

St Mark's Parish Magazine

September 2021

THE PARISH CHURCH OF SAINT MARK, REIGATE

Vicar: The Reverend Martin Colton
Tel: 01737 241161 Email: vicar@stmarksreigate.co.uk
Assistant Curate: The Reverend Reginald Grant
Tel: 07385 832372 Email: curate@stmarksreigate.co.uk

PARISH OFFICE

Monday to Thursday 9.00am to 1.00pm 01737 210785/ 07979 788601
Parish Administrator – Alexia Hartman E-mail: office@stmarksreigate.co.uk

READERS

Mr Ian Archer, 01737 242842
Mrs Sarah Cousins, 01737 789943
Mrs Susannah Dyde, 01737 221638

CHURCHWARDENS

Mrs Louise Wallis 01737 242129
Mr Ben Read, 01737 244440

DEPUTY WARDENS

Mrs Jane Artis 07831 269866
Mr Timothy Warren 01737 249388

SACRISTAN

Mr James Tanser 01737 767355

PCC TREASURER

Mrs Mel Crighton 01737 241100

GIFT AID SECRETARY

Mr Nigel Perkins 01737 226632

PCC SECRETARY

Mr Terrence Hancock 01737 761178

ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER

Mr Terrence Hancock 01737 761178

ELECTORAL ROLL

Mr Terrence Hancock 01737 761178 (acting)

Visit our website: www.stmarksreigate.co.uk

Donations to cover the cost of this publication are welcome

In this month's issue

Letter from the Vicar	Page 2
Patience	Page 3
Church News	Page 4
News from the Church of England	Page 5
PCC turns 100!	Page 6
Names	Page 7
Calendars	Page 8
Empathy	Page 10
Environment News	Page 12
Book Review	Page 16
Reader Recipes	Page 17
Puzzles	Page 18

Your Views & Contributions

Next issue will be available from Sunday 3 October 2021
All contributions to the editor by Friday 17 September 2021

Email: magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk

Meet the Parish Magazine Team

Editor: Helen Starmer *email: magazine@stmarksreigate.co.uk 07525 370320*

Website Link: Nigel Perkins

Advertising: Jane Artis *email: janeartis@hotmail.com 07831 269866*

Calendar Update: Parish Administrator

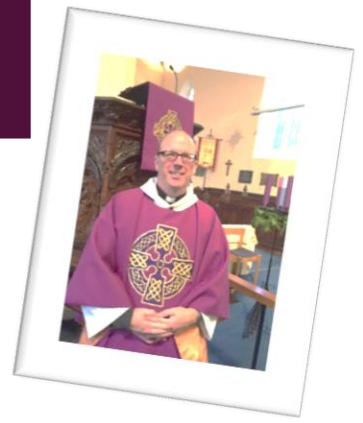
Crossword & Sudoku: Terrence Hancock

Proof Readers: Fr. Martin Colton, Terrence Hancock & Malcolm Toye

LETTER FROM THE VICAR

Dear Friends,

I always feel that September is a month of new beginnings, and often new beginnings come after something else comes to an end. A few weeks ago, children and parents geared up to the end of term, the end of the school year, perhaps even the end of schooling for some! Maybe being confined to home, one place, came to an end with the lifting of many Covid restrictions. Perhaps a period of employment ended before the summer break.



As different things come to an end, new beginnings will be ahead – new classes, university, college, retirement, moving to a new house, new relationships, a new job with new challenges and I am sure you can think of many more, perhaps some you are experiencing yourself.

I wonder how many of these things however exciting they are may be, actually fill us with apprehension or anxiety, and how many we run towards with excitement and vigour, or perhaps a mixture of both. Yet each new day has the opportunity for something new, something exciting, a new chapter to embrace. A chance to invite God into those new beginnings, and to ask him for his strength, support, encouragement and guidance.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!” (2 Corinthians 5.17). This verse, written by St Paul in his Second Letter to the Corinthians, is an incredible promise for all who choose a new beginning, a fresh start, in Jesus Christ. A promise for anyone, not those who have it all wrapped up and sorted, or know the bible chapter and verse, or those who are “perfect” in every way, but for anyone to come and be a new creation in Jesus Christ.

Change can be scary, can be daunting, can feel like stepping into the unknown, but in Christ we are changed and continue to be changed as God works both for us and in us. What an incredible gift that is, a gift for the here and now, for us to receive. God longs to do a new thing in all our lives.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all every blessing for this month ahead as you reflect on the endings and look forward to new beginnings.

With my best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Manton'.

Patience

How patient am I? Can I be philosophical and patient when I have to wait for something to happen? Margaret Thatcher said, "I am extraordinarily patient, provided I get my way in the end."

There is a saying, which may not now be politically correct, which went as follows:

"Patience is a virtue,
Possess it if you can.
Seldom in a woman,
Never in a man."

