

# CROSSING KLA

Lillington Parish Magazine  
St Mary Magdalene's Church



JANUARY 2017

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References available

## FROM THE VICARAGE

In the December Crosstalk I talked about one of my favourite Christmas carols, so this month I thought I'd talk about one of my favourite Epiphany carols.



The feast of the Epiphany is on 6<sup>th</sup> January, the twelfth night of Christmas, when tradition has it that we take all our decorations down. Epiphany celebrates the arrival of the wise men to visit the baby Jesus, bringing their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. 'As with Gladness men of Old' and 'We three Kings of Orient are' are maybe the best known Epiphany carols. My Mum's favourite is the lesser known 'Brightest and Best'. But

for me, the one that I love most is 'O worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness'. It was written in 1863, by a Northern Irish priest, the Rev John Monsell. The first line quotes psalm 96: 9 in the King James Version of the bible. It is a beautiful piece of poetry and I think a really good hymn to reflect on as we start a new year and reflect on our relationship with God.

*O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!  
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his Name!*

*Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,  
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,  
and comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,  
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.*

*Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness  
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine;  
for truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,  
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.*

*These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,  
he will accept for the Name that is dear;  
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,  
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.*

*O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!  
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his Name!*

It begins and ends with worship, and in essence tells us to come before God just as we are, with all our worries and cares, our sorrows and tears, our feelings of unworthiness. Sometimes people seem to get the idea that they can only come before God once they have their life sorted out. This hymn reminds us that this is not so. Jesus asks us to come and worship just as we are with all our flaws and imperfections. And when we do that, when we bow down and give all that we are to God, however little we think that is, then he will comfort us and guide us, exchange our trembling and fear for trust and hope.

I pray that each of you is able to lay your burden of carefulness at Jesus' feet this year; so that he can hold it in his heart and grant you many mornings of joy.

*Rev Charlotte Gale, Jan 2017*





## WAYS OF PRAYER

"More things are wrought by prayer  
Than this world dreams of .....  
For what are men better than sheep or goats  
That nourish a blind life within the brain,  
If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer ..."  
Morte d'Arthur                      Alfred, Lord Tennyson

At the last meeting of the 8 Essential Qualities (8EQ) Strategy Group in November it was agreed that during 2017 each member of the group would write a short article for Crosstalk about how we, as individuals, pray. This is my contribution for January.

Why do I pray? I have prayed for most of my life, learning the Lord's prayer when I was young and being taught to pray for "near and dear" before going to sleep. In my formative years saying a few short prayers at night became a habit, something that was the "right thing" to do. Did I feel any better for doing it? Not necessarily, although saying a quick prayer at times of stress (exams!) had a calming effect. Looking back over this time I am ashamed to say that most of my prayers were somewhat self-centred and it is only latterly that the scope of my prayers has extended beyond my inner circle.

When do I pray? When I was working and the days were more structured I would often pray before work, usually while engaged in other activity - walking the dog or driving to work. In fact for many years when I was working in Wellingborough and subsequently Peterborough, I would park up in a lay-by for a few minutes to collect my thoughts and commune with the Lord. In fact driving presents many opportunities for prayer, particularly road works and delays, bad driving and, sadly, the occasional accident.

I find that I am better able to converse with God when walking in the countryside - seeing him in the little things of creation. Whereas prayers at bedtime (or more usually these days - in bed) where I first started, are the least effective as I am too tired to concentrate.

So, are prayers answered or would the outcomes for which we pray have occurred anyway? Clearly this depends on your stand point. Those who have faith see God at work, those without faith see a set of coincidences. To quote David Wilkinson, once scientist now

theologian, "the more I pray the more coincidences seem to happen". I believe, much more strongly than once I did, that prayers *are* answered - but not necessarily in the way we expect - our raising the substantial funds required to repair the roof being a prime example.

*John Butler, 13th December 2016*



## **NEW YEAR PRAYER 2017**

Lord of the Years,  
At the start of this New Year we ask for your presence, protection and guidance for every minute of every day of every month ahead. Thank you that we do not go into this New Year alone. Thank you for loving us so much that you gave us Jesus to lead us to you. May we commit ourselves afresh to serve you, to love you and to share your love with those who don't yet know you. May we make a difference for your Kingdom in 2017. In Jesus name.

**Amen**

*By Daphne Kitching*

## HELP A SYRIAN REFUGEE – ME?

Have you ever felt that you would love the chance to help a few of the poor souls we see on the news fleeing from Middle Eastern war zones, crossing the sea on dodgy boats, then trying to survive the camps, the uncertain welcome and the paperwork in Europe? Now is the chance.

