

# From The Vicar June 2013

Dear Friends at St David's, St Michael's and further afield.



## **An Enormous Heap**

My thoughts are focusing on the churchyard at St David's at the moment. This is mainly because we have just had a churchyard working party, the second this year. On the first occasion in April it rained pretty well throughout the morning. Our main task was to tackle the enormous pile or heap by our west boundary, under the big horse chestnut tree, behind the even bigger cedar tree. We thought it was mostly grass clippings which had accumulated over many years into a huge heap of compost. A team of 25 assembled and some of us attacked the pile. We found a lot of wood, including some large branches, which had been dumped by someone unknown, and underneath that a load of rusting scrap metal. The wood was all collected to be shredded by gardeners from Exeter City Council. Their supervisor told me they had a shredder which could handle a telegraph pole.



## **Good Neighbours**

The metal was taken to the dump by a neighbour, from Little Silver. Thank you very much. Finally we used some of the compost to fill the pits which appear when an old grave sinks or collapses. Other volunteers included neighbours from St David's Hill, our two PCSOs, our local city councillor and staff and residents of Morwenna Court, as well as folk from St David's congregation. Other jobs included strimming long grass by the east entrance gate, tree pruning and the removal of unwanted

trees such as the elder by the west gate and the old laurel hedge by Church path, under which was found used needles and a large number of beer cans and cider bottles. We are still waiting for the council to come with a grinder and remove the stumps.



## **Two Men went to Mow**

The second working party was blessed with lovely weather, a bright sunny late spring day, the crab apple by the south porch had a mass of white blossom, and about 15 volunteers appeared, again a mixture of church people and neighbours. This time we had two petrol driven mowers. It took us about ten minutes before we were reduced to one, when Roger's machine struck a metal post concealed in the grass and bent its shaft. Undeterred Roger and Martyn pressed on with the remaining mower, which has been kindly donated to the church. As the long grass dried out the task became easier and by lunch time the whole south side of the churchyard had been mown. The council had been to trim during the week, and a wonderful, hard-working team raked up all the loose cuttings so the mowers could do their work.



## **Transformation**

Other jobs included uncovering old grave stones, removing weeds around the church paths and many relays of wheelbarrows. The heap of grass cuttings is growing again. There is a lot still to do, and another date has been set for 15th June. The plan is to divide the churchyard into two distinct areas, a tidy bit around the south side, including the area to the west where the fete is held, and the front aspect facing on to Queens Terrace, which is what most visitors see first; and a wilder area to the north, where part will remain unmown until the summer in order

to encourage wild flowers, and the part backing on to Hele Road, which will be cut three or four times a year by Exeter City Council. I have a dream that we may be able to plant some native trees in this section, maybe hawthorn, crab apple or prunus. My other dream is that the churchyard will become once again a place of beauty and tranquility which is treasured and used by the local community, and a fitting background for our magnificent church building.



## **All Manner of Things Shall Be Well**

Inside St David's the scaffolding is still in place, holding up three arches at the west end. A couple who are getting married at the end of May have promised to decorate the scaffolding with ribbons and bunting, but it remains a visible sign that all is not well with our building. We hope to be able to make another bid for funding later in the year, so that the necessary work can be done. We do not know at this stage if money will be made available or how much that might be. Dave Allin, one of our churchwardens, is managing the project. He and I will keep you all in touch with progress. It is vital that everyone who loves St David's should have a voice and come to share in a vision for how the church will be in the future. You are all important in this process, and there will be opportunities over the next few months for members of the congregation to share their feelings and hopes for where we are going.

**Tom**



# June from St Michael's

This morning a journalist's broadcast from Lahore after the elections in Pakistan was important, but captured in it was the sound of birdsong: so much and so varied was this that an ornithologist was required to identify all the birds. We are much occupied with birds at St Michael's at the moment. The peregrine falcons have hatched three chicks and are flying in and out of the nesting area to feed them with fresh prey. The chicks shuffle around and nudge one another out of the way, looking disarmingly sweet with feathery knickerbockers - and early evidence of vicious claws. The sound system allows us to hear the cheeping of what will become some of the most devastating raptors in the bird kingdom.

Last week the church was filled with the magnificent sound of a choir of fifty voices helping to celebrate the marriage of Marianne and Adam. In the welcome message in their service booklet, we were invited to 'join in the hymns and congregational responses with gusto!' I hope we fulfilled their request. We wish them a long and happy marriage.

Sounds and silence have been some ideas to deal with at present, having found myself absorbed in Diarmaid MacCulloch's new book 'Silence – A Christian History.' It was reviewed



alongside another volume, David Hendy's 'Noise – A Human History of Sound & Listening.' This is a bit like 'A History of the World in 100 Objects' in that it attempts to discover how it was that humans recognised and used sounds that they made to exercise power, engender fear, establish identity and so on. It is also clear that silence can do these things and more, too. When Constantinople lost its centrality in the Christian faith and Santa Sophia was converted to a mosque, the ringing of bells was forbidden. People listened for sticks being clashed together as a call to worship. Silence in monastic orders allowed elaborate sign language to develop. Some of the signs later were incorporated in sign language used by the deaf.



The Bible sets out God's silence, for example, as evidence of his displeasure. He withdraws contact from his people at crucial times, such as their turning after other gods. They need to find their way back to God in order to have their right relationship restored. With this done, spiritual growth can continue. If God does not speak directly to his people, he may choose an intermediary, as in the book of Judges. God can also silence the enemies of his people. This doesn't mean just keeping them quiet, but eliminating them completely: the silence is that of death. At other times, there is such a strong contrast between the moments in Ps 22, where despite longing cries of desolation, God remains silent, and the joyful process of Creation, where God calls everything into existence and finds 'that it was good'. The communicative God is he who apparently longs for his people to address him and know the benefits of such a bond.

It seems that God can also silence people for various reasons; Zechariah was silenced until he was able to obey the instruction to name his son John. Our Lord remained silent when questioned by Pilate. He also reminded his followers that if all else stayed silent, the stones themselves would bear witness to his Son-ship. Sometimes silence is louder than sound.

The silence of the early Church has given rise to questions about theology and practices within it. Was something being suppressed? Later on, ideas which did not find favour were ditched and discounted as heresy.

As a political weapon, silencing others can be extraordinarily effective, but not always in the way that political masters hope. The so-called 'Pussy Riot' in Moscow didn't shut every one up. Currently, a single mother along with others in Russia, faces charges of 'inciting mass disorder' after last year's re-inauguration of President Putin. Ms Baronova said that it was important 'to stand up for your civic position.' There is a fine line between censorship and freedom of expression; if what the other fellow says or writes doesn't match my ideas, is he wrong? Should he be silenced by someone who apparently has authority? Or is there room for debate and acknowledgement that are at least two sides to every argument? Is there great danger in free speech and writing?

