# Shirley Parish Magazine July & August 2022

# SHIRLEY PARISH He leads me beside peaceful waters, He restores my soul. Ps 23:2

# SHIRLEY PARISH GUIDE (see also inside the back cover)

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Pa	rish Website:	https://www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk	Holidays)

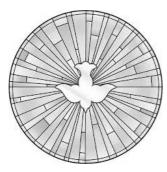
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# **OUR PARISH PRAYERS**

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Give to us your people, living God, A renewed faith and a bold vision that we may proclaim the Good News of your Son with faith that your kingdom will come, with hope for our community and with love for Him who died and rose again to save us, Jesus Christ our Risen Lord Amen

9.30am - 12.30pm

God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your Church, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

# **BIBLE ART AT ST JAMES SCHOOL**

Sarah rang me, please could you help me out and take my place at Bible Art? "Yes" I said "of course I will" while trying to imagine myself with a paintbrush in hand trying to produce something other than a matchstick person.

First we introduced ourselves and then asked the children if they understood what prayer was. Like a conversation with Jesus was the popular answer, which of course it is.

We talked about where we might pray, was there a right place to pray like a church or a temple or in the open air like a field or garden. In fact you can pray anywhere yes even in the bath or on the bus.

Also, if there was a right way like putting your hands together or could you just hold your hands out, do you need to close your eyes and is it ok to ask God in prayers for anything for anyone including our pets. Does God listen to all our prayers? and does he know what's inside my head, if I don't speak it out loud? So, a really good discussion with them all.

The other discussion was about the school's Christian value word, which the school provide at the start of each new school term, this word was Service, and how Jesus came to serve and how it shows us that we should serve one another.

Now came the Bible Art bit, the children were given a picture of a burger with all the ingredients representing the buildup of your prayer.

The lettuce could be used to say sorry, the tomato to ask for something like healing for someone, the gherkin for a trouble in the world at this moment of time, the burger itself being the centre of the prayer and the bread bap at the top and bottom being the opening and closing of the prayer.



The children were very enthusiastic in writing out their prayers in rainbow colours and making it to fit their beliefs and being able to take it home and with a bible picture to colour in at home too. The children really love these sessions, and the ideas and prayers are really well thought about, they also read out a few of their prayers and what's more I didn't have to paint anything phew!! I look forward to being asked again.

Denise Smith

ST JAMES THE GREAT CHURCH, Church Road, Shirley B90 2AX CHRIST THE KING CHURCH, Widney Junior School, Clifton Crescent, Solihull B91 3LQ ST JOHN THE DIVINE CHURCH, Tilehouse Lane, Tidbury Green, Shirley B90 1PW

# WALKING THE BOUNDARIES?

Or I love to go a wandering? You decide for us.

Our conversation went something like this;

"Yes Margaret I will come with you and walk some of the boundary, but then I need to go and do some shopping".

"OK" said Margaret "Come to mine then we will meet up with the others".

So, Saturday morning I duly met up and we walked to the place where we were going to meet up with the others, waited for a bit and I asked her "Do you know where we are going to?". "Yes, I have done this before" so we decided we would walk on and the others would catch us up.

I sent a message to say we gone on ahead, to be told well you are an hour ahead of us, Margaret had got the starting time wrong!

Everything was going fine until we came to the vast array of fields which is when Margaret told me "I am lost now".

Knowing that we had entered these fields further along than where I used to walk my dog, I thought well if we go across here, we should come to the same place where I would normally have entered the fields.

Well, I don't know where we went wrong but my orienteering skills are very poor, because all we seemed to be doing was walking all the fields in huge circles and ending up where we started.

Margaret and I were like two teenagers giggling our heads off trying to help each other over the many stiles we came across, even crawling under fences whereby on my knees we asked for a sign we were going in the right direction, which incidentally worked because a few moments later, I spied the road we needed to cross only to be stopped by the lady who obviously owned the stables and sent us back around and up the fields again till we eventually came out at the right place by the Fordrough.

We crossed over the road and started on the last leg of our ramble, both deciding the others would be there already asking us where we had been.

I spied someone in pink walking towards us, it was Pam with a cheery "Hello, where are the rest of you?". She was so happy to see us two.

Margaret and I started laughing yet again and suddenly got a spring in our step again as we made our way to St Johns while regaling all that we had seen, just by being lost in the fields.

