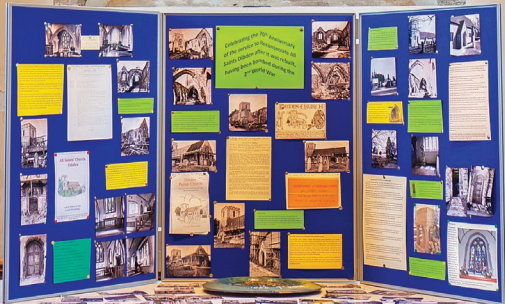


NEWS Extra

Parish of
Dibden
magazine

June
| 2025
|
70p



A JOYFUL RESURRECTION



Rev'd Ian McGill
Associate Minister

Hello and welcome to June's issue of News Extra. June is always a welcome month, with the mid-summer longest day on the horizon, gardens and forest in full colour and lots of activities around Dibden parish and in the local community.

Many visitors and locals have noted and been enquiring as to the sight of the building work that is currently on-going at St. Andrew's in Dibden Purlieu. It is good to give an update that the work is progressing well to re-furbish the frontage of the church, along with the inner offices and repairs to the roof. We are grateful to our contract builders and all church staff and volunteers who have worked together to keep things moving along well as the work is in hand.

As we continue to look to keep the buildings in good order for this generation, and those who follow, we offer our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for all who continue to support both at St. Andrew's and All Saints', both in time given and financially; that these places of worship and community will serve as places of welcome, hope and faith for many years to come.

The month of June has been designated within Winchester Diocese as 'Generous June' and Peter Toller, our Rector, has offered his encouragements and thanks around the call for us to reflect upon what we may be able to give in support for the ministry and mission of God's church in this place (see page 11).

In May, we welcomed back our Sunday afternoon 'Songs of Praise' at All Saints' Church, for a special service of commemoration for the 70th anniversary of the re-dedication of the church in 1955, after the destruction caused during the bombing in WW2. Labelled back then as a 'A Joyful Resurrection', it was a wonderful time of celebration this year, and so encouraging to hear from some who (then much younger!) remembered what happened in 1940, and how All Saints' literally 'rose again from the ashes' (for more see page 8).

If you have any stories, articles or photos of activities happening around the church and in the parish that you may feel would be of interest, please do get in touch with the News Extra team, magazine@dibdenchurches.org, and we would be happy to see if they could be included in further editions.

With all blessings, **Rev. Ian.**

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PARISH NEWS

VE DAY AND JOYFUL RESURRECTION CELEBRATIONS

On Thursday 8th May, some of us gathered in the Lych-Gate at All Saints' Church to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day. The bells rang 80 times, we shared some prayers and just as we finished, a Spitfire flew over – a fitting end to our time of remembrance. Then on Sunday 11th, we gathered as a church family to commemorate the rededication of All Saints', 70 years ago. Memories were shared, praises sung and thanks given.

We look back at the service commemorating the rededication

of All Saints' from page 8.

27TH-29TH AUGUST – 'WONDER ZONE' HOLIDAY CLUB, 9:30AM AT ST ANDREW'S CHURCH AND CENTRE

This summer we will be hosting our annual holiday club for children in school year R through to year 6.

With messy challenges, creative crafts and uplifting Bible stories for children, this year's 'Wonder Zone' August Holiday Club continues the momentum of last year's popular event. Church family are welcome to book their children on for the mornings of 27th-29th August.

For more information, please contact our Youth Minister, James

Willett: youth@dibdenchurches.org

SUNDAY 20TH JULY – CALSHOT BAPTISMS

Would you like to be baptised? There will be an opportunity to be baptised at Calshot on Sunday 20th July (early evening). If you or someone you know is wanting to be baptised, please speak to our rector, Peter, or Associate Minister, Ian.

We appreciate baptism by immersion is not for everyone and want to make baptism open to all, so if you'd like to explore baptism (e.g. by sprinkling with water) then be reassured this is no less valid or meaningful. Please discuss the options with Peter.

DIBDEN MINIS – HELP NEEDED ON THURSDAYS

On Thursdays from 10:00am to 11:30am (third Thursdays 9:30-11:00am) a babies and toddlers group called 'Dibden Minis' is run in our Church Centre Main Hall. It's a wonderful way to serve the local families in our parish with parents, carers and grandparents bringing their children to play and socialise.

We are looking for new leaders to assist with this group. Please contact James Willett on youth@dibdenchurches.org to declare interest or find out more information.



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St Andrew's Centre, Beaulieu Road, Dibden Purlieu, Southampton, SO45 4PT.

Visit www.dibdenchurches.org or speak to the Centre administrator on 023 8084 3204, during office hours, for more details.



Refreshments being served, following the service at All Saints', Dibden, on Sunday 11th May.

NEWS FROM ELSEWHERE



CHURCH GRANTS SCHEME LAUNCHED TO KICK START HOUSING PLANS

Churches hoping to build affordable homes for their communities on pockets of land they own – or as part of schemes such as rebuilding parish halls – have been invited to apply for grants to pay for expert advice from a new £3.2 million fund.

Funding of up to £25,000 towards the cost of architect, consultant and other professional fees is available through the Church of England scheme.

