

The Herald

50p



June 2026

The Parish of
**St Margaret's Downham,
St Peter's South Hanningfield and
St Mary the Virgin Ramsden Bellhouse**



Reservoir Group of Churches

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Contents

What's on when and where	2
From the ministry team	3
Corpus Christi – thanks for Holy Communion	4
Worship at Three	5
From the registers	6
St Margaret's Downham	6
News from Downham Church of England School	7
St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse	8
Ramsden Heath Social Club	8
Community Cuppa & Cake afternoon	9
Ramsden Heath Horticultural & Allotment Society	9
St Peter's South Hanningfield	10
South Hanningfield Village Hall	11
All in the month of June	14
With Ordinations coming soon, how do you handle a new Curate?	16
Peaceful mind in June	17
Puzzle corner	18
Children's pages	20
Smile lines	32
Contacting The Herald	33

Keep up to date with events as they happen

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What's on when and where

Sunday 7 June - Trinity 1

10.00am St Peter's South Hanningfield Holy Communion

11.00am St Margaret's Downham Family Service

Note: No service at Ramsden Bellhouse

Sunday 14 June - Trinity 2

11.00am St Margaret's Downham Sung Eucharist

3.00pm St Peter's South Hanningfield Worship at Three

Note: No service at Ramsden Bellhouse

Sunday 21 June - Trinity 3

11.00am St Margaret's Downham Group Sung Eucharist

Note: No services at Ramsden Bellhouse or South Hanningfield

Sunday 28 June - Trinity 4

11.00am St Margaret's Downham Sung Eucharist

Note: No services at Ramsden Bellhouse or South Hanningfield

Sunday 5 July - Trinity 5

10.00am St Peter's South Hanningfield Holy Communion

11.00am St Margaret's Downham Family Service

Note: No service at Ramsden Bellhouse

Other dates for your diary

13 June - Strawberry Cream Tea - in aid of St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse

2.00 to 4.00pm in Ramsden Bellhouse Village Hall

Tickets £8.00 each or £4.00 for children under 10

from Beryl Clements 01245 601298

St Peter's South Hanningfield Flower Festival - The Silver Screen

Saturday 5 September 12.00noon - 5.00pm with outside Fete

Sunday 6 September 12.00noon - 5.00pm with outside Fete
and Songs of Praise service at 5.00pm

Monday 7 September 11.00am - 3.00pm

From the ministry team

A different perspective

Recently, I travelled into Chelmsford on the bus - on the 300 to be precise. I know I don't use the bus as often as I should, but when I do I quite enjoy it - particularly when I get to sit on the top floor of a double decker.

I find it fascinating to view a journey I make quite often in the car from a different perspective. Higher up, and not having to keep my eyes on the road, I can view buildings and countryside in a way I cannot when I am driving.

It is also, I find, a good time for thinking and reflecting (travel sickness takes away the temptation to look at my phone or to read!). Taking the time to sit and think, and to perhaps reflect on my own journey through life, can be a helpful thing to do every once in a while. Big events can also cause us to stop and reflect. This summer I am getting married and beginning a new part of my journey. It has certainly brought a different perspective, as my fiancé and I have talked about our journeys so far as we prepare to journey together as husband and wife.

But just as being on the bus helps me to view the journey into Chelmsford from a different perspective, I also remember that the bible encourages me to view my life journey from a different perspective - to view it from God's perspective. A psalm I often read when I conduct the service of the burial of ashes, as we remember a loved one at the end of their journey on earth, is Psalm 139. The psalm starts:

*O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.
You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways. (Ps 139:1-3)*

And later says these well known words:

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. (Ps 139:14)

The God who made the heaven and the earth, who sees all of creation in the blink of the eye, knows me and is with me, wherever my journey through life takes me. He loves me because of who I am, and not anything I have particularly done to deserve it. It was because of this love that Jesus came and died and rose again, so that we may at the end of our journey have the promise of eternal life with God.

So perhaps next time you have the opportunity, take a journey that allows you to view the world from a different perspective - and think about your particular journey through life - how you view it and how others close to you may view it - and also to view our journeys through the perspective of faith and the love that God has for each one of us.

God bless,

The Revd Jacqui

Corpus Christi – thanks for Holy Communion

The Church celebrates Corpus Christi this year on 4 June.

The feast of Corpus Christi was proposed by Thomas Aquinas, focused on the Eucharist or Holy Communion. It celebrates the joy of sharing the Body and Blood of Christ with His presence in the Eucharist, and is usually celebrated on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday.

