and is truly massive. We popped over to revisit it the other day and were as impressed as ever. The hollow room inside it could provide emergency accommodation for two or three people, being roughly circular and about 6 or 7 feet in diameter!



Mind you, that tree is only a teenager compared with the Yew tree in the little churchyard at Discoed, just over the border. That is reputedly 5000 years old! The poet Edward Storey who lives nearby wrote a poem about it, and I responded with this one of my own. Here's **Methuselah, the Discoed Yew**.

I am a symbol of longevity,  
even, some say, of immortality,  
for I am old!  
My namesake's year of year-long days  
reckons as nothing when my own  
a year of fortnights of such days is told.

Marvels of modern health-care make  
my walking stick redundant now,  
a little skilful surgery  
delaying my decline into senility,  
while sunshine, silica and supplements  
of flesh and blood and bone,  
(a thought somewhat macabre this, I own!)  
detoxify foul poisons through my leaves  
and keep my joints supple,  
as wind and rain exfoliate and massage,  
ease aches and pains arthritic,  
and lessen risk of stroke or heart-disease  
dendritic.



And so I linger, ever green,  
till science and theology united  
seek out and find the elixir of life,  
with which, inoculated,  
I shall, embracing immortality, not die,  
but be as Enoch was,  
translated.

Denis Parry

## Another July Saint (continued from page 7)

### 11th July Benedict (c.480 – c.550) - author of the famous Rule

Benedict was an abbot and author of the famous Rule that bears his name. Because of his Rule, Benedict is also the Patriarch of Western Monasticism, and Patron Saint of Europe.

Surprisingly little is known about his life: born at Nursia, Benedict studied at Rome, which he then left before completing his studies to become a hermit at Subiaco. After a time disciples joined him, whom he organised into twelve deaneries of ten. After an attempt on his life, Benedict moved on to Monte Cassino, near Naples, where he wrote the final version of his Rule.

Benedict's Rule is justly famous and respected: not only did it incorporate much traditional monastic teaching from revered monks like Basil, but Benedict went on to modify this in a way characterised by prudence and moderation within a framework of authority, obedience, stability and community life.

Benedict's great achievement was to produce a monastic way of life which was complete, orderly, and workable. The monks' primary occupation was liturgical prayer, which was complemented by sacred reading and manual work of various kinds.

Benedict's own personality shines through this Rule: wise, discreet, flexible, learned in the law of God, but also a spiritual father to his community. Benedict's Rule came to be recognised as the fundamental monastic code of Western Europe in the early Middle Ages. Because of his Rule, monasteries became centres of learning, agriculture, hospitality, and medicine. Thus Benedict came to influence the lives of millions of people.

Parish Pump

## Events at the Cathedral

### Hands Across the Centuries Exhibition - a collaboration between Hereford Cathedral Library and Shropshire Scribes

In the Mappa Mundi and Chained Library, today's calligraphers meet medieval scribes in this new special exhibition resulting from a year-long collaboration between Hereford Cathedral Library and Shropshire Scribes.

Early in 2020, before the first lockdown, members of Shropshire Scribes visited Hereford Cathedral to take a close look at manuscripts from its renowned Chained Library and choose some as starting points for their own work. The 'Hands across the centuries exhibition' enables all to see the results: an amazingly diverse, lively and colourful display of new pieces alongside the medieval manuscripts which inspired them.

Shropshire Scribes is a well-established group of both amateur and professional calligraphers who hold monthly workshops and exhibit regularly in the Shrewsbury area. The group includes beginners and expert artists, from school age to octogenarian, and they combine centuries-old techniques and materials with contemporary approaches.

This exhibition allows visitors to experience the fascinating art and craft of calligraphy, an important part of which is the appreciation of the skills and artistry of medieval scribes. The exhibition runs from Monday 17 May to Saturday 17 July 2021 and is shown within the Mappa Mundi and Chained Library exhibition

Monday – Saturday, 10 am – 5 pm Normal admission charges apply

### Hereford Gospels Script workshop led by Peter Furniss 3rd July 10am - 4pm at College Hall, Hereford Cathedral, Hereford, HR1 2NG

This practical workshop will be run by the chairman of the Shropshire Scribes, Peter Furniss. He has been a calligrapher for many years and has also made detailed studies of the script and techniques used in the Cathedral's late 8th century Hereford Gospels. The day is suitable for all levels of experience and will include an introduction to calligraphic techniques and to the unique script of the Hereford Gospels.

