

March
2024

Bullseye

Take a copy for a friend or print or email a copy of the Internet edition to them

Following in His Footsteps



News from the Parish of Hornchurch
St Andrew's, St George's, St Matthew's and Messy Church

When I trained as a Reader (Licenced Lay Preacher) I had to deliver an assessed sermon for first Sunday of Lent. On that day, the Gospel is always Jesus' temptations during His 40 days in the wilderness. Hopefully, our personal 40 day Lenten journeys are nowhere near as challenging as His – but we are called to a time of reflection, repentance and renewal with God,

This year the lectionary readings focus on Mark's Gospel, where the account of Jesus' temptations (or tests) is just two verses long:

'At once the Spirit sent Him out into the desert and He was in the desert for 40 days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals and angels attended Him.' (Mark 1 v 12, 13)

It is Matthew and Luke who give us the details:

If You are the Son of God tell these stones to become bread.

Worship me (Satan) and I will give You all the kingdoms of the world.

If You are the Son of God throw Yourself off a high place and God will send His angels to protect You.

Clearly, these are specific to Jesus – who He was and what He could do – but behind them are challenges we all face: physical, spiritual, and mental

temptations to turn away from God.

Jesus countered all His by quoting Scripture – He knew His Bible. For us, too, that is one of the best ways of defeating temptation, growing in faith and hearing God speak.

So, perhaps Lent can be a time to refocus on the Bible: read a small passage every day, with daily notes or a commentary where it helps. A good place to start could be to focus specifically on one of the Gospels to get the whole overview of Jesus' life and ministry.

However we do it, engaging anew with our Bibles is always rewarding and a life investment for following Jesus.

Carole Sherratt
Lay Reader



What's on

Events for this column: please send them to the editor
 article.bullseye@parishofhornchurch.co.uk
 or "M" pigeon hole

Parish Mission Statement

**What is our purpose?
 We strive to:**

Love God

Jesus said - "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength"
 Mark 12.30 NIV

"Worship in spirit and in truth"
 John 4.24 NIV

Grow in Faith and Understanding

St Paul said - "Grow up in Christ until you reach the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ"
 Ephesians 4.13 & 15 NIV

Bring others to knowledge of and faith in Jesus Christ

Jesus said - "Make all nations My disciples" Matthew 28.19 NIV

Serve the community

Jesus said - "Love your neighbour as yourself" Mark 12.31 NIV

Weekly meetings

- Mon. 10.00am to 11.30 am** **Tadpoles** St Andrew's large hall, for children and their adults
- 2.30 and 7.00 pm** **Time Out** 2nd Monday of month meeting is 7pm North Street hall and 4th Monday meeting 2.30pm St Andrew's.
- 8.30 pm** **Escape** (1st & 3rd) small hall
- Tues. ~ ~ ~ ~ ~**
- Wed. 9.30-11.00 am** **0-2 Playgroup** St Andrew's hall. Toys, songs and craft, refreshments. All enquiries to Parish Office
- Thur. 1.30 pm** **Little Fishes** St Andrew's large hall. Toys, stories and craft, refreshments, all welcome
- Fri. 15.15—17.17** **Table Top Fun** St Matthew's

Uniformed organisations meet on various nights of the week. Please contact their representatives for times (see back page for telephone numbers)

For All Parish Giving Scheme Donors

The Parish Giving Scheme is at 76 Kingsholm Road, Gloucester GL1 3BD. Telephone will be 0333 002 1260 and the email address info@parishgiving.org.uk Can you please note these details should you need to contact them.



Disclaimer: Neither the Vicar, Parish Wardens, Parochial Church Council, nor the Editor take responsibility for the information given or views expressed in the Bullseye. Nor is any culpability accepted in work undertaken by advertisers.

Bullseye programme Contents to the Editor 2024

April Bullseye Sunday 3rd March
 May Bullseye Sunday 31st March

Collating

April Bullseye Wed. 27th March
 May Bullseye Wed. 24th April

The Bullseye for April will be in the churches and online by Sunday 31st March 2024

BF Mulley & Son

Incorporating Horace Fry



Chapel of Rest | Home Arrangements | Distance No Object

World-Wide Repatriation | Ample Client Parking | Memorials

Family Owned Funeral Home | 24 Hour Funeral Service

Readers on-line who wish to complete the sudoku puzzle on Page 8 or the crossword puzzle on Page 9 will need to print those pages; the PDF format is not interactive.

Useful Telephone Numbers

We now have access to all our buildings but there are still other ways to access church. Search elsewhere on the website (www.parishofhornchurch.co.uk) for links to our services as well as regular updates on our various Facebook pages – the parish and Messy Church. Additionally visit www.churchofengland.org and www.chelmsford.anglican.org for further inspiration and resources to aid your worship and faith. Or simply call 0800 804 8044 a free national Church of England number to bring services and prayers to those not online. Please pass this number on to those you know may be in this position.

Pastoral care / Prayer requests

There is a dedicated phone number for prayer and pastoral care requests: **0789 55 12480** Please use this number if you would like the Pastoral Care team to contact you. It can also be used to request prayer by our Healing Prayer team who would be delighted to pray for you. Leave a voicemail or text message and someone will contact you within a couple of days.



254 St. Mary's Lane,
 Upminster RM14 3DH
 Tel. 01708 220330

28 High Street,
 Hornchurch RM12 4UN
 Tel. 01708 442145

Email:-
Upminster@bfmulleyson.com

Email:-
Hornchurch@bfmulleyson.com

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Parish Services

Sunday morning services have now settled down into a monthly pattern which is set out on page 16 and below. From September the parish is trying out a pattern of evening services.

