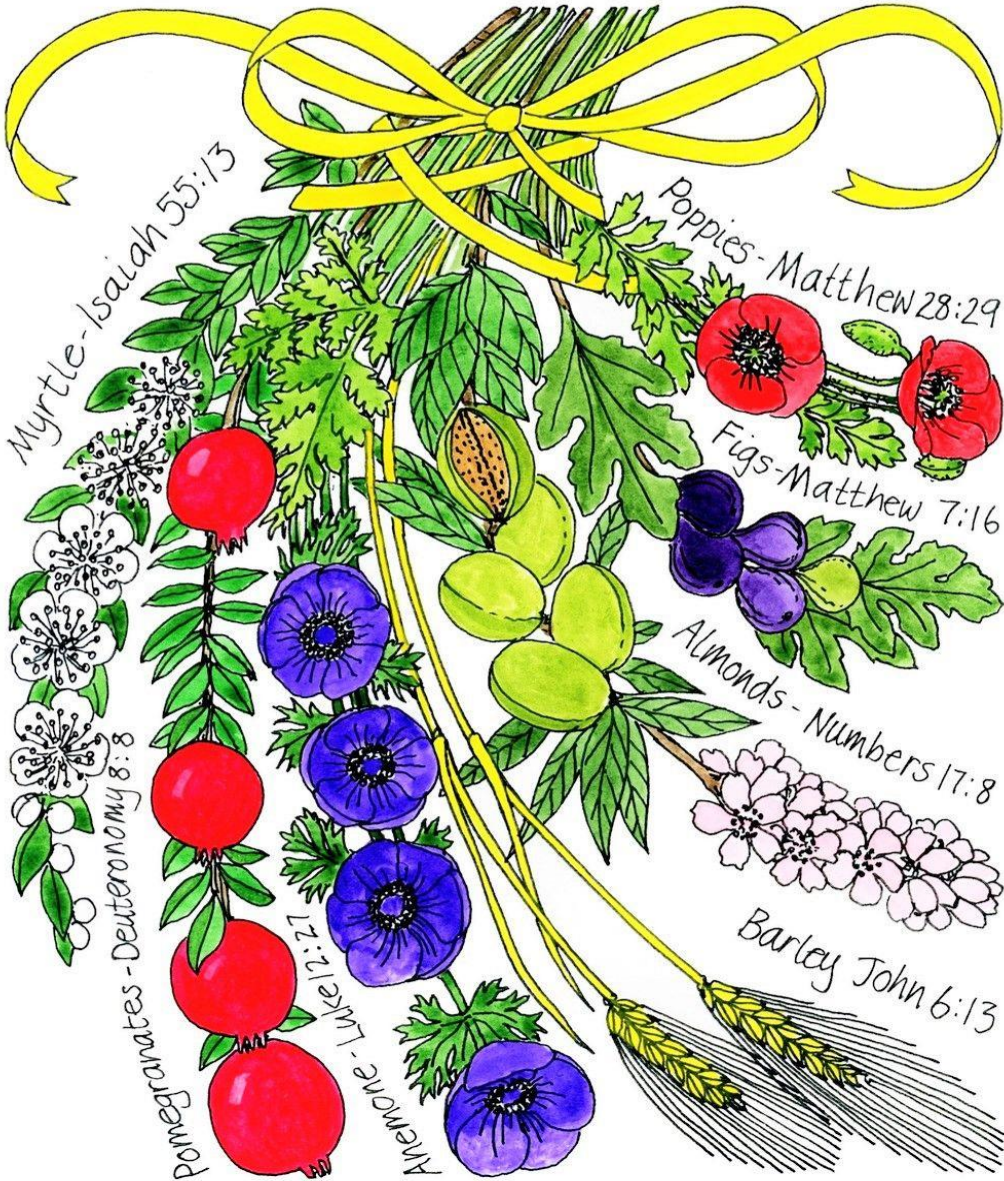


July 2023

Rushen Parish Magazine



Myrtle - Isaiah 55:13

Poppies - Matthew 28:29

Figs - Matthew 7:16

Almonds - Numbers 17:8

Barley John 6:13

Pomegranates - Deuteronomy 8:8

Anemone - Luke 12:12

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From the Editor

In this age of ever changing technology I'm sure that you, like me, find it difficult to keep up. I've just been into Rushen School and into the class of children I have been helping during the past year. Each child, in a small group of six, was holding an iPad and was researching information connected with the project they were studying. I watched them in amazement as they searched for the pages they needed, were able to highlight the text which contained the information, and competent enough to store this in their own internet account where it would remain until it was required. They used the same process when saving pictures or diagrams. The process seemed so easy, and much better than the old days when you first had to find an appropriate book, search through its pages, and then write the information that was of interest. Dare I say it, a time-consuming exercise.

My introduction to computers was the ZX81. This was a tiny box into which you could feed information from a floppy disc, and a very simple game take place where a short line, representing a ball, could be batted over an imaginary net. Alternatively, you could laboriously write hundreds of commands, all of which seemed to be hieroglyphics to me, and end up with another very simple game or task. Of course all this has evolved as time has gone by, and now we have the present situation where the internet seems to rule lots of lives, but can nevertheless be used for information, as the children were practising at Rushen School.

However, it hasn't ended there, because we are now in an age where you can instruct an application (don't ask!) to control devices in your own home, for example, control the heating wherever you may be, even if this is not at home. These applications can also be found on a mobile phone, which is yet another device that has been created to make our lives better. I could go on!

Unfortunately there is a disadvantage to all this because the technology of today also has an evil side. Pornography is easily obtained, information of disrepute studied, and actions taken to ruin the lives of ordinary folk like you and me. People are being scammed at an alarming rate and their hard-earned money stolen by unscrupulous men and women who are greedy to make as much money as they can. When is it all going to end, or is it going to develop even more as time goes by?

