

# ST MARK'S PARISH MAGAZINE



When the flower blossoms, the bee will come.

## June 2019

Donations to cover the cost of this publication are welcome

# THE PARISH CHURCH OF SAINT MARK, REIGATE

**Vicar: The Reverend Martin Colton**  
**Tel: 01737 241161 Email: vicar@stmarksreigate.co.uk**

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**Visit our website: [www.stmarksreigate.co.uk](http://www.stmarksreigate.co.uk)**

## LETTER FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

June is the month when many people think about the possibility of going on holiday. The days are at their longest and the temperature may just be warmer than other months, although in this country that can never be a certainty. Holidays are important for many people, and the business of holidays has become more and more lucrative for many travel operators.



The term "holiday" derives from "Holy Day", the designation of an important religious festival marked by activities which are different from the normal routine. One such day which we have just celebrated is Ascension Day. Some of you might recall how Ascension Day would be treated as a half-day holiday by schools because it was a 'Holy Day'. I remember having that same experience as a young boy, as I waited to hear the Chair of Governors at our morning prize-giving declare that the rest of the day would be a holiday. What a sense of exhilaration that gave us, a half day to do what we liked!

Our forebears marked the passing of time and seasons by religious festivals. We can see references to that in writings from the middle ages or even the Victorian era, where we might read of special events associated with St Swithun, or St Martin, or perhaps the quarter days of Lady Day and Michaelmas Day, to name but a few. These days marked out a calendar for the year, and on some of them there would be fairs or other entertainments so that people could participate in recreational activities. (Even the word "recreation" has strong religious connotations as it refers us back to the divine "creation" in the beginning.)

Over the course of the last 60 or more years we have moved away from such a religious perspective of life. We are inclined to rather frown on regimes which celebrate what might seem to us rather random "Holy Days" whilst we are abroad on our holidays. But perhaps in many other countries the Christian faith is given a more prominent and central role in everyday life, and perhaps that is what is lacking in our expression of the calendar where God and any expression of faith is relegated to nothing more than personal choice.

I find that I still tend to refer to seasons by their saints' days and navigate my way around the calendar by way of the greater and lesser Christian saints, and in so doing feel that I am celebrating time as a God-given gift, and that indeed all of life is God-given.

I hope that you enjoy your "Holy Days" and can find some "recreation".

With my best wishes



## Making a buzz about bees

In the UK and all over the world the number of bees is declining. Both honey bees and other types of bees have been affected so why are bees so important, why are they declining and what can we do about it?

There are 250 different species of bee in the UK, the most popular are the honey bee, the bumble bee, leafcutter bee and the mason bee. The first two live in hives or colonies, the second two are solitary bees. Across the world however, there are 25,000 species of bee. However the humble bee is in decline and its existence is so important to us.



Honey bees



Leafcutter bee

Bees contribute to one third of the food we eat, pollinating the fruit, nuts, grains and vegetables not only that we eat, but also the food of the livestock that we eat. Without bees we would not be able to produce the foods we enjoy today. Plants such as potatoes, tomatoes, aubergines and peppers are solely reliant on the bumble bee for pollination. Bees

are the only producers of honey, which as well as being delicious on toast is thought to have some medicinal properties. Recently the antibacterial, antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties of honey have been documented.

It is believed the cause of the decline in our buzzy little friend is due to a few factors:

Firstly, one factor is loss of habitat due to urbanisation and intense farming. In fact, since the Second World War 97% of wild flower meadows have been lost.



Secondly, climate change is thought to be affecting the nesting patterns and food supplies of bees. Anyone with an allotment will have seen the impact of milder winters and drier summers on their crop yields, even in the last year alone.

Thirdly, pesticides are impacting bees' ability to navigate and reproduce. Herbicides are impacting the bees' food supply further.

Lastly, pests, disease and invasive species are hitting the bees hard. Beekeepers have to work hard to maintain the health of their colonies to protect them against these harmful invaders.

