

MAY 2020



SERVING THE PARISHES OF

ALL SAINTS'
Baschurch

HOLY TRINITY
Weston Lullingfields

ST MARY'S
Hordley

50p
Per issue

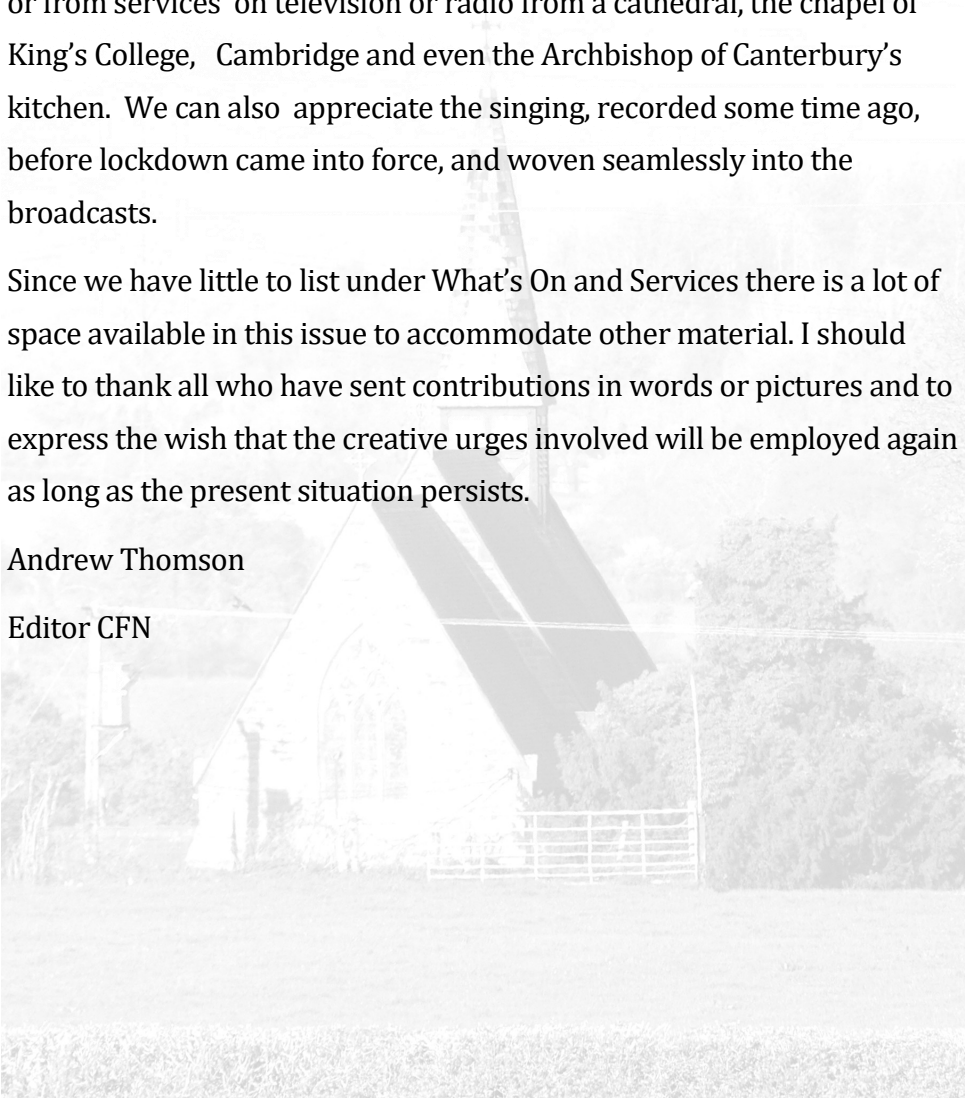
Dear Readers,

Now that we are entering the second month of churches being all locked up and out of bounds we have become accustomed, if we feel the need, to getting our spiritual uplift remotely from our rector, Rev Linda Cox; or from services on television or radio from a cathedral, the chapel of King's College, Cambridge and even the Archbishop of Canterbury's kitchen. We can also appreciate the singing, recorded some time ago, before lockdown came into force, and woven seamlessly into the broadcasts.

