

# New Leaves

**July/August 2018**



**Parish Magazine  
of St David with  
St Michael and  
All Angels,  
Exeter**

*50p*

## Parish of St. David with St. Michael Directory (July 2018)

Vicar	Nigel Guthrie	<b>01392 660226</b>
Assistant Curates	Christopher Durrant	270 813
	Alison Whiting	rev.alisonwhiting@gmail.com
Reader	Bill Pattinson	860 880
	Howard Friend	07733739453
Parish Missioner	Simon Harrison	01392 840166
Churchwarden	Emma White	07833453067
Churchwarden	Glynis Harflett	01392 214787
PCC Secretary	Helena Walker	pccsecretary@stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk
Parish Treasurer	Johnathan Johns	07831456987
		electoralrollofficer@stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk
Electoral Roll Officer	Sue Wilson	
Safeguarding Rep	Mary Kirkland	07872 626 168

### St. David's [www.stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk](http://www.stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk)

Treasurer	Barbara Allin	<a href="tel:270162">270 162</a>
Asst. Treasurer	Geoff Crockett	468 073
Director of Music	Nigel Walsh	273 237
News Sheet	Helena Walker	notices@stdavidschurchexeter.org.uk
Junior Church	Bill Pattinson	860 880
Servers	Shaun Smith	01626 3670765
Church Bookings	Mary Quest	07792 062 403
Readers & Time of Prayer	Avril Pattinson	860 880

### St Michael's [www.stmichaelsmountdinham.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelsmountdinham.org.uk)

Chapel Warden	Richard Parker	07763 248 241
Chapel Warden	Oliver Nicholson	<a href="mailto:opn@umn.edu">opn@umn.edu</a>
Treasurer	Paula Lewis	lewispf9@gmail.com
Church Bookings	Jane Bellamy	432 172
		<a href="mailto:jane-bellamy@hotmail.co.uk">jane-bellamy@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Director of Music	Neil A Page	<a href="mailto:neil@4victory.net">neil@4victory.net</a>
Secretary	Elizabeth Hewitt	969298
Organist	Nigel Browne	nigelbrowne27@gmail.com
Notices	Oliver Nicholson	<a href="mailto:opn@umn.edu">opn@umn.edu</a>

### Magazine

Advertising	Glynis Harflett	214 787
		<a href="mailto:glynis@harflett.eclipse.co.uk">glynis@harflett.eclipse.co.uk</a>
Designer	Clive Wilson	437571
		<a href="mailto:newleaves_mag@btinternet.com">newleaves_mag@btinternet.com</a>
Editorial Team	Richard Barnes	<a href="mailto:newleavesnews@gmail.com">newleavesnews@gmail.com</a>
	Bill Pattinson	



# WELCOME



To all Readers of “New Leaves”, the magazine for the Parish of St David’s with St. Michael and All Angels.

**The editorial team invites you to submit appropriate articles which reflect Church, Parish or Community interest**

**Please send as Word documents to: [newleavesnews@gmail.com](mailto:newleavesnews@gmail.com)**

Please note that all articles will be printed with the author’s name

Enjoy this month’s read.

We will welcome critical comments on the magazine

Editorial Team: Bill Pattinson and Richard Barnes supported by Sue Holden, Stephanie Aplin and Clive Wilson

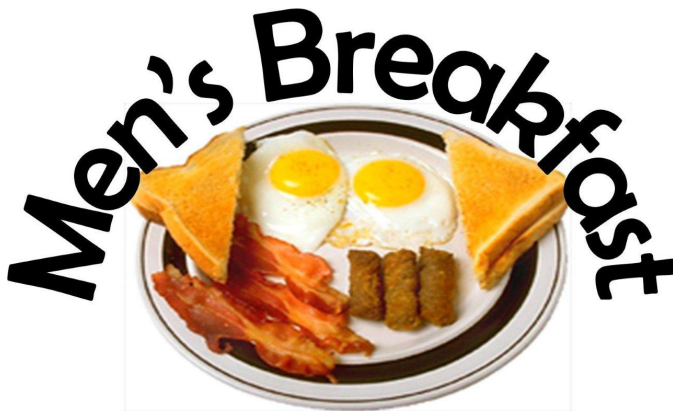
# New Leaves

## July & August 2018

### Men's Breakfast: A Single-Sex Group

Men's Breakfast is a monthly parish event held at the Farmer's Union or Imperial pub. On a Saturday morning, men from both our churches join together to 'chew the fat'. That is, we talk together and enjoy a hearty cooked breakfast (except the 'eggs benedict' few – you know who you are 😊).

Please talk to Ian Smith for details or look out for the 'sign-up' sheet at the back of our churches – all are welcome.



Well, all MEN are welcome...

For a while now, I've been pondering the purpose and significance of single-sex gatherings, especially in a church context. In this article, I will share some of my reflections:

- Churches are often (rightly) criticised for their unconscious 'tyranny of coupledness'. That is, social events are often organised by and for couples, not individuals. For many men and women who are single, perhaps widowed or divorced or never married, a single-sex group can be the most



welcoming and accessible style of social group. Far from being exclusive, single-sex groups can be the most inclusive of all styles of human gathering.

- Churches are often (rightly) criticised for inadequately realising in community the consequences of the radical teaching ministry of Christ concerning sex and gender. That is, social events are often organised according to the assumptions of, and by gender-normative persons as pertains to our Western cultural inheritance. For example, that cakes are made by 'ladies' but a marquee is erected by 'men'. However, in a single-sex group event all roles are filled by persons of the same sex. Thus, the assigning feature to task becomes talent, which liberates participating persons from pre-assigned categorisation.

Our Church locally and internationally is torn over sex and gender issues. Whether relating to the ordination of women, or scriptural debates about the meaning of 'male-and-female', our complex human fleshliness is central to our being human. Gender debate is inescapable when considering how God chose to reveal Himself in the Incarnation, how we should authentically worship, and how we should live faithfully. Single-sex groups can provide safe spaces for such ongoing discernment.

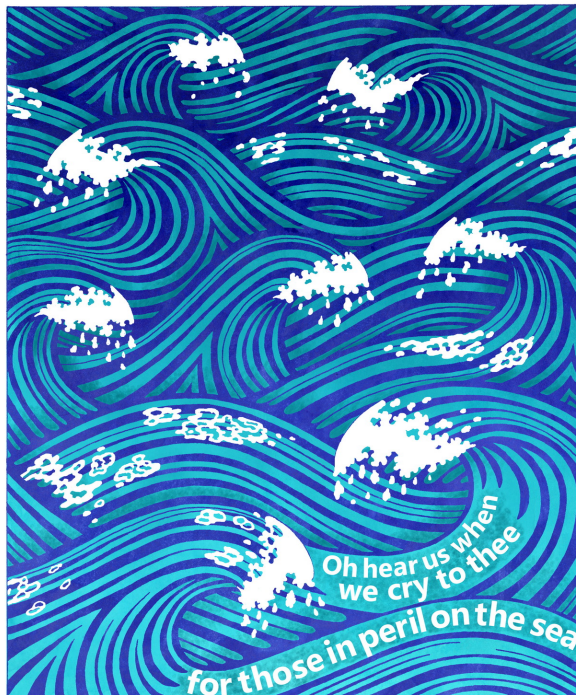
This article began with the Men's Breakfast. I will close by sharing an uplifting story of my being invited to worship with the Silverton Women's Group.

Whilst I was on my long placement in Silverton, the International World Women's Day of Prayer was marked. As clergy, I was invited to attend. (They observe the long-established service attitude that clergy are 'genderless' and adopt the 'rank' of whomever they are with.) Without any prompting or teaching from me, they confidently articulated the purpose of their single-sex group was not to have a social time with friends, but rather to embody the explicit intention of supporting the Church. This was understood as fundraising,

volunteering, but most importantly praying for others. I was mightily impressed!

Single-sex groups can be regarded as discriminatory, but only when they look with single-mindedness inwards towards people like themselves. When single-sex groups have an 'other-regarding' intention, benefiting outwards towards people who are unlike themselves, only then can we be sure that the comforting sense of belonging we feel from being a member of a single-sex group is truly of God.

**Revd. / Fr. Christopher**



# **July & August 2018: A view from St Michael and All Angels**

One of the first things you may notice now on visiting our church is that the garden at the East End is looking extremely smart; the planting is clearly identifiable, rather than being a heap of periwinkle and weeds; new plants are thriving in freshly dug soil and there is an air of this becoming a valuable space for growth, peaceful reflection and minor wild-life. The borders around the South Side are looking tidy, too, with shrubs trimmed and thuggish wild clematis no longer having the upper hand. Occasionally the gloriously scented rose bush on the corner provides a bloom or two to place by the statue of Our Lady, filling the air with a sweet perfume. Our thanks again go to Caroline Nicholson, who has master-minded this activity.

Gardens are creative spaces, and I know I have written about their value and beauty before, but there are still some thoughts I'd like to share, even at the risk of repeating myself. Last week I was able to visit The Garden House in Buckland Monachorum. Despite the fact that it was drizzling for most of the visit, the beauty and natural planting cast their spell. Views to the Cornish coast past the village church are there; valleys and hills in miniature shape the landscape and great drifts of self-set geraniums and grasses cover the ground, without detracting from the other plants. There are rarities and common plants, beautiful specimens to enjoy in their own times. In the Spring it is a paradise of snowdrops. In the Autumn, the relatively new arboretum is colourful, and in the Winter, although not open to the public, the structural forms of the plants make dramatic statements about placement, and like all gardens, prepare for the new growth. The apparent sleep and silence of the garden holds the hope for Spring.