If you don't have any calligraphy materials of your own there will be kits with everything that you need for the day available to buy on the door. Just let us know at the time of booking.

Cost: £10 plus optional £10 calligraphy kit (Payment in cash and cheque only on arrival)

This event is part of the Life & Learning programme. Advance booking is essential for this event, please email [library@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:library@herefordcathedral.org) or call 01432 374 225/6 to secure your space.

These events will be managed in accordance with the relevant Covid-19 guidelines and more details will be available when booking.

### Answers to Biblical Names Quiz on page 21

1. A. Daniel  
2. E. Joseph  
3. B. David  
4. F. Moses  
5. G. Aaron  
6. H. Samuel  
7. I. Peter  
8. J. John  
9. K. James  
10. L. Mary  
11. M. Elizabeth  
12. N. Jesus  
13. O. Jesus  
14. P. Jesus  
15. Q. Jesus  
16. R. Jesus  
17. S. Jesus  
18. T. Jesus  
19. U. Jesus  
20. V. Jesus  
21. W. Jesus  
22. X. Jesus  
23. Y. Jesus  
24. Z. Jesus

## ST PETER'S CHURCH TITLEY NEWS

### Titely services for July.

Sunday 4th July 8.30am Holy Communion.

Sunday 18th July 10am Holy Communion.



Rev. Tony Jardine led the last Holy Communion service. It was lovely to see him "back in action". We are always inspired with all the lovely stories he has to share with us about his ministry in all the other parishes where he was vicar.

Tony and June Adlard announced that they would be moving on to pastures new in a **couple** of months time. On behalf of everyone from St Peter's we would like to thank them both for all they have done, especially making sure the Altar Cloth is always changed at the appropriate time. We wish them all the very best.

*Dick*

### Kington Art and Craft Market.

The next Art and Craft Market will be on July 17th 9.30 - 4pm.

(Please note we are staying open to 4pm in July).

We have a number of new stalls, as well as our regular ones.

Why not pop along and see us. Ideal opportunity to find a lovely home - crafted gift or card every thing in this market is handmade, there is something for every one.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Anna King - AK Crafts [anna@akcrafts.co.uk](mailto:anna@akcrafts.co.uk) 07977 978676

### A Word from St. Hugh's

Spring this year began with plenty of rain, then showers followed by recent goodly numbers of warm days and hot sunshine. There can be an almost precise moment when many of us address the question as to the most appropriate clothes to wear. Childhood memories may recall the saying, "Never shed a clout till May is out"!

Perhaps nowadays one of the most important items of attire for bright, sunny days are sunglasses. They not only protect our eyes and ease the glare, but more importantly everything is seen in a different light. It is interesting to note the marked difference as we see our surroundings. The effect is that everything becomes more pronounced as the surrounding light is dimmed, and perhaps beauty not previously observed becomes more obvious.

However, does 'life' tend to condition us so that we firstly 'see' faults in people, rather than pure goodness?

Christ seems to see differently - looking through the 'eyes of love'. This means He sees the potential and actual goodness of each individual. The example of St. Peter, who fell short even though he had been so close to Christ, gives encouragement as in his Epistle he teaches us, "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3. 18a). Then it is possible to see life and every individual in a deeper, richer way - by the way of looking through the "lens of love".

Please feel free to contact us for specific prayers or queries about St. Hugh's.

*Peter and Pauline Swain. Tel. 01544 230999 Mobile 07950 877916*

*Email: [pandpswain@gmail.com](mailto:pandpswain@gmail.com)*

## Not a Proper Gardener (Part 9)

"Rough winds **did** shake the darling buds of May."  
(See Shakespeare's Sonnet Number 18, one word altered!)



What a lot of records we seem, weatherwise, to be breaking this year! One thinks of Flanders and Swann's "A Song of the Weather." Is the line for July going to be fulfilled, we wonder? - "In July the sun is hot; is it shining? No it's not." And you are no doubt familiar with the rhyme: "Oak before Ash we're in for a splash; Ash before Oak, we're in for a soak." Well, the oaks around here were coming into leaf well before the ashes, so perhaps it's going to be a dry year; though it may just be that all the ash trees are now suffering from that pernicious die-back disease. Work in the garden is inevitably affected by the weather. Sometimes it's too wet, at other times too hot or windy; but we struggle manfully and womanfully on notwithstanding, and enjoy every minute of it (says he, tongue in cheek.) Anyway, Giles is getting quite good at identifying and picking off dandelion heads before they set seeds. And as you might expect, spring and early summer is a busy time for all three of us.

