



Cobham & Luddesdowne News

August 2025

£1

PARISH of COBHAM with LUDDESDOWNE and DODE

Priest-in-Charge – The Rev'd Canon Alyson Davie

For all enquiries, including Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals, please contact Alyson.

Phone no. 01474-812068 email:- alyson@stjohnsmeopham.co.uk
(Rest Day: Friday)

Pastoral assistant- Janet Weaver, 36 Highview, Vigo Village, DA13 0RR
(01732) 823936

Church Safeguarding Officer - Hilary Savage - (01634) 723027

Church Office Phone no. (01474) 813495

Church Officers of St. Mary Magdalene, Cobham

Lay Chair	Hilary Savage	
Churchwarden	Hilary Savage	(01634) 723027
PCC Secretary	Ron Chamberlain	(01474) 814250
Treasurer	Jeffrey Julie-Rusz	07946 249021
Deanery Synod	Hilary Savage	

Church Officers St Peter and St. Paul, Luddesdowne

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Cobham

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Ron Chamberlain
David Palmer
Lynn Ruddock

Luddesdowne

Diana Bampton
Jill Beety
Sue Campbell
Janet Weaver

SUBMISSIONS Cobham and Luddesdowne News is a community magazine produced by and for the residents of Cobham, Sole Street and Luddesdowne.

Please send material for inclusion by the 15th of the month preceding publication to editorialcln@gmail.com

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A letter from Canon Alyson Davie.

A summary of what Christians believe!

This year the Church of England, like many other churches is marking the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed.

In 325 AD, 318 bishops from across the Roman Empire, called together by the Emperor Constantine, met at Nicaea in what is now Turkey. They came to discuss how to respond to a form of theology called Arianism, which held that the Son of God, who became human as Jesus Christ, was an angelic being created out of nothing by the God who created the world, who Jesus had taught his disciples to call Father.

To counter this misleading theology, the bishops who met at Nicaea compiled a statement of correct Christian belief, based on the teaching of the Bible, and in a revised form, this statement is still used by Christians across the world today as the 'Nicene Creed' (a title which means the summary of Christian faith agreed at Nicaea). Translated into contemporary English the Nicene Creed runs as follows:

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

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.'

Continued on page 4.

The reason the Nicene Creed remains important today is because it tells us two things that everyone needs to know.

First, **it tells us who God is.** It tells us that the word 'God' properly refers to the one God to whom the Bible bears witness and who exists eternally as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Secondly, **it tells us what it means to say that God loves us.**

Out of his pure unconstrained goodness, God has created us, has rescued us from sin and death through Jesus Christ, and gives the power to live a new life in right relationship with God that starts now and will last forever in the world to come.

If you want to know more about Christianity, please get in touch.

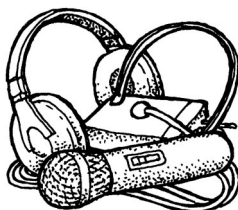
Best Wishes

Alyson Davie

Prayer grows in popularity

Well over three million people have now used the Church of England's Daily Prayer podcast and app, which offers Morning and Evening Prayer in audio form.

Launched during the pandemic, the service has seen over 12 million downloads, with thousands tuning in each day. Blending scripture, music, and reflection, it reflects a wider resurgence of interest in regular prayer and spiritual rhythm, showing that ancient words continue to find new life in modern formats.





The Friends of Cobham Church

Sadly we were unable to elect a new team of officers at the AGM in June and so the Friends will have to close. But not before we have held our final quiz night on 8 November. Please get the date in your diary – let's ensure that we go out in style!

Mary Palmer (Secretary)

Have you heard about The Monday Club?

We are a small group of retired/semi retired people who meet up each Monday in the newly refurbished St Mary's Church Room.

We enjoy a range of activities that include guest speakers, board games, music, the occasional trip and a meal out every so often.

We meet every Monday From 2pm to 4pm needless to say tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided for your weekly subscription. (currently £3). We do not meet on bank holidays or during the month of August.

Why not join us when we start up again on Monday 1st September?

We are a friendly, sociable group who enjoy getting together.

If you would like further information please feel free to call either myself or Brian on the numbers below.

We look forward to meeting you all in September!

Gary

Gary: 01474 812590 Brian: 01474 814049.