Where is God in all this? After all He must be watching us all and despairing over the situation we all face, now and in the future, where technology is involved. Whilst I am totally aware that He isn't controlling those who choose to develop further technologies, even though some of them will have a huge consequence on all of us, some good, and some bad. All we can do is to put our faith in Him and hope that everything that develops in the future will be good for us all and certainly better than it is at present. I recently came across the following statement, it reads: "God has no phone account, but I talk to Him. He has no Facebook account, but He is still my friend. He does not have a Twitter account, but I still follow Him." Perhaps if we, like God, had none of these three accounts, we would be able to concentrate on God's plan for us, and not someone else's plan which could be designed to do us harm and cause unnecessary stress.

David

General Synod dates, and update on 'Living in Love and Faith' groups



The next meeting of General Synod will take place in York from Friday 7th to Tuesday 11th July.

The July meeting will include a substantial item on the proposals, which emerged from the Living in Love and Faith process, to enable same-sex couples who have marked a significant stage of their relationship such as a civil marriage or civil partnership to come to church to give thanks, offer prayers of dedication to God and to receive God's blessing.

Following a landmark debate at Synod in February, a series of implementation groups have been set up to take the proposals forward including refining a set of draft texts known as Prayers of Love and Faith; working on new pastoral guidance for the Church of England and examining what pastoral reassurance will be required to ensure freedom of conscience for clergy and laity.

The Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, and the Bishop of Truro, Philip Mounstephen, the co-chairs of the steering group overseeing the implementation groups, said: "The working groups set up by the College of Bishops to take forward the decision of General Synod on a way forward for the Church of England on identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage have been working at pace and are making good progress.

"We hope that work to refine the texts of Prayers of Love and Faith, together with aspects of the work of the Pastoral Guidance and Pastoral Reassurance groups, will be in place before the meeting of Synod in York in July.

"We will be bringing a report to Synod updating in more detail on the progress that has been made.

"Recognising the complexity of the matters being considered, we anticipate that time could be made available at the November meeting of Synod for any further work required." The next group of sessions will be held in London from Monday 13th to Wednesday 15th November.

The Nervous Nun

"People get nervous when they think that they have to call me 'my Lord', said an Irish bishop. "Especially the poor nuns. One was giving me a cup of coffee. As she pushed the sugar bowl towards me, she said, 'How many lords, my lump?'"

Ladies Working Party – St Mary's



It has been for our group a short month of meetings due to the TT so not a long report . It has been good this month to welcome back Anne, and to have Nita join us as a new member.

We continue of course to pray for all our parish members who are suffering in any way due to health issues or any other adversary.

We are also continuing to discuss our favourite hymns and look at the words in detail. This month's choices have been Margaret's *Let There be Peace on Earth* , Claire's '*Bread of Heaven / Guide me O Thy Great Redeemer*' and Sandy's choice No.32 in the hymn book , *And now, O Father, mindful of the love that bought us, once for all 'on Calvary's tree*. Sandy expounded on why this hymn moves her so deeply especially when it is played prior to Holy Communion, and she moved us with her words.

A decision has been reached about our next 'Coffee Morning/ Fundraiser' which will take place on **Friday 15th September in St Catherine's Hall** , it was felt that this would be the most suitable venue for the event now that Port St. Mary Golf Pavilion is no longer available and port St. Mary Town Hall is considered too costly to hire .

We were very saddened to be advised by letter that the Isle of Man charity FOCC - Friends of Chernobyl's Children, which we have supported in the past, is not able to bring children here for holidays for the foreseeable future, due to the current political situation and practical difficulties.

LWP will be closing for the summer break; the last meeting will be held on 13th July, and we will get together again on Tuesday 29th August.

The group have also had extensive but inconclusive, round table talks about future toilet facilities at St. Mary's, and on a higher note we ended our session last Tuesday, with Gloria's hilarious story about her and her husband getting locked in their bedroom and having to be rescued by the fire brigade .

Note; their bedroom is not ground level and not en-suite . I'm still laughing.

Rev Ginny Viner



Infant Baptism

Pentecost May 2023 Cregneash

We witnessed infant baptism,
At St Peter's recently;
One year old Rosie Bingle,
Was on view for all to see.

The Vicar, in his element,
With a little one to bless,
Conducted this church service,
Of pure joy and happiness.

The sign of the cross was given,
And three times water applied,
To Rosie's consternation,
But she took it all in her stride.

Smiling at all the proceedings,
Filling her family with pride.
There were no tears or protests,
As her face was gently dried.

May this freedom always continue;
Infant baptism to be;
With parents and God-parents,
Bringing their children to thee.

Luke 18 : 16

*Let the little children come to me
and do not stop them; for it is to
such as these things that the
Kingdom of God belongs. (NRSV)*

Margaret Couper



*Rosie's parents were both happy for
this poem to be published*

-6-

MV Logos Hope Making Jesus known to the ends of the earth



The Sheath family , Andy, Becky, and little Elsie, live and work aboard the cruising vessel Logos Hope which travels the seas visiting West and North Africa, Asia, the Balkans and even the Arabian Peninsula. They are on *terra firma* at present as they are awaiting the imminent arrival of their second baby in August.

On Thursday evening 15th June at Mallmore House in Port St Mary we were privileged to hear some of their wonderful, inspiring stories of how God is working through that vessel and all the crew and volunteers on board , to spread the Gospel Message into some of the darkest places in the world. They showed us pictures of the ridiculously long queues of people waiting to visit the vessel on the open days, queues that rival those at Disney World by thousands. Young and old, from all walks of life wanting to see for themselves what the Christian life looks and feels like, what it has to offer.