June seems so far to be typically hot, but with a few graciously received showers which mean that everything is growing like mad, especially the weeds. We are constantly at war with ground elder which is invasively troublesome and against which I have sometimes reluctantly used weed-killer sprays with partial success. But I'm not going to bore you with a sort of inventory of plants and crops by reporting on the progress of everything. Suffice it to say that all's well.

In a parable (Mark 24) Jesus said the kingdom of heaven is like a seed growing secretly. And that's something which constantly amazes me. Take for example Giles' Passion Sunday (March 20th) sowing of three pea seeds in a little pot of soil. Nourished just with tap water, they germinated, grew, flowered and produced pods 3 of which we shared, 12 fat peas, on June 6th before, out of kindness, I felt I had to let the plant join its family in the garden who (though sown a week earlier) were only just beginning to flower. Yes, we tend to take for granted that miracle of the cycle of growth from seed to fruit, and I am reminded of Thomas Brown's delightful little poem. You may be familiar with it. It's called "My Garden".

A garden is a lovesome thing, God wot!  
    Rose plot,  
    Fringed pool,  
Fern'd grot -  
    The veriest school  
    Of peace; and yet the fool  
Contentds that God is not -  
Not God! in gardens! when the eve is cool?  
    Nay, but I have a sign;  
    'Tis very sure God walks in mine.

I suppose for me that sign he mentions is what I've been thinking of - the one illustrated by our little potted pea plant:



the miracle of germination and growth, of death and resurrection, again spoken of by Jesus when he said: "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone; but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit...." That was the reading set for Passion Sunday, which is why Giles sowed his three seeds in that little pot on that particular day.

In Genesis we read that God walked in the garden in the cool of the day, but Adam and Eve hid themselves. Maybe that's true for us. God is at work in our gardens and, indeed, in nature generally, bringing life to the dead, but we hide ourselves from the truth, too busy, and taking everything for granted. "What is this life if, full of care, We have no time to stand and stare?" wrote William H. Davies in a poem titled "Leisure."

But I love that Bernard Miles Joke which goes something like this:  
Vicar: (pausing to admire Bert's front garden) "Well, Bert, isn't it just wonderful what God can do in a garden with a little bit of help!"

Bert: "Aye, Father, but you should 'ha seed it when 'e 'ad it to hissself!"

Happy gardening

Denis Parry

## Summer Recipes

### Strawberry Jam

4lb Strawberries  
3 lb Sugar  
Juice of 2 large lemons

Cut the strawberries in half, place in a preserving pan and cover with the sugar and the lemon juice. Leave overnight. Next morning, heat the pan slowly until all the sugar has dissolved, and then boil rapidly until the jam has thickened. Test for set on a cold plate, repeating every five minutes until ready. Pot into hot screw top jars and label.

### Summer Pudding

1lb raspberries  
8ozs redcurrants  
4ozs blackcurrants  
5 ozs caster sugar  
7 or 8 slices white bread  
Remove any stalks from the currants and place all the fruit and the sugar into a large saucepan and cook just until the sugar has melted. Remove from the heat and line a 1.5 pint basin with the bread slices, overlapping and pressing together. Put in the fruit, reserving about a cup full of juice.

Put the last slice of bread on top, and place a small plate or saucer on top that exactly fits inside the bowl. Put a weight of about 3 or 4 lbs on top and refrigerate overnight. Just before serving, turn the pudding out onto a plate and pour over the reserved juice to cover any white bits of bread. Serve cut into slices with thick cream.



### Coleslaw

Quarter of a white cabbage, finely sliced  
1 medium onion, finely sliced  
1 carrot, grated  
a generous grind of black pepper  
In a large bowl mix all the above well, and add  
1 tablespoon mayonnaise and  
1 tablespoon salad cream  
Optional:  
A good squeeze runny honey  
1 teaspoon preserved horseradish (I do my own)  
Toss well.  
This can be used immediately or refrigerated for several days, and it's so easy.

