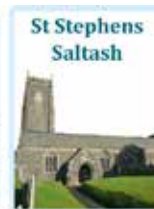
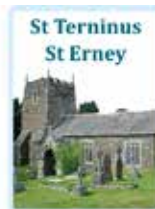
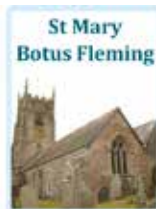


Saltash Area Newsletter

July/August 2020



DISCOVERING GOD'S KINGDOM – GROWING THE CHURCH
www.saltashteamministry.org



Dear friends,

Open for services
– well almost!

As most of you are probably aware, the government has now given us the go ahead to hold services in our church buildings once again. Hurrah!

So, as soon as we have been able to undertake the various safeguarding and distancing measures we will be open for business. However, it won't be quite the same as before.

At the moment we aren't allowed to sing, we will have to keep a safe distance between everyone and once you have an order of service you should keep it and bring it back with you the next week, or leave it on the pew where you were sitting. You will also be asked to use the hand sanitizer when entering the building. Sadly, we won't be able to have any refreshments after the service – but we

are moving in the right direction and hopefully it won't be too long before we can share refreshments and have a good chat after our services once again.

One thing we do need to do is to keep a register of who is attending the service together with a

three-month lockdown. However, we do need, as we are told, to 'stay alert'.

As soon as we have made the necessary adaptations to our church buildings we will let everyone know. Just to let you know that St Michael's at Landrake is

how things progress, so we are planning to continue our virtual services until at least the end of July – so you can still continue to join in worshipping with your friends.

Moving on



I also want to let you know that I now have a date for moving – 4 August, so my last service will be on Sunday 2 August. I propose that we hold a United Benefice Service on that day, so that I have an opportunity to say farewell to as many as possible. From a capacity and access point of view, the service will probably be at

St Stephens as it has the largest capacity to allow self-distancing and also has the easiest access. In the meantime, please keep safe and I look forward to seeing you in person, rather than virtually, very, very soon.

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Every blessing,

Cathy

Life in Lockdown . . .

Bev Nickson



Usually, just before the first Saturday of each month, I get a call from my chum Angie Payne-Hanlon to say it's church cleaning at SSNF. I always groan but get the polish and join the others who clean our beautiful church building. During the lockdown I would give my eye teeth to get that phone call and to be polishing the choir stalls! I take part in the weekly virtual services but I really look forward to the day when we can all meet again for Mass.

I spent the first week of lockdown in a whirlwind of spring cleaning and baking fit to bust, to allay the feeling of anxiety and 'fed-upness'. Although I still worry, I've settled into a slower and gentler pace of life. My daughter is a hospice cancer nurse and much of their work is now

domicillary so she is never far from my thoughts. My daughter-in-law shops for us and I've promised to return the compliment once this is over!

Meeting family and friends on Facetime and Zoom is wonderful but I miss the real hugs. I go for long walks through the country lanes with my husband. Occasionally, I walk alone using the prayer walk idea learned from Pam Sellix – I can recommend it.

There are many aspects of my life which I miss and I wonder what the new normal will be like. I pray that mankind emerges kinder with a refreshed realisation of how precious life is.

Now I must water my tomato plants: they are something to nurture in these surreal times! ■



I would like to thank all those who have either sent or passed me their weekly collection envelopes for St Stephens.