I think these days we have so often been able to avoid waiting so should therefore be more patient. We tend to think everything should be immediate when, with the touch of a button on a phone or by using remote controls, this can be the case. "What will the weather be?", "Where am I?", "What way should I go?" are examples of this.

Although we as a nation are reputed to be happy in a queue, or will form one if there isn't one there, I don't think we are as patient in this as we were. In some ways our culture has no positive use for patience or waiting as everything is focused in doing something, and doing it faster.

I read in a paper recently of some of the things people are most impatient about, which included: When will a delivery really come? Where are the car keys? Why is the Wi-Fi packing up?

My father used to get impatient when waiting at traffic lights and threatened to drive on after he counted to ten if they did not change before then. Of course he counted slowly before the end so that never happened. I get impatient when someone has promised to ring back and does not do so. If I have a pain I get impatient if relief does not come quickly and if I am waiting for treatment I feel it should come quicker than it does. I get impatient when God does not answer my prayers "soon enough" or answers them in a way I had not wanted.

St Paul said to the Colossians, "Endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father." And to the Romans he said, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer."

But I have read in my Bible Study Notes that waiting and patience need not be passive. It can be poised and watchful. A good waiter in a restaurant is highly alert and ready to respond to any need or signal and in the sports field waiting is the skill that makes the moment to move decisive and game changing.

So I really must be more patient, perhaps devoting part of my waiting time to prayer, giving thanks for so much in life.

Ian Archer

Church News



Toilet Twinning

The PCC and the Eco Committee are pleased to confirm that, in partnership with the Rotary Club have twinned the female toilets within St Mark's to build toilets in Africa, to support families and particularly young women who may otherwise not have access to hygienic toilets. Through this partnership Reigate is working towards becoming a twinned town as many local schools and businesses have joined together across the town to twin over 20 toilets.

Without the proper sanitation, many people in the poorest parts of the world resort to squatting in a bush to do their daily business. This can lead to many problems; firstly illness – those without water to wash the matter away or themselves can get seriously ill which impacts their education, work and can put them in debt as they have to pay for medicines.

Young women who start their periods don't have access to a safe, clean place to change and may drop out of school. Also, they are more likely to get attacked by snakes and animals if their culture does not allow them to use the toilet in the daytime.

Our donation will cover the 3 ladies toilets at St Mark's and as well as building toilets the money helps to fund education on the basics of handwashing and hygiene to help keep people healthy. We are hoping to fundraise to cover the 3 men's toilets and the disabled toilet also. Each toilet costs £60 to twin and if we twin 4 toilets, we will be able to build a block of toilets for a school.

If you would like to donate, please label your donation 'toilet twinning'. And, if you would like more information please contact Helen Starmer or Patricia Bird.

Before they had toilets, Sita's family were constantly sick and had to make regular visits to the health clinic. Sita and her husband are casual labourers and often had to borrow money to pay for medicines. Their debts mounted up. "We felt hopeless, trapped," Sita says. Toilet Twinning's partner taught Sita and her neighbours about hygiene, trained them to build toilets and installed a community water pump. Now, Sita's family are healthy, they can afford to send the children to school and they've even started to build a new home. "Now, our village is clean and there's no more debt!" Sita says.