Much of my gardening is hopeful but not terribly productive. I have learnt to accept that some things will not grow here and I have to admire them in someone else's garden. It was the notion of hope that led the journalist Fergal Keane and Monty Don into discussion at the RHS Chelsea Show, broadcast one evening on television. Keane said he had noticed even in war zones that vegetable patches had been planted; a small boy he talked to said that he missed the roses of his family garden, which represented a civilised way of life. Both the presenters had a history of depression and both agreed that time in a green space alleviated that depression; people

who had post-traumatic stress disorder, particularly as a result of military activity, were helped by the notion of working and growing things in a garden. Hope was always present.

Even though Adam and Eve were expelled from Eden (which gave its name to a project in Cornwall) and had to work at surviving, God, the rather angry God of some of the Old Testament, supported them in their labours. The prophets often make mention of the vines, the olive and fig tree, essential parts of the agricultural life of the Hebrews. If the harvests fail, it is a message from God, but once peace is established, then “they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees” (Micah 4:4) because peace allows people to have time to nurture the plants, pruning where necessary, feeding and harvesting in the due course of the seasons. There is no fear that they will have to move suddenly, leaving their work to rot. The Q’uran also instructs its readers that the destruction of an enemy’s fields and crops is haram (forbidden).

We said this morning ‘Heaven and earth are full of thy glory...’ I know that life is not all wonderful all the time; for some it is literally hell on earth. But a moment’s contemplation of the glory that is in ‘dappled things.....finches’ wings; Landscape plotted and pieced...’ according to Gerard Manley Hopkins in his poem ‘Pied Beauty’ may give us a view of the joy of the Lord in all things.



**Stephanie Aplin.**



# St David's Eucharist July

## Sunday 1st July (Trinity 5)

Reading 1	Wisdom 1:13-15;2:23-24	Katy Tyler
Reading 2	2 Cor. 8:7-end	Helen Friend
Gospel	Mark 5:21-end	
Time of prayer		Ann Watts

Junior Church: Ruth

## Sunday 8th July (Trinity 6)

Reading 1	Ezekiel 2:1-5	Mary Kirkland
Reading 2	2 Cor. 12:2-10	Keith Postlethwaite
Gospel	Mark 6:1-13	
Time of prayer		Ian Cartwright

Junior Church: Sarah

## Sunday 15th July (Trinity 7)

Reading 1		
Reading 2		
Gospel		
Time of prayer		

Family service - No Junior Church

## Sunday 22nd July (Mary Magdalene)

Reading 1	Song of Solomon 3:1-4	Richard Johnson
Reading 2	2 Cor 5:14-17	Stephanie Hills
Gospel	John 20:1-2 and 11-18	
Time of prayer		Nigel Walsh

Junior Church: Sarah

## Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July (Trinity 9)

Reading 1	2 Kings 4:42-end	Avril Pattinson
Reading 2	Ephesians 3:14-end	Jenny Baker
Gospel	John 6:1-21	
Time of prayer		Carol Burrows

No Junior Church- holiday

# St David's Eucharist August

## Sunday 5th August (Trinity 10)

Reading 1	Exodus 16:2-4,9-15	Philip Walker
Reading 2	Ephesians 4:1-16	Dilys Thorp
Gospel	John 6:24-35	
Time of prayer		Helen Friend
No Junior Church- holiday		

## Sunday 12th August (Trinity 11)

Reading 1	1 Kings 19:4-8	Alan Baker
Reading 2	Ephesians 4:25-5:2	Jenny Baker
Gospel	John 6:35,41-51	
Time of prayer		Helena Walker
No Junior Church- holiday		

## Sunday 19th August (Trinity 12)

Reading 1		
Reading 2		
Gospel		
Time of prayer		

*Family service - No Junior Church*

## Sunday 26th August (Trinity 13)

Reading 1	Joshua 24:1-2a;14-18	Gina Redman
Reading 2	Ephesians 6:10-20	Ann Watts
Gospel	John 6:56-59	
Time of prayer		Bill Pattinson

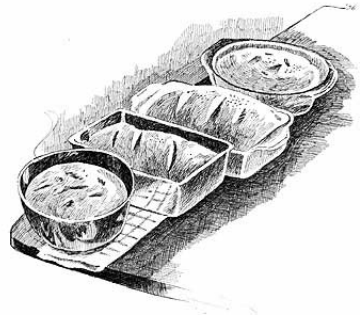
No Junior Church- holiday



# Christian Aid Big Brekkie

There's only one word to describe the Christian Aid 'Big Brekkie' held at St. David's Church on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May and that is to say it was a totally 'Funtastic' time; and here's why.

A 'Funtastic' team of volunteers showed up the night before the breakfast to deck out the church beautifully with bunting and balloons; a 'Funtastic' number of people donated all kinds of breakfast food – including even making fresh breakfast bread on the day; and on the day itself a 'Funtastic' team of volunteers welcomed breakfast guests and visitors, served food, cooked, ate, cleared away and washed up.



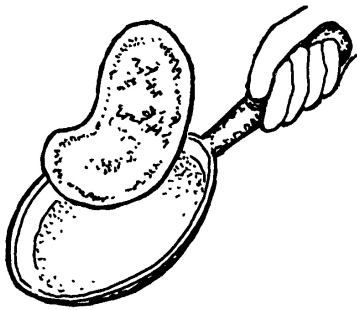
All in all the morning was a wonderful opportunity to share food, relax and just enjoy being able to be with one another.

Serving up healthy food, catering for appetites both small and not so small, making breakfast a time of feasting and fun fundraising only happened because of you, the church. So, for your generosity in supporting the 'Big Brekkie' with financial gifts and donations of coins, for donations of food, for your prayers and practical help, your time and energy, a very, VERY, BIG thank you to you all as members of St. David's church; for making this very first Christian Aid breakfast enterprise so successful.

This year we had fun doing good things for people in Haiti; people Christian Aid know need our care. So what did sausages, eggs, bacon, banana pancakes, muesli, croissants, toast, yoghurt and juice result in, besides satisfied customers? Through your love and kindness we have raised an amazing £754.00 for Christian Aid project work in Haiti – what a result and well done St. David's!

For those who want to have a taste of what we did for themselves, here's the much requested Banana pancake recipe for you to enjoy.





Ingredients for two pancakes:-

1 banana, 2 eggs, Splash of milk, two drops of Vanilla essence, ½ teasp baking powder, Knob of butter.

Method:-

Mix together, pour into a pan with melted butter cook until brown on one side, flip pancake onto a plate and return to pan, uncooked side in the pan, once second side is brown, serve and enjoy!

Best wishes,

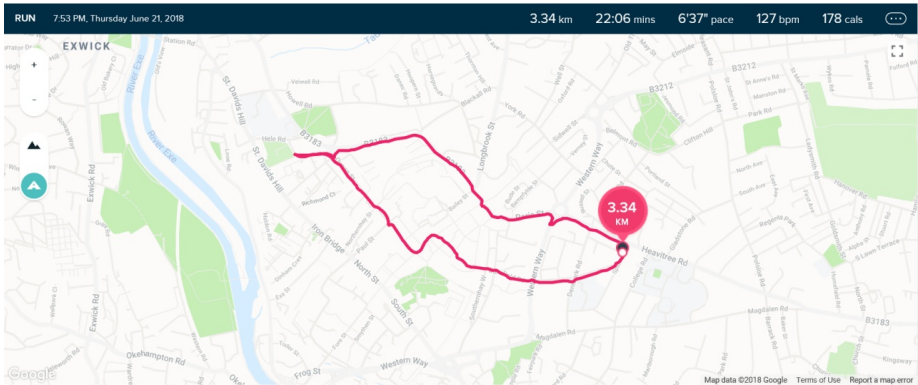


**Pennie Hartopp**



*...I don't care what your Sat-Nav's telling you - I'm telling you you are definitely **not** on the M6, nine miles south of Derby!!*

# Run 39: St David's



**Where: St David's, Hele Road, EX4 4HR**

**Distance: 3.34.km**

**Most interesting thing I saw: Everyone out and about on a beautiful evening**

**Least interesting thing I saw: Own sweat**

**I prayed for: The Community at St David's, especially those I know.**

**The St David's soup evening. My candidates, especially those who are waiting. Exeter College and its students waiting for exam results. The family of Rev John Hughes. The man by Tesco, the lady with the guitar by M&S and the couple by the Co-Op.**

Yesterday evening I went out to run with a candidate on my mind. I'd bumped into her the day before and she said she would be getting her BAP results this evening. I wondered if she'd got them yet.

It put me in mind of my own vocations journey 7 years ago, especially those 10 days or so of waiting for results. Trying to remain open to God's call while everyone else wanted to see it all wrapped up neatly.

At the time, Paul and I attended this Church, St David's. I'd gone to the Mary Harris chapel on Streatham Campus throughout my 2nd and 3rd years at Uni, up until we got married. After that, we felt we wanted to find a family Church. We didn't have to look far (quite literally – I think you can see St David's from Mary Harris).