The crew and volunteers never disappoint, making time for every visitor, telling stories from scripture like the prodigal son to which everyone can relate, making music and fun , sharing and selling books (including Bibles) in a multitude of different languages. Planting seeds into tens of thousands of lives and helping build and strengthen Christian communities in the most unexpected and sometimes dangerous places. I cannot do justice to this presentation in a short space, all I can say is ; The invitation was there for all in Rushen News, if you weren't there, you missed something extraordinary. Thank you Annie and Steve and your home group for making this happen, and Chris and Mary for hosting us at Mallmore.

Ginny

St Mary's Sunday School



Our Sunday School families have all been enjoying the wonderfully sunny weather in June, especially during TT week. However, we are also grateful that (at the time of writing) God is once again blessing fields and gardens with much needed rain.

At the end of May, we finally got to finish our series of lessons on Joshua with the Battle of Jericho (Joshua 6) - a very unusual type of battle, because the Israelites did not need to use any weapons to win this fight; all they had to do was to obey and exactly follow God's unusual instructions! God told Joshua that He would give the city of Jericho to the Israelites as a gateway into the Promised Land. All they needed to do was to walk around the city walls once every day for 6 days, carrying the Ark of the Covenant (symbolising God's presence with them), blowing trumpets, and on the 7th day walk around the city walls 7 times in a similar fashion. At the end, they were to stand still and give a loud shout in praise of God - and when they had done all that (exactly as God had instructed), the city walls just collapsed around them and they were able to take the city of Jericho and enter into the Promised Land! Isn't God amazing?!! However, Joshua did not forget about Rahab who had hidden the spies, and they brought her whole family to safety.

The children very much enjoyed acting out this amazing event. We made trumpets for the priests to blow, as we marched around the city walls made from cardboard boxes, with two of the dads carrying our home-made golden Ark of the Covenant. And when we had finished our 7th round on the 7th day, as if by magic, the walls all collapsed (ably aided by Cameron from inside the 'city walls!'). Praise the Lord! The children then built up the walls again and knocked them down themselves, as they thought about something that might be like a wall in their own lives, something difficult that only God could help them to overcome.

Our June all-age service was led by our vicar Joe and focused on the calling of Matthew the tax collector, symbolic of the wide variety of people Jesus called to be his disciples. Jesus welcomed people from all walks of life with all kinds of sinful pasts, and he invited them to follow him and be transformed by his love for them. As the Sunday School sang in their song: "Jesus never, never, never turned anyone away!" We are all called to be just as welcoming and loving to the people around us, especially those rejected by others, those feeling lonely and unloved.

The Sunday School did a brilliant job in acting out the gospel reading, which included the calling of Matthew as well as the healing of a woman and Jesus raising a dead girl back to life! (Special thanks to David B, Peter F and Peter H for their help with being the 'noisy crowd!') The children also led the congregation in prayers of intercession. Many thanks to all who helped with reading, acting and singing!

Our last meeting in June was on Fathers' Day. As well as making cardboard trophies for the dads, we talked about various fathers in the Bible (and their children), eg Abraham and Isaac, Jacob and Joseph, and played a game of Fathers' Day Bingo! We also thought about the various qualities of God our Father, eg that He loves us and is always with us everywhere, as we were matching up daddy animals with their babies. We finished our session by sewing beautiful rainbow-coloured flowers for our Flower Festival display at Kirk Christ (7th-13th July) on the theme of the musical 'Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat.'

We are now looking forward to our June Messy Church gathering on Port Erin beach (weather permitting) as well as our Sunday School Anniversary on 9th July and our annual Sunday School Picnic on 16th July.

Love and blessings, Claudia



**News from St Catherine's
&
Kirk Christ**



Kirk Christ and St Mary's continue to worship together whilst St Mary's is being re-ordered. The congregation increased during TT fortnight with visitors joining it. As usual they were made very welcome. The all-age service, on the second Sunday of the month, included a dramatisation of the Gospel reading with both children and adults. The next major event will be the Flower Festival commencing on 7th July. Stewards are needed to cover sessions each day between 10am – 1pm and 1pm, and also cakes are required to sell with refreshments. Sign-up sheets can be found at the back of our three operational churches. Please help if you can. The grounds of St Catherine's Church was the venue for the Rotary Club of Western Man on 17th June when seven bands entertained locals and visitors to Port Erin. St Catherine's held its all-age service on the following day when Rev Ginny Viner delivered a wonderful Christian message to everyone including the younger members of the congregation. On Saturday 24th June Messy Church was held. It was the last session before the summer break. It will return in September.

A very big thank you is due to everyone who supported the Quiz in St Catherine's Church Hall on 16th June. The hall was full with ten tables being occupied. Thanks too to David Bowman who organised the quiz, and to Jude Sille who ably helped him with the scores and generally running about collecting and delivering the questions and answers throughout the evening. Sylvia Wightman and June Davies helped with the raffle. Thanks too for those who donated prizes and especially one member of the congregation who donated the star prize of a £50 Marks and Spencer Gift Card. £290 was raised towards parish funds. The fish/sausage and chip supper was well received. The next quiz will be held on 17th November.

Gerry Callister

Sudoku July 2023

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

Bathroom tidy

Constant nagging didn't seem to provide any relief from having to clean up the bathroom after each of my three teenage children. After I cleaned it one day, I resorted to posting a sign that read: 'Please leave the bathroom as you found it'. Then I noticed the bathroom was in the usual mess after my son used it, so I called sharply: "Brian, how did you find the bathroom?" After a brief pause, he replied, "Straight down the hall, first door on the right."