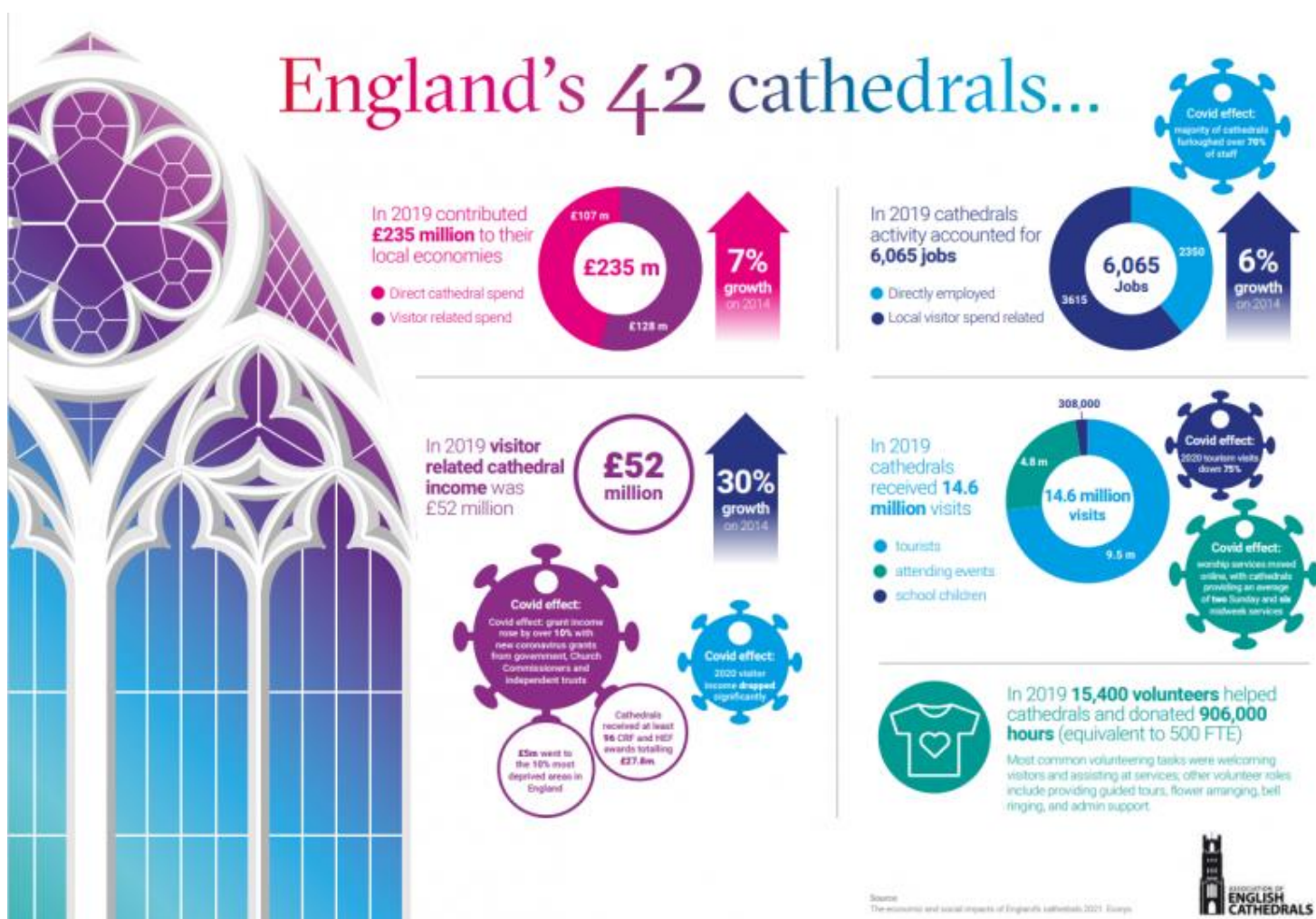
News from the Church of England

New research reveals the positive impact cathedrals have on their community

New research commissioned by The Association for English Cathedrals finds that the 42 cathedrals contribute a significant amount to the cities and the communities in which they are based.

As well as providing jobs, they offer a rich programme of cultural activities and have been sets for film shoots for The Crown, The Avengers Endgame and Doctor Who.

The infographic below provides more details:



Read the full article at: <https://www.churchofengland.org/media-and-news/press-releases/new-research-reveals-significant-contribution-cathedrals-local>
<https://www.churchofengland.org/media-and-news/news-releases/first-ever-general-synod-elections-ad-campaign>

The PCC turns 100

It's a hundred years since parish churches gained the power to run their own affairs, separately from what we now regard as local government.

The religious affairs of a parish, as well as its secular business, had been controlled by a single committee, which met in the church and was known as the 'Vestry'.

Then, in 1894, Parish Councils were formed to deal with secular matters; the Vestry continued to oversee church affairs until 1921, when Parochial Church Councils (PCC) were established. People still get confused by the two.



Churchwardens have been around since the 13th century and legally 'own' the movable contents of the church. They are meant to maintain order in the church and churchyard, with the assistance of their staves, if necessary. In the event of serious disorder today, a mobile phone might be a safer instrument, with staves reserved for ceremonial occasions. Churchwardens are now chosen by parishioners, though the Incumbent (i.e. Vicar or Rector) has a limited veto.

Today, anyone on the Electoral Roll of the church (this is another confusion, for the secular Electoral Roll is entirely separate) can attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, which elects the PCC. The Incumbent is an ex officio member, as are other licensed clergy and Churchwardens, members of the Deanery Synod, plus any members of the Diocesan Synod and General Synod who live in the parish or are on the Roll. The Incumbent chairs the PCC, which elects a Vice-Chair and appoints a Standing Committee to transact business between meetings.

The purpose of a PCC, which must meet at least four times a year, is to consult together with the Incumbent "on matters of general concern and importance to the parish", and that includes the "whole mission of the Church".

This article was taken from the Edenbridge Parish News April 2021 Issue No 89. Thank you to Patricia Bird for recommending this contribution. Image from The Vicar of Dibley

Names

Our names are very important to us and we like to be recognised by name, unless we are in trouble. But we can be known to different people by any number of names.



My name is Dudley Ian Archer and I have been known to others as Ian for most of my life. However so often nowadays one's first name is asked for, so when in the Doctor's surgery I am asked for, I look round to see who this Dudley is.

