

Minister's Letter



Dear Friends,

I don't know if you are aware of this or not, but I'm a Sudoku addict! I know that there are some of you out there who will sympathise with my plight, because I've seen your Sudoku puzzle books in your own homes! In my home I have a calendar pad on my desk with a new Sudoku puzzle every day. On the back of the loo door there hangs a pad of Sudoku puzzles for passing the time when I'm hiding from doing the washing up (as my daughter will tell you!). I also enjoy doing the Times Sudoku (because I'm not clever enough to do the crossword!).

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6		2	3	9		5		

Completing anything in life but particularly a Sudoku puzzle is very satisfying. When completing something you often feel a real sense of achievement. I am then ready and eager for the next challenge.

Everyone needs to feel a sense of achievement from time to time. That's why, in my previous life as a Special Needs teacher, part of my job was to break down large and difficult tasks into smaller achievable steps, so that even my special students that found things the most difficult could achieve and make progress—and that achievement fuelled further progress. It was always a great privilege when one of my little group reached a “*breakthrough*” moment when they suddenly realized what it was all about.—That “*penny-dropping*” moment when real achievement was reached.

I suppose that time in the Upper Room at Pentecost was such a

“*penny-dropping*” moment for the disciples. For several years Jesus had been doing his best to teach them his gospel message, yet they didn’t understand and hid themselves away in the Upper Room after his torture and death on the cross.

The gift of the Holy Spirit was to Jesus’ disciples a huge “*breakthrough*” moment. From there they went on out into all corners of the known world to spread that gospel message that they had earlier not really understood themselves.

Many of us have longed for that “*breakthrough*” moment and have been troubled when our faith is difficult to fully understand. Maybe those are the times when we’re called upon to continue to work gently and faithfully on the small things—our prayer-time; our bible reading; our sharing of worship and fellowship. For I am certain that for all of us—sooner or later—the “*Penny will Drop*”



God bless,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to be "Mike Lee". Below the signature is a long, thin horizontal line.



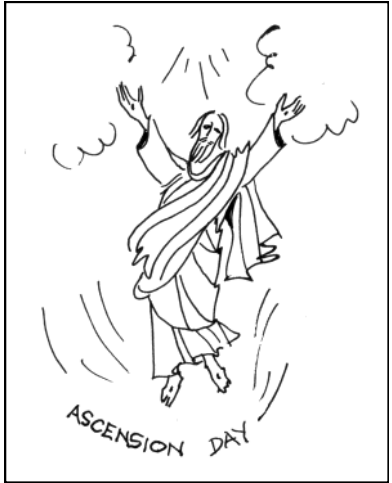
Ascension Day

May continues the season of Eastertide, and 40 days after Easter comes Ascension Day.

It may seem crazy to call it Eastertide when Easter is clearly over! - but these are the forty days during which the Risen Christ appeared again and again to his disciples, following his death and resurrection.

The Gospels give us little of Christ's teachings and deeds during those forty days. Jesus was seen by numerous disciples: on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He strengthened and encouraged his disciples, and at last opened their eyes to all that the Scriptures had promised about the Messiah.

Jesus also told them that as the Father had sent him, he was now going to send *them* - to all corners of the earth, as his witnesses.



Pentecost

Pentecost was the old Jewish festival of Firstfruits, which took place at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was exactly 50 days after the Passover, the time of Jesus' crucifixion.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told his apostles that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for his apostles - but he knew they could not do the work themselves - they would need his help.

And so the apostles and disciples waited in Jerusalem, praying together for several days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues - to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

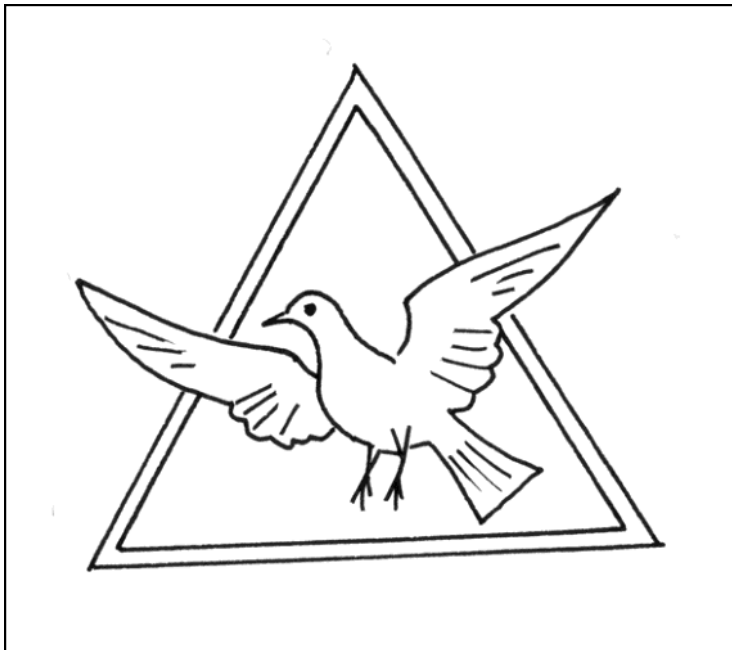
(Continued on page 4)