If Mary Harris was where I discovered liturgy, St David's was where I

discovered open and inclusive theology (those things were present at Mary Harris, but they were spoken about radically and openly at St David's). I discovered also a community of all ages, and a mission based on compassion to the poor and marginalised. Homeless people regularly sleep in the churchyard and I used to help at their soup evening once a week.

St David's is undoubtedly the place that supported me through my own journey of vocation. The clergy in particular: John Henton, John Hughes, Maria Hearl and Tom Honey. All were instrumental on my journey in different ways.

I suppose I'm in a nostalgic mood. I've recently taken temporary care of Mary Harris Chapel, which holds its own memories. It's exactly 10 years today since the Golden Jubilee of Mary Harris, one of the most formative weekends of my life, which taught me lots about the highs and lows of ministry and cemented a group of friends who have remained close ever since.

Today is also exam results day. Like the BAP, I remember waiting for those, the agony of waiting for something that seemed so momentous.

I still go back to St David's to help out from time to time. It's a wonderful community and I love them dearly. Thanks, to them, for supporting me when I needed it most.

**Hannah  
Alderson**  
22.06.2018



# Meetings at St Michael's

With our regular Sunday attendance reduced from 40s to 30s over the past difficult year, it was good to see St Michael's Church more full for a couple of other events over the past month or so.

On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, St Michael's Lectures in association with Exeter Pride welcomed Nicola Field, founding member of "Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners", a group featured in the 2014 blockbuster film "Pride", to speak on her experience of campaigning during the 1984-5 Miners' Strike and its lessons for the 21st century.

Some 60 people came to hear her, many of whom had not been to a church recently. So it was good that they felt St Michael's was a safe and welcoming space for this meeting. An interesting recent comment on Facebook showed that St Michael's has been recognised as a 'gay-friendly' church since at least the 1950s.

Nicola is a passionate speaker, thoroughly committed to her causes, but 30-odd years of activism have had a toll, I felt; she sees everything, from gay rights to feminism to economics, in terms of a Marxist class struggle, confident that the working class would rise up and overthrow the oppressive establishment authorities – revolution making the world a better place.

It seems to me the evidence of history is that hatred, arrogance and misdeeds are not limited to white, western, middle-class, straight males. The traditional Christian view is that, though we are all made in the image of God, that image is marred, imperfect in all of us, hence our need for forgiveness and the Sacraments, as people and as a society.

It is ironic how some who march beneath the rainbow banner can be so binary in their dislike of those different from themselves. The enthusiasm with which some of the audience greeted her occasional mention of demonstrations turning violent was rather disturbing - one thing the far Left & the extreme Right seem to have in common. One can see how the crowd was so easily turned against Jesus on Good Friday.

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June, St Michael's hosted our local 'Christianity' Deanery Synod meeting with about 60 present. Thanks to Stephanie &

Elizabeth for organising parking & refreshments. It's customary to start these meetings with 15 minutes of worship. In true St Michael's fashion, Fr Christopher led us in a short form of Prayer Book Evensong. As Richard, David, Oliver & I sang the Ferial Responses from the Gallery, it was clear that many people were happily joining in.

Evensong is evidently still in the DNA of many Anglicans. And the value of familiar, remembered texts and tunes was a theme picked up later in the meeting.

Our visiting speakers were Sally Farrant, Diocesan Social Responsibility Officer, and Lisa Shrimpton of Age UK Exeter. The main focus was on becoming 'Dementia-friendly churches'. To achieve this the Church needs to let people with dementia know they are welcome, loved, respected, valued and listened to. It occurred to me that these 5 principles should apply to all who need inclusion in our churches, not just the elderly & infirm.

Our largest events, however, must be the weekly St David's School Assembly, and our loudest the djembe drumming or people practising on the organ. It is encouraging that we, as a small, diverse and rather 'niche' Christian congregation, are nevertheless recognised as a safe and welcoming space for these and several other activities.



## **Richard Barnes – 24/06/18**



Deanery Synod Meeting

# Living in Venice, June 2018

Avril and I have to declare a great loving for the city of Venice. During our last visit there early in June we returned to an apartment, rented by Truly Venice, named the Orseolo in the Dorsoduro district. Its great advantage is that there is a courtyard where you can breakfast or take an early aperitif or even dine al fresco in the evening with a meal you've prepared. Looking from the living room window you can spend many a happy hour watching the world go by treading up and down the steps of the Ponte de le Maravegie over the Rio de San Trovaso. The facilities in this apartment are, indeed, excellent and we were re-assured that, although on the ground floor, it is above the flood level.



Another beauty of our apartment is that it gives you permission to simply be and to live in Venice. Of course there is much to see and do and Venice is utterly unique with a charm and character which seduces you just a little bit more every time you go. The secret is to lose yourself in the back streets of Venice and discover places you might believe you are the very first to see. How the Venetians live in this magic city is sometimes amazing. Shortly after we left this year there was a fire in one of the Palazzos on the Grand Canal. How is that managed? Well, the fire engine has to be a boat and I have not yet seen one of those during my visits to Venice. I have however seen a happy couple being transported across the waters from St Marco to the Rendetore on the Giudecca for their wedding; and also a funeral barge sailing the same waters - death in Venice?

Waking early morning and looking out was always a sheer delight. Venice arises early so to see it deserted you had to be up by 6 at the latest. Then you could slowly see it come to life. The rubbish sweeper is often the first to be seen with a large broom shaped like a fan busily brushing up the leftovers of the previous night. The boats are soon bringing barges full of bottles and other goods to the hotel across the road. The only other way to bring goods to the Venetian businesses is by foot. You have to be strong and fit to take the specially made trolleys laden with goods over one bridge, never mind the many more that might have to be negotiated.

By 7 the morning is really coming to life. Smart besuited Venetians - they must be so warm - are making their way to work contrasted by the early morning tourists in their shorts eager to see Venice at its quietest. And I must be out for my early walk to the rubbish barge in the Campo San Barnaba. Everyday rubbish, including food leftovers, can be deposited daily, except Sunday; Monday, Wednesday and Friday is cardboard and paper; plastic and bottles on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. It's only a five minute walk and I might see others walking along with their plastic bags full of rubbish. Every Venetian takes responsibility to leave their rubbish at the nearest drop off spot, a recent innovation. Indeed when we were in the Orseolo three years ago we left the rubbish on the doorstep before 6. I believe the seagulls have been responsible for this change of policy over rubbish collection.

Just round the corner from our apartment is a primary school and before 8 parents are stood with their children by the gate waiting for them to be open. Suddenly it's really difficult to even get through the narrow street, for immediately opposite the school is a coffee shop heaving with Venetians throwing back their shots of espresso before buying their sandwich or pizza lunch.

The Punto supermarket is only three bridges away on the edge of the Campo de San Margherita. All the fresh food and the delicatessen are on the first floor and it's best to shop there first. Plastic gloves are a must when purchasing your fruit and vegetables. The aisles are too narrow, but then it's only a small supermarket. Indeed fruit and vegetables are best bought from the vegetable barge, a floating market at the Ponte dei Pugni, which is not too far from where I leave my rubbish.



Late afternoons and early evenings bring the delights of the Venetian Cicchetti bars, the equivalent of Spanish tapas. There are three such bars on the Fondamenta S.Trovaso where we are living. Our favourite one is the Enoteca Cantinone where each evening the bar overflowed with Venetians enjoying their prosecco spritzs while devouring the totally delicious little bites. But watch out for the seagulls. One devoured our Cicchetti.

On the two Sundays we were there, we attended St George's Anglican Church in the Campo San Vio, no more than a ten minute walk from our apartment. They have recently survived an interregnum so Avril and I were able to empathise with that position. The present priest in charge, Rev Canon Malcolm Bradshaw, took up his position last November, having previously been in the Diocese in Europe in Greece. The very typical Anglican Service was conducted by Malcolm and supported by a Reader in training, Philip Gwynne Jones. Philip had a fine bass voice, which you might expect of a Welsh man, and sang the verses of the Psalm allocated for the day, with a response from the congregation. When talking to him afterwards, over a small plastic cup of Prosecco, we realised a delightful coincidence. Before leaving Venice I had bought Avril "The Venetian Game", a light whodunnit set in Venice, the hero being Nathan Sutherland. Philip was the author. We were indeed made most welcome and it was special to talk with the English speaking community living and working in Venice

What a delight indeed to live in Venice for ten days. We had planned for just seven, but a cancelled flight meant we were there an extra three days. A delightful inconvenience! We shall return.



**Bill Pattinson**

22.06.2018



# **St Michael's Remembered - A Personal Perspective**

## **The 1930s**

In this year of St Michael's sesquicentenary, there are very few of us left who were present at the centenary celebrations in 1968. That's rather inevitable, as even fifty years ago St Michael's had an ageing congregation.

Although it's a few years since I've been able to get to St Michael's it will always be in my DNA. Like my father, Michael Hoskins, I am named after the church. I was baptised there, as were two of my children, and I attended the church throughout my childhood and teenage years, and would have married there had that then been permissible.

My own memories date from the 1950s and 1960s, but by calling on the tales told by my father, I can take reminiscences of St Michael's back another twenty years. Our family connections with the parish, however, go back much further. My great great grandparents on my mother's side, Frederick Long and Iset Higerty were married at St David's, in the old 'pepper pot' church in 1835. Iset married Fred in St David's in July, and 132 years later I too married Fred in the same month and the same church, though not of course the same actual building. For the 'pepper pot' church was demolished in 1897 and the present church built on the site.

