

Parish News

Kington, Huntington & Titley

June 2022



SARGEANTS BUSES FOR KINGTON

From 1st January 2022

email: office@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
<i>Mon-Fri</i>	0645	0720	0850	0950	1050	1150	1250	1350	1450	1540	1710
<i>Saturday</i>	-	0720	0850	0950	1050	1150	1250	1350	1450	1540	1710

Returns Railway Station, HEREFORD

	461	461	462	461	461	462	461	461	461	461	461	
<i>Mon-Fri</i>	0748	0900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	1615	1700	1815
<i>Saturday</i>	-	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
<i>M-F Coll Days</i>	0600	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810
<i>M-F Coll Hols</i>	-	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810
<i>Sat</i>	-	0750	1010	1110	1210	1310	1410	1610	1735	1810

Returns from Railway Station, LLANDRINDOD WELLS

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

KNIGHTON Route 41

Departs Mill Street Car Park, KINGTON

<i>M-F</i>		0610	0820	1010	1210	1520	1730
<i>Sat</i>		-	0820	1010	1210	1520	1730

Departs Bus Station, KNIGHTON

<i>M-F</i>		0642	0911	1111	1307	1617	1805
<i>Sat</i>		-	0911	1111	1307	1617	1805

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

Also available on 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

CLERGY

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READER

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Mr Peter Kelly 01544 370266
Greenfield Farm, Huntington, Kington HR5 3PZ

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Weythel Farm, Old Radnor, Presteigne LD8 2RR
Mrs Rosemary Watkins 01544 230174
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Kinnerton Mrs Ruth Jones: 01547 560207
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Mrs Sue Thompson 01547 560333
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St. Mary's, Kington PCC is a registered charity and its number is 1185453

Letter from the Archdeacon

Hello Everyone, As I write this we are preparing to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee. Whatever your view about having a hereditary monarch from a historical point of view most of us alive today will not see such a long serving monarch again in our lifetime. This truly is therefore a once in a lifetime event and may never take place again. Queen Elizabeth the Second came to the throne 70 years ago she has already reigned longer than Queen Victoria who reigned for 63 years and 7 months and King George III who reigned for 59 years and 96 days. This is a significant historical event and it should be marked with appropriate national celebration. Some of you reading this may have met the Queen and have very clear memories of that moment and the impact it made. The jubilee coincides with Pentecost and the 'Thy Kingdom Come' global wave of prayer organised by the church and it strikes me this is entirely appropriate given that the Queen has such a strong personal faith. As she herself has said on many occasions, it is her personal faith that guides her actions and her life.

"To many of us our beliefs are of fundamental importance. For me the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life. I, like so many of you, have drawn great comfort in difficult times from Christ's words and example." (Christmas message, 2000)

Whilst it is easy to complain or write off royalty as an historic anachronism, which has no place in, the 21st Century we are fortunate in our nation to have a Queen who has publically stated her belief in Jesus and takes seriously her role as head of the Church of England. She recognises as so many of us have that there is a better way to live our lives and that trust in Jesus is at the heart of that life. It does not matter who we are or what our circumstances God does not judge by our race, gender, age or many other things we use as humans to divide and discriminate he judges the heart. When Samuel was called to anoint a new King over Israel, he had to learn the same lesson that God did not choose the obvious candidates.

"When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." 1 Samuel 16:6-7

The challenge for us is to ask ourselves what guides our lives and shapes who we are? Do we simply live for ourselves or do we recognise that there is a better way of living that God has provided for us through the death and resurrection of his Son Jesus Christ. The offer to live God's way is constantly available to us but we must choose it. As the writer of the book of Revelation says Jesus stands at the door of our lives and longs for us to let him in.

"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me." Revelation 3:20

Whatever our view of the Queen as an earthly monarch as Christians we believe in a King and a Kingdom which is everlasting and without end. Our service and allegiance is not to the United Kingdom but to God's Kingdom something our Queen understands and acknowledges. We can and should celebrate the Queen's 70 years of service to our nation shaped by her faith, calling and determination to serve God. We should also remember as Paul taught Timothy to pray for her and our nation's leaders but remember too that the faith she so often speaks about is available to all of us too.

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings, queens and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus." 1 Timothy 2:1-5

The Ven Derek Chedzey Archdeacon of Hereford

View from the Vicarage

A FANFARE

Dear Friends,

I wonder what, in particular, influenced your choice of career? I can always remember while at school, being terribly impressed by those people who seemed to be absolutely certain about their future career path, at a time when I myself was juggling ideas about in my head. If I'm utterly honest with myself, I think that I probably did know but wasn't prepared to admit the possibility even to myself. Young boys who conduct communion services at home, for their own amusement aren't exactly the majority are they? As far as I was concerned, I knew what I didn't want but really that was as far as it went.

I was, therefore, a great admirer of those children who just seemed to know exactly what they wanted and expected to do, even those, at senior school, who seemed to know from the age about 12 that they were going to leave school at 16 and begin work at the local, to them, but not me refrigerator factory; definitely on my I'm not doing that list!

At the beginning of June across this country, the Commonwealth and around the globe, I suspect there will be celebrations to give thanks for the dedication and commitment over seven decades of a quite remarkable woman. Someone who in common with these children I was in school with knew from a very young age exactly what her life would be and who's shouldered the burdens of the high office that she holds for longer than the vast majority of us have been alive.

For the last 70 years, Elizabeth II has been a constant reminder of dedication, commitment and unswerving devotion to duty in a world that has changed in many respects out of all recognition. During her seventy year reign there have been 14 British Prime Ministers, 14 Presidents of the USA, 10 Presidents of France, 12 leaders and presidents of the USSR and Russia, all 9 Secretary Generals of the UN, 7 Popes, 7 Archbishops of Canterbury and 8 Archbishops of York. For all of these powerful and influential leaders their times of power and influence have been significant but fleeting and throughout Elizabeth II has remained, the one constant in an epoch of almost unimaginable change.

It seems to me that whatever our personal attitude to the constitutional architecture of this nation and the Commonwealth is, we can and should all be profoundly grateful to HM the Queen for her unswerving commitment to serving this nation and the Commonwealth and particularly at a time when even some of those born during her reign are contemplating or even enjoying a time of retirement.

For those of us who share a Christian with her we should also be profoundly grateful that at the heart of our national life is a woman who is unafraid to declare publicly how that faith affects her own life as she expressed it in her Christmas broadcast in 2008: "I hope that, like me you will be comforted by the example of Jesus of Nazareth who, often in circumstances of great adversity managed to live an outgoing, unselfish and sacrificial life." In the same broadcast she also said: "We can surely be grateful that, two thousand



years after the birth of Jesus, so many of us are able to draw inspiration from his life and message, and to find in him a source of strength and courage.”What better advocate for dedicated Christian life and service can we ask apart from that quite remarkable woman?

On the occasion of her Platinum Jubilee, in the words of Winston Churchill, the first of her 14 British Prime Ministers I too, along with many of you, will “feel a thrill in invoking, once more, the prayer and the Anthem, ‘God Save the Queen!’”

With my love and prayers as always,

Ben.

AND A FAREWELL

Alongside our Jubilee celebrations, we’re also this month giving thanks to Revd Linda who’s time with us comes to a conclusion alongside the ending of the Platinum pageant Flower Festival in Kington at a Group Eucharist on June 12th. Please do come and join us as we give thanks for Linda’s ministry among us and wish her God speed for her move to Alveston near Strafrod-on-Avon.

Linda will be licensed as Priest-in-Charge of St. James’ Alveston on July 7th at 7.30pm and we’ll be making arrangements for those of us who’d like to attend that service once the Jubilee celebrations are concluded.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank Linda most warmly and sincerely for her commitment and dedication over three quite extraordinary years; who could have imagined when the newly ordained Linda joined us in July 2019 quite what lay ahead? She has negotiated these remarkable times with dedication and skill. and it’s been a great pleasure and privilege for all of us to walk alongside her in the first steps of her ordained life, even when on occasion it’s been as Mrs Thomas High Sheriff of Herefordshire 202=2021 described it: “plan, check, re-think, change, wait, plan, check, re-think, change, wait.”