June Sudoku Solution

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

June Crossword Solution

C	A	R	E		P	A	R	A	D	I	S	E		
O		E			R		F	O				D		
N	U	L	L		P	R	O	F	A	N	E	D		
F	I		A		E		L	A				Y		
L	E	G	A	L	I	S	T	I	C					
I		I		L		T		C		P		A		
C	L	O	S	E	D		S	T	O	R	E	S		
T			N		G		A		I		E	S		
					M	I	S	S	I	O	N	A	R	Y
S		D		A		O			N		C		R	
C	O	V	E	N	A	N	T			T	H	A	I	
O		L		C		O					E		A	
T	R	A	D	E	O	F			E	D	E	N		



75 years of the National Health Service

It was 75 years ago, on 5th July 1948, that the National Health Service (NHS) began operating – formally opened at the Park Hospital in Manchester, now renamed Trafford General.

The National Health Service Act provided for the establishment of a comprehensive health service for England and Wales. (Separate legislation was produced for Scotland and Northern Ireland.)

The Minister of Health at the time was Labour firebrand Aneurin Bevan, but the NHS came into being through the efforts of many others as well – notably Conservative Sir Henry Willink, who was Minister of Health in the Coalition government in 1944. His White Paper laid down all the basic elements of an NHS – that no-one was excluded, and that healthcare was free and based on need, not the ability to pay.

But the origins of the NHS went back many years, starting perhaps in the early 1900s, with socialist Beatrice Webb's Minority Report of the Royal Commission on the Poor Law. It aimed to get away from the workhouse system, where those with no resources were expected to look after themselves. The report was dismissed by the Liberal government.

Strong ideas in the same vein had also come from biochemist Dr Benjamin Moore, from Liverpool, who is also credited with first use of the words "National Health Service". A novel called *The Citadel* by D J Cronin (also a doctor) drew attention to the inadequacies of health care at the time of its publication in 1937.

In the end, the NHS was based to a large extent on the Beveridge Report, published in 1942. William Beveridge was a Liberal politician, economist and social reformer who also had a strong interest in eugenics – the aim of improving the human race by controlling reproduction.

Tim Lenton

Bathroom tidy

Constant nagging didn't seem to provide any relief from having to clean up the bathroom after each of my three teenage children. After I cleaned it one day, I resorted to posting a sign that read: 'Please leave the bathroom as you found it'. Then I noticed the bathroom was in the usual mess after my son used it, so I called sharply: "Brian, how did you find the bathroom?"

After a brief pause, he replied, "Straight down the hall, first door on the right."

In Appreciation of William Byrd



Four hundred years ago, on 4th July 1623, William Byrd, the English Renaissance composer, died. Regarded as one of the greatest of all British composers, he is best known for his sacred music.

However, he wrote in many of the forms current in England at the time, and his many-faceted but unique music is still popular today, having received a resurgence of enthusiasm in the past century.

Byrd was born into a musical and quite wealthy London merchant family, and became a pupil of Thomas Tallis at the Chapel Royal, whose mainly vocal music has also survived to the present day.

Byrd became a Roman Catholic in the 1570s, when it was dangerous to do so, but he was so admired by the music-loving Queen Elizabeth that she gave him protection. Even so, he was still fined heavily for refusal to attend Anglican services – as was his wife Juliana Birley, with whom he had a long marriage, producing at least seven children.

Byrd did compose sacred music for Anglican services – two of his pieces were used in the Coronation service this year. His total output of about 470 compositions were distinctive, but he raised church anthems and the Anglican service setting to new heights, together with consort songs – some perhaps using the poems of Norfolk landowner Sir Edward Paston.

Despite being in some ways an awkward man, frequently involved in legal disputes, he was respected by musicians and non-musicians alike, known for his integrity and loyalty. He died at an advanced age (no-one is sure of his birth date) at the London home of the Earl of Worcester.

Tim Lenton

Summer Concerts – St Catherine’s Church – July 2023

<i>6th July 2023</i>	<i>Meadowside Choral Society</i>	<i>7.45pm</i>
<i>13th July 2023</i>	<i>Onchan Silver Band</i>	<i>7.45pm</i>
<i>20th July 2023</i>	<i>QEII High School Wind Band</i>	<i>7.45pm</i>
<i>27th July 2023</i>	<i>Lon Vane Ladies Choir</i>	<i>7.45pm</i>

Admission Free

Retiring Collection

Refreshments

Reflecting faith – the Pulpit



Editor: The Revd Dr Jo White continues her series.

The pulpit is one of the four most obvious pieces of 'furniture' in a church; the others being the lectern, altar and the font.

Today the pulpit is where the preacher stands to give the sermon during a service. It is generally raised higher than the chairs or pews, so the preacher can be seen more easily by the congregation. Pulpits often have a 'sounding' board canopy above them, so that the words may 'resound' more audibly.

The pulpit may be simple or heavily ornamented; engraved with pictures and/or words in a creative manner. There are examples of some pulpits which require the preacher to climb up over a dozen steps to reach the preaching platform, while others have only five or six steps.

In Anglican churches they are likely to be situated between the nave, where the congregation sits, and the chancel, where the choir or church leaders sit. In Methodist chapels, pulpits are normally centrally placed, often above the altar.

In bygone generations, the pulpit was used for all sorts of announcements. Without any microphones, it was better to use a raised area from which to address people.

So the pulpits were used not only by priests for preaching, but also by the churchwardens for notices. The pulpit was also where Marriage Banns were called, excommunications were pronounced, and indulgences were advertised.

In fact, pulpits were not much used for sermons before the Reformation! This is because the clergy in those days were required to preach only four times a year.

Most commonly, the pulpit was used for the bidding prayers. These, partly in English, were said for the leaders of the Church, the King, the governing orders, the people, special needs, and, finally, for those parishioners who had paid to have their names read out.

