

St Mark's Parish Magazine

June 2021

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Your Views & Contributions

Next issue will be available from Sunday 4 July 2021
All contributions to the editor by Friday 18 June 2021

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LETTER FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter to you, the summer months are fast approaching, the days are getting longer, and the weather is warming up. We are also emerging further out of the lockdown restrictions that are allowing us a little more freedom. It is also that time of year when usually our thoughts turn to counting down the days to the holidays we might have planned or still need to plan. Those days away from school and work routines, or just time away from our homes and the everyday tasks we might normally do, that help us to return relaxed and refreshed. If we are not going away, then we may now be planning journeys to visit family and friends or getting our homes ready to welcome visitors. So, whether going away on holiday or staying home, whatever we do, whatever journeys we intend to make, they need careful planning and thinking about if we, and others, are to reap the full physical benefits from our holiday times.

Looking after our physical needs is often so much easier than looking after our spiritual needs. Yet these summer months offer us the perfect time to reflect on this part of our lives also. As we take a break from our normal routines and duties, it allows us to take a look at where God is in our own lives, and in the lives of others around us. To find God in the world beyond our homes and amongst all creation. It may be too that it is time to take stock of where we are and, if necessary, make plans to journey with God in a different direction, wherever that may lead. Journeys in whatever form they take are important. They have the ability to change us and to shape us.

So, over these summer months I pray that there will be space and time for each one of you to take a look at your journey. To take time off, at home or away, and relax and refresh. To look and see where you are heading in the coming months, and to see where God might be in that journey with you.

With my best wishes



A Parish Weekend in the '70s

Jenny and I were on a very spiritual weekend with about 20 others from St Mark's Church. It was in Westcott House Theological College in Cambridge and was led helpfully by someone outside our church. We were accommodated in single rooms normally occupied by students who were all away on leave at that time.



At the end of the day we retired to our rooms and prepared for bed and I methodically laid out my wallet, season ticket, keys etc. on my bedside table and wearing a dressing gown over my pyjamas, I thought I would just visit Jenny in her single room before she went to sleep to kiss her goodnight.

Unfortunately this was a very bad decision as on leaving my room the door slammed and locked me out. This was on the first floor with no means of access through any window. There was no caretaker present and with no students there we had no means of finding another key. I asked Ian Kitteringham if he could help me and he tried to access the lock by poking a credit card into it but that did not work. So I went back to Jenny's room and slept briefly on the floor, the beds were too narrow for two and wondered all the time if I could return to Reigate in a dressing gown the next day, leaving all my belongings behind in that locked room.

Early morning I wandered around the college and met Harry Ingram also having a wander but he couldn't offer me any advice.

Suddenly I spotted someone I didn't know and my Guardian Angel rescued me from this awful predicament. This was a student who had returned to the college early and one who knew where to find a key that would fit. So I didn't have to leave that day in my pyjamas, without my wallet, my season ticket and keys. I just hope you never find yourself in such a precarious situation.

Ian Archer

Fundraising

2019 SMOAT Christmas Appeal Update

Total amount raised: £7105.50

EducAid, Sierra Leone –

Refurbishment of classroom to accommodate boarders and reintroduce women into education.

Donation: £4,150

SMOAT has previously donated money to Foundation for Fistula which provides midwifery and hospital services for safe births as well as surgery and support for women who have suffered birthing injuries. Some of the youngest women who have had teenage pregnancies and often birth trauma are also able to attend a special unit at EducAid-funded Lumley School in Freetown where they can access education and support.

Our funding was used to refurbish the Women's Project classroom at the high school and this essential work was successfully completed in the midst of the COVID pandemic in May 2020.

When schools reopened on 5 October, the Women's Project was renamed the "Strong Girl Incubator" (SGI) and welcomed 56 young women who would have otherwise had no access to education. Our funding provided proper tiling and repairs in the rooms. The tiling extends onto the large veranda of the building which has improved airflow and dust reduction which is particularly valuable during the dry season.

Since October, the SGI programme has gone from strength to strength, and 70% of the young women have so far returned to mainstream education, many of whom are taking on leadership roles. They have also started a women's football team. This project is truly transformational for the women involved, many have been out of education for large amounts of their childhood.