The national initiative aims to help parishes and dioceses work towards achieving the goals set out in the 'Coming Home' report, from the Archbishops' Commission on Housing, Church and Community. The landmark study called on the Church of England to lead by example in working to solve the housing crisis.

Now a newly formed Church of England Housing Project team is actively seeking parishes interested in developing such homes.

For example, an outdated church

hall could be rebuilt to include a few flats above it, or a surplus car park could be redeveloped to provide some social homes.

As one of the team explained: "There are many creative ways to use church land or property to provide housing for people in need, whilst improving community facilities or bolstering parish finances."

For further information on the 'Coming Home' report, please visit: <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/archbishops-commissions/housing-church-and-community/about-coming-home>

PARISH REVITALISATIONS AND RURAL AREAS TO RECEIVING FUNDING FOR MISSION

Parish revitalisations, work with children, young people and families and training for mission in rural areas are among a range of programmes to spread the Christian faith backed by the latest round of grants awarded by the Church of England.

The Dioceses of Carlisle,

Chelmsford, Rochester, Sheffield, St Edmundsbury and Ipswich and Winchester are to receive awards for programmes to support parishes and serve communities, ranging from funding for new congregations in churches to funding for clergy and lay workers in urban and rural areas.

The awards, made by the Church of England's Strategic Mission and Ministry Investment Board (SMMIB) invest in low-income communities and seek to promote diversity in congregations and church leadership.

CHURCH COMMISSIONERS FOR ENGLAND GIVES WINGS TO BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION EFFORTS

The Church Commissioners for England has agreed a fresh lease with Butterfly Conservation at Magdalen Hill Down, a nature reserve on the edge of Winchester in the South Downs National Park.

For more than three decades, the Church Commissioners for England has supported Butterfly Conservation's efforts to boost butterfly species in this, England's newest national park.

Magdalen Hill Down is an important area of scenic open space on Church Commissioners land that is easily accessible on foot from

Winchester's city centre.

Over 30 years, Butterfly Conservation's efforts have ensured the steep chalk hillside is home to healthy populations of over 30 butterfly species. It is now home to the largest population of Brown Argus butterflies in Hampshire, and the area's Adonis Blue butterflies are also thriving.

HOUSE OF BISHOPS RESPONDS TO INDEPENDENT REVIEWER'S REPORT

The House of Bishops has issued a formal response to the Independent Reviewer's report on the submission from WATCH (Women and the Church), regarding the appointment of diocesan bishops who do not ordain women as priests.

The House reaffirmed that "the flourishing of women as priests and bishops is integral to the outworking of the Declaration and the Five Guiding Principles."

The House asked the Standing Commission to propose options on how it can improve the provision for ordained women.

The House also said that it "remains committed to ensuring that all traditions within the Church can continue to flourish together".

A JOYFUL RESURRECTION – 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REBUILDING OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

In June 1940, a WWII incendiary bomb hit All Saints' Church, destroying most of the interior and bringing the bells crashing to the ground. Fifteen years later, in April 1955, the church was joyfully re-dedicated by the Bishop of Winchester, with Rector Reg Miles in attendance.

On Sunday 11th May, we held a special service at All Saints' to mark this occasion, 70 years on. Below are some thoughts from those who led and spoke at the service.

Viv Hutchinson
Service Preacher

That Sunday, walking down the path to the church, it was hard to appreciate the devastating ruins it had become in 1940 after the bombing, but with the persistence of Reverend Miles, All Saints' rose from the ashes.

Here we were on a warm sunny May day to celebrate 70 years since the rededication service, with All Saints' nestling comfortably in its surroundings.

We have a lot to thank both Reverend Miles and his daughters for, in the way that they have kept an archive of memories. We were able to use the original service booklet to put together this 70th celebration service. We used many of the original hymns and readings, along with the prayers of dedication. We had testimonies and reminiscences from Eileen Sargent, Daphne Draper and Jenny Miles, stories retold of the night of the bombing, the rebuilding and the service of rededication.

After reading the Bible verse from **Hebrews 12**, where the writer asked us to fix our eyes upon Jesus, we were able to look up to the stained glass windows in the chancel and see the artist's depiction of Jesus rising from the tomb. A parallel was drawn that, like the window was made up of many bits of glass, the church had been rebuilt, smaller than original, with stones and bits from the now gone north and south aisles. Some of these stones had originally come from the ruins of Beaulieu Abbey, given by Lord Montagu, and carted here by local farmers. We still have remnants of the old church dating as far back as the 12th century, but church isn't the building so we thought about all the faithful parishioners who had celebrated Christenings and weddings within this footprint of All Saints' and

mourned the loss of loved ones at funerals. We will continue to do that in the future.

A previous rector, John Alderman, wrote "sometimes it appears as if their prayers and worship have seeped into the walls and been recorded there somehow, such is the feeling of God's presence and peace in this building". We all agreed with that.

Afterwards we were able to stay awhile and chat to those who had memories spanning the decades. Tea and cake was enjoyed while people were able to look at the display of photos and memorabilia from 1955. Old

friendships were rekindled, some people having travelled miles to attend.

As we locked the church back up at the end of the day the chatter and laughter had gone, the peace of the church and the churchyard returned and we thought with confidence that All Saints' will always hold a special place in the hearts of Dibden's parishioners.