Eileen Kite.

## Tales from the Chalk Face - GETTING AHEAD (part 2)

I told you that Chrishall (to use a more convenient title) School, was small. It was! When I started, I had a class of 16 (year 5/6), the class next door had 12 (year 3/4), the third class had 8 (year 1/2) and a couple of reception children were due to join that class in January. The school had been at capacity until a couple of years earlier, but a series of problems had caused parents to remove their children and the school was not well regarded locally.

On the first day, I had arranged to meet with all the staff and for us to have a shared lunch in order to get to know them. They were a jolly nice bunch. However, they were ALL older than me. I thought it might be difficult for them to accept the young whipper-snapper, but it wasn't like that at all. They knew the school needed to make rapid changes in order to restore community confidence and to get the children back. "Tell us what we need to do and we'll do it", they said. The staff, governors and parents were all of the same mind.

The school was housed in a large yellow brick bungalow shaped building on the edge of a beautiful meadow. On the far side of the meadow was the village cricket ground. We shared the space with them and were able to use the pavilion for changing for PE. The school playground was also the village tennis club site. Attached to one side of the school was the Village Hall. It was separated from the school by sliding doors at the end of the school hall, so we could open up to double the size of the hall for special occasions. But, at that time, the school hall was more than adequate for the numbers of children!

As the numbers of children were low, I was mainly a class teacher, with one day released from the class to do the admin of the school. Another teacher took the class on a Monday, but Monday was never enough to do all the work of a headteacher. So I spent many, many extra hours and Saturdays working out a Development Plan for the school, liaising with outside agencies, the press, other local schools members of the clergy, governors, the diocese and the local authority to bring as much life and colour and excitement to the children in order to give them the most enjoyable, quality experience of being in school.

On the first day of term, a Monday, I was in the Headteacher's office when the Secretary came to say we had a problem. Water was seeping out from under the door of the staff loo. I went in and found water pouring over the top of the cistern. The ballcock had stuck! So I rolled up my sleeves plunged in my hands and started to fix it. (This was the first of MANY things I had to fix in the school). As I did, I heard the Secretary welcoming a visitor. It was an HMI who had just popped up to say hello to the new head. "Is he in today?", he asked. She was avoiding telling him I was in the lady's loo doing some plumbing work...so I thought I had better step out and say hello. I did, at which point he grabbed my hand and shook it vigorously ..only to discover it was very wet and not very clean! He came to tell me that the Inspectorate were watching the school closely as they had concerns!!!

A couple of weeks passed, and I was LOVING being the teaching head of that school. The children were very bright; everyone wanted to get things done; they were open to my wild suggestions and we were all having fun! Then came the dreaded letter from the Local authority. They said that they were reviewing the school, as numbers had fallen dramatically, and, as the local community had obviously lost confidence in the provision of the school, they were minded to consult for closure.!



That letter was the start of a huge drive to get things moving fast. The plans we had made for the school were robust. The staff were very able, as were the governors. The key change I made was to introduce an exciting new curriculum that was full of challenge, exploration and excitement. We started lots of after school clubs, involving parents and local villagers. I introduced lots of art and musical activities. I ran a gymnastics club, and trained as an examiner, Dads did football and cricket clubs. Mums and Grans did craft, art and cookery sessions...and the village really took an interest in the school and its reputation grew. We put on many shows and concerts for the community and regular tea parties for the old people. The children in my class leaned French. We organised a day trip to France for the whole class and their parents. We bought back lots of French produce and the children prepared a three course meal, which they served to their parents one Friday evening. We took the whole school to the seaside on a double decker bus. We had visiting performers and book Fairs. We had mini Olympics, Science Week, Arts Festivals, huge performances involving all the children in the school. Such as, The Nutcracker, Babushka, Harlequin, Joseph, Captain Noah and his Amazing Floating Zoo.

I so enjoyed working with my class on all sorts of projects. I would often set them such questions as 'do the people with the biggest hands have the biggest feet? Which colour shows up furthest away? Can children with the biggest feet jump furthest?' And then they would work in small groups to devise experiments to get an answer, collect results and present their findings to the rest of the class.

