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## 'Parish News'

### The Parish magazine for Broughton Astley and Croft with Stoney Stanton



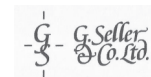
May  
2024



**Pentecost -Acts 2**

**40p**

Supplied and printed by



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## Parish Contacts

<b>Associate Priest</b>	Revd Pauline Cummins	Mobile: 07703 614905 Tel: 01455 631259 email: <a href="mailto:revpdcummins@gmail.com">revpdcummins@gmail.com</a> Sunday to Thursday with Fridays and Saturdays off.
<b>Assisting Clergy</b>	Revd Vic Goodman	01455 285410
<b>Readers</b>	Lester Halling Peter Yates	01455 282189 01455 285978
<b>Associate Ministers</b>	Sheila Yates Martin Macklin Alison Macklin	01455 285978 07732 788190 07906 577305
<b>Pastoral Assistant</b>	John Bass	01455 640381
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	Paula Atkinson	
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	Barbara Bedford	01455 202812

To arrange Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals contact

<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Denise Carrington Can be contacted Mondays and Fridays 9:00am – 12noon Wednesday s 12:30 – 3:30pm.	07534 820197 <a href="mailto:bacsschurches@gmail.com">bacsschurches@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Parish News Editor</b>	Wendy Howe	07779 194730 <a href="mailto:wjhowe.t21@btinternet.com">wjhowe.t21@btinternet.com</a>
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To subscribe to the Parish News please contact:

<b>Broughton Astley</b>	Tom Cockerill	01455 698949
<b>Croft</b>	Hubert Lane	07787 910466
<b>Stoney Stanton</b>	Wendy Howe	07779 194730

For further information, see inside back cover or visit our website:

<http://www.stmaryandstmichaelschurches.co.uk>

**Or follow us on Facebook: @bacsschurches**

## Around the Churches

### St Mary's, Broughton Astley

Churchwardens	John Bass Colin Atkinson	01455 640381
DCC Secretary	Moira Cooper	07951 134920
DCC Treasurer	Steve Windram	01455 272922
Tower Contact		
Tower Captain	Andy Kedic	01455 284777
Teddy Bear Bunch (Weds 10:30 Term time)	Heather Beadle	01455 284689

### St Michael and All Angels, Croft

Churchwarden	Position Vacant	
DCC Secretary	Claire Wootton	07905 642940
DCC Treasurer	Lester Halling	01455 282189
Tower Captain	Lester Halling	01455 282189

### St Michael's, Stoney Stanton

Churchwardens	Paul Lawrence Rachel Smith	01455 274315 07376 031522 01455 642335
DCC Secretary	Christine Hartley	01455 274702
DCC Treasurer	Margie Brimacombe	01455 282429
Ringling Master	Margie Brimacombe	01455 282429
Tower Contact	Carol Griffiths	01455 697626

### Facilities

Each of our three churches has a disabled access toilet and baby changing facility. Each Church also has a hearing loop system.

## Services.....May

	<i>St Mary's Broughton Astley</i>	<i>St Michael's Stoney Stanton</i>	<i>St Michael &amp; All Angel's Croft</i>
<b>Sunday 5 May 6th Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>10:00 am United Service at St Michael and All Angels Church, Croft</b>		
<b>Thursday 9 May Ascension Day</b>	<b>7:30 pm United Service at St Michael and All Angels Church, Croft</b>		
<b>Sunday 12 May 7th Sunday of Easter Sunday after Ascension Day</b>	<b>9:45 am</b> Holy Communion	<b>9:30 am</b> Messy Church	<b>11:15 am</b> Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 19 May Pentecost</b>	<b>9:45 am</b> Messy Church	<b>9:30 am</b> Holy Communion With Baptism	<b>11:15 am</b> Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 26 May Trinity Sunday</b>	<b>9:45 am</b> Holy Communion	<b>9:30 am</b> Holy Communion	<b>11:15 am</b> Morning Prayer
<b>Sunday 2 June Trinity 1</b>	<b>10:00 am United Service at St Mary's Church, Broughton Astley To Commemorate D-Day</b>		

### Weekday Services:

Broughton Astley: Wednesday 9:30 am A service of Holy Communion  
Stoney Stanton: Thursday 9:30 am A service of morning prayer with a Eucharist on the 4th Thursday of the month

***Details of services correct at time of going to print. However, please check weekly news sheet and Church noticeboards or visit the BACSS Facebook page regularly to check for any changes and updates.***

*(You don't need a Facebook login to see these pages).*

<https://m.facebook.com/bacsschurches/posts/>

Dear Friends

May in our calendar is a time when Christians around the world will be celebrating **Ascension Day**. Our service will be held at **St Michael and All Angels church in Croft on Thursday 9 May at 7:30pm**.

The 40th day after Easter was the final day when Jesus was seen. On this day, he visited his disciples. This day, in which he was taken to heaven, is called Ascension Day. The day is also known as the Feast of Ascension or Holy Thursday, as it always falls on this day of the week. Some Christians spend the Tuesday and Wednesday before Ascension Day in prayer and fasting. These are called the Rogation Days.