One of the members of the committee who organised this rebuilding was my great grandfather in my father's side, William George Hoskins. A baker in Smythen St, he moved his business to St David's Hill in 1891 where he became involved with the church. He was a staunch supporter of St David's, and when his third son, Arthur, was killed in the Boer War in 1901, his body was brought back from South Africa and buried in the churchyard. Arthur's colleagues at the Inland Revenue also erected a window in his memory on the south side of the church.

William Hoskins' eldest son, another William George, was also a keen churchman and one of the bell ringers. He married my grandmother, Alice, at St David's in 1906. She came from Silvertown and in those days weddings normally took place in the bride's church, it was unusual for it to take place in the groom's. Two years' later their first son, yet another William

George was born and to mark the occasion my grandfather and his fellow bell ringers rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples. This baby grew up to be the landscape historian W G Hoskins, and to mark the centenary of his birth the same quarter peal was rung again in 2008.

Will and Alice's fourth son, Michael, was born in 1919, and my grandmother, who had been hoping for a girl had not chosen a boy's name. Looking out of her bedroom window in St David's Hill she saw the spire of St Michael's and decided that was the name for him. There was a family joke that it was a good job she wasn't in the back bedroom as then she would have seen St Pancras! Not strictly accurate of course, 'poetic' licence.

Despite being brought up at St David's, young Michael decided that St Michael's was more to his taste, and became a server there in the 1930s, while still in his teens. Father Miller was the priest in charge then and from the stories Dad told, there were some high jinks at the church in his time. At the end of Dinham Road, on the right hand side heading towards the Iron Bridge there was a shop on the corner which Dad called the crab meat shop. I don't remember it, it was bombed. When taking the Sacrament to the sick, Fr Miller always walked and insisted on being accompanied by a server with a lantern, but it always blew out as they turned the corner by the 'crab meat shop'. Actually probably something to do with the air currents from the Iron Bridge, but the young servers managed to persuade Fr Miller that it was a demon lurking on the corner, and that he should perform a solemn exorcism, which he did. I was never told if it was effective (or indeed if I was having my leg pulled). Another of Fr Miller's innovations was that on Maundy Thursday, when the choir and servers traditionally leave in disarray after the service, the servers were encouraged to vault over the altar rails and run to the sacristy. I was disappointed that such a practice had been discontinued after someone suffered a bad fall.

The 1930s was a period of strong anti-Anglo Catholic feeling, led by a group known as the Kensitites, founded by John Kensit, a Protestant Anglican reformer of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The most notorious example of their behaviour was the attack on St Hilary's Marazion in Cornwall, when statues were smashed and the altar stone torn off with a crowbar. This outrage was still being talked of in shocked tones when I was small, and certainly it sent shivers down the spines of the people of St Michael's,

though apparently the worst that happened was that one of the Protestant rioters came to the Sunday Mass, got up and shouted his protests and was firmly removed by the wardens.

John Kensit had died in 1902 from blood poisoning resulting from an injury he received at one of his rallies. In October 1934 his son addressed a meeting in the Civic Hall commemorating his 'martyred' father. My maternal grandmother, who worshipped at St David's and disapproved of the 'high church goings on' at St Michael's attended the meeting, but was horrified when St Michael's was not mentioned at all, and the church most strongly criticised for its 'papisty' was St David's!

Next time: St Michael's in the 1940s



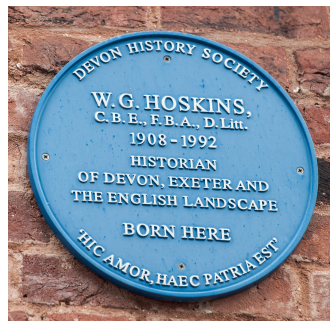
## Angela Marks – 18 June 2018



John Kensit



WG Hoskins



# July & August Events at St Michael's

Thanks to all, especially Neil Page & Peter King, who made our Feast of 18<sup>th</sup> century Baroque for Music Sunday in June so exciting. And thanks again to all who have worked together to keep music central to the life & liturgy of St Michael's, as it ever has been.

For July we are mostly singing Mass Settings in F, but we end the month on another climax with Haydn's Little Organ Mass.

With the current shortage of resources, numerical & financial, it seems wise to scale back a little over August. There will be no Tuesday Choir Practices from 31 July to 21 August, just as Tuesday & Thursday Vespers take a break in August.

Choir will continue to meet at 10am on Sundays, to run through the Music for the Liturgy and polish up a Communion Motet from our repertoire. Mass Settings will be congregational (Merbecke, Martin Shaw and the like) so we can all join in.

Tuesday Choir Practice will resume on 28 August, as Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September has our monthly Choral Evensong at 6pm as well as Sung Mass at 11am.

A quick forewarning that September will be a busy and exciting month at St Michael's with the Church Open all day on 8<sup>th</sup> for Devon Historic Churches Ride&Stride and the Deanery Prayer Walk, on 9<sup>th</sup> for Cream Teas, and 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> for Exeter Heritage Open Days. Then our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Michaelmas Celebrations are on the weekend of 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> September.

**Sun 1<sup>st</sup> July, Trinity V**, 11am Sung Mass. Hymns: 461 : 323 : 408. Service in F, Herbert Sumsion (1899-1995). O Lord increase our faith, Henry Loosemore (1600-70, brother of John, builder of 1665 Exeter Cathedral Organ case).

**Sun 1<sup>st</sup> July, 6pm Evensong and Benediction.** Byrd Responses. Psalm 53. Hymn 253. Canticles: Noble in B minor. Anthem: Thou knowest Lord, Purcell. O salutaris: Rossini. Tantum Ergo: 268.

**Sat 7<sup>th</sup> July, 11.30am-2.30pm, Parish Summer Fête** up at St David's Church. Stalls – cakes, plants, books, bric-a-brac. Exeter Railway Band. Djembe Drumming. BBQ. Refreshments. Draw.

**Sun 8<sup>th</sup> July, Trinity VI**, 11am Sung Mass. Hymns: 362: 420: 466. Mass in F, Harold Darke (1888-1976). O for a closer walk with God, C V Stanford (1852-1924).

**Sun 15<sup>th</sup> July, Trinity VII**, 11am Sung Mass. Hymns: 338: 103: 391. Mass in F, Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901). Give us the wings of faith, Ernest Bullock (1890-1979).

Wed 18<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm. St Michael's Lecture – Rev Dr David Nixon (St Thomas Church, Exeter, formerly Dean of Studies for South West Ministry Training Course) will ask the question: “What does God think about Brexit?”

**Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> July, St Mary Magdalene**, 11am Sung Mass. Hymns: 408: 174: 477. Mass in F, Sir William Harris (1883-1973). Here, O my Lord, I see Thee - Percy Whitlock (1903-46).

**Sat 28<sup>th</sup> July**, 9am, Men's Breakfast, see in churches for details.

**Sun 29<sup>th</sup> July, Trinity IX**, 11am Sung Mass. Hymns: 263: 296: 146. Little Organ Mass, F J Haydn (1732-1809). Panis angelicus, Cesar Franck (1822-90).

Sundays in August, 5<sup>th</sup> (No Evensong), 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 11am with Congregational Mass Settings, Hymns, Motet of the Day.

**Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept, Trinity XIV**, 11am Sung Mass. 6pm Choral Evensong & Benediction.

Wishing all an enjoyable and refreshing Summer.



**Richard Barnes – 24/6/18.**



# Garden of Eden

The year is 2507 CE. An old man and a child are walking in the City Gardens.

CH      Grandfather you said last month that you would tell me about the story of the Garden of Eden and what people believed long ago.

GR      So I did. I know you are interested in the old stories.

CH      I now that in the Great Story in Genesis Adam and Eve ate a fruit from the Tree of Knowledge because the snake told them it would make them wise like gods.

GR      That's right. It is a story which tells of the rise of human beings to conscious awareness of self and also the beginning of awareness of God, the creator and ground of being. It was the first step in the Incarnation – Emanuel, God with us. But many years ago it was called a 'Fall' not a rise in consciousness.

CH      Why was it called a fall when it should be the beginning of grace?

GR      Well it was believed that God had created everything perfect. There was no idea of an evolving creation moving towards perfection. So when Adam and Eve in the story disobeyed God, it was the first sin in the world and it became known as 'Original Sin' and from that time creation was spoiled. It used to be thought of as a story about how evil came into the world – not grace and blessing as we now think. Creation was called fallen and therefore in need of salvation. Something or someone was needed to redeem the world and bring back the perfection God intended.

CH      I see. And that's where Jesus comes in.

GR      Yes, a Messiah, the Christ, God's chosen one “to save mankind from sin and death”. Jesus was the complete Incarnation of God – a man fully attuned to God's spirit; Emanuel, truly and completely God with us. He showed in His life what we should be like and what the Kingdom of God is like. We celebrate Jesus's birth at Christmas and remember His life



rather than His death for our salvation but it was not always so. If you look at the ancient prayers you will see that for about 2000 years of Christian history it was Jesus's death on the cross that was important in salvation. But over time the idea of Original Sin ceased to have any meaning, so did the need for a sacrificial death.

