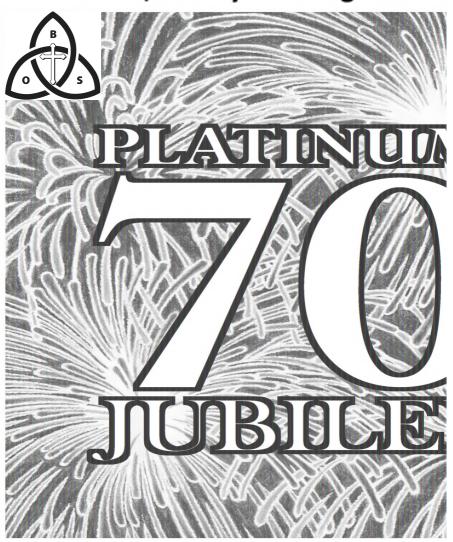
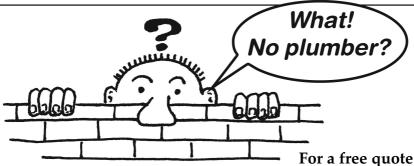
Parish News in Bromham, Oakley and Stagsden



June 2022



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Welcome to

Parish News in

Bromham, Oakley and Stagsden

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facebook Benefice of Bromham, Oakley & Stagsden

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vicar@bromhambenefice.org

Assistant Priest: Revd Di Harpham 918691

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Who's Who in Bromham

Church Officers

Churchwardens Ms T Woodcock 340089

Mrs F Bulmer 602718

PCC Secretary Mrs Vivien Butler 407351

PCC Treasurer Mrs Emma Harrison 823121

Organist & Choirmaster Mr David P Williams

Messy Church for pre-school children (birth - 4yrs) & their carers

Mrs Suzi Webb 07967 311628

Altar Guild Mrs M Parrott 824402

Who's Who in Bromham cont

Children & Young }	Carol Jones	823307
People's work }	307996	
Electoral Roll	Mr Terry Rooke	409916
Ringers	Mr Robert Jones	881741
Thursday Prayer Gp	Mrs C Wisson	306833
Friends of St Owen's	www.friendsof stowens.org	
Secretary:	Mr David Butler	407351
·	facebook Friends of St Owens	

Who's Who in Oakley

Church O	Hicers
----------	--------

Churchwardens	Mr G Palmer	07710 462535
	Mrs H Worley	262166
PCC Secretary	Mrs C Ord	823477
PCC Treasurer Mrs S	823133	
Organist & Choirmast	822859	
Messy Church for pre-	school children (birth - 4yrs) & their carers	
	Revd Catherine Wilson	825665
Flowers	Mrs A Rolph	824849
St Mary's Ringers	Mr Bill Sellars	823473

Who's Who in Stagsden

Church Officers		
Churchwarden	Post holders names not published	
PCC Treasurer	} please contact thru Revd Di Harpham	918691
PCC Secretary	Caroline Heaton	
Ringers	Mr Richard Brown	823289
Flowers Team	please contact thru Revd Di Harpham	918691

If you know of further details for this page, or have information or articles to publish please send all material to the Editor by post or (preferably) by email - see details on page 3.

The Editor thanks Contributors and Advertisers for their material with acknowledgements to the "Parish Pump" website. Nevertheless, views expressed, and goods and services advertised are not endorsed by the PCC. Please send material for publication to the Editor by the 22nd of the month.





