



April
2024

Rushen Parish Magazine



**You abundantly water the ploughed fields,
You settle
its furrows and soften the earth
with showers. You bless its growth. Ps 65:10**

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Mrs Wendy Heaton
Mr Harry Dawson

Active Clergy

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Rev John Gulland
Rev Ginny Viner

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From the Editor

Many of you will know that I have just returned from a holiday to both South Wales and Kent. This was a delayed visit as I had planned to go away last year, but it coincided with my hip replacement operation and I was unable to travel. Apart from seeing my family I had hoped to use my three and a half weeks away to remember things that were dear to me in both destinations, after all they were places that both Pauline and I treasured when we were together.

My time in Wales was somewhat shorter as I only spent five days there. However, my son and daughter-in-law were at work during the day so I had time on my hands to explore, and to catch up with them in the evenings. The Welsh countryside is beautiful and travelling through villages, and visiting old haunts, made we realise how lucky we all are to have such God given places. Much rain had fallen in the previous weeks before I arrived and the fields were green and trees showing signs of new life. Kent, however, is equally beautiful in different ways, and my three weeks there, living in a farm cottage, was just idyllic. I would be woken up each morning by two female donkeys who thought nothing of braying so loudly at 7.30 am to ensure, like them, that everyone else should be up and about.

It was lambing time, and on my arrival only a few had been born. By the time I left the ewes had all given birth and the lambs were frolicking around their mothers eager for a drink, as well as running here and there, and jumping up and down like the one we see in the opening credits of 'Songs of Praise' each a Sunday. Again much rain had fallen and the fields were a lush green and vegetation beginning to show signs of re-growth. Once again I visited old haunts, and of course my son's grave. I also spent a pleasant afternoon with the staff of the school where I was headteacher. This brought back memories of 22 years of amazing stories we most of us had shared, and to hear of the successes of the children we taught. An enjoyable time was had with my family in Kent, seeing my great granddaughter and meeting the mother of my next great granddaughter who will be born in June, a memory which I will treasure.

The holiday was both wonderful and nostalgic. I'm 81 now and have no idea of what God has planned for me. For the past month He gave me an opportunity to see His creation, to meet people I have worked with and loved for many years, to spend time at my son's grave, to see my families, and to see the world He has given us for free. Let's cherish what we have and thank Him for the world we have, and not to destroy it as so many people in this day and age seem to want to do.

David

Natalie's Family and Youth Ministry Adventures in Rushen Parish

Hello Rushen Parish, I am absolutely thrilled to share with you my adventures in the Parish!



Stars!

Your prayers for the recent Stars event, for years 3 and 4 students, were deeply appreciated. The day was incredible! I got to spend the day with students from Rushen and Scoill Phurt Le Moirrey, looking at what Christians believe and what they believe. It was heartwarming to deepen connections with both the children and the teachers. A big thank you to all who volunteered!

Youth in Action

At our last Messy Church, I had the pleasure of working alongside a dedicated young volunteer whose enthusiasm for their role was amazing. Witnessing our young people actively engaging in the church fills me with hope for the future! Let's continue to pray for their journey and strive to create more opportunities for their involvement.

Community Conversations

This month, I had the privilege of hosting parents from St Cath's to talk about their thoughts about church and their aspirations for their families. The openness and honesty displayed during this time was really enriching and has provided invaluable insights for our work ahead. I am truly grateful for their willingness to share.

Acts 29 - because we are the next chapter

This month has been a whirlwind! We have explored Jesus' life through the Bible and a song! We have been on a trip to hot rocks, joined by the youth group 3 Gen. And to end the month we are finishing up by having a residential, run by SUMT, all about Easter! What a Jesus' filled and fellowship filled month we have had! I look forward to next term when we will be inviting year 6's to join the crazy that is Acts 29! Thank you so much for your continued prayer and support! God Bless

Natalie Heaton

YEAR 6'S
WELCOME FOR THE
SUMMER TERM

ACTS 29

Because we are the next chapter

UPCOMING DATES

- 19th April 2024
- 26th April 2024
- 3rd May 2024
- 10th May 2024
- 17th May 2024
- 24th May 2024

7-8:30pm at St Mary's Church in Port St Mary

Ladies Working Party – St Mary's



We are delighted that our St Mary's Warm Space 'Coffee and Chat' mornings, are gaining in popularity. We have now added some new attractions to the Monday morning get-together with simple activities such as board games and simple jigsaws. Peter has kindly made an eye-catching board for the church gate, inviting passers-by to come in for coffee between 10 and 11.30am. We are the only place available in Port St. Mary on a Monday morning where one can sit down and enjoy a hot cup of coffee in a warm place, and for a

suggested donation of £1. It's really Good News for the village. We would also love to see anyone from the parish family join us for these sessions, and bring a friend so that we can get to know one another better. This could then become Rushen Parish outreach!

On to other March business.....