### **So why is it called Ascension Day?**

When Jesus made his final visit, he told his disciples he would always be with them, as well as promising them the gift of the Holy Spirit. He took them to the Mount of Olives, where it's believed they watched him ascend to heaven. 'Ascension' means rising to a higher level.

### **So how is Ascension Day celebrated?**

The Feast of the Ascension is a time to reflect on Christ's headship over our lives, the church, and the world around us. In a world filled with distractions, we need a regular reminder to fix our eyes on who is really in charge.

Celebrating the Feast of Ascension is an opportunity to connect with believers across time and reflect more deeply on the headship of Christ.

### **So what is the Importance of the Ascension of Jesus?**

The Ascension signals that Jesus' earthly work is finished. His redemptive work is done, now his intercessory work begins. As Oswald Chambers once wrote, "At His Ascension, our Lord entered heaven, and He keeps the door open for humanity to enter."

The significance of the ascension is that it is the moment Jesus's role as our mediator began in its fullness. Though we see him pray to God on mankind's behalf during his time on Earth, the ascension marks the

moment he was placed at God's right hand to intercede for us until the moment of his return.

So if you knew nothing or little of why we celebrate Ascension Day, I hope that this information helps and also that you can join us and with Christians around the world and If you have never celebrated Ascension Day before, this is the year to begin!

Reverend Pauline

### Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2024

Our APCM is on Tuesday 7 May at 7pm at St Michael's Church, Stoney Stanton

All Welcome

### Board meeting

"There will be a meeting of the Board immediately after the service," announced the minister. And so, after the close of the service, the Church Board gathered at the back of the church for the meeting. But there was a stranger in their midst - a visitor who had never attended their church before. "My friend," said the minister gently, "Didn't you understand that this is a meeting of the Board?"

"Yes," said the visitor, "and after today's sermon, I suppose I'm just about as bored as anyone else who came to this meeting."



## 1<sup>st</sup> Stoney Stanton Scout Group

For information on membership - please contact the Leaders listed below

# BEAVERS

### Beaver Scouts

(Age 6 to 8 years)

Meet Wednesdays 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Contact Kerry West

01455 272376

### Cub Scouts

(Age 8 to 10½ years)

Meet Mondays 6.30pm to 8.00pm

Contact Luke Cousin

07843 378904

# cubs

# SCOUTS

### Scouts

(Age 10½ to 14 years)

Meet Fridays 7.00pm to 9.00pm

Contact David 'Sport' Howes

01455 271239

### Explorer Scouts

(Age 14 to 18 years)

Meet Fridays 7.00pm to 9.00pm

Contact Martin Oliver

01455 274050

# EXPLORERS

### For general enquiries contact:

Carl West (Group Scout Leader) on 07711 077606

Group Headquarters The Old Chapel, Broughton Road, Stoney Stanton

# Stoney Stanton Village Hall



Newly refurbished throughout, this beautiful quarry stone building has loads of character, high ceilings & large rooms for events of all types

- The building holds up to 150 people
- main room is 12m x 6.6m with
- bi-fold doors for an additional 5m of length to the room
- chairs and tables available for events
- smaller lounge room with tables, chairs, sofa and reading area
- fully useable kitchen space
- WC's including disabled
- disabled access
- space for an indoor bouncy castle
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## NEW ONLINE BOOKING SYSTEM

<https://venuehire.scribeaccounts.com/Stoney-Stanton-Parish-Council>

scan me



## Time to pray for your church wardens

*O Eternal God... enlighten with Thy Grace the Wardens of this church, and so rule their minds and guide their counsels, that in all things they may seek Thy Holy Will... Amen.*

*O Lord, ...we beseech Thee to bless all who, ...give themselves to the service of their fellow worshipers. Endue them with wisdom, patience and courage to strengthen the weak and raise up those who fall... that they may worthily minister in Thy Name to the suffering, the friendless and the needy... Amen  
(Prayers from the C of E)*

Churchwardens have a vital and historical role in the life of the church. They are elected by the parish, not just the members of the church. Anyone in the parish can vote for them, not just people on the church's electoral roll.

So, if you want to be a churchwarden, just invite your neighbours on the day of the parish meetings in church!

Wardens used to have a significant role in the wider life of the parish with responsibilities for charity, poor relief and even bridges and roads.

Their church duties today include:

- Maintaining order and decency in the church and churchyard, especially during the time of divine service
- Being entrusted with the property of the church
- Having a duty to cooperate with the vicar
- Encouraging parishioners in practice of "true religion"

Quite a job! These are their legal duties, but I also like the prayer above as it reminds us to pray for them to seek God's will, not theirs or ours, but God's, and to strengthen the weak and encourage the fallen.

They may feel most of the time that they are weak and have fallen, but they are equipped with our support and prayers to look after other people who need strength or support - which is probably most of us at times!