Principal Services in the Benefice

<u>5th June</u> <u>Pentecost</u>

9.00am Holy Communion (Bromham)

10.30am LEP & Platinum Jubilee Service (Oakley)

11.00am Platinum Jubilee Events (Bromham

Village Hall)

<u>12th June</u> <u>Trinity Sunday</u>

9.00am Holy Communion (Stagsden)10.30am Holy Communion (Oakley)

6.00pm Evensong (Bromham)

19th June 1st Sunday after Trinity

9.00am Holy Communion (Oakley)10.30am Holy Communion (Bromham)

4.30pm Wild Church (Bromham Scout site)

26th June 2nd Sunday after Trinity

9.00am Holy Communion (Stagsden) 10.30am Holy Communion (Bromham)

6.00pm Evensong (Oakley)

Weekday Services

Mondays

11.30am Messy Church (Bromham)

Thursdays

10.00am Messy Church (Oakley)

NB 10.30 church services are streamed via Zoom for those who find it difficult to attend in person (details on website www.bromhambenefice.org)



Most of us can look back over our lives and remember someone or situations which gave us inspiration, encouragement, aspirations and dreams which helped us work out what we would do with our lives. A role model or mentor can be so important in our formative years, but the inspiration comes from many sources.

I look back to people who helped to shape my life, one of whom was a cousin who became my guardian when I came to England to study, leaving the family in East Africa. She and her husband were both Church Army officers, and their faith made them who they were.

A young couple starting out life together want to be the best and do the best for the person they love. It is a great motivation for them. Similarly, a new parent holding their baby are conscious of the awesome privilege and responsibility they have. It gives them an extra reason to build a happy and stable family home.

As a nation, we celebrated the Queen's 96th birthday in April. She is the longest reigning monarch in English history (her 70 years is compared to Queen Victoria's 63 years; the men seemed to have under-achieved in this competition). The Queen has done a full week's work until very recently which is remarkable. She has also attended church every week.

It is her commitment to God and the nation which stands out in her long life of service.

Even before she became Queen, she made a promise which she has kept for over 75 years:



'I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service'. (It was on her 21st birthday broadcast on 21st April 1947).

Six months before her coronation she asked the nation and the commonwealth to pray for her 'pray that God may give me the wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him and you, all the days of my life'.

These were wise words from someone who draws her strength from her Christian faith and inspiration to others who want to make their lives fruitful.

Her faith lies at the core of the Queen's consistency of

character and deep commitment to serve. In 2002 she said this 'I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try and do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God'.

Our Queen, whom we celebrate has been an example of wise and generous service on behalf of others all her life. She has given much joy. Her guide and inspiration has clearly been there for her.

Dí Harpham

Date for your Diary

Ordination Service at St Albans Cathedral Saturday 2nd July at 4pm

At this service Petra Yates will be ordained Deacon to serve as Curate in our Benefice and you are warmly invited to attend If you cannot be there in person please remember Petra in your prayers.



If you have yet to make a donation to Christian Aid this year our final collection for cash will be at the 1030 service on 12th June at St Mary's, Oakley.

You can also donate on-line at www.christianaid.org.uk



On June 9th we will be having a fun quiz and tea starting at 2.30pm in the Fellowship Room. As we have more space in the Fellowship Room we would like to **open the invitation to anyone who would like to come**. So please bring your friends so we can make up quiz teams.

More information from Anne Tombs 01234 822949 or annetombs712@btinternet.com

St Owen's Social Committee

Do join us at any of our regular Coffee Mornings held at St Owen's in the Fellowship Room on each first Friday of the month starting at 11.00am

Midsummer All-age Bring and Share lunch

We would love to see you at this event after morning service at St Owens on Sunday June 26. More information later or contact Anne Tombs 01234 822949

email <u>annetombs712@btinternet.com</u>

Date for your Diary

Open Day for St Owen's Fellowship Room **Sat 16th July** 11am- 4pm. An open invitation to the village for people to see the new extension, hear the story of the project and learn about the history of St Owen's.

Please contact Edward (e.jones142@btinternet.com) or Frances (francesbulmer@btinternet.com) to offer to help.



