

# The Herald

50p

May 2025



*Church in the community* Matt 5:14-16, Acts 2:44-47, Phil 2:3-5

# Reservoir Group of Churches



The Parish of  
St Margaret, Downham with  
St Peter, South Hanningfield and  
St Mary the Virgin, Ramsden Bellhouse

[www.downhamchurch.org.uk](http://www.downhamchurch.org.uk)

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## Ministry Team

### Priest in Charge of the Reservoir Group of Parishes

#### The Revd Jacqui Pearson

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Tel: 07704 777511

email: [revjacquiepearson@gmail.com](mailto:revjacquiepearson@gmail.com)

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#### The Revd Barry Hobson

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## Churchwardens

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Pauline Fordham

1 Oak Crescent, Wickford, SS11 7FF

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### Keep up to date with events as they happen

[www.facebook.com/downhamchurch](http://www.facebook.com/downhamchurch)

[www.facebook.com/southhanningfieldchurch](http://www.facebook.com/southhanningfieldchurch)

[www.facebook.com/ramsdenbellhousechurch](http://www.facebook.com/ramsdenbellhousechurch)

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## What's on when and where

### Sunday 4 May - Easter 3

10.00am St Peter's South Hanningfield Holy Communion

11.00am St Margaret's Downham Family Service

Note: No service at Ramsden Bellhouse

### Sunday 11 May - Easter 4

10.00am St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse Morning Prayer

11.00am St Margaret's Downham Sung Eucharist

Note: No service at South Hanningfield

### Sunday 18 May - Easter 5

11.00am St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse Group Holy Communion

Note: No services at Downham or South Hanningfield

### Sunday 25 May - Easter 6

10.00am St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse Holy Communion

11.00am St Margaret's Downham Sung Eucharist

Note: No service at South Hanningfield

### Thursday 29 May - Ascension Day

***There will be no services in the Downham Group of Churches, but we are invited to join other parishes in the Compass Group of Churches for a joint service at St John the Baptist Church, Danbury.***

7.00pm St John the Baptist, Danbury Holy Communion

### Sunday 1 June - Easter 7

10.00am St Peter's South Hanningfield Holy Communion

11.00am St Margaret's Downham Family Service

Note: No service at Ramsden Bellhouse

## Other dates for your diary

### Wednesday 28 May - Annual Parochial Church Meeting

7.00pm St Margaret's Downham (see page 3 for further details)

### Saturday 31 May - Coffee morning

10.00am to 12.00 noon at St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse

# Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The Church, like all charities, is required to hold an Annual General Meeting to give reports to members on its activities, finances and future plans during the previous financial year, as well as to elect trustees for the coming year. Because the three churches of St Margaret's Downham, St Peter's South Hanningfield and St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse are now all part of one parish we will be holding just one AGM at St Margaret's Downham on Wednesday 28 May, commencing at 7.00pm.

## Electoral Roll

Whilst everyone is encouraged to come along to the AGM, in order to vote or seek election as a trustee, it is necessary for you to be on the church electoral roll. As mentioned in the January edition of *The Herald* Church regulations require us to prepare a completely new electoral roll every six years and a new roll has to be prepared this year. At the time of writing fewer than 50% of people on the old roll have completed a new form. Forms are available in each of the three churches and can be downloaded from our website [www.downhamchurch.org.uk](http://www.downhamchurch.org.uk) The closing date for receipt of forms is 14 May.

## Election of officers

The charity trustees consist of ex-officio and elected members. This year we will be electing two churchwardens for a one year term, but when the new parish was created last year we elected members of the Parochial Church Council for a three year term in order to give us stability during the transition. From 2026 a third of the PCC members will seek re-election each year so there will be no election this year, but the PCC has the power to co-opt additional members.

However, we still have two vacancies for representatives on the Chelmsford Deanery Synod. This is the first rung of the Church of England's Synodical Government and represents all the churches around Chelmsford. The synod normally meets for an evening session four times a year. Members of synod are ex-officio members of the church's PCC. Please consider seeking election to one of these vacancies. If you would like to learn more about what happens at the Deanery Synod, please speak to the Revd Jacqui or to Robert Andrews who are both members of the Synod.

## Finances

Copies of the annual report and accounts for the year to 31 December 2024 are available in each church. Total income for the year was £79,303 and total expenditure was £77,588.

## From the ministry team

### Pray for Peace

Peace is a very precious thing. As we commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE Day this month, I am reminded once again just how fortunate I am to have lived my whole life so far in a country that is at peace. I know that the pain and upheaval of the Second World War is still a present reality for many. I know that I only have to turn on the news to see reports and images of wars and conflicts currently taking place in Ukraine, Gaza, Sudan, and Yemen - and then there are the conflicts that do not make the news cycle. Our world is far from being at peace.