David Pickup, Solicitor



### Baptisms

<b>Broughton Astley</b>	Elijah Hague Adelaide Eleanor Compton
<b>Stoney Stanton</b>	Olivia Grace Oakes

### Funeral

<b>Broughton Astley</b>	Derek Furnell
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## HOLIDAY

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[www.Kirkwood-Lockerbie.co.uk](http://www.Kirkwood-Lockerbie.co.uk)



### St Michael's Stoney Stanton 100 Club Draw

#### April

- First Prize - £25.00 - No 28 - Jennifer Statham
- Second Prize - £15.00 - No 78 - Joy Hoult
- Third Prize - £10.00 - No 8 - Alison Johnson

There are numbers available for this draw.  
 Please contact Julie on 07738 764245

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Prayer Chain

Prayer Chain

Prayer Chain

Have you ever felt you would like someone to pray for you? Or maybe there is someone you know who needs prayers.

Help is at hand. The Prayer Chain is a group of people who regularly pray for people who are on the prayer chain list.

All requests are treated in confidence. It is up to you how much you want to tell the prayer chain about the request. It can simply be the first name of the person.

Each request is prayed for, from the date of the request, for 1 month. If you want prayers to continue after that month you need to make another request.

**Please contact Jackie March with your request on [bacsprayerchain@gmail.com](mailto:bacsprayerchain@gmail.com) .**

***You don't have to be a member of the Church to use the Prayer chain.***

Jackie March



# Fundraising FASHION SHOW & SHOPPING EVENT

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PLUS *FRENCH + ITALIAN DESIGNER WEAR*

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6 TO 30**

**St Mary's Church - Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - 7.30pm**

**Entry includes your first glass of wine**

**£6 per ticket if purchased before the event, or £7.50 on the night**

**Come and enjoy an evening with your friends and find amazing deals!**

**How about having a go at modelling on the night – we need up to 10 models,  
of all shapes and sizes!**

**Please contact Moira (07951134920, moira763@gmail.com) for tickets or if  
you would like to be a model – we are looking forward to a great night!**

**Wine and nibbles & Raffle**

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Week appeal, what will you pick? Bake, run, swim, walk - we can't wait to see what a difference our supporters can make!

Christian Aid is urging its supporters to 'push back against poverty this Christian Aid Week' by bearing in mind the coming General Election.

The charity says that people hoping to represent us in the next UK Parliament will soon be on our doorsteps, vying for our vote.

Christian Aid says that these would-be MPs will: "be in listening mode, keen to hear what makes the voters in their community tick." And so, urges the charity, Christians can use this opportunity to "show them that your church cares about poverty, and tell them that you expect them to act on poverty too, if they are elected."

This year the charity has launched the '70K Challenge for May', encouraging its supporters to do a sponsored "Move 70km during May. Walk, run, cycle, however you move is up to you." Details at: <https://fundraise.christianaid.org.uk>



## St Mary's Subscription Draw

**April**

First Prize - £40.00 - No 52 - Mr B Wright

Second Prize - £20.00 - No 16 - Mrs E M Bomba

Third Prize - £10.00 - No 76 - Mrs A Hauke

Some numbers still available – an excellent way to support the church and have some fun in these difficult times.  
Contact Tom Cockerill on 01455 698949.



## Recovery and resilience

Of course, Burundi continues to be one of the toughest places on earth to live. The future is uncertain and challenges wait for families like Aline's around every corner.

When a ferocious storm destroyed Aline's home, almost killing her and her children, she was able to recover by selling the cows she'd been keeping. Now when crisis threatens her family's survival, Aline has options. Even a small business can provide just enough resilience to weather the most brutal of storms here in Burundi.



Aline cannot only look ahead to her children's future now, but her own too.

Naturally, Aline wants security as she ages.

In the next five years she hopes to expand her current wholesale business by selling a range of goods, so that one day she can buy a mill. This will provide a source of income without the need to transport heavy goods over long distances.

Aline told us: 'This is not a dream. It is a plan, and I will do it. I am a woman who is an achiever.'

## The difference with Christian Aid

Aline's long and difficult journey out of extreme poverty began with a little support, knowledge and faith from Christian Aid supporters like you.

'When we see Christian Aid, we feel comforted; we feel we are not alone. You helped us to change our poor living conditions. I really thank you from the very bottom of my heart.' - Aline.

No one should have to live on the brink of survival. During Christian Aid Week 2023, you raised £5 million to help transform lives just like Aline's.

This year, you can help us support even more people living in poverty. With 7 days and so many ways to raise funds for our Christian Aid

## *What's in a name?*

### *May: Julian*

Now here's a curious anomaly. The name Julian, is primarily a male name but it is here applied to a female! But its origins apply equally well to a male or female in its forms of Juliana, Julie or Julienne.

It is quite a flattering name, meaning youthful. The fourth century Roman Emperor bore the name Julian and several notable people throughout the Empire bore it as a second name.

In England, however, many people will understand it as the name of a remarkable woman who lived in Norwich in the fourteenth century. It is believed that she took the name Julian from the church adjacent to her hermit's cell, to which she had retreated following a serious illness in her early thirties. And it was from there that she offered wisdom, spiritual guidance and solace to people living through the turbulence of a country suffering from warfare, plague and religious persecution. Though she describes herself as 'unlettered', (probably lacking an understanding of Latin) she produced a remarkable (and highly illegal) book of meditations on the visions she had during the crisis point in her illness. It is remarkable in being written in English, by a woman, and was hidden from sight for centuries, until it was finally found and eventually translated by Grace Warrack in the early twentieth century. The story of how that came about is a detective story on its own, but since then it has never been out of print.

