

CHRIST  
CHURCH  
IN  
MAY & JUNE



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*Registered Charity No. 1152846*

*The Parish of Worthing, Christ Church*

*Website: [www.christchurchworthing.org.uk](http://www.christchurchworthing.org.uk)*

My apologies to all those who are not on the internet, whilst we have not been allowed to work in the office, I have had limited ability to produce monthly magazines as usual. I hope that many of you will have received the April version, albeit in less professional non -booklet form. I am emailing daily to all those who wish, and the wonderful news is that we have new family members, who have been in touch and are also on the email list now. They are all very welcome!

I am now, with the easing of restrictions, able to print these magazines for you all. We are not able to deliver them as widely as we normally do, but can at least reach all in the church family who are not on email.

My thanks go to the wonderful members of the admin team who have ensured that everyone is in touch with each other by phone, if they so wish, and anyone can get in touch should you need any help.

We pray that we will all be together soon, and our thoughts and grateful thanks are with the scientists and research teams who are working hard to find a vaccine and drugs to aid recovery from Covid.

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*Picture sent in by Kerry Akerman, daughter of the late John Akerman, former churchwarden of Christ Church for 20 years.*



## Words of prayer

Lord, For all whose day starts with anxiety, as they leave the security of home worrying about the risk of infection; particularly those whose health or age classifies them as vulnerable.

Loving God, be close, keep them safe, along with all whose tasks today includes the care of frail and elderly. And for all of us, grant wisdom to make sensible choices, not just for ourselves, but for everybody. Amen

Lord, Help us to put aside preconceptions about other people, because that alters our behaviour, and simply accept that they, like us, are precious in your eyes. Amen

Help me O God to live this day quietly, hopefully; to lean on your strength, trustfully, to wait for the unfolding of your will, patiently, serenely; to greet other people peacefully, joyfully; to face every task confidently courageously; in the name of Christ our Lord Amen

Most high and glorious God, Lighten the darkness of my heart and give me sound faith, firm hope and perfect love.

Let me, Lord, have the right feelings and knowledge, properly to carry out the task you have given me. Amen

Lord I thank you for my friends;  
When I am confused they give me wisdom.

When I feel sad they help me smile.

When I feel worthless they share their love.

Lord above all this I thank you that you are my friend for ever. Amen

Gracious God, give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who are caring for the sick, and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.

Strengthen them with your Spirit, that through their work many will be restored to health; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, whose love we cannot measure, and whose blessings we cannot number, we praise and thank you for all your goodness, your strength in our weakness, your light in our darkness, your comfort in our sorrow, and above all your peace in our hearts. Amen

.... *More snippets from Barbara H.... thank you Barbara!*

## MAY IN HISTORY

1840 – Rowland Hill is responsible for the introduction of the Penny Postal service covering the British Isles

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1850 – A Hippopotamus is introduced to the public for the first time in London Zoo

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1928 - The Flying Doctor Service is launched in Australia

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1954 - 25-year old Roger Bannister runs a mile in under 4 minutes. Once considered impossible. The record currently stands at 3.43 minutes

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1973 – The Pulitzer Prize is awarded to the Washington Post for the investigation into the scandal which became known as Watergate

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1981 – A new musical opened entitled 'Cats'. It continues to delight audiences nearly 40 years later

*Words from a worship song by Tim Hughes .....*

## **THE CROSS STANDS**

...'The cross stands above it all in the waiting days, the cross stands above it all in uncertain times, the cross towers over it all, the cross stands above it all'.

**Until further  
notice, the  
days of the week  
are now called,  
thisday, thatday,  
otherday,  
someday,  
yesterday, today  
& nextday.**

WOMEN  
WORKING

## A Colourful Day

“This social isolation,” said Noah to his wife,  
“I know is keeping us all safe  
but leading to some strife.  
Our sons, their wives, birds, animals,  
all in one ark together  
Plus forty days and nights of rain,  
no let-up in the weather.”