On 5th March we hosted an open afternoon, with speaker Michael Hardie from the Leprosy Mission who gave us a very interesting, illustrated talk, and an update on the mission's current focus. The LWP have made a donation of £300 towards the work of the mission.

The stamp collection for the Bone Cancer Research Trust has been hugely successful and we have received bags full of used and new stamps, now we just have to trim them before posting!

On 10th March we celebrated Mothering Sunday. On the day before the Sunday service in church, Margot and Violet made posies of daffodils and greenery (kindly sourced by Henry). The posies were distributed to the congregation by the Sunday school children during a delightful service led by Margaret Galloway.

Our weekly meetings have been well attended, and our prayers have been numerous for all the afflicted and hurting in the parish. At our 12th March meeting we had a lively discussion around the importance and relevance of the Ten Commandments, we also discussed completing the Parish Survey and the latest Safeguarding requirements for church members in various roles. Ginny has volunteered to sit and help any member who needs assistance completing the online safe-guarding course.

Diary Date: LWP Fundraising Coffee Morning, St Catherines Hall on Friday 26th April, an event not to miss!

Rev Ginny Viner



St Mary's Sunday School



Share God's Word

and how we can show these qualities to others in our words and actions. As none of us are perfect, we all need help from God to grow in these areas, but our parents can also help us. The children made beautiful hand-flower pictures for their mums, each thanking their mum for helping them grow in some of these qualities.

We have had a busy March, with Mothering Sunday and Easter being in the same month. Our first session in March focused on preparations for our Mothering Sunday all-age service, especially the reading from Colossians 3:12-17. To illustrate the idea of 'clothing' ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, and love, we had great fun dressing Evan in all these qualities from head to toe! We talked about the meaning of some of the words

Our joyful Mothering Sunday service was led by Margaret Galloway. She told us about the history and origin of Mothering Sunday by sharing the story of her auntie Edith, who was sent away to live and work 'in service' when she was only 8 years old! Margaret explained that Mothering Sunday would be the only day off for servant girls like Edith, a day to go home to their mothers (as well as to their mother church). As it was traditional to bring flowers home to their mothers as a sign of love and thankfulness, Margaret encouraged the children to make a flower from a variety of craft materials she had brought along and to give it to their mums or someone else who has shown them love and kindness... the flowers all turned out very nice indeed! As Margaret then talked to the adults about the Colossians reading (which was read by Thomas), it was Margot's turn to be wrapped in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience... and love!

The Sunday School sang "Thank you for the love that our mums give to us each day" and led the congregation in "He's got the whole world in His hands," accompanied by percussion instruments and Lukas on the mandolin. They also read out prayers of thanksgiving and intercession, and Megan did the gospel reading. At the end of the service, the children gave out beautiful daffodil posies, which had been lovingly prepared by the ladies from St Mary's with help from Violet and Margot. Many thanks to all who contributed to this uplifting service, including Jill Collings on the organ, and to those providing refreshments for us all afterwards.

The following Sunday we went on a journey through Holy Week, from the Palm Sunday celebration via the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday and the crucifixion on Good Friday to the glorious resurrection on Easter Day! We enjoyed retelling the story with the help of 12 'resurrection eggs' (each containing a small item relating to the Easter story), and it was once again wonderful to see how much the children remembered! (Margot told us that at St Thomas' Primary School their headteacher washed their feet last week, and then the children washed his feet!)

We waved palm branches and sang "We have a King who rides a donkey;" we shared tortilla bread and blackcurrant juice, as we remembered Jesus' words to His disciples at the Last Supper; we remembered Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane and His painful sacrifice for us on the cross on Good Friday... before we rejoiced in the wonderful resurrection on Easter Day! Halleluia! Jesus is alive!

The children also did a lovely stained glass effect Easter cross craft, and we made another beautiful small Easter garden which will be displayed in St Mary's Church.

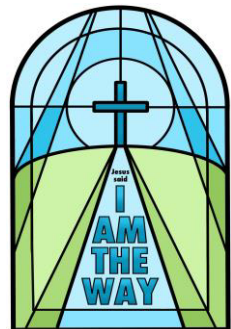
Wishing you all a blessed Eastertide,
full of joy in the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Claudia



Answers to the Easter Quiz in the March Parish Magazine

1. All the chief priests and elders
2. Judas
3. 30 pieces of silver
4. Bound Him and handed Him to Pilate the governor.
5. Threw the money into the temple and hanged himself.
6. Are you the King of the Jews?
7. Barabbas
8. To proclaim that he was innocent of Jesus' blood
9. Simon of Cyrene
10. This is Jesus, the King of the Jews
11. From noon until three
12. My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?





News from St Catherine's & Kirk Christ



The Mariner's Service at Kirk Christ was once again well attended with the choir in full voice. The ladies served the refreshments all of which were provided by members of the four congregations. I would like to give a huge thankyou to everyone involved. Altogether £424 was donated to the parish.

The Mothering Sunday posies were beautiful and put together by the ladies of the church, and donated once again by Stan and Pam Clucas. We do thank them for their generosity.