1st Cobham Brownies
(Tuesday evenings during term time only at The Meadow Rooms, Cobham)

At Brownies, we welcome all girls from 7 to 10 years old for non-stop fun, learning and adventure. Brownies get to explore their creative side, get out into the great outdoors, and start to learn to look after themselves, others and the world we live in.

Please email Wendy Ostridge (wendy.minister@googlemail.com) if you would like more information about 1st Cobham Brownies or register your interest through the Girlguiding website at www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus/ and selecting 1st Cobham Brownies.

We look forward to meeting new members.

Luddesdown & District Rights of Way Group.

We are a small friendly group that usually walks from The Cock Inn, Henley Street, Luddesdown, Gravesend DA13 0XB, at 11am on Wednesdays. We walk at a gentle pace for some 90 minutes in beautiful countryside. Occasionally we lead weekend walks.

With four Socials a year in Luddesdown Village Hall and a twice yearly Newsletter, we would be delighted if you joined us for a walk or two. Becoming a member costs £7 per person a year.

Please contact Walks Co-ordinator Janet Ferguson, preferably by email janetferguson@hotmail.fr . Ian Sheridan, Acting Chairman, 07951 927 517

FROM THE REGISTERS

Cobham Church

Funeral

Rodney Martin HARGROVE was born on the 23rd May 1943 and died on the 2nd April 2025 at the age of 82 years old. Rodney's funeral took place on the 6th May 2025 in Cobham church followed by burial in Cobham churchyard. The service was conducted by The Rev'd Canon Alyson DAVIE, our Priest-in-Charge. Our condolences and prayers go to Rodney's family.

Burial of Ashes

Basil Peter LINEHAM died on the 23rd March 2025 at the age of 96 years. The service for the burial of his ashes, which were buried in with his wife's, Avril Florence LINEHAM, in Cobham's Garden of Remembrance, took place on the 29th May 2025. The service was conducted by The Rev'd Canon Alyson DAVIE, our Priest-in-Charge. Our condolences and prayers go to Basil's son John, daughter Andrea and family.

Funeral

Paul Brian CHURCH was born on the 24th June 1975 and died on the 16th May 2025 at the age of 49 years old. Paul's funeral took place on the 13th June 2025 in Cobham Church followed by Thames View Crematorium. The services were conducted by Susan HEADS (Licenced Lay Minister at Ash Benefice). Our condolences and prayers go to Paul's wife Sadie, their children Reginald, Arthur, Nellie and Stanley and other members of Paul's family.

Baptism

Remy Andrew NESBIT was baptised on the 11th May 2025. The service was conducted by The Ven Allie KERR (Archdeacon at Bromley and Bexley). We welcome Remy into the Church Family.

Luddesdowne Church

Burial of Ashes

Edith Mary BAGSHAW known as Mary was born on the 24th May 1929 and died on the 12th May 2023 at the age of 93 years old. The service for the burial of Mary's ashes, which were buried in with her husband Nicholas BAGSHAW in Luddesdowne Churchyard, took place on the 17th May 2025. The service was conducted by The Rev'd Canon Alyson DAVIE, our Priest-in-Charge. Our condolences and prayers go to Mary's son William, James and John and their families.

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Our next event is the Autumn Show & Plant Sale which is to be held at The Meadow Rooms on Saturday 13th September 2025 from 2pm to 3.30pm. Members will exhibit their home-grown flowers, vegetables, and preserves. Non-members are welcome free of charge to view the exhibits between 2pm and 3.30pm. Plants plus tea, coffee and homemade cake will be on sale. For further information email cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk

In your own garden, the RHS recommended Top 10 jobs for August are:

- 1 Prune Wisteria
- 2 Don't delay summer pruning restricted fruits
- 3 Deadhead flowering plants regularly
- 4 Watering! - particularly containers, and new plants, preferably with grey recycled water or stored rainwater
- 5 Collect seed from favourite plants
- 6 Harvest sweetcorn and other vegetables as they become ready
- 7 Continue cutting out old fruited canes on raspberries
- 8 Lift and pot up rooted strawberry runners
- 9 Keep ponds and water features topped up
- 10 Feed the soil with green manures

If you would like to become a member of Cobham Gardeners' Society, It's only a modest £10 for the year – money you get back from free entry into all Gardeners' expert speaker talks and massive savings of up to 50% on quality plants at local garden centres. For further details of all Gardeners' activities contact cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk

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SOLE STREET WI

At our June meeting we heard from Paul Beard whose talk was entitled "Barnardo's- A Personal Story". Paul has worked for Barnardo's for 13 years as a volunteer Fundraising Ambassador to help Barnardo's continue its work helping children affected by issues such as homelessness, drug addiction and parents in prison, arranging fostering and adoption where necessary. Paul also told us about his personal experiences of fostering children with his family which were deeply moving.

