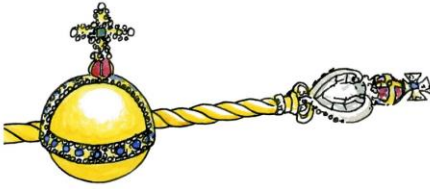
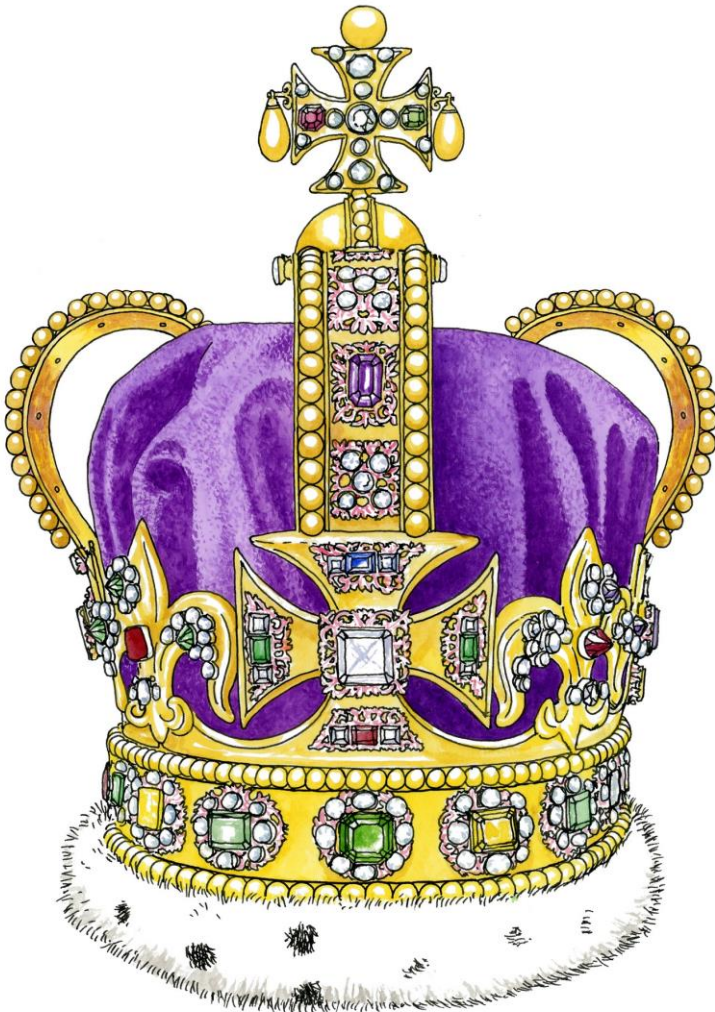


ABBEY HILL U.R.C. MAGAZINE



May
2023



PASTORAL LETTER (from Elder John Nichols)

I was driving my car recently when I noticed the car in front had one of those dangling sign things that you see sometimes, you know the sort, 'Baby on board', 'my other car is a Porsche' etc. well, this one said 'I slow down for horses', okay, jolly good show I thought, what a very sensible (if totally obvious) thing to do. But then I thought why horses in particular? Do you not slow down for road works? What about a queue of traffic? What about pedestrians, if they only slow down for horses then does this person actually accelerate when they see other human beings on the road? Golly I hope not!

After much musing on this important subject it occurred to me that the sign I would have, if I was to get one, would be a shortened version of my horse loving chums sentiment. It would simply say 'Slow down'. We live our lives at such a breakneck pace, encouraged by all this technology that we are told is so wonderful. You can pay your bills instantly with internet banking, send a message by email, it's there in a flash, online gambling, there's a topical subject that we won't get into just now! People even text instead of actually speaking to their friends. What is all that about? Socialising is good for human beings, during covid we longed for personal interaction! Now we're through the worst of it (though covid will obviously never fully go away) loads of people are immediately back to rush/text/WhatsApp and having a chat? Sorry mate, no time!

With all this instant gratification is it any wonder that certain people don't feel the need to talk? If someone else has an

alternative viewpoint, well, 'Hey they're just wrong, don't need to think about it or talk about it because there's no time!' The next thing you know the 'talk' turns into a ludicrous, name calling row (ladies and gentlemen of the jury, I give you the House of Commons as an example!) Patience, consideration? No! Blinkered abuse, that's the way forward. It's not just MP's though is it? It's all of us, can a pro-Brexiteer have a gentle discussion with a Remainer? Can certain rival football fans talk to each other or do some of them feel the best way forward is to punch the other on the nose?

