



Ryburn

BENEFICE

The Churches of:
St Luke's Norland
St Peter's Sowerby
St Mary's
Cottonstones



February
2022



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Bookings	Ken Cuttle	01422 836487	kencuttle@aol.com
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Church Services

Sunday worship services in our Churches continue, subject to the latest Covid-19 recommendations regarding mask wearing and social distancing. Sanitisers are available and use encouraged at the entry to the buildings. Congregational singing and refreshments after the service have resumed. Respect for each other's choices is our guiding principle as we welcome, greet and share worship with one another again.

Normal Sunday Worship times:

10am St Peter's Sowerby

11.30am 1st Sunday of the month, St Mary's Cottonstones

3,30pm St Luke's, Norland.

Social Events:

Community Café, Sowerby 9am-1pm Mondays, St Peter's Centre

Hub Café St Luke's, Norland 10am-3pm Wednesdays

Lunch Club, St Luke's, Norland 12 noon, 1st Tuesday in the month

Don't forget to look us up on the web & Facebook

www.ryburnbenefice.org



SaintPeter's Church Sowerby

Vicar: Revd Jeanette Roberts tel 01422 646 37112

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NB. St Luke's Lunch Club will be meeting at the Sportsman on February 1st this month instead of at church.

Some miscellaneous observations on life:

My train of thought was just derailed. – *Anon*

We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give. – *Duane Hulse*

We make our friends, we make our enemies, but God sends our next-door neighbour. – *GK Chesterton*

'For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.' (John 3:16)

Canon Paul Hardingham considers the nature of true love.

This month, as we mark St Valentines' Day, we focus on the importance of love. In understanding the way God loves us, this verse shows us how we should love others.

God's love is unconditional: God demonstrated His unconditional love for us by sending His Son into this world, to show us how we should love others, especially when it is undeserved! *'There is nothing we can do to make God love us more. There is nothing we can do to make God love us less.'* (Philip Yancey).

God's love is sacrificial: God's love is not selfish or self-seeking, but selfless and self-sacrificial, putting the needs of others first. This is demonstrated by the cross, which is the supreme demonstration of God's love. He died for our sins to give us access to God's love, which is made real in our lives by the Holy Spirit.

God's love is forgiving: According to the film *Love Story*, 'Love means never having to say you're sorry.' Yet Jesus' love for us enables us to forgive others, as we find His forgiveness through the gift of eternal life, available to all who put their trust in Him.

In this World Cup Year, we remember Bobby Moore describing the terror of receiving the World Cup from the Queen in 1966: *"I noticed that the Queen was wearing some beautiful white gloves. I looked down at my hands and they were completely covered with mud!"*

Although we approach God with dirty and spoilt lives, because of His love, we can shake hands with a holy God and share that love with others.

Hello God ...

A Prayer at Candlemas

Dear Lord God,

February can be a difficult, cold month, and this year there is much to be concerned about, with the pandemic still affecting our lives in so many ways. But thank you, Lord, that February can also be a month of wonderful signs of hope.

Help us, when we look down, to see the snowdrops – sometimes known as Candlemas Bells – and other bulbs pushing through the dark earth, showing the promise of Spring and brighter days ahead.

And then, help us to look up, to see the light of Jesus, Your revelation to all the world, in that baby who grew and died and rose again to offer salvation, hope and life to all who put their trust in Him.

Thank you, Father, for Jesus and that, because of Him, nothing – no pandemic, no circumstance – can ever separate us from You.

Thank you for Your Holy Spirit, living in all who trust in You, giving us strength for each new day of this and every month.



God's Valentine

For God so loved the world He sent His Son
There was no other way to let us know,
So Jesus came to us from heaven's realm
To bring God's love to all of us below.

He took on flesh, became like one of us,
Taught and healed and loved wherever He went
Showing the Father's love for all to see
He truly was a gift from heaven sent.

The Bible is God's precious Word of Life
A living breathing word like no other,
It is a heavenly letter of love to us
Sent 'From your God the Everlasting Father'.

By Megan Carter



Editor: As we ponder our spiritual walk with God this Lent...

The Great Sun
(from a Normandy Crucifix of 1632)

I am the Great Sun, but you do not see Me,
I am your husband, but you turn away.
I am the captive, but you do not free Me,
I am the captain you will not obey.