We are all very much enjoying being back in the Church Room, especially for our monthly meetings. Members were glad to hear that curtains and rails have now been ordered for the Church Room so the money we raised as our contribution has been deployed.

Our Craft Group is proving ever popular and growing in size. It is gratifying to know that we have the opportunity of hiring the SMCR to accommodate new members and the space to diversify whenever needed. We have had fun creating, not planting, chrysanthemums today!



We do not hold a formal meeting in August as many members go on holiday but traditionally get together for a Garden Party and this year will be no exception. Home made savouries, cake and Pimms is the order of the day.

Weekly walks continue every Tuesday morning from 9.30am throughout the summer.

The speaker for our next main meeting on Tuesday 23 September at 7.30pm in the SMCR is Nigel Roberts who will be introducing us to "The Magic of Conjuring". Visitors will always receive a warm and friendly welcome. For information on this and all our activities please call Helen tel 01474 812448.

Molly Isaacs

Lewis Solomon

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North Kent Embroiderers

Hello Everyone,



Earlier this year our group received an invitation for some of our ladies to visit Scotney Castle and in particular to look at the Red Bedroom which is currently being restored to reflect its use in the 1950s. Our members were able to ask questions and to give their suggestions as to what would provide an interesting experience for the public. Their guide, Ellen Askey-James in her role as Collections & House Officer with The National Trust was able to collate the ideas and to put them forward to enable projects to be started.



The follow up to this exciting day was a visit from Ellen to talk to us all at a group meeting. She started by telling us a little about the history of Scotney Castle which is nearly 650 years old. The more recently built Victorian mansion, designed to complement the remains of the medieval castle was lived in by three generations of the Hussey family. Christopher Hussey died in 1970 and it was then that the gardens passed to the National Trust, while his wife Betty continued to live at Scotney until her death in 2006, whereupon the house and contents came into the Trust's care.

The exciting part for us as embroiderers was Ellen telling us about the wealth of costumes and household textiles that are being discovered as time goes by. When Betty died, many beautiful garments by famous fashion houses were found tucked away in various parts of the house. These included dresses, some of which are over one hundred years old, by designers such as the Callow Soeurs, Jeanne Paquin, Elsa Schiaparelli and so on. There is also an oil painting in this fabulous collection of Rosamund Hussey, the wife of Edward Windsor Hussey, wearing a beautiful black and white striped dress and matching hat. She is sitting looking over the garden. The scene was painted by Sir J.J. Shannon RA for the sum of £1000 in 1912. The amazing thing is that the Hussey Collection contains not only the painting but also photos of the sitting, the original sketch of the portrait as well as the dress and hat worn in the picture. You will be able to see this wonderful collection 'A century of costume at Scotney Castle' on display in the house this September. <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/kent/scotney-castle> If you would maybe like to start a new hobby and to join our group or would just like to find out a bit more about us then please pay us a visit - look at our website <https://northkentembroiderers.co.uk/> or email us at: info@northkentembroiderers.co.uk or contact our Chairman, Eileen on 01474 324734 Happy stitching, Karen All photos with permission.



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TWO WOMEN EVENTS

Forthcoming TWO Women events

16th October - The Bon Jovi Experience

6th November - Fleetwood Mac

27th November - Totally Blondie



Cobham Speedwatch Group mid year update.

I just wanted to share with you what the Cobham Speedwatch Group has achieved since starting last September, in highlighting and educating vehicle drivers of their speed. Apologies if this is a bit long, but it gives you a good idea of what we do.

Established Sept 2024 as part of Cobham Parish Council's Highway Improvement Plan in partnership with Kent Police, this initiative is to slow vehicle speed in our village, and to make our roads safer.

12 current volunteers, with 6/7 regularly undertaking Speedwatch sessions.

WE STILL DO NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS

If you would like to join and help, please go to www.communityspeedwatch.org to register.

