

DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH AND CROSS STREET CENTRE ST ALBANS



Minister: Rev Simon J Carver, MA, BSc, - 01727 854041

Church Secretary: Chris Penn—01727 864116

Finance Deacon: Trevor Oakley—01727 752732

Property: Ray Saunders – 01727 830260

Site Manager and Caretaker: David Hobbs – 01727 760623

Youth and Children's Worker: Tim Napper—07974 149700

Cross Street: 01727 846891

Charity Registration Number: 1127791

MAY SERVICES

	10.30am	6.30pm
May 7th	<i>Let's get started!</i> Acts 2:42-47 Communion	<i>Lions, Fire and Heavenly Clouds I</i> Daniel 1-4
May 14th	Revd Ray Thomas <i>Barnet</i>	Christian Aid Sunday Gill Searl <i>Regional ESOL Coordinator for the Syrian Resettlement Programme</i>
May 21st	<i>Paul and the Athenians</i> Acts 17:22-31	<i>Lions, Fire and Heavenly Clouds II</i> Daniel 5-6 Communion
May 28th	<i>Going Up?</i> Acts 1:6-14	<i>Lions, Fire and Heavenly Clouds III</i> Daniel 7

Dear Friends,

I was asked by a local funeral director to conduct a service last month for a man, whom I'll call Bill, who had died aged 95. This was an unusual situation in that Bill had pre-paid for his funeral, but after he had died there was no one to make the arrangements. Bill had no relatives and didn't appear to have made any other arrangements for someone to fulfil the role of next of kin.



When someone dies with no financial resources to pay for a funeral or no family who will take responsibility, it falls to the local authority to make and pay for a funeral service. Bill's funeral fell between two stools in that it was not the local authority's responsibility, but nor was there anyone else to arrange matters. This meant that the hospital where Bill died was technically the client, but were reluctant to take responsibility for arranging the funeral. Therefore it fell to me, in cooperation with the funeral director, to plan what would happen at the crematorium.

Bill lived in residential care and was a member at a day centre and I had conversations with representatives from both groups and both were well represented at the service. The problem was while they had known Bill for a short while, they had absolutely no knowledge of his first 90+ years. I didn't know this until after the service, but Bill was probably someone who is described as an 'elective mute' ie he didn't speak. He could clearly hear and understand, but communication beyond the simplest of requests was impossible. It was assumed that he had been a patient at one of the local psychiatric hospitals and some people wondered whether he suffered from shell-shock ion the War, although there was also a suggestion that he might have been physically abused by his family.

The truth is that we knew next to nothing of Bill's life: what he had done and, really, who he was. This led me to think about how our

lives are remembered ... or forgotten. On the inside wall of the Dagnall Street Church there are memorials to some of the great and the good of St. Albans who were active in the life of this church. The Fisk family are remembered in the city through the department store of that name, but they were also deacons and Sunday school superintendents.

While William and James Fisk served this church for many years, there have been hundreds of other women and men whose names are unknown and who have long since been forgotten. What is true of the church is true of the world in general.

At Bill's service I quoted some words by Longfellow:

Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime.
And, departing, leave behind us
Footsteps on the sands of time.

Footsteps on sand get washed away. They are here today and gone at the next high tide. However Longfellow's poem goes on:

Footsteps, that, perhaps another,
Sailing over life's solemn main,
A forlorn and ship-wrecked brother,
Seeing, shall take heart again.

Next to nothing was known of Bill's life, but those who were at that service will remember his ready smile and cheerful nature – surely these are more than footsteps in the sand.

Best wishes,

Simon



This year's local Christian Aid Week Service will be at Dagnall Street Baptist Church St Albans at 6.30pm 14th May 2017 with coffee being served beforehand. Christian Aid's theme this year is refugees and we have invited Gill Searl, who is the Regional ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Coordinator for the Syrian Resettlement Programme. Gill is a member of the congregation of the Kingsgate Church in Peterborough and we are delighted that Gill is able to be with us to bring us news of work amongst Syrian refugees.

British churches founded Christian Aid in 1945 to support refugees who had lost their homes and possessions in the Second World War. Twelve years later, Christian Aid Week was launched to help fund this ongoing work.

Sixty years ago, Christians refused to stand by while people suffered in refugee camps. Let's act again now, to help relieve suffering and build a world where everyone has a safe place to call home.

Download Theodor Davidovic's film - The refugee who never forgot on

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/christian-aid-week/resources>

Colin Owen



Pastor's News

A brief update on a number of items that might be of interest to the congregation and the wider readership of the magazine.

