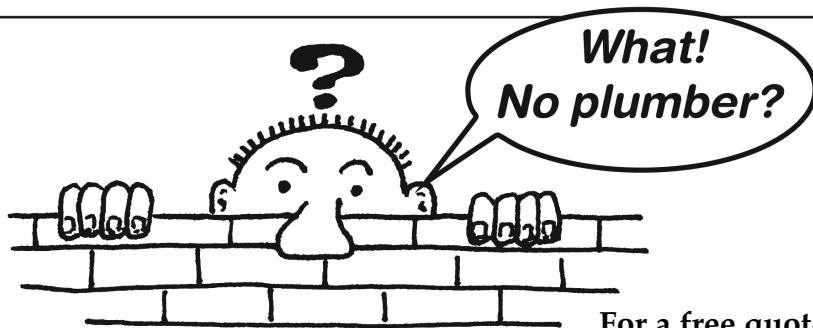


Parish News in Bromham, Oakley and Stagsden



Support
Ukrainian
Refugees

p18 May 2022



*Need a plumber at any time?
Today that could be a crime,
But not with my competitive rates,
I'll soon get you out of a state.*

*Need an new bathroom, or washing machine fitted?
Just call on me – I'm very well kitted.
Need central heating or just a tap washer changed?
Give me a ring and get it arranged.*

**For a free quote
contact:
P J Bartram
25 Bedford Road
Clapham
MK41 6EJ**

**Tel:
07785 716716**

Auction Sales & Valuations

Valuation, collection and auction service
of individual items through to complete
property and commercial clearances.

Call for a free no obligation quote or
email info@peacockauction.co.uk

SALE ENTRIES NOW INVITED

Antique & Modern Furniture • Clocks • Books • Ceramics & Glassware • Pictures & Prints • Bicycles
Jewellery & Watches • Collectables • Garage Tools & Equipment • Household Electrical Items • Office
Furniture & Equipment • Retail Products & Stock • Vehicles • Horticultural & Commercial Equipment
Building Materials • Garden Furniture & Effects

www.peacockauction.co.uk



W&H PEACOCK
AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS
01234 266366



Eastcotts Park,
Wallis Way,
Bedford,
MK42 0PE

Find us at: www.bromhambenefice.org



Vicar: Revd Catherine Wilson 825665
vicar@bromhambenefice.org
Assistant Priest: Revd Di Harpham 918691

Website &.....} Administrator 07494 069540
Wedding.....} (Mon & Thurs 9.30 -12.00: Tues, 9.30am -1.00pm
organisation..}
Fees Accounts...} administrator@bromhambenefice.org
Safeguarding Officer - Judith Denyer 07981 928522

Editor Mr Edward Jones stowensnews@btinternet.com 826551
Distribution Mrs B Cryer 825463
07767 272584

Churchwardens	Ms T Woodcock	340089
	Mrs F Bulmer	602718
PCC Secretary	Mrs Vivien Butler	407351
PCC Treasurer	Mrs Emma Harrison	823121

	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	}Rene Farquhar	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 Officers

Churchwardens	Mr G Palmer	07710 462535
	Mrs H Worley	262166
PCC Secretary	Mrs C Ord	823477
PCC Treasurer	Mrs S Ball	823133
Organist & Choirmaster - contact	Jenny Sudworth	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

1st May

9.00am

10.30am

3rd Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion (Bromham)

Holy Communion (Oakley)

8th May

9.00am

10.30am

6.00pm

4th Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion (Stagsden)

LEP Service (Oakley Methodist)

Evensong (Bromham)

15th May

9.00am

10.30am

4.30pm

5th Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion (Oakley)

Holy Communion (Bromham)

Wild Church (Bromham Scout site)

22nd May

9.00am

6th Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion (Stagsden) with

Bishop Richard

10.30am

Holy Communion (Bromham)

6.00pm

Evensong (Oakley)

26th May

Ascension Day - see page 10

29th May

10.30am

7th Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion (Stagsden)

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)



From the Vicarage

Did you know Sunday 8th May is a special day?

It's the 4th Sunday of Easter, which means it is Good Shepherd Sunday, so called because we hear Jesus' words in John 10 where he says 'I am the Good Shepherd'. But what did he mean by

that?

There is a funny YouTube clip which demonstrates how tricky shepherding can be. A sheep is stuck in a deep, narrow crack in the earth, with just its back legs sticking out. The shepherd manages to grab one of the legs and, after much effort, pulls it out. Without any acknowledgement of its rescuer, off skips the sheep joyfully... only for it to fall headfirst back into the ditch literally seconds later! No doubt the shepherd dutifully rescued the sheep again, patiently and lovingly, but with a knowing smile on his face.

Sheep are curious, joyful creatures, but also prone to distractions and scrapes and notoriously not very clever! Dangers lie all around - thickets, ditches, predators and more - which is why they need a shepherd to protect, guard and guide them in the right direction. One of our sons raised some lambs one year in partnership with a friend – it was hard work getting up to feed them before work, especially when it was cold, dark and wet, but they had fun (and we enjoyed some delicious lamb!). However, he often came home with tales of the daft things the lambs or their mothers had done, and how

they had needed to be sorted out.

