













Bromsgrove Methodist Church and Centre: encouraging, supporting and developing followers of Jesus Christ and sharing God's love in the wider community

#### **REGULAR SERVICES and KEY CONTACTS**

#### SUNDAY

$1^{st}$	9.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	Morning Worship

- 2<sup>nd</sup> 10.30 am Morning Worship
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 10.30 am Morning Worship
- 4<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am Morning Worship
  - Holy Communion at one 10.30 am service each month
  - Holy Communion at 6.00 pm once a month
  - Special Services as arranged.

#### Please see the Centre Pages for full service details

Minister:	Revd Peter Powers 10 Johns Close, Studley, B80 7EQ Tel: 07941 328155
Centre Office:	19 Stratford Road Bromsgrove, B60 1AS Tel: (01527) 835843
Room Bookings:	e-mail: <u>bromsgroveroombookings@gmail.com</u>

Find out more at www.brommethcentre.org.uk



What's inside...

Page

- 2 Revd Peter Powers
- 4 Memory Change Café
- 5 Craft Fair
- 6 St Joseph of Aramathea
- 8 St Swithun
- 9 In Memory & Church AGM Report
- 10 The Flying Scotsman
- 11 A Closer Look at Gomer
- 12 June Services
- 13 July Services & Sunday Flowers
- 14 MWiB Lunch & Knit and Natter
- 15 Charity and Missions Update
- 16 Hymns We Love
- 17 River and Sky
- 18 Magna Carta & Life Explained
- 20 Lord, teach me to pray
- 21 Humour Corner
- 22 Printer's Error & And finally ...

#### Material for FORUM to the Editor, Jim Buchanan, c/o Centre Office or email:les.jim42@btinternet.com

Opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent the views of the Church at any level

#### Special Places, Holy Spaces.

#### Dear friends,

This will be my last contribution to FORUM magazine. I think everyone knows now that I am moving from Bromsgrove & Redditch Circuit to a new place in which I will live, work and discover.



I am sad to be leaving, but it makes sense that I serve my last five years before retirement as a Superintendent and the need remains great across the Methodist Connexion. The Methodists of Wigan will have me as their Superintendent whilst also serving six of the twelve churches in the Circuit. Heaven help them all!

I have found Bromsgrove to be its own special, holy place. I know how it is held very dear by so many of you and now by me too. Special places and holy spaces hold significant meaning and value for people around the world. Through cultures and religions people have established locations that are often considered sacred or imbued with spiritual energy, and they serve as gathering points for worship, meditation, and reflection.

For people of faith, places of worship are dedicated to religious practices and rituals. Examples include churches, mosques, temples, synagogues, and gurdwaras. Often our forebears have held such places as holy for many decades, centuries, even millennia. You may have churches you grew up in, or spent time in during former days, perhaps whilst studying or working in other parts of the country or world. I know that for many, Bromsgrove Church Centre, like the three churches that came together forty years ago, are all such special places, holy spaces.

Many of you will have taken time to visit pilgrimage sites. Destinations that hold religious or spiritual significance. Even in our Methodist tradition special places are visited around the UK. Perhaps, like me, you know pilgrimage sites that are natural landscapes like mountains, rivers, or caves. Our family makes an annual trip to a small river on the other side of Warwickshire where we scattered the ashes of my mother and father. It is a lovely place. We visited it often as kids with our parents. We paddled, made dams and fished in the waters, and had picnics on the banks. It has taken on even more significance for us as a family in recent years, and our youngest family members know how important it is. I am sure they will visit with their families in the future, when I too, am long gone, down the river.

Some of you have been to Iona in the NW of Scotland. An island community founded in the footsteps of St. Columba. It has been described as the birthplace of Christianity in Scotland. St Columba and 12 companions arrived from Ireland in AD 563. The monastery they founded was one of the most important and influential in the British Isles. It sent missionaries to northern Britain to convert people to Christianity.

In common with similar places, it is described as a 'thin place'. One where the veil between earth and heaven is close at hand. Among the most fascinating special places, holy spaces I have visited are what we might call indigenous sacred sites. Ancestral burial grounds, sacred mountains and rivers, natural springs and so on. They are found all over the globe, including the UK. They often trace their roots back to before recorded history and many have been 'adopted' by later religions and cultures.