Number of Sessions so far = 68 (67.5 hours monitoring vehicles)

Total Vehicles exceeding limit = 747

Maximum Speed recorded in 20 limit (Cobham) = 37 mph (+85%)

Maximum Speed recorded in 30 limit (Sole Street) = 55 mph (+83%)

The main aim is education, but there are consequences if drivers persist speeding, with the following Police actions, which are:

- 1st Record Observed = 513
- Hand Delivered letter by Kent Police for a 4 time speed offender.

Continued on Page 16

- 1st time letter, observed where vehicle travelling at 50% or above = 79
- 2nd time letter = 9
- 3rd time letter = 3

- 2nd time letter, where vehicle seen on the system in a 12-month period = 44
- 3rd time letter = 1

94% of drivers who receive a Police letter, do not reoffend within the next 12 months, confirmed by only 4 x 3rd time offender letters issued.

We are well supported by Kent Police, with them attending 4 sessions. It will take more time to reduce the speed of vehicles travelling through our village, as we've only been visible for the last 9 months.

Drivers are now aware we are undertaking speed checks in Cobham and Sole Street, so this will make them more cautious traveling through our village, as they won't know if, where and what time we'll be doing the next speed check. They also don't know what we've recorded, until they receive a letter. This is how Speedwatch has an effect in reducing speed.

This works especially well when drivers post our position on the travel app Waze as Police or Speed Cameras.

It's frustrating that you'll always get the 5% of drivers that don't take any notice, or care about driving fast, that we won't be able to educate.

Steve Holden, Joint Coordinator, Cobham Speedwatch



BELL RINGING by Peter Hartley

In 1287 the great South Coast storm dumped four feet of sand and gravel on the port and town of Romney and diverted the Rother estuary to Rye. Even today you descend steps down onto the original Norman floor level of the church as I continue on a Romney Marsh ringing tour. It was a good long climb up the tall stately Norman tower to the lovely light ringing room with windows on three sides. There we enjoyed ringing their 8 bells (tenor 15cwt).

Fairfield Church, isolated on the marsh, adorns every Romney Marsh calendar surrounded either by sheep and lambs or floodwater or drifts of snow. Having parked we walked out between the sheep across the fields and over the foot-bridge above the dike to this famed little timber framed 14th century church all carefully restored in 1913. Inside are box pews and a three decker pulpit all painted white and making all so light and attractive. A key was needed to unlock the bell ropes and get them down. When the secret hiding place had been found we had the chance to ring the 3 very light bells (tenor 3cwt). Bell ringing has its variety. A board listed the names of the 16 men of the parish killed in the Great War. I pondered the many farm hands in the countryside then and the few today (read Ronald Blythe). Back to the car through the sheep who had ignored our ringing.

Brookland is remarkable. In the church the very special crafted Norman lead font should not be missed nor the interesting “hudd” or graveside shelter to protect the vicar when conducting burials in the rain. The amazing detached wooden bell tower cannot be missed. It looks like a candle snuffer covered with 11,000 wooden shingles and inside a forest of criss-crossing mediaeval timbers holding the 6 bells (tenor 8cwt). To ring here is a memorable event.

Finally to Rye thronged with visitors and champagne bars, wine bars and busy pubs. It was a haul up to the church and then a climb up the tower and past the bells and out onto the top to enjoy the views over the roofs and the estuary. Back down to the ringing room for my couple of rings on the lighter bells of the 8 bell ring (tenor 19cwt). Then it was back down the tower with a glimpse down into the church and the great swinging clock pendulum. A fish and chip restaurant was much appreciated after which a great red sun slipped down behind a line of trees and so ended a perfect day.

On Saturday, 2nd August between 10.00am and 4.00pm there will be a “Ringing Discovery Day” at St. Margaret’s Church, St. Margaret’s Street, Rochester ME1 1UJ. Do go along to hear all about ringing. There will be refreshments, a chance to have a ring under supervision (the bells are a ground floor ring), ring on a mini-ring, and there are always marvellous views of the River Medway to enjoy from the West Door.

