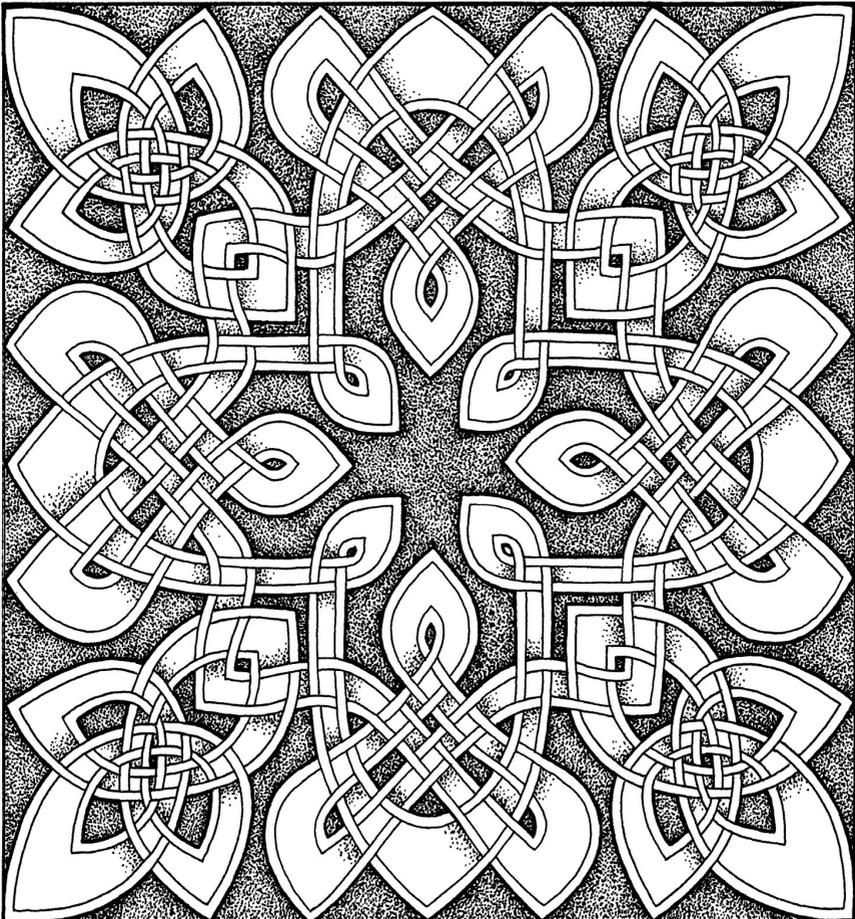


The Holsworthy Area Parish Magazine June & July 2017

**For the Parishes of the United Benefice of
Holsworthy, Bridgerule, Hollacombe,
Pyworthy and Pancrasweek**

www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk



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*Holsworthy & Pyworthy Churches are usually open every day.
Come in and sit for a while and spend time with God.*

Contents

Church Contacts	2
Contents	3
Reflection	4
News From The Parishes In Our Benefice	5
From The Parish Pump – General News	7
Growing The Rural Church	12
Service Rota for June and July 2017	14 & 15
All in the Months of June and July	17 & 18
St. James-the-Least-of All	19
Some of the High Days and Holy Days in June	20
Some of the High Days and Holy Days in July	22
The Puzzle Pages	24
Smile Lines	26
Some Useful Numbers	27

If you have anything you would like to be considered for publication in our magazine please give it to the editor by the 20th of the preceding month. It can be sent electronically or hand written. Our printer in Bude can usually reproduce photographs to a reasonable standard. If you want any hard copy or pictures returned please ensure your name and address is on the back.

This magazine is produced for the churches of St. Peter and St. Paul Holsworthy; St. Bridget's, Bridgerule; St. Petroc, Hollacombe; St. Swithun, Pyworthy; St. Pancras, Pancrasweek; and is the only publication promoting the views and vision of the benefice.

The contents of this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views of the individual PCC's but are those of individual contributors.

www.holsworthybenefice.org.uk



Reflection

The Rev Paul Hardingham considers this fundamental doctrine of Christianity.

Understanding the Trinity

'The words 'God is love' have no real meaning unless God contains at least two Persons. Love is something that one person has for another person. If God was a single person, then before the world was made, He was not love.' (CS Lewis).

Trinity Sunday takes place this month (11th June), yet the idea of One God in three Persons is not easy to get our heads around. CS Lewis was right in saying that we have to understand the doctrine in relational terms. So why is the Trinity so important for us?

First, the Trinity provides us with a model of community. God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit relate to one another in love and work together to accomplish God's purpose in the world. At His baptism, Jesus the Son is obedient to His Father's purpose, who declares His approval and the Spirit anoints Jesus for ministry.

This relationship between Father, Son, and Spirit has been described as 'perichoresis', a Greek word referring to dance. In this divine dance, each person of the Godhead complements and builds on the work of other members of the Trinity. God intends that our life together in the Christian community should reflect the very life of God Himself.

