

Contract us at: *St Mary's with St Andrew's Parish Office*
St Andrew's Community Church, Hall Street, Stockport, SK1 4DA.

Telephone: 0161 429 6564 **Mobile:** 07421 000123 (Sue)

Stockport Parish Church [St Mary's in the Marketplace]
Churchgate, Stockport, SK1 1YG

Telephone: 0161 480 1815

Website: stmarysinthemarketplace.com

Email: st.marysstockport@gmail.com

Facebook: [Stockport Parish Church - St Marys](#)

St Thomas' Church, Stockport, Holt Street, Stockport, SK1 3PY.

Telephone: 0161 429 9524

Website: st.thomasstockport.org.uk

Email: info@stthomasstockport.org.uk

Facebook: [St Thomas' Church Stockport](#)

St Luke's, Northumberland Road, Brinnington, SK5 8LS

Telephone: 0161 406 8160 **Mobile:** 07711 355064 (Linda)

Website: stlukesbrinnington.co.uk

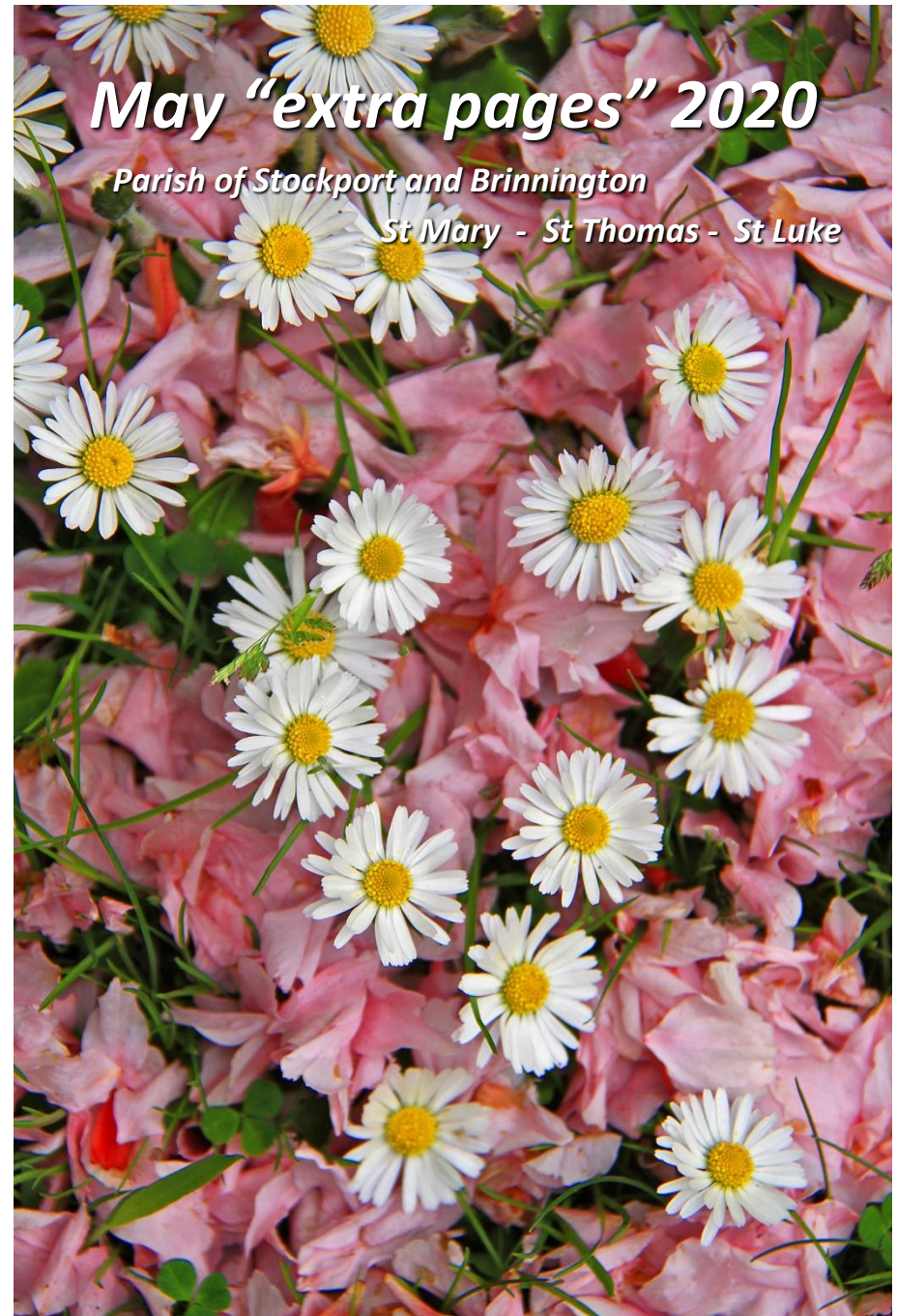
Facebook: [St Luke's Brinnington](#)

RECTOR: Rev Lynne Cullens

St Mary's Rectory, 24 Gorse Mount Street, Stockport, SK1 4DU

Telephone: 0161 477 1938

Email: lynne.cullens@gmail.com



Still in lock-down – so we’re producing a second edition to the parish magazine this month.