SUMMER CHARITY CONCERT

Saturday 2nd July 7:30pm

At St.Owen's Church,
Bromham

Tickets at the door (reservations recommended- Tel 01234 826551) Tickets £8 adults, £5 U14s

Drinks & light refreshments

Raffle

Proceeds to St. Owen's and Emmaus Village Ukrainian appeal www.unisong.weebly.com



On 11th May the Church of England announced plans for a significant increase in funding for the next three years to support God's mission and ministry across the country,

supporting local parishes and growing many more new worshipping communities to serve the whole nation.

The Church Commissioners for England intend to distribute £1.2 billion between 2023 and 2025, up 30% from £930 million in the current three-year period, and plan to maintain this level of funding in the subsequent six years.

In total, this would mean the Church Commissioners plan to distribute £3.6 billion to frontline work of the Church of England between 2023 and 2031, making the Church Commissioners and Archbishops' Council among the largest grant givers in the country.

The Church Commissioners' distributions will account for approximately 20% of Church funding, whilst the biggest contribution comes from the faithful and generous giving of churchgoers across the country.

The core of the extra funding will be channelled into the revitalisation of parish and local ministry. The distributions will help fund dioceses' plans to serve the nation by reaching more young and disadvantaged people, addressing issues of racial justice, and radically cutting the Church's carbon footprint.

In line with the Church's Vision and Strategy for the 2020s, funds will also be used to support parish churches and dioceses. This will include:

• Continued funding for the Church in the poorest

parts of the country, taking into account lessons from the recent independent review into Strategic Development (SDF) and Lowest Income Communities (LInC) funding.

• Increasing the number of clergy in front-line ministry in parishes and chaplaincies, with the intent that the Church's clergy better reflects the diversity of the nation that we serve.

In addition, the Church will lead by example in areas that are important not only to the Church but to wider society.

- Enable thriving local churches across the country, making significant contributions to their local communities and delivering even more social action work
- Support diocesan, parish and cathedral plans for the Church to become carbon net zero by 2030 a target set by General Synod.
- Fund measures that will make the Church more diverse.

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York made the announcement about funding for the Church of England while visiting **St John The Evangelist Church in Balby, Doncaster**. The parish, in the Diocese of Sheffield, runs an impressive social action ministry for the local community.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, said: "The Church of England is called to serve every community in the country, to be a presence that transforms lives and answers the call of God.

"This funding will help local parishes and chaplaincies live out that calling, providing support for mission so every person might hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.

"I am especially pleased that the funding will support our aims to double the number of children and young disciples by 2030 and aid the parish system in doing what the Church does at its best: making the love of God known to every person."

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, said: "The vision for the church is that we are Jesus Christ centred and Jesus Christ shaped and this funding is a huge boost as we work together towards our aim of being the church for everyone everywhere.

"It will help us reach more people with the gospel of Jesus Christ, enabling us to establish what we hope will be 10,000 new Christian communities.

"Working through our parishes, most of these will be in neighbourhoods, schools and places of work and leisure. Some will be online. At least 2,000 will be in the poorest and most deprived parts of the country.

"This is very good news indeed.

"We strive to be a younger and more diverse Church. We must become a church where everyone is confident in living as disciple of Jesus Christ and in sharing their faith with others.

"This funding will help the Church of England raise its game in its service to the nation."

No "News" in August - see page 29

Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham considers the Holy Spirit.

Christian Basics No 6: What Does the Holy Spirit Do? (Pt 1)

As we celebrate Pentecost this month, it's appropriate to ask the question: what does the Holy Spirit do in our lives? Everybody who has committed their life to Christ possesses the Holy Spirit, 'if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.' (Romans 8:9). It is the Spirit who brings us new birth into the family of God.

The Spirit assures us of God's love and acceptance, despite our fears, doubts or failures. As adopted children we can address God as our father: "God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father.'" (Galatians 4: 6). By using the same word used by Jesus, we can grow in intimacy with our Father and pray to Him, especially when we struggle to find the right words.