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the apostles and disciples of Jesus: and the Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

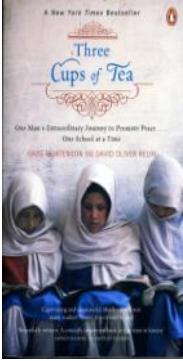
Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian church that morning: proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, he could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

[Courtesy Parish Pump]



Three Cups of Tea



In 1993, after a terrifying and disastrous attempt to climb K2, a mountaineer called Greg Mortenson drifted, cold and dehydrated, into an impoverished Pakistan village in the Karakoram Mountains. Moved by the inhabitants' kindness, he promised to return and build a school. "Three Cups of Tea" is the story of that promise and its extraordinary outcome. Over the next decade Mortenson built not just one but fifty-five schools - especially for girls - in remote villages across the forbidding and breathtaking landscape of Pakistan and Afghanistan, just as the Taliban rose to power. His story is at once a riveting adventure and a testament to the power of the humanitarian spirit. (Quote from Back cover)

This book was introduced by Jacob George during a service at Alton Methodist where the theme was 'service'. It is subtitled one Man's Extraordinary Journey to Promote Peace... one school at a Time.

The title derives from the words of Haji Ali, Korphe Village Chief, Karakoram mountains, Pakistan: *'Here we drink three cups of tea to do business; the first you are a stranger, the second you become a friend, and the third, you join our family, and for our family we are prepared to do anything - even die.'*

It is quite a long book at 300+ pages and it's not the detail I want to give here, although I found it a compelling read.

What struck me was that it shows God at work in the world. Greg Mortenson is an American, not obviously a Christian, and the people he chose to serve were Muslims. Throughout the story God's hand is clear, he provided the original benefactor, the key people in Pakistan, the relationships of trust that were formed which transcended the mistrust and hate that the USA has brought on itself by its actions.

This is an example to us as Christians of how we should use our wealth to help those who have not had the same opportunities as we have. And how important it is to develop relationships with those we wish to serve (to have Three Cups of Tea) - not as 'superior' benefactors but as 'humble servants'.

Richard Wimbush



Come and Explore Life
An Introduction to
Godly Play

Godly Play is an innovative and exciting way of teaching and exploring faith through the telling of Biblical stories and the use of the imagination.

Godly Play reaches those parts that other studies cannot!!

Leader Revd Keith Underhill
Saturday 17th May 10am to 4pm
Farnham Methodist Church
South Street
Farnham GU9 7RN



Cost £10

(Please bring a packed lunch, drinks provided)



Participants of this taster day will be able to experience first hand two Godly Play stories, look at the theory that lies behind God Play and share and explore how this can be used powerfully within the lives of congregations as well as with children and young people in Sunday school settings.

If you can't make the course on May 17th there is a further opportunity on June 14th, 9.30 am - 12.30pm, at Farnham Methodist Church to attend a shorter version of the taster day looking at just one Godly Play story.

Booking information from Libby Craggs c/o Farnham Methodist Church
Office, South Street, Farnham, GU9 7RN Tel: 01252 820665

(Explore is supported by the Farnham Christian Community Trust and The Moor Park Trust)



Week of Prayer Service May 18th

Churches Together in Surrey are holding what promises to be a very lively Week of Prayer Service at 3pm on Sunday May 18th at Guildford Cathedral.

With worship led by Alison Adam of the Iona Community and the Revd Myra Blyth as guest preacher, the event offers something for all ages. Children are invited to the Cathedral Refectory where Simon Shutt of FACT, in Egham, will provide a programme tailored for them.