Ray Wills

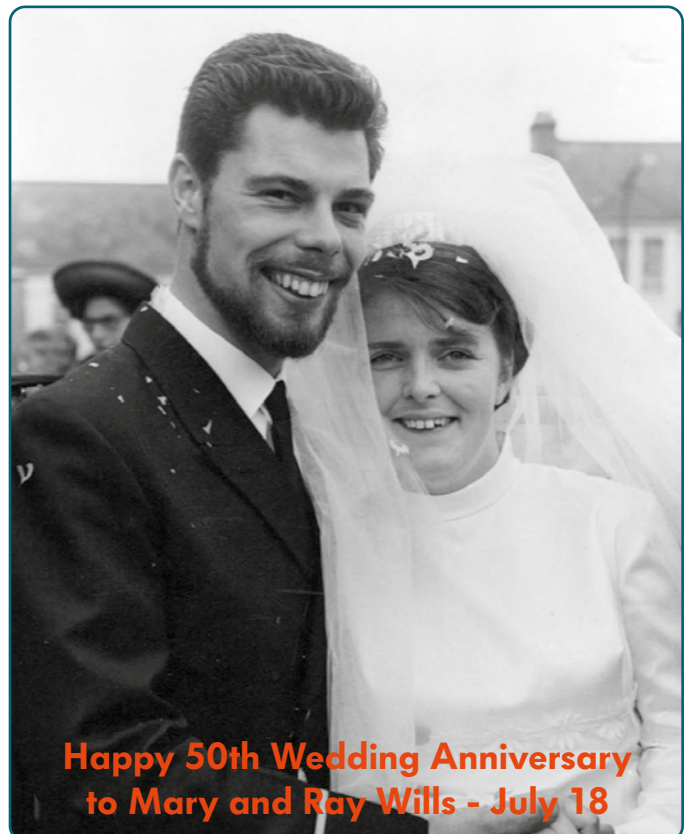


Our latest needs are:

- Washing Up Liquid
- Razors
- Shaving Foam
- Deodorant
- Milk Powder
- Sponge Puddings
- Hand Sanitiser

Make a difference!

Please donate food at Waitrose or the Co-op and/or donate money via the Saltash Foodbank website: <https://saltash.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money>



**Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary
to Mary and Ray Wills - July 18**

Mothers' Union News

Well, here we are – some 14 weeks into lockdown – still wary of venturing far, although we can now travel to get some exercise. As I have been in regular contact with members, I know that we have been blessed and have no reports of serious illness among Mothers Union. I pray that this continues. We have continued with prayers for those members across the world who are providing care, supplies and spiritual guidance during these troubled times.

For those able to help in a practical way I received a request from the Diocese secretary for knitted hats to be sent to Bulgaria in time for the winter weather. Children's sizes age 2 to 12 are especially needed. They can be pull-on types, bonnet, Beret or balaclava, knitted or crocheted. They must be washable. Omit pom-poms, tassels and bobbles to save weight. Shipping will be in early November so please could I receive them by the end of September at the latest.

Sandra McKee



SDQ

Angie Payne-Hanlon

What did you do during the lockdown in 2020 Mum?

Well, as well as gardening, spring cleaning, jigsaws, Zoom gatherings, walking and cycling, an equally inquisitive friend of mine suggested we attempt to quiz each other with unusual sites within Saltash. Initially they were within walking distance of the town, then as travel restrictions eased we went a little further afield. Taking a photo on a mobile phone of an interesting nook or cranny in Saltash, passing it on to friend and then letting

him become a super sleuth and investigate it. So started a regular SDQ – socially distancing quiz – that batted back and forth between the two of us (plus spouses) for the lockdown duration.

We have been stumped by obscure gates, tucked away stone arches, almost unknown memorial stones, sarcophagi, unusual house plaques etc.

It's been good fun as well as informative and we've made the most of the good weather and really enjoyed finding out more about our town. ■



Childrens Society Box Opening

Well if you can all remember before lockdown, I held the annual box opening. I spent the week after checking the bags of money ready to take to a bank. Then lockdown came along and with it a message from the Childrens Society not to hold any box opening events and not to pay money in until safe to do so.

Somehow I then forgot about paying the money in until a few weeks ago. The days are all the same so it was not on my to do list! But I am pleased to say all money is now paid in and, so far this year we have raised £488 from the boxes, coffee morning and bring and buy. This is down on last year but there are boxes still to be counted.

Having said that, the amount is still wonderful and I thank everyone of you who contributed. I also want to give my thanks to the band of helpers who helped with the opening of boxes and the coffee morning. Without them it would take me a long time to complete the process. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Lesley Batham