Soup Inn at St Catherine's was again well supported. All the soups on offer were enjoyed posies were put together by ladies who worship at St Catherine's. They were made up of daffodils which looked so bright with their variety of shades of yellow.

My thanks to everyone involved.

Gerry Callister

Answers to last month's quiz *Books of the Bible: 'Numbers'*

- Question 1: 36
- Question 2: In the wilderness
- Question 3: The numbering of God's people
- Question 4: 40
- Question 5: Levi
- Question 6: The ground opened up and swallowed them
- Question 7: Because he struck the rock instead of speaking to it
- Question 8: A brass serpent
- Question 9: Two
- Question 10: The Aaronic blessing



Parish Of Rushen Concert
at
St. Catherine's Church, Port Erin
by
Manx Saxophone Ensemble
on
Thursday 25th April 2024
at 7.45pm

Admission Free
Retiring Collection

Sudoku April 2024

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

Long prayer

A friend took her small daughter to church. The vicar’s prayer had gone on for several minutes when suddenly a small voice piped up: “Has he forgotten how to say Amen?”

March Sudoku Solution

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

March Crossword Solution

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

The Easter Glow



Editor: *In the aftermath of Easter, we consider the Road to Emmaus.* Adapted from the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity website.

For three years Jesus had held the tiny band together, through journeyings, storms and opposition. And now – following a public trial and execution – He was gone.

Take away the dominant figure, and an organisation can quickly crumble. Take Theudas, an earlier messianic claimant. Once killed, his 400 devotees melted away. Then there was Judas the Galilean. When he, too, was removed, the movement scattered.

Now, it was Easter Day. Here were two disciples walking to Emmaus. As far as they were concerned, their leader was dead. The ‘scattering’ process had already begun. It had started on that fateful Thursday evening of Christ’s arrest, when Jesus had quoted to His disciples from the prophet Zechariah: “It is written ‘I will strike the shepherd and the sheep of the flock will be scattered’” (Matthew 26:31).

The dream was over. “Let’s go home - back to Emmaus.” *Yet Luke 24 is the glowing account of the entire re-building of a worldview.* As the apparent Stranger joins the two, it was like the uncorking of a bottle; the story pours out. Surely *crucifixion and the future Redeemer of Israel had nothing to do with each other!*

Then began a fascinating Bible study on the road. In their studies, the two had skipped the passages that spoke of a suffering Messiah. The Stranger says, “Let me fill in those bits for you.” Now the figures of a Conquering King and a Suffering Servant begin to coalesce into a single photo fit. Then, at supper with the two, comes the familiar action of the breaking of bread, and – *Why.... it’s Jesus.*

The disciples rush the seven miles back to Jerusalem. They can’t keep the glowing news of the risen Christ to themselves!

If Jesus had not been bodily raised from the grave, the demoralised movement – like those of Theudas and Judas the Galilean - would have folded within days. And you and I would never have heard of Him!

Heaven

Seen in a parish magazine: “We shall be meeting on Wednesday, when the subject will be ‘Heaven - how do we get there?’ Transport by bus is available at 6.45pm opposite the King’s Arms.

Reflecting Faith: Easter Sepulchres



*Editor: **The Revd Dr Jo White** considers a very ancient feature found in some churches*

Over the last few months we've been looking at churchyards, grave memorials and the lychgate where the coffin may be rested on its entry.

This month we are going inside the church building to find a different, and only really found in older churches that have survived re-ordering and renovations: the Easter Sepulchre.

A sepulchre is essential a place of burial – a tomb – but in churches it can also be a receptacle for religious relics.

Easter Sepulchres can be very grand affairs. I'm aware that many writers say that they are constructed in wood, but I have only seen stone ones. They can be plain or intricately carved. They can be low to the ground or reaching up to the roof. Each style, of course, reflects both the richness and generosity of the patron, as well as their theology.

Some have 'layers' of carvings, with the angels at the top, then the patriarchs, followed by the Fathers of the Church and so on. Others are quite simple and almost plain.

They are normally set into or against the northern side of the sanctuary in which stands the altar, and which is traditionally considered to be the 'holiest' place in a church building.

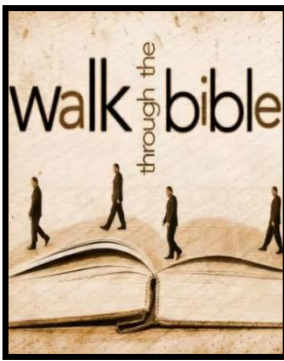
Their use is given in their name – on Good Friday, some consecrated bread and wine and often a crucifix (rather than an 'empty' cross) is placed inside it and people take it in turns to 'stand watch' until Easter Sunday morning, when it is taken out with great ceremony and often paraded through the building. The reason is to reflect the death of Christ, His being placed in a tomb and His subsequent resurrection.