Secondly, we find our mission in the Trinity. Jesus said, 'As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' As the Father sent His Son into the world, so Jesus sends us out to do the Father's work, equipped by the Spirit of God. We are called to establish God's kingdom on this earth, so that God's will may be done on earth as in heaven! Our work for God is done from the standpoint of the Triune God, who created, redeemed, and enables us to do it.

All three persons of the Godhead are at work in our lives and church, as well as in the world around. If we live with a renewed awareness of the Trinity, our spiritual lives will deepen, our vision of God's kingdom will expand, and the work that God has chosen for us will take on a new vitality and urgency.

'At the heart of reality lies the love between the Father and the Son. The Spirit unites us with Christ so that we begin to experience the same depth of love that exists between the Father and the Son.' (Graham Tomlin).

News From The Parishes In Our Benefice

St. Peter and St. Paul, Holsworthy

Andrew Chidley - Freeman of Holsworthy

At the annual meeting of Holsworthy Town Council, held on Wednesday, May 3, in the Memorial Hall the award of Freeman of Holsworthy was presented to Andrew Chidley. Presenting the award, Cllr Hutchings said: "It was agreed the Freeman of Holsworthy Award should be awarded to Mr Andrew Chidley for all his hard work for the community".

Andrew has lived and worked in the town all his life. Many people may not realise how much hard work Andrew puts in at our church, and apparently he also finds time to ensure the cycle path and area near where he lives is kept clear of debris and general rubbish." We even recently saw him scrubbing the dirt off the Stanhope Park gates. Well done, congratulations and thank you for all you do.



St. Peter's Fair Week 2017



Art and Craft Exhibition, including the work of Students at Holsworthy Community College and local artists.

To be held in the church of St. Peter and St. Paul during Fair Week – including a Sale of Work

We look forward to seeing you at the Exhibition which will be open on **Wednesday 5th July at 12.30pm – 7.00 pm and on Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10.00 am – 7.00 pm.** **Entry is by donation, and several exhibitors will have items for sale.**

Any purchases may be collected after the exhibition when it closes on the Saturday.

Refreshments will be available.



St. Petroc, Hollacombe by Margaret Stacey



The services for June 2017 are as follows:
Sunday 4th June - 3pm Evensong with guest preacher
Rev Graham Stones followed by a CREAM TEA to
celebrate the feast of St Petroc

Sunday 18th June - 9am Holy Communion.
Sunday 2nd July - 3pm Evensong.



Hollacombe would like to add their hearty congratulations to Andrew Chidley on being made a Freeman of Holsworthy. Not only does he do jobs in and around Holsworthy but keeps the family grave at Hollacombe looking lovely, even marking special occasions with a personal made emblem and flowers Well done Andrew, justly deserved. It would be nice if he could extend his title to Freeman of Holsworthy and Hollacombe.

St. Swithun, Pyworthy - from Liffy Lowes

St SWITHUN'S CHURCH PYWORTHY
PATRONAL WEEKEND
FLOWER FESTIVAL
and ART EXHIBITION
SATURDAY 15th JULY 10am - 5pm
SUNDAY 16th JULY 11am - 4.30pm
CREAM TEAS AVAILABLE
Proceeds to Church Funds



Interregnum News

Services

Sunday services will continue during the interregnum, please keep a copy of the rota handy, look on the reverse of the weekly readings sheet for any changes and also check on the website if you use the internet.

Church Opening

We intend to keep the churches that are usually open during the year open during the interregnum. In the case of Holsworthy church we will have a rota of key holders to open and close the church each day. If you are a regular worshipper at Holsworthy and happen to be passing the church it would be useful if you could just pop in and check all is well. If you encounter a problem please call one of the churchwardens or, if of a more serious nature, the police. Don't tackle anyone on your own.

Occasionally we come across people in the church who are desperate to speak to a member of clergy. If it is about booking a wedding or baptism please refer them to the churchwardens. Any other matters are probably best dealt with by one of the clergy or one of the specialist organisation. We have listed these on the inside back cover of this magazine under the heading "Some Very Useful Numbers".

Filling the vacancy

Work started on the Parish Profile some time ago and has now been completed in so far as we are able and is ready for checking. By the time this magazine is published the Vision meeting will have taken place. This meeting gives us the opportunity to reflect upon our vision for the next stage of our parishes' mission and ministry and begin to draw up a person specification.

On June 6th there will a joint meeting of all the PCCs of all our parishes. The main purpose of this meeting is finalise the Parish Profile and formally appoint two Parish Representatives from each parish. It is hoped that it will be possible to advertise the post in the week of June 12th.

As you can see, the aim is to reduce the time we are without a full time priest to an absolute minimum. Let's all pray hard for suitable applicants to come forward.

Keep an eye on the weekly readings sheet and the website over the coming months for progress updates or even a Newsflash!

From The Parish Pump – General News

Devon Churches Rural Forum

We recently received the first newsletter from The Devon Churches Rural Forum. The Devon Churches Rural Forum was formed in 2015 in order to support the work of the rural church in Devon.

