

# WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY



If this is your first newsletter, **welcome!** If you have any questions about the church family, the Christian faith, or about our children's work, please do not hesitate to get in touch. This notice sheet covers the next two weeks and combines:

- Notices
- The church diary (including livestream & Zoom joining instructions),
- Prayers and readings for the morning services on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

## Welcome Evening *(including our online community)*

Once upon a time, before the pandemic, we would have a welcome / social evening every autumn to bring together those who were new to our church community across the benefice so that they could meet new people, and so they could learn more about the church family.

As life returns back to 'normal' we want to start this up again. So, if you are new (in the last four years!) please do let Vicky know if you can come along at 7.30pm on the evening Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October at Brook House in Long Melford (opposite the Bull). Also, we would like to invite those who normally watch us online to attend so that we can feel closer to you (and you to us) as we worship together.



Vicky's details are [chadbrookoffice@gmail.com](mailto:chadbrookoffice@gmail.com) or 07804 558160.

## Wisdom from 3000 years ago

When archaeologists discover a bone, a piece of metal, a pot, or a coin from antiquity we all get pretty excited. But what about if we could have some of the words from the people who lived back then? Cue lights and enter centre stage ... the Bible! At Tuesday morning prayer a couple of weeks ago, we read from the book of Proverbs. People back then really do not seem that different to us. Enjoy the extract that we read from Proverbs 15:

<sup>15</sup> The life of the poor is a constant struggle, but happy people always enjoy life.

<sup>16</sup> Better to be poor and fear the Lord than to be rich and in trouble.

<sup>17</sup> Better to eat vegetables with people you love than to eat the finest meat where there is hate.

<sup>18</sup> Hot tempers cause arguments, but patience brings peace.

<sup>19</sup> If you are lazy, you will meet difficulty everywhere, but if you are honest, you will have no trouble.

<sup>20</sup> Wise children make their fathers happy. Only fools despise their mothers.

<sup>21</sup> Stupid people are happy with their foolishness, but the wise will do what is right.

<sup>22</sup> Get all the advice you can, and you will succeed; without it you will fail.

<sup>23</sup> What a joy it is to find just the right word for the right occasion!

<sup>24</sup> Wise people walk the road that leads upward to life, not the road that leads downward to death.

<sup>25</sup> The Lord will destroy the homes of arrogant men, but he will protect a widow's property.

<sup>26</sup> The Lord hates evil thoughts, but he is pleased with friendly words.

<sup>27</sup> Try to make a profit dishonestly, and you get your family in trouble. Don't take bribes and you will live longer.

<sup>28</sup> Good people think before they answer. Evil people have a quick reply, but it causes trouble.

<sup>29</sup> When good people pray, the Lord listens, but he ignores those who are evil.

<sup>30</sup> Smiling faces make you happy, and good news makes you feel better.

<sup>31</sup> If you pay attention when you are corrected, you are wise.

<sup>32</sup> If you refuse to learn, you are hurting yourself. If you accept correction, you will become wiser.

<sup>33</sup> Reverence for the Lord is an education in itself. You must be humble before you can ever receive honours.

## 4 o'clock Community services and events in September & October

Sun	21 <sup>st</sup>	4.00pm	'Shine' Informal Worship at Holy Trinity Long Melford (includes a testimony)
Sun	28 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Pub Social at The Swan in Lawshall
Sun	12 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Wild Church – 'Apple Day' at Lavenham Lodge Farm (///holly.arrive.limits)
Sun	19 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Messy Church – Melford School
Sun	26 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Shine Informal Worship at Holy Trinity



**Shine**

**4 o'clock Informal Worship**

Sundays 4pm  
@ Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford  
on 21st September  
26th October  
& 23rd November

All are welcome to our family friendly service  
with worship band, art, craft, snacks and prayer ministry

[www.longmelfordchurch.com](http://www.longmelfordchurch.com)  
or [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)

## Rest in Peace Tony

We are very sad to report that a dearly loved member of our church community, Tony Jones-Lloyd, left this life early on Thursday morning. Tony was always cheerful ... whether locking and unlocking the church, serving in the shop, or attending services. His good humour and uncomplaining nature is commendable due to the considerable pain he was enduring, particularly in recent months. Tony will be dearly missed by his family and our thoughts and prayers are with them all. May Tony rest in peace and rise in the warmth, glory, and healing of Christ. Tony's funeral will be at Holy Trinity church on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Oct - time tba.