Today's ceremonies are usually less ostentatious, and whilst folk often take turns keeping watch on the Maundy Thursday, reflecting the disciples being asked to stay awake whilst Jesus went and prayed alone in the Garden of Gethsemane, less is made of the Sepulchre watch.

The items are simply removed before any Easter resurrection service takes place, either on Easter Saturday evening or early Easter Sunday morning.

This month

See if you can find an Easter Sepulchre near you. Look at the decoration and consider all the different symbolisms it is trying to convey. If you cannot find one, then think what you would want to convey today?



**What's the Big Idea?
An Introduction to the Books of
the Old Testament:
Deuteronomy & Joshua**

Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham continues a new series which will run for the next two years.

The setting for these books is Israel's entry into the promised land after 40 years of wanderings in the wilderness. Deuteronomy gives us Moses' addresses on the plains of Moab, as the Israelites prepare to enter Canaan. The book of Joshua recounts the crossing of the Jordan and the victories that give the people control of Canaan.

The theme of Deuteronomy is God's covenant and his call for His people's obedience, loyalty, and love. The '*shema*' (Hebrews: 'hear'), expresses this response to God: '*Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.*' (Deut. 6:4-6).

The book contains instruction on how to live intentionally as God's people in response to His love and mercy. Total loyalty to God is also crucial, with the worship of any other gods being totally rejected. It is also widely quoted in the NT e.g. Jesus' temptations (Deut. 8:3, 6:13, 16).

The book of Joshua, with its description of the conquest of the land and the destruction of cities and peoples, reminds us that God's love and purposes for us are worked out in the messes, storms, and sins of our daily lives. As God says Joshua: '*Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.*' (Joshua 1:9).

Joshua ('*The Lord saves*') is the same name as Jesus Himself. Jesus overcame all powers of evil to bring God's people into their eternal 'rest' (Hebrews 4:1-11).

Quiz on the book of Joshua

1. Whom did Joshua succeed as leader of Israel? Jacob, Aaron, or Moses	2. What was the name of Joshua's father? Carmi, Nun, or Eleazar
3. To what city did Joshua send two men to spy upon? Jericho, Ai, or Gilgal	4. What was the name of the woman who hid the spies Joshua sent? Rachel, Rahab, or Rebekah

<p>5. How many stones did the Israelites take from the dry river bed of the Jordan?</p> <p>7, 12, or 40</p>	<p>6. Once the Israelites had entered the Promised Land, what happened in the days after they had celebrated the Passover?</p> <p>God stopped providing manna, Joshua apportioned land to each tribe, or The Amorites attacked them</p>
<p>7. What did the captain of the Lord's host command Joshua to do?</p> <p>Gather his army against Jericho, Build an altar to the Lord, or Take off his sandals</p>	<p>8. How many priests were chosen to carry the rams' horns as they marched round Jericho?</p> <p>3, 7, or 70</p>
<p>9. What was the name of the man who violated God's command not to plunder anything from Jericho?</p> <p>Phinehas, Zabdi, or Achan</p>	<p>10. The Gibeonites tricked Joshua into making a covenant of peace, but as what did he make them serve the Israelites?</p> <p>Woodcutters and water-carriers, Brick makers and messengers or Stone-carriers and armour-bearers</p>
<p>11. What natural phenomenon helped Joshua defeat the Amorites?</p> <p>Sandstorm, Earthquake, or Hailstones.</p>	<p>12. What was the only tribe not to receive an inheritance?</p> <p>Levi, Reuben, or Manasseh</p>
<p>13. How old was Caleb (one of the original twelve spies) when he was given Hebron as his inheritance?</p>	<p>14. What tribe was given a portion of Judah as their inheritance?</p> <p>Ephraim, Simeon, or Benjamin</p>
<p>15. For what sin were the cities of refuge created?</p> <p>Accidental murder, Theft, or Adultery</p>	<p>Good Luck! Answers in May's magazine</p>

All in the month of April



300 years ago, on 7th April 1724 the German composer Johann Sebastian Bach's St John Passion was performed for the first time, at a church in Leipzig. **Also on 22nd April 1724** Immanuel Kant, the German philosopher was born. One of the leading philosophers during the Age of Enlightenment.

200 years ago, on 19th April 1824 Lord Byron died. One of the greatest British poets and a leading figure in the Romantic movement, he died of sepsis/fever while fighting for Greek independence from the Ottoman Empire. Aged 36.

175 years ago, on 10th April 1849 American mechanic Walter Hunt was granted a US patent for his invention of the safety pin. He immediately sold the rights for \$400, which is about \$12,000 today. The company he sold it to made millions from it.

150 years ago, on 5th April 1874 Johann Strauss II's operetta Die Fledermaus was performed for the first time, in Vienna.

125 years ago, on 29th April 1899 Duke Ellington, American jazz/swing pianist, composer, and orchestra leader, was born.

100 years ago, on 23rd April 1924 the British Empire Exhibition opened in Wembley, London.