Syrian families are already settling in at Stratford, Nuneaton and Rugby – and some are expected in the spring here in Leamington and Warwick! Local Anglican churches together [the Deanery Synod] are looking to see what we can jointly do – and that means finding people with special skills as well as ones with big hearts. They might run their own scheme to help a family – or they might just co-operate with the local councils to provide some help. This will all be overseen by the Home Office to check that we can really cope with refugees and their likely problems (vulnerable children; a family member with serious war wounds; psychological stress after witnessing carnage and losing relatives; guilt feelings that they have survived).

The Synod meets again on 23rd January. If you might like to help (as suitable for you), please let me know before that date, so I can report on how Lillington has responded.

***Roderick Clark [recclark@btinternet.com; 422994]***





## WARDEN'S WORDS

After the APCM John Butler was left as the sole Churchwarden, as no one else came forward. I do remember a conversation with my husband Robin asking if he wanted to do it again, and his response was that he had really enjoyed doing it but wasn't sure he wanted to take it on again – yet! So imagine my surprise when after the summer I kept feeling this nudge, nothing physical, just a general niggle. My first 'interpretation' meant that I had another conversation with Robin – still not interested, but as time went on there was a definite thought in my head 'Why don't you give it a go?' Robin was supportive but I still wasn't sure, so I went to speak to Rev Charlotte ... and well the rest is history. It turns out that Glyn Wright had also spoken to Rev Charlotte and here we are now Deputy Churchwardens. In fact for me it's 'Warden in Training' as I get involved in all sorts of things to find out what's expected.

So what does a Churchwarden do? Perhaps you think they just turn up on a Sunday morning, light a candle and lock up after the service and perhaps get involved in the odd buildings problem (heating and the church roof being a couple of examples!). Well, I've done some research and of course, with Robin having been a Churchwarden before I have some idea of what it's all about. But starting at the beginning, you cannot become a Churchwarden unless you have formally been nominated, seconded and elected at the Annual Parish Meeting (also known as the Vestry meeting), this is held at the same meeting as the APCM but is the first item on the Agenda. Once elected the new Churchwarden is a member of the PCC but is not officially the churchwarden until admitted to the office at the *Archdeacon's visitation*, which is usually some time during May.



In 'Practical Church Management' by James Behrens, a book that many churchwardens recommend (according to Google!) the role of a



churchwarden is described as management, maintenance and ministry.

- Management is about the relationship with the Clergy, PCC and the congregation
- Maintenance is the practical aspect of looking after the physical assets of the church's property
- Ministry is the pastoral role to both Vicar and congregation – the churchwarden is both a friend and counsellor to the Vicar.

So far, I have attended PCC meetings (not new to me as I've been a PCC member before) and to a couple of Standing Committee meetings (where they don't stand!). Glyn and I have also had discussions with the hospitality team, which is dwindling so we are actively seeking new people to join the team

I am looking forward to serving you all as one of your Churchwardens. John Butler is going to be a hard act to follow he has worked tirelessly and set some very high standards. So give me time (to understand better what needs to be done) and your support (to keep me going) and in return I will do the best I can.

*Carol Innes, Deputy Churchwarden*





Thank You for Love Lillington

At the beginning of a New Year it is a time for taking stock. As we approach the first anniversary of our launch of Love Lillington in February 2016, I am writing to say "thank you"!

Firstly "thank you" to Revd Charlotte Gale for hearing God's call to start this project and for reminding us all of the need to 'love our neighbour as ourselves' and suggesting that we respond to that challenge with love for our community in gifts of prayer, money and practical action. Gifts freely given with nothing required in return.

Secondly "thank you" to all the people in our congregations who were interested in finding out more and who have formed the three vital components of "Love Lillington".

**Prayer** – As Christians, we believe that praying can really make a positive difference to people's lives and situations. Our prayer network within the church is praying specifically for people in trouble or need in Lillington. We only need just enough information for us to offer the situation to God and ask for his help. Thank you to Caroline Carr for administering the prayer network.

**Money** – The church administers a small charity, set up over a hundred years ago, to provide help to the poor of Lillington. Professionals in the community (councillors, doctors, midwives, health visitors, youth workers etc) contact us when they come across a specific need. We have re-branded our fund and called it "Grants for Lillington". As the trustee that administers the Love Lillington Fund, Charlotte Sanders has had a very busy year and many requests have been received for carpet, curtain rails, fencing, white goods, paint, vouchers for school shoes, a mobile phone for a young mum in desperate need - to name but a few. Where possible, we buy the item, and we always give the total