Let's slow down, all of us. Let's be mindful of the enormous privilege that we enjoy by simply being here on God's beautiful planet. Let's slow down our reaction to people with a different point of view, and realise what's really important is not our point of view, what's REALLY important is that we all HAVE a point of view, and aren't we lucky that we have? Oh yes, and slow down for horses too, that's a good idea!

Happy May everyone.

Lots of love,

John x

CHURCH SERVICES FOR MAY 2023



- 7th Sunday** **11.00 Healing Service led by Jo Williams.**
- 14th Sunday** **11.00 Family Service led by Tom Baird.**
- 21st Sunday** **11.00 Family Service led by Anne Holloway.**
- 28th Sunday** **11.00 Family Service with Communion led by George Jones.**

CHURCH SERVICES FOR JUNE 2023

- 4th Sunday** **11.00 Family Service led by George Jones.**
- 11th Sunday** **11.00 Family Service led by Robert Maloney.**
- 18th Sunday** **11.00 Family Service with Communion led by George Jones.**
- 25th Sunday** **11.00 Family Service led by Ivan Pointon.**

Coronation Tea!

- Where:** **Abbey Hill URC downstairs Hall**
When: **Saturday 13th May**
Time: **2.30-5.00pm**
Cost: **£5 per adult – Children Free**
Contact: **Please confirm your place by 5th May to Pat/Rosemary**

Dates for your Diary – May 2023

Here's a peek at the events that are coming up and being planned.
Lists will be up on the noticeboard for willing helpers and how to obtain tickets as necessary.

Event	Venue	Date	Time	Coordinators
Coffee Pot	Abbey Hill	Every Thursday	9.30 to 11.30	Betty and David Connelly
Community Listening Exchange hosted by Coffee Pot	Abbey Hill	3 rd Thursday every month	10.00	Ivan Pointon and Ed Watson
Repair cafe	Abbey Hill	Every 3 rd Saturday	2 til 5pm	Kenilworth Repair Cafe
Prayer Group	Vestry	Every Wed	9.30 til 10am	Anne Gilmore <i>Phone/email to check</i>
Talisman theatre Pride and Prejudice Tickets selling fast! Book now!	Talisman Theatre	Thursday 29 th June	7.00pm For 7.30 start	John Nichols
Pintogether	The Green Man	Friday 28 th April	7pm	Anne and Fred Holloway
Sam Sweeney <i>"The fiddler with the Midas touch... an English equivalent of the great Irish fiddle player Martin Hayes." **** The Guardian</i>	Abbey Hill	Saturday May 6 th	7pm for 7.30 start	Hosted by the Treehouse bookshop
Coronation tea	Abbey Hill	Saturday May 13 th	3 to 5.30pm	Rosemary Lawrence and Pat Cowan
Christian Aid Service	Abbey Hill	Sunday 14 th May	7pm	George Jones
Christian Aid Week 14th to 20th May				
Kenilworth Lions Grand Show	Abbey Fields	Saturday 10 th June	1pm til 10pm	Kenilworth Lions

Dance Group

We were treated to a very moving Dance during the Service on Sunday 23rd April led by Val Whiteman.

The dance depicted how God picks you up when the storm is at its worst in life and restores you again and again.

Thank you to Anne Banning and the Dance Group.



“Reform” Magazine Update

“A Good Question” - 1 Question, 4 Answers.

This is a recurring feature each month in ‘Reform’, the magazine of the URC. So far this year, we have had ‘What is so good about Growth?’ (February), ‘Lent: Have we given up giving up?’ (March), and ‘What should we do with the House of Lords?’ (April). All very varied and interesting answers from a variety of people. To read one or more, if you don’t subscribe to ‘Reform’, please borrow the Church copy in the church vestibule (and return it promptly for someone else to read!).

Other articles and news in these 3 issues include ‘Partners in Mission - a very interesting focus on URC and CWM links with Korea, Fiji and Taiwan. Among others that caught my eye were ‘Views of the Holy Land’ in February, ‘Living and Breathing in Bethlehem’ in March, and in April - ‘God save the Monarchy’, ‘Welcoming Ukrainian Guests’, and ‘Jesus and Money’ and more.