I am sorry that we shall no longer have articles from Mike McDonald. There was always a challenge in his thinking and a freshness in the expression of his ideas.

Thank you, Mike, for taking us on a journey with you.

The 23rd of June promises to be a great day in the musical and spiritual life of St Michael's. There is more about this in the magazine. Please come and join us for the celebrations.

**Stephanie Aplin**

St David's Eucharist		June
June 02 : Trinity 1		
Reading 1	I Kings 8: 22,23, 41-43	Suzi Leather
Reading 2	Galatians 1: 1-12	Rachel Hough
Gospel	Luke 7: 1-10	
Time of prayer		Sarah Black
Junior Church: Helen Sail		
June 09 :		
Reading 1	1 Kings 17: 17-end	Cyrus Moghtadaii
Reading 2	Galatians 1: 11-end	Rachel Hough
Gospel	Luke 7: 11-17	
Time of prayer		Alistair Macintosh
Junior Church: Sarah Harrison		
June 16 :		
Reading 1	2 Samuel 11: 26 - 12:10, 13-15	Karen Facey
Reading 2	Galatians 2: 15-end	Philip Walker
Gospel	Luke 7: 36 - 8: 3	
Time of prayer		Carol Burrows
Junior Church: Helen Sail		
June 23 : <i>Family Service - Something different</i>		
Reading 1	~	
Reading 2	~	
Gospel	~	
Time of prayer		
<i>No Junior Church</i>		
June 30 :		
Reading 1	1 Kings 19: 15-16, 19-21	Jeremy Lawford
Reading 2	Galatians 5: 1, 13-25	Paula Lawford
Gospel	Luke 9: 51- end	
Time of prayer		Helen Drever
Junior Church: Susan Mitchell		

# **Parish Retreat 2013**

# **ABBEY HOUSE**

## **Glastonbury**

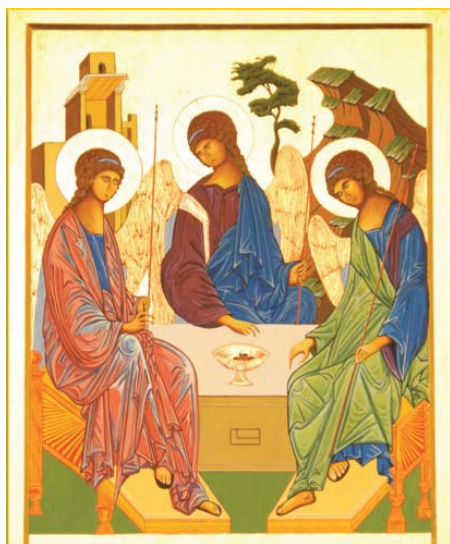
**Fri 22nd – Sun 24th November 2013**

Have you ever been on a Retreat? Would you like to join one?  
If so, we are holding a Retreat for the Parish from Friday  
22nd until Sunday 24th November 2013 at the “Abbey House,  
Glastonbury – a wonderful setting for such a weekend.

The cost of the weekend will be about £130, plus travel.

If you would be interested in joining Fr. David &  
Fr. Andy please sign the list in either Church.

Further details will follow later in the year; however please do  
not hesitate to contact Fr. David if you have any questions.

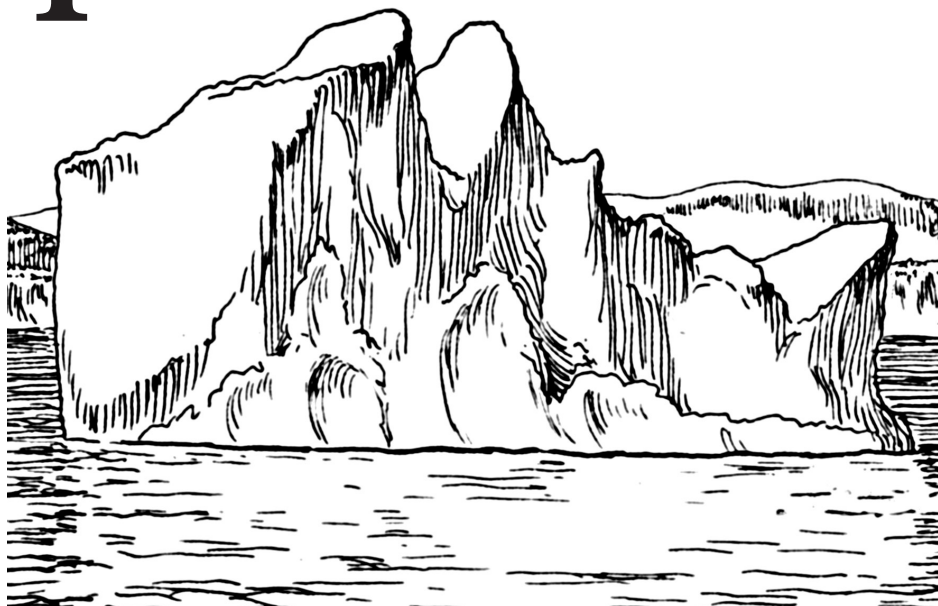


Abbey House Website:  
**[www.abbeyhouse.org](http://www.abbeyhouse.org)**



Mary Williams, from St David's congregation, has had a rare and unusual experience. She has visited both The Arctic and Antarctica. Here is the first of her two accounts of those journeys.

# The Arctic



The Arctic was not on my wish list of holiday destinations if I'm honest. However, a friend who had been to Antarctica asked me if I would accompany her on a holiday there as she wanted to experience both poles! I agreed eventually, but with a few misgivings. Making sure I had all the clothing I needed for this chilly adventure we flew to Longyearbyen on Spitsbergen Island (via Oslo) arriving at 0030 and eventually got to bed at 0130. It was daylight throughout, for us, a short night!

Having overslept and missed breakfast we walked into the small town for a substantial 'brunch' before spending an interesting hour in the Museum. Later in the afternoon we boarded a Zodiac (large inflatable

dinghy) which took us out to the Akademik Sergey Vavilov which is a Russian Scientific Survey Ship for most of the year.

There were eighty eight passengers from various parts of the world and just four of us from UK. Our cabin was utilitarian but spotlessly clean, a reasonable size and with en suite facilities. Our crew were entirely Russian and only the captain spoke English.