One of my favourite places is the Malvern Hills. When we go there we always make time to visit some of the wells that dot the hills. St. Ann's Well, Holy Well and even Temperance well, are among the 70 well springs in the area.

Special places and holy spaces play an essential role in providing a tangible connection to the divine or the transcendent. They offer a sense of sanctuary, serenity, and an opportunity for individuals to deepen their spiritual connection, seek guidance, or find solace. These spaces are often respected and revered by communities and visitors alike, creating a shared sense of reverence and cultural identity.

As we gather in such places over a period of time, we share something of ourselves with them and with one another. Each Circuit and Church I have served over the years have become such places for me. Though the itinerant life of the Methodist Ministry moves me on, I know I shall return to this particular special, holy place again.

Thank you for making me welcome.

With every blessing. Peter

#### MEMORY CHANGE CAFÉ



The Team Hosts offer a warm inclusive welcome to Volunteers, Care Partners and people living with Memory loss.

In May we had a delightful afternoon with chat, activities and a communal unusual Bingo session, thoroughly enjoyed by all. Cakes were delicious and plentiful and drinks were served at the tables



Some of the team and guests enjoying a breather after another successful afternoon. This photo does not include those members of the team who opted to become individual escorts. This incredible team are initiating a DEMENTIA FRIENDLY CHURCH.

NEXT SESSION 21ST JUNE 2-4PM BROMSGROVE METHODIST CHURCH ROOM 6 YOU ARE WELCOME TO COME AND JOIN US TO SHARE IN A SOCIALLY FRIENDLY CAFÉ

Sheila: 07811 563486 Sally: 07884 191101 Pat: 07966 370448



## BROMSGROVE METHODIST CHURCH CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup> JUNE 10.30-12.30 pm wooden crafts ceramic gifts embroidery and crafty needles paintings and hand-made cards and more...

Refreshments: including bacon butties!

# 31st July: St Joseph of Arimathea –



## the man who buried Jesus

Have you ever suffered from gossip? Ever discovered that people are saying some really wild things about you? If so, Joseph of Arimathea would understand - and sympathise with you. This decent, godly man of the gospels seems to have fired the imaginations of all sorts of odd people down the centuries.

Joseph was a rich, prominent member of the ruling Jewish council - the Sanhedrin. Mark's gospel describes him as having been 'waiting for the kingdom of God' for years, and even being a secret disciple of Jesus. He played no part in the trial or crucifixion.

When Jesus was pronounced dead, Joseph had the seniority needed to approach Pilate for the body - and get it. Near to where Jesus had been crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, cut deep in the rock. Joseph himself already owned it - and it was still new and empty.

So Joseph laid Jesus there, and wrapped him in a linen cloth, according to Jewish burial custom. Joseph did not bury Jesus alone - Nicodemus helped him, while some women who had followed Jesus trailed miserably behind.

Matthew tells us that the last thing Joseph did for Jesus was to sadly roll a big stone across the entrance to the tomb, and then go away.

With that, Joseph passes out of history - and into legend. For in the centuries that followed, Joseph was swept up into the Legend of the Holy Grail, the Legend of Glastonbury, and even bits of the Arthurian legends. It was said that the Holy Thorn, which flowers at Christmas, had sprung from his staff.

The mind boggles at what Joseph would have made of it all. One suspects he would have preferred to stick to the simple, but far better, true story: as having had the immense, unique privilege of laying the body of Jesus Christ in the tomb. Even if Jesus didn't stay very long!

# 15th July: St Swithun (or Swithin) – saint for a rainy day



#### St Swithun is apparently the saint you can blame for rainy summers. It is said that if it rains on his special day, 15 July, it will then rain for forty days after that.

It all began when he was made Bishop of Winchester in 852 by King Ethelwulf of Wessex It was an important posting: Winchester was the capital of Wessex, and during the 10 years Swithun was there, Wessex became the most important kingdom of England.

During his life, instead of washing out people's summer holidays, and damping down their spirits, Swithun seems to have done a lot of good. He was famous for his charitable gifts and for his energy in getting churches built. When he was dying in 862, he asked that he be buried in the cemetery of the Old Minster, just outside the west door.

If he had been left there in peace, who knows how many rainy summers the English may have been spared over the last 1000 years. But, no, it was decided to move Swithun. By now, the 960s, Winchester had become the first monastic cathedral chapter in England, and the newly installed monks wanted Swithun in the cathedral with them.

