

ST PAUL'S NEWS

February 2025



ONE POUND

SERVICES

Sunday 2nd February

Presentation of Christ in the Temple Candlemas

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Parish Eucharist (CW)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom
Lead : Viv Littlechild
Link: Rosemary Romano
- 6.30 pm Evensong (BCP)
Minister & Preacher: The Vicar

Sunday 9th February

The Fourth Sunday before Lent

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Parish Eucharist with Baptism (CW)
President: The Vicar,
Preacher: Rev. Nicholas Burton
- 10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom
Lead : Tim Harrold
Link: Jean Kerr
- 6.30 pm Choral Evensong (BCP)
Minister: Rev. Nicholas Burton

Sunday 16th February

The Third Sunday before Advent

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Eucharist (CW)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Family Service at the Church Centre + Zoom
Lead: Rev. Nicholas Burton
Link: Rosemary Romano
- 6.30 pm Evensong (BCP)
Minister & Preacher: The Vicar

Sunday 23rd February

The Second Sunday before Lent

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Matins (BCP)
Minister & Preacher: The Vicar
- 10.00 am Family Service with Holy Communion
at the Church Centre + Zoom
President: The Vicar
Link: Chris Bassett
- 6.30 pm Parish Eucharist (CW)
President & Preacher: The Vicar

DIARY

Monday 3rd February

8.00 pm PCC meeting in the Lodge

Tuesday 4th February

7.00 pm 175 Committee Meeting, Church Centre

Thursday 6th February

11.30 am Communion to Mount Ephraim
– The Vicar

6.00 pm Youth Council meet in the Lodge

Wednesday 12th February

3.00 pm Communion to Chamberlain Court
– The Vicar

Thursday 13th February

11.30 am Communion to Mount Ephraim
– Lois Woodhouse

Wednesday 19th February

12 noon Funeral of Diana Coker at the Parish Church

Thursday 20th February

11.00 am Communion to Rusthall Lodge
– The Vicar

Saturday 22nd February

10.00 am – 9 pm Choir Anthem Sing-a-thon
at the Parish Church

5.30 pm – 10 pm Lunch Club volunteers evening
at the Church Centre

Thursday 21st November

11.30 am Communion to Mount Ephraim
– Lois Woodhouse

Wednesdays throughout the month

9.00 – 11.00 am Playtime at St Paul's at the Church Centre

Thursdays throughout the month

12 for 12.30 pm Rusthall Lunch Club
at the Church Centre



Fridays throughout the month

12.30 – 2.00 pm Community Larder
At the Church Centre

Saturdays & Sundays throughout the month

10 am – 4 pm Choristers Café in the Lodge

The aim of this 'café' is to raise funds to support the Choir tour to France in August. Refreshments for those attending Sunday morning services are, as usual, by voluntary donation.

Magazine Deadlines

Please submit articles for the 2025 magazines in accordance with the following deadlines.

March by Sunday 9th February

April by Sunday 16th March

May by Sunday 13th April

June by Sunday 18th May

To magazine@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk or the Church Office

From Hastings, Sierra Leone

February 2025

Dear Friends

Thank you very much for your continued support and hard work. I trust that things are going well and peacefully for and with you so far in 2025.

I'm writing from Hastings village in Sierra Leone, the place my mother was born - but I won't state the time of writing. My time in Freetown so far has been a mixture of moments of great excitement and of excruciating frustration. I will not bore you with the details but will focus mainly on activities on the three Sundays for which I was away from St Paul's. At a later date, I will write about the funeral of a very close and cherished family friend and the presentation of eight trophies/cups to the Sports and Social Committee of Hastings.

I have a dear clergy friend who recently retired. During his fairly short time of 'active ordained ministry', I had not been able to attend any service led by him. On the 5th of January I (spontaneously) decided to attend the service at a nearby parish to which he was assigned. One thing that was fascinating was the seeming ease with which God enabled me to be at this service. I visited him early in the morning on another matter and his wife tried to persuade me to attend our local parish of St Thomas – to which St Paul's have in the past donated BCPs and Ancient and Modern Hymn books. As God would have it, I was accompanied by a Catholic acquaintance, also motor bike rider. So, I casually stated that I was in his hands. As soon as we left his house, I told the acquaintance that it would be a very good thing to attend the service at the nearby parish. I wore my clerical collar to the service and was consequently given 2 minutes notice to read the gospel. The acquaintance later told me that my friend kept looking in our direction, each time smiling.



The Anglican Diocese of Freetown and the North has, for many years now, held a Clergy thanksgiving service on the second Sunday of January. So, on the 12th of January I hired a taxi to take me and my clergy friend's family, including my nephew, to this thanksgiving service at Bankole-Davies Memorial, the 'newly constructed church' at Number 2, a seaside village along the Freetown Peninsular. After the service – which lasted over three hours, I spoke with many people, including Bishop Lynch (retired) who was Diocesan Bishop during my time as Youth Director for the diocese, and took a photo with him

and the Very Reverend Adjayi Nicol, retired Dean. Bishop Lynch encouraged me to always wear my clerical collar so that everyone would know that I am ordained. I told him that I had worn it the previous week and he urged me to always do so. Parishioners from various parishes spent the rest of the afternoon sharing food, drinks and fellowship, and generally socialising. From there, we briefly went to the beach to say hello to the cousin of my clergy friend.



One of the people I spoke to at the Clergy thanksgiving service is Reverend Canon Modupeh Gilpin-Macfoy, now the vicar of St Paul's Wilberforce. We travelled to Guinea together after the military coup of 1997. Five of us, including his daughter of about 7 and my mother, spent three nights at the docks waiting for a ferry to the airport. We

eventually had to travel to the west end of Freetown to catch the helicopter that flew over the estuary to Lungi Airport. We haven't seen each other for a long time and he couldn't recognise me at first. Once he recognised me, the first thing he did was to invite me to 'celebrate' at their Patronal Service the following Sunday - which they called 'visitors Sunday'. The key people taking leading roles in the service such as the preacher, organist, sidesman and 'celebrant' were all visitors. The choir, which sang beautifully was a mixture of choristers from various churches and denominations. The atmosphere within the service was very convivial. Although I struggled to speak, due to a hoarse voice brought about by a bad cold, I am very pleased to have been part of that service – and my first time to have 'celebrated' the Eucharist in Freetown. I regarded the invitation as a providential one, given that both our parishes are dedicated to St Paul, and that the Vicar didn't know this at the time he invited me to be the 'Celebrant'. After the service

which lasted just under 3 hours, we all retired to the Parish Hall where lunch was on sale. During that time, I was able to reconnect with a few people who were also part of the Diocesan Youth Fellowship (DYF) during my time as a member and during my tenure as Diocesan Youth Director.

Although I was ill for more than half of my holiday, I had a great time of spiritual nourishment and very meaningful social interactions. I was able, for the first time to drive around the Freetown Peninsular.



As we continue to journey through life, I pray that we will regularly experience God's providential activities in our lives so that we may become increasingly aware that it is indeed God that we live move and have our being.

Ronnie

From the Registers

At rest – the sympathy of the Parish is extended to the family and friends of:

Diana Elizabeth Coker
Pamela Francis
John Francis
Roger Burton
Horace James “Jimmy” Hole

Baptisms – we welcome as newly Baptised members of the Church:

Ruvarashe (Rosie) Charlotte Hoto
Teddy James Kenneth Thayre
Finley Theo Joseph Thayre
Ava-Mae Linda Melodie Thayre
Isla Rose Patricia Thayre
Archie William Michael Thayre

Editorial for February 2025

February is an odd month, isn't it? Why did it end up so short? Surely a couple of the longer months could have been trimmed so that it had a more normal 30 or 31 days? Perhaps I'll do some research in time for next year. It is often pretty dismal, supposed to be the tail end of winter but often still really cold and showing no sign that spring is on the way, so perhaps it's a good thing that it is so short. In America 2nd February is Groundhog Day, which I am sure few outside the United States knew about until the film starring Bill Murray and Andie McDowell was released in 1993. A groundhog is a rodent, a member of the marmot family of ground squirrels. Superstition has it that if a groundhog emerges from his burrow on Groundhog Day and sees his shadow, it means another six more weeks of winter and he will return to his burrow. If he doesn't see his shadow it indicates an early spring. As the UK has no native groundhogs I think we should ignore all the fuss and instead remember National Hedgehog Day, also celebrated on 2nd February. Hedgehogs were introduced to Britain by the Romans, who ate them, and they became quite common in the wild, sufficiently common for Beatrix Potter to create Mrs Tigglywinkle, a hedgehog washerwoman, in honour of her own pet hedgehog. They also became the butt of many jokes, used on cards and postcards, because they were so often seen flattened on the road. Nowadays this is an extremely rare sight, especially in the south-east. It is thought that the population has shrunk by 30-75% since 2000. They therefore need our help and encouragement if they are not to die out.