The ship dropped anchor next day at the 14th July Glacier. After breakfast and protracted safety briefing it was early afternoon when we embarked zodiacs and visited Alesund the most Northern permanent settlement in the world and serves as a Base station for International Arctic Research. We spent time in the Museum and shop.. The former being most interesting. That evening after dinner we were out on the Zodiacs again for one an a half hours looking at surrounding cliffs and glacier which were hugely impressive.

Cheese and port in the bar on our return were much appreciated as was the 'getting to know you' with our fellow passengers.

We had presentations by experts whilst at sea on subjects ranging from Geology, Polar Bears, Whales, Sea Ice, bird identification and photography to name but a few.

We went ashore at Worsleynesset and walked on the Tundra for 2 hours spotting reindeer, numerous birds and musk-ox which were huge and forbidding!

I awoke one night and thought the sea was a bit choppy but went back to sleep. The following morning at breakfast we were told conditions had been Force 12 on the Richter Scale, hurricane strength! There were fewer people breakfasting that morning!

We anchored in Scolesbysund, the largest fjord complex in the world an visited the ancient Thule Settlement and incredibly named Ittoqqortoormitt. It was a higgledy piggeldy sprawl of tiny wooden houses, dogs roaming around and some adorable children who were friendly and fascinated by us. I was very impressed with the small and immaculate church which was obviously at the very heart of the community.

An unexpected and rather unwelcome sight was of a drying carcass of a polar bear which had been shot for food and its fur.

Sadly during the trip we did not see a live one. However, we did experience their habitat which was utterly awe inspiring, particularly the icebergs and ice floes.

We saw Arctic foxes, whales and dolphins galore.

En route to Iceland we went ashore at Westmann Island where approximately a third of the island had ben submerged in volcanic ash following an earth quake. After a tour we saw a film of what happened which was very interesting and well presented. Soon after sitting down for dinner that evening the ship lurched violently sending glasses and bottle of wine plus plates of food flying down the tables - another Fine Mess! Order was soon restored and the meal resumed with relish.

We had a day in Reykjavik before flying home and spent most of it on a sightseeing tour of the island which was a revelation. Spectacular scenery, geysers and waterfalls, a hugely dramatic and unforgettable landscape.

As you can appreciate all my initial misgivings were unfounded and to have travelled to within 500 miles of The North Pole was an experience to be forever grateful for and humbled by.

**Mary Williams**

# Exeter Central Library

Exeter Central Library run several groups on a variety of topics.

Please use this link for more information

**[www.devon.gov.uk/index/cultureheritage/libraries/yourlocal-library/exeter\\_libraries/exeter\\_central\\_library/events\\_at\\_exeter\\_central.htm](http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/cultureheritage/libraries/yourlocal-library/exeter_libraries/exeter_central_library/events_at_exeter_central.htm)**

Here are a few examples of what's on offer.

## **Woolly Wonders Knitting Group**

Date: Every month - next meeting Tuesday 21st May 13

Time: 14.00 - 15.30

Description: Knitting is being touted as “The new Yoga”. It can help to relieve stress and take your mind off your aches and pains, as well as keeping your mind active and reducing the risk of memory loss. All this and the added bonus of enjoying the company of other knitters.

Audience: Everyone welcome

Cost: Free

Bookings: Drop in - no need to book

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## **Exeter Audio Book Group**

Date: Once a month next meeting 13th May

Time: 10:00 - 11:30

Description: A new reading group for blind and visually impaired people being launched at Exeter Central Library, The Hoskins Room Castle Street. This is a chance to get together and discuss and recommend books in large print or audio format.

Audience: Blind and Visually Impaired people with or without helpers including guide dogs.

Cost: Free

Bookings: Just turn up  
Organiser: Ask for Liz Cordin 01392 384 209

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## **Books with Buggies**

Date: Thursday 6th June.

We will be discussing The Hundred Year Old Man Who Climbed Out of the Window and Disappeared.

Time: 10:30

Description: Do you have a love of books and would like to talk to others and bring along your Children. Books with Buggies is a pilot project starting in Exeter Central Library in Partnership with Literature Works. Pop in to the Children's Library to pick up this months' book.

Audience: Adults and Children

Cost: Free

Bookings: Drop in Session or contact Exeter Central Library

Organiser: Devon Libraries/Karen Bowdler

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## **IT Drop -in Sessions**

Date: Every Wednesday

Time: 10:00 - 12:00

Description: We can help you with: how to set up an email account and how to open and send attachments. How to use a scanner. How to upload photos to your computer. How to find what you want on the web. How to use social housing sites. How to use Ebay. How to book things online. How to use ereaders and ebooks.

Audience: Anyone who would like help sorting out their basic computer needs.

Cost: Free

Bookings: Just drop in

Organiser: Mike Mills & James Knight 01392 384 209

# ***PARISH FETE***

## ***2013***

**Saturday 6th July**  
**12:00 - 2:30**

**St David's Church**

The City of Exeter Railway Band

Grand Draw

Stalls and Games

Refreshments and hotdogs

Bouncy Castle

### ***CAN YOU HELP?***

Are you able to...?

- Bake or make something for the cake and produce stall
- Grow some plants for the plant stall
- Set aside some books, bric-a-brac or toys for the stalls
- Buy as many draw tickets as you can
- Donate some bottles for the bottle stall
- Run a stall, help set up or clear up

Sign up at the back of church on Sundays



# HISTORY ON OUR DOORSTEP



## STAGE 6

This stage is only a short walk very and can easily be added on to Stage 5.

The starting point is at the junction of Dinham Road on St. David's Hill. Look around for something beginning with "F". In the summer months you may look to the skies and see peregrine falcons on the wing or near their nesting site on St. Michael's Church spire. They are wonderful to see, but they are not the answer to my I-Spy.

Standing on the corner of Dinham Road look across St. David's Hill and you will see a white painted cottage standing back from the road, quite incongruous, yet easily unnoticed among more recent developments. This is in fact a 17th century farmhouse, the answer to my I-Spy. Built of cob, stone and slate, it would at that time have been one of several farmhouses in the area. It is now divided into three cottages, one on either side of the central passage and a third (added later in the century) adjoining the cottage on the south side at the rear.

An archaeological survey of the farmhouse in 1980 prior to renovations suggests that the ground plan of the farmhouse follows a traditional late medieval layout i.e. three rooms and a cross passage. There would have been a hall and inner room to the NE of the passage and a service room/kitchen to the SE. However, the structural features are of a later date; the joints in the roof timbers are typical of a mid 17th century construction and this is confirmed by a piece of broken pottery found in a cob wall, and commonly found in Exeter, dating from

1630-60. Also during the survey three brick-lined dyeing vats for dyeing wool were uncovered under the surface of the floor of the cottage to the rear, suggesting that this was originally used as a work area and the vats were in use until the mid part of the 18th century.