Rev'd Ian McGill
Service Leader

PSALM 84

We can only wonder and imagine what it must have felt like for



the people of this parish, this church family, 70 years ago, to be here in All Saints' Church when it was eventually re-dedicated and brought back into use as a consecrated place of worship.

For those nearly 15 years between 20th June 1940 and 2nd April 1955 must have been traumatic, not only with the war years and all the terrible events in Europe and beyond, to the slow recovery of the nation after 1945, and the loss and suffering still in very recent memory.

It must have taken some special resolve, courage and dedication to see that All Saints' would not be lost, but would rise again from the ashes, to be a cherished place of worship for the people here ... and a testimony that God was still very much alive and able to revive what was seemingly lost ... I am reminded all of a sudden by that telling verse from Isaiah ... very aptly in this case, that 'A bruised reed he will not break, and a smouldering wick he will not snuff out' (Isaiah 42:3).

Psalm 84 was one of the Bible readings used at the re-dedication service in 1955 (sung actually!) and it felt very appropriate to read it again at the 70th year commemoration service just recently on the 11th May.

The Psalm re-assures us that 'blessed are those whose strength is in you, with hearts set on pilgrimage' (Psalm 84:5) and the ones who 'trust in you' (Psalm 84:12).

We are all Pilgrims to one degree or another. Not necessarily those who take up the challenge of the long treks around Holy Lands, or indeed the people of Israel, who journeyed to their promised land of long ago. We are of our times and on a similar journey of faith. One that witnesses to what God first built here in Dibden, over 700 years ago, and then re-built 70 years ago. A place He continues to bless to this day.

A joyful resurrection indeed. Until He come!



GENEROUS JUNE



Written by
Rev'd Peter Toller

This June, we're encouraging people to review their regular giving to the work and ministry of St Andrew's and All Saints' Churches or consider a regular donation. Regular giving from individuals is the bedrock of parish finances, providing over 65% of our annual income.

We're so grateful for every gift given, both today and in the past. St Andrew's has always had an incredible spirit of generosity for which we thank and praise God. We appreciate times are tough for many financially and now may not be the time to increase your giving. We don't want anyone to feel guilty, but to rejoice that God has called us together to share our resources.

OUR CURRENT FINANCIAL SITUATION

Dibden PCC has previously been in the fortunate situation of having reserves to spend. This has enabled us to go ahead with the important building work at St Andrew's and three key projects at All Saints' Church (pathways, chancel and

sound). Once these projects are complete, we will be left with the minimum permitted reserves for a charity our size.

Each year from 2016 to 2022 we declared a deficit budget (attempted to spend some of our excessive reserves) but ended the year with a small surplus! We sensed God wanting us to be more adventurous and have followed that principle in the last three years. As well as our reserves being reduced, we are now at a point where our regular income is not matching our expenditure by some £1,000 every week. We are therefore reaching out to our church family to review their giving. If our regular giving increases, we will be able to continue our current ministries and growth. If it does not, Dibden PCC will need to make some difficult decisions to reduce our expenditure.

For more information and to give, please use the QR code below. Thank you for your help.



HE GAVE US EYES TO SEE THEM: EL GRECO'S 'THE TEARS OF ST PETER'

The Rev'd Michael Burgess surveys works of sacred art that can be found in various museums.

In the 19th century John Bowes, the 10th Earl of Strathmore, built a museum in the French style, with landscaped gardens, at Barnard Castle in Teesdale. He bequeathed it 800 paintings, including a previously unknown Van Dyck.

But visitors to the Bowes Museum often make a beeline for its amazing 18th century silver swan automaton. As the music plays, there is the illusion of flowing water: the swan preens itself, bends down and catches a fish in the water. It is a thrill and a joy to watch. At the other extreme and striking a different mood and emotion is El Greco's painting of 1580: 'The Tears of St Peter.' It was reluctantly purchased in 1869 for a price less than that paid for the monkey puzzle tree in the grounds outside.

The gospels tell us that St Peter

wept bitterly when he heard the cock crow, as he had denied knowing Jesus three times. El Greco shows the saint, his eyes welling with those tears of betrayal, kneeling and turning to heaven for forgiveness. The sky is overcast, reflecting the sad scene below, and we can see ivy growing as a sign of the constancy so lacking in Peter's life.

At the Last Supper he had been the opposite: ready to follow, brave and generous with his words. But Peter leaves Jesus to drink the cup of sorrow alone in Gethsemane. In the courtyard of the high priest, warming himself by the fire, he utters that threefold denial. This was the lowest moment in his life, when instead of being solid rock, he showed that he was merely shifting sand.

And then the wonder and glory of Easter. We glimpse it in the background of the painting with the angel and Mary Magdalene at the tomb. And we know that everything changes for Peter by the shore of the Sea of Galilee. Like the silver swan in the Bowes Museum looking for fish, the disciples have returned to their old way of life.

But it is the risen Lord who directs them to a marvellous catch, and the charcoal fire of

betrayal in the courtyard is now the charcoal fire of breakfast, a new day, and a new way of life for Peter. No denial now – he answers the three questions of our Lord positively and realises that he is loved by Jesus in his failure and weakness. It might have seemed the end for Peter in the courtyard, but the risen Lord comes to tell him 'I make all things new' and that includes you.