I am the truth, but you will not believe Me,
I am the city where you will not stay,
I am your wife, your child, but you will leave Me,
I am that God to whom you will not pray.

I am your counsel, but you do not hear Me,
I am the lover whom you will betray,
I am the victor, but you do not cheer Me,
I am the holy dove whom you will slay.

I am your life, but if you will not name Me,
Seal up your soul with tears, and never blame Me.

Translated by Charles Causley



Memories from St Mary's Cottonstones ...

(Courtesy of Jim Skelsey)

As St Mary's undergoes work to treat the dry rot in the floor here is a poignant reminder of a poem written by someone who was often to be seen effecting his own brand of repairs to the fabric of the Church. He was frequently to be found on the roof replacing tiles and doing other emergency jobs. His love of the place was very evident. This poem also reminds us of the deep connections often sensed in holy and well-loved places, and turn our thoughts to those we once knew.

St Mary's Cottonstones by Geoffrey Noble R.I.P

When on a lovely sunny day,
I find myself with time to stay
A little while,
at Cotton Stones.

Giving of their life and art,
For this place so set apart,
dear Cotton Stones.

I enter by the southern gate,
Not used by many now of late,
Oh, what they miss
of Cotton Stones.

Yes, set apart yet open too
For the likes of me and you,
At Cotton Stones.

I feel in each slow step I tread,
The living blending with the dead,
At Cotton Stones.

A place where peace will always
dwell
When outside rage or gales may
swell
That's Cotton Stones.

The names I read bring back to me
Many I love in eternity
At Cotton Stones.

The strife and tumult of our life
Is cut off here as with a knife
As we enter Cotton Stones.

And those I did not even know,
I feel their lives some seed did
sow,
At Cotton Stones.

My peace I give, Christ seems to
say
If only we find time to stay
And seek him here
at Cotton Stones.

Wisdom from the past from St Luke's ...

(Courtesy of Jenny Longbottom)

All I ever needed to know I learned in Kindergarten *by Robert Fulghum*

Most of what I really need to know about how to live and what to do and how to be, I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate school mountain, but there in the sandbox at nursery school.

These are the things I learned: Share everything. Play fair. Don't hit people. Put things back where you found them. Clean up your own mess. Don't take things that aren't yours. Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody. Wash your hands before you eat. Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you. Live a balanced life. Learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and work and play some every day.

Take a nap every afternoon. When you go out into the world, watch for traffic, hold hands and stick together. Be aware of wonder and remember the little seed in the plastic cup. The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.

Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even the little seed in a plastic up – they all die. So do we.

And then remember the book about Dick and Jane and the first word you learned: LOOK.

Everything you need to know is in there somewhere. The Golden Rule and love and basic sanitation. Ecology and politics and sane living.

Think what a better world it would be if all of us – the whole world – had cookies and milk about 3 o'clock every afternoon and lay down with our blankets for a nap. Or if we had a basic policy in our nation and other nations to always put things back where we found them and cleaned up our own messes.

And it is still true, no matter how old you are, when you go out into the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together.

In praise of plodders

The Rev Tony Horsfall, a former missionary in East Malaysia and then retreat leader based in West Yorkshire, considers the slow and steady type of Christian.

I've been pondering the words of the apostle Paul where he says, 'I press on towards the goal' (Philippians 3:14). It suggests to me taking one step at a time, and simply keeping moving in the right direction with discipline and determination.

This reminds me of the great Bible translator William Carey who said of himself, "If he gives me credit for being a plodder, he will describe me justly. Anything beyond that will be too much. I can plod. I can persevere in any definite pursuit. To this I owe everything."

Christian discipleship is not always exciting, glamorous, or even enjoyable. Sometimes it is a matter of quietly getting on with it, with our eyes fixed on Jesus.



"The knitting circle are playing their part in our heating efficiency programme."

How full is your 'Love Tank'?

Everyone has times when, if we are in a relationship, we feel really loved by our partner, there's a close connection and lots of fun and laughter. The relationship is flourishing.

There are also times when we feel distant, frustrated, angry perhaps, and all the love seems to have leaked out of the relationship.

Imagine we have an inner emotional 'love tank', and how full or empty the tank is represents how loved we feel. What's the 'fuel gauge' showing, how full is your love tank right now?