I don't like that name but I heard that at my Christening my grandfather liked it, so that was as it should be. Looking at some letters between my parents just after my birth in May 1933 they referred to me as Dudley but by September of that first year they were calling me Ian, as they did for the rest of their lives. I think they did not make Ian the first name as then my initials would be IDA, a girl's name.

Of course I have been called by many other names, some more polite than others, but I like to be called Daddy by my children and Gramps by my grandchildren. My barber for many years welcomes me as "Padre" as he knows I was a chaplain in the sea cadets for so many years.

I had a lawyer colleague in my office whom we knew always as John Cook but when I sadly went to his funeral I thought I was in the wrong place as at home he went by another name.

Also I was just about to take a funeral once and only just before the service I found the lady was known by friends by another name.

Often one is named after someone else and I was named after one of my father's best friends, Ian Cormack. At one time, especially in Wales, one would be named after one's father or another respected ancestor.

"The Importance of Being Earnest" is my favourite play of Oscar Wilde and the main theme of that play is of two friends wanting to be re-christened as Earnest, especially as the girls they loved would only marry an Earnest.

Of course names are very important to God and we are so lucky that he knows each of us by name and no doubt calls us if only we can listen for his message and hopefully respond to it.

Ian Archer

CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

Now that more services are taking place again in Church, this is our plan for September and October 2021 – subject to change at short notice so please check the details on our website or with the Parish Office.

Thursday 2nd September 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Sunday 5th September 14th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church

10.00am Holy Communion – in Church and Online

4.00pm Family Service

Tuesday 7th September 8.00pm PCC Meeting

Thursday 9th September 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Sunday 12th September 15th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church

10.00am Holy Communion – in Church and Online

Tuesday 14th September Holy Cross Day

Thursday 16th September 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Sunday 19th September 16th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church

10.00am Holy Communion – in Church and Online

4.00pm Messy Church

Tuesday 21st September St Matthew

Thursday 23rd September 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

Saturday 25th September 8.00pm Social Dance in the Hall

Sunday 26th September 17th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church

10.00am Holy Communion – in Church and Online

Wednesday 29th September St Michal and All Angels

Thursday 30th September 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 2021

Sunday 3rd October	Harvest Festival 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Holy Communion – in Church and Online 4.00pm Family Service
Thursday 7 th October	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church
Sunday 10th October	19th Sunday after Trinity 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Holy Communion – in Church and Online
Thursday 14 th October	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church
Sunday 17th October	20th Sunday after Trinity 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Holy Communion – in Church and Online 4.00pm Messy Church
Monday 18 th October	St Luke the Evangelist
Thursday 21 st October	12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church
Sunday 24th October	Bible Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Holy Communion – in Church and Online
Thursday 28 th October	St Simon and St Jude 12.45pm Holy Communion (Iona) in Church
Sunday 31st October	All Saints' Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) – in Church 10.00am Holy Communion – in Church and Online 6.00pm All Souls' Memorial Service

Please remember that planned services are subject to change at short notice so please check the details on our website or with the Parish Office.

Empathy

To be able to empathise with another is a very challenging skill for some but it is an important part of being a Christian. The Oxford dictionary defines empathy as; **the ability to imagine and understand the thoughts, perspective, and emotions of another person.**

In order to show empathy, we need to understand other people's perspectives, where they have come from, to walk in their shoes. Those things may not be obvious at first or they may differ from our own experience, perspectives and emotional responses. It can be particularly difficult to do this, if we feel someone else's thoughts or behaviours are at odds with our own. But God invites us to forget our differences as we are all God's children; to show hospitality and care for those who are in need, in the best way we can.



So, in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

GALATIANS 3.26-28

Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practise hospitality... Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

ROMANS 12.13, 16

So how do we show empathy? When someone has suffered or been in a difficult situation for example, it can be tempting to assume we know what they want or need, because we have suffered but everyone is different. We are human beings, so **be** with that person, listen to them and hear what they are saying. Don't be afraid to ask questions. How else can we know and understand unless we start by assuming we know and understand very little. Don't let our own ignorance keep us apart from others who may benefit from our help, presence, prayers or hospitality.

In recent times it has been difficult to be with others but something as simple as a letter, text, email or phone call can give comfort.

Ask God for this help in building your empathy muscle, as the more we use it, the stronger and more finely tuned the skill becomes.

Ask God for strength in showing empathy to those who you may find it the hardest to relate to, whose thoughts and perspectives you may struggle to understand.

And through empathy, you may find connections and friendships which may have otherwise seemed unlikely.



Helen Starmer

Thank you to Ian Archer who shared his thoughts on this subject with me in advance of me writing this article.