Where were these photos were taken? Answers on page 7

The Miracles of Jesus Quiz

- Jesus performed many miracles during His ministry, and they served as signs that the Kingdom of God had truly come. What was Jesus' first miracle?
 - Walking on water
 - Turning water into wine
 - Feeding 5000 with loaves & fishes
 - Cursing the fig tree
- Whose mother-in-law did Jesus heal when she had a fever?
 - Martha's
 - Mary Magdalene's
 - Matthew's
 - Simon Peter's
- As Jesus and His disciples were crossing the Sea of Galilee in a boat, a terrible storm arose and threatened to drown them. Jesus rebuked the wind and waves and the storm disappeared. What was Jesus doing when the storm arose?
 - Praying
 - Sleeping
 - Eating a meal
 - Explaining the parables to His disciples
- Whose daughter did Jesus bring back to life?
 - Jairus'
 - Herod's
 - Simon Peter's
 - Martha's
- Jesus miraculously broke just a few loaves of bread and fishes and fed 5000 men, plus women and children. How many loaves and fishes did he start with?
 - 3 loaves and 2 fishes
 - 2 loaves and 3 fishes
 - 5 loaves and 2 fishes
 - 2 loaves and 5 fishes
- Which disciple walked on the water with Jesus?
 - James
 - Matthew
 - Peter
 - Thomas
- Which disciples were with Jesus at His transfiguration, when 'His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light'?
 - Andrew, James, and Matthew
 - Peter, James and John
 - Thomas, Peter, and John
 - Philip, John, and Peter
- When Jesus healed the man who was blind from birth, He made mud with His spit and put it on the man's eyes. What did He tell the man to do then?
 - Go pray in the synagogue.
 - Go show himself to the Pharisees
 - Wash in the Sea of Galilee
 - Wash in the pool of Siloam
- What man did Jesus raise from the dead, after he had been dead four days?
 - John the Baptist
 - Lazarus
 - Elijah
 - Moses
- What was Bartimaeus' affliction that Jesus healed
 - Leprosy
 - Lameness
 - Deafness
 - Blindness

Answers on page 7

The Scarecrow

Inspired by all the Scarecrows built during lockdown around Saltash



A Scruffy old man every day I see
 Not a care in the world has he
 Standing there all alone
 Hair of straw, that needs a comb
 Likes to wear a tatty hat
 His only friend the farmer's cat
 He can't walk
 Or even talk
 Just silent clinging on to sticks
 Set up like a crucifix
 Despite all this he stands so proud
 Cans for boots which
 are quite loud
 This scares the birds for
 miles and miles
 Making him happy,
 he wears a smile
 His job to stand there in the field
 Protect the crops so
 that they will yield
 Local children call him Joe
 To me though he is The Scarecrow

by Steve Hookway

DID YOU KNOW THAT MOSES WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO RIDE A MOTORCYCLE?



IT'S IN THE OLD TESTAMENT THE ROAR OF MOSES'S TRIUMPH COULD BE HEARD ALL OVER ISRAEL.

Life in Lockdown . . .

John West

Who would have thought earlier this year how our lives would be turned upside down within a few months by a pandemic?

It would seem that Cornwall has not, so far, had the number of confirmed cases of the virus as other parts of this country and we pray that we continue to be spared. The financial cost of the pandemic will be crippling for our county, as it depends so heavily on tourism.

But on a positive note we have benefitted from the quiet with little road traffic, no aircraft con-trails and such a long spell of life enhancing sunshine.

I have found that with no meetings or clubs to attend, I have spent a lot of time in the garden and have painted the shed, a gate and the garden seat. Indoors, we have gone through most of our files and removed bags of paper work for recycling. We now use Facetime and Zoom, with varying success; but still find the telephone important to keep in touch with neighbours and local friends. It is great that so many people have been making an effort to help one another. In particular,

people have responded to the call from the NHS and Care Homes to make scrubs and facemasks. Our own family are doing their bit and it was interesting to see Jonathan, our son-in-law, cutting up material for our daughter to sew up into masks and Jessica, our granddaughter, making scrub bags whilst chatting to us on Facetime. Jonathan is a pilot



and has been on half pay now for three months, with only two flights during lockdown. Jessica, as a self-employed ballet teacher, has not had any work until recently. The dance school where she does some teaching has now given her some work

giving individuals lessons from her kitchen via the internet. We pray for others in similar situations and those with no jobs to go back to.

We take our hats off to the good souls who have given us Virtual Services, Thought for the Day, word searches and drawings to colour. Sundays in this house are a little different now as we have both Methodist and Anglican services to tap into. We look forward to an exit from the 'C-19 Tunnel' and a return to some sort of 'Normality'. ■

After church, the woman was embarrassed when meeting the vicar at the door. 'I hope you didn't take it personally when my husband walked out during the sermon.' 'I did find it rather disconcerting,' he admitted. 'It's not a reflection on you at all,' she assured him. 'Ralph has been walking in his sleep ever since he was a child.'

My Walk to God



He walked along the lonely road
he had nowhere to go
his weary heart and tired legs
were all he had to show.
He didn't know how far he'd come
or how far he would go
but in the distance saw a church
and inside felt a glow.
He didn't hear any footsteps
Or even hear a sound
when someone came beside him
and took him by the hand.
They walked along together
along the lonely road
when the stranger said
'come with me, I have something
I must show'.

