

PARISH NEWS

St Cuthbert, Wells *with* St Mary Magdalene, Wookey Hole
Linked with the parish of West Livingstone, Zambia

April 2016

St. Mary Magdalene
(detail)



Risen in Deed by Alastair Wheeler

He is risen indeed is one of the oldest and least understood statements of faith.

All of us die sooner or later, a few who have medical trauma with trauma teams standing by have hearts restarted and are resuscitated.

But only Jesus is risen indeed.

Many great leaders have had their ideas and teachings carried on, or even developed by their followers. You can visit their tombs and shrines. Only Jesus is risen indeed.

The religious authorities thought they had God sorted, religion and worship and faith organised into neat categories and lists – lots of lists – and lots of ritual. And so as Jesus didn't fit in to their neat world, as he wasn't who they were waiting for, they handed him over to Pilate who crucified him. End of story in a borrowed cave.

But He is risen indeed.

God spoke to his people for centuries, called, admonished, challenged, forgave and loved. Finally came into the world a human child, a Galilean man,

to grab humanity's attention. HE spoke of our lives mattering to God, of focussing on God's Way as bringing fulfilment – which is loving God totally and loving our neighbour as ourselves.

And when the religious leaders wanted a neat definition of 'love' and 'neighbour', Jesus gave them the shocking challenge that a passing traveller of a different version of faith was the one who came to the aid of the injured man, that a Samaritan could do good. That practical care across ethnic boundaries was loving your neighbour.

Jesus challenged his hearers, challenged us to commit to love our enemies, provide welcome for the frail, the refugee, the homeless. The authorities killed him for saying things like this.

Yet He is risen indeed.

Vindicated by God himself, God's life transforming, changing, his dead body, demonstrated in history the reality of God and his love. Easter morn and the encounters for weeks after, tie into history the transformation of faith, the renewed command to change the world, and work together to bring His kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

Reflecting on how my own faith has changed, shifted, matured (!?) over the last half century I regret how little I and the church have achieved to demonstrate in real ways, to real people, the risen life of God in Jesus today.

For so long we have been focussed on internal side issues – some of them important ones like the role of women! – but our society in Britain has faded away from Christian values. The populations of our parishes have never been told the stories of Jesus in a relevant way; not often seen the life of Jesus at work. Many see the church – at least in its 20th Century institutional form – as dying.

However Christ is risen indeed.

So there is hope, for me, for you, for our nation and world. Challenge to bring the real living God into daily life in new ways.

It's down to us – you and me and everyone of good will - to make that hope and love and truth and compassion real. Show Jesus risen in our deeds. This Easter. Forever.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Alastair

Alastair's final services in our parishes

As Alastair approaches his retirement on 8th May his last services will be:

St Mary Magdalene, Wookey Hole at 11am on Sunday 1st May

and

St Cuthbert's at 10am on Sunday 8th May

Attended by Archdeacon of Wells, Mayor of Wells

And a range of friends and family

As well as the congregations of our churches.

There will be refreshments and chat after the service.

Lay Pastoral Assistants

The Team are happy to visit anyone in the Benefice who is lonely, unwell or bereaved.

Please contact us via St Cuthbert's Parish Office, telephone 01749 676906

Patsy Barrow

St Cuthbert's Annual Parochial Church Meeting

All Members of St Cuthbert's Electoral Roll are encouraged to come and be part of the Annual Meeting at 7pm Tuesday 19th April in church.

This is the annual opportunity to hear what the church and PCC did in 2015, elect the Wardens and PCC for the next year, and celebrate our life as a church family.

St Cuthbert's Ladies' Group

Unfortunately the Chaplain to the Deaf was unable to join us due to family bereavement, and Myrtle Stephens kindly stepped in to give us a very interesting talk on quilting. The samples of her work were beautiful and the detailed work was appreciated by all. Thank you, Myrtle!

At our next meeting on April 12th we are celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday with refreshments. Please come in your best hat, and possibly 1920's dress or red, white and blue.