Classroom before repairs

Letter from Bishop Jonathan

Dear Brothers and Sisters

As I began to think about what to write this month, I found myself at something of a loss. Not because I couldn't think of anything, but because there's too much. I am writing on the anniversary of the murder of George Floyd, and I want to write reminding us all that black lives have not ceased to matter. I am writing as we may (or may not) be emerging from the last stages of lockdown, and I would like to reflect on the ways in which Coronavirus is becoming defined by poverty, ethnicity and social exclusion. Check the map of



vaccination statistics if you don't believe me. And I'm writing just after the Catholic Bishops issued a letter on the challenges of climate change, and as preparations for COP26 are getting under way. The climate crisis has not gone away, and time is rapidly running out even for such a crisis-driven species as human beings to do something about it. So what shall I say?

Rather than focusing only on one, I have tried instead to dig out one of the common themes which seems to me to underlie all three. It's all about justice – justice perhaps more in the biblical sense than in our law courts. It's about justice as the restoration of God's desire for the whole of creation, the re-ordering of what is out of joint. It is in the experience of those who suffer poverty, marginalisation, persecution and more that we see where the world has gone wrong. That is one of the many ways in which the poor are our teachers.

The search for justice is not merely for the benefit of those who suffer, though that would be enough. It is also vital for those of us whose lives are – or seem – safe and secure. The point is being made in relation to vaccination clearly enough: no one is safe until everyone is safe. But it is also, obviously, true of our climate. Rising sea levels will sink much of South London as much as Miami or Dhaka or Vanuatu. And it is true of racial justice also. As long as black lives matter less than white, everyone's life is out of kilter, diminished. Only when all people are valued, as the equally and infinitely beloved children of God, is that balance restored.

+ Jonathan Coadon

News from the Church of England

Students and young adults to be reached as part of £9 million funding package for mission

Tens of thousands of students and young people who may never have been to church before are to be reached by the Church of England with the message of the Christian faith as part of a £9 million funding programme for mission projects across the country.



Church of England parishes are to form new congregations aimed at reaching young adults and students in Leeds and Huddersfield in West Yorkshire, Blackburn in Lancashire and coastal areas of Paignton in Devon and Brighton and Hove in east Sussex.

A series of grants to help fund the projects has been awarded as part of the Church of England's programme of Renewal and Reform.

The Church of England's National Youth Evangelism Officer, Jimmy Dale, welcomed the investment in work with students and young people.

He said: "It is so exciting to see the church engaging with students and young people in a way that historically, we have often fallen short. Young people – the 'Generation Z' of 11 to 25 year olds – have faced enormous challenges as a result of the pandemic, not just socially and financially but educationally and with regards to mental health. The message of the good news of Jesus Christ offers this generation a real beacon of hope."



The full story is available at: <https://www.churchofengland.org/media-and-news/news-releases/students-and-young-adults-be-reached-part-ps9-million-funding-package>

(Pictures credit: Richard Earnshaw, Diocese of Leeds)

Church News

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2021

At the recent meeting the following were elected to the offices shown:

Churchwarden: Louise Wallis and Benjamin Read

Deputy Warden: Jane Artis and Timothy Warren

Parochial Church Council: Nigel Perkins, Brian Rowbotham and Helen Starmer

Deanery Synod Representatives: One vacancy is still unfilled.

Terrence F Hancock
PCC Secretary

GIFT DAY 2021

Our Annual Gift Day, which was on 22 May, is an opportunity for all who come to our church and church centre, together with those living in the community, to make a one-off donation to the ongoing work of St Mark's and to the running costs of the church buildings. Our 'Gift Day' is really the launch of a time of annual giving as gifts will be welcomed until the end of June.

Why do we need Gift Day?

In any year the income received from regular planned giving and collections at services covers only around two thirds of the outgoings. We rely on the extra money received on Gift Day together with some rental income to make up the shortfall. Income from the hire of our hall facilities usually covers the hall running costs.

Why is Gift Day particularly important this year?

In the past year our church and hall have been closed for significant periods and only in use between lockdowns for permitted activities. Although we have continued to meet virtually, many people have not been inside the church buildings for over a year. Our income has obviously been impacted. As we open up gradually, we are incurring all the costs of running the church centre but income is still reduced. Hopefully we will be back to 'normal' soon.