By the way, if you are a new Member of Abbey Hill, or a new Elder, you are entitled to 3 free issues of ‘Reform’, so please let me know if this applies to you and you would like me to order them for you.

Thank you to subscribers for your support, and to others for your interest in the church copy or spare ones.

Janet Turner.

ROTAS – MAY 2023

	Transport	Flowers provided by	Flowers arranged by
07/05	Di Wilson	Pam Muckersie	Betty Connelly
14/05	Colin Ritchie	Bronwen Todd	Bronwen Todd
21/05	John Nichols	Jo Warren	Jo Warren
28/05	Di Wilson	Gaynor Watkins	Ayse McKenzie
	Projector & Sound	Stewards	Readers
07/05	David	Pat Cowan / Anne Gilmore	Phil Inshaw
14/05	Alison	Eileen John / Phil Inshaw	Colin Ritchie
21/05	Ivan	Jo and John Williams	Jane Woods-Scawen
28/05	John	John and Vivien Nichols	Pat Cowan
	Coffee	Car Park	Vestry
07/05	Betty Connelly / Eileen John		Anne Holloway
14/05	Pat Cowan / Glenys Hobbins		Anne Gilmore
21/05	Anne & Fred Holloway		Kath Shortley
28/05	Kath Shortley / Cheryl Ritchie		Jo Warren
	Communion Prep.	Comm. Servers	
	Jane Woods Scawen / Donna Curran		

ROTAS – JUNE 2023

	Transport	Flowers provided by	Flowers arranged by
04/06	Colin Ritchie	Winnie Tawil	Betty Connelly
11/06	John Nichols	Fred Holloway	Anne Gilmore
18/06	Di Wilson	Martyn Todd	Di Wilson
25/06	Colin Ritchie	Eileen John	Eileen John
	Projector & Sound	Stewards	Readers
04/06	Bronwen	Hilary Scott / Ann Banning	David Connelly
11/06	David	Betty Connelly / Kath Shortley	Donna Curran
18/06	Alison	Anne and Fred Holloway	Elinor Davies
25/06	Ivan	Rosemary Lawrence / Donna Bloy	Fred Holloway
	Coffee	Car Park	Vestry
04/06	Rosemary Lawrence / Suzanne Hall		Vivien Nichols
11/06	Alison Pointon / Hilary Scott		John Nichols
18/06	Pate and Jo Warren		Colin Ritchie
25/06	Jane Woods - Scawen / John Thomas		Jane Woods - Scawen
	Communion Prep.	Comm. Servers	
	John Nichols / Jo Warren		

NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

NEWS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY FOR MAY.

MAY BIRTHDAYS.

A Happy Birthday to all of the following:-

1st May Betty Connelly and George Jones

5th May Ruth Sutton

16th May Rosemary Lawrence

17th May Iain McKenzie

21st May Paul Duffy

25th May Lorna Spencer

27th May Vera Cooper

31st May Gerald Lawrence and Steve Sutton

Best wishes to George and to Vera who celebrate special birthdays this month.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

7th May Steve & Ruth Sutton

15th May Fred & Anne Holloway

John & Viv Nichols

28th May Phil & Jayne Inshaw.

Congratulations to Fred & Anne Holloway who celebrate 30 years of marriage in May, their Pearl Anniversary.

IN OUR PRAYERS

We continue to pray for Edna Dixon, Mavis Duckworth, Winnie Tawil, Joy Verall, Janet Turner, Mary Skidmore, Esme Thorpe and others.

All of the above mentioned and any who do not wish to be mentioned by name, are in our thoughts and prayers.

Friends are the icing on the cake!

There is nothing better than a close friend unless it a close friend bearing chocolate cake!

Anon

*The secret of friendship is to give and take –
You give me chocolate cake and I'll take it!*

Anon

Please let Pat Cowan know in person or on 01926 313904, of any Pastoral Care concerns.

The Coronation of King Charles III

On 6th May His Majesty King Charles III will be crowned alongside Camilla, The Queen Consort, in Westminster Abbey. How can we pray for him, as he approaches this important event? Paul says: *'I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.'* (1 Timothy 2:1,2).