There are a few more puzzles to do and few more stories to read including diary entries from one of the UK’s Covid-19 front lines.

We start however with a mention of our friends at Stockport Market Hall. Trading ceased with very little notice when the lock-down began, not much time for planning what to do, but here we are with alternative ways of getting our “five-a-day”.



Brilliant initiative, I for one am most impressed and so nice to be able to support the market traders (well some of them at least) during these difficult times.



Above: Roggie Dog checks the vegetable box but was much happier when the meat selection arrived a few days later.

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

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

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

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

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

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

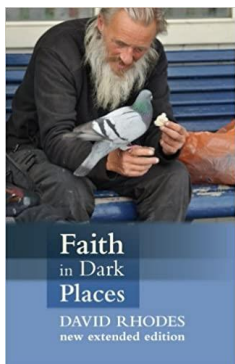


Bishop Keith launches Prayer Hub

The Acting Bishop of Chester, Keith Sinclair, is inviting everyone to “share a prayer and pray a prayer” as part of a diocesan-wide effort to support and serve one another through the coronavirus crisis.

Bishop Keith says: “We are all coming to terms with the new realities of the coronavirus pandemic. For us all this means staying at home, but even from our armchairs we can serve our communities in prayer.

Prayer sheets made up of prayers requested for a wide range of situations are available on the Diocese of Chester website - for people to download and pray in their own time.



Tuesday Evening 7pm - if you have access to Zoom and interested in joining the parish “reading” group you will be most welcome. Just let Lynne have your email address and she will add you to the invitation list - so that you will have all the relevant details needed to log-in.

At the present time the group is reading and discussing the book 'Faith in Dark Places' by David Rhodes. Copies are available on line, but you can join the group without buying or even reading the book.



HOME DELIVERY or PARK AND COLLECT

Congratulations to Stockport Market for making available fresh fruit, veg, meat, cheese

(and wine) etc. whilst the market is actually closed. Boxes available to order in advance for “park and collect” or for “home delivery” if within three miles of the Market Hall.

Not on e:mail then just give them a ring.

I personally have used “home delivery” for years – more than happy for someone else to fetch and carry and although you can’t see what you are getting in advance – it works for me!

Shopping during the “lock down” without leaving the house has naturally been slightly problematic to find delivery slots with the supermarkets, but what a delight to be told that Stockport Market traders had adapted to the crisis, making available fresh produce - and for me, how “lucky” to live 2.92 miles from Churchgate, just within the three mile boundary.

What a joy when my first box of fruit and veg arrived – amazing really just how excited you can become over the receipt of a box of vegetables – who would have thought! I for one have fingers crossed that this new service can continue even when the Market Hall re-opens its doors and that this new initiative during “lock down” becomes part of the new “normal”, you won’t get fresher produce than this landing on your doorstep – beautiful fruit, vegetables, meat, poultry, cheese etc.

Of course none of this is new – I remember my Mum ordering groceries over the telephone every week – she would have her list ready and read it out. No mobile phones in those days, one of those big heavy black things hard-wired into a socket located in the hall. Our order was delivered from Gledhill & Brook (Holmfirth) yes that's correct – Holmfirth - home of * "Last of the Summer Wine". The order duly arrived each week, direct to the back door and into the kitchen (including bottles of "Ben Shaw's" pop - Dandelion & Burdock and American Cream Soda).

Strange the things you think about "locked up" during "lock down". Gledhill & Brook were grocers, tea and coffee merchants. They were (from the mid 1940's) based at the "Grocery and Corn Exchange", 11 Victoria Street, Holmfirth, originally being corn millers. William Gledhill started the business in 1842, before Victoria Street was built. He was joined by Brook by 1899.