It is an ecumenical body, chaired by the Archdeacon of Barnstaple, and meets three times a year. It brings together people from our churches and wider community, including farmers, ministers, academics and farming and community support groups and some public sector agencies. It is at an early stage of development, but we hope that groups working on a range of rural issues can meet together to share their ideas and concerns.

Some individuals/groups involved in the Forum have been engaged with market chaplaincy, pastoral support for the farming community, and environmental concerns for a number of years. Others have come together more recently to provide training or reflect theologically on rural ministry. In 2017 we hope that new groups will emerge to work on social and economic issues and community engagement and new models of rural ministry.

If you would like to know more, or to get involved in any way, please contact the secretary, Revd Penny Dobbin, via email on *email address removed to prevent spamming*

Farming Notes Spring 2017

Compiled from information given by Joanne Jones (FCN Co-ordinator and Dairy Farmer), Andy Jerrard (Rural Support worker and Market Chaplaincy Co-ordinator) and David Moore (Dairy Farmer) with many thanks to them all.

Dairy

The dairy sector had seen a steady improvement over the past few months, and for those on non-supermarket contracts, the price was beginning to reach the cost of production, but has now held steady, or for Arla producers, dropped in March with another possible decrease expected. This has led to lots of uncertainty for many and was a surprise with world market prices holding and milk production down on the same time last year.

Prices rose because capacity dipped as production dropped with farmers leaving the industry. The average price per litre of milk at present is around 27.5 pence per litre, but the situation remains unstable and the general mood is moving back to concern because of the uncertainty of the direction of the market and even with the price rises, milk is still being sold at or less than the cost of production. Across the country there has been a drop of about 8% in the number of dairy farms and some think a similar number of dairy farmers may leave the industry in the next twelve months, due to the continuing low milk prices. Also, in some cases banks have asked farmers to repay loans borrowed in the past twelve months within the next three years – or leave the industry.

Many Devon dairy farms are family owned businesses, which can be more resilient, partly because they are owned outright and so there are no rental costs but also because the “wages” taken from the business can be very low.

TB

There have been large losses due to TB in the past two to three months – more than would have been expected. TB does run in cycles and occasionally a series of outbreaks is seen, but there haven't been so many for a while. TB seems to be increasing once again. One dairy farm in north Devon has recently suffered a loss of 250 cows from one herd and many other farms have also been severely hit. The harvest report last autumn explained some of the difficulties farmers face in terms of stock loss, movement restrictions and cash flow problems as new animals cannot be brought onto a farm until several weeks after the last positive test. TB movement restricted markets are now available for farmers to be able to sell some of their stock that is not infected, but which comes from a restricted herd, but the rules governing these movements change quite often, and moving and trading affected cattle remains very difficult.

Sheep

The winter weather has been the best for several years for sheep farmers as it has been largely dry and mild. The sheep haven't trodden in the wet pasture and lambing has been easier as sheep and lambs have been able to cope outside. There has been some outbreaks of Schmallenburg, but thankfully not as severe as in previous years. The moorland flocks began lambing in Holy Week while the lowland flocks are mostly finished. Everything so far suggests it has been a good lambing season both in numbers born and survival. The price paid for lamb is slightly better than last autumn, but since Christmas the price has decreased, and there weren't the price increases in lamb that usually occur about two weeks before Easter. Lambs are currently selling for around £20 less per head than they were last year and prime lambs may not be selling for any more now than they cost as store lambs before Christmas – however, this may be expected in about 2 years in ten in the normal course of events. The cause for these price fluctuations is not clear. It seems unlikely to be due entirely to currency fluctuations.

Beef

Beef prices are very good - the price of store cattle remarkably so. Last year calves were expensive but are much cheaper this year.

Arable

The winter and spring weather has been much better than last both for lambing and getting crops sown. The winter corn is coming on well with planting conditions good last autumn. The maize will be sown towards the end of April and into May when the soil has warmed up.

The spring corn was sown at the end of March but has not yet surfaced (as of second week April). The spring has been a little cold, but not unusually so and

soil is drying out well. The grass is growing remarkably well because of the mild winter and the sunshine will bring out the sugars. Though some may cut a catch crop, most silage cutting will not begin for a few weeks. The price of grain is up since this time last year. Most of the corn produced in Devon is used for animal feed, so whilst those selling are benefiting from the higher price, there is some knock on effect to higher costs of inputs for those buying in.

Basic Farm Payments

Many farmers are still waiting their BPS payments - thankfully not as many as previous years, but for the individual businesses affected, it is causing great stress and worry.

They should now all have received at least 75% of their payment. Many who were paid in full in December are now getting letters saying they were paid too much & need to pay some back!

Others had parts of their farms missing from their payment and were then fined for over claiming and are now going through long appeal processes. The worrying thing for the FCN is that the RPA (Rural Payments Agency) used to have a dedicated stress team who could be contacted if there were particular concerns about a business - this has now been disbanded and the FCN now have to go through a complaints team who cannot highlight to their inspectors to contact us before any contacts/visits are made.