CH Yes, we talked about that at Corpus Christi. And you explained the meaning of sacrifice. Jesus sacrificed His life, but His death was the result of what He did and said.

GR Well remembered; but do you remember the other tree in the Garden of Eden?

CH You mean the Tree of Life?

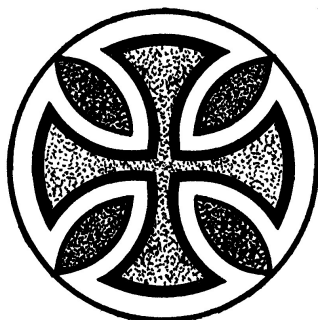
GR Yes. The other important tree tends to be forgotten. But you know that the Garden of Eden represents the world and the whole of creation. It is here we find our life and sustenance. When we become separated and apart from the natural world and misuse and plunder its resources life is threatened as the story tells us and as our forebears came to realise. You will find the outcome of that global crisis in your history book.

CH I will. Thank you Grandfather and this garden in the middle of the city will remind me always of the Garden of Eden.



**Connie Cannon**

First published in New Leaves in 2008



# Peregrines' Progress

2018 is the 22nd consecutive season of egg-laying by the Exeter Peregrine falcons at St Michael's Mount Dinham; in the early years on an external NE-facing shelf, and since 2008 in the nest box mounted inside the SE-facing trefoil opening high in the Spire.

The new camera installed last year by Jason Fathers of Wildlife Windows Ltd, funded by Nick Dixon through his booklet telling the story of our Peregrines, gives a fine view including the trefoil opening where the adults often perch.



3 week old chicks in nest box

This “third generation” of breeding adults comprises a male present since 2005, so perhaps 16 years old, and a female here since 2009. This year’s eggs were laid during Holy Week. The first on Palm Sunday 25 March evening at 7pm, the second around 5-6am on the morning of 28 March Spy Wednesday, and the third on Good Friday 30 March at 5.30pm; some 40 hours later than last year, with spacing of about 58 hours and just 3 eggs this year.

Incubation proper starts when the 3rd egg has been laid and lasts 5 weeks. Two eggs hatched this year, on 'Star Wars Day' Fri May the 4th & Sat 5 May; the third unhatched egg was removed under license for analysis. After some early quarrelling between the adults over feeding the chicks, they became more cooperative, and the weights & measurements of the chicks when ringed (VF & VG) under licence at 3 weeks indicated they were being well fed and developing fine.



By mid-June at 6 weeks old our 2 strong female chicks had developed their full juvenile

6 weeks – shall we go or shall we stay

plumage, with just a few hints of white fluff left, and there was serious wing flapping practice going on.

Juvenile VF fledged at 6.34am on Wed 20 June. She was spotted in a garden in Haldon Road, so she was roofed by the local vet in sight of the Church. She took a good flight that evening, was seen on the tower, later reaching the pinnacles below the spire where the adults roost.

Young VG was more cautious and spent a lot of time sitting in the trefoil and at least once fell out but clambered back in. She fledged at 5.05am on Fri 22 Jun and seemed to be doing okay. But next day Nick Dixon heard calls from the Choir Vestry gully. VG had come down there and got stuck. She was rescued and taken to the Vets; the RSPCA will feed & assess her, and hopefully release her back here.



Juvenile VG rescued from Church

In other news, our 2015 male JN has settled in Taunton and found a mate JY hatched at the Bath Peregrine site on the spire of St John's RC Church. They have taken up residence on St Mary Magdalene Church in Taunton where a nesting tray and camera are installed. Their first egg accidentally rolled off, but they incubated 2 more and one chick (a St Michael's grand-chick) hatched in the early hours of Sun 10 Jun. This Taunton chick is doing well, but being about 5 weeks later than ours its fledging is not expected till late July. (See <https://twitter.com/tauntonperegri> for information.)



**Richard Barnes – 23 Jun 2018.**

## **Smilelines: Not covered by insurance**

A recent letter that appeared in The Independent newspaper:  
‘Following the recent major flooding, I find myself out of pocket, due to what I am informed is an “act of God.” To avoid future financial embarrassment, please could you recommend an atheist insurance company?’

# Being a Grandparent

Recently I have read articles about being a grandparent with suggestions of books full of advice. Needless to say I have ignored these. I do my own thing which seems to suit my granddaughters, great granddaughters and great great granddaughters. My granddaughter, Gudrun, reminds me of an incident nearly twenty years ago when she was in her teens. Her parents went away for a few days and she declared herself to be “self reliant”. They lived in one of a pair of cottages, outside Burford, surrounded by fields. But about 9 o'clock at night, as I was preparing for bed, she rang me in tears - afraid to be alone. Without thinking, I grabbed a nightdress and toilet bag and drove about 70 or 80 miles to Oxfordshire.

The next day, I put her on the bus for work and drove back home as I had an appointment with a friend and no phone number to cancel. I then packed a case and drove back in time to meet Gudrun. At the weekend I drove her to my home and then drove her back in time to greet her parents. She has remembered this and feels I was a good grandparent. I just responded instinctively. Grandparents do a good job I think - sometimes having a connection that parents these days don't have time for. So, grandparents, don't read about it - act on your instincts - it is very rewarding.



**Eileen Jarman**

March 2018



# Orationibus V – Medical History Tour

Not quite a magical mystery tour, but we're back on the buses with Transport for London Route 68 from Herne Hill to Euston.

One beauty of Camberwell in south London is its truly multi-cultural vibe with shops & eateries of every flavour.

Religiously too; majority black, inclusive Anglo-catholic parish church; Reformed Evangelicals at Grove Chapel; the URC Congregation in Love Walk now in their 4<sup>th</sup> building in 240 years, a modest 21<sup>st</sup> century take on a Greek village church to my eyes, down-sizing from their 60s Brutalist complex which failed the test of weather & time; Greek Orthodox Cathedral; up on Denmark Hill, the Salvation Army Training College lifts high the Cross.

We wait for the 68 outside King's College Hospital, where the low azoic roar of the traffic is overlaid with a descant of emergency vehicle sirens. Opposite is the Maudsley Hospital pioneering more humane mental health treatments than its eponymous founder could have envisaged a century ago.

And we're off, past leafy Camberwick, sorry, Camberwell Green toward Walworth Road with churches of a different flavour – Pentecostal & Charismatic, meeting behind shopfronts, some preaching emotionalism & a prosperity gospel (for their pastors at least), others ministering sacrificially to the poor and oppressed – by their fruits ye shall know them.

Since the Roman invasion of AD43, and probably before, London has been a multi-cultural city, so it's good to spot some Latin. 'Nulli secundus' is the motto of Threadneedleman, Bespoke Tailors. The Elephant & Castle probably derives its name from the coat of arms of the Worshipful Company of Cutlers. The Metropolitan Tabernacle, spiritual home of the great Baptist preacher C H Spurgeon, dominates one side of this transport hub.

Past the Old Vic Theatre and the post-War confidence of the South Bank. Across the River is Somerset House, where Catherine of Braganza, King Charles II's neglected consort, was allowed a private Catholic chapel. Did Henry Purcell compose his astonishing anthem "Jehova, quam multi sunt hostes mei" - Lord, how many are my enemies - for her? Why else would Purcell, having taken John Blow's job at Westminster Abbey, be working

with a Latin text, and who translated Psalm 3 into Latin with vocabulary quite different from the Vulgate?

A glimpse of Bush House, former home of the BBC World Service. Alight at Theobald's Road for a short walk to the British Museum. Ancient Egypt, Greece & Rome fascinate us still. Exhibitions on the Egyptian Book of the Dead and of Viking explorers stick in my mind.

It's good to see how other cultures and former times have made sense of their experiences of the world and expressed that in thought, art & music; and not to belittle them as primitive or superstitious. But for me a Christian worldview still makes most sense of its beauty & brokenness. The late 3<sup>rd</sup> century Chi-Rho mosaic of Christ from Hinton St Mary, Dorset, is one of its earliest manifestations here.

Many people seem more interested in the beliefs of the past, or re-inventions of them – ten thousand at Stonehenge for the Summer Solstice. Perhaps ancient beliefs demand less, or perhaps we have made Christianity too dull and divisive.

I'm glad that London and other global cities have Museums with treasures of the whole World, especially with so many cradles of civilisation in turmoil again at present. I hope London remains a welcoming city, even after the folly (in my view) of Brexit, to justify, at least in part, holding these treasures in trust.



**Richard Barnes – 22/6/18**



Camberwell URC



Hinton St Mary mosaic -

# The St Michael's Lectures

The Church of St Michael and All Angels

Dinham Road, Mount Dinham, Exeter, EX4 4EB

7.30 pm, Weds 27th June 2018

Terry Beverton      **Psychotherapy:  
A Therapeutic Practitioner's Esoteric Journey**

7.30 pm, Weds 18th July 2018

The Reverend Dr David Nixon  
**What does God think about Brexit?**

7.30 pm, Weds 26th September 2018

Richard Parker      150th anniversary Lecture  
**Anglo-catholicism and the Crypto-Papalist Axis of Evil?  
The Roots of Religion at Mount Dinham**

7.30 pm, Weds 24th October 2018

Dr Alison Milbank      John Hughes Memorial Lecture  
**Does the Parish have a Future?**

7.30 pm, Fri 9th November 2018

Seona Ford      John Thurmer Memorial Lecture  
**The Life and Works of Dorothy L. Sayers**

7.30 pm, Weds 30th January 2019

Dr Darren Shreiber  
**The Neuroscience of Political and Religious Beliefs**

7.30 pm, Weds 20th February 2019

Professor Emma Loosley      **The Syrian Conflict:  
What is it Really about?**

7.00 pm, Weds 13th, 20th, 27th March; 3rd, 10th April, 2019

Professor Oliver Nicholson      Lent Reading Group  
**Selections from Cyprian**



A warm welcome and full participation for everyone, regardless of beliefs and educational background.