- amount needed – not a proportion. There is no upper limit on applications, but resources are obviously limited. At the end of this first year we have raised money to boost the fund by giving 10% from the Summer Fair and the Christmas Market profits and have also been fortunate to receive small and large donations including one from the Round Table. Thank you Charlotte, for all your time and efforts in this first year.
- **Action** – The third part of the project is practical action. We now have a team of 18 willing volunteers ready to help people. In this first year we have provided transport to hospital, met the challenge of helping to clear two overgrown gardens, helped to decorate and brighten up the home of a young mum with a little girl, and fixed up curtain rails for other clients. We also helped to organise the donations for Albert (a rough sleeper recently housed). Our referrals are coming in regularly now from community workers. In November we were involved with launching Reverse Advent and a number of volunteers had great fun covering boxes with Christmas paper and delivering the filled boxes to the Night Shelter and the Leamington and Warwick Food Bank in time for Christmas. Thank you Volunteers! We knew this first year would be a big learning curve but you have all been amazing. Thank you also to all of you for your support, your donations and your prayers for everything we have done.

*Christine Butler  
(Administrator - Love Lillington Action)*



We were overwhelmed by the response to our 'Reverse Advent' baskets this Christmas. This photograph shows just some of them.

Thank you to all who donated.



## WALKERS GROUP

The January walk will take place on Saturday 7th, and the Annual Dinner will be at the Angel Hotel at 7.30pm on Wednesday 25th January. Any questions about either of these events to Bob Cooke please at [walkers@lillingtonparishchurch.org](mailto:walkers@lillingtonparishchurch.org). 2017 programme cards are now available in church opposite the sidesmen's table and in the Octagon.

We welcome newcomers on our walks; just turn up at the church at 9.30am. No membership, no fee! There is always the opportunity for a pub lunch after the walk.

### Programme for 2017

Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> January	Bob Cooke – 315890
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> January	7.30pm Annual Dinner at the Angel Hotel
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Godfrey & Caroline Carr 422916
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> March	John & Sue Hollins 773919
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Bob Cooke 315890
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Ted & Sandra Dear 332958
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Wendy Shear & Sue Wakem 330825
Sat 1st July	Stan & Helen Ireland 451170
Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> August	6.00pm Godfrey & Caroline Carr 422916
Sat 2 <sup>rd</sup> September	Stan & Helen Ireland 451170
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> October	John & Sue Hollins 773919
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Ted & Sandra Dear 332958
This walk will be preceded by the AGM at 9.00 am	
December	There will be no walk in December





## CHRISTMAS QUIZ 2016

The answers are all FAUNA & FLORA with  
Christmas Connections.

- |    |                                      |                  |
|----|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1  | Prickles and berries on one plant    | Holly            |
| 2  | Mother in a Pantomime                | Goose            |
| 3  | Cheery bird on Christmas cards       | Robin            |
| 4  | Despised veg. from Belgium           | Brussels sprouts |
| 5  | "..... may safely graze "            | Sheep            |
| 6  | From Hades? and not a true one       | Christmas rose   |
| 7  | Saucy ingredient from America        | Cranberries      |
| 8  | A silly animal                       | Ass              |
| 9  | "..... roasting on an open fire"     | Chestnuts        |
| 10 | Flamboyant house plant               | Poinsettia       |
| 11 | Small carrier of a precious load     | Donkey           |
| 12 | Trois poules                         | French hens      |
| 13 | Drag it indoors for warmth           | Yule log         |
| 14 | Hedera will cling                    | Ivy              |
| 15 | Tree perching game bird              | Partridge        |
| 16 | " Oh my darling....."                | Clementine       |
| 17 | " We won't go until we get some"     | Figgy pudding    |
| 18 | This one is seasonal but not prickly | Christmas cactus |
| 19 | If I were a shepherd I would bring   | Lamb             |
| 20 | You'll need crackers for these       | Walnuts          |
| 21 | Standing by.....                     | Oxen             |
| 22 | Eastern Mediterranean country        | Turkey           |
| 23 | "Not a creature was stirring....."   | Mouse            |
| 24 | Prince Albert started this custom    | Christmas Tree   |
| 25 | Will their lowing wake the Baby?     | Cattle           |
| 26 | Kiss me quick – right here           | Mistletoe        |
| 27 | To celebrate St. Stephen's day       | Christmas Box    |
| 28 | Will he get the hump when cross?     | Camel            |
| 29 | Herb known for its wisdom            | Sage             |
| 30 | Donna and Blitzen                    | Reindeer         |

# STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

## NORTH AISLE

We are nearly at the end of our tour of the church's stained glass windows, next month will be the last.

This month's window faces you as you enter the church and shows Jesus with five adults and five children. Two of the children have approached close to Jesus and he is drawing them to himself. In the background is a castle or city wall and a gateway with portcullis.

In the quatrefoil panel at the top of the window is an angel and a scroll with the words, "Suffer little children to come unto me." interestingly, of all the portrayals of Jesus in the church windows, this is the only one which shows him without a halo.

