

# New Life



St Mary the Virgin

The Monthly  
Magazine for the  
Parishes of  
St Mary the Virgin,  
Fen Ditton,  
St Peter, Horningsea  
and  
All Saints, Teversham

June 2022



All Saints



St Peter

50p

**THE PARISHES OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, FEN DITTON,  
ST PETER, HORNINGSEA AND ALL SAINTS, TEVERSHAM**

**Priest-in-charge**

**Rev'd Canon Nick Moir (607433)**

**email: [nick.moir@elydiocese.org](mailto:nick.moir@elydiocese.org)**

**Assistant Priests**

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**EDITOR:** Kerry Sayer

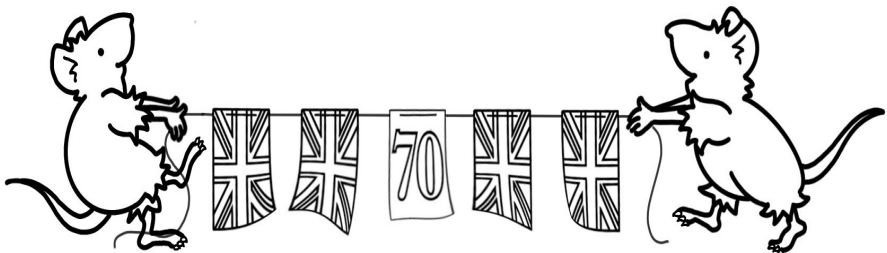
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Dear friends

I have some vivid memories of the Queen's silver jubilee. The celebrations coincided with my 16th birthday. I was already a 6th former (we did everything a year early) so I was enjoying feeling very grown up. I went to the firework display in Hyde Park with my then girlfriend's family. On the bank holiday Monday our church youth group went for a walk on Box Hill and the weather was glorious. I went to a street party with some friends. It was a special time for me – and for the whole nation. Economically, times were gloomy, as I remember, and there was a good deal of social division and unrest. And it wasn't entirely obvious that the jubilee celebrations would be a hit – it was a test both of the Queen's own popularity and of our sense of national wellbeing and togetherness.

As I say, for me the memories were happy and it seemed like a glorious and idyllic summer. It was great to have that shared communal experience of togetherness and happiness. And the focus of it all was the one who is the figurehead of our nation - who brings us all together.

And 45 years later she is still with us. For nearly all of us she has always been there, part of our social fabric and landscape. The longer she has reigned the more we realise how important that continuity has been. Our political leaders have risen and fallen, fashions have come and gone, new technologies have changed things for ever – but we have enjoyed, and been blessed by, that one human thread of continuity. The Queen hasn't been insulated from the tragedies and the heartaches that have befallen many others. She has kept her nerve and, sustained by her deep Christian faith, is still there smiling and – in times of crisis – sustaining us with carefully chosen words of reassurance.

All of our villages are organising Jubilee celebrations and I will be joining in as many as I can. It is, of course, with a special sense of relief that most of us are now able to enjoy these public communal celebrations free from the Covid fears that have cast such a pall over us in these past two years. The Queen's wonderful smile expresses what many of us now feel. We all need to relax and enjoy ourselves for a while. For me that will also involve remembering those lovely warm carefree days of the summer of 1977.



I will be leading services in all three churches on Sunday 5 June (which is also the Feast of Pentecost or Whitsun): a Holy Communion in Fen Ditton at 9.45am and special Jubilee services at Teversham (11.15am) and Horningsea (6pm). Do come and join us.

With my prayers and good wishes

Nick



## Queen's Platinum Jubilee in Horningsea

Everyone in Horningsea is invited to join the celebrations!

**Thursday 2 June:** help put up the marquee and decorate the Jubilee Gardens with bunting; help decorate the church with flowers, bunting and put together the exhibitions of your photographs and Royal Memorabilia. Decorate your house, window or road! At 9pm meet up in the Jubilee Gardens for the lighting of the beacon in Laney Meadow at 9.45pm.

**Friday 3 June:** come to the church at about 10.30am to listen to the church bells ringing as part of the National Bell Ringing, visit the Exhibition and flower arrangements, enjoy tea and cakes – all at the church from 10.30am to 4.30pm. At 7pm come back to the church for the great Village Concert ... including the Horningsea Orchestra organised by village children, some talented strings players, singers including songs from the reign of QE I and QE II, Ukrainian folk songs, Liz Cotton singing her own songs .... And poems and readings from AA Milne, Jane Austen, Alan Bennett, Betjeman .... There are no tickets, just come along and enjoy!