So finally, on 15 July 971, his bones were dug up and Swithun was translated into the cathedral. That same day many people claimed to have had miraculous cures. Certainly, everyone got wet, for the heavens opened. The unusually heavy rain that day, and on the days following, was attributed to the power of St Swithun.

Swithun was moved again in 1093, into the new Winchester cathedral. His shrine was a popular place of pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages. The shrine was destroyed during the Reformation, and restored in 1962.

## IN MEMORY .



We give thanks for the life of Anne Brooks who died recently and we remember her family in our prayers

<u>A summary of the Annual Church</u> <u>Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024</u>

There were 42 people present, with 6 apologies received. Rev Peter Powers opened the meeting



with devotions, including prayers for those members of the Church who had sadly passed away since our last Annual Meeting: Margaret Cornwall, Barbara Geldart, Val Rees, John Cross and George Prouse.

The meeting was informed that the Church is now registered for marriages of same sex couples; that the Memory Change Café is starting in Room 6; and that Sally Meredith is running a bereavement support course on Thursday mornings.

<u>Senior Steward's Report</u>: Janet Millward expressed her thanks to Rev Peter and to the team of Stewards. Brenda Whipp is standing down in August and she was thanked for her six years of service. Janet reported that it had been a good and busy 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, with many events taking place at the Centre, including well-attended Christmas services; the popular Easter Breakfast laid on by the BB; activities for young people, such as BB, GB, and Toddlers; and the events organised by the Social & Fundraising Committee.

<u>Treasurer's Report</u>: Sheila Sharman presented her annual accounts and reported that there has been a turn-around in our finances, thanks to an increase in regular giving and fund-raising.

<u>Management Committee Report</u>: Terry Clarke expressed his thanks to all those who help in so many ways in the running of the Centre and the Welcome Coffee Shop. It was stressed that the fire exits should be kept clear at all times and that key holders should unlock the kitchen door, both front doors and the iron gates at the back of the Church.

In the future the Committee will look at the proposal that we should have electric doors, to make the building more accessible, especially for those with ambulant needs.

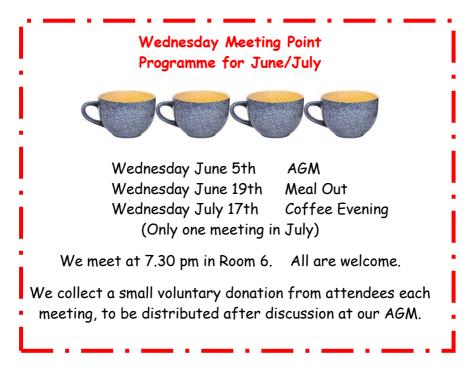
<u>Minister's Report</u>: Rev Peter Powers explained that he will be moving to Wigan as Superintendent Minister in September. He expressed his thanks to the Congregation and to the many people who carry out various roles within the Church, including those working with young people.

<u>Appointments and re-appointments</u>: Stewards, Church Officers and Church Council Members were approved en bloc. Pam Harrison is taking over as Safeguarding Officer from Laura Hodges, who was thanked for all her work on safeguarding within our Church and the District for more than 20 years.

Reports were also received from the Pastoral Secretaries, the Memory Change Café, Crosslinks Befriending, the Social & Fundraising Committee, and the Girls' Brigade.

Date of next AGM: 27th April 2025

Pam Gale, Church Council Secretary



#### The Flying Scotsman



You may recollect that at the time of the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham in the summer of 2022, I included an article recalling the life of Eric Liddell, Olympic Gold Medallist in Paris 1924 and Christian Missionary...... .... The Flying Scotsman.

Now as we look forward to the 2024 Games, again in Paris, a special tartan has been created to commemorate the centenary of one of Britain's greatest Olympians winning two medals.

Eric Liddell's life and Olympic achievements are commemorated in colours of yellow, blue, navy blue, red, green and grey

Eric Liddell, whose inspiring athletic feats were portrayed in the film Chariots of Fire, won gold and bronze medals in the 1924 Paris Olympics for the 400m and 200m sprints respectively.

The tartan has been designed by Highland dress specialists Kinloch Anderson with the numbers 100 and 24 included in the thread count to acknowledge the centenary of his Olympic success.