## You are part of the Family Service!

One of the signs of a healthy family is that the generations enjoy getting together - grandparents, aunts and uncles can enjoy seeing children growing up - and can play silly games with them! Grandchildren and children can enjoy listening to stories and wisdom from their elders. The different generations may not actually live with each other - but regular get-togethers and plans (and exhausted parents hope for a meal that they don't have to prepare!). So it is with a health church family - God is more fully represented when all generations of a church family are able worship together.

A group of us have come together to try to inject some fresh energy and ideas into the family service which is on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 10.30am in Melford, and 4pm in Lawshall. We're thinking about how to encourage people of all generations to play a part in the service. We've thought about music - we want to make sure that children learn from our rich heritage of hymns ... but also that they can engage with more contemporary music (see next article!). We've also thought about the intimacy we have enjoyed during services in the Lady Chapel and south aisle. Accordingly, we are planning to take our life into our hands(!) and encourage people to sit together closer towards the front for the family service at Holy Trinity in November. We also have some other ideas to trial - some of these may work, some may not! (we will similarly try to give notice).

It is a matter of urgency that church in this nation is as welcoming as possible for new families. More seriously we should reflect on the very words of Jesus who said in Mark 10:15: "Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." Indeed, personally I regularly find that I learn more walking with God from a simple talk than I do from a more complex sermon.

So, if you are not going to Evensong on the first Sunday at 6.30pm, please consider strengthening both yourself and the church family and coming along to the family service ... or both! I pray that you will be blessed.

If you would like to join the team developing this service please let Pam, our family and children's worker, know.

[melfordfamilyworker@gmail.com](mailto:melfordfamilyworker@gmail.com),

07890 880 976

*Revd Lawson*





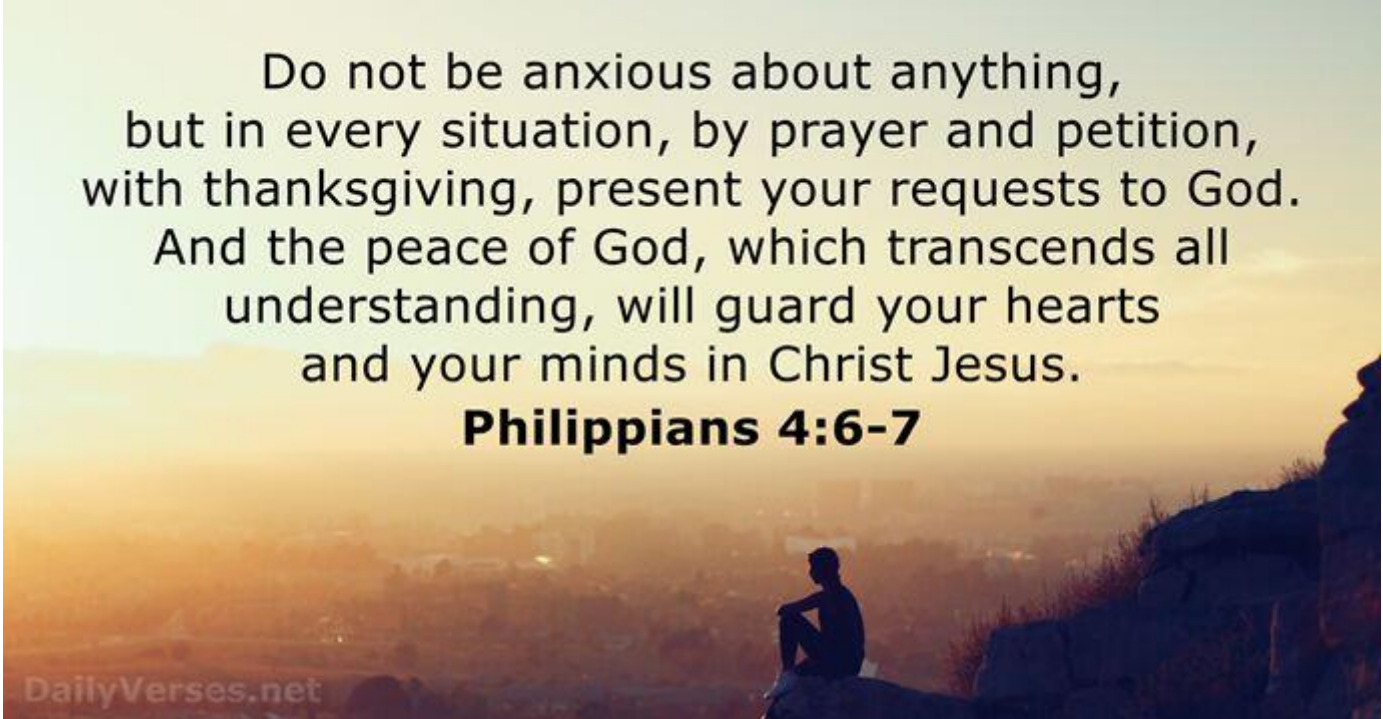
## Letter of Complaint about a modern hymn(!)

