

Shore to Shore

A magazine for the parishes of St. Saviour and the Forest



June - July 2014

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June is bursting out all over- and so evidently are many of us! By now I expect most of us have given up on any New Year resolutions to lose a little weight. Obesity is linked to non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and increases the risk of progression of other liver diseases. Risk increases with the degree of obesity. Adult obesity levels in the Bailiwick have been around 15-20% in adults for a decade, with men and women equally at risk, and those aged 55-64 years having close to twice the risk of younger adults. Children who are obese are at high risk of becoming obese adults.

The Guernsey Child Measurement Programme, newly established in the school year 2012-13, measured 93% of children in years one and five. Of year one children (age 5/6 years), 9% were found to be overweight and 6% obese, Of year five children (age 9/10 years), 14% were found to be overweight and 15% obese. A range of interventions have been implemented under the first phase of the States Obesity Strategy, including the appointment of a school nurse for weight management and a community dietician. With severe constraints on funds it will be important to ensure that not only health focused interventions, but other interventions such as the encouragement of active transport, help our community address this very serious issue.

These are not good statistics and we all need to be alert to this health danger to our children, it is so easy in our busy lives to put the wrong treats in the lunch box.

(info from the annual report of the M.O.H. Dr S Bridgman, read more of this very interesting report at 114guernseymohreport website)

Shore to Shore

*The community magazine
from your parish church*

June/July 2014

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The views expressed by contributors to the magazine are not necessarily those of the Priests and Church Wardens of the Parish churches of St Saviour and the Forest.

Western Parishes Services June / July

Sunday Services

Time	Church	June	July	Type of Service
8:00am	St Saviours	1	6	BCP Eucharist
	St Peter's	8	13	
	Torteval	15, 29	20	
	Forest	22	27	
9:30am	St Saviours	1	n/a	Family Service
		8, 15, 22 & 29	13, 20 & 27	CW Eucharist
9:30am	St Peter's	1, 22 & 29	27	CW Eucharist
		8	13	Family Service
		15	20	BCP Matins
11:00am	Forest	1	n/a	Family Service
		8, 15, 22 & 29	13, 20 & 27	CW Eucharist
11:00am	Torteval	1	n/a	Family Eucharist
		8	13	BCP Eucharist
		15	20	Family Service
		22	n/a	CW Eucharist
5:00pm	St Saviours	8	13 & 27	Meditation
6:00pm	St Peter	1	6	BCP Evensong
		15	20	CW Eucharist
6:00pm	Torteval	8	13	BCP Evensong
6:30pm	Forest	8	6 & 20	BCP Evensong

Special Services

22nd June	5:15pm	Rocquaine	Joint WP Beach Service
29th June	6:00pm	St Stephen's	Adrian's Ordination
6th July	10:30am	St Saviours	Joint WP Eucharist

please note: on the 6th July there is a combined service for all four parishes at 10.30am at St Saviour's church for the first celebration of the Eucharist with the Rev. Adrian Datta.

Weekday Services

11:00am CW Eucharist Wed at St Peter's - every week

10:00am CW Eucharist Thurs at St Apolline - every week

2:30pm Healing Eucharist at Torteval - 5th June & 3rd July

CW = Common Worship

BCP = Book of Common Prayer (1662)

Around the West

June and July are busy and fun-packed months in the life of The Western Parishes

Wednesday 4th June 1.30 – 4 pm

Knit and Natter at the Forest Fellowship Room – all welcome

Thursday 5th June 10 am – 12 noon

Spinning Group at the Forest Fellowship Room

Thursday 19th June - Sunday 21st June

St Saviours Flower Festival



Sunday 22nd June 5:15pm

Beach Service at Rocquaine

Saturday 28th June St Peter's Summer Fete

Sunday 29th June

Ordination of Adrian Datta, Juliette Robilliard, Matthew Barrett and Clare Claxton 6pm at St Stephens Church

Wednesday 2nd July 1.30 – 4 pm

Knit and Natter at Forest Fellowship Room – all welcome

Thursday 3rd July 10 am – 12 noon

Spinning Group at Forest Fellowship Room



Saturday 5th July 1-4pm

St Saviours Revel



Sunday 6th July 10:30am

Joint WP Service at St Saviours to celebrate Adrian's Ordination followed by a bring and share lunch and hog roast

Thursday 10th July - Sunday 13th July

Forest Flower Festival, Forest Parish Church – open daily from 9 am to 5 pm (excepting service at 11 am on Sunday) – Free entrance



Saturday 12th July

Sunday Club fun afternoon and sleep-over.

Mon 21st July - Fri 25th July -

Torteval Holiday Club

Sat 26th - Sun 27th July -

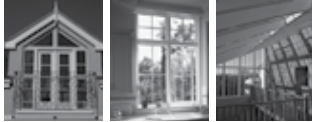
Torteval Scarecrow Festival

For more details contact Revd Mark on 263045 or charmley@cwgsy.net

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Forest Floral Group

In the first week of July the Forest parish will again be taking part in the RHS Britain in Bloom Community Competition. At the end of April those on our designated route will have received a letter from us asking them to spruce up their property as seen from the road. Judging will take place in the first week of July.

We will be celebrating the outcome of the competition with a meal out at the end of July thanking our volunteers and a drinks party in October.

Marguerite Paul will be doing a walk around the parish in the footsteps of Victor Hugo on Sunday 13th July starting at her house at 2pm. Look out for posters nearer the time giving details of how to get tickets.

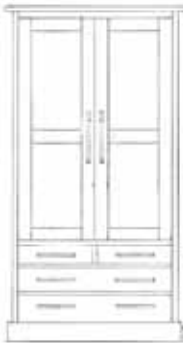
On Saturday 19th July you will have the opportunity to have your garden or business judged in our Gardening Competition. Entry forms are available from Sarah Plumley 263376 or the Forest Douzaine Room and should be returned by 9th July. Individual garden entries will cost £3 and business entries £5. There are two prizes up for grabs, £25 first place and £15 second place gardening vouchers in each category, plus a certificate.

We are having two Open gardens this year. The first is at Antares, Le Planque Lane, thanks to Norman & Shirley Tulié who will open their garden on Sunday 3rd August and the second one is thanks to Don & Tattie Thompson at Forest Lodge, Rue des Monts. Look out for further details. Thanks to your support we have been able to place more floral displays in the parish. Please look at our website www.forestfloral.org.gg Sarah Plumley

**** *front cover: this will be an open garden on Sept 25th at Le Chene, Forest*

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From the Rector - June/July 2014



“When I needed a neighbour, were you there?” It’s a challenging question. Am I there for other people when they are in need?