The question is not designed to be an opportunity to start thinking negatively about our partner, for criticising or demanding things, because we know that love is about giving, not getting.

The thing is that we all experience love in different ways. For one person hearing the words: 'I love you' makes them feel on top of the world. Words alone might feel quite hollow for someone else; regular cuddles and kissing may be what makes them feel loved.

Gary Chapman, author of *The Five Love Languages*, describes ways in which we can GIVE LOVE in the way our partner can receive it, when we know their 'love language.'

The five love languages are:

Words of affirmation, Quality time, Physical touch, Acts of service, and Thoughtful gifts

It comes naturally for each of us is to show love in OUR particular love language. I tend to do practical things, like making a nice meal or organising time together. There's nothing wrong with either of those things, it's just that my husband's top love languages are: 'words of

affirmation’ and ‘physical touch’. So the candles on the table do very little for him. If I want to express love in the way he’s going to receive it, I need to tell him how special he is and whisk him off to the bedroom! In short, if I want my husband to feel loved I need to be thinking of HIS needs.

The 5 Love Languages are a great tool to help people understand different ways they feel or experience love. You and your partner can explore these in Toucan Together’s Loving Module. Toucan can help you start some really great conversations. It’s really worth learning how to fill each other’s ‘love tanks’, and then get filling!

Christine Daniel is a speaker and blogger for FamilyLife UK, developer of the Toucan Together resource. Toucan Together is a relationship wellness app for couples that covers friendship, intimacy, resolving conflict, love language, and money management. Visit it at www.toucantogether.com

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With Valentine’s Day in mind...

The Rules of Marriage

Here are the real-life answers from a group of children:

How do you decide who to marry?

You got to find somebody who likes the same stuff. Like, if you like sports, she should like it that you like sports, and she should keep the chips and dip coming. – Alan, age 10

No person really decides before they grow up who they’re going to marry. God decides it all way before, and you get to find out later who you’re stuck with. – Kirsten, age 10

If you kiss someone, then you should marry them and have kids with them. It's the right thing to do. – Howard, age 8

Is it better to be single or married?

I don't know which is better, but I'll tell you one thing. I'm never going to have sex with my wife. I don't want to be all grossed out. – Theodore, age 8

It's better for girls to be single but not for boys. Boys need someone to clean up after them. – Anita, age 9

How would the world be different if people didn't get married?

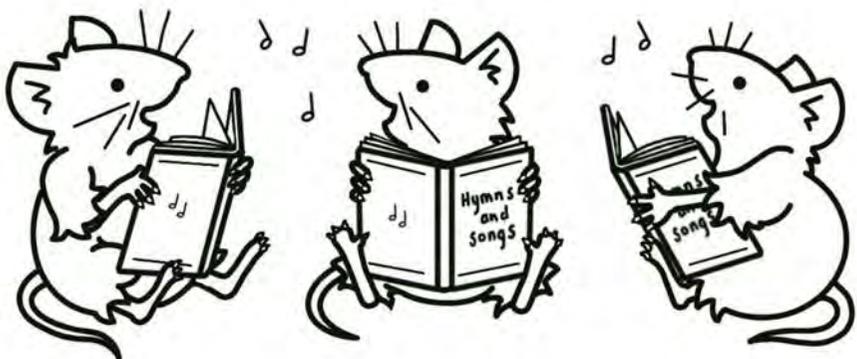
There sure would be a lot of kids to explain, wouldn't there? – Kelvin, age 8

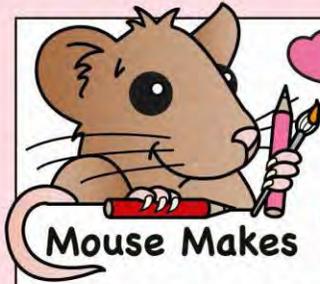
And the #1 Favourite is.....

How would you make a marriage work?