The dove is often used as a symbol of peace. It comes originally from the Old Testament story of Noah. The dove brought back a green twig - proof that the flood waters were receding. Proof that Noah, his family, and all of the animals, would soon be able to walk on dry land again.

Wars are like a flood - wiping out everything in their path and displacing many. How many millions around the world are longing for a sign that they can return to their home where violence has driven them out?

Peace is something we pray for regularly in church. Jesus, who was called the Prince of Peace - said: 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called Children of God.' Peace is precious, and precious to God are those who work for peace, both in their own countries and on foreign soil. Peace is something we can all work towards - in big and small ways - and to pray for.

So as we mark 80 years since VE day this May (and 80 years since VJ day in August), here is a prayer for world peace, written by the Church of England, that you might like to pray this VE Day:

O God, who would fold both heaven and earth  
in a single peace;  
let the design of your great love lighten  
upon the waste of our wraths and sorrows  
and give peace to your church, peace among nations,  
peace in our dwellings and peace in our hearts;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

God bless,

*The Revd Jacqui*



**Sunday 4th May**



**VE DAY** ©

**80<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

**Norton Meadows**

**(behind Ramsden Heath Village Hall)**

**1pm to 5pm**

**Bring your own picnic and chairs** 💕

**Lots of family fun activities**

Fancy dress competition for children up to age 8

**RAFFLE**

all money donated to **SSAFA**, the Armed Forces charity



Event supported by:  
South Hanningfield Parish Council Ramsden  
Heath Village Hall, Henton Kirkman





## **Rogation Sunday (Sunday before Ascension)**

In the Anglican Church, Rogation is celebrated on the fifth Sunday after Easter (this year on 25 May). Rogation means an asking of God - for blessing on the seed and land for the year ahead. It is appropriate in any emergency, war, plague, drought or foul weather.

The practice began with the Romans, who invoked the help of the gods Terminus and Ambarvalia. In those days a crowd moved in procession around the cornfields, singing and dancing, sacrificing animals, and driving away Winter with sticks. They wanted to rid the cornfields of evil.

In about 465 the Western world was suffering from earthquake, storm and epidemic. So Mamertius, Bishop of Vienne, aware of the popular pagan custom, ordered that prayers should be said in the ruined or neglected fields on the days leading up to Ascension. With his decision, 'beating the bounds' became a Christian ceremonial.

Rogation-tide arrived in England early in the eighth century and became a fixed and perennial asking for help of the Christian God. On Rogation-tide, a little party would set out to trace the boundaries of the parish. At the head marched the bishop or the priest, with a minor official bearing a Cross, and after them the people of the parish, with schoolboys and their master trailing along. Most of them held slender wands of willow.

At certain points along the route - at well-known landmarks like a bridge or stile or ancient tree, the Cross halted, the party gathered about the priest, and a litany or rogation is said, imploring God to send seasonable wealth, keep the corn and roots and boughs in good health, and bring them to an ample harvest. At some point beer and cheese would be waiting.

In the days when maps were neither common nor accurate, there was much to be said for 'beating the bounds.' It was still very common as late as the reign of Queen Victoria. Certainly, parish boundaries rarely came into dispute, for everyone knew them. *(Do you know ours today?)*

## **From the registers**

### **Downham**

#### **Burial of ashes**

12 April    Joan Bristow



# St Margaret's Downham

## Easter at Downham

Nearly 30 brave souls got up at the crack of dawn to join our sunrise service, which started this year at 5.45am. Although it was cold, we were blessed by a fine morning, and the sun made a brief appearance before taking fright and hiding behind cloud. It was good to welcome visitors from other churches in the area.

Afterwards we congregated in the church to thaw out and enjoy hot drinks and hot cross buns.



Our Easter Eucharist service started as usual at 11.00am. Some of those attending at 5.45am returned and we were pleased to see nearly 60 people in church, more than we have seen at Easter since before Covid. More hot cross buns were served and everyone received a chocolate Easter egg, kindly supplied by the churchwardens.