“I’ve tried to keep the peace  
among my three sons and their wives,  
Birds, animals as well  
are keen to get on with their lives.

I said to God,  
“I will remain through this your great supporter.”  
and told them all that  
without God we’d all be underwater,

The flood went down,  
they landed upon Mount Ararat,  
But floods still on the land below  
kept them just where they sat,  
So Noah sent a raven out  
and then a dove to scout,  
if it was safe to leave the ark,  
and get out and about.

The dove came back a second time  
with a fresh olive leaf,  
Another week the ground was dry,  
they all sighed with relief.

God said, to Noah,  
“Leave the ark, get off two-by-two  
Take all the birds and animals,  
your family with you.”

“This is a colourful day,  
so I will make a sign to please the eye  
A range of lovely colours, a rainbow in the sky,  
Look up and see a sign of peace  
alighting with a dove  
Look for the rainbow in the rain,  
a symbol of my love.”



©Caroline Hansen

*Food for Thought! From Anthony de Mello.*

### **Dandelions.**

A man who took great pride in his lawn found himself with a large crop of dandelions. He tried every method he knew to destroy them. To no avail. They continued to plague him.

Finally, he wrote to the Department of Agriculture, for help. He enumerated all the methods he had employed. He had exhausted all advice. He ended his letter with the question, “What shall I do now?”

In due course, the reply came:

“We suggest you learn to love them!”



# Don't Change!

I was a neurotic for years. Anxious, depressed, selfish.

Everyone kept telling me to change.

I resented them, and tended to agree with them, and I really wanted to change but I could not; no matter what I tried.

What was even more distressing was that, like all the others, my closest friend kept urging me to change, offering to help me in any way I needed help. I felt powerless and trapped.

One day, my friend surprisingly said to me,  
“Don't change. I love you as you are.”

Those words were music to my ears:  
“Don't change. Don't change.....I love you as you are.”

I relaxed. I came alive! And...suddenly.... I changed!

## Peace and Faith and Love and Hope.



Four candles burning low.  
Yet side by side they lit the night  
and gave a warming glow.  
But anger soon diminished Peace as Faith gave into doubt.  
And Love abandoned, faded too  
And soon all three went out.  
But Hope still kept her flame alight  
A Joy for all to see  
and growing stronger through the dark  
she soon re-lit all three.



When Peace and Faith and Love grow dim and struggle to serve, we  
hold fast to hope through doubt and fear and keep the flame alive.



*From the Friendship Book (thank you Sylvia)*



# Poet's Corner

## Vanity! Vanity!

Encumbered by a chronic lack of care,  
The privileged their arrogance lay bare,  
Excuses oft abound  
Unfairness to confound,  
But ne'er a thought their status to forswear.

Then comes the time for Reaper to attend,  
When all and sundry earn their dividend,  
No measure of success  
Shall Destiny redress,  
The Elements consume all in the End!

Vain aspiration is a transient cause,  
Life's deeper values beg command a pause -  
The joy of what's To Be  
In Here-and-Now you see,  
Priorities appraised will gain applause!

©Elliott Allison

## To Love!

Ask not when you shall see my face,  
Nor wonder where I am,  
What binds us in constant embrace  
Amor's eternal stem-  
A precious diadem!

©Elliott Allison

## Whither?

Abandoned by a thoughtless world,  
Inured to taunts of shame,  
The rootless wander unfulfilled,  
Their dignity aflame -  
Human but in name!

©Elliott Allison

## Must and Ought!

Two little monsters, Must and Ought,  
Command the worlds of one and all;  
Havoc to many lives have brought,  
Responding to their beck and call.

Fine feathered 'Must', highly appraised,  
Offers attractive personal gain  
Our trusty loyal standards raised,  
Enslavement treated with disdain.

'Ought', is the subtle slave-driver,  
Thrives on all emotional needs  
To former favours he'll refer,  
Till he becomes your living creed.

Exquisite charmers are these clones,  
Master craftsmen of disguise  
Floating in and out like drones,  
To the end with life's demise.