Bible Studies

In three of our evening services this month we will be looking at passages in the Old Testament Book of Daniel. This will be also be the topic in our Bible study groups this month. These will take place on 9th May at 10.30am in Cross Street and 8.00pm at the Manse.



Who Let The Dads Out?

There will be no WLTD0 on the normal 2nd Saturday of May. The June meeting will be replaced by Messy Church which means that the next WLTD0 will be on Saturday 8th July.

Baptist Assembly

I shall be attending our annual national assembly which this year is in Harrogate on 13th May.

Walking Football – 4th/18th May

This takes place fortnightly at Harvesters FC in Sandpit Lane. If anyone would like to join me or would like further information, please ask.



Radio Verulam and Premier Radio

My regular **Premier Radio** slot to discuss some of the latest films from a faith perspective will be on Thursday 4th May between 8.00am and 9.00am. You can also hear me discussing the latest films at the cinema and on television with Danny Smith every Friday from 6.30pm – 7.00pm on **Radio Verulam 92.6FM**.



Simon



"I want you to scan these and put them
in the next newsletter."



Next Quorum Concert

The next Quorum concert will take place here in the church on Saturday 3rd June 2017 at 7:30 pm.

The concert 'If Music be the Food of Love', includes a selection of Elgar's songs from the Bavarian Highlands, Shakespeare's lyrics and other songs on a theme of love.

There will be a retiring collection in aid of the Christian Aid Project 'Healthier Futures for Women and children in Ethiopia'. More details in the June magazine.

Jill Halsey



Sarah's Success



You may not have seen Sarah around in Church as much of late, owing to her commitments as a chorister.

For 7 years now Sarah has been training as a chorister, formerly at St. Michael's and now at St. Helen's in Wheathampstead. Sarah is working her way through the Royal School of Church Music 'Voice for Life' chorister's scheme,

and here she is pictured having just received her 'red ribbon' award.

At the end of May, she is being entered for the Dean's Bronze award and she is very excited about this prestigious opportunity.

In August, she is off to Bath for a week-long choristers' Summer School run by RSCM and is looking forward to meeting up once again with fellow choristers from around the country.

Jill Halsey

Mission News

Get to know the new General Director of BMS World Mission.



Dr Kang-San Tan will take over as General Director of BMS World Mission in October 2017. His roots in Malaysia and his experience of leadership and mission all over the world have given him a unique perspective, as he leads an organisation with over 200 years of history and an exciting future.

“From a non-western perspective, I want to encourage British churches that God is still working through mission. Although the

Church is declining in the West it is on the rise in South America, in Africa, in Asia and around the world,” he told Christian Today recently. “Often the best evangelists are already in context. But in terms of training and in terms of partnership there is still a great need for workers from Britain.”

UK Baptist churches will already be familiar with BMS’ support for indigenous Christian movements and with our work alongside local Christians and bodies of believers, and will be encouraged by the impressive breadth of experience Kang-San brings with him.

Kang-San was born in Malaysia in 1962 and has since lived in Canada, the USA, Singapore and the UK. He speaks four languages and holds two doctorates, focusing on dialogue with and understanding Islam and Buddhism. He has served all over the world, training leaders, mobilising mission and pioneering better understanding of intercultural dialogue and outreach. Most recently, he has served as Executive Director for Asia CMS, setting up a mission training network for indigenous mission networks. He has also served at Redcliffe College in Gloucester, where he pioneered the first MA in Intercultural Studies in Asian Contexts. He is highly respected in the field of Christian intercultural engagement worldwide, serving on several high-profile panels and boards, and he will soon become the first BMS General Director not born in Europe. In a world where long ago mission ceased to be a simple question of Christians from the powerful West and the wealthy North taking the gospel to places where no Church existed, this is significant. Kang-San’s professional, cultural and academic insights will play a crucial role in helping UK Baptists to reach out to a world in need of Christ’s love.

Kang-San also brings with him an understanding of Baptist church life, not just in Asia, but in Britain. Churches that have nurtured him on his journey so far have included Trinity Baptist Church in Malaysia, First Baptist Church in Vancouver, Canada, and Kendall Road Baptist Church in Gloucester, UK. He also enjoys strong relationships with Grace Chinese Christian Church in Singapore, Emmanuel Evangelical Free Church of Malaysia and Gloucester Chinese Church in the UK.