Maureen Simon

CALLING ALL GARDEN ENTHUSIASTS... OPEN GARDENS SUMMER 2016

I am sure that there are many enthusiastic gardeners among the congregation, and garden visiting (with copious tea, scones and cakes!) is a very popular activity. I'm proposing that we hold an Open Garden event in aid of Church funds, perhaps on Sunday 26th June. This is the weekend after the St Thomas Street Secret Gardens event, and although it is the same weekend as the Glastonbury Festival, I'm not sure we would be appealing to the same punters! It doesn't matter whether your garden is several acres or a couple of pots, people love to visit and pick up ideas or just enjoy looking. Gardens don't have to be perfect either: we all feel better about our own gardens when we spot a few weaknesses in others!

We need volunteers.... to agree to open their own gardens; to help with teas or publicity; and, possibly, to offer transport between gardens. It would also be wonderful to have a couple of volunteers to help co-ordinate the event.

Don't hide your lupins under a bushel (though do protect them from slugs!), come and talk to me. Or email me: antoniagwynn1@gmail.com.

Antonia Gwynn

CHRISTIAN AID BIG BREAKFASTS

The Wells Christian Aid Committee is planning to hold fund-raising Breakfasts during Christian Aid Week (15th-21st May). They will be held each weekday at various venues and St Cuthbert's has been asked to host the Friday breakfast on 20th May.

It would be good if lots of people attended the breakfasts during the week (details later), and also if there could be some volunteers to help prepare and serve the event at St Cuthbert's.

Antonia Gwynn

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK: 15TH – 21ST MAY 2016

HOUSE TO HOUSE COLLECTION

All the churches in Wells are finding it difficult to recruit volunteers for the house to house collections during Christian Aid Week. To try to help we are trying a new way of organising this.

As well as hoping to find collectors for our usual areas, we are also asking whether there might be more volunteers who would be prepared to cover a small area around their own home. The Wells Committee would then do some swapping and bartering to ensure that there was no duplication.

So if you feel that you could collect from your own neighbours, please do let me know.

Antonia Gwynn

Cheddar Male Choir Concert

Cheddar Male Choir joint Concert with Launceston Male Voice Choir at St. Cuthbert's Church, Wells, BA5 2AW, on Saturday 9 April 2016 at 7:30pm. Doors open 7:00pm.

This is to help raise funds for the Children's Hospice South West who are celebrating their 25th anniversary.

Report of the March 2016 meeting of Wookey Hole WI

President Sue Harding welcomed members, including our returning invalids, and good wishes were sent to two members who are due for surgery.

Our speaker this month, Chris Burt, was on a return visit, and this time told us how she had spent thirty years running a dance school. Her love of dance really started before she was born, when her Mother, aged fifteen, was a member of a Rangers' tap dance group that performed to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of King George V in 1935, as a photo proved. Before training to teach, Chris had a career as a professional dancer, appearing in panto and shows with the likes of Jimmy Clitheroe and Norman Vaughan, travelling from her home in the North of England all over the country, including appearing at Weston Super Mare.

At first she taught at schools run by other people, but it was always her ambition to run her own, which she eventually achieved. It was often a struggle to cope with unsuitable premises and a lack of proper equipment; she single-handedly designed and made sets of costumes for the public performances, working out how to adapt and adjust for different productions, roles and sizes.

She taught children from toddlers to teens, starting very basically with skipping, and seeing her pupils grow in confidence and skill. Some of her former pupils went on to dance professionally, some to act or to teach. As she ran through her collection of pictures, we saw the same children turn from clumsy babies to beautiful graceful swans. She felt that the wheel had come full circle from her Mother when some of her pupils performed to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2002. Even though she no longer teaches full time, she still runs classes to help older people stay mobile and enjoy life. Jenny thanked her for her talk, saying that she felt exhausted just listening to the account of such a packed life.

Rose Docherty

Four freedoms

The first is freedom of speech and expression – everywhere in the world. The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way, everywhere in the world. The third is freedom from want.... everywhere in the world. The fourth is freedom from fear... anywhere in the world.

Franklin D Roosevelt

Letter from St Mary Magdalene Wookey Hole

Wookey Hole enjoys celebrating a festival in Church, and Mothering Sunday this month was even more joyful than usual. As the congregation gathered we had the pleasure of listening to the orchestra, who also played with Richard for the hymns, during the administration, and after the service. The village choir contributed a negro spiritual, very appropriate as it was Fairtrade Week. The Revd Jennifer Cole had devised a specially adapted communion service which included young people reading the lesson, leading prayers and distributing flowers to the ladies present. It was a very happy occasion and we are grateful to all those who worked so hard to make it possible, especially Juliet who coordinated the musicians.