By the late 1850's, the property had been converted into three dwellings, and the census of 1881 shows that the occupants included two railway signalmen, a railway porter, three scholars, an insurance agent and two laundresses. The number of adults and children living in the three cottages totalled eighteen.



NOW LET'S WALK ONTO THE IRON BRIDGE. The various sections of the bridge were cast in Monmouth, South Wales in 1834 and transported by sea, then up the Exeter Ship Canal and unloaded at the canal basin to await their destination by horse-drawn transport. Looking over the sides of the bridge it is easy to imagine the problems for any laden horse-drawn vehicle caused by the steep descent into the valley and the equally steep climb to the North Gate. Indeed, the road was much steeper, narrower and very uneven before the foundations for a smoother surface were laid.

The valley was known as The Pit due to its steep sides and the muddy bed of the Longbrook. Delays and roadblocks were frequent and in the early 1800's there were seven hostelrys trading in the valley, which gives an indication as to how busy the area was. The main ones were the Barnstaple Inn and the Plume of Feathers at the junction of North Street and Exe Street and The Crown and Sceptre (now the City Gate) and Falcon Inn by the North Gate. The bridge enabled a laden coach and horses easier access into the city, whereas previously passengers had to disembark at the Barnstaple Inn to allow the stagecoach to ascend North Street with a lighter load.

Looking towards the former Crown and Sceptre it is evident that the



Iron Bridge blocked off the two lower floors and some restructuring work to the inn was necessary. At the same time the entrance to the rear gardens on the city side was widened, as the inn became a departure point for weekly stagecoach services to Crediton, Tiverton and Barnstaple until 1915.

Obviously, the bridge was constructed to take a lesser weight than today's vehicular traffic and in the 1980's bollards were strategically placed to restrict the misuse of the bridge and reduce the traffic flow on St. David's Hill, much to the delight of local residents.

The Crown and Sceptre has undergone numerous renovations over the years and a disastrous fire in 1999 badly damaged the roof. The inn was completely refurbished and new owners changed the name to The City Gate in 2003.



The Barnstaple Inn, dating back to 1765, was also a coaching inn and became an important terminus for the Exeter to Barnstaple Mail Coach. A small footbridge from the Iron Bridge across Lower North Street was installed, allowing access from the bridge to the first floor of the inn. The fixings can still be seen on the side of the bridge.

Interestingly, a William Harding purchased the inn in 1820 and began brewing his own beer. It obviously went down well with the locals and was served in several other inns, which he owned, including the Pack Horse Inn and The Plume of Feathers. Following his death in 1839 his son took over the business and with his father's business partner, a Mr. Richards, went on to build the St Anne's Well Brewery behind the inn in 1878. The brewery bought many of the cottages around the brewery and in Lower North Street and let them to workers in exchange for a reduced wage.

The Barnstaple Inn closed in 1967 and was converted into a DIY shop, which caught fire (yes, another fire) in 1970. The site has been rebuilt and now has an arched entrance into the former brewery and courtyard, which has been converted for residential use.

William Harding was entombed in St. David's churchyard and is recorded on the brass plate at the west entrance as being on the committee concerned with the building of the pepper pot church. Research by Iris Sutton reveals he was also a busy family man. He married three times and fathered at least fifteen children. He died aged 62 and was survived by five daughters and two sons.

The Plume of Feathers was trading from about 1763 and was a popular hostelry among visitors to Exeter Market which was then located opposite the museum in Queen Street, until its closure in the mid 1860's. Visitors and stallholders alike could quickly walk down Northernhay Street for liquid refreshment and to discuss the day's business.

My thanks to Patricia and Peter Faulkner for their detailed information about the farmhouse.

**Martyn Hopwood**

hopwoodmartyn@gmail.com



Devon Home Library Service -  
bringing books and more to people in their homes

The Devon Home Library Service works in partnership with the WRVS (Women's Royal Voluntary Service). It aims to provide library books, (including audio books on CD, and large print books) to those people in the community who through ill health or disability can no longer visit the library.

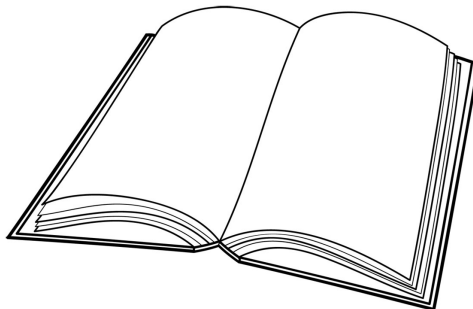
After discussing with the clients the sort of books they like, (eg romantic fiction, travel books, particular authors), WRVS volunteers choose books for their clients which they deliver to them from once a fortnight to once every six weeks, depending on the needs of the client, at a mutually convenient time. There is **no charge** for the service and there are **no fines** on books!! Clients may keep the books for as long as needed and may order books they particularly want to read.

Large print books, cassette tapes and audio CDs as well as ordinary print books are available. Some clients prefer non fiction such as biography and travel books, other prefer romantic novels or murder mysteries!

*For those people who love reading or just browsing through books, but are confined to their home, this service offers a chance to have access to the library as well as a visit from a friendly face on a regular basis. Often clients and volunteers make lasting friends so there is satisfaction on both sides.*

We really want to promote and extend the service to reach as many people as possible!

If you would like to use the service, or know of someone who would, please contact Julia on 01392 757725 or email [crichton-smith9@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:crichton-smith9@hotmail.co.uk)



## *Summer*

Beside the waters of the lake she lay  
In summer sunshine while the greedy swans  
Stretched eager necks towards the crumbled cake  
She scattered on the surface. Where the trees  
Throw indolent reflective shadows deep  
Among the water trefoil silver perch  
Dart hurriedly as dragonflies between  
The phantom branches. On the mirrored clouds  
Float swans as vagrant and as plumply white  
And she who watches sees the world inverted  
Like the childhood dream which now returns;  
The clouds and swans are snowflakes and the trees  
Are an enchanted forest where doth dwell  
An old magician with his unicorn  
Which walks the aisles as dainty as the moon.  
Yet in the summer of maturity  
Dreams fade as inconclusively as youth  
So by the waters of the lake she lay  
And told her dreams to the unheeding swans.

***(February 1959)***

My true love has my heart and I have his:  
A mix-up at the butcher's. When I found  
Out what had happened I exclaimed: "Gee whiz,  
I've guests for dinner, this mere half pound  
Though eked out with two veg will scarce go round  
A table set for four!" So out went Liz  
To buy replacements. Later, I'll be bound,  
My true love ate my heart, the cat ate his!