You may notice that there are a number of redheads depicted, including Jesus, which surprised me. However if you read Genesis 25:25 - *'The first came out red, all his body was like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau'* - so it's not that unusual!



The inscription is in memory of Nathaniel Milne M.A. Rector of Radcliffe and was erected by his widow and children. This name may be familiar to you as there have been several other windows in the church in memory of this family:

- The Crucifixion window by the font - In memory of William Henry Milne of Woodville
- The west window - erected by the Rev Nathanael Milne MA
- The Good Samaritan – in memory of Oswald Milne, erected by his brothers Nathanael, Alfred and William Henry.

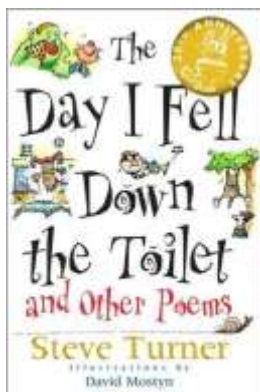
There is also a chalice and paten that were presented to the church in 1926 by Robert Oswald Milne. Looking at the picture in the NADFAS directory they look like the ones we use most Sundays – perhaps I should check the inscription next time I take up the offertory.

I have discovered that three generations of Milnes lived at Woodville House, and they seem to have been quite a well-to-do family, one was an attorney, and Oswald was Master of the Hounds for North Warwickshire and the Revd Nathanael Milne was a Rector in Radcliffe, Lancashire. Does anyone have any more information about the Milne family? They certainly seemed to have been very involved in our church.

*Carol Innes*



## BOOK REVIEWS 2017



**By Steve Turner and David Mostyn,**  
Lion Children £4.99

Whacky poems that take a roller-coaster ride from the crazy corners of dreams to the big questions of life. Steve Turner's first collection of poetry for children is regularly in the best-seller lists.

The poems make an instant impact on children, and the themes and ideas in them give lots of food for thought.

## CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Another wonderful Festival, supported in many ways by many people. The ingenuity, imagination and commitment of those who designed and decorated the trees seem to know no bounds. All the trees were beautiful in different ways, and demonstrated the work of groups and individuals.

The Launch party was a truly happy occasion with around a hundred people in church enjoying music performed by our own talented musicians, and delicious afternoon tea served by a team of devoted cake makers and teapot wielders. A great debt of thanks is due to all those who played a part in making this such a joyous occasion.

The trees continued to be admired by those visiting during the daily afternoon openings when Christmas music and delicious refreshments were available. Conversations between virtual strangers, and those meeting old friends, were held over tea and cake. Many visitors just happened to be passing and came in to see what it was all about. Some hadn't visited the church for years and were delighted to have an opportunity to come in again. Again, thanks are due to all those who have stewarded these afternoon openings.

At least four groups who missed out this year are already making plans to do a tree next year! Those who have decorated trees for the three Festivals are hunting around for new ideas! Although the open afternoons will cease by Christmas Eve, it is hoped that the trees will remain in church until 4<sup>th</sup> January.

*Charlotte Sanders*





## MY WISH FOR 2017

Back in the sixties, peace and love was much talked about - and not just by Christians. The hippie movement of the late sixties and CND, the campaign for nuclear disarmament, were just two groups of people who "preached" this in their different ways.

The Bible tells us that peace and love are just two of the nine fruits of the Spirit, as Paul describes them in Galatians (5:22-23). But I would imagine love and peace, two of the first three in the list, are the most well known and most often quoted and, possibly, seen as the most important. We are encouraged to love our neighbour as second only to loving God, and who wouldn't want to see an outbreak of peace in the world.

In a way it's a shame these fruits receive so much attention because the others in the list don't always get the attention they deserve. There are two in particular that have greatly impressed themselves on me recently, especially when I see them in action.

If you ask anyone what love is you're liable to get a variety of responses. This probably stems from the use we make of the word in English. "I love my mum" and "I love chocolate" obviously convey a different sense of love and, perhaps, it would be more correct to say "I'm fond of chocolate." The ancient Greeks would have had no such problem as they had different words for love.

But you'll get no such problem when you ask someone what *kindness* means. It needs no definition and I think we would all recognise it in action.

I have the privilege of witnessing everyday acts of kindness in Myton Hospice where I volunteer. Anyone who has had anything to do with the hospice will have experienced the kindness shown by nurses and doctors and by volunteers with the simple gift of a cup of tea. And alongside this is another of the spiritual fruits.

When a nurse interacts with a patient I see a way of talking and handling that reflects how much the nurse values the patient. I see the way the nurse maintains the patient's dignity however inefficient it may seem to some. And I see the nurse waiting for the answer to a

question however long it may take for the patient's response. It's called *gentleness*.