Peter is often known as the stumbling saint. Here, in El Greco's painting, he has stumbled and fallen to his knees in prayer. We celebrate St Peter at the end of this month. As we look at him, we know ourselves to be as weak and fearful. But the Lord comes to us as He comes to Peter. He lifts us up and puts us back on our feet again. With Peter, we know Him as our crucified and risen Lord.



CHURCHES ENJOYED BUMPER EASTER ATTENDANCES

Clergy have reported packed services over Easter, as increasing numbers of young people are coming to church.

It follows the recent survey by the Bible Society, which found that the share of the population who attend a service a month has risen from eight per cent in 2018 to 12 per cent last year. But surprisingly, the figures for those aged 18 to 24 have quadrupled, to 16 per cent.

Philip North, Bishop of Blackburn, said that the numbers at services were up by as much as a half in some areas. He said that, despite so much recent bad publicity about the Church, “there is such a hunger for faith, especially among the young.”

The rector at one church in London said: “The world is a much more frightening and chaotic place than when I was growing up. People in their 20s and 30s have had two major financial crashes, a pandemic, a land war in Europe, a housing crisis. The world is not a place for optimism right now. The stability and comfort that God can provide is something that appeals to young people.”

Churches certainly provide a sense of community, a social network as well as a spiritual one, which can help young people who are struggling to connect with others.

The Bible Society survey also found that Catholics may become the largest denomination in Britain, for the first time in 500 years. Anglicanism, on the other hand, could fall behind Pentecostalism, and become the UK’s third largest denomination.

The Anglican share of regular churchgoers of all ages fell from 41 per cent in 2018 to 34 per cent in 2024, while at the same time the Catholic share rose from 23 per cent to 31 per cent.

The Bible Society survey also found that, whereas in 2018 just four per cent of 18 to 24 year-olds attended church once a month, now 16 per cent of the same age group are doing so.

And, although British people are still more likely to be non-believers, those who are Christian are practising their faith with greater zeal.

Meanwhile, the Church of England has seen a boom in visits to its church-finding website, with views on AChurchNearYou.Com soaring. Visits last year hit 198.6 million – up from 128.1 million in 2023 and a rise of more than three quarters on the previous year.

The figure does not include the 9.7-million-page impressions from the site’s army of local editors, who maintain and update parish pages, adding and tagging worship services, events and community action projects such as food banks.



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THE SIMPLE PLEASURES OF ORDINARY TIME

The Rev Mark Brown considers the meaning of a well-known Anglican time of year.

One great phrase of the Church of England, which is little-known but carries a wealth of rich meaning, is 'ordinary time'. While the seasons of Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Advent all have their fixtures and moments for focus and concentration, the bulk of the summer months is 'ordinary time'! A very evocative phase – nothing particularly to focus on or to celebrate.

Just because it is 'ordinary', it does not mean it is not important or of no significance to how God wants us to use our lives. For most of us life is lived between

high and low points: we look forward to something on the horizon or we are seeking to recover from something. So, it should be no surprise that ordinary time is the longest season in the Church calendar. Abraham Lincoln once said that: "God must love ordinary people because He made so many of them"!

Ordinary people, it seems to me, need 'ordinary time'. Sundays and weekdays in-between, to sense God's presence with us in the day-to-day mundane, and ordinary comings and goings of life. He is there in the heights of resurrection joy and celebration. He is with us in the vulnerability and frailty of human weakness, modelled in the incarnation. He is with us in our efforts to discipline ourselves and be moulded by him (Lent) but He is also with us whenever we are conscious of life just being ordinary. When our eyes are opened to these things, we will see what an extraordinary God we have!

THE NICENE CREED: WHO IS GOD?

Canon Paul Hardingham considers a bedrock of our Christian belief: that God is Trinity.

'We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.'

2025 sees the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed. We use it at Communion services, but how much notice do we take of the words? In this new series we are looking at what it means to believe in God as Trinity.

We believe: In Greek, the Creed begins 'we believe' (in Latin, 'I believe.'). It was formulated at the time of Arius, who declared that Jesus was the first and greatest of God's creatures, but not the same as God the Father. His teaching proved so damaging that the Emperor Constantine called an ecumenical council in Nicaea (AD 325) to clarify the core beliefs for all Christians.

In one God: We believe in a God who is both one and Trinity: 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one' (**Deuteronomy 6:4**). He is the Old Testament God, who we know through the life and work of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. We are to

worship Him alone and not people or things.

The Father, the Almighty: God is both the almighty Creator and loving Father: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name' (**Matthew 6:9**). Although the Father of all that exists, He is specifically Father to those who His children through their faith in Jesus.

Maker of heaven and earth: God comes before anything that was created, and Creation is His alone: 'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty' (**Genesis 1:1,2**). The implication is that He created 'ex nihilo' i.e. out of nothing. He is one God who is unchangeable, lacking in nothing and the source of all that exists.

Of all that is, seen and unseen: God did not just create the physical universe, but also the spiritual powers: 'For in Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and for Him.' (**Colossians 1:16**). Reality is more than what we can see, smell, taste, touch or measure.