The Revd Myra Blyth, a Baptist minister, has held influential roles with the World Council of Churches and Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. She has also served as Deputy General Secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Moderator of the Churches Commission on Racial Justice. She is currently Chaplain and teaches at Regent's Park College, Oxford.

Although visiting Guildford as a preacher, Myra Blyth is a broadcast singer and musician in her own right but she is joined by another Scot, Alison Adam who will be leading worship.

A member of the Iona Community living in London, Alison worked for several years on the Iona worship project, The Wild Goose Resource Group. She has travelled extensively, providing worship for conferences and music and worship seminars and will be joined for this service by the Ruxley Church Music Group led by the Revd Stuart Thomas.

What Does the Holy Spirit Do?

Like a powerful searchlight, the aim of the Holy Spirit is to highlight Christ and enable us to live the Christian life. Therefore, it is important to ask the crucial question: what does the Holy Spirit do in our lives?

The Spirit brings us new birth into the family of God, for without him we cannot develop our relationship with God. Every person who has committed their life to Christ possesses the Holy Spirit, as Paul says, 'if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.' (Romans 8:9).

Primarily the Spirit assures us of God's love and acceptance in our lives, despite our fears, doubts or failures: 'God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us' (Romans 5:5). Paul expresses this in terms of our adoption as sons and our new status, family and future: 'Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."

So you are no longer slaves, but God's children; and since you are his children, he has made you also heirs' (Galatians 4: 6,7). This means that we can now address God as father ie abba, which is Aramaic for 'daddy', the very word used by Jesus himself. We can struggle with this truth in our experience, perhaps as a result of authority figures (eg parents, teachers etc), who have been domineering, withdrawn or abusive. However, the Spirit will work within us to bring healing and release in our lives.

As the Helper (or Counsellor) the Holy Spirit is also alongside to enable us to pray: 'In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans'. (Romans 8:26). For our prayers he gives us both words understood, unknown words (ie gift of tongues) or no words at all (ie tears or sighs). He will also help us to understand God's word and hear what God is saying to us. 'But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth'. (John 16:13).

'The presence of the Spirit, as an experience and living reality, is the crucial matter for the Christian life from beginning to end' (Gordon Fee).

[Courtesy Parish Pump]



Christian Aid Week 11-17 May 2008

‘If we come together, we can achieve amazing things.’

Rekha Biswas from Bangladesh provides a humbling and inspirational example for Christian Aid Week. This courageous lady goes from house to house, talking to families about the problems they face getting water and vitally, she also challenges gender roles. She encourages women to come to meetings of the local pani parishad, the village water council.

Water is on tap for most of us in the developed world, but in those countries where it isn't, it's women and children who suffer the most. They spend hours carrying heavy pots of water to their families. Lack of water can also lead to family disputes, with women and children bearing the brunt of their husbands' or fathers' short tempers at the end of a day's labour, and risking abuse. Women also have no economic independence as their lives are spent collecting water. They end up caring for family members who become sick through drinking dirty water. Children lose out on education because they have to spend so much time fetching water. In Bangladesh people often have to walk for up to 24 hours to collect water to drink.

Rekha has spoken up about this injustice and given hope to the whole village. Rising sea levels mean that salt water has replaced most of the fresh water sources in her village. But she believes there is a solution to this problem, and to the lack of basic human rights in the coastal region of Bangladesh where she lives. She believes that change can be achieved through communities – especially women – finding their voices.

Christian Aid partner The Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies has set up pani parishads in villages throughout Bangladesh. These community organisations discuss and agree the best water supply solutions for their particular villages. The water councils also provide a forum for addressing other community issues. Now that the village has clean water, the pani parishad is working to establish schools, as well as looking at plans to reconstruct roads and take action to stop child marriage. The villagers now have the power to make their lives better.

The pani parishads encourage women to take an active role. Each council must have more than 50 per cent female membership and the president must be

female. Rekha explains that: ‘In the pani parishad, we give training to help [people] understand what they need and then how to achieve it. But most importantly, they understand that they can do things for themselves.’

Rekha tells people that if they come together, they can achieve things that they couldn’t if they were alone. By giving up a couple of hours during Christian Aid Week, you are collecting so much more than money. Your gifts can mean water, rights and courage. By coming together, we can achieve amazing things.

A gift of just 50p to Christian Aid would pay for one day’s gender training per person with BCAS to improve relationships in families and lessen the burden on women. £50 would pay the monthly salary of a community pani parishad coordinator, who helps women and the poor to discover their voice, understand their right to water, learn about health and hygiene, and begin to bring about change. Your gifts can help to give voice to a single woman or to a whole community.