I can't remember exactly when the joys of supermarket shopping began... and Gledhill and Brook delivered no more. So came the end of bacon and biscuits being delivered home and the start of the weekly journey to "Lodges" (which I suppose was quite fun initially). *A pioneer of supermarket shopping in Huddersfield was Edward Lodge. Along with his brothers he transformed the greengrocery business founded by his father Albert and uncle Frank Lodge in 1921 into one of Huddersfield's best-known retailers with supermarkets across the town.* But that's another story... SMH

- **Last of the Summer Wine** is a British sitcom set and filmed in and around Holmfirth and originally broadcast by the BBC from 1973 to 2010 All 295 episodes - comprising thirty-one series - available on DVD.

Take comfort – in these difficult times... Psalm 91

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

² I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."

³ Surely he will save you
from the fowler's snare
and from the deadly pestilence.

⁴ He will cover you with his feathers,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

⁵ You will not fear the terror of night,
nor the arrow that flies by day,

⁶ nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness,
nor the plague that destroys at midday.

⁷ A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you...

⁹ If you say, "The Lord is my refuge,"
and you make the Most High your dwelling,

¹⁰ no harm will overtake you,
no disaster will come near your tent.

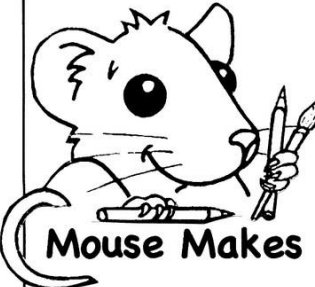
¹¹ For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways;...

¹⁴ "Because he^[b] loves me," says the Lord, "I will rescue him;
I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.

¹⁵ He will call on me, and I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble,
I will deliver him and honour him.

¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy him
and show him my salvation."

A bookmark for PENTECOST



Mouse Makes

It was the festival of PENTECOST and the Apostles and other believers were all together when they heard a sound like a strong wind and saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched every person. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other languages as the Spirit enabled them. A crowd had gathered outside and each of them heard the believers speaking in their own language about the great things God had done.

Read Acts 2:1-11
Which countries had the crowd come from?

The Holy Spirit

Teaches
John 14:26


Reveals
John 16 14-15

GUIDES
John 16:7-11

Helps
Romans 8:26

Comforts
John 14:16-17

Transforms
2 Corinthians 3:18



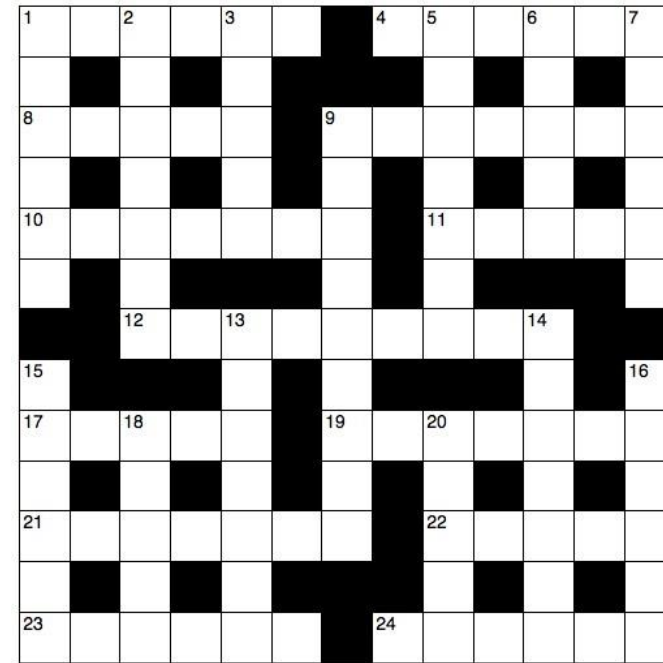
The work of God's Holy Spirit in us brings:

LOVE
JOY
PEACE
PATIENCE
KINDNESS
GOODNESS
FAITHFULNESS
HUMILITY
SELF CONTROL

Galatians 5:22-23

To make your bookmark:
Carefully cut around the outside, fold in half along the dotted line and glue together. Add a tassel to the bottom with a length of wool or ribbon. You can make it stronger by gluing onto card before folding.

CROSSWORD 1 – for those of you who like to test your skills



Across

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)
- 11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)
- 12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
- 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3-4) (5)
- 19 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7)
- 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)
- 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)

- 23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)
- 24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)
- Down
- 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
- 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
- 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
- 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)
- 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)
- 7 He reps (anag.) (6)
- 9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
- 13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
- 14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)
- 15 The human mind or soul (6)
- 16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)
- 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)
- 20 Bared (anag.) (5)

WORDSEARCH 2

Matthias – the last apostle

What made Matthias unique as an apostle? He was the only one not to be chosen by Jesus in the flesh. After betraying Jesus, Judas had committed suicide, leaving only 11 apostles. A new one had to be chosen. To be an apostle, you had to have followed Jesus from the Baptism to the Ascension, and also witnessed the Resurrection. In the event, the choice fell to one of two: Joseph Barsabas and Matthias. The 11 apostles prayed for guidance, lots were drawn, and Matthias was chosen. Matthias is thought to have ministered in Cappadocia and even Ethiopia. His story is found in Acts 1: 15 – 26. His feast day is this month, 14th May.