During the winter months the evening service was switched to 4 o'clock and David has given two very interesting talks on our east windows featuring Mary Magdalene, illustrated with close up photographs focusing on details we probably don't usually notice, which has been quite a revelation. We have also thought about Mary Magdalene herself and her place in the Gospel Story. At Easter we remember that she was the first to witness the risen Christ and to bring the wonderful news to the disciples. As our patron saint we should truly value her.

May I wish you all a happy and joyful Eastertide.

Elizabeth Talbott

St Mary Magdalene Wookey Hole
Annual Parochial Church Meeting

7.30pm Tuesday 12th April

The annual gathering for all members of the church and community to reflect on the year past, elect PCC and Wardens for the year ahead and express views on our priorities for 2016.

Wookey Hole Ladies Club

Deanna Deburgh of Cocobella Chocolates was our March speaker.

Deanna taught yoga for many years, but due to illness she was unable to continue with her yoga classes. Deanna went to an exhibition in London where she had seen chocolate handcrafted and so, inspired by the 19th century tradition of giving chocolate "favours", Deanna set herself up at home with the necessary equipment to make chocolate and soon became known for her products. She makes a range of products, from chocolate bars to moulded figurines. Over time her business grew and she attended school fairs, church fetes and some of the larger shows held in Somerset. She caters for weddings, christenings and any special occasion.

Deanna gave us a few hints on making chocolate: she always uses Belgian Chocolate which comes in buttons; moulds, thermometers and little heaters can be bought from suppliers such as Lakeland.

In the Queen's Silver Jubilee year Deanna made chocolates in the shape of corgis, sent them to Buckingham Palace and received a letter of thanks from a Lady in Waiting, on behalf of the Queen.

After the talk Deanna took questions and then we were able to taste the chocolates; there was a range of flavours including strawberry, ginger and lime, as well as plain, milk and dark chocolate.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 5th April in the Community Hall when Juliet and Lucy will be telling us about A Life in Music.

New members always welcome, for further details contact Margaret 675415.

Lyn Astle

Wookey Hole Community Hall

QUIZ NIGHT In aid of the Village Hall

Saturday 23rd April at 7.30 p.m. Teams of 4 = £20

A light supper will be served—bring your own wine

To reserve a table phone Mike or Lyn

From Bishop Peter

When we go through dark times, or difficult times, depressing times or perhaps even dangerous times where do we look for help? For many of us it is to God we turn at those times. But we have to admit that sometimes this is a last resort, when we have exhausted all the other options. Sometimes it is out of sheer desperation that we call out to God. That is not, however, the sort of relationship that God intends us to have with him. He desires to be more than the fourth emergency service, only called upon when all else fails and when self-reliance has run its course.

God wants us to turn to him and rely upon him for everything we do and for all that we are. He is our creator and redeemer. As the Psalmist said: 'The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand ... he will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and for evermore.'

Do find a quiet moment – why not stop even now – to read and reflect on Psalm 121. It reminds us that God faithfully watches over us, by day and by night. He knows and sustains us, in good times and in dark times. He knows everything that is to know about us and we can put our trust in him. We can take to him our fears and our hopes, our sorrows and our joys. The Psalmist speaks of 'lifting up his eyes to the hills'. That is a confident and bold gesture of prayer. When we lift our hearts and minds to God in prayer we can do so with a trusting heart. And like the Psalmist we can say 'My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth'.

Peter Bath and Wells

Lost in translation

Are you travelling this Spring? Keep an eye out for those delightful translations into English that didn't quite make it...

Danish airline: We take your bags and send them in all directions.

Heathrow: No electric people carrying vehicles past this point.

Japanese taxi: Safety first: please put on your seatbelt. Prepare for accident.

Kenyan maternity ward: No children allowed.

Beijing shop: Haircuts half price today. Only one per customer.

Swedish furrier: Fur coats made for ladies from their own skin.

Wages

Seen on a church notice board: Despite inflation, the wages of sin remain the same.'