Please contact the Parish Office for details of how to donate to the Church.

Please give generously, Thank you in advance, Mel Crighton, Treasurer

Blessings through faithful service

A few days ago I received this email out of the blue from someone I have never met who lives in Nottingham and came across our website and something I wrote in the magazine 4 years ago as well as watching some of our online services. She asked me to share the email with you all:

Dear Martin,

I like to enjoy the various services of worship provided by the BBC, especially so since we have been under lockdown restrictions to live services. I often join in with the responses and singing. Sometimes, although I know a great many hymns by heart, the number of hymns and variations around means it helps to have a copy of the words to refer to, even if only after scrambling through Google to find them.

Today I enjoyed Choral Evensong from Westminster Abbey, which ended with "O Thou Who Camest From Above" and my Google scramble led me to your writing from September 2017.

(Studying St Mark's website leads me to believe that what I read was probably your letter for the monthly parish mag. I also notice you used this hymn in your Sunday communion service 3 days ago).

I found your ponderings on this hymn, focussing on the choice and structure of words and images conjured, very helpful and well put, making the challenges easier to remember. So – Thank You.

I don't suppose you expected to hear from a stranger living in Nottingham that something you wrote almost 4 years ago in your little Surrey parish mag, and possibly not easy to find in your own church website, has brought a special blessing today. Maybe you can share this with your flock, that we never know the blessings we may bring, just by our faithful service, or the bounds of the family we belong to.

I hope this is still one of your favourite hymns and that you continue to seek to be equipped by God's Holy Spirit for the particular service he has for you, taking for granted neither the gift nor the purpose God has for you. May you know special blessings as you move on into new ministries.

And here is the original article from September 2017:

O Thou who camest from above,
the pure celestial fire to impart
kindle a flame of sacred love -
upon the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze,
and trembling to its source return,
in humble prayer and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work and speak and think for thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up thy gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat,
till death thy endless mercies seal,
and make my sacrifice complete.

One of my very favourite hymns is 'O Thou who camest from above'. Charles Wesley wrote the words in 1762, and his grandson Samuel Sebastian Wesley wrote music for them over 100 years later in 1872. I sense that despite the gap, Samuel got his Grandfather's intention just right. Inspired by Leviticus 6.13 "The fire must be kept burning on the altar continuously; it must not go out", Charles takes the image of the fire on the altar which was used to burn the sacrificial offering, and his own heart becomes that altar upon which he asks God to 'kindle a flame'. I love that phrase as it speaks to me of the gentle, patient and encouraging actions needed to bring life to a fire from an initial spark. I believe God is gentle, patient and encouraging with us ... even those of us who take quite some frequent coaxing!

I also identify with the 'mean-ness' of altar that my heart makes for such a glorious flame, and yet even 'mean' or seemingly unworthy things become glorious as they are offered to God for his use. Many alternatives have been tried for the word 'inextinguishable' (vs2) as it was thought too long and tricky to sing (the rule of thumb in writing hymns is to avoid words with more than 2 syllables and never to have more than 3), but for me that is the point! Wesley wanted God's fire of love, and of his spirit to burn forever in his heart and the tune here carries us along the six syllables beautifully as we sense the ever-glowing flame. The preciousness of this divine flame is underlined by the trembling, humble prayer and praise and the desire to guard the 'holy fire'.

Wesley clearly felt it a privilege to serve God in thought and word and deed, just as it is for all of us whenever we do the least of things in His service. This hymn, often used at Ordinations, captures my own daily prayer that I may never take for granted the gift of God's Holy Spirit and that he would continue to equip me, and all of us for his service.

Martin

CALENDAR FOR JUNE 2021

Now that more services are taking place again in Church, this is our plan for June 2021 – subject to change at short notice so please check the details on our website or with the Parish Office.

