

# Trinity E-News



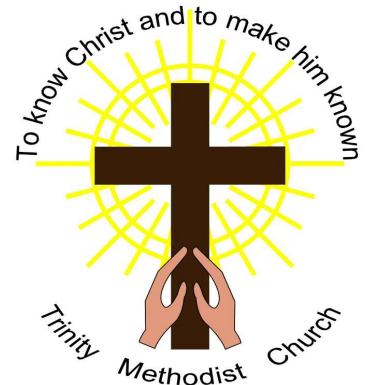
Issue 4 / 22

Trinity's email: [trinity@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:trinity@basingstokecircuit.net)

May 2022



**Our Minister is:**  
**Rev'd Audrey D Browne**  
☎: 01256 323103  
email:  
[padbrowne89@googlemail.com](mailto:padbrowne89@googlemail.com)



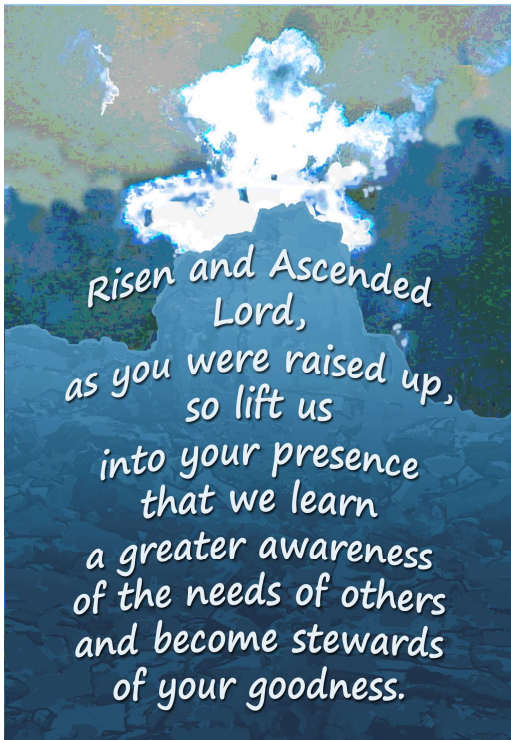
**We have Live Worship every Sunday at Trinity, Services are also Zoomed.**

**Our thanks to all our 'Zoom team' who enable those at home to Worship with us. We are so grateful for their all their help and expertise.**

**Link to our Website:**

<https://www.basingstoke.readingmethodists.uk/>

**You say:** I can't manage.  
**God says:** I will supply all your needs.  
(Philippians 4:19)



*Risen and Ascended Lord,  
as you were raised up,  
so lift us  
into your presence  
that we learn  
a greater awareness  
of the needs of others  
and become stewards  
of your goodness.*

**Trinity E-News – Deadline for the June 22 Issue is Saturday 21 May 22**

**Trinity E-News is also available on our Basingstoke & Reading Website.**

I really look forward to receiving your lovely pieces, so do please keep them coming.

**A Big Thankyou** to everyone who has sent in pieces. Items can be emailed or posted.

**Thank you again, Hazel, Ed**

(☎: 01256-461375)

**Email:** [hazel@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:hazel@basingstokecircuit.net)

16B Portacre Rise, Basingstoke, RG21 1YQ.

**You say:**

I can't do it.

**God says:** You can do all things.  
(Philippians 4:13)

- Nobody ever outgrows Scripture; the book widens and deepens with our years – *C H Spurgeon*
- We don't change God's message – His message changes us – *Anon*

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May 2022

Dear Friends,

**Strike a light!**

When I was growing up I spent quite a lot of time listening to the “wireless,” so *Journey into Space*, *Children’s favourites* and *Listen with Mother* were all important parts of my weekly routine at different times of my life.

I have recently re-discovered the radio. How different it is now that I can tune into BBC Sounds on my iPad and download programmes to listen to when and where I want. I can even make the experience private by listening on my headphones.

One of my favourite stations is Radio 4 extra, where there is a mixture of comedy series from the past, old detective serials, modern music, podcasts and other programmes. I was recently captivated by a broadcast called “The Moth Radio Hour” where ordinary people recount exceptional or mundane, happy or sad events from their own lives. The surprising part is that they do this in front of an audience and without notes. Tune in and hear it for yourself, you will be enchanted.

The “Moth” programme reminded me of a visit I paid as a young student in the 1960s to an evangelical, protestant, Polish church in Northern France. It was an amazing place both because of the community of Polish coal miners that it served but also because the services were so different from any other worship I had experienced before and because they lasted three to four hours each time.

I vividly remember some of the congregation being called to the front of the Church to give testimonies of what God had done in their lives that week. Each person was given a long, lit match to hold and they were only allowed to speak while the match burned. Everyone had so much to say that I am sure there were quite a few singed fingers.

I decided this week to try this for myself....you can imagine how difficult I found it to say anything meaningful within the space of 53 seconds, even though I chose a very long

match! However the match itself taught me a great deal about my life and experience as a Christian.

Firstly, on first lighting the match, it flared up and burned really brightly, just as I, as a young Christian was full of certainty about my faith and my understanding of what God was doing in my life and everywhere else. I had so much confidence (and not a little arrogance) in sharing that certainty with other people.

As the match continued to burn, it was in danger of going out. That reminded me of my later teenage years.

Having accepted Jesus when I was a young teenager, I tried to offload his influence during the 1960s, living through the era of swinging London (or in my case Bristol). How grateful I am to those other Christians who kept my faith “alight” through those years. In fact I would never have been in that Church in France, if it had not been for one of my lecturers and his wife, both committed Christians, who needed me to translate for them on a fact-finding trip for a book about The Slavic Gospel Association.

Halfway through its burn, my testimony match was looking pretty dodgy and the flame was quite feeble. If I turned the match onto its side...quite an awkward position to hold, I could keep the flame going and it seemed to find new fuel in the stick.

I too have found the awkward positions and situations in my life have been times when my faith has found new fuel in God’s word, in The Bible, to keep me going. The oxygen of The Holy Spirit has kept my flame (however feeble) from going out. I have always been encouraged by the fact that the Holy Spirit filled the Disciples with such understanding and courage after Pentecost because they were such an unlikely lot to begin with. They were always failing to understand Jesus’ stick.

*cont’d.....*

Eventually my match burned out. I was of course forced to drop it (onto a safe surface) before I was burned too. I needed far more time to tell my story or recount all of God's goodness to me (Undeserved all the time and under- appreciated most of the time). Cutting the time short made me realise just how much I have to be grateful for...I could have used a whole box full of matches and still not be finished.

When my life's match has come to its end I know I will still want more time to recount just how amazing is the offer God has made to all of us, to experience life in all its fullness through the death and resurrection of His son. Let's appreciate the opportunities we have to speak, while our matches are still burning and set the whole world (or even just Basingstoke) ablaze with the story of Jesus.

**Hilary**

## Vases used in Church

**“One of our special vases is Missing.**

We had a pair of black vases that we used a lot in Church as they were easy to handle and not too heavy.

However, one of them is Missing.

If you know of its whereabouts, please can you return it.

**The vase is a bowl on a plinth** and the pair were used many times so you may remember them.

Many thanks.”

**Sue Doust**



## Farewell

As many of you are aware David and Janet Gunton have now moved to Yorkshire. We would like to wish them every blessing as they move to their new home.

Both Janet and David have been very much involved in the life of Trinity. Janet worked in the office, arranged flowers, helped at Trinity Circle, as well as coffee mornings and Sunday coffee.

David was one of our projectionists - making Sunday Services possible. For many years David was also our Treasurer - a difficult job and one of the most important, in fact without a Treasurer Trinity could not function! He did this job in the most professional way with detailed expertise and for this we are most grateful. It was reassuring to know that our finances were in safe hands, thank you David.

Janet and David, we are sad to see you go,  
you will be much missed by all your Trinity friends.

*But you go with our love and prayers and best wishes for your  
future happiness in Yorkshire.*



## Sunday Worship at Trinity & the Basingstoke Churches

Below is the plan for Worship for May & June 2022 for our Basingstoke Churches. **Live Sunday Worship continues at Trinity each Sunday Morning with Services also Zoomed. Enquiries:** please contact **Diane Bath** on: ☎: 01256 320429 or by **email at:** [dianebath51@gmail.com](mailto:dianebath51@gmail.com) Thank you.