We are also encouraged to help our wildlife in the week 14-21 February, which is National Nest Box Week. There is a shortage of suitable nest sites so we are invited to put up a nest box. I am having to replace a large section of fence after Storm Bert, so perhaps I will attach a nest box or two once the fence posts are secure. I would certainly like to encourage some of the smaller birds to my garden again. There used to be a wide variety of tits, robins, wrens and sparrows but lately it seems to be all big birds, wood pigeon, feral pigeon, crows, woodpeckers, jays and when I threw some bread on the lawn it was swooped on by 12 magpies – I ran out of rhyme!

February will mark the completion of 3 years of fighting since Russia invaded Ukraine in the early hours of 24th February 2022, with President Putin claiming that the action was to 'de-Nazify' the area and halt a supposed genocide of ethnic Russians living in the east of Ukraine. Despite the support of many European countries and the USA, in recent months Russia has again started to make progress. During campaigning President Trump warned that he would stop aid to Ukraine but also said that he would help Russia and Ukraine negotiate an immediate ceasefire. Neither promise has been acted upon so far. More hopefully a ceasefire between Hamas and Israel started on 19th January and there has been an initial exchange of hostages captured by Hamas and Palestinian prisoners held in Israel. The timetable for further exchanges and permission for the thousands of residents of Gaza to return to their homes – or what is left of them – is ponderously slow and there are many fears that the arrangements negotiated by President Biden with the help of Egypt and Qatar will break down at some stage. We will have to continue to hold these troubled areas in our prayers.

In church there is Candlemas – the presentation of Christ in the Temple – on 2nd February, but then a series of quiet weeks which mark the time before the start of Lent. It will, however, also see the Anthem Sing-a-thon on 22nd February, part of the 175th Anniversary Celebrations. You are warmly invited to join the choir as either singer or audience as they sing their way through all 100 anthems in the OUP New Church Anthem Book. Singing will start at 10am and will continue, with adequate comfort breaks, until a grand finale of Zadok the Priest at about 8.45 pm. The choir would like to raise money towards the tour to Normandy in August with this event, so whether singing or listening, a donation to church funds would be much appreciated. The Choristers' Café will be moving into the church for the day so that cakes and refreshments can be on sale to keep us all going.

Sadly we have heard of the deaths of both Pamela and John Francis during January. Both contributed much to worship at St Paul's, with John's extremely long tenure as organist and musical director. As soon as confirmed dates for their funerals are available details will be included in the weekly pew leaflet and a full obituary for John will be included in next month's magazine.

Sue and I are off on our holidays but will await the arrival of articles for the March magazine by the extremely early date of 9th February. This is needed because, by our own rules, issues should be in church by Sunday 23rd February so that you have details of events in March in good time. Our apologies that this edition missed this deadline by a few hours!

Wrap up warm!

Deborah Bruce and Sue Hare

01892 825505



HENRY PAUL FUNERALS

Contemporary and Traditional Services

Henry Paul Funerals is a traditional family run funeral directors purposely dedicated to providing distinct levels of service, choice, dignity and care to bereaved families in Pembury, Tunbridge Wells and surrounding areas.

24 Hour Emergency Service • Home Visits • Private Chapel of Rest • Full Fleet of Modern & Vintage Vehicles • Floral Tributes • Catering • Memorial Masonry • Pre-paid Funeral Plans • Repatriation



10 High Street, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 4NY

www.henrypaulfunerals.co.uk



WELHAM JONES

An independent family owned company

Funeral Directors & Monumental Masons



For information or advice please contact either
Simon Welham, Pam Pines or Jackie Fullerton on

01892 300330

39 Crescent Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 2 LZ



www.welhamjones.co.uk

tunbridgewells@welhamjones.co.uk



Churchwardens' Notes



We hope that you had a good Christmas and New Year.

Thanks must go to the flower team that spent such a long time decorating the church; the church looked wonderful. This was the final festival under the leadership of Daphne Hodges. She has now handed over leadership of the flower team to Jill McAllister. Our thanks go to Daphne for her many years of service. The flower team as usual could still do with more volunteers to help with the flowers over the year.

The 175th year of the building of the church has arrived and we have started the year off well with our first activity a quiz that was held on the 4th January. The evening went very well, it was good to see a mixed group of people from Rusthall.

The quiz became quite competitive at times!

Thanks must go to the people that supplied us with a particularly delicious meal, enjoyed by all.

Please look out for other activities happening over the year

The scaffolding is up and by the time that you read this magazine we hope that the repair to the choir vestry roof will have been completed.

Ronnie's vestry roof was repaired before Christmas, we are waiting for the floor to dry out so that we can replace the carpet.

With all the wet weather that we have had recently we are finding more leaks. We are gradually getting these leaks sorted when the weather allows. At the church centre our neighbours fence was badly affected by Storm Bert and until repairs are organised we are having to restrict access to the hall using the external path.

May and Rod

Rusthall Rainbows



Congratulations to the Rusthall Rainbows who are celebrating their 30th anniversary on 3rd February 2025.

Rainbows were first introduced in 1987 but Rusthall didn't have any until 1995. Rainbows cater for girls aged 4-7 years, before they move on to Brownies, Guides and Rangers.

Daphne Pilcher

Letter to the Editor

Thank you for publishing Ian Paul's piece (Jesus wasn't born in a stable). I thought you were very brave to do so. While I am happy with what Ian is saying, I found his style was difficult to read.

The essence of the 'stable story' is that Jesus was born in circumstances typical for a working family for his time - just like us. Though we may have been born in a maternity unit, most of us lived our baby days in our parents or grand-parents' home. The gospel writers Luke and Matthew wanted to emphasise Jesus is a human being, just like us. We can identify with Jesus more easily when we see Him as a human. He may have been given other titles, like Son of God, but as the gospel writers wrote, this is not a biological description. It was a metaphor. A very powerful way of writing about difficult ideas.

The story of the Stable is important for the ways we live our Christian lives. Jesus the human - and not a 'perfect 'being' - is calling us to **follow** him, the human. As Ian Paul writes, "the message of the Incarnation is that Jesus is one of us. Because of our humanity, we can learn from our faults and failings, and not feel we have to be 100% all the time (or even at any time!). And then, as the gospel song has it "It ain't what you do, it's the way that you do it!" Faith not belief - which has its place - is what makes the difference.

Shalom,

Tony Rutherford

TONBRIDGE
Philharmonic
SOCIETY

CONDUCTED BY
OLIVER COPE

Rachmaninov

RHAPSODY ON A THEME OF PAGANINI
WITH SOLOIST JONG-GYUNG PARK

Brahms

SYMPHONY N° 4

SATURDAY 22ND
FEBRUARY 2025

7:30PM
CHAPEL OF ST AUGUSTINE
TONBRIDGE SCHOOL



BOX OFFICE
07778 034 396 | TONPHIL.ORG.UK

This Concert features the Tunbridge Wells based pianist Jong-Gyung Park.



A Musical Note



The choir had a busy Christmas season, with lots of singing for services and carol singing around Tunbridge Wells.