For God's presence - to guide every aspect of King Charles' life as he prepares for his Coronation and future roles. At his Accession, he was proclaimed Defender of the Faith, the Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Charles has talked about *'the Sovereign's particular relationship and responsibility towards the Church of England - the Church in which my own faith is so deeply rooted.'*

For God's wisdom - as he provides leadership that will honour God and promote the wellbeing of our society. King Solomon prayed for wisdom for himself: *'So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong.'* (1 Kings 3:9).

For God's love - to strengthen all relationships within the Royal Family; for reconciliation, understanding, forgiveness and good communication.

For God's purpose - to be fulfilled through the work of the King and Queen Consort and their family in the years to come. He has said: *'and whatever may be your background or beliefs, I shall endeavour to serve you with loyalty, respect and love, as I have throughout my life.'*

A Prayer for the new King:

Everlasting God, we pray for our new King. Bless his reign and the life of our nation. Help us to work together so that truth and justice, harmony and fairness flourish among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Last Supper by Peter Barnes



Following a glowing recommendation from Ann Banning; Hilary Scott, Julia Graham and I made the journey to Cirencester to see a sculpture of The Last Supper by Peter Barnes.

Wow! It did not disappoint!



Peter Barnes has cleverly made this sculpture from over 50,000 computer keyboard keys, arranging them to very good effect. For example, he has used the 'Home' keys in the area of Jesus's heart, arranged the letters to make each of the disciples' names across their chests and hidden bible verses amongst the mosaic for the eagle eyed to find.

St John The Baptist Church was a lovely backdrop and is well worth a visit if passing through the Cotswolds. We rounded off our Easter Pilgrimage by joining 8 others for the intimate midday communion service.

The sculpture is appealing and tactile, really showing the interactions between Jesus and his disciples. Being a black and white mosaic and bigger than life size it made quite an impact in the Church in the centre of Cirencester. This is a touring exhibition, so don't race off to Cirencester to see it as, since our visit, it has moved to Windsor!

“What a Load of Rubbish” – Update

From the talk on Saturday 25th March with Alison Firth, there were a number of recycling questions which were referred to Warwick District Council. In reply:

1. Can envelopes with "windows" be put in with paper? ***These can be recycled, so can be placed inside your blue lidded recycling bin.***
2. Can toothpaste tubes be put in with plastic food trays etc...? They have a recycling logo on them. ***These cannot be placed inside your recycling bin as they contain different types of plastic as well as containing a metal layer. I've checked the recycle now website and it says you can take them to any local Boots store where I believe they have special containers which you can place them in to be recycled.***
3. Items that have a triangle with a number (i.e. ...4, 7,)inside be put in plastic recycling? I had been told previously that they could..... ***In relation to number 4 this is mainly plastic bags, sandwich bags etc which cannot be recycled in the blue lidded recycling bin. I believe you can take these to local supermarkets to recycle. As for items with number 7 on, again this cannot be recycled at home as these type of products usually contain multiple types of plastic which cannot be separated for example sunglasses, DVD cases etc. I would suggest you take these to your local recycling centre i.e. Princes Drive or Cherry Orchard and ask if they have anywhere you can recycle them.***
4. One person who had collected litter items while out walking was putting them in the different sections of kerbside receptacle, when a worker arrived to empty the receptacle and was told "don't bother, it all goes in the same place! Are people wasting their time separating items? ***Due to the mistreatment of the recycling litter bins they are usually full of general refuse which***

cannot be recycled so we have no other option than to dispose the bagged waste as landfill. This is more than likely what the operative was advising.

5. Can "compostable" covers for posted items be put in food waste, green bins? ***These can be placed inside your food caddy.***

6. The same regarding compost at home bags from supermarkets? (I was told before the new system came on stream that they could be put in green bins but one had to tell the council and the team collecting the bins would be notified and not reject the bin for having a bag in it). ***I'm not 100% sure what you mean by compost at home bags but I assume it's the compostable bags which come on a roll so you can place food waste in. These need to be placed in your food caddy as they will not be accepted in the garden waste bin.***

7. What happens if the wrong items are put in the various bins? ***This depends on what item is placed in which bin. For example if you place recyclable material in the grey refuse bin then this will be taken to landfill as this isn't sorted. If you place non-recyclable material in your recycling bin in error then this will be picked up at the MRF when sorted and taken to landfill (hope this makes sense).***

8. Will it be possible to have a tour of the new facility on London Rd Coventry in due course? (This is possible at the one near Gloucester on M5.) ***When the new MRF opens this Summer we would be happy to arrange a tour. We will contact you when the MRF is open and operational.***

All in the month of MAY

It was:

150 years ago, on 1st May 1873 that David Livingstone, Scottish missionary and explorer, died. Best known for his search for the sources of the Nile, and for going missing (and being found) in Africa.