### Basingstoke & Reading Circuit Plan March to May 2022 (Basingstoke Churches – May)

Dates	1 May	8 May	15 May	22 May	29 May
<b>Trinity</b> 10.30 am	LA	Mr P Frank	Revd A Browne, S	Mrs A Rowe	Mr T Pitt & Mrs H Reed
<b>Kempshott</b> 10.30 am	Revd M Beukes, S	Revd J Sumitra, Zoom	LA, Zoom	Mrs S Whithorn, Zoom	Revd J Dowding, Zoom
<b>Oakley</b> 10.30 am	Revd A Browne, S	Mrs S Whithorn	Mr S Turner	Revd A Browne	LA
<b>Oakridge</b> 11.00 am	Revd D Jenkins, S	Mrs J Hardcastle	Mr S Appiah	LA	Revd M Beukes
<b>Old Basing</b> 10.30 am	Mr T Bell	Mr S Appiah	Mrs D Baugh	Revd D Jenkins, S	LA
<b>St Andrew's</b> 10.30 am	LA	Revd S Skuce, S	Mr D Munns	Mrs L Hoe	Revd A Browne, S

### Basingstoke & Reading Circuit Plan June to August 2022 (Basingstoke Churches – June)

Dates	5 June	12 June	19 June	26 June
<b>Trinity</b> 10.30 am	Revd Audrey D Browne, S	LA, Mrs Ann Walker	LA, Steward Team	Revd Audrey D Browne
<b>Kempshott</b> 10.30 am	Revd Martin Beukes, S	Mr Jonathan Skeet, Zoom	Mrs Sarah Whithorn, Zoom	Revd JackieCase, Zoom
<b>Oakley</b> 10.30 am	Bible Month	Revd Audrey D Browne, S	Mr Chris Marsh	Bible Month
<b>Oakridge</b> 11.00 am	Revd D Jenkins, S	Mrs Denise Baugh	Mr Peter Frank	Revd Valerie Fisher
<b>Old Basing</b> 10.30 am	Revd Valerie Fisher, CA	Mrs Sarah Whithorn	Mrs Denise Baugh	Revd David Jenkins, S
<b>St Andrew's</b> 10.30 am	LA	Mrs June Hardcastle, P	Revd Audrey D Browne, S	Mr Symon Turner



## 'Jesus And Me' ! (JAM)

'JAM' meets next from  
2.30 pm – 4.30 pm

on the following Sundays:

8 May, 5 June & 3 July

*Please Note change of  
date for our May  
get-together*



**Children & Families** meet in the Lounge, usually on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month, to hear stories of Jesus, craft, singing and tea.

Some of what we do on a Sunday afternoon is often displayed in the foyer area at Church for all of us to see.

**All are very welcome.  
Do come along and join us.**

## Recycle Your Old Spectacles

You can Recycle your old spectacles at Leighton's Opticians, Church Street, Basingstoke, in liaison with the Basingstoke Lions Club.



*What bargains grandchildren are! I give them my loose change, and they give me a million pounds worth of pleasure – Gene Perret*

## SOME DATES for April, May & June

- **JAM:** Sundays 8 May, 5 June & 3 July, 2.30 pm – 4.30 pm at Trinity, *page 5*
- **Trinity Circle:** next meeting is on Tuesday 10 May at 7.00 pm in the Hall, *page 5.*
- **Saturday & Sunday 7 & 8 May – 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Weekend** with Stephen & Marlene Skuce at St Andrew's Church.
- **Saturday 14 May – Celebration for the Life of The Revd Alison Parker,** *page 7*

## The Northern Housegroup

The Northern Housegroup are looking for new members and would welcome new members to join them.

They meet on the **first Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm**, either in the lounge or at someone's home.

If you would like to know more about the Northern Housegroup, you can speak to either: **Sonia Jones, Edna Rawlins or Hilary Reed.**

## TRINITY CIRCLE

Our next meeting will be on:

**Tuesday 10 May at the earlier time of  
7.00 pm in the Hall**

*We are starting with a meal which Jennifer Pitt is arranging and then the AGM.*

*If you are able to come and you haven't let Jennifer know what you would like to eat, Please Let Jennifer Know in Good Time, before our meeting.*

**Sonia**

*(We look forward to welcoming you all to Trinity Circle. Our usual meetings are held in the lounge and start at 7.30 pm). Sonia*

**Useful Trinity & Other Contacts,  
Phone Numbers & Emails:**

**Our Minister:** Rev'd Audrey D Browne,  
☎: 01256 323103 / **NEW** email address is:  
[padbrowne89@googlemail.com](mailto:padbrowne89@googlemail.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Church Office:** ☎ 01256-816173  
email: [trinity@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:trinity@basingstokecircuit.net)

**Our Church Office** is Open 1 morning a week,  
usually on Wednesdays.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Church Contact / Senior Steward:** Diane Bath –  
☎ 01256 320429 / e-mail: [dianebath51@gmail.com](mailto:dianebath51@gmail.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Bookings / Car Parking:** Contact: Sue Doust –  
☎ 01256 229456 / e-mail: [rogerdoust@aol.com](mailto:rogerdoust@aol.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Temporary Church Treasurer:** Margaret Hayes –  
e-mail: [hayesmargaret489@gmail.com](mailto:hayesmargaret489@gmail.com)

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**Church Property:** Tony Pitt –  
☎ 01256 816314 / email: [organista@btinternet.com](mailto:organista@btinternet.com)

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**Trinity E-News Editor:** Hazel Harris – email is:  
[hazel@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:hazel@basingstokecircuit.net) ☎ 01256-461375  
address: 16B Portacre Rise, B/Stoke, RG21 8YQ

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**Basingstoke & Reading Circuit Website:**  
[www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk](http://www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk)

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**Basingstoke & Reading Circuit is a Registered  
Charity, Charity No. is: 1134891**

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**Trinity Methodist Church is a Registered Charity,  
Charity No. is 1128299**

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**Circuit Administrator:** Mrs Marion Young can  
be contacted by phone on: ☎ **07503 652961** (the  
phone is only on during working hours) or email  
at: [marion@basingstokereadingmethodists.uk](mailto:marion@basingstokereadingmethodists.uk)

**Two Poems by Pat Murphy**

What wonderful Love,  
as His arms were nailed open wide.

What wonderful Love,  
as the sword pierced His side.

What wonderful Love,  
I can't take it in.

That it was for me,  
to take away all my sin.

What wonderful Love,  
cleansing and melting my heart.

What wonderful Love,  
that will never depart.

\* \* \* \* \*

Loved with such love,  
that knows no end.

Is given by Jesus,  
my wonderful friend.

He gave Himself,  
that this Love I might know.

As on the Cross,  
His Head in death did bow.

This Love is so great,  
I can hardly take it in,

while I was lost and dead in sin.

Such Love is mine,  
now and always.

And I give Him myself,  
for the rest of my days.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Basingstoke & Reading  
Circuit Prayers for  
March to May 2022 can  
be found in the April 22  
Trinity E-News, pages  
10 – 13 (left hand side  
of each page).**

**CIRCUIT**

**Resources in braille:** I need to find a home for a couple of boxes containing complete sets of the following in braille:

- Hymns and Psalms
- Methodist Worship Book
- Let's Praise songbook
- Songs of Fellowship (songs 1-1690)

**Contact:  
Peter Frank  
if you want  
these.**

## Celebration for the life of The Reverend Alison Parker

We will holding a **Celebration of Alison's Life at Trinity on 14<sup>th</sup> May**, see below. The date has been chosen to coincide with her brother Giles' visit to the UK from Australia.

For catering purposes it is important that we know how many will be attending, can you please contact: **Rebecca, Alison's sister by email, see below, by 25 April**, if you wish to attend the lunch.

## Celebration for the life of The Reverend Alison Parker

Alison's family warmly invite you to join them on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May for a celebration of her life encompassing a few of her favourite things.

The day will start at 8.45am in the Basingstoke War Memorial Park where those who are able and would like to will complete the Park Run in her honour. In the latter years of her life, Alison completed many Park Runs in Basingstoke and beyond and we will be running or walking the route in her preferred manner – from the back. We welcome support from those who would rather not run!

The War Memorial Park, Basingstoke RG21 4AG. Meeting point on the western edge of the football pitch area. What3words: assure.sports.strong

**At 11.30am we will be celebrating Alison's life with a service at Trinity Methodist Church.** Coffee and tea will be available from 10.45 for those who are gasping after the Park run; have come from a distance; or would simply like a cup of coffee before the service.

After the service, a light lunch will be served in the hall where we hope friends and family can swap memories, chat and enjoy each other's company in a way we were unable to do after her funeral.

Trinity Church, Sarum Hill, Basingstoke RG21 8SR.

Please feel free to come to all or any part of the day's events. We hope the day will be filled with happy memories and we would ask you to come dressed for a party not a funeral; the brighter the better.

If you would like to stay for lunch, please could you let **Rebecca (Alison's sister)** know by **25 April** so that we have an idea of numbers (**email: rebeccadallaway@btinternet.com**).

Parking at the church is fairly limited but there is a car park opposite or in other car parks in the town centre. If you need a space in the church car park please let **Rebecca** know (contact details above) **by 10 May** so that we can arrange for a space to be reserved.

### In summary, the running order will be:

8.45am	Park run at Basingstoke War Memorial Park
10.45am	Coffee/tea at Trinity Methodist Church
11.30am	Service at Trinity Methodist Church
1.00 pm (approx.)	Lunch in the church hall

If you have any other queries either on or before the day please call:  
**Catherine (Alison's other sister) on ☎: 07747 621513.**

We look forward to seeing you on 14<sup>th</sup> May.