And the Pharisee in us may ask the question; “who is my neighbour?” Is it literally the people who live in the houses next door? Is it our friends? Our work colleagues? Is it those we like?

To answer the Pharisee Jesus told a story:

“A man on a journey was attacked by robbers, they stripped him, beat him and left him half dead. A priest going down the road, saw the man, and passed by on the other side. So too, a teacher, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan,

(the Jews sworn enemies) saw him, and took pity on him. He bandaged his wounds. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him.”

The song “When I needed a neighbour” includes the line; “And the creed and the colour and the name won’t matter, were you there?” Our neighbour is anyone who is in need.

And Jesus encouragement to the Pharisee is the challenge for us: “Go and do likewise.”

With every blessing

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Charmley'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Revd Mark Charmley
Rector



A week in Zululand

part 2 - The Battlefields or the Anglo-Zulu War, 1879.

After our three days in the Drakensberg Mountains, we were ready to move on, as planned, to explore the Anglo-Zulu battlefields, and in particular the site of the battle of Rorke's Drift, made famous by the film "Zulu". We had done some homework by reading Saul David's book "Zulu; the Heroism and the Tragedy", and listening to a gripping audio version of "Day of the Dead Moon", written and read by the late David Rattray. We stayed at a new hotel, built 3 years ago by a very congenial retired Major from the Irish Guards, and right beside the actual Rorke's Drift, a ford on the Buffalo River, the old border between Natal and the then Kingdom of Zululand. The setting was

superbly atmospheric.

The first morning, we met our guide for the day, Anthony Coleman. He first explained the background to the war. In essence, this involved the British issuing an impossible ultimatum to the then friendly, but proud and powerful, Zulu King, in order to manufacture an excuse to invade Zululand and subdue and control it. British forces invaded on 11th January 1879. The central column, under General Lord Chelmsford, crossed the Buffalo River at Rorke's Drift and established its main camp at Isandlwana, 11 miles further on. We drove to Isandlwana, stopping at the river bridge, to imagine the cumbersome crossing of the river, which took several days, by 4,500 men and 302 ox wagons, on a series of constructed pontoons. At Isandlwana hill, we sat under a tree and from our vantage



point, Anthony described how the battle there unfolded. Chelmsford had badly underestimated the discipline and skill of the Zulu army and its generals. He and his forces, were enticed out of the camp by Zulus appearing and disappearing in the distant eastern hills. He assumed it was the main Zulu army and left only 1500 men in the camp. On 22nd January, a camp scouting party chanced upon the real main Zulu army of 20,000 warriors, nearby in a hidden valley, having crept up through watercourses and long grass. Completely ill-prepared - they had failed to strike their tents - the residual British force now faced that main army, and after amazing bravery on both sides the camp was overwhelmed, with heavy losses.

We went to look at the official monuments and the many, very moving, cairns of white painted stones, which mark the graves of about 1300 British soldiers.

That afternoon, we drove to the Museum at the Rorke's Drift trading post, the site of that famous battle, about a mile from our hotel. The house and store had been commandeered for a field hospital and supply depot. On the fateful afternoon it was manned by about 100 soldiers, with 35 sick men, an army surgeon and three orderlies. On receiving news of the catastrophic defeat at Isandlwana, the soldiers did not flee, but set about defending the site, using a tipped up wagon, many 2Cwt sacks of "mealies" (corn cobs) and boxes of army biscuits, to build defensive walls between the buildings.

The Zulus came at about 4.30 pm, attacking in waves all round the triangular defences. They were repeatedly repulsed, but the rooms of the hospital building only had doors to the outside, and the Zulus managed

to break in. With the roof on fire, the few soldiers defending it escaped out into the defended area behind the wall of biscuit tins only by knocking holes from room to room, but they tried to carry all the patients with them, and largely succeeded. Their great personal heroism was later recognised by the award of 11 Victoria Crosses. The battle continued all night, but the Zulus gave up at dawn and melted away, - possibly on seeing a few British soldiers in the distance and thinking they were ghosts. The British were down to their last box and a half of ammunition.

The full story of these battles can be found in books such as those mentioned, and they are well worth reading, as it is fascinating history. The heroism of those men, in standing rather than fleeing, is remarkable.

Only one VC was awarded for the Battle of Britain, and one for the D-Day Landings. We looked at their memorials before leaving, and also a far more recent, but very fitting memorial to the Zulus - who were, after all, defending their homeland. This was the highlight of our battlefields visit. We went on, the following day, to visit the sites of the escape at Fugitives' Drift, the death of the Prince Imperial, and the Boer-Zulu Battle of Blood River, all further stories in themselves. Then we returned, by plane, to George, at the end of a tremendously beautiful, interesting, and at times very moving, week in Zululand.

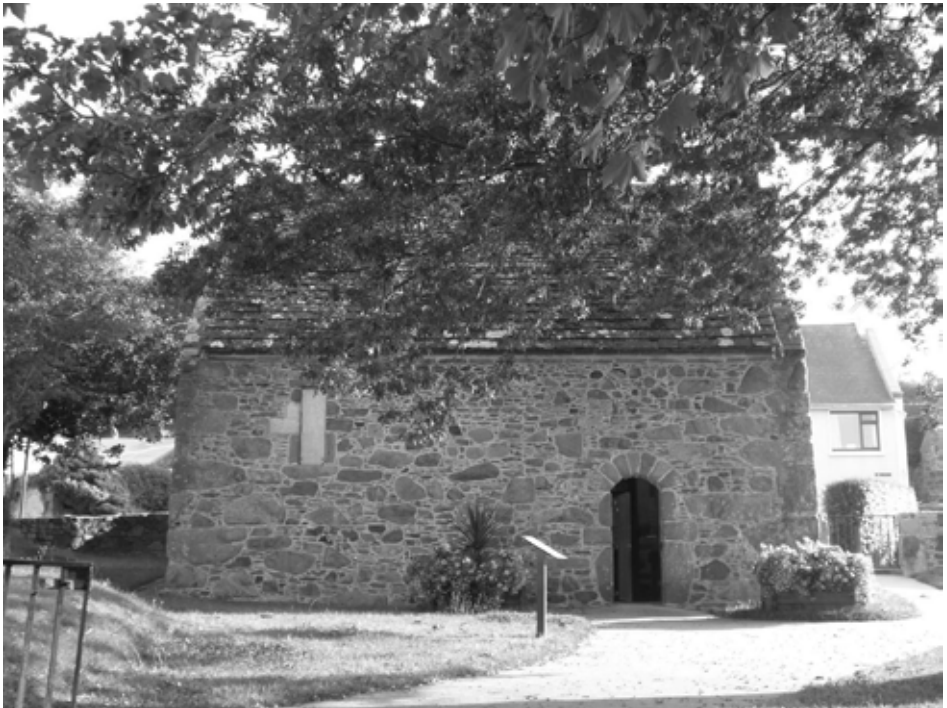
Harvey.Marshall.