90 years ago, on 3rd April 1934 British inventor Percy Shaw patented the Cat's Eye reflective road stud. He set up a company to manufacture them in 1935 and in 1937 he was awarded a government contract to mass produce them for national use.

75 years ago, on 7th April 1949 the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical South Pacific was opened in Broadway.

70 years ago, on 7th April 1954 in a news conference about Communism in Indochina, US President Dwight D Eisenhower explained his 'domino theory'. He said that if one country in a region came under the influence of Communism, then the countries surrounding it would follow. He and later presidential administrations have always believed this.

60 years ago, on 15th April 1964 twelve men convicted of conducting the Great Train Robbery in England in August of 1963 were jailed for a total of 307 years. They were given some of the longest sentences in British criminal history.

50 years ago, on 6th April 1974 the Swedish pop group ABBA won the Eurovision Song Contest with their song Waterloo. It was the first time that Sweden won the contest. ABBA went on to be one of the most successful groups in music history.

40 years ago, on 17th April 1984 British police officer Yvonne Fletcher was shot dead during a demonstration outside the Libyan Embassy in London. This led to an 11-day siege by the police.

30 years ago, on 26th April 1994 the first post-apartheid multiracial elections were held in South Africa, with 18 million black people eligible to vote for the first time. Nelson Mandela was elected president, and took office on 10th May.

25 years ago, on 5th April 1999 Libya handed over to the United Nations two suspects in the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie. They were taken to the Netherlands.



Don't be afraid of clouds

Have you ever sat and watched the clouds drift by? Some of them are vast, towering up and up into the sky.

There can be clouds of discouragement and suffering in our lives as well, circumstances that temporarily blot out the sunlight of God's love for us. You may have such a cloud hanging over your life right now. You may be in a hospital bed, or suffering discouragement, fear, despair, or bereavement.

Have you ever noticed that sometimes, when you board a plane, the sky is like a thick grey ceiling? It looks impenetrable. But the plane does not hesitate - it climbs steadily onward and upward straight into the cloud. And what happens? Nothing! The cloud cannot block your progress, it must give way before you.

The simple truth is, you may not be able to *see* through clouds, but you *can go through them*. The plane uses navigational aids for guidance, and we have the Holy Spirit to guide us through the darkest times. And finally, we emerge through the cloudbank, and there before us is a sun-drenched sky of blue and golden glory, far above the dismal and disappointing things far below.

Whatever cloud is hanging over you at present, whether suffering, discouragement, fear, there IS something you can do about it NOW. Pray – pour out your heart to the Lord about it. He has promised that His grace will be sufficient for anything that we encounter in this life.

And – look up. Look towards heaven, *think beyond* those clouds, and remember His promise that the sufferings we may be undergoing *here* are nothing compared to the glory that God has prepared for us *there*.

The Bible assures us: 'The Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly. O Lord Almighty, blessed is the man that trusts in you.' Psalm 84: 11-12

Parish Pump

Who is he?

A musical concert was about to be performed in a prison. The Governor was talking to a titled lady guest, explaining that the orchestra was made up of murderers, embezzlers, and other hardened criminals. The lady then pointed to a man in the corner, holding a trombone. "He looks a tough customer," she whispered. "Whatever has HE done?" The Governor paused and smiled. "Ah, actually, he is the chaplain."

From the Registers

Funerals March 2024:

7 th March	Mona Peyton	10am	Ashes Burial	RBG
15 th March	Tony Eales	2pm	Cremation	
18 th March	Peter Sansbury	11am	KC Service & Burial	RBG
21 st March	Margaret Kinley	11am	Burial	RBG
25 th March	Annie Watterson	11am	Graveside Burial	

RBG – Rushen Burial Ground KC – Kirk Christ

Seasick

It was discovered on a cruise that a clergyman was a bad sailor. Another passenger, a judge, found him leaning over the rail of a ship as it swayed to the heavy roll of the sea. “Can I do anything for you?” asked the judge, with sympathy.

“Yes,” pleaded the clergyman. “Overrule the motion.”

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,
Rhiannon Manning (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

National Mills Weekend

11th & 12th May 2024

KENTRAUGH MILL

This ancient mill is open:

Saturday 11th May 10am – 5pm

Sunday 12th May 11am – 5pm

Come and see it running

Donations to the USPG

Enquiries: 832406

Entry at own risk

Rushen Mothers' Union



We had an excellent meeting this month with guest speakers Emma and Gareth from the Isle of Man charity Isle Listen. This is a charity which helps all ages, particularly young people, to cope with the mental health challenges of the 21st century and they try to reduce the stigma attached to mental health. Emma talked about their use of intervention strategies in schools as they go into all the secondary schools and provide a listening ear for any student who needs one. There is an

extremely long waiting list for the NHS services of CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services). Whilst they can't treat children in crisis, they do have a short-term government contract to take some of the less urgent cases. There is a growing demand for help and support with mental health and Isle Listen is aiming to become self-sustainable but with only two short term contracts they are still reliant on fund raising and the generosity of the public.