**Saturday 4 June:** party organised by HRA at Laney Meadow from 5pm to late with barbecue, and drinks provided by P&F and C&P.

**Sunday 5 June:** Village Picnic Lunch at Laney Meadow, design and make (and eat!) a pudding fit for a Queen. Wear red, white & blue or purple, tiaras and crowns. Decorate your bike, buggy, scooter or wheelchair! Finish the weekend by coming to the Jubilee Thanksgiving Evening Service at 6pm at Horningsea Church.



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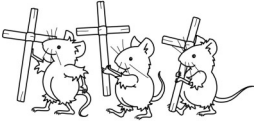
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## Our Parishes

*If you would like to discuss baptism or thanksgiving for the birth of a child, the reading of marriage banns and weddings, or arrangements for a funeral at any of our churches, please contact the relevant churchwardens using the contact details on the inside front cover of this magazine.*



Thank you to everyone for showing me such kindness and hospitality during my 30 years in Horningsea, especially valued since dear Cathy's passing nearly 7 years ago. I am downsizing to a flat in Bristol near my daughter and little granddaughter. I invite you to join me for tea and cakes at St Peter's church on **Sunday 12 June** from 2pm. No gifts please—I have too much stuff already! *Andy Clarke*

### Free fundraising for Fen Ditton church

Easyfundraising is a fundraising tool for churches and other community groups, enabling you to raise money for us **at no cost to you** while you do your online shopping with your usual retailers. To sign up and get fundraising **for free**, visit <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmarythevirginfenditton/>

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## FEN DITTON 200 CLUB

The lucky winners for **June**  
were:

£50 Finley Ambrose (57)

£20 Henry Hutt (90)

£10 Margaret Parget (26)

£10 Carrie McCarthy (169)

£10 Jamie Green (68)

## SCOTTISH DANCING

Scottish Dancing takes place in Fen Ditton Village Hall on Mondays at 7.15—8.15pm.

Enjoyable sessions. Individuals or couples welcome. Learning some reels and having fun are the purposes of these classes.

The classes are now held every Monday, including Bank Holiday Mondays and the school holidays. Come and join us!

Please contact Pamela on 01223 292493 for any information about Scottish Dancing. If there is no reply, please leave your name and telephone number on the answerphone and she will get back to you.



## Petertide Patronal Festival

The joint service at the end of June is our chance to celebrate St Peter's Day at St Peter's Church in Horningsea so come along and join us at our special day! Sunday 26 June 10.30am.

## **Update from the Friends of Horningsea Church**

The Friends of Horningsea Church was set up to help restore and maintain St Peter's church, which is a Grade 1 listed building. Apart from being a place of worship it is also a treasured building and forms an integral part of the fabric of Horningsea, hosting many village events. The role of The Friends is to raise funds to assist in the upkeep of our historic church.

With funding from The Friends, it has been possible to renovate the wrought iron gates designed by the Victorian Architect Thomas Jeckyll. They have been reinstated in the refurbished entrance. Funds have also contributed towards restoration of the beautiful stained glass window which was donated to St Peter's by the Bailey family of Eye Hall. The refurbished 'Bailey Window' will be dedicated on Saturday 2nd July in a service when, if they are ready, the candle holders designed for the choir pews by Peter Harford and given by Margaret Dorrington will also be dedicated.

The Friends have not been able to hold events to raise funds over the last 2 years due to Covid restrictions but hope once again to organise Open Gardens (with teas) in the village in summer 2023. In the meantime we are very dependent on funds raised through the annual subscriptions so if you are already a member do please renew your subscription (£15 p.a.). If you would like to become a member you will find forms in the church or alternatively please contact our treasurer Nicky Asplin who will provide you with a standing order form (theasplins@hotmail.co.uk).

On September 18th The Friends plan to make a survey of plant and animal wildlife in the churchyard. With the help of experts we hope to make an overnight moth collection (all to be released without harm) and in the afternoon survey invertebrates, birds and plants. Families and anyone interested will be very welcome with more details provided nearer the time.