The chapel of Saint Apolline

Was Nicholas Henry prone to toothache? Is that the reason he chose to dedicate the chapel he built, to Ste Apolline, the patron saint of dentists. Why did he build the chapel in 1392, near his manor of La Perelle in the Grande Rue, St Saviours.? One theory is that it was to thank God for the safe return of his ships to the island, whether this was following a battle or a storm remains a mystery. On the 20th July, 1394 King Richard 11 issued a charter mentioning “la chapelle de Saint Marie de la Perelle” for the first time. Nicholas Henry was granted permission, to provide land for a living for a chaplain to hold a service every day for the salvation of Nicholas and his wife Philippe.

Sadly the 600-year-old building was neglected and it was not until 1972 work to restore it was started and completed in 1978. That year on the 9th October the chapel was rededicated as a ‘place for prayer and Christian Unity’. Extensive work was carried out in 2007 as dampness was threatening to affect the medieval paintings on the walls. A portion of the 14th. century work of the Last Supper on the south wall survives. The small chapel can accommodate fourteen people.

In a stained glass window Ste Apolline is shown bound to a pillar, an angel is touching her mouth and is holding a tooth. It was thought that she was a deaconess and was martyred outside the gates of Alexandria in 249 AD. The Bishop of Alexandria writing to the Bishop of Antioch said that Ste



Apolline was old when she was martyred. Her teeth had been battered out and a huge bonfire was lit by her persecutors. They gave her a choice, she could offer prayers to the Roman Gods or be burnt. She requested time to decide and threw herself onto the fire. The date of her death is not known but she is commemorated on the Feast of St Apolline on the 9th. February. Belief in Ste Apolline became very popular in the fourteenth century. It is suggested that this was due to the invention of more scientific instruments such as forceps, which might have been frightening hence the devotion to the saint. Possibly it was because painters, poets and dramatists were inspired by her. Dentistry has moved on and though treatment has become virtually painless many are still reluctant to visit a dentist. A prayer to Ste Apolline may help! The chapel is open to the public in the summer April to September 9am until 8pm in winter October to March 9am. Until 6pm. (or sunset, if earlier).

An Anglican Eucharist usually takes place every Thursday morning at 10am when everyone is welcome. J.M.O.



Recycling Forest

Anyone who has queries about the Interim Kerbside Recycling can see details and FAQ's on the Forest Parish website www.forestparish.org.gg or on the Noticeboard outside the Forest Douzaine Room.

Sarah Plumley

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My Pet

I went to spend the day with my Auntie Helen. She said she had to go to the shops so we got in the car and she drove towards the shops but she turned into the airport! I was wondering why we were there and then I saw daddy waiting for us. He took my hand and on the way into the airport he said you are going to need these. It was a sparkly collar and a dog lead. I asked him why we needed them and he said we are going to go on the plane to get you a puppy. I just stared at him in shock. I had always wanted a puppy since I found out that Dog-a-log isn't real. Mummy and daddy said that I could have one one day but not for months yet. It was the day before Christmas Eve. He is a Lasser Apso and he was nine weeks old. He loved me straight away. His name is Dougal and he is the same colours as Dog-a-log when he was new, but he has gone grey now.

He was very bouncy and naughty because he was just a baby. When he was four months old mummy, daddy, James and I took Dougal to puppy training classes. He met a Jack Russel puppy called Belle and

they really liked each other, they tried to play instead of behaving! Over the weeks he has learnt a lot about behaving. If he does as he is asked he gets a little treat, he is very greedy so he learns very quickly. He knows when to sit, lie down, to leave his treat until told he can have it and to go and sit on his mat. We played games like jumping over little fences and running through tunnels. It was good fun and I really enjoyed it. Yesterday was our last day at puppy training and when we were finishing the class we did a red carpet walk onto the puppy mat and Lorna the trainer gave us owners a certificate and a bag of goodies for the puppy. On our way out we did a game where someone holds the dog from across the room and we call them to us. Dougal ran straight to me. I can't wait to go to the next level of classes as it really teaches me a lot about having a lovely pet.

Poppy Killick age 7yrs

St Saviour's Revel

Saturday 5th July 2014 1pm to 4pm

Do please come and support our greatest get together of the year in the Rectory field. Not only do we raise good money for the church and charities we support, but it is a social occasion where you can meet old friends and new arrivals. The programme will be on similar lines to previous, Salvation Army band, Guernsey Dancers and I hope another arena entertainment in the middle of the afternoon (any volunteers?). For the children bouncy castles, the train and exciting games.

As last year we will continue to offer lunch snacks with the usual teas and cakes – filled baguettes etc. - so come fasting.



Then the stalls: rather than buy items in for resale I am planning this year to have one large stall offering items that have been grown, baked or made by our supporters for sale on the day.

With this concentration on local produce (for which we get all the proceeds of sale) please try and organise your vegetables and fruit to over produce that week so you can bring any surplus along for sale as well as cakes, chutneys jams and anything else you enjoy producing. We need prizes for the tombolas - bottles and unwanted gifts. These can be left at the back of the church during the month before the Revel.

Then, most important, THE RAFFLE: if you cannot come on the day please help in advance by generous purchasing of tickets. As always we have splendid prizes. Contact Victor [263962] for tickets.

Finally I always need help both before, during and after the event. Will the usual helpers please return and any new younger and more able bodied recruits will be welcome to assist those of us who annually become more decrepit. I look forward to seeing you all.
de Vic Carey Revel Organiser [264587]



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School News

Friday 16th July	Term ends.
Autumn Term dates	
Monday 1st Sept (staff)	Term starts
Tuesday 2nd Sept (pupils)	Term starts
Monday 27th/Friday 31st Oct	Half Term.
Monday 19th Dec.	Term ends.