“The Church in the West has much to learn and receive from the Asian Church, who for hundreds of years have learnt to live sensitively hand in hand with other religions and yet bear witness to Christ,” he says. And while sensitivity and cultural humility are essential in contemporary mission, bearing witness, in Kang-San’s view, remains crucial. “Other religions are good and yet not salvific,” he says.

Kang-San and his wife Loun Ling Lee will be moving to Britain in the summer. Please pray for them and for Kang-San’s vision for BMS. Kang-San and his wife Loun Ling Lee will be moving to Britain in the summer. Please pray for them and for Kang-San’s vision for BMS.

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TWAM COLLECTION – WEDNESDAY 31st MAY

The next TWAM, (Tools With A Mission), collection of tools and equipment will be on **Wednesday 31st May**. If you can arrange for items to be brought to the lower hall on that day between **12 mid-day and 7pm**, we would be delighted. If you need help with items, please contact me or Trevor Oakley. A current list of items needed by TWAM can be found elsewhere in this magazine.

TWAM is a Christian charity enabling people to earn a living and support themselves. In countries where people have few skills, little education and no means of earning a living, a switch from aid dependency to self-sufficiency is impossible without help. Started over 30 years ago, TWAM gives help where it is needed most, by collecting and refurbishing unwanted tools and equipment and sending them as kits to development projects overseas.

Based in Ipswich, Suffolk, with refurbishment centres around the country, tons of equipment are sent overseas each year. With the help and dedication of many volunteers, many more people have been given hope for the future.

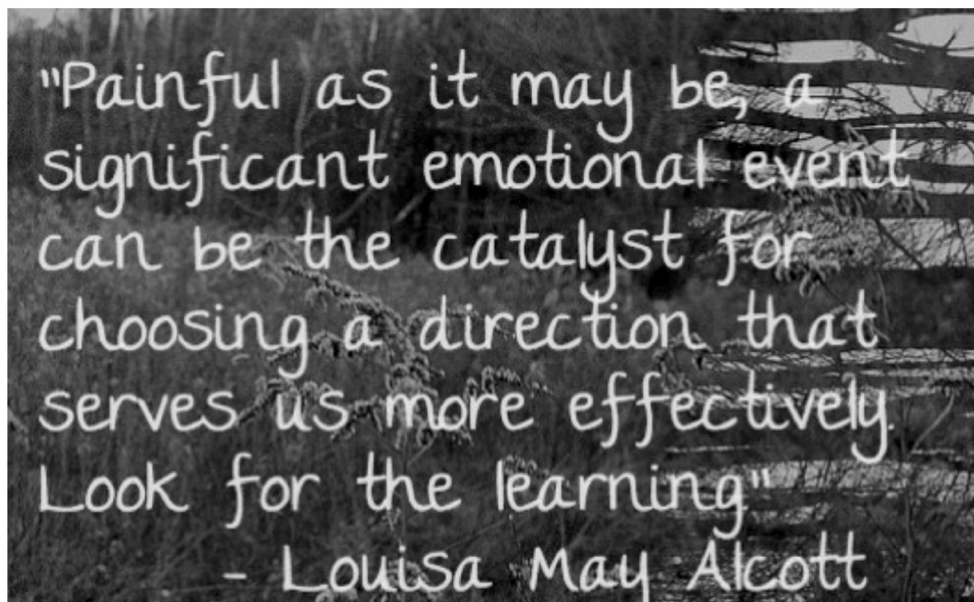
Mike Griffin, Chief Executive of TWAM, writes in TWAM [News:-](#) “This edition of TWAM News focusses on some of the most memorable projects and most inspirational people I had the privilege of meeting during my visit to Zambia in September. It seems a ludicrous claim to make, but Africa has been transformed by our tools as literally thousands and thousands of projects, that would never have started without us, have transformed their communities. What I saw time and time again was people who had a heart and vision to transform their community but no resources to do so; until they heard about TWAM. Then they applied for tools and their story began.

1. First they built the building for the project using TWAM builder's kits, (and trained young people at the same time).

2. Second, they equipped their new buildings with TWAM tools.
3. . Third, they provided TWAM tools for their trainees.
4. . Finally they gave to their community new businesses, co-operatives and the opportunity to flourish.

I found it extraordinary that none of this could have happened without TWAM and the amazing determination of the people across Africa who we work with.” (You can read more about these transformational projects in the winter 2016 edition of TWAM News, on line at twam.co.uk or copies of “The Church in the West has much to learn and receive from the Asian Church, who for hundreds of years have learnt to live sensitively hand in hand with other religions and yet bear witness to Christ,” he says. And while sensitivity and cultural humility are essential in contemporary mission, bearing witness, in Kang-San’s view, remains crucial. “Other religions are good and yet not salvific,” he says. n the carousel in Cross Street.).