The Holy Spirit is committed to producing a family likeness in those who follow Christ. This Jesus likeness enables us to live as Jesus would in our place, ie: work, family, time, interests etc. Paul describes this as the fruit of the Spirit: 'love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.' (Galatians 5:22,23). He talks about fruit not fruits! We can't pick and choose, as they come as a total package to be developed over a lifetime!

The Spirit is committed to producing new desires for God: reading the Bible and praying, forgiving others, meeting with other Christians and sharing our faith. He will also give us the motivation to overcome wrong habits, attitudes or lifestyle in our lives.

'Let the church return to Pentecost, and Pentecost will return to her. The Spirit of God cannot take possession of believers beyond their capacity of receiving Him' (Andrew Murray).



Heather looked radiant in white, the details picked out subtly in gold...

Also at a thoroughly modern wedding.....

The ushers will circulate mobile card swipe machines among the congregation.

Those who prefer to make electronic fund transfers are directed to computers and laptops at the rear of the church.

Those who prefer telephone banking, take out your smart phones to transfer your contributions to the church account.

St Mary's Church Tower Clock

As many people in Oakley, know the clock which was installed in 1620 has not been working for the past 3 years. A project to get it restored to working order has been ongoing now for over 18 months. The clock is a listed item with the Antiquarian Horological Society and is numbered as the 67th most important one on their listings. Needless to say you cannot just get it repaired; it requires expert analysis and special permission from the Church of England to undertake the work. After having 4 Tower Clock specialists visit the church a contractor was selected and the finance arranged via



donations various and appeals. Finally in early May work has commenced and the entire mechanism along with its wooden support frame has been removed and taken back to a workshop for the vital restoration. Currently the expectation is for the entire clock to be reassembled and working by late July. The shows the clock picture mechanism.

Graham Palmer - Church Warden

AFTERNOON TE

at

St. Mary's Church, Oakl

Every Sunday from 22nd May unti 18th September 2022

3.30pm to 5.00pm

Come along and enjoy a delicious cre or home-made cake with plenty of t coffee for £3.50 per person inclu children aged 12 or over / £1.50 for children.

Cold drinks also available



God in the Arts

Editor: The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series on God in the Arts with a look at the famous Book of Kells...our picture shows an eagle from the famous book.

The Thread of God's love

In 563 an Irish monk was forced to leave his homeland because of a conflict that had led to a misuse of power and even bloodshed. On Pentecost Sunday he arrived on the island of Iona off the north-west coast of Scotland with twelve companions. There he began a new way of life, founded on Christ's mercy and forgiveness of the past, and so created one of the great centres of faith and mission in the Christian Church. His name was Columba, and we keep his feast day on 9th June.

His monastery on Iona started as a small cluster of wooden buildings with a church and a guesthouse. Around were fields of crops and cattle and bees. But under Columba's guidance, it grew, and from Iona monks were sent into Scotland as one arm of a missionary advance that reached down through England to France and across Europe.

That outreach was an amazing achievement. But just as amazing was the consolidation of monastic life on Iona that resulted two centuries later in the Book of Kells. This text of the four Gospels was begun by scribes and artists in the library of Iona. It grew into one



of the masterpieces of Celtic art that was taken to Kells in Ireland to escape the Viking invaders who ravaged the island.

Along with the text of the Gospels, there are illustrations of Jesus, Mary and the four evangelists, together with decorations at once intricate and fantastic: patterns that interweave and interlace across the page with an odd face here and a weird creature there. The design is in brilliant detail, and you can follow the lines as they weave in and out. This delight in patterns is evident in lots of Celtic art.

It is good to imagine Columba on Iona meditating on the thread of God's grace woven into his life as he looked back to his years in Ireland and his pilgrimage to Iona. It might have seemed at one glance a complicated interweaving of events and experiences, and then perhaps as he looked again, he would see God's love threading its way through that history and redeeming both it and him.