The window for applying for 2017 is now open until mid May, with lots of farmers again finding parts of their farm missing from the computer system & there is no guarantee that the issue will be sorted before the May deadline, meaning more late payments this December.

Brexit

The uncertainty caused by Brexit continues to affect the industry.

One result is that land prices are dropping, which in turn means rents may reduce. However, longer term, lower land prices can mean lower equity to fall back on should there be another downturn as loans tend to be secured against equity. Joanne writes "There is concern for how support payments will change in the future - will there be a change to more conservation and less production?

What funding will be available to help farms become more efficient?

Ideally a market without the need for support would be great, but this would require such a price increase for food, that inflation would rise and this is not what the consumer or government wants.

The uncertainty is also causing fluctuations in feed and other imports as markets try to guess the future and prices going forward. Brexit may provide great opportunities to sell our produce elsewhere in the world and we hope the government and agencies such as NFU will work together to find new markets for our produce which is produced to the highest welfare standards.

What we don't want is cheaper imports which don't meet the same standards flooding the market, which our farmers will not be able to compete with. One of our milk companies, Arla, is a European company & there are concerns what effect Brexit will have on the movement of commodities they make around Europe & the UK which could impact further on the milk price". As well as uncertainty over what type of support will exist for food production post Brexit and what regulations will apply, there is also much concern about whether there will be access to the single market. Farmers were split on the question of Brexit – some hoping for lower levels of regulation and others more concerned about the single market. However, in Devon many farms' profitability is reliant on the Basic Farm Payment, so these questions are deeply concerning. The uncertainty ripples through the whole supply chain and thus many businesses associated with the agricultural market are under financial pressure, which in turn creates all sorts of other family stresses. Further, as the farming business world tends to be quite close knit, and the people one buys or sells from tend to be friends, so the pressure is worse if you can't pay your friend. The interconnectedness which brings such strength can also sometimes be a cause for additional pressure.

Other Concerns

In general farm inputs are rising higher than the cost of inflation. Animal feed, for example, is around 25% higher than the 2015/16 season. The price is continuing to increase, but at a slower rate. Proposals for "Making Tax Digital" which were of great concern to farmers – the process of which is complicated even where there is good broadband. However, these proposals have been dropped from legislation as a result of moving legislation through before the General Election. This will enable more time to put a better system in place. In general, farm finances remain tight. Joanne writes "Generally we are finding finances are tight, with some farmers giving up or letting their farms out - this also gives opportunities to new entrants, but is causing worry to those who don't know any other life but farming. In these cases we can work with RABI who can fund training courses to help with off farm employment. e.g. HGV courses. We also work with the Addington Fund if help to buy housing is required. The financial strain is putting stress on families with breakdowns in relationships. The pressure of work & time may also be partly responsible along with finances for some recent on farm accidents leading to serious injury & death and we are working with the YFC to see how we can improve farm safety, as well as supporting those involved".

To conclude

As Andy said "you don't need loads of money, but you do need enough". And despite the pressures, financial and otherwise, most farmers predominantly enjoy

what they do – producing food and caring for our creation. David commented that “continuing imaginative diversification to improve farm income is also encouraging”. We give thanks for all our farmers, all who work on the land, all who labour to supply what is needed for animal and farm, for vets, doctors, and all who support our farmers, as we pray for God’s blessing on the crops and animals this Rogationtide.

Further information

Farming Community Network FCN helping with business, farming, financial and family issues and our Devon FCN co-ordinator Joanne Jones
email address removed to prevent spamming

Andy Jerrard – Methodist Rural Support Worker and Agricultural Market Chaplaincy Co-ordinator
email address removed to prevent spamming

Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution RABI supporting farming families
rabi.org.uk/contact-us/
email address removed to prevent spamming

Addington Fund providing homes for farming families
email address removed to prevent spamming
Telephone: 01926 620135

National Farmers Union
email address removed to prevent spamming
web site with in depth farming articles

Growing the Rural Church

“Church buildings are at the heart of our rural communities and they can be both a blessing and a burden. The Growing the Rural Church project works alongside local communities to help them find sustainable ways in which our rural church buildings can enable the church to grow in prayer, make new disciples and serve the people of Devon with joy.” Rt Revd Sarah Mullally, Bishop of Crediton

The Diocese of Exeter’s vision for growth includes a major new project, **Growing the Rural Church**. Launched in February 2017, the project works with rural churches and their communities to help find creative ways to ensure growth and sustainability.

Our vision is to help rural Mission Communities grow their mission and in particular develop the use of their buildings in a way which strengthens community partnership and mission.

Backed by a £1 million grant from the Church Commissioners with additional funding from our Diocesan Synod, the project aims to work with 100 rural churches over the next 7 years.