Sunday 6th June	1st Sunday after Trinity 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Holy Communion – in Church and Online 4.00pm Family Service – in Church
Wednesday 9 th June	10.00am Coffee Morning on Zoom
Thursday 10 th June	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church
Sunday 13th June	2nd Sunday after Trinity 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Holy Communion – in Church and Online
Wednesday 16 th June	10.00am Coffee Morning on Zoom
Thursday 17 th June	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church
Sunday 20th June	3rd Sunday after Trinity 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Holy Communion – in Church and Online 4.00pm Family Service – in Church
Wednesday 23 rd June	10.00am Coffee Morning on Zoom
Thursday 24 th June	Nativity of John the Baptist 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church
Sunday 27th June	4th Sunday after Trinity 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Holy Communion – in Church and Online
Wednesday 30 th June	10.00am Coffee Morning on Zoom
Thursday 1 st July	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Environmental News

A Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor/Helen,

When you took over the role of Editor you introduced many changes into the structure of the magazine, such as the use of colour and the scope of the content. You made a survey to identify what readers were interested in and I think "The Environment" came high on the list. So we had extended notes on the different effects of Climate Change and you kindly included articles I wrote on this subject.

I always wonder whether what I write is of actual interest. Much of what I have concentrated on is its serious nature and how the release of CO₂ comes from so many diverse activities. It's not just planes and cars!

From my readings in the past, I gained the impression that at times the magazine might have then been currently more informative than the popular press, but recently the press, following the change of President in the United States, seems to have woken up hopefully sufficiently for perhaps most people to understand that something has to be done and soon. So perhaps now is the time for the emphasis to move on, stressing the scope and nature of change required and other influences?

These seem to fall into many categories such as; time scales, targets, actual plans, change in scale (of action), organisational, technical, governments, the law, and the role of people. On the other side are things like how to deal with those not willing to change, with false messages; those who say one thing and do another.

A big issue is how to achieve compliance with different political and social frameworks such as the US and China. How, in a democratic system can, say, in the US, ensure continuity when the evenly divided parties have totally different views on this subject? How to reconcile time targets with the fact that carbon in the atmosphere is cumulative?

But is any of this of interest to our readers? That is what I would like to know.

Yours sincerely,

Harry Ingram.

Please feel free to let me know your thoughts at magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk

A marriage to stand the test of time

My husband and I have been married just four years and with two young children in tow, I have always been mindful that when I spoke my vows that I planned to stay true to them 'until death do us part'.

However, with divorce rates so high, 1 in 3 marriages in the UK in the last 50 years have ended in divorce¹ when I meet someone whose own marriage has stood the test of time, I am always curious what their secret is.

My nosey nature resulted in me reaching out to Ian Archer. It is very apparent to me, and I am sure to many, that Ian and Jenny were deeply in love and shared a happy marriage, particularly when I read Ian's stories for the magazine. So, I asked Ian what his secret was to a long and happy marriage and he has given me permission to share with you his response:

I think it would be wrong to offer any advice or wisdom to any other couple, even if I knew them very well, as happily everyone is different and so, of course, is every couple different. I don't know the secret to long-lasting love but I can try to explain how it was for us.

Of course, so much of it is luck and it was lucky for us that we started from having parents who were happily married. My parents met when my mother was nearly 16 and my father 18 and they wrote to each other every day till they married 5 years later and were still in "love" in their 80s. Jenny was the youngest of 4 children and although her father died at 59 her mother took on as a lovely matriarch of the family, only dying at 93 still talking sometimes as if her Bert was still alive. 17 of her last 18 years being next door or in part of our house which turned out to be lovely for us and our children.

The Vicar who married Jenny and me did not give us birth control advice but said to us there were 3 people involved in our marriage; Jenny, Ian and God – like a 3-legged stool if one leg drops away it can be fatal.

I believe we all change over the years and it is fortunate if we change in the same way or at least fully understand one's partner who might have changed in some way. For so much of our married life we have both been supported by the church and hopefully have helped both in the church and in helping others. We both needed to be involved in the worship and work of the church and had similar views which was lucky, too.

I think we were both determined to make our marriage work and so we did all we could to be loving, trusting, forgiving each other, giving the other one the biggest portion or at least equal portions of what we were sharing.

On holiday in France we had to buy an equal number of olives so we could have half each for our picnic. In the family one of them cuts the item and the other one chooses which bit to take. When we had disagreements we had the golden rule "never to let the sun go down on one's wrath" – it had to be sorted out before we went to sleep.

We were lucky in that most of my life I did not have to work for long away from home.

In the end we were blessed with a wonderful 60 years, we found loving one person was not boring and to the end we strived for the happiness of our partner in life. Now I am again lucky in having 3 lovely children supporting me and very good friends for each other and their families.