Tell your wife that she looks pretty, even if she looks like a lorry. – Ricky, age 10

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Mouse Makes

See what great love the Father has for us that He would call us His

1 John 1:3

Lord, you are a God who shows _____ and is _____
 ...You have great _____ and _____

Psalms 86:1



How did God show He **loved** us?
 Read 1 John 4:9

Love the Lord your God with all your

_____ with all your _____
 and with all your _____

Matthew 22:37

DBSE NSSE
 PCOMPASSIONATEA
 RUTMERCIFULLOVE
 YONIGRACIOUSYTIK
 OUFJUSTJRUDEBRDLF
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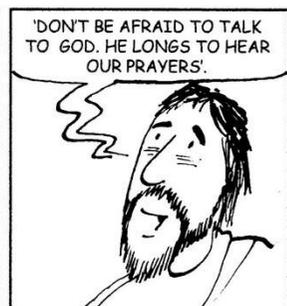
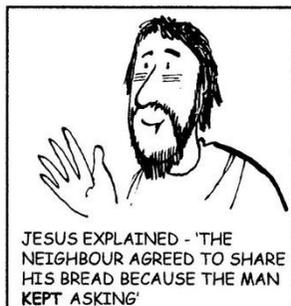
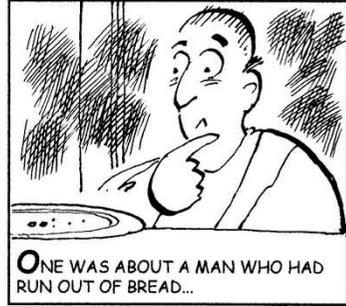
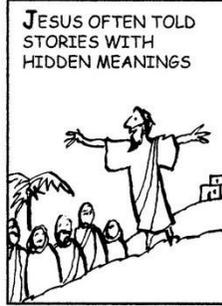
_____ is love.
 Whoever lives in love lives in _____, and _____ lives in them.
 1 John 4:16

Love your _____
 the same as you love
 Matthew 22:39

Love is ..
 Read
 1 Cor 13:4-7

- Love is:**
 PATIENT • KIND • GRACIOUS • JUST • TRUTHFUL • TRUSTING • HOPEFUL
 PERSEVERE • ENDURES • GOD
- Love is not:**
 JEALOUS • ENVY • BOASTFUL • PROUD • SELFISH • ANGRY • RUDE • EVIL
- God's love is:**
 LOVE • MERCIFUL • FAITHFUL • UNFAILING • ABUNDANT • COMPASSIONATE

The
Tale of
The Friend
at
Midnight

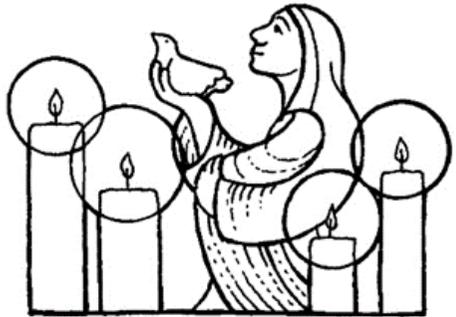



2nd Feb: Candlemas, The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

In bygone centuries, Christians said their last farewells to the Christmas season on Candlemas, 2nd February. This is exactly 40 days after Christmas Day itself.

In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to 'present Him to the Lord'. At the same time, she, as a new mother, was 'purified'. Thus, we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple.

So, where does the Candlemas bit come in? Jesus is described in the New Testament as the Light of the World, and early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day. The Church also fell into the custom of blessing the year's supply of candles for the church on this day - hence the name, Candlemas.



The story of how Candlemas began can be found in Luke 2:22-40. Simeon's great declaration of faith and recognition of who Jesus was is of course found in the Nunc Dimittis, which is embedded in the Office of Evening Prayer in the West. But in medieval times, the Nunc Dimittis was mostly used just on this day, during the distribution of candles before the Eucharist. Only gradually did it win a place in the daily prayer life of the Church.

God in the Arts ...



Picture reprinted by kind permission of the National Museum, Stockholm.

The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series on God in the Arts with a famous masterpiece by Rembrandt

NUNC DIMITTIS

Waiting is a common human experience. Our lives are made up of waiting that leads to encounter, and the waiting requires patience and humility. Milton wrote in his blindness, 'They also serve who only stand and wait' as he wondered what he could do for God's kingdom now that his sight had gone.

Simeon in this month's painting of the 'Presentation of Christ' had been waiting. He belonged to a people who had been waiting for centuries. He was heir to the hopes and dreams of a nation waiting for a better world now that the holy city was in the hands of Roman invaders. With his people he clung to the hope that God would come to bring freedom and a new life. God's chosen one, the Messiah, would bring this about. When it came, there was no fanfare, no warning, just an ordinary family from faraway Nazareth in the Temple, performing the religious duties for the firstborn son. But the waiting led to encounter, and the sight of the new-born child led to insight as Simeon recognised that light and salvation had at last come.