La Mare de Carteret High School

La Mare De Carteret High School has had another strong term of sporting performances. The boys Rugby Teams performed as well as ever winning two of the four leagues available. Also this year we have stepped up our Inter Island profile by playing against De La Salle of Jersey and a Jersey select team during March and April. Further success for our former Head Boy and Rugby Captain, George Collenette, who has had successful trials with professional Rugby Teams this Easter. Hopefully he will join Luke Jones another La Mare student in professional Rugby in England next season. The encouraging thing is that we have many more players on the conveyor belt ready to make the next step in their own careers, using George and Luke as their role models. A big Thank You to The Sitar Indian Restaurant in St. Peter Port who hosted our annual Rugby Dinner and Presentation in March.

The girls have dominated on the Basketball Courts too. They have been crowned Island Champions in both Junior and Senior age groups which is testimony to all the hard work they have put in at lunchtimes building

up to their league campaigns.

Congratulations to the GCSE Physical Education Year 11 group who have come through their moderation with flying colours. They were observed by the chief moderator from the U.K and she left very impressed with our group achieving one of the highest practical scores in the last five years at our School. Good luck to those students as they prepare for their examination on 16th May. We look forward to our showpiece event of the year as our Sports Day approaches. The event at Footes Lane is on 15th May between 12.50pm and 2.50pm, we are happy to have the support of all members of our community for the occasion. The Guest of Honour for the day is former La Mare De Carteret student Lee Merrien.

Duncan Flint Head of P.E.

La Houquette School PTA

Community Spirit.

Whilst one of the main purposes of the La Houquette School Parents and Teachers Association (PTA) is obviously to raise funds for the school, one of the most rewarding aspects about being a member of the PTA is that it can get you more involved in both the community of the school and the broader surrounding community. For the La Houquette School PTA this is actually bound into our constitution, which states that we are to foster more extended relationships between the staff, parents and others associated with the school. There are layers to these community relationships; the closer community may be said to be

the pupils, faculty and parents, but broader layers include the residents and businesses of the parish in the school's catchments and then beyond to the island as a whole.

The PTA tends to reach out to the community through a variety of events staged throughout the year. Some of these will be primarily fun events mainly held for pupils of the school – for instance on the last day of the Spring Term we staged an Easter Egg hunt on the school grounds, including a special visit from a very bouncy Easter bunny. Other events see us reach beyond just the pupils; a bingo night held towards the end of March included pupils, parents and teachers.

Bigger events such as our Summer Fete reach out to the broader community. By way of example; for our summer fete we invite stallholders from the local business community, St Saviour's Church assist us by letting us borrow their ample supply of trestle tables (and Reverend Charmley is usually to be seen selling tickets for our games). We seek - and get given - raffle prizes from businesses throughout the island.

These larger events (which also include the Christmas Fayre and the really quite fantastic Bonfire Night firework show) tend to be the main fund raisers for the PTA are all open to the wider public – not just children, parents and teachers of the school. But rather than just have me tell you about these things – why don't come to see for yourselves? Our summer fete is being held this year on 21 June between 1.30 and 4.00pm with free entrance. A lot of

entertainment is packed into those three and a half hours, so come, join in and be a part of our community!

Richard Bray
Chairman
La Houquette School PTA

Come sit with me

“There comes a time in your life, when you walk away from all the drama and people who create it. You surround yourself with people who make you laugh. Forget the bad, and focus on the good. Love the people who treat you right, pray for the ones who don't. Life is too short to be anything but happy. Falling down is a part of life, getting back up is living.” Quote: “Today may there be peace within. May you trust that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith in yourself and others. May you use the gifts that you have received and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content with yourself just the way you are. Let this knowledge settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us.” M.N.

A Sunday school teacher was questioning her class. “If I sold my car and my house and gave all my money to the church, would I get into heaven?” “No” they chorused. “If I cleaned the church, mowed the lawn and kept everything tidy, would I get into heaven?” “No” “Well then,” she said, “how can I get into heaven?” “You've got to be dead” shouted a five year old.

What Mean These Stones?



In the Hebrew Bible, in the Book of Joshua, the twelve tribes of Israel are invited by God to each take one stone from the bed of the River Jordan when they cross it as part of their journey into the promise land. They are then to build a tower on the bank of the river as a memorial of the way in which they had found God's deliverance and as a record of their long walk to freedom. However, the chief reason is so that when their children and children's children ask about the history of the stones they can hear about the way in which their forebears were led and helped by God. They would hear how the waters of the Jordan River parted and how their story as the people of God was woven into the larger story of God. It seems to me there are at least two reasons for Hebrew and Christian Festivals. To celebrate and to remember – both are important. To celebrate is to find expression for our gratitude and to enter into the spirit of an occasion. To remember is to keep such festivals rooted and grounded firmly in history. To simply celebrate can mean that such events only have the quality of a fairy tale. To simply remember can mean such occasions are overly formal and austere. To celebrate and remember draws on the best of both worlds.

This year I walked with Mark, our Rector, on Good Friday, with a large wooden cross

from Torteval Church via St Peters to St Saviours. The day was sunny and the light was magnificent. At each church we remembered the way in which Jesus had died upon the cross following his triumphant entry to Jerusalem only days before and in anticipation of the empty tomb on Easter Sunday. We stopped and took time to reflect upon the question – “What does this cross mean?”. For each person, their reflection would be unique and personally meaningful. Knowing that our God came into the world, to share our joy and suffering, and to provide a way to new life and new hope was clearly conveyed in each of the services. The words of Isaac Watts' hymn convey the sentiment felt: -

When I survey the wondrous cross
On the which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride,
Forbid it Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.
See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?
Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small,
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life my all.

On each leg of the journey we were joined by parishioners – old and young – who walked and took turns to carry the cross. From Torteval to St Peters, there was at one point three generations carrying the cross at the same time, which reminded me that the message of the cross is for all. We were also joined with some of our friends from the Methodist Church. There were people who

waved at us from their houses and stopped in their cars to wish us Happy Easter. The walk from St Peters to St Saviours was lined with magnificent mature ornamental cherry trees, full of beautiful pink blossom. We used these as markers to change who carried the cross. At one point Mark had to ask the procession to slow down as it entered its final stages and a very strong septuagenarian walked up the green lane from Rue de le'Eglise to the southside of the church at a very impressive pace. (There is a small prize for anyone who wasn't there who can identify this person). I had started my Good Friday at Forest Church as they prepared for Let's Do Easter and travelled to Torteval, St Peters and St Saviours. There really is a clear identity for churches in the Western Parishes and events like this show practically the ways in which we are connected and interlinked. I hope this will become an annual Pilgrimage and I know that Mark would extend a warm invitation to all to join us next year.