St John's Meopham with St Mildred's Nurstead

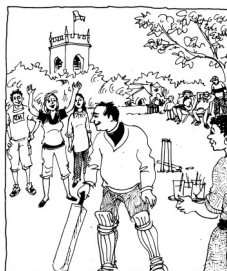
Church Services August 2025



- Sunday 3rd August 9.45am All Age Worship at St John's
 11.30am Holy Communion at St Mildred's
- Wednesday 6th August 10am Holy Communion at St John's Centre
- Sunday 10th August 9.45am Holy Communion at St John's
 11.30am Mattins at St Mildred's
- Wednesday 13th August 10am Holy Communion at St John's Centre
- Sunday 17th August 9.45am Morning Worship & Baptism at St John's
 11.15am Churches Prayer Meeting at
 St John's Centre
- Wednesday 20th August 10am Holy Communion at St John's Centre
- Sunday 24th August 9.45am Holy Communion at St John's
 11.30am Family Service & Baptism at St Mildred's
- Wednesday 27th August 10am Holy Communion at St John's Centre
- Sunday 31st August 10.30am Holy Communion at Nurstead.
 for all four churches

Cobham with Luddesdowne Church Services

August 2025



Sunday 3rd August 10.30am Holy Communion Cobham Church

Sunday 10th August 10.30am BCP Holy Communion Luddesdowne Church.

Sunday 17th August 10.30am Morning Worship & Baptism Cobham Church

Sunday 24th August 10.30am Holy Communion Luddesdowne Church

Sunday 31st August 10.30am Holy Communion Nurstead Church
for all four churches,
(Parking available at Nurstead Court).

Midweek Services in Sole Street.

Informal Morning Prayer on Wednesdays will take a break in August,
but will return on 3rd September.



Meetings & Shows at the Meadow Room in Dickensian Cobham, Kent
SatNav DA123BZ Registered Charity No 228007

Saturday 13th September 2025 - 2:00-3:30pm
Cobham Gardeners' Society

Autumn Show & Plant Sale

Gardening Tips *Adult & Junior Show Categories
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LUDDESDOWN PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

7.30pm Monday 15th September

7.30pm Monday 17th November

All meetings will be taking place at Luddesdown Village Hall.

<http://www.luddesdown-pc.gov.uk/community/luddesdown-parish-council/>

COBHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS 2025

All meetings will start at 7.30pm

- 9th September 2025 - St Mary's Church Room
- 7th October 2025 - Meadow Room
- 4th November 2025 - St Mary's Church Room
- 2nd December 2025 – Budget Meeting - Meadow Room
-

<http://www.cobham-kent-pc.gov.uk/>



<https://www.gravesham.gov.uk/>

Meopham Library Writing Group will meet again on **Thursday 4th September 2025 at 10am** as there is **no meeting in August**. September's writing theme is "LOST", which can be used as a starting point for a poem, short story or an article and there is also a writing challenge. Creative writing is a very enjoyable activity, which can also help people who are facing challenging times or used to record special memories for the family.

If you are interested in writing, either as a beginner or a more experienced writer, you are warmly invited to join our small, friendly group. New members and visitors are always very welcome.

Future meetings will be on 2nd October., 6th November and 4th December. Please ring **01474 813379** for more information.



LOCAL FUNDING GROUP '24

COFFEE MORNING

Held on the 10th July, 2025 Raised £262.00

For the

ELLENOR HOSPICE

Thank you to all contributors

Thursday Fellowship.

Please be aware that there will not be a meeting in August,
as we will be holding our members only garden party.

We hope to see you at our September meeting.

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The **1st South Street BBGA Company** meets every Friday evening during term time 6pm-7.30pm at South Street Baptist Church, Wrotham Road, Meopham, DA13 0QJ(*next to Hope Hill*). There are no meetings in August. Boys and girls aged 5-18 years are warmly invited to join us for games, craft, cooking, Bible stories and outdoor activities. The weekly subscription is £2.

Kayaking, canoeing and stand-up paddle boarding are taught at the Boys Brigade Water Activities Centre in Tonbridge. Camping and outdoor activities take place at the Honey Hill Boys Brigade Campsite in Maidstone. For more information about Boys Brigade please visit **www.BOYS-BRIGADE.org.uk**

SONG TIME meets every Monday morning during term time 9.45am-11am, for families with babies, toddlers and children under five. There is a varied selection of toys, including a slide, ball pool, construction toys, creative activities and singing. Family admission is £1.

There is no Song Time in August.

SOUTH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday services all begin at 10.45am and finish about midday. There are Family Songs of Praise Services during August.