Since we have little to list under What's On and Services there is a lot of space available in this issue to accommodate other material. I should like to thank all who have sent contributions in words or pictures and to express the wish that the creative urges involved will be employed again as long as the present situation persists.

Andrew Thomson

Editor CFN



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SUBMISSIONS FOR JUNE MAGAZINE

Please send your stories, pictures or notices for the next issue by

15th May 2020

to: **churchfamilynews@gmail.com**

I expect that the June magazine will be published online as this one is, but if the situation allows for the printing and distribution of a paper version I shall do my best to produce one.

Front cover: the rainbow symbol as seen in Yeaton, near Baschurch.

Photograph by Fenella Davies.

May Magazine Letter

Dear Friends,

I hope and pray that you are all still safe and well and that you stay that way. As I write we are just into our second period of isolation, and I know for many of you that will be difficult for all sorts of different reasons. However, it is important that we listen to the advice and do as we are advised, so that we can all remain well and safe and at the same time keep our National Health Service functioning to the best of its ability.

Over these last four weeks I've seen, certainly in our communities, human beings at their best. People have risen to the challenge of being a community and helping each other out. So many people have given their names to local support groups, so many that there are not enough jobs for everyone, which is wonderful. Please do not be disheartened if you do not get a phone call to help, it may be that another few weeks down the line that you get that call. In the meantime I would encourage everyone, even if you are one of the many who are shielding, to pick up your phone or open your computer and keep in regular touch with someone else. It is the daily isolation that most people are finding hard, so just to receive a message of any kind from someone is uplifting.

If you are reading this, then you have found the website, great! I hope you have also found that you can access our live Sunday morning worship at 11am from this site, just click on the button on the front page of the website. Each week's service is also available on this website under the section 'resources whilst services are suspended'. I have also been emailing each week the resources plus other things to those whose email addresses I have. If you haven't been receiving those and would like to then please email me at linda@allsaintsbaschurch.com and I will add you to the list.

So, Easter arrived and what a different Easter from any we have known before. I have to confess to feeling very emotional when I took the service on Easter Day; I missed each and every one of you, even though I know many of you were joining in online. Holy Week did feel like we were walking that journey with Jesus and I know it brought it home to

me how alone Jesus must have felt, even though he was surrounded by people; he was isolated with his own thoughts and fears. So despite the fact that we weren't together on Easter Day, Jesus had risen from the grave and we could and did celebrate with shouts of Alleluia! We'll party when we are back in our buildings!

But what now?

We are still in the Easter season and Easter is not just about the one day. Over these coming weeks, as we have already heard in our readings, Jesus continues to appear to various people, for each of them it is their resurrection moment as they meet and greet the risen Christ. In those moments people's lives are transformed, nothing is the same again as they recognize who is before them and what He has done for them. In this time of isolation more and more people are engaging and interacting with churches, some through online services and other forms of social media, some through conversations either on the phone or across a road when you meet on your daily walks and others through the television or radio. Why is that you might ask? For some it will be because they suddenly have the time and they are returning to something they had pushed to one side, for others engaging online is a safe way of exploring, some people will be fearful and will begin to ask questions, others might just come across worship by chance. For whatever reason people are engaging, for whatever reason you have been drawn to this site, everyone is welcome. As Christians we don't profess to have all the answers, we certainly can't tell you why some people get ill and die and others recover. What I do know though is that we do not have a God who chooses and who lets some live and some die. Each one of us is precious and loved by God, and God hurts and feels our pain when we are sad and hurting. God sent Jesus his one and only Son to earth because he loves us so much, and Jesus went to the cross for us as he took upon himself the sins of the world. He suffered the pain and humiliation of crucifixion, died and then rose again to new life, to restore the broken relationship between humanity and his Father and in doing so he opened the way to eternal life for each one of us. In short Jesus came to save us and offers each one of us forgiveness for our sins. The joy and the hope of the resurrection are for all of us. When we open our hearts and our lives to Jesus our lives are transformed, we can't stop that.