## **From Andrew Pitt – 08.03.22**

For those of you who have known me for a while, you will probably know that I like a challenge and if I can raise money for a good cause while doing it then that's an added bonus.

In 2020 I set myself the challenge of running the London Landmarks Half Marathon & taking part in my first Triathlon. Sadly, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic neither of these challenges could happen. However due to the generosity of family and friends I raised £700 for Mind.

In 2021 I finally got to complete my 2020 challenges as I took part in the Vitality Big Half, Blenheim Sprint Triathlon & The London Olympic Triathlon. Not satisfied with this and having slightly caught the triathlon bug I started to look at what to do in 2022. My head - perhaps foolishly - has settled on trying to complete a Half Ironman or 70.3 Triathlon. This consists of a 1.2 Mile Swim, 56 Miles Cycle & Half Marathon (13.1 Miles - thus completing the 70.3 distance).

In the latter part of 2021 I also thought about fundraising as part of the journey and Mind is a charity that is very close to my heart. 1 in 4 people will experience a mental health issue of some kind each year in England. This may or may not come as a surprise to you, but we live in a society where mental health isn't getting the funding or publicity that it needs. All too often people go through their battles alone, on an NHS waiting list, or not knowing who to turn to.

When I needed someone to turn to, the people at Mind were there to help and guide me and I will forever be grateful for that. This is my way of giving back to them and hopefully providing some much-needed funding to help others in their times of need.

If you would like to see how the journey is going, I am keeping a little blog so please feel free to see how I am doing at: [www.medium.com/@apitt3630](https://www.medium.com/@apitt3630)



If you would like to sponsor me you can do it on line at: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/apitt3630>

Alternatively you can give any donations to Mum or Dad.

### ***Here is a post from one of my recent blogs:***

For the past 2 weekends I have been down to Sevenoaks to recce the cycle route for one of the build-up events that I will be doing before tackling the full

Half Ironman Event. Last weekend me and Henry went and did the 28km ride and this weekend Tom joined me.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> April, Me, Tom, Henry & Rebecca will be taking part in the 70aks Triathlon. This Sprint Distance (400m Swim, 25km Cycle & 5km Run) is a perfect starter event for Tom, Henry & Rebecca who will be tackling their first ever Triathlon. For me it will be a good reminder of the Race-day routine and a good measure for how my training is going.

The Swim will be 400 metres in the pool at the Sevenoaks Leisure Centre – one of the most common fears for first time triathletes is swimming in open-water and so this event is a perfect introduction to a Triathlon. The distance is quite short with people likely to take between 5-15 minutes and obviously there's no chance of a fish nibbling at you to freak you out. The bike route is a 25km ride around the Kent rolling countryside with 2 – 3 noticeable climbs, followed by a 5km run through Knole Deer Park.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Reflexions

I am truly spiritually sustained with the items I see in the Trinity newsletter which have been sent in by members of our congregation, and for Hazel's encouragement to do so; she says, "I so look forward to receiving your lovely and varied articles. PLEASE KEEP THEM COMING."

Well, at this moment of time, I would like to thank the Lord for the lives of Doris, Gordon and Kathleen Crouch, and to make a special mention of Kathleen's participation in all this.

When I first came to Hampshire as a raw greenhorn recruit in the field of the hearing impaired, I was handed a long list of deaf persons to visit in North Hants, and the first deaf folk I visited were these lovely folk. Doris opened the door and I introduced myself, very sensitive at using another language (British Sign Language) and not my own. She beamed with that delightful smile of hers. That put me at ease immediately, and as I stepped over the threshold, the 1<sup>st</sup> question she asked was "Would you like a cuppa tea?"

After that first visit and in my first week in Hants, Doris and family and about a dozen deaf friends of theirs came to the Basingstoke Social Services to see me. Doris was their spokesperson. She said, with a polite smile, "We would like a church to worship in, like hearing people do".

By coincidence my family and I had been looking for a church only a couple of days before and spoke to the Revd Leonard Clough, Trinity's padre at that time. We had decided that Trinity was the church we favoured. Later I contacted the Revd Clough again regarding the issue Doris and Co presented to me. A wonderful welcome opened up for them too.

Since those distant past years when we all worshipped together, and have all grown old together and I feel sad when I see photos of those Christmas services over the years when deaf and hearing folk worshipped together, especially at that time of the year. The sadness comes because I see joyful faces that are no longer with us. They have all been promoted to glory, as Babbist's friends would say. Well, I still know I can talk to them through prayer. There will be no worries about deafness. Kathleen had normal hearing but was not able to speak. She is now with her parents, and she will be overjoyed in their presence and being so happy with her new spiritual body.

Hallelujah!

Thanks be to God!

**Mervyn**

### #smalltalk with Revd David Shaw:

Wesley Methodist Church YouTube channel has a series of small videos (46 as of counting) presented by Revd David Shaw which are between 3 – 4 minutes long. The latest two are about Prayer and Christian Aid. These can be found here and are highly recommended.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWw6jNpYWu4z52t760p7UJg/videos>

### Churches Prepare Platinum Jubilee plans

Churches, Christian Charities & Youth Organisations are working together to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee over the four-day Bank Holiday from 2 to 5 June. A new website has been created – [www.theplatinumjubilee.com](http://www.theplatinumjubilee.com) to provide ideas and resources for communities to celebrate the Queen's 70 years of faith and service.

## Fingers All



Isn't it strange, how the simplest things, often give us a message?

Sitting in the kitchen, holding onto the door of the washing machine, (to prevent it travelling across the floor, when the spin cycle starts,) I looked at my hand, and remembered a little song, I used to share with my then, small sons. You may know it.

'Tommy Thumb, where are you?' The words go through the fingers, 'Peter Pointer,' 'Giant Tall,' 'Ruby Ring,' 'Baby Small.' As each is called, they stand and respond, 'Here I am, here I am, how do you do.' No, I haven't slipped into my dotage yet.

Children love these little sing song verses. Waiting for the washing machine to stop, I thought about the names given to each digit, and how that might have purpose.

So, 'Tommy Thumb' The thumb can cover all the fingers, but isn't much use on its own.

'Peter Pointer' Where do I point in my life? To God, or away from Him?

'Giant Tall' Do I stand out as a Christian? Do people know I am a person of faith?

'Ruby Ring.' The finger of commitment. How good am I at keeping my word? Can I be relied on?

Lastly, 'Baby Small' What about those 'small' people, insignificant in this world? People who can so easily be crushed and ignored. How am I with them?

All the fingers and the thumb make up the hand. Am I willing to give a hand to those who need it?

Perhaps more importantly to accept the hand offered to me, these days?

Oh, the machine has stopped, time to remove the washing.

It was just a muse. God bless you.

**Margaret Garland**

### **Longest overdue library book has been returned – 313 years late !**

If you have ever been late in returning a library book, take heart: the 1704 copy of *'The Faith and Practice of a Church of England Man'* was recently handed back to Sheffield Cathedral.

A handwritten inscription inside reads: *"This Book belongs to ye Lending Library in Sheffield Church 1709."* It left the library just over 300 years ago.

Sheffield Cathedral's Reverend Canon Keith Farrow said that the family of a deceased woman who lived locally had asked in her will for it to be returned.

"Now it's come back home. It's a joy to have this little jewel back in the Cathedral." With overdue fines of 50p a day, librarians could have charged the family more than £54,000 for the book — which itself is worth about £300.

The Canon joked: "We might have got a new roof or something."

*90 years ago, on 9 May 1932 London's Piccadilly Circus was lit with electrical lighting for the first time. The road junction later became famous for its neon lighting and video advertising displays.*



## ***“It Can’t Be Carried Alone”***

***Father Richard wrote the following poem in response to the collective suffering of the people of Ukraine.***

How can we not feel shock or rage at what is happening  
to the people of Ukraine—

As we watch their suffering unfold in real time  
from an unfair distance?

Who of us does not feel inept or powerless  
before such manifest evil? In this, at least, we are united.

Our partisan divisions now appear small and trivial.

Remember what we teach: both evil and goodness are,  
first of all, social phenomena.

The Body of Christ is crucified and resurrected  
at the same time. May we stand faithfully  
Inside both these mysteries (contemplation).

In loving solidarity, we each bear what is ours to carry,  
the unjust weight of crucifixion,  
in expectant hope for God’s transformation.

May we be led to do what we can on any level (action)  
to create resurrection!

The people of Ukraine have much to teach the world.

*When the weight of the suffering of the world closes around us, we can easily feel suffocated from the grief and pain. What would happen if in these moments we reached out to connect with others? In grief and pain, together.*

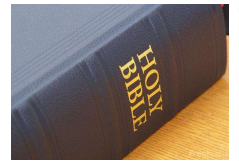
*Not alone. Together.*

***Father Richard Rohr is a Franciscan  
sent in by Frances Priestnall***

### ***Helping to support the Church in Ukraine (Parish Pump)***

#### **War in Ukraine: Appeal for more Bibles**

The Bible Society is appealing for funds to send more Bibles to Ukraine. It says that Christians in the UK “*can speak hope*” into the crisis by providing Ukrainian pastors and churches with more Bibles with which to share “the love and power of God’s Word.”