Please visit **www.southstreetbaptist.org.uk** or ring **01474 815039** or **01474 813379** for more information about activities for families at SOUTH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH.

THE TUESDAY **POP-IN**

Meetings are held at the Leather Bottle on the second Tuesday of the month from 10.30 till 12 noon; all are welcome to join us for a relaxed chat and coffee.

Next pop-in Tues 12th August

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Looking back on JAWS – 50 years on

The shark that came to Amity Island for dinner – most people aged 60 and over remember him as the scariest fish they ever saw. As this summer the famous film celebrates its golden anniversary, here are some fun facts about the film which you may not have known...

1. When *Jaws* was released in the summer of 1975, its 28-year-old director Stephen Spielberg was very nervous – making the film had been beset with disasters. He worried that he might never work on films again. But *Jaws* was an instant success – spending 14 consecutive weeks at number one in the USA and eventually grossing \$470 million worldwide.
2. *Jaws* was shot on the island of Martha's Vineyard, and scared people so badly that seaside resorts on the eastern US coastline reported a marked downturn in visitors that summer.
3. *Jaws* is based on the 1974 novel by Peter Benchley, who was inspired by the Jersey Shore shark attacks of 1916. Five attacks, four fatal, had left New Jersey residents terrified of the water.
4. The three 1.2 ton, 25-ft-long pneumatically powered sharks were given a name on the film set – Bruce. They were named after Spielberg's lawyer, Bruce Ramer.
5. These mechanical sharks were so prone to malfunction that the script was rewritten, so as not even to show the shark until one hour and 21 minutes into the film. But this served as a stroke of genius – for it allowed the tension to build and build.
6. There were endless problems on the set: bad weather, water-logged equipment and even the main boat sinking. The actors were often seasick, and sometimes feuding. The 55-day schedule overran to 159 days, raising the budget from £3.5m to \$9m.
7. George Lucas, who visited his pal Spielberg on the set, got his head stuck in the shark's mouth. They nearly broke the mechanical shark in their frantic efforts to free him.
8. The film's most famous line, 'You're gonna need a bigger boat', uttered by Chief Brody (Roy Scheider) when he first saw the shark, was not in the script, but improvised. The film crew had been constantly saying it in their complaints about the support vessel on set.
9. When Spielberg first heard composer John Williams' score for the film, the famous 'dun-dun', played on a tuba, he thought it was a joke. Later he said it was 50% responsible for making the film a smash hit.
10. *Jaws* has not been good for the conservation of sharks. It reportedly led to an increase in killings, much to Spielberg's regret.

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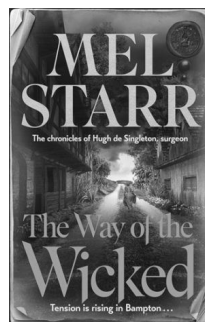
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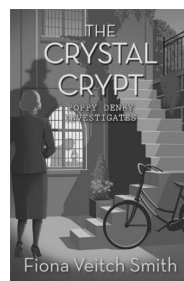
The Way of the Wicked

By Mel Starr, SPCK £9.99 Visit the world of 14th century England in this thrilling historical murder mystery, the 17th in the popular Chronicles of Hugh de Singleton. When Kendrick Wroe is found dead in the frozen Shill Brook, most suspect he has been poaching Lord Gilbert's fish, though Sir Hugh believes this may not be so. Then one of Kendrick's friends is slain; another seems to be in mortal peril, and Hugh's daughter Bessie is abducted. As the deaths rise and events begin to spiral out of control, it's all Hugh can do to master his anxiety and uncover the killer.



The Crystal Crypt

By Fiona Veitch Smith, SPCK £9.99 Set in the 1920s, Reporter sleuth Poppy Denby is asked to investigate the mysterious death of an up-and-coming female scientist in an Oxford laboratory known as the Crystal Crypt. The official verdict is that Dr June Leighton died in a tragic accident, but Dr Leighton's lab assistant believes it was murder. However, when Poppy discovers that the colleague has spent time in a mental institution and has an unresolved murder in her own past, Poppy wonders if she is being misled. But then, another female academic is attacked, and Poppy herself becomes a target.