Holy Communion continues at St Andrew's at 10am every Thursday, and livestream Morning Prayer on Facebook at 9am Monday to Friday except Bank Holidays.

1st Sunday

8.30am - BCP Holy Communion at St Andrew's
 10.15am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St Andrew's (also livestreamed)
 6.30pm - Choral Evensong at St Andrew's.

2nd Sunday,

8.30am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St Andrew's
 10.15am - Morning Worship at St Andrew's (also livestreamed)
 10.15am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St George's
 6.30pm - BCP Evening prayer at St Andrew's.

3rd Sunday,

8.30am - BCP Holy Communion at St Andrew's
 10.15am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St Andrew's (also livestreamed)
 10.15am - Morning Worship at St George's
 11.00am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St Matthew's
 3.00pm - The Well at St Matthew's
 6.30pm - Reflective service at St Andrew's

4th Sunday,

8.30am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St Andrew's
 10.15am - Parade at St Andrew's (also livestreamed)
 10.15am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St George's
 6.30pm - 6.30pm - BCP Holy Communion at St Andrew's.

5th Sunday,

8.30am - BCP Holy Communion at St Andrew's
 10.15am - Common Worship Holy Communion at St Andrew's (also livestreamed)
 10.15am - Morning Worship at St George's
 6.30pm - Healing Prayer Service at St Andrew's

Sunday 10th March Mothering Sunday

Sunday 23rd March Palm Sunday. Palms will be available at all services at St Andrew's and St George's.

Thursday 28th March Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion at St Andrew's at 10 am as usual.
 Holy Communion for Maundy Thursday at St Andrew's at 8pm.
 Details of all Easter services to follow in the April edition.

Entrance to St Andrew's is not structured. Hand sanitizer continues to be freely available at various places in church premises, the wearing of masks is a matter of personal decision, as is a worshipper's choice of seat. Holy Communion is available in both forms, bread and wine, and it is a personal decision whether to take both. Gluten-free wafers and alcohol-free wine are available.



Ever the True Story

Ever joyful beside You dear Lord
 Needing You in every way
 Ever Your guidance I duly seek
 When in my heart I pray
 Ever the comfort of Your presence
 Always within so sublime.

Ever Your wisdom to guide me
 To follow the true way ahead
 Ever Your salvation to save me
 When all my prayers are said
 Ever Your vision before me
 Your radiance shineth through all time.

Ever Your power and glory
 The greatest story ever fulfilled
 Ever the retelling unfolding
 Emboldens all time old and new
 Ever through all the ages run
 The majesty of the God given Son.

Terence Trimmer



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 VIA THE PARISH OFFICE: 01708 441571

Licensing of Revd Dr Marianne Hayward as Associate Priest

At the 10.15 communion service on Sunday 4th February Rev Dr Marianne Hayward was licensed as Associate Priest in the Parish of Hornchurch by The Venerable Chris Burke, Archdeacon of Barking. Marianne came to the parish as a curate in spring 2020 and since then has combined her work as an NHS psychiatrist with her duties in the parish. She completed her curacy in summer 2023; her new license as an Associate Priest means that she and her family will be staying in the parish on a more permanent basis. The service was attended or watched online by a number of Marianne's colleagues, family and friends. After Marianne had committed herself to the mission and ministry of the parish and the congregation had promised to support her in her ministry, the Archdeacon preached about the incarnational discipleship which Marianne exercises as a Minister in Secular Employment and to which every Christian is called. Challenging the congregation with the recognition that all Christians are called to minister using their God given talents, he reminded us that vocation begins when we are welcomed into the church family at baptism, not with a calling to ordination. Although there is a specific calling to be ordained – as seen in Marianne's fresh licensing to the parish – we all have a part to play in sharing the Good News of God's love for us in the form and actions of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. The choir then sang the anthem *If you love me*, by Tallis, before the legal part of the service, in which Marianne made the Declaration of Assent (declaring her loyalty to the Christian faith as understood within the Church of England) and took



oaths of allegiance to the King and the Bishop of Chelmsford. After the Archdeacon had given Marianne her license he commissioned her with the rest of the ministry team at St Andrew's and prayed for Marianne's workplace and colleagues. The remainder of the communion service then followed, during which Marianne led the prayers. After the service those present enjoyed a bring and share lunch and the spectacular celebration cake

shown above. We are thankful to God for what Marianne and, indeed, her whole family have brought to the parish and are excited for the future as we journey together. As with all 10.15 services at St Andrew's the service is available through the parish Facebook page for anyone who would like to watch it after the event.

At Messy Church

We Learn about God ♦ Welcome all the Family ♦ Activities & Crafts ♦ Eat Food ♦ Hear Bible Stories

Date for your Diary

Saturday 23rd March 2024, 3:30-5pm, Messy Church in Holy Week

All ages are welcome. Please wear weather-appropriate clothing and footwear for the outdoor sessions
Book via Eventbrite. Take a look at our Facebook page



<https://www.facebook.com/messychurchinhornchurch>

Or www.parishofhornchurch.co.uk

for regular updates and further details about when and where Messy Church is meeting.

We look forward to seeing you at a Messy Church session very soon.



Life at St George's ~ A tribute to Sid Letch

It is with great sadness that I bring news of the death of Sid Letch on 13th January, just days after his 90th birthday. Having lived across the road from the church for the last 86 years of his life, Sid had been a regular at St George's since the beginning.

He was very active in church services and social events, being a regular at the 8am communion service, where he did the reading. He also took money at the door when we held our annual bazaar, as well as being a regular attendee at Evensong until it finally closed a few years ago.