"I am no music scholar, but I feel I know appropriate church music when I hear it. Last Sunday's new hymn – if you can call it that – sounded like a sentimental love ballad one would expect to hear crooned in a saloon. If you insist on exposing us to rubbish like this – in God's house! – don't be surprised if many of the faithful look for a new place to worship. The hymns we grew up with are all we need.

*(Written in 1863 about the hymn 'Just as I am'!).*

## Suggestions for prayer include:

- We pray for world leaders that they would remain humble, seek peace, and be open to the Spirit of God.
- As we reflect on the tax collector Matthew in our Gospel reading - we pray for wisdom for those running the taxation system in our country.
- We remember before God those who have recently died including Frances (Brenda) Angel, Jean Kerby, Tony Jones-Lloyd, and we pray for those friends & family who mourn.
- We pray for those who are on a journey with cancer, and for those who support them.
- We pray that young people would discover that God loves them and has a good plan for their life, and that the church would nurture their faith effectively. In particular we pray for those starting a new academic year and the staff that will support and teach them.
- We pray for those in need of God's presence or his healing touch including Barbara Brady, Anne Bush, David Bremer, Elizabeth Clarke, Phillip Cole, Robert Hawkins, William Hawkins, baby Munroe, and Mary Tuffen.



Do not be anxious about anything,  
but in every situation, by prayer and petition,  
with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.  
And the peace of God, which transcends all  
understanding, will guard your hearts  
and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 4:6-7**

## Faithchat

FaithChat - the next meeting will be at 10.30 on Saturday 27 September at the home of David & Susie Tweed. Our topic - the Bible when we will talk about such issues as - what is the Bible? Who wrote it? The role of translations. What does the Bible mean to me? How do we use it? For more info please call Malcolm or Judith on 01787 315689.

## Macmillan Fundraisers - a Coffee Morning ... and a Coffee Afternoon

Almost all of us will know people whose lives are affected by a journey with cancer. One simple way we can support those on that journey is by raising money for the many charities that provide help in all sorts of different ways - here are two fundraisers within our benefice.

Please come and join us for our Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer, to be held at our house, 13 Laurel Drive Long Melford, on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 10am until 12. There will also be a raffle and second-hand book stall. Any raffle donations would be greatly appreciated. We look forward to welcoming you, Jan & Ron



**Electric Alchemy BAND**

Original Indian Fusion Classical Gypsy Jazz



**STUNNINGLY ELECTRIFYING CONCERT**

Holy Trinity Church  
Long Melford  
Fri 26th Sept, 7pm  
Tickets £13.50, children under 16 free  
Online/on the door  
Fundraising for church and local charity Compassion



Marianne Olyver - Violin  
Jacqueline Phillips - Cello  
Oliver Steggle - Guitar  
Jeffery Wilson - Saxophone  
John Human - Keyboard  
Jonathan Woolston - Bass  
Sirishkumar Manji - Tabla Drums



**THE EMERGERS CHARITY FUNDRAISER**

PLAYING FOLK, CLASSICAL AND BLUES

**SAT OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup> 2025  
7-10PM  
ALL SAINTS CHURCH,  
LAWSHALL**

RAFFLE  
LICENSED BAR  
HOTDOG INC. WITH  
TICKET

ADULT £12  
CHILD (12-18) £5  
INFANT (UNDER 5) FREE

TICKETS ON THE DOOR

PROCEEDS TO CHURCH TOWER FUND AND  
SEN EQUIPMENT FOR LITTLE SAPLINGS  
PRESCHOOL

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL:  
HELLO@LAWSHALLLITTLESAPLINGS.CO.UK  
GRANDMACOEE@YAHOO.CO.UK



## Dates for your Diary include:

Sat 8<sup>th</sup> Nov      3.00pm      The Kirbye Voices - A Remembrance Themed Concert at Holy Trinity



**Diary**

Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	9.00am	Communion at Shimpling
	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	Shine Informal Worship at Holy Trinity
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30am	Connect toddler & baby group at St Catherine's
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer #
	1.00pm	Church Tour at Holy Trinity
	7.30pm	A&S Homegroup
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.45am	Visiting Ringers at Holy Trinity
Thurs 25 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Choir Practice
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm	MacMillan Coffee Afternoon at Shimpling Village Hall
	7.00pm	Electric Alchemy Band at Holy Trinity
	7.30pm	Fusion Plus Youth Group
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Faithchat
	7.00pm	Harvest Supper at Shimpling Village Hall
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	1.00pm	Baptism at All Saints, Lawshall
	4.00pm	Pub Social at The Swan Lawshall
	6.30pm	Communion at Lawshall
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Connect toddler & baby group at St Catherine's
Tues 30 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer #
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	7.00pm	Choir Practice Holy Trinity
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup>	7.30pm	Fusion Youth Group St Catherine's
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Harvest Communion at Alpheton
	10.30am	Harvest Family Communion at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	Harvest Family Communion at Lawshall
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong at Holy Trinity *