I do hope and pray that Linda’s enjoyed these three tumultuous years and she leaves with our sincerest good wishes and prayers for wherever God is leading her in the exciting journey called life.

PLATINUM PAGEANT, PARTIES AND PRAISE

Throughout this magazine, you’ll find details of many of the events taking place around us to mark this historic Royal Jubilee from A Platinum Pageant the flower festival at Kington through parties, concerts, songs of praises and other events. Please do try and support those who’ve been working so hard to plan events and I look forward to seeing you at them. Enjoy the celebrations!

With my love and prayers as ever

Ben.



Curates Column - 'What country friends is this'?

One of the best loved plays of William Shakespeare is Twelfth Night. Act 1, Scene 2, begins with the words of a young woman, Viola, washed ashore from shipwreck in the Mediterranean Sea. The country was Ilyria, and what follows is five acts of some of the best words a playwright could...well...write!

I may have used those words myself, three years ago, when Paul and I arrived in Kington, the border country, as far from our old life as Ilyria was for Viola. Of course these past three years have been overshadowed by the Pandemic, but that didn't prevent us from making friends and exploring the countryside whilst living in Kington. We have seen much of what is to be found in this beautiful part of the world. From days out by the sea at Aberystwyth, to exploring the abbeys, monasteries and churches of Herefordshire, Shropshire and Brecon. It has been a wonderful time. I had my only experience of Kington show in 2019 which has gone down in folklore for some. Although I started my life in the wilds of the Durham Dales, I quickly realised that country living was about more than a pretty view.

And, of course, during that time (and the reason for our being here) I've learned many lessons about ministry and running a parish. But the Bishop of Hereford has declared my curacy 'finished' and therefore it's time to leave.

So, the packing boxes have arrived and we are on our way. In June Paul and I will be moving to Stratford-upon-Avon, to begin a new Act. We will live and work amongst a new congregation as I am licensed as the Priest-in-Charge of Alveston Parish, and the churches of St James Alveston and St Peter's Bridgetown.

We are going home to Warwickshire, and our beloved Stratford. Where Shakespeare began his writing, where the theatre is on our doorstep, and our family and friends are close by.

As we now prepare to move, Paul and I thank so many people for the grace and love which we have been offered. The garden plants shared, the coffee brewed and the meals eaten. If we are washed ashore in Herefordshire again, we will make sure we visit Kington, Huntington, Titley, Old Radnor and Kinnerton.

Shakespeare wrote few stage directions, but his most famous is 'Exit, pursued by a bear' - I hope there will be no bears chasing the removal lorry!

Love and prayers

Linda

Hay Festival

Hay Festival is back in-person for its 35th spring edition, bringing writers and readers together in Hay-On-Wye for inspiring conversations, debates, workshops and performances Thursday 26 May to Sunday 5 June 2022.



**HAY
FESTIVAL**

Over 11 days, this year's programme promises a thrilling line-up of over 500 events, launching the best new fiction and non-fiction, while offering insights and debate around some of the biggest issues of our times in a programme of conversations featuring more than 600 award-winning writers, policy makers, pioneers and innovators.

Kington Parishes Service Schedule for this month

*Dependant on Government announcements,
please see our website for up to date information.*

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

Sunday, 29th May: Easter 7

Ezekiel 36:24-28, Acts 16:16-34, Psalm 97, John 17: 20-end.

10.00am: Group Eucharist Titley

Thursday, June 2nd

7.00pm: *Jubilee Songs of Praise: Yatt Field Old Radnor

Friday, June 3rd

4.00pm: * Jubilee Thanksgiving Service: Kinnerton

Sunday, June 5th: Pentecost/Whitsunday

8.30am: Holy Communion (BCP) Huntington

10.00am: Holy Eucharist: Old Radnor

11.00am: *Jubilee Thanksgiving Service: Kington

5.30pm: * Jubilee Songs of Praise: Titley Village Hall

Friday, June 10th

11.30am: Wedding of Ben & Charlotte: Kington

Sunday, June 12th: Trinity Sunday

10.00am: Flower Festival Closing Eucharist & Farewell to Revd Linda Kington

Sunday, June 19th: TRINITY I

8.30am: Holy Eucharist: Kinnerton

10.00am: Festival Morning Praise: Kington

10.00am: Holy Eucharist: Titley

6.00pm: Junior Praise: Old Radnor

Sunday, June 26th: TRINITY II

10.00am: Holy Eucharist: Kington

11.30am: Holy Eucharist: Old Radnor

6.00pm: Evening Prayer: Huntington

6.00pm: Evening Prayer: Kinnerton

* Indicates that readings other than lectionary readings will be used.

St. MARY'S CHURCH, KINGTON

Thank you to all who supported our stall at the Hergest Croft Plant Fair. Bric a brac was very different from the cake stall we have had there in the past but it went well and raised just over £280 for the Organ Restoration Fund. Special thanks to those who helped sort and transfer items to the ground and to those who set up the gazebo.



This afternoon (Wednesday 18th May) we have enjoyed another Messy Church. Creative activities related to Pentecost were popular and resulted in some attractive banners. Messy Church meets once a month on a Wednesday and future dates for your diaries are, June 25th, July 16th when we hope to have some outdoor activities and on August 3rd we plan a Messy Church Activity Day. We hope that we can look forward to families coming to enjoy fun and fellowship together. We look forward to welcoming you.

Less than a fortnight away now, we look forward to our Platinum Pageant, a Floral Celebration of seventy years of her Majesty's reign. We hope we shall be able to welcome residents of Kington and visitors to the town to this event. Please encourage your family and friends to visit. Light refreshments will be available.



Another date for your Diary is July 2nd when we are planning for a return of what, before covid, was an annual event, our Garden Fete In the Vicarage Garden. It may be slightly different in some respects but we hope that you will be pleased to know that it should take place. If anyone has an idea they would like to suggest for this event we shall be pleased to hear from you. Planning time is somewhat short and we make no promises!

Finally events are resuming and we can offer you one more date for your diary, Saturday, July 16th. Steve Gilling and Stuart Brain invite you to a musical evening, entitled "Brassed Off! It promises to be an evening with a difference. It is being organised by The Friends of St. Mary's and details will be available shortly.

As always Rodney joins with me in sending best wishes to our readers and we hope that it will not be too long before we see him back in St. Mary's.

Ann Edwards



**St MARY'S CHURCH,
Kington**

presents

A PLATINUM PAGEANT

A Floral Celebration of 70 Years

May 28th to June 12th

Open Daily

10am (12 noon Sundays) to 5pm

Light Refreshments Available

All are Welcome

Praying the alphabet

This month we are praying through the letter M



We will start in Mariupol and pray for all those trapped underground by the bombing, hiding in tunnels and without food or water.

We also pray for Moscow, for those who are protesting and not in agreement with the Kremlin

We pray for mariners, miners and musicians who's music soothes our troubled minds. We pray for marriages everywhere, for love and forgiveness, for the media that they are able to tell the truth. We pray for museums and our wonderful home, The Marches.

If you would like anyone to pray for you or with you contact Rev Ben 01544 230525 or Trish 01544 231848

Fairtrade stall at St Mary's

I intend to running the stall on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, after the 10am service, (except for 5th June, which is the Jubilee service).

It is a not-for-profit stall, selling fairtrade and ethically sourced products from Traidcraft, beginning with coffee, tea, sugar, biscuits and chocolate, and maybe rice, pasta and dried fruit later. Any suggestions welcome...

Margaret Cooke



Eco church - June

Did you know that 1 in every 110 people in the world is a refugee or asylum seeker or unable to go back home? You may have a family in your street, church or school just like this. Jesus' family were refugees. So was Abraham. The Bible is FULL of refugees and today's world is too.