# WALKING THE BOUNDARIES? continued

Yes we had got really lost but we never knew so much green space was there, so many meadows full of interesting wild flowers, so many different birds, and how silence had descended given the roads all around us and we could really hear the different birds song.

We saw several rabbits and even a hare, who literally took off and "hared" across the fields at the sight of these strange women on his patch, observing us from a distance.

On arriving at St Johns Margaret said I should of brought the map with me!!!!!!!

Well, we might not of actually walked the parish boundary, but I reckon we walked the boundaries of Truemans Heath Riding School, Mereside Farm Children's Nursery and Brookhouse Farm Riding School.

It was a very long ramble just over these fields, but we never knew it was so vast and so beautiful and so silent too.

How great is our God.

Love from Margaret Foreshew and Denise Smith

Well done to those who walked all fourteen miles of our Parish Boundary!

The lunch break before completing the St John's loop



# **SEPTEMBER 2022 PARISH MAGAZINE**

PLEASE SEND INFORMATION & ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR BY Friday 12th August 2022

#### PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS AT THE WELCOME CAFE

So, we had a quick meet, Sarah, Jan, Pat and myself and we decided to do something slightly different on that day.

We met up at Church House the day before and set up, putting bunting out and table covers in red, white and blue, and table decorations of small vases of flowers in red, white and blue with bunting trims all made by Jan and gave the tables the finishing touch.

On the day we placed plates on the tables holding small sandwiches of cheese and tomato, egg and cress and mini wraps with salmon and cucumber. Alongside our usual cakes we had small fancy cakes also already placed on the tables.

We had a CD playing the military marching bands - everything from 'God Save the Queen' to doing 'The Lambeth Walk'.

These marches saw several cafe attendees marching over to the counter or to the toilets, even the helpers felt the need to march when taking orders.

We all seemed to have a good time and nice to see some new faces too.

Denise Smith



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Thirty-four members attended our June meeting for a quintessential afternoon tea to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Tables were decorated in gold, red, white and blue tablecloths with table decorations made by Jan Dalton. 'Thank you' Jan for enabling us to have that added touch. Reverend Wendy commenced the afternoon with prayers and the Grace before we all tucked into scones, jam and cream followed by a delicious selection of homemade cakes and a bottomless tea pot.

Our planned outing to Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens on the 6th July has unfortunately had to be cancelled due to lack of support. In place of the cancelled visit, we shall now meet as usual on the **6th July** in Church House at 2.00pm. Dr Kate Crocker has very kindly agreed at short notice to give a talk on 'Eco Church, what it means to Shirley Parish'.



The August meeting will be on **Thursday 18th August at 7.30pm** in Church House - Desert Island Discs with Reverend Wendy Carter, Reverend Theresa Jones and Reverend Nicholas Ball hosted by Ray Speakman.

Below is the programme for the remainder of the year. All meetings are held in Church House at 2.00pm on the first Wednesday in the month except August – details above.

Visitors are most welcome to any of our meetings.

M.U. PROGRAMME 2022

7th September – information to follow 5th October – Barry Durman, Millennium Way Walks 2nd November – Jan Dalton – Craft Session 7th December – Advent Service

Susan Knight

# LITTLE NICK AT THE JUBILEE STREET PARTY

'What's a street party?' I asked. They looked at me rather pityingly. 'It's a party in the street', Sarah said helpfully. Except it wasn't helpful – I still didn't know what they meant. 'But we'll get run over when cars come'. That was when they realised that I didn't have a clue.

So, Sarah explained that the idea of a street party was that the road was closed to traffic and the party took over. The road between the churchyard and Church House was to be closed so that we could safely use the area and walk between the two.

'Please take me with you', I said. They did and I found myself in the churchyard surrounded by children's activities. There was crown making, medallion making, guardsman making, skittles, and scooters and bikes to ride on. I hopped onto a scooter and rode for a bit. I made a crown but it was a bit big for my head until the lady making them helped to make it smaller.

Later on, there was a big table down the middle of the road loaded with sandwiches and cakes. People could help themselves. They did and more food just kept on coming. There were cups of tea and coffee as well. Perhaps not such a good idea as Sarah knocked hers over while showing a little boy how to make a guardsman out of a lolly stick. His face, as the tide of tea rolled across the table and his soldier floated away, was a picture. But the table was soon dried and a new guardsman made.