Today, most Protestant denominations don't acknowledge the festival, because of its association with the doctrine of the Real Presence. However, some Anglican churches do observe it, as the Thanksgiving for Holy Communion.

How do we understand the significance of the Eucharist or Holy Communion? Paul in 1 Corinthians 11: 23-32, points us in three directions.

A Past Commemoration:

The Eucharist looks back as we remember the Passover meal Jesus shared with His disciples (Luke 22:14–20). Jesus broke the bread and took the cup to signify that His atoning sacrifice on the Cross delivers us from the bondage of sin and death. As we remember His broken body and shed blood, it becomes personal: Christ died for me, suffered for my sins that I might live. It is truly a Eucharist, a thanksgiving: 'Do this in remembrance of Me' (1 Corinthians 11: 24,25).

A Present Communion:

The Eucharist speaks of the communion we enjoy with a living Christ, because our sins are forgiven. Paul encourages us to look in at the state of our hearts: 'Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.' (28). We should also look around acknowledging the communion we have with other believers. Holy Communion expresses our unity together: 'Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf.' (11:17). Paul is expressing his concerns here about the divisions in the Corinthian Church.

A Future Certainty:

The Eucharist is also a place where we look forward to Christ's return: 'For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.' (26). It declares that the reign of Christ has already begun, as we look forward to Jesus' return. He will unite earth and heaven under His rule and sin, death and Satan will finally be defeated.

So, when we next take Holy Communion, let's reflect on the past, present and future implications of what this meal means for us.

Worship at Three


We know that some people find it difficult to attend church on a Sunday morning, and various people have expressed an interest in a more informal form of service. We are therefore introducing a short service at St Peter's South Hanningfield which will be held initially at 3.00pm on the second Sunday of June, July & August. In September we have our Flower Festival service.

**Worship
at Three**

*An informal service
with tea & cake*

Real faith
Real people
Real life
*Everyone
welcome*

🕒 **3.00pm** | 📅 **Sunday
14 June**

 **St Peter's Church**
Church Lane, South Hanningfield
CM3 8HW

From the registers

Downham

Burial of Ashes

- 19 April Yvonne Abbott & Wayne Morley
15 May Brenda Everitt
17 May Linda Elsie Margaret Victory

Funeral & Burial

- 24 April Roger Francis Jamieson

Funeral service

- 30 April David Jeakins

Wedding

- 25 April Reece Wilson & Georgia Smith
1 May Bradley Parks & Holly Stewart
4 May John Pomfrett & Zoe Pomfrett (formerly Bramley)
14 May Max Morris & Yasmin Simpson
16 May Edward Stuart Fleet & Louise Alexandra Elms

Ramsden Bellhouse

Burial

- 30 April David Jeakins

St Margaret's Downham

As you will see above, St Margaret's has been very busy during May. It was good to welcome so many visitors and to share many different floral arrangements and musical choices. It has been hard work for our ministry team, musicians, churchwardens and car park attendants but the thanks we received made it all worthwhile.

It was not just special services where we welcomed visitors. One Sunday morning a couple from Sweden walked in just as we were preparing the service. They were staying in Woodham Ferrers and on their way to Colchester, but wanted to attend a service. Somehow they stumbled on St Margaret's just at the right time. They enjoyed the service, made their communion and stayed for refreshments.

We also welcomed a visit from members of the Benfleet Camera Club. They took a variety of photographs of the church and churchyard, including some using a camera converted to record just infrared light. (see our Facebook page). It looks as though the churchyard is covered in snow.



News from Downham Church of England School

At Downham Church of England Primary School, we have been celebrating Sports Week. We began the week with a special Collective Worship about collaboration (one of our core values) and the importance of teamwork and having a growth mindset. This was a wonderful opportunity to remind the children that having a growth mindset is all about trying your best and not giving up even when things are tricky. Every mistake we make, every time we fail, our brains grow stronger and we become braver. What an important lesson for us to take away from Sports Week.

There have been team games where the children participated in their house teams. At school, we have four "houses" – Air, Water, Earth and Fire. These "houses" or teams give children an extra sense of belonging, across the year groups. There have also been opportunities for dancing, archery and football

throughout the week. Fun activities included the 3 legged race and sack races for some of the older children, while the younger children took part in the much-loved egg and spoon race. Alongside these fun races, we also had the traditional sprints, relay and long distance races. There really was something for everyone and there were opportunities to celebrate everyone's successes and achievements.