Rembrandt has captured all this in his painting, 'Simeon with the Christ Child in the Temple': the faith and patience, the hope and humility of an old man, a priest, who takes the babe into his arms and blesses God. It was the artist's last painting and left unfinished at his death in 1669. The figure of Mary by Simeon's side may have been painted by another artist at a later stage. It is the aged priest and the new-born babe that impress us as we look: Simeon with his venerable beard and eyes half closed, and the tiny child cradled in his strong arms, looking up intently with his eyes open.

As Rembrandt painted this canvas, was he saying something about his own life? He had not been afraid to paint his portrait at various stages - at 21, at 35, at 53 - a total of 60 portraits covering the span of years.

In this final painting the years have moved on as we see Simeon, mouthing 'Nunc dimittis' with his eyes half closed. Is the waiting over and the journey coming to an end, so that his eyes will fully close? Or will he open them to see that with the babe in his arms, God has more in store: the promise of a future as they step out together on a new journey?

Churches prepare Platinum Jubilee plans



Churches, Christian charities and youth organisations are working together to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee over the four-day Bank Holiday from 2nd to 5th June. A new website has been created – www.theplatinumjubilee.com – to provide ideas and resources for communities to celebrate the Queen's 70 years of faith and service.

The UK and Commonwealth will celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a four-day Bank Holiday from 2nd to 5th June 2022.

HOPE Together is working with a wide range of partners to help churches around the Commonwealth to mark this special occasion and, in particular, to celebrate the Queen's 70 years of faith and service. As with the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations, HOPE Together and partners will provide a range of ideas and resources for communities, schools, churches and youth organisations.

Dr Rachel Jordan-Wolf, HOPE's executive director, says, "Churches are in an ideal place to bring communities together for these national celebrations."

HOPE's Platinum Jubilee Highlights will include:

Our Faithful Queen - a gift book using rarely-seen prayers the Queen prayed as she prepared for the Coronation, will be published by HOPE Together and Biblica in January 2022 to buy and give away.

A Happylands animation and book 'The Girl Who Grew Up To Be Queen' for under-5s is to be published by HOPE Together in partnership with The Entertainer and Hope for Every Home.

A new anthem 'Rise Up and Serve' has been commissioned by HOPE Together and written by contemporary hymn writers Graham Kendrick, Mal Pope and Rend Collective for choirs to sing as part of the celebrations.

70 Acts of Service – an invitation to communities to celebrate by serving others with 70 community service ideas drawing on Stewardship's 40 Acts

On Her Majesty's Service for 11-14s – youth organisations, schools and uniformed organisations are involved (Pais, CofE, Youth For Christ, YouthScope, The Message, Prayer Spaces In Schools. Girls Brigade and Boys Brigade). Resources include ideas for action and videos to use.

Also – the following websites may be of use to you!

www.theplatinumjubilee.com - a dedicated website with all the ideas and resources you'll need to bring your community together to celebrate

Banners, posters and other Platinum Jubilee branded resources will be available from CPO - www.cpo.org.uk/queen-platinum-jubilee

The Platinum Jubilee – Celebration of Faith & Service logos can be downloaded from www.theplatinumjubilee.com

As the four-day Bank Holiday ends at Pentecost, our partners [Thy Kingdom Come](#) are also providing a Cheeky Pandas film, song and book for primary school children – with resource packs for home/church/school and community events.

Five famous quotes from Desmond Tutu

The recent death of Archbishop Desmond Tutu was mourned around the world. Here are five of his more famous quotes, which show why he was so especially honoured for his justice and reconciliation work in South Africa.

“Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”

“If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse, and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality.”

“Don't raise your voice, improve your argument. Good sense does not always lie with the loudest shouters, nor can we say that a large, unruly crowd is always the best arbiter of what is right.”

“Forgiving is not forgetting; it's actually remembering - remembering and not using your right to hit back. It's a second chance for a new beginning. And the remembering part is particularly important. Especially if you don't want to repeat what happened.”

“Differences are not intended to separate, to alienate. We are different precisely in order to realise our need of one another.”