Our project team works closely with the Diocesan Mission and Ministry, Church and Society and Church Buildings teams to offer tailored support to Mission Communities. That support might include:

- Help with reviewing a Mission Community's Mission Action Plan
- Strengthening of community links through community engagement, consultation and collaborative working
- Advice and guidance on fundraising and grants
- Advice and guidance on possible changes to the use and fabric of church buildings
- Bespoke support to develop mission

At present the project team is working on a number of pilots with Mission Communities across the Diocese.

Marian Carson, Project Manager

Marian is a PRINCE 2* qualified project management professional with a background in delivering private sector led, government funded programmes at both local and national levels. She is experienced in community engagement, partnership working and change management. Marian is married to a priest in the Church of England and has two primary-school aged children. The family relocated from London to Devon in 2015 and enjoy the wonderful outdoor spaces found across the county.



PRINCE2 (an acronym for **PRojects **IN** **C**ontrolled **E**nvironments) is a de facto process-based method for effective project management.*

Holsworthy Benefice Services 2017

JUNE

Date	Holsworthy	Bridgerule	Hollacombe	Pancrasweek	Pyworthy
Sun 4 th June Pentecost	10.00 am Holy Communion (SW)	11.15 am Holy Communion (SW)	3.00 pm Evensong Patronal Festival		9.30 am Family Service (LT)
Sat 10 th June	12.00 noon Wedding (SW)				
Sun 11 th June *Trinity	10.00 am Holy Communion (DA)	11.15 am Morning Prayer (LT)			9.00 am Holy Communion (DA)
Thurs 15 th June Corpus Christi	7.00 pm Holy Communion (SW)				
Sun 18 th June Trinity 1	10.00 am Holy Communion (SW)	11.15 am Holy Communion (SW)	9.00 am Holy Communion (SW)		9.30 am Morning Prayer (LT)
Sat 24 th June					3.00 pm Wedding (RF)
Sun 25 th June Trinity 3	10.00 am Morning Prayer (JW)	11.15 am Family Service (LT)		11.15 am Holy Communion (DA)	9.30 am Holy Communion (DA)

Please check the back of the service sheet or the website for any last minute changes

www.holsworthybenefice.org



*With Trinity Sunday in mind:

If asked to define the Trinity, we can only say that it is not this or that. - Augustine

No wonder that the doctrine of the Trinity is inexplicable, seeing that the nature of God is incomprehensible. Our faith must assent to what our reason cannot comprehend, otherwise we can never be Christians. - Francis Burkitt

The Trinity is the basis of the gospel, and the gospel is a declaration of the Trinity in action. - J I Packer

Tell me how it is that in this room there are three candles and but one light, and I will explain to you the mode of the divine existence. - John Wesley

Holsworthy Benefice Services 2017

Provisional Rota for JULY

Date	Holsworthy	Bridgerule	Hollacombe	Pancrasweek	Pyworthy
Sat 1 st July				12 noon Wedding (JL)	
Sun 2 nd July Trinity 3	10.00 am Holy Communion (SW) 6.00 pm Civic Service (JL)	11.15 am Holy Communion (SW)	3.00 pm Evensong (SW)		9.30 am Family Service (LT) 1.30 pm Holy Baptism (DA)
Wed 5 th July	12.00 Pretty Maid Blessing (JL)				
Sun 9 th July Trinity 4	11.00 am End of Fair Week service (Square)	11.15 am Morning Prayer (LT)			9.00 am Holy Communion (DA)
Sun 16 th July Trinity 5	10.00 am Holy Communion (SW)	11.15 am Holy Communion (SW)	9.00 am Holy Communion (SW)		9.30 am Morning Prayer (LT)
Sat 22 nd July					12.00 noon Wedding (KR)
Sun 23 rd July Trinity 6	10.00 am Morning Prayer (MA)	11.15 am Family Service (LT) 6.30 pm Revel Service (Methodist Chapel) (DA)		11.15 am Holy Communion (DA)	9.30 am Holy Communion (DA)
Sun 30 th July Trinity 7 Fifth Sunday	10.00 am Benefice Holy Communion (SW)				

Please check the back of the service sheet or the website for any last minute changes.

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“ “BREATH OF FRESH AIR “

Lung Support Group meets at Chilsworthy Village Hall on 3rd Wednesday of the month ? (usually).

Affiliated to the BRITISH LUNG FOUNDATION

If you suffer from a Respiratory condition such as Asthma or COPD and would like to find out more about your condition amongst people who understand , please come along and join us.

We meet at Chilsworthy Village Hall at 2pm and have a variety of speakers. It is free to attend, we invite a £1 donation for refreshments which covers the cost of hiring the hall.

Please contact Wendy Millar, Group Facilitator, for further details on **01409 254085**

Dates of next meetings.

Wed June 21st Chilsworthy Village Hall at 2pm, the speaker will be Colin Cook from the Bude Memory Cafe.

Wed July 19th Chilsworthy Village Hall at 2pm, the speaker will be Arleen Gould.....A Nurses Story

Wed August 16th Homeliagh Garden Centre. Coffee Shop at 2.30pm where we will a Cream Tea.