## Downham Church of England Primary School

### Inspiring All to Soar to New Heights

At Downham Church of England Primary School we have taken “Inspiring All to Soar to New Heights” as our vision, underpinned by our core values of courage, collaboration, critical thinking, creativity and challenge. At this time of year we have many opportunities to encourage all sorts of soaring: science competitions, Spelling Bees, cross-country running and a range of athletics events to name a few. We believe that it is important for everyone, children

and adults alike, to find their strengths and talents and to have opportunities to develop them. Some of us find ourselves drawn to academic studies and shine in the realms of mathematics or science; others are more practically-minded and excel in art and design & technology. Recently, it has been an absolute joy to hear one of newest pupils (in Year 6) playing the piano in the school hall during lunch times and before Celebration Assembly on Fridays. His talent and courage have been inspirational. Our Easter Celebration at William de Ferrers School was a wonderful occasion which allowed many children to demonstrate their love of singing, dancing and public speaking – and how fitting that, as a Church of England school, they were able to do so within a Christian setting as we celebrated Easter and commemorated the death and resurrection of Jesus.

As we enter our Summer term, we are conscious of the challenges that lie ahead for many of our pupils, particularly the Year 6s as they tackle their SATs (national tests) and then go away on their residential trip. We know that they will do us proud as they face these challenges with courage and determination. We look forward to sharing news of their achievements and successes with you in the coming months.

As ever, we appreciate the support and encouragement of everyone in our community. We strive to be a community school, where everyone is welcome and we can learn and grow together. Thank you for being part of our community and helping us to soar to new heights!

*Lynne Boyd*

Class Teacher and RE & Collective Worship Co-ordinator at  
Downham Church of England Primary School

## **St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse**

### **Easter at Ramsden Bellhouse**

It was good to see nearly 20 people in church for our Easter morning service of Holy Communion.

### **Forthcoming events**

31 May Coffee Morning 10.00am to 12.00 noon at the church

28 June Coffee Morning 10.00am to 12.00 noon at the church

Saturday and Sunday 12-13 July Flower Festival - '*A year in the church*'

On Saturday 12 July there will be a concert in church. Concert tickets £10 each including refreshments. Please call Beryl Clements on 01245 601298 or Gail Carpenter on 01268 710753 for further details.

27 September Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Care

# Downham Summer BBQ

**BBQ MEAL, ICE CREAMS AND BAR  
AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE**

**ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO DOWNHAM VILLAGE HALL**



The perfect chance to share a bite with your neighbours: join us for a relaxed evening of food, conversation, and community spirit!

**14 June**  
2025

Time  
**4PM-7PM**

**DOWNHAM  
VILLAGE HALL**

R.S.V.P to: PAULA 07974071782  
DEBBIE: 07906585656

**THIS EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE COME RAIN OR SHINE**

The organisers apologise for the typo in this advert that has already been widely circulated

## **Ramsden Heath Social Club**

Our regular monthly BINGO NIGHT will be on Friday 2 May at 8.00pm. Just £1.00 to play plus £2.00 for each book you would like to play with. All ages welcome. FREE tea/coffee/biscuits at the half-time break, but please feel free to bring other drinks/snacks of your own.

Following this we have live entertainment from "60's JUKEBOX" on Saturday 10 May at 8.00pm. Come along & join us for a great night of sixties music & dancing. Feel free to dig out your sixties glad rags from your wardrobe! Ticket prices are £7.00 for Members & £10.00 for Guests and MUST be purchased in advance please. Please bring along your own drinks & snacks to this event.

All our events take place in Ramsden Heath Village Hall, Dowsetts Lane.

For more information/tickets please contact:

Dave Quinney on 07950 309524 or Dave Charlton on 07940 540819

## **Community Cuppa & Cake afternoon**

**Ramsden Heath Village Hall**

**Dowsetts Lane CM11 1HX**

**Tuesday 13 May 2.00 to 4.00pm**

Our meeting in April was another busy and enjoyable event. Thank you to all those who came along. We are donating £200 to our local branch of SSAFA. This Charity supports our service men and women who serve in the forces and their families. Looking forward to next month and always welcome new faces to enjoy a cuppa for 50p and a piece of homemade cake for £1.50 in a very friendly atmosphere.

*Ramsden Cupcakes*

## **Ramsden Heath Horticultural & Allotment Society**

Our meeting on Thursday 3 April was a social evening, attended by 48 members who all enjoyed the 'fun quiz', organised by Paul and Angie James. An enjoyable evening was had by all. Thanks to Paul James for devising the quiz and to Angie for ensuring the clues weren't too obscure.

### **Spring Show**

On Saturday 12 April many residents of Ramsden Heath and beyond attended our Spring Show in the Village Hall, some also partaking of refreshments in the small hall, which had been converted to a tea room for the occasion. The

show was a great success and the hall looked very attractive, with benches loaded with spring flowers, cakes and handicraft items. The children's butterflies looked particularly spectacular, many decorated with gems and other bits and pieces.