I can take my telescope and look millions of miles into space; but I can go away to my room and in prayer get nearer to God and heaven than I can when assisted by all the telescopes on earth. –
Isaac Newton



Environmental News

Thoughts on the Present and the Economics of Climate Change

The report by the United Nations' intergovernmental panel on Climate Change (IPCC) statement of 9 August emphasised that there is no doubt that the world is warming fast as a result of human activity and urged immediate change. Instead of reaching 1.5°C (since the industrial revolution) by 2050, this is likely to happen before 2040. Over recent decades since the climate problem has been widely recognised, instead of reducing, CO₂ emissions have been increasing at a faster rate. Boris Johnson said he hoped the report would act as a wake-up call before the next COP meeting in Glasgow this November. The report is not alarmist. Rather it is the view of mainstream scientific opinion. The current rate of change shows that in the past that body has undervalued the threat rather than exaggerated it.

"Recent changes in the climate are widespread, rapid and intensifying and affecting every region on Earth, including oceans." The report goes on to comment on present extremes of heatwave, heavy rainfall, drought and tropical cyclones. The rate of increase in CO₂ in the atmosphere has speeded up. ".....efforts to respond to greenhouse gas emissions over the past decades have been wholly insufficient." (In fact CO₂ emissions have been increasing). "Limiting warming to plus 1.5 degrees C (on pre industrial levels) can only be achieved through immediate and significantly scaled up reductions."

The report on which this statement is based has been accepted by 195 governments including the main polluters, China and the US.

All readers will have noticed the widespread increase in serious floods and forest fires this summer all over the world. Fires in North America, Turkey, Greece, Australia, Mozambique, Russia and much more. Floods in Western Europe have been the worst in decades and they have been severe in China also. Is it not a little strange that we should be putting long term faith in the planting of trees when fires and exploitation of the Amazon are reducing more than we could possibly plant elsewhere? If burning proceeds as now then there will be no forests in parts of the globe whether we plant or not.

The Covid experience has taught us, if it were not already obvious, that severe emergencies require apposite and immediate action and in the longer term world-wide co-operation. Now we have reached the above position, it is becoming too late to relearn those simple truths with Climate Change. There will be no second chance.

I recently read an article which seemed to accept the need to combat climate change but delved into, without doubt, the enormous cost of changing domestic gas to

electricity. It was predicated on the idea that the householder should be able to get "value for money", to make a profit over a reasonable number of years and this he quite rightly showed was not possible. The heading was "The Crazy Cost of Going Green." Such articles miss the point. Such change has to happen. What is important is the roles of the economies and governments play in bringing it about. Governments need to get plans made and inform the people. They should begin in those areas for which we already have answers, dominantly the production of clean electricity. If they cannot do that, then the people must face reality and oblige governments to comply.

Another article complained that climate scientists have not been able to show how we can make the necessary changes. It was a bit like complaining that weather forecasters do not change the weather! The first climatologist who entered into economic or political solutions would be shot down in flames.

We can expect a lot more of such articles which fail to grasp the need for radical change, or seek to defend the status quo. The problem is that such articles, sometimes with a good factual basis, are simply using old criteria to suggest that nothing effective can be done. That surely is an emotion we all feel at times, but it is no way to face up to the true reality. Even after the widespread fires this summer, which by the way themselves release carbon and furthermore reduce carbon capture, and also the widespread floods, many are not convinced that new values and concepts will be required if life as we know it is to survive. Furthermore, some industries are programmed to go on in their old ways. They know no different. Some senior employees, say in the air industry, may understand the problem but the necessity to change is beyond not only their company interest, but their comprehension.

Ashok Sharma, the Governments Climate chief who will lead on COP 26 (25 COPs before, can you believe) has said what is required is action now.

In the Wealth of Nations Adam Smith chose the example of the pin to set out the number of actions actually necessary to make a product such as the pin. His point was that the economic process is complex. Today we know that firms do not make motor cars, they assemble them. Most of the car is made by subcontracting and that may extend over European countries or even world-wide; a global economy. Such processes are now far more complex than Adam Smith identified. Beyond that, there is the world of selling and advertising not to mention the all-important financing which has its own circus of profit making. Undoubtedly, the working of the markets are very complex. In this context the removal of fossil fuels from the formula seems more than daunting.

On the other hand, that very complexity and indeed flexibility, may enhance the opportunities for change. We have changed economies radically before. The important thing here is that governments, business and producers are convinced that change is inevitable and early change in their best interests. If governments were committed then something might actually happen. Then, all that flexibility will come into play and change could be possible.

" I have not heard from Herr Hitler. Consequently we are now at war with Germany." Many of us know that phrase which was the starting gun for turning our economy from peace to a war footing. We were poorly prepared and the change was both radical, immediate and alongside the removal of part of the work force by conscription. Women manned the factories and replaced men in many activities. It was not easy, but it was necessary, and it was done. One might say that Hitler's changes in Germany came at a time of great economic recession but from them he built industry and armed forces which tested the West and Russia to the limit. Similarly Russia and even the US had to radically change the direction of their economies. No doubt the same was true throughout the Commonwealth and Japan. Whilst both wars encouraged profit making (hence excess profit tax, for example) the changed economy met the challenge, and soon we were out-producing Germany in the machinery of war. Such change requires determination by both governments and peoples, so it can be done if there is the will.