It was wonderful to see the church so full for our Nine Lessons and Carols Service, and it was great to welcome back singers into the choir returning from university and abroad for the holidays. The service started as is traditional, with Once in Royal David's City, with Tom Hughes singing the first verse beautifully for us. We were treated to an excellent rendition of the first lesson by Marcy Winter, and the choir were in terrific form, singing the carols with great enthusiasm and musicality. We sang two new carols at this service, the first of which was 'This Endris 'Night' by Sarah Quartel. This piece includes a part for Handbells that is something entirely new for us. We are very grateful to Daphne Pilcher for lending us her beautiful bells; the effect was exciting and memorable.

Our other new carol was 'The Magi's Dream' by James Whitbourn. As many of you know, James died in 2024 very sadly, so it felt right that we should sing one of his carols at this service. 'The Magi's Dream' is a fantastic composition that sets a beautiful text by Robert Tear and builds the drama as the piece progresses by increasing the tempo and dynamic until you reach a theatrical finale! The choir loved singing this piece, and we will sing it again soon. I thank the whole choir for their hard work preparing for the Advent and Christmas Carol services. Thanks to Alasdair Friend for his wonderful organ playing at these services; we are incredibly fortunate to have him playing for us.

It wasn't all work over Christmas, though, as the choir also enjoyed a trip ice skating and to the panto. We also had an excellent Christmas party and plenty of celebrating during the season.

The choir are all very excited to start our 2025 programme of events. It is a hectic year for us, but there is much to look forward to. On Saturday, 22nd February, we will have a sponsored sing-a-thon at Church. The singing will begin at 10 am, and we will, during the day, sing all 100 anthems from The New Church Anthem Book. I have split the day into eight sections, each lasting approximately 45 minutes. How it will work is that each section will start on the hour, so at 10 am, 11 am, 2 pm, 3 pm, 4 pm, 5 pm, 7 pm & 8 pm. We will then sing the anthems in those sections, leaving us a few minutes for a quick snack and toilet break before starting the next section. This is a marathon effort, but we can pull it off! We are raising as much money as possible to help with the cost of our choir tour to Normandy in the summer. We want everyone in the choir to feel that they can come on the tour, but the cost is prohibitive, so we hope that lots of you will be able to sponsor us. Pop in during the day and see how we get on! The last section from 8 pm will be a bit like a concert, and I hope that lots of you will be there at the end to raise a glass of something with us as we complete the challenge.

We also have a concert on Saturday, March 22nd, at 6:30 pm, during which we will perform a French music programme for Lent. Please put the date in your diary, and we hope to see you there.

Fiona Johnson

Winning an audience?

Even the most celebrated authors can struggle to draw a crowd. In a Lords debate on free speech the historian Andrew Roberts said he was once asked to address the Sevenoaks Literary festival. "Sadly, fewer people turned up than the number of Oaks," he said.

Some politicians are lucky to get anyone. Jacob-Rees Mogg went to speak at a church hall while seeking election in Fife in 1997 and found one woman and her child waiting. Unperturbed he addressed them at length on capitalism before asking if there were any questions. The woman raised her hand. "Excuse me," she asked. "Is the mother and toddler group cancelled?"



MR JOLLY CHIMNEY SWEEP

27 Apsley Street, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 8NU

Tel: 01892 618324 Mobile: 07752 130577

Honest Reliable Friendly Service
Free Smoke Test, Certificate Issued
No Mess, No Fuss

Where there's a will There's a way to help St Paul's

Please help us to preserve the church buildings
and ministry by leaving a legacy to St Paul's
Rusthall in your will.

Thank you

Tamarix Holiday Bungalow Winchelsea Beach



Tamarix is a 2 bedroom bungalow situated in a no-through road, and set in a large fenced shingle and grassed garden. It is ideal for those looking for a quiet and comfortable self-catering accommodation to enjoy a tranquil break along the stunning Sussex coast. Sleeping four, the cottage can be used for a wonderful family holiday or just a cosy break for two. Pets are welcome by arrangement and Tamarix is perfectly situated for walking, bird watching, cycling, and the beach.

Holidays are on a weekly basis only in high season, but short breaks may be possible at other times.

**Weeks for 2024 (April to October) are available
from £650 per week**

Please call 01892 528538 or email
karen_miller_2@hotmail.co.uk
for more information.

KMJProperty

Your local independent Estate Agent
...contactable 7 days a week

**We are your local family run
Estate Agents
based in Rusthall High Street**

**We offer a good, personal and
professional service with
competitive fees and flexible
contract terms.**

**Call us today for a FREE Market
appraisal**

01892 515188
sales@kmjproperty.co.uk



Magazine Easy Payment Methods

Income from magazine sales is important to us at St Paul's. If everyone paid the £1 cover charge we would raise over £900 a year, which would not only cover the cost of producing the magazine but also contribute to other costs such as leasing the photocopier.

If you often find yourself fumbling for the right change, perhaps you might like to pay in advance for a year's "subscription", 10 issues for the sum of £10, (you might even feel tempted to be more generous!) Please make cheques payable to St Paul's Church, Rusthall and send them to the Parish Office.

Alternatively you can use the card payment machines – just choose the £1 donation option.

Your contributions are much appreciated.



The January Quiz Report

It was a cold night in January and the great and good quizzers gathered at the Church Centre. All the preparations were done and we were getting ready to welcome the teams when I realised the heating was only on in the top hall. A real worry as the bottom hall was really cold. Suddenly an angel in a puffa coat appeared - Pat Cripps took control with her bunch of keys and soon the heating was blaring out, the microphone was found and connected and we were ready to go! The smell of lasagne coming out of the kitchen provided a warm welcome and enticement for our contestants.

At 7pm the questions started and it was eyes down. The teams were very respectful and listened intently. After the first three rounds the scores were tight with only a few points separating the top teams. At this point the food was served and enjoyed by all. A delicious lasagne, cooked by Angela Culley, with garlic bread and salad, with veggie option, followed by a fabulous lemon and lime cheesecake created by Elaine Bruce was quickly and enthusiastically devoured by our hungry team members. After a quick game of "heads and tails" we continued with the quiz.

Three more rounds ensued and it was still tight at the top. The scoreboard had four teams all within 6 points of each other. It was all down to the marks for the marathon round, which this time was "Iconic lines from films and the people who spoke them". After all the calculations had been made we had a clear winner. The team from the church choir had triumphed by a significant margin. Prizes were handed out to our unfortunate wooden spooners, 'The Infamous Five', and to our victors, 'Where Have All The Choristers gone?'.

A great deal of thanks goes to the catering team, Angela and Elaine, and to Jean Kerr for support with the clearing up assisted by our quizzers who all chipped in. Thanks also to Ryan Smith for his help in setting up, welcoming and with collating and collecting answer sheets. Outside it had been snowing but inside there was a really warm atmosphere of community and friendship. Not all of us were church goers but that didn't matter because this event was about outreach and community. It was a good and fitting launch to St Paul's 175th anniversary year of celebrations.

Keep your eyes open for more events throughout the year.

Chris Dobson, Chair of the 175 committee



175 Flower Banner for the Church Centre

As part of the celebration of 175th anniversary of the church a large banner is being made which will be displayed outside the Church Centre, in Rusthall High Street, from Easter. So far about 700 flowers have been made and donated which is approximately half the number needed to complete the design. Any colour, thickness or design of knitted or crocheted flower would be very welcome provided they are not more than 4 inches (10 cm) across. Please place completed flowers in the large pink boxes at either church before the end of March.

If you or anyone you know, wants to make flowers but has no pattern or yarn, please get in touch with me (Jean Kerr) by email and I will be very happy to supply either or both. Jeak4000@gmail.com

Thank you



Candlemas - The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

First of all let me wish all readers a Happy and Healthy New Year. When I last contributed to the magazine it was Advent and we were looking forward to the birth of the Christ Child. It has happened of course and the Christmas decorations have gone back in the loft for another year. I do hope your celebrations were good and you remembered the principal reason behind the celebrations. The Church Calendar moves swiftly on and today I write about Candlemas or the presentation of Christ in the Temple as Common Worship prefers to call it. I have said that the decorations have been stowed for another year but at St. Pauls, in common with other Churches, we preserve tradition and retain the crib and candles until Candlemas which finally sees the end of the celebrations of Christ's birth with the beginning of Christ's public ministry (see below).