Q&A

Light Refreshments

Retiring Collection

For further information, accessibility requirements, or to volunteer, please contact David Beadle at [dnbeadle@gmail.com](mailto:dnbeadle@gmail.com) or visit [stmichaelsmountdinham.org.uk](http://stmichaelsmountdinham.org.uk)



CHURCH OF ENGLAND

# DEVON

GOOD NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE OF EXETER | JULY 2018



## Inside:

BIBLE SOCIETY  
ROADSHOW COMES  
TO DEVON



RESPONDING  
TO REFUGEE  
CRISIS

## BRIGHT FUTURE FOR RURAL CHURCH

This month as we mark Rural Mission Sunday (15 July), we hear about one of the first projects of our Diocese's Growing the Rural Church (GtRC) initiative....

Huntshaw church in north Devon is showing new signs of life following a community consultation led by GtRC.

As a result, a new Friends Group (see pic) has been set-up to raise funds and keep St Mary Magdalene Church at the heart of community life. Events so far have included a book launch with cream teas and children's treasure hunt, and a flower festival. A new all-age worship service with craft activity has been well supported.

Local family the Hoopers have been involved in both the Friends Group and new service, and said: "Wow! How uplifting it was to have the church lively and full of music and people. We are all working together as a team and moving forward positively".

PCC Treasurer Peter Denard said:



"With the help of Marian Carson from GtRC, we organised a community consultation on the future of Huntshaw Church. To our surprise we learnt that we would increase attendance if a more modern service was available. The Friends enhance the profile of the church and are also bringing the community together. The future is now very bright!"

The GtRC project hopes other good news will emerge as it engages with rural churches across the Diocese. Project Manager Marian Carson said: "We've now been working with rural mission communities across Devon for 18 months. It has been wonderful

to journey with some of our rural congregations and help them develop the use of their building. This month we are encouraging all our mission communities to celebrate Rural Mission Sunday, and we look forward to hearing back."

For more about the GtRC project visit the diocesan website.

For ideas and resources for Rural Mission Sunday, visit: [www.germinate.net](http://www.germinate.net).

GtRC want to showcase Devon's rural churches. Send them a short video clip (20 seconds max) for their Rural Mission Sunday film.

[EXETER.ANGLICAN.ORG](http://EXETER.ANGLICAN.ORG)

 @CofEDevon

 Diocese of Exeter

 [cofedevon](https://www.instagram.com/cofedevon)

## BIBLE SOCIETY ROADSHOW HITS EXETER

Comedian Paul Kerensa and The Bible Course creator, Dr Andrew Ollerston, will be in Exeter on 13 July to deliver a night of laughter and learning, as the big story of the Bible is unfolded in The Greatest Story Ever Toured.

Diocesan Mission Enabler Barry Dugmore said: "We are so excited about hosting one of the Bible Course roadshows in Exeter Cathedral. Given that 65% of Anglicans struggle to read the Bible and many people who come to faith today have very little knowledge of the Bible, this course could be just the things to help us grow as followers and help others who are on a journey towards God."

The new Bible Course (DVD and course manual) helps unpack the book, the characters, epic events that form



one story from Genesis to Revelation.

For details visit [www.biblesociety.org.uk](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk) or for tickets, costing only £6, go to: <https://bit.ly/2KrDt16>

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## CHANGES IN THE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Rebecca Paveley, Director of Communications and Bishop's Press Officer is leaving our diocese after nine years in the role. She is going to work for the National Trust, but will continue to support Exeter Cathedral's communications.

Nicky Davies, Publications Officer, is also moving on,

after four years. Nicky, who was ordained priest in 2015, will be focusing on her ministry in the team of seven churches where she is based in the New Forest.

Both are sad to leave the diocese and wish to thank many people who have offered their encouragement over the years.

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## HUNDREDS PRAY AT THY KINGDOM COME CATHEDRAL EVENT

Churches and communities around our Diocese were busy praying in all sorts of creative and inspiring ways as part of this year's Thy Kingdom Come (TKC) global wave of prayer.

Launch events took place with Bishop Robert in Sidmouth and in Plymstock with Bishop Nick.

TKC culminated in our Diocese with a beacon celebration on Pentecost Sunday in Exeter Cathedral.

To see a video of the service, go to the news pages of the diocesan website.



Diocesan Mission Enabler Barry Dugmore and wife Suzanne, along with a local children's choir perform River of Life, a song written especially by Barry for this year's TKC.

When the refugee crisis hit the headlines in 2015 Anna Roderick began to ask God what she could do in response? Three years later Anna is Project Manager of Abide and helping to settle a refugee family in Devon....

## Learning to listen to God



**P**rayer that leads to action is one of the best sorts of prayer, says Anna Roderick of Ottery St Mary.

Anna is Project Manager of Abide, a community project to resettle a refugee family into the local area through the government's Community Sponsorship scheme. Last September a Syrian family of four arrived, having fled their home when it came under attack. The family had spent five unsettled years living as refugees in Jordan. They are now settling into Devon life and the father has started work experience.

Anna is passionate about responding when there is a need. She said: "Sometimes it is not enough just to give money."

When Anna saw the refugee crisis hit the headlines in 2015 she began to pray and ask God what she could do? She said: "I didn't want to pursue the idea of Community Sponsorship unless it's what God wanted... I felt that God was clear and in it!"

Growing up Anna explains that she started going to church aged five. She said: "As a child I had faith in God. It was as a teenager that I began to question."

Aged 18 she had the opportunity to live for a while in a Christian School in India. She describes this experience as a 'profound turning point' in her faith.

"I was away from home and surrounded by people who were passionate about their faith." This experience helped Anna to settle into life at university, before she went on to do year's course at Navigators UK in Birmingham, a worldwide mission partnership.

She then got married and the couple lived on an inner-

city estate in Birmingham where Anna honestly recalls "I struggled in that time. It brought me face to face with many of my limitations!" Having had two children, the family moved to Devon 11 years ago and had a third child. The family love their life here.

Anna finishes: "I am quite an activist but I'm gradually learning to listen and wait and see God doing it in his way. A lot of my prayer at the moment is about

letting go and surrendering things to God's will and timing."

*"I'm gradually learning to listen and wait and see God doing it in his way.... surrendering things to God's will and timing"*



The Ven Douglas Dettmer  
Archdeacon of Totnes

# THERE'S POWER IN LOVE

**T**his magazine has a long lead time for publication! So it is that I am writing in May, just after the marriage of Prince Henry of Wales and Meghan Markle at Windsor. As a child of the USA myself, I watched the broadcast of the wedding of a British prince to an American citizen with particular interest. The clear desire of this highly motivated couple to serve the community and to help make the world a better place was reflected in the beautifully crafted liturgy, which was inspiring in its inclusiveness and left me feeling hopeful for the future.

With millions around the world listening in, the sermon was delivered by the Presiding Bishop of the American Episcopal Church, Bishop Michael Curry—the first African-American to hold that position—who lived up to his reputation as a superb preacher. His words are worth taking to heart.

"The late Dr Martin Luther King Jr once said... 'We must discover the power of love, the redemptive power of love. And when we do that, we will make of this old world a new world, for love is the only way.'

'There's power in love. Don't underestimate it. Don't even over-sentimentalise it... The reason has to do with the source. We were made by a power of love, and our lives were meant—and are meant—to be lived in that love.'

Any church wedding is an opportunity to proclaim the gospel. The good news of self-giving, sacrificial love and its redemptive power is a word the world needs

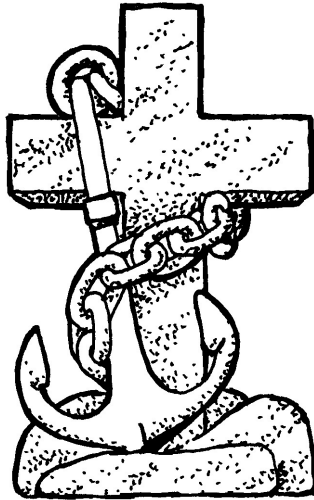
to hear. It is a word which first summons those who profess and call themselves Christians, to which we all need to listen again and again.

For when our church life is marked by anything less than other-regarding, generous love, we fail to proclaim God as he is, and we waste the greatest power for good the world has ever known. But where such love is at the heart of a local church, in the words of Dr King, 'We will make of this old world a new world.' That is because, in the words of the old Christian hymn quoted later in Bishop Curry's sermon, 'Where love and charity are, God is there.'

By God's grace, may this be true of every church community in Devon as we seek to pray, grow and serve with joy in him.