The yellow in the tartan represents his gold medal in the Paris Olympics, blue is for Scotland and navy blue is for Scottish Rugby and Edinburgh University.

Lines of **red** represent his time in China and green reflects his family holidays in the Scottish Borders and his love of field sports.

The colour grey has also been included in the tartan to represent the pain of separation, internment and loss in his life.

Liddell spent his life after the Olympics following in the footsteps of his parents by becoming a missionary in China between the years of 1925 and 1943, only returning to Scotland twice in that period.

In 1941, life in China had become dangerous due to Japanese aggression in the region. The UK Government advised British nationals to get out, and his pregnant wife Florence left for Canada, her birthplace, with their children. Mr Liddell opted to stay and carry out his work as a missionary but was later interned at the Weihsien Internment Camp.

He died on Feb 21 1945 from an undiagnosed brain tumour, with overworking and malnourishment said to have quickened his death. Even to this day Eric Liddell is revered in China.

#### A CLOSER LOOK AT GOMER

A prostitute who rejected a loving husband in favour of her work:

"If I just find the right man, then I'll be truly happy!"



Gomer had a desperate longing to be wanted and desired by men.

As a prostitute, she was used to being approached by them – but Hosea was different.

He said something she wasn't expecting: "Marry me". Suddenly, she had a devoted husband who cared for her, provided for her, loved her and would always protect her.

But we're left to assume this life just wasn't enough; she had to get that feeling again.

So she went back into selling her body; getting into debt and into trouble.

Poor Gomer failed to realise that everything she was looking for was already at home.

And that's the point. Gomer is a picture of God's people, and by extension all of humanity.

Just like Gomer, we spend our lives searching for happiness, excitement, meaning and peace; when it can already be found right where we are - with the God who loves us beyond measure.

The good news is that Gomer's husband is a picture of God. He sought her out again, paid her debts and brought her home. Can happiness really be found in one place? It can if that place is in the arms of God.

Follow the story by reading Hosea chapters 1 and 3



## June 2024

2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.00 am Holy Communion 10.30 am Morning Worship	Revd Peter Powers Revd Anne Smith
<b>9</b> <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am Holy Communion	Revd Peter Powers
16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am Morning Worship	Mrs Beth Haden
23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30 am Morning Worship 6.00 pm Holy Communion	Revd Steve Levett Revd Peter Powers
30 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am Morning Worship	Revd Peter Powers

## July 2024

7 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am Holy Communion 10.30 am Morning Worship	Revd Steve Levett Mrs Jackie Russell
14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am Holy Communion	Revd Alan Bidnell
21 <sup>s†</sup>	10.30 am Morning Worship	Mrs Sarah Leeson
28 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am Morning Worship	Ms Lyn Gennoe
	6.00 pm Holy Communion	Revd Peter Powers

#### Sunday Flowers

The following list indicates the names of those who will contribute to the cost of Sunday flowers during June and July.

	June		July
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jean Wall	7 <sup>th</sup>	Chris Roberts
<b>9</b> <sup>th</sup>	Lynne and Liz Dovey	14 <sup>th</sup>	Florence Court
16 <sup>th</sup>	Laura Hodges	21 <sup>s†</sup>	Eleanor Wright
23 <sup>rd</sup> 30 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Wiseman Broomfield Family	28 <sup>th</sup>	Lynne and Liz Dovey
50	Di compiena i uniny		

METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN ANNUAL LUNCH May 11<sup>th</sup> 2024



for women, for justice, for Christ

Last year I attended the MWiB lunch at Catshill and thoroughly enjoyed it, so when I heard that it was on home turf, so to speak, I jumped at the chance of an enjoyable day with friends old and new.

We met together at noon and had a lovely social time over coffee. Our speaker Anne Browse had come all the way from Devon to speak to us, and spent time meting everyone before lunch. Anne is a former Connexional President of MWiB.

After a wonderful lunch of baked potatoes with either chilli or cheese and beans, salad and a wonderful selection of desserts, we sat and listened to Anne about the work of MWiB around the world, and the chances she had had to visit the projects. Later she asked us to discuss two topics and each table reported back on their conversations.

I think everyone had a wonderful day. I certainly did, meeting new people from other churches, and I can't wait for next year.

I hope you will come and join us.