*Julian of Norwich is commemorated on 8 May*



## 'The Heart of the Village'

*'You cannot understand anything properly without knowing its pre-text or its con-text' (Father David Sanders OP)*

Quite some years ago three people got together to produce what we hoped was a fairly approachable book about St. Michael's Church, Stoney Stanton. At the time we had limited resources - it was to be printed on existing machinery which we had at parish disposal, but thanks to Microsoft Publisher and a supply of lovely line drawings by Carol Ford, we were able to bring into being a nice little booklet, which has been well appreciated over the years.

But recently one of the earlier team had been in contact with a professional printing firm and the suggestion was made that we produce an expanded version of the same booklet, giving a more generous context to the story of Church and village. This followed a great deal of research, which had also been undertaken with regard to the lives of those buried in the churchyard, the 'sleeping souls' of the book, and it was decided to include a selection of these as well as an updated and more rounded history of the whole.

And so the latest edition came into being, with old photos of the village, and extra sections giving a 'spotlight' on areas which interested us, and which we hoped would interest others. Sadly one of the team was no longer with us, but we were able to expand his section with a gentle update, and other areas of interest to village life were 'coloured in' so that eventually it reached the stage where it was ready for the printers. By Easter it was being distributed to the church and the library.

We hope that this new edition will encourage present villagers to respect the story which a building such as St. Michael's gathers to itself over the years, and perhaps encourage newcomers to realise that even an ordinary place like our village has its own very individual history, told through the account of past inhabitants who have all played their part in its continuing existence.

*Note:*

*The above quotation was a byword of a distinguished theological lecturer that one of the team had the good fortune to be taught by many years ago! It is a good standard for anyone to apply to a situation.*

life. She started by participating in a transformative three-day community workshop, funded by Christian Aid.



'I came out with amazing knowledge and skills. The trainer restored a sense of hope and energy in me,' says Aline.

She was taught how to form a Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) and establish a steady income. VSLAs mean people can save for their future and borrow money to kickstart small rural businesses. With all she had

learned, Aline's dream of getting her children back finally felt possible.

### **Building a business**

With a small start-up loan, Aline started trading avocados and peanuts locally. With her profits, she bought a bicycle so she could transport greater quantities of goods to markets further afield. Eventually, her hard work had finally paid off, and she had earned the money she needed to rent a house.

Once Aline secured a home for herself, her three eldest sons were able to escape their father and join her. They told Aline that their father had abused them and sent their three young siblings to live with different members of his family.

Aline still hopes that she'll be reunited with her youngest children in time.

Today, Aline lives peacefully on her own plot of land in a remote village in the Kayogoro Commune in Makamba Province. She's baked her own bricks and is building a strong home for her and her children in every sense.

Now Aline can afford food, clothes and essential healthcare for her family. She's also purchased solar panels so her children can do their evening homework by electric light.

"I like to feed my family with the produce that I grow, such as beans, vegetables and corn. I am so happy that we are together. Now my children feel supported as they have a parent who can meet their needs." - Aline.

## Christian Aid Week 12 – 18 May

### Aline's story



How Christian Aid helped Aline transform her life and climb out of extreme poverty.

Poverty pushed Aline to the brink of survival. She was abused, homeless and hungry. But Aline pushed back harder.

Driven by hope, faith and the love of her children, Aline was able to fight against the inhumanity of poverty and build herself a new life

### Life in Burundi

In Burundi, malnourishment and poverty affect more than 70% of the population, making survival a daily struggle. Jobs and food are hard to come by, and those who have homes often have no electricity or running water.

For Aline, life was a constant struggle. She was married young and gave birth to her eldest son, Fisto, when she was just 14 years old. Aline experienced constant abuse at the hands of her violent husband.



A few years later, Aline faced even more devastation. Her husband married another woman, forcing Aline to flee. He prevented her from taking their children with her, and in a further act of cruelty, told the local community that Aline was mentally ill and unable to care for her children.

“I wandered the streets, asking anyone for a place to sleep. Those who showed me kindness would let me stay for two or three days, but it was difficult. People would insult me and treat me with contempt. They forgot I was a human being. It filled me with sorrow.”

- Aline Nibogora.

### How Christian Aid stepped in

Hungry, scorned and alone, Aline took her first step towards her new



St. Michael's Church – 1920's

**'The Heart of the Village'**  
is available in  
**St. Michael's Church, and**  
**Stoney Stanton Library,**  
price £4.

### Children's exam papers

The following real-life answers to various exam papers explain why teachers need long holidays...

*Where was the American Declaration of Independence signed?*  
At the bottom.

*What is a fibula?*  
A little lie.

*Where was Hadrian's Wall built?*  
Around Hadrian's garden.