Last	Apostle	Feast	May	Acts
Judas	chosen	Eleven	Twelve	Original
Follower	Christ	Baptism	Ascension	
Resurrection	Guidance	Joseph	Matthias	
Cappodocia	Ethiopia			

WORDSEARCH 1

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

with them! Jesus had promised them power and his presence, and he was true to his word. After Pentecost the little frightened group of disciples became bold and fearless in proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ. The story is found in Acts chapter 2.

TOGETHER	PLACE	RUSHING	WIND	HOUSE
TONGUES	FIRE	FATHER	HOLY	SPIRIT
POWER	RECEIVE	UTTERANCE	SPEAK	COME
LANGUAGE	ASTONISHED	GALILEANS	NATION	HEAVEN
EARTH	OLIVET	UPPER	ROOM	DEVOTING
PRAYER	WOMEN	JESUS	BROTHERS	PETER

Pentecost, reckoned by many to be the Birthday of the Christian Church.

On that day, so long ago, the Holy Spirit came upon the faithful disciples praying together in Jerusalem shortly after Jesus' Ascension. They felt a rushing wind and saw flames as if of fire flickering on them. They burst into praise of God. He was

MEDIA COVERAGE

Rev. Peter Crumpler

ITV News journalist and presenter Julie Etchingham, a practising Christian, has defended the role played by journalists during the Coronavirus pandemic.

She told the Christians in Media website, "Reporters are coming in for a lot of flack for the questions they are asking government. But what else are we for? We all get that this is a crisis like no other; that few in government have ever had to navigate such a challenge.

"But, if we're still attempting to function as a democracy in the face of this, then scrutiny is clearly crucial. Many in our frontline services and the wider public are demanding answers. We are there on their behalf. We don't always get it right. This isn't a moment to trip people up, but urgently to get to the truth."

As a Christian who has worked in communications for around 50 years, I strongly support Julie Etchingham's view. Now is the time for truth and accuracy to be at the centre of all our communications.

So, yes, we need to be praying for and supporting the front-line health service staff, the public health experts, the scientists researching vaccines to combat the virus, and the key workers keeping our societies running.

But we also need to be praying for and supporting the men and women working in and with the media to publish, upload, broadcast and distribute the most accurate information, without spin or distortion.

So here is a prayer for the media in these challenging days.

Loving God,
We pray for everyone working in and with media in these challenging times.
Encourage all who seek to explain and interpret the fast-changing world around us.
Embolden the truth-tellers, truth-seekers and fact-checkers.
Promote coverage that builds our shared humanity and where everyone has a voice.
Bring clarity where there is confusion
Bring knowledge where there is speculation
Bring wisdom and insight when the way ahead seems unclear.
And bring us all to a knowledge of truth that sets us free, and helps keep us safe.
In the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Rev Peter Crumpler is a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, UK, and a former communications director with the CofE.



What is a dog to do!

I've not seen anyone to talk to or have a cuddle with (other than Mummy of course) for weeks now. Where are my friends? Why are we not going to church, to the Parish office, to the park, to the bank, anywhere? Why is Mummy staying at home? Why is everything being delivered to the door? Why can't I keep the ball when it comes over the fence from next door? What is Covid-19 anyway?

Still, Mummy is home all the time, which I really like. I get to play in the back garden running up and down the steps and trying to hide. I get to run riot in the house and jump on all the furniture, sit on the table and as far as I dare - be a little bit "naughty" - but just for fun. I keep watch at the front window and bark at people walking past (some with doggies great and small) and at all the birds flying past or nesting in the trees. I do see the "postie" of course and the delivery people bringing food and parcels - things for Mummy, things of the house and things for "me" (like more fencing to keep me in)!