Source: <https://www.nimblefins.co.uk/divorce-statistics-uk>

Porterage is what you carry with you

My trip to the Royal Brompton was "just two or three days for tests." I stayed a fortnight with treatment. There was no settling in. Tests followed fast one after the other and one was for an X ray. (Don't go yet: this is NOT an account of my recent hospital experience).

My carers came from all over the world and so far as I could judge all did their duties very well and that included a smile and encouraging remark. The atmosphere was, well, all very caring.

The porter taking me to X-ray was about six feet tall and very broad across the shoulders. A perfect body for a number eight (if you follow rugby) and he was English. We had two things in common. I had been a porter during one of my vacations in 1953. The other was that my grandson had recently left Oxford and this man was going there to read Greats in September. Our portering had been very different; mine Dickensian, his the present day. He had laid out corpses for autopsy; I had avoided such a challenge.

Comfortably in bed that night, my mind drifted back to 1953. I had managed to get a vacation job as a porter at St Alfige's, Greenwich. It was a very old run down place but certainly an improvement on the "hulks" once anchored in the Thames, for injured sailors to be taken to, until they died. My first morning began with about a dozen others in the porter's lodge. The head porter allocated jobs as they came up. I was last. "Draw a gown, rubber boots and mask and report to theatre two", was the command. With a partner I collected the patient, reported to the theatre and then wheeled the patient in with me towing the anaesthetic trolley behind. The swing doors hit the trolley and bottles fell over. My partner was not amused and I was mortified. But no one was hurt! Afterwards we had to clean the theatre up.

Greenwich was a very old hospital, or rather two hospitals. One was general. The other was exclusively for the elderly. Most of the residents there were long term and a ward could be quite noisy with shouted comments and jeering to far corners... Our duties in the hospital for the elderly included bed stripping, throwing the bundles out of the windows (strictly forbidden, but we did look first), and moving patients about, some of whom were bed ridden. In those days it was all manual and on one occasion my 'senior partner', instead of taking the lighter legs, took the head. "We shall take the covers with him," he said. The drill was to slide the arms under the body, lift, swing and deposit on the trolley. This time my arms encountered nothing. I had to go seeking and looked up to my partner puzzled. He burst into laughter. The man was legless. The other residents seemed to appreciate the joke as well. For the next few days I was the butt of the other porters. Behaviour was rougher in those days.

Theatre two was just a ward with the table alone in the middle and bright lights. Curiously some surgeons seemed to prefer this to the smaller more modern version. There was plenty of space I suppose. Waiting outside we could clearly hear loud hammering. My partner explained that the surgeon would be removing bone from behind the ear. I found that quite disturbing.

In those days I was keen on woodwork and took pride in my chisels being sharp. After the op I noticed that the solid chisels had serrated edges very broken by wear. The surgeon was cleaning up and saw my interest. I blurted out my concerns. "They could be better", he said. A nurse intervened, "They sometimes go to the carpenters to be sharpened." Now, bone is quite different from wood but both cut better with sharp blades. So that was how I met the carpenter. The hospital had been bombed and money was short. The carpenter's workshop was still, in 1953, roofed by a tarpaulin.

When it was fine, I used to take my sandwiches into Greenwich Park. There was a children's playground there and I watched the children from some distance. Suddenly, there came a loud scream, protracted sobbing and much movement by the adults. Within minutes an ambulance arrived and the incident passed. Back inside I was on A&E duty. As I took the boy to X-ray, I noticed a doctor talking intensively to what seemed to be the parents. The leg was broken, out to the side at ninety degrees!! It had been trapped under one of those roundabouts. The boy was quiet now but

extremely insecure. What do you say to a five year old who has just experienced such pain and felt the loss of his future?

Next day I again took the boy to X-ray. The leg was now almost straight with just an eighth of an inch out of true. Back at the bedside the same doctor was in urgent conversation with the parents. Apparently they were against a further op. After what seemed to me a near miracle why had they no trust? Anyway the boy had his op and sometime later the little lad went home

Just before I left I was sent to help out in the TB ward. Now, the porters were always skiving (if you know what I mean) but for them the TB ward was a 'no go area' if possible.