Caring for our planet means protecting the people who share the planet with us as well. NOBODY chooses to become a refugee, so why does it happen. Sometimes they have to leave to escape war and violence. Sometimes climate change has meant whole communities have to move. Some families are not welcome where they live because of their faith.

If a refugee comes to live in your street or in your school, how could you make them feel welcome?

Trish MacCurrach



Community Shop Dates

1 June - 7 June	Walton Village Hall
8 June - 14 June	Bryngwyn Riding for the Disabled
15 June - 21 June	Kinnerton Village Hall & Church
22 June - 28 June	Kington Community Choir
29 June - 5 July	Gladestry Village Hall



ST THOMAS à BECKET, HUNTINGTON CHURCH NEWS

Easter Day Service:

Our Easter morning service was well attended, with numbers significantly boosted by the entire Kelly family (8 adults and 5 young children). Once again Sheila made a delightful tomb garden, with the sod of turf carefully cut by Bob Powell. With the tomb stones in position on the turf, Sheila then artfully creates the garden with delicate flowers. Thank you Sheila and Bob.



A walk through the wood at Greenfields:

"We were blessed with wonderful sunshine, while enjoying a coffee and a chat with friends, before striding off down the woodland path. The bluebells and bird song cheered us along, it was beautiful." This was a comment made to me and I thought it worth repeating.

Friends and neighbours arrived with cakes, preserves and other goodies to sell and with the generosity of all I am delighted to say over £500 has been raised. The money will be sent to the Red Cross for help in the Ukraine.

I am very grateful to all who helped serve teas and coffees, manned the cake/produce stall and a very big thank you to everyone who came and supported the event so generously.

Marilyn Kelly



Dates for your Diary:

Huntington Fete:

After an absence of two years due to Covid, we are pleased to announce the Huntington Fete will be held this year on Saturday 16th July, between 3:00 – 5:00. Ben has agreed to officially open the event.

Lower Gaer Open Garden:

We will be opening our 2 acre garden at Lower Gaer, Huntington, on Sunday 31st July.

More details next month on both these events.

Susan Maiden

Visit of The Pilgrim Singers:

Every year, for the past 20 years, a group of singers have gathered in Knighton to prepare for their annual Pilgrimage of Song. Taking the name The Pilgrim Singers, we walk over the hills to country churches, where we sing and lead an act of worship. This year's theme was "To be a pilgrim", taking Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" as our inspiration. It was a joy to visit St. Thomas a Becket, Huntington, where we were warmly welcomed. Music included the hymns "Who would true valour see" and "O Jesus I have promised", as well as a setting of the Magnificat by Stanford.

Having eaten our sandwiches in the churchyard, with a welcome cup of coffee kindly supplied by our hosts, we set out over the hill to Gladestry, for our second service of the day. The next day saw us in Heyope and Llanfair Waterdine churches, and the weekend

pilgrimage concluded in St.Edward's Knighton, before the pilgrims departed for their own churches all over the country.

Geoff Weaver

Note Geoff sent to Peter:

"Many thanks for making us so welcome today. The musical pilgrims loved their visit to Huntington, and commented on the warmth of the welcome we received. Please pass on our thanks to others who made us welcome, provided drinks etc. We also enjoyed the brief history of the church which you gave us. All good wishes."

Geoff

Kington Community Lunch



**12.30pm
Wednesday
15th June**

If you would like a hot meal and company please join us at the Parish House.
Contact 230683

Old Radnor Church

Michael Tavenor, ex dean of the cathedral, will give a walk around Old Radnor church on Sunday 17 July at 6pm. If you arrive early there might be a cup of tea. *Rob MacCcurrach*

Get to know your Smartphone - a free workshop for beginners At Kington Library

on Tuesday 28th June, 2pm to 4pm

Learn the basics of how to use your smartphone. Understand the different buttons and symbols on your phone, connect to the internet with WiFi, and learn about different 'apps'.

Bring your own smartphone.

Places are FREE but booking is essential.
Book at Kington Library or on 01432 260600
or kingtonlibrary@herefordshire.gov.uk

Kington Bowling Club

The Bowling Club would very much like to welcome new members or anyone who would like to return back to bowling. Our Club night is always on a Monday at 6.00pm so if you would like to have a 'taster session' then please do come along and you will be made very welcome, all equipment needed will be supplied.

If you require any further information on any aspect of how the club operates then please do not hesitate to contact our Chairman, Dick Allford on 01544 231052



Reader Writes

The old king was off early; at dawn he had risen, brewed chai, and set off before his household and Kingdom affairs could be allowed to detain him. The end of May, still the right side of midsummer, swifts screamed and dashed scimitar-winged past the palace walls, red-rumped swallows prettily flew back and forth from their tunnel nests, and the beech forest was newly translucent green with young leaves. He was heading for the mountain pastures and strode steadily upwards, leaving forest behind, and passing through the scrub skirt he bade farewell to the still singing nightingales; now he could hear larks and the high up cry of an eagle.

Ah ha! As expected and hoped, here in a sheltered fold was Grigor the shepherd who spent the entire summer up on the mountain. The old friends greeted each other, and the mountain dogs, with spiked metal collars, gave up grumbling and returned to their posts watching the flock of curly-horned mountain sheep. There was a ritual; Grigor, have you seen any wolves?! Wolves? Of course! My dogs fought off a bitch wolf with grown cub only a couple of days ago. Praise God, they prevailed and the sheep are safe.

They settled down on the turf before the smouldering ashes of the fire and Grigor brewed strong coffee for them both. Well your Royal Highness, what do you think of the Turks?! The Turks? How on earth did Grigor know anything about the Turks? It was of course something the King thought about a lot, as did the rest of Christian Europe. The Ottomans and their fearsome Janissaries were already menacing Vienna. They travelled far and light on their piston-legged ponies and seemingly none could stop them. Grigor surprised the King even more by referencing Plato who called the shepherds ‘the embers of humanity’ left unextinguished; when armies came, the shepherds merely climbed higher out of reach and were eventually assimilated into new kingdoms and empires.

But king and shepherd quickly agreed; Europe could not leave the Turks unchallenged. They seemed to have over-reached themselves, and notwithstanding Plato, they could not be allowed simply to flow up valleys taking everything in their path. We had a duty to stop them and come together to bar their path. The Kingdom had archers, the finest in Europe. We shall deploy them and use them to train and equip our neighbours. But what about the barons asked Grigor. Good heavens, he misses nothing, thought the King. Indeed, the barons had almost invited invasion with easy money and unscrupulous banking.

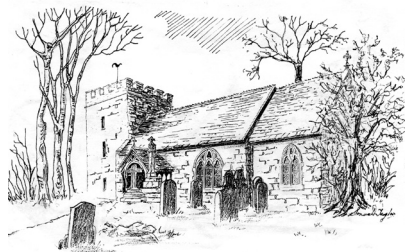
So it was agreed. *“There is a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace”* quoted the shepherd from Ecclesiastes. The King left his old friend gathering sheep and dogs to climb higher. Would the Bishop agree? They were testing times. As he headed down the forest path, the old king remembered that the writer of Ecclesiastes went on to declare *“He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has set eternity in the hearts of men.”* Yes, this is an unpleasant but righteous cause demanding wisdom and courage, and according to Grigor, bowmen! Nightingales had given way to the tumbling songs of blackcaps, and orchards were brilliant with blossom and bees. Protect us Lord!

Robert MacCurrach

ST PETER'S CHURCH TITLEY NEWS

Flowers for June.

Elizabeth.



Community Shop.

A reminder that we have the Community Shop in October so please do start to look out for items we can sell in the shop. Please put it in the back of the church along with everything else. The

more items for sale we have, hopefully the more for church funds we can make. If you have large items and want a hand to move them please ring Dick on 231052.

Dick

SUNDAY 5TH JUNE - Titley Village Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

from lunchtime into the afternoon....