Adrian Datta

New Beginnings

Saying Goodbye is often full of mixed emotion. There can be a sense of apprehension and anticipation. Rev Linda Le Vasseur has been Priest-in-Charge in the Forest for the last fourteen years and during that time has served the Parish and Church faithfully and creatively. Linda's leaving service was on the last Sunday of April and the church was completely full with friends and parishioners from all four Western Parish Churches who wanted to mark this occasion and wish Linda well for her new appointment with St John's.

Speeches were given from Revd Mark

Charmley, Sir de Vic Carey and Sue Brooks and all acknowledged Linda's tireless work and labour of love over many years and expressed thankfulness for all she has done in the Western Parishes over many decades in various roles. Linda offered a short speech saying how moved she was that so many had come to this service and thanked everyone for their good wishes.

It was so good to see so many people in church on Sunday and from so many different settings. All of these people when asked spoke of the way in which their lives have been affected by Linda's ministry and often in ways that were unseen by others. A clear example for us all to follow. Thank you Linda and we pray that you will continue to know God's blessing, presence and enabling as you journey east - with love from your friends out west!!
A.D.

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ST SAVIOUR'S
COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Guns that Came to Stay

The heavy “Mirus” naval battery in St Saviours, overlooking L’Eree, was a technical marvel to its gunners. It was also an awful monster for the growers whose land it was built on, a place of agonising effort and starvation for the prisoners who built it, and a playground for the next generation. The guns’ provenance, their arrival in Guernsey, their mighty performance, how they came to be named after a German casualty, and were finally cut up, are well-recorded and illustrated in the 1983 book “Mirus’ The Making of a Battery”, by Colin Partridge and John Wallbridge. Our purpose here is to add perspective around that - the broad picture and the human view.

Big Kid

Mirus was the largest Atlantic Wall battery west of Boulogne. With four separately-turreted 30.5 cms (12”) guns, it could, if need be, have thrown a half-tonne shell to Alderney or Jersey. Even larger batteries did exist – Hitler set eight 16” guns to guard the iron ore port of Narvik; and four at Calais, watching the Straits of Dover. But Mirus was the biggest kid on the block. Hitler’s hubris in the second half of 1941, invading Russia and then declaring war on the USA, included Guernsey. While his panzers were closing in on Moscow, with an apparently harmless, but ultimately fatal, diversion down to Kiev, Churchill had flared Malta into life. The ploy worked. Hitler thought a liberated Guernsey could become another such irritation. Directive 441760/41, the Fortification and Defence

of the British Channel Islands, was signed on 20th October 1941. The Atlantic Wall, with Guernsey as its cornerstone, became a massive drain on resources from the Russian Front.

Have Calibre, will Travel

St Saviour’s Mirus guns had another claim to fame: as the most nomadic armaments of the 20th Century. They changed flags back and forth a dozen times, between Tsarists, Reds, Imperial Germans, Royal Navy, White Russians, French, Soviets, Finns, Nazi Germans and finally the British on 9th May 1945. Made for the Tsar in St Petersburg, they saw action for the Kaiser’s navy in the Dardanelles, shelled the Red Army in their own former home in the Crimea, were sold in North Africa, captured in Norway, and finally came to stay in St Saviours.

The Grower’s Tale

The first that Renaut de Garis knew that these guns were coming to stay, was when his brand new brick house, La Croix in La Vieille Rue, was requisitioned. He and his pregnant wife were moved down to the Grand Douit behind Perelle. La Croix was given a reinforced first floor: steel beams and a foot of concrete; and the Commander of the gun battery moved in. Interviewed in 2009 aged 95 (he was 100 this May), Renaut remembered it all: “They were Spaniards building the battery, we called them Morroccans. Some of them were quite refined people. They were treated terribly, poor devils. Soupe d’Atlantique, they called the food they gave them, it was just water really. Disgusting. In the winter

they wrapped cement sacks round their feet to try and keep them warm. If British planes were overhead, the Germans would cut all the lights at their building sites, but not the power to the concrete mixers. Those huge mixers just ran and ran, night and day. After they had built the battery they covered it all back with earth again. There used to be a little valley there, and now it's flat. When they were going to test the [Number 2] Miras gun the first time, most people didn't want to go. The shock of the detonation was tremendous. I had my young son in my arms at the time... I saw his cheeks rippling with the shock wave. I had three greenhouses and they were just lifted up and moved sideways. The glass was like snow on the ground".

The Churchwarden's tale

That young boy, Renaut's son, Victor, now like him douzenier and churchwarden of St Saviour, takes up the story. "One of my earliest memories is of a gun camouflaged to look like a little house, with the barrel sticking up at 45 degrees. After the war, the [No 2] gun and its bunkers became my playground. I'd go down there with my paraffin hurricane lamp, sometimes with a friend or two, exploring, wanting to know how everything worked, playing hide and seek, frightening each other. You could easily trip in the dark. I would go in with my kit of tools and unscrew everything I could – pull out cables and signs and heap them up at home. There was a pit by the wall of the machine room, like a fireplace, which led forward right under the gun. When they finally took the gun out (I was ten then), they found depth charges in the base, in the space

where I played, for demolition. I also found the tunnel to the command bunker where the range-finder was. I had thought it was just a cupboard. Exploring that was pretty scary. You didn't know what you would find. It went to the Fitzgerald's bunker".

The Newlywed's Tale

Ken and Renée Fitzgerald moved into the neighbouring house in 1950. Renée completes the story: "Ken's mother was a Lenfesty from further inland. She gave Ken the little bungalow above Perelle, and we moved in after we married. The Germans had built a command bunker in front of it. To start with, while the ventilation still worked, we would go down there with friends to play. Ken invented a kind of fright-ride game where you would be pushed in a wheelchair along the cobwebbed tunnel from the bunker to the nearest gun. A business acquaintance stored good wine in our bunker, for the constant temperature. Later Len Marquis stored bulbs from America down there. But the ventilation system stopped working. When the lane between the bunker and the gun was reopened, it meant cutting the tunnel. Also the ventilation shaft for the tunnel in our garden gradually got blocked with vegetation and gravel. After that it became very unhealthy down there, not a place to spend any time at all." Today the emplacements and bunkers of the Mirus battery live on, as a school amphitheatre, a BB gun battle-zone, and a private cinema, among other things. But that is perhaps a story for another day. F.D.