So what can be done to help protect the humble bumble or the sweet honey bee? Here are 5 things that can help:

- 1) Keep part of your garden wild, either plant wild flowers or let the grass grow and let the dandelions come, bees particularly like dandelions.
- 2) Use peat-free compost, this will ensure that peat bogs stay intact; this is a good natural habitat for bees.
- 3) Create a bee hotel – these can be nesting grounds for the solitary bees. You can buy bee hotels or make your own.
- 4) Support local bee keepers – you can do this by buying local bee products such as honey or bees wax.
- 5) Become a bee keeper – you could go the whole hog and become a bee keeper yourself. You can find out more about this at the Reigate Beekeepers – Bee keeping taster day on the 8<sup>th</sup> June. For more information visit: <https://reigatebeekeepers.org.uk>.



Bee hotel: Amazon

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## The Children's Society

The annual fundraising and box-holders coffee morning will take place on Saturday 29 June in the church hall from 10am to 12 noon.

Stalls: Cakes, plants, paperback books, stationery, flamingo cards, bric-a-brac and a raffle

Entrance: £1

Contributions would be greatly appreciated and there is a list at the back of church for you to sign up if you can help in any way.

We look forward to seeing you.

**Tony and Patricia Bird**

## Thoughts on John 10:27-28

*My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no-one can snatch them out of my hand.*

I can still remember, in the 1960s, having a black and white television set. We could never get a very good picture; it was always fuzzy and going into lines. We were quite happy with it since we did not know anything different. In fact even when I first got married, in 1981, we were using a very small portable black and white set that my parents had passed onto us. It had one of those circular aerials on top! In the flat where we lived there weren't even aerial sockets, so that was all we had. Then we moved into a house and found that we could plug an aerial lead into a socket. Suddenly, we found that we could get clear and distinct pictures. Our enjoyment was transformed.

Now, not only do we have colour television, we can get high definition (HD). There are no fuzzy lines or distortions, and it produces a richer, bolder and more vibrant picture than ever before.

When Jesus promises 'Eternal Life' to all who believe in him, he is not just talking about life after death. He is talking about life here and now on this earth. Of course, he is also talking about going to heaven when you die, but there is so much more. Just as with my television, there is a contrast between mere existences, where we trundle on from day to day, not really knowing where we are heading and without hope in our hearts, and 'the full, abundant, spacious, open-hearted, high definition life that Jesus speaks about – a life of fulfillment and purpose.'<sup>1</sup>

In John 10:10 Jesus promises 'Life in all its fullness' (*Living Bible*) and 'I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.' (*RSV*).

So how do we get this abundant Eternal Life?  
Jesus defined eternal life for us in John 17:3. That verse says,

'Now this is eternal life: that they might **know** the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.'

**Eternal life is knowing God.** Not just knowing about Him, but having a close personal relationship with Him.

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<sup>1</sup>'High Definition Living' Ed Young

How do I achieve that?

As with any relationship it takes time. Start by telling God that you want a closer relationship with Him. He will always answer that prayer because He wants it too. Then try and make a little space each day to be quiet with Him and to read the Bible using some Bible Reading Notes. That's a start. God will do the rest.

Lord Radstock was staying in a hotel in Norway in the mid-nineteenth century. He heard a little child playing the piano downstairs in the hallway. She was making a terrible noise: 'Plink... plonk... plink...'. It was driving him mad! A man came and sat beside her and began playing alongside her, filling in the gaps. The result was the most beautiful music. He later discovered that the man playing alongside was the girl's father, Alexander Borodin, composer of the opera *Prince Igor*.

God calls you into a relationship that involves cooperation with him. He takes our 'plink... plonk... plink...' and makes something beautiful out of our lives.

**Susannah Dyde**

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## **Protect your home and support our church**

If you are planning to renew your home insurance before the 31 December 2019, please consider getting a quote from Ecclesiastical.

The insurance company is currently offering to donate £130 to your church if you take out home insurance with them.

There is more information about the offer on their website at: [www.ecclesiastical.com/homeinsurance](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/homeinsurance) or by telephone on 0800 783 0130 and quoting Trust130.