The Creed establishes the 'big picture' of who God is and challenges our commitment to Him. How do these opening words of the Nicene Creed speak to us today?



WHAT'S ON THIS JUNE

ST. ANDREW'S, DIBDEN PURLIEU

Every Tuesday			
Dibden Minis Playtimes (term-time)	9:00am-10:30am	Main Hall	Toys, songs and snack time for babies and toddlers!
Every Wednesday			
Parish Prayers	9:00am	Garden Lounge and via Zoom	https://us04web.zoom.us/j/854948714 A Psalm, thought for the day and prayer.
Every Thursday			
Dibden Minis Playtimes (term-time)	10:00am-11:30am	Main Hall	Toys, songs and snack time for babies and toddlers!
Seekers youth group (term-time)	5:00pm-6:30pm & 6:30pm-7:30pm	Garden Lounge	Youth groups for those in Years 7-13. 5:00pm-6:30pm for Years 7-8, 6:30pm-7:30pm for Years 9-13.
Parish Prayers	6:30pm-7:00pm	Chapel	Prayers for our parish, community and world.
Wednesday 4th June			
Living with Loss	3:00pm	Garden Lounge	An informal and supportive bereavement group.
Saturday 7th June			
Men's Breakfast	7:30am	Main Hall	We will be in the Main Hall, as usual, with prayers from 7:30am, breakfast from 8:00am.
Tuesday 10th June			
Women's Fellowship	2:15pm	Garden Lounge	A friendly group that meets with a guest speaker. Enjoy tea and a chat afterwards.
Thursday 19th June			
CAMEO	12:15pm	Main Hall	Lunch time group for the elderly. <i>Booking required.</i>
Saturday 21st June			
Who Let the Dads Out?	9:00am-11:00am	Main Hall	Every third Saturday, dads and father figures are invited to bring their children to play games, eat bacon butties and meet other families. Please contact James Willett at youth@dibdenchurches.org to book a place.

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Carol's story

After Carol was diagnosed with a brain tumour at the age of 58, it was the care and support from Oakhaven that helped her and the whole family at such a difficult time.

Initially visiting the Coates Centre, then Day Hospice, Carol was able to benefit from the support on offer, whether complementary therapy or a cup of tea and chat with others. Later she was able to stay at home thanks to Oakhaven's specialist nurses who visit across the New Forest, Totton and Waterside.

Leaving a legacy to Oakhaven ensures we will be able to continue caring for those in our community when they need us most, helping us to make every moment matter.

A pledge of any size will ensure we are there to make a difference for families in the future.

Could you help us with a gift in your will?
Visit oakhavenhospice.co.uk/legacy for more information.



THE TALE OF THE SUNDIAL



Written by
Viv Hutchinson

Whilst researching the history of the rebuilding of All Saints', I bought a copy of the booklet available from church called "All Saints' Church Dibden, A short history of this wonderful building". One paragraph sent me on a quest that lasted quite a few weeks. The paragraph in questions mentioned "an ancient sundial or Mass Clock having the usual hole and a number of lines radiating is to be seen on the buttress at the South-east angle of the nave. It was placed there during the 1955 rebuilding. These sundials were used to mark the times of the church services before mechanical clock began to be more commonly used in the 15th century. A metal rod called a gnomon, projected from the central hole to cast the shadow."

Wanting to display a photo of this bit of history I went looking to the buttress I believed they meant. I looked but to no avail. I found an older edition of the church booklet and it mentioned that a Perspex cover had been placed over the sundial to protect it, I looked again and examined old and new photos,



The globe sundial in the churchyard of All Saints', Dibden.

still no luck. I turned to past and present church wardens for help, the sundial was not found. At coffee after the Sunday service I continued my quest speaking to older members of the church asking them to cast their minds back to try and remember where it was located. I became the person to avoid if you didn't want to talk sundials. I then took to the internet to try and see if there were any images or mention of a sundial or mass clock, I became quite knowledgeable about them but still no further forward. I found that there is such a thing as the British Sundial Association and they had a sundial recorded at Dibden. It was a globe and the photo I saw that included a bit of the churchyard I didn't recognise, so I dismissed it.

You can imagine how pleased I was to receive a photo from a church member of our sundial, it was indeed on the buttress mentioned but a lot lower and the lines faint. It had the central hole where once the gnomon had been and if you look you can see four more holes which must be for the fastenings of the long-gone Perspex cover. I am pleased now to show people our lost sundial is now found and where it is.

The story may have ended there but another church member had also found the listing on the internet of the globe sundial and had found it in the churchyard. I was happy to be shown to its location, the listing described it thus:

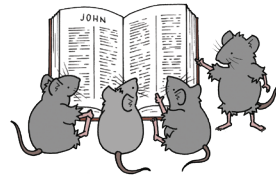


The ancient sundial, or mass clock, on a buttress at All Saints' Church, Dibden.