*The race of people known as Malays come from which country?*  
Malaria.

*What was Sir Walter Raleigh famous for?*  
He is a noted figure in history because he invented cigarettes and started a craze for bicycles.

## Why your television is like the Trinity

Here is a trick question: How many colours does your television set use?

Answer: Just three: red, green and blue. And in that order, just like a rainbow (where reds are at one side, blues at the opposite side, green in the middle). This is known as "RGB".

These are TV's three primary colours which, when their luminescence is fired at your eyes, give all the colours of the visible spectrum. These are all 'additive' colours. In fact, mix these three together in different proportions, and your screen can offer you 16 million colours.

You thought the sequence was red/yellow/blue? No, that's for painted or printed colours. A TV set positively gives out light in three different colours, whereas paint daubed on paper absorbs and removes some colours, to reflect back merely a small part of the light falling on it the colour that you see.

You'll soon call out the repair man if your television loses one of its three colours and all the presenters look as though they came from Mars. But change the intensity of any one colour (red, green or blue) even slightly and you change the overall colour.

Switch them all off, and you are left with black. Let all three of them shine at full brightness, at the same point – and then as if by magic you have a totally different colour: WHITE!



It's a parable which illustrates the Holy Trinity. Three completely distinct persons (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), just as your TV set has three quite separate colours: red, green, blue.

Take away any One member of the Trinity, and you slip into theological error; take away any one of the three colours, and you call out the TV repair engineer!

So -

It DOES matter that God is our Creator and Father - otherwise our whole life is merely a meaningless illusion.

## Down

- 1 'The blind receive sight, the lame walk, the — hear, the dead are raised' (Luke 7:22) (4)
- 2 Conduct (Colossians 1:21) (9)
- 3 In the Catholic and Orthodox traditions, the body of a saint or his belongings, venerated as holy (5)
- 4 'Like a — of locusts men pounce on it' (Isaiah 33:4) (5)
- 5 Very old (Genesis 44:20) (4)
- 6 In Calvinist theology, one who is predestined by God to receive salvation (5)
- 10 How Nicodemus addressed Jesus when he visited him one night (John 3:2) (5)
- 11 Sea (Psalm 148:7) (5)
- 12 'I will — you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever' (Psalm 145:1) (5)
- 13 One of the groups of philosophers that Paul met in Athens, who disagreed with his teaching about the resurrection (Acts 17:18) (9)
- 14 Barred enclosure (Ezekiel 19:9) (4)
- 15 'Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in — with the Spirit' (Galatians 5:25) (4)
- 18 Cares (anag.) (5)
- 20 Garish (Ezekiel 16:16) (5)
- 21 'So God said to Noah, "I am going to put — — to all people"' (Genesis 6:13) (2,3)
- 22 Just (2 Corinthians 6:13) (4)
- 23 'The — of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge' (Proverbs 1:7) (4)

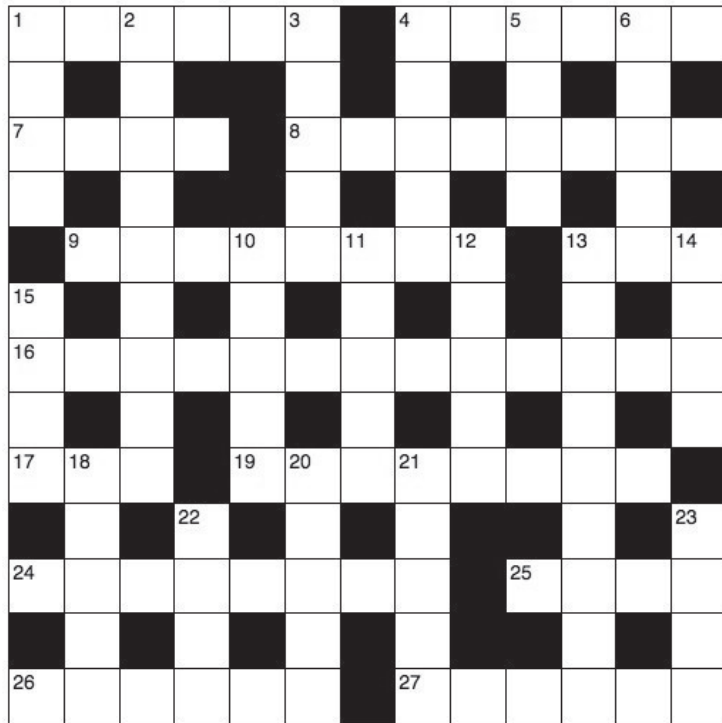
## April Crossword Solutions

ACROSS: 8, Transgressors. 9, Out. 10, Ephesians. 11, Throb. 13, Ramadan. 16, Nearest. 19, Neath. 22, Childless. 24, Ant. 25, Excommunicate.

DOWN: 1, Utmost. 2, Easter. 3, Assemble. 4, Archer. 5, Isis. 6, To hand. 7, As a son. 12, Hoe. 14, Monastic. 15, Apt. 16, Nuclei. 17, A piece. 18, Tied up. 20, Ararat. 21, Hatred. 23, Dome.