However, he always insisted on sitting in the back row in services and – if the back row was full (even though there were plenty of other seats) – he would get a chair and start another row behind that one!

For many years (right up to the pandemic) he also helped out at the Parish Office by proof reading the weekly notices and then duplicating them, plus any other little jobs that needed doing. He also attended the 3hr service at St Andrew's on Good Friday.

Following his retirement from teaching, Sid determined to keep active and, during the summer months, he would go off for a few days at a time around the country – often with one of the groups he was a part of, such as the Historical Society, U3A and many others. He would give

that special grin of his while announcing that he would not be around the following week, as he was off on yet another of his trips. He also used to organise guided walks around London and a number of people from St George's used to take part in them. Once his mobility meant that he could no longer get around so easily, he bought a mobility scooter and carried on travelling around to Romford, Upminster and other places.

I had known Sid for almost 40 years and one of the things I'll always remember is his wonderful laugh – a deep, throaty chuckle that was so infectious. As I was approaching the church for Evensong during the summer months, with the doors and windows open, I could hear him almost half way up the street! He had a great sense of humour and would regularly try and catch new members of the clergy out by asking them his favourite "tricky" biblical questions.

He was very sociable and, in the early days, he would invite three elderly ladies who were on their own to High Tea at his home on New Year's Day. He also included me in the invitation (although I was not elderly at the time!) He was also the first person to visit me when I was in hospital following an operation. Sadly, he had become deaf over the last few years but rarely wore his hearing aids, which made it very difficult to

communicate with him, especially after he was in Hornchurch Nursing Home! However, he was still very alert.

Unfortunately, Sid was taken into hospital on Christmas Eve and so we were unable to celebrate his 90th birthday with him, as he was so unwell. His funeral was held on 1st February at Upminster Crematorium and was well attended by members from many of the organisations he belonged to.

Perhaps the most fitting epitaph for this special man is to say that, when a number of us from St George's decided that, if we were stuck on a desert island with only one other person for company, then it would have to be Sid. Not only was he very knowledgeable about so many subjects, but he was also entertaining. When he spent a long time in St George's Hospital some years ago, we used to chat for hours and I never grew tired of listening to him! He will be sadly missed but leaves us with so many happy memories.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends at this time.

Pat Bromhall

The Swish of the Curtain

I was pleasantly surprised to read of the reference to Pamela Brown, the children's author, and her book *The Swish of the Curtain* in last month's obituary of Jill Evans.

The author, incidentally not to be confused with Pamela Brown the actress, wrote this, her first children's book at the age of 14 in 1938. *The Swish of the Curtain* tells the story of a group of children of varying ages who form the Blue Door Theatre Company. They proceed to convert a disused chapel into a small theatre and eventually go on to win a competition. This delightful adventure appealed to both my sister and myself as we were stagestruck, mainly as a result of watching films with a backstage theme and occasional visits to the Ilford Hippodrome (later destroyed in the war 1939-1945 which was going on) and the East Ham Palace theatres. Pamela Brown became a very successful author and went on to write over 20 children's books including sequels to her first theatre

book. *The Swish of the Curtain* was adapted for BBC radio and we were thrilled to listen to this during the dark days of the war. It also made it on post-war radio and television. Pamela Brown's books have continued to be reprinted. I have a modern paperback *Curtain* copy with a beautifully designed cover. It clearly illustrates the title.

To put the author's life in context, she was born in 1924 and died in 1989 aged 65. To return to Jill, perhaps she received her prize from Pamela at an early age too? She must have been thrilled.

Terence Trimmer

Time Out

The meeting on Monday 12th February was attended by thirteen members and was a chance for four members to recommend books they have read.

These were:

'The Giver of Stars' and 'One Plus One' both by Jo Jo Moyes

'The Muse' by Jessie Burton

'One Good Turn' by Kate Atkinson

'Where the Crawdads Sing' by Delia Owens

'Great Uncle Albert' by Michael Palin
There was plenty of chat afterwards with tea and coffee and biscuits.

Our meetings in March are:

Monday 11th March at 7pm in North Street Hall where we will decorate eggs for Easter.

Monday 25th March at 2.30pm in St Andrew's hall for a talk about Equine Therapy.

Please contact Val on 07527 325996 for more information about the meetings or the group.

Jeanette

Guide, Brownie and Rainbow News

2nd Hornchurch Rainbows had a visit from PC Jake and Community Police Officer Angela.

They brought with them some hats for the girls to try on. Eagle (our Guide Rainbow Helper) was given a very heavy jacket to try on and some hand cuffs.

A very eventful evening was enjoyed by everybody.

PCSO Angela said of the evening "We had a very welcoming visit to Rainbows, that meet at St Andrew's Church. They asked lots of questions about what the Police do and tried on uniform. We finished the evening playing a game."



5th Hornchurch (St George's) Guides

Olivia and Connie (left) worked hard and were proud to be presented with their Guide Gold Awards.