Friends of Horningsea Church committee

Nicola Asplin

Lindsay Davies

Vee Saunders

Helen Skaer

## FEN DITTON GARDENING CLUB

As Winter reluctantly gave way to a rather cool Spring, Fen Ditton Gardening Club came together to listen to Radio Cambridgeshire gardener Barry Gayton describe ways to bring colour to the winter garden. Barry is Norfolk born and bred and his passion for gardening started when he began to collect and grow cacti as a very young child. His present garden, which he created 39 years ago in Santon Downham in Suffolk, is carved out of Thetford Forest and contains over seventy varieties of magnolia alongside many other species. The soil is sandy and requires careful management of water for plants to flourish but Barry says he makes all his own compost and does not use other chemicals. Gardens do not have to be drab; one way of ensuring a good colourful display year-round is to visit a garden centre once a fortnight and choose plants that are in flower.

Barry started his talk with the delicate autumn colchicum, naked ladies, so called as they flower without the leaves which wait until Spring to appear. He continued with the cyclamen coum, not just for their striking flowers but for the beautiful marbling on their leaves. He urged us to think about providing layers of plants, plants of different heights as well as a range of colour and form, and to plant white flowers under the dappled shade of trees to prolong their flowering. The striking red colour of both leaves and berries of cotoneaster horizontalis can be trained up a wall but height can also be provided by a cotoneaster tree or a pyracantha. Berberis, with purple or red leaves and red fruits also provide some height but the white or pale pink winter-flowering cherry and acers with their beautiful leaf shape and glorious autumn colour can provide further height. Plum leaved hawthorn, with its red fruit and golden orange leaves, is another plant to give both height and colour.

Ornamental grasses can provide an excellent backdrop to the red-orange seed heads of Chinese lanterns, best planted in a sunken tub to prevent them straying. The beautiful hips of roses, such as rosa moyesii with its hanging red flagon-shaped hips produced after the deep scarlet flowers have faded, give much interest whilst the fluffy seed heads of clematis growing through trees, bushes or trellis brighten any space. The highly perfumed dense pink flower clusters of viburnum bodnantense are a welcome addition to any garden and, although a host to blackfly, the spindle tree has striking pink fruits which open to produce orange seed pods. The masses of small white flowers of the vigorous rosa kiftsgate give way to a profusion of tiny orange-red hips amongst its good autumn foliage.

Colour is not confined to the leaf or fruit as many plants can be grown for their stem colour. Black, red or gold dogwood are well known as is the thorny blackberry, rubus cockburnianus, with its striking white stems. These need to be cut back in the spring to maintain their winter colour. Green, gold or black bamboo is another striking addition to add height with colour to medium or large gardens.

To add even further height with winter interest, Barry suggested including trees with peeling bark or with blue or grey bark such as shown by eucalyptus. There are many varieties of *Betula* with trunks ranging from white and silver to grey, with the interesting diamond features that come with maturity, and the single pale yellow flowers of *chimonanthus praecox*, wintersweet, at the joints of the previous summer's shoots, are stunning.

Flowering crab apples, witch hazel, winter honeysuckle, mahonia and dogwoods were all considered worthy of the winter garden and finally Barry finished by mentioning the hellebores, violets, aconites, daphne and edgeworthia chrysantha to bring us into Spring. Each plant mentioned was illustrated by some excellent slides and Barry's knowledge and enthusiasm spilled over, keeping us spellbound well beyond the usual hour. Many members took advantage of the plants he had brought and went happily home with purchases for their own gardens. It is expected that Fen Ditton gardens will provide much colour and interest next winter.

Saturday, 14th May dawned bright and sunny—a perfect day for the Club's outdoor Annual Plant Sale at Fen Ditton Village Hall. Numerous club members contributed, received and sold a variety of plants, making it a very successful morning. We thank them wholeheartedly for their help.

The 32-seater coach outing to Helmingham Hall is on Wednesday, 29th June. The coach will depart from Fen Ditton church promptly at 9.45am and return there at 5.00pm. The member price is £25.00 a head and for non-members it is £33.00 each. Please apply to Lizzie Wieser by email: [lizzie07@wieser.plus.com](mailto:lizzie07@wieser.plus.com) as soon as possible and pay before 18th June.

The Garden Supper will be held in a member's garden in July. This evening event is strictly for members only so if anyone would like to attend, it is important that membership is made beforehand, i.e. by 30th June.