Oleksandr, who leads the Bible Society team in Ukraine, tells the story: “A few days ago, a pastor visited our office, asking for Bibles. When he heard that we had none left, he pleaded for Bibles that were damaged or even copies with pages missing. He said,

***‘These Bibles would be of immense value to my congregation and the community!’ It was heart-breaking.***

***“God’s Word can help bring comfort, peace, and reconciliation to our nation.  
We long for more Bibles.”***

Details at: <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/donate/>

**JIM**

Can't clean the windows, can't disturb him,  
 For we have a spider, who I have called Jim.  
 He's striped, and a beauty, he's looking at me,  
 So, I can't clean the windows,  
 I'm sure you can see.

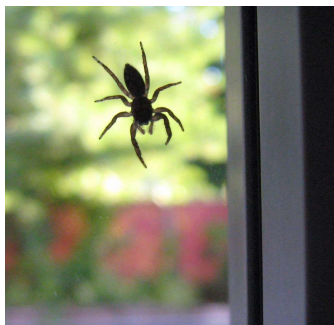
He just sits there most of the time,  
 Watching intently for just the right sign,  
 That an insect, perhaps a fly,  
 passed a little too closely by,  
 Then speedily Jim scoops it up in a flash,  
 It's gone now, disappeared in a dash.

Jim is much better than Flit, or such things,  
 Because he to life, much interest brings  
 And now I have noticed he has a brother,  
 I wonder, oh dear me, not another Spider,  
 happy to stay in my kitchen today.

I must confess, I don't quite understand  
 The horror some feel on looking around,  
 And seeing my Jim, hanging up there,  
 Are preparing to run, well anywhere.

Just look at him now, isn't he a cutie?  
 And whatever you say, he is always on duty.  
 So, someday I'll clean windows,  
 but not just now,  
 For Jim, and his brother, are taking a bow.

***Margaret Garland***

**Prayer for May**

Dear Father in Heaven,  
 As we thank you for May,  
 this most beautiful of months,  
 we are aware that not everything  
 in your world is beautiful;  
 not every attitude or action is  
 beautiful, or kind, or just.  
 There is so much pain and  
 suffering in the world that we  
 can sometimes feel overwhelmed.

Help us, Lord to remember that  
 Jesus came to bring all this  
 brokenness together, to bring  
 reconciliation and wholeness.

Thank you that by His life, death  
 and resurrection  
 Jesus overcame death for ever.

Thank you that He ascended into  
 heaven so that the Holy Spirit  
 could come to live in believers,  
 to give strength  
 and power and resilience,  
 so that Your work goes on.

Thank you that nothing in all  
 creation - no evil attacks, no  
 illness, no human powers, no  
 circumstances at all - can ever  
 separate us from Your love.

We will not be overwhelmed  
 as we keep our eyes on You.

We may not always understand,  
 but we acknowledge You to be the  
 Lord, who reigns over all -  
 and we are thankful.

In Jesus name. Amen.

***by Daphne Kitching  
 (Parish Pump)***

**Parking Space** – Angus was driving down the street worried because he had an important meeting and couldn't find a parking place. So, looking up toward heaven, he said "Lord, take pity on me. If you find me a parking place, I will go to church every Sunday for the rest of my life and give up whisky."

A moment later, miraculously, a parking place appeared. Angus looked up again and said, "Never mind. I found one."

## **This was passed on by my Aussie cousin**

There was a moment when Moses had the nerve to ask God what His name was. God was gracious enough to answer, and the name He gave is recorded in the original Hebrew YHWH.

Over time we have arbitrarily added an a and an eYahWeh, presumably because we have a preference for Vowels.

But scholars and Rabbi's have noted that the letters YHWH represent breathing sounds, or aspirated consonants. When pronounced without the intervening vowels it actually sounds like breathing YH(inhale WH (exhale).

So a baby's first cry, his first breath speaks the name of God....A deep sigh calls His name or a groan or gasp that is too heavy for words.

Even an atheist would speak His name, unaware that their very breath is giving constant acknowledgment of God. Likewise a person leaves this earth with their last breath, when God's name is no longer filling their lungs. So when I can't utter anything is my cry calling out His name????

Being alive means I speak His name constantly. So is it heard the loudest when I am the quietest.

In sadness we breathe heavy sighs. In joy our lungs feel almost like they will burst. In fear we hold our breath and have to be told breathe slowly to help calm us. When we are about to do something hard we take a deep breath to find our courage. When I think about it breathing is giving God praise even in the hardest moments.

This is so beautiful and fills me with emotion every time I grasp the thought God chose to give Himself a name that we can't help but speak every moment that we are alive. All of us always everywhere waking, sleeping, breathing with the name of God on our lips.

***Written by Sandra Thurman Caporale***

#YHWH# Praise every breath you take, inhale, exhale Sovereign Almighty control  
worship nature breathe.

***Sent in by Jenny Leighton***

*Nigel Beeton writes: Perhaps this month we may be blessed enough to be able to go for a nice walk in the country. I love to do that, but I'm an idiot when it comes to cows...*

### ***Bovinophobia (written by Nigel Beeton, Parish Pump)***

Some cows are big, some cows are fat but all cows stare at me like *that!*  
Some are smooth and some are hairy, but this I know, *all cows are scary!*

And when I take a country stroll my mouth dries out, my eyeballs roll  
My body shakes just like a rattle if I cross a field of cattle!

And as upon my way I go I wonder why they love me so  
I hear them make a snort of glee ss they come trotting up to me!

My wife - she thinks I am a fool for thinking ev'ry cow's a bull  
She cannot change my false belief and so, I'm shaking like a leaf!

Yes, I do love a country walk the rabbits, trees, the sparrowhawk  
Just one thing causes furrowed brows - if I must cross a field of cows!



## Circuit Responses to the Ukraine:

This is a very quick note to thank everyone who responded to this week's appeal for food and sleeping bags for Ukraine (also see the images attached). More than a dozen local churches contributed. Across the Circuit, churches from Caversham Heights to Basingstoke, and from Lower Early to Mortimer turned up to contribute to this mammoth effort. Neighbours shared posts on whatsapp, and facebook, and we estimate that more than 1000 individuals and families contributed to this appeal.

On Friday around five tonnes was boxed and loaded into trailers, including approximately 1700kg of fish, 1400kg of meat, 1100 kg of baby food, 241 sleeping bags, 18 boxes of sanitary products, 276 can openers and more than 1000 sturdy bags.

Further boxing on Saturday, and an £18,000 shop at a local wholesaler, brought the total to approximately:

- 3.5 tonnes of fish
- 2.5 tonnes of meat
- 2 tonnes of baby food
- 25 boxes of sanitary products
- 300 sleeping bags
- 300 can openers
- 1250 bags for life



We apologise that we can't be more precise with final weights and have definitely found it hard to capture the enormity of this collection in pictures. We've attached two images that show something of the scale, and a link to a brief video showing some of the action in the Reading School Chapel on Friday can be found [here](#). At the time of writing six vehicles and trailers have been weighed and are ready to travel to Newcastle. The vehicles that have left Reading will be joined by a further convoy in Darlington.

We would like to thank everyone involved and ask for your prayers for those whose efforts over the next few days will see this load arriving in towns and villages from Krakow to Kharkiv. In particular please think of those from Kyiv to Kharkiv who are still sheltering underground, and for whom the current situation is becoming desperate.

Thanks to everyone who gave anything. For those sheltering from hypersonic missiles, from cluster bombs and from barbaric and inhuman acts, your kindness will make a difference. Anyone who would like to join with others in taking the next step and hosting Ukrainian refugees or supporting them in any way when they come to the UK is invited to sign up via this form <https://forms.office.com/r/QSMWfrejpU>.

Over the next few weeks we will be working as hard as we can to pair local families and begin VISA applications. We'll be phoning those who've signed up, asking for photos of host families and will begin actively trying to match hosts with refugees in Poland from April 4<sup>th</sup>. We've currently got 23 hosts signed up in the local area, and would love to reach 50. We've got training, support and a network of 100s who can provide meals, social activities, donations of food and toys and support with job hunting. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you can help at all in this next phase. We'll be in touch again if another convoy looks likely. With thanks again for all your efforts,

**David Shaw, Martin Beukes and Chris Evans (from circuit notices 29.03.22)**

**Cats** – A Cheshire Vicar has two cats, their names are Ancient & Modern, because they are both him.

*Canon Paul Hardingham considers where Jesus is now (Parish Pump)*

## The Ascension

This month at Ascension Day, we remember Jesus ascending to 'God's right hand' (1 Peter 3:22). It's a somewhat neglected Christian festival, taking place on a Thursday, 40 days after Easter. However, this phrase is used in three different contexts in the New Testament.

### ***Sitting at God's right hand***

Jesus occupies a position of power and authority at the centre of the universe, 'exalted to the right hand of God' (Acts 2:33). This position was secured by His death and resurrection, enabling us to experience the life of heaven, including eternal life, forgiveness, healing and the power to transform lives and communities. Is this our expectation and experience?