Olivia (M) (Below) was proud to complete her Guide Silver Award



Mollie, Pippa, Meadow, Kheran, Daisy, Emma and Harper (left) were excited to make their Guide Promise

On our last week of Guides before half term the Guides had an amazing time Stargazing at Thames Chase



Scout Leaders needed



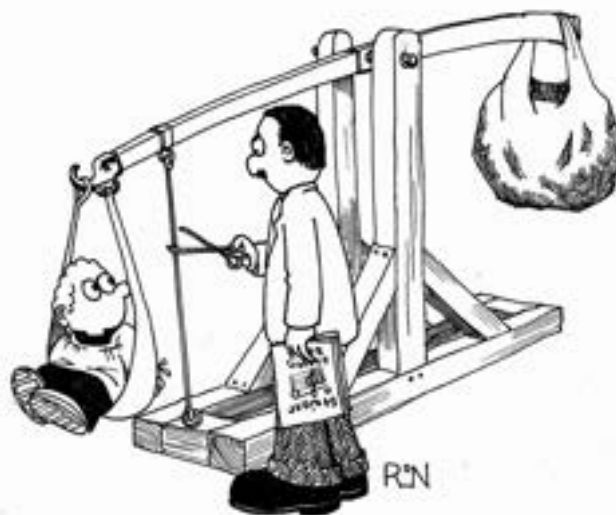
Do you have some spare time and would be interested in volunteering with the biggest Scout Group in the Greater London Region? 8th Hornchurch are a large and successful group that are continuing to grow and they now find themselves looking for a number of volunteers. They are specifically looking for

additional leaders to support the good work of the current leaders to drive forward the ever growing Scout Group, allowing them to continue to offer fantastic opportunities and skills for life for children aged 6-14 years.

No prior experience is required as the Scout Association will provide full training. All we need is enthusiasm, an interest in working with and developing young people and a small commitment to attend training, and regular section meetings with the occasional day trip and camps.

You will have the opportunity to grow yourself by using your current skills, learning new ones and contributing to an amazing life-experience for you and your local community. This role does require a DBS disclosure (which will be paid for by Scouts).

If you are interested in hearing more, please email gsl@8thhornchurch.org.uk



Toby persistently sang flat

Rainbow and Brownie Leaders needed

Hornchurch East District are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help at Rainbow and Brownie meetings at St Andrew's.

Rainbows are girls aged between four and seven years old, and meet at 4.30pm for an hour. Brownies are girls aged between seven and ten years old and meet at 6.30pm until 8.00pm. Both groups run a varied programme, enabling the girls to learn, develop new skills and have fun. And, of course, gain badges!

No experience is necessary as full training and support will be given. A DBS disclosure will be required (paid for by Girlguiding UK).

If you are interested, and/or would like more information, please contact Kim Kemp on email:

kim.kemp@ntlworld.com.

Or you can just come and have a chat with me on a Sunday morning after the 10.15am service. Thank you.

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Easy Sudoku solution on Page 15

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

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St James the Least of All

Editor: The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...

On why pews SHOULD be uncomfortable

From: The Rectory,
 St James the Least of All

My Dear Nephew Darren,

Visits from your parishioners to our church are always welcome. But I did not expect them to return to you complaining because our pews are uncomfortable.

Pews are *meant* to be uncomfortable. The unshakeable belief of our congregation is that the more uncomfortable the pew, the holier the worship must be. By the same token, an 8am Service is more fervent than one at 11am, since it is much more socially inconvenient. If you add on enduring sub-zero temperatures and damp, then sainthood clearly beckons. Your people may be used to lolling in upholstered chairs in tropical temperatures, but I am sure such comfort places their souls in grave peril.

Our pews were built 500 years ago, when people were several inches shorter and many pounds lighter, and so could accommodate themselves on them perfectly adequately. The fact that a twenty-first century body is in constant danger of sliding off the seat and requires knees to be folded somewhere near ears at least helps to keep minds focused – apart from Colonel Wainwright, who still manages to sleep peacefully throughout Mattins every Sunday.

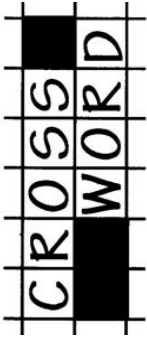
I could point out that your chairs make kneeling almost impossible – although I suspect that posture is not encouraged in your church, as people would then be unable to read the words on your overhead projector or wave their arms about quite as easily during the hymns. While the majority of our congregation find the Anglican crouch perfectly adequate, you can see those who flop to their knees on hearing "let us pray" from the clouds of dust sent up from suddenly compressed hassocks, which were purchased to commemorate Queen Victoria's Accession.

I may also point out that our box pews are very useful for modern times. Once a family is seated, with the door firmly shut, then any toddler is penned in and unable to use the aisles as a racing circuit. Medieval carpenters were clearly forward-thinking people. Admittedly, box pew doors do tend to stick, and few manage to look dignified while they wait for step ladders to be brought before they can climb out.

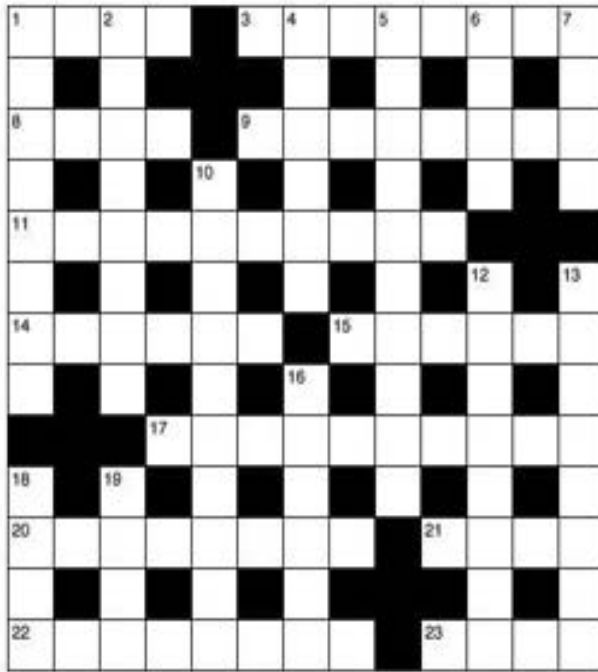
If only you would remove your chairs and substitute benches without backs, turn off all heating and replace carpets with slate slabs, I am sure your congregation's religious zeal would soar.