**Paul Shepherd**

# The invitation

It is a hot dusty mid day in a village in Samaria. You can imagine the heat bouncing off the earth at you.

A group of men have arrived in the village centre after a long tramp through the countryside. Most of the men continue on into the village to search for food to buy, but one man walks across to the well nearby where a woman is drawing water. He has a conversation with her which is unusual because he is a jew and she a samaritan.

At the end of the conversation she walks away into the village calling to her neighbours,

***“Come and see, come and see, meet a man who told me all about myself”.***

Obviously this man had made an impression on her, wouldn't he make an impression on you if he had just told you that he knew your life history and it was the first time you had met him. There she is proclaiming to the villagers that this is someone worth meeting. He is not a soothsayer, or a medium or a fortune teller, he is the son of God. Someone who knows how we are, where we are in life, our foibles, strengths and our weaknesses. Our fears, troubles and reluctances, our embarrassments.

Fully human like us, yet divine. Definitely someone worth meeting.

If you had met him, would you be excited and want to invite others to 'come and see'? Would you want to share what you had discovered - the impact that the meeting had on you. Would you want to share with others the difference such a meeting had made to your life. Would you be tongue tied, fearing others would think you mad and that what they might think of you? That you might be ostracised because you have become different. That for the first time maybe that you have knowledge that you are loved by God.

Easter and Pentecost which follows are remarkable in that they tell of a Christ who died yet is risen. One who appeared to over 500 people after the crucifixion. Someone who entered through locked doors.

At Pentecost comes the empowering, the giving of the Holy Spirit, the one who is the comforter, the one who wipes away embarrassment, the one who strengthens, points us to , suggests if we will but listen. The one who guides, sometimes openly and at other times gives us that awareness in hindsight.

Come and see !

We're not finished yet. What about the context of all this. There is Christ and this woman whose name we don't know, gathered around the village well. This deep well at the bottom of which is life giving water. He asks for some water , and she replies that he has no means of getting it. This Christ then tells her that he is the living water and that to drink of it gives everlasting life.

Taste and see !



# St David's Junior Church

*"I have been coming to junior church for ten years, our junior church has a warm and friendly atmosphere that welcomes children of all ages."*

Esther

*"I really enjoy the craft work."*

Rose

*"It was fun planning and acting a play about kindness to others."*

Grace

Our aim in Junior Church is to provide a safe and happy environment in which we can encourage our children to learn and grow in their individual faith. It runs every Sunday morning (except for the Sundays when there is a 'Something Different' service) between 9:30 and 10:40. The children meet by the chairs at the back of the church, attend the adult morning service at 9:30 for the first five minutes and then split off for their own activities in the parish room downstairs. Children come back to the church to receive a blessing or communion and to share what they have been doing with the rest of the congregation, then return to the parish room for a final prayer or to complete any activities.

Junior Church hopes to be of lively interest to all children – occasional visitors as well as regular attendees at church. We aim to link our activities with the themes being covered in the main church service, but try to present them in a more child-focused way. We hope this will enable the children to feel a valued part of the church and to learn about God in a way that is relevant to them.

Some 40 children attend junior church regularly, and on a typical Sunday we would expect to have between 12 and 20 children, with an age range from 3 to 16. Children do not have to attend every week, although regular attendance helps them to feel part of the community and to make friends. Our daughters are now nine years old and have



been attending junior church since they were three: they have particularly valued the opportunity to make friends with children of all ages.

We have a team of experienced leaders and helpers who work to make each week as exciting and relevant as possible. There are always at least two adults running each session, and all our regular leaders and helpers are CRB checked. Our sessions involve a range of activities including games, craft, drama, songs, bible stories and prayer. Occasionally we will use the cleared area of the churchyard for games and storytelling. We try to be as flexible as possible, and to adapt what we are doing to suit the ages and numbers of children attending.

Parents/carers are welcome to join in the junior church sessions with their children – this is how I first became involved. If this becomes a regular occurrence we would ask that they should be CRB checked in accordance with current child protection guidelines. We welcome new members to our team, and if you are interested in helping with junior church please ask to be introduced to one of the team over coffee (which follows every service).

**Helen Sail**



# St Michael's Pipe Organ Project



Music, Education and Heritage on  
Mount Dinham

**“We have chicks”** was perhaps not the wisest title for my blog announcing the hatching of three peregrine eyases on the afternoon of Sunday 28th April, but hopefully captured the excitement of the events witnessed by a few of us on the TV monitor in St Michael's. Two weeks old and growing fast (at the time of writing) there will be further updates on the chicks on our blog.

To reiterate the item in the Music Notes, Sunday 23rd June at 12.15 pm for 12.30 will see the Publicity Launch Party for our HLF “Your Heritage” Project. This is an important event for St Michael's, and all members are invited to stay after Mass to welcome our Guests and Partners, share a Buffet Lunch and enjoy a few short speeches and some more music. Our thanks to Lis Robins and the social committee for co-ordinating this event. Our Heritage Lottery Fund advisors require us to follow up initial Press Releases with a Publicity Event a few months into the Project, to acknowledge their support, show what we have achieved so far and to gain further Media coverage of our activities.

Activities that we hope fit with St Michael's Mission Statement. “We seek to know God's presence in the world through worship, prayer and meditation. We rejoice in the richness of the Christian heritage in word, music and ritual. We are called to be an outgoing, welcoming and friendly community of faith and service.”



The blog at [www.stmichaelsmountdinham.wordpress.com](http://www.stmichaelsmountdinham.wordpress.com) has posts on peregrines (including YouTube footage from the camera in the nestbox), lectures, music and the organ build. Our choral music site (search “soundclick mount dinham”) has new recordings of pieces by Bainton and Gibbons.

## **Richard Barnes**

for St Michael’s Heritage and Music Development Group

### **St. Sidwell’s Church of England Primary School and Nursery**

**York Road, Exeter, EX4 6PG**

**Headteacher: Mrs. Anne Hood**

**Tel: 01392 255551 Website: [www.st-sidwells-ce.devon.sch.uk](http://www.st-sidwells-ce.devon.sch.uk)**



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“An outstanding feature of the school is the care, guidance and support it gives pupils.”

“The personal development of pupils is also outstanding.”

“Spiritual development is excellent.” “Behaviour is exemplary.”

# Music at St Michael's

## June 2013

Saturday May the fourth witnessed the lovely Wedding of two of our choir members, Marianne and Adam. With nearly 60 singers from St Mike's, Exeter friends and Marianne's old choir from St George's Beckenham filling the choir stalls, there was a superb soundscape from Zadok the Priest to the Vierne Organ Finale, via If Ye Love Me, Bogoroditsye Dyevo and Greater Love. Our abilities with rhythm, genuflection and processing were further tested at the evening Ceilidh.