I noticed that people kept going into the church and Sarah explained that there was an exhibition of local history, of coronation and jubilee related items, and flower arrangements. Far away in the church car park I could see some stalls but nobody gave me any money so I could not have a go on the tombola or bottle stall.

There were lots of people there and Sarah kept greeting people that I didn't know. Helpfully she would whisper, 'Jimmy tots', or 'Neighbours of .....'. I still didn't know who they were but at least she tried.

There were lots of people to help tidy up at the end and lots of cake still waiting to be cut. I felt sorry for the people who had stood by the barricades all afternoon to make sure the cars didn't try to come down. But they still seemed to be smiling.

So, thank you everyone for a brilliant afternoon, any chance of doing it again soon?!



Nicodemus Penfold - Parish Raconteur

# WELL DONE & THANK YOU!

With great trepidation I participated in the church flower festival for the Jubilee. I need not have worried everything went splendidly.

All the ladies did an excellent job to adorn our church alongside all the other fantastic people.

Volunteers trying to break their backs putting up bunting, traffic marshals, stall holders, kitchen helpers inundated with scrumptious cakes and sandwiches, enjoyable cups of tea or coffee, oh my word the list is endless! Amazing the tables didn't sink! What a grand time was had by all.

So let's raise three cheers for everyone who helped to make the day such a great success!

With many, many thanks and blessings

Liz Blakey

And I'd like to add a special mention and thank you to Gordon Bragg for all the work that he put into the history displays - much appreciated.

Gill Hanton

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# PARISH JUBILEE QUIZ ANSWERS

THE QUEEN						
1. 21st April 1926						
2. Elizabeth Alexandra Mary						
3. The second Saturday in June						
4. Her 18th birthday						
5. The abdication of Edward VIII						
6. ATS (Auxiliary Territorial Service, the women's branch of the British Army)						
7. 20th November 1947						
8. Clothing coupons						
9. 9 feet tall						
10. Malta (when Prince Philip was serving there as a naval officer)						
THE QUEEN'S FAMILY						
1. 4 years						
2. Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon						
3. Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York?						
4. 1917						
5. Great-great-granddaughter						
6. 12						
7. 1987						
8. Philip Prince of Greece and Denmark						
9. The Queen Mother's 100th birthday						
10. Prince Edward						
ACCESSION AND CORONATION						
1. 6th February 1952						
2. Kenya						
3. Cullinan 1						
4. Mercy						
5. 26 6. 1066						
7. 8 8. St. Edward's crown						
9. Cool and cloudy with rain at times						
10. Winston Churchill						
OTHER JUBILEES AND ROYAL OCCASIONS						
1. 1897						
2. Trooping the Colour						
3. George II						
4. Fruit cake						
5. God Save the Queen						
6. Caernarvon Castle						
7. Queen Elizabeth I						
8. 2011						
9. Silver Jubilee of King George V						
10. Blue Peter						

# PARISH JUBILEE QUIZ ANSWERS

FAMOUS EVENTS OF THE QUEEN'S REIGN					
1. 1953					
2. 1969					
3. 1929					
4. 1963					
5. 1989					
6. 1926					
7. 1952					
8. 1982					
9. 1994					
10. 1983					
BRITISH KINGS AND QUEENS OF THE PAST					
1. Henry VII					
2. James I					
3. 4					
4. After					
5. Queen Anne					
6. 4					
7. 6					
8. The Merry Monarch					
9. She was deaf					
10. William I (William the Conqueror)					
MISCELLANEOUS					
1. Pipe Major David Rodgers from the Irish Guards					
2. Post on Instagram					
3. Worn by Queen Elizabeth I as earrings					
4. Her tiara					
<ol> <li>5. King Louis XIV of France (72 years, 110 days)</li> <li>6. No</li> </ol>					
7. 3 times					
8. No 9. Swan					
9. Swan 10. Chinese restaurant.					

Many thanks to Margaret Barber for putting the quiz together for us. If you would like a copy of the questions please contact her email: barber\_family@btinternet.com



# ST JOHN'S JUBILEE TREE



St John's Jubilee Tree at the St James Church display has now been replaced by a new tree in our garden to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and in memory of Barbara Edwards. The tree will be dedicated during Barbara's memorial service at St John's, **10.30am on 13th July**. All will be welcome and there will be coffee and cake afterwards.



QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY







# **PODIATRIST / CHIROPODIST**

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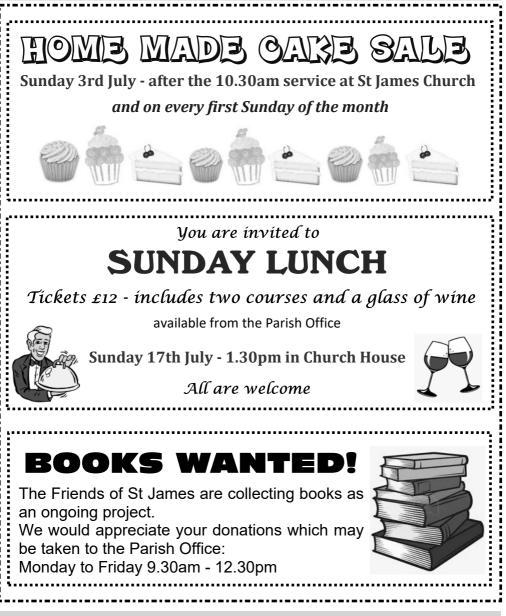
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## 13 THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES



# THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES 100 CLUB

**Congratulations to the June winners** £50 ~ Monty Phillips £25 ~ Sue Barnard



# **NEW CHATTY BENCHES IN SHIRLEY**

A pair of Chatty Benches have been installed in Shirley to help combat loneliness.

The pale blue benches in Shirley Park and Parkgate are part of a project to help reduce social isolation and loneliness by encouraging people to sit and chat.

Solihull Council said it is hoped the Chatty Benches will encourage people to sit down and talk to each other if they feel lonely.

If you see someone sat on one of these benches, you can go and talk to them to make sure they are ok - you may be the only person they have spoken to in days.

The Chatty Benches are currently in Shirley Park, close to the main entrance and in Parkgate by the Royal British Legion and it's hoped that more will follow.



The project is supported by Citizens Advice Solihull Borough (CASB), Parkgate, Friends of Shirley Park, Solihull Healthcare Partnership and Solihull Council.

"It's good to talk, we hope people will sit, chat, smile and heal."

# TIME FOR REST AND REFRESHMENT

As the summer months approach for many of us our thoughts turn towards our holidays. So, a few thoughts about holidays and rest.

The opening chapters of the Bible tell us the story of creation. The seven days of creation. Now, we may not believe that these were 7 periods of 24 hours, but the message about rest contained within them is clear. On the seventh day God rested. So, God blessed the seventh day because on it God rested from all the work he had done in creation.

There right at the start of the Bible is a pattern of work and rest. Of activity and stillness. Of doing and being. Modelled by God but given to humanity.

For our own well-being we should remember this God-ordained pattern. Rest is important. We cannot be doing or working all the time.

I have recently been challenged to think about protecting rest time; protecting time with those I love and care about and protecting time with God. Making sure that such time is not squeezed in the diary when all else is done, but that it takes priority. On the basis that it is this kind of quality time that enables me to work well.

Ah, you might be saying, I am retired so this does not apply to me. But it does. We all can fall into the temptation of taking on too much – be it paid work or other kinds of activity – and we would do well to think about our pattern of life. We are not created to work all the time or rest all the time.

Do we have a regular weekly pattern of rest and activity? Do we have a pattern of life that allows longer periods of refreshment through the year? Do we give space and time to God – to spend in his presence? Have we got that balance right?

I hope that this summer you find quality time for rest and refreshment.



**Reverend Paul Day** 

# FOOD BANK NEWS

People sometimes ask us how the foodbank actually works, so we thought this would be a good opportunity to describe it from our experience. Other foodbanks, of course, may operate differently.

The Sparkhill foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust and has its central depot and office in Tyseley. There are also satellites at St John's church in Sparkhill (where this foodbank originated), Hall Green, Balsall Heath and Stechford. Most of the food donations are received at Tyseley.

A staff member collects donations from various supermarkets, several of them local to us in Shirley. They comprise donations from the public and from the supermarkets themselves. Donations are also received at the depot from schools, companies, churches and individuals.

Processing comprises weighing everything in, recording the "best before" date on each item, sorting by food type and storing in stacks of crates in the warehouse ready for use. Out-of-date food is filtered out as it cannot be given out. It is put aside to pass on to other charities who are able to use it, such as the Junk Food Project who prepare meals for people in need. Other products that have to be filtered out include anything containing alcohol, bottled water, fizzy drinks and anything that needs to be refrigerated.