It was evening and when I got there the glass swing doors were locked. The ward was in semi darkness. I looked down the ward to see a slight figure bending over a bed. I knocked again. It straightened and let me in. She came no way near up to my shoulder, and, with due modesty, looked much younger than my eighteen years.

In those days, towards the end, TB sufferers sometimes turned violent. We had to move him from a bed to a cot so that he could not get out. Job done, I left the ward. She would be there all night and apparently on her own.

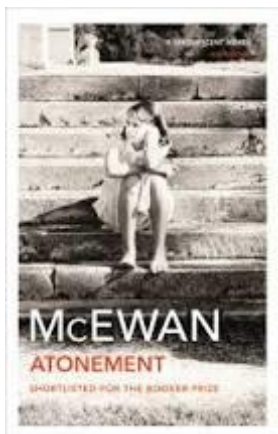
Of course, it's very different now from then. Hospitals have been transformed in all aspects. Biology, science generally, technology, doctoring, nursing (you need a degree), management, the whole basis and caring have blossomed. And so it should. After all, man is evolving at a greater pace than ever before. Alongside of this, at least in the South, there seem to be far more staff at all levels derived from immigrants than native English. But old hospitals like the Royal Brompton are still patched up and lead the way.

Underneath, the same waves pound at the core of the NHS. Conflicts of view between cost and care, prices and efficiency, internal markets and so on, rumble on. Watching are foreign institutions panting for a slice of the cake. There have to be budgetary limits. However, even Mark Carney (recent Governor of the Bank of England) has underlined the need for what he calls "intrinsic values", that is non-monetary values, to carry more weight in decision making. It's a fine subject for debate, bringing in all the usual tribal arguments, but when you yourself are concerned, somehow it's different.

Harry Ingram

Book Review

This month: *Atonement* by Ian McEwan



I expect some of you will have enjoyed this exceptional novel; for many, one of the top novels of the twentieth century. For the others this is still a well worth read waiting to happen.

You will understand that I do not usually select covers showing a teenage stray. It is simply not my thing. I picked it up in hurry and found it very hard to put down.

The plot is not unusual except that, at the end, you are invited to choose your own ending! A single scene involving a teenage girl and its interpretation, changes the lives of all concerned for ever.

McEwan sparkles with detail and his understanding of people is such that at times it felt like talking to myself. He has the middle class values at his finger-tips but also the attitude of NCOs. There is plenty of variety in his characters.

How has he captured such insights into the way children, teenagers, adults and even one with early dementia think? There are misunderstandings, emotional conflicts and impossible situations to overcome. Above all there is realism.

He writes against the backcloth of the day which travels from the thirties through the war, but the thoughts of characters could be of today. He writes in his masterful refined prose which is truly gripping. The reader finds himself in the shoes of each character wondering what he would have done.

It is a very good read.

Thanks to Harry Ingram for this month's book review. If you would like to recommend a book for next month, please email magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk

Reader recipes

Something light and fresh for the warm weather.

Peach and Raspberry Fruit Salad with Mascarpone

Ingredients:-

- 2 ripe peaches or nectarines
- 50g of caster sugar
- 1 tsp of lemon thyme leaves
- 100g of mascarpone
- 100ml of double cream
- 1 drop of vanilla extract
- 16 raspberries halved
- Small handful of pistachio nuts, chopped
- 1tbsp of maple syrup



Method:-

1. Stone and finely slice the peaches and arrange over 4 plates.
2. Sprinkle a little sugar over the peaches and all of the thyme leaves.
3. Whisk together mascarpone, cream and vanilla extract until light and fluffy. Spoon or pipe blobs of the mixture onto the plates.
4. Arrange the raspberries onto the plate.
5. Finish by scattering the pistachios and a drizzle of maple syrup over the plat.
6. If this feels too small for you, increase the amount of fruit to your appetite/ taste and serve with a nice glass of chilled white wine.

This recipe is taken from www.bbcgoodfood.com, if you have a recipe you would like to share, it can be anything, send it to magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk.

Puzzles

June Sudoku Puzzle

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

May Solution

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

Level Up Laptop Refurbishment

Do you have an old laptop sitting at home unused?

Voluntary Action Reigate and Banstead need your help. Level Up Reigate & Banstead is a project that provides refurbished laptops for children and young people who need them for home study. They are in need of 500 laptops.

Laptops are donated by the community, refurbished by volunteers and distributed to children and young people via local schools and charities.