**\* Livestream Joining Instructions**

- Google the five words "Holy Trinity Long Melford Facebook" or [click here](#) to open the church's Facebook page (scroll down a bit to see the feed).
- Please note that you do not need a Facebook account yourself in order to watch the livestream.

**# Morning Prayer** Zoom Meeting ID: 816 5338 9796, Passcode: 289895, or click [here](#).

Readings for the 21<sup>st</sup> September – Trinity 14**Collect (prayer for the day)**

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**First Reading****2 Corinthians 4:1-6**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup> Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. <sup>3</sup> And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.

<sup>4</sup> The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup> For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup> For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

**Proverbs 3:13-18**

<sup>13</sup> Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding, <sup>14</sup> for she is more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold. <sup>15</sup> She is more precious than rubies; nothing you desire can compare with her. <sup>16</sup> Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honour. <sup>17</sup> Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace. <sup>18</sup> She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her; those who hold her fast will be blessed.

**Gospel Reading****Matthew 9:9-13**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew*

**Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>9</sup> As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. <sup>10</sup> And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. <sup>11</sup> When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" <sup>12</sup> But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup> Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

**Praise to You O Christ**

*(Bible readings courtesy of Bible Gateway New International Version - UK (NIVUK))*

**Post Communion Prayer**

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Readings for the 28<sup>th</sup> September - Trinity 15**Collect (prayer for the day)**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**First Reading****1 Timothy 6:6-19**

<sup>6</sup> But godliness with contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup> For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. <sup>8</sup> But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. <sup>9</sup> Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

<sup>11</sup> But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup> In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup> to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup> who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honour and might forever. Amen.

<sup>17</sup> Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup> Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. <sup>19</sup> In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

*This is the word of the Lord*

***Thanks be to God***

**Old Testament Reading****Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15**

<sup>1</sup> This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of Zedekiah king of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar. <sup>2</sup> The army of the king of Babylon was then besieging Jerusalem, and Jeremiah the prophet was confined in the courtyard of the guard in the royal palace of Judah.

<sup>3</sup> Now Zedekiah king of Judah had imprisoned him there, saying, “Why do you prophesy as you do? You say, ‘This is what the Lord says: I am about to give this city into the hands of the king of Babylon, and he will capture it.

<sup>6</sup> Jeremiah said, “The word of the Lord came to me: <sup>7</sup> Hanamel son of Shallum your uncle is going to come to you and say, ‘Buy my field at Anathoth, because as nearest relative it is your right and duty to buy it.’

<sup>8</sup> “Then, just as the Lord had said, my cousin Hanamel came to me in the courtyard of the guard and said, ‘Buy my field at Anathoth in the territory of Benjamin. Since it is your right to redeem it and possess it, buy it for yourself.’

“I knew that this was the word of the Lord; <sup>9</sup> so I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel and weighed out for him seventeen shekels of silver. <sup>10</sup> I signed and sealed the deed, had it witnessed, and weighed out the silver on the scales. <sup>11</sup> I took the deed of purchase—the sealed copy containing the terms and conditions, as well as the unsealed copy— <sup>12</sup> and I gave this deed to Baruch son of Neriah, the son of

Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel and of the witnesses who had signed the deed and of all the Jews sitting in the courtyard of the guard.

<sup>13</sup> “In their presence I gave Baruch these instructions: <sup>14</sup> ‘This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Take these documents, both the sealed and unsealed copies of the deed of purchase, and put them in a clay jar so they will last a long time. <sup>15</sup> For this is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Houses, fields and vineyards will again be bought in this land.’

## Gospel Reading

## Luke 16:19-31

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew*

Glory to you, O Lord

<sup>19</sup> “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. <sup>20</sup> At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores <sup>21</sup> and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

<sup>22</sup> “The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup> In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup> So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’

<sup>25</sup> “But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup> And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’

<sup>27</sup> “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, <sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

<sup>29</sup> “Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’

<sup>30</sup> “ ‘No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

<sup>31</sup> “He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

***Praise to You O Christ***

*(Bible readings courtesy of Bible Gateway New International Version - UK (NIVUK))*

## Post Communion Prayer

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**