The cup for best in show was won by Jenny Tillyer for her large and beautiful clivia potted plant. Other trophy winners were Teresa Flannigan, Brenda



Burnell, Trudi Andrews and Joan Parmenter. The Children's shield was awarded to Thea Evans for her butterfly. Congratulations to all the trophy winners, as well as those who received certificates and placements.

The Show Secretary would like to thank all the entrants for making the show such a success, all those who helped with setting up and clearing up afterwards, and especially

the stewards, Sue Lowing, Jo Harrison and Jan Weir, who make the show run so seamlessly on the day. Also Sue Lowing for buying and wrapping the children's prizes.

We now hope for some good weather in the coming months so that we can do it all over again at the Summer show in August.



*Brenda Burnell*  
Show Secretary



Our next meeting, on Thursday 1 May, will include our plant sale, in which members can bring along any plants they have grown to sell on. The proceeds will go to help boost the Society funds. The plant sale begins promptly at 7.00pm in the small hall, so come along early and bag the best bargains. Following the plant sale, at 8.00pm, Ted Branch will be giving a talk on his allotment which, we know, he will make interesting and amusing. This will take part in the large hall, as usual, starting at 8.00pm.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 1 May laden with plants, either to sell or to buy.

Please remember there will be no mini show at our May meeting.

## St Peter's South Hanningfield

### Easter at South Hanningfield

We were disappointed that so few people turned out for the evening service on Maundy Thursday. Apart from the clergy and choir, there were only 6 people in church.

Fortunately we made up for it on Easter morning with about 20 people, mostly from the village. If you don't normally join us, we hope to see you again.



### Forthcoming events

**Quiz night** The St Peter's annual quiz will take place on Friday 9 May at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start in South Hanningfield Village Hall. Teams consist of 6 people and the cost is £48 per table ie £8 per person. Please bring along your own drinks and snacks. We would like to thank Paul and Paula Smith for once again, organising the quiz and to Cathy for being in charge of the raffle

and for helping with ticket sales 01268 710926.

**Flower Festival 2025** It may seem a long way off, but preparations for this year's Flower Festival are already well under way. The Flower Festival will take place from Saturday 6 to Monday 8 September. Please put the date in your diary and tell your friends and family about it. More details will follow in future editions of *The Herald*.

## South Hanningfield Village Hall

**Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Rebuilding of South Hanningfield Village Hall this May.** South Hanningfield Village Hall was originally established after World War One and was an ex-army hut bought by a villager with contributions from local residents. Over the years different social gatherings including Concerts, Dances, Band of Hope, Women's Institute and a Men's Club were held there. At the end of the Second World War, there was a large bonfire and village hall dance. The hall became a registered charity in 1963. A new village hall was built in 1985 (the 40th anniversary is on 9 May) on the site of the hut which is the current building as it stands today. Here is a logo that has been created to celebrate and mark this important anniversary.



**Litter Pick** Some of our committee held a litter pick recently to mark Great British Spring Clean month. Even though there was only seven of us, we did a great litter pick around the village as well as tidying up the footpath from the hall to Church Lane. Thank you to those who helped us (you know who you are!) as well as to Chelmsford City Council for the loan of the litter pick kits and picking up the 29 full bags afterwards.





At the time of *The Herald's* publication, the St George's Day Chas and Dave tribute evening will have taken place. An update will follow in the next issue.

To commemorate the **80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe VE Day**, the village hall is hosting a Film Show (see poster opposite) with original Wartime Newsreels (from World War 2) on Thursday, 8 May, doors open at 6.00pm (commencing at 6.30pm) using funding from National Lottery Community Fund. Free entry event. Refreshments available and Beacon lighting during the evening. For any enquiries, please call Clive on 07891 653238.

**South Hanningfield Summer Show** on Saturday, 12 July from 12.00 noon to 6.00pm. This year, it will be the 40th Anniversary year of the rebuilding of South Hanningfield Village Hall so there will be even more reason for a celebration and bringing the local community together. This Free Entry village event will be outside either on the tie green (by kind permission of South Hanningfield Parish Council) or in the field beside the village hall by kind permission of the landowner. The village hall will also be open to showcase its use on that day. There will be local entertainment as well as various crafts, traders, community stalls, children's activities and food and drinks stalls. Thank you to Pronto Training who will be sponsoring their First Aid services on the day of the event. Thank you to South Hanningfield Parish Council who are sponsoring the cost of the children's entertainment.