One of the activities going on throughout the afternoon will be creating a textile hooked rug wall hanging in commemoration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Vonnie & Beccy will set out and help supervise a community collaboration to create a piece of art and craft to decorate the village hall wall for all to enjoy for years to come!

An opportunity to have a go and 'hook some' fabric into the design on the day!

Donations of t-shirt material will be gratefully received (particularly shades of blue, green, brown, yellow) Maybe an old t-shirt with memories of times past could be incorporated into this historical piece!?

For more information: Email- Beccy: beccyhaydon@yahoo.co.uk or phone: 01544 230109

Vonnie: vonnie.smeaton@hotmail.co.uk or phone:01544 209025

KINGTON & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Next meeting

Thurs 16th June 7.30pm

Climbers and Wall shrubs

speaker Andrew Pedrick

venue Masonic hall



Competition: a single rose bloom and 3 rose blooms - variety if known

We will still take bookings for holiday in Yorkshire for 18th June
details from D W Phillips 230683

There will be a coach trip to Trentham Gardens in July

Date to be confirmed
details from D W Phillips 230683

Not a Proper Gardener (Part 19)



Seven dry Aprils in a row. This rather gives the lie to the little rhyme March winds, April showers bring forth May flowers, since in spite of the lack of rain, the apple and pear blossom in particular has never been more prolific, so that on a still day in the garden their delicious scent permeates the atmosphere. But bear in mind that I'm writing this early in May, when we are still (especially Giles) enjoying last autumn's eating apples. (He takes a couple to eat during most walks.) However, we do need more rain; the little we had on May Day and subsequently has certainly freshened things up, but it's been only a splash and if another little traditional rhyme proves right, Oak before ash we're in for a splash, we may be in for a dry season. For the little oak saplings we planted in the school field are already in leaf, while the buds on the ash are still quite tight. Well, we shall have to wait and see. Fortunately we can't order the weather or that would be something else to fight wars about. Throughout that dry April Giles has been helping us to give those four little protégés a drink twice a week, for March was not the best time to be planting them.

Incidentally, apropos of that, I wonder whether you heard Prince Charles on the radio saying, "Planting a tree is a statement of hope and faith in the future. As we approach this special year (of Jubilee) I invite you all to join me," adding that the event was, "in other words, a Treebilee." That's just a snippet of what he said, and I hope you'll forgive me for including it here. As a genuine improper gardener I must surely be permitted to do so.

Well, the grass has been growing and we've had to get the mower out. Mine is a handy battery powered Bosch 36 Watt one which I've used for years and years, and it's never let me down, though I'm notoriously bad at looking after my tools. I also use a rechargeable strimmer. These tools are quieter than some of the petrol ones we hear and do not pollute the atmosphere. Think green, act green is a rule I try to observe when I can.

(Practical Action enclosed with its recent giving request a postcard for us to fill in asking what advice we would give to the younger generation. Emma said wryly "Stop having children!", I put "Think green, act green". I wonder what you would have put?)

The mange-tout peas are growing away well now, transplanted from their bit of gutter into a cage to protect them from the sparrows who, last year pecked off all the flowers. O how we do love the birds! After all, what would a garden be like without them? Emma would be desolate if bereaved of our friendly thrush visitor. Emma adds: "The sparrows are multiplying. One pair threw out last year's nesting material and began to build again in the drainpipe, but a sharp shower changed their minds and they made their home under the ridge tiles right at the top of the roof. Now their young ones have fledged, the sentinel is back on the drainpipe again, making sure all the birds know when fresh food is put out below. And at least one of the hedgehogs is back after hibernation."

The first new potatoes Rocket, in a bag are nearly ready, and I've planted out this year's Red Flare cabbages to succeed those which saw us so wonderfully through the winter, this time

protected from the pigeons, which we're less fond of, which is why Giles and I enjoy one for Sunday lunch now and again. (Do you wonder why Emma's a vegan?) And of course the soft fruits are starting to do well again, even before we've finished last year's.

We've still a few leeks, and all the other summer vegetables look promising: French and runner beans, broad beans, cabbages and calabrese, will also be feeding us by the time you read this; and the soft fruits will be keeping us busy. And our first sweet pea is already out early in May. Oh, and I've just noticed that the loofah seeds I planted in the propagator, mainly just for fun, have germinated - some novelties perhaps for the stall on Cutterbach Lane, along with other spare veg plants.

Denis Parry

Kington Art and Craft Market.

Saturday 18th June. 9.30 – 3.30pm

Firstly, thank you to those who have visited and supported the first 2 markets of 2022.

The next market will be on Saturday 18th June. 9.30 – 3.30 in Kington Market Hall.

The Market showcase the talents of a number of local Artist and Crafters.

From those who are looking for sturdy plant supports to those who are looking for handmade hand cream to sooth those gardening hands, we have it all. There is something for everyone plus it's not too late to purchase that special hand-crafted gift or card for Father's Day. Everyone loves receiving a handmade gift or card. You will find a wide range of unique items to suit all pockets. We look forward to seeing you on Saturday 18th June.

Anna King - AK Crafts anna@akcrafts.co.uk 07977 978676

Urgently Required

**Secretary
for
Kington Horticultural Society**

If you would be willing to fill this
vacancy
please contact



Dennis Phillips
on
01544 230683

'Pondering the Parables'

**with tea and biscuits
on Friday afternoons
at 4 pm**

Informal and relaxed

**Kington Baptist
Church**

Bridge Street



Kington Gives Thanks

A view from the new bench

After two postponements due to covid restrictions, we were at last able to give thanks as a community on Saturday 23rd April. The PPG hosted a coffee morning at Kington surgery in the morning. Our wonderful Medical Practice was presented with a picnic table, two benches and a parasol to thank them for their care and commitment during the past two exceptionally challenging years.



On behalf of the Mayor of Kington, the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Elizabeth Banks, joined Kay Birchley, Chair of the PPG, to present the picnic table to the practice. The picnic table was unveiled by Suzanne Hughes, Gill Kantolinna and Glenys Plant, all of whom have worked extremely hard as volunteers at the vaccination clinics organised by the Practice. A brass plaque with a dedication is fixed to the table. Although it didn't rain it became too cold to remain outside so we went inside to mix and mingle over coffee. A "Thank You" book in which patients had written their personal messages was presented to Dr Silvana McCaffery. Several patients mentioned how nice it was to be able to chat informally with the Practice staff, and the PPG are most grateful to them for giving up their time to attend.

L – R Suzanne Hughes, Elizabeth Banks, Kay Birchley, Gill Kantolinna and Glenys Plant

In the afternoon there was a community thanksgiving service in the presence of Edward Harley, HM Lord Lieutenant of Herefordshire, Sebastian Bowen, Chairman of Herefordshire County Council and Bob Widdowson, Kington Mayor.

In a very moving and pertinent address Rev Ben Griffith, paid tribute to the numerous groups and individuals who had "gone the extra mile" to support us all throughout the pandemic : the medical practice of course, and those who provided care whether in our three residential care homes, or at home, many of whom worked on a voluntary basis. Tribute was also paid to our schools, our emergency services, our shopkeepers and community groups such as Kington Lions, and not least, to the countless number of individuals who had simply been "nice, nose, neighbours" as a PPG member puts it.

A poignant Act of Remembrance followed. We remembered those we ourselves had known and loved and all those from this town and district who lost their lives during the time of the coronavirus pandemic. As the names of the departed were read out, their loved ones were invited to come forward to light candles in their memory, led by Edward Harley, Sebastian Bowen, and Bob Widdowson who represented us all. We then went out to the Garden of Remembrance where our beautiful commemorative bench was unveiled and subsequently blessed by Rev. Ben Griffith. The bench was commissioned by Kington Town Council and was designed and made by Ambrose Burn.