We once did a topic on the Victorians. Each group was given a certain aspect to research and then to make a presentation to the rest of the school... about housing, diet, inventions, famous people of the time, etc. One afternoon, I decided to explain to the class how the industrial revolution had changed things so much for so many and forever, and to demonstrate to the class how a steam engine worked. I carefully primed my little engine with methylated spirit, placed it on a metal tray in the centre of a large table, and got all the children to stand around. I lit the fire pad. It didn't work. I tried again, and again then decided it needed more meth. I added some and lit it, it worked! The water heated, the steam started to turn the wheels and the piston pumped, the whistle whistled. However, it then started to work too well!!! Flames were getting bigger than the engine. So, I decided I needed to use the fire blanket on it (Fortunately, I had taken the precaution to have one at hand- just in case). Once I placed the blanket over the out of control engine, thick, acrid smoke billowed out. I decided to set off the fire alarm and get the children out. I told the children to leave the building and go straight to the fire assembly point in the playground. Then I sprayed the whole thing with the extinguisher. We were calling the registers in the playground when I heard the noise of an approaching fire engine. It seems that the fire alarm was automatically connected to the fire station in Royston, six miles away. "Are you the Head? We hear you have a fire", they said. I sheepishly explained what had happened. Once we had furnished the Firemen with tea and biscuits, they left quite happily. Just as the children were about to go home, the secretary came in. "We have the Royston Crow (local newspaper) on the line. "I hear you have had a fire at the school", they said. "Yes. We did, but it's all under control. I put it out before the Fire Brigade arrived, I said". "And you are?" they asked. I explained. To my amazement the headlines in the Royston Crow that week read HEADTEACHER SAVES SCHOOL!!

As the reputation of the school grew, so did its numbers. Over the 5 years I was there we got back to four full classes with 120 children, and a waiting list of children wanting to join. Needless to say, the Local Authority and Diocese were overjoyed. The school had, indeed, been saved.

*Philip Sell*

## A Note on the Pilgrimage Madley Kilpeck from May Parish News

### Madley Church, dedicated to the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

This very large church was the result of visits of pilgrims in the middle ages. The reason for this was the veneration of the statue of the Virgin Mary. What appears to have been missed is that the statue, unlike the many other similar, carvings, was, in fact, black. As stated, it was lost in the late middle ages.

### Kilpeck. Church of St Mary and St David.

The dating of this church is 1130. I have a photograph of the mediaeval document of the gift of this to St Peters, Gloucester stating this in figures and letters. The philanthropy of the Church is such that the church would be built before it was accepted !!

Thus it was earlier than Shobdon Church (1140), and the story of a visit to Santiago de la Compostela, merely a red herring. The gift of such churches is usually made on the death of the owner, and prayers said there for his soul. In this case it would appear to be on the death of Hugh de Kilpeck, son of William Fitz Norman, the lord at the time of Domesday, and father of Hugh ap Hugh. (dd circa 167).

The original dedication to St Mary was to the church within the castle, but later transferred to the village church on the decline of the castle. The dedication to St David was also the dedication of Little Dewchurch and Much Dewchurch, - Kilpecks neighbouring parishes on its eastern side. (Dewi is the Welsh name for David). The area of Herefordshire west of the River Wye was in Wales, by Act of Hereford, of the reign of King Edgar, and, in fact Welsh was spoken in Orcop until 1875.

R. Pye

### HYMN: The story behind 'Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken' (Tune: Austria)

Glorious things of thee are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God;  
He whose word cannot be broken  
Formed thee for his own abode.  
On the rock of ages founded,  
What can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,  
Springing from eternal love,  
Well supply thy sons and daughters,  
And all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint while such a river  
Ever flows their thirst to assuage:  
Grace, which like the Lord the giver,  
Never fails from age to age?...

The year was 1800, and Vienna was under bombardment by Napoleon's troops. The great Austrian composer, Haydn, then old and frail, asked to be carried to his piano. There he made his own defiance of Napoleon, by solemnly play through his composition 'Emperor's Hymn'. Haydn had composed it for the Austrian Emperor, Franz II's birthday on 12 February 1797. Haydn never touched his piano again, and died a few days later, aged 77.