Pam Harrison



If you enjoy knitting, crochet and chatting, you would be very welcome to our group which meets in the Coffee Shop on Tuesday mornings between 10am and 11.30. Bring your own handiwork or knit for a charity.

Lizzie Dovey

#### **CHARITY and MISSIONS UPDATE**

Warm thanks are due to everyone who has contributed to our Church's charitable giving during the current Methodist year. Whether you give regularly by envelope or standing order, responded to an envelope appeal or retiring collection, supported Christmas events, or popped change into the foyer collection box, your gifts have been much appreciated. Large or small, they all add up.

So far since September we have been able to send £697 to Mission Funds and £2328 to a total of 10 charities. Our policy is to support local, national and international charities – suggestions welcomed. This year we gave to New Starts, St Basil's and the Basement locally, Action for Children, Crisis and the Fund for Human Need nationally, and All We Can, Open Doors and Ethiopiaid internationally. Recently we also had our collection for humanitarian relief to Gaza.

The Christian Aid envelope appeal is on-going as I write, so not included in the total yet. Still to come is the Methodist Homes appeal (See below) and the Summer Fair, from which the Charity Fund receives 25%.

## *"Without supporters like yourselves, our partners could not carry out their life-changing work, so thank you for your kindness."*

These heartfelt words, from a recent letter from Ethiopiad, could have come from any of the charities. On their behalf we thank you!

Janet Henderson, for the Charity and Missions Committee





- 1. New every morning is the love our wakening and uprising prove; through sleep and darkness safely brought, restored to life and power and thought.
- 2. New mercies, each returning day hover around us while we pray; new perils past, new sins forgiven, new thoughts of God, new hopes of heaven.
- 3. If on our daily course our mind be set to hallow all we find, new treasures still, of countless price, God will provide for sacrifice.
- 4. Old friends, old scenes, will lovelier be, as more of heaven in each we see; some softening gleam of love and prayer shall dawn on every cross and care.
- 5. The trivial round, the common task, will furnish all we ought to ask; room to deny ourselves: a road to bring us daily nearer God.
- 6. Prepare us, Lord, in your dear love for perfect rest with you above; and help us, this and every day, to live more nearly as we pray.

#### **REFLECTION** –

This hymn-song was written by John Keble (1792 – 1866). Keble was an outstanding scholar and tutor at Oriel College Oxford. He and his brother had been home-schooled by their father. His father was vicar at Coln, and John and his brother assisted him as curates, because of their father's poor health. Later after father's death John accepted the post of vicar at Horsley where he remained until his death. He died in 1866 after a long illness and sadly, his beloved wife only survived him by 6 weeks. Keble was better known as a founder member of a reform organisation called the Oxford Movement. Keble College at Oxford is named after him. He was not a prolific hymn writer.

The hymn is found in the Morning and Evening section of the hymn book. The words above are written in a poetic style, with rhyming words being 'love, prove, day, pray' and so on. For space reasons I have typed two lines of the hymn together.

Keble begins by dedicating each new day to God, whom he says has brought him safely through the night – a good habit to cultivate. It reminds us that we are given life, in order to live that life for God. He continues the theme by saying in effect that every day is a fresh day with the word "new" used 5 times! We note that prayer is an important feature of daily life.

The third verse exhorts us to respect, adore or worship (hallow) all we find, i.e. all that we observe (new treasures) in life, which in some way we can offer back to God as a personal "sacrifice"

Verse 4 calls on us to see aspects of heaven in other people and in places, to open our eyes to the familiar, and find the support of love and prayer in every (personal) "cross and care".

Perhaps the best-known verse is verse 5, which reminds us of the importance of everything we do in a day, however menial, humble or mundane. He speaks of "the trivial round, the common task". He hints at work as being the provider of "all we ought to ask". He changes tack again by urging us to find room to "deny ourselves", so that we are on a road that brings us every day, "nearer to God".

The author concludes with the plea that the "Lord will prepare us - make us ready, through "dear love", for our heavenly reward; but meanwhile, to "help us this and every day to live as we pray, more nearly" or closer to our Lord

#### **Every blessing JOHN WEBB**

#### **River and Sky**

Move our hearts with the calm, smooth flow of your grace.

Let the river of your love run through our souls.

May my soul be carried by the current of your love, towards the wide infinite ocean of heaven.