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Forgiveness

A Sunday School teacher asked her children: “Can anyone tell me what you must do before you can obtain forgiveness of sin?”

There was a short pause and then, from the back of the room, a small boy ventured: “Sin?”

Saints you may not have heard about ...

8th Feb: Kew and the wild boar

St Kew has nothing to do with gardens or the 'Q' of James Bond fame. This Kew was a girl who lived in Cornwall in the 5th century, and who should be the patron saint of girls with difficult older brothers.

Kew's older brother was a hermit who felt his younger sister was not worthy to even visit his cell. But big brothers often underestimate their younger sisters, and he was no exception. One day Big Brother saw a wild boar charge out of the woods towards his sister. Kew spoke to it kindly in tones of such purity and sweetness that it immediately slowed down to a peaceful walk.

Big Brother was so shaken by this that he repented of his superior attitude. When he then bothered to spend time talking with young Kew, Big Brother discovered her nature to be of "rare virtue and holiness". Other people thought so too, and after her death they decided Kew had been a saint, and so should have the parish church named after her.

Perhaps the moral of all this is that if you want to win over a difficult older brother, you should first practise on wild boars.

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Fire of love

Here's to love, the only fire for which there is no insurance.

**

Love

Love may not make the world spin around, but it certainly makes a lot of people dizzy.

**

Life

In the midst of married life, we are in debt.

Crossword Feb 22

Across

1 'If you love those who love you, what — is that to you?' (Luke 6:32) (6)

4 'They threw the ship's — overboard' (Acts 27:19) (6)

7 The first murderer (Genesis 4:8) (4)

8 He was the head Levite in charge of the singing when the ark of God was brought back to Jerusalem (1 Chronicles 15:22) (8)

9 Samson was noted for this (Judges 16:6) (8)

13 Solicit money or food from passers-by (Acts 3:2) (3)

16 What William Booth's Christian Mission became in 1878 (9,4)

17 Alliance of Religions and Conservation (1,1,1)

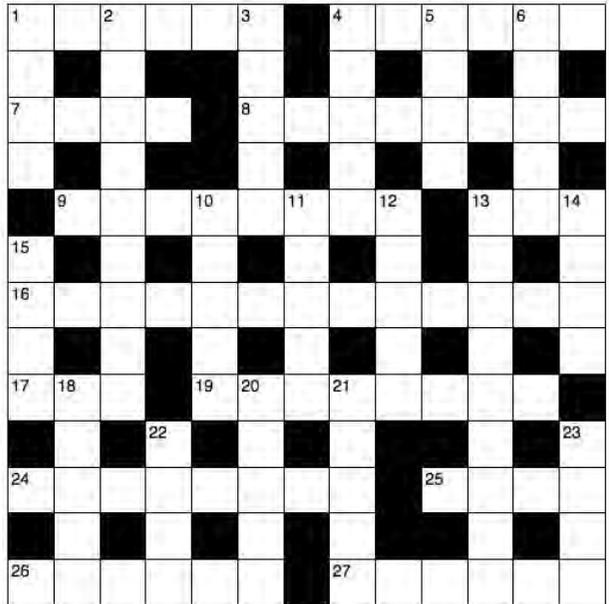
19 'I will praise your name for ever and ever. — I will praise you' (Psalm 145:1–2) (5,3)

24 Simon had (anag.) (8)

25 Desperate (Deuteronomy 28:48) (4)

26 Elisha witnessed the boy he was seeking to resuscitate do this seven times before opening his eyes (2 Kings 4:35) (6)

27 The belly and thighs of the statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream were made of this (Daniel 2:32) (6)



Down

1 'Before the — crows, you will disown me three times' (Matthew 26:75) (4)

2 Relating to the books of the Bible between Acts and Revelation (9)

3 'They have — the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!' (John 20:2) (5)

4 Belief (5)

5 'Take the following fine spices: ... 250 shekels of fragrant — ' (Exodus 30:23) (4)

6 'Do not — Jerusalem, but wait for the gift' (Acts 1:4) (5)