We are living in our present climate through a time of transformation for our world. We are already seeing massive changes: the environment is beginning to heal itself as levels of pollution drop dramatically; mountain ranges that have been obscured by a polluted haze have suddenly become crystal clear to the naked eye. People have discovered they don't need to use transport and travel to places each day, we don't need to shop 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, we can live and eat with what we have in our cupboards, we can even grow our own vegetables! You would be surprised at how many have never done this. People have discovered they have time to spend with their children and have found out who their neighbours are. We have rediscovered we have legs and can walk or cycle. With these changes not only is our world physically changing but its people are also. Once again the vast majority of people are looking out for each other, even those they don't know, there is a greater sense of community. People are also asking questions, like 'Why is this happening?' I can't answer that for you but what I do know is that it is making us all look at our lives and once again people are starting to pray to God.

In these times of uncertainty, in their fear whether at home or in hospital wards, people are having their own resurrection moments as Jesus comes and meets them where they are. For most it is that sense of Jesus' presence with them and suddenly feeling at peace, but however Jesus meets with them it is leaving a profound effect upon them. The first symbol of hope the world recognized was the sign of a rainbow, a symbol of hope after the flood in the story of Noah. It is perhaps no surprise that such a symbol is being used during the fight against this virus. A symbol that tells us there is always hope where God is.

So I wonder how have your lives been transformed already?

What have you noticed about yourself in all of this?

Where is God in it for you?

On the 8th May we were to celebrate 75 years since Victory in Europe following an event that changed and transformed many peoples lives. History books tell us that lessons had been learnt and never again would we face such destruction and devastation. On one hand that is true, we haven't faced it on those scales, but history also tells us that we only partially learnt

from that event as humanity still seeks to hurt itself. That event is now postponed until later this year, but maybe in our time of isolation we need to reflect on it. The event transformed the world but humanity still didn't fully learn. What can we learn now and how can we seek to make sure the positive transformations that are happening remain, even after isolation?

I look forward to catching up with you by phone or email or as you join with me in our online services. I pray that you all stay safe and well and that in your isolation you recognize Jesus meeting with you, your resurrection moment.

Do email me if you have any questions or concerns or would simply like to chat.

With my love and continued prayers,

Linda

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals: None

Baptisms: Florence Victoria Pinches at All Saints' on Sunday 15th March

Congratulations to Alice and Will Reynolds on the birth of baby Mabel on Wednesday 15th April.



Our churchwardens are not letting people into the church just now.

How the Virus Stole Easter

By Kristi Bothur

With a nod to Dr. Seuss ☑

'Twas late in '19 when the virus began
Bringing chaos and fear to all people, each land.

People were sick, hospitals full,
Doctors overwhelmed, no one in school.

As winter gave way to the promise of spring,
The virus raged on, touching peasant and king.

People hid in their homes from the enemy unseen.
They YouTubed and Zoomed, social-distanced, and cleaned.

April approached and churches were closed.
“There won’t be an Easter,” the world supposed.

“There won’t be church services, and egg hunts are out.
No reason for new dresses when we can’t go about.”

Holy Week started, as bleak as the rest.
The world was focused on masks and on tests.

“Easter can’t happen this year,” it proclaimed.
“Online and at home, it just won’t be the same.”

Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, the days came and went.
The virus pressed on; it just would not relent.

The world woke Sunday and nothing had changed.
The virus still menaced, the people, estranged.

“Pooh pooh to the saints,” the world was grumbling.
“They’re finding out now that no Easter is coming.

“They’re just waking up! We know just what they’ll do!
Their mouths will hang open a minute or two,
And then all the saints will all cry boo-hoo.

“That noise,” said the world, “will be something to hear.”
So it paused and the world put a hand to its ear.

And it did hear a sound coming through all the skies.
It started down low, then it started to rise.

But the sound wasn't depressed.
Why, this sound was triumphant!
It couldn't be so!
But it grew with abundance!

The world stared around, popping its eyes.
Then it shook! What it saw was a shocking surprise!

Every saint in every nation, the tall and the small,
Was celebrating Jesus in spite of it all!

It hadn't stopped Easter from coming! It came!
Somehow or other, it came just the same!

And the world with its life quite stuck in quarantine
Stood puzzling and puzzling.
"Just how can it be?"

"It came without bonnets, it came without bunnies,
It came without egg hunts, cantatas, or money."

Then the world thought of something it hadn't before.
"Maybe Easter," it thought, "doesn't come from a store.
Maybe Easter, perhaps, means a little bit more."