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## Crossword - May



### Across

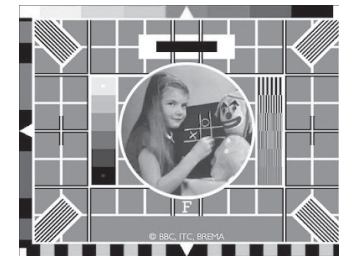
- 1 One who owes money, goods or services (Isaiah 24:2) (6)  
 4 'A good measure, pressed down, — together and running over' (Luke 6:38) (6)  
 7 Continuous dull pain (Proverbs 14:13) (4)  
 8 This bread contains yeast (Amos 4:5) (8)  
 9 'But take heart! I have — the world' (John 16:33) (8)  
 13 And the rest (abbrev.) (3)  
 16 What Paul was accused of by Tertullus, the high priest's lawyer, in his trial before Felix (Acts 24:5) (13)  
 17 Rap (anag.) (3)  
 19 Founder of the Jesuits in 1534 (8)  
 24 'For where your — is, there your heart will be also' (Luke 12:34) (8)  
 25 The first word written on the wall during King Belshazzar's great banquet (Daniel 5:25) (4)  
 26 'We all, like sheep, have gone — ' (Isaiah 53:6) (6)  
 27 One was given in honour of Jesus in Bethany (John 12:2) (6)

It DOES matter that Jesus is God the Son, for otherwise His death is simply a human tragedy, with no promise of salvation or eternal life.

It DOES matter that the Holy Spirit is with us here and now, otherwise we are disconnected from God.

Yes it really does matter! Just as it is essential that a TV set can produce white by the equal intensity of all of its three colours. In fact, the more you think about it, the more it seems that the doctrine of the Trinity is far from being a complicated bit of theological nonsense, but is a sort of theological test-card, to make sure that we've got the right picture of God, without distortion.

*Revd Michael Harding*



### Grin

Keep smiling - it makes people wonder what you've been up to.

### Old person

I hate it when I see an old person, and then realise we went to school together.

### Share

There are only two things a child will share willingly – a communicable disease and his mother's age.

## All in the month of May

It was:

200 years ago, on 7 May 1824 that the first performance of Ludwig van Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* took place in Vienna. It is regarded as Beethoven's greatest work and is one of the most-performed symphonies in the world.

150 years ago, on 9 May 1874 that Howard Carter, British archaeologist and Egyptologist, was born. He discovered the tomb of the Pharaoh Tutankhamun in 1922.

Also 150 years ago, on 29 May 1874 that the British writer G. K. Chesterton was born. A novelist, short story writer, philosopher and critic, he was best known for his *Father Brown* stories.

100 years ago, on 4 May 1924 that the British children's writer E. Nesbit (Edith Nesbit) died. Best known for *The Railway Children*.

90 years ago, on 25 May 1934 that the British composer, Gustav Holst, died. Best known for *The Planets*.

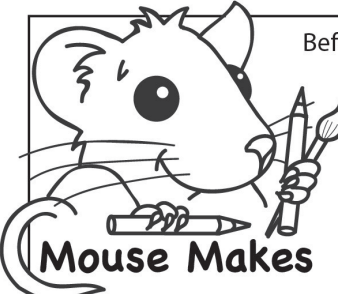
Also 90 years ago, on 28 May 1934 that the first Glyndebourne opera festival was held, in East Sussex.

75 years ago, on 12 May 1949 that the Soviet Union lifted its blockade of Berlin. The blockade had led to the Berlin Airlift, in which British and American planes had delivered millions of tons of food, coal and medical supplies to the isolated people of West Berlin.


70 years ago, on 6 May 1954 that Roger Bannister became the first person to run a mile in under four minutes (3 minutes, 59.4 seconds), in Oxford.

Also 70 years ago, on 20 May 1954 that Bill Haley & His Comets released the song *Rock Around the Clock*. It brought rock and roll into the mainstream and is regarded as one of the most important records in music history.

Also 70 years ago, on 29 May 1954 that Diane Leather became the first woman to run a mile in under five minutes (4 minutes, 59.6 seconds), in Birmingham.