### ***Standing at God's right hand***

Our experience of heaven is only partial because of the presence of suffering and disappointment in our lives. Stephen, the first Christian martyr, saw Jesus 'standing at the right hand of God' (Acts 7:56), when being stoned to death. Do we see that Jesus is on the throne and has a purpose for our lives, even when we are going through setbacks and difficulties? As a result of Stephen's death, the church grew and the apostle Paul was impacted. Where do we see the fruit of the suffering in our lives?

### ***Praying at God's right hand***

Finally, we are told that Jesus is 'interceding for us' at God's right hand (Romans 8:34 & Hebrews 7:25). Jesus is on our side at the heart of the universe and fully knows our needs when praying for us. He is for us, even when we feel defeated by the wrong things in our lives. How does this help us now?

So where has Jesus gone? Because He is in heaven, the Ascension opens up the possibility that we can experience the life of heaven, both now and in eternity.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Canon Paul Hardingham continues his introduction to Christianity.*

## Christian Basics: Understanding the Bible

The Bible is a popular book, with five billion copies sold worldwide every year, as well as a uniquely precious book. At her Coronation the Queen was given a Bible, 'the most precious thing this world affords'.

The Bible isn't simply one book, but a library of 66 books, composed by some 44 writers over a period of 1500 years in a range of styles including history, poetry, prophecy, letters and apocalyptic (looking at the end times). Despite having a number of different writers, the Bible claims one author – God Himself! As the Word of God, it is the primary way by which God speaks to us. 'All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work' (2 Timothy 3:16). The Bible is inspired ('the word of God in the words of men') and is a manual for life, equipping us to live for God in every aspect of our lives. We also have the promise of the Holy Spirit, who helps us to apply its words to our lives: 'But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth' John 16:13.

The Bible can also be described as a love letter from God, as it deepens our relationship with Him. Jesus said: 'You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about Me, yet you refuse to come to Me to have life' (John 5:39,40). Christians follow a person not a book, and the Scriptures are intended to help us to know Jesus better. Like a signpost, the Bible points us to the person of Jesus.

## Basingstoke Town Chaplaincy Prayer Letter Spring 2022

31 MARCH 2022 BY DAVID A C GRANT



With the arrival of spring and the beautiful displays of crocuses, and now daffodils in the town centre, people are out and about more. When out walking or sitting on a bench people are often open to a good conversation about life. Chaplains listen and can bring in a Christian dimension to situations.



*Tricia and John in Festival Place*

Although a number of shops have closed and footfall is down on 3 years ago, the town is quite busy and adjusting to the new circumstances. Chaplains visiting shops meet people for brief chats, but by building a relationship there are times when troubled hearts are opened. Growing pressures on job security, working conditions and salaries as well as family, health and other concerns can be discussed confidentially, and the number of supportive conversations has increased recently.



*Pam chatting with a member of staff at the courts*

*cont'd.....*



### Basingstoke Town Chaplaincy Prayer Letter Spring 2022, cont'd.....

Chaplains continue to attend the Courts most mornings and we are looking to increase our support to those who are attending by video link. Chaplains also chat to passengers, passers-by, concession holders, staff and taxi drivers in and around the railway station – it is a very busy area. We now have two Chaplains regularly meeting bus drivers and staff.



#### *Malcolm and Malcolm discover they both like fire engines as well as buses...*

Alan has reluctantly retired after more than 10 years of valuable service. We need more Chaplains – Christians willing to give at least one hour a week to meet people in different contexts in the town centre or in a care home. We provide training and support so it is less daunting than it might appear; a taster session helps to show what's actually involved. For more information contact Libby by email or leave a phone message.

We have been active in making our presence known and have received support from Festival Place (*we are now advertised on their App*) and the Borough Council, where the Mayor has invited representatives from the Chaplaincy and Street Pastors, to tea to express thanks for our services to the community.

We continue to work with One Church Basingstoke, and we want to build stronger links with churches in the town. Our ministry is to support that of the churches in reaching out to others. We value your prayers and would like to have church links so that we can refer people to a contact person if they wish to attend a church activity.

We are continually grateful to those who give generously to meet our costs. The Lord does supply all our needs, but our financial needs are increasing and we welcome donations from churches and individuals. A current need is funding for some more uniforms suitable for the summer.

Thank you for your interest and support for the Chaplaincy. We do appreciate it.

Wishing you God's blessing, **John Hayward, Chair of Trustees**

- *You can become a Christian in a moment, but not a mature Christian. Christ can enter, cleanse, and forgive you in a matter of seconds, but it will take much longer for your character to be transformed and moulded to His will. It takes only a few minutes for a bridegroom and bride to be married, but in the rough-and-tumble of their home it may take many years for two strong wills to be dovetailed into one. So, when we receive Christ, a moment of commitment will lead to a lifetime of adjustment –*  
**John Stott**
- *The way to do a great deal is to keep on doing a little. The way to do nothing at all is to be continually resolving that you will do everything –*  
**C H Spurgeon**



## The Travellers

They travelled together sad and forlorn with all of their dreams shattered and torn,  
It started so well, their hopes were high never to guess that He would die.

The Man joined the two as they walked along,  
He asked why their faces were sad and long,  
'Have you not heard?' disbelieving they cried 'How the One we followed was crucified?'

Opening the scriptures He began to unfold  
how the Christ should suffer as written of old,  
It was not a disaster, but all of God's plan that one should come as Redeemer of man.

They listened enraptured as slowly they saw the purpose of God revealed in the Law  
The Prophets and Psalms, it's all about Him  
The One who should come and rescue from sin.

O that eyes should be opened and scripture made plain,  
To see Christ in its pages again and again, that just like the travellers I too should see  
The Master, the Saviour dying for me.

*by Megan Carter (Parish Pump)*

***A few printed versions of the new Highway Code available for people to look at, might just save somebody from an accident!***

### **Out and about on the roads? Remember the NEW Highway Code**

When did you last read the Highway Code? Various 'fundamental' changes were recently made which will surely affect you. For example, there is a new hierarchy of road users, where drivers now have new responsibilities to watch out for people who are walking, cycling, or riding a horse. Another example is that cyclists are now advised to cycle in the *centre* of lanes in slower-moving traffic.

Finally, do you even know how best to open your car door? According to the Highway Code, you should use your hand on the opposite side to the door you are opening; for example, use your left hand to open a door on your right-hand side. This will make you turn your head to look over your shoulder. You are then more likely to avoid causing injury to cyclists or motorcyclists passing you on the road, or to people on the pavement.

**Read all about the new rules at:** <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code>

### **Time to Welcome your Slugs and Snails !**

So says the Royal Horticultural Society, as it recently began a campaign to encourage us to see the gastropods in our gardens in a better light.

The RHS says that the species play a key role in garden ecosystems, and thus are in need of 'positive PR'. It seems that only nine of the 44 known species in the UK are likely to threaten our gardens, and that all of them play a vital role in recycling dead plant material and animal waste, and acting as a food source for hedgehogs, frogs, birds, beetles and flies. In fact, the RHS's principal entomologist says that we should consider our slugs and snails not as marauding pests bent on eating our flowers and vegetables, but rather as 'garden visitors'.



*"Our gardens would be duller and messier without them."* (Parish Pump)

*Continuing the occasional series looking at stories BEHIND some of our favourite hymns.*

### **The story behind ‘Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son’**

Here is a hymn that is so well known and loved that it has simply burst the bounds of Easter, and gets sung regularly at other times of the year. It has two stories behind it.

**First, the music.** The rousing music did not start out as a hymn, but instead was written by Handel for his opera ‘Judas Maccabeus’, first performed in 1746. Originally the words ran ‘*See the conquering hero comes*’, for Handel’s opera tells the story (*found in the Apocrypha*) of the leader of the Jews, Judas Maccabeus, who led an army against the Syrians and restored worship at the Temple. With its triumphant refrain after each verse, the music is easy to learn and sing, and can be (and has been!) played to great effect either by the trumpets, on an organ in a large resonant church, or even on guitars (!).

**Secondly, the words.** They were not written until 1884, which was 138 years after the music. We owe them to the Revd Raymond Budry, a Swiss pastor from Lausanne. Ordained in the Free Evangelical Church in Vaud, he spent 35 years as the pastor of Vevey on Lake Geneva. Budry wrote the hymn in French (‘*A Toi La Gloire!*’) to console himself after the death of his first wife, and a year later (1885) it was published in *Chants Evangeliques*. Soon it found its way into English – translated by a Baptist minister from Kingston-upon-Thames, Richard Hoyle. It is not clear who first had the happy idea of teaming those words with that music, but when they did, the hymn really took off. By 1904 it was being translated into other languages. The theme of ‘battle’ is never far from this hymn, whether it was the battle of Judas Maccabeus, or the battle over sin which was won by Christ on the cross and in rising from the tomb. Easter, of course, marked the biggest victory over the biggest enemies of all time: sin and death.