And what happened then?
Well....the story's not done.
What will YOU do?
Will you share with that one
Or two or more people needing hope in this night?
Will you share the source of your life in this fight?

The churches are empty - but so is the tomb,
And Jesus is victor over death, doom, and gloom.

So this year at Easter, let this be our prayer,
As the virus still rages all around, everywhere.

May the world see hope when it looks at God's people.
May the world see the church is not a building or steeple.
May the world find Faith in Jesus' death and resurrection,
May the world find Joy in a time of dejection.
May 2020 be known as the year of survival,
But not only that -
Let it start a revival.

Giving

I know that many people give to the Church in lots of different ways, and for that I am extremely grateful and I thank you. However, even before Coronavirus our three churches were beginning to struggle financially as bills, like in our households, continue to rise. With the closure of our church buildings we are now looking at a much more serious situation and face the possibility of not being able to pay the necessary bills that arise.

In the past our monetary giving has come mainly from two sources.

1) Fundraising

2) Through the money that people give as part of their offering.

Unfortunately we are unable to hold fundraising events at present and we have no idea when that is likely to restart. For those who give as part of their offering to the church it is given in different ways. If you give by standing order then there is no change, although you might like to review what you give if you haven't done so for some time. If you give as part of the giving envelope scheme or directly onto the plate then that for the time being is not possible and therefore we do not have that financial income.

In the coming weeks we will be putting different ways to give on our website for each of the churches and I would encourage you to look and to think about either direct giving through the Diocese or to set up a standing order for your particular church. If you don't want to do that you might want to just gift an amount to cover the time you can't give in your normal way, Bank details can be sought from the treasurer for each church but will also appear on the website in due course. If you can think about setting up a monthly standing order that will help enormously both for now and into the future and will help to secure that the Church remains open and is there for future generations to come. If you are a tax payer please also remember you can gift aid any money given and the church will receive an extra 25p per £1 without any extra cost to you.

Thank you.

Linda

BENEFICE NEWS

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

A big thank you to all who generously supported the Big Brew at All Saints' through donations for their refreshments, buying cakes and taking part in the game and raffle. The winner of the "Where is the Pesky Coffee Pest?" was Anne Lewis. The total raised was a magnificent £158.40 - many thanks again.

Pat Davies

All Saints "100 Club" Winners

April 2020	No 20	Mrs A Lightfoot
	No 69	Mrs E Woods
	No 131	Mrs M Roberts

What to do if you require help or assistance during the Coronavirus crisis.

In the event of self-isolation, or your family and friends being in isolation and you need assistance with shopping etc. what can you do?

There are people willing to help and I have a list of names and numbers. Please do give me a ring and we will do what we can for you.

If you are someone who lives alone, you may feel even more isolated as people stop visiting. If this is the case and you would like someone to ring and check that you are okay, then again please contact me and I will ensure someone rings you every couple of days.

Please do not feel alone or scared at this time, we are here to help and assist in whatever we can.

Revd. Linda Cox 01939 260305

Email: linda@allsaintsbaschurch.com

Reasons to be cheerful

Amidst all the worries, uncertainties, restrictions on normal life and tragic loss of family and friends it's good to focus on reasons to be cheerful.



We are blessed living in the three Parishes of Baschurch, Weston Lullingfields and Hordley to be in the midst of beautiful Shropshire countryside. Most of us don't have far to go to be walking on country lanes, footpaths and bridleways. If we meet other walkers it isn't difficult to avoid close contact while enjoying exchanges of welcome conversation. And we have been so fortunate this Spring to be enjoying plenty of dry sunny days. It's never been so easy

to keep on top of all the washing!!

Jan and I started the lockdown with son, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren squeezed into our small house - and that's the way it has stayed, of course, since late March. We have had difficult times - the two granddaughters are missing their friends at Baschurch primary school and the Corbet and school days too (though they wouldn't admit it!) but we are learning tolerance, understanding and, most important of all, when to keep quiet!

The "loss" of the liturgy over Holy Week and Easter has been tempered by the novel (for me) experience of taking part online in services as diverse as a Catholic Mass from Toronto, a lovely celebration of Palm Sunday from a large Methodist Church we know in California and beautiful liturgy from Salisbury Cathedral. And we much appreciate too Linda's messages, prayers and music.