Please note: St Mark's and the editor of this magazine are in no way endorsing Ecclesiastical or recommending you take insurance with them. You must buy the home cover which best suits your personal needs and circumstances.

## **What can we learn about following our dreams from Paul Gauguin?**

On the 7 June in 1848, Paul Gauguin the famous French painter was born. The Impressionist painter gave up a career as a stockbroker and pursued his passion for painting. His lifestyle was unsavoury by today's standard but his artwork is some of the most expensive. So in recognition of his birthday we are asking, what can we learn from Paul Gauguin about following our dreams and passions?

### **Make the most of adversity**

Paul was a stockbroker earning 30,000 francs per year when, in 1882, a downturn in the market meant his earnings took a dive and he decided to move into a career as an artist.

### **Find likeminded people who've achieve what you want to**

He spent time with other painters who inspired and helped him define his style. He painted with Camille Pissarro and Paul Cezanne. He was also close friends with a man called Emile Schuffenecker who was also a stockbroker turned artist. He spent 9 weeks in France with Van Gogh.

### **You never know who you might inspire by following you dreams**

Gauguin didn't become famous until after his death but his work went on to inspire Pablo Picasso and Henri Matisse.

### **If at first you don't succeed, try and try again**

In 1881 and 1882 he showed his paintings at Impressionist exhibitions. They received disappointing reviews including *The Market Gardens of Vaugirard*. The painting is now highly regarded.

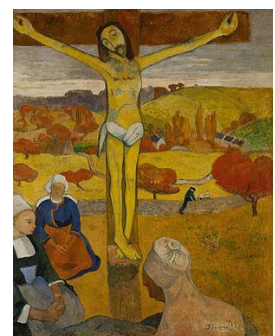


### **Draw from your life experiences**

Paul quite literally drew from his experience as many of his paintings reflected his life. Particularly his time in Tahiti.

### **Be prepared to learn and grow**

Gauguin's style changes over the years. Initially his work was 'impressionist' but from learning about other cultures, experimenting in his work and also having a strong view point about what was important to him, his work evolved over time. His later work evolved towards Cloisonnism. As shown in his painting, *The Yellow Christ*.





# Are you looking for a place to party? St Mark's Church Hall - Children's Party Package!

Hire includes exclusive use of:  
Large main hall – with tables and chairs



Use of new kitchen, well equipped with serving hatch - ideal dining area next to kitchen



Outside garden area



Great location; minutes from Reigate train station & parking  
The facilities include disabled access

**Available Saturdays and some Sundays**  
**3 hours (includes ½ hour set up & ½ hour clearing)**  
**Only £90 (additional hours charged at £25ph)**

This offer applies to bookings for under 11's parties only

Further details on hiring the hall available from our website:

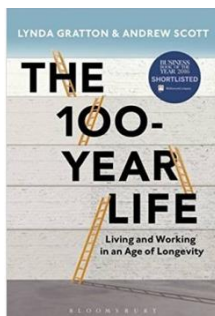
[www.stmarksreigate.co.uk](http://www.stmarksreigate.co.uk)

For bookings please contact: [office@stmarksreigate.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarksreigate.co.uk)

**Have a HAPPY BIRTHDAY Party with us!**

## Book Review

This month we review *The 100-Year Life. Living and Working in an Age of Longevity*



Life expectancy has been increasing by a few years every decade since the 1840s. This trajectory is set to continue with over 50% of people born in the 1990s expected to live to over 100. With this in mind the book looks at how people will need to reconfigure their lives in order to have the maximum quality of life over this period of time. It argues that the current 'three stage life' (education, working and retiring) will no longer be a useful model as skills learnt in teens and twenties will become obsolete and the current funding model for retirement will no longer work, retiring at 65 will no longer be an option with potentially 35 years of retirement to fund. It is more likely people will have to retire in their 80s.