Gentleness and kindness seem to go hand in hand and are very obvious in some people. The rest of us have to work at it! But, it seems to me, they are the bedrock of how we should relate as Christians to all we meet, whoever they are and wherever they come from.

And, after such a year as 2016, I would wish that these particular fruits of the Spirit are much more in evidence in this new year; that they would replace the hatred and suspicion that seems to have been the signature of this past year.

And, as always, it starts with me.

*Alan Wright*



## PEACEFUL NEW YEAR?

Probably not many of us have included 'peace and quiet' into our resolutions for 2017. Yet the World Health Organisation warns us that 40 per cent of Europeans are exposed to noise levels in excess of 55 decibels throughout each day. That is the level of a loud conversation, and 30 per cent of us have to put up with that same volume at night. Such a level will disturb sleep, raise blood pressure, and even increase the risk of heart disease.

Continual noise can make you ill. Even continually expecting noise or interference can make you ill. Living on the alert keeps you flooded with cortisol, which makes you feel twitchy, unable to focus, hyper-vigilant, and unable to carry out complicated tasks.

Modern life is a cacophony of attempts to distract you with all types of demands on your time. So why not include some regular times of 'peace and quiet' in your year ahead?

*Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, He said to them,*

*"Come with me by yourselves to a **quiet place** and get some rest."*

Mark 6:31

## HOW THE INTERNET GOT STARTED



And lo, in ancient Israel, it came to pass that a trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a wife by the name of Dorothy.

And she said unto Abraham her husband, "Why dost thou travel so far from town to town with thy goods when thou canst trade without ever leaving thy tent?"

And Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said, "How, Dear?"

And Dot replied, "I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale, and they will reply telling you who hath the best price. The sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS)."

Abraham thought long and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drums.

And the drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had at the top price, without ever having to move from his tent.

To prevent neighbouring countries from overhearing what the drums were saying, Dot devised a system that only she and the drummers knew. It was known as Must Send Drum Over Sound (MSDOS), and she also developed a language to transmit ideas and pictures - Hebrew To The People (HTTP).

And the young men did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung. They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Sybarites, or NERDS.

And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums that no one noticed that the real riches were going to that enterprising drum dealer, Brother William of Gates, who bought off every drum maker in the land. Indeed he did

insist on drums to be made that would work only with Brother Gates' drumheads and drumsticks.  
And Dot did say, "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others."

And Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel, or eBay as it came to be known.

He said, "We need a name that reflects what we are."

And Dot replied, "Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators."

"YAHOO," said Abraham.

And because it was Dot's idea, they named it YAHOO Dot Com.

Abraham's cousin, Joshua, being the young Gregarious Energetic Educated Kid (GEEK) that he was, soon started using Dot's drums to locate things around the countryside.

It soon became known as God's Own Official Guide to Locating Everything (GOOGLE).

That is how it all began. And that's the truthhhh...



**"I think he's ready to start using the computer. He just said 'Google!'"**

# WHAT'S ON

## JANUARY 2017

<b>Sat 7</b>	9:30	Walkers Group meets outside Church. Contact Bob Cooke tel 315890
<b>Sun 8</b>	18:15	Youth Group
<b>Tue 10</b>	18:30	Knitting Group in the Octagon
<b>Wed 11</b>	15:00	Poetry Group @ 17 Lime Avenue. Theme – Scottish poetry. Tel 831649
<b>Thu 12</b>	19:30	PCC in the Octagon
<b>Tue 24</b>	18:30	Knitting Group in the Octagon
<b>Tue 31</b>	14:00	Tea & Chat in the Octagon

## FEBRUARY 2017

<b>Sat 4</b>	9:30	Walkers Group meets outside Church. Contact Godfrey & Caroline Carr. Tel: 422916
<b>Tue 14</b>	18:30	Knitting Group in the Octagon
<b>Tue 28</b>	18:30	Knitting Group in the Octagon

**A reminder:** Please make Cheques payable to Lillington PCC

**For any events you wish to publicise please contact the Editor or email [events@lillingtonparishchurch.org](mailto:events@lillingtonparishchurch.org)**



## SERVICE DETAILS

### SUNDAY WORSHIP - JANUARY 2017

Jan 1	08:00	Holy Communion
	09:30	Morning Praise (All Age)
Jan 8	08:00	Holy Communion
	09:30	Holy Communion with prayers for healing
	18:30	Youth Group
Jan 15	08:00	Holy Communion
	09:30	Holy Communion
	18:30	Evensong
Jan 22	08:00	Holy Communion
	9:30	Holy Communion
Jan 29	08:00	Holy Communion (BCP)
	09:30	Holy Communion

**A Time for Quiet and Prayer**  
**Monday – Thursday, 12.00 – 1.00 pm**  
**(Please use main entrance)**

### SUNDAY CLUB

For children of all ages up to 10 years during School Term time. Children join the main 09:30 service at the beginning and the end, and leave for a 30 minutes Sunday Club session, which has a range of age appropriate activities

### WEEKDAY WORSHIP:

Tuesday	31 <sup>st</sup> January	13:30	Holy Communion
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### THE CHURCH OFFICE

The office is open Monday to Thursday 9.00am till 1.00pm.