WOOKEY HOLE CINEMA CLUB FILMS

Wednesday 13th April

BROOKLYN (12A) Romantic Drama



An Irish immigrant in 1950s Brooklyn falls into a new romance. Her past catches up with her forcing a difficult choice. "Saoirse Ronan lights up the screen in the year's best and most beguiling love story. The surprise is that it also goes deeper, sadder and truer." Peter Travers, Rolling Stone.

**Come and join us at Wookey Hole
Community Hall at the bottom of School Hill**

Doors open 7pm, film starts 7.30pm. Tickets on the door £6, under 16's £3.

More info and a trailer at:

www.wookeyholecinemaclub.weebly.com

The Children's Bible in a Nutshell

Written by an American sixth grade pupil

In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas. The Bible says, "The Lord thy God is one," but I think He must be a lot older than that.

Anyway, God said, "Give me a light!" and someone did.

Then God made the world.

He split the Adam and made Eve.

Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet.

Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden ...

Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars.

Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel.

Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something.

One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham.

Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it.

He asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check.

After Noah came Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother, Esau, because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast.

Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat.

Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston.

Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's people.

These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels, and no cable.

God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti.

Then he gave them His Top Ten Commandments.

These include: don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance, or covet your neighbor's stuff.

Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more: Humor thy father and thy mother.

One of Moses' best helpers was Joshua who was the first Bible guy to use spies.

Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over on the town.

After Joshua came David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a slingshot.

He had a son named Solomon who had about 300 wives and 500 porcupines.

My teacher says he was wise, but that doesn't sound very wise to me.

After Solomon there were a bunch of major league prophets.

One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale and then barfed up on the shore.

There were also some minor league prophets, but I guess we don't have to worry about them.

After the Old Testament came the New Testament. Jesus is the star of The New Testament.

He was born in Bethlehem in a barn.

I wish I had been born in a barn too, because my mom is always saying to me, "Close the door! Were you born in a barn?" It would be nice to say,

"As a matter of fact, I was."

During His life, Jesus had many arguments with sinners like the Pharisees and the Republicans. Jesus also had twelve opossums. The worst one was Judas Asparagus. Judas was so evil that they named a terrible vegetable after him.

Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Germans on the Mount. But the Democrats and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot.

Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus. He just washed his hands instead.

Anyways, Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again.

He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminum. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution.

PCC PROFILES

PAULINE FIELDER

Pauline's father (born in 1895) served in the army in WW1 and spent his working life in insurance; her clever, trailblazing mother had a degree in chemistry and taught the subject until – as was obligatory in the first half of the twentieth century – she gave up work when she married. The couple settled in Reading and two little girls followed, first Pauline and then her sister, Sally.

After education at the Abbey School (Jane Austen's alma mater), both sisters followed the science tradition set by their mother (and continued by the next generation – see below). Sally became a nurse, spending most of her career abroad and, in particular, Canada. She is now retired and lives on Vancouver Island. Pauline dreamed of becoming a vet (again, read on to see that how this ambition is now being realised, vicariously!). The training would be long and expensive and it was at that time a career in which it was difficult for women to succeed. So farming, and specifically dairying, was the way forward.

Gaining experience was essential, so off Pauline went to a farm in Surrey where, alongside ex-service men, she worked with a herd of Guernseys. Then to Reading University and a B.Sc. This was followed by a period gaining more hands-on experience, this time on two farms near Reading. Here Pauline was working alongside men and remembers the efforts needed by the two farm hands to curb their fruity language in front of her!

Armed with a B.Sc. and experience, Pauline successfully applied for a post as a Milk Production Advisor with NAAS (National Agricultural Advisory Service) in Northamptonshire. She visited farms throughout the northern part of the county, driving a (very sensibly) khaki coloured car. During this time the Chairman of the local Milk Committee invited Pauline to lunch, and there she met a young man called Geoff. The Chairman had his eye on aforesaid young man as a potential husband for his own daughter, but this plan was scuppered when Geoff set eyes on our Pauline!

Geoff and Pauline married in 1953 and, after a spell on a farm in Oxfordshire where they had a flat in a converted farm building, cheek by jowl with the stables, they moved to Devon where Geoff started his career with Fisons. Then, after a transfer to Bristol, the family moved to a lovely house on Portway in Wells, where Pauline still lives.