We can be very much like sheep sometimes, with many distractions to take us off the path of discipleship, and many dangers and difficulties we can get stuck in. Which is why we need Jesus as our shepherd. And Jesus is the Good Shepherd, whose love for us is so strong that he 'laid down his life for the sheep' (John 10: 15) as we remembered on Good Friday.

But as well as Good Shepherd Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Easter is also Vocations Sunday, when we are reminded that all the members of Jesus' flock share a common vocation - to love and follow our Good Shepherd who can keep us safely on the right track.

We all have our own individual vocations to follow too – often we think of Christian vocations as solely concerned with ordination, but God calls us to serve him in different ways in the places he leads us to. In our workplace or school, in the organisations we're part of, in our local community, and of course in our churches, we need to be listening to hear what our Good Shepherd is calling us to do as part of his purposes for our lives.

As that funny video reminded me, as Jesus' sheep we can so often wander off course and find ourselves in sticky situations! But the Good Shepherd will always be ready to help set us right again. Just keep listening to his voice, for he knows where we need to go.

Jesus said, 'My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me' (John 10: 27).

Revd Catherine



**Christian Aid Week
2022**

15th - 21st May

The focus this year is on **Hunger in Zimbabwe**

The combined effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, conflict and drought have robbed mothers of the power to provide for their children

And 7,000 miles away, the war in Ukraine will drive up food prices in Zimbabwe and around the globe.

Without the fertiliser and food - like wheat and cooking oil - that Ukraine and Russia produce, vulnerable families will be pushed even deeper into hunger.

Join us this Christian Aid Week, and help turn hunger into hope.

With every gift, every action, every prayer, we celebrate and share hope with our sisters and brothers facing crisis around the world, from Ukraine to Zimbabwe.

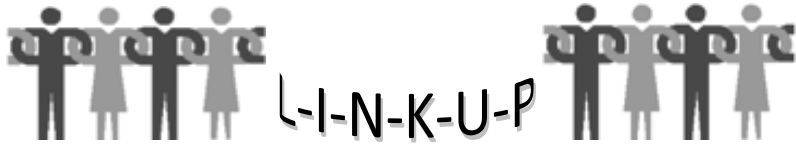
Please donate at christianaid.org.uk

Bring and Share Lunch

Twenty people enjoyed the St George's day lunch. Tessa read us a poem about St George to start us off and then we had a quiz while enjoying the delicious food. Most people did not know "What country (other than Wales) has a dragon on its flag?" or "--- and the Dragon is a book of the Apocrypha" We ended with a raucous nursery rhyme singing competition.

The next fellowship lunch will be on Sunday May 22 at St Owen's following their APCM.

Anne Tombs



LINKUP met in the new Fellowship Room at St Owen's to decorate plant pots and plant sunflower seeds. The pots and decorations were all recycled materials and the sunflower seeds had been bought to aid Ukraine.

Tea and cake was served and we discussed the future programme. On May 12th we will be having lunch at The Green Man at Lavendon. Please let Anne know on 01234 822949 if you would like to come.

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

Our thanks to everyone who attended our Easter Opening, or helped in any way. The event raised £403.40. 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

Flora Dawson

When faced with a choice and unsure which way to go, try this St Ignatius method of discernment: prayerfully imagine yourself at the end of your life and consider....
'which choice would I wish I had made?' – Anon

A Sharnbrook Deanery event



**A service to
celebrate
Ascension Day**

7.30pm on
Thursday 26th May, at
St.Denys Church,
Colmworth MK44 2JU

**An opportunity to come together again
as a Deanery after a 2 year gap!**

We want to take this opportunity to say a heartfelt 'thank you!' to our local heroes who have given above & beyond in service to church & community, especially over these last two years.

Refreshments available after the service

To nominate your local hero – please tell Sarah Smale at deaneryadmin@bromhambenefice.org in a few words why you are nominating your hero for a special Deanery 'Thank you!' on this occasion.

Nominations to be received by 16th May and include your name, church and contact details, please.



Archbishop Justin Welby's Easter sermon received widespread media attention for better or worse. Less well known is his letter to partners and heads of churches around the world. As we continue the Easter season you may care to reflect upon this. Ed

"Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb" [John 20:1]

This Easter we turn once again towards the light of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, in a world marked by darkness and conflict. For some of our churches, Easter has long been celebrated in the shadow of war and instability. For others, this may be the first time in many decades that the resurrection and promise of Christ has been celebrated amidst the cruel reality of bloodshed, displacement and struggle.

We pray particularly for those suffering in Ukraine this Easter, as well as the many other places that face war and conflict across the world. We pray for the widows of Yemen, the orphaned of Ethiopia and those from Afghanistan who are facing famine or have become foreigners in search of safety. We hold before God the countless other places across the world where such deep suffering is seen and grieved by Him who knows our pain on the Cross. We also remember those suffering the ongoing effects of the pandemic, and our brothers and sisters across the world who face the grave and present threat of the climate crisis.

In this broken world, the way of the Cross is a calling to each

Cont on p12

of us. The foot of the Cross becomes a place to gather as one body and one people, facing different sufferings but united in our need for God's healing and transformation.

We see in the wounds of humanity the risen Christ who still bears the scars of crucifixion. We see in the costly, sacrificial generosity of churches in Europe and around the world the redeeming promise of our Lord. In their support and hospitality in times of need, we see the Christ who is our refuge and our strength.