All in the Month of June

It was:

80 years ago: on 30th June 1937 that the 999 emergency telephone service went into operation in London. It was the first such service in the world.

75 years ago: on 25th June 1942 that The Daily Telegraph newspaper published the first account of the mass murder of Polish Jews. It reported that Germany had murdered 700,000 already, and that a further 1000 a day were being killed in gas chambers at Auschwitz. It was reported to be 'the greatest massacre in history' yet the story was largely ignored; it only made page 5 of the newspaper, and the other newspapers did not even run it.

60 years ago: on 27th June 1957 that Britain's Medical Research Council reported that there was a cause-and-effect relationship between smoking and lung cancer. As a result, the Minister of Health said he had a duty to warn the public of the risks smokers faced.

50 years ago: on 1st June 1967 the album Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band was released by the Beatles.

Also 20 years ago: on 12th June 1997 that Shakespeare's Globe Theatre opened in London. It is a reconstruction of the original theatre of 1599, located about 230 metres from the original site. (Editor: are there any English Lit. students in your church who would like to write about their visit to the Globe?)

15 years ago: on 3rd & 4th June 2002 that Queen Elizabeth II celebrated her Golden Jubilee.

Also 15 years ago: on 21st June 2002 that the World Health Organisation declared Europe polio-free.

10 years ago: on 29th June 2007 that Apple released the first iPhone.

All in the Month of July

50 years ago: on 1st July 1967 that the European Economic Community, the European Coal and Steel Community and the European Atomic Energy Community merged into a single organisation. Many people regard this event as the creation of the European Union.

40 years ago: on 1st July 1977 that British tennis player Virginia Wade won the ladies' singles championship at Wimbledon. (She remains the last British woman to do so.)

30 years ago: on 29th July 1987 that Margaret Thatcher and French President Francois Mitterand ratified the Treaty of Canterbury – the agreement to build the Channel Tunnel. (Work began 15th December.)

20 years ago: on 1st July 1997 that the sovereignty of Hong Kong was transferred from the UK to China.

Also 20 years ago: on 20th July 1997 that the second IRA ceasefire came into effect in Northern Ireland. This led to the signing of the Good Friday Agreement in May 1998.

10 years ago: on 1st July 2007 that smoking was banned in all enclosed workplaces in England.

June 2017 - Letter from St. James the Least of All

Happily, the Church of England still retains some singular parish clergy. Take the parish of St. James-the-Least in the county of C..... for example. Here the elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to Darren, his nephew, a low-church curate recently ordained...



On a very English sort of family... Throckmarsh Hall revisited

Readers of the St. James the Least letters have asked to know a little about the family history of the characters involved; it is a little unusual...

Many decades ago, Admiral Horatio and his wife the Honourable Mrs Chalfont-Morgan lived at Throckmarsh Hall, Gloucestershire. There they had two children, Eustace and Penelope.

Eustace followed a traditional path: public school, then Oxford. He was something of a disappointment to his father as careers in the armed forces, law or finance were clearly not appropriate to his temperament. Having sung in the school chapel choir and later been an occasional church attender, ordination into the Church of England seemed the only choice.

Eustace served his curacy in one of the more fashionable churches in central London, before becoming chaplain to the bishop of one of our ancient dioceses in southern England. His machiavellian talents made the life of the bishop so much easier that by way of reward, Eustace was comfortably settled into one of the pleasanter parishes in the Cotswolds, where he remained for the next 40 years. His eventual sudden death, the result of an apoplectic seizure, would happen when he read in "The Times" one morning over breakfast that one of his former curates had been appointed a bishop. But that is fortunately still some years off.

Penelope's life was rather different. She was recalled from finishing school in Switzerland to become companion to her mother, on the death of her father while at sea. One day, while running errands in the local market town, she met Jack Crump, a second-hand car salesman from Liverpool. She eloped and they married. Within months, it was discovered that he was already married - to two other ladies. Unfortunately by this time, Penelope was pregnant and later gave birth to her only child, Darren.

One day many years later, Darren was cycling to his work at the local undertakers when he suddenly knew he was being called to ordination. After studying by

correspondence course, he was ordained and served his curacy in an inner-city parish in the North West of England.

His only living relation was his uncle Eustace, who felt a duty to keep an eye on his innocent nephew. The two were less chalk and cheese, more Chateau d'Yquem and draught bitter. Uncle Eustace, with resigned determination, sent his young nephew a series of monthly letters, advising him on all aspects of parish ministry.

Darren later denied that it was these letters that eventually drove him to minister to natives in the remote forests of Brazil, far from any postman...

Some of the High Days and Holy Days in June

4th Whit Sunday – Pentecost

Pentecost took place on the well-established Jewish festival of Firstfruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was exactly 50 days after the Passover, the time of Jesus' crucifixion.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told His apostles that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for his apostles – but He knew they could not do the work themselves – they would need His help.