Potentially more relevant for our children and grandchildren, this book addresses some very thought provoking ideas and touches on some themes of changing behaviour we are already seeing in society such as people are settling down and having children later, they are behaving 'younger' for longer. In a 100 year life, the urgency to grow up and settle down is not so important. It also discusses relationships, suggesting that it is difficult to hold onto the same network of friends over a longer life period but also that because the financial burden in later years will be tough, it will be even more important for people to stay in relationships to support each other financially and benefit from economies of scale.

The book makes some bold claims and invites the reader to think long and hard about their future and suggests that people will need to restructure their life, investing in additional education and reevaluating what is important in order to enjoy a longer life, rather than it be a burden.

Have you read this book? Got a suggestion for a book review? We would love to hear your thoughts. Please get in touch at [magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk](mailto:magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk).

## St Mark's Pull-Out Guide

### REGULAR SERVICES AND EVENTS AT ST MARK'S

#### SUNDAYS

8.00am	Each Sunday	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.00am	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Parish Eucharist (with Junior Church)
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Sung Eucharist (with Junior Church)
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Sung Eucharist (with Story Telling)
	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Sung Eucharist (with Junior Church)
	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Sung Eucharist (with Junior Church)
1.00pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Community Lunch
4.00pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Family Service
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Messy Church
6.00pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Evening Prayer (said)
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Taizé Prayer
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Evening Prayer (said)
	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Evening Prayer (said)
	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Evening Prayer (said)

#### MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY

8.30am Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel (30 minutes)

#### MONDAY

9.30am St Mark's Toddler Group in the hall (term-time only)

#### TUESDAY

10.00am 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday St Mark's Buffers (in the church)

#### WEDNESDAY

3.25pm T Time Tales (term-time only)

#### THURSDAY

8.30am Informal Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel  
12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) followed by tea or coffee  
2.00pm 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday SMART

#### SATURDAY

8.00pm 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday St Mark's Social Dance

## CALENDAR FOR JUNE 2019

<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (Sunday after Ascension)</b> 4.00pm Family Service 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	9.30am Parent and Toddler Group resumes
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	3.25pm T Time Tales resumes
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) 2.00pm SMART
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Day of Pentecost</b> 1.00pm Community Lunch 6.00pm Taizé Prayer
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	8.00pm Study Course Session 4
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	9.30am Study Course Session 4 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) 5.00pm Choral Evensong
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Trinity Sunday</b> 4.00pm Messy Church 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00am St Mark's Buffers
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	8.00pm Study Course Session 5
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Corpus Christi</b> 9.30am Study Course Session 5 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona)
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	8.00pm St Mark's Social Dance
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> 6.00pm Evening Prayer
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	8.00pm Deanery Synod
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) 5.00pm Choral Evensong
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00am The Children's Society Annual Box Opening & Coffee Morning with Stalls
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b> 6.00pm Evening Prayer

## CALENDAR FOR JULY 2019

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	3.25pm	Last T Time Tales of the Term
	8.00pm	PCC Meeting
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	12.45pm	Holy Communion (Iona)
	2.00pm	SMART
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	4.00pm	Family Service
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	12.45pm	Holy Communion (Iona)
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	1.00pm	Community Lunch
	6.00pm	Taizé Prayer
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	12.45pm	Holy Communion (Iona)
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	4.00pm	Messy Church
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	9.30am	Last Parent and Toddler of the Term
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	10.00am	St Mark's Buffers
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> July	12.45pm	Holy Communion (Iona)
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> July	8.00pm	St Mark's Social Dance
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity</b>	
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer

# **PARISH ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, GROUPS & CONTACTS**

## **CHURCH FLOWER ROTA**

*Contact: Mrs Valerie Jones 01737 246538*

## **CHOIR PRACTICE**

*Each Thursday in church - all parts at 7.00pm - other practices as notified*

## **DATA REQUESTS**

*Contact: Parish Office – 01737 210785*

## **HOME GROUP**

*Contact: Mrs Susannah Dyde – 01737 221638*

## **IONA COMMUNION – LUNCHTIME SERVICE**

*Every Thursday 12.45pm to 1.15pm followed by Coffee/Tea*

## **PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP**

*Contact: Mrs Louise Wallis 01737 242129*

## **PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER**

*Mrs Rosemary Absalom 01737 240351*

## **SMART - St Mark's Afternoon Retirement Team**

*Meetings on the first Thursday of the month*

*Contacts: Mrs Sarah Cousins 01737 789943 or Mrs Louise Wallis 01737 242129*

## **ST MARK'S BUFFERS**

*Meeting in church on the third Tuesday of the month from 10am - 12noon*

## **ST MARK'S COMMUNITY LUNCH**

*Contacts: Mrs Angela Daniels 01737 247162 & Mrs Alison Stagg 01737 243992*

## **ST MARK'S CHURCH HALL**

*Regular Lettings Secretary: Mrs Jean Hatton 01737 765759*

*Party Bookings & Church Bookings via Parish Office 01737 210785*

## **ST MARK'S OVERSEAS AID TRUST - SMOAT**

*Chairman: Mrs Barbara Perkins, 01737 226632*

## **ST MARK'S PARISH MAGAZINE**

*Editor (2019): Mrs Helen Starmer, email: [magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk](mailto:magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk)*

*Advertising: Mrs Jane Artis, email: [janeartis@hotmail.com](mailto:janeartis@hotmail.com) 07831 269866*

## **ST MARK'S SINGERS**

*Rehearsals Monday 7.30pm in the church – all welcome*

*Contact: Toby Garrod 01737 241979*

## **WEBSITE & FACEBOOK**

*Contact: Ben Read Email: [benread@hotmail.com](mailto:benread@hotmail.com)*

## **YOUTH WORK**

*Junior Church: Mrs Leonora Corden, [l.corden@btinternet.com](mailto:l.corden@btinternet.com) 01737 224534*

## Letter to the Editor



I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who has taken the time to complete the reader survey and to provide feedback on the magazine. I have received some wonderful ideas and over the next month I plan to collate the feedback and start to implement the suggestions. In the meantime, I have received a response to last month's article which I have been given permission to share with you. If you wish to respond or comment on any of the articles or items featured in the magazine please get in touch by email: [magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk](mailto:magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk)

### STEWARDSHIP

Of course we should never have used the term "Climate Change". It is too anodyne. It suggests change but continuity. It diverts from the truth. It suggests that with a little adjustment we can go on as before. And after all a Mediterranean climate for Reigate could be quite nice.

For twenty years we have discussed this threat to the world wide environment. Many of the sceptics have poured scorn on the science simply because they do not wish to change their ways. Now finally, after a one girl campaign, it is generally accepted that damage to the environment is an emergency.

I will not attempt to describe Armageddon. Just look at a world map and see that most of the principal urban areas of the world will be threatened by a significant rise in sea level. Or simply understand that with the melting of the poles and glaciers the ocean currents will change and temperate areas like ours, curiously, will become not hot ( or even Mediterranean!) but much colder. Food production will fall. And so on.

Last month's article on the problem of dealing with waste from plastics showed what can be achieved with a five pence cost on plastic bags. But perhaps we should also be concerned how an area three times the size of France could be covered in plastic when we were paying others to dispose of our waste. Throwing money at such problems without managing it is no answer. There is certainly a strong case for action by individuals but the size of this problem requires strong action by governments.

Putting pollutants directly into the atmosphere is not a good idea. Travel by plane is, of course, an international problem requiring international agreed co-operative action. But are governments capable of dealing with the aircraft industry. Currently they are more concerned to build more runways. Customers, I suspect, would say "hands off my foreign holidays". Is there the will at any level to match the seriousness of this emergency?

One recent article having praised the initiative of the Swedish School girl ended by saying she must now raise the money to do something about it. I found it obscene that this youthful Profit should be expected to cope with the problem for which we all share responsibility. But this is the way we deal, or fail to deal with large difficult problems. We talk them out, then pass the buck and sit on our hands whilst others simply declare they are bored with the subject.