Ascension Day was celebrated in style. A dozen disciples sang Matins, with an intrepid few ascending to the bell chamber to sing to our own little trinity of peregrine chicks. Evening Mass was well attended and sung to Stanford in C&F including the Gloria. Having sung "God is gone up" anthems by Finzi and Gibbons in previous years, this time we tackled Stanford's antiphonal, double choir "Coelos ascendit hodie".

Our music list for June is as follows:-

### **Sunday 2nd June Trinity I - 10.45am Mass**

Setting: Mass in A minor by Casciolini - Motet: Beati quorum via by Stanford

6pm Evensong and Benediction - Responses: Reading, Psalm: 39, Office Hymn: 249, Canticles: Stanford in B flat, Anthems: Lord, let me know mine end by Greene, and Stanford Te Deum Laudamus in honour of the 60th Anniversary of the Queen's Coronation. Plainsong O salutaris, Tantum Ergo and Psalm 117.

### **Sunday 9th June Trinity II - 10.45am Mass**

Setting: Missa L'Hora Passa by Viadana, Motet: Ubi Caritas et Amor Deus ibi est by Duruflé – this lovely little piece, setting the ancient Plain-song melody in the context of sonorous French harmonies to illustrate the words "where friendship and love are, God is there", sums up the best of St Michael's for me.

### **Sunday 16th June Trinity III - 10.45am Mass**

Setting: Mass in E by Darke, Motet: Almighty and everlasting God by Gibbons

## **Sunday 23rd June Trinity IV - Music Sunday - 10.45am Mass**

We will sing the chirpy little “Spatzenmesse/Sparrow Mass” by Mozart. The motet *Insanae et Vanae Curae* by Haydn, adapts a tempestuous chorus and a sublime solo from his early opera “*Il ritorno di Tobia*” based on the book Tobit from the Apocrypha, to some sacred Latin of unknown origin (see below).

This Mass will be followed at 12.30 pm by the Publicity Launch Party for our HLF Project. This is the Red Letter Day of the month at St Michael’s and all members are invited to stay to welcome our Guests and Partners, share a Buffet Lunch and enjoy a few short speeches. HLF require us to follow up initial Press Releases with a Publicity Event a few months into the Project, to acknowledge their support, show what we have achieved so far and to gain further Media coverage of our activities.

## **Sunday 30th June Trinity V - 10.45am Mass**

Setting: Mass in the Dorian Mode by Tallis, Motet: O for a closer walk with God by Ives.

Latin text from the Haydn anthem:- *Insanae et vanae curae invadunt mentes nostras, saepe furore replent corda, privata spe. Quid prodest O mortalis conari pro mundanis, si coelos negligas, Sunt fausta tibi cuncta, si Deus est pro te.*

Raging and vain cares invade our minds, often madness fills the heart, robbed of hope. What does it profit, O Mortal, to strive for worldly things, if you neglect the heavens? All things are favourable to you, if God is for you.

Some 230 years after Haydn composed it, the sentiments can be as true today.

**Richard Barnes**



# From Goodwillians

## MESSAGE TO FRIENDS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

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This last year has been an extremely difficult one for Goodwill. Firstly we have faced a marked fall in income in the United Kingdom. As a result it has been necessary to limit transfers to India for recurrent expenses and to hold back on all capital expenditure. It became clear during the last six months that it was also necessary to reduce our expenditure in the United Kingdom and it was with great regret that the decision was made to terminate Christine King's employment as our Field Consultant. Over the next six months we will seek to put in place new arrangements which, without too much expense, enable the UK charity to ensure

that the high standards of care provided by our partner Society in Tamil Nadu can be continued. But it is important to stress that the continued work for children in Tamil Nadu will itself be endangered if we cannot find ways of maintaining and then increasing our regular income in UK. At the same time we greatly appreciate the financial support which comes from Goodwill France and the efforts being made by our Indian partners to raise funds within Tamil Nadu.

The second major difficulty arose when our partner Society was told that there are regulations which forbid provision for older boys and girls on a single campus. In order to conform with this the transfer of girls to Sanarpatti was stopped and they all remain at Pattiveeranpatti





though the home there is very crowded. On her last visit as Field Consultant Christine King will be encouraging the Society in Tamil Nadu to find a viable longer term solution to this problem. Goodwill in UK has always been firmly of the view that provision for girls should be of equal standard to that for the boys.

In the meantime the established activities in Tamil Nadu continue at Thandigudi, at Sanarpatti and in TORP. Goodwill will not lose sight of its central purpose to help young people whose childhoods have been overshadowed by destitution and poverty. Thank you to all those who continue to support us financially in this task.

With good wishes,

**Alan Hay**

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### **WOOLLY HATS**

Many of you will have seen the pictures in the last newsletter of our children in the jumpers which we had donated. We have now had these lovely woolly hats sent. The children really will be warm this winter!

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### **TECH UPDATE**

Goodwill are now on Facebook! Please follow us for all the latest updates from India.

You can raise money for Goodwill every time you search the web, simply visit [Everyclick.com/goodwillchildrenshomes](http://Everyclick.com/goodwillchildrenshomes). Every time you use the search engine or purchase items on certain websites

Everyclick will make a donation to Goodwill, get clicking!



**Find us on  
Facebook**

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### **OLD GOODWILLIANS**

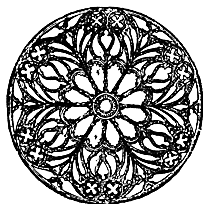
Our old students are helping us by raising awareness and funds.

Last year an ex Goodwill boy contacted us and asked how he could give something back to say thank you to us for helping him.

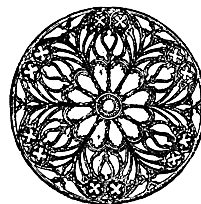
Goodwill staff in Tamil Nadu helped him contact 40 young men and the idea has really taken off!

There are now small groups in Madurai, Kodakanal and Coimbatore with each member contributing at least Rs. 1,000 per year.

They aim to raise more funds and get a total of 100 ex Goodwill children to join this year.



St. Michael and All Angels,  
Mount Dinham  
Parish of St. David  
Exeter  
ST. MICHAEL'S LECTURES 2013



Wednesday 12th June 7:30pm  
**From Chilean Jail to Hospice  
Doctor**

**Dr Sheila Cassidy (Award winning Author,  
Broadcaster and Palliative Care Physician)**

*Followed by discussion and light refreshments*

Sheila Cassidy will recount the tale of her various religious and medical adventures, which have taken her from Oxford University to a Chilean gaol, then back to the UK. She will speak frankly of severe depression followed by many years of joyous contentment in both the practice of medicine and in the retirement years, which followed.