This month

Have a close look at your church's pulpit. What does both the pulpit itself and the sermons that you hear from it reflect about your faith?



Spiritual Disciplines: Solitude

Editor: Continuing our series by Canon Paul Hardingham. This runs throughout this year.

'Solitude is a time when we withdraw from the company of others in order to give God our undivided attention' (John Ortberg).

The spiritual discipline of *solitude* is about spending time alone with God, to grow in relationship with Him and hear Him more clearly. This practice was a priority in Jesus' life and ministry, especially at crucial moments eg *'Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where He prayed'* (Mark 1:35).

Solitude is not so much about what we *do* as what we *don't* do! If we want to hear God, we need to consciously shut out the external noise in our lives and focus on the quiet inside us. If we are honest, this can be a real struggle. We want to do it, but other things can so easily get in the way: distractions, tiredness, jobs that need doing, wandering thoughts etc. Solitude gives us an opportunity to enjoy God's presence, as somebody who we really want to spend time with.

Richard Foster (*'Celebration of Discipline'*) suggests some ways in which we might grow in this discipline:

'Little solitudes': small everyday moments to seek inner silence eg, coffee times, travelling to work and time spent outside.

Quiet place: having specific places where we go to be quiet, eg a room or special chair in our home.

Retreat: organising a retreat where we can have time in silence and solitude.

We need to plan carefully how we use our time with God, including silent listening, meditating on Scripture, prayer, journaling, taking a meditative walk, or listening to a worship CD.

'If we possess inward solitude we do not fear being alone, for we know that we are not alone.' (Richard Foster)



All in the Month of July

400 years ago, on 4th July 1623, William Byrd, English Renaissance composer, died. Regarded as one of the greatest British composers, and best known for his sacred music.

175 years ago, on 7th July 1848, Waterloo railway station in London opened.

125 years ago, on 30th July 1898, Henry Moore, British sculptor and illustrator, was born. Best known for his monumental semi-abstract bronze sculptures.

100 years ago, on 13th July 1923, the Hollywood Sign was officially dedicated in Hollywood, Los Angeles. (It was originally erected as a temporary advert for a housing development called Hollywoodland.)

80 years ago, on 25th July 1943, Britain's RAF bombed the Fokker aircraft factory in Amsterdam.

75 years ago, on 5th July 1948, the National Health Service (NHS) began operating.

65 years ago, on 26th July 1958, debutantes were presented at the British royal court for the last time.

60 years ago, on 1st July 1963, the British government revealed that intelligence officer Kim Philby was a long-term Soviet spy and that he was the 'third man' in the Cambridge spy ring. On 30th July the Soviet Union announced they had granted him political asylum. **Also, on 12th July 1963**, the Moors murderers, Ian Brady and Myra Hindley, killed their first victim, 16-year-old Pauline Reade, on Saddleworth Moor.

50 years ago, on 30th July 1973, pharmaceutical companies in the UK agreed to pay more than £20 million in compensation to about 400 children who were born with birth defects after their mothers took thalidomide during pregnancy.

25 years ago, on 15th July 1998, during the second Sudanese Civil War, both sides declared a ceasefire because of the famine. It lasted until April 1999, then the war continued until 2005.

20 years ago, on 27th July 2003, a team from the BBC reported that the Loch Ness monster did not exist. They had combed every inch of the loch using 600 sonar beams guided by satellite navigation, and still found nothing. The search operation was covered in the documentary, *Searching for the Loch Ness Monster*.

15 years ago, on 31st July 2008, NASA reported that its Phoenix Mars Lander had found frozen water in a soil sample taken from two inches below the surface of Mars.

10 years ago, on 19th July 2013, Mel Smith, British comedian and screenwriter, died. Best known for the TV comedy series *Not the Nine O'clock News* and *Alas Smith and Jones*.

Church School Test



For a church school exam, young children were asked questions about the Old and New Testaments. These were some of the (real) results...

1. In the first book of the Bible, Guinness, God got tired of creating the world, so He took the Sabbath off.
2. Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark. Noah built an ark and the animals came on in pears.
3. Lot's wife was a pillar of salt during the day, but a ball of fire during the night.
4. The Jews were a proud people and throughout history they had trouble with unsympathetic Genitals.
5. Sampson was a strong man who let himself be led astray by a Jezebel like Delilah.
6. Samson slayed the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles.
7. Moses led the Jews to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.
8. The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up to Mount Cyanide to get the ten amendments.
9. The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.
10. The seventh Commandment is thou shalt not admit adultery.
11. Moses died before he ever reached Canada. Then Joshua led the Hebrews in the battle of Geritol.
12. The greatest miracle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still, and he obeyed him.

Boy Choristers

The boy choristers of Broughton Parish Church are on the Island in the last week of July. They will sing evensong at Kirk Christ on Wednesday 26th July, 6.30pm and also at St Peter's Cregneash on Sunday 30th July 3.15pm. Broughton Parish Church is one of the finest church choirs in the North West of England.

Michael Porter



From the Registers

Funerals May/June 2023:

23 rd May	Joan M Budd	Burial	RBG
30 th June	Barbara Qualtrough	Kirk Christ	Service and Burial RBG

Graduation?

There were so many graduates waiting to receive their degrees that day, that speed was of the essence. Presenting their diplomas, therefore, the Chancellor simply smiled and said: "Congratulations, keep moving."

Actually, that is good advice for all of life, and for your Christian life as well.

If you've discovered the reality of God's love for yourself, you deserve congratulations, for in a very real sense, you have arrived...but keep moving! - there is so much more that God has in store for you! St Paul in 2nd Timothy said: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day...."

So, wherever you have reached in your own faith pilgrimage, congratulations, but keep moving!