"Spherical sundial using the terminator of its shadow to tell the time. This most unusual dial needs no separate gnomon as it uses the terminator - the line between its lit and shaded sides - to tell the time. It has a band of Roman numerals going 1 to 12, twice, so that the time can be read on either side. They use XII at noon and IIII at 4 o'clock. The only other markings on the sphere appear to be horizontal, meridian (due north-south) and east-west great circles. Unfortunately it is not currently correctly aligned to tell the time. Even when correctly aligned it is difficult to read time with accuracy on such a dial, but it has the virtues of simplicity and robustness as it needs no gnomon. A motto on the base reads: "At rest (E) till time (N) shall be (W) no more (S)". The pillar is stone of square cross section and 960mm high. There are multiple memorial inscriptions on the pillar base. The dial is about 45 yds SW of the church porch."

So, looking for one sundial, I was lucky enough to find two.

SERMON REFLECTIONS



‘DAVID AND GOLIATH’

1 Samuel 17:1-9, 45-50 & Matthew 6:25-34
Rev'd David Lewis / 6th April

...“I’m going to leave the rest [of the board] blank because you could put your own worries and fears here [on the board].

Jesus speaks to us and the Bible tells us Jesus is greater than our biggest fears. As we think about Jesus, and we’re leading up to Easter when Jesus goes to the cross to die for us, I’m going to cross these out [list of fears written on the board] but with the shape of the cross. Whatever we are afraid of, whatever giants we face in life, we know that Jesus is with us. He is greater than our biggest fears.

So whatever concerns you have, whatever fears for the future you may have, whatever you feel is binding you, know that Jesus is with you. However young you are, however old you are, Jesus is with you. He is bigger than your greatest fears.

So when you go out into the world today, take Jesus with you during this week and remember that He is greater than anything you might be facing.”...

‘STONES CRY OUT’

Psalms 118:19-24 and Luke 19:28-40
Rev'd Peter Toller / 13th April

...“The final story Jesus told before he entered Jerusalem was a story about a king, about a king who left his kingdom for a while. That’s what Jesus was just about to do, wasn’t He? And then a story about a king who returned to his kingdom. Some of the people who believed that king would return, they were rewarded, and others who’d ignored the king, well they were condemned.

So before today’s reading we’ve got this story of a king returning in judgment, and then, straight after the story, there’s more stories of judgment. So Luke doesn’t want us to miss the fact that, actually, whilst we’re witnessing, today, a part of Jesus’s first coming as king, Luke wants to remind us that, actually, Jesus will come again. When He comes again, He will return as judge. Jesus may be gentle but He is not a king to be trifled with, we ignore Jesus at our peril. He is a king who’s come in gentleness and peace and love, offering to restore our relationship with God, but He is a king who will return in judgment.”...

‘ALIVE IN CHRIST’

1 Corinthians 15:19-26 and Luke 24:1-12
Rev'd Canon Steve Pittis /
20th April

...“See most of the Jews in Jesus’ day did not believe in a literal resurrection. ... They believed, most of them, that there would be a resurrection in the last day and that God would wind up his purpose for the people of Israel. But Jesus came with a quite different agenda: to bring in the Kingdom now and to give us a foretaste of future glory, here and now.

The implication is very far reaching. It’s not ‘oh that’s great now, we can go to heaven when we die’, rather it’s that Jesus, who’s brought forward our final resurrection in some measure, wants us to work with Him for the establishment of His Kingdom, and to bring many many people into that kingdom as well. Does that make sense to you? That’s what He has called us to do.

So we’re called, in the power of the Holy Spirit, who lives within us, to take part in implementing all of what Jesus came to achieve, and thereby to anticipate the final resurrection. We do that in our personal lives, in the political life, through our mission to the world, and in holiness, the way we live. So we’re charged with transforming the present as a foretaste of God’s future.”...

‘GOD’S PROMISE TO DAVID’

2 Samuel 7:1-14 and Acts 17:24-28
Rev'd Ian McGill / 27th April

...“As with many cases with the Lord, God turns things on its head. David is not to build a house for God, it is God who was to build a house for David; the dynasty. And out of that dynasty will come another. “He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son” [2 Samuel 7:13-14]. Now where have we heard that before? My New Testament ears are warmed.

You see Jesus’s coming into the world, His death and His resurrection, was not a coming that would mean all would be as it was before. Jesus rose from the dead, God’s in his house, everything’s back as it was, all shall be OK: No. Remember something that we were told last week. On Good Friday we were told this. At the death of Jesus, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom, the ark was visible and accessible to everybody. God was not to be confined to an ark, a temple, a tent or a building (or a church for that matter). The old order of things are gone. Jesus had broken the shackles and His kingdom, God’s kingdom, would not be one etched into tablets of stone or confined to a box.”...

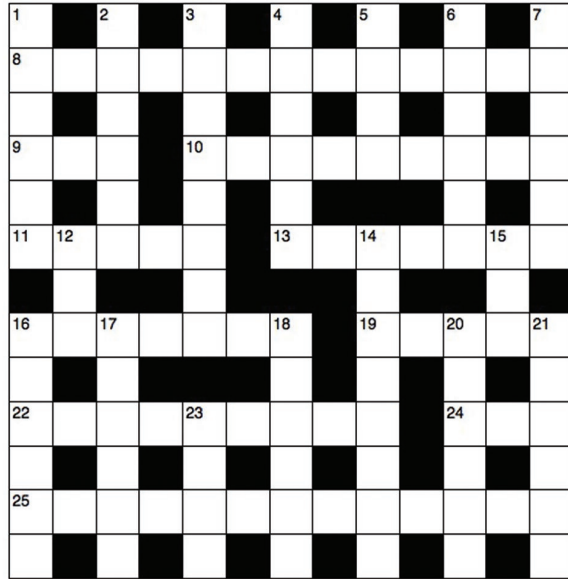


PUZZLES!