100 years ago, on 26th-27th May 1923 that the first Le Mans 24 hours endurance motor race was held.

90 years ago, on 2nd May 1933 that the first modern sighting of Scotland's Loch Ness monster was reported in the Inverness Chronicle.

80 years ago, on 16th-17th May 1943 that the RAF launched Operation Chastise, which became famous as the 'Dambusters' Raid'. Bouncing bombs were used to bypass anti-torpedo nets and breach dams, which caused catastrophic flooding in Germany's Ruhr Valley.

75 years ago, on 14th-15th May 1948 that Israel was declared an independent state as the British mandate in Palestine came to an end. Next day the Arab-Israeli War began with the invasion of Israel by Egypt, Transjordan, Lebanon, Syria and Iraq.

70 years ago, on 29th May 1953 that New Zealand mountaineer Edmund Hilary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay became the first people to reach the summit of Mount Everest.

60 years ago, on 27th May 1963 that the folk/blues album 'The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan' was released. It included the hit song 'Blowin' in the Wind'.

50 years ago, on 17th May 1973 that the Watergate hearings began in the US Senate and were televised nationally.

40 years ago, on 20th May 1983 that the journal Science reported the discovery of the HIV virus that causes AIDS.

25 years ago, on 23rd May 1998 that in a referendum, the people of Northern Ireland voted to accept the Good Friday Agreement. 75% were in favour of a Northern Ireland Assembly.

Can Science Prove God Exists?

To risk sounding like a smart aleck seven-year-old, technically speaking you can only prove things mathematically. If you need to know that one plus one equals two, don't go to a chemistry lab. The natural sciences only deal with things that can be observed and measured. Science has been so successful that it's tempting to get carried away, valuing science above any other kind of knowledge, but there are other ways of knowing that are equally important. For example, art conveys ideas, experiences or emotions that provoke us to think or do something in response.

In fact, to find answers to any of the really important questions about meaning and purpose that affect us throughout our lives, we always have to go beyond science. Some scientific data might help define the question, for example a farmer facing a drought would probably like to know some details about the current weather patterns and the availability of seeds for more hardy crops before she can start asking "What is the point of trying to grow anything at all?" But in the end, she is asking a deeper question – and so are the rest of us when we go through any significant experience in life.

So rather than asking "Can science prove God exists?", what about: "Are the findings of science compatible with the existence of a purposeful Creator?" For many scientists today, the answer to the second question is yes. They have investigated the Bible's descriptions of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and found that they make sense. They have discovered that they can interact with God – especially in prayer – and that this faith has changed their lives.

Professor Christine Done, an Astrophysicist at Durham University, writes, "for me the more we know about the vast, yet intricate and beautiful Universe we live in, the bigger and more awe-inspiring is the God who made it all." (*Thinking About: The Big Bang*, <https://www.cis.org.uk/resources/thinking/>)

Some go even further, making statements like this: "the way the universe exhibits an ordered structure, which is open to science to investigate, points to a mind behind it." (Revd Dr Rodney Holder, Astrophysicist, in *Longing, Waiting, Believing* (BRF, 2014))

The question "Can Science Prove God Exists?" turns out to be a category error – trying to use science to answer a non-scientific question. On the other hand, many scientists think there is enough evidence from a wide range of sources to warrant belief in God.

'The Madonna of the Meadow' by Giovanni Bellini

Each year as we look at Creation we see the cycle of the seasons. The earth comes alive in spring, blossoms and bears fruit in summer, gives up its goodness and glory in autumn, and seems to die in the sleep of cold winter. Each of those seasons has its moods and feelings, which we find mirrored in the turn of human life.

The joy of spring and summer go hand in hand with the sadness and resignation of autumn and winter in all that life brings us. When we look at our Lady in the Gospels, and this month of May is Mary's month, we see that mixture of joy and sadness.