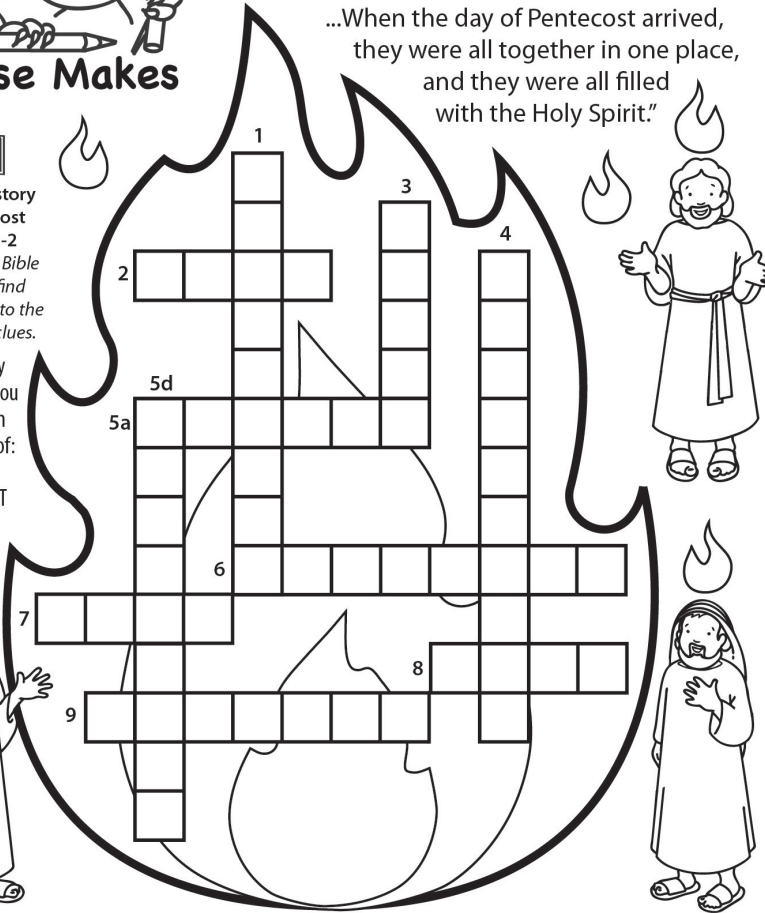
**Mouse Makes**

 **READ** the story of Pentecost in Acts 1-2  
Look up the Bible verses to find the answers to the crossword clues.

How many words can you make from the letters of:  
**DAY OF PENTECOST**

Before Jesus ascended to heaven he told his disciples "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witness in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth"...

...When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit."



<p><b>1</b> After Jesus ascended into heaven, which city did the Apostles return to? <i>Acts 1:12</i></p> <p><b>2</b> What appeared? Tongues of ...? <i>Acts 2:3</i></p> <p><b>3</b> Who spoke to the crowd? <i>Acts 2:14</i></p> <p><b>4</b> What were the disciples filled with? <i>Acts 2:4</i></p> <p><b>5a</b> What did the Apostles devote themselves to? <i>Acts 1:14</i></p> <p><b>5d</b> Which special day was it? <i>Acts 2:1</i></p> <p><b>6</b> Who was chosen to replace Judas? <i>Acts 1:26</i></p> <p><b>7</b> Who had prophesied this? <i>Acts 2:16</i></p>	<p><b>8</b> What rushing sound came from heaven? <i>Acts 2:2</i></p> <p><b>9</b> What did they start speaking in? <i>Acts 2:4</i></p>
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**Clubs, activities & events in May**

**W.I. Meetings etc.....**

Where at.....	Date and Time	Speaker	Competition
Broughton Astley Village Hall	Tuesday 14 May 7:30 pm	Resolutions "Making a Lavender Heart" Carolyn Boulter	A Spring Flower
Stoney Stanton St Michael's Church	Wednesday 8 May 7:30 pm	Resolutions plus wine and nibbles	
Ladies Fellowship Group St Mary's Church Broughton Astley	Wednesday 8 May 2pm Contact Denise 285410 or Wendy 272050 for more information	Aspects of New Zealand by Mollie Toye	

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60 years ago, on 2 May 1964 that Nancy Astor, American-born British politician died. She was the first female Member of Parliament (MP) to take her seat in the House of Commons.

50 years ago, on 24 May 1974 that Duke Ellington, American jazz pianist, composer, and big-band leader, died. Regarded as the greatest jazz composer of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

40 years ago, on 17 May 1984 that Prince Charles described a proposed extension to the National Gallery in London as a 'monstrous carbuncle on the face of a much-loved and elegant friend'. (The design was scrapped, but his comment sparked controversy over the Royal Family's role.)

Also 40 years ago, on 19 May 1984 that John Betjeman, British poet, writer, and broadcaster died. He was Poet Laureate 1972-1984.

30 years ago, on 6 May 1994 that the Channel Tunnel linking England and France was officially opened.

Also 30 years ago, on 10 May 1994 that Nelson Mandela was inaugurated as South Africa's first black president, after more than 300 years of white rule.

25 years ago, on 1 May 1999 that the body of mountaineer George Mallory was found on Mount Everest. He had been missing since 1924.

Also 25 years ago, on 6 May 1999, that the first general elections for the Scottish Parliament and the National Assembly for Wales, took place. Donald Dewar became First Minister for Scotland and Alun Michael became First Secretary for Wales.

20 years ago, on 19 May 2004 that the world's first stem cell bank opened at the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control in Potter's Bar, Hertfordshire.