The article I referred to above unintentionally pointed to a huge economic requirement in replacing gas with electricity which would greatly stimulate economies, though hopefully not in the same direction as before. Other necessary changes will have the same effect. What no one can promise is that there will be no changes, no losers or winners.

Both Bill Gates and Mark Carney place emphasis on the demand side. Consumers will go on choosing what they want at the prices offered. It will inevitably be painful to change settled values. Mark Carney believes that through the banks the direction of investment will need to be controlled to prohibit the use of fossil fuels. Taxes and prohibitions will need to be put on the use of such fuels and most of us will like it no more than war austerity. The test, of course, is not whether, as in the above article, we can make a profit from change or even break even, but what is necessary to effect early change which is now accepted as essential. Furthermore Bill Gates accepts that Governments will have to intervene to ensure, one way or another, that fossil fuels are phased out, and new products found to replace concrete and steel.

Bill Gates is also confident such change is possible. He argues that a 60% reduction in the use of fossil fuels can be achieved through presently operating methods. The first need is to explode that output. He is even optimistic about the necessary innovations which will need to be devised and that is a better reaction than despondency. His native approach to "we can do it", is admirable. But we also have to remain realistic. Methods of change which are now understood, say in the production of electricity by wind, solar or water power, need to be effected not as a distant long term plan, but with immediate effect. Target dates should not be used to justify delay.

Then there is the vexed question of how much can you interfere with individual choice and retain the support of voters? The short answer is that, certainly with some dissent, we did just that to win a war. Defending the nation and national survival, comes first

on the list of governmental responsibility. The needs of war which we understand, is a persuasive analogy for Climate Change. If we don't win that war, you can say goodbye to personal freedom and much more.

In the interim, of course, there is the problem that once such power of decision is given to government then it is liable to abuse. Yes, power can corrupt even where there may have been no apparent corruption before.

But what is the point of us changing, if the rest of the world continues as before? Perhaps you might quote China as the main user of fossil fuels. But we need to ask ourselves why is that so? The answer is that it is the demand for the goods by the West which has brought forth the expansion in production in China and western finance and businesses have been used to that effect. Furthermore, China has signed up to the recent statement so there must be some unity on the ultimate aims. The next step in Glasgow is finding a way to turn those aims and objectives into concrete plans in real time which can be monitored.

Does the signing up to the IPPC statement mean that at last most countries are on board? Recent history suggests signing up to targets is insufficient. In the West, and maybe in the Far East, populations must press for cogent plans to bring about this essential change. That is why it has always been vital to bring the real facts to the attention of the wider public.

Perhaps you think I have strayed too far from Adam Smith and the free economy. The fact is that normally over 40% of GNP is spent by most governments and currently much more. In most western countries economic activity takes place within a legal framework which protects other interests and values (such as the Food Standards Agency). Politics and economics have always been intertwined. Corporate Welfare already is a significant part of government expenditure and many companies are glad of it, so interfering to exclude the use of fossil fuels and support alternative means of energy is no more than a necessary extension. So action on the demand side by, say, taxes on gas, and interference on the supply side by deterrents, incentives and, if necessary, by banning the use of fossil fuels, is also rational. However, care needs to be taken that revenue from such action is directed back to the problem of change from carbon, and especially investment in relevant technological change, and not squandered elsewhere, even on desirable projects. Vaccines were developed at an unprecedented rate in response to Covid, so why not scientific solutions in other spheres? Please don't see science as a panacea; a let off from making other changes, because it clearly is not.

On the supply side there will have to be licences, prohibitions and incentives just as there is the need now for licenses to drill for oil and planning permission to undertake industrial activities. The cost of fossil fuels must rise and the price of modern substitutes reduced.

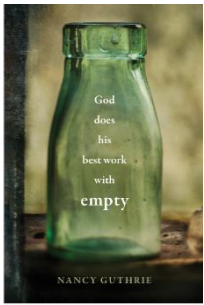
It is now established that without doubt the level of the use of fossil fuels is still increasing the amount of carbon released into the atmosphere at a geometric rate. And that situation persists. Governments in the recent past have agreed to targets for the reduction of CO2 like gamblers who have no idea of the outcome and insufficient determination to make progress. They have simply kicked the can down the road. In those circumstance the people of the world have no alternative but to declare war against our present behaviour.

This time this world war is not with some exterior enemy or nation, but with ourselves.
Harry Ingram

Book Review

This month: **God does his best work with empty**

The author Nancy Guthrie uses scripture and the characters within the bible to explain emptiness and how God works to heal those in the bible and how it is relevant to our souls, when we find ourselves running on empty.