Before I move on to that we at St. Paul's are now in our 175th year and there is much celebration to come, but I was so glad that Nicholas in his sermon on the feast of the Epiphany mentioned John Henry Newman (1801-1890) as his life has a strong connection with St. Paul's Church consecrated in 1850. John Henry Newman was a founder of the so called Oxford Movement and later called the Tractarian movement. What is that I hear you ask, **The Oxford Movement** was a movement of high church members of the Church of England which began in the 1830s and eventually developed into Anglo-Catholicism. The movement's philosophy was known as **Tractarianism** after its series of publications, the Tracts for the Times, published from 1833 to 1841. Tractarians were also disparagingly referred to as "Newmanites" (before 1845) and "Puseyites" after two prominent Tractarians, John Henry Newman and Edward Bouverie Pusey. 'Not many know that' as Michael Caine once said and how do I know? Well, on my way to obtaining a diploma in Ministerial Theology from Christ Church University, Canterbury I was tasked with writing a thesis on the above subjects and during my research I discovered that St. Paul's Parish Church was built in a neo gothic tractarian style. In those early days and indeed right up to the middle of the twentieth century, the style of worship would be described as High Church but these days, quite rightly, we offer something for everybody who wishes to worship at St. Pauls. Incidentally, one of my favourite Newman sayings is "Nothing would be done at all if one could do it so well that no one could find fault with it." So true for all of our endeavours.

Moving to Candlemas have you ever waited for something? Waited for a really long time for something you were really excited about; something you really wanted?

Have you ever waited so long and so hard for something that you almost missed it when it finally arrived? Perhaps the anticipation had led to impossible fantasies so that the real thing almost slipped under your radar. Or perhaps you waited for so long that your attention drifted just at the moment you needed to be alert.

Simeon was waiting to see the Messiah. We don't know how long he had been waiting. The Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit promised it would happen before he died and we know he was an old man. His song sounds like the song of someone who had been waiting a long time – someone who had been filled with anticipation and is now filled with long-awaited joy as he takes the infant Jesus into his arms and knows him to be the one he has been waiting for.

It's a little amazing to me that Simeon recognised the Messiah in the baby Jesus at all. He must have seen lots of babies, 40 days old, tiny and wrinkly, carried into the temple by insignificant but devout mothers and fathers. And was he even looking for the Messiah in a baby? Surely he was imagining something a little more exciting – a great teacher or a charismatic rebel. Surely he awoke many mornings more concerned about his aching joints than the long-awaited promise. It is, I think, a mark of true wisdom and discipline to not allow either your fantasies or your boredom to distract you from what God is actually doing

I wonder how many of God's promises we don't see fulfilled simply because we aren't paying attention or because we don't have eyes and hearts, like Simeon's, prepared to see God at work in unexpected places.

Or maybe we don't see it because we are more comfortable in the waiting than in uncertainty of what comes after.

There is an old tradition that today, Candlemas, is the day that really ends the Christmas season. Today is the day when everyone's nativity scene should be taken down. Because today is about half-way between Christmas and Good Friday – half-way between Jesus' birth and Jesus' death. So today is kind of a pivot point for the year – the day when we turn from cradle to cross; birth to death.

Simeon's story contains this pivot. Holding the infant Messiah, Simeon knows his wait is over, God's promise to him has been fulfilled. He praises God and sings of light and glory. And then Simeon turns to Mary and the tone changes:

"This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too." (Luke 2. vs. 34 and 35.)

I wonder if there wasn't a part of Simeon that would have preferred to just keep waiting – to hold on to the sense of hopeful anticipation rather than the perhaps more complicated emotions after the arrival of the Messiah.

But following Jesus is not just about Christmas – not just light and joy and celebration. Today, we let Simeon turn us in the direction of the cross, remembering that following Jesus is also about sacrifice and faithfulness in the face of suffering. Perhaps this is why Candlemas is the day on which candles are blessed, marked as signs of the light of Christ in the world – we know we still have need of such signs to get us through the darkness ahead.

Candlemas is, not coincidentally, also roughly half-way between the winter solstice and the spring equinox – it's the point at which we begin to turn from the cold and dark of winter towards the promise of spring. Old wisdom tells us that the weather on Candlemas predicts the season to come. Whatever you call it, today is the day when the end of winter is enough of a possibility that we can begin to anticipate spring – an experience that is perhaps less profound in this year's winter but nonetheless.

So, on this seasonal pivot day, we turn not simply from cradle to cross but from cradle through cross to the empty tomb, already visible, albeit dimly through the darkness still to come. Following Jesus is not just about Christmas; not just about Good Friday. Following Jesus is also about the hope and freedom of Easter.

Holding all of that together in one piece can be very difficult – but perhaps we don't have to. Our liturgical year offers us seasons in which one or the other piece takes primacy in our worship. And our own lives offer us seasons in which one or the other takes primacy in our faith and in our experience. Sometimes, those match up with the liturgical year and sometimes they don't – in which case our worship serves as a valuable reminder that what we are living is not the whole of God's story.

Because remembering that can be very difficult, indeed.

Simeon's song begins with a declaration of the end of his work, perhaps even his life: "Lord, now let your servant go in peace". His task has been fulfilled; he has borne witness to the arrival of the infant Messiah, seen the salvation of the world. That season is over, a new season has begun.

I wonder how Simeon felt when he woke up the day after meeting Jesus and seeing the truth of what his future would hold. I wonder if he woke up thinking, "today might be the day!", before he remembered that yesterday had been the day and that he would have to find something else to do today.

I imagine he lit a candle, in the quiet of that winter morning, and prayed that the light of the world would break through the darkness and reveal to him the continuation of God's promise. Let that be our prayer, also, as we journey through the seasons of the year and of our lives.

Tim Cripps

Recommended readings:-

Malachi 3.1-4;

Hebrews 2. 14-18;

Luke 2. 22-40

You can access the recommended readings online by going to <https://bible.oremus.org>. Enter the passage details and select your preferred edition of the bible – New Revised Standard Version (Anglicised Edition) and King James Bible are both available. This website is free of charge.

Camels at Epiphany

Eyebrows were raised when a former Theatre Director was named as Hereford Cathedral's new Canon Chancellor. It seems to be paying off. Not only did James Pacey stage a very fine Passion Play in the run up to last Easter at this year's Epiphany Service three real camels were ridden around the Cathedral Close. It was a great spectacle but when the Archdeacon was asked where the exotic animals had been sourced in the depths of winter, he replied 'he probably bought them at Herod's'.

Tim Cripps





Chris, Jim and Jo Parker - Our award winning family business

Our award winning family service

Let our family, care for your family

Your final farewell should respect your loved one's wishes and comfort those they leave behind. Our family has provided funeral services to families and friends in the Tonbridge area and surrounding villages and towns, for 40 years, we know this is a time when a caring family can make all the difference.

Our promise to you:-

- ▲ We understand your wishes and we're here to help
- ▲ Our emergency service is 24/7 and our phone is always answered personally
- ▲ We always provide itemised estimates
- ▲ We operate our own mortuary & private chapel of rest
- ▲ We're proud members of SAIF and BIFD
- ▲ Your family, not profit, is our main priority

01732 360328

173 High St, Tonbridge TN9 1BX

01892 487144

31 High Street, Rusthall, TN4 8RL

www.abbeyfs.co.uk



*Abbey Funeral Services is
independently owned by Chris,
Jim and Jo Parker.*

Your local family
Funeral Directors



Obituary for
Christopher Harris Doyle Everett
20th June 1933 – 16th November 2024

Christopher's childhood was in Surrey, the son of a doctor with a younger brother and sister. He attended Winchester School before going on to New College, Oxford and then joining the Grenadier Guards. He received the Guards' Colours from the Queen and carried them at her Coronation. He met Hillary – always known as Billy – while they were in their teens, and although Billy initially declared that she did not want to marry that Christopher Everett, by the time he asked her she agreed and they married while he was still an undergraduate. While engaged he wrote to Billy every day and they enjoyed a long and happy marriage which ended only when Billy died in 2022. They had 4 children, 2 boys and 2 girls, which led to an extended family including 11 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. Their eldest child, Charles, did a stint as organist at St Paul's and at various times grandchildren were members of the choir.