We all succeed and achieve in our own (sometimes unexpected) ways. For some children, the achievement may be turning up and having a go, while for others a first, second or third place is well within sight. The Bible reminds us that Christians are in a race – competing for the prize of eternal life through the grace offered us by God. We will never be able to achieve highly enough on our own but grace is a free gift, available to all. How wonderful that our ultimate success does not depend on anything we can do but upon the Maker and Sustainer of the Universe!

As we look ahead to the final half-term of the school year, we are excited to see what the next months bring. We look forward to sharing our news with you and, as ever, we appreciate all the support and encouragement we receive from our local community.

Lynne Boyd

Humanities Leader at Downham Church of England Primary School

St Mary's Ramsden Bellhouse

Unfortunately, St Mary's remains closed until further notice. The Archdeacon and the Diocesan Church Buildings advisor visited on 11 May, meeting with the Revd Jacqui, Beryl Clements, the churchwardens and Robert Andrews the parish treasurer. We are investigating the cost of removing the plaster from the ceiling and leaving just the roof lathes. This would reduce the risk of injury from falling masonry and allow the church to be used for occasional services.

Strawberry Cream Tea - 13 June

We will be holding our annual Strawberry Cream Tea in Ramsden Bellhouse Village Hall on Saturday 13 June. See page 2 for details. Please be aware that the date has changed from the planned date of 20 June because of a clash of activities in the Village Hall.

Ramsden Heath Social Club

The next event in June will be monthly BINGO, which will take place on Friday 5 June from 8.00pm. For an admission fee of only £1 and £2 for each book

you wish to buy, you can enjoy a relaxed evening in good company, tea/coffee and biscuits and the chance to win a cash prize or two.

On Saturday 20 June, The Ramsden Players will present another MURDER MYSTERY EVENING, commencing 8.00pm, with a suggested arrival time of 7.45pm.

This event was very well-received when we last held it two years ago and the same cast will be back to entertain you. Tickets can be purchased for £6 (members) or £8 (non-members). Bring your own drinks and nibbles, enjoy watching the plot unfold and see if you guess whodunnit!

All our events take place in Ramsden Heath Village Hall, Dowsetts Lane.

For more information/tickets please contact:

Dave Quinney on 07950 309524 or Joan Parmenter 07779 175494

Community Cuppa & Cake afternoon

**Ramsden Heath Village Hall
Dowsetts Lane CM11 1HX
Tuesday 9 June 2.00 to 4.00pm**

it was lovely to see new faces at our last Coffee Afternoon . What with busy April and May afternoons we have made donations to the Lewy Body Disease (LBD) Support Group and Peaceful Place, Basildon, who caters for people with dementia. Both such worthwhile charities and close to our hearts.

We look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 9 June for a cuppa for 50p and piece of homemade cake for £1.50 and as you know except for the cost of letting the hall all monies goes to such worthwhile charities.

Best wishes

Ramsden Cupcakes

Ramsden Heath Horticultural & Allotment Society

On Thursday 7 May we held our annual plant sale prior to our main meeting. We never cease to be amazed at the variation of plants donated, all grown by our enthusiastic members. The sale raised £92 which will help boost Society funds. The plant sale was followed by a talk and slideshow given by Rita & Trevor Ellcock, showing their garden from the 1970s when it was a total wilderness, to the beautiful garden it is today. This was a great 'trailer' ahead of the 'main event' when they open their garden to members and friends on 13 June.

FORTHCOMING EVENT

SUMMER BUFFET

Thursday 4 June, 7.00pm. Ramsden Heath Village Hall

The menu is a cold buffet consisting of meats, fish, quiches, salad and potatoes, plus desserts. There will also be gluten free options. The cost of the evening is £12 per member.

Please bring your own choice of liquid refreshment as well as a glass to drink it from.

The evening is for members only. If you haven't yet booked your place, please contact Rita Ellcock, telephone 07946 059878, email: t.elcock@talktalk.net

Ramsden Heath Horticultural Society meets at Ramsden Heath Village Hall, on the first Thursday of the month. The year's programme consists of speakers, social evenings, two flower shows a year and occasional garden visits. We are always happy to welcome new members. Contact Sue Lowing (Chair) on 07816 600604 or email susan.lowing@btinternet.com

St Peter's South Hanningfield

At the time of writing we are enjoying extremely hot sunshine over bank holiday weekend, what a change that is, and maybe the hottest May we have had since 1944!