It's amazing how heavy the weight of emptiness can feel, how much room it can take up in our souls, how much pain can be caused by something that isn't even there. But while we may see the emptiness of our lives as our greatest problem, that's not how God sees it. When

God looks into the empty places of our lives, He sees His greatest opportunity. God does His best work in the emptiness of our:

- Insatiable craving for things that don't satisfy
- Relational disappointments and loneliness
- Frustrated search for purpose and meaning
- Relentless desire for comfort and security
- Ongoing struggle to live with loss and unfulfilled dreams

The book can be picked up whenever you are feeling something is missing and you can ask God to take its place. It is a spiritual self-help guide, part of which is relevant to almost anyone. It is full of hope and invites the reader to surrender to God.

As we slowly start to see things returning to a new normal, we would like to start a Christian book library in the back of the church. To help us set it up, please can you donate any unwanted, pre-loved Christian books to help us get the library off the ground. Please pass your books onto the Office. More information to follow.

Reader recipes

This month I would like to offer an apology to Ian Archer who kindly supplied a Gazpacho recipe, last month but unfortunately the incorrect version of the recipe was printed. The correct version is now below. Enjoy.

This recipe serves 4 or more in small glasses or bowls.

Gazpacho

Ingredients:-

- Bread – 1 large chunk of stale bread, fresh is fine or pitta also works
- Ripe Tomatoes – 6 large beef or failing that a big handful of vine or cherry tomatoes
- Medium Cucumber – peeled, seeded and roughly chopped
- Red pepper – 1 seeded and roughly sliced
- Best olive oil – 1 long glug
- Red chilli - half(or one), sliced and seeded to taste
- Garlic cloves – 2 finely sliced
- Fresh basil – 1 handful plus extra to serve
- Balsamic vinegar - 1 glug
- Sat and pepper – 1 pinch/grind



Method:-

1. Break up the bread and soak in a small bowl of water.
2. Roughly chop the tomatoes and add to a liquidiser
Along with the cucumber and red pepper.
Slosh in a generous glug of olive oil, the red chilli, garlic
And a good pinch of sea salt and a grind of pepper. Blend.
3. Throw in the basil leaves, add a glug of balsamic vinegar and the soaked bread and blend again. Season appropriately and then chill for a few hours – ideally overnight.
4. No need to sieve – serve with a drizzle of olive oil and torn basil if you like.
Check that the sun is shining and then ladle into chilled glasses or bowls.

Puzzles

September Sudoku Puzzle

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

August Solution

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

Come sing with Brockham Choral

We have an exciting year ahead when rehearsals commence at 7.30 on 14 September at St. John's Primary School Dorking, RH4 2LR for a CONCERT on the 4 December, singing, MESSIAH accompanied by the prestigious ACADEMY OF ANCIENT MUSIC conducted by our Musical Director COLE BENDALL.

We shall be holding A DAY WORKSHOP on 2 October to help with the preparation of the MESSIAH.

All voices will be warmly welcomed. Tell your singing friends about the December Concert and invite them to join BROCKHAM CHORAL for a truly great experience and an opportunity to be singing live together for the first time for over a year.

We very much look forward to seeing you on the 14 September.

September Crossword

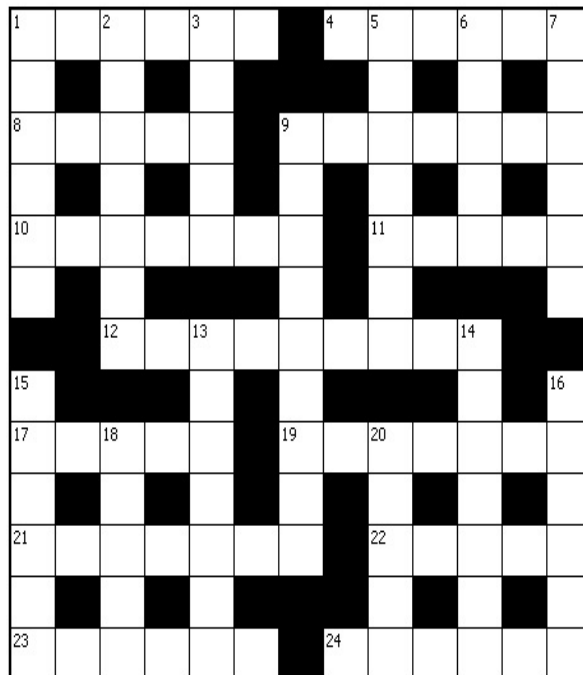
Biblical references are from the New International Version

