

PARISH of COBHAM & LUDDESDOWNE with DODE

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

For Funeral enquiries please contact Alyson Phone no. 01474-812068 email:- alyson@stjohnsmeopham.co.uk

(Rest Day: Friday)

Associate Priest – The Rev'd Pam Davies

For Wedding, Baptism and all other enquiries please contact Pam

The Vicarage, Battle Street, Cobham, Kent. DAI2 3DB

Phone no 01474-394515 email:- rev.pamdavies@sky.com (NB new number)

(Current work days are Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday)

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

<u>Church Safeguarding Officer</u> - Hilary Savage - (01634) 723027'

Church Office Phone no. 01474 813495

Church Officers of St. Mary Magdalene, Cobham

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ChurchwardenHilary Savage(01634) 723027PCC SecretaryRon Chamberlain(01474) 814250TreasurerJeffrey Julie-Rusz07946 249021

Deanery Synod Hilary Savage

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Cobham Luddesdowne

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David Palmer

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

<u>Cover photograph Adrian Whiteing (</u>Cobham (front) church-yard, to the left of the wider church path)

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As we look forward to an early Easter there are many exciting local events to look forward to.

A trip to the West End is being planned by Chris (p.29) Cobham Choir will, once again, be providing musical entertainment (p.36) For those who enjoy a more rocking genre of music, Two Women Events present CODA (a Led Zeppelin Tribute Band) (p.27) A very special mile stone has been reached by our wonderful Cobham Amateur Dramatic Society, it is their 100th anniversary! (p.6 & p.17). Help is being sought! (p.15)can you spare some time? Additionally, see below for details of a special pre-schooler event!

On Mothering Sunday let's remember that special person who was always there for us when we needed them and, if you can, give them a big hug! Sending Happy Easter wishes—Tina



For the past couple of years I have been able to include articles produced by Kent Wildlife Trust volunteers, Celia Burns and Jean Craig. I know that many of you have found them interesting and informative. Sadly we are coming to the end of our supply of articles and I wanted to take the opportunity to thank Celia and Jean for the articles and their work as volunteers for the KWT.



Calling all Pre-schoolers!

Why not join Cobham's Easter trail around the village? You can pick up info and a pack from the shop.

The pack will contain a sheet with pictures of different Easter bunnies, a trail map and some Easter sweets. Your family can then follow the trail through the village at a time that works for them and find the corresponding bunnies in the windows; just like a game of Bingo!

Packs will be available from 15/3/24 to 7/4/24 at a cost of £3 (Profits will go to the shop and pre-school as a donation)

Let's go find those Bunnies!

A letter from the Rev'd Pam Davies

Dear friends.

As most of you will know, I moved here to Cobham just over a year ago. The move for me was to a new area that I knew very little about. I did not know people in the area before arriving here and I have never stayed in the area on holiday. Church has always been an important part of my life and, obviously, I have also moved churches. New house. New area. New job. New church. I don't think a new start could be much more dramatic!

We are approaching Easter. Easter is about new starts, new life and new birth. This is often symbolised with images of eggs and chicks. We give and receive Easter eggs and maybe cards with pictures of spring sunshine or new-born chicks. But Easter isn't really about eggs or chicks. It's about Jesus!

The real reason that we think about new life at Easter is because Jesus, who was crucified on that first Good Friday, rose to new life on the first Easter Sunday. This is not just a wonderful story, it's an historical fact. Jesus' body was never found and his resurrection never disproved. This was despite the best efforts of the mighty Roman Empire and the committed and powerful Jewish leaders to destroy the early church and discredit their belief. The early disciples were changed from a frightened and disillusioned group to men who stood up against the authorities and eventually gave their lives for what they believed – for what they knew to be true – that Jesus came back to life on Easter Sunday. New life for Jesus leading to new life in his disciples. New starts that make my recent changes seem trivial!

The impacts of what happened that first Easter are still relevant today. When Jesus died and rose, he did it for us. He offers us new life, eternal life, with him; life that starts now, but continues beyond this life. Now that is worth celebrating!