*I hope all my human and doggie friends are well and staying safely at home. I'm missing everyone and can't wait to see you all again soon.
Love Roggie Dog*

SUDOKU

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

© 2011 KrazyDad.com

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

© 2011 KrazyDad.com

ON THE FRONT LINE WITH COVID-19: *Nigel Beeton (whose poems you will have seen in the parish mag many times) works in Radiology in a hospital in the East of England. During this time of the coronavirus crisis, he is keeping a diary of his life at the hospital. Here are some of his entries:*



There was a group of my staff just standing in the waiting area outside one of the CT scanning rooms the other day. I opened my mouth to speak but one of them caught my eye and put his gloved finger in front of his visor in the universally understood bid to be silent, understood despite the fact that his lips were separated from his finger by the visor and a face mask. They don't often shush their boss, so I very obediently closed my mouth again. The door to the room opened, and an elderly patient appeared, accompanied by another radiographer.

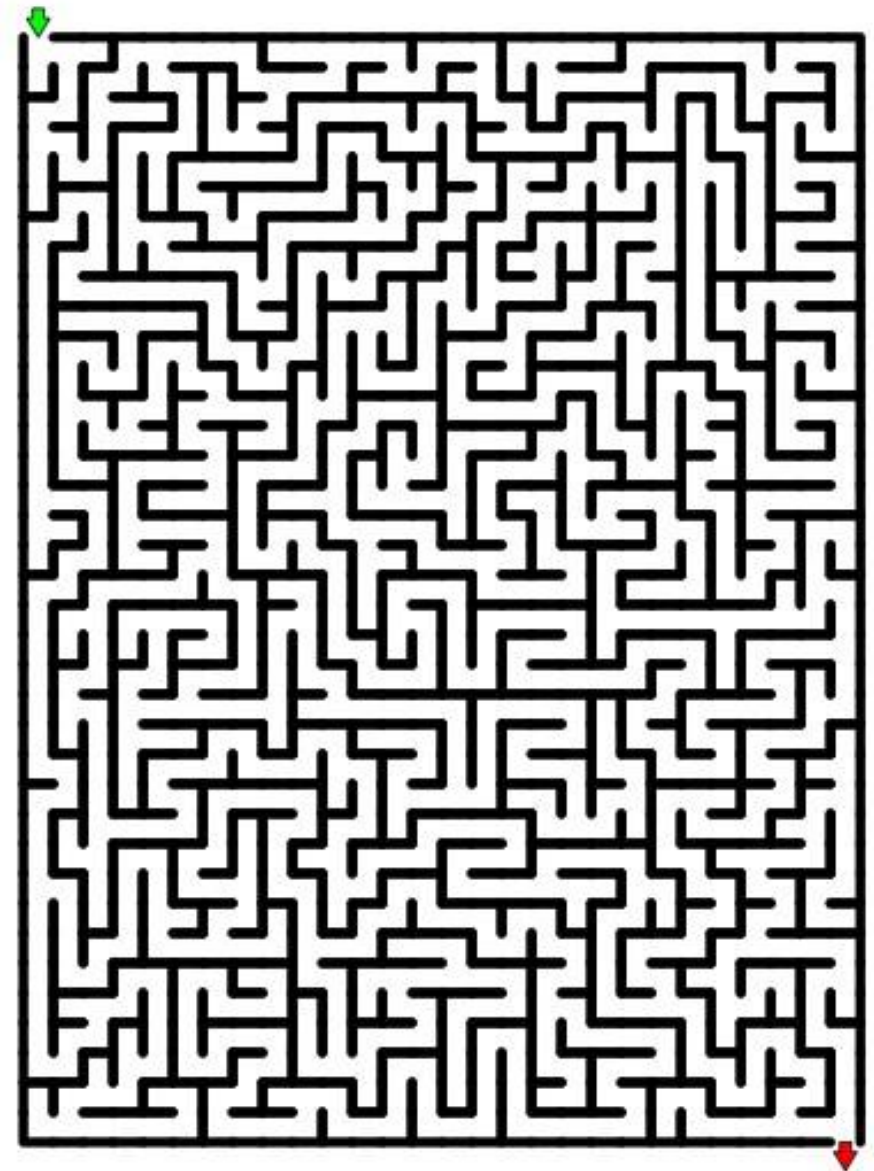
"Happy Birthday Mabel!" everyone chorused (I've changed her name to protect her confidentiality.) Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday to you! Happy Birthday, dear Mabel, Happy Birthday to you! Even I joined in. I'm not sure if my singing voice is up to much, but my sentiments were genuine. I hoped she'd have a good birthday. We all rounded off the melody with a round of applause, latex gloves make a strange popping noise if you clap while wearing them. Dear Mabel loved it. She was clearly surprised and taken aback by the sight of half a dozen staff in PPE singing 'Happy Birthday' to her, but the experience had transformed an alien world of CT scanners and PPE into a familiar one of birthday wishes and a well-known song. "Oh, thank you everyone, you're all so kind; my family can't be with me today. Usually they come for my birthday." Mabel, in her eighties, was self-isolating due