If anyone would like a stall space, could provide entertainment or help in anyway, please let Clive know on email [vallisc@aol.com](mailto:vallisc@aol.com) or phone 07891 653238. Further details of the Summer Show will be in future editions of *The Herald*.

**Magic Evening** on Saturday, 27 September, doors open from 7.00pm. The tickets cost £8 each adult and £3 for children over 10 years. Bring your own drinks and snacks. There will also be a Raffle. For further information, email [vallisc@aol.com](mailto:vallisc@aol.com) or phone 07891 653238.

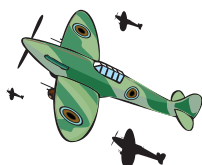
**Christmas Fayre** on Saturday, 22 November from 10.30am to 4.00pm. There will be lots of Christmas crafts, gifts, festive refreshments and a Raffle. Free entry. Further details about the Christmas Fayre will be in future editions of *The Herald*.

**Raffle Prizes Needed** If anyone has any suitable items that could be used as Raffle prizes, please can you donate them to us which would be used at future fundraising events for the hall. The committee would be very grateful.

**No Parking on Pavement by Hall** South Hanningfield Village Hall Management Committee requests that vehicles don't park up on the pavement outside the village hall because of the health and safety risks. Please alert the volunteer committee if you see such vehicles parked in this way outside the hall on 07891 653238.

# NOSTALGIA FILM SHOWS

presents



## A 'VE DAY' FILM SHOW

**THURSDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MAY, commencing at 6.30pm**  
**South Hanningfield Village Hall**  
**South Hanningfield Road, CM3 8HL**

**FREE ENTRY, ALL WELCOME**  
**Refreshments available. Beacon lighting during evening**



A programme of 16mm newsreels to  
commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of  
'Victory in Europe'

For any enquiries, please call Clive on 07891 653238

Funded by the National Lottery Community Fund

*NOSTALGIA FILM SHOWS - Recreating a bygone cinema experience*

## **Mobile Library**

The Mobile Library visit South Hanningfield Village Hall every three weeks.

Day of visit: Tuesday Time of visit: 11.25pm to 11.55pm

Next visit date is 13th May.

## **Regular Activities**

### **Coffee Morning**

Wednesday, 14th May

Second Wednesday of each month from 10.30am – 12.30pm

Please call the listed contacts below to book a place.

### **Pilates & Keep Fit**

Monday 9.45am – 10.45am

Thursday 10.30am – 11.30am

Contact Hayley on 07758 427379

### **Strollercise Dance**

Monday 11.15am – 12.15pm

Tel: 07952 791183

Email: [lynne.strawford@sky.com](mailto:lynne.strawford@sky.com)

No booking is required, just turn up.

### **Puppy Dog Training Classes**

Monday from 6.00pm and 7.00pm

Dog training for puppies of all ages

Contact Rachel on 07484 706085 or

email [Rachel@PuppyPotentialDogTraining.co.uk](mailto:Rachel@PuppyPotentialDogTraining.co.uk)

### **Karate and Kick Boxing**

Tuesday evenings:

5.30pm Children's Karate

6.30pm Advanced Children's Karate

7.30pm Senior Karate

7.30pm Kick Boxing

***Free first classes at all sessions***

Phone number to contact for Leah and Richard is 07934 213010

## **1-1 Ballroom and Latin lessons and wedding dance lessons**

Available with Callie every Wednesday afternoon and evening from 3pm  
£30 for a 45-minute lesson. Please contact Callie on 07885 630241

## **Yoga and Zumba Thursday night**

Zumba 6.30pm to 7.20pm

Vinyasa Flow Yoga 7.30pm to 8.30pm.

Pay as you go.

Tel: Charlene on 07772 443028 or email [info@sakurayogastudios.co.uk](mailto:info@sakurayogastudios.co.uk)

## **Upholstery Class**

Friday morning 9.30am – 1.00pm

Contact Fiona on 01621 776586 or 07887 507208

## **Zumba Saturday mornings**

Zumba 9.20am to 10.20am

Pay as you go

Tel: Charlene on 07772 443028 or email [info@sakurayogastudios.co.uk](mailto:info@sakurayogastudios.co.uk)

If you would like to book the South Hanningfield Village Hall for any regular activities or events, please call Sandra Graves, our Bookings Secretary on 07396 546050 or email [shvhall@gmail.com](mailto:shvhall@gmail.com) to check availability and prices.

Please continue to support our local village hall in 2025 and if there are any other ways you can help us, let us know. Please contact the Chairman, Clive Vallis for further information on 07891 653238.