That is where the tune for this well-loved hymn came from. It quickly became the tune of the Austrian national anthem. It was later even adopted by the Germans, as the tune for August Heinrich Hoffman von Fallersleben's (1798 – 1874) anthem Deutschlandslid , which began with the famous words: 'Deutschland uber alles' (Germany before everything). In the ensuing political upheavals, the tune survived in the German national anthem, but was abandoned by the Austrians in 1946. In the meantime, the tune had also reached England, as early as 1805. It was then that the words of a hymn by John Newton were first paired up with it. This meant that when the Austrian Emperor Franz visited his grandmother Queen Victoria, at Windsor Castle, he most likely would have sung his own national anthem tune to English words written by a converted slave trader turned country vicar!

Parish Pump



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### Lunchtime Organ Recital - Hereford Cathedral - Tuesday 6 July 2021

Hereford Cathedral Organ Scholar, Hector Coley, will be launching the 2021 Lunchtime Organ Recital programme on Tuesday 6 July at 1.15 pm. Come along to hear Hector perform a selection of music on our famous Father Willis organ, perhaps combining your visit with refreshments in the cathedral cafe. The concert includes large-screen video presentation from the organ loft.

Advance booking is strongly recommended as, due to a limited audience capacity, we cannot guarantee tickets will be available on the door. Admission is free, with a retiring collection. To book a ticket visit [events@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:events@herefordcathedral.org) or call 01432 374 251.

You will receive a confirmation email after your booking which will act as your ticket. Please bring this with you on the day, either printed or on your phone. Covid 19: Audience numbers are limited to ensure a socially distanced seating plan. We ask that you comply with the current Covid 19 guidelines, including wearing a face covering during the event and complying with any Test and Trace requirements on entry.

Accessibility Information: If you require a carer's ticket for this event or any further details on accessibility, please contact [events@herefordcathedral.org](mailto:events@herefordcathedral.org)

There are further lunchtime organ recitals on the following Tuesdays - ie 13th, 20th and 27th July. They all start at 1.15pm

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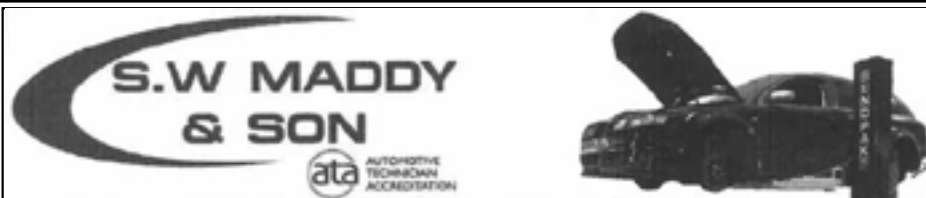
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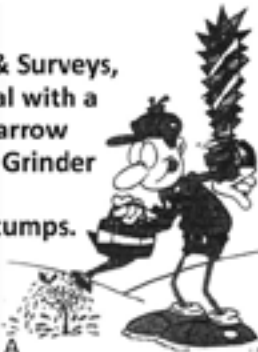
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## ... and finally...



1. How does the moon cut his hair? Eclipse it.
2. Patient: "Doctor, you have to help me, I think I can see in the future."  
Doctor: "When did it start?" Patient: "Next Friday."
3. Why aren't koalas actual bears? They don't meet the koalafications.
4. What do Alexander the Great and Winnie the Pooh have in common?  
They have the same middle name.
5. What do you call bears with no ears? B-.
6. A woman told her friend, "I feel like my body has got totally out of shape, so I got my doctor's permission to join a fitness club and start exercising."  
She said, "So, I decided to take an aerobics class for seniors. I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour. But by the time I got my leotards on, the class was already over."
7. I told my physical therapist I broke my arm in two places.  
He told me to stop going to those places.
8. What do you call the wife of a hippie? Mississippi.
9. A woman in labor suddenly shouts, "Shouldn't! Wouldn't! Couldn't! Didn't! Can't!"  
The doctor said, "Don't worry, those are just contractions."
10. What do lawyers wear to court? Lawsuits.
11. Why did the golfer bring an extra pair of trousers? In case he got a hole in one.
12. If my body were a car, I would trade it for a newer model.  
Every time I cough, sputter, or sneeze, my radiant leaks and my exhaust backfires.
13. Why don't they play poker in the jungle? Too many cheetahs

### **MATERIAL FOR THE AUGUST 2021 PARISH NEWS**

by

**15th JULY please**

to

The Parish News Editor

Arrow Weir House, Kingswood Road, Kington HR5 3HD

**or email: [freda@sparkiesofkington.com](mailto:freda@sparkiesofkington.com)**

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