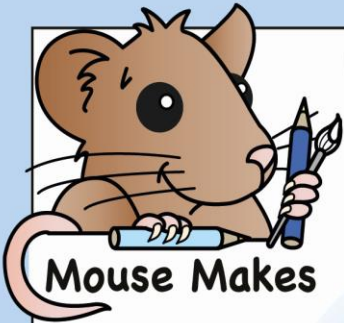
In the Annunciation and at Christmas we share in the wonder and happiness of motherhood and new birth. A Son is born, but that birth brings anxiety and strain. Those strange words of Simeon in the Temple, losing the child in Jerusalem, watching her son grow, only to be rejected and crucified – these experiences brought Mary heartache and sorrow.

But her maternal love sustains her through it all, and Mary is with the disciples at the glorious moment of Pentecost.

This range of moods in creation and in the life of Mary is caught up in the painting, 'The Madonna of the Meadow' by Giovanni Bellini. He came from a family of Renaissance painters, and this work was created around 1500. It now hangs in the National Gallery in London. The background is full of the details of the world of nature and everyday life. We see some cows grazing and others resting. A farmer tends the livestock on one side of the painting, while a herdsman relaxes on the other. Mary in the centre is part of that creation with the blue of her robe like the sky above, while the russet shades beneath that blue mirror the earth on which she rests.

As we look more closely, we can see some disturbing signs of 'nature red in tooth and claw.' There is a bird to our left – perhaps a crane or egret – that is fighting with a snake. Above, on the top of a tall, thin, leafless tree there is another bird as black as death. We look at the babe sleeping in His mother's arms and sense His vulnerability for all her protective love. Some 30 years later Mary will cradle her Son in that same pose as His body is taken down from the cross: that heart-rending moment we know as the Pietà.

The Venetian landscape is like a peaceful May afternoon where spring is dissolving into high summer amid those contented signs of a clear sky and cows grazing. The serpent and the raven tell us that struggle and death can easily invade that scene. But they somehow pale into insignificance as we ponder that luminous affirmation of new life in the mother and child that dominate the canvas. They proclaim life; they proclaim life after death. The babe sleeping in Mary's arms will wake and grow through the seasons of life. Too soon we know His body will hang on a barren tree like the one where that bird of death perches. But that cycle of birth and spring leading to death and winter will be transformed as His risen body will walk into another landscape – the garden of Easter where the leaves never wither and the sky never darkens, for in that resurrection joy, all is life and light and life eternal.



Mouse Makes

Find the answers in the word search

What hid Jesus from the Apostles?

a _____
Acts 1:9

Where was Jesus taken up to? _____
Luke 24:51

Where did the Apostles return to? _____
Acts 1:12

Forty days after His resurrection Jesus appeared to the Apostles one last time. He told them that the Holy Spirit would come, then He blessed them and ascended into heaven.



READ
Acts 1 4-17

What did Jesus say that the Holy Spirit would give the Apostles?

to be Jesus' witnesses.
Acts 1:8

Who appeared to the Apostles?
Two _____ and
what were they dressed in? _____
Acts 1:10

Where is Jesus seated?
At the _____
_____ of God.
Mark 16:19

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

JESUS • CHRIST • FORTY DAYS • APOSTLES • ASCENSION • TAKEN • LOOKING
SKY • RETURN • BLESSED • WORSHIPPED • JOY • PRAYER • GOD • SAT
GATHERED • WITNESSES • HOLY SPIRIT

Some popular health myths debunked

The best ways of staying fit and healthy may be different from what you thought. Here are some fitness dictats which were originally based more on marketing than on science.

Walk 10,000 steps a day:

This goal has been a popular mantra for years, and it has even been adopted by the World Health Organisation. But the number was chosen arbitrarily in a Japanese boardroom in the 1960s. The company, Yamasa, simply dreamt up the figure in its effort to promote the world's first step counter, ahead of the Tokyo 1964 Olympics.

Instead, recent studies, including one at the University of Alabama, have found that taking between just 6,000 to 8,000 steps a day may be fine. And even if you take far less than that, then just adding an extra 500 steps a day will bring you significant health benefits. Research does suggest that it is not a great idea to take less than 5,000 steps a day.

Five a day:

This encouragement to eat daily fruit and veg came from the UK government in the late 1980s, and it is probably the best-known piece of public health advice that we have.

But recent studies suggest that five a day is unlikely to be enough. Scientists at Imperial College London suggest it is more like seven or ten helpings a day, if you are to get all the nutrients and fibre that you need. One scientist at the University of Leeds says there needs to be a push for people to make dietary fibre the majority of their daily diet, rather than processed foods.