CROSSWORD

Across

- 8 Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)
- 9 In favour of (3)
- 10 'The child's father and mother – at what was said about him' (Luke 2:33) (9)
- 11 Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)
- 13 'Terrors – him on every side and dog his every step' (Job 18:11) (7)
- 16 Bay bits (anag.) (7)
- 19 Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)
- 22 Holy Communion (9)



- 24 'On their way to – out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land"' (Joshua 18:8) (3)
- 25 Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

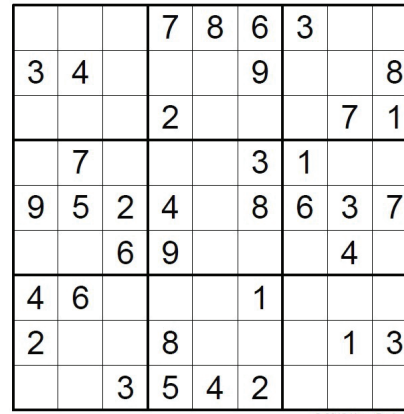
Down

- 1 'Assyria's pride will be brought down and – sceptre will pass away' (Zechariah 10:11) (6)
- 2 'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in – with God and men' (Luke 2:52) (6)
- 3 The descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)
- 4 The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)
- 5 Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6-12) (4)
- 6 One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the Israelite army 'to make atonement' (Numbers 31:50) (6)

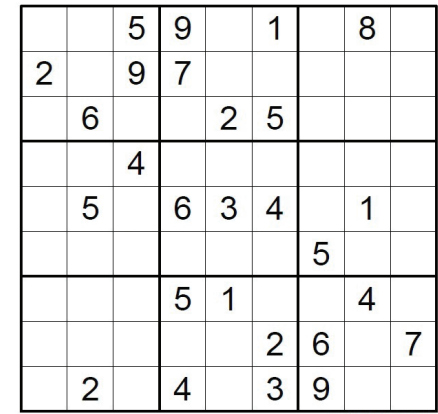
- 7 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set – –' (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4)
- 12 Ate (anag.) (3)
- 14 'We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our – as sons' (Romans 8:23) (8)
- 15 Abram's nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)
- 16 Rupture (Job 30:14) (6)
- 17 'Yet to all who received him... he gave the right to – children of God' (John 1:12) (6)
- 18 'I... asked him the true meaning of all – . – he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things' (Daniel 7:16) (4,2)
- 20 Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6)
- 21 'Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to – her to public disgrace' (Matthew 1:19) (6)
- 23 Diva (anag.) (4)

Crossword answers can be found at the top of page 27.

SUDOKU



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CARTOON CORNER



HOW TO FIND US

ON FOOT



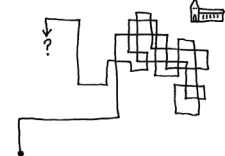
FOLLOW THE TRAIL OF CONFETTI

BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT



THE RAIL-REPLACEMENT BUS SERVICE PASSES BY (BUT DOESN'T STOP) ON SUNDAYS

BY ROAD (USING SAT NAV)



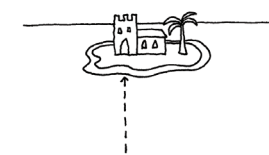
GOOD LUCK

BY BICYCLE



PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING THIS. PERHAPS THE DIOCESE HAS MONEY FOR BIKE RACKS

BY BOAT



NAVIGATE IN DIRECTION SHOWN

PARKING INFORMATION



ARRIVE EARLY TO GET A SPACE. SOME OF US HAVE TO DRIVE OVER HALF A MILE

CartoonChurch.com

HELP, MY KIDS JUST ASKED ME A SCIENCE QUESTION!

These questions and answers are taken from *The Faraday Kids* website (www.faradaykids.com). For even more science-faith Q&A's, check out *101 Great Big Questions About God and Science*, Edited by L Henderson & S Bryant (Lion, 2022).

Why aren't dinosaurs in the Bible?

The Bible wasn't written to list all the animals on earth or tell us about science. It was written a long time before people started to use science to learn about the world.

When the Bible was written, people didn't even have a word for dinosaurs yet! But it's not just dinosaurs that aren't mentioned in the Bible, it doesn't talk about armadillos, kangaroos, sabre-toothed cats or penguins either!

That doesn't mean that the Bible is out of date or wrong, or that these animals aren't important. Rather than teaching us science, many Christians believe that the Bible was written to tell people about God, how much He loves them, and all the amazing things He has done.

The Bible says that God made everything, and loves everything He made, so that includes dinosaurs. It also encourages people to explore and find out all about the wonderful things it says God has made. Science is a part of this exploration.

Did God make the dinosaurs?

The Bible (the holy book that Christians read) says that God made everything. All the stars, the Earth and all the amazing plants and animals that have ever lived here. So yes, most Christians believe that God made the dinosaurs!

The Bible also teaches that God loves it when people explore His creation, and science is a great way of doing that. So, for many Christians, science is one of the fun things we can use to learn all about how God made everything, including all of the dinosaurs!