I hope you have a wonderful Easter. I hope you get to eat some Easter eggs – but not too many! I hope you enjoy a break from work and some quality time with family and friends. But more than all of this, I hope you spend some time thinking about the real meaning of Easter, Jesus' resurrection. I hope you spend some time thinking about the possibilities of a new life for yourself, starting now and continuing into eternity.

It would be wonderful to see you and your family at any of our Easter Services and to join us in declaring 'Jesus is alive and death has been conquered! '

Happy Easter.

Your friend, Rev Pam Associate Minister



Luddesdowne's Register

Funeral Service



Gerald Nigel Lemoine MINISTER (known as Gerry) was born on the 3rd March 1948 and died on the 22nd December 2023 aged 75 years old. Gerry's funeral took place on the 19th January 2024 in Luddesdowne church followed by Thames View Crematorium. The services were conducted by our Priest-in-Charge The Rev'd Canon Alyson DAVIE. Our condolences and prayers go to Gerry's son Philip, daughter Wendy, their family and friends.

Other Funeral Service

Geoffrey EVEREST was born on the 8th June 1947 and died on the 10th January 2024 aged 76 years old. Geoff's funeral took place on the 31st January 2024 in St Barnabas Church, Istead Rise, followed by Thames View Crematorium. The services were conducted by the Rev'd Simeon NEVELL. Our condolences and prayers go to Geoff's wife Pat, sons Johnathan and Anthony, their family and friends.

Geoff had been a Lay Reader at Cobham and Luddesdowne churches before becoming a Lay Reader at Istead Rise.

Luddesdown Parish Council

Residents are naturally curious about any changes within the village. If you have questions regarding the development of Vineyard Farms, and it's implications for the village please note that Luddesdown Parish Council is engaging with their team regularly and updates will be provided on the Parish Council website with contact details listed for direct enquiries. Did you know we have a Rural Beat Officer for Gravesham called Jo Hammond who you may see around the village? Her recent report into rural crime in the area is available on the PC website. Jo holds a monthly pop in meeting in the St Johns Centre in Meopham. The next meeting is on 8 March 2024 12-2pm.

Luddesdown Parish Council next meeting: Monday 18 March 2024 7.30pm at Luddesdown Village Hall

COBHAM AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY CENTENUARY YEAR

Cads was formed in 1924 and has been prominent in the village ever since. In the early years before WWII and the widespread ownership of radios, it was the principle form of theatrical entertainment for the village.



To mark this occasion, a script is currently in progress to tell the fascinating story of 100 years of trials and tribulations of an amateur dramatic society.

To help to tell this story we are looking for new members and are opening our doors to everyone, whether on stage or helping backstage, they are both important parts of a dramatic group.

If you would like to be part of this production, the performances will run from 21st, 22rd, 23rd November and rehearsals will start around August/September meeting twice a week on a Monday and Thursday. To join or for any further information, please contact roger.hodge@sky.com

Looking forward to meeting you.



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.





SOLE STREET WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Sole Street Women's Institute enters its Ruby Anniversary this year. Forty years of inspiring women from our multi-tasking St Mary's Church Room! What a magnificent co-incidence then that it is also the year that will see the renovation of this much loved Tin Tabernacle and pillar of our community!

Our programmed speaker in February had to be replaced and the Apiary Manager of Gravesend Bee Keepers kindly volunteered to explain her role and also about the non-native Asian Hornet, its effects on our environment and bee keeping. This voracious hornet is a killer of our natural pollinators and two nests were discovered locally last year. (See page 32).

Our speaker for Tuesday 26 March is Jaqueline Aviolet whose presentation is intriguingly entitled "I'm A Tulip, What Are You?" As this will be our last scheduled meeting in our existing premises we shall celebrate future renovation with Anniversary cake and Prosecco - a toast to the future!

For our outing on Tuesday 2nd April we are proposing a visit to Great Comp then, due to early Easter weekend and holidays the anniversary lunch will take place on Thursday 2 May with our Ruby (Murray) curry afternoon or evening, depending on popularity.