Food parcels are made up in the packing room a day or two ahead of when needed. The staff know roughly how many parcels are needed at each of the satellites. Parcels vary in size ranging from those for a single person through to large families.

Parcels are given out to anybody who has a voucher, which they will have received from one of a number of referral agencies that work with the foodbank. These include Citizens Advice, children's centres, health visitors and GPs. The voucher says how many people are in need and any dietary requirements. It is then exchanged for a package of emergency food for three days. People are also offered other free items such as baby food or toiletries.

The most noticeable change in recent months has been that storing food in date order in the warehouse is no longer necessary as most items don't stay long enough to risk going out of date. It seems that most food goes out within days of arriving. In fact many items regularly run out, so they have to buy in food to cover the shortfall.

# Please continue your generous donations. As you can see, there is currently a great need for everything other than pasta, rice, baked beans and cereals.

Louise and Philip Monypenny

# ST MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH, SHIRLEY

Now I realise that while some of you are smiling with good memories of St Mary's others of you are looking bewildered and saying, 'where?'.

This all started when Beryl Ager's daughters came one Sunday morning and we were talking about when Beryl had played the piano for services at St Mary's. Although Denise, her daughter, remembered Beryl saying that she had played for a service in a school hall, her attempts to find anything else out had failed. She asked for more information about St Mary's.

It quickly became clear that there are not many people left in the parish who remember much about the church, and that we needed to get what we knew written down before there was no one left to remember. So, with my thanks to Jean Wall for her memories, this is what I have found out.

The church of St Mary Magdalene was set up at the same time as Christ the King and St Lukes and was based in Mill Lodge School. This was in part a response to the outlying parts of the parish being a long way from St James.

The first service was held in September 1985 and was a morning prayer led by Ruth Friday, a Reader based in St Mary's and St John's. In November 1987 Keith McMaster was appointed as team vicar for St Mary's and St Johns. We think that Chris Ball would have been the original pianist. At this time there was a congregation of about forty and a Sunday School.

By 2004 numbers were dwindling with a usual Sunday number of about eight. Fr Keith had moved on and most services were led by Nicholas Lo Polito who was then the Christ the King team vicar. The congregation made the brave decision to suggest that the church was no longer viable and should be closed. The final service was held on 22nd July 2004 and was attended by over eighty people. Towards the end of the service items that had been donated to the church were returned to the families that had donated them. Some of the people who had worshipped at St Marys moved to St Johns and some of the things first used at St Marys are now used at St Johns. (And I am wearing Ruth Friday's cassock)

Obviously there is a great gap in my story between the opening and closing dates. A gap which should be filled with stories of social events, confirmations and special services. If you have any more information, or want to tell me what I have got wrong, please contact me via the Parish Office so that we can make as complete a record of St Mary's church as possible.

Sarah Penfold

# **OUR SERVICES IN JULY**

Date Time		Service	Venue		
Sunday 8am		Holy Communion	St James Church		
3rd	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church		
	6pm	<b>Reflective Worship</b>	St John's Church		
Thursday	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church		
7th					
Sunday	9am	Holy Communion	St John's Church		
10th	10.30am	Morning Worship	St James Church		
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Christ the King Church		
Wednesday	10.30am	Memorial Service for	St John's Church		
13th		Barbara Edwards			
Thursday	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church		
14th					
Saturday	10am	Messy Church	St James Church		
16th					
Sunday	8am	Holy Communion	St James Church		
17th	9am	Morning Worship	St John's Church		
	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church		
Thursday	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church		
21st					
Sunday	9am	Holy Communion	St John's Church		
24th	10.30am	Patronal Service	St James Church		
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Christ the King Church		
Thursday	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church		
28th					
Sunday	10.30am	Parish Service	St James Church		
31st	6pm	Forest Church	St John's Garden		



#### Tudor Grange Primary Academy St James Nurture, Learn, Achieve

**Executive Principal for Primary - Miss S Deakin** For details about the school contact the PA to the Principal - Mrs G Miles

Tudor Grange Primary Academy St James, Halifax Road, Shirley, Solihull B90 2BT Phone: 0121 744 7897 office@stjames.tgacademy.org.uk www.stjames.tgacademy.org.uk