After the Grenadier Guards Christopher joined the Diplomatic Service, he was involved in the formulation of Foreign Policy and was posted to Beirut and Washington. A senior official described him as the cleverest man he ever met. That senior official in MI6 was Kim Philby!

There was another career change on leaving the Diplomatic Service. Overcoming his lack of any teaching experience, in 1970 he stepped straight into the post of Headmaster of Worksop College. In his 5 years in charge, he set about improving the curriculum, classrooms, boarding houses and catering facilities. He revitalised the College's arts offering by re-opening a theatre. As always he was supported by Billy, who joined the English department as a teacher. In their 'spare time' Christopher served as a Justice of the Peace and Billy was a Divisional Commissioner of the Girl Guides.

Christopher's next move was to Kent as Headmaster of Tonbridge School, a role he held from 1975 -1990. He again used his time to emphasise the need for a broad education, including not only academic excellence but also sport, music and the arts, and social skills. He wanted his pupils to be self-assured but not arrogant, the sort of people who would be good fun at a party but invaluable in a shipwreck.

Johnny Aisher, who gave the eulogy at Christopher's funeral, had the unexpected privilege

of getting to know the family well by boarding with them while a pupil at Tonbridge. He spoke of Christopher's intellect, values, kindness and good humour. He also spoke of Christopher's fortitude as he had to deal with the aftermath of the Great Storm of 1987 and the devastating fire which destroyed the school chapel the following year. He galvanised the support required for the immense task of rebuilding it, something which I can admire as I regularly sing there. Johnny also spoke of his regret at not having adequately expressed to Christopher how much his friendship had meant or the importance of his advice and wisdom. The Vicar also spoke of the advice Christopher had given him for his sermons, not always heeded, to stick to what he had written and to speak slowly and clearly!

As usual, one job was not enough, while at Tonbridge he became a Justice of the Peace in Kent and also Chair of the Independent schools Headmasters' Conference. He was awarded a CBE in 1988 New Year's Honours.

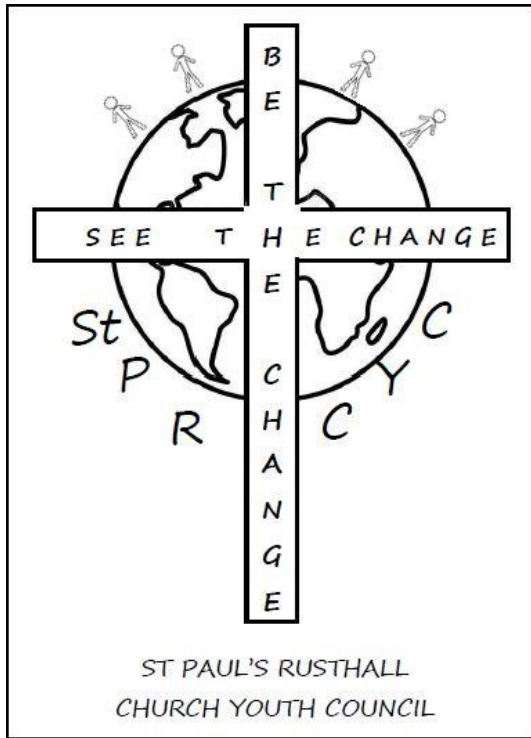
On leaving Tonbridge, Christopher became the first Director General of the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation, which supported British students wishing to gain knowledge of Japanese Culture. He found and purchased premises and recruited staff. In 2002-3 he became Master of the Skinner's Company and continued to work on the company's board well into his seventies. He persuaded the Secretary of State for Education, Lord Adonis, to allow the Skinner's company to take on a role in The Learning Trust in Hackney and also to transform the struggling Tunbridge Wells High School into the Skinners Kent Academy, leading the SKA Friends. He chaired Civil Service Selection and Promotion Boards, was Honorary President of the British Legion in Tunbridge Wells and found time to be a governor of around 20 schools.

At St Paul's he sat on the PCC and organised and energised one of the fundraising campaigns.

His was an extremely long and varied life, full of service to others, especially in the field of Education; an example to us all.

Deborah Bruce





Our January meeting set the scene for 2025. Despite the freezing cold, ice, snow and dark we celebrated a good turnout and everyone was delighted to be back together, i.e. it was quite noisy!

We maintained our 'no phone policy' and all phones (including ours) were duly switched off and placed in a box. We were thrilled to welcome Daniel Toombs as our star guest. Daniel was one of our founder members so this was always going to be special.

Following Australia's recent ban on smartphones for young teenagers and the recent Channel 4 programme 'Swiped' which followed a secondary school in Essex where all phones were locked in a sealed box for 3 weeks, we started our evening with a lively debate on our dependence on Smart Phones. With nine secondary schools and a home schooler represented on our Council it was particularly interesting to compare the various school tactics on the issue. All follow the 'no see, no hear' policy with varying sanctions. Generally people were happy and respectful of this and genuinely happy with our box by the door. Communication, focus and interaction are undoubtedly better without their



distraction and many said they felt more relaxed. There is clearly much work to be done internationally to help parents and children walk and navigate this complex social media path. An

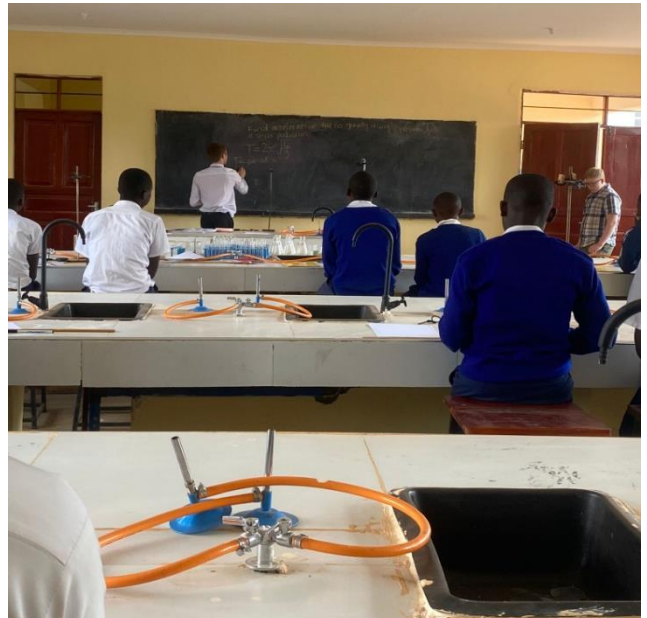
acknowledgment and open discussion and support at our level has to be a positive start.

Daniel, having fully contributed to the discussion, took to the floor and shared his experience of going to Tanzania. Eloquent, confident, thought provoking and fun he was brilliant and the children responded accordingly. They were spellbound and asked some exceedingly thoughtful and sensitive questions. There is no doubt many will be inspired to follow his lead and example in due course.



Bennett and Mwanakianga Students visiting the drip irrigation project at St Phillip's Theological College

Discussion continued throughout hot dog and cake eating until sadly we ran out of time!!



Daniel teaching in a science lab at Mwanakianga Secondary School

Particularly interesting was to learn of the profound personal effect Tanzania had on Daniel and to appreciate whilst he and the group gave so much to Tanzania, in return Tanzania gave them a truly life changing experience which will stay with them. A truly fabulous session.



Elephant in Mikumi National Park

Daniel has much more to share particularly around going to University and community and we have already booked him to return in the summer!

Next meetings

We meet on the first Thursday of each month in The Lodge 6 - 7.30pm. All children of secondary school age are warmly welcomed.

Thursday February 6th

Our focus will return to the bees in preparation for their 'Spring Wake Up'. We will be designing our label and logo and developing our honey marketing strategy. Jess P will be sharing her recent experiences of being an elected member of the Kent Youth and Children's Council and hopefully we can support some of their initiatives to help us all. We will also be supporting the Church's 175 celebrations. Much to look forward to!

We hope to start the Beekeeping training for everyone in March.