Plans are firmly underway for this years Flower Festival, which is the first weekend in September. This year's theme is "The Silver Screen". Please make sure you have it pencilled in your diary. Requests for assistance will be made in the coming weeks .



Quiz night

The annual Quiz night was a wonderful success, Paul and Paula were excellent quiz masters and Cathy put together a brilliant raffle. In total the sum of £654 was raised for the upkeep of the church. Many thanks to Paula, Paul and Cathy for all their hard work.

Repairs etc.

We are very hopeful that the repairs to the church steeple will commence very soon, final details are being clarified. In the meantime we have just taken delivery of new cushions for the church pews, we are very excited about this as it is the first time we have had proper cushions made to measure (the previous cushions were acquired from another church many, many years ago). We hope you can pop in and see them at some point.

Worship at Three

Finally please note our new afternoon informal Sunday service, starting on 14 June at 3.00pm. It would be really lovely to see you there. You can try out our new cushions!!

With best wishes

Your Mission Control Team

South Hanningfield Village Hall

Litter Pick The committee organised a litter pick around the village recently. The litter pick went very well, and volunteers also tidied up the footpath from the hall to Church Lane. Thank you to those who helped us (you know who you are!) as well as to Chelmsford City Council for the loan of the litter pick kits and picking up the 22 full bags afterwards.



St George's Day Thank you to everyone who came to our St George's Day on Saturday, 25 April. It was a great success, and we managed to raise over £700 for the hall. Tom Carradine provided a fantastic evening of musical entertainment. Thank you to Tescos in Basildon and Rayleigh, Perrywood Garden Centre and local people who donated Raffle prizes for the occasion.

The next events we have coming up in the year for your diary are:

Garden Party on Saturday, 22 August from 3.00pm

Christmas Crafts Fayre on Saturday, 21 November from 10.30am to 4.00pm

More details to follow in future editions of *The Herald*.

Raffle Prizes needed If anyone has any suitable items that could be used as Raffle prizes, please can you donate them to us which would be used at future fundraising events for the hall. The committee would be very grateful.

No Parking on Pavement by Hall South Hanningfield Village Hall Management Committee requests that vehicles don't park up on the pavement outside the village hall because of the health and safety risks. Please alert the volunteer committee if you see such vehicles parked in this way outside the hall on 07891 653238.

Mobile Library

The Mobile Library visit South Hanningfield Village Hall every three weeks.

Day of visit: Tuesday Time of visit: 11.25pm to 11.55pm

Next visit date is 16 June.

Regular Activities

Coffee Morning 10 June

Second Wednesday of each month from 10.30am – 12.30pm

Please call the listed contacts below to book a place.

Pilates & Keep Fit

Monday 9.45am – 10.45am

Thursday 10.30am – 11.30am

Contact Hayley on 07758 427379

Puppy Dog Training Classes

Monday from 6.00pm

Dog training for puppies of all ages

Contact Rachel on 07484 706085 or

email Rachel@PuppyPotentialDogTraining.co.uk

Minis/Pre-School Classes for 1-4 years

Tuesdays from 9.30am – 10.15am

3-week trials available! Phonics with Robot Reg

Contact Laura Dack on email 2lauras@robotreg.co.uk or

01268 956859 for more information.

Line Dancing

Tuesday afternoons 12.30pm-1.30pm (beginners) and 1.30pm to 2.30pm (more advanced)

Contact Richard from the Super Troupers Line Dance Club

email thesupertrouperslcd@gmail.com or tel 07740 360554.

Boxfit Personal Trainer

Personal Trainer available from 7.00pm on Tuesday evenings.

For more information, contact Rachael, Boxfit instructor on

07912 344560.

1-1 Ballroom and Latin lessons and wedding dance lessons

With Callie every Wednesday afternoon and evening from 3.00pm

£30 for a 45-minute lesson. Please contact Callie on 07885 630241.

Zumba and Yoga - Thursday night

Zumba 6.30pm to 7.20pm and Vinyasa Flow Yoga 7.30pm to 8.30pm.

Pay as you go.

Tel: Charlene on 07772 443028 or email info@sakurayogastudios.co.uk

Upholstery Class

Friday morning 9.30am – 1.00pm Contact Fiona on 01621 776586 or

07887 507208

Wickford Board Game Club

Friday evenings from 6.00pm - the club are a friendly mix of players of all ages and experience levels with a huge range of modern board games for those interested to come and try! For more information, contact Mike on 07958 456575 or look up the Wickford Board Game Club on Facebook.