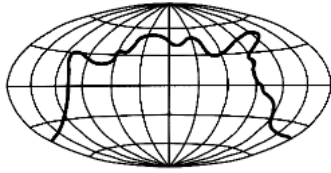
Of course, there are international bodies and high level meetings which set targets for the reduction of carbon and other emissions. But although there has been some success, there have also been countries which argue that it is now their turn to experience a rise in prosperity. Rich countries can pay others to deliver the targets they have signed up to. Others accept targets but do not achieve them, and, of course Trump is in denial.

Occasional statements by the Pope and Archbishops indicate that the Churches accept that the environment is now an emergency. Now as Christians we see the world as God's World of which we are merely stewards. So its future is very much part of Christian concern. Yet apart from the crusade by Bishop Montefiore some twenty years ago, I cannot recall any sustained effort to set out how we should respond to this evident threat. As a still substantial and moral organisation the church is well placed to give the lead which is so urgently needed.

Currently it is the children led by that Swedish lass who have spoken out to make a claim for a future. To our shame that may be where our best hope lies.

**Harry Ingram**





S · M · O · A · T

ST MARK'S OVERSEAS AID TRUST

## **SMOAT Annual Public Meeting – 19 May 2019**

We recently held our Annual Public Meeting, which was very well attended. The headline of the meeting was that we gave away £19,790 to ten projects in eight different countries. This was the most money we had ever given away and it's amazing news! In case you weren't at the meeting, here is a brief summary:

Our Christmas Appeal supported Africa Water Enterprises (AWE) and Kaloko Trust. We gave £5,800 to AWE towards a solar water installation project and we gave £2,840 to Kaloko Trust towards a third age agricultural support project.

In February we held a Bingo event and raised £514. We topped that amount up and gave £1,000 to Doctors for Nepal to support a young man training to become a doctor. Indeed, Kamal has now passed his third year exams and will be going out into isolated rural communities to further his clinical training.

In June we held a BBQ Brunch and raised £623. Again, we topped this amount up and sent £1,000 to SAFAD to support Annette Butty, a 22 year old student from Cranfield University, in a placement in Honduras. She flew out in January for a year and is taking part in a water and sanitation project.

In October we held our annual Helier Dreux Quiz and we raised a magnificent £1,858, enabling us to send £2,000 to Project Uganda to support their work at the Solid Rock Nursery and Primary School in Rukangiri.

These were all our fund raising events in 2018 but because we have a number of regular givers we are able to top up amounts raised and we are also able to select further projects to support. To this end, we supported a further five projects:

We gave £500 to Maisha Trust, Oasis Kindergarten in Kenya, to enable them to buy a PA system. This will mean they don't have to spend money on hiring equipment each time they have an event, thus the money saved will be spent on the children and the school.

We gave £2,000 to Microloan to enable women in rural areas of Zimbabwe to set up self-sustaining businesses. The average loan is £76, which would give business training and support.

We gave £1,650 to Afrinspire (a new organisation for us) for the construction of a three classroom shelter for Sudanese refugees in North Uganda. 200 refugees started using these shelters in January 2019.

We gave £1,500 to African Initiative (another new organisation for us) to fund a school HIV/AIDs intervention course in Tanzania.

Finally, we gave £1,500 to Workaid to part-fund container "Betty", taking tools to Zambia. We now know that Betty arrived safely in Zambia in March! It contained 902 boxes for 17 different vocational projects. Workaid sent three containers to Zambia in 2018-19, costing £12,000, so our donation was quite significant to them.

So, there you have it in a nutshell. Thank you to everyone who continues to support us and a big thank you to our regular givers. You can see from the last five projects particularly how much we are able to give away because people give on a regular basis.

**Barbara Perkins**

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## **The problem with churches**

An online survey of 251 people conducted by National Churches Trust has found that the top problem facing churches is not enough money for repairs. The results of the survey show the top 5 issues to be:

- Not enough money available for repairs
- Declining congregations
- Shortage of volunteers to help look after church buildings
- Lack of modern facilities
- Lead theft

According to National Churches Trust, one of the reasons for the increased difficulty in funding repairs is because there is less money coming from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Government has ended its Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund.