Thereafter due to programme of renovation works for the SMCR, all our general meetings will transfer to The Railway Inn public house 50 yards from the church room and be held at 2pm in the afternoon. Our new Annual Programme is fabulous - subjects from "Tanzania" to "Walking 1000 Miles in Lockdown" then don't forget "How Artists and Designers Lead Us Up The Garden Path"!

We will continue to support fund raising events for SMCR with the Local Funding Group e.g. on 6 July at the Vicarage in Cobham for church walk then ploughman's lunch or family hike in the afternoon followed by garden barbecue. There will also be a Strawberry Tea in June when members will supply all the English scones etc.

Weekly walks continue every Tuesday and next craft meeting on 11 March under auspices of talented Helen in her home is about creating decoupage on old terracotta garden pots. For further information about this and all our activities please contact President, Yvonne, tel 01474 813455.

Molly Isaacs

COBHAM YOUTH CLUB

Friday Ist March Friday I5th March



They run from 7.30pm to 9.30pm at the Meadow Rooms, The Street, Cobham, DAI2 3BZ.

The youth club is intended for young people from Year 6 to Year

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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 Tuesday 12th March

CONTACT: MARY PALMER - 01474 816788



Meetings & Shows at the Meadow Room in Dickensian Cobham, Kent SatNav DA12 3BZ Registered Charity No 228007

Saturday 13th April 2024 - 2:00-3:30pm Cobham Gardeners' Society

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North Kent Embroiderers

Hello Everyone,

How do you like our cheerful little robin? He was one of the postcards done to celebrate 'Winter'.

Our last meeting was a 'Stitch and Chat' session and it was lovely to see the range of embroidery that people had brought to work on. Muriel was working on a very chilly looking mermaid while Julie was doing some exquisite hand embroidery on top of a piece of machine embroidery on organza and soluble fabric which will be washed away once the embroidery is finished, to leave a



delicate lacy effect. Hopefully I will be able to show you this eventually. Claire had two young visitors with her who were interested to see everything that was going on.

Evelyn had organised a January 'fabric box' sale. Each large plastic box contained a range of fabrics, mostly cottons and suitable for a wide range of

textile and stitching styles. At a bargain price of £5 per selection (including the container) these were soon snapped up!

By the time you read this we will have tried out our mini workshops. These will run alongside our normal meetings but will start earlier. This is a new idea that we are trying out. The first two -needlelace and blackwork will be led by our own Sue D and Veronica respectively. Watch this space for exciting results! Members not taking part in the workshops will be able to 'stitch and chat' during our normal meeting time.



For our upcoming meetings and workshops please

look at the website (see below) or check out our QR code. If you are looking for a new hobby or would like to pick up an existing pastime there might be something that would interest you.

If you would like 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

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HELP WANTED

Cobham Church is in urgent need of a Treasurer to manage its finances. Do you have the necessary skills and experience to help us?

You do not need to be a member of the congregation, but will need an enthusiastic approach and a knowledge of book-keeping.

We would be very happy to hear from you.

Please contact either The Reverend Pam Davies on 01474 394515 Or Hilary Savage on 01634 723027 Thank you.

MORE HELP NEEDED

Cobham Church needs some help with managing it's churchyards. Jon Pye has been doing a magnificent job for many years with some help from John Jackson and others. However, the time has come to ask for

a few new people to help out for a few hours each month.

Many hands make light work, so please let us know if you could help maintain our beautiful churchyards.

Again, we would love to hear from you. Please contact either Jon Pye on 01474 814555 or 07890 083940 or The Reverend Pam Davies on 01474 394515 or Hilary Savage on 01634 723027 Thank you.

"YET MORE HELP PLEASE".

Would you be able to help manage the **Cobham** Church Diary? It would entail liaising with people wishing to book events etc. (A knowledge of spreadsheets would be useful as well.) Please contact **Janet on 01732 823936** Thank you.



BELL RINGING by Peter Hartley

In 1907 the Vicar of St. Paul's Church, Bedford told Evelyn Steel that "he didn't think it nice for ladies to ring because men rang without their coats". Despite these words Evelyn rang her first peal (3 hours) in 1911, was President of the Ladies Guild of Change Ringers for 20 years, rang 260 peals, and died at very nearly 94.