Zumba and Pilates - Saturday mornings

Zumba from 9.20am to 10.20am and Pilates 10.30am to 11.30am.

Pay as you go

Tel: Charlene on 07772 443028 or email info@sakurayogastudios.co.uk

If you would like to book the South Hanningfield Village Hall for any regular activities or events, please call Sandra Graves, our Bookings Secretary on 07396 546050 or email shvhall@gmail.com to check availability and prices.

Please continue to support our local village hall in 2026 and if there are any other ways you can help us, let us know. Please contact the Chairman, Clive Vallis for further information on 07891 653238.

Website <https://e-voice.org.uk/shanningfieldvillagehall>

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/southhanningfieldvillagehall>

All in the month of June

It was:

250 years ago, on 11 June 1776 that the Second Continental Congress appointed John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Robert R Livingston and Roger Sherman to create the first draft of the Declaration of Independence.

Also 250 years ago, on 11 June, that John Constable, British landscape artist, was born.

150 years ago, on 19 June 1876 that Nigel Gresley, railway engineer, was born. He designed some of the best-known steam locomotives in Britain, including the Flying Scotsman.

100 years ago, on 1 June 1926 that the American film actress, model and sex symbol Marilyn Monroe was born. Remembered for Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, The Seven Year Itch, and Some Like it Hot, among others. Died 1962.

Also 100 years ago, on 10 June 1926 that Antoni Gaudi, Spanish architect died. Known for his unique Modernist style. Best remembered for buildings such as the Basilica de la Sagrada Familia in Barcelona.

90 years ago, on 14 June 1936 that G K Chesterton died. Novelist, short story writer, journalist, essayist, poet, social/literary critic and theologian, and remembered for his stories about the priest-detective Father Brown.

80 years ago, on 8 June 1946 that the London Victory Celebrations following WW2 took place. Allied forces paraded through London, cheered by crowds that stretched from Buckingham Palace to Regent's Park. Countrywide, an estimated 12 million people joined in various celebrations.

65 years ago, from 4 June to 9th November, that the Berlin Crisis of 1961 took place. It led to Berlin being partitioned into East Berlin and West Berlin, and the erection of the Berlin Wall on 13 August.

Also 65 years ago, on 6 June that Carl Jung, Swiss psychiatrist and psychologist, died. Founder of analytical psychology.

50 years ago, from 23 June to 27 August, the 1976 British Isles Heat Wave took place. One of the hottest and driest summers on record, it dried up rivers and evaporated reservoirs. Domestic water supplies were rationed, and public standpipes were installed in some areas. September and October both saw very heavy rainfall.

40 years ago, on 22 June 1986 that the 'Hand of God' goal took place during the quarter-final of the 1986 FIFA World Cup in Mexico City. Argentine football player Diego Maradona scored a goal against England using his hand, which the referee mistakenly thought was his head, and allowed the goal. England was knocked out of the World Cup as a result, and Argentina won it.

30 years ago, on 4 June 1996 that the Second Severn Crossing was officially opened. The bridge spans the River Severn and links England and Wales via the M4 motorway.

Also 30 years ago, on 15 June 1996 that the centre of Manchester was devastated by an IRA bomb. 200 people were injured and the city centre had to be redeveloped because of the immense amount of damage.

Also 30 years ago, on 18 June 1996 that Benjamin Netanyahu became Prime Minister of Israel for the first time. He served from 1996 to 1999, then from 2009 to 2021, and then from 2022 to the present time. He is Israel's longest-serving Prime Minister.

25 years ago, on 1 June 2001 that Crown Prince Dipendra, heir to the Nepalese throne, massacred eight members of the royal family, including the King and Queen. He then shot himself and died three days later.

20 years ago, on 18 June 2006 that American bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori became the first woman to be elected as a primate in the Anglican Communion. She became the Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church from November 2006 until 2015.

10 years ago, on 3 June 2016 that Muhammad Ali, American world heavyweight boxer, died. He was regarded as the greatest heavyweight boxer of all time.

Also 10 years ago, on 16 June 2016 that Jo Cox, Labour MP for Batley and Spen, was murdered by a far-right extremist. She was 41.

Also 10 years ago, on 23 June 2016 that the UK European Union (EU) membership referendum was held. 52 per cent of voters voted to leave the EU, and 48 per cent voted to remain. The UK left the EU on 31 January 2020.

With Ordinations coming soon, how do you handle a new Curate?