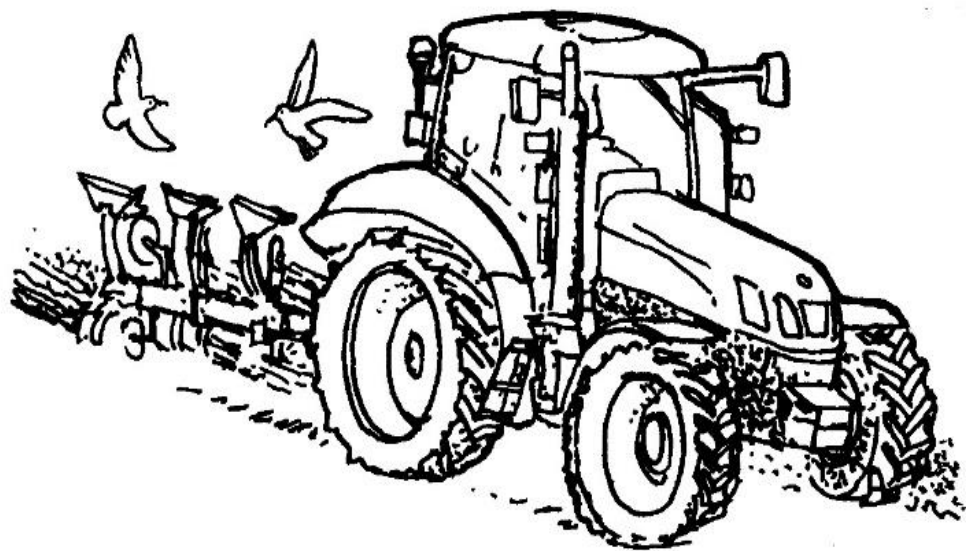
to her age, but still living independently at home. We check dates of birth as part of ensuring that we are doing the right thing for the right patient, and so my colleague had clocked that today was her birthday. Having got to know her well enough during the setting up stage to be happy that she wouldn't mind, he conspired with his colleagues while watching the scanner do its stuff.

The coronavirus may be keeping us separated from one another, but it is spurring us all on to make greater efforts to be connected to one another, to show our humanity towards one another. Someone bought us lunch today. It appeared in pots by our gate, and we sat down and enjoyed a meal of restaurant quality food. Our friends had supported a local restaurant which, in its hour of need has branched out into 'meals on wheels', and shown us such love and concern that a tear was brought to my eye. I hope and pray that the coronavirus will soon fade into history. But I pray equally fervently that its legacy of connected humanity will last for many, many years to come.

And so it goes on, day after day, week after week. I have had a long career in radiography, I started with the race riots in the early 80s. I have dealt with coach crashes and multi-vehicle pile ups, I have seen plenty of tragedy and trauma, quite enough for a lifetime. A major accident is terrible for those affected, and hard work for those dealing with it, and for a time everything is very abnormal. But then comes the standing-down phase, staff are debriefed, and the hospital returns to normal, even as we reflect on those whose lives will never be the same. In my whole career I never considered the possibility of 'abnormal' going on for so long. I almost can't remember a time when we weren't keeping a significant distance between ourselves and our fellow human beings, wearing scary looking kit if we had to come close.

MAZE





A time when we didn't have to insist that patients attended alone, but could still have their nearest and dearest to support them in their hour of need.

This is one of the most distressing aspects of this coronavirus. It has driven us apart at such a frightening time that we just want to cling onto those we love. Spare a thought in your prayers for those who live alone, who do not have loved ones in their homes simply to hug them when they are scared. But pray earnestly for those who are torn even from their nearest family members when they develop severe symptoms. The ambulance comes and they simply do not know whether they will ever see their families again; do not know if they will ever again feel the comfort of a hand to hold or the touch of another person's lips on them. It is so, so hard for the staff caring for them as they approach death, when they can only relay messages from family and are themselves separated from the patient by PPE. This tears at the very souls of nurses who do what they do because they care about comforting their fellow humans. It is not so intense for radiographers but it is multiplied by the numbers that are seen on every shift.



Thank you for your applause each Thursday evening, it is VERY much appreciated, but as I applaud I do so for people who go back to work on each shift facing not only a virus that has the potential to kill them, but also significant and repeated emotional trauma. It is difficult, under these circumstances, to understand or even to forgive those who fail to do their bit to stem the spread of the virus. Given what these nurses, radiographers, and other care staff are facing each and every day, is it really so hard to simply stay at home? Given what these poor patients and their families are going through, is it so hard to follow the rules?