If you can offer some time to Christian Aid Week this year, please contact your church’s co-ordinator, or ring Sadie Blankley on 01252 795046. When the red envelope comes through your door, please give as generously as you can. Find out more about Christian Aid Week by visiting www.caweek.org

Ten things to know about Christian Aid

1. We believe in life before death – we are passionate about rooting out poverty.
2. We fund long-term development work, respond to emergencies, and challenge the unjust systems that make and keep people poor.
3. We are the official development agency of 41 church denominations in the UK and Ireland.
4. We help people of all faiths and none.
5. We believe in helping people to find their own lasting solutions to poverty.
6. We work through more than 600 partners – local organisations – in nearly 50 countries.
7. We challenge those with power to change things that have an adverse effect on poor communities, such as international trade rules and climate change.
8. We don’t give money to governments – we work directly with local organisations on the ground.
9. We spend money where it’s needed most. For each £1 given in 2006/7, 83p was used for direct charitable expenditure. The remaining 17p was used to raise the next £1, which included 1p on

administration of the charity.

10. You can find out more at www.caweek.org or by calling 0845 7000 300.

Sadie Blankley (Chair – Farnham Christian Aid Group)

Forthcoming Events in Support of Christian Aid

Christian Aid Lunch, Rowledge Methodist Church 7th May 12.00-1.30

Plant Sale and Coffee Morning (Proceeds to Christian Aid) St Thomas-on-The Bourne 10.30 Tuesday 6th May

Quizaid Friday 9th May 7.30pm Leverton Hall, St Peter's Church, Wrecclesham

Joint church service for Christian Aid Week 2008 Sunday 11 May 2008, 6:30pm at St John's Church, Hale. Come and celebrate the work of Christian Aid.

Could it be Dementia? - Book Review

Could it be Dementia? - losing your mind doesn't mean losing your soul

by Louise Morse, Lion Adult £7.99

This book puts dementia into a Christian context, insisting that loss of memory or reason does not mean a person is worthless.

Dementia is in the headlines on a daily basis. Much information is available but it is all factual with no spiritual content. Yet for Christians, dementia can raise questions unlike any other condition. Why does a godly old man begin to use language that has always been anathema to him? Why does a loving mother become stubborn, and suspicious? Where is God in all of this?

This book offers information and reassurance gleaned from the extensive experience of Pilgrim Homes, a network of nine Christian care homes and a foundation going back to 1807.

[Courtesy Parish Pump]

TO MY MEMORY - MAY IT RUST IN PEACE

Your memory goes as you get old
But sometimes you have to laugh.
It happened to me the other day
When I was having a bath.

I stood there astride the edge of the bath.
My mind was just brimming with doubt,
Was I just about to get into the bath?
Or was I about to get out?

I called to my husband in the kitchen below
"Please come up - I need your advice"
"Righty -ho" he replied - he's so very kind
-I'll be up there in less than a trice".

The minutes rolled by and he hadn't appeared.
I called out again in alarm,
"Where are you, my dear? Are you sure you're alright?
I hope you have come to no harm".

"I am here on the stairs" was the nervous reply
"But I'm feeling a bit of a clown.
My memory's gone. Was I on my way up?
Or d'you think I was on my way down?"

I've finished my poem -though my memory's gone
And deserve a resounding 'hurrah',
It's been nice being here - wherever I am
And I thank you – whoever you are



Prince Caspian comes to Britain

The much-loved children's story Prince Caspian, written by CS Lewis, has been made into a film by Walt Disney. 'The Chronicles of Narnia - Prince Caspian' will have its nationwide release on 27 June.

Douglas Gresham, stepson of CS Lewis, says "One of the things I love about 'Prince Caspian' is that in its illustration of a return to truth, justice and faith after a millennium of corruption, the story shows us that no matter how far we have strayed, there is always a way back, all we have to do is find it and recognise it."

The film goes to new and undiscovered parts of Narnia and is bigger and more spectacular than ever before. There is also the introduction of new characters including Prince Caspian, who will go on to star in the next 3 chronicles.