In talking about his design for the bench Ambrose told me that the seat composed of 7 arcs represents a rainbow, which has become the symbol of our National Health Service. The

three supports for the bench are stylised trees which have been interpreted in various ways. For me they symbolise the rootedness of the community I have the great fortune to live amongst. The bench as a whole symbolises the way in which the NHS and in particular our own medical practice, sustains and is in turn sustained by our community. I sincerely hope the bench will become a place to rest, to remember and to rejoice for residents and visitors to the town alike. IT WAS A VERY SPECIAL DAY, THANK YOU TO ALL CONCERNED.



L – R : Edward Harley, Revd. Ben Griffith, Ambrose Burn, Sebastian Bowen and Bob Widdowson.

Kay Birchley, Chair PPG

Wordsearch for Pentecost

The story of Pentecost is found in Acts 2. After the Ascension of Jesus, the disciples had obeyed his command to stay in Jerusalem and to ‘wait for the promise from the Father’. Jesus said this would be the ‘baptism of the Holy Spirit’, but the disciples had no idea what that meant. They soon found out! Acts tells us that at about 9 o’clock one morning, a sound like a rushing wind from heaven suddenly filled the house, and divided tongues as if of fire rested on each one of them. The Holy Spirit had come down and filled them with his divine power! Praise, preaching and witnessing followed that morning – and the Church was born.

- | | |
|-----------|---------|
| Pentecost | Glory |
| Trinity | Waiting |
| Jerusalem | Place |
| Disciples | Wind |
| Praying | Father |
| Tongues | Son |
| Power | Holy |
| High | Spirit |
| Fires | Eternal |
| Flames | |
| Languages | |
| Praise | |
| Drunk | |
| Wine | |
| Nine | |
| Morning | |



QUESTIONS PATIENTS ASK

“I understand that we have a Physician Associate (PA) working at the Practice. What is the role of this person?”

Dr McCaffrey replies: A PA is a graduate who has undertaken postgraduate training and works under the supervision of a doctor. A PA is trained to perform a number of day to day tasks including:

- Taking medical histories from patients
- Performing physical examinations
- Diagnosing illnesses
- Seeing patients with long term chronic conditions
- Performing diagnostic and therapeutic procedures
- Analysing test results
- Developing management plans
- Providing health promotion and disease prevention advice for patients

Dave Harper is a physician associate. He supports the duty GP and duty ANP (advanced nurse practitioner) on a Monday enabling us to meet demand for acute problems. He sees patients face to face and has the support of the GP as needed. He was appointed by the North and West Primary Care Network (N&WPCN) and is very experienced.

DEVELOPMENTS IN PRIMARY CARE AT KINGTON MEDICAL PRACTICE AND AT THE SURGERY.

In recent years there have been many changes in services available for patients at their local GP Practices, and in the ways in which these services are delivered to patients. At our last PPG meeting we discussed these issues with Dr McCaffrey and Charlotte Bounds (Practice Manager) and agreed it might be useful to produce a summary of “who does what and how the system works” Having been provided with extensive notes, I aim to outline these developments in the next few issues of IN TOUCH, as follows:

- Kington Medical Practice, Core services and Additional Roles (IN TOUCH, issue 6)
- Other services based at and/or provided at the surgery (IN TOUCH, issue 7)
- North and West Herefordshire Primary Care Network - N&WPCN (IN TOUCH, issue 8)

NB To avoid confusion I use the word surgery to mean the building that is the base for Kington Medical Practice.

KINGTON MEDICAL PRACTICE

The Practice directly employs our GPs, ANPs, Practice Nurses, Health Care Assistant, one clinical pharmacist and the dispensary staff and surgery admin and management staff. Patients will probably be familiar with the respective roles of the clinical staff listed - what will be less well known is the effort the Practice staff make to develop their respective skills in order to maximise the number of patients who can be diagnosed and/or treated locally.

For example Dr McCaffrey notes: “ Our Practice Nurse, Heather Staines, has worked very hard to complete her Independent Prescribers course and we have been working together over the last six months on a systematic approach to assessing breathlessness.

Breathlessness can be caused by lung, heart and blood issues and therefore all three

need to be considered when a patient presents with this symptom. Like the skin clinic, Heather will have a breathlessness clinic on a Thursday morning where she will perform a comprehensive assessment with relevant near patient investigations (such as blood tests and heart tracings) undertaken and further tests (such as x-rays and scans) arranged. This should shorten the time and reduce the number of visits to diagnose the cause. I am duty doctor on a Thursday and am there to provide any assistance needed.” The PPG are delighted to support this initiative by authorising the use of the Patient Fund to purchase the specialist equipment needed.

Dr McCaffery also reports that Dr Sola completed his joint and soft tissue injection course and now this service is provided by Dr Mohammed, Dr Sola and herself. The Health and Care Trust allocate a Community Psychiatric Nurse to Kington who holds telephone and face to face clinics in the surgery. Practice clinicians are able to refer patients directly to the community psychiatric nurse who is also available to offer advice to the Practice.

Additional Role Clinicians

These clinicians are appointed by the Primary Care Network (N&WPCN) They work in Practices across the network to support existing services and to help introduce new services. More details will be given in the August edition of IN TOUCH.

Here I would note that information about the “first contact physiotherapist” can be found in IN TOUCH issue 4 March 2022.

I’d also like to mention the pharmacy team comprising an extra pharmacist and two pharmacy technicians. Dr McCaffery notes that although their work is hugely important in improving patient care, it may not be so obvious to our community. For example the technicians are continuously running searches and audits to ensure safe prescribing as well as checking with suppliers when medicines are unavailable – sadly an increasingly common problem.

Similarly our safeguarding additional role can complete the paperwork that is needed at short notice and attend meetings that would otherwise be missed as the clinicians do not have the capacity to do this in the short time frame in which issues usually arise. Having a carefully managed safeguarding process is critical for maintaining the safety of the vulnerable.

In conclusion Dr McCaffery writes :

As you can see, we have a large number of professionals caring for our patients and their needs. It is very different to the past but this is the way General Practice survives. General Practice isn’t a person any more, it’s a team. Working as a team can be complex. We will endeavour to provide continuity of care in an episode but providing an individual doctor to an individual patient for any issue they have at any time is just not an option with the shortage of doctors in the NHS.

And Kay Birchley writes:

I hope this is helpful If you have any questions about this article or any other matter concerning the Practice please email me on: Kington.PPG.Chair@gmail.com or telephone 01544 230 718

“Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings.” (*Prayer Book Psalm 8 & Matt.21.16, KJB*)

Last month I wrote a bit about 'paradox' and touched on the 'Three-in-Oneness' of God the Trinity. And about now, after Whitsun, the Church enters the long season of Trinity.

They weren't exactly babes and sucklings but young children, as described in later, less picturesque translations of the Bible. Yet they were young enough to be quite astonished when I showed them the empty saucepan. In school assembly I had produced a little camping stove, a saucepan and a block of ice and performed a simple physics demonstration. I had boiled the ice. The young children took in their stride the fact that the ice became water, but when, after a bit more talk and boiling, I had turned the pan upside down, there were gasps of astonishment. It was empty. Where had it gone?

Of course I was demonstrating the simple fact that one substance can be three persons (for want of a better word) Ice the Rock was the same stuff as the Water and the Vapour, which they were breathing in! (It was all H₂O, as they would learn when they started chemistry. Here was a good example of Three-in-Oneness. But like most, its weakness was that, unlike God, it could not be all three at once.

Well, perhaps a nice little conjuring trick; but for me Trinity has never been a problem. Threeness is built into creation. Indeed, is not each of us 3 in 1, Body, Mind and Spirit? and all at the same time? that is, built in the image of God?

In any case, that was not what I really meant to write about. The Babe and Suckling I had in mind was a lad of about six or seven years old who one day accosted me as I came out of my rectory onto the village green: “Mr Parry,” he said, “two people have just gone into the church.” “Oh yes?” I said. “Why have they gone into church?” he asked. “Well, maybe they want to explore the inside of the building, or perhaps they even want to say a prayer.” “May I go into the church?” “Yes, find me when they've gone, and I'll take you in if you like.”