Safeguarding

The Parish of Rushen is committed to the safeguarding, nurture and care of **everyone** within our church community. If you, or someone you know, are concerned that a child or vulnerable adult is at risk or has been harmed, or are concerned about the behaviour of someone towards children or vulnerable adults, please contact:

Rushen Parish Safeguarding Officer, Voirrey Baugh (Tel. 832275)

The **Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser** has now been appointed. For more details contact the diocese.

A copy of the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy is available on the Diocesan website: http://www.sodorandman.im/safeguarding_inclusion



Rushen Mothers' Union



The Rushen branch of the Mothers' Union meets from September to April each year on the second Monday of the month. It meets in St Catherine's Church Hall from 2.00pm. Meetings last approximately an hour and a half. Every meeting begins with a short service and this includes a favourite reading by one of the members. Each month a talk given by an invited speaker. This can cover a range of interesting and current topics. The first meeting is held in Kirk Christ and includes Corporate Communion

Anyone is welcome to attend one, some or all of the meetings. It might state 'Mothers' in its title but the welcome is extended to men as well. At the bottom of the page I have indicated the programme of events for 2023/2024. Below I have written an insight into the work that the Mothers' Union covers which was found on its website.

'The Mothers' Union is a Christian organisation that has been supporting families worldwide for over 140 years. It was founded by Mary Sumner in 1876 in her local parish, and it has grown into an international charity with over 4 million members in 84 countries. As a Christian membership charity, it demonstrates faith in action. This happens as it works towards stopping poverty, stopping inequality and stopping injustice. Members work at grassroots level around the world. They bring hope and practical support to millions of people every year through parenting, literacy and community development programmes.'

Programme for 2023

Monday 11th September 2pm

'Corporate Communion'
Led by Rev. Roger Harper

Monday 9th October 2pm

'Housing Matters' – Speaker Karl Brew

Monday 13th November 2pm

'We Care IOM' – Speaker Cheryl Cousins

Monday 11th December 2pm

'Christmas Party'

Programme for 2024

Monday 8th January 2pm

'Chair Yoga'
Led by Jane Gunn

Monday 12th February 2pm

'Valentine Activities'

Monday 11th March 2pm

'Isle Listen' – Speaker T.B.A.

Monday 8th April 2pm

'Strings to my Bow'
Speaker Father Brydon

Please do consider joining us – it's good informative fun and wonderful fellowship!

Lesley Scott

God in the Arts



Editor: **Michael Burgess** continues his look at great works of Christian art.

'He gave us eyes to see them'

**'Herdsman with Cows by a River'
by Albert Cuyp**

'What is this life, if full of care, we have no time to stand and stare?'

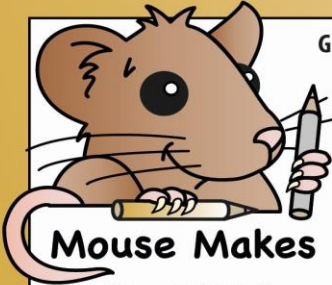
Those words of W H Davies provide the theme for this year. The paintings chosen celebrate creation in all its wonder and diversity, and we are encouraged to take time to look anew and so become aware of the author of that creation. But this month it is the other way around as we sense the animals looking at us in 'Herdsman with Cows by a River' painted in 1650 by the Dutch artist, Albert Cuyp.

It is a very ordinary scene of nature. Yet there is a radiance and a tranquillity that strike us as we see the herd of cows standing in the still waters. Around them there is a lot of movement: birds fly in the sky, boats are sailing off into the sunset and two fishermen are busy at their work to the left of the canvas. But the cows and their herdsman are quiet and contented, relishing this moment of the day closing, and contemplating the world going by. And two of those cows seem to be looking out into our own world. In many of Albert Cuyp's paintings the sun bathes each scene in a golden light. Here the clouds are gathering in the sky as the sun sinks down in the west, but there is still a glowing calmness brought by the light of the sky above.

In this month of July we are probably planning holidays. Some holidays can be a frenetic rush, others are those occasions when we simply sit back and relax, letting what we see around us bring refreshment and renewal. It is the way we are encouraged to savour the joy and delight of Scripture in what is called *lectio divina*. Monastic teachers compared it to cows grazing in the field. They pointed to four stages: *Lectio* – we take a bite of scripture; *Meditatio* – we chew on that word; *Oratio* – we savour its flavour and nourishment; and *Contemplatio* – we digest its goodness to feed body and soul.

The herd of cows in Albert Cuyp's painting have spent the day doing just that – grazing and ruminating in the fields nearby. The herdsman has brought them to the river to relax in the water. Soon they will take the journey home to the farm and the safety of the cowshed. Tomorrow will bring them the opportunity to graze anew in the gift of another day. Walt Whitman wrote in one of his poems, 'I think I could turn and live with animals, they are so placid and self-contained, I stand and look at them long and long.' As we stand and look at the cows in this painting, perhaps we may realise that whether at work or on holiday, in Sunday worship or Bible reading at home, God can feed us through His world around and in His word in Scripture. As long as we take the time and the care to savour the delights that He offers us.

Children's Page



Goliath, the champion of the Philistine army, taunted the Israelites.

"Choose a man to fight with me and if he kills me then we will be your servants!"