Website <https://e-voice.org.uk/shanningfieldvillagehall>

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/southhanningfieldvillagehall>

## **All in the month of May**

It was:

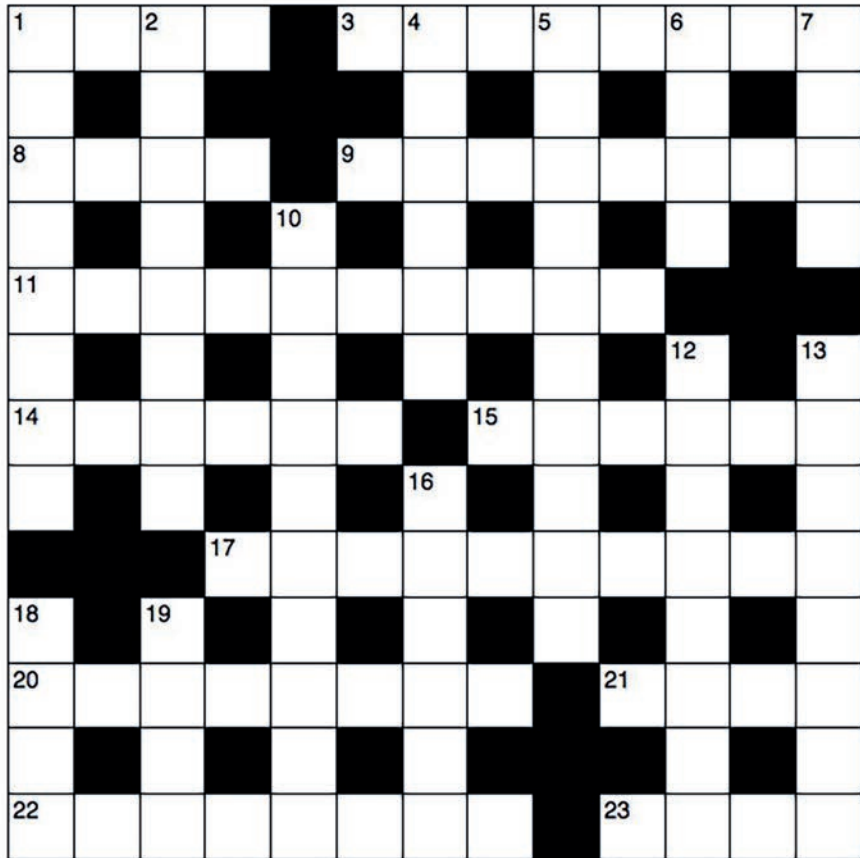
1700 years ago, 20 May to August 325 that the First Council of Nicaea was held in what is now Iznik, Turkey. It was the first ecumenical council of the Christian Church.

1300 years ago, on 26 May 725 that the Venerable Bede died. This English Benedictine monk, historian, linguist, translator and teacher is known as ‘the father of English history’. He helped to popularise the idea of dating years from the birth of Christ (Anno Domini – AD)

200 years ago, on 7 May 1825, that Antonio Salieri died. An Italian composer, he helped to develop operas and taught composers including Liszt, Schubert, Beethoven and Mozart. He was rumoured to have poisoned Mozart, but this was later proven to be false.

*continued on page 22 ...*

## Puzzle corner



### Across

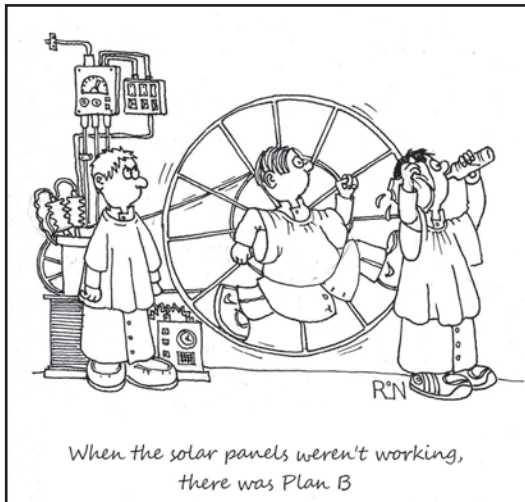
- 1 Infant (Luke 2:12) (4)
- 3 Luis must (anag.) (8)
- 8 What Jesus called the devil (John 8:44) (4)
- 9 'My God, my God, why have you — me?' (Matthew 27:46) (8)
- 11 Anglican form of church government (10)
- 14 'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like — ' (Isaiah 40:31) (6)
- 15 Ministers of religion (6)