Nick Bardsley - Weston Lullingfields

VE Day 75th Anniversary Celebrations

STAY AT HOME STREET PARTY!

Friday 8th May 2020

DECORATE YOUR HOUSE RED, WHITE
AND BLUE AND ENJOY A PICNIC
IN YOUR FRONT GARDEN

*Commemorate the end of WW2 by celebrating with your family,
friends and neighbours!*



Vera Lynn recently celebrated her 103rd birthday. To hear her singing this iconic song enter “We’ll meet again Vera Lynn” as a search term on your web browser.



HORDLEY NEWS

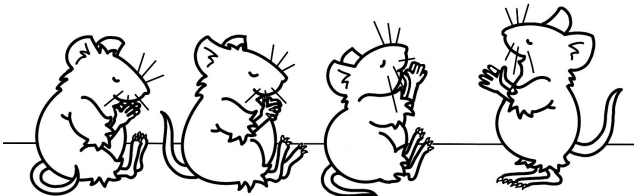
Because the Hordley community is so spread out, communication is necessarily achieved during the outbreak of the Coronavirus very much by means of the telephone and emails. I believe such contact is taking place on a regular basis, particularly with the elderly and most vulnerable. Being confined to the home for long periods is proving a challenge for many, most especially those who live alone. Many people are being isolated from members of their families, who are unable to visit. If you need support or help, or know of someone else who does, please see the advice on page 11 and contact Linda on 01939 260305.

The beautiful weather has been a blessing so we have been able to take our daily walks, runs or bike rides whilst enjoying our lovely surroundings here in north Shropshire. One cycle ride took us past a garden where a friend who was sitting on her wall told us how she is very busy sewing items for the NHS. Every passer-by greets us with a friendly word or a smile. Useful news is handed on about which shops deliver necessary items etc.

Much in our thoughts is the plight of the local farmers who continue to work to provide our food and milk. Staff shortages due to illness, essential quarantining or other reasons must be a continual challenge to them.

If your walk or cycle ride takes you past the church you might take a moment to look at the daffodils and primroses in the churchyard, which I understand still look well, and the burial ground which is being kept neat and tidy for us.

The winner of the Hordley Lottery Draw in April was Bob Randall with number 25.



What do the mice get up to when we don't go to church?

BRAIN TEASERS

for your entertainment

101010

Draw one straight line to make this nine fifty.

You are outside a room that you can't see into because the door is closed. There are three light switches operating three lights in the room. You can work these switches as you please before entering the room, but once in there you can't come out. How can you work out which switch operates which light?

On the Island of Imperfection there are three tribes: the Pukkas, who always tell the truth; the Wotta-Woppas, who never tell the truth; and the Shilli-Shallas, who alternate between the truth and lies.

A, B and C belong to different tribes, and A and C speak as follows:

A: "I am a Wotta-Woppa"

C: "A is not a Shilli-Shalla"

To what tribes do A, B and C belong?

Answers on page 26.

LIGHT AFTER DARKNESS

The Sunday Worship programme on BBC 1 has twice recently taken us to the cathedral of St Deiniol, at Bangor in North Wales. In the second such service, in which all of the hymns were recorded in March 2018, we heard the choir singing a beautiful hymn previously unknown to me and not included in the hymn book used in our churches. It is called “Light after Darkness” and was written around 150 years ago by Frances Ridley Havergal, whose best known hymn is “Take my life , and let it be.”

This hymn has three verses, with these the words:

<i>Light after darkness,</i>	<i>Sheaves after sowing,</i>	<i>Near after distant,</i>
<i>Gain after loss,</i>	<i>Sun after rain,</i>	<i>Gleam after gloom,</i>
<i>Strength after weakness</i>	<i>Sight after mystery,</i>	<i>Love after loneliness,</i>
<i>Crown after cross;</i>	<i>Peace after pain;</i>	<i>Life after tomb;</i>
<i>Sweet after bitter,</i>	<i>Joy after sorrow,</i>	<i>After long agony,</i>
<i>Hope after fears,</i>	<i>Calm after blast,</i>	<i>Rapture of bliss,</i>
<i>Home after wand'ring,</i>	<i>Rest after weariness,</i>	<i>Right was the pathway,</i>
<i>Praise after tears.</i>	<i>Sweet rest at last.</i>	<i>Leading to this.</i>

It struck me how appropriate these words are to our present situation, specially those in the first verse. Although written all those years ago, it makes us long for the end of the present darkness that envelops us all. The version sung at Bangor has four verses sung alternately in English and Welsh.