We give thanks to God for those religious leaders who have reached out to refugees and spoken out against evil, even at great personal danger to themselves and we are reminded that our fellowship in the Gospel when we speak and act together is more powerful than any wickedness.

For these signs of great hope, we give thanks. We celebrate life conquering death, wherever and whenever we see it.

Our calling this Easter remains the same as Christ's call to his disciples: to be people who witness to the resurrection. When we, too, see and believe (John 20:9), we can be bringers of new life. We too are called to stand with the oppressed, the marginalised and the forgotten. We too are called to cry out for God's justice and mercy to prevail, to denounce injustice and reject inequality in all the ways they appear in our world.

In St John's Gospel, Jesus appears to a mourning woman and she is consoled. His beloved disciple, fearful and confused, sees and believes. Thomas doubts, and yet in the wounds of Jesus he finds the truth of Christ. Jesus welcomes those without status and without value in the eyes of the world. God's message is made known to the wounded, the grieving, the confused, the rejected.

We have a saviour who does not turn his back on suffering and

scarring, but bears it all, and so transforms it.

While it was still dark and all seemed hopeless on the first Easter Sunday, Jesus had already risen. Death had already been defeated. And the first day of God's new creation had already begun. May we each hear the wounded yet risen Christ call us by name this Easter, and may we greet him with joy on this new dawn of God's creation.

Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

+*Justin Cantuar*:

The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Justin Welby

Giving Campaign 2022: the outcomes!

It was so encouraging to know that so many people took time to pray and review their giving to their Church during our Giving Campaign in March. **Thank you** to everyone who did this – and if you haven't yet returned your form and wish to do so, it is not too late! We are very grateful to God for inspiring and prompting so many of us during this time.

The responses received reflected great generosity and willingness to support each of our Parish Churches in their ministry and mission, and as a result we have new offers of time and skills to help in various areas, increased financial giving from some regular donors, and a number of new regular financial givers – this will all make a huge difference to our churches.

As well as promised giving increasing (*don't forget to do any paperwork required to set up/increase your regular gift!*),

fundraising activities should be back to more normal levels this year, and this too is an important income stream for all the churches.

Thank you for responding to God's generosity to you, and for your gifts to your church. And praise God for all that he is doing in and among us and our villages.

Finance details

St Leonard's: gained 2 new regular givers, and 2 existing givers increased their monthly gift – all of which will help to meet rising costs of the ministry and of maintaining the ancient building (actual figures not available at time of going to print).

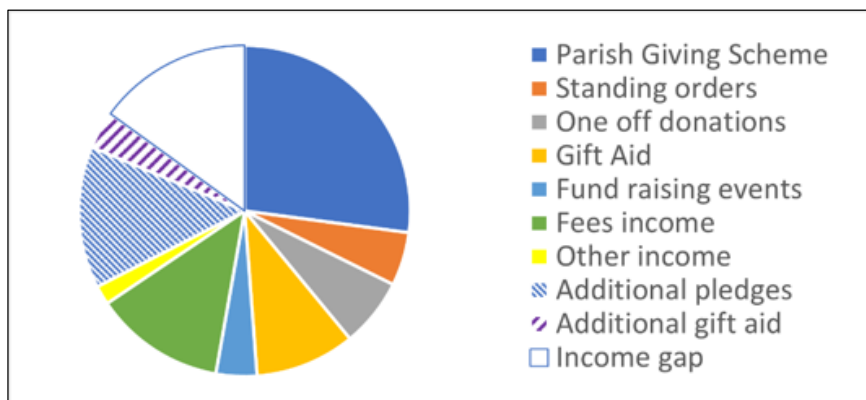
St Owen's: 8 new regular givers, together with those who increased their regular giving, made £724 extra income each month, expected to be just over £900 a month when Gift Aid is added, covering about 50% of the gap we face.

St Mary's: 3 new regular givers, and others raising their giving, amounts to £253 additional income per month; plus Gift Aid where applicable of approximately £50, totals around £300 per month – this will cover about 33% of the projected annual shortfall.

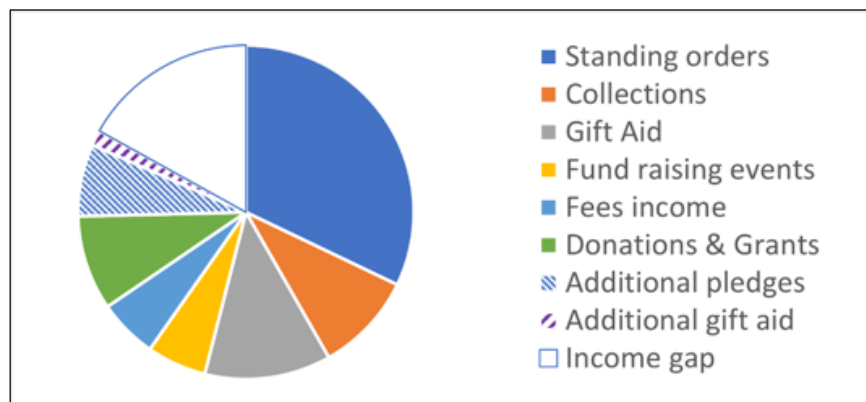
Graphical representations of projected incomes are shown opposite.

FINALLY - thank you to our three Treasurers for all their work on our behalf keeping the accounts in order, and especially to Emma (Bromham) and Sally (Oakley) for their invaluable contributions of time and skills to the Giving Campaign.