Many of you will be aware that the Reservoir Group of Churches will be welcoming Nicola (Nikki) Firth as our new curate shortly. It is anticipated that she will be with us for 3 to 4 years. She will be a full-time stipendiary minister but will be commuting from her existing home in the Basildon area. Whilst many dioceses conduct ordinations at Pentecost in June, Chelmsford defers until September, therefore Nikki will be joining us on 28 June and will serve initially as a Licensed Lay Worker until she is ordained as a deacon on 13 September. Hopefully we can persuade her to write an introduction in the next edition of The Herald.

10 tips

With care! Put yourself in her shoes. Only a few days ago Curates were trying on their dog collars for the first time and probably feeling pretty self-conscious. They will be both excited and daunted at the prospect of putting 'Rev'd' in front of their names.

With respect. The new curate has been trained and set apart by ordination as a minister in the Church of God. If it's the Church of England, the first year will be spent as a deacon; after that, most will be ordained priest.

With prayer. This is the secret ingredient. And the most important. From now on, give your curate a regular mention in your prayers. And tell them you're doing so - it will encourage them no end.

With humanity. Clergy aren't perfect. It's an old joke but a good one, that if you don't like the clergy you've got, remember there's only the laity to pick from. By the way, clergy spouses and children aren't ordained, so don't expect them to be theologians.

With expectation. As the Curate climbs the pulpit steps, pray that God will take over and speak through her. This isn't "Britain's Got Talent", so you are neither a judge nor a member of an audience. You are a disciple, eager to learn and, with God's help, to change.

With generosity. Find out if they can afford to make ends meet. As well as covering family and household expenses, they should be buying theological

books from time to time. These can be really expensive.

With understanding. Curates have to continue their studies and that will include participating in diocesan training schemes. They must also spend quality time with their families. They shouldn't be working seven days a week.

With honesty. If you want to criticise, make sure it's constructive. Don't try to wound or settle scores - have something positive to say at the same time.

With hospitality. Invite them to a meal and while you're at it, invite a non-churchgoing neighbour as well.

With humour. Enough said!

Peaceful mind in June

June is a time when we tend to spend more time outside, and probably see more of other people...

A man that has friends must show himself friendly... Proverbs 18:24

Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people but love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord. - Leviticus 19:18,34

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! - Psalm 133:1

Whoever would foster love covers over an offense, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends. - Proverbs 17:9



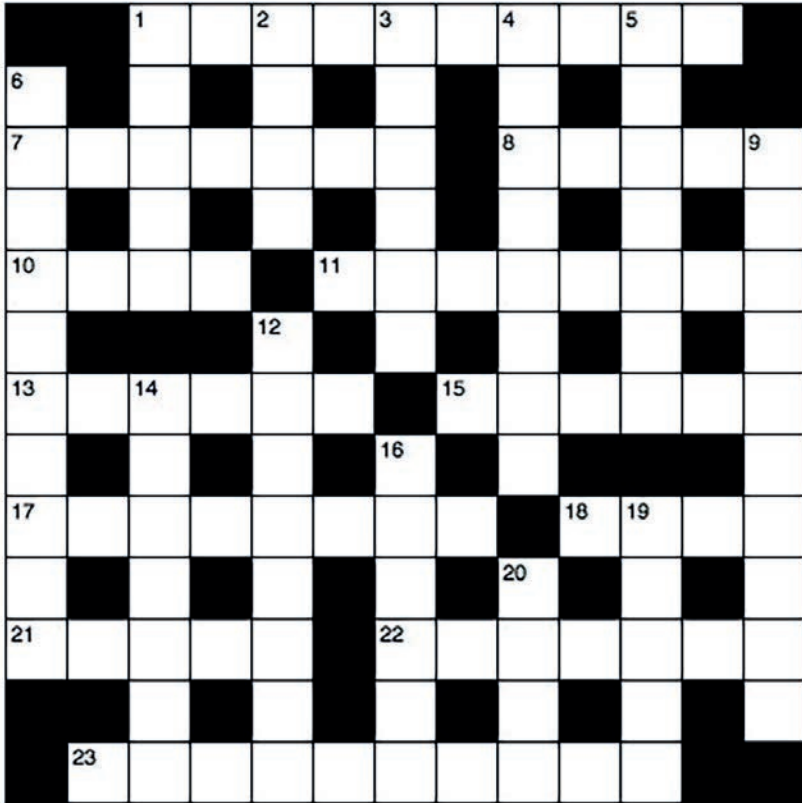
Bishop's Forest Pre School

Led by experienced and passionate staff on our 10 acre site in Rettendon Common, our Froebel-inspired, term time Forest Pre School for 3 to 5 year olds values curiosity, connections and the wonder that comes from learning outdoors.