Nigel Beeton



The Covid Frontline – is this the ‘end of the beginning’? Is it too early to start using the past tense with regard to Covid-19? Well, yes, of course it is. To abuse Winston Churchill’s quote, this certainly is not the end, but it just might be the ‘end of the beginning’.

At our hospital, we are down to just five patients remaining in intensive care, for which I (and many others) thank the Lord. I have a feeling that the turning point was Wednesday (22nd). Up to then I seemed to have my visor on as much as off, assisting my staff, mainly in CT. Then, on Thursday, they didn’t call me at all! Friday was a bit busier, but today (Sunday) the feeling that things are calming down is becoming more widespread. I write with some trepidation, for even as a Christian I’m superstitious about using the ‘Q’ word. (‘Quiet’. NEVER use that word in the presence of a working health professional!).

I apologise, Gentle Reader, for my darker blogs of a week or two ago, when I was raging at idiots for breaking the lockdown. Indeed, I was tired, and I can now share that I had fallen victim not to *the* virus but to *a* virus, when an agonizing rash spread across the right side of my body. My GP asked me (on the phone) if I had been tired and run down. My slightly abrupt reply of ‘haven’t we all?’ got a grunt of assent before she diagnosed me with an attack of the shingles. But now I find it feels less as though I’ve lost a fight with an aggrieved stallion and my own mood is lifting along with many of my colleagues, so I find myself able to give thanks that so many *did* observe the lockdown, and now we begin to see the benefits.

Sometimes over the past few years the NHS has felt like a bit of a public whipping boy, and indeed sometimes we have let people down, and if

School’s out too soon for the summer Any other year, unexpected freedom from end-of-term lectures and exam timetables would surely be cause for celebration. But this year, many students’ terms have ended with a tremendous anti-climax. Spare a thought for those who, whether they’re sixth-formers or prospective grads, will have no summer term, no celebration party, no opportunity to hug their friends goodbye. Many had to leave their student houses and head home suddenly, now figuring out how to complete their degrees from a distance. It wasn’t meant to be like this. And there’s nothing they can do about it, except sit in the disappointment. The temptation is to run from or deny this reality: be it watching all of *TIGER KING* in a weekend or bulldozing our emotions with ‘God’s in charge’ mantras. But the gospel shows us and the students we know a better way. Rather than a God who shows us how to escape disappointment, Christians believe in a God who shows up *IN* our disappointment. The writer of the letter to the Hebrews captures this fact, in pointing out that Jesus is not ‘unable to feel sympathy for our weaknesses’ (4:15). Jesus dealt with disappointment too – we see it in His response to His townsfolk’s lack of faith, and His closest friends falling asleep when He needed them most. If disappointment was an experience for Jesus, we can be sure it will be an experience for those who follow Him. Recognising there is no quick fix, on-demand, life-hack solution might be a way to help the students we love to come to terms with their disappointment. To do so might even be the first step towards a more profound truth: Christians do not believe that we face disappointment alone. He is *IMMANUEL* – God with us. And as we discover that reality, our disappointment might not only be validated, it might be transformed. Knowing Jesus and trusting Him is a hope that ‘does not disappoint us’ (Romans 5:5). Because in God’s story, disappointment – whether a missed goodbye or a Saviour on a cross – is only momentary. The truth is that He’s putting this not-as-it-should-be world back together, as His kingdom comes, day by day. This is the hope of the gospel. *Tim Yearsley (London Institute for Contemporary Christianity)*



Christian Aid Week 10-16 May

Clearly there will be no “Big Brekkie” at the Nave Café this year but it is easy to make a donation on-line and then if you wish pop into the kitchen and grab the bacon and eggs!

Christian Aid Week is moving online building a vibrant, virtual Christian Aid Week so that we can all take part as an online community.

If you possibly can, please join in to show love for your neighbours near and far and make an online donation – gift aid wherever possible to give that little bit extra.

A message from Christian Aid:

Christian Aid Week is a joyful celebration of our potential to change the world through our gifts, prayers and actions. Together, we raise funds to support our poorest sisters and brothers around the world. Coronavirus means Christian Aid Week is very different this year. But we hope supporters like you will do all you can to make it the same life-changing and joyous week we’ve run since 1957.

www.christianaid.org.uk

you are one of those people I am genuinely very sorry; but please don’t ever think we do not care. We do. We get up in the morning in the hope of doing good, prepared to do daily battle with the forces that combine to do harm to the populations we serve. The Coronavirus is but one of those enemies, if you are concerned that any of the others have you in its grip, heart disease, cancer, *anything*, then do seek help; we in the NHS will do our best to help you and to protect you from any other kind of harm.