# **OUR SERVICES IN AUGUST**

Date	Time	Service	Venue
Thursday	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
4th			
Sunday	8am	Holy Communion	St James Church
7th	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
	6pm	Reflective Worship	St John's Church
Thursday	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
11th			
Sunday	9am	Holy Communion	St John's Church
14th	10.30am	Morning Worship	St James Church
	10.30am	Holy Communion	Christ the King Church
Thursday	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
18th			
Saturday	10am	Messy Church	St James Church
20th			
Sunday	8am	Holy Communion	St James Church
21st	9am	Morning Worship	St John's Church
	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
Thursday	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
25th			
Sunday	9am	Holy Communion	St John's Church
28th	10.30am	Morning Worship	St James Church
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Christ the King Church

Recordings/live streams -

#### https://www.youtube.com/ShirleyParishB90

Copies of the sermons can be found on our website https://www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk/download-a-sermon

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\* PLEASE CHECK FOR ANY CHANGES ON THE WEEKLY PEW SLIP, SOCIAL MEDIA OR OUR WEBSITE https://www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk \*

# **PIETY AND POETRY**

There are often items of news which are published for their quirky nature, sometimes celebrating that oddity as indicating a national or regional characteristic, and not infrequently celebrating it. Such a feature, thought the editor of The New Statesman, recently, was an East Yorkshire community, who when faced with the closure of its church because of falling attendances, organised a rota of non-churchgoers to provide the bottoms on seats required for the church to remain open. We're not told if this endeavour was successful or of the attitude of the church itself. Neither do we learn to what extent the non-believing attenders increased their understanding of What It's All About.

But is this charming item confusing as well as amusing? What aspects of the church I wondered would be missed by this community? Obviously not the worship or attendances would not be falling. A community feeling perhaps, or needing significant roots in the past at a time of change? Or a resistance to a proposed alternative use?

There's a Philip Larkin poem called Church Going that this unusual story reminded me of. In this, the poet, not himself a believer, on visiting a church and doubting its significance, finally comes to an understanding that the building is a Serious House on Serious Earth, in which, he says, all our compulsions meet, are recognised and robed as destinies.

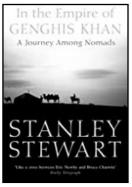
Just as it pleased Larkin to park his bike outside this church, (and respectfully take off his bike clips), so a rota of Yorkshire folk are parking their backsides onto church pews to keep their, and others' access to this plot of serious earth. Who knows? They may find nourishment from it.

Don Abbey



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# SHIRLEY PARISH BOOK CLUB - CARRY ON READING



After a slightly longer break than usual, the Parish Book Club met in early June to discuss their reactions to *In the Empire of Genghis Khan* by Stanley Stewart. It's a travel book about a thousand mile trek, mostly on horseback, across Mongolia. Apart from a couple of us who were a bit daunted by a hefty

non-fiction book, the rest of the group found Stewart's account of his journey gripping, funny, informative and relevant – especially as Mongolia was invaded by communist Russia in the mid twentieth century. Echoes of Ukraine.

The book has stimulated a bit of an appetite for non-fiction. So much so that the next book one of our group has chosen is, Dava Sobel's *Longitude*. By all accounts this is an absolutely absorbing account of the long quest to unravel the mystery of longitude. We're aiming to be ready to discuss the book on **Monday July 25th, 2pm** in Church House (with tea and biscuits).



In the long gap between Book Club meetings, we decided (with

contributions from the St John's Book Club) to put together our own poetry anthology. The completed collection has been received with a good deal of pleasure by all who have seen it.

Here it is for magazine readers. Just google the poet and the poem on your computer and you will see the whole poem.

In Foyle's Book Shop by Godfrey Rust He wishes for the cloths of heaven by W.B Yeats Prayer by Carole Ann Duffy The Difficulty that is Marriage by Paul Durcan Digging by Seamus Heaney He Sits Down On the Floor of a School for the Retarded by Alden Nowlan The Manor Farm by Edwards Thomas Adlestrop by Edward Thomas The Listeners by Walter de la Mare Scissors by Allan Ahlberg A Shropshire Lad (1 and 2) by A.E. Houseman How to Get On in Society by John Betjeman The Brook by Alfred Lord Tennyson

# SHIRLEY PARISH BOOK CLUB - CARRY ON READING

Once we had read some of the poems out loud to the group, we turned to talking about what else we were reading. The list was huge. It included author's like Sandy Toksvig, Alison Weir, Joanne Harris, Richard Coles, J.L. Carr, Freya North, Trisha Ashley, Jeffery Archer, Douglas Stuart, Nancy Revell, Colin Cotterill, Peter Traves and Robert Thorogood.