These facts are from a history of the Ladies Guild which was founded in 1912 "to encourage ringing among Church workers, assist their brethren, and foster a closer relationship of all women and girl ringers".

The development of the engineering of bell hanging enabled the Exercise of change ringing to advance and in 1670 Pepys had a dinner with the lady ringers of St. Olaves. As in society at large men dominated and it is humbling to read on peal boards how blacksmiths and farm labourers kept the Exercise of ringing going. However family connections often encouraged ladies to ring. In 1869 the Trelawney family, with 3 daughters and a son, rang Grandsire Cinques on handbells.

In 1911 the Curate at Dagenham tried "to forbid any young lady from entering the belfry". Mr. Herbert Sharp wrote in response he would like to see ladies "ringing touches and peals on their own without the aid of man". The Ladies Guild was founded and in that year of 1912 the first peal was rung in the church at Cubitt Town by an all-female band dressed in full length skirts and high necked blouses with long sleeves.

In the Great War the motto was "Keep the home fires burning and the church bells ringing". At Ashton under Lyne "Seven of the band of St. Peter's have enlisted and members of the fair sex have come to the aid of those who are left". Ever since, as in wider society with its seeking for sexual equality, amidst periodic skirmishes also in the Church of England, in its belfries men and women are today all equally valued ringers.

Jill Staniforth I knew as a member of the nosegay team who made nosegays which we carried at the annual Royal Maundy Service. In chatting with Jill I gathered, as a ringer at Leicester Cathedral, Jill was a very able ringer though typically she was reticent and modest about her ringing skills. Now, armed with the History of the Ladies Guild of Change Ringers, I read Jill was President of the Ladies Guild from 1959-1962, a peal ringer and a conductor. Untroubled by weary legs, weakening arms and a slowing brain, I trust Jill and her ringing husband Peter are now ringing golden heavenly bells while we continue to rejoice in all ringers.

Friends of Cobham Church Help from Young Friends

The girls from Cobham Hall were out in force on 3 February, getting involved in community service. We were pleased to welcome a group to the church where they sponged, brushed and dusted the various monuments in the chancel and the museum.

We really appreciated their help and hope that they enjoyed getting "up close and personal" with the brasses and the famous Brooke tomb and identifying items which are directly to linked to the past owners of Cobham Hall.



CADS

Cobham Amateur Dramatic Society presents their Spring Production from 15th to 18th May. An 8pm start at the Meadow Room, The Street Cobham. Further details of the production will be coming soon.

Mothering Sunday: 4th Sunday in Lent

There is an old Jewish saying: God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made mothers.

Mother Church, Mother Earth, Mother of the Gods - our human mothers - all of them have been part of the celebration of 'Mothering Sunday' - as the fourth Sunday in Lent is affectionately known. It has been celebrated in the UK since at least the $16^{\rm th}$ century.

In Roman times, great festivals were held every Spring to honour Cybele, Mother of all the Gods. Other pagan festivals in honour of Mother Earth were also celebrated. With the arrival of Christianity, the festival became one honouring Mother Church.

During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as 'live-in' servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families - which is how 'Mothering Sunday' got its name. This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. In some places the day was called Simnel Day, because of the sweet cakes called simnel cakes traditionally eaten on that day.

In recent years the holiday has changed and in many ways now resembles the American Mother's Day, with families going out to Sunday lunch and generally making a fuss of their mother on the day.

Cobham, Luddesdowne and Sole Street

Church Services during March



Sunday 3rd March
10:30am Holy Communion, Cobham

Sunday 10th March
10:30am Mothering Sunday Service, Luddesdowne

Sunday 17th March
10:30am Holy Communion (BCP), Cobham
4:00pm All Age Service, Cobham

Palm Sunday 24th March
10:30am Palm Sunday Communion, Luddesdowne

Maundy Thursday 28th March
7:30pm Holy Communion, St John's Meopham
(Joint Service - All churches together)

Good Friday 29th March
2pm An hour by the cross, Luddesdowne
Easter Day Sunday 31st March
10:30am Easter Communion, Cobham