Mirus Battery

Plotting Room

When the evacuation of Guernsey children and some of the population took place in 1940 some doctors were asked to remain in Guernsey with the remaining population and Dr Alistair Rose was one of them, his wife Jean and their two sons evacuated. My husband & I lived in St Saviours during the last four years and owned greenhouses, also a cow so we were not short of food. Dr. Rose was a friend and came to eat with us about twice a week.

Just after liberation he came one morning and asked us to accompany him to a place nearby as he wanted us to see something left by the Germans. He had been forced by the Germans to act as their anaesthetist during any of their operations, and must have visited this place sometime while the Germans were in Guernsey. The 'Leitstand' was the control room even after all these years I remember a long flight of wide steps slanting for a considerable distance to a corridor. (The entrance to Hitler's underground bunker in Bavaria visited some years later had a similar construction). Walking along the corridor for some way was the underground concrete bunker and the plotting room, which controlled all the firing of the four guns, fuel store, generators, heating room providing a hot water radiator system, mechanical ventilation system (air conditioning) operations room, store, observation dome and the optical range finder.

The position of the control room was on salient high ground astride Rue de la Croix

Creve Coeur. I cannot remember exactly where Le Frie Baton entrance was as in 1940 most of the existing houses were not built and it was mostly fields.

In the control room itself situated at the far end was the Observation dome headed by the optical range finder, from it, the whole west coast was visible and the enormous magnitude is something, even after all these years I will never forget. Backed up by the latest Giant Wurzburg a 7.4 metre diameter parabolic reflector mounted further away so as not to interfere with the range finder, even the smallest boat in the sea could be seen clearly. In the surrounding lanes and roads even rabbits were seen very clearly, certainly no person could have walked along without being clearly recognized.

Around the walls of the control room were many instruments and on the central table was the mechanical computer, which gave details of wind speed, air pressure and firing range. The data instrument computed these results to the four gun emplacements whose crews otherwise fired blind. Corrections were made by the crews depending if the shots were short or over. A crew of eighteen men on shift system was employed in the control room manned twenty-four hours a day.

Naval Commander Channel Islands Headquarters was in St Jacques St Peter Port, the Commander however was housed at La Veille Rue close to 'Leistand' in direct telephone contact with St Jacques. L.M.

Sky at Night with Geoff Falla

Two of the solar system's main planets can be seen in the evening sky during these present summer months. Mars is not one of the largest planets, but is one of the most important, because of its similarity to planets beyond the Earth's own orbit. Mars takes just over two years to orbit the Sun, and is now beginning to move away from us again. It has been brightly visible in the southern part of the evening sky, and will be in a more southwesterly direction during the summer months, Mars will be very close to the bright star Spica by the end of June, with a chance to compare the difference in colour. The much larger but more distant planet Saturn is in the outer part of the solar system, and can be seen following Mars in a similar path across the sky, about two hours later, Saturn will be in a southerly direction by about 11pm in mid June.

At this time of year sunset is at its very largest, but when there are no stars or planets to be seen in the evening sky, there is the possibility for viewing - and this is of course the Moon. This is seen so often and taken for granted that it may be ignored. It is sometimes a challenge to see some of the distant galaxies, but these can be disappointing at times unless the sky is very dark and clear. The telescope being used perhaps may not be adequate for these more faint and indistinct objects. Our own Moon, as an alternative object on clear evenings, has many surface features, which are visible easily by just using a relatively small telescope or good binoculars. The only essential is that whatever is used should be held steadily, because even

slight movement can spoil a clear view of the Moon's many large craters, mountain features in some areas, and the large dark plains of solidified lava left as a result of the Moon's earlier major impacts of meteors and volcanic events. During the past year the Moon has been in the news, because China has become another successful nation to achieve a spacecraft landing on the Moon's surface. The mission in December 2013, also carried a robot vehicle to begin exploring part of the surface area near the landing site. The progress of space exploration in recent years to other planets and their moons has been remarkable. As with the historical exploration of our own planet, this can no doubt bring unforeseen benefits from the discoveries.

Astronomy Section Website: www.astronomy.org.gg

St Saviours

President: Sharon Williams
Tel 710007

Secretary Ann Robilliard
Tel 263176

June: Orchid Fields -
Jenny Grange

July. Bees. - Geraldine Silk

Meetings are held at St Saviour's Community Centre on each second Wednesday of the Month at 7.30 pm

Western Morning

President: Mrs Cartmell Tel 266710
Secretary: Mrs G Jeffreys Tel 264196

June. St Helena. - Cherry McMillan.

July. Guernsey Houses - Andrew Dyke

Meetings are held on the second Friday of every month at 9.30 a.m. in the Sylvans' Social Club St Peter's

News from Women's Institutes



Notes (or, whinges) from a Care Home

I've had a bit of a bad week for driving. I'm ok it's everyone else! It began on Monday as I pulled out of my parking spot and headed towards the exit. An unmarked van shot in through the exit gate, narrowly missing me, he drove to the building entrance, made a delivery, then exited through the entrance turned left and roared past me as I was pulling out of the exit and into the road. It all happened very quickly and both collisions were only avoided by my quick reaction.

At the end of Rosaire Avenue, at the junction with Gibauderie there is a filter. Drivers coming down Gibauderie take little care on approaching, considering it their right of way. Inevitably I will be driving across the filter and a vehicle will come hurtling through and almost take the front off my car as they are unable to stop. On one occasion I was treated to a string of abuse by a van driver also making no attempt to slow down or stop, even though cars exiting Rosaire Avenue are clearly visible. On Tuesday a woman actually mounted the pavement to pass in front of me she was driving so fast!

We all take a good deal of caution when leaving Rosaire but it is an accident waiting to happen. It is not old age that makes me feel that people are speeding or driving without care. There is little consideration or good manners on the road these days. On Wednesday I drove through Candie on my way to Blanchelande School. I lost count of the cars speeding towards me, cutting

blind corners and bouncing off the kerbs, with me pulled as close to the walls and hedges as it is possible to be and stop starting all the way.

The final incident occurred on Friday as I left my daughter's house. I drew to a halt at the end

of her lane. Visibility of traffic to the left is excellent but oncoming traffic to the right is obscured by a high wall. One must edge carefully out of the lane until one can see the traffic or a driver lets you out. I was carefully making this manoeuvre when a young male pedestrian stopped by the passenger side of my car. He was talking on a phone, I carried on creeping forward checking right and left. "Get a f---- move on" he suddenly yelled at me. I ignored him and gradually pulled into the main road waiting as a car passed across the front of me. At this point he started banging on the roof of my car "Stupid old cow, you shouldn't be driving" he screamed. At this point I could see that it was safe to draw into the main road and I made my escape. I was trembling and felt quite ill. I wasn't being over cautious I am a good driver and he could have crossed behind me.