It is the same for us. As we look at our lives, they may seem complex and involved patterns of events and circumstances taking us here and there. As we ponder those patterns, then we can begin to see a thread woven into the patterns that guides and leads us on. And as we stand back, all the patterns and threads seem to make sense as we spot that guiding thread. Just as we can stand back from the designs of this page and see God's love spelling out the name of Christ, our Lord.

With Father's Day in mind: that's on 19th June by the way!

Directly after God in heaven comes Papa. – Mozart as a boy

A father is a banker provided by nature. – French proverb

The child had every toy his father wanted. – Robert C.

Whitten

Bromham WI

Our members were greeted on their arrival at the May meeting with a programme for the year. We have seven speakers, a quiz, a craft evening, a beetle drive and an afternoon tea party as well as coffee mornings, lunches and a technology course to improve our use of mobile phones, laptops and desk-top devices.

At the meeting Amanda Goody talked to us about Elizabeth Fry, describing her life, her work to reform prisons and provide education as well as the social background of the time. A fascinating talk.

Our President was attending the Bedfordshire County Federation of Women's Institutes Annual Meeting, where the retired Queen's Press Officer, Dickie Arbiter, spoke about his life with the Queen over many years, telling how the press is often obsessed with the scandals of royal life to sell their papers. A fascinating insight.

The Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, Hellen Nellis, told the audience about her life as the Queen's representative within our county. She works all around the county to promote and support groups of young people, businesses and any other organisations where help is needed. Again, another fascinating talk.

We were presented with a certificate to acknowledge our 75year existence.

Our June meeting, on the 11th, is a celebration of our seventyfive years of the Bromham WI. We look forward to a 76th year of friendship and fun. All visitors will be welcomed.

Diane Bell

When slavery became illegal

It was 250 years ago, on 22nd June 1772, that the Court of King's Bench ruled that slavery was illegal in England and Wales. It remained legal in British Overseas Territories and colonies until 1833.

In the 1772 case of Somerset v Stewart, William Murray, Lord Chief Justice Mansfield, made a very specific ruling that it was illegal for a particular slave, James Somerset, to be transported back to Virginia, where he had been bought by his master, Charles Stewart.

Somerset had been baptised in England the previous year, and his godparents obtained a writ of habeas corpus to prevent his kidnapping and transportation, and the judge ruled, rather reluctantly in view of its possible implications, that such forcible transportation was illegal.

This was not of itself a declaration that slavery in Great Britain was illegal, but it was reported as such in the press, both here and abroad, and widely celebrated by those of African descent, as well as many others. However, it was not generally enforced, even in the narrower sense.

The legal status of African slaves in Britain and its colonies in fact remained unclear until the early 19th century. The Abolition of the Slave Trade Act in 1807 made the slave trade illegal; and in August 1833 the passing of the Slavery Abolition Act meant that almost all black men, women and children held as slaves in the British Empire – around 800,000 people in all – were given their freedom.

Tim Lenton – Parish Pump website

From the Registers

Baptisms:

8th May Lila Grace Alison Simmons (Oakley)

15th May Frankie Dean Borg (Stagsden)

Funerals:

5th May Rosemary Cottrell (Stagsden)

13th May Peter Dawson (Bromham)

17th May Harry Cox (Oakley)

Burial of Ashes:

24th May Pamela Plater (Bromham)

Services at the Crematorium:

3rd May Joan Stuart (Bromham)

4th May David Halpin (Bromham)

6th May Ronald Newman (Oakley)

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e.jones4491@gmail.com







For anyone from School Yr 7 to the age of 18, and current Yr6 moving to Yr7 in September welcome from 9th July!