Your laptop must be running Windows 7, 8 or 10 and have at least one USB port. Please note we are no longer accepting phones or laptops with Windows XP or Vista.

All laptops will be securely wiped or have hard discs removed and destroyed. They are then refurbished before distribution.

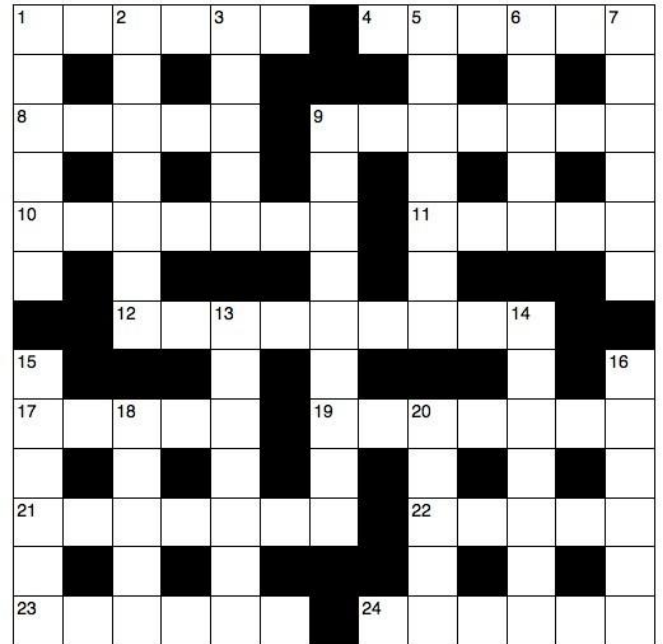
To find out how to give visit: <https://www.varb.org.uk/level-up/>

June Crossword

Biblical references are from the New International Version

Across

- 1 Military tactic used by Joshua to attack and destroy the city of Ai (Joshua 8:2) (6)
- 4 Place of learning (6)
- 8 'When Moses' hands grew — , they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it' (Exodus 17:12) (5)
- 9 Unpleasant auguries of the end of the age, as forecast by Jesus (Matthew 24:7) (7)
- 10 Stronghold to which girls in King Xerxes' harem (including Esther) were taken (Esther 2:8) (7)
- 11 Where Saul went to consult a medium before fighting the Philistines (1 Samuel 28:7) (5)
- 12 Propitiation (Hebrews 2:17) (9)
- 17 Turn away (Jeremiah 11:15) (5)
- 19 So clear (anag.) (7)
- 21 'I have just got — , so I can't come': one excuse to be absent from the great banquet (Luke 14:20) (7)
- 22 Long weapon with a pointed head used by horsemen (Job 39:23) (5)
- 23 Musical beat (6)
- 24 What the Israelites were told to use to daub blood on their door-frames at the first Passover (Exodus 12:22) (6)



Down

- 1 Fasten (Exodus 28:37) (6)
- 2 Art bite (anag.) (7)
- 3 'The people of the city were divided; some — with the Jews, others with the apostles' (Acts 14:4) (5)
- 5 Contend (Jeremiah 12:5) (7)
- 6 Possessed (Job 1:3) (5)
- 7 Sheen (Lamentations 4:1) (6)
- 9 'You love evil rather than good, — rather than speaking the truth' (Psalm 52:3) (9)
- 13 Large flightless bird (Job 39:13) (7)
- 14 They were worth several hundred pounds each (Matthew 25:15) (7)
- 15 'A — went out to sow his seed' (Matthew 13:3) (6)
- 16 How Jesus described Jairus's daughter when he went into the room where she lay (Mark 5:39) (6)
- 18 The part of the day when the women went to the tomb on the first Easter morning (John 20:1) (5)
- 20 Narrow passageway between buildings (Luke 14:21) (5)

May Solution

Across

- 1 Conscience 7 Arrival 8 Yours 10 Tidy 11 Restrain 13 Quaker 15 Gateau 17 Athenian 18 Amen
21 Eliot 22 Enables 23 Impressive

Down

- 1 Cured 2 Nave 3 Calver 4 Egyptian 5 Courage 6 Earthquake 9 Sinfulness 12 Leinster 14 Atheism
16 Waters 19 Milne 20 Taxi



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