During these hours the church may be used for private prayer - please use the office entrance.

For Baptism, Weddings and general enquiries please contact the church office (01926 470449). Outside of office hours please leave a message on the answer phone and we will get back to you

## COOKING WITH CROSSTALK

Did you know that the United Nations has designated 2017 as the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development (last year incidentally was the International Year of Pulses – beans, peas etc.) so I thought 'Cooking with Crosstalk' could take a trip around the world over the next 12 months looking at the cuisines of different countries.

### January – Australia

January 26<sup>th</sup> is Australia Day so what better way to kick off this series with some traditional and unique Australian fare.

### Lamingtons

190g unsalted butter, softened  
220g caster sugar  
2 teaspoons vanilla-bean paste  
or vanilla extract  
3 eggs  
(350g) self-raising flour, sifted

250ml milk  
220g dark chocolate  
250ml thickened cream  
1 cup desiccated or shredded  
coconut

1. Preheat the oven to 170°C. Grease and line a 20cm-square cake pan.
2. Process butter and sugar in a processor for 2 minutes until light. Add 1 teaspoon vanilla. Add eggs one at a time, pulsing after each until just combined. In 3 alternating batches, add flour and milk, pulsing to combine. Pour into pan and bake for 55-60 minutes until a skewer inserted in centre comes out clean. Cool for 5 minutes, then turn onto a rack to cool completely.
3. Meanwhile, stir chocolate, cream and remaining vanilla in a heatproof bowl over simmering water until smooth (don't let the bowl touch water). Chill for 20 minutes to thicken. Spread this icing over the cake, then sprinkle top and sides with coconut.



# Damper

Damper is the bush-bread of Australia. Drovers (cowboys) baked it in camp ovens buried in the hot ashes of their camp fires in the Outback, but if you don't want to build a camp fire in your garden, it can also be baked in a normal kitchen oven. To eat a damper: Cut the damper into rustic chunky slices, spread a liberal amount of butter on the damper and top with either jam, honey or Golden Syrup. YUM... You just got to have a cuppa with it.



450g (3 cups) self-raising flour  
Pinch of salt  
80g butter, chilled and cubed  
185 ml Water

1. Preheat oven to 200°C. Line a baking tray with non-stick baking paper. Combine the flour and salt in a large bowl. Use your fingertips to rub the butter into the flour until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs.
2. Add the water to the flour mixture and use a round-bladed knife in a cutting motion to mix until the mixture just comes together, adding 1-2 tablespoons extra water if the mixture is a little dry. Use your hands to bring the mixture together.
3. Turn the dough onto a lightly floured surface and knead gently for 1-2 minutes or until smooth. Shape into an 18cm disc and place on tray. Use a sharp knife that has been dipped in flour to mark 8 wedges on top. Dust the damper with a little extra flour and bake in preheated oven for 30 minutes or until the damper is cooked through and sounds hollow when tapped on the base. Transfer to a wire rack for 5 minutes to cool slightly. Serve warm or at room temperature.

*Carol Innes*

Source for recipes: [www.taste.com.au](http://www.taste.com.au)

Next month: We celebrate Chinese New Year



## CHARITY OF THE MONTH—THARE MACHI EDUCATION

We are beginning the year by supporting Thare Machi Education (pronounced tarry matchy). This is a Leamington based charity that St Mary Magdalene's has supported for a few years now.

The charity uses simple technology to provide basic health education for some of the world's poorest people, especially women and children. Thare Machi has 32 lessons in 55 languages – from Acholi to Zulu – sharing essential health information through DVDs with the poorest, least educated and most vulnerable people in the world.



It's such a simple idea and yet so effective. The lessons are on topics such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, TB, diarrhoea, safe water and basic hygiene – recorded in the community's own language. They focus on key facts and are interactive, making them popular with their target audience, many of whom cannot read or write.

The DVDs are distributed free through partners such as community groups, street children's societies, health clinics, churches, schools and individuals. They do not need classrooms or training – or anyone from the charity having to be there. A portable player can be charged from a car battery.