Gareth had us really thinking about who and how we could help people within our own community told us about community signposting options of some of the many groups on our Island who could help and support people in distress. Lists are on the Isle Listen website and some leaflets have been left in St Catherine's Hall.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks from Julia Vanderpump followed by tea and biscuits. Thanks must go to Elsie, Jane and the other kind ladies who provided our refreshments, to Sue Bould for a lovely reading of a poem by Margaret Couper and to our musician Iris for choosing and playing our hymn.

The next meeting will be on Monday 8th April at 2pm in St Catherine's Hall when Father Brydon will come to talk about 'Strings to my Bow'. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

Other dates for your diaries:

- 4th April/2nd May/23rd May/13th June** the next Metamorphosis courses 2pm at The Abbey Church Hall in Ballasalla
- 19th March** Spring Council and AGM St John's Hall, 6.30 for 7pm (the MU stall will have Easter cards, if anyone wants any please contact Lesley)
- 17th April** Festival Service. 2pm at St John's Church
- 7th May** Trustees meeting (there are vacancies for trustees, if you are interested please see Lesley)
- 12th May** Kirk Michael 100th Branch Anniversary Service at 10.15am
- 20th June** Quiet evening St Mark's church.

Lesley Scott



God in Music

Editor: *The Revd Michael Burgess* continues his series looking at great works of music.

‘Glorious the song when God’s the theme’: Allegri’s *Miserere*

In the 1980s thanks to Godfrey Smith, a columnist for The Sunday Times, there was a series of letters about particular pieces of music that have the TQ – the Tingle Quotient. As we listen, the music sends a shiver of excitement up and down the spine and opens out for us a new world of beauty and wonder.

The letters started with a novelist writing about his travels across the Sahara. In moments of desolation and loneliness he would think of music that meant the most to him and which he thought he might never hear again. Then a teacher in Rochester wrote of a production of ‘Romeo and Juliet’ where the funeral scene virtually brought the house down. Juliet entered a darkened school hall, lit only by glimmering candles with music sung that brought the audience to tears.

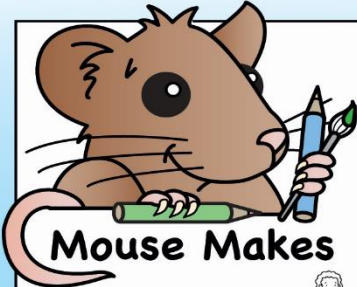
For both novelist and teacher, the work that had that TQ factor was Allegri’s *Miserere*. It provided consolation in the cold desert nights, and it created the impact in that production of Shakespeare’s play. Other readers supplied their list of TQ music, and always the *Miserere* was in the top five. I suspect that this music strikes the TQ for many of you as well.

Why is it, I wonder? We can provide an answer by talking of the contrast between the plainsong sung by the men’s voices and the responses from the choir that lead to that small group of solo voices where the treble or soprano reaches a high C and comes down the scale to the cadence. We can point to the intriguing history of this work for the setting by Gregorio Allegri (1582-1652) was the exclusive possession of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican. To copy the music was a crime punishable by excommunication.

In spite of this, a 14-year-old Mozart heard the piece in 1770 and wrote it down from memory, paying another visit to verify some of the notes he had copied down. The Emperor, Leopold 1, the king of Portugal, persuaded the Pope to grant him a copy. When it was performed in his own imperial chapel, he was disappointed. He even thought the Pope had palmed him off with an inferior work. Then he realised that the beauty and magic of the music lay in its being sung in the Sistine Chapel where the plainsong and the high C cadences could ring out among the pillars and arches of that great building.

The *Miserere*, or Psalm 51 is the heart-felt cry of the Church for mercy. As one of the penitential psalms, it is a very personal expression of sorrow for sin and a moving appeal to God for mercy and restoration. In Allegri’s setting that high C is reached as the individual acknowledges his sin, and again as he cries for mercy and finally as he proclaims that his tongue will sing of God’s grace and righteousness. A single voice in the music scales the heights of heaven to represent all of us as we turn to God with that same awareness of sin, that same plea for mercy, and that same affirmation that we will then turn to God with thanksgiving and the offering of a humble and contrite heart. And so with the psalmist and with Allegri, we can pray ‘Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness.’

Children's Page



Mouse Makes



How many times had the risen Jesus revealed himself to the disciples before this?

Read John 21:14



How many disciples were there? Who were they? Read John 21: 11

How many fish did they catch? Read John 21: 11



Some time after Jesus had risen a few of His disciples met together to go fishing. They fished all night but caught nothing. As the sun rose a man on the shore asked; "Have you caught anything?" "Not a thing" they answered.

He said to them "Throw your net out onto the right side of the boat and you will catch some." So they did and they and they caught so many fish they could not pull in the net.

Then John recognised the man, "It is the Lord!"