What would Handel make of it, if he could know that his battle music had become one of the world’s most popular and well-known Easter hymns? He was a devout man, working for the poor, praying twice each day, and attending St Paul’s Cathedral.

So, it seems pretty certain that he would be delighted. (*Parish Pump*)

**Nigel Beeton writes:** *‘Now our thoughts are overshadowed by the terrible situation in the Ukraine. I looked at the masses of people on the station platforms, and I thought, “only a couple of months ago, each one of those people had a life, a home, a shop to buy food, perhaps somewhere to grow daffodils, maybe a church to worship God, and their own hopes and dreams for the future. Now they are just part of a mass of people shuffling towards a westbound train.’*

### **The Refugee (written by Nigel Beeton, Parish Pump)**

All that I was, I no longer am, All that I have, I hold in my hand  
My home, my love, my world are all gone, one among thousands, I shuffle along.

Only last week I knew who I was, All that has gone, and only because  
Someone in a land a long way away, turned life into hell one terrible day.

He started a war, his heart icy cold he rained down his hell on the young and the old  
I ran for my life for I had no choice and nobody heard the fear in my voice.

Everything’s gone, and all that is ‘me’ summed up in a word – the word ‘refugee’.

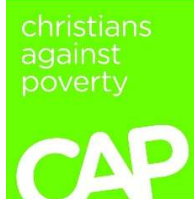
I have no control, no say in my fate, just one in a crowd, I stand and I wait.

Waiting for what? The future’s unclear, for armed men have taken all that I held dear  
Along with my hopes, and all I had planned all swept away by the tanks in my land.

One thing alone puts a smile on my face a far nicer stranger has come to this place;  
A bed for the night? A cup of hot tea? And – best of all – someone who sees me as me.

Some of the Ministries from around Basingstoke

**Basingstoke  
CAP**



Gateway Church have partnered with **Christians Against Poverty (CAP)** to reduce poverty by delivering completely free debt counselling to the people of Basingstoke. To refer someone to CAP, give them the Freephone number – ☎: 0800 328 0006 – and the website address for further information – **Web address:** [www.capuk.org](http://www.capuk.org)

**The Besom in Basingstoke**



The Besom in Basingstoke helps people make a difference. It provides a bridge between those who want to give time, money, things or skills and those who are in need. It ensures what is given is used effectively. The service it provides is free. The Besom in Basingstoke Core Team is made up of representatives from many churches working together.

**Web:** [www.thebesominbasingstoke.org](http://www.thebesominbasingstoke.org)  
**Email:** [besominbasingstoke@gmail.com](mailto:besominbasingstoke@gmail.com)  
 ☎: 07541 123797

**Community Cafe –  
Meals on Wheels**

*Meals on wheels delivered to your door*

**Menu options:**

- Main Course only: £4.00
- Soup or Dessert only: £3.00
- Two courses: £5.00

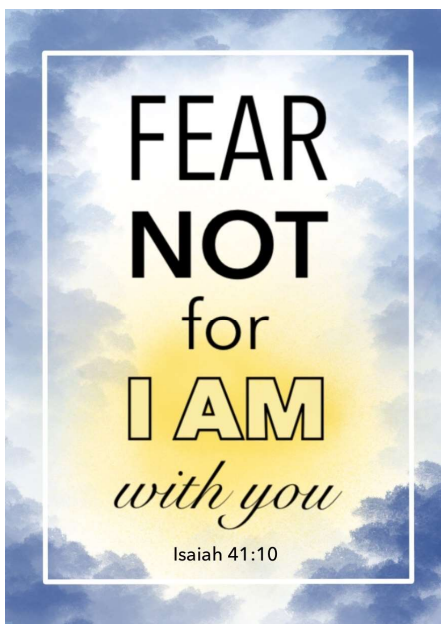


**Delivery options:**

- Hot and ready to eat
- Cold with reheating instructions

**Contact:**

**Web address:** <https://www.theorhardcommunitycafe.org.uk>  
**email:** [info@theorhardcommunitycafe.org.uk](mailto:info@theorhardcommunitycafe.org.uk)  
 ☎: 07895 962129



*Just as the sparrow has found a home and the swallow a nest where she may raise her young. My resting place is in your house O Lord my King and my God, Ps 84:3*





## Basingstoke Choral Society's Spring Concert

Tickets from £15: [bhlivetickets@bhlive.org.uk](mailto:bhlivetickets@bhlive.org.uk)

**Saturday 25 June 2022**

### The Anvil, Basingstoke – A Celebration of English Composers

**BCS** Putting the *sing* in *Basingstoke*

[www.basingstoke-choral.org.uk](http://www.basingstoke-choral.org.uk) [BCS on Facebook](#)

### A Celebration of English Composers

For Basingstoke Choral Society's 2022 summer concert on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June at The Anvil**, we shall be celebrating some of the best in English choral and orchestral music and, to mark the Platinum Anniversary of Her Majesty the Queen, the programme includes three pieces performed at the Coronation in 1953. The programme includes *Zadok the Priest*, by naturalised Englishman, George Frideric Handel, and Sir Hubert Parry's *Blest Pair of Sirens* and *I was glad*. The choral repertoire for this concert is completed by Ralph Vaughan-Williams' *Fantasia on the Old 104<sup>th</sup>*, and the first performance of *Dover Beach*, a setting for chorus and orchestra of the well-known 19<sup>th</sup> century poem by Matthew Arnold, composed by David Lucas, a long-standing member of the choral society.

No programme of English music would be complete without including a work by Sir Edward Elgar. The two orchestral pieces in this concert are his *Cello Concerto*, and *Crown Imperial*, composed by Sir William Walton for the coronation of George VI in 1937.

The choir's musical director, David Gibson, will be conducting the concert and the choir will be performing with the New London Sinfonia. Tickets are available from the Anvil Box Office: 01256 844244 or from: [boxoffice@anvilarts.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@anvilarts.org.uk)



### Methodist JPIT

**Stay and Pray – new weekly prayers for intercession**

We're continuing with our daily '**Stay & Pray**' prayers on our social media and via email. You can now also see our prayers and prompts for prayers of intercession in communal worship, available every Friday as a PDF on our website. Use them as prompts for your prayers of intercession, as we lift up our eyes and reflect on the wider world:

<https://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk>

*Don't wait for people to be friendly, show them how – Anon*



### Dial-a-Prayer

**FREEPHONE** numbers for Prayers, Reflections and News from the Methodist Church

- **Listen to a Prayer:** 0808 281 2514
- **Listen to a Pastoral Message from the President & Vice President:** 0808 281 2695
- **Listen to our Podcast:** 0808 281 2478
- *Prayer updated every Thursday,*
- *Presidential message updated every Monday,*
- *Methodist Podcast updated fortnightly on Thursday.*

### Knit a corgi for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Thousands of people across the country are buying in light brown and white wool just now, in order to knit up a corgi in honour of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It is a fun way in which anyone with knitting needles can get involved in the coming celebrations. **If you google 'knitting patterns for corgis'**, you will find a wide variety of free patterns on offer. Knitted corgis could help decorate house windows, local shops and churches as the big day approaches.





## The Mug and Biscuit

The Mug & Biscuit, St Andrews Church –  
Now Open on **Wednesdays** too



Hours of opening shown below:

**Tuesday: 10 am to 12 noon**

**Wednesday: 10 am to 12 noon**

**Thursday: 10 am to 12 noon**



On all three days **drinks, home-made cakes and toasted tea cakes** will be available to purchase.

**We look forward to welcoming old and new friends.**



## The Mug & Biscuit Team

Any queries contact:

**Linda Hoe** ☎: 07963 583506



## Two Donkeys

Two donkeys were walking the streets of Jerusalem. One said: "Just a few days ago I came down that hill carrying Jesus, and the people were all singing and shouting and throwing down their cloaks and palms for me to walk on. But today they don't even recognise me." The other donkey replied: "That is how it is, my friend.

***Without Jesus, none of us amounts to much.***"

## Getting ready for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, 2 – 5 June

The UK and Commonwealth will celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a four-day Bank Holiday from 2 – 5 June 2022, and churches throughout the country will join in on the celebrations. ***Here's the programme of coming national events:***

**Thursday 2 June** – The Queen's Birthday Parade – Trooping of the colour – London  
Lighting of beacons – around the country and Commonwealth.

**Friday 3 June** – St Paul's Cathedral Service of Thanksgiving – London.

**Saturday 4 June** – The Derby at Epsom Downs, attended by members of the Royal Family  
Platinum Party at the Palace – a concert broadcast from Buckingham Palace.

**Pentecost Sunday 5 June** – Pentecost Sunday services in churches around the country – linked to the Platinum Jubilee.

Platinum Jubilee Street Parties / Big Jubilee Lunch – around the country.

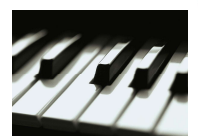
The Platinum Jubilee Pageant on The Mall – London.