It suggests the future of our churches is bleak without support from the wider community for maintenance and funding.

## Candlemouse returns

A Tale about a Church Mouse for younger readers

Written by Sarah Cousins and illustrated by Roger Lloyd

*Hello, my name is **Candlemouse** and I live in St. Mark's church near the railway station in Reigate. I'm as small and as quiet as a mouse can be, so most people don't notice me, which gives me plenty of time to see them and the things that they do!*



Now other mice call me **religious** for living in a building where people come to visit God. What do you think that means?

If I may say so, being only a little mouse; I think it is something to do with why the people want to spend most Sundays visiting God.

The first time I went visiting at God's house it felt a bit like visiting my granny, except that granny's house is much smaller. Visiting God's house is like visiting my granny because I know that people will smile at me and say, "Candlemouse, it's good to see you," and they really mean it. They will make a nice fuss of me without overdoing it and invite me to have a cup of squash or coffee and a biscuit before the end of the visit.

I have seen some people give each other a hug and a kiss in church which is just like my granny. Other people give each other a handshake which is a bit more like my grandpa. I always feel that I belong at my granny's house and I guess that's what being

religious means to me:- belonging to God and feeling at home with the people who visit God.

## **Let's pray**

God if you're there please hear my prayer.

Show me you love me and help me find a welcome in your church.

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## **Brockham Choral Society**

Brockham Choral Society with the Children's Choir from St John's C of E Primary School, Dorking

Present: 'MUSIC OF THE WORLD'.

A pot pourri of songs from Europe, Africa, America, Japan & New Zealand

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Venue: St.Martin's Church, High St, Dorking, RH4 1UX

on Saturday 15th June at 7.30pm

Musical Director Patrick Barrett, Accompanist Marion Lea

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or Maria Chadwick, c/o Michael Frith 01306 882728

£10 in advance £12 on the door, £5 for under 25's in full time education.

More info: [www.brockhamchoral.org](http://www.brockhamchoral.org)



# Candlemouse Creates

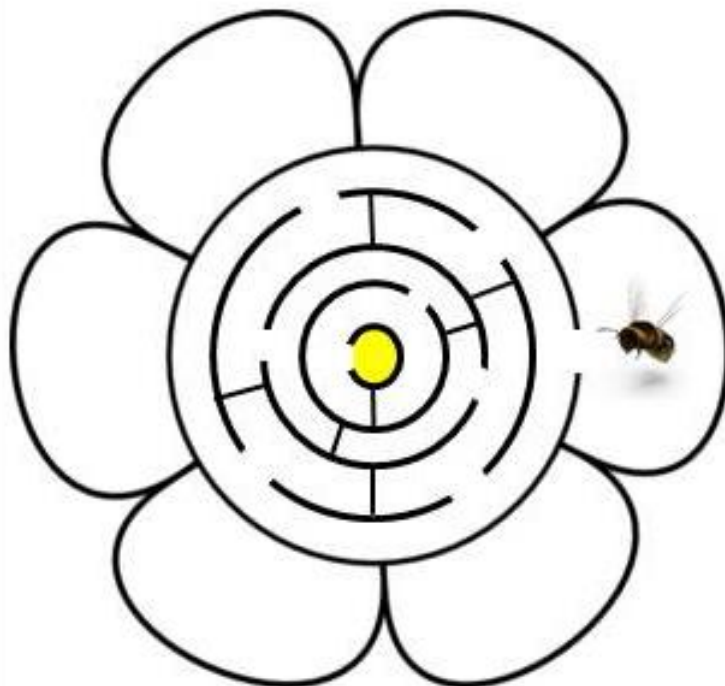


E	E	F	H	T	A	R	C	F	S	E
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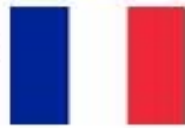




Father  
Cheese  
Dream  
Flag  
Summer  
Solistice  
World  
Garden



Help the bee find the centre of the flower.



Guess the flag – match the flag with the country, answers below.