You need eight hours sleep:

This notion goes back to Victorian times! During the industrial revolution, it was thought that the best daily regime was eight hours labour, eight hours recreation, and eight hours rest.

But in fact, modern studies have found that the amount of sleep you need is highly individualised. Some people get along fine on less than six hours, while others need ten hours.

Two litres of water a day:

For decades, the advice has been to drink two litres of water a day, or about eight glasses.

But our fluid requirements vary, depending on exercise, the weather, climate, and our age. You may need as many as six, or as little as one. For, according to a professor of nutritional sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, “a lot of your water comes from the food you eat.”

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day:

This advice began to be spread in the 1920s, when cereal companies were running marketing campaigns to get people to eat their products for breakfast.

But nutrition experts point out that breakfast is only good for you if you eat the right kind of foods. Highly processed foods and a large sugar content is likely to do you more harm than good.

2,000 calories a day:

The NHS recommends a daily calorie intake of 2,000 calories a day for women and 2,500 for men.

But your actual calorie needs depend on your age, gender, height, weight and physical activities levels. Some of us need to eat much less, and some of us need to eat more.

The pothole crisis deepens 😞

If you drive, you already know this: the potholes are getting worse.

Some experts have warned that one in five of our roads will be undriveable in the next five years, unless we get to grips with the crisis.

In its recent annual survey on the state of the country's roads, the Asphalt Industry Alliance (AIA) has found that about 37,000 miles of road, or 18 per cent, are in very poor condition. Without intervention, these roads have less than five years of 'life' left in them.

But intervention costs billions of pounds. This latest 'Alarm' report estimates that now more than £14 billion is needed to fix all of England and Wales' potholes, and generally get the country's roads back up to standard.

Looking further ahead, the AIA predicts that while just over half of all local roads are in good structural condition, the remaining 100,000 miles of roads may need to be rebuilt in the next 15 years, unless adequate maintenance is speedily introduced.

It is not as if the government is ignoring the problem. Jeremy Hunt has provided an additional £200 million one-off payment to fix potholes on our roads. That is in addition to the Government's annual £500 million pothole fund. This means that in 2023/4, the Government is going to pour an eye-watering £700 million into holes in our roads.

Meanwhile, research by the RAC Foundation has found that one in 24 road bridges across the country are substandard, and therefore unable to carry heavy vehicles.

Steve Gooding, director of the RAC Foundation, said: "Whether it is potholes or bridges, there is only so long that councils can continue to patch things up before bigger cracks literally start to appear in the road network."



REPAIR CAFE
KENILWORTH



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REPAIR CAFE



Repair Café Kenilworth

Repair Café Kenilworth (ReCK) is a free meeting space that's all about repairing things together, be that clothes, toys, furniture, electrical appliances, bicycles ... there's very little that can't be repaired by our team of expert volunteers.

We meet at the United Reformed Church every third Saturday in the month, between 2PM and 5PM. There is free parking outside the Church, but it can get quite busy. If your item is particularly heavy or large, we'll always try to assist you as best as possible.



Sustainable. Social. Economic. Fun.

A local Repair Café is a not-for-profit community event, created by neighbours, for their neighbours. The aim of the Repair Café Kenilworth (and those worldwide) is to reduce waste, increase sustainability, save money, and have fun in an informal social gathering.

Oh ... with lots of tea and cake on tap also. It is a Repair CAFE after all.

Bin it? No Way!

Some things have to be thrown away ... the old toothbrush with curly bristles, that blown light bulb that's been sitting inside the cupboard since 1983, the fish 'n' chip wrappers from last night's tea ... but what about that broken bedside lamp, or the rickety wooden stool that belonged to your grandparents?



The Repair Café movement has one simple question, and an even simpler answer; Bin it? No Way!

Along with actually repairing your broken items, we'll help you to develop the skills to start repairing them yourself, to promote the culture of repair over replace, and to give you the satisfaction of bringing your treasured memories back to life.

Further details

[Repair Cafe](#) | [Repair Cafe Kenilworth](#) | [Kenilworth \(repaircafe-kenilworth.org\)](#)

The third Saturday afternoon of the month at Abbey Hill Church 2pm-5pm.

**COULD ANY ARTICLES/NOTICES FOR THE
JUNE 2023 MAGAZINE PLEASE BE SENT
TO ME BY
SUNDAY 21st MAY 2023
PLEASE 😊? (e-mail to
m.todd1@hotmail.com)**

One in five people find common noises “intolerable”

Do some common noises really bother you? If you hate everyday sounds like chewing, sniffing and even moderate breathing, then you may be among the one in every five people in Britain who suffer from misophonia.