Sheila Cassidy is a retired palliative care physician who hit the headlines in the 1970s when she was imprisoned and tortured in Chile for treating a wounded revolutionary. She has written extensively about her work in Chile and the Plymouth Hospice. A 'cradle' Catholic she spent some time in a convent but now prefers to pray on her own. She lives on Plymouth Hoe with her two chows and divides her time between dog walking, painting and cooking supper for her friends.

Her latest book is *Lent is for Loving*

The lectures are open to all and admission is FREE (there is a voluntary retiring collection). St. Michael's Church is the church with the tall spire by the Iron Bridge on North St./St. David's Hill.

For further information contact David Beadle at [dnb201@ex.ac.uk](mailto:dnb201@ex.ac.uk) or  
[www.stmichaelsmountdinham.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelsmountdinham.org.uk)



# Dates of Note

## June

### 6 Gudwal – the first Christian in Brittany?

If you choose Brittany for your holiday destination this summer, then spare a thought for Gudwal, because this obscure 6th century Celtic abbot got there before you did. Indeed, Gudwal seems to have liked Brittany so much that he decided to stay on.

When you visit Brittany today, you will find Catholic churches everywhere. Not so in the sixth century – when only the extraordinary range of megalithic monuments dominated the landscape. There were (and still are) passage dolmens, stepped pyramids and stone circles. The best known site is Carnac, where remains of a dozen rows of huge standing stones run for over ten kilometres. Some of the megalithic ruins in the gulf of Morbihan date back to at least 3300 BC – that is 200 years older than Stonehenge.

Religion was certainly plentiful in Brittany, back then. But Gudwal was one of the earliest pioneers of Christianity in the region. He did a bit of 6th century ‘church planting’, too - when he decided to build a hermitage in the middle of all that paganism – probably at Locoal. In time, 188 monks came to join him, and they built a little monastery – probably at Guer.

But it was the man himself – his holiness and kindness – that drew people’s attention more than the buildings. A man of deep spirituality and prayer, Gudwal willingly spent himself on helping the local people – it was said that he healed many by his prayers for them.

## 11 **Barnabas** – Paul’s first missionary companion

Are you going to Cyprus on holiday this year? If so, spare a thought for the Cypriot who played such a key role in the New Testament.

He was Joseph, a Jewish Cypriot and a Levite, who is first mentioned in Acts 4:36, when the early church was sharing a communal lifestyle. Joseph sold a field and gave the money to the apostles. His support so touched them that they gave him the nickname of Barnabas, ‘Son of Encouragement’.

Barnabas has two great claims to fame. Firstly, it was Barnabas who made the journey to go and fetch the converted Paul out of Tarsus, and persuade him to go with him to Antioch, where there were many new believers with no one to help them. For a year the two men ministered there, establishing a church. It was here that the believers were first called Christians.

It was also in Antioch (Acts 13) that the Holy Spirit led the church to ‘set aside’ Barnabas and Paul, and send them out on the church’s first ever ‘missionary journey’. The Bible tells us that they went to Cyprus, and travelled throughout the island. It was at Lystra that the locals mistook Barnabas for Zeus and Paul for Hermes, much to their dismay.

Much later, back in Jerusalem, Barnabas and Paul decided to part company. While Paul travelled on to Syria, Barnabas did what he could do best: return to Cyprus and continue to evangelise it. So if you go to Cyprus and see churches, remember that Christianity on that beautiful island goes right back to Acts 13, when Barnabas and Paul first arrived.

In England there are 13 ancient church dedications and not a few modern ones. Barnabas the generous, the encourager, the apostle who loved his own people – no wonder he should be remembered with love.

## **21 Summer Solstice – longest day of the year**

June, of course is the month of the summer solstice, the month of the Sun. Sol + stice come from two Latin words meaning ‘sun’ and ‘to stand still’. As the days lengthen, the sun rises higher and higher until it seems to stand still in the sky. The Summer Solstice results in the longest day and the shortest night of the year. The Northern Hemisphere celebrates in June, and the Southern Hemisphere celebrates in December.

While the Druids worship at Stonehenge and elsewhere, here some Christian alternatives that honour the Creator rather than the created.

### **A Canticle for Brother Sun**

Praised be You, My Lord, in all Your creatures,  
Especially Sir Brother Sun,  
Who makes the day and enlightens us through You.  
He is lovely and radiant and grand;  
And he heralds You, his Most High Lord.  
St Francis of Assisi

God in All  
He inspires all,  
He gives life to all,  
He dominates all,  
He supports all.  
He lights the light of the sun.  
He furnishes the light of the night.  
He has made springs in dry land.  
He is the God of heaven and earth,  
of sea and rivers,  
of sun, moon and stars,  
of the lofty mountain and the lowly valley,  
the God above heaven,  
and in heaven,  
and under heaven.

### **St Patrick**

## 24 John the Baptist – preparing the way for the Messiah

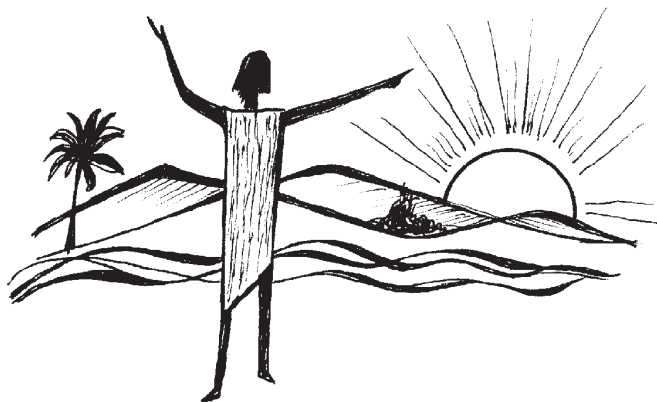
John the Baptist is famous for baptising Jesus, and for losing his head to a woman.

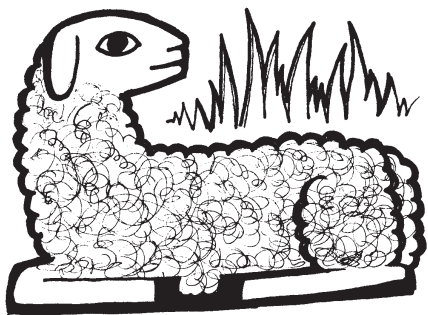
He was born to Zechariah, a Temple priest, and Elizabeth, who was a cousin of Mary, the mother of Jesus. John was born when his mother was advanced in years, and after the foretelling of his birth and the choice of his name by an angel, we hear nothing more of him until he began his mission of preaching and baptising in the river Jordan c27.