READ the story in John 21

WATER I F DAY C W
 R I G H T A N I I B O A T Y
 J O H N D S S O C S I N
 M S H C B N T B A
 T S E A H I I R O J E T
 I S I M O N P E T E R H
 L A N D R G L A H S I A
 F O J K M E H E D I U A N D
 B R E A K F A S T N S S A
 D F I S H U N I G H T E
 C A U G H T L D O F U L L

DISCIPLES • TIBERIAS • SEA • SIMON PETER • THOMAS • NATHANAEL • JOHN • DAY FISHING • BOAT • NIGHT • CAUGHT • NOTHING • WATER • SHORE • FISH • CAST • NET RIGHT • FIND • HAUL • LORD • FULL • LAND • FIRE • BREAD • BREAKFAST • JESUS

Colour in all the fish

The Story Behind the Hymn



Tell Me the Old, Old Story

Tell me the old, old story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love. Tell me the story simply, as to a little child, for I am weak and weary, and helpless and defiled.

Refrain: *Tell me the old, old story, tell me the old, old story, tell me the old, old story, of Jesus and his love.*

Tell me the story slowly, that I may take it in, that wonderful redemption, God's remedy for sin. tell me the story often, for I forget so soon; the early dew of morning has passed away at noon.

Refrain:

Tell me the story softly, with earnest tones and grave; remember I'm the sinner whom Jesus came to save. Tell me the story always, if you would really be, in any time of trouble, a comforter to me.

Refrain:

Tell me the same old story when you have cause to fear that this world's empty glory is costing me too dear. Yes, and when that world's glory is dawning on my soul, tell me the old, old story: "Christ Jesus makes thee whole."

Refrain:

Arabella Katherine Hankey (1834-1911) was born into a family both devout and prosperous. As to religion, they were Anglicans of the Clapham Sect, a group of Christians under the influence of William Wilberforce, one of England's leading abolitionists and proponents of missionary work.

At age eighteen, Kate moved to London to teach a Bible class for factory girls, and continued that work for more than a decade. Then at age thirty she became seriously ill. She was forced to cease work and endure bed rest for a year. During that time, she wrote a very long poem—one hundred verses.

After she recovered from her prolonged illness, the speaker at a large convention quoted parts of her poem. William Doane (1832-1915) happened to be in the audience and was entranced by the poetry. Doane was a successful businessman who happened to love Christian music. During his lifetime he composed the music for hundreds of hymns, and edited a number of hymn collections.

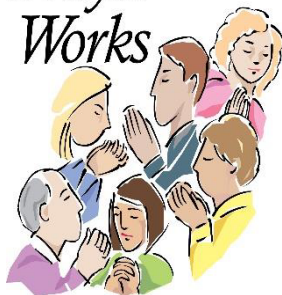
Upon hearing Kate's poem, Doane was inspired to use part of it as the basis for the hymn, "Tell Me the Old, Old Story."

Later, William Fischer did something similar with another part of Kate's poem. The result was the hymn, "I Love to Tell the Story."

After recovering from her illness, Kate resumed her teaching ministry with factory girls. Toward the end of her life, she began a prison ministry. Her life bore testimony to the fact that she loved both to hear and to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

Richard Niell Donovan

Prayer Works



Rushen Parish Prayer Diary

Dear Lord, we thank you for the seasons and the changing weather we experience in each one of them. We look forward to the warmer weather now that April is here, for the spring flowers and the changing countryside that you have created for us to enjoy. Help us to realise that without you none of these things would occur. Amen

Prayer Works



April 2024

This is your invitation to pray day by day for:

- 1st The beauty of springtime and the new life that it brings to us all
- 2nd The countryside of the Isle of Man given to us by God when He created the world
- 3rd Gerry Callister for all his work as churchwarden, and his devotion to the parish
- 4th Engaged couples preparing to be married this year
- 5th The work of the Royal Lifeboat Institution in its aim to save lives of people in distress
- 6th The gift of love, given to us by God
- 7th Our sidespeople who work tirelessly for the parish
- 8th All the work conducted by those involved in the parish with the Mothers' Union
- 9th Our Lord's resurrection and the hope of our own eternal lives
- 10th Those who have served the parish for many years and now reside in care homes
- 11th The responsibility given to people who care for those who are terminally ill
- 12th The use of talents, given by God to us, as we pursue our daily lives
- 13th All people who are persecuted for their beliefs
- 14th Help for all those around the world who are hungry
- 15th Peace throughout the world
- 16th Those who intercede at all services within the parish
- 17th Children who have been orphaned and their hope for the future
- 18th The work of teachers and their assistants in our primary and secondary schools
- 19th Those who decorate our churches with floral displays
- 20th Those people in need of financial help in times of trouble
- 21st All those who attend the home groups that are arranged within the parish
- 22nd Those elected to positions of responsibility on the Parochial Church Council
- 23rd St George, the Patron Saint of England, who is remembered today
- 24th Farmers and farm workers, preparing the land for profitable harvests
- 25th The Children's Society and the wonderful work that it does
- 26th Stephen Curtis for all the work he's doing as Treasurer to the PCC
- 27th Young sportsmen and women preparing to partake in sporting activities
- 28th Parishioners and others who give of their time to keep our churches clean
- 29th People who are moving to a new house either here on the island or across the water
- 30th The tourist industry and the preparations being made for the summer months