Were humans and dinosaurs ever living on earth at the same time?

Yes! But probably not the kind of dinosaur you're thinking of! Most of the dinosaurs died out a very, very long time ago, way before humans first lived. But some of the smaller, feathery dinosaurs survived and over a long time they have evolved into the animals we call birds.

So, from chickens and robins to penguins and ostriches, there are dinosaurs living all over our world today!



CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS:

- 8, Grandchildren. 9, Pro.
- 10, Marvelled. 11, Strut.
- 13, Startle. 16, Babysit.
- 19, Orate. 22, Eucharist.
- 24, Map. 25, Commissioners.

DOWN:

- 1, Egypt's. 2, Favour.
- 3, Edomites. 4, Thorns.
- 5, Blue. 6, Armlet. 7, On edge.
- 12, Tea. 14, Adoption. 15, Lot.
- 16, Breach. 17, Become.
- 18, This So. 20, Armies.
- 21, Expose. 23, Avid.

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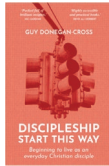
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BOOK REVIEWS



DISCIPLESHIP: START THIS WAY BEGINNING TO LIVE AS AN EVERYDAY CHRISTIAN DISCIPLE
BRF - £9.99
Guy Donegan-Cross



between St John’s visions and the terrifying prospect of an Artificial Super Intelligence that emerges to deceive the world and oppose the rule of Christ.

As Lennox says: “Revelation promises to do two things: fill our hearts with praise to God, and also simultaneously prepare for God’s inevitable cataclysmic intervention in this world to judge evil righteously at the return of Christ.”

Countless books have been written on the meaning of Revelation. This one draws on the work of great interpreters of the past, but also advances reasons as to why we need to take very seriously the possibility that a supernatural power opposed to God is using technology – and in particular advanced AI – to drive a transhumanist vision of upgraded humans.

Already some scientists are envisioning the development of superintelligences that may become the gods of the future and rule over humans. Others raise the even more disturbing prospect that ASI (Artificial Super Intelligence) could eventually

This book emphasises the difference that discipleship can make in our day to day experience. Both a resource for the enquirer and a tool for anyone wanting to support someone in their faith journey, this book provides an accessible and grounded route into the beginnings of discipleship, with a clear explanation of what it looks and feels like to become a disciple and to start to live as one.

GOD, AI AND THE END OF HISTORY UNDERSTANDING THE BOOK OF REVELATION IN AN AGE OF INTELLIGENT MACHINES
SPCK - £29.99
John C Lennox



A fresh interpretation of Revelation for the 21st century, exploring the connections

achieve world domination. These developments, argues Lennox, are likely to involve the deception of billions of people, inspired and engineered by the one whom the New Testament calls ‘the Antichrist’.

To find out how John Lennox reaches that conclusion read this fresh, wide-ranging and amazingly thought-provoking commentary on Jesus’ last message to His followers.

THE EXILED CHURCH RECKONING WITH SECULAR CULTURE
Canterbury Press - £18.99
Martyn Percy



The Exiled Church explores how churches and faith communities are faring in a highly secular contemporary culture.

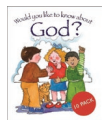
In many places, traditional denominations are in steep decline, church buildings are up for sale, even fast-growing new churches appear to be in a ‘boom and bust’ trajectory, and religion has effectively retreated from public life. Yet it was in exile that Israel discovered a deeper and truer knowledge of God.

Drawing on theories of secularisation, the experiences of

a wide variety of churches, new religious groups, and voices in the emerging field of secular and sacred community innovation, Martyn Percy charts the shifts in power from institutional religion to individualistic spirituality. He asks whether the age of institutional Christianity is effectively over, and is being replaced by networks of socio-spiritual-political values, focused around issues of common concern.

Imaginatively and engagingly written, The Exiled Church is ultimately a hopeful and confident book that offers a lifeline for all churches on the margins.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT GOD
SPCK - £25 (pack of 10)
Tim Dowley



How do you explain the importance of God to a child? This early learning book may be helpful to you. It helps children explore their spiritual understanding of who God is, in a relatable and accessible way.

This booklet covers questions such as Who is God?, What does God Look Like? What does God do? and ends with a reminder that ‘We can be safe in His love forever. God is for always.’



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6:30pm	Refueled - A Heart for Worship		

Wednesday 4th June

11:00am	Forget-me-not Service Holy Communion
---------	-----------------------------------------

Sunday 8th June • Pentecost

9:00am	Holy Communion BCP Spirit of Truth	4:00pm	Songs of Praise
10:30am	Morning Worship * Spirit of Truth		

Sunday 15th June • Trinity

9:00am	Holy Communion BCP Father, Son, Spirit
10:30am	Family Communion * Father, Son, Spirit

Sunday 22nd June

9:00am	Holy Communion BCP The Time of your Life
10:30am	Morning Worship * The Time of your Life

Sunday 29th June

9:00am	Morning Prayer Meaningless Money
10:30am	Morning Worship * Meaningless Money

* Services also available online

Join in via Zoom: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/209208621>
 Watch on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/DibdenChurches>
 Watch on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ParishOfDibden/>

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