Stretch out my heart with your strength, as you stretch out the sky above the earth.

Smooth out any wrinkles of hatred or resentment.

Enlarge my soul that it may know more fully your truth.

*A prayer by Gilbert of Hoyland (died c1170) Abbot of Cistercian Monastery at Swineshead, Lincolnshire* 

#### Magna Carta

Magna Carta (Latin for "the Great Charter"), also called Magna Carta Libertatum (Latin for "the Great Charter of the Liberties"), is a charter agreed by King John of England at Runnymede, near Windsor, on **15 June 1215**.



First drafted by the Archbishop of Canterbury to make peace between the unpopular King and a group of rebel barons, it promised the protection of church rights, protection for the barons from illegal imprisonment, access to swift justice, and limitations on feudal payments to the Crown, to be implemented through a council of 25 barons.

Neither side stood behind their commitments, and the charter was annulled by Pope Innocent III, leading to the First Barons' War.

After John's death, the regency government of his young son, Henry III, reissued the document in 1216, stripped of some of its more radical content, in an unsuccessful bid to build political support for their cause.

At the end of the war in 1217, it formed part of the peace treaty agreed at Lambeth, where the document acquired the name Magna Carta, to distinguish it from the smaller Charter of the Forest which was issued at the same time.

Short of funds, Henry reissued the charter again in 1225 in exchange for a grant of new taxes; his son, Edward I, repeated the exercise in 1297, this time confirming it as part of England's statute law.

#### 

#### Life Explained

On the first day, God created the dog and said, "Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past.



For this, I will give you a life span of twenty years." The dog said, "That's a long time to be barking. How about only ten years and I'll give you back the other ten?" And God saw it was good.



On the second day, God created the monkey and said, "Entertain people, do tricks, and make them laugh. For this, I'll give you a twenty-year life

span." The monkey said, "Monkey tricks for twenty years? That's a pretty long time to perform. How about I give you back ten like the dog did?" And God, again saw it was good.

On the third day, God created the cow and said, "You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the



farmer's family. For this, I will give you a life span of sixty years." The cow said, "That's kind of a tough life you want me to live for sixty years. How about twenty and I'll give back the other forty?" And God agreed it was good.



On the fourth day, God created humans and said, "Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this, I'll give you twenty years." But the human said, "Only twenty years? Could you possibly give me my twenty, the forty the cow gave back, the ten the monkey gave back, and the ten the dog gave back; that makes eighty, okay?" "Okay," said God, "You asked for it."

So that is why for our first twenty years, we eat, sleep, play and enjoy ourselves. For the next forty years, we slave in the sun to support our family. For the next ten years, we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren. And for the last ten years, we sit on the front porch and bark at everyone.

Life has now been explained to you. There is no need to thank me for this valuable information. I'm doing it as a public service. If you are looking for me, I will be on the front porch. Paulo Coelho

Editor: Paulo Coelho de Souza is a Brazilian lyricist and novelist. He is best known for his novel The Alchemist. In 2014, he uploaded his personal papers online to create a virtual Paulo Coelho Foundation.

#### Lord, Teach Me to Pray

I cannot pray 'Our', if my faith has no room for others and their needs.

I cannot pray **'Father'**, if I do not demonstrate this relationship to God in my daily living.

I cannot pray **'who art in heaven'**, if all my interests and pursuits are in earthly things.

I cannot pray **'hallowed be thy name'**, if I am not striving, with God's help, to be holy.

I cannot pray **'thy kingdom come'**, if I am unwilling to accept God's rule in my life.

I cannot pray **'thy will be done'**, if I am unwilling or resentful of having it in my life.

I cannot pray **'on earth as it is in heaven'**, unless I am truly ready to give myself to God's service, here and now.

I cannot pray 'give us this day our daily bread', without expending honest effort for it, or if I would withhold from my neighbour the bread I receive.

I cannot pray 'forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us', if I continue to harbour a grudge against anyone.

I cannot pray **'lead us not into temptation'**, if I deliberately choose to remain in a situation where I am likely to be tempted.

I cannot pray 'deliver us from evil', if I am not prepared to fight evil with my life and prayer.

I cannot pray 'thine is the kingdom', if I am unwilling to obey the King.

I cannot pray **'thine is the power and the glory'**, if I am seeking power for myself and my own glory first.