- 10 A seer (anag.) (5)
- 11 'Even there your hand will — me' (Psalm 139:10) (5)
- 12 The wild variety was part of John the Baptist's diet (Mark 1:6) (5)
- 13 A non-Greek speaker who was looked down on by civilized people (Colossians 3:11) (9)
- 14 Famous 1950s musical whose characters included members of
- 16 Across, — and Dolls (4)
- 15 The province from which Paul wrote to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 16:19) (4)
- 18 'He was standing in the gateway with a linen cord and a measuring — — his hand' (Ezekiel 40:3) (3,2)
- 20 'Today, if you hear his —, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion' (Hebrews 3:15) (5)
- 21 The Jericho prostitute who hid two Israelite spies on the roof of her house (Hebrews 11:31) (5)
- 22 'And now these three remain: faith, — and love. But the greatest of these is love' (1 Corinthians 13:13) (4)
- 23 'God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end' (Daniel 5:26) (4)

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Those who want to get married

A minister was preparing to marry a local couple within a couple of weeks. At the close of the morning service, he saw them both in the congregation, and wanted to ask them to come forward, but he couldn't think of their names. So, he said: "Will those wanting to get married please come to the front?"

Immediately, nine single ladies, six single men, three widows, and four widowers walked up the aisle.

God in the Sciences ...

This series is written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

The Love of Wisdom of Natural Things

Some time ago a scientist was invited to speak at the Dewsbury Women's Institute. He spoke about his research on polymers, hoping that the women of this Yorkshire mill town would connect with his desire to develop new fibres.

One person in particular, a woman called Betty who had worked in a mill since the age of 15, listened as if her life depended on it, and peppered him with questions afterwards. She had always been interested in how things work, but until that day had not found anyone to answer her questions. Whenever she had asked about the processes that they were using in the mill, she was just told to get on with her job.

From the outside, science can seem a closed specialty, hemmed in by intimidating jargon. When McLeish described science as 'the love of wisdom of natural things', however, he realised he was opening a door. He was moved to see that Betty was not the only person who shed a tear when her questions were finally taken seriously, confirming that her enquiring mind was indeed probing in the right direction – only fifty years too late.

Hearing about people like Betty reminds me that science is a very natural activity for anyone to be involved in. McLeish is convinced that there is a future in 'science therapy'. In his book *Faith and Wisdom in Science*, where this story appears, he asks the question "If a reintroduction to the activity of representing both inner and outer worlds in paint, music and drama can help to heal minds, what hope might there be for a participation in a gentle and contemplative science in restoring a broken or misunderstood relationship with the physical world?"

This story inspired me to run a number of hands-on science activities with adult audiences in churches. I have extracted DNA from strawberries with a midweek group for older people, organised hands-on exhibits to liven up lecture or discussion events, and even had groups extracting DNA from their own cheek cells.

Every time I lead activities like these, I find that grown-ups are grateful for the opportunity to have a go at science themselves. I love helping church-based groups, in particular, to reconnect with science and celebrate what they find. Science is not just for children and professionals – it is for everyone to enjoy and explore the world God made.

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Helen's electric chasuble was the envy of everyone

And Finally....

More church bulletin bloopers

The youth group has raised almost \$500 for drug abuse.

Correction: The following typo appeared in our last bulletin: 'Lunch will be gin at 12:15.' Please correct to read '12 noon.'

Any church member over 18 is invited to join in this lay ministry programme. It requires only a minimal amount of training and time: six weekly classes of about 200 hours, each Tuesday night.

The Seniors group will have a picnic on Saturday. Each person is asked to bring a friend, a vegetable, or a dessert, all in a covered dish.

Advert for a church jumble sale: 'We have a gents three-speed bicycle, and also two ladies for sale, in good running order.'

Puzzle Solutions Feb 22



If you have enjoyed reading our magazine, and would like to advertise the activities of your group or business in our next edition, please contact the editor, Revd. Lesley Ennis tel 01422 832747, or email your request to lesleyennis@hotmail.co.uk. For voluntary organizations there will be no charge. For commercial organizations, £2 per issue or £10 per year, for a quarter page insert.

All articles are accepted subject to Sowerby PCC editorial policy.

Cutoff date for items for the next issue is 25th of January. Anything submitted later will be held for the next magazine.

If you would like to receive future editions (in PDF format) direct to your email box, please email the editor with your details, which will be used solely for this purpose only.

Grateful acknowledgement is given to all our magazine contributors, and also to the contributors of the website Parishpump.co.uk, for kindly allowing us to use some of their material.