Services April/May 2024

31 st March (Easter Sunday)	6.30am	Kirk Christ Dawn Service
	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
7 th April (Easter 2)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
14 th April (Easter 3)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's All-Age Service (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
21 st April (Easter 4)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
28 th April (Easter 5)	11am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)
5 th May (Easter 6)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
12 th May (Easter 7)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Mary's All-Age Service (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Holy Communion (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Holy Communion (BCP)
19 th May (Pentecost)	9.30am	Kirk Christ Morning Prayer (CW)
	11am	St Mary's Holy Communion (CW)
	11am	St Catherine's Morning Prayer (CW)
	3.15pm	St Peter's Evening Prayer (BCP)
26 th May (Trinity Sunday)	11am	Kirk Christ Joint Holy Communion (CW)

(CW) Common Worship (BCP) Book of Common Prayer

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St Mary's Ladies Working Party

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

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Please contact

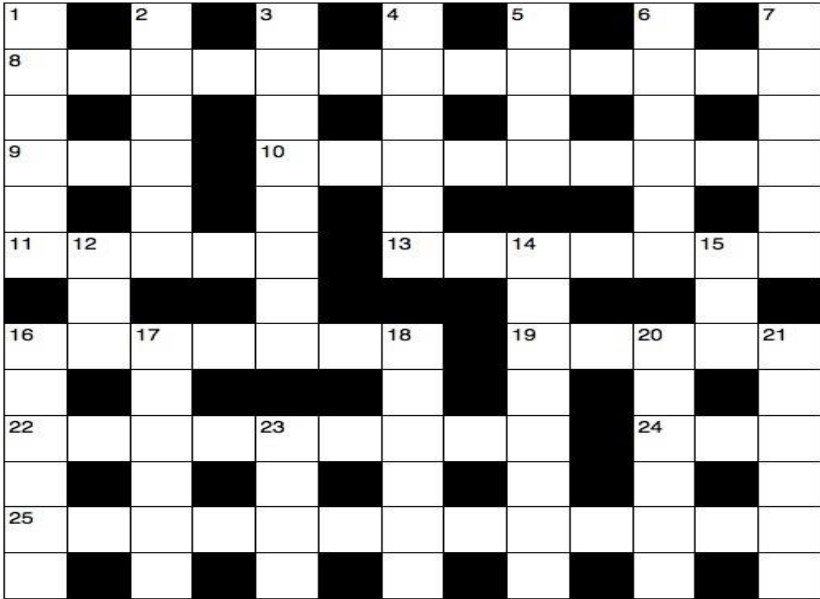
Mr Harry Dawson:

478050/835770

or Mr G Callister:

474924/834627

Crossword April 2024



Across

- 8 'He poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the — ' (Isaiah 53:12) (13)
- 9 'When they had sung a hymn, they went — to the Mount of Olives (Matthew 26:30) (3)
- 10 Comes between Galatians and Philipians (9)
- 11 'Your heart will — and swell with joy'. (Isaiah 60:5) (5)
- 13 Muslim holy month (7)
- 16 Ten ears (anag.) (7)
- 19 Under (poetic abbrev.) (5)
- 22 How Abram described himself to God when he complained that his inheritance would pass to a servant (Genesis 15:2) (9)
- 24 'Go to the — , you sluggard' (Proverbs 6:6) (3)
- 25 Debar from receiving Communion (13)

Down

- 1 My — for His Highest (Oswald Chambers' best-known book) (6)
- 2 Festival of the resurrection (6)
- 3 'His sons will prepare for war and — a great army' (Daniel 11:10) (8)

- 4 'Let not the — string his bow'. (Jeremiah 51:3) (6)
- 5 Name of the River Thames in and around Oxford (4)
- 6 'From then on Judas watched for an opportunity — — him over'. (Matthew 26:16) (2,4)
- 7 'But Christ is faithful — — — over God's house' (Hebrews 3:6) (2,1,3)
- 12 Long-handled implement used to till the soil (Isaiah 7:25) (3)
- 14 Order to which monks and nuns devote themselves (8)
- 15 Appropriate (Proverbs 15:23) (3)
- 16 I, uncle (anag.) (6)
- 17 'They gave him — — of broiled fish'. (Luke 24:42) (1,5)
- 18 'Weren't there three men that we — — and threw into the fire?' (Daniel 3:24) (4,2)
- 20 Mountain where Noah's ark came to rest (Genesis 8:4) (6)
- 21 'Don't you know that friendship with the world is — towards God?' (James 4:4) (6)
- 23 Prominent architectural feature of large cathedrals such as St Paul's (4)