There has been a predominance of males in Pauline's life, including a period with four small boys under five! Michael, Nigel, Richard and David all continued their education at St Cuthbert's infant and junior schools, spent some time at the Blue School and then moved on to King's College, Taunton. Three of the boys were Head Boy at Taunton, and the third was Head of House – not a bad achievement! The science gene continues with Michael (in Penrith) teaching physics and Richard working in allergy research and marketing, based in Chester. And – hooray - Richard's wife, Emma, is a vet! Both Nigel and David gained degrees in civil engineering at Southampton, but, very sadly, Nigel died of cancer at the age of 54, leaving two children. His son, Edward, aims to travel to China; and daughter Georgina studies art.

Pauline's youngest son, David, who has struggled with ME, lives in Taunton.

As the boys got older, Pauline developed an itchy brain and energy overload which prompted her to get a job at the Blue School. At first she was a Lab Technician but then moved into teaching, a role she continued until her retirement – at the age of 69! Geoff died in 2002, but neither retirement nor widowhood has stopped Pauline putting her energies into a wide range of activities. She has been on St Cuthbert's PCC for many years, including thirteen years as Church Warden under three different vicars. She is on Deanery Synod and has also served terms on the Diocesan Synod. Other activities include Wookey Hole WI (on the committee); the Flower Arranging Club (on the committee!); and two Bridge clubs. A busy lady.

Pauline still shares her life with a demanding male – her much-loved dog, Bertie! Apparently Bertie is a pedigree white Westie. I have to say that on the day I met him, although his good pedigree and his breed were obvious, the January Somerset weather made it impossible for me to confirm the 'white' in that description!

Antonia

Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road? (Theological Version)

Billy Graham: The chicken was surrendering all.

Rick Warren: The chicken was purpose driven.

John Wesley: The chicken's heart was strangely warmed.

John Piper: God decreed the event to maximize his glory. OR . . . it was an act of Christian hedonism. The chicken realized that his greatest joy would only be found on the other side.

C.S. Lewis: If a chicken finds itself with a desire that nothing on this side can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that it was created for the other side.

N.T. Wright: This act of the chicken, which would be unthinkable in British barnyards, reeks of that American individualism that is destructive to community.

Pluralist: The chicken took one of many equally valid roads.

Universalist: All chickens cross the road.

Tim LaHaye: The chicken didn't want to be left behind.

Emergent: For this chicken, it's not the destination that's important. It's the journey itself.

What am I?

I'm not old. I woke up, I lifted my arms, I moved my knees, I turned my neck. Everything made the same noise: Crrrrraaaaaacccccckkkk!
So I've come to the conclusion that I'm not old, I'm crispy!

Who?

Seen in a West Country church: Whenever I see a little church, I always pay a visit. So when at last I'm carried in, the Lord won't say 'Who is it?'

Come to Life

Too late, left it too late
 The forgiving, being forgiven
 Opportunities missed
 For the cheering word
 Open ear
 Loving touch

Yet while breath lingers here
 In silence I can find space
 Wait for mercy, grace
 Hush my mouth with wonders
 Learn love
 Come to life.

Maureen Forrest

Wise Words from Mother Teresa

“People are often unreasonable and self-centred. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are honest, people may cheat you. Be honest anyway.

If you find happiness, people may be jealous. Be happy anyway.

The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough. Give your best anyway.

For you see, in the end it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.”



On the perils of small study groups



The Rectory
 St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

So, you are about to run an Alpha course in your parish; I am sure your bishop will be delighted. I remember him from my Oxford days. He was just starting his course as a gangly undergraduate when I was finishing my doctorate on Eusebius.

I recall him as a keen rugby player who took early morning dips in the Isis, who led intense discussions on Saint Paul's theology of "the body" over cups of cocoa in the evenings in his rooms and who spent his holidays laying paths for the National Trust in the Lake District while lodging in Youth Hostels. He's exactly the sort of person who will empathise with your ministry – hearty, enthusiastic and overflowing with compassionate intensity. We were not close friends.