Bromham Projected Annual Income (below) - showing gap across 12 months reduced by about half following the Giving Campaign (in 2022 we will benefit from 8 not 12 months of increased giving so the gap will be slightly larger).



Oakley Projected Annual Income (below) – also showing the effect of a full year of increased giving reducing the gap in our income by a third.



Ed: Canon Paul Hardingham continues his introduction to Christianity.

Christian Basics No 5: Understanding the Bible

The Bible is a popular book, with five billion copies sold worldwide every year, as well as a uniquely precious book. At her coronation the Queen was given a Bible, *'the most precious thing this world affords'*.

The Bible isn't simply one book, but a library of 66 books, composed by some 44 writers over a period of 1500 years in a range of styles including history, poetry, prophecy, letters and apocalyptic (looking at the end times). Despite having a number of different writers, the Bible claims one author - God Himself!

As the Word of God, it is the primary way by which God speaks to us. *'All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work'* (2 Timothy 3:16). The Bible is inspired (*'the word of God in the words of men'*) and is a *manual for life*, equipping us to live for God in every aspect of our lives. We also have the promise of the Holy Spirit, who helps us to apply its words to our lives: *'But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth'* John 16:13.

The Bible can also be described as a *love letter* from God, as it deepens our relationship with Him. Jesus said: *'You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about Me, yet you refuse to come to Me to have life'* (John 5:39,40). Christians follow a person not a book, and the Scriptures are intended to help us to know Jesus better. Like a signpost, the Bible points us to the person of Jesus.

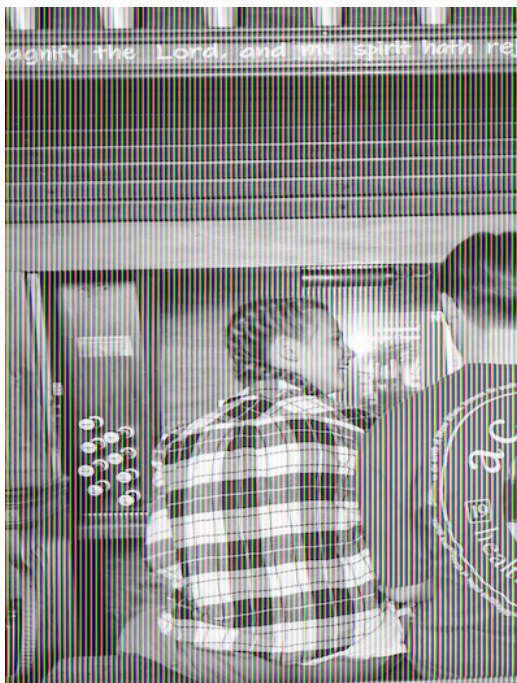
St Mary's Pulls Out all the Stops

To mark International Organ Day on Sat 23rd April we were treated to an 'Introduction to the Organ' talk in St Mary's around the newly refurbished organ.

David Williams, ably assisted by his young helpers Luke, Andrew, Rachel and Sophie, demystified this complicated musical instrument and provided some beautiful demonstrations of playing.

Topics ranged from registration to specification to stops and manuals. We learnt about organ music and also the differences between organs across the ages and countries, and even counties!

After a wonderfully informative hour or so refreshments were provided by the social committee and members of the audience were able to 'have a go'.



Many thanks to David for all his hard work organising the event and to the other volunteers on the day.



Emmaus Village Carlton (EVC)

This is an appeal, not for your money, but for your help.

EMC has spare accommodation which the Trustees have decided to make available to Ukrainian refugees. So, they have joined up with Father David and Deacon Peter from the Catholic Parish in Olney as well as the Chellington Team ministry, part of the Sharnbrook Deanery, where a number of individuals are offering to sponsor refugees to come into their homes.

A small sub-group has been set up to support and take this project forward comprising people from Emmaus, the Chellington Team and Deacon Peter. Not all of us are in a position, for whatever reason, to sponsor refugees to come and live in our homes. But all of us will, no doubt, wish to do whatever we can to help those caught up in this terrible war.

The Emmaus team are looking for indications of support and help. We have already sourced 13 people whose applications to come and live at Emmaus are being processed. At this stage all that we are looking for is an indication of who can help, with what.

Obviously, if it so happened that anyone spoke Ukrainian, possibly Russian or Bulgarian that would be incredibly helpful. Of the 13 people coming to Emmaus only one speaks and understands English. There will be a huge need for people who are qualified to teach English as a foreign language

Beyond that Carlton is served by a pretty poor bus service so offers of transport would be welcome. Refugees may need to be taken to Carlton on arrival at Bedford Station. They will need to come into Bedford to open bank accounts, register with the Department of Work and Pensions, register and visit the doctor, dentist and go to the shops.

Some of those refugees, particularly the ones in the flats at Emmaus itself, will not have their own cooking facilities and it may be helpful if people could consider cooking meals.

Perhaps you have computer skills which could help with form filling, claiming benefits and the like. Also, if you have an old smart phone at the back of some cupboard that may be very helpful.

We can expect a number of children, of all ages, will arrive with little but the clothes on their back. There will be a need for clothes, toys, simple books, play equipment, cots, pushchairs and the like. Perhaps, you may have some of these that you no longer use. Some of you might want to befriend a refugee family, invite them into your homes, show them around?