As always, enormous thanks must go to Jean Kerr and Mark Coghlan, without whose constant support, interest and commitment CYC would and could not thrive. Also to all the parents for their support and enthusiasm and turning out in the cold and dark to bring and collect children. Finally a terrific thank you to the wonderful CYC children.

Angela Culley



Rusthall Community Cinema



Firebrand (2023) Cert 15

6.30pm Saturday 1st February 2025

Director: Karim Aïnouz
 Genre: Drama, History
 Runtime: 1h 59mins
 Starring: Alicia Vikander,
 Jude Law,
 Junia Rees



The Cider House Rules (1999) Cert 12

6.30pm Saturday 15th February 2025

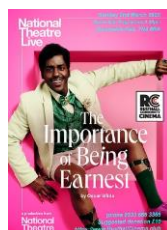
Director: Lasse Hallström
 Genre: Drama, Romance
 Runtime: 2h 6 mins
 Starring: Michael Caine,
 Tobey Maguire,
 Charlize Theron



Midnight in Paris (2011) Cert 12

6.30pm Saturday 1st March 2025

Director: Woody Allen
 Genre: Comedy, Fantasy,
 Romance
 Runtime: 1h 34 mins
 Starring: Owen Wilson,
 Rachel McAdams,
 Marion Cotillard



NT Live – The Importance of Being Earnest Cert PG

2pm Sunday 2nd March 2025

Director: Max Webster
 Writer: Oscar Wilde
 Genre: Recorded live theatre
 Runtime: 2 hrs
 Starring: Sharon D Clarke,
 Ncuti Gatwa,
 Hugh Skinner

E. R. HICKMOTT & SON



41, GROVE HILL ROAD
TUNBRIDGE WELLS
Tel: (01892) 522462 (two lines)
Fax: (01892) 533807



FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Members of N.A.F.D and S.A.I.F.

The only long established family-owned funeral directors in Tunbridge Wells.

Golden Charter Pre-payment funeral plans available.
Owned and run by the family in Tunbridge Wells for six generations.
Twenty-four hour emergency service – Qualified Funeral Directors.



www.RusthallVets.co.uk

20 ASHLEY GARDENS,
RUSTHALL,
TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
KENT, TN4 8TU.
Telephone (01892) 511715

Monday to Friday
9.00-11.00 am 4.30-6.30 pm
Saturday
9.00-11.00 am closed



Secretarial Services

Faxing
Photocopying
Typing
Handmade Greetings Cards
Stationery Items

1 High Street
Rusthall
TN4 8RL

01892 515188

suzanne@kmj-secretarial-services.co.uk

The Importance of Nature in the Bible Part 4

The Israelites were not great gardeners in our sense of the word, because only in exceptional circumstances was there an adequate water-supply for growing a variety of plants.

Fruit trees grew better than anything else. The Sycamore tree, which was really a cross between a fig and a mulberry tree, produced a good supply of bitter and indigestible fruit, which was eaten by people who could afford nothing better.

When the prophet Amos described himself as a 'dresser of sycamore trees' in chapter 7 verse 14 he was making a reference to the practice of scratching the unripe fruit to help it mature more quickly.

The almond tree was another well-known tree and much more attractive. The Hebrew word for Almond can be translated as 'to watch' and this is shown in Jeremiah Chapter 1 verse 11. It was the first tree to come into flower in the Spring. It was followed shortly after by the pomegranate tree which had a vivid scarlet flower. The pomegranate fruit produced a juice which was a favourite with the Israelites' as a soft drink during the hot summer months.

The Old Testament frequently mentions the palm-tree but is strangely silent about its fruit, although it is difficult to believe that dates were quite unknown and the same applies to the true mulberry tree. However it seems to be true that at that time oranges and lemons were not known then, but of course today they are one of the chief agricultural exports of Palestine.

The fruit which is referred to in the Old Testament was certainly not the apple we know today. It is thought that it was probably either apricot or quince.

Only the houses of the nobility enjoyed the amenity of such a thing as a kitchen-garden. In the story of Naboth's vineyard in 1 Kings chapter 21 it is very unlikely that the reason for Jezebel's action was that she wanted to grow such things as lentils and beans which the poorer people would use for their stews and sometimes for their bread. Most probably she wanted a plentiful supply of things like melons, cucumbers, leeks, onions and garlic and the various aromatic plants which her cooks would need for flavouring dishes in the royal kitchens.

When the Israelites became settled agriculturalists, they by no means abandoned their flocks and herds. They went in for mixed farming which combined the cultivation of the land with the breeding of cattle. It was now possible to breed animals which could not have survived life in the desert. However they did not become a nation of beef-eaters and it would only have been the wealthy who would have fattened up some animals for food. This was something that Amos disapproved of as he says in Amos Ch 6 verse 4.

We know Palestine had a wide variety of wild animals at this time, but there are no references in the Old Testament to show that they were keen huntsmen. This is a little surprising because we know that it was a popular sport in both Egypt and Assyria. However we need to bear in mind that we can only go on the information they have supplied. They might well have simply omitted things they regarded with disfavour.

We do know that birds of the pigeon family, partridge and quail were all caught for food. The 'fatted fowl' of Solomon's menu has usually been taken to refer to wild geese, which were fattened for the table.

The Israelites knew so little about fishing that they were content to use just one word to cover all types. Since they were landlocked they knew nothing about the fish of the Mediterranean. The Sea of Galilee which plays such an important background in New Testament times was on the very northern borders of Israel and during this period was unimportant. A single verse (v 15) in Habakkuk chapter 1 describes the wicked man as fishing and that appears to cover fishing!

Daphne Pilcher



Friends Together Bereavement Support Group

Rusthall URC
Last Friday of each Month
Tea, biscuits and companionship

From 1.00pm - 2:30pm

www.friendstogetherbs.org

Contact Steph Rose
Mobile - 07950 737672
or call into the Abbey Funerals Office
31 High Street, Rusthall



Poems for February

On hearing of the fatal results of ongoing school bullying, the poet Jackie Kay wrote this first poem as a direct response. The other poems here reflect small daily kindnesses which change our world for the better.

Susan Barber

Kinder

Choose to be kind, friends, choose to be kind:
Not duplicitous, not two-faced,
Not passive-aggressive, not dishonest,
Not spiteful, not cowardly anonymous.
Have good grace, bring out the best, don't stress.
When faced with a choice, choose kindness.

Choose to be kind friends, choose to be kind:
Being kind is generous, offers dividends.
The opposite of kindness leaves a bad taste.
Regret is sour, wolfs the years, is a waste.
Things you wish you'd not done or said: madness!
When faced with a choice friends, choose kindness.

Choose to be kind friends, choose to be kind:
Not violent, not bullying, not out for revenge.
Don't nurse a grievance, or gang up with mates
You wish to impress, or lie about your motives
For causing such total distress.
When faced with a choice, chums, choose kindness.

Choose to be kind pals, choose to be kind:
Don't exclude, don't send people to Coventry!
Think for an extra second, step back, step away,
Or surprise yourself by doing something truly lovely.
Be benevolent, be trusty, be friendly, be sound.
When faced with a choice, pals, please be kind.

Choose to be kind friends, choose to be kind:
Where ever you are, on or off line, see what you find?
In the street, in your classroom, kindness glows and it shines
At home or away, winter, spring, night or day.
Today you know for sure you won't need a reminder.
When faced with a choice it's kind of better to be kinder!

Jackie Kay



Small Kindnesses

I've been thinking about the way when you walk
down a crowded aisle, people pull in their legs
to let you by. Or how strangers still say "bless you"
when someone sneezes, a leftover
from the Bubonic plague. "Don't die," we are saying.
And sometimes, when you spill lemons
from your grocery bag, someone else will help you
pick them up. Mostly, we don't want to harm each other.
We want to be handed our cup of coffee hot,
and to say thank you to the person handing it. To smile
at them and for them to smile back. For the waitress
to call us honey when she sets down the bowl of clam chowder,
and for the driver in the red pick-up truck to let us pass.
We have so little of each other, now. So far
from tribe and fire. Only these brief moments of exchange.
What if they are the true dwelling of the holy, these
fleeting temples we make together when we say, "Here,
have my seat", "Go ahead – you first", "I like your hat."