Across

- 1 'Through [Christ] we have gained by faith into this grace' (Romans 5:2) (6)
 4 Deprives of sight (Deuteronomy 16:19) (6)
 8 The words of a hymn do this (mostly) (5)
 9 Faithful allegiance (1 Chronicles 12:33) (7)
 10 Belgium's chief port (7)
 11 Where John was baptizing 'because there was plenty of water' (John 3:23) (5)
 12 Imposing height (Psalm 48:2) (9)
 17 Jesus' tempter in the wilderness (Mark 1:13) (5)
 19 Comes between Amos and Jonah (7)
 21 'Your will be done' ... as it is in heaven' (Matthew 6:10) (2,5)
 22 Gale (Matthew 8:24) (5)
 23 Axle, eh? (anag.) (6)
 24 'Out of the... I cry to you, O Lord' (Psalm 130:1) (6)

Down

- 1 Popular Christian author and humorist, Plass (6)
 2 Transparent ice-like mineral (Revelation 4:6) (7)
 3 Method of compelling surrender by surrounding target of attack (2 Chronicles 32:1) (5)
 5 Expose (Isaiah 52:10) (3,4)
 6 Lonny (anag.) (5)
 7 Utterance (1 Timothy 1:15) (6)
 9 Husband of Deborah, the prophetess (Judges 4:4) (9)
 13 Burial service (Jeremiah 34:5) (7)
 14 What Christ threatened to do to the lukewarm church in Laodicea (Revelation 3:16) (4,3)
 15 Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net (John 21:11) (6)
 16 His response to Jesus' decision to return to Judea was 'Let us also go, that we may die with him' (John 11:16) (6)
 18 There will be weeping and gnashing of ... (Matthew 8:12) (5)
 20 Walkway between rows of pews in a church (5)



August Solution

Across

1 Mosaic 4 Scales 7 Cana 8 Claudius 9 Sadducee 13 SLM 16 Self-confident 17 Sad 19 Radiuses 24 Shepherd 25 Bind 26 Astern 27 Arthur

Down

1 Mock 2 Sandalled 3 CICCUC 4 Share 5 Aide 6 Equal 10 Décor 11 Caned 12 Elihu 13 Sherebiah 14 Moth 15 Uses 18 Ashes 20 ASEAN 21 India 22 Apse 23 Eder



Looking for a care home for your loved one? Look no further!

The Reigate Beaumont is a home oozing charm and character, offering first-class 24-hour nursing and residential care in Surrey. Reigate Beaumont is proud of its beautifully maintained and nurtured award-winning gardens which both residents and visitors to the home can enjoy all year around.

The Reigate Beaumont has en-suite fully furnished bedrooms which can be personalised, beautiful lounge areas with stunning views as well as elegant dining rooms in a relaxed atmosphere. Our team of highly-qualified and attentive staff really focus on the individual needs of our residents with a bespoke care plan for each person. Our dedication to personalised care can be seen across the board - in our cooking, hospitality and organising activities for our residents.

For more information do take a look at our website
www.barchester.com/home/reigate-beaumont-care-home, send an email to **Reigate.Reception@Barchester.com** or give us a call on **01737 225544**

Abbeyfield House at 34 Somers Road, Reigate is a friendly, happy place.

In our affordable family style house we provide a careful combination of independence with support, privacy with companionship.

Residents have their own rooms, furnished by themselves, with meals provided by our House Manager. We are part of the nationwide Abbeyfield movement but the Reigate House is managed independently by local volunteers to provide sheltered accommodation for active independent senior citizens at very reasonable all-inclusive rates.



Please call the House Manager (01737 247928) for more information.

Graham Williams Decorating

20+ YEARS EXPERIENCE / NVQ QUALIFIED / INSURED

Tel: 01737 646028

Mobile: 07985 940083

grahamw777@hotmail.co.uk

Interior and Exterior work

Free estimates



Stoneman Funeral Service

Head Office and Funeral Home
Doran Court
Reigate Road, Redhill
Tel: 01737 763456



An Independent Family Business
Est: 1865

PREPAID FUNERAL PLANS

ALSO AT

49 Bell Street Reigate
Tel: 01737 243164

ANTIQUE FURNITURE RESTORATION

ALL ASPECTS OF
FURNITURE REPAIRS
AND
POLISHING
UNDERTAKEN
INCLUDING MODERN
FURNITURE
30 YEAR'S EXPERIENCE
FREE ADVICE AND
ESTIMATES GIVEN
CALL

STEVE PEACOCK
01883 743879

SURREY HILLS
HYPNOTHERAPY
Samantha Rivett



SOLUTION
FOCUSED CLINICAL
HYPNOTHERAPIST

I CAN HELP WITH:

Stress ▲ Low mood
Fears and phobias
Confidence ▲ Motivation
Sleep problems
Pain management
Sports performance
Anger management
Weight loss motivation
Addictions ▲ and more...

Contact me on: 07929 253834
www.surreyhillshypnotherapy.co.uk

*Inspiring change, finding
solutions and creating positivity*