These are not isolated incidents. Over the last year or so I have witnessed more and more blatant disregard for "the rules of the



road” and the response of verbal abuse has become the norm. Not so long ago I passed the Drivability test with flying colours, but I know that at almost seventy years of age it will be my skills which will be scrutinised against those of a much younger driver and I find this very unfair. P.F.



Book Review

The Great Gatsby

Scott Fitzgerald.

Written in 1925 and with the release of a new film it seemed appropriate for our book group to read or in my case re-read this book. It’s considered to be his finest work and a great American classic, i.e. one of the best, and presumably has timeless qualities. Daisy (Mia Farrow to those of us old enough to remember the old film) and Gatsby (Robert Redford, ditto) had a fling in their ‘youth’. They still seem pretty young to me, although everything is relative! Gatsby’s obsession continued, he made his fortune, probably nefariously, and she has married Tom.

We are introduced, through the eyes of Daisy’s cousin, to modern, consumerist society – new money from the city (New York). It’s all doomed of course. It’s easy to read, short, a carefully constructed plot, visually attractive with light/dark motifs running through the story. But it’s hard to see what the fuss is about.

Then I read the introduction, which explains

An advertisement for The Longfrie Inn. The top section features the inn's name in a decorative, cursive font, with a stylized bird or leaf graphic to the right. Below the name, the address "St Pierre du Bois, Guernsey, Channel Islands" and telephone number "Tel: 01481 263107" are listed. The middle section is a photograph of the inn's interior, showing a bright, modern lounge area with tables, chairs, and a bar. The bottom section is a grey box containing a list of amenities: "Bed & Breakfast", "All rooms refurbished", "Bar Meals served from 12-2pm & 6-9pm", "Large Beer Garden", "Indoor Children’s Soft Play Area with Playstations", "WiFi", "Ample Parking", and "Closed Sunday Evening & all day Monday".

that FSF was deliberately reflecting society, the changes wrought and the power of production and creation of wealth. How the old ways were being subsumed by the new brash order. So quite topical for the 1980s particularly, and still speaks to our time. However, not a classic in my view – it seems rather dated and doesn’t stand alone without interpretive support. H.M.

Notes left for the milkman

When you leave my milk knock on my bedroom window and wake me because I want you to give me a hand to turn the mattress.

Please leave no milk today. When I say today, I mean tomorrow, for I wrote this note yesterday.

National Trust

Back in spring 2012 the National Trust of Guernsey initiated plans to repair the ruined outbuildings behind the restored 19th century farmhouse at Les Caches. There was just enough of the original structure to see that these buildings consisted of a ‘prinseur’ for cider making, three pigsties and a cartshed. Cresswell, Cuttle and Dyke undertook the sensitive reconstruction,

using traditional lime mortar and salvaged timber beams.

It is hoped that eventually the barn will house a granite apple crusher and timber cider press. Les Caches Farm and its outbuildings are open to the public from May to September at the following times: Tuesday afternoons; 2pm – 4pm and Thursday mornings 10.30am -12.30pm. Contact the Folk and costume Museum for more details



the ruins before renovation



the new barn

Foret L’Affaires

At the Forest parish meeting on May 1st 2014 at La Chambre de La Douzaine, Ratepayers authorised the levy of the Remede expenditure of £108,630.00., which was submitted by the constables to the Royal Court and legalized.

Other matters discussed were:

1) Guernsey Gardens have a three-year contract to landscape the ground in front of the airport. It was agreed that they would use plants more wind resistant and less attractive to birds.

2) The Forest Floral Group held their annual fund raising dinner at Le Gouffre Restaurant, which was attended by fifty-five people and much enjoyed. The Group are arranging their “Welcome to Guernsey” bed in front of the airport building again this year, there is also an Airman’s memorial added to which the Forest parish have donated.

3) Bird problem at the airport

4) Adverse comments concerning the flashing incongruous fuel notice placed outside the Co-op filling station and the possible reason why the Environment committee agreed to it when the douzaine had submitted an objection.

5) The Forest douzaine, PTA, Forest School and their committee had opposed the removal of the pedestrian walkway at La Rue de la Villiaze. Strong opinions were expressed concerning the safety of children walking to and from school were given and a request for it’s reinstatement.

“A La Perchoin”

Dave Gorvel



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Gentle Exercise

It's the time of year when we are out in the garden: however small or large – there is always plenty to do. Even if, these days, we can only spend a short time doing those jobs outside that accumulate if we turn our backs, it still requires a certain amount of bending and stretching. When you come in from the garden: try to fit in a few stretching exercises for your back and neck. Back: Stand “tall” with head up and shoulders slightly back. Stretch your spine just an extra inch. Relax. Now repeat the above but bend the spine backwards – gently, just a little way. Relax

Repeat a few times and when you feel comfortable – bend forward a little instead of backwards: slide your hands down your legs as far as is comfortable for you.

Neck: first lift your shoulders a few times to release any tension there.

Slowly turn your head to the right, back to the centre, and then left and back to the centre. Drop your head on to the chest, and then return to an upright position.

Tip your head, right and left, to your shoulder. Repeat several times. Hands: stretch out and curl each hand until they feel more comfortable. If you have a soft ball – clasp and unclasp, with alternate hands, around the ball.

Happy gardening!
Gentle Exercises
Thursdays, 3pm in
Deslisles Church
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Tel 255941



St Saviour's Community Centre Update

Work progresses at the Centre supported by the efforts of volunteers who either give up their time in fund raising or in applying their do-it-yourself skills. The Centre now has four rooms which have been renovated and are available for hire. The rooms as well as the corridors and reception have been decorated and carpeted giving the Centre a welcoming feel for what is becoming a popular venue.

The DIY team have moved on after completing the kitchen and Lihou Room to focus on the renovation of the new toilet block including a disabled toilet. The Lions Club of Guernsey, The Guernsey Charities Trust, Butterfield Bank and individuals have very generously supported this work financially. Les and his team are doing a sterling job, minimising the use of outside labour whenever possible to ensure that we maximise the use of our funds yet still maintaining the high quality of finish we want to see in the Centre.

Outside, the sensory garden has been transformed with the efforts of Floral St Saviour and volunteers, particularly husband and wife team, Janet and Robert. After clearing the whole area of weeds and ensuring the troughs are filled with quality soil they have raised donations for plants, which have now been planted. An irrigation system has also been installed. I thoroughly recommend a visit to see the transformation of the gardens.