Your loving uncle,
Eustace



Crosswords reproduced by kind permission of BRF and John Capon, originally published in Three Down, Nine Across, by John Capon (£6.99 BRF)



Across

- 1 Made from the fruit of the vine, symbol of the blood of Christ (4)
- 3 'You are to set an ambush behind the city. Don't go very far from it. All of you be on — —' (Joshua 8:4) (3,5)
- 8 Seep (4)
- 9 Celebrated by Jesus on the night of his betrayal (Luke 22:15) (8)
- 11 One of the supposed sites of Christ's burial place in Jerusalem (6,4)
- 14 'A city on a hill — be hidden' (Matthew 5:14) (6)
- 15 He inherited Elijah's mantle (2 Kings 2:12-13) (6)
- 17 Where Jesus prayed 'Not as I will, but as you will' (Matthew 26:36, 39) (10)
- 20 'Only in his home town and in his — — is a prophet without honour' (Matthew 13:57) (3,5)
- 21 Sail (anag.) (4)
- 22 How Jesus was punished before his crucifixion (Matthew 27:26) (8)
- 23 Eye sore (4)

Down

- 1 Can't grow (anag.) (5,3)
- 2 A servant girl to Peter, 'You also were with that — , Jesus' (Mark 14:67) (8)
- 4 Well-being (Proverbs 3:8) (6)
- 5 Pentecostal denomination, — of God (10)
- 6 One of the 'obvious' acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19, 21) (4)
- 7 'I preached that they should repent and — to God' (Acts 26:20) (4)
- 10 ' — — , the world will not see me any more, but you will see me' (John 14:19) (6,4)
- 12 He betrayed Jesus: Judas — (Luke 6:16) (8)
- 13 Jesus to Peter: ' — — of my sheep' (John 21:16) (4,4)
- 16 The centurion said, 'Surely this man was — — of God' (Mark 15:39) (3,3)
- 18 Baked bread (Mark 8:14) (4)
- 19 'Blessing and honour, glory and power, be — Him' (Handel's Messiah) (4)

Across: 1, Wine; 3, The alert; 8, Ooze; 9, Passover; 11, Garden Tomb; 14, Cannot; 15, Elisha; 17, Gethsemane; 20, Own house; 21, Lisa; 22, Flogging; 23, Syle.
Down: 1, Wrong act; 2, Nazarene; 4, Health; 5, Assemblies; 6, Envy; 7, Turn; 10, Before long; 12, Iscariot; 13, Take care; 16, The Son; 18, Loaf; 19, Unto.

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Escape Men's Group

We meet on the first and third Monday at 8.30pm at St Andrew's church.
 For further details contact
John Speller on 07599 791420
 or by e-mail john.speller@hotmail.co.uk



Hornchurch Country Park, Squadrons Approach, Hornchurch, RM12 6DF

Ingrebourne Valley Visitor Centre Open daily 10am - 5pm:
Café, Gift shop, Picnic facilities, Toilets, Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Essex Wildlife Trust's Ingrebourne Valley Nature Discovery Centre is a partnership project between Essex Wildlife Trust and Havering Council. Built in Hornchurch Country Park, the centre overlooks the fantastic marshland and reedbeds of the River Ingrebourne Valley. Dogs are not permitted in the Nature Discovery Centre

Ingrebourne Nature Tots As the seasons change, discover and learn each week through a range of fun wildlife themed activities from bug hunting and leaf spotting to natural painting and stick creatures. Suitable for ages 18 months to 4 years. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please come suitably dressed for the weather as we will be outside for the whole session. Meet outside the visitor centre on arrival. There will be access to toilet facilities if required. Advance booking is essential. You only need to book a place for the child attending, you do not book a place for the accompanying adult or younger sibling under 18 months. Babes in arms are free.

We are currently offering Nature Tots as a block booking. The current block will continue to take place **every Tuesday** 27th February—26th March. and **every Friday** 1st March to 22nd March. (£35 for 5 weeks).

We are trialling a 10% discount on all sibling tickets and have a limited number of places available for families in receipt of universal credit. We may be able to offer free taster sessions and shorter blocks of sessions priced at £8 per week. To find out more please email our Wilder Learning Officer at learning@essexwt.org.uk

Ingrebourne Home Education Group In relaxed outdoor settings we run a number of home education groups where children can be themselves and work together to develop social skills and to foster a deep understanding of wildlife and a love of the natural world. Activities may include den building, woodland crafts, using tools and fire lighting.

Age 5-11 Events run in block sessions and take place weekly, **every Wednesday** 28th February 2024 to 3rd April 10am-12pm . 6 weeks £42 per child. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please meet outside the Nature Discovery Centre and come suitably dressed for the weather as we will be outside for the whole session. There will be access to toilet facilities if required.

Age Over 11 Events run in block sessions and take place weekly. **Every Monday** from 26th February to 25th March (4 weeks). 5 weeks £32 per child. Suitable for children of secondary school age. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please come suitably dressed for the weather as we will be outside for the whole session. Advance booking essential. You only need to book a place for the child attending and not the accompanying adult.

We are trialling a 10% discount on all sibling tickets for both age groups and have a limited number of places available for families in receipt of universal credit. We may be able to offer free taster sessions and shorter blocks of sessions priced at £8 per week.