To see and hear it being sung by a choir in Bangor Cathedral search online using the search term “Light after darkness Bangor cathedral”.



HOW MANY APPLES DID ADAM & EVE EAT?

How many apples did Adam & Eve eat?

Some say Eve 8 & Adam 2 a total of 10 only.

Others work the thing out differently Eve 8

& Adam 8 also – a total of 16

We think the above figures are wrong.

Even if Eve 8 & Adam 82 the total will be 90.

Scientific men on the strength of the theory that

the antediluvian were a race of giants reason

something like this: Eve 81 & Adam 82 total 163.

But what could be clearer than if Eve 81 and

Adam 812 the total was 893.

But we go further & suggest the following to be

the true solution Eve 814 Adam & Adam 8124

Eve total 8938.

In fact we were convinced this

was the correct answer until another calculation

gave the following astounding result which really

must be right. If Eve 8144 Adam and Adam

81242 oblige Eve total 89386 apples.

This explains of course how the fall of our first

parents brought pain into the world.

This was found written in the flyleaf of a family book in 1918,

although other versions go back to 1878 in the USA.

Michael & Heather Randall

St James the Least of All

On the perils of a Scout camp

My dear Nephew Darren

It seems that the basics of parish ministry are no longer taught in theological colleges. Don't you know anything about consulting your diary in public? When you are asked if you are free on a certain date, accepted practice is to open it so that the enquirer cannot quite see. You then shake your head sadly, saying you are committed to blessing a new tea urn, or on some other vital ecclesiastical activity that day. Then you regretfully give your apologies. You do not open the thing in full view of your enquirer, so he can see the blank pages! Really, it serves you right that you are now committed to going on Scout camp.

The last time I agreed to pay the Scouts a visit was when I found that there was a splendid restaurant only a mile away from their camp. I arrived and parked my car by the side of the river where they were all canoeing, wound down the car window and made encouraging noises for some minutes before explaining I had to find a garage for petrol. Several hours later, after an excellent lunch, I drove to where they were now rock climbing, wound down the car window and made encouraging noises for some minutes before explaining that I had a standing committee to return to that evening. It was a splendid day.

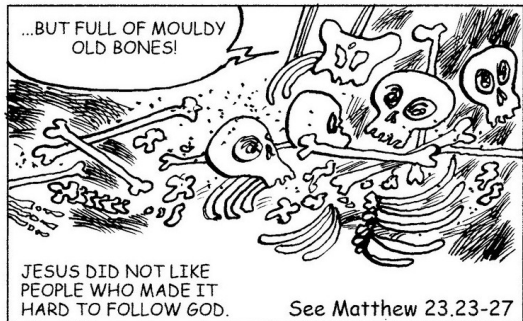
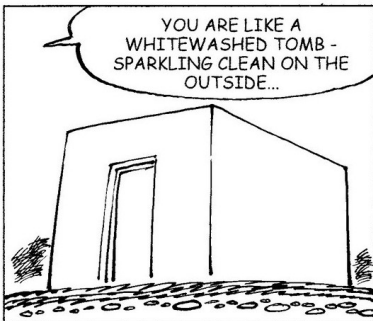
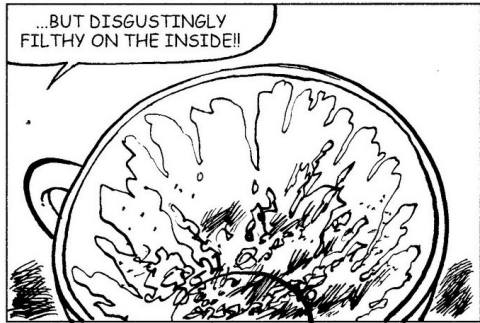
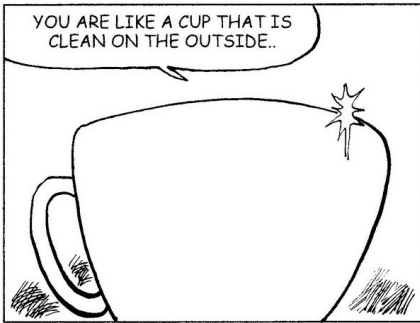
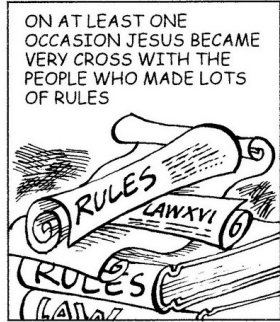
You, however, will experience the charms of two days under canvas. Whatever site for your tent you choose, it will be the one that floods first. The early hours will undoubtedly find you wading about in water in the pitch dark, retrieving your sleeping bag and clothes – which you will then have to wear for the rest of the day. Watch out for the food, as well: all camp food contains grass and usually sheep droppings. This will make you ill, though for some reason Scouts thrive on it.