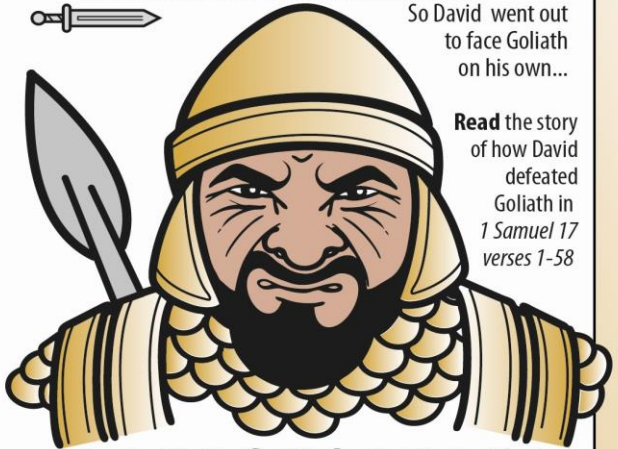


The Israelites were afraid, but **David**, a shepherd boy who had come to bring food to his brothers on the battlefield said:

*"The **Lord** who delivered me from the lion and bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."*



So David went out to face Goliath on his own...



Read the story of how David defeated Goliath in *1 Samuel 17 verses 1-58*

Where did Goliath come from?



 1 Samuel 17:4

How tall was Goliath?



_____ cubits.
 1 Samuel 17:4

What was Goliath's armour made of?

 1 Samuel 17:5,6

What weapons did Goliath carry?



a JAVELIN,
 a _____
 and a _____
 1 Samuel 17:45

How many stones did David take from the stream?



 1 Samuel 17:40



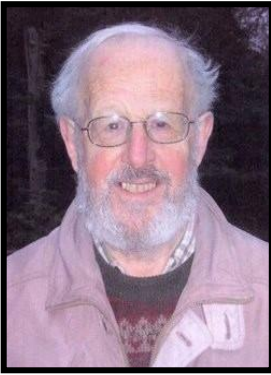
Where did David's stone hit Goliath? On his _____

 1 Samuel 17:49

I L A D E S W O R D B K L
 P A C A M P L I O N A D B
 H I F I V E S L I N G A R
 I T L E B A T T L E O V O
 L E B E A R J A V E L I N
 T S S I X M K H C F I D Z
 S T A F F O R E H E A D E
 T R U I I U P L A L T L G
 O U L S G R I M M L H O O
 N C P R H S H E P H E R D
 E K G A T H I T I D E D O
 S H I E L D G R O U N D M
 P H I L I S T I N E S O U

ISRAEL • SAUL • DAVID • LORD • GOD • PHILISTINES • BATTLE • CAMP
 CHAMPION • GOLIATH • HELMET • ARMOUR • JAVELIN • SHIELD • FIGHT • BEAR
 LION • SHEPHERD • STAFF • STONES • BAG • SLING • STRUCK • HIT • FELL • GROUND

The Story Behind the Hymn



Glory in the highest

Glory in the highest
to the God of heaven
Peace to all your people
through the earth be given!
Mighty God and Father,
thanks and praise we bring,
singing hallelujah
to our heavenly king.

Jesus Christ is risen,
God the Father's Son!
With the Holy Spirit,
you are Lord alone!
Lamb who died for sinners,
all our guilt to bear,
show us now your mercy,
now receive our prayer.

Christ the world's true Saviour,
high and holy One,
seated now and reigning
from your Father's throne:
Lord and God, we praise you!
Highest heaven adores:
in the Father's glory,
all the praise be yours.

Author: Christopher Idle based on
Gloria in Excelsis

Editor You will probably recognise this hymn as we often sing it during our Holy Communion services, as the 'Gloria'

Christopher Idle (b. 1938) was born in Bromley, Kent, England. He studied English Language and Literature at Oxford, and Theology at Bristol. He was married to Marjorie in 1963 and ordained in the Church of England in 1965. They had several years in rural parishes, but most of their ministry has been in inner London, including two spells in Peckham where they now live.

Christopher's hymn texts appear in around 150 books worldwide, and were collected in 1998 in 'Light upon the River' (Hope, with St. Matthias Press, 1998). He has served on several hymnal committees, and spoken and written widely on hymnody, including presentations to both the British and North American Hymn Societies.

A member of the Jubilate Hymns team, all of his texts are represented in North America by Hope Publishing and nine of them appear in the index of their new hymnal *Worship & Rejoice* (2001).

Rushen Parish Prayer Diary



*Lord Jesus Christ, you have said
that you are the Way, the Truth and the Life.
Do not allow us to stray from you,
who is the Way,
not to distrust you, who is the Truth,
nor to rest in anything other than you,
who is the Life. Amen*



July 2023

This is your invitation to pray day by day for:

- 1st Children with special needs and their families
- 2nd Peace between peoples of different faiths
- 3rd The ability to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves
- 4th The NHS and its tireless work in catching up after the coronavirus pandemic
- 5th Tynwald and the festivities taking place today
- 6th Those who work in the legal profession, and the work they do for everyone
- 7th Local organisations for children and young people
- 8th Those known to us who are unwell and need our prayers
- 9th Families hoping to spend part of the summer on holiday abroad or in the UK
- 10th Those who give help to vulnerable people
- 11th The PCC meeting being held this evening in St Catherine's Church Hall
- 12th The environment, and how we can ensure that it is not polluted by our waste
- 13th The kindness of those who keep in touch with the vulnerable and the lonely
- 14th Fair trade and sustainable development in the third world
- 15th The charitable work undertaken by many of the island's organisations
- 16th Those who give of their time to help those who are less fortunate than themselves
- 17th The work of the Salvation Army
- 18th The Diocese of Sodor and Man and its links with parishes within its boundaries
- 19th The work of retreat houses and places of pilgrimage
- 20th Food and clothing for those afflicted by war and famine
- 21st Single parents, teenagers living alone and families on low incomes
- 22nd Chaplains in the armed forces, hospitals and prisons
- 23rd All pets and the pleasure they give to so many both young and old
- 24th Farmers as they look forward to the harvest of their crops
- 25th The people of Ukraine who have lost everything and seem to have no hope
- 26th Those who have been bereaved recently or remembering the death of loved ones
- 27th Family life throughout the world
- 28th Those who have died for their faith in Jesus Christ
- 29th Those who work in the holiday industry and the difficulties they are experiencing
- 30th Victims of abuse, cruelty, and violence
- 31st Children and students enjoying their break from school or college

Services July 2023

2nd July (Trinity 4)	10am	Kirk Christ/St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
9th July (Trinity 5)	10am	Kirk Christ/St Mary's All-Age Service
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
16th July (Trinity 6)	10am	Kirk Christ/St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's All-Age Service (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
23rd July (Trinity 7)	10am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)
30th July (Trinity 8)	10am	Kirk Christ/St Mary's Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)

St Mary Magdalene 22nd July
Patron of repentant sinners

It is easy to understand the popularity of Mary Magdalene over the centuries: she is the patron saint both of repentant sinners and of the contemplative life.