hello@bishopsforestschoo.co.uk

Call: 07729 624222

Puzzle corner



Across

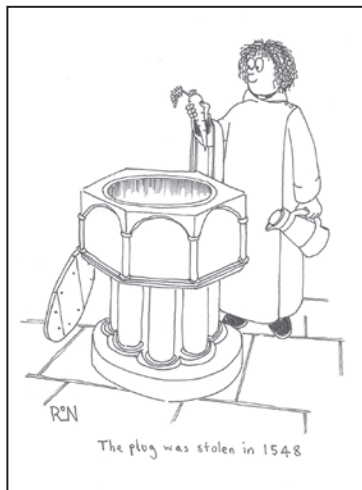
- 1 Evil (Genesis 6:5) (10)
- 7 Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom (2 Kings 3:15) (7)
- 8 The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer: 'Lord, — us to pray' (Luke 11:1) (5)
- 10 'We are hard pressed on every—' (2 Corinthians 4:8) (4)
- 11 Fraud (2 Corinthians 6:8) (8)
- 13 'His troops advance in force; they build a siege ramp against me and — around my tent' (Job 19:12) (6)
- 15 Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent (Genesis 31:34) (6)
- 18

- 17 'Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be—'
(1 Corinthians 12:1) (8)
- 18 Nomadic dwelling (Genesis 26:25) (4)
- 21 'As for man, his days are like—, he flourishes like a flower of the field'
(Psalm 103:15) (5)
- 22 Or I live (anag.) (7)
- 23 Those guilty of 1 Across (Romans 13:4) (10)

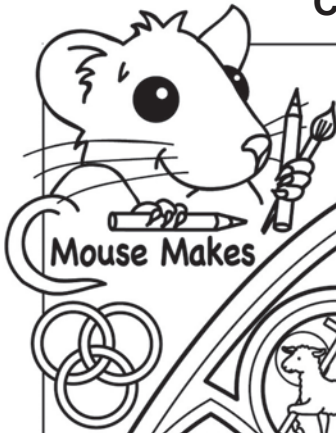
Down

- 1 'God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son' (John 3:16) (5)
- 2 'Away in a manger, no — for a bed' (4)
- 3 Mob ten (anag.) (6)
- 4 'Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled'
(2 Kings 17:29) (8)
- 5 Began (Luke 9:46) (7)
- 6 Speaking very softly (John 7:32) (10)
- 9 Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:3) (10)
- 12 Put in jail (Acts 22:19) (8)
- 14 Aceturn (anag.) (7)
- 16 Discharge (Acts 21:3) (6)
- 19 'All these—come from inside and make a man "unclean"' (Mark 7:23) (5)
- 20 'Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!' (Revelation 19:7) (4)

Answers on page 33



Children's pages



"May the grace of the Lord
JESUS CHRIST and the
 love of **GOD** and the
 fellowship of the
HOLY SPIRIT be
 with you all."

2 Corinthians
 13:14

V HIW	O ISD	V UDE
VENLR	JYIAM	TRUTH
SLAEP LG	ACGODJM	THAHSRI
HALDOOR	LROCKUA	OSPOWER
EMEWORD	MELORDJ	ULFLIFE
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RMEHOEK	TRAHATY	VWTIREO
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SAVIOUR	VSWLARA	CTRIAIF
PNESNSU	OHEYENT	ANNTTRO
OUNTLOT	JEHOVAH	TEACHER
MESSIAH	IKINGLE	ESLGIFT
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KEOMEGA	SAVIOUR	THELPER

JESUS • CHRIST
 SON • SAVIOUR • LORD
 EMMANUEL • MESSIAH
 SHEPHERD • LAMB • WAY
 TRUTH • LIFE • DOOR
 BREAD • WORD • HEALER
 VINE • ALPHA • OMEGA

GOD • FATHER
 ABBA • LORD • JEHOVAH
 YAHWEH • ALMIGHTY
 HOLY ONE • SAVIOUR
 ETERNAL • CREATOR
 KING • MAJESTY • JUDGE
 SHIELD • ROCK • I AM

HOLY SPIRIT
 GIFT • HELPER • WITNESS
 COMFORTER • GUIDE
 ADVOCATE • WISDOM
 POWER • TRUTH • BREATH
 LIFE • ETERNAL • DOVE
 WIND • FIRE • TEACHER



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
1 Samuel 17:1-50

The Philistine and Israelite armies
faced each other. For 40 days, the gigantic
Philistine champion, Goliath, taunted them..