The Village Garden Show will take place on Saturday, 10th September in the Village Hall, Fen Ditton. Show schedules have been delivered to every household in Fen Ditton and to every Club member. It is not too late to start knitting an item, planting vegetable seeds, growing flowers to practice flower arrangements and painting a picture to prepare various entries for the 51 classes. There are different sections in the schedule—vegetables, fruit, flowers, handicrafts, domestic, photography and art and children's classes, and there are a number of trophies to be won.

The Club has cards for reduced price entry to the five RHS gardens. Please contact Judy Potter on 01223 293043 for all details of this scheme. Everyone in the Gardening Club should now be aware that there is the Library in the Village Hall for members of the Club only to borrow gardening books which have been kindly donated over the past two years.

For all enquiries about the Gardening Club and the library, please contact Pamela on 01223 292493.

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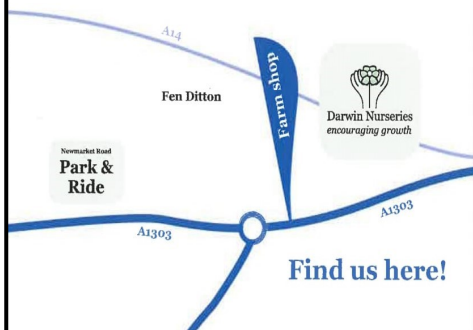
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## DITTON WALK CORONATION STREET PARTY 1953

Following the funeral of King George VI in February 1952, plans for the Coronation of the new Queen began in earnest. The Duke of Edinburgh was Chairman of the Coronation Commission but the finer details and pageantry were the responsibility of his Vice Chairman, Bernard Fitzalan-Howard, 16th Duke of Norfolk, hereditary Earl Marshal of England dating back to 1139 in the reign of King Stephen! His responsibility was to organise state occasions and he had already organised the funeral of George V and the coronation of George VI.

The feeling was that a more hopeful and joyous time was dawning. At street level humbler plans were taking shape. Street parties were planned for the Coronation on June 2nd the following year and activities and events began to be organised. In Ditton Walk a group of parents got together to organise a party. It was agreed that there should be a Fancy Dress competition for the children. Bearing in mind that post-war rationing was still in place it was agreed that costumes must be made of paper. Newspapers and magazines published patterns for costumes. My mother dutifully bought packets of crepe paper and set to at the sewing machine. She made a sweet little pink and green Rosebud outfit for my 3year old sister. It had a pink tutu skirt and emerald green leafy hat perched on her head with the help of thin elastic under her chin. The title of my costume was Belle of the Ball! It consisted of a white tunic festooned with red, white and royal blue paper frills. I wore red, white and blue striped hair ribbons on either side of my head. On Coronation Day, June 2nd it rained miserably all day so the Street Party was postponed.

It was good that on the day of the party the sun shone and it didn't rain. The thought of soaked paper costumes with colours running down crying children's faces was unthinkable! It was strange to have the road closed. Tables were put out and I remember meat paste sandwiches, jellies and little cakes with icing and sprinkles but with rationing still on we were short on luxuries. A flatbed lorry was parked to form a stage and little girls who went to a dancing class performed one or two of their routines. They wore dresses with skirts of blue net which I thought were just beautiful. Paper costumes were rather scratchy to wear so a wash at the kitchen sink at bedtime came as a relief at the end of a memorable day, the beginning of a new Elizabethan Age with a beautiful new Queen.

*Miriam Garner a.k.a. Mim*

## Ancient Shepherds' Book Club



Please contact Carol on 07941 492271  
or via [carol\\_e\\_parker@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:carol_e_parker@yahoo.co.uk)  
for the meeting location.

**Wed, 1st June, 7.30pm, 'Born a Crime' by Trevor Noah**

**Wed, 6th July, 7.30pm, 'The Light Between Oceans' by ML Stedman**



### Who, When and Where?

Last month's photo showed a Garden Club show featuring Janet Marsh—well done if you got it right!

Here is the photo for this month—happy guessing!