I cannot pray 'forever and ever', if I am anxious about each day's affairs.

I cannot pray 'Amen', unless I honestly say, 'Cost what it may, this is my prayer.'

With acknowledgement to All Saint's and St John Churches, Hove

#### HUMOUR CORNER

#### A CLEVER LADY

There were 10 men and one woman hanging from a single rope, suspended from a Rescue Helicopter.

They all decided that someone would have to let go because if they didn't lighten the load, the rope would break, and they all would die.

There were no volunteers and all went quiet.

Suddenly, the woman started to talk and continued to give a very emotional and touching speech, saying how she would give up her life to save the others, because generally women were used to giving up things for men and it was the right thing to do.

The men were so impressed they all started clapping!



THE CHURCH KITCHEN

#### **Printers Error? Thou shalt commit adultery!**

A 16th-Century King James Bible is one of only nine remaining which says "Thou shalt commit adultery", missing out the word "not". It is not known whether the mistake was an accident or deliberate, but it is believed to have been purposeful in order to get the King's royal printers - commissioned with manufacturing Bibles at the time - into trouble.

The printers, Robert Barker and Martin Lucas, were fined the equivalent of £30,000 for the error, deprived of their printing licence and thrown into prison.

#### And Finally ...

We hope that you have enjoyed reading your FORUM. This end-piece is being typed by Janet Henderson, as Jim Buchanan, our editor, had to have an op last week on a detached retina. We wish him a speedy recovery. Fortunately, like all good editors, Jim already had a varied collection of items lined up for inclusion in this issue. Grateful thanks to him, and to all the other folk who have contributed this time.

I am also grateful that the enjoyable challenge of putting the magazine together is largely a matter of clicking a mouse, rather than using a keyboard, since following my own mishap last week my left arm is currently in a sling. This piece is about the most concentrated typing I've had to do!

The next edition of FORUM will cover the months of August and September, with the deadline date for items being Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July. Please email your contributions to Jim (<u>les.jim42@btinternet.com</u>) or leave written items in the FORUM folder in the Church office.

Wishing everyone a peaceful, pleasant and <u>accident-free</u> summer.

# Painting, Decorating & Spraying Services In Bromsgrove Image: Spraying Services In

#### Granite Henge conwall

The perfect break away in picturesque Looe Adjacent semi-detached cottage bungalows Each sleeps 4, in one double room & one twin Book one, or both together for 8 people No steps or stairs so ideal for limited mobility



\* Open all year round \*5 minutes from Beach \*Heated Swimming Pool \* Free Wi-fi \*8 mins by car or bus to Looe and Polperro Centre Contact: 07976 291274

## HAIR

"A great hairstyle is the best accessory"

## Mobile Ladies and Gents Hairdressing

#### Call: 07710 590192



### Foot Health For You

Clare Robinson Foot Health Practitioner S.A.C. Dip. Mobile Service

07383 421310



Patricia James Dip CFHP, MPSPract FOOT HEALTH PRACTITIONER • Toe nail cutting • Corn and callus removal • Treatment and advice

 Treatment and advice on ingrown and fungal nail

#### Tel: 07733 458286



Advertising Space available here!

Contact Janet Henderson if interested 01527 831832 janethenderson119@gmail.com





#### CHURCH ACTIVITIES AT THE CENTRE

MONDAY	6.00 pm	Girls' Brigade
TUESDAY	10.00 am	Toddler Group
	10.00 am	Knitting Group
WEDNESDAY	6.00 pm	Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys
	6.45 pm	Boys' Brigade Juniors
	7.45 pm	Boys' Brigade Company/Seniors
	7.30 pm	Meeting Point (1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> )
FRIDAY	10.30 am	Welcome Housegroup (1 <sup>st</sup> )
	10.30 am	Have You Heard Housegroup (2 <sup>nd</sup> )
2.00	- 4.00 pm	Memory Change Café (3 <sup>rd</sup> )
SATURDAY	10.30 am	CAMEO (1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> )

During the week other groups and organisations run activities at the Centre too. See the noticeboards for information.



#### THE WELCOME COFFEE SHOP

Monday to Thursday Saturday (1<sup>st</sup> & 3rd)

lay 10.30 am to 12.30 pm
d) 10.00 am to 12 noon
Closed on Friday





## Iona Abbey