Once inside we looked round and I pointed out the font, the organ, the pulpit, lectern and altar. And it just happened that the Credence table (don't ask me why) was set, as for a communion service, a godincidence as it turned out. “Is that what you showed us in school?” he asked. For at assembly one day in the village CP school I had shown the children how I take communion to housebound folk, and now, amazed that he had actually remembered, I replied, “Yes, that little bottle contains the wine, and this little box the wafers. They are a sort of bread which is specially made so as to keep well and be easy to take and eat.” “May I taste one?” he asked.

Then happened something I shall never forget, something that almost makes me weep when I recall it. He accepted the wafer, ate it and stood quite still and silent for a few seconds. Then he said, “Now I've got a bit of Jesus' body in my body.”

The Thursday following Trinity Sunday is by many churches celebrated as the Feast of Corpus Christi, or Thanksgiving for the Holy Communion. It's a time when we are especially focussed on the meaning of that great gift we've received from Jesus. Need one say more? Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings!

Denis Parry

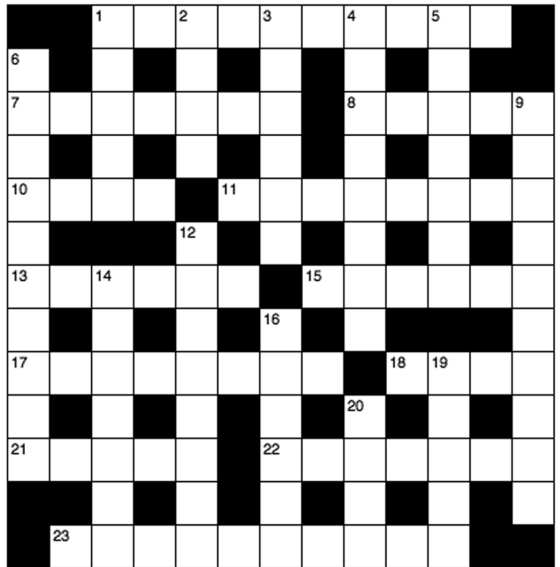
June Crossword

Across

- 1 Evil (Genesis 6:5) (10)
 7 Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom (2 Kings 3:15) (7)
 8 The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer: 'Lord, — us to pray' (Luke 11:1) (5)
 10 'We are hard pressed on every—' (2Corinthians4:8)(4)
 11 Fraud (2Corinthians6:8)(8)
 13 'His troops advance in force;they build a siege ramp against me and — around my tent' (Job 19:12) (6)
 15 Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent (Genesis 31:34) (6)
 17 'Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be—' (1 Corinthians 12:1) (8)
 18 Nomadic dwelling(Genesis26:25)(4)
 21 'As for man, his days are like—, he flourishes like a flower of the field' (Psalm 103:15) (5)
 22 Or I live (anag.)(7)
 23 Those guilty of 1 Across(Romans13:4)(10)

Down

- 1 'God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son' (John 3:16) (5)
 2 'Away in a manger, no — for a bed' (4)
 3 Mob ten (anag.) (6)
 4 'Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled' (2 Kings 17:29) (8)
 5 Begon (Luke 9:46) (7)
 6 Speaking very softly (John 7:32) (10)
 9 Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:3) (10)
 12 Put in jail(Acts22:19)(8)
 14 Aceturn(anag.)(7)
 16 Discharge(Acts21:3)(6)
 19 'All these—come from inside and make a man "unclean"' (Mark 7:23) (5)
 20 'Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!'(Revelation19:7)(4)



Answers to May Crossword

ACROSS: 1, Overwhelmed. 9, Valleys. 10, Strap. 11, Top. 13, Reel. 16, To do. 17, Incite. 18, Load. 20, West. 21, Notice. 22, Wash. 23, Thin. 25, Ash. 28, Noah's. 29, Ever not. 30, Onesiphorus.
 DOWN: 2, Value. 3, Reed. 4, Host. 5, Lisp. 6, Ear lobe. 7, Overflowing. 8, Opportunity. 12, Obtain. 14, Lid. 15, A cross. 19, Abstain. 20, Wet. 24, Hindu. 25, Asks. 26, Help. 27, Hero.

Theodora, Destroyer of Worlds.

31/8/2008

It seems a short lifetime ago since we were prevented from going up the Rochdale and the Huddersfield Narrow Canals. We have been doing some serious canalling since I last wrote.

The rain has rained and much water has passed under Theodora's bottom plate (She does not have a keel.) since I last wrote. We stopped at Chester overnight under that shadow of the city walls. It was a very pleasant spot close to the shops and Cathedral. We had a mostly quiet night until about 0300 when three of the more high spirited of the local lads decided that it would be fun to entertain the hired boat astern of us by jumping and off its roof. This they did and added to the festivities by throwing their boathook into the cut. "Hah!" thought I, "The assistance of the Peelers is required.", and I duly picked up the mobile. By the time I had got through to the local police station the chaps had decided that they would go and entertain the local population of Chester away from the canal so the police were saved a call out. I settled down to resume the night's sleep only to hear the repeated casting and reeling in of a fishing line. This was an inventive, but unsuccessful, way of retrieving the boathook so I advised the alternative method of using Theodora to ferry me across the cut and get it. This was achieved without the use of the engine and we stood around on the towpath and drank tea and chatted for a little while. The rest of the night was quiet, peaceful and as it should be.



The visit to Ellesmere Port at the far northern end of the Shropshire Union Canal was well worth the trouble and why? Well, there is the National Waterways Museum at Ellesmere Port and we spent a long time there, there were loads of historic boats to see and methods of boat building to learn about. Lots of engines to amuse and entertain, too.

The only way to get from Ellesmere Port on the canals is to retrace your steps down the Shropshire Union. This we did, turning left at the Middlewich Branch and right down the Trent and Mersey to Hardings Wood Junction. This takes you on to the Macclesfield Canal. Up the Macclesfield and on to the Peak Forest Canal, down to Dukinfield Junction, then turn right on to the Huddersfield Narrow Canal. I have a book, *The Shell Guide to the Inland Waterways*, which says, and I quote: "...". Bother! I can't quote it

because I cannot find the quote in the book but it said something to the effect that it was in such a state that it could never be made navigable again. Given the will it could and it was and it was open to navigation again in 2001 and it is very beautiful. You don't go very far on it in a day, though, because there are heaps of locks (4 locks to every mile, if I recall correctly) and views of the moors and nice walks to do. We did a there and back, turning at Aspley Basin where the Huddersfield Broad Canal starts. We decided not to do the HBC because the locks are a bit short for Theodora and it means slotting the boat in diagonally

and removing the bow and stern fenders. We cycled down it to have a look, though and I did not have to say “Ting!” once. Margaret had made me fit a bell.

I fear that Theodora caused significant damage to the assets of the HNC. We were approaching lock 3W and I jumped off with the centre line. Once Theodora was going very, very slowly I dropped a clove hitch over a convenient bollard and walked on towards the lock. (In retrospect it was not wise. A clove hitch locks up instantly as tension is applied so a huge force is applied to kill the momentum of a several tons of boat over a short period of time. I should have allowed time to take a couple of turns around the bollard to bring Theodora more gradually to a halt.) An alarmed “NICK!” from Margaret indicated an occurrence of note so I looked back to see that the bollard had been dragged into the canal complete with attached coping stones. About two yards of them. Oh dear! We tried to haul it out of the cut. Too heavy under water so much too heavy out of it. We asked for the assistance of a passer by. Same result. Would we have to cut the rope? Not on your life! It’s expensive stuff and we didn’t want to shorten the centre line by eight feet. Margaret suggested that I go for another paddle in the canal but I declined this, noting that there was lots of water coming down the canal so wasting a bit of it would not matter. The pound was short so I opened paddles top and bottom of lock 2W and lowered the level by about two feet. I could then see the bollard and was able to untie the rope. The pound soon filled up again and we were off. I phoned British Waterways to confess the damage and expected to see some orange netting to warn people not to fall down the hole. On our way back nothing had been done so I suppose that in this region the BW people believe that the public should look where it is going. A very sensible philosophy say I.