Over the last couple of years, demand for their health education lessons has grown. Thousands of DVDs have been sent out so that women, men and children can learn in their own language how to stay healthy and protect themselves from diseases that kill millions of people every year.

The charity has two DVD printing machines, which are essential to their work, producing all the discs that their partners need. However, these machines have been working incredibly hard, and one of them needs to be replaced.

St Mary Magdalene’s church is donating £500 to Thare Machi this year, as part of our charitable giving, to go towards the cost of a new DVD printing machine, so they can continue this vital life changing work. If you would like to add to that, please put your donation in one of the yellow envelopes and write Thare Machi on the front – we will make sure it gets to them. If you want to know more about them or become a volunteer, then have a look at their website – [www.tme.org.uk](http://www.tme.org.uk).



### LILLINGTON COMMUNITY CAFE



Can you spare some time to volunteer with Lillington Community cafe? The cafe, based in the Community Centre on Masons Avenue offers healthy food at affordable prices to local residents on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. We need more capable people to help with preparing food and to bring a warm welcome to our customers. We also need people to read to the children who attend the cafe. If you think you can help then please get in touch with **Sybil on 01926 337506**.



### FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS

FUNERALS	
Nov 1 <sup>st</sup>	Harold (Frank) Clarke Age 92
Nov 15 <sup>th</sup>	Clifford Harris Age 85
Nov 17 <sup>th</sup>	Edmund Wilson Age 86

## MAKING BREAD – SOME THOUGHTS

I have been making my own bread for some time now, and I would like to share with you some thoughts that have been coming to mind when making bread. These have not happened all at once, but gradually over time while making bread each Friday morning.

When I first began I found that I always got something wrong – perhaps I left out the sugar or left out the salt – or I didn't prove it enough the second time – but the strange thing was that it was always edible – not perfect, but edible. It seemed like the bread was very forgiving – of me – although I made mistakes it was still OK, so I was OK.

Then the kneading of the bread, and the play is on the word knead – need. The bread needed to be kneaded. A bit like us really, and (as I learnt from the 1962 edition of Mrs Beeton's Cookery & Household Management) the first time you knead the dough, you need to get as much air in as possible in order for the yeast to become alive. That's another thing, the yeast is living and comes alive when it is watered and exposed to the air. Then there is a resting time, and using your hands with the dough you can actually 'feel' that it wants to have a rest, again a bit like us. In resting we are re-enlivened.

The bread then is alive and grows. Now we need to knead it again, but this time it's to get the air out. Just like our own breathing. Breathing air in and breathing air out, "*Breathe on me Breath of God*" comes to mind.

So now the air is being kneaded out of the bread until there are no holes in it. The resting again, and putting the bread in the oven and in doing this the heat kills the yeast. But there is new life for the bread because it comes alive again in us when we eat the bread. It helps keeps us alive.

*The Bread of Life.*

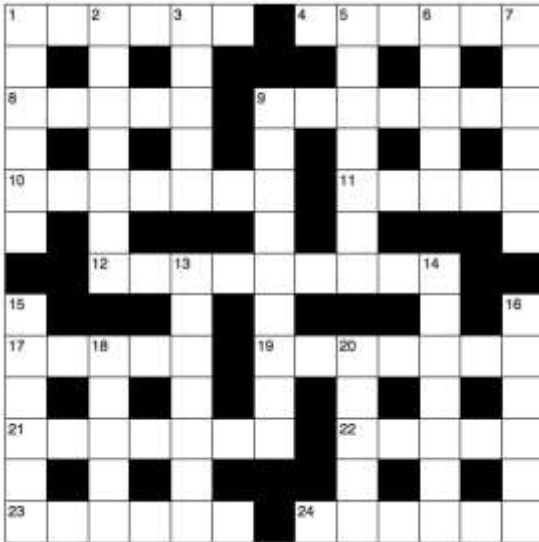
It fulfills us and sustains us.

*Our Daily Bread*



*Margaret Moore*

# CROSSWORD



## Across

- 1 Protective covering recommended to the Ephesians (Ephesians 6:11) (6)  
 4 The number of apostles (Matthew 10:2) (6)  
 8 Tenth-century Bishop of Augsburg for 48 years, who became the first saint to be canonized by a pope (5)  
 9 'Do not — what is evil but what is good' (3 John 11) (7)  
 10 Reading desk in a church (7)  
 11 'He looked up and said, "I see people; they look like — walking around"' (Mark 8:24) (5)  
 12 One of the qualities that Paul exhorted Timothy to pursue (1 Timothy 6:11) (9)  
 17 One of the meaningless pleasures acquired by the Teacher (Ecclesiastes 2:8) (5)  
 19 'Like — babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation' (1 Peter 2:2) (7)