## SAVE THE DATE – Next CIRCUIT MUSICAL

At Wesley, Reading

on **Saturday 19 November 2022**



We will learn Roger Jones' new musical '***Three Wise Camels***', in a day and end the day with a worship performance of it. More information later. (See *March Trinity E-News* for fuller article). Any questions please **contact**: Tony & Jennifer Pitt at: [itsstepitts@btinternet.com](mailto:itsstepitts@btinternet.com)

## Blister Pack Recycling

Many thanks to all of you donating your empty pill packs and to Those who are collecting them from others too. I am overwhelmed at how many have appeared for me to recycle. It makes me realise how many went into land fill before we started collecting them.



**LATEST – I have now taken 31 very full ‘Bags for Life’ of blister packs to be recycled. Thank you for your support in this. However I do have one request:**

***Over the last few months I have been finding “foreign bodies in some of the bags. Please, Please can you give the message to those that you may collect from that we don’t take “tissues” or any other type of foil, for example I had to remove 6 pie trays this time and they were not all clean. Your co-operation in this would be greatly appreciated.***

I am sure that the help that Marie Curie is getting from these is welcomed and of course it is helping to take care of the planet for future generations.

Please continue to leave them at church for me to collect, in the **white labelled bin provided, which can be found in the foyer area at church.** However I would be happy to collect locally if you are unable to get to church.

**Jennifer Pitt**

## Recycling of Plastic Milk Bottle Tops –

If you have plastic milk bottle tops (***only milk bottle tops***) and are not already recycling them and would like to, Pamela has a contact with a collector for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. Tops can be given to Pamela or ring the Bishop family on ☎: 01256 467702.



Thank you, **June Bishop**

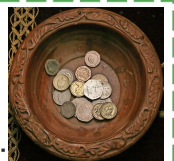
## Trinity Collections

As you will expect, Trinity’s income has been severely reduced over the last 2 years. This is partly because hirers have had to stop meeting, but also because without services in Church the collections have stopped. Nevertheless, much of our expenditure has continued – almost half of our outgoings go to the Circuit to pay for, among other things but to a major extent, the Circuit staff, both ordained and lay.

We would like to express our thanks to those who contribute by Standing Order, and those who have made contact to continue their regular giving via monthly envelopes. We would like to remind you all that there are a number of ways that you can contribute financially to God’s work at Trinity and we would particularly welcome any donations at this time.

If you need more information as to how you can give to Trinity, please contact:

**Tony Pitt** (Gift Aid & Envelope Secretary) – [organista@btinternet.com](mailto:organista@btinternet.com) or ☎: 01256-816314



- *10 years ago, on 18 May 2012 social media network Facebook went public. Its initial public offering raised \$16 billion – the third-largest amount in US history.*
- *A smile is a curve which helps to put things straight – Anon*



## UPDATE (at 22.04.22)



**web:** <https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

### Our foodbank Relies on Your Goodwill & Support. Monetary Donations

**big or small also gratefully received.** Over 90% of food distributed by foodbanks in The Trussell Trust network is donated by the public – that's why your food donations are absolutely vital to enable us to give everyone referred a balanced, nutritious 3 day food supply.

Our **Basingstoke Centre & Warehouse at Houndmills** remains open for donations of food & toiletries including fresh veg, bread & eggs during our regular opening times which are **from 10 am – 3 pm, Monday to Friday**. If you would like to donate any items, please **'shop and drop'** goods into the permanent crates provided for us by our supporting supermarkets, eg Tesco at Chineham; Sainsburys at Tadley, Hatch Warren or The Malls; Co-op; Asda; Waitrose; Lidl; Aldi etc, or at any of the other donation points. We still have **Donation points** around the region as follows: **Food parcels can be Collected & Donations Delivered at: Basingstoke Baptist Church, Brighton Hill, Wed 10.30 am – 12.30 pm; Buckskin Evangelical Church, Mon & Fri 10.30 am – 12.30 pm; St Gabriel's Church, Popley, Fri 12.30 pm – 2.30 pm; Tadley Common Methodist Church, Tues 10.30 am – 12.30 pm; Church of the Good Shepherd, Winklebury, Tues 12.30 pm – 2.30 pm; The Sarum Hill Centre, Hope Community Church, Thur 10.30 am – 12.30 pm. THANK YOU** for your continued support!

**Check out the Foodbank Website as above.** You will find the full list there of all the **'Donation Locations'** & times where you can donate food and use the **'Shop & Drop'**.

**Basingstoke Foodbank:** The good news is that the new premises at Houndmills have been secured for two years. The Foodbank has been able to purchase a large commercial refrigerator, which means we can now store fresh fruit and vegetables, and are now able to provide fresh bread, eggs, fruit and veg in every food parcel. The address in Houndmills is 63-64 Tempus Business Centre, Kingsclere Road, RG21 6XG. At present there is no process in place for transfer of donations from Trinity to the new site, **please do not leave donations at Trinity**. Thanks, **Tony Pitt**

**A Typical Food Parcel Includes:** breakfast cereals; soup; pasta; rice; pasta sauce; tinned beans; tinned meat; tinned vegetables; tinned fruit; tea or coffee; sugar; biscuits; snacks; toiletries; household items; limited supply of fresh bread, fruit and vegetables.

#### At 22.04.22, we are SHORT OF:

- UHT Long Life Milk
- Long Life Fruit Juice
- Savoury (marmite type)
- Sweet Spreads
- Meat Substitute
- Desserts / Puddings (Microwave)
- Nappies Size 5
- Clothes Washing Tablets
- Men's Shower Gel
- Female Deodorants

#### At 22.04.22, we have Plenty of:

- Cereals Hot & Cold, Porridge Sachets
- Baked Beans
- Biscuits
- Rice
- **NO Pasta (we have sufficient for a year)**
- Soup
- Crisps
- Squash
- Tea, Fruit Teas
- Cat Food

#### We always welcome

**Donations** and promise to use them to provide help for local people in crisis. Occasionally we send food to other local foodbanks to support their work if they have specific shortages. We also support a small number of local agencies in Basingstoke who regularly provide hot meals, or emergency food items for our most vulnerable members of the community who may not be able to access our centre.

**Thank you for your continued support**



## SAD NEWS FOR OUR RECYCLING



In the next month or so we are going to lose two of our recycling collections.

**After 31 March we will no longer be able to collect the Baby Food Pouches and Kids Yoghurt Pouches.** We have been collecting these since 2016. It was slow to get started but has been increasing over the years and each shipment generates between £10 and £12.

**Our biggest loss will be the Crisp Collection, closing on 25 April.** This has only been running since March 2019 but has brought in over £300. We collect more crisp packets than any other item.

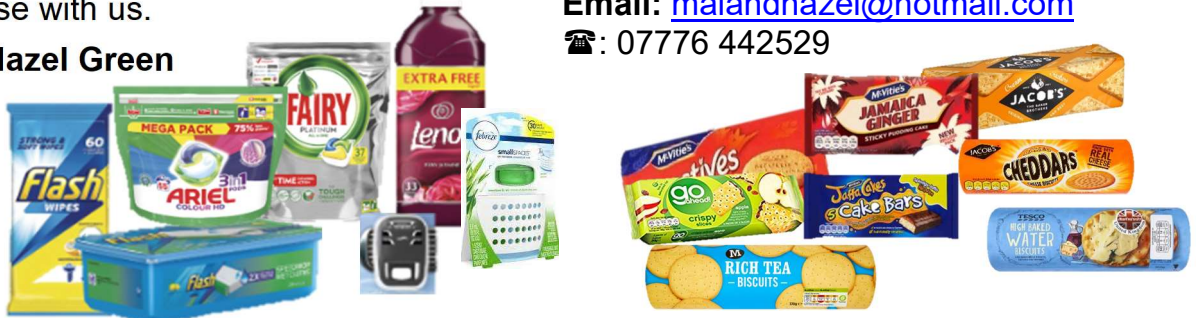
The reason given for closing these recyclable collections is that Supermarkets are now running their own recycling schemes. That is good news for the planet but not for our charity and I am very sad that we will not have as much to give to 'Pillars'.

However, we are still collecting cake and biscuit wrappers, flexible packaging bags used for dishwasher tabs and detergent capsules, packaging of household wipes like Flash or the anti-bacterial ones, plastic air fresheners, tinted fabric conditioner bottles or the tinted plastic boxes used for home cleaning products. So do please continue to support our scheme by recycling these with us.