We had a good day with Evelyn and Simon, Margaret’s sister and brother-in-law. They met us in Uppermill on the way back and helped us down about ten locks. It looks as if we have converted them to the delights of canalling as they are now planning to hire a boat in France. It won’t be as good as the English canals though.

Right ho: so far you are blissfully unaware of the general routine of canalling so over the next day or so I will give you a blow by blow account of all that we do so you will know how we manage to live our lives happily in an area of 60’ x 7’.

Await the next thrilling instalment.

Nick



PS I nearly forgot. We are now on the Rochdale Canal, another very recent restoration. We have moored up for a couple of days a little to the north of Littleborough in a small basin called Windy Bank Wharf. This is a lovely spot with good views of the moors and the basin is just big enough to hold two narrowboats. We walked down to church this morning at Littleborough which is about half a mile away. All very charming.

Nick

A Few Royal Jokes

Knock! Knock! Who's there?

Queen? Queen who? Queen your room. It's filthy!

What is the first thing a king or queen does when they come to the throne?

Answer: They sit down!

What kind of cake does the Ice Queen like to eat on her birthday?

Answer: The flavour doesn't matter as long as it has lots of frosting.

Where do kings and queens get crowned?

Answer: On the head!

Why did the queen go to the dentist?

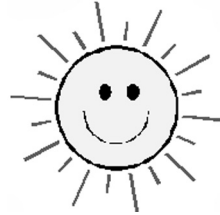
Answer: To get crowns on her teeth.

Why is England such a wet country?

Answer: The queen has reigned for years!

Ho!

Ho!



Ho!

Kington Baptist Church

Her Majesty the Queen's
Platinum Jubilee

‘Songs of
Praise’

Sunday 5th June 10.45am

followed by
‘Sharing Lunch’

PLEASE JOIN US!

**The Baptist Church
Bridge Street, Kington**

Fraud Alert

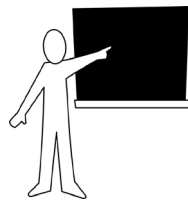
In the last week reports have been received of two men visiting rural addresses in the county offering to undertake gardening work – such as hedge cutting or tree lopping. Whilst many of those offering this type of work are legitimate trades people, there is a need for the public to be cautious over those who ‘cold call’ them offering to do work on their behalf. In this particular case the public are asked to report any suspicious behaviour involving a white Ford Transit tipper van registration YT17 ZZE.

The public are reminded that at all times, caution should be taken when entering into any agreement for any type of unsolicited work and they should ask for references or seek various quotes before proceeding.

Further advice regarding ‘cold calling’ can be obtained through Herefordshire Council website www.herefordshire.gov.uk

All suspicious behaviour should be reported to the Police on-line via www.westmercia.police.uk or by calling ‘101’

Tales from the Chalk face - A Roman in Corby (contd.)



From the first days at Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic School, I was welcomed. At the very first staff meeting, they said they knew they were at the last chance stage. I explained my plans, set out what I expected from them and what they could expect from me. They responded, 'Just tell us what to do, and we'll do it!' and that's what they did. We were able to make huge changes to the way teachers planned, the regime in the classroom, the way they assessed pupil progress and engaged children in their learning. We introduced methods for pupils to make their own assessments of their learning, pupil progress reviews, tracking of the impact of interventions and much, much more. Everyone involved wanted things to improve fast. Within a short while, the school felt a much more purposeful environment.

My main task was to bring the school to work together as a community, to develop common approaches to planning and teaching. I could do a lot through the staff meetings, governing body meetings and training sessions; but the biggest way to influence the school was through the daily assemblies. The Diocese was very concerned that I should not do or say anything that was contrary to Catholic tradition. So, for the first two weeks, they came to every assembly, every staff meeting and to the daily staff briefing and prayers which took place at 8:15 each morning. As head I was responsible for leading a thought for the day and a time of reflection and prayer with all the staff before the children arrived. By the end of my two-week probation, the Diocesan Advisor, one of the local nuns, said she was very happy with what I was doing and the type of prayers I used. So, she cut back to coming in just once a fortnight, and to governors' meetings. Then to monthly visits.

The Parish Church was on the front of the school site and next to that, the Presbytery. Two priests lived there with a housekeeper. The parish also had a permanent deacon. He was a married man, and therefore, prohibited from becoming a priest himself. One of the Priests, Fr. Robert, had been a former Anglican, and had attended the same college as I had in Oxford. We hit it off straight away and became good and lasting friends. He has visited us here in Kington a number of times.

During the difficult times of the school, the priests had stopped going in to school and had withdrawn from the governing body. Fr Robert and I worked to bring the school and church back into a strong partnership. We re-established confirmation classes (for year 6) and first holy communion preparation (for year 3) in school, during school time. He came in to lead a school service once a week, and a mass for the school and parents once a month. As I am of a Catholic persuasion, I was fully in tune with their festivals and practices. So, I suggested we introduce a Corpus Christi mass; that we construct a bier to carry the statue of Our Lady we held in school, to be decorated with flowers, and to be carried aloft in a procession around the playground and grounds and into church. Then we had a mass followed by Benediction, followed by cakes and ice creams! It went down a storm!! The first holy communion children scattered rose petals in front of the priest, some of the older children dressed as servers. I swung the incense, and a good time was had by all.

continued overleaf

The Infant school block was built round a central courtyard open to the sky, with doors all round. It had become very overgrown and was disused. I had a plan! We could clear it and set in flower beds in which we would grow herbs. We could put in a water feature, add some benches and also place on a plinth one of the spare statues of Our Lady stored in the church. We formed a working party and met a few times on Saturday mornings. Once the garden was complete, we had it blessed and dedicated to the memory of the little boy who had so sadly died that year and a plaque was installed to remember him. And it was all a great success!

I mentioned previously that we had the huge original building standing mostly unused. The staffroom and library were there. But most of the rooms were not in use. Working with the Governors and Local Authority, I managed to set up some interesting enterprises using the redundant classrooms and buildings.

The top floor was given over to Art in Community, where we allowed local artists to use the rooms for their studios. They were able to work there, store their materials, display their work and to socialise with other artists as they worked during the day. They were able to use the buildings free of charge, and in return, I asked them to help develop artistic project around the school, work in the classroom, pass on their skills to the staff and to help me to organise an arts festival.

One of the portacabins was given over to an ex Royal Academy exhibitioner. He set up his studio there and invited whole classes of children to see him working/drawing/painting and he also ran classes for the children and staff. Eventually, we were able to invite other schools to send their children to his workshops.

The old school kitchen and canteen stood apart from the school. I heard that the local PRU (Pupil Referral Unit) had so many pupils that they didn't know what to do. (Like the old woman in the shoe!) So, I approached the head of the unit and together we set up a programme for 14-16 year olds excluded from school. They did basic lessons in the morning, and in the afternoon, they learnt such things as how to paint, car maintenance, cooking, electronics, restored a small boat and made a vegetable garden next to the building. Another successful project!

The greatest success was that we worked with one of our supply teachers, a Polish music teacher, to set up a Polish Language school on Saturday mornings. They used the old office as their Headquarters and the downstairs classroom and the huge hall on the top floor for teaching Polish to children and English to parents. Each session ended with a shared meal and singing/dancing and fun in the hall. It grew very fast as there were many Polish Catholic families involved with Our Lady's, but also at the two other Catholic schools in town. It became well known in the area, to the extent that I was interviewed on radio and tv about the initiative. The most significant interview was as part of a live televised BBC debate in parliament about integration of migrants into the UK.

(to be continued)

Philip Sell

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The day the King died

I was 11 years old and in my first year at Weymouth Grammar School, in form 2A. For some obscure reason we didn't have a year 1, so year 2 was the first year. I was Form Captain - through no great merit I must add, but I think there must have been more girls in the class who had come up with me from Holy Trinity school than from other primary schools, so I was duly elected. You notice that I said "girls" because although the school was coeducational, at that time the girls and boys were taught in separate classes. In fact, there were even two separate entrances to the school in two different streets to ensure that there was no mixing.