Danusha Laméris

small change

The Dundee bus shudders, impatient.
50p short of my fare, distant connections
crumple like my hot-shamed face –
'Here ye' go, Hen'
A stranger has left her seat, presses
a pound into my palm, the driver
grudges me on and I stumble
to return her three silver coins –
'Naw, you keep it, Hen. Ge' yersel'
a wee cup o' tea wi' the change.'
Twenty years later, the sound
of her double-deckered kindness
still jangles in my pocket, still
warms my hands, sugar and milk.

Olga Dermott-Bond



Random Acts of Kindness Day – February 17th

For some years now the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation has urged us to be kinder to each other. There is a National Random Acts of Kindness Day in the UK, a whole week in America, but in fact the Foundation would like us to try to do a random act of kindness every day of the year. Some of their suggestions for February are to arrange a meeting with someone you've been intending to see for ages, write a note to a mentor or teacher explaining what their encouragement has meant to you, leave anonymous kind notes in public places for anyone to find, pay for the coffee of the person behind you in the queue, donate a book to a little library, wish the first person you see an amazing day, give sincere compliments to people who serve you in shops, create 'Kindness coupons' for tasks like washing up, shopping and other chores and give them to people you'd like to help, organise a game night to spend quality time with family or friends, pop a couple of mini toiletries in a gift bag and give them to someone you see.



COMMUNITY LARDER

What is it?

A community larder receives surplus short date food from supermarkets to offer to people in our community.

When and where is it?

Our community larder will be in the St Paul's Church Centre every Friday between 12:30pm and 2:00pm

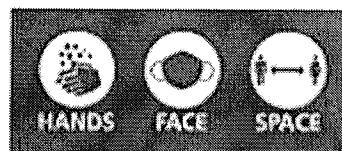
Who can use it?

Anyone can come and visit the community larder. There are no restrictions, no booking necessary, just turn up with a carrier bag to fill.

How much does it cost?

We suggest a small cash donation of £2, or as much as you can afford. For this, you can take away a bag full of quality food.

Please help us all stay safe by wearing a face mask, respecting social distancing and using the hand sanitiser provided.



WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU!

**For more information, please email contact@rusthallvillage.org
or telephone 07805 475397**

Hendley

Removals & Storage

Tel: 01 892 837207

Email: info@hendleyremovals.co.uk

Web: www.hendleyremovals.co.uk

“Your local family run movers & storers”



Blackham Village Market
SATURDAY 1ST FEBRUARY
10.00AM TO 12.15PM
Coffee/Tea & homemade cakes
served from 10am

*Lots of lovely produce for sale: homemade pasties,
cakes, scones, chutneys, jams, free range eggs,
bread, bird food, honey, handmade craft items and
lots more*

SEE YOU THERE!

Activity Pages

Try your hand at this Bugs, Bees and Butterfly wordsearch. The words are written forward, backward, horizontally and vertically. When you have completed you will be left with 12 unused letters. These will make up the name of a common butterfly.

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

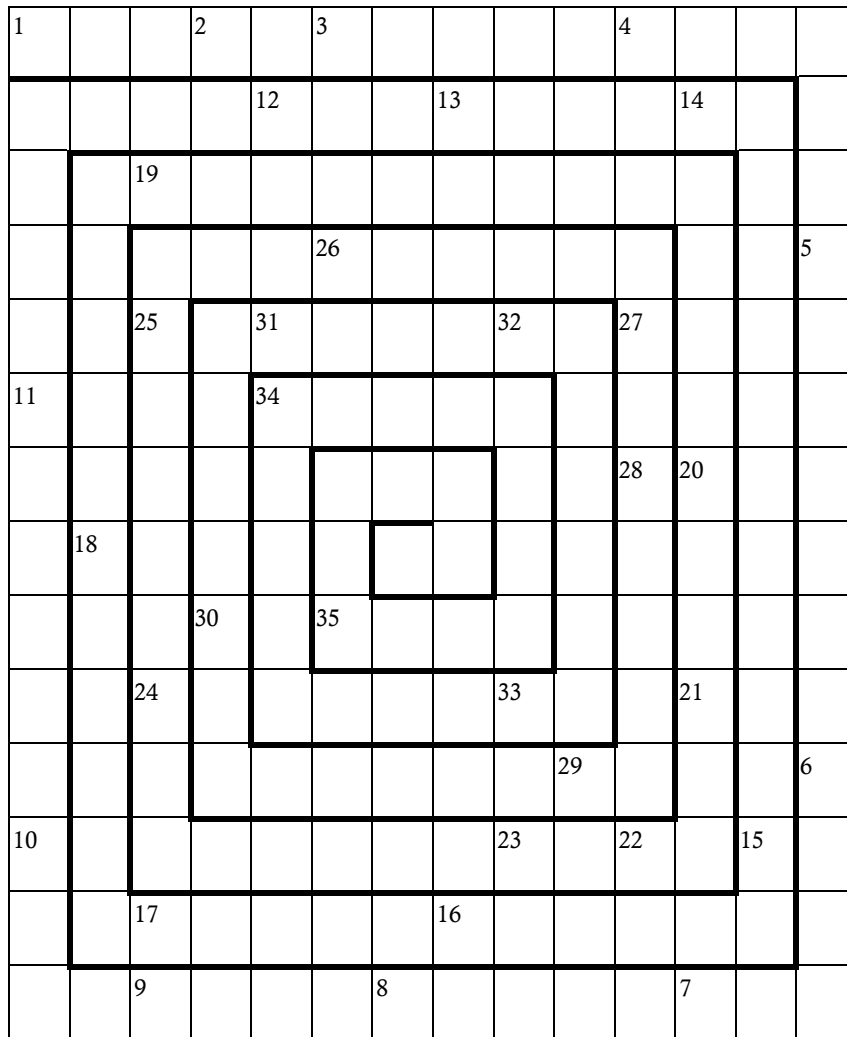
ANT	BEETLE
BLUEBOTTLE	BUMBLEBEE
CATERPILLAR	CENTIPEDE
COCKROACH	DRAGONFLY
EARWIG	FLEA
GRASSHOPPER	HORNET
LADYBIRD	MAGGOT
MIDGE	MILLIPEDE
SNAIL	SPIDER
WASP	WOODLOUSE

Twenty Questions to Test You

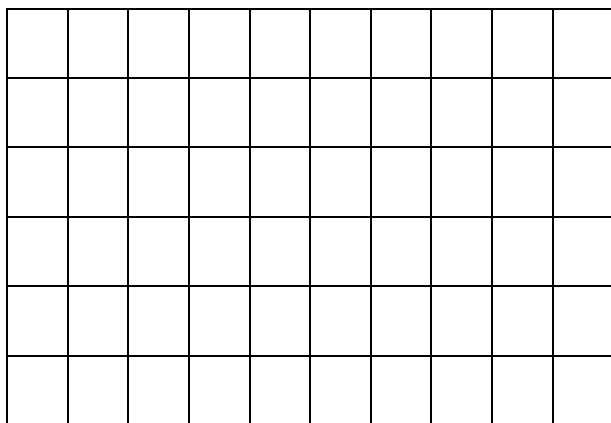
1. Which country is known as the Emerald Isle
2. What is the name of the wizarding academy attended by Fleur Delacour in the Harry Potter books
3. What does a lepidopterist collect
4. What animal is the emblem of Canada
5. Which planet has moons called Tethys, Dione and Rhea
6. What colour is Mr Clever of the Mr Men
7. Sofia is the capital of which country
8. Which is the only judge who has appeared on Strictly Come Dancing every year since it began in 2004
9. Which Premiership football team plays its home matches at the Emirates Stadium
10. Where in the human body is the ulna
11. What type of animal is Wilbur in Charlotte's Web
12. Patagonia is part of which two countries
13. Which country has the longest coastline out of Russia, Indonesia and Canada
14. What is the name of Paddington's great aunt
15. How many ounces are there in a pound
16. Name Pinocchio's woodcarver creator
17. The album 'Brat' was released by which artist this summer
18. Which country is known as the hexagon
19. In which European country is the currency the Lek
20. Which country is served by Schiphol Airport