Chris Penn





Tools with a Mission

COLLECTION

Dagnall Street Baptist Church

Please bring your items to the Church Hall on
Wednesday 31st May between 12 mid-day &
7pm.



THESE ARE THE TOOLS WE NEED

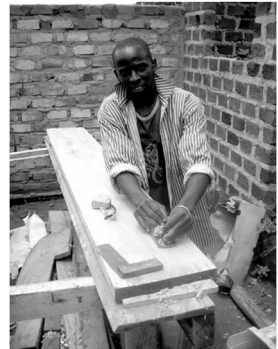
All types of Hand Tools:

CARPENTRY

MOTOR MECHANICS:- incl. jacks and ramps
BUILDERS, ELECTRICIANS AND PLUMBING
ENGINEERING

ELECTRIC POWER TOOLS:-

DRILLS, SANDERS, PLANERS, LATHES, SAWS.
SEWING MACHINES



KNITTING MACHINES (must be complete)

DESKTOP & LAPTOP COMPUTERS

SEWING AND CRAFT ITEMS

GARDEN FORKS, SPADES, HOES, RAKES,

PETROL LAWNMOWERS & STRIMMERS.

SLEDGE HAMMERS, PICK AXES.

EDUCATIONAL TEXT BOOKS

ADULT MOUNTAIN BIKES (no child bikes)

MANUAL TYPEWRITERS



Please do not bring. glass jars. gas bottles.
electric hedgecutters and manual lawnmowers

TWAM collect, refurbish and sort tools into individual trade kits to support people and communities across Africa.

Chris Penn



TIMES PACES

**When as a child I laughed and
wept,
Time crept.**

**When as a youth I waxed more
bold,
Time strolled.**

**When I became a full-grown man,
Time ran.**

**When older still I daily grew,
Time flew.**

**Soon I shall find, in passing on,
Time gone.**

**O Christ I wilt Thou have saved
me then?
Amen**



Hospital Transport



A few months ago, we launched an appeal for drivers willing to help with hospital transport, particularly for those of our fellowship who are not so mobile or who don't drive and need to rely on others to get them to clinical appointments.

I'm grateful for the response received from those willing to provide lifts and especially to Pip who has agreed to act as co-ordinator.

If you need transport for a hospital appointment, Pip will be happy to receive your telephone call, (her number is listed in the church year book), and will then contact one of the volunteer drivers who may be available.

If you are a driver and feel you may be able to add your name to our list of volunteers, please let Pip or me know.

Many thanks,

Chris Penn





MISSION SPRING CLEAN

It is that time of year to have a clear out of any unwanted items you no longer require that would be suitable to sell at Car Boot Sale;

In aid of our Christian Aid Appeal 2017

Items required; Books – Vinyl records – Cd's – Glassware – China ornaments – Jewellery – Tools (*Carpentry – Plumbing – Gardening*) – Craft items – Toys – Kitchen items/utensils – Bric-a-Brac

Items can be brought to the church or see me for collection

TREVOR - MISSION TEAM AT DAGNALL ST; BAPTIST CHURCH. ST. ALBANS



"No textbooks. I'm strictly Web-fed."



The Birthdays for May are:

1st - Geoff Ashmore

9th - Olly Branch

28th - Roslyn Prowse and Joyce Bishop

Praise the Lord from the heavens.....

Praise the Lord from the earth.....

Young men and maidens,

Old men and children.

Let them praise the name of the Lord.

Parts of verses 1, 7, 12 & 13 of Psalm 148

Happy Birthday to all May birthdays!

Linda Williams



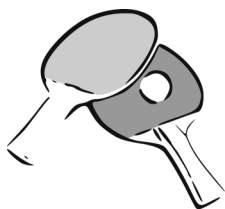
CHURCH & CENTRE ROOM BOOKINGS



To contact Danny Smith regarding Church and Centre room booking enquiries:

Tel: 01727 568162 (new number)

email: bookings@dsbc.org.uk



Monday Table Tennis/ Games Club

We Meet every Monday from 10.30am till 1pm in the lower Hall

Table Tennis – Pool – Snooker – Carpet Bowls –

Chess – Draughts

And Other Table Game

Refreshments are available in the Cross St: Centre Café



All are welcomed for a time of fun and fellowship

Trevor Oakley

DAYCARE

Daycare meets every Tuesday during school term time, at the Age Concern Centre, St Peters Street. If you know of anyone who would like to come along for lunch and companionship please contact **Jessie Blair on email: jessieblair37@gmail.com.**

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

The Fellowship Lunch this month will be held on Thursday, 18th May at 12.30pm in the Cross Street Café.