Our form mistress was called Miss Williams, and on Wednesday 6th February, 1952 she came into the room and asked us all to stand up. Then she announced that King George had died and that in future we would have a Queen rather than a King. We then had to sing "God save the Queen" which seemed a bit strange. Little did we know that we'd still be singing it over 70 years later.



Freda Lymath

Kington WI

The last WI meeting was held on 11th May in Markwick Hall at 2:30pm. Janet welcomed everyone to the meeting and after a short business meeting Pat introduced Penny Platt who gave a fascinating slide show and talk on the hidden gems of Herefordshire churches. Tea was served by Irene and Pat. The competition was won by Marion with Margaret second. Our next meeting will be an Outing to Hergest Croft. New members are always welcome .

Janet Forrest

This Month's Saints Days

2nd Jun Erasmus (d. c. 300) – a good saint for when you're all at sea

Do you like messing about in boats? If so, then you'll have heard of St Elmo's Fire. It is the light that is sometimes seen on mastheads of boats after storms at sea.

St Elmo is another name for St Erasmus, a fourth century Syrian bishop who was not afraid of violent storms. Legend has it that one day when Erasmus was preaching outside, a thunderbolt hit the ground right beside him. That might have distracted many modern bishops, but not Erasmus – he just kept on preaching. His courage won him the respect of sailors, who also had to brave the elements of nature in their daily work. But when Erasmus was made the patron saint of sailors, it led to a curious confusion. His emblem became the windlass, a kind of hoist used by many sailors at sea. So far so good, but many medieval Christians, seeing the windlass emblem, assumed it was some sort of torture instrument. They knew that Erasmus had died in the persecution of Diocletian, and concluded that a windlass had been used to hoist out his intestines (which it hadn't).

But no matter - Erasmus was still adopted by another set of suffering people. Not only did sailors remember the thunderbolt, and look to him, but soon, anyone with gut ache as well!

3rd June - The Martyrs of Uganda

The Ugandan Church had dozens of martyrs within just ten years of Christianity arriving there. At first, it had gone so well: the first Anglican missionaries arriving in Uganda in 1877 were welcomed by the Kabaka (king) of Buganda, Mutesa. Mutesa also welcomed the Roman Catholics and Muslim Arabs, and, being a natural diplomat, retained his power by cleverly playing off the three groups against each other.

His son, Mwanga II, who became king about 1883, was very different. Mwanga II wanted to retain absolute power, and deeply resented the missionaries and new converts, whom he felt were giving their allegiance to Christianity, instead. And so it was that on 31 January 1885 he ordered the execution of Yusufu (Joseph) Rugarama, Makko (Mark) Kakumba, and Nuwa (Noah) Serwanga. That October, even the Anglican Bishop, James Hannington, was murdered.

When Joseph Mukasa Balikuddembe, a senior advisor to the king and a Catholic convert, condemned Mwanga for ordering Hannington's death, Mwanga had him arrested. Mukasa became the first Catholic martyr on 15th November 1885, when he was beheaded at Nakivubo.

Between December of 1885 and May of 1886 many more converts were murdered. The crisis came in May, when Mwanga ordered all the converts to choose between Christianity and complete obedience to his orders. (Mwanga had been furious and humiliated when the Christian pages in his own court refused his homosexual advances; it was unheard of to deny the king anything.)

Courageously, the young Christians chose their faith. And so it was that 26 pages were wrapped in straw and burned to death at Namugongo on 3rd June, 1886. In the following months, many other Christians throughout the country died by spear or fire for their faith. They included two Christians who were in the king's court, Joseph Mukasa Balikuddembe and Charles Lwanga. Both had rescued royal pages from Mwanga's sexual advances.

The last Christian to die in this persecution was Jean-Marie Muzeeyi, beheaded at Mengo on 27th January 1887. The final list of 45 known Protestant and Catholic martyrs includes only those who could be formally accounted for.

The end result of the Namugongo martyrdoms was directly opposite to Mwanga's intentions. The sight of these young Ugandan Christians, who could die singing hymns and praying for their enemies, inspired many bystanders. They wanted to know about such a faith as this. Within a few years Christianity had taken firm root in Uganda.

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

Intermediate Sudoku

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



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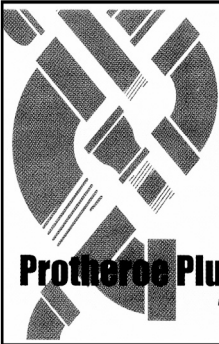
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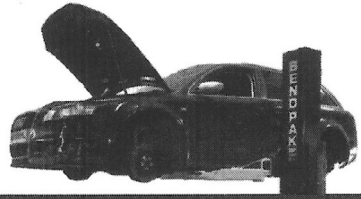
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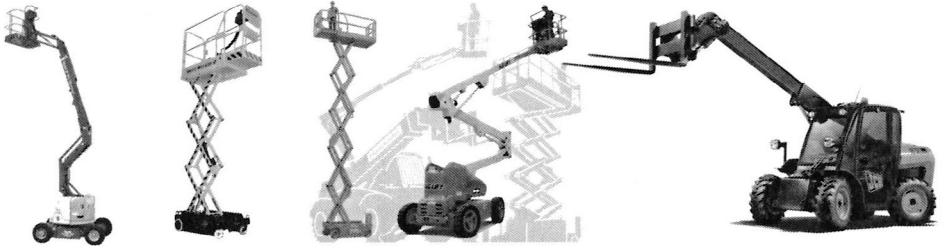
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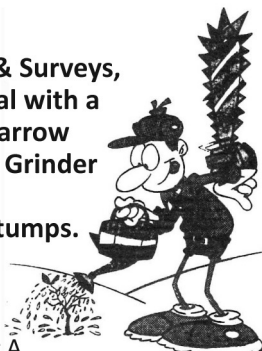
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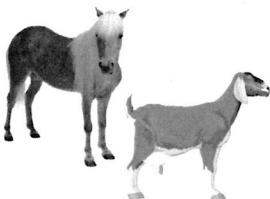
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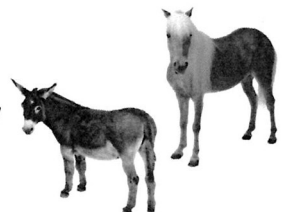


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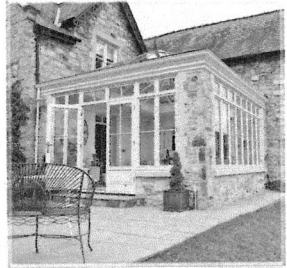
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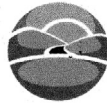


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Forthcoming Events

Thu 26 May	8am	Ascension Day Eucharist & Breakfast at St Mary's Start of Hay Festival
Sat 28 June	10am	Start of Platinum Pageant at St Mary's Church
Sat 4 June	9.30 - 3.30pm	Summer Food & drink Festival in Kington
Sun 5 June		Hay Festival ends
Sat 11 June	6.30pm	Wheelbarrow Race in Kington
Sun 12 June		Platinum Pageant at St Mary's ends
Wed 15 June	12.30pm	Community Lunch at the Parish House Cut-off date for July Parish News
Sat 18 June	9.30 - 3.30	Art & Craft Fair at the Market Hall, Kington
	4pm - midnight	Wizfest at the Recreation Ground
Tue 28 June	2 - 4pm	Get to know your Smartphone at Kington Library
Sat 2 July		St Mary's church Fete

MATERIAL FOR THE JULY 2022 PARISH NEWS

by

15th June please

to

The Parish News Editor

Arrow Weir House, Kingswood Road, Kington HR5 3HD

or email: freda@sparkiesofkington.com

Note: The cut-off date is always the 15th of the previous month

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