The four young British talents from the first film are back as the Pevensie children; Georgie Henley as Lucy, Skandar Keynes as Edmund, William Moseley as Peter, and Anna Popplewell as Susan. The film's title character Prince Caspian will be played by Ben Barnes, a 26-year-old British actor, whose previous work includes a theatre role in "The History Boys" for London's National Theatre Company and film roles in the independent feature "Bigga Than Ben" and Matthew Vaughn's fantasy film "Stardust".

"Prince Caspian" follows the Pevensie siblings as they are magically transported back from England to the world of Narnia, where a thrilling, perilous new adventure and an even greater test of their faith and courage awaits them. One year after the incredible events of 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe', the Kings and Queens of Narnia find themselves back in that faraway wondrous realm, only to discover that more than 1300 years have passed in Narnian time. During their absence, the Golden Age of Narnia has become extinct, Narnia has been conquered by the Telmarines and is now under the control of the evil King Miraz, who rules the land without mercy.

The four children meet Prince Caspian: Narnia's rightful heir to the throne, who has been forced into hiding as his uncle Miraz plots to kill him in order to place his own newborn son on the throne. With the help of the kindly dwarf, a courageous talking mouse named Reepicheep, a badger named Trufflehunter and a Black Dwarf, Nikabrik, the Narnians, led by the mighty knights Peter and Caspian, embark on a remarkable journey to find Aslan, rescue Narnia from Miraz's tyrannical hold, and restore magic and glory to the land.

[Courtesy Parish Pump]



PENTECOST

11th May

Do you know what happened on the first Pentecost? On that day what really amazed all the people was that everyone there heard the message of the good news in their own language. You can read about this in Acts, chapter 2.

How many languages can you speak? We all speak English but most of us know at least a few words in more than one language. I bet you know some French, even if it is only 'bonjour' or 'merci', perhaps you know some Urdu, Spanish or Polish too.

There are so many languages in the world we couldn't hope to learn more than a few of them – but Jesus knows our language... he speaks everyone else's language too. His gospel can be translated into every possible dialect and tongue because, whatever words are used, that gospel is the same. It is for all people, everywhere. Jesus speaks to everyone in His own language.

P - QUIZ

All the answers in this Bible quiz begin with the letter P - can you find them all?

1. Paul wrote to the people of this town.
2. The Roman Governor who washed his hands.
3. Where the last book in the Bible was written.
4. Short stories Jesus told.
5. Goliath was one.
6. What Amos and Hosea were.
7. To begin with he was called Saul.
8. The Egyptian ruler who argued with Moses.



Where would you look for a lost vicar?

The Bureau of Missing Parsons.

What is wet, round, and taste of peppermint?

Water Polo.

What did the policeman say to the naughty frog?

Hop it.

ANSWERS: 1. Philippi 2. Pontius Pilate
3. Parables 4. Parables 5. Philistine
6. prophets 7. Paul 8. Pharaoh

Please Buy Gorgeous Palestinian Olive Oil

In 2003, two (extra)ordinary young women founded Zaytoun, with the help of several benefactors, a company to import and distribute Palestinian olive oil, olive soaps and other foods grown by Palestinians, through a largely voluntary network of distributors.

They had both spent a while in Israel/Palestine and had witnessed for themselves the way the Israeli occupation was wreaking havoc on the Palestinian economy and the lives of a people, the roots of whose culture still penetrated deeply into the land which they have farmed for generations. Swathes of land have been annexed by Israel for its huge settlements, a settler-only network of roads, and latterly by the Separation Wall, and water sources grabbed for itself to keep settlement gardens green and swimming pools full, while surrounding Palestinian farming land grows arid. All these have eroded Palestinian land ownership and the whole ecology of this once beautiful, unspoilt region.

The olive tree and its fruit are at the heart of the Palestinian way of life, crucial to its economy. In Autumn, everyone gets involved in the olive harvest. It becomes a celebration in itself. The olive trees on a family's land are old friends – they can live for hundreds years. The Israelis have uprooted an estimated 700,000 of them since 2000 to clear the way for their roads, etc. Some are taken away and replanted in settlements or in Israel.

Ordinary Palestinian men and women are not terrorists, and many, although keen on education, are not ambitious for Western notions of success, but desire the simple human right to sit in the shade of their own fig tree of an evening, and watch their children or grandchildren play.