9:30am 6th March - Holy Communion,

 13^{th} 20^{th} and 27^{th} Informal Morning Prayer



St John's Meopham with St Mildred's Nurstead Church Services during March

Sunday 3rd March 9.45am Morning Worship and Baptism at St John's

11.30am Holy Communion at St Mildred's

Wednesday 6th March 10am Holy Communion in St John's Centre Sunday 10th March Mothering Sunday

9.45am Morning Worship at St John's

11.30am Morning Worship at St Mildred's

Wednesday 13th March 10am Holy Communion in St John's Centre

Sunday 17th March 9.45am Parish Communion at St John's

3 pm Sunday Afternoon Club

Wednesday 20th March 10am Holy Communion in St John's Centre

Holy Week Begins

Sunday 24th March Palm Sunday 9.45am Family Communion

11.30am Family Service

Wednesday 27th March 10am Holy Communion at St John's

Thursday 28th March Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Holy Communion at St John's for all four Churches

Friday 29th March Good Friday

10am A March of Witness starting from St John's Meopham

2-3pm An Hour by the Cross at St Mildred's

Sunday 31st March Easter Sunday

9.45am Easter Communion St John's

11.30am Easter Communion St Mildred's

"How nice to be thinking about March... warmer days, and drying the washing outside!

A Drying Day

The branches are swaying Replete with their fresh-growing leaves The wind-music playing -

The breeze singing soft in the breeze.

The sun on our faces The first sunny warmth of the year; The frost it displaces, The first signs of spring now appear.

We won't need our dryer This day will be breezy but fine; No rack by the fire -We'll hang out our clothes on the line! This day is a treasure, We watch as our shirts dance and play; There's no better pleasure Than the breeze on a spring drying day!

By Nigel Beeton



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Wednesday 13th March 2024 - 7pm Preparing For The Show

Dr John Hughes looks at the importance of village shows, how the village can make the most of the show and how to encourage new exhibitors.

John's talk covers planning for the show as an exhibitor, how to display exhibits at their best, with digital images to show how best to present what you have. John entered his first exhibits almost sixty years ago and has won various cups and Banksian Medals for the most points at various local flower shows. John is a well respected judge both locally and within the Royal Horticultural Society.

Members free - non members £3





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Meopham Library Writing Group

Meopham Library Writing Group meets again at **10am** on **Thursday 7**th **March** and the following meetings are on 4th April, 2nd May and 6th June. Creative writing is a very enjoyable activity, which can also be used to record memories for the family and help people facing difficult times. Anyone interested in writing short stories, poetry or articles about hobbies and local history is invited to join the group. There is a different writing theme each month and a writing challenge. Beginners as well as more experienced writers are all very welcome.

Please ring 01474 813379 for more information, or just join us at Meopham Library on 7^{th} March.

Ist SOUTH STREET BOYS BRIGADE and GIRLS ASSOCIATION COMPANY

Meetings are every Friday 6pm-7.30pm during term time for boys and girls aged 5-18 years old at South Street Baptist Church, Wrotham Road, Meopham, DAI3 0QI(next to Hope Hill)

There are team games, cooking, craft, science activities and Bible stories as well as outdoor activities, weather permitting. Kayaking, canoeing and stand -up paddle boarding take place at the Water Activities Centre in Tonbridge, with a team of trained and fully qualified leaders.

There are summer camps at the Honey Hill Boys Brigade Campsite in Maidstone.

For more information please ring 01474 815039 or visit

www.southstreetbaptist.org.uk

There will be a Family games afternoon for all ages on Saturday 16th March 2pm-4pm, with table tennis, indoor archery, pool, board games and refreshments. Admission is free.

Song time meets every Monday morning 9.45am-I I am during term time for families with babies and toddlers. There are lots of toys, craft activities, musical instruments, a singing time and refreshments. Family admission is $\pounds I$. South Street Baptist Church Sunday morning services all start at 10.45am.

The Easter Sunday Family Service is on 31st March.