They walked together to the church
and the door was open wide.
'Come inside' the stranger said
'I want to show you life
for God he is your saviour
and he wants to set you free,
there is no other life for you
this is the way to be.'
He fell upon his knees
and prayed to the Holy one,
'I thank you Lord for showing me
the way I have to go,
eternal life now beckons me
and I am not afraid.'
He looked around, the stranger
had gone
but in his heart he would linger on.
His time was now. He was at peace
His journey had no end.

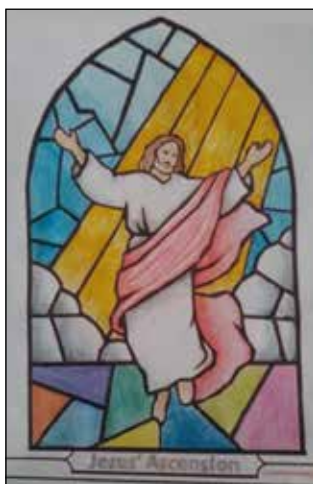
by David Coot

Update from St Michael's



It has taken a long time, but it looks as though the contractor may now have found the severe water leak in the central heating system. We still have no idea where all the many gallons of water has gone over the last nine months! Investigations are continuing ...

Many thanks to all who have entered our recent fundraising competitions. Well done to the winners:



Ascension Day
Word Search
David Coot

Ascension Day
Colouring (shown)
Charlotte Rex

Pentecost Crossword
Roger Rowse

Pentecost Colouring
David Coot

Do you know where this picture was taken?

Answer on page 7



Life in Lockdown ...

Rick Cowdery

Life in lockdown.

Where to start?

March 23 seems as good a place as any. That evening, the Prime Minister announced the Great British Staycation.

As I type, it is day 89 of Lockdown – although the initial advice has eased during those near 13 weeks (a quarter of a year!) – and we have become used to, if not totally comfortable with, the 'New Normal'.

I am not a fan of Michael McIntyre (too irrepressibly joyful), but his sketch on YouTube sums up current life more succinctly, and more humorously, than I could. If you have not seen it, I urge you to (www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ler_84HJbqk).

I can laugh now, but, at the beginning of LiL, I was more prone to tears, than giggles. Already in delicate mental health because of work issues, the utter disruption to life as I knew it was, at times, overwhelming. I was on the coronacoaster.

I decline to go into details because, through God's loving faithfulness,

I have emerged from my tunnel of despondency and see no point in looking back, but the constant uncertainty was a challenge: as we all have cut through the sensationalism and fake news to understand more about COVID-19, it has become tolerable.

My wife, God bless her, is a key worker and took everything in her stride, which helped, as

did having to assist my 84-year-old Mum's virus-delayed house move from Sussex to Saltash. Getting out, for any reason, has been

an important reminder that life is liveable...

...albeit different: no church, but Church; the new, acronym-rich language – furloughing (since early April, in my case), social distancing, key workers, flattening the curve, following the science, contact tracing, covidiot, hamsterkaufing, second wave, NHS, PPE, ICU, ONS, CNN, BCG; and crazy hair, unbitten fingernails, facemasks, Zoom, and shopping on line.

Stay safe.