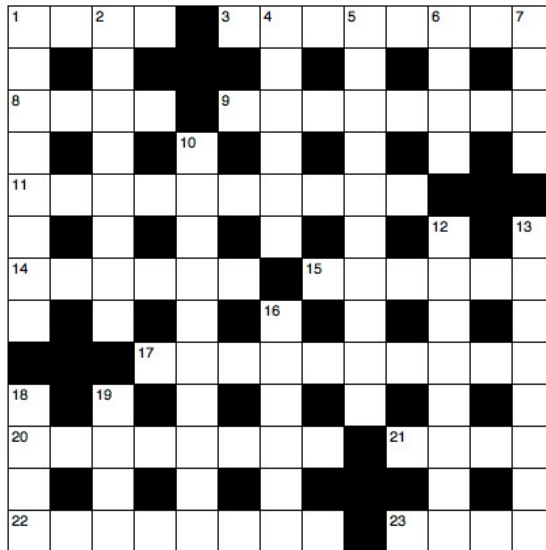




## **Smilelines: You know you are living in 2018 when....**

1. You accidentally enter your password on the microwave.
2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of five.
4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
5. You e-mail your children upstairs to tell them dinner is ready.
6. Your reason for not staying in touch with various friends and family is that they are not on Facebook.
7. You pull up in your own driveway and use your mobile to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the shopping.
8. Every TV advert has a Facebook link at the bottom of the screen.
9. Leaving the house without your mobile, which you didn't have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for total panic and you have to go back and get it.
10. You get up in the morning and go online before getting your coffee.

# July crossword



## Crossword Clues for July 18

### ACROSS

- 1 Proverbs describes her as being 'of noble character' (Proverbs 31:10) (4)
- 3 'Shall we go up again — — against the Benjamites, our brothers?' (Judges 20:23) (2,6)
- 8 A descendant of Shem (Genesis 10:28) (4)
- 9 'Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my — ' (Luke 14:27) (8)
- 11 Resentment(Ephesians 4:31)(10)
- 14 In Cain(anag.)(6)
- 15 'Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to—' (Psalm 139:6) (6)
- 17 Intense (1 Thessalonians 4:5)(10)
- 20 Third Order of the Roman Catholic Church(8)
- 21 'At midnight the cry rang out, "Here's the bridegroom!Come out to — him"' (Matthew 25:6) (4)
- 22 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in — ' (2

Corinthians 12:9) (8)

23 'As the — pants for streams of water,so my soul pants for you, O God'  
(Psalm 42:1) (4)

## DOWN

1 Nickname of popular First World War chaplain, the Revd G.A. Studdert Kennedy, — Willie (8)

2 Occasion of religious joy (Lamentations 2:22) (5,3)

4 'We three kings of — are' (6)

5 Allegation or charge (Jude 9) (10)

6 Kind (1 Chronicles 12:33) (4)

7 'Open your — and look at the fields!' (John 4:35) (4)

10 Also known as the Feast of Lights (John10:22)(10)

12 Area that saw the healing of two demon - possessed men and a herd of pigs stampeding to their deaths (Matthew 8:28) (8)

13 Forebear(James2:21)(8)

16 Name given to the first two books of the Apocrypha(6)

18 Esau sold his birthright for this (Genesis25:34)(4)

19 Rear(anag.)(4)

## July Sudoku - Medium

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

# Days of Note - July

## **1<sup>st</sup> July                      St Theobald - choosing God, not money**

If you are thinking of turning your back on wealth and privilege, in order to do something you feel God is calling you to do, St Theobald (1017 – 1066) may be the saint for you. He was born into an aristocratic family at Provins in France. But he became a hermit with a fellow ex-soldier in the Pettingen Forest in Luxembourg. They later moved to Salanigo in Italy. Theobald's holy life attracted so many followers that he was canonised by Pope Alexander II in 1073.

## **6<sup>th</sup> July                      Thomas More, Reformation martyr**

These days, lawyers and politicians are held in the lowest esteem by the public, along with tabloid journalists and estate agents. St Thomas More was both a lawyer and politician, who is today much admired for holding steadfastly to his faith-based principles. He lived in dangerous times, when anyone, even queens, who displeased King Henry VIII could find themselves in a condemned cell in The Tower of London.

Sir Thomas More held the office of Lord High Chancellor and at one time was the king's most trusted adviser. But when King Henry took personal control of the Church in England in order to divorce his first wife, More courageously opposed him.

Thomas More was a social philosopher and the author of 'Utopia'. This book described an imaginary republic governed by an educated elite who employed reason rather than self-interest for the general good of everyone. He was himself one of the pre-eminent scholars of his age. As a Christian theologian he supported orthodox doctrine, vigorously opposed heresy and argued strongly against the new Protestant ideas taking hold in Europe. Although holding the highest political and legal office he was far from being a pragmatic politician and opportunist lawyer. In every matter he was a man who held firmly to what he believed was right in God's eyes.



When Thomas More fell from favour with the king, as a result of his unflinching views, he was falsely accused of taking bribes. When this charge failed, his enemies accused him of supporting a celebrated seer of the times who was strongly critical of the king. This too failed. He was then required to swear to the Oath of Supremacy, acknowledging Henry's position as head of the Church of England. This he could not do in conscience. He was put on trial and condemned to be hung, drawn and quartered for his treason, a punishment later changed to beheading. He died in 1535 and on the scaffold his final words were 'I die the King's good servant, but God's first.' He has been officially declared a martyr saint by the Roman Catholic Church.

## **22<sup>nd</sup> July      St Mary Magdalene – the woman with a past**

Later this month Christians all over the world will commemorate probably the most unlikely saint in the Bible, Mary Magdalene. There was something in her background that has always fascinated people. All we are told about her 'past' is that Jesus had cast 'seven devils' out of her, but on that slender if intriguing evidence she has become the patron saint of 'fallen women'.

Some see her as the woman 'who was a sinner' who washed Christ's feet with her tears at a respectable dinner party. Of that person Jesus remarked that 'she had been forgiven much' and consequently 'loved much'. Whether she was that woman or not, the description perfectly fits her. No one who has heard or read it could surely fail to be moved by her tearful encounter with the risen Jesus in the garden on Easter morning, the man she had taken to be the gardener revealing Himself in one word, Mary, as her beloved Teacher.

The problem with a good story – and hers is as good as it gets – is that people can't leave it alone. Down the centuries she has been John the Apostle's fiancée until he left her to follow Christ. She has gone with Jesus' mother and the same John to live in Ephesus and died there. In art and literature she has become an alluring, sexual figure, disapproved of by the mother of Jesus. There is no historical

evidence whatsoever for any of this. In fact, the Gospels suggest the two Marys were close in their shared devotion to Jesus.

Her popularity is shown in the fact that 187 ancient churches in Britain are dedicated to her, and a college at both Oxford and Cambridge. Whatever the details of her story, we cherish it because it shows that having a 'past' is no reason not to have a future.

## **25<sup>th</sup> July      St James the Apostle - apostle to Spain**

James and his brother John were sons of Zebedee and fishermen from Galilee - the 'sons of thunder', as the gospel writers describe their impetuous characters and fiery tempers.

James stands out on three accounts: he was one of the three disciples who witnessed the Transfiguration of Christ. Jesus took him, along with Peter and John, to 'watch' with Him in the garden of Gethsemane. Finally, he went on to be the first apostle to die for the Christian faith, when in AD 44 King Herod Agrippa put him to the sword in Jerusalem at Passover time.

In the centuries following his death, James became associated with the evangelising of Spain, and as a powerful defender of Christianity against the Moors. The heyday of the cult of Santiago de Compostela was from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> century, and the pilgrimage to Compostela became one of the most important of medieval Christendom. This in time transformed the iconography of James, and his emblems became the pilgrim's hat and the scallop-shell of Compostela. Over 400 English churches have been dedicated to James.

## **25<sup>th</sup> July      St Christopher - patron saint of motorists**

The legend goes that St. Christopher was a Canaanite who lived in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century. He was a giant of a man, of fearsome appearance. At first he decided to serve the devil, but when he discovered that the devil was afraid of Christ and His Cross, Christopher decided to serve Christ instead. A nearby hermit instructed Christopher in the

Christian faith and assigned to him a place near a river:  
Christopher's job was to help travellers cross it safely.

All went well, and Christopher helped lots of people on their way until one day a child came along and asked to be carried across. Christopher put him on his back and set off, but was soon staggering under the astonishing weight of this child. The child then told him that He was in fact Jesus Christ, and that He carried the weight of the whole world. The Christ-child then told Christopher to plant his staff in the ground: the next day it bore flowers and dates – confirmation that the child was indeed who He claimed to be.

After some time more of helping travellers cross the river, Christopher went to the city of Lycia, where he preached the gospel with such success that the Roman emperor (Decius?) had him arrested and imprisoned – especially when Christopher refused to sacrifice to the gods. Two women sent into his cell to seduce him came out converted Christians instead. So Christopher was beaten, shot with arrows and finally beheaded.

Christopher has been well-loved of the English down the centuries. Many wall-paintings of him have been placed on the north wall of churches, opposite the porch, so that he would be seen by all who entered. There was good reason for this: as patron saint of travellers, it was believed that anyone who saw an image of St Christopher would not die that day. As the ancient saying goes: 'Behold St Christopher and go thy way in safety'.