To find out more please email our Wilder Learning Officer at learning@essexwt.org.uk

Contact number: 01708 520364 Contact email: ingrebourne@essexwt.org.uk

www.essexwt.org.uk/reserves/ingrebourne

Voices for Easter

**Wednesday 20th March 2024 Doors open 7:30 for 8pm
North Street Hall Hornchurch RM111QX**

Performed by members of the Passion Play cast. Written by Kevin Walsh

Book tickets at <https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/event/voices-for-easter>

Voices for Easter performance - as you've never seen it! Instead of being presented as a one-man show, each of the characters portrayed will be played by a different actor. Several veterans of The Passion Play are either reprising roles they have played before or offering a fresh insight into a character new to them while Kevin directs.

Invite your friends and family to relive the wondrous story of Easter.



Wednesday Afternoon Music at Hornchurch Library

Wednesday 6th March ~ A Right Old Song and Dance

Harry Newman recalls the music of those who excelled in song & dance and we gather his programme will include Astaire and Crosby, Lena Horne, Les Miserables plus works by Tchaikovsky, Grieg, Borodin and Irving Berlin.

Wednesday 20th March ~ Aspects of British Jazz- 1950s to Today

Graham Fenegan presents a programme of music demonstrating how the American art form of Jazz has been embraced by the UK during the past 70 decades. There will be music by Barber, Lyttelton and Ronnie Scott plus others not so familiar.

We meet in the main meeting room, 1st floor (lift available), Hornchurch Library, North Street starting at 2pm and finish by 4pm. All are welcome. Admission £2 per person; interval drinks available at a nominal cost.

If you would like more details contact Stephen Raindle 01708 470670 or email sraindle@aol.com

Floodlighting of St Andrew's Church, Hornchurch

Many thanks to all who have sponsored the floodlighting during March 2024:

Susan King and family ~ In loving memory of **Frany**, just a breath away, 4th March 2002.
Devoted wife, Mum, Nan and Greatnanna;

Julie John ~ In loving memory of my grandparents **Mary and Harold Fitzgerald.**

If you are interested in being a sponsor please telephone the Parish Office on 01708 441571





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On March 12th this year is the 30th anniversary of the first women's priesting in this country. But it is important to remember the first woman to be a priest in the Anglican Communion worldwide. In 1944, during the Sino-Japanese wars, there was a shortage of male priests in Macao and many churches could not function properly. Florence, born in Hong Kong, and, already a Christian worker, was an obvious choice and was ordained as a temporary measure and exercised a wonderful ministry until the war ended. As the Anglican Church had not officially sanctioned the ordination of women, Florence resigned her licence to practise, but not her priestly order, when the men returned from war. For 30 years under the communist regime, Florence's life was one of hardship and suffering, including forced political re-education, and persecution for her faith. Eventually, in the 1980's, it was possible for her to emigrate to Canada, where she was able to resume her priestly duties, until her death in 1992. In our diocese, on 30th April 1994, 53 women were priested in Chelmsford Cathedral, many of them having been workers in the church for years. St Andrew's can be proud of its record in encouraging and supporting women over the years, into the ministries they are now able to fulfill. And, of course, we now have 2 women bishops in the diocese! We can thank God that Florence paved the way, and, that the Church can benefit from the many gifts that God has given, to women as well as to men.

Parish Men's Group

The Parish Men's Group is made up mainly of retired men from both within the Parish of Hornchurch and outside. It includes regular churchgoers and those who don't attend church. We meet for lunch at the Cranleigh Restaurant on the second Wednesday in each month from 12 noon for 12.30 sit down. The three-course lunch is followed by a speaker. The cost of the lunch is £19 and for those planning to come on a regular basis there is an annual membership fee of £5 to cover incidental costs of administration. Our aim is to provide friendship and fellowship in a relaxed and informal environment. We also have occasional outings to local places of interest and elsewhere using public transport. New members are always welcome and in the first instance should contact:

Peter Fanning on 01708 456578

Hornchurch Library

At 44 North Street Hornchurch.
Not just for books; talks, activities and more.
Contact the librarians on
01708 434903 or libraryevents@havering.gov.uk
or visit the Havering Libraries Facebook page or see the Council website for more information.

Revd Barbara Baker

**Charity of the Month for March;
Helping Homeless Veterans UK**

Set up in 2019, this charity has been at the forefront of helping our armed forces personnel who have found themselves sleeping rough to once again have a roof over their head. Within two years of being set up they became the charity it is today.



There are many testimonials on their website which express the gratitude for the lifeline that Helping Homeless Veterans has given to many ex-service personnel with medical and / or mental health issues, which have made it very difficult to stay in a job and a permanent home. They have given them the support and advice needed to gradually get a place to live off the streets, and help with medical issues. Once these major issues have been managed the veterans have then been in a good place to feel like and be able to look for and keep a job, therefore engaging with society once again. So far they have helped 428 veterans.

This charity is run by volunteers and relies heavily on donations to be able to continue their work. They have been lucky enough to have received some grants from companies which has also helped their work. If you would like to donate please visit their website

<https://www.hhvuk.org/donate> or send a cheque payable to 'Hornchurch PCC' to St Andrew's Parish Office, 222 High Street, Hornchurch RM12 6QP, with 'COM Helping Homeless Veterans' clearly written on the back.

If you have any charities to suggest, please email or leave a note for me at the parish office.