I will fight the best
soldier in Israel's army
and if I win, you will be
our slaves



David's brothers were in
Israel's army. He came to
bring them food, and he
heard Goliath.



He is insulting God!

David's brothers were not
happy.



You just
came to watch the fight.
Go back to your few sheep.

But David didn't stop..



and King Saul
heard what he said.

We shouldn't be cowards.
I will fight him!



You don't stand a chance.

I have killed lions and bears
with God's help.



Then go ahead.
You can wear my armour.

I can't move with all
this on!



So David took it off.

He took his sling
and chase 5 stones
from the stream bed.



Goliath couldn't believe what he saw.



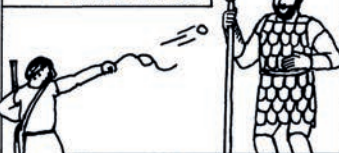
Do you
think I'm a
dog that
you have
come with
a stick?

I have come to fight you
in the name of the All-
powerful God. The Lord
always wins His battles



As Goliath came forward..

David slung his stone and hit
him on the head.



Goliath fell down dead.

The Philistines ran
away, chased by
Israel's army.



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Smile lines

Report on the search for a new minister

We do not have a happy report to give. We are still struggling to find a suitable candidate for this church. The following are our present candidates:

Adam: Good man, but problems with his wife. Also, one reference told of how he and his wife enjoy walking nude in the woods.

Noah: Former pastorate of 120 years with no converts. Prone to unrealistic building projects.

Abraham: Thinks that God is telling him to go somewhere, but he can't say exactly where. Also, he has offered to share his own wife with another man.

Joseph: A big thinker, but a braggart, believes in dream-interpreting, and has a prison record.

Moses: A modest and meek man, but poor communicator, even stuttering at times. Sometimes blows his stack and acts rashly. Some say he left an earlier church over a murder charge.

David: The most promising leader of all, until we discovered the affair he'd had with his neighbour's wife, and there are rumours he even killed her husband.

Solomon: Great preacher, very smart, but our parsonage would never hold all those wives.

Isaiah: On the fringe? Claims to have seen angels in church. Has trouble with his language.

Jonah: Refused God's call into ministry until he was forced to obey by getting swallowed up by a great fish. He told us the fish later spat him out on the shore near here. We hung up.

John: Says he is a Baptist, but he doesn't dress like one. Has slept outdoors for months on end, has a weird diet, and provokes denominational leaders.

Peter: Too blue collar. Has a bad temper—even has been known to curse. Had a big run-in with Paul in Antioch. Aggressive, and a loose cannon.

Paul: Powerful CEO type leader and fascinating preacher. However, short on tact, harsh and has been known to preach all night. We don't want that.

Jesus: Has had popular times, but once when his church grew to 5000, he managed to offend them all and this church dwindled down to twelve people. Seldom stays in one place very long. And, of course, he's single.

Judas: His references are solid. A steady plodder. Conservative. Good connections. Knows how to handle money. We're inviting him to preach this Sunday. Possibilities here.

Contacting The Herald

Contributions to the July edition

Copy for the next edition of The Herald should be sent by email to Robert Andrews at theherald@downhamchurch.org.uk by **Thursday 18 June**. Please send files in .doc, .docx or .rtf format. Because we wish to maintain a common house style please keep any formatting to an absolute minimum and do not embed photographs or other artwork. If you wish to include photographs or other artwork they should be sent separately in .jpeg or .pdf format. If you are unable to use email or are unsure about file types please telephone Robert on 01268 733817, but be aware that the telephone line has BT Call Guardian installed to deter nuisance callers, therefore you may have to announce your name and press the # key in order to be put through.

Advertising in The Herald

All general enquiries about advertising should be addressed to Mike Roome on 07770 795388 or email advert.theherald@downhamchurch.org.uk

Advertising rates are currently:

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Answers to the Crossword puzzle

ACROSS: 1, Wickedness. 7, Harpist. 8, Teach. 10, Side. 11, Impostor. 13, Encamp. 15, Saddle. 17, Ignorant. 18, Tent. 21, Grass. 22, Olivier. 23, Wrongdoers.

DOWN: 1, World. 2, Crib. 3, Entomb. 4, National. 5, Started. 6, Whispering. 9, Harvesters. 12, Imprison. 14, Centaur. 16, Unload. 19, Evils, 20, Give.

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