John was a lot like an Old Testament prophet: he lived simply on locusts and honey in the wilderness, and his message was one of repentance and preparation for the coming of the Messiah and his Kingdom. He went on to baptise Jesus, at Jesus' firm request.

When John went on to denounce the incestuous union of Herod Antipas with his niece and brother's wife, Herodias, he was imprisoned and eventually beheaded at the demand of Salome, Herodias' daughter.

John is the only saint to be remembered three times in the Christian calendar, in commemoration of his conception, his birth (June 24), and his martyrdom. When John saw Jesus he said that Jesus was the "Lamb of God", and he is the only person to use this expression of Jesus. In art John is often depicted carrying a lamb, or with a lamb near him.





## JUSTICE

Every time there is a story about the law and justice in the newspapers or on television they always use the same symbol to show justice – a woman wearing a blindfold over her eyes, holding a set of scales in one hand and a sword in the other. The blindfold is there to show that nothing affects the decision except the scales. The scales show that justice is only right when both sides weigh the same and that all are equal before the law. The sword is there to show that the good are protected and the wicked punished.

All through Jesus' teaching is the idea of judgement – that we all shall stand before the throne of God and answer for what we have done. And when we do, the judge will be Jesus because he lived on earth as we do. St Matthew's Gospel, chapter 25, verses 31 to 46 tells us about this judgment.

Will you be a sheep or a goat?

## SHEEP & GOATS

The answers to these are all animals in the Bible. Answers below.

1. 400 young men escaped on these (1 Samuel 30:17).
2. They eat under the table (Mark 7:28).
3. They live in the high mountains (Psalm 104:18).
4. One was lost and 99 were safe (Luke 15:6).
5. Benaiah killed this animal in a pit on a snowy day (1 Chronicles 11:22).
6. There were 4 of them, coloured white, red, black and pale green (Revelation 6:1-8).
7. Jesus rode this into Jerusalem (Matthew 21:21).
8. Their dung is used to bake bread (Ezekiel 4:15).

**What do you call a sheep with no head or legs?**

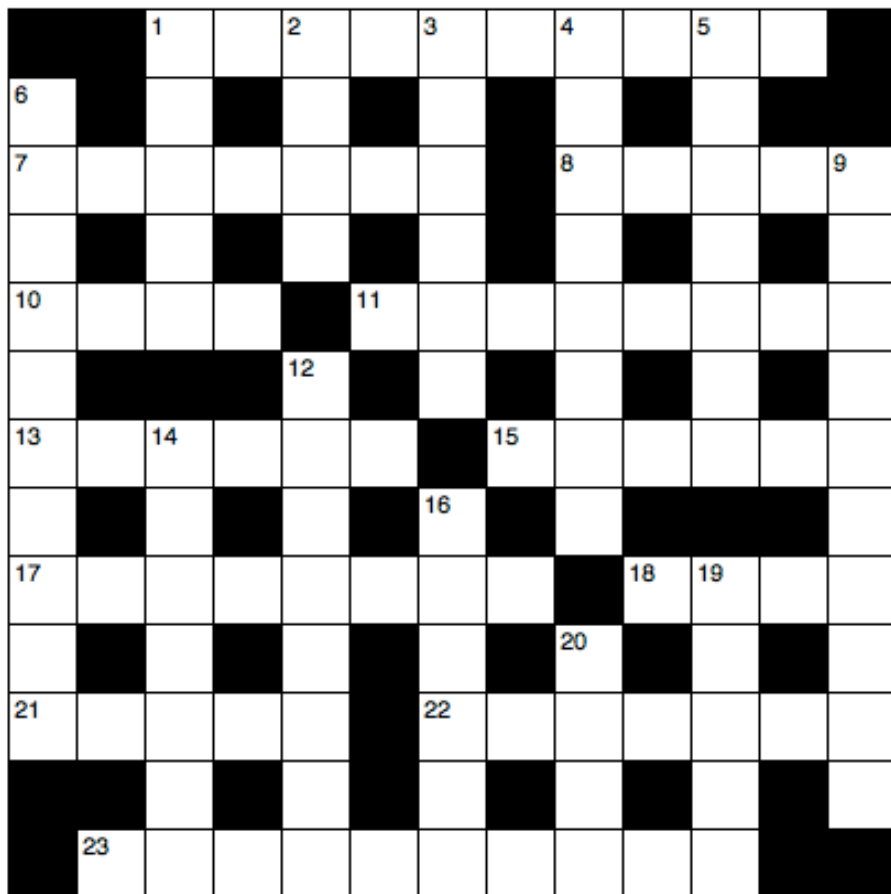
A cloud.



8.cow

Answers: 1.camels 2.dogs 3.goats  
4.sheep 5.lion 6.horses 7.donkey

# 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—' (2Corinthians 4:8) (4)  
 11 Fraud (2Corinthians 6:8) (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 (Genesis 26:25) (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 (Romans 13:4) (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 Began (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 (Acts 22:19) (8)

14 A return (anag.) (7)

16 Discharge (Acts 21:3) (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!' (Revelation 19:7) (4)

*Solutions on the following pages - No need to wait a month to see if you're right!*

# Crossword solutions

## June answers

**ACROSS:** 1, Wickedness. 7, Harpist. 8, Teach. 10, Side. 11, Impostor. 13, Encamp. 15, Saddle. 17, Ignorant. 18, Tent. 21, Grass. 22, Olivier. 23, Wrongdoers.

**DOWN:** 1, World. 2, Crib. 3, Entomb. 4, National. 5, Started. 6, Whispering. 9, Harvesters. 12, Imprison. 14, Centaur. 16, Unload. 19, Evils, 20, Give.

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*originally published in Three Down, Nine Across, by John Capon (£6.99 BRF)*



# Barbara's Edible Stall

Please keep bringing and buying.

We need you!

NEXT DATE:

**SUNDAY JUNE 23rd**

**Jane Woodman**





**The deadline for inclusion of articles for  
the July issue of the parish  
magazine is Sunday June th 2013**

Any information and articles you'd like to submit for inclusion in future issues should be sent to Ashley and Johanne via St David's Church or our email: [thedairy@btclick.com](mailto:thedairy@btclick.com)

**If you have images of any events of interest to the  
Parish community please send them to us.**

**Please send digital files via email if at all possible - thanks!**



**Thank you** to Graham Lerwill for organising the printing of this magazine - his hard work is much appreciated.