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**2022**

5th May Village Hall

**9th Jun Recreation Ground\*** Platinum Jubilee

7th Jul Recreation Ground\*

4th Aug Recreation Ground\*

1st Sep Village Hall

6th Oct Village Hall

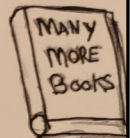
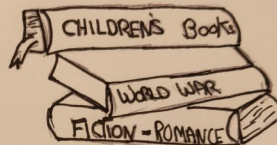
3rd Nov Village Hall

1st Dec Village Hall

\*Weather permitting

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## **Farewell and thank you to Andy Clarke**

Andy is moving to Bristol to live near his daughter, son-in-law and 3-year-old granddaughter. Horningsea will miss him terribly as he has been at the heart of the church and village life for over 30 years. When he met Cathy, who was to become his wife, she was church secretary and chair of the Horningsea Horticultural Show. Andy became drawn in ... he became church treasurer, deanery representative and found himself in charge of numerous building projects for the church – the Tower, South Aisle roof, North Aisle roof, Chancel repairs, reordering the rear of the church and finally dealing with access via the lowered porch and accessible toilet. His skill at applying for grants led him to become grant officer for Cambridgeshire Historic Churches. He organised the setting up and testing of lightening conductors, roof alarms, fire extinguishers, electrics .... The main legacy is the reordered rear of the church which Cathy and Andy initiated and designed with the architects.

He became treasurer for New Life. His interest in ecology and climate change and his Trusteeship of Quy Fen led us to looking critically at the wildlife in Horningsea Churchyard. He did a spell as Parish Councillor and brought the financial record keeping up to modern standards. When Cathy died, far too young six or so years ago, Andy continued to devote his time and energy to village and church projects. Once his granddaughter Sophie was born it became clear to him that he needed to move to be closer to enjoy being part of her life as she grows up. Covid delayed his decision to move, but now he is on his way. Everyone at St Peter's Church wants to thank Andy and wish him well in his new venture. Fen Ditton and Teversham have also benefitted from his financial acumen and wisdom, so he will be missed by all of our three parishes. Good luck Andy and Thank You!



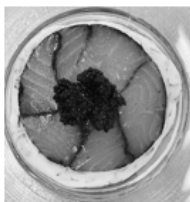
## **Blue Skies Big Band Concert at All Saints, Teversham**

All Saints church will once again be playing host to the wonderful Blue Skies Big Band (featuring some local players!) at 8pm on Friday, 17th June.

Come along for a evening of delightful big band numbers from the 1930s onwards.

Tickets cost £10 and are available from Ian: call 01223 292388 or email [Ian\\_Caroline\\_Hunt@hotmail.com](mailto:Ian_Caroline_Hunt@hotmail.com)





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The Guardian, February 2018  
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James Knappett 2\* michelin  
The Telegraph August 2021



Over the last two years

The Red Lion in Soham has been lovingly restored by Peter Leonard to bring the building back to its former glory.

Lucy Jarman (formerly of The Old Fire Engine House in Ely) has now opened the Red Lion as a restaurant, serving a rustic menu of Mediterranean and British food, using seasonal and local produce. Private dining available and an event space which seats up to 80 people.



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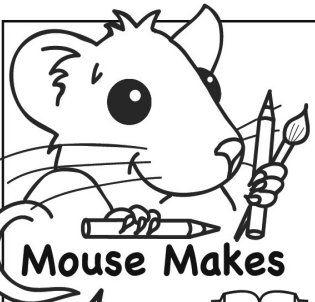
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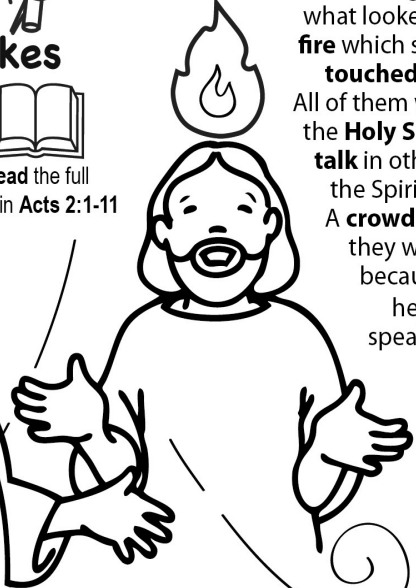


It was the **festival** of **Pentecost**, **fifty days** since **Passover** and **Jews** from many countries had come to **Jerusalem** to **celebrate**.

The **Apostles** and other believers were all **together** in one place when they heard a **sound** like a strong **wind** and **saw** what looked like **tongues** of **fire** which spread out and **touched each** person.