In setting up Zaytoun, Heather and Cathi are doing something really practical to help. All products are fairly traded and pesticide-free. I am selling them for a small amount above wholesale price, to cover delivery charges, keeping the prices competitive with supermarket prices. The quality of the olive oil is excellent. Malcolm Gluck, of Superplonk fame, agrees. A 500ml bottle of extra virgin (first cold press) oil is £5. Also available to order: 750 ml oil, organic range of oil, olive soap, almonds, medjoul dates, couscous (from Gaza), za'tar (thyme-based herb mix). Phone me on 01252 726099 or email robthorburn@btinternet.com for a full price list.

Rob Thorburn (St Thomas-on-The Bourne)

FARNHAM CHURCH

Flowers

May 4th Margaret Hill
May 11th Pauline Callard
May 18th Gwen Harkett
May 25th Joan Joyner
May 31st Ken Ramsey



Wednesday Forum

May 7th 8pm – Revd Malcolm Groom showing a video of his holiday in Russia



...and the theme of this morning's service is... 'Preaching a Gospel of Simplicity'...

ROWLEDGE CHURCH

CHURCH FLOWERS

MAY	4 th	Janet Wright
	11 th & 18 th	Joyce Legg
	25 th	Mair Fry



CHRISTIAN AID

The next lunch will be on Wednesday 7th May from 12-1.30pm. Please let Janet Wright (phone 794183) know if you can help in any way.

BORDER FORUM

These meetings are usually held in the Church Hall at 8pm and everyone is welcome.

MAY	8 th	Rowhills Nature Reserve
	22 nd	Coffee Evening at Upper Lodge at 6.30pm.

Courtesy of Molly & George Puddephatt.

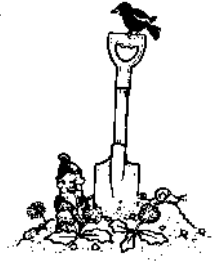
On April 10th we were visited at Border Forum by Alan McMichael from the Farnborough branch of the Parkinson's Disease Society. He gave a very interesting talk about the disease and its effect on everyday life. He injected some humour into his talk telling us about the meetings of the club. As his wife has this illness he spoke about some of the problems from the carers point of view. The club meets once a month for social evenings, some members being transported to the hall by volunteer drivers. Fund raising is very necessary both for the local club and nationally for research.

TO MAKE YOU SMILE.

A young boy was asked by a neighbour why he didn't go to church. "Too dangerous" replied the boy, "I heard my mother telling her friend that last Sunday there was a cannon in the pulpit, the choir murdered the anthem and the organist drowned the choir."

Ursula Sendall, who celebrated her 100th birthday at the end of March, sent this in. A few friends from Rowledge visited her at Hayling Island to wish her happy birthday and help her eat the birthday cake!

UPPER HALE CHURCH



Flower rota for February

May 4th Mrs Riddlestone
May 11th Mrs Hacker
May 18th Mrs Welch
May 25th Mrs Paine

Pastoral

It was good to have Midge Paine back in our midst on April 13th. Although not completely fit Midge was delighted to be amongst the churchgoers again. Rose Worcester is out of hospital with a feeling that she is going to miss the busyness of the place. She will be pleased to see anyone who cares to visit her at home.

Bright Hour Programme Tuesday 2.30pm

April 29th Bright Hour Anniversary with Rev Malcolm Groom
May 6th Second half of the DVD of the Passion of Christ
May 20th Charity cream tea
June 3rd Helen Black from Miss Daniel's Home
June 17th Outing to Longleat Details from Farnham Office on 820665
July 1st Rev Carol Wilson Baker

Dates for the diary

May 12th 7.30pm Talkabout at Hale Caroline Cooper will tell us about the Surrey Air Ambulance.
May 18th Church Anniversary 11am with Libby Craggs.

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS - for the JUNE issue please, as follows:

FARNHAM Richard Wimbush
richard@xerxes34.freemove.co.uk
(727806)
by **Friday 16th May**

ROWLEDGE Mrs Joyce Legg
69 Boundstone Road
Rowledge
GU10 4AT
(794285)

by **Friday 16th May**

UPPER HALE Mrs. Sylvia Kimmis,
19 Oast House Crescent,
Farnham
GU9 0NP
(714622)

by **Friday 16th May**

Got a prob, then call a CAB!

This was the gist of the message when Sally Cowper came to Talkabout at Hale on April 14th. However, she wasn't suggesting that you should take advice from one of our all-knowing taxi drivers, but that you should use the services of Citizens Advice. Citizens Advice is the national organisation and each Citizens Advice Bureau is a registered charity funded by local authorities such as Waverley, lottery funds and even individual contributions.