We tend not to go in for those sort of things here at St. James the Least of All, preferring matters a little more relaxed and understated. If we ever do hold discussion groups (and they are a regrettable necessity during Lent), they always start with a good lunch, finishing with coffee and one of Mrs French's excellent Madeira cakes. Once we have removed from the table, those who manage to stay awake will start to tackle the chosen topic.

However, we always seem to veer off to discussing more interesting matters, such as why Col. Chorley is never allowed to sing solos in the choir any more, or who moved Mrs Cholmondeley's flower arrangement from the font the previous week. Apparently she has given notice that her weekly contributions on the plate will be much reduced unless an appropriate apology is received.

These matters may not seem as important to you as deciding what the "white stone" in Revelation 4 is all about, but let me assure you that to members of our congregation, knowing why the second verse of the National Anthem is no longer sung at our Remembrance Services is of pivotal importance.

At 2pm we wake up those who have enjoyed an hour's slumber and totter off home, knowing we have once again done our bit for faith in the parish.

I am sure your own group will also return home after your sessions - even if a digestive biscuit and weak tea is all that has been offered – invigorated and braced to tackle the heathen in the parish. We all take our pleasures in different ways.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace



COLOURS IN CHURCH

Have you noticed that, from time to time, the colour of things in church changes? No, I don't mean the minister goes a funny colour or someone paints the walls, but the special robes that the priest wears, and the front of altar among other things, change from time to time. Each season of the Church's year has its own distinctive colour and these are called liturgical colours.

GREEN is the colour we have more than others. Green, the ordinary colour of nature, is used during the seasons of Epiphany (after Christmas) and Trinity (between Whitsun or Pentecost and Advent). Trinity lasts for about half the year so green is the colour we see most.

The next change of colour is to **PURPLE**. Purple, the colour of penitence and preparation, is used for Lent (the 40 days before Easter) and Advent (the 4 weeks before Christmas).

Then comes **WHITE** and **GOLD**, which are used for all the joyful festivals - Easter, Ascension and Christmas.

RED, the colour of fire and blood, is used at Pentecost to remind us of the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples like tongues of flame (Acts 2:11). It is also used on the festivals of martyrs to remind us of their sacrifice.

COLOUR QUIZ

Complete each of these with a colour, for example cordial would be LIME cordial. Each colour is only used once.

- admiral
- Christmas
- marmalade
- quick
- sky
- Royal
- ribbons
- glass
- submarine
- elephants

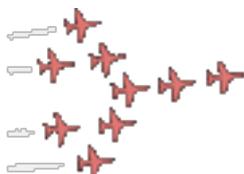


What is yellow and black and has red spots?

A leopard with the measles.

Define the word 'information'.

How the Red Arrows fly.



ANSWERS: 1.red 2.white 3.orange 4.silver 5.blue 6.Navy 7.scarlet 8.wine 9.yellow 10.pink

Public support for Government to help fund church heritage

60% of us back the idea of the Government providing financial support for churches, chapels and meeting houses, in order to protect their heritage and history for future generations.

This was the finding of a new opinion poll, commissioned by the church building repair and support charity, the National Churches Trust. The poll also found that 57% of British adults said that they had visited a church in the past year for religious services, non-religious activities or as a visitor or tourist.

Since 2014, the Government has given £130m for repairs to historic churches.

Saint banned from Rochester train station

Britain's rail bosses have censored an image of a saint from a display of art inside a railway station, saying it was 'overtly Christian and would offend multi-cultural values'. Network Rail, which is partly funded by the taxpayer, banned an image of St John the Evangelist from Rochester station in Kent.

The image was inspired by Rochester's ancient cathedral and recognised the city's heritage as one of the oldest Christian ecclesiastical cities in Britain. Its cathedral was founded in 604 AD. A Network Rail spokesman said the company told the artist to remove some of the planned images to 'create a balance.' Source: Daily Mail

Nun and jeep

Found in a diocesan magazine: A nun driving her jeep in the Middle East ran out of petrol. The only container she could find was a chamber pot, in which she collected petrol and with great difficulty refilled the jeep. Some Sheikhs looking on observed: 'Sister, we don't share your religion, but we admire your faith.'

Ladies

Notice in a church hall where a sale of second-hand clothes was in progress: 'Ladies may have a fit upstairs'.