Read the full story in Acts 2:1-11



All of them were **filled** with the **Holy Spirit** and began to **talk** in other **languages** as the Spirit enabled them. A **crowd** gathered outside, they were all excited because each of them heard the believers speaking in their **own**



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

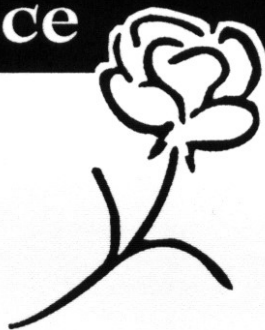
language about the great things **God** had done. About 3,000 people **heard**, **believed** and were **baptised** that day!

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All the words in bold type in the story are in the word search, can you find them?

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## A poem from South Korea

Professor Jae Hoon Lim from South Korea sent this poem about one of his stays in Fen Ditton, during which he was accompanied by his wife Mee. We don't always realise the long lasting impression our area makes on many visitors.

To walk through the road up to the Black House,  
A mile away from the road through the spring grass is the Black Gate open.

The old house is facing towards a wide outstretched paddy field,  
The beautiful spring breeze comes and touches my face.

Still there, several geese and ganders greet me with a welcome noise,  
After laying eggs, hens are running in the grass away from the cockerel,

The small green frog in the tiny pond flips quickly and hides.

Backing down the High Ditch Road, The Plough, one of the most picturesque pubs I have ever been, stands splendidly by the River Cam,  
Ducks are gliding on the water, Her Majesty Queens's swans are swimming gracefully, and Cambridge students are rowing.

We sit on the benches at the shore of the brimming water,

Drink a glass of Guinness ale,

Then, the world is in peace.

The Pedestrian Footpath nearby the Plough

Stretches half-square-mile wide,

Covered with grass and clover leaves, spotted by dandelions, poppies, daffodils and unnamed tiny flowers,

We would walk round along the sides and corners of the quadrangle.

During the rounds, Mee picked up three pretty pansies and gave me.

I put them in the leaves of a book and let them dry up,

And put them in a frame and hung it on the wall of our living lounge.

The pansies remind me of the good old memories in the village,

And make me feel her love.

Oh, I wish I were in Fen Ditton.

*Jae Hoon Lim, MD*

## **All in the month of...**

It was:

250 years ago, on 22nd June 1772 that the Court of King's Bench ruled that slavery was illegal in England and Wales.

100 years ago, on 10th June 1922 that Judy Garland, American actress and singer, was born.

Also 100 years ago, from 28th June 1922 to 24th May 1923, that the Irish Civil War took place.

80 years ago, from 4th–7th June 1942 that the Battle of Midway took place. The USA defeated Japan in the most important naval battle of the Pacific Campaign.

75 years ago, on 5th June 1947 that the Marshall Plan was proposed.

65 years ago, on 1st June 1957 that the first premium bond prize draw took place in Britain.

50 years ago, on 17th June 1972 that the Watergate Scandal began when five men were arrested for breaking into the Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate complex in Washington.

40 years ago, on 14th June 1982 that the Falklands War ended. Argentine forces surrendered to the British in Port Stanley and a ceasefire was agreed.

Also 40 years ago, on 21st June 1982 that Prince William of Wales was born.

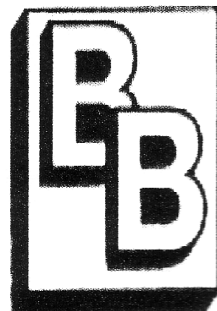
25 years ago, on 12th June 1997 that Shakespeare's Globe Theatre opened in London. It is a reconstruction of the original theatre of 1599.

Also 25 years ago, on 26th June 1997 that J K Rowling's first Harry Potter novel, Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone was published.

15 years ago, on 29th June 2007, that Apple released the first iPhone.

10 years ago, on 24th June 2012, that Lonesome George, the male Pinta Island tortoise died. The last-known member of his species, Lonesome George serves as an important symbol for conservation efforts around the world, and particularly in the Galapagos Islands.

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REPAIRS

# CHURCH SERVICES

## Services for the parishes of Teversham, Horningsea and Fen Ditton

All services commence at **10.30am unless indicated**

5th June	Fen Ditton ( <b>09.45</b> ) Horningsea ( <b>18.00</b> ) Teversham ( <b>11.15</b> )
12th June	Teversham Fen Ditton
19th June	Horningsea ( <b>16.00</b> ) Teversham Fen Ditton
26th June	Horningsea



### Open Church

At St Mary the Virgin, Fen Ditton, on Saturday 18th June 11.00am—17.00pm.

Serving: tea, coffee, cakes

Stalls: Bric-a-Brac and Tombola

Plus a BBQ!