We all live busy lives and if you are able to offer any help it may only be occasional or for a short time. No offer of help will be too small not to be thankfully accepted.

At this stage all we wish to do is to find possible helpers outlining the help or skills that may be on offer. So, if you think you could help at all please contact email martinclitheroe@emmausvc.org or phone 07824859389

[If you are able to respond by email that would make processing your response easier but if that is not possible do feel free to telephone.]

Even if you not able to offer practical help do please pray for all the people of Ukraine and especially the refugees we are trying to help. **Thank you.**

Ed: The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series on God in the Arts with a famous painting by Dirk Bouts. It is found in the church of St Peter in Louvain.

A meal to remember!

When we gather with other Christians to celebrate the Eucharist and to make our communion, we are remembering that special meal Jesus shared with His disciples on the eve of His arrest and death. But do we always appreciate what we are doing? Sometimes the monotony of repetition and distractions will get in the way. We fail to recognise Christ's gift at communion for what it truly is.

In the 15th century the prosperous burghers of the Flemish town of Louvain commissioned the artist Dirk Bouts to paint a special altarpiece devoted to the Eucharist for the church of St Peter.



Dirk Bouts, with his imagination, portrayed the Last Supper in a room looking out to his own town of Louvain. The faces of the servers in the room and the cooks looking through the hatch were modelled on the burghers who commissioned the

work.

Other faces are modelled on theologians at the new university who visited the artist. They wanted to ensure he kept his theological feet on the ground while his imagination took flight. And so around the scene of the Last Supper, Bouts has painted Old Testament scenes foreshadowing that holy communion: Melchizedek offering bread and wine in return for Abraham's offering, the eating of the first Passover, the gathering of the manna in the wilderness, and Elijah awakened by the angel to eat and drink before setting out for Horeb. Signs of sacrifice, the Passover of the old covenant, daily food and food for the journey – all key aspects of the communion we celebrate and share in.

Just as the theological faculty reminded Dirk Bouts of all these facets, so the artist is reminding us of the richness of the distinctive meal we have as Christians. When we see the bread and wine taken up and offered, we remember not only the Last Supper, when Jesus fed His disciples with the sacrifice of His life, but those occasions when God reached out to feed His people of old. We rejoice that the food our Lord gives us in the Eucharist feeds us now and enables us to make our journey through life to the eternal banquet offered in the heavenly kingdom.

101 Great Big Questions about God and Science

By Lizzie Henderson and Steph Bryant, Lion Children's Books, £9.99

Have you ever wondered how the universe began, what the point of life might be, or whether God likes science? Then this is the book for you! 101 Great Big Questions asked by children with fascinating responses from leading experts in the areas of science, theology, philosophy and beyond!

Explore questions about the universe from the Big Bang and beginnings to what might happen in the future.

Discover what the experts think about: could humans ever become mermaids? do other animals have religions? why the Bible doesn't mention dinosaurs? could Jesus get out of a black hole? and does God like aliens?

Read personal stories from world class scientists and theologians about their experiences of exploring their own big questions about God, life, and the amazing universe we live in.

Perfect for budding scientists, theologians, and all those curious about the really big questions of life. This exciting question and answer-based book for 7+ year olds to explore key questions asked by children about science-faith interactions.

Brand New Facility

Fellowship Room

at

St Owen's Church

in Bromham Park

Available for Hire

from £12 per hour

Contact Edward on

01234 826551 or at

e.jones4491@gmail.com



Thank You

I am delighted to be able to let you know that the total raised for the Bishop's 2021 Harvest Appeal, *Water is Life*, is £58,674. This is an absolutely magnificent effort and I would like to thank everyone who has contributed and has worked so hard to achieve this result. Through Tearfund, it will bring clean water to many more communities in the Democratic Republic of Congo, preventing disease and transforming their lives.



We will be announcing the details of the 2022 Harvest appeal soon. + Alan

From the Registers

Wedding:

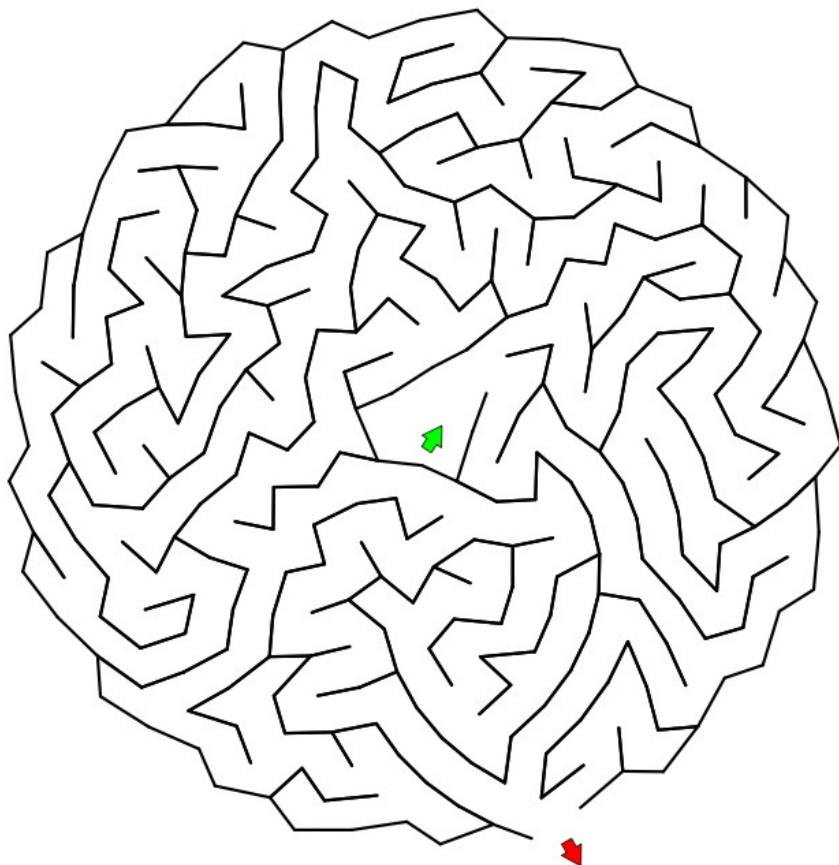
9th April Elin Davis and Thomas Short (Bromham)