Arlene Trump

Flag Days for 2024

(Union Jack unless otherwise stated)

- Sun March 31st: Easter Sunday
- Tue April 23rd: St George's Day (St George's flag)
- Mon May 6th: Coronation Day
- Thur Jun 6th: 80th Anniversary of D-Day
- Sat Jun 8th: Official Birthday of HM The King
- Sun Sep 8th: Accession of HM The King
- Sun Sep 15th: Battle of Britain Day
- Sun Nov 10th – Mon Nov 11th: Remembrance Sunday and Remembrance Day
- Thur Nov 14th: Birthday of HM The King
- Sat Nov 30th: St Andrew's Day (St Andrew's flag)
- Wed Dec 25th: Christmas Day

Food Bank

The editor is anticipating an update in due course. Meanwhile donations are always needed, in food or cash. For a donation in money please continue to send a cheque, payable to Kingdom Storehouse Ltd, to the Harold Hill Food Bank, Unit 1, Guardian Business Centre, Faringdon Avenue, Romford, RM3 8FD, or you go online to <https://haroldhill.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>

**A reflection on The Lord's Prayer
(Matthew 6:1-18)**

Our Father in heaven, please help us.
We, Your children, learn slowly.
So often we say nothing when Your Name is mis-used.
Often our lives do not reflect Your ways,
Mostly we do what we want on earth,
And this can make heaven unimaginable.
We expect so much more than we actually need each day.
Sometimes we think we don't need forgiveness,
Sometimes we think we are unforgivable,
And we forget that other people make these same errors of thinking.
When it comes to temptation, we find our own ways,
We are confused about what is and is not evil,
We are confused about deliverance,
We are confused . . .
And here is the wonder, the grace and the mystery,
That You know us completely,
Our failings, our secrets,
And love us forever and ever,

Amen.

Daphne Kitching

Mothering Sunday: 4th Sunday in Lent

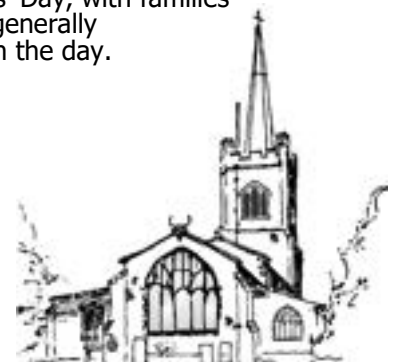
There is an old Jewish saying: *God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made mothers.*

Mother Church, Mother Earth, Mother of the Gods— our human mothers— all of them have been part of the celebration of 'Mothering Sunday' — as the fourth Sunday in Lent is affectionately known. It has been celebrated in the UK since at least the 16th century.

In Roman times, great festivals were held every Spring to honour Cybele, Mother of all the Gods. Other pagan festivals in honour of Mother Earth were also celebrated. With the arrival of Christianity, the festival became one honouring Mother Church.

During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as 'live-in' servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families, which is how 'Mothering Sunday' got its name. This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. In some places the day was called Simnel Day, because of the sweet cakes called simnel cakes traditionally eaten on that day.

In recent years the holiday has changed and in many ways now resembles the American Mothers' Day, with families going out to Sunday lunch and generally making a fuss of their mother on the day.



Blitz Kid WWII

Part II

The next episode of the heavy bombardment of London came in September 1944 when I was 11. This was the Nazi V1 Doodlebug attack. I remember during one raid my mother calling me from the door of the street shelter to come and look at a doodlebug flying just overhead before the engine cut out and it plunged to earth some 4 streets away.

About this time some people from our street together with my two cousins, my mother, her sister and me, went down to Staplehurst in Kent to help with the hop and fruit-picking harvest and to get away from the bombing. Of course we saw many doodlebugs flying over the Kent countryside being pursued and shot down by the RAF fighter planes. Our local Church, All Saints, had a barrage balloon stationed in the churchyard grounds. This was manned by RAF and WAAF personnel and on one particular windy day when winching down the balloon, the tail got caught on the weather vane on top of the church steeple and a large piece of the material remained there for the rest of the war.

Early in 1945 the Nazis' second terror weapon the V2 rocket was being deployed against London. The closest one to land near us was one that hit the Eagle Public house which was next to All Saints Church. It was lunchtime and resulted in casualties and the loss of many lives. The steeple clock stopped at 12.50 pm and remained at the time for years afterwards. I had just run an errand to the baker for a neighbour. I at the front door was handing her the bread and change when the explosion occurred. The blast hit us and we ended up in a heap in the hallway. A window cleaner, cleaning some of the few remaining windows in the street landed up in the kerb surrounded by glass, fortunately not badly hurt but well shaken up.

Just before D-Day June 6th 1944 we children used to stand and cheer the masses of convoys full of soldiers on their way to the docks for embarkation to Normandy. If we were lucky they would throw us sweets from their K rations. Some small groups of servicemen awaiting embarkation were temporarily accommodated in wired off enclosures on some of the cleared bomb sites and we kids used to run errands for them and fetch fish and chips, cigarettes or post letters.

Finally came the great day 8th May 1945 when the war in Europe was over and we were able to celebrate VE Day with street parties, flags and bunting everywhere, bonfires, games in the street and dancing for the adults. Our local sweet shop Merrits had even managed to save some pre-war fireworks so we had them as well.

Some time later with our parents we were able to go up to London on the Victoria Embankment and watch the Victory parade, with our servicemen, women and Allies all taking part. Another celebration was when a couple of children from each London school were selected to go to the Royal Albert Hall to sing in a choir for a huge thanksgiving service. I was lucky enough to be included; it was an unforgettable experience (I still have the programme)

Denis Carrington

Bellringers Celebration Peal

The bell ringers celebrated the licensing of Marianne with a quarter peal in the evening before choral evensong. Marianne was able to ring in the quarter peal as shown in the Certificate below which was designed by James Riley.

Clive Stephenson

Hornchurch, Essex
 St Andrew
 Sunday, 4 February 2024 (18-0-0 in E b)
1260 Plain Bob Triples (50 minutes)
 Treble James Laken
 2 Michelle A Stephenson
 3 John M Church
 4 Marianne R Hayward
 5 Nicholas M Allen
 6 Ethan J Musham
 7 Clive J Stephenson (Conductor)
 Tenor James P Riley



Rung to celebrate the licensing of Marianne R Hayward as Associate Priest for the Parish of Hornchurch.