From Doubter to Believer

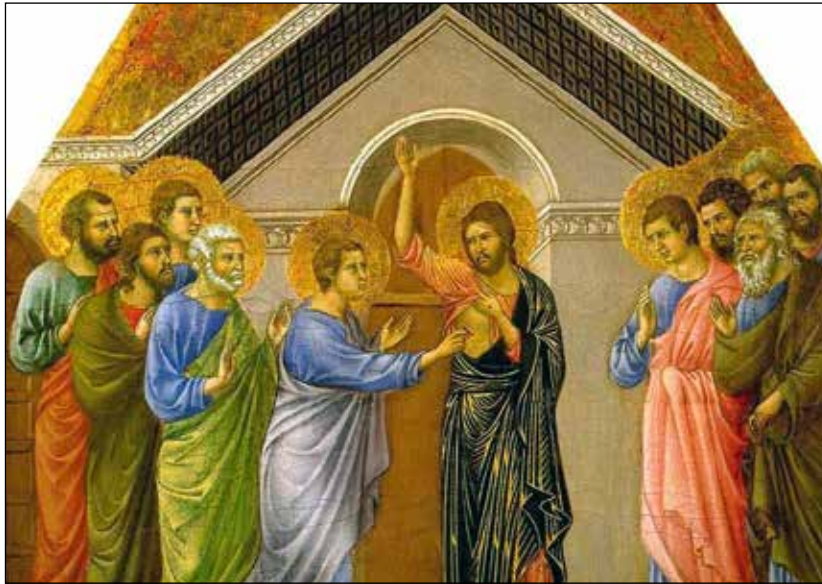
by Brenton Blandford

Many of us have had this same experience of doubt for we want proof when someone makes a statement that we find hard to believe. When tragic events happen, in both this country and overseas, many people find it hard to accept that the events have happened. The initial reaction to the bombings in London and Manchester, the race riots and the death of Princess Diana are examples. It isn't until we see proof, such as the funeral procession of Princess Diana, that we came to realise that her life on earth was over.

Thomas, also called Didymus ('twin'), was one of the twelve Apostles of Jesus. According to the New Testament, St Thomas was called to be one of the twelve Apostles.

John's Gospel 20: 24-29 tells how doubting Thomas was sceptical at first when he heard that Jesus had risen from the dead

and appeared to the other apostles. He said, 'Except I shall see on his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.' But when Jesus appeared later and invited Thomas to touch his wounds and behold him, Thomas showed his belief by saying, 'My Lord and my God.' Jesus then said, 'Thomas, because you have seen me, you have believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have Believed.'



According to traditional accounts of the St Thomas Christians of modern-day Kerala in India, Thomas is believed to have travelled outside the Roman Empire to preach the Gospel, travelling as far as the Malabar Coast which is in modern-day Kerala. According to their tradition, Thomas reached Muziris (modern-day North Paravur and Kodungalloor in the state of Kerala, India) in AD 52. St Thomas was martyred on 3rd July AD 72. In 1258, some of the relics were brought to Ortona, in Abruzzo, Italy, where they are held in the Church of

Saint Thomas the Apostle. He is often regarded as the Patron Saint of India. Thomas capped his life by shedding his blood for his Master, speared to death at a place called Calamine.

His feast day is July 3rd and he is the patron saint of architects and carpenters because Thomas himself

was a carpenter before he was a disciple of Christ.

As Christians today, we believe that although we have not witnessed the resurrection as the Apostles did, we believe that Jesus Christ not only lived on earth and ministered to his people in Israel, but was crucified, buried and rose again on the third day in accordance with the scriptures. That is our faith as believers, for we live by faith and not by sight, as the writer of the Book of the Hebrews has stated (Hebrews 11.1).

Answers to SDQ: 1. The millstone is at Warraton Green. 2. Stone archway is in Saltash Social Club car park
3. The nut /acorn is at Salt Mill nature reserve. 4. Saltash milestone is near the Ploughboy Inn

Answers to Miracles of Jesus Quiz: 1a, 2d, 3b, 4a, 5c, 6c, 7b, 8d, 9b, 10d.

Answer to Do you know where this is: Jennifer and Helen Wills are outside the old St Stephen's Church Hall which used to be just below the Cecil Arms pub.

Please email articles to: newsletter@saltashteamministry.org by 20 August.

‘At the name of Jesus
every knee should bow’

St Paul’s Letter to the Philippians

A short course with Gareth Powell
and Hueston Finlay



When does the course begin?	Tuesday, July 07
At which time are the sessions?	20:00
How long is each session?	30 minutes
How many sessions are there?	4 (one per week)
Which platform is used?	Zoom

Join us in this short course to explore a Biblical Letter that might not otherwise be available during these strange lockdown days.

We have chosen Paul’s letter to the Philippians. Written from a prison cell, addressed to a congregation in a city known for its patriotic nationalism, the letter contains a hymn or poem about the true King. The poetic account of the life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus is the centre of a letter that otherwise offers examples of people—including Paul—who lived lives that have been a living expression of the story of Jesus.

Paul invites the people of Philippi to follow these examples. It is a fondly written letter but it is no less sharp in our own world where the temptation to see human beings as god-like is as great as it was back then.

Join us for an insight into the mind and thought of Paul as he probes what it means to be a disciple!

The course leaders:

Gareth is a Methodist Minister who is keen that Christians remember how St Paul speaks of God so that we might live more faithfully in Christ.

Hueston is a systematic theologian and Anglican Minister. He has a keen interest in the interpretation of Scripture and an understanding of its role as revelation.

People who are interested should send an email to Hueston.finlay@stgeorghouse.org