- 21 Jesus said that Moses allowed this only because men's hearts were hard (Matthew 19:8) (7)  
 22 Girl's name (5)  
 23 Most sagacious (Judges 5:29) (6)  
 24 How Stephen, the first Christian martyr, died: after being — (Acts 7:59) (6)

## Down

- 1 A Jew whom Paul met in Corinth, whose wife was Priscilla (Acts 18:2) (6)  
 2 For example, turning water into wine, feeding the five thousand, walking on water (John 7:21) (7)  
 3 Abram's relationship to Lot (Genesis 14:12) (5)  
 5 'Jesus answered, "It is —: 'Man does not live by bread alone.'"' (Matthew 4:4) (7)  
 6 'Peace I — with you; my peace I give you' (John 14:27) (5)  
 7 'May the Lord deal with me, be it — — severely, if anything but death separates you and me' (Ruth 1:17) (4,2)  
 9 Lack of knowledge (Acts 17:30) (9)  
 13 This woman 'followed Paul and believed' after his words to the Areopagus in Athens (Acts 17:34) (7)  
 14 Or noise (anag.) (7)  
 15 'Even though I walk through the valley of the — of death, I will fear no evil' (Psalm 23:4) (6)  
 16 ' — Christian soldiers, marching as to war' (6)  
 18 Saver (anag.) (5)  
 20 'Unless a grain of — falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed' (John 12:24) (5)

# JUNIOR CROSSTALK



## St PAUL

St Paul's day is the 25<sup>th</sup> January and we remember him because he was one of the Church's greatest teachers. Called Saul by his parents, he was brought up a Pharisee and became a tent-maker. He was completely against the early Christians and was there when Stephen, the first Christian martyr was stoned to death. He searched out many Christians and handed them over the prison and death.

So why did he change? Like many people since, although few so dramatically, Saul changed because Jesus came into his life. You can read all about it in Acts, chapter 9. Everything changed for Saul but he had a hard time persuading people that it wasn't a trick. Even his name changed, and as Paul he travelled teaching and founding churches. To encourage these growing communities he wrote the 13 letters (or Epistles) we can still read today. These letters are the earliest parts of the New Testament to be written, some only 20 years after Jesus.

## P.S.

These names have all the letters S and P missing. Can you fit in the missing letters to make the names of some people or places in the Bible?

1. Both the Pharaoh and Joseph knew - OTI - HAR.
2. THEO - HILU - was Luke's friend.
3. St John wrote his Revelation on the island of - ATMO - .
4. MO - E - led the Israelites out of Egypt.
5. E - THER was a queen and a book of the Old Testament is named for her.
6. Paul was imprisoned in the town of - HILLI - - I.
7. Paul's friend - RI - CILLA was the wife of Aquila.
8. A town in Sicily, - YRACU - E, Paul stayed here on his way to Rome.

---

**What do you call a camel that's got three humps?**  
Humphrey.

**Who rides a camel and carries a lamp?**

Florence of Arabia.



- 
- 1.Potiphar 2.Theophilus 3.Patmos
  - 4.Moses 5.Esther 6.Phillippi 7.Priscilla
  - 10.Syracuse.



## NOTES FROM NESSIE

Hello everyone, and a very Happy New Year to you all ☺

The first thing I would like to do is say THANK YOU! to Robin Innes for his years of service as Editor, and for all the help he and Carol have provided during the handover.

This being my first edition as Editor, it pretty much follows the format Robin was using. Crosstalk will of course continue with news and events taking place in and around our beautiful church, however, during the coming months I hope to bring something new and fresh to Crosstalk too. It would be lovely to involve you, the readers.

So, if there is anything that either used to be in the magazine, or that you would like to see included please do let me know using the email address below.

You will have spotted various photographs of some of the lovely Christmas trees from our **Christmas Tree Festival**. Although randomly positioned I hope you manage to find yours?

I'm looking forward to editing Crosstalk and hope you will all enjoy reading it and, more importantly, offering articles to be published.

*Vanessa, Editor*

### DEADLINE

Copy for the February 2017 edition is required by **18<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017** to Vanessa at [magazine@lillingtonparishchurch.org](mailto:magazine@lillingtonparishchurch.org)

### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

**ACROSS:** 1, Armour. 4, Twelve. 8, Ulric. 9, Imitate. 10, Lectern. 11, Trees. 12, Endurance. 17, Harem. 19, Newborn. 21, Divorce. 22, Erica. 23, Wisest. 24, Stoned.

**DOWN:** 1, Aquila. 2, Miracle. 3, Uncle. 5, Written. 6, Leave. 7, Ever so. 9, Ignorance. 13, Damaris. 14, Erosion. 15, Shadow. 16, Onward. 18, Raves. 20, Wheat.

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