And so the apostles and disciples waited in Jerusalem, praying together for several days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues – to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the apostles and disciples of Jesus: and the Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian Church that morning: proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000

people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, he could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

11th Trinity Sunday – celebrating our God who is Three Persons

Trying to explain the doctrine of the Trinity has kept many a theologian busy down the centuries. One helpful picture is to imagine the sun shining in the sky. The sun itself – way out there in space – unapproachable in its fiery majesty – is the Father. The light that flows from it, and which illuminates all our lives, is the Son. The heat that flows from it, and which gives us all the energy to move and grow, is the Holy Spirit. You cannot have the sun without its light and its heat. The light and the heat are from the sun, are of the sun, and yet are also distinct in themselves, with their own roles to play.

The Bible makes clear that God is One God, who is disclosed in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit. For example:

Deuteronomy 6:4 'Hear O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one.'

Isaiah 45:22 'Turn to me and be saved... for I am God, and there is no other'

Genesis 1:1-2 'In the beginning God created.... And the Spirit of God was hovering...'

Judges 14:6 etc 'The Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power...'

John 1:1-3 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.'

Luke 24:49 actually manages to squeeze the whole Trinity into one sentence. Jesus tells His disciples: 'I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power (the Holy Spirit) from on high.'

In other words, the sun eternally gives off light and heat, and whenever we stand in its brilliant light, we find that the warmth soon follows. In its brilliant light, we find that the warmth soon follows.

24th John the Baptist – preparing the way for the Messiah

John the Baptist is famous for baptising Jesus, and for losing his head to a woman.

He was born to Zechariah, a Temple priest, and Elizabeth, who was a cousin of Mary, the mother of Jesus. John was born when his mother was advanced in years, and after the foretelling of his birth and the choice of his name by an angel, we hear nothing more of him until he began his mission of preaching and baptising in the river Jordan c27.

John was a lot like an Old Testament prophet: he lived simply on locusts and honey in the wilderness, and his message was one of repentance and preparation for the coming of the Messiah and his Kingdom. He went on to baptise Jesus, at Jesus' firm request.

When John went on to denounce the incestuous union of Herod Antipas with his niece and brother's wife, Herodias, he was imprisoned and eventually beheaded at the demand of Salome, Herodias' daughter.

John is the only saint to be remembered three times in the Christian calendar, in commemoration of his conception, his birth (June 24), and his martyrdom. When John saw Jesus he said that Jesus was the "Lamb of God", and he is the only person to use this expression of Jesus. In art John is often depicted carrying a lamb, or with a lamb near him.

29th Feast of SS Peter & Paul - the two most famous apostles

Some of the High Days and Holy Days in July

22nd July St. Mary Magdalene – the woman with a past by David Winter

Later this month Christians all over the world will commemorate probably the most unlikely saint in the Bible, Mary Magdalene. There was something in her background that has always fascinated people. All we are told about her 'past' is that Jesus had cast 'seven devils' out of her, but on that slender if intriguing evidence she has become the patron saint of 'fallen women'.

Some see her as the woman 'who was a sinner' who washed Christ's feet with her tears at a respectable dinner party. Of that person Jesus remarked that 'she had been forgiven much' and consequently 'loved much'. Whether she was that woman or not, the description perfectly fits her. No one who has heard or read it could surely fail to be moved by her tearful encounter with the risen Jesus in the garden on Easter morning, the man she had taken to be the gardener

revealing Himself in one word, Mary, as her beloved Teacher.

The problem with a good story – and hers is as good as it gets – is that people can't leave it alone. Down the centuries she has been John the Apostle's fiancée until he left her to follow Christ. She has gone with Jesus' mother and the same John to live in Ephesus and died there. In art and literature she has become an alluring, sexual figure, disapproved of by the mother of Jesus. There is no historical evidence whatsoever for any of this. In fact, the Gospels suggest the two Marys were close in their shared devotion to Jesus.

Her popularity is shown in the fact that 187 ancient churches in Britain are dedicated to her, and a college at both Oxford and Cambridge. Whatever the details of her story, we cherish it because it shows that having a 'past' is no reason not to have a future.

27th July The Seven Sleepers of Ephesus – proving a nap is good for you!

Do you tend to avoid conflict? When you feel stressed, do you crave sleep? Then the Seven Sleepers of Ephesus would be good patron saints for you. But - you may find it hard to copy their successful method of avoiding trouble!

Legend has it that The Seven Sleepers were third century Christians who lived in Ephesus during the persecutions of the Roman Emperor Decius. When things got very bad, the Seven Sleepers decided to 'go to ground'. Literally. They found a cave on the outskirts of the city and walled themselves in. The story goes that then God simply put them to sleep.

200 years later they woke up, and peeped out of the cave again. Things had changed: Ephesus had converted to Christianity. Unfortunately the Seven Sleepers did not get much time to enjoy the new freedoms, because within a short time they all died – of extreme old age.