SATURDAY 11TH JUNE 5 – 6.30PM

The fellowship Centre, Clapham, MK41 6ER

SATURDAY 9TH JULY 5 – 7.00PM

The fellowship Centre, Clapham, MK41 6ER



For more information see
www.sharnbrookdeanery.co.uk
or contact us at ourvoicetoo@gmail.com

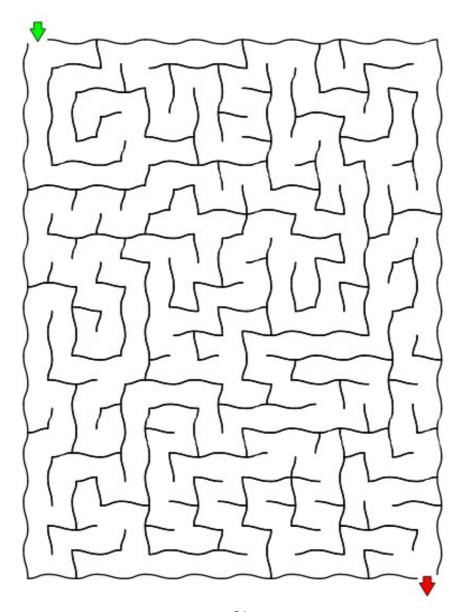
Miscellaneous observations on life

Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.

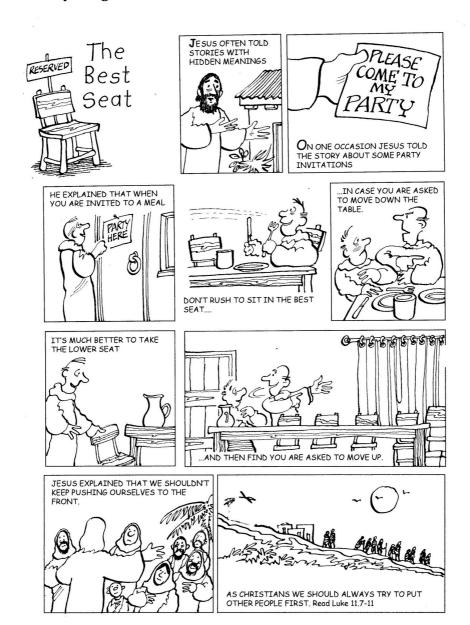
I had a ploughman's lunch the other day. He wasn't very happy about it.

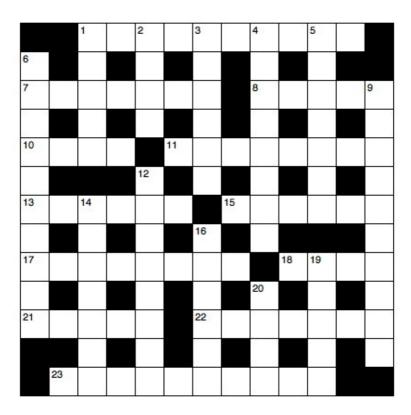
As long as there are exams, there will be prayer in schools.

Can you make it from top to bottom?



For younger readers.....





Across

- 1 Evil (Genesis 6:5) (10)
- 7 Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom (2 Kings 3:15) (7)
- 8 The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer: 'Lord, us to pray' (Luke 11:1) (5)
- 10 'We are hard pressed on every—'(2Corinthians4:8)(4)
- 11 Fraud (2Corinthians6:8)(8)
- 13 'His troops advance in force; they build a siege ramp against me and around my tent' (Job 19:12) (6)
- 15 Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent (Genesis 31:34) (6)

- 17 'Now about spiritual gifts,brothers,I do not want you to be—' (1 Corinthians 12:1) (8)
- 18 Nomadic dwelling(Genesis26:25)(4)
- 21 'As for man, his days are like—, he flourishes like a flower of the field' (Psalm 103:15) (5)
- 22 Or I live (anag.)(7)
- 23 Those guilty of 1 Across(Romans13:4)(10)

Down

- 1 'God so loved the that he gave his one and only Son' (John 3:16) (5)
- 2 'Away in a manger, no for a bed' (4)
- 3 Mob ten (anag.) (6)
- 4 'Each group made its own gods in several towns where they settled' (2 Kings 17:29) (8)
- 5 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 (Acts22:19)(8)
- 14 Aceturn(anag.)(7)
- 16 Discharge(Acts21:3)(6)
- 19 'All these—come from inside and make a man
- "unclean"' (Mark 7:23) (5)
- 20 'Let us rejoice and be glad and him glory!'(Revelation19:7)(4)

Solution on page 34

Happens

Stress makes you believe everything has to happen immediately.