## The Story behind the Hymn – 'Praise my Soul the King of Heaven'

*Praise my soul the King of heaven,  
To His feet thy tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
Evermore his praises sing.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.*

*Praise Him for His grace and favour  
To our fathers in distress;  
Praise Him, still the same as ever,  
Slow to chide and swift to bless.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in His faithfulness.*

*Fatherlike, He tends and spares us;  
Well our feeble frame He knows;  
In His hands He gently bears us,  
Rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows.*

*Angels in the height, adore Him,  
Ye behold Him face to face;  
Sun and moon bow down before Him,  
Dwellers all in time and space;  
Praise Him! Praise him!  
Praise with us the God of grace!*

*By Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)*

This stately poetic paraphrase of Psalm 103 has been included in probably more solemn ceremonies than any other hymn in the English language. It was even chosen by Queen Elizabeth for her wedding to the Duke of Edinburgh in 1947.

Henry Lyte had been a brilliant theological student at university in Dublin, with a gift for versifying. After graduation he moved to a tiny and remote parish in County Wexford to serve his curacy. It was here, when he was about 25, that Henry had a religious experience which would transform his life.

## EFFFI (Elmesthorpe Friends Food and Flower Initiative)

Raising money for St Mary's Church and other local charities

**Coffee Morning**

**Elmesthorpe Village Hall**

**10:00—11:30**

**Saturday 25 May**

**All Welcome**

Maytime Madness!

Garden Flowers and Picnic

Dress—wear flowers!

## *Stoney Stanton Methodist Chapel*

*Coffee Morning*

**Thursday 30 May**

**10:00 am—11:30 am**



**Come and Join Us**



## Coffee Mornings and Lunches

### St Mary's Broughton Astley

Saturday 4 May

10 am— 12 noon

Community Market and Coffee Morning

### St Michael and All Angels Croft

Lunch

Saturday 4 May

For more information

Contact Libby on 01455 282629

### St Michael's Stoney Stanton

Saturday 11 May

10 am - 12 noon

Coffee Morning and Craft Stalls

### Join in?

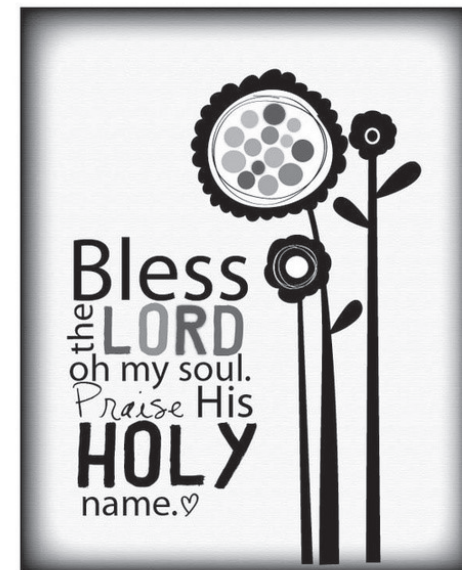
"Well, well," said the old gentleman to some boys who were playing cricket. "I wish I could join your game, but I'm too old."

"Not at all," replied one of the boys politely. "In fact, we need you. Our ball has just gone through that window. You can go and ask for it back."

A close friend of his, another clergyman, had fallen ill, and was clearly dying. Henry went to visit him. The friend was not as distressed as Henry had imagined he would be. Instead, the friend confessed that he had been re-reading the New Testament, with an eye on eternity, and had made a great discovery. There was no need to rely on religious duties and formalities and good deeds to gain peace with God. Instead, we can trust completely in the mercy of Christ and His saving power.

Henry was sophisticated and had been very formal in his ministry. But this encounter with his friend's faith at death's very door, made him reconsider his faith. He wrote later that his dear friend 'who died happy in the thought that there was One who would atone for his delinquencies' made him 'study my Bible and preach in another manner than I had previously done'. And soon after this hymn appeared, in 1834.

Lyte rejoices in the majesty and wonder of the living God, who in turn loves us. He captures the measure of the Psalm in enduring lyrics, which combine time, eternity, God and man all swept up into one embrace. Its last verse summons all the created order to join in a great act of joyous praise – surely a preview of eternity!



## Don't just sit there, whatever you do!

The average adult in the UK sits for nine hours a day. Office workers probably clock up even more time in a chair.

But it is not good for you. Research has found that too much sitting increases your risk of weight gain, Type 2 diabetes, osteoporosis, depression, anxiety, stress, cancer, and even early death.

“Excessive sedentary time is associated with a plethora of physical and mental health complications,” says Prof Lee Smith, an expert in physical activity and sedentary behaviour at Anglia Ruskin University.

And James Betts, professor of metabolic physiology at the University of Bath, says that sitting too much may also lead to weaker and less flexible muscles. “Using your muscles and loading your bones can definitely strengthen them – or conversely, disuse can rapidly make them weaker,” he says.

The good thing is that too much sitting can be easily dealt with. Simply interrupt your sitting with activity breaks. Get up and walk around during every TV advert break. Walk around during phone calls. Go for a walk after dinner. Use the stairs whenever you can.

The good news is that other studies have found that if you make time for even short bursts of exercise during your day, it will help to offset the harm of too much sitting.



**PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE. ANY BOOKINGS ALREADY MADE WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THIS NEW DATE. IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS, PLEASE CONTACT JULIE.**

# Sunday 5th May 2024

1.00pm & 4.00pm

St Michael's Church Stoney Stanton

**TEA WITH Mr TOAD**

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