Burial of Ashes:

2nd April Ray Fowler (Bromham)

Anxiety is an attempt to carry the burden of the future oneself; prayer is leaving it safely in the hands of God. -
Anon

Can you escape from the centre?

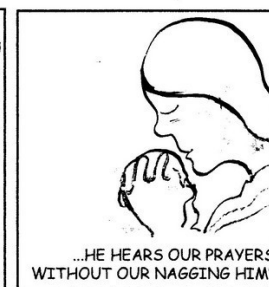
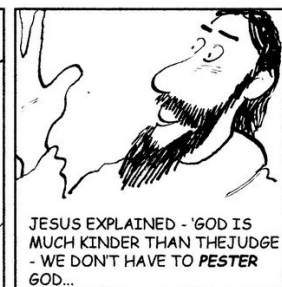
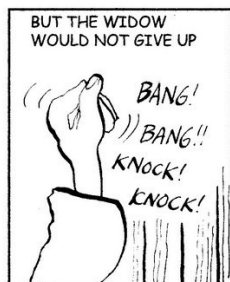
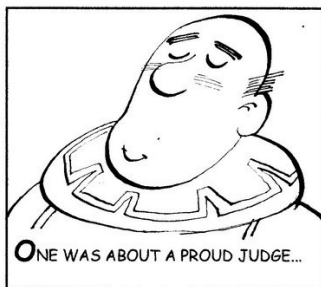
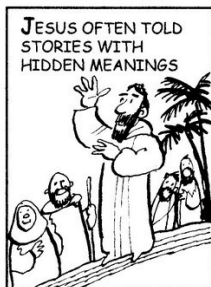
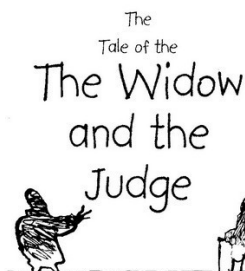


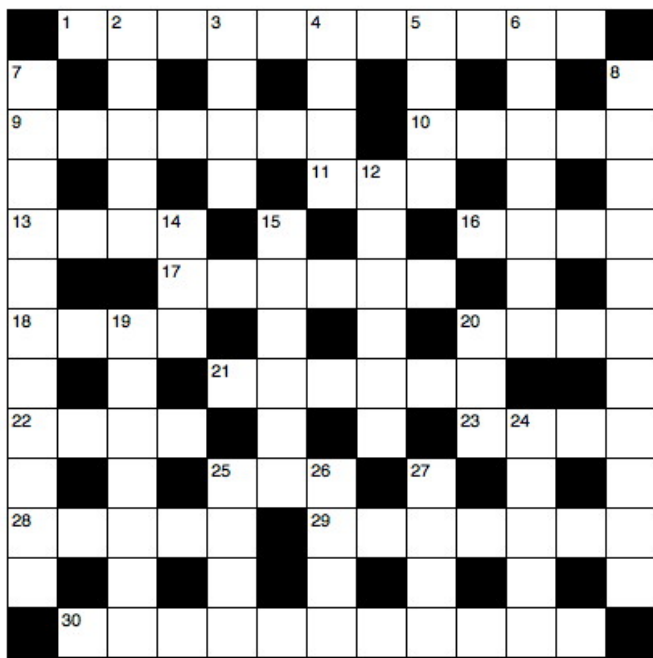
Grannies

Grandmas are mums with lots of icing sugar.

What bargains grandchildren are! I give them my loose change, and they give me a million pounds worth of pleasure. - *Gene Perret*

For younger readers.....