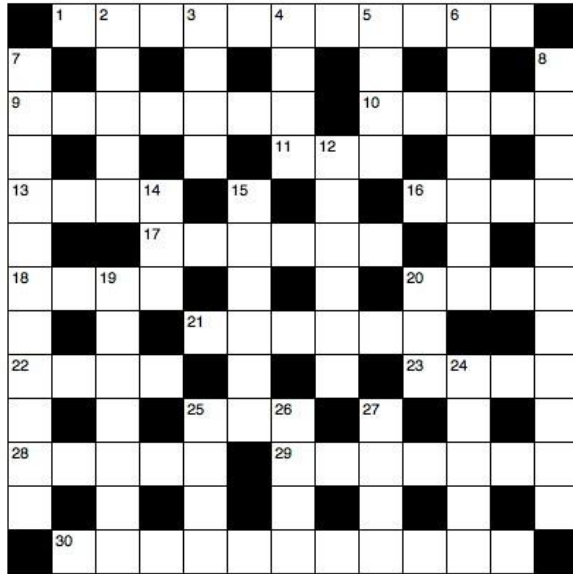
But suddenly we in the NHS are getting thanked. For forty years I have plodded towards various hospitals at various odd times of day or night, and never once has anybody stopped me and said ‘thank you’. Nor would I have expected it (they do pay me!) but that is exactly what happened to me on Monday morning. I was just getting onto the site when a lady who I have never met asked me if I worked at the hospital. I replied in the affirmative, wondering what was coming. “Thank you,” she said. “Thank you so much, all of you.”

Well, thank *you*, ma’am. I cannot tell you how much the appreciation and support of the general public has meant to us all. The rainbows in the windows, the ‘I love the NHS’ slogans appearing everywhere; the clapping on Thursday evenings. And let us pray that, standing together as we have done, perhaps we are all beginning to turn the corner.

Nigel Beeton

We’ll catch up with Nigel again in due course.

CROSSWORD 2



Across

- 1 Overpowered
(Deuteronomy 11:4)
(11)
9 'The — are
mantled with corn'
(Psalm 65:13) (7)
10 'Each man—a
sword to his
side'(Exodus32:27)(5)
11 On the death of
Jesus the curtain in
the temple was torn
from— to bottom
(Matthew 27:51) (3)

- 13 Stagger(Isaiah 28:7)(4)
16 'Anyone,then,who knows the good he ought— and doesn't do it,
sins' (James 4:17) (2,2)
17 Stir up or provoke(Acts13:50)(6)
18 Burden(Luke11:46)(4)
20 'As far as the east is from the—,so far has he removed our
transgressions from us' (Psalm 103:12) (4)
21 Sign(Luke23:38)(6)
22 'After that,Jesus poured water into a basin and began to—his
disciples' feet' (John 13:5) (4)
23 The nature of the seven ears of corn which swallowed up the good
ears in Pharaoh's dream (Genesis 41:23) (4)
25 Has(anag.)(3)
28 'This is the account of Shem,Ham and Japheth,—sons' (Genesis
10:1) (5)
29 'I will...make them drunk,so that they...sleep for—and— awake'

(Jeremiah 51:39) (4,3)

30 Paul said of him,'he often refreshes me and is not ashamed of my
chains' (2 Timothy 1:16) (11)

Down

- 2 Worth (Matthew 13:46) (5)
3 'A bruised — he will not break' (Matthew 12:20) (4)
4 'Suddenly a great company of the heavenly — appeared with the
angel' (Luke 2:13) (4)
5 Slip (anag.) (4)
6 'Take an awl and push it through his — — into the door, and he will
become your servant for life' (Deuteronomy 15:17) (3,4)
7 Bountiful (2 Corinthians 8:2) (11)
8 'Therefore, as we have — , let us do good to all people' (Galatians
6:10) (11)
12 Acquire(2Timothy2:10)(6)
14 Container cover(Numbers19:15)(3)
15 'He...became obedient to death,even death on— —!' (Philippians
2:8) (1,5)
19 Refrain(1Peter2:11)(7)
20 'She began to—his feet with her tears'(Luke7:38)(3)
24 One who worships Brahma,Vishnu or Shiva(5)
25 'Give to everyone who—you'(Luke6:30)(4)
26 'I lift up my eyes to the hills;where does my—come from?' (Psalm
121:1) (4)
27 One of those whom the Lord said would be taken from Jerusalem
and Judah as judgment on them (Isaiah 3:2) (4)