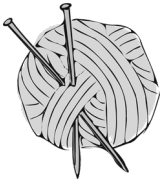
Everyone is welcome.

Díane Graham



WHO LET THE DAD'S OUT!!

There will be no meeting of 'Who Let the Dad's Out' in May or June. The next meeting will be on **Saturday, 8th July**.



KNITTING GROUP

The knitting group will meet on Tuesday, 16th May in Cross Street from 11am—12.30pm and welcomes anyone who would like to join with us. Some bring their own knitting or crochet projects whilst other knit and crochet for the charity 'Knit for Peace'.

Judy Pental



SCRABBLE CLUB

Scrabble Club will be held on Tuesday 9th and Tuesday 23rd May at 2.30pm in the Cross Street Centre.



Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid week this year is 14th to 20th May.

As usual, I will be looking for volunteers for house-to-house collections.

However, we are going to try a slightly different approach from previous years. Last year several people expressed reluctance to bang on doors asking for money. So I would be interested in hearing from you, if you would consider just posting the envelopes at the beginning of the week. This will spread the load and make it easier for the collectors.

Thanking you all in advance.

Colin Owen



PASTORAL NOTES

Psalm 23 tells us, “The Lord is my Shepherd”. In John 21 Jesus says to Simon Peter “Feed my sheep”. If the Lord is our Shepherd, then we have a duty to care for one another. To do that we have to be in happy relationships. These take time and trouble to come about. We need to get to know one another and become closer together. The same is true of our relationship with God. If we are a close family and at one with God, we shall be a much happier and more effective Church.

***We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens
bear,
And often for each other flows a sympathising
tear.***

David said in the Psalm, “My cup overflows”. It is not God’s will for us to remain parched. His desire is to pour his life into us so that we are not just full, but overflowing.

***This glorious hope revives our courage by the
way,
While each in expectation lives and longs to
see the day.***

Leslie and Margery Jones and the Pastoral Team

PASTORAL CARE MATTERS



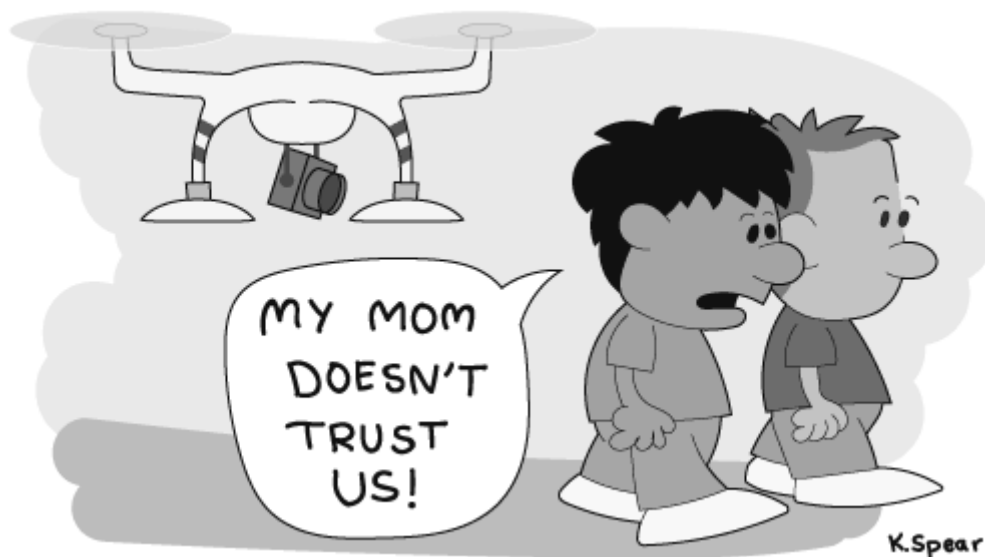
The Minister, Simon and members of the Pastoral Team are always happy to make appointments to visit, talk or pray with you. This can take place in your home, at Cross Street or at our homes at your convenience and at mutually convenient times.