© *Elliott Allison*

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### **June in Previous times** *more from Barbara*

1870 Charles Dickens dies

1935 Driving Test introduced to would be drivers

1945 Benjamin Britten's Peter Grimes premiered at Sadler's Wells

1961 Rudolf Nureyev defects from the USSR. These events are portrayed in the film 'White Crow'

1972 The first female Rabbi is ordained

1997 The first of J K Rowling's Harry Potter books is published.

2002 Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II

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What is always in front of me but I can never see it?

ANS: The future

Which UK county has five consecutive consonants in its name?

ANS: Derbyshire or Glwyd

Which British county gives its name to a Pie, a Sauce, a Sausage and a Duke?

ANS: Cumberland

I'm both mother and father but have never given birth. I'm always on the move but I never wonder off.

ANS: A Tree

*Messages to all at Christ Church from your family and friends*

Please keep your candle of Hope alight along this dark tunnel of isolation; and find your light of Hope at the end of the tunnel, so we can re-unite together and Praise our Loving Lord with Peace, Love, Faith and Hope, so all four candles are burning brightly once again in our hearts.

Love and God Bless you all

*Sylvia*

'Missing you all, loving and keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers'.

*Ann P*



**This poster was displayed in a railway office, and snapped by Barbara – Cute!**

## Witty wisdom.

Something to cheer you up!

1. How wise are the commandments.

*Each applies to somebody I know.*

2. I am glad God gave the commandments to a man.

*A woman would have thought,  
I know that's what he said but I don't think that's what he meant.*

3. Thank the Lord there are only Ten Commandments.

*Imagine life if there were 20.*

4. When a man makes a woman his wife, it is the highest compliment he can pay her -- *and it's usually his last.*

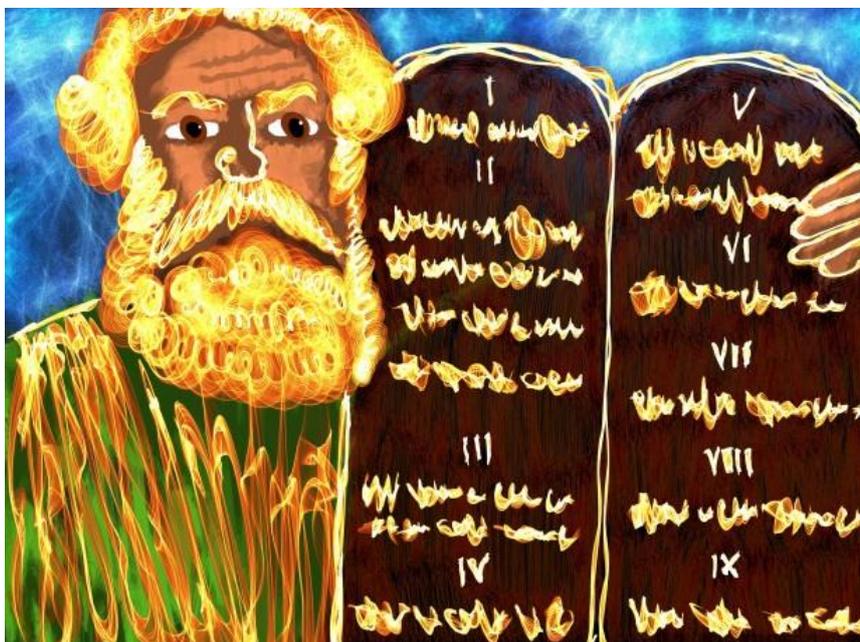
5. It is 1,000 times better to have common sense without education than to have education without common sense.

6. Soap and water and common sense are the best disinfectants.

7. Every time one opens one's mouth, one allows others to look into one's mind.

8. An atheist's tongue knows no Sunday.

9. Our attitude towards life determines life's attitude towards us.



## *Service on the seas...*

### **Bathe Me In Thy Tide**

At least when joining a church service on-line the celebrant isn't distracted by me taking notes! If you tuned in to the Eucharist from Rustington last Sunday you would have sung along to the lines "There's a wideness in God's mercy, there's a wideness in the sea." At this point I called to mind an event that took place in late 1972. HMS Lynx was between Mozambique and Madagascar blockading the port of Beira to prevent sea-borne goods being delivered to Ian Smith's Rhodesia.