In February we had our first expert speaker talk by Alison Marsden – Raised Beds & No Dig Gardening! Even though the talk was held on Valentine's Day, it attracted a full house with over 60 people attending. Alison gave a very interesting talk on what digging does to the soil and how to make the most of raised beds. Even some of our most seasoned gardens went away with some new ideas and food for thought. There are ideas on Alison's website and if you sign up, she sends out regular very informative emails/blogs www.gardeningbydesign.co.uk

Spring Show & Plant Sale

Saturday 13th April 2024 at 2:00pm o 3.30pm in the Meadow Room, Cobham. This is Gardeners' first Show of the year. The show features Gardening Tips, Adult & Junior Show Categories, Flowers, Vegetables, Preserves & Photographic entries. Tea, coffee & home-made cake is on sale. There's Free Entry for Members & Non-Members. For more information email cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01474-363315.

Cobham Gardeners' Society coach trip to RHS Wisley Gardens Wednesday 22nd May 2024

We are organising a coach trip to RHS Wisley Gardens. The coach will depart Cobham (opposite school) at 915am and leave RHS Wisley at 3.45pm. The cost is £10 for Society members and £15 for non-members, which includes return coach transfer from Cobham and entry to the gardens. For more information or to book email cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01474-363315.

You can buy Membership of Cobham Gardeners at any time. You can apply for membership at the talks or via email cobhamgs@hotmail.co.uk It is 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.

Here are the RHS Top 10 Jobs for March.

Spring arrives, usually by mid-March and more sunny days provide the opportunity for an increasing range of gardening tasks. It's time to get busy preparing seed beds, sowing seed, cutting back shrubs..

- 1. Protect new spring shoots from slugs
- 2. Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes
- 3. Plant summer-flowering bulbs
- 4. Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials
- 5. Top dress containers with fresh compost
- 6. Mow the lawn on dry days (if needed)
- 7. Cut back Cornus (dogwood) and Salix (willow) grown for colourful winter stems
- 8. Hoe and mulch weeds to keep them under control early
- 9. Start feeding fish and using the pond fountain; remove pond heaters
- 10. Prune bush and climbing roses

More advice can be found on the RHS website https://www.rhs.org.uk/

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Cobham Parish Council Meeting dates

7.30pm on 9th April at St Mary's Church Rooms. Annual Parish Assembly

8pm on 23rd April at the Meadow Rooms

8pm on 21st May at the Meadow Rooms - Annual Parish Meeting

8pm on 2nd July at the Meadow Rooms

8pm on 3rd September at the Meadow Rooms

8pm on 1st October at the Meadow Rooms

8pm on 5th November at the Meadow Rooms

8pm on 3rd December at the Meadow Rooms

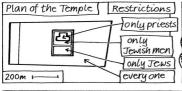


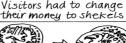


It can be read in the Bible in Mt 21:12-16, MK 11:15-18, LK 19: 45-48

A short story from the Bible

When Jesus reached Jerusalem he went to the Temple, built as a place where everyone could worship God, but with restrictions..





















It's Crufts time!

Crufts dog show started in 1891 by a man called Charles Cruft, he used to sell dog food so he must have really loved dogs. Last year more than 155,000 people visited the dog show that lasted four days, and over 24,000 dogs took part. I'll have to steal the remote control so I can watch it on the tele! I am sure there will be lots of smart dogs on show, but I know that all of the much loved dogs that I see on my daily walks, are just as special!



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Love and serve one another

On Maundy Thursday we recall the final command that Jesus gave to His disciples before His death. After the Last Supper, He rose and washed His disciples' feet. This was astonishing for a 'teacher' to do, but He had a firm purpose in mind: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another.

In Latin, the opening phrase of this sentence is 'mandatum novum do vobis'. The word 'mundy' is thus a corruption of the Latin 'mandatum' (or command). The 'washing of the feet' ceremony was an important part of the medieval church's liturgy, symbolising the humility of the clergy, in obedience to the example of Christ.

Maundy Thursday Final Command Jesus Disciples Death Last Supper Washed Feet Astonishing Purpose Teacher As Loved you Must One Another Service Domination Latin Ceremony Medieval Humility Obedience

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