If any magazine readers have being toying with the idea of joining the Book Club, I hope this list will illustrate just how varied and entertaining our book choices are. See you on 25th July, we hope.



Ray Speakman

#### SAFEGUARDING TRAINING



We give safeguarding at our churches very high priority. Safeguarding is something everybody should be aware of, and we've worked very hard to achieve this by improving training and awareness of this important aspect of church life. But we can't be complacent, even though we're at the highest level of the Church of England's requirements and C of E's policies, which is very reassuring.

Most people whose roles which require it, within the churches, have completed their training and safeguarding checks. Many people prefer face to face training rather than online training, so we have organised face to face training on **Wednesday 7th September, 10am** in Church House. This course is the 'Awareness and Foundation' training. It is for those who require initial training or renewal, but anyone interested is very welcome. Thank you everyone for all your help to myself and Judith in our roles as safeguarding coordinators. It is such an important area of church life. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to come on September 7th, or email Judith at Judith.Chivers@blueyonder.co.uk.

#### **REDUCING OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT - AROUND THE HOME**

- Do an energy audit of your home. This will show how you use or waste energy and help identify ways to be more energy efficient.
- Change incandescent light bulbs (which waste 90 percent of their energy as heat) to light emitting diodes (LEDs). Though LEDs cost more, they use a quarter of the energy and last up to 25 times longer. They are also preferable to compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) bulbs, which emit 80 percent of their energy as heat and contain mercury.
- Switch lights off when you leave the room and unplug your electronic devices when they are not in use.
- Turn your water heater down to 120°F. This can save about 550 pounds of CO2 a year.
- Installing a low-flow showerhead to reduce hot water use can save 350 pounds of CO2. Taking shorter showers helps, too.
- Lower your thermostat in winter and raise it in summer. Use less air conditioning in the summer; instead opt for fans, which require less electricity. And check out these other ways to beat the heat without air conditioning.
- Sign up to get your electricity from clean energy through your local utility or a certified renewable energy provider.

https://news.climate.columbia.edu/2018/12/27/35-ways-reduce-carbon-footprint

Shared by Nick Ball on behalf of the Parish Eco Group



# WHY GENUFLECT?

#### What do we mean by genuflecting?

To bend one knee to the ground was a traditional way to show respect to Emperors and Kings. Christians came to genuflect before the Bishop.

#### Did Christians in the Early Church 'genuflect'?

Perhaps St Paul is writing about genuflecting in his Letter to the Philippians: 'Therefore God has highly exalted him, and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow in Heaven and on earth, and under the earth.' (Philippians Chapter 2 verse 9)

At first, Christians regarded genuflecting as part of the pagan worship of the Roman Emperor. Gradually it became a sign of respect and reverence to the Bishop. Genuflecting before the Blessed Sacrament was common in the Middle Ages.

#### Physical actions in world religions

'Here we present and offer unto Thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a living sacrifice'. (1662 Prayer Book)

In one sense, prayer is a spiritual activity, for 'God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.' (John Chapter 4 verse 24)

Yet our bodies play an important part in our worship.

Muslims prostrate themselves (lie on the floor) in worship as a sign of respect to Allah. They genuflect in the direction of Mecca during prayers. Hindus genuflect at Pilgrim Centres in India. Physical actions are also important for Christians.

In the Roman Catholic Church, those to be ordained as priests prostrate themselves during the ordination service. Standing, sitting and kneeling are all parts of normal Christian worship.

#### Faith and works

Actions can be powerful, and they can speak about what is going on in our hearts and minds. 'Actions speak louder than words.'

#### How to genuflect

Bend both knees slightly and put one foot behind the other. Then lower the knee towards the floor. Go down as far as is comfortable (depending on the state of your knees!). Take care not to lose your balance. Some hold the end of the pew or chair. It might be helpful to practice in private.

#### Why so some Christians genuflect?

It is to show you are in the presence of someone greater than yourself. People bow or curtsey in the presence of a Queen or King. This gives honour and respect to a Head of State. How much more appropriate to genuflect in the presence of Almighty God. He created the universe, and he keeps it in existence.