In the first study of its kind, researchers from King’s College London and University of Oxford have discovered that 18.4 per cent of the general UK population say certain noises can leave them feeling ‘trapped’ and ‘upset’.

Misophonia is a psychological condition in which common sounds made in normal life trigger more than the occasional irritation. Instead, they can trigger a fight or flight response, sparking real anger and even panic.

Clinical psychologists say that while most people dislike the sound of loud chewing, slurping, snoring and loud breathing, people with misophonia frequently react badly to even normal breathing, footsteps and swallowing.

As Terry Wogan used to say, “Is it me?”



When Children and RE mix...

When children meet the Bible, the result can be unpredictable. As in these answers to a school chaplain's efforts to teach RE....

- ~ The main purpose of the prophets was to set up the lights for when Jesus came on the stage.*
- ~ The Kingdom of God is no ordinary place like the bathroom at home.*
- ~ Jesus said: If you want to divorce your wife leave a note for her on the table.*
- ~ Jesus healed a man with a weathered hand.*
- ~ Some of the seed from the sower was carried off by Satan.*
- ~ The last verses of Mark's gospel were written later by a unanimous person.*
- ~ Jesus first proclaimed the gospel to the Jews: He told them to make love to each other.*
- ~ An altar is a stall for candles.*
- ~ An example of Holy Orders are the Ten Commandments.*
- ~ An epistle is the wife of an apostle.*

Five exercises that clergy should avoid – at all costs

Beating your head against the wall; climbing the walls; beating your own drum; dragging your heels; jumping to conclusions; grasping at straws; fishing for compliments; throwing your weight around; passing the buck; using clichés.

Political systems

What is the difference between Capitalism and Socialism?

Capitalism is the exploitation of man by man. Socialism is the exact opposite.

Fire

There was a fire at the main Inland Revenue office in London, but it was put out before any

Mark

When the late Dean of York was asked why he called his stumpy-tailed fox terrier 'Mark', he explained: "The New Testament contains the life-stories of our Lord by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Mark's is the shortest tale!"

Married

How many women can one man marry? A little boy who attended his first wedding worked that one out pretty quick: the answer is 16. It is easy, if you think about it. Four better, four worse, four richer, four poorer. Comes to 16.

Proof-reading needed!

The following true-life headlines found in local newspapers make you wonder: is proofreading a dying art?

Man Kills Self Before Shooting Wife and Daughter

Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says

Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over

Miners Refuse to Work after Death

Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant

War Dims Hope for Peace

If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile

Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures

PRAYER DIARY MAY 2023

1 st	Glo Ford
2 nd	Barbara and Richard Gillard
3 rd	Anne and Tony Gilmore
4 th	Julia Graham
5 th	Donna and Darren Hall and Emelia
6 th	Laraine Hall
7 th	Madeline Hamper
8 th	Glenys Hobbins
9 th	Anne and Fred Holloway
10 th	Jane and Phil Inshaw
11 th	Jennifer Jackson and Robert Banks
12 th	Eileen John and Leon
13 th	Emilie Jones
14 th	George Jones
15 th	Robert Kerr
16 th	Rosemary and Gerald Lawrence
17 th	Gill and David Littleford
18 th	Alice McAdam
19 th	John & Ayse McKenzie, Iain, Layla and Scott
20 th	Mhari McLintock and Hugh Maccallum
21 st	Roz Morris
22 nd	Pam Muckersie
23 rd	Vivien and John Nichols
24 th	Alison and Ivan Pointon
25 th	Cheryl and Colin Ritchie
26 th	Hilary Scott
27 th	Pat Scott
28 th	Kath Shortley
29 th	Jayne Shores
30 th	Barbara and Helen Sidebottom
31 st	Mary Skidmore

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Magazine Editor	Martyn Todd		864332
Guide Leader	Tracey McNamara		856922
Brownie Leader	Sarah Pointer	02477	042291
Crèche	Ayse McKenzie		779810
Catering & Social Committee	Rosemary Lawrence		850264
Healing Group	Jo Williams	02477	112156
Weekly Notices	Paul Duffy		851650
Child Protection Link	Alison Crichton	07970	557726
Transport			
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