Faith reassures you that everything happens in God's timing.

How to discourage mosquitoes

Summer brings mosquitoes. We avoid them by using sprays, zappers or citronella candles. But now scientists may have found another way to discourage these blood-sucking pests.

A recent study in *Nature Communication* suggests that we might also consider not wearing red clothes. It seems that mosquitoes see only certain wavelengths of light, and therefore only certain colours are seen to be a source of food. And red is their favourite colour! Fortunately, white, green, purple or blue clothes go unnoticed by the hungry bugs. So, it may be helpful this summer to cover your skin with cooler shades of clothes.

However, don't expect miracles, because unfortunately, mosquitos are also attracted by our breath, our sweat and even the temperature of our skin. Which, sadly, puts you back to square one!

All in the month of JUNE

69 years ago, on 2nd June, the Coronation of HM Elizabeth II took place in Westminster Abbey

65 years ago, on 1st June 1957 that the first premium bond prize draw took place in Britain.

40 years ago, on 14th June 1982 that the Falklands War ended. Argentine forces surrendered to the British in Port Stanley and a ceasefire was agreed.



August Break

Please note that your Editor plans to take a break this summer so there will be no August edition of Parish News

Please send anything relating to events in August by 22nd June so that it can be included in the July edition.

Best wishes to all readers. *Edward Jones*

Sudoku - medium; solution on page 31

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

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Some simple tricks to save energy

The on-going rise in energy costs is eye-watering - and we are told to expect another one in the Autumn. Here are some well-proven ways to save money:

Always turn off the lights when you leave a room. Forget about maintaining an 'ambience' in your home.

Turn down your thermostat by at least a degree. Or two. Or three?

Get some LED bulbs – they are six times more efficient, last much longer, and use 90 per cent less energy than old-style bulbs.

Shower rather than bath. Don't worry about a bit of dirt on your children. It can strengthen their immune systems and help prevent them from becoming allergic to everything.

Don't boil the kettle all the time – it eats up about six per cent of all your electricity per year. Why not consider making a pot rather than a mug, so that you drink as much overall, but less often?

Make a draught excluder - you know, the ones that look like sausage dogs. Don't turn up the heat to combat a draught, fix the draught.

Keep doors closed. If you don't need to heat your WHOLE house, don't.

Put some more clothes on. We all know people who like to wear only tee-shirts at home, even in winter. If they belong to your family, get them to put on a jumper, cuddle the dog, wrap up in a blanket, or run up and down the stairs, not turn up the heating.

Set your washing machine at 30. Washing at 30 rather than

40 degrees can reduce your energy consumption by 60 per cent per cycle, according to the energy experts.

Use your electric clothes dryer less. It can account for five per cent of all household electricity. Far cheaper to buy a washing line!

Use your oven only when you can fill it up. Never cook just one thing at a time. And when you are done, leave the oven door open to help heat the house.

Don't leave the TV running if no one is watching it.

Don't leave devices on 'standby' _ switch them off at the wall. That includes the TV, music centre, home computer, printer and shredder.

All of these are small steps, but together they could make a big difference this year.

Parish Pump website

Solution to puzzle on page 29

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



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FRIENDS OF ST OWEN'S 100 CLUB PRIZE WINNERS MAY 2022

First Prize - Ian Frankish
Second Prize - Win Boulton
Third Prize - Margaret Ashill
Fourth Prize - Frances Bulmer
Fifth Prize - Peter Ward

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Solution to puzzle on page 26





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