We received an order under International Maritime Law to go to the assistance of the Taiwanese fishing vessel Tung King which was taking in water and in danger of sinking. Our Captain recommended that the Master head for nearby Europa Island so that the vessel could be beached and the crew walk ashore. Unfortunately, between them and the beach was a reef which the Tung King hit thus magnifying its problems.

As the ship foundered it was in danger of breaking up and nine of the fishermen jumped into the sea to be rescued by our boat crews. The



remaining thirteen were either non-swimmers or too aware of the sharks circling the scene and were reluctant to jump. It took almost 12 hours to complete the rescue with the added diversion of having to rescue one of our own officers who became trapped under a capsized rescue boat. However, we eventually succeeded in

recovering all the crew and transferred them to a merchant vessel which had come to assist and we continued with our patrol.

The next hymn was "Soul of my Saviour" which includes the lines "...bathe me in thy tide [...] wash me with water..." I bet that there were 22 Taiwanese fishermen who believe that the theory is more comfortable than the practice!

*"Chippy"*



## Jelly Babies - their story

Did you know that Brilliant, Bubbles, Baby Bonny, Bigheart and Bumper were the names given to Jelly Babies in the television advertisements of the 1980's and 1990's? I must admit I had not remembered anything of those adverts.

I heard this on a radio 'brain teaser' recently. Intrigued, I decided to undertake a piece of

research. I purchased a packet of the sweet treat. What else did I have to do under lockdown restrictions? I carefully examined the shapes inside the packet to see if they were identifiable. The photograph shows the results. Not all of them are discernibly different but curiosity about the history of the sweets continued, after I'd consumed the whole packet of sweets.....

The story of the jelly babies is more interesting than you might at first think.

When they were originally produced (in 1864) the forms resembled babies and were nicknamed 'unclaimed babies'. Back then unclaimed babies were, sadly, not uncommon. Jellied babies were sold from those large sweet containers, now only seen in 'old-fashioned' sweet shops.

It is suggested that the jelly sweets may have been named 'peace babies' at the end of World War I, but there is no proof of this being fact.

It wasn't until the 1950's and 60's that the sweets became really popular. Bassetts also cooperated with an advertisement for the Cup Final in 1994. It is reported that a football club used the sweets to discuss tactics for upcoming matches. I wonder what happened to the sweets...

*We are grateful to Chris Clarke, who sent this marvellous piece of family history on behalf of Mary, his wife.*

Lois Jordan (1909 - 1998) was for several decades an active member of Christ Church, where her parents had purchased a 'Family Pew'. She lived in Christchurch Road (next door to the Vicarage), after her previous property opposite was requisitioned to make way for what is now the Town Hall car-park. During the war, she had been responsible for the Stoke Abbott Road air-raid shelter, attending more than 1,000 siren calls. Her meticulously kept Diary of that time is now kept at Worthing Museum, and is an important wartime record of those days. The Jordan family were well known in the town as part of 'Jordan and Cook', through their Furniture/Soft Furnishings, Estate Agency, Funeral Directors and Removals businesses. Her father and 2 brothers were responsible for developing the Brick and Tile works at Clapham. Lois herself was an accomplished



sculptress, and Christ Church benefits from the opportunity each Easter-tide to enjoy her depiction of the 'Paschal Lamb' [and her award-winning stone carving of St Francis can be found in the 12th Century Church at Cowfold]. She was related to Mary Clarke, and a close friend of Roy West.

The Christ Church Magazine of March 1983 [when Philip Walton was Vicar], carried the following article by Lois [under the title 'Divine Influence'].

'As a member of Christ Church, I would like to relate a story told to me by my late father, Jack Frisby Jordan, which had made a long and lasting impression on his life (and is a tribute to a former Vicar of the Church, the late Reverend Dr Charles Hole LLD).