Good likeness

Some children were asked: "What do you think of Jesus?"



...and when it comes to 'the peace' I want all those who want to stay in Europe to shake hands with all those who want to leave...

DIARY FOR APRIL 2016

PARISH NEWS April 2016

Sunday	3rd	Second Sunday of Easter	
		8.00 am	1662 Holy Communion at St Cuthbert
		10.00 am	All Age Communion (St Cuthbert)
		11.00 am	Parish Communion (Wookey Hole)
Wednesday	6	10.00 am	Holy Communion (St Cuthbert)
		12 noon	Market Day Lunch at St Cuthbert's
Thursday	7	9.30 am	Meditation Group in the Trinity Chapel
		11.00 am	Holy Communion (Bubwith House)
Saturday	9	7.30 pm	Cheddar Male Choir & Launceston Male Voice Choir at St Cuthbert's
Sunday	10	Third Sunday of Easter	
		10.00 am	Parish Communion (St Cuthbert)
		11.00 am	Parish Communion (Wookey Hole)
		6.30 pm	BCP Evensong at Wookey Hole
Monday	11	10.00 am	'Little Saints' Toddlers' Group
Tuesday	12	7.30 pm	Wookey Hole APCM
		7.00 pm	Ladies' Group at Lawrence Centre
Wednesday	13	10.00 am	Holy Communion (St Cuthbert)
		12 noon	Market Day Lunch (St Cuthbert)
Thursday	14	11.00 am	Holy Communion (Bubwith House)
Sunday	17	Fourth Sunday of Easter	
		10.00 am	Parish Communion (St Cuthbert)
		11.00 am	Morning Prayer (Wookey Hole)
		12 noon	Baptism at St Cuthbert's
		4.00 pm	Together@4 at St Cuthbert
		6.30 pm	CTWA United Service (Methodist Church)
Monday	18	10.00 am	'Little Saints' Toddlers' Group (St C)
Tuesday	19	7.00 pm	St Cuthbert's APCM
Wednesday	20	10.00 am	Holy Communion (St Cuthbert)
		12 noon	Market Day Lunch at St Cuthbert
Thursday	21	9.30 am	Meditation Group in the Trinity Chapel
		11.00 am	Holy Communion (Bubwith House)
Sunday	24	Fifth Sunday of Easter	
		8.00 am	1662 Holy Communion at Wookey Hole
		10.00 am	Parish Communion at St Cuthbert
		12 noon	Baptism at St Cuthbert's
Wednesday	27	10.00 am	Holy Communion at St Cuthbert
		12 noon	Market Day Lunch at St Cuthbert
Thursday	28	11.00 am	Holy Communion at Bubwith House

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.'

* * * * *

Is this apisdn umop or am I just standing on my head?

Here's a sure-fire way to cross off every item on your To-Do list: Do the chores first, then write them down and *then* cross them off!

From the Registers 2015-16

CHRISTIAN BAPTISMS

6th March	Logan George Arbuckle
13th March	Teddy Arthur Hoskins
20th March	Marcel John Denis

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Matthew Alexander Guy & Kelly Frances Mullings

FUNERALS AND MEMORIAL SERVICES

3rd March	Hazel Hunt
4th March	Alfred Orriss
7th March	Hylida West

Sheila Jenkins

Happy Ending

Comment from a parishioner: 'Our vicar's sermons always have a happy ending. The moment they've ended, everyone feels happy.'

Nun and jeep

Found in a diocesan magazine: A nun driving her jeep in the Middle East ran out of petrol. The only container she could find was a chamber pot, in which she collected petrol and with great difficulty refilled the jeep. Some Sheikhs looking on observed: 'Sister, we don't share your religion, but we admire your faith.'

Wanted

Seen on a church bulletin: More sinners wanted for the choir.

Worry

I have so many problems that if a new one comes along today, it will be at least two weeks before I can worry about it.

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."

Also seen in a parish magazine: Next Sunday the choir will give a recital, after which the church will be closed for repairs.

You have been warned

In a store: Unattended children will be given an espresso and a puppy.



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Views expressed in articles in this magazine are the views of the authors, and do not necessarily express the views of the Vicar, Churchwardens or PCC of St Cuthbert's Church.