Whatever the weather and whatever activities you do each day, you will end up wet, chilled and bruised. At least your evenings will be warm, for you are bound to spend them at Casualty, with youngsters suffering from sprained ankles or dislocated shoulders.

My only advice is to use those hours in Casualty to practise the art of opening your diary in a way that only YOU can see it.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

"Some tough talking"



EASTER WORDSEARCH

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

ARIMATHEA
BURIAL
CROSS
DEAD
DISCIPLE
EMMAUS
EMPTY
FISH
JESUS
LAMB
LINEN
LOVE
MAGDALENE

MARKS
MARY
NAILS
PEACE
RABBONI
RESURRECTION
RISEN
SIMON PETER
THOMAS
TOMB
WEPT
WOMAN



Oh, to be in England
Now that April's there,
And whoever wakes in England
Sees, some morning, unaware,
That the lowest boughs and the brushwood sheaf
Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny leaf,
While the chaffinch sings on the orchard bough
In England—now!

Home thoughts from abroad by Robert Browning

*Thanks to Maureen
Clarke for these photos
taken around Ellesmere.*

HOLY TRINITY

WESTON LULLINGFIELDS

It seems strange not to be rushing about making plans and arrangements for social events. But it is interesting how we adapt and fill our time with things we can do – lots more gardening during the lovely weather; tidying those cupboards and wardrobes you have been meaning to do for ages (the downside to these jobs is that you then have to find somewhere to store the items to go to the tip and the charity shops!); more time for baking, cooking and DIY; exercise and walking while we can get out and about; bird watching and discovering we have some interesting birds in the area. We are very fortunate to live in the countryside with lanes where we have space. Our hearts go out to those who live in crowded towns and cities.

More time at home opens up chances to do more reading, catching up on TV and radio programmes, getting out games which often only see the light of day at Christmas, keeping in touch more with family and friends by phone, email and Skype – especially those who live alone.

Linda has worked hard to supply us with services during Lent and Easter – and there have been services to watch and listen to on TV and radio. So we have been richly blessed during the time we have not been able to use our churches. We spare a thought too for all those on the front line both in hospitals and all those involved in delivering social care to the housebound, working in food banks to help the growing numbers of people who no longer have enough money to feed their families, and for those who mourn the loss of loved ones. For many people life will never be the same.

Anita Weeks



Thank you Anita Weekes and Jane Ing for these pictures.

MOOR FARM

SHOP & CAFE

Naturally Shropshire



OPEN HOURS

MONDAY - SATURDAY

SHOP 9AM - 5PM

CAFE 9AM - 4PM




SUNDAY

SHOP 10AM - 4PM

CAFE 10AM - 3PM



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Answers to Brainteasers on page 15.

1. 10T010
2. Turn on switches A and B, leave switch C off. After a short time turn off switch B. Enter the room and feel the bulbs. The bulb that is on was controlled by switch A. The warm bulb has been on and then turned off, so it goes with switch B. The cold one was never turned on so it goes with switch C.
3. A is a Shilli-Shalla; B is a Pukka; C is a Wotta-Woppa.

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*Thank you Catherine and Emma
Faulkner for these pictures.*



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