- 17 Make stronger (1 Thessalonians 3:13) (10)
- 20 Devoutness (1 Timothy 2:2) (8)
- 21 The father of Jesse (Ruth 4:22) (4)
- 22 Pool where Jesus healed a man who had been an invalid for 38 years (John 5:2) (8)
- 23 '[Jesus] said to them, " — here and keep watch"' (Mark 14:34) (4)

### Down

- 1 Follower of Christ (Acts 16:1) (8)
- 2 One of the punishments endured by Paul (2 Corinthians 6:5) (8)
- 4 Soldiers (Exodus 14:9) (6)
- 5 Scholarly study of melody, harmony and rhythm (10)
- 6 'I am God, and there is none — me' (Isaiah 46:9) (4)
- 7 'And how can they preach unless they are — ?' (Romans 10:15) (4)
- 10 Favourable reception (1 Timothy 1:15) (10)
- 12 Hip orbit (anag.) (8)
- 13 End of life (Isaiah 22:14) (5,3)
- 16 'About midnight the sailors — they were approaching land' (Acts 27:27) (6)
- 18 He married Jezebel (1 Kings 16:30–31) (4)
- 19 'According to your great compassion — out my transgressions' (Psalm 51:1) (4)

### Answers on page 33



# Children's pages



## MIRACLES OF PETER

At which temple gate  
did the crippled man lay?

Acts 3:1-10



Who were the man and wife  
who lied to God?

and

Acts 5:1-11

People carried the sick into  
the streets so that when Peter  
came by at least his

might fall on them.

Acts 5:12-16

How long had Aeneas  
been paralysed for?

years

Acts 9:32-35

Where had Tabitha's body been laid?  
in the

Acts 9:36-42



"And the word  
of God  
continued to  
increase,  
and the number  
of the disciples  
multiplied  
greatly."  
Acts 6:7

E L P R A I S I N G M H  
B E A U T I F U L M I T  
S A R W S A P P H I R A  
A P A C R I P P L E A B  
N I L W O N D E R S C I  
A N Y P W D I R A I L T  
N G S R A A E R L C E H  
I H E A L E D O I K S A  
A K D Y K N F O V I L L  
S Y P E T E R M E D E B  
L I E D L A M E I G H T  
G S I G N S S H A D O W

After Jesus  
ascended into  
heaven, the  
Holy Spirit  
came upon  
the Apostles  
and Peter was  
able to perform  
many miracles  
in Jesus' name.  
**See the book  
of ACTS**



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CRIPPLE • LAME • WALK • LEAPING • PRAISING • LIED • DIED • SICK  
AENEAS • PARALISED • TABITHA • ILL • PRAYED • ALIVE

Find the words from the questions too!

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# Bible Bite

## A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
John chapter 5 verses 1-18

Jesus was in Jerusalem for a festival, and he visited the pool of Bethesda. People said that an angel sometimes made the water ripple.

Sick people waited for the water to ripple, because they thought that the first person in would be healed.



Jesus went up to a man who had been sick for 38 years.



Do you want to be healed?

I've got no-one to put me in the pool, so I can never get in first.



Pick up your mat and walk!



He was healed! The man picked up his mat and walked around. But it was the Sabbath.

God had given the law that the Sabbath day was a rest day (Ex20:8-11)... but to make sure it was kept, the Jewish leaders had made up rules, and then more rules so that anything that even might be work was banned.

The Jewish Leaders saw the healed man.



It's the Sabbath! You can't carry a mat, that's 'work'!

The man who healed me told me to carry it.



Which man?

I don't know.

Later, Jesus found the man in the temple.



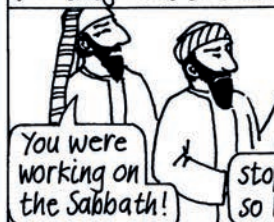
You are healed now, but don't sin any more, or something worse might happen to you.

Now the man knew who Jesus was...



he went straight back to the Jewish leaders to tell them.

and they went to Jesus



You were working on the Sabbath!

My father, God, doesn't stop working on the Sabbath so I keep on working as well.

Not only does he disobey our Sabbath rules, but he says he is equal to God!



We definitely have to kill him.

*... continued from page 17*

150 years ago, on 1 May 1875 that Alexandra Palace in London was officially opened. It became the home of BBC television in 1935.

125 years ago, on 17 May 1900 that during the Second Boer War, the 217-day Siege of Mafeking was relieved by 2000 British forces and South African volunteers. Colonel Robert Baden-Powell, who led the forces defending Mafeking during the siege, became a national hero, and later founded the Scouting movement.