Try your hand at this Biblical Crossword with a difference where the last letter of each answer is the first of the next. All the quotes are taken from the Good News version of the Bible

1. Our patron saint
2. Nephew of Abraham (Gen 12 v 5)
3. The doubting disciple
4. The first Christian martyr
5. Town where Jesus grew up
6. Mother of Samuel
7. 37th book of the Old Testament
8. Father of Esau and Jacob
9. Son of Jephunneh (Numbers 13 v 3)
10. Home of Mary, Martha and Lazarus
11. 6th word of Hebrews 13 v 8
12. 3rd word of Matt 11 v 29
13. Where they went into slavery (Judges 6 v 8)
14. Capital of the Roman province of Macedonia
15. Son of David (2 Samuel 3 v 2)
16. Sister of Moses and Aaron
17. Name of the chief angel (Jude ch 1)
18. The cedars from where get plenty of rain (Psalm 104 v 16)
19. King of Babylonia (Ezekiel 30 v 10)
20. On what was the snake moving (Proverbs 30 v 19)
21. 7th word of Mark 14 v 68
22. 7th word of Job 8 v 14
23. Mother of Solomon
24. Brother of Peter
25. What did Saul say he had done (1 Sam 26 v 21)
26. One of Palestine's lakes
27. Priest connected with the child Samuel
28. The people from where were able to cross the river Jordan (Joshua 1 v 2)
29. How will he shoot his arrows (Zechariah 9 v 14)
30. Which city was full of evil men (Hosea 6 v 8)
31. He killed Goliath
32. Where Paul became a follower of Jesus
33. Who visited the baby Jesus in the stable
34. Emperor of Assyria (2 Chronicles 32 v 1)
35. What city had fallen (Rev 14 v 8)



Try your hand at this Cross-Jig. All the words are 'creatures'. Fit the five letter shapes into the grid to find the names of the 'creatures'.



E	U	E
R	S	

B	O
	U
O	S

G	L	J
	I	
	Z	

W	B	
O	A	R

M	
B	O
A	
T	

W	D
A	O
L	

P	B
O	A
	D

	B
A	E
G	A

U	V	R
A		
R		

A		
R		
N	E	D

N	O	
K	D	G

	L	E
Y	E	R

General Crossword

1		2		3		4		5	6		7
							8				
9					10						
	11										
12						13			14		
					15						
16		17									
											18
19							20				
21						22					

Clues Across

- 1. Boast
- 5. Sensory organs
- 9. Go swimming
- 10. Dissimilar
- 11. Later addition
- 12. Admonish
- 13. Queue
- 16. A system only controlled by a few
- 19. Become more modern
- 20. A clan
- 21. A sweet chestnut
- 22. Accurate

Clues Down

- 1. Cries
- 2. Chooses
- 3. Orders too much food
- 4. Mistake
- 6. Opposite of old
- 7. Separation
- 8. Type of dinosaur
- 12. Bunch of flowers
- 14. Building
- 15. Sharp tasting
- 17. Avoid
- 18. Type of fuel

ANSWERS

Wordsearch – the remaining letters give you CABBAGE WHITE

Twenty Questions to Test You

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Ireland | 2 Beauxbatons |
| 3 Butterflies and moths | 4 Beaver |
| 5 Saturn | 6 Orange |
| 7 Bulgaria | 8 Craig Revel Horwood |
| 9 Arsenal | 10 Arm |
| 11 Pig | 12 Chile and Peru |
| 13 Canada | 14 Lucy |
| 15 Sixteen | 16 Gepetto |
| 17 Charli XCX | 18 France |
| 19 Albania | 20 Amsterdam |

Biblical Crossword with a Difference

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 Paul | 2 Lot | 3 Thomas |
| 4 Stephen | 5 Nazareth | 6 Hannah |
| 7 Haggai | 8 Isaac | 9 Caleb |
| 10 Bethany | 11 Yesterday | 12 Yoke |
| 13 Egypt | 14 Thessalonica | 15 Absalom |
| 16 Miriam | 17 Michael | 18 Lebanon |
| 19 Nebuchadnezzar | 20 Rock | |
| 21 Know | 22 Web | 23 Bathsheba |
| 24 Andrew | 25 Wrong | 26 Galilee |
| 27 Eli | 28 Israel | 29 Lightning |
| 30 Gilead | 31 David | 32 Damascus |
| 33 Shepherds | 34 Sennacherib | 35 Babylon |

CrossJig

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

General Crossword

Across

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 Showoff | 5 Eyes |
| 9 Bathe | 10 Unequal |
| 11 Afterthought | 12 Berate |
| 13 Lineup | 16 Undemocratic |
| 19 Updated | 20 Tribe |
| 21 Tree | 22 Correct |

Down

- | | |
|-----------------|------------|
| 1 Sobs | 2 Optsfor |
| 3 Overestimated | 4 Fault |
| 6 Young | 7 Splitup |
| 8 Velociraptor | 12 Bouquet |
| 14 Edifice | 15 Acidic |
| 17 Dodge | 18 Peat |

General Information

Vicar Rev. Ronnie Williams, The Vicarage, Bretland Road, Rusthall	521357
Associate Priest Rev. Nicholas Burton (c/o Parish Office)	521447
Reader Daphne Pilcher	521691
Churchwardens Rod Garcia-Fermer May Graves Please contact via email to Churchwardens@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk	
Deputy Churchwardens Graeme Anderson Chris Dobson	532922 539539
Parochial Church Council Secretary Mione Palmer	667951
Youth Council Angela Culley	07779 098026
Treasurer and Planned Giving Pat Cripps	521447
Safeguarding Officers Daphne Pilcher	521691
DBS Officer Clive Brown c/o the Parish Office	521447
Bible Reading Fellowship Secretary Vivienne Sharp	543263
Choir Leader Fiona Johnson	07540 273303
Magazine Editors Deborah Bruce and Sue Hare c/o the Parish Office email – magazine@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk	
Flower Team Jill McAllister	532817
Parish Hall Bookings Churchyards Enquiries to Parish Office	521447
Rusthall St Paul's Primary School Executive Headteacher – Mrs Liz Mitchell Head of School – Mrs Lyndsay Smurthwaite	520582 520582

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

All worshippers who are baptised members of the Church of England, and aged over 16, should have their names entered on the Electoral Roll. This entitles them to attend and vote at the Annual Parochial Meeting. Forms for enrolment will be found in the Parish Church or the Parish Office and should be sent to the Vicar.

Organisations

Julian Group Pat Stevens	529187
Group Scout Leader Gavin Cons Email – rusthallsoutgroup@gmail.com	
Scout Membership Secretary Juliet Waller Email – rusthallsoutgroupwaitinglist@yahoo.co.uk	
Squirrels: rusthallsquirrels@gmail.com Beavers: beaversrusthall@gmail.com Cubs: rusthallcubs@hotmail.co.uk Scouts: rusthallscouts@gmail.com	
Guide Senior Section Helen Deller	07720 252481
Guide Guiders Gemma Bradley	07377 061398
Brownie Guiders Karen Miller (Thurs) rustahallbrownies@btinternet.com Tina Francis (Mon)	545877
Rainbows Mary Saunders Email – saundii@aol.com	319872
Playtime at St Paul's Liz Mankelow	07840 837968
Rusthall Lunch Club Ros Rodwell	01892 618538
Rusthall Community Larder Bjorn Simpole	07900 906294
Rusthall Community & Youth Project Barry Edwards	680296
Rusthall Village Association Alex Britcher	07967 011467
Rusthall Parish Council Council Clerk: Alison Stevens	520161
Rusthall Bonfire and Fete Committee Annie Softley	548366
Friends of TW and Rusthall Common Clive Evans	518975



The Parish Office

Parish Administrator - Mrs Ginette di Palma

St Paul's Parish Office, Church Centre, Rusthall Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 8RE

Telephone (01892) 521447

Registered Charity in England & Wales, Number 1132681

Office email: office@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

Magazine email: magazine@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

Website: www.stpaulsrusthall.org.uk

The Office is open on weekday mornings (except Tuesdays) between 10 am and 1 pm.