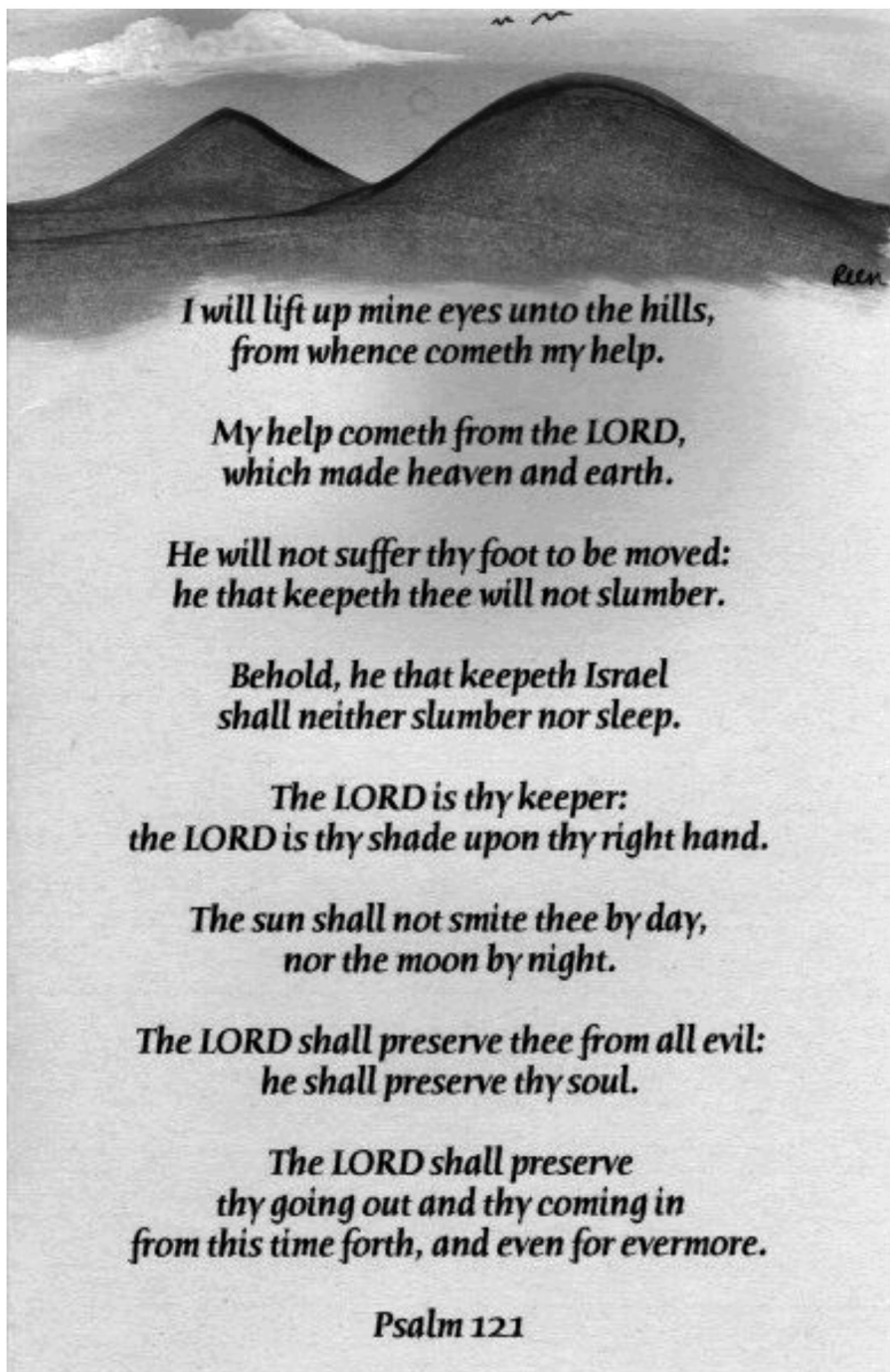
Our Minister, Simon (01727 854041) can be contacted direct.

Brian Branch (01727 852738), Marjorie and Leslie Jones (01727 841845) Jessie Blair (01727 768887) and Ray Saunders (01727 830260) are also active members of the Pastoral Team.

Simon and the team hope you will notify them of anybody who you think may be ill, lonely or who needs help.

Pastoral Team





ON THIS DAY

The Byronic Man

Lord Byron spent his life being a maverick in as many ways as he could—as a poet, lover, rake, freedom fighter—but a deformed right foot prevented him excelling physically. Until he turned to a long neglected athletic arena—swimming. His foot mattered less in the water, and his open-water swims are the first of modern times. He had aquatic adventures in Cambridge, Venice, Lisbon and on 3rd May, 1810, the disabled aristocrat poet became the first person in recorded history to swim the Hellespont, Turkey.