First inside on 8 - 6



Notice Outside a French Church

Sent by Jane Harder, this is one of several translations of a very apt notice, originally in French, (naturellement) which is posted at the door of churches in France.

When you enter this church, it may be possible that you hear the Call of God.

However it is unlikely that He will call you on your mobile.

Thank you for turning off your phones.

If you want to talk to God, enter, choose a quiet place, and talk to Him.

If you want to see Him, send Him a text while driving.

Why we should be like donkeys

Are you a pet-lover? Many people own a dog, a cat or a budgie, but most of us don't own a donkey! Yet in Bible times, donkeys were essential to daily life. They did everything from helping to grind corn, to ploughing, to carrying people, to transporting their belongings. Despite their small frame, donkeys are surprisingly tough. They can survive on poor fodder, can travel an average of 20 miles a day.

There are two occasions in the Christian calendar where donkeys walk into the picture. At Christmas, Mary travelled the 100 miles from Nazareth to Bethlehem on a donkey. And although a donkey doesn't get a specific mention in the manger story, that same one that transported her was probably there; where else would it have been?

On Palm Sunday Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey. Jesus deliberately chose this animal rather than a horse. Why? In Bible times, the horse was associated with war, conquest and worldly might. But the donkey was a symbol of peace and humility. So, Jesus used this animal to show that He had come with the dignity of the king of peace. His entry into the Holy City also fulfilled Zechariah's prophecy concerning the Messiah.

Donkeys are hardworking and undemanding. They wait for their master to put them to the work He has chosen for them. And, remarkably, each one bears the mark of the Cross on their backs!

Perhaps that is something we should learn—to wait for Jesus our Master, to be always obedient to Him, to serve Him with all our hearts, and to bear the mark of His grace in our lives.



Lester Amann

From Parish Pump

RAF HORNCHURCH HERITAGE CENTRE

Great Day Out of Family Fun & Education

Our Heritage Centre is aimed at educating all and preserving the memory of those who served at Suttons Farm and RAF Hornchurch.

We have themed rooms to walk you through the past of the historic WW1 and WW2 Airfield in Hornchurch and the people who lived nearby.

Open 'Every Weekend' from 11am to 4pm, and available for group/school bookings at other times.

Suttons House, 119-121 Suttons Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 6RU
 Tel: 01708 898091 Email: info@rafhornchurch.com

www.rafhornchurch.com

The Resurrection of Jesus our Lord

It was very early in the Morning on the first day of the week, And still dark, when Mary Magdalene came to the Tomb! She saw that the stone had been moved and rolled away, And immediately ran to Simon Peter and the other Disciple, John the Divine of Revelation, the one whom Jesus loved. "They have taken away my Lord" out of the Tomb, she said, And we don't know exactly where they have taken my Lord! So Peter and John the other Disciple set off to go to the Tomb, Running together, John outran Peter to get to the Tomb first; John saw the Linen Cloths lying on the ground but did not go in, Simon Peter also came and saw the Burial Cloths on the ground, Along with the Linen Cloth that had been placed on Jesus' head; This Head Cloth was not the Burial Cloth but rolled up separately, Then John, the other Disciple went into the Tomb, saw and Believed; Up until this moment they had not fully understood the Scriptures, That He must rise from the dead; Then they returned to their Home. Mary was standing outside the Tomb, weeping; Then as she wept, She stooped to look inside the Tomb, and saw two Angels in white, Sitting where the body of Jesus laid, one at the head, one at the feet; They said, " Woman, why are you weeping?" "They have taken my Lord Away" She replied! And I don't know where they have taken Him to! As she said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, Although she did not recognize that it was Jesus at that moment; Jesus said, "Woman, why are you weeping? Who are you looking for? Supposing Him to be the Gardener, she said, "Sir, if you've taken Him away, Tell me where you have put Him, and I will go, see and remove Him!" Jesus said, "Mary!" She turned around and said to Him in Hebrew, Rabboni" Which in translation means Master! Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, As I've not ascended to my Father and your Father, to My God and your God" Mary Magdalene tells the Disciples "I've seen the Lord" He said this to me!

Mark Lendon
From:- John 20 v 1-18.



Sudoku solution from P8

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

Table Top Fun
Every Friday 15.15 to 17.15
St Matthew's Church
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Welcome to our free and fun gathering for all ages. Enjoy crafts, Warhammer, board games, tasty food and drinks.



Come make new friends and create memories with your family.

All children need to be accompanied by an adult.

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SUNDAY SERVICES in the Parish of Hornchurch

8.30 am: Morning Worship at St Andrew's Church
10.15 am: Parish Worship at St Andrew's **4th Sunday** Parade Service
6.30 pm: Evening Services at St Andrew's.
2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays at St George's Parish Worship at **10.15 am**
3rd Sunday only at St Matthew's **11.00 am** Holy Communion, **3pm** The Well, other churches as above as usual.
Thursdays 10.00 am Mid-week Holy Communion at St Andrew's See **Page 3** for greater detail

St Andrew's Church **St George's Church** **St Matthew's Church** **Messy Church**
 222 High Street RM12 6QP Kenilworth Gardens RM12 4SG Chelmsford Drive RM14 2PH

Hornchurch Parish Churches **January 2024**

Baptisms
 None

Marriages
 None

In Memoriam "I am the resurrection and the life" John 11v25
January 13th Sid Gordon Letch 90
28th James Boyle 65



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