# WHY GENUFLECT? continued

He sent his Son to bring us salvation. In his presence, humility and respect are appropriate. To genuflect is one way to honour God, and show humility (to say the least) in his presence.

#### When do Christians genuflect?

When you are near or cross in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Some genuflect before or after receiving Communion.

Taken from the Tufton Leaflets Why? Series by Father John Pitchford and shared by Margaret Foreshew

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# THIS MONTH'S CROSSWORD

#### Across

- 1 Proverbs describes her as being 'of noble character' (Proverbs 31:10) (4)
- 3 'Shall we go up again — against the Benjamites, our brothers?' (Judges 20:23) (2,6)
- 8 A descendant of Shem (Genesis 10:28) (4)
- 9 'Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my ' (Luke 14:27) (8)
- 11 Resentment(Ephesians 4:31) (10)
- 14 In Cain (anag.) (6)
- 15 'Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to—' (Psalm 139:6) (6)
- 17 Intense (1 Thessalonians 4:5) (10)
- 20 Third Order of the Roman Catholic Church (8)
- 21 'At midnight the cry rang out, "Here's the bridegroom! Come out to him"' (Matthew 25:6) (4)
- 22 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in ' (2 Corinthians 12:9) (8)
- 23 'As the pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God' (Psalm 42:1) (4)

#### Down

- Nickname of popular First World War chaplain, the Revd G.A. Studdert Kennedy,
   Willie (8)
- 2 Occasion of religious joy (Lamentations 2:22) (5,3)
- 4 'We three kings of are' (6)
- 5 Allegation or charge (Jude 9) (10)
- 6 Kind (1 Chronicles 12:33) (4)
- 7 'Open your and look at the fields!' (John 4:35) (4)
- 10 Also known as the Feast of Lights (John 10:22) (10)
- 12 Area that saw the healing of two demon-possessed men and a herd of pigs stampeding to their deaths (Matthew 8:28) (8)
- 13 Forebear (James 2:21)(8)
- 16 Name given to the first two books of the Apocrypha (6)
- 18 Esau sold his birthright for this (Genesis 25:34) (4)
- 19 Rear (anag.) (4)



# THIS MONTH'S CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

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Answers are on page 31



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# WORD SEARCH - SEA SUNDAY

10th July brings us Sea Sunday, the day when Christian churches remember, pray and give thanks for the more than 1.5 million merchant seafarers and fishermen worldwide. If seafarers seem irrelevant to your daily life, think again: 90 per cent of everything you buy in the shops comes to you by sea. Merchant seafarers quite literally keep our global economy afloat. Yet it is a tough life, far from loved ones. Merchant ships are harsh working environments, never mind the threat of piracy or even shipwreck.

To help the seafarers, a worldwide network of port chaplains has sprung up. They offer hospitality and friendship, as well as practical, emotional and spiritual support, providing almost a 'home from home' in hundreds of ports, in more than 50 countries. You might wish to support one of these three well-known societies: The Mission to Seafarers (Anglican), The Apostolate of the Sea (Roman Catholic), and The Sailors' Society (inter-denominational).

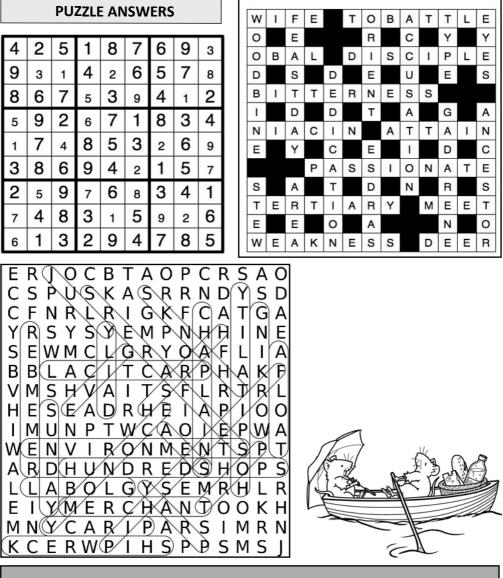
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# FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS - MAY

**Funerals:** 

4th	Jean Evans	82
10th	Paul Anthony Morton	75
24th	Valerie Buckingham	91
27th	Robert Arnold Berry	85

#### **Baptisms:**

- 22nd Freya Rose Sweeney
- 29th Wynter Jelley, Darsy Jelley and Harper Jelley



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