A kind of daily insurance policy against death – this was so good that in due course St Christopher became the patron saint of motorists. There is even a church in the Javel area of Paris where Citroen cars are made, that is dedicated to St Christopher. In modern times, with the increase in air and motorway travel, Christopher has remained popular. When in 1969 the Holy See reduced his feast day, there was a sharp protest in several countries, led in Italy by a number of popular film stars. If you ever travel in a taxi on the Continent, look out for a little St Christopher hanging from the rear view mirror

beside the driver. Now you know why it is there!

### **27<sup>th</sup> July     The Seven Sleepers of Ephesus – proving a nap is good for you!**

Do you tend to avoid conflict? When you feel stressed, do you crave sleep? Then the Seven Sleepers of Ephesus would be good patron saints for you. But - you may find it hard to copy their successful method of avoiding trouble!

Legend has it that The Seven Sleepers were third century Christians who lived in Ephesus during the persecutions of the Roman Emperor Decius. When things got very bad, the Seven Sleepers decided to 'go to ground'. Literally. They found a cave on the outskirts of the city and walled themselves in. The story goes that then God simply put them to sleep.

200 years later they woke up, and peeped out of the cave again. Things had changed: Ephesus had converted to Christianity. Unfortunately the Seven Sleepers did not get much time to enjoy the new freedoms, because within a short time they all died – of extreme old age.

The story was popularised in the 6<sup>th</sup> century by Gregory of Tours and Jacob of Sarugh, who venerated the Seven Sleepers as saints. But it was challenged by Baronius and many scholars since. It is sometimes called a Christianised pagan or Jewish legend akin to Rip Van Winkle.

A possible moral for anyone today is that when you find yourself in a storm of conflict, you don't have to fight all the battles yourself. You can indeed seek refuge in God. He may not put you to sleep for 200 years, but He will be a safe hiding place for your soul.

### **31<sup>st</sup> July             St Joseph of Arimathea – the man who buried Jesus**

Have you ever suffered from gossip? Ever discovered that people are saying some really wild things about you? If so, Joseph of Arimathea would understand – and sympathise with you. This

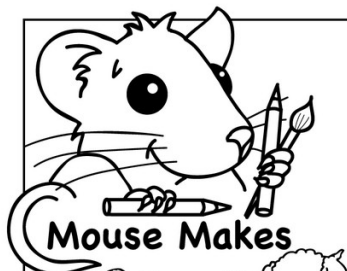
decent, godly man of the gospels seems to have fired the imaginations of all sorts of odd people down the centuries.

Joseph was a rich, prominent member of the ruling Jewish council – the Sanhedrin. Mark's gospel describes him as having been 'waiting for the kingdom of God' for years, and even being a secret disciple of Jesus. He played no part in the trial or crucifixion.

When Jesus was pronounced dead, Joseph had the seniority needed to approach Pilate for the body – and get it. Near to where Jesus had been crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, cut deep in the rock. Joseph himself already owned it – and it was still new and empty. So Joseph laid Jesus there, and wrapped him in a linen cloth, according to Jewish burial custom. Joseph did not bury Jesus alone - Nicodemus helped him, while some women who had followed Jesus trailed miserably behind.

Matthew tells us that the last thing Joseph did for Jesus was to sadly roll a big stone across the entrance to the tomb, and then go away. With that, Joseph passes out of history - and into legend. For in the centuries that followed, Joseph was swept up into the Legend of the Holy Grail, the Legend of Glastonbury, and even bits of the Arthurian legends. It was said that the Holy Thorn, which flowers at Christmas, had sprung from his staff.

The mind boggles at what Joseph would have made of it all. One suspects he would have preferred to stick to the simple, but far better, true story: as having had the immense, unique privilege of laying the body of Jesus Christ in the tomb. Even if Jesus didn't stay very long!



## LOST AND FOUND

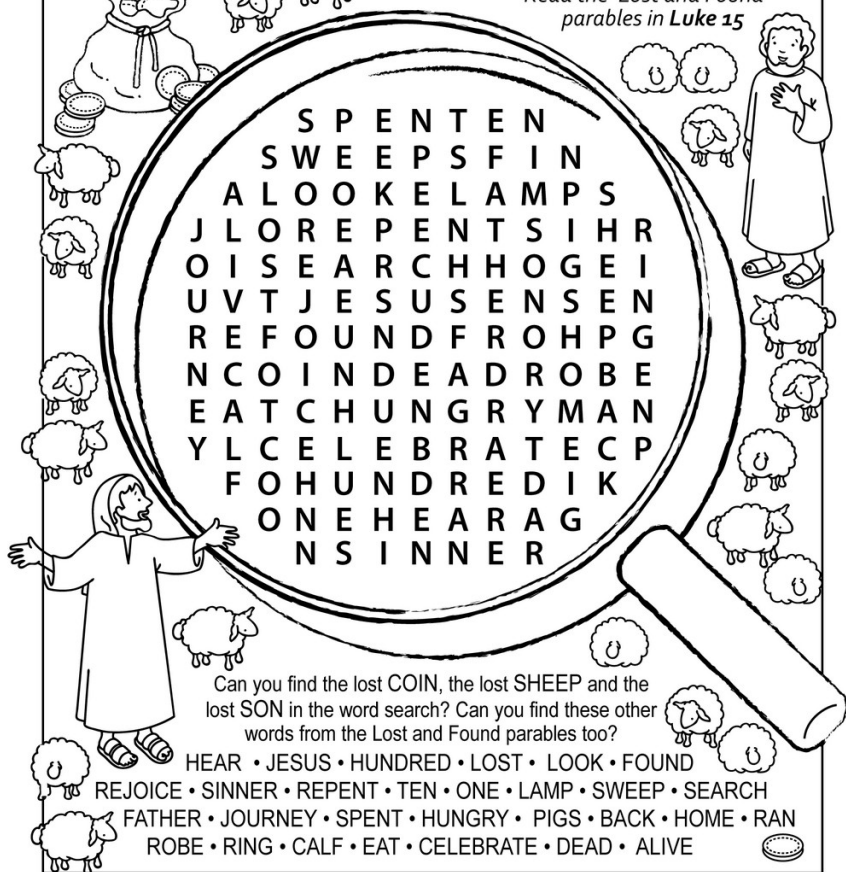
Jesus told three stories to help us to understand God's love and forgiveness.

The first is about a missing sheep that the shepherd did not give up looking for.

The second is about a lost coin that the owner kept searching for until it was found.

The third is about a young man who returned home after he realised he had made a mistake by wanting to go his own way.

Read the 'Lost and Found' parables in **Luke 15**

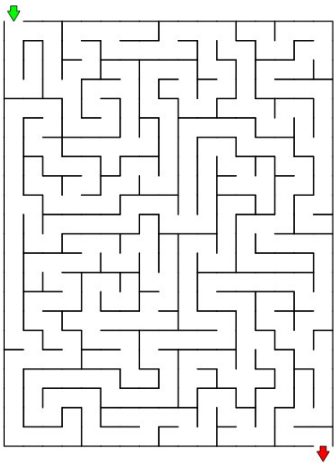


# Word search

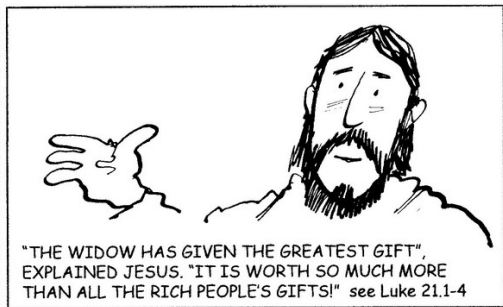
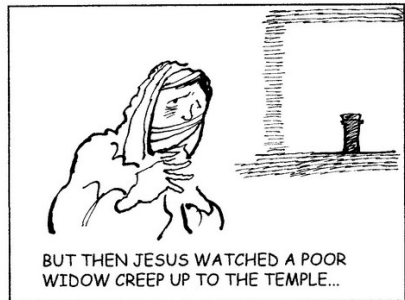
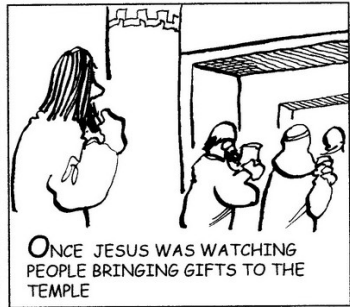
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t	h	t	n	h	j	o	s	h	u	a	d
c	o	m	p	l	a	i	n	o	r	t	h

country	Caleb	giants
complain	Joshua	north
people	chased	land
Egypt	leaders	win
children	Hebrew	fruit
bigger	Canaan	trust
Abraham	God	report
desert	border	attack

# Maze



# The Widow's little coins





## Puzzle solutions

W	I	F	E		T	O	B	A	T	T	L	E
O		E				R		C		Y		Y
O	B	A	L		D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E
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1	7	4	8	5	3	2	6	9
3	8	6	9	4	2	1	5	7
2	5	9	7	6	8	3	4	1
7	4	8	3	1	5	9	2	6
6	1	3	2	9	4	7	8	5

## The deadline for inclusion of articles for the September issue of New Leaves is Sunday 26th August

If you have images of any events of interest to the Parish community please send them to us. Any information and articles you'd like to submit for inclusion in future issues should be sent to the new editorial team at:

**[newleavesnews@gmail.com](mailto:newleavesnews@gmail.com)**

Please send digital files via email and please make the subject header fit the content of the email - thanks!

Thank you to Graham Lerwill for organising the printing of this magazine

- his hard work is much appreciated.