Across

- 1 Overpowered (Deuteronomy 11:4) (11)
 9 'The — are mantled with corn' (Psalm 65:13) (7)
 10 'Each man—a sword to his side'(Exodus32:27)(5)
 11 On the death of Jesus the curtain in the temple was torn from— to bottom (Matthew 27:51) (3)
 13 Stagger(Isaiah 28:7)(4)
 16 'Anyone,then,who knows the good he ought—and doesn't do it, sins' (James 4:17) (2,2)
 17 Stir up or provoke(Acts13:50)(6)
 18 Burden(Luke11:46)(4)
 20 'As far as the east is from the—,so far has he removed our transgressions from us' (Psalm 103:12) (4)
 21 Sign(Luke23:38)(6)
 22 'After that,Jesus poured water into a basin and began to —his disciples' feet' (John 13:5) (4)

- 23 The nature of the seven ears of corn which swallowed up the good ears in Pharaoh's dream (Genesis 41:23) (4)
 25 Has(anag.)(3)
 28 'This is the account of Shem,Ham and Japheth,— sons' (Genesis 10:1) (5)
 29 'I will...make them drunk,so that they...sleep for—and— awake' (Jeremiah 51:39) (4,3)
 30 Paul said of him,'he often refreshes me and is not ashamed of my chains' (2 Timothy 1:16) (11)

Down

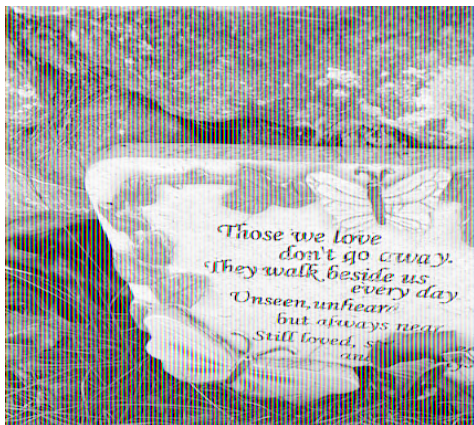
- 2 Worth (Matthew 13:46) (5)
 3 'A bruised — he will not break' (Matthew 12:20) (4)
 4 'Suddenly a great company of the heavenly — appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (4)
 5 Slip (anag.) (4)
 6 'Take an awl and push it through his — — into the door, and he will become your servant for life' (Deuteronomy 15:17) (3,4)
 7 Bountiful (2 Corinthians 8:2) (11)
 8 'Therefore, as we have — , let us do good to all people' (Galatians 6:10) (11)
 12 Acquire(2Timothy2:10)(6)
 14 Container cover(Numbers19:15)(3)
 15 'He...became obedient to death,even death on ——!' (Philippians 2:8) (1,5)
 19 Refrain(1Peter2:11)(7)
 20 'She began to—his feet with her tears'(Luke7:38)(3)
 24 One who worships Brahma,Vishnu or Shiva(5)
 25 'Give to everyone who—you'(Luke6:30)(4)
 26 'I lift up my eyes to the hills;where does my—come from?' (Psalm 121:1) (4)
 27 One of those whom the Lord said would be taken from Jerusalem and Judah as judgment on them (Isaiah 3:2) (4)

Solution on page 34

A Churchwarden's Surprise!

When Tessa Woodcock visited St Owen's Garden of Remembrance she noticed something behind a little memorial stone.....

Both she and the mother blackbird(?) got quite a shock!



That's right....not Easter eggs but real live birds eggs. PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB!

Ed - I spotted this warning by Eileen Bates on a local news group which you may find useful.

Many of you know I work for a local Council, in the Council Tax Dept. Most people are aware of the £150 fuel rebate, that the government is giving people, to help with fuel costs. I've had a number of calls, at work, today, from people who have had a phone call from 'The Council', asking for bank details, so the payment can be put directly into the bank. THIS IS A SCAM TO GET YOUR BANK DETAILS! Never give any details to a 'cold caller'. Please take care not to fall for this, and warn any vulnerable people about these crooks. If you pay

by Direct Debit, the payment will be made into the bank account your DD comes from. If you don't pay by DD, but live in a band A to D property, you are still entitled to the £150. Your council will send you a cheque, through the post. If this is not cashed, after 3 months, it will be cancelled, and the £150 will be credited to your Council Tax account.

IF THE COUNCIL TAX ACCOUNT IS NOT IN ARREARS, AND THE CHEQUE IS NOT CASHED, WITHIN THE SPECIFIED TIME PERIOD, THE OPPORTUNITY TO CLAIM THIS PAYMENT WILL BE LOST. These are the government guidelines, that all councils should be following.

Sudoku - medium; solution on page 31

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

© 2008 KrazyDad.com

Out and about on the roads? Remember the NEW Highway Code

When did you last read the Highway Code? Various 'fundamental' changes were recently made which will surely affect you.

For example, there is a new hierarchy of road users, where drivers now have new responsibilities to watch out for people who are walking, cycling, or riding a horse.



Another example is that cyclists are now advised to cycle in the *centre* of lanes in slower-moving traffic.

Finally, do you even know how best to open your car door? According to the Highway Code, you should use your hand on the opposite side to the door you are opening; for example, use your left hand to open a door on your right-hand side. This will make you turn your head to look over your shoulder. You are then more likely to avoid causing injury to cyclists or motorcyclists passing you on the road, or to people on the pavement.

Read all about the new rules at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code>

Encyclopaedias

Sorting out books for the local fete, a parishioner came across some well-worn and dusty illustrated encyclopaedias, treasured from his childhood. Unwilling to part with them, he put them on a shelf in the garage where his small grandchildren found them and spent many happy hours looking at the pictures. These books, however, caused him great embarrassment the day the minister came to visit.

One of his grandchildren suddenly said: "Grandad, can we go look at those dirty books you keep in the garage?"



Solution to
puzzle on
page 29

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

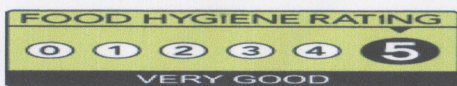


ESTABLISHED 1990

HOME DELIVERY AVAILABLE. Within radius of 8 miles with delivery charge. Minimum order £12.