It was not long after my grandmother Alice Jordan became a widow, that she fell ill and died [aged just 34] from the [typhoid] fever epidemic that struck Worthing in 1893. This was the result of nursing her own eldest child [who survived the fever].

Dr Hole took the Burial Service, and after the Funeral, he showed his Christian concern by taking two of her young children back to their home in Liverpool Gardens. On arrival there, he gently placed a hand on each head and said; "Now

children, you no longer have a Mummy and a Daddy to look after you, but remember that you have a Heavenly Father, and if you love and trust in Him, He will always take care of you.....so I want you both to go indoors and remember to try to do what is right and to grow into good children" This blessing sealed my father's and aunt's Christian upbringing.

Shortly before my father died in 1968 (in his 89th year), he again told me that he still could feel the caress of that hand upon his head, and also how much he revered Dr Hole. So out of sorrow came forth sweetness - at Christ Church'

Lois' Funeral took place at Christ Church on 1st May 1989, and the Service Sheet included the following Poem composed by Lois:

*Lord, if I be dedicated to thee,  
in this most hallowed sanctuary,  
with the above in unmolested heights,  
the quiet solitude with which my heart delights*

*Whilst I alone on sacred ground serene,  
but not alone ! For thy dear face unseen,  
the restful trinity of three in one  
the comfort thou hast wrought through thy Dear Son*

*Behold ! In this great building have I stood,  
moved by emotion, but in quiet mood,  
small though I be in this great Church below,  
thy cool and quiet solitude to know*

*On bended knee in this most hallowed place,  
I deign to say, I've seen my Master's face,  
I would He lead me in the world outside,  
to keep me calm as on life's path I stride.*

*Until my time shall come, there let me stand  
before the gates of thy celestial land,  
where I have sought thy solace, bid me come;  
to dwell with thee, within thy heavenly home.*

*Footnote Deeply moved, I penned these verses one Sunday  
afternoon when quite alone in an historic Church in the Hague  
standing near the Altar, soon after my mother's death in 1962 LMJ*

Going back as far as the middle sixties, I met one day a young lady who, unknown to me at the time, would turn out to be a life-long friend.

Never any romance, but for sure she was like the sister I never had. Her name is Mazzy Hildred and she was a nurse at Great Ormond St. Hospital. Many years later she went on to be a Staff Nurse and Sister at the Royal Free.

On one occasion, probably around 1966 she turned to me desperate for some comfort, support and help.

Mazzy was adopted but enjoyed the most precious and loving relationship with her adoptive father, who she referred to as 'Pops'. Tragically 'Pops' died suddenly from a heart attack tending his garden.

Mazzy and I were, and still are 'best friends' and it was through this bond she turned to me for some explanation and comfort. As she became ever more distressed and withdrawn, I made one of the very best decisions of my entire life. I persuaded her to come and see my father (Canon TH South) who was then semi-retired and had taken up a small parish, Latimer and Flaunden whilst he edged towards full retirement.

These days Mazzy has devoted her life to running orphanages in Zimbabwe where she has lived for the last 5 years since her retirement from the Royal Free

So why do I write this story now? Well it was by all accounts 'Pops' birthday the other day and Mazzy sent me this 'WhatsApp' message:

*[She always calls me 'Thomas' my middle name].*

"Oh Thomas, it was Pops' birthday yesterday, and some 52 years since he passed away I never forget what a sweetheart you were to me. What makes me cross is I can't remember word for word what your Dad said, but I never forget how amazing he was to me. I got so much comfort from our chat which in many ways changed my life. Thomas, I was so angry with God for taking Pops and your father in some way diluted my anger and "preached me forgiveness "

As I write this little story I know how very proud Dad would be that Mazzy has never forgotten what he said to her all those years later and of me, for writing in the hope you might share this story with our Church Family.

*From Richard South, in memory of his father, Canon TH South 1906 / 1997.*