Jesus drove seven demons from Mary, who came from near Tiberius in Galilee. She became His follower to the bitter end. She followed Him to Jerusalem and was present during the crucifixion, standing heart-broken at the foot of the cross. Her love for Jesus did not end there, for she went to the tomb to anoint His body on the Sunday morning.

Such faithful, humble devotion was richly repaid; it gave her a unique privilege among all mankind: she was the first person to whom the Risen Lord appeared on Easter Sunday morning. She thought He was the gardener at first.

Mary Magdalene has sometimes been identified with the woman who anointed Christ's feet in the house of Simon (Luke 7:37). Over the centuries many artists have painted this scene. Mary Magdalene's feast has been kept in the West since the 8th century. England has 187 ancient churches dedicated to her, as well as a College in both Oxford and Cambridge.

Contact Details for Rushen Parish cont'd....

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St Mary's Ladies Working Party

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(Mobile: 07808254356 email: lesley@pharmaconsulting.co.uk)

St Mary's Hall Bookings:

Mr G Callister, 60 Ballamaddrell, Port Erin 474924/834627

St Catherine's Hall Bookings:

Mr & Mrs G Callister, 60 Ballamaddrell, Port Erin 474924/834627

Web Site/E-mail:

www.rushenparish.org.uk

rushenparishorg@gmail.com

Magazine Editor

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Ballafesson, Port Erin

e-mail: dbow43@manx.net

Articles for the magazine should be submitted to the editor no later than 20th of each month. This arrangement is subject to change.

Parish Director of Music:

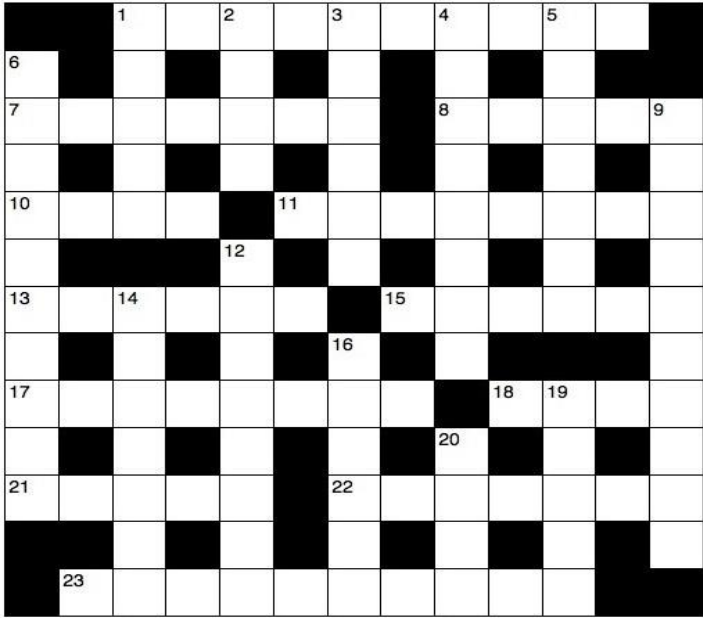
Mr M D Porter, 10 Fairway Drive, Rowany, Port Erin 832143

Churchyard Enquiries:

Please contact Mr Harry Dawson: 478050/835770

or Mr G Callister: 474924/834627

Crossword July 2023



Across

- 1** Relating to the Jewish day of rest (10)
- 7** Point of view (Matthew 22:17) (7)
- 8** 20th-century Brethren philanthropist whose construction company became one of the UK's biggest, Sir John — (5)
- 10** Girl's name (4)
- 11** Peter was accused of being one in the courtyard of the high priest's house (Luke 22:59) (8)
- 13** The fifth of the 'seven churches' (Revelation 3:1-6) (6)
- 15** 'Now the famine was — in Samaria' (1 Kings 18:2) (6)
- 17** Banned by the seventh Commandment (Exodus 20:14) (8)
- 18** Insect most closely associated with itching (1 Samuel 24:14) (4)
- 21** Bantu tribe which gives its name to tiny landlocked country in southern Africa (5)
- 22** Familiar material in churches that use an overhead projector (7)
- 23** Last book of the Bible (10)

Down

- 1** The young David's favourite weapon (1 Samuel 17:40) (5)
- 2** 'Your vats will — over with new wine' (Proverbs 3:10) (4)
- 3** Once yearly (Exodus 30:10) (6)
- 4** Milled it (anag.) (3-5)
- 5** Region north of Damascus of which Lysanias was tetrarch (Luke 3:1) (7)
- 6** Comes between Philippians and 1 Thessalonians (10)
- 9** Lake where the first disciples were called (Luke 5:1-11) (10)
- 12** Abusive outburst (8)
- 14** Are loud (anag.) (7)
- 16** Printing errors (6)
- 19** 'Take my yoke upon you and — from me' (Matthew 11:29) (5)
- 20** Jacob's third son (Genesis 29:34) (4)