Having complied fully with health and safety legislation 2013 was our first year of



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being able to let rooms which are being used by a wide range of organisations.

I am pleased to report that the Centre made a very healthy profit in 2013 and the Committee was able to reinvest this surplus back in to the continuing renovation plans. Using the Centre are the WI, social and community based gatherings, keep fit clubs including Zumba and Pilates, film club, dancing, children's parties, cycle club, crafts including cake decorating and crochet etc. We have also held two Parish meetings and some Douzaine meetings at the Centre. We had an enjoyable Quiz evening compered by Cherry McMillen with over 100 attending and raising funds for the Centre. We are very grateful for our valued volunteers. However, I would like to particularly mention Angela de Garis who continues to work tirelessly in raising money for the Centre including her craft classes and crocheted Christmas reindeers and Easter bunnies.

As a fund raising initiative we have St Saviours Community Centre badges which are in the shape of the bell logo. You will recall the bell represents our original bell which was cast in 1736 and still hangs over the Centre. We are selling the lapel badges for £5 each in order to raise funds. Please consider buying one and showing your support for your Centre. They can be obtained from the Centre or from Alison Foley on 265422 or me on 265286. We are always looking for help with fund raising activities or with the numerous activities around the Centre whether in administration, typing, DIY or gardening. If you can help please let me know on 265286 or email at info@sscc.gg.

Philip Duquemin, Managing Director
St Saviours Community Centre LBG

Wimbledon Quiz

Wimbledon is the oldest international tennis tournament in the world and one of the most esteemed. See if you know the answers to these questions...



1. Who was the first winner at Wimbledon, in what year and how many entrants were there?
2. Which was the longest match ever played in Wimbledon history?
3. Who is the only player to have been disqualified?
4. When was the last wooden racket used at Wimbledon?
5. How many strawberries and how much cream is eaten over the fortnight?
6. What happened in 1986 to the balls used at Wimbledon?

7. Who is Rufus and what is his job?
8. Which is the only royal to have competed in Wimbledon?
9. What was the sole sport played at The All-England Club when it was founded in 1868?
10. In which year did the prize money become equal for men and women?


answers on page 32

Choir

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

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Strokes

During a barbecue, a woman stumbled and took a little fall - she assured everyone that she was fine (they offered to call paramedics) ..She said she had just tripped over a brick because of her new shoes; they got her cleaned up and got her a new plate of food. While she appeared a bit shaken up, Jane went about enjoying herself the rest of the evening Jane's husband called later telling everyone that his wife had been taken to the hospital - (at 6:00 am Jane passed away.) She had suffered a stroke at the BBQ. Had they known how to identify the signs of a stroke, perhaps Jane would be with us today. Some don't die. They end up in a helpless, hopeless condition instead.

It only takes a minute to read this...

A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within three hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke... totally. He said the trick was getting a stroke recognized, diagnosed, and then getting the patient medically cared for within three hours, which is tough... Read and Learn! Sometimes, - symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

S) Ask the individual to SMILE

T) Ask the person to TALK and SPEAK a simple sentence (Coherently) (i.e. It is sunny out today.)

R) *Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS. If he or she has trouble with ANY ONE of these tasks, call emergency

number immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

Also another sign of a Stroke – ask the person to **Stick out their Tongue** If the tongue is 'crooked', if it goes to one side or the other, that is also an indication of a stroke. A cardiologist says if everyone who sees this tells ten people; you can bet that at least one life will be saved. We have done our part. Will you? S.P.

Beware

A woman visited the toilet in John Lewis Blue Water and hung her handbag on the back of the toilet door. As she carried on about her business, a hand suddenly appeared over the top of the stall and grabbed her bag clean off the hook!!! She immediately reported the incident to the head of security, who in turn, informed the manager of the store. A couple of days later she had a call from the head of security to say her bag had been found without her purse. So she arranged a convenient time to go and meet the manager to collect her things. On arriving at the John Lewis store at the agreed time, the manager was not expecting her & neither was the head of security. No one from the store had actually called her, as the bag had still not been found.

When the lady got home, her house had been burgled with no sign of forced entry. The police believe the robbers had used her driving license for the address and her keys to let themselves in! This is real - it isn't just a scare mongering story. Many will be so shocked at how complex bag snatching crime has become. Please be extra vigilant ladies AND gents (with your man bags) there are a lot of desperate criminals out there!

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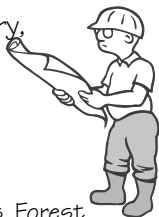
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Answers to quiz:

1. In 1877 the Gentlemen's Singles was the only event held and was won by Spencer Gore, an old Harrovian rackets player, from a field of 22. About 200 spectators paid one shilling each to watch the final.

2. In 2010 the first-round match between Nicolas Mahut and John Isner lasted 183 games and took 11 hours and 5 minutes. It was played over 3 days.

3. In 1995, Tim Henman became the first person ever to be disqualified from Wimbledon. He lost his temper and angrily smashed a ball away, straight into the face of an innocent young ball girl. Henman, mortified, later gave the girl some flowers to apologise.

4. 1987

5. 28,000 kg (112,000 punnets) of Kentish strawberries are eaten with 7,000 litres of cream.

6. They changed their colour from white to yellow as the umpires and TV cameras had difficulty seeing them.

7. Rufus is an American Harris Hawk and is used as a deterrent to local pigeons. He flies for one hour from 9am most mornings of the championships before the gates open.

8. In 1926 the Duke of York, the future King George VI, played and lost in the first round of the Men's Doubles with Sir Louis Greig, the Duke's mentor and advisor.

9. Croquet. Lawn tennis did not start until 1877 and then only to raise money to purchase a pony-drawn roller for the croquet lawns. Amid all its tennis courts, the All-England Club still has a croquet lawn today. Its full title, even today, is The All England Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club

10. 2007. In 2013 the winners of the Men's and Women's singles was £1,600,000 !!!!!!! DSA.



What did you learn in R.E?

Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Germans on the Mount.

But the Democrats and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus. He just washed his hands instead.

Anyways, Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again. He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminum. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution



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People's Warden:	Victor de Garis	263962
Hon. Treasurer:	Vernon Renier	264307
Choir Mistress	Vicky Archard	263891
Organist:	Gary Poole	256197
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Rectory office: email:stsaviourschurch@cwgsy.net		267145
Magasine editorial to:	Lily Mauger	263039



Church Directory Ste Margu rite de la For t

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Constables Office open every Tuesday 7.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m. 264401

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