Sally is one of the two job share managers of Farnham's Bureau and as such they are the only paid members at the Bureau in South Street. The others are all volunteers.

The Service is slightly misnamed in that the one thing they never do is to advise on any course of action. What they can do is provide a wealth of information on the problems that people bring in and then leave the individual to choose what they think would be the right way to go. The Bureau will then back them in what they need to do with telephone calls, letters, and representing people at tribunals and courts.

As mentioned, the advisers are all volunteers who bring a range of knowledge and skills to the job but then receive a lot of training to be able to cope with the complexities of benefits, money problems particularly debt, consumer affairs, housing, legal items, marital problems and tax.

They operate through face-to-face interviews, by telephone, and increasingly through email and on line.

Citizens Advice Bureau have been providing free advice in local communities since 1939 and their services are in as much demand today as they ever were.

Our next Talkabout at Hale on May 12th will be Caroline Cooper from the Surrey Air Ambulance.

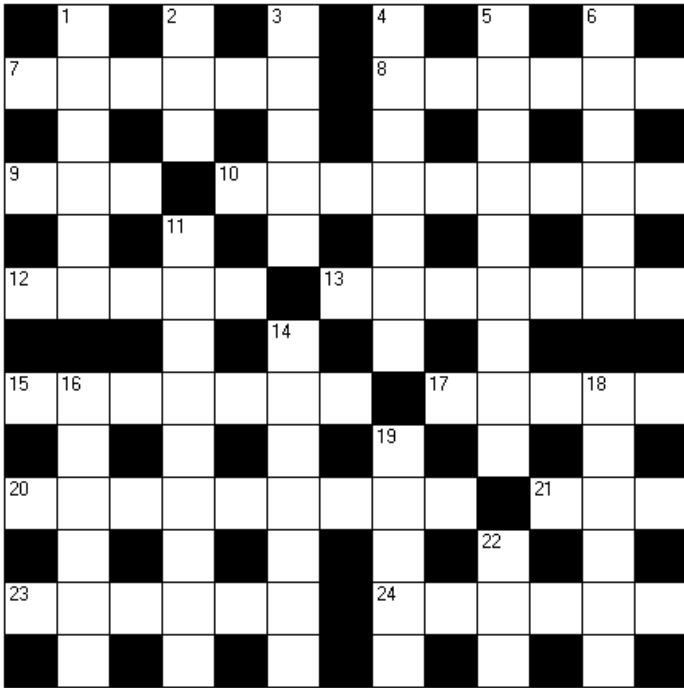
Crossword Answers

Across

7 Castle 8 Cattle 9 Asa 10 Pentecost 12 Peter 13 Periods 15 Drought
17 Again 20 Harassing 21 Odd 23 Reveal 24 Untied

Down

1 Parsee 2 Sty 3 Jewel 4 Scatter 5 Stockings 6 Closed 11 Jerusalem
14 Thistle 16 Reaper 18 Indeed 19 Snout 22 Ate



The Bible version used in our crossword is the NIV.

Across

- 7 Fortifies building (6)
- 8 Moaning livestock in Joel ch. 1 (6)
- 9 Abijah's successor as king of Judah in 1 Kings ch. 15 (3)
- 10 Seventh Sunday after Easter (9)
- 12 Writer of 2 NT epistles (5)
- 13 .. their duties for seven-day _____ (1 Chr 9.25) (7)
- 15 Water shortage mentioned in Jeremiah ch. 2 (7)
- 17 Once more (5)
- 20 Badgering (9)
- 21 Strange (3)
- 23 Show (6)
- 24 Who _____ his ropes? (Job 39.5) (6)

- 3 Precious stone on a necklace in Song ch. 4 (5)
- 4 ..strip off its leaves and _____ its fruit (Dan 4.14) (7)
- 5 Hosiery (9)
- 6 Shut, like certain ears in Jeremiah ch. 6 (6)
- 11 City beseiged by Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel ch. 1 (9)
- 14 Thorny Lebanese plant in 2 Kings ch. 14 (7)
- 16 Person with a sickle in Jeremiah ch. 50 (6)
- 18 Certainly (6)
- 19 Proverbs ch. 11 compares a beautiful woman who shows no discretion to a gold ring in this part of a pig (5)
- 22 ..and he ___ locusts (Mark 1.6) (3)

Down

- 1 Member of an Indian Zoroastrian sect (6)
- 2 Pig's home (3)

Answers: Page 19