84 High Street
Clapham
Bedford
MK41 6BW

Tel: 01234 364447/364466
Website: www.zeeraclapham.co.uk



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

First Prize - Linda Neal

Second Prize - Pearl Nicholson

Third Prize - Sally Davies

Fourth Prize - Suzi Webb

Fifth Prize - Heather Fawcett



General Household
Maintenance • General Garden
Maintenance • Grass Cutting •
Hedge Cutting • Turfing •
Fencing • Shed & Playhouse
Repairs • Gutting Cleaned &
Repaired • Decorating
Preparation Internal & External
Painting Internal & External •
Labouring Services

For a free quote or advice, any job considered, please call **Paul Sheen:**

T.01234 349938 M.07925 382297

STUART PAUL SAVAGE

ALL

PAINTING AND DECORATING &
BATHROOMS & PLUMBING

01234 855780

MOBILE 07766145612

M.J.NICHOLSON

Grass Cutting &

Gardening Contractor

(Established 1968)

Wootton based: available in Bromham, Oakley and Stagsden

Telephone: (01234) 766306 or 07759 630291

Solution
to
puzzle
on page
26

	O	V	E	R	W	H	E	L	M	E	D	
O		A		E		O		I		A		O
V	A	L	L	E	Y	S		S	T	R	A	P
E		U		D		T	O	P		L		P
R	E	E	L		A		B		T	O	D	O
F			I	N	C	I	T	E		B		R
L	O	A	D		R		A		W	E	S	T
O		B		N	O	T	I	C	E			U
W	A	S	H		S		N		T	H	I	N
I		T		A	S	H		H		I		I
N	O	A	H	S		E	V	E	R	N	O	T
G		I		K		L		R		D		Y
	O	N	E	S	I	P	H	O	R	U	S	



Eastcotts Park,
Wallis Way,
Bedford, MK42 0PE
01234 266 366

Visit
www.peacockscafe.co.uk
for more details on our opening
hours and to view our full menu.

W&H PEACOCK
AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

The Cafe at W&H Peacock is OPEN

View the salerooms for our upcoming auctions and
then relax with a coffee and a slice of cake.

Our unique cafe in Bedford Auction Centre with free wi-fi
comfortably seats over 100 customers. We serve cooked
breakfasts, paninis and sandwiches, light lunches and
snacks plus a range of hot and cold drinks.





Jonathan Vowles

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

- Tax Saving Specialists
- Financial Accounts
- Management Accounts
- Business Start-Up Advice
- Payroll Services
- Bookkeeping & VAT
- Personal Tax Returns
- Business Consultancy

"Just what every business needs"

Please contact us for a free one hour consultation to find out how we can help you and your business

114 High Street, Cranfield, Beds, MK43 0DG

Tel: 01234 752566 Fax: 01234 752577 Email: info@vowles.co.uk

Website: www.vowles.co.uk

R P TESTA

PLUMBING & HEATING SERVICES LIMITED

Est. 1992

A LOCAL RELIABLE SERVICE WITH OVER **25** YEARS EXPERIENCE

All General Plumbing requirements and full design & installation for:

- Central Heating inc. LPG
- Under floor Heating
- Unvented hot water
- Bathrooms inc. tiling
- Solar Hot water
- Gas fires/hobs etc.



102217



For help and advice call **01234 781827**

www.testaplumbingandheating.co.uk



Clarabut & Plumbe Funeral Service



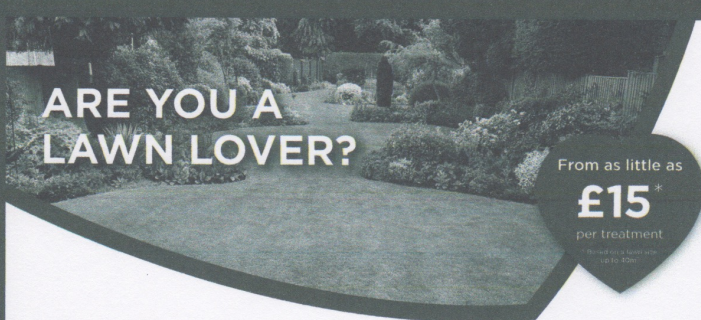
- Private chapels of rest
- 24-hour personal service

Providing quality funeral service with care,
compassion and dignity for over 125 years

11 Kingsway, Bedford, MK42 9BJ | 01234 354547

6 Bedford Road, Kempston, MK42 8AD | 01234 860038

35 Chiltern Avenue, Putnoe, MK41 9EQ | 01234 865872



**ARE YOU A
LAWN LOVER?**

From as little as

£15*
per treatment

HELP YOUR LAWN TO THRIVE, NOT JUST SURVIVE

Over the last 30 years our love for lawns has grown and grown (just like our grass!). We combine our passion and enthusiasm with innovative technology as we continue to revolutionise UK Lawn Care. Our groundbreaking 12-month **Lawn Treatment Programmes**, keep your grass looking its best all year round, ensuring your lawn receives the love and attention it deserves.

Let's create the lawn we both love

Start your Lawn Care journey today:

Call us on 01234 709345/01480 597432

email: bedford@greenthumb.co.uk visit: greenthumb.co.uk/bedford