Cinq you, Sister

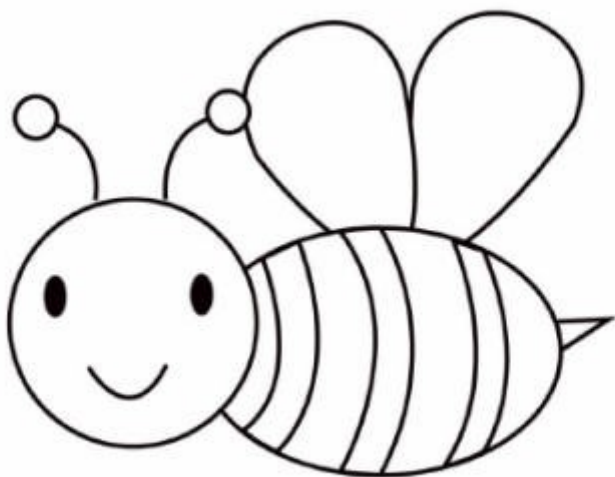
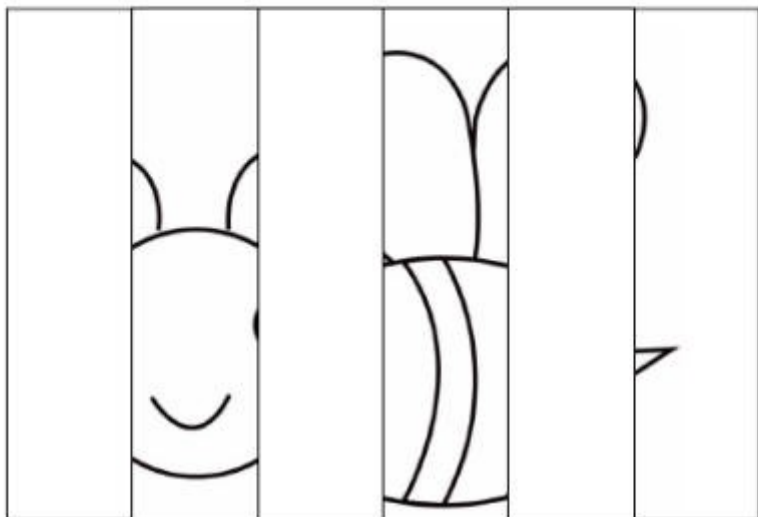
In 1895, a young French girl called Gabrielle lost her dear *maman* to tuberculosis and was placed in a convent for orphans. Life was fiercely strict and the order was big on numerology. The nuns particularly liked the number 5—it signified the pure spirit of a thing. The convent always stayed with Gabrielle, and when she launched a revolutionary perfume on May 5th, 1921, she named it simply with her surname and that mystic number—'Chanel No. 5'. It became the most famous perfume in the world.

Boldly going where no one wanted to go before

Eleven ships full of 696 convicts, 212 marines and their families, and 81 'free persons' left Portsmouth on 13th May 1787. The journey they embarked on was a horrendous one: for 15,000 miles they were crammed together in foul and disease-ridden conditions; 48 people died on the way. The good news was that when they finally did arrive, 252 days after setting off, they had practically a whole sunny continent to themselves. They were the 'First Fleet' that became the original European settlers in Australia.