- 1  A. Italy
- 2  B. France
- 3  C. China
- 4  D. New Zealand
- 5  E. Japan
- 6  F. Poland

1-D, 2-B, 3-E, 4-A, 5-F, 6-C.

# June Crossword Challenge

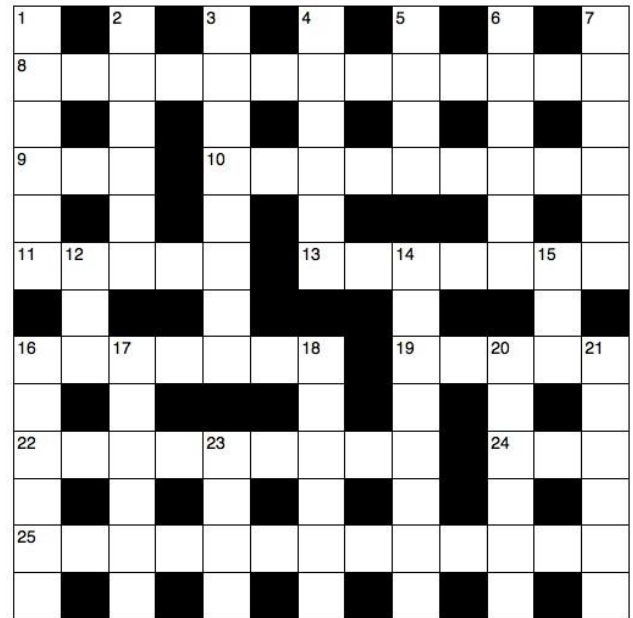
## (Biblical references are from the New International Version)

### Across

- 8 Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)  
 9 In favour of (3)  
 10 'The child's father and mother — at what was said about him' (Luke 2:33) (9)  
 11 Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)  
 13 'Terrors — him on every side and dog his every step' (Job 18:11) (7)  
 16 Bay bits (anag.) (7)  
 19 Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)  
 22 Holy Communion (9)  
 24 'On their way to — out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land"' (Joshua 18:8) (3)  
 25 Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

### Down

- 1 'Assyria's pride will be brought down and — sceptre will pass away' (Zechariah 10:11) (6)  
 2 'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in — with God and men' (Luke 2:52) (6)  
 3 The descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)  
 4 The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)  
 5 Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6–12) (4)  
 6 One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the Israelite army 'to make atonement' (Numbers 31:50) (6)  
 7 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set — — ' (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4)  
 12 Ate (anag.) (3)  
 14 'We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our — as sons' (Romans 8:23) (8)  
 15 Abram's nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)  
 16 Rupture (Job 30:14) (6)  
 17 'Yet to all who received him... he gave the right to — children of God' (John 1:12) (6)  
 18 'I... asked him the true meaning of all — . — he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things' (Daniel 7:16) (4,2)  
 20 Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6)  
 21 'Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to — her to public disgrace' (Matthew 1:19) (6)  
 23 Diva (anag.) (4)



## SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S CROSSWORD

**ACROSS:** 1 Baby 3 Stimulus 8 Liar 9 Forsaken 11 Episcopacy 14 Eagles 15 Clergy  
 17 Strengthen 20 Holiness 21 Obed 22 Bethesda 23 Stay

**DOWN:** 1 Believer 2, Beatings 4 Troops 5 Musicology 6 Like 7 Sent 10 Acceptance  
 12 Prohibit 13 Dying day 16 Sensed 18 Ahab 19 Blot

## June Sudoku Challenge

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

## May Sudoku Solution

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

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## Meet the Parish Magazine Team

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**Advertising:** Jane Artis

**Calendar Update:** Parish Administrator

**Crossword & Sudoku:** Terrence Hancock

**Proof Readers:** Fr. Martin Colton, Terrence Hancock & Malcolm Toye

**British Library Distribution:** Jenny Toye



## Your Views & Contributions

**Next Issue will be available from Sunday 7 July 2019**  
**All Contributions to the Editor by Monday 17 June 2019**

**Email: [magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk](mailto:magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk)**

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## Keep up –to-date with St Mark’s



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