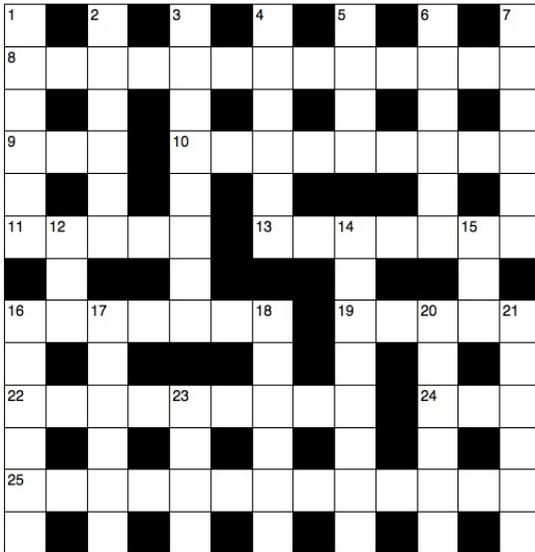
The story was popularised in the 6th century by Gregory of Tours and Jacob of Sarugh, who venerated the Seven Sleepers as saints. But it was challenged by Baronius and many scholars since. It is sometimes called a Christianised pagan or Jewish legend akin to Rip Van Winkle.

A possible moral for anyone today is that when you find yourself in a storm of conflict, you don't have to fight all the battles yourself. You can indeed seek refuge in God. He may not put you to sleep for 200 years, but He will be a safe hiding place for your soul.

The Puzzle Pages

June 2017 Crossword

The solution to this crossword puzzle can be found on page 27



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)

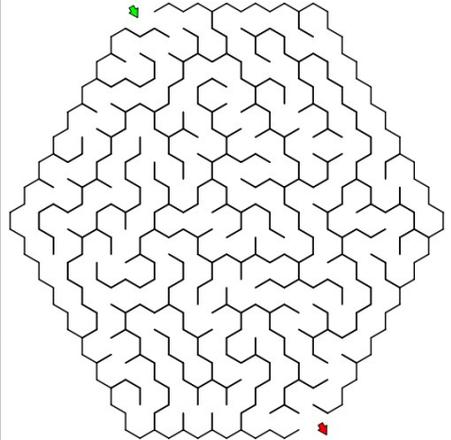
June 2017 Sudoku

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

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June 2017 Maze

Start top left and exit at the bottom right



Solutions to the May 2017 Sudoku

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

Smile Line

The wicked

A little boy had been very naughty and as a punishment his mother told him he would go without his favourite vegetable. He sat down for a meal, his mother served, carrots, corn, - - and? "It's no use waiting," said his mother, "I told you, no peas for the wicked."



Mission Shed Central - a fantastic day of celebrating, affirming and growing renewed and fresh expressions of church in Devon.

Taking place at St Andrews Community Centre, Cullompton on Saturday 15th July, 10am-3pm.
(Coffee & registration from 9.45am)

This promises to be a really good day with keynote speakers Michael Moynah from National Fresh Expressions and Church Army Evangelist Andy Milne.

Choice of workshops during the day. Sandwich van available at lunch time.

Please invite others and either email me directly

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or book online via this link:

<http://exeter.anglican.org/resources/mission/mission-shed-central/>

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Holsworthy Church New Bellingers

Are you interested in ringing
Holsworthy Church Bells?

We would love to meet you and
teach you the skill of ringing.

**Wednesday night is practice
night! (7.30pm)**

Contact: Tower Captain: Mr Ralph
Chapman 01409 253040



June 2017 Crossword Solution

ACROSS:

8, Grandchildren. 9, Pro. 10, Marvelled. 11, Strut. 13, Startle. 16, Babysit. 19, Orate. 22, Eucharist. 24, Map. 25, Commissioners.

DOWN:

1, Egypt's. 2, Favour. 3, Edomites. 4, Thorns. 5, Blue. 6, Armlet. 7, On edge. 12, Tea. 14, Adoption. 15, Lot. 16, Breach. 17, Become. 18, This So. 20, Armies. 21, Expose. 23, Avid.

Some Very Useful Numbers

Primary School	253700
Holsworthy Community College	253430
Connect Youth Worker (Jonathan Schnarr)	
<i>email address removed to prevent spamming</i>	07445 750835
Library	253514
Health Centre	253692
Sports Hall	254013
Holsworthy Visitor Centre	254185
Brownies (M Galjardt)	254727
Guides (Jane Crocombe)	211319
Scouts (Cathy Withall)	254803
Town Clerk	253312
Memorial Hall	255450
Holsworthy Play Group (Dawn Bewes)	253825
Methodist Church	259850
Holsworthy Hospital	253424
Boots the Chemist	255295
Lloyds Pharmacy	253461
Stagecoach South West	01392 42 77 11
National Rail Enquiries	03457 48 49 50
Rev'd Jane Lucas (Ashwater Benefice)	01409 211205
Rev'd Kathy Roberts (Black Torrington Benefice)	01409 231279
Rev'd Richard Freeman (Bradworthy Benefice)	01409 241315
CAB (Citizen's Advice Bureau)	02444 111 444
(Weekdays 9.30 am – 4.00 pm)	
Samaritans	116 123

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