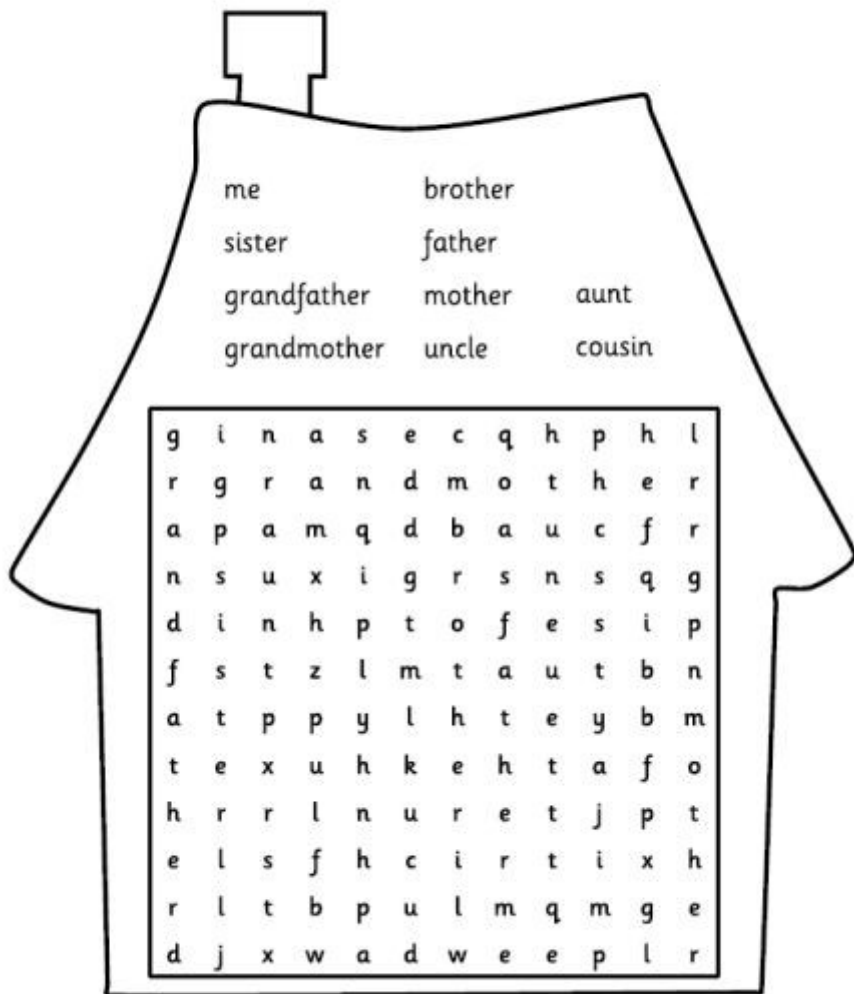


Can you complete the picture of the bumble bee, by copying the missing parts from the picture below?



Family Word Search

Can you find all the family words in the grid below?



COPY DATE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE OF THE MAGAZINE THURSDAY MAY 18TH

As I am writing this I am having a few days rest from the tornado that is my son, Tom, and his family. They are visiting Tom's father in Yorkshire.

My grandson, Freddie, celebrated his 2nd birthday on Easter Sunday, first in Basingstoke with my daughter-in-laws family and then last Saturday, 22nd, with my family and friends and Tom's friends here in Arlesey.

We were very lucky with the weather as we had a garden full of children!! Lots of lovely friends came and went all day. The last leaving at 12.45am!! Needless to say we were all very tired on the following day. They are returning tomorrow and will be staying until next Sunday, 30th, when they will all be going to Basingstoke and then will be leaving from there on the 5th of May to travel to Thailand where they will be staying for 10 days before returning to Sydney.

I am exhausted!! But loving every moment of it!! Little two year old boys have boundless energy!!

The weather over the past two weeks has been beautiful although today it was sleeting when I returned from Day-care! Every Season in a day!

Thank you for all your contributions this months and don't forget to send in anything you would like published for next month.

Have a lovely May.

Glynis
glynis.griffiths1@gmail.com
01462 733665
07709 618571

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What, When and Where May 2017

Tuesday	2	Monthly Meeting for Church Members Room 3 Cross Street Centre – 7.45pm
Wednesday	3	Free Church Service in the Abbey 11.00am – Major Heather Poxon, International Projects Officer, The Salvation Army.
Saturday	6	Prayer Hour 10.00am Cross Street Room 5
Tuesday	9	Bible Study Groups 10.30am – Cross Street Centre 8.00pm at the Manse
Tuesday	9	Scrabble Club 2.30pm Cross Street Centre
Saturday	13	Who Let the Dads Out? 10.00am – 12.00pm Lower Hall
Tuesday	16	Knitting Group 11.00am – 12.30pm Cross Street Centre
Thursday	18	Baptist Fellowship Lunch 12.30pm Cross Street Centre
Thursday	18	Deacons' Meeting 7.45pm Room 4 Cross Street Centre
Tuesday	23	Scrabble Club 2.30pm Cross Street Centre
Wednesday	31	TWAM Tools Collection 12pm – 7pm Lower Hall

Regular Events

Mondays: Table tennis & Games Club 10.30am – 1.30pm Lower Hall
Tuesdays: (term time) Daycare 10am – 2pm Age Concern St Peters Street
Wednesdays: (term time) Toddlers 09.45am – 11.15am Lower Hall
Fridays: (term time) TFN 6.30pm – 8.30pm Lower Hall
Fridays: (term time) TFN (Seniors) 7.00pm – 8.30pm Cross Street Centre

Sunday Services

10.30am and 6.30pm, with groups for children at the 10.30am service