90 years ago, on 19 May 1935 that T. E. Lawrence (Lawrence of Arabia) died in a motorcycle accident, aged 46. A British Army officer, military strategist, archaeologist and writer, he is best known for his activities in the Middle East during WW1.

80 years ago, on 1 May 1945 that German radio announced the death of Adolf Hitler. It was reported he had died a hero's death fighting, but in fact he had committed suicide.

Also 80 years ago, on 8 May 1945 that VE Day took place – marking Victory in Europe at the end of WW2. It was celebrated as a public holiday.

75 years ago, on 13th May 1950 that the first Formula One World Championship race was held, at Silverstone. (Also known as the 1950 British Grand Prix.)

60 years ago, on 21 May 1965 that Sir Geoffrey de Havilland, British aircraft designer and engineer, died.

50 years ago, on 12 May 1975 that Jonah Lomu, New Zealand rugby player was born. Widely regarded as one of the greatest players in the sport. Died 2015.

40 years ago, on 13 May 1985 that the pop album Brothers in Arms by Dire Straits was released. It became the world's most successful album released on compact disc, and the first CD album to sell over a million copies.

30 years ago, on 10 May 1995 that the British Minister for Northern Ireland, Michael Ancram, met representatives of Sinn Féin.

25 years ago, on 4 May 2000 that Ken Livingstone became the first Mayor of London.

Also 25 years ago, on 7 May 2000 that Vladimir Putin was inaugurated as President of Russia.

15 years ago, on 6 May 2010 that the British General Election resulted in a hung parliament. A coalition government was formed on 11 May by the Conservative Party leader, David Cameron, and the Liberal Democrat party leader, Nick Clegg.



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# Smile lines

## Genesis and politicians

A surgeon, an architect and a politician were arguing as to whose profession was the oldest.

Said the surgeon: "Eve was made from Adam's rib, and that surely was a surgical operation."

"Maybe," said the architect, "but prior to that, order was created out of chaos, and that was an architectural job."

"But you forget," interrupted the politician, "somebody had created the chaos first!"

## Some perks of getting old

- There is nothing left to learn the hard way.
- Things you buy now won't wear out.
- You can eat supper at 4 pm.
- You get into heated arguments about pension plans.
- You can sing along with lift music.
- Your eyes won't get much worse.
- Your secrets are safe with your friends - because they can't remember them either

## Real responses to school science exam questions

- Genetics explains why you look like your father, and if you don't, why you should
- The cause of perfume disappearing is evaporation. Evaporation gets blamed for a lot of the things people forget to put the top on.
- -Water vapor gets together in a cloud. When it is big enough to be called a drop, it does.
- Mushrooms always grow in damp places, which is why they look like umbrellas.
- Momentum is something you give a person when they go away.
- A monsoon is a French gentleman.
- The word 'trousers' is an uncommon noun because it is singular at the top and plural at the bottom.
- To keep milk from turning sour, keep it in the cow.
- When planets run around and around in circles, we say they are orbiting. When people do it, we say they are crazy.
- For asphyxiation, apply artificial respiration until the patient is dead.

# Contacting The Herald

## Contributions to the June edition

Copy for the next edition of The Herald should be sent by email to Robert Andrews at [theherald@downhamchurch.org.uk](mailto:theherald@downhamchurch.org.uk) by **Thursday 15 May**. Please send files in .doc, .docx or .rtf format. Because we wish to maintain a common house style please keep any formatting to an absolute minimum and do not embed photographs or other artwork. If you wish to include photographs or other artwork they should be sent separately in .jpeg or .pdf format. If you are unable to use email or are unsure about file types please telephone Robert on 01268 733817, but be aware that the telephone line has BT Call Guardian installed to deter nuisance callers, therefore you may have to announce your name and press the # key in order to be put through.

## Advertising in The Herald

All general enquiries about advertising should be addressed to Mike Roome on 07770 795388 or email [advert.theherald@downhamchurch.org.uk](mailto:advert.theherald@downhamchurch.org.uk)

Advertising rates are currently:

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If you wish us to produce artwork for you this can be arranged for a small one-off fee.

## Answers to the Crossword puzzle

**ACROSS:** 1, Baby. 3, Stimulus. 8, Liar. 9, Forsaken. 11, Episcopacy. 14, Eagles. 15, Clergy. 17, Strengthen. 20, Holiness. 21, Obed. 22, Bethesda. 23, Stay.

**DOWN:** 1, Believer. 2, Beatings. 4, Troops. 5, Musicology. 6, Like. 7, Sent. 10, Acceptance. 12, Prohibit. 13, Dying day. 16, Sensed. 18, Ahab. 19, Blot.

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