Summer's out at Hope Hall

By Pam Rhodes, SPCK £9.99 Hope Hall thrums with activity under the summer sun. Sea Cadets march in the yard and happy chatter issues from English-as-a-Foreign-Language classes while the weekly Food Bank reaches out to those in need. Kath is determined to honour the origins of Hope Hall, which was founded in memory of those lost during the two World Wars. It's all-hands-on deck as the centenary celebrations continue, but Kath's efforts set her on a collision course with Celia Ainsworth, a descendant of the family that donated the land. Added to this, a mysterious homeless man proves tricky for Sheelagh to identify, and a handsome stranger looks set to lead Kath a merry dance... This deeply moving story celebrates the power of hope.



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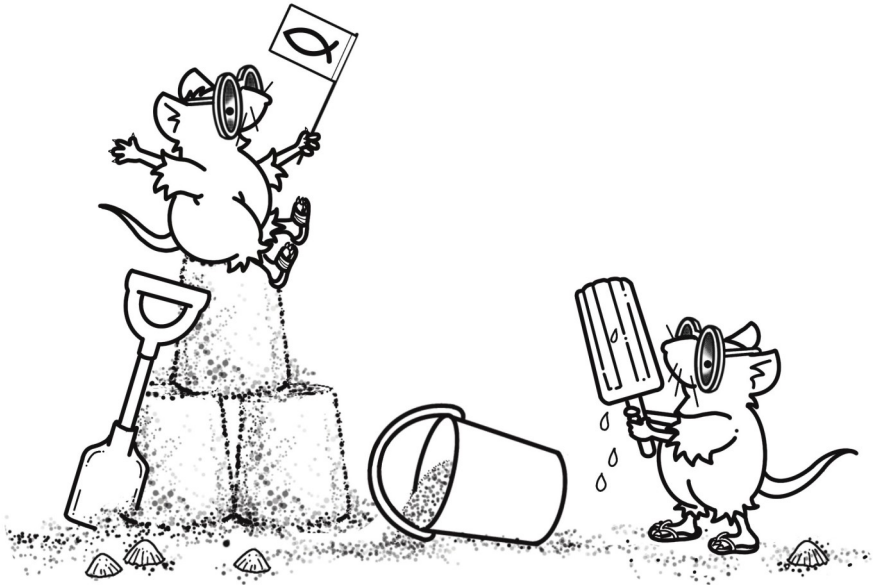


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The Apple Rhyme

Apples ripe and apples red,
Grow they high above my head.

Alack-a-day! For I am small
And apple-trees are mostly tall;

Dreary me! But what is sadder,
Nobody can find a ladder!

*From a poem by
Madeline Nightingale*



Pheew it has been
sooo hot!
I try to find a nice
shady spot in the
garden to keep cool
and under the apple
tree is the perfect
spot, not the pear
tree, oh no, the pears keep falling
off and they're getting a bit bigger
now!

I thought you might like the little
rhyme about an apple tree, perhaps
you can learn it and recite it to
your grown-ups!

Have a lovely summer holiday.
Enjoy!
Love and licks Paddy

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The story of the Transfiguration is told in Matthew (17:1-9), Mark (9:1-9) and Luke (9:28-36). On that day, high up on a mountain, Peter, James and John were given a glimpse of Jesus' true glory. For Jesus' face began to shine as the sun, and his garments became white and dazzling. Then Elijah and Moses, suddenly appeared, talking with him.

Overwhelmed, Peter offered to build three tabernacles on that holy place, one for each. But God's 'tabernacling', or God's *dwelling* with mankind, does not any longer depend upon building a shrine. It depends on being in the presence of Jesus, instead. And so a bright cloud covered them, and a voice spoke, saying that Jesus was his beloved son, whom the disciples should 'hear'. God's dwelling with mankind depends upon our *listening* to Jesus.

Why did Moses and Elijah appear? They represent the Law and the Prophets of the Old Covenant, or Old Testament. But now they were handing on the baton, if you like: for both the Law and the Prophets found their final fulfilment in Jesus, the Messiah.

Transfiguration high mountain glimpse glory shine sun garments
dazzling appeared moises tabernacles holy dwelling shrine
presence Jesus bright cloud mankind listen law prophets handing
fulfilment

(I know there is a gap on the grid, but the answers all appear to be there)

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COBHAM & SOLE STREET Scheme are looking for volunteers to support them in reducing speed and improving the safety on their roads with the support of the police.

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