Thank you, Hazel Green

Email: [malandhazel@hotmail.com](mailto:malandhazel@hotmail.com)

☎: 07776 442529



**Coffee Shop**

**Gifts & Cards**

**Shoemakers**  
CHRISTIAN BOOKS & COFFEE SHOP

Open Tuesdays – Saturdays – 9.30 am – 4 pm

**Bibles, Bible Notes, Books,  
Children's Books & Kid's Corner**

**Environment**

**Church Supplies**

**Shoemakers Christian Bookshop, The Arcade, Market Place, Newbury:**

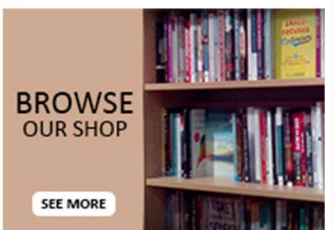
**New Website for Shoemakers Bookshop:** [www.christophershoemaker.org.uk](http://www.christophershoemaker.org.uk)

**Shop with Shoemakers** – You can shop in the following ways:

- **In Person at our Shop, OPEN:** Tuesdays – Saturdays, 9.30 am – 4 pm
- **By Phone** during opening hours as above on: ☎:01635 37836
- **Online** anytime at: [www.christophershoemaker.org.uk](http://www.christophershoemaker.org.uk)
- **By email** anytime – [office@christophershoemaker.org.uk](mailto:office@christophershoemaker.org.uk)
- **Our Coffee Shop is OPEN:** Thurs – Sat, 9.30 am – 1 pm
- **Facebook messenger** – visit us at: [www.facebook.com/shoemakersbooks](https://www.facebook.com/shoemakersbooks)
- **Click and Collect** is available.
- **Orders can be posted or delivered to you.**
- **Please support** your local Christian Bookshop and take a look at the great resources we have at **Shoemakers Christian Books at:** [www.christophershoemaker.org.uk](http://www.christophershoemaker.org.uk)

**Address:**

**The Arcade  
Market Place  
Newbury  
Berkshire  
RG14 5AD**



**And may Romans 8:37-39 encourage us all**



For the Young & not so Young

PUZZLES

Crossword

Bible Bite

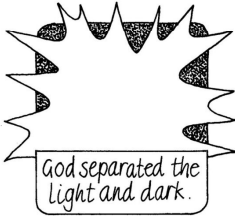
A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Genesis chapter 1 to 2 verse 3.

This story is at the start of the Bible, and the start of time...

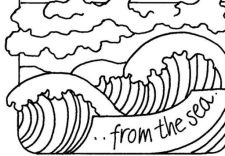
When God first made the universe it was empty and shapeless. God said...

Let there be Light!



God separated the Light and dark.

On the next day, God separated the sky...

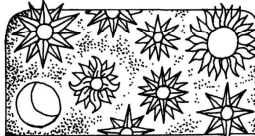


...from the sea.

On the third day God separated the sea...

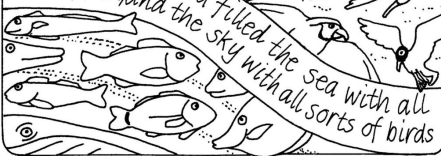


...from the dry land. Then He made plants of all kinds grow on the land.



On the fourth day God made lights shine in the sky for day and night.

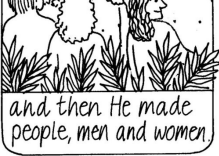
On the fifth day God filled the sea with all sorts of fish, and the sky with all sorts of birds



On the sixth day God made all kinds of animals...



God told the people...



and then He made people, men and women.

Take care of all I have made.

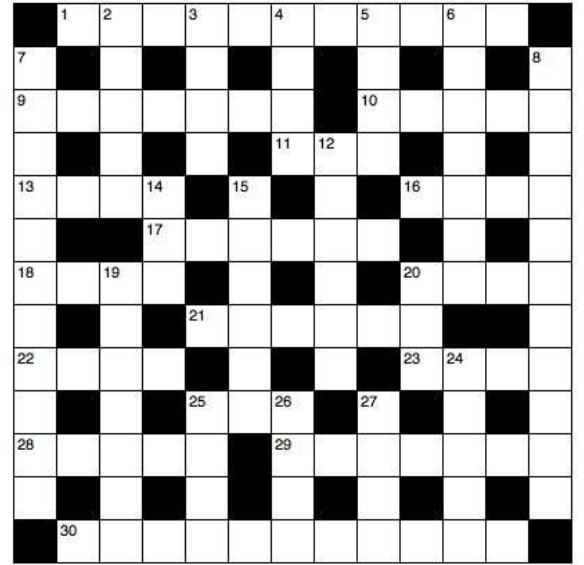


God saw that everything He had made was very good.

On the seventh day God rested...



and so did everyone else!



Sudoku

	2			1	4	6
9				3	8	
			4			3
	6		2			
	5					4
				9		7
6			2			
		3	9			1
8	1	5				9

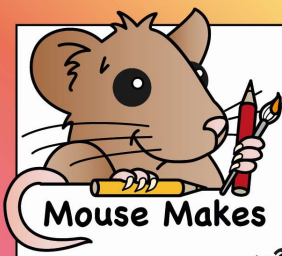
© 2008 KrazyDad.com

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

Wordsearch – A prayer for Ukraine

Lord, we pray for Ukraine, a nation in which 70% of the population call themselves Christian. We ask you now to save the lives of many people in Ukraine, Amen

- |          |           |        |       |
|----------|-----------|--------|-------|
| Ukraine  | Bows      | Fire   | Still |
| War      | Shatter   | Save   | Be    |
| Cease    | Spears    | Many   | In    |
| Earth    | Burn      | Lives  | Our   |
| Break    | Shields   | Crisis | You   |
| Lord     | Hope      | Rock   |       |
| Fortress | Deliverer |        |       |



"Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love endures forever" Psalm 136:1



"Never stop praying." 1 Thessalonians 5:17



"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Philippians 4:6

Jesus said, "This, then, is how you should pray:  
Our \_\_\_\_\_  
in \_\_\_\_\_  
hallowed be your \_\_\_\_\_  
your \_\_\_\_\_  
come, your \_\_\_\_\_ be done, on \_\_\_\_\_ as it is in \_\_\_\_\_  
Give us this day our daily \_\_\_\_\_.  
And \_\_\_\_\_  
us our \_\_\_\_\_,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
And \_\_\_\_\_ us not into temptation, but \_\_\_\_\_ us from the \_\_\_\_\_ one."  
Read Matthew 6:9-13 to fill in the words.

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**Crossword Clues – Across**

- 1 Overpowered (Deuteronomy 11:4) (11)
- 9 'The — are mantled with corn' (Psalm 65:13) (7)
- 10 'Each man—a sword to his side' (Exodus 32:27) (5)
- 11 On the death of Jesus the curtain in the temple was torn from— to bottom (Matthew 27:51) (3)
- 13 Stagger (Isaiah 28:7) (4)
- 16 'Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought—and doesn't do it, sins' (James 4:17) (2,2)
- 17 Stir up or provoke (Acts 13:50) (6)
- 18 Burden (Luke 11:46) (4)
- 20 'As far as the east is from the—, so far has he removed our transgressions from us' (Psalm 103:12) (4)
- 21 Sign (Luke 23:38) (6)
- 22 'After that, Jesus poured water into a basin and began to—his disciples' feet' (John 13:5) (4)
- 23 The nature of the seven ears of corn which swallowed up the good ears in Pharaoh's dream (Genesis 41:23) (4)
- 25 Has (anag) (3)
- 28 'This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth, —sons' (Genesis 10:1) (5)
- 29 'I will...make them drunk, so that they...sleep for—and—awake' (Jeremiah 51:39) (4,3)
- 30 Paul said of him, 'he often refreshes me and is not ashamed of my chains' (2 Timothy 1:16) (11)

**Crossword Clues – Down**

- 2 Worth (Matthew 13:46) (5)
- 3 'A bruised — he will not break' (Matthew 12:20) (4)
- 4 'Suddenly a great company of the heavenly — appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (4)
- 5 Slip (anag) (4)
- 6 'Take an awl and push it through his — — into the door, and he will become your servant for life' (Deuteronomy 15:17) (3,4)
- 7 Bountiful (2 Corinthians 8:2) (11)
- 8 'Therefore, as we have —, let us do good to all people' (Galatians 6:10) (11)
- 12 Acquire (2 Timothy 2:10) (6)
- 14 Container cover (Numbers 19:15) (3)
- 15 'He...became obedient to death, even death on—!' (Philippians 2:8) (1,5)
- 19 Refrain (1 Peter 2:11) (7)
- 20 'She began to—his feet with her tears' (Luke 7:38) (3)
- 24 One who worships Brahma, Vishnu or Shiva (5)
- 25 'Give to everyone who—you' (Luke 6:30) (4)
- 26 'I lift up my eyes to the hills; where does my—come from?' (Psalm 121:1) (4)
- 27 One of those whom the Lord said would be taken from Jerusalem and Judah as judgment on them (Isaiah 3:2) (4)







**Puzzle Pages Solutions**

**Across:** 1, Overwhelmed. 9, Valleys. 10, Strap. 11, Top. 13, Reel. 16, To do. 17, Incite. 18, Load. 20, West. 21, Notice. 22, Wash. 23, Thin. 25, Ash. 28, Noah's. 29, Ever not. 30, Onesiphorus.

**Down:** 2, Value. 3, Reed. 4, Host. 5, Lisp. 6, Ear lobe. 7, Overflowing. 8, Opportunity. 12, Obtain. 14, Lid. 15, A cross. 19, Abstain. 20, Wet. 24, Hindu. 25, Asks. 26, Help. 27, Hero.

**Sudoku Solution**

3	2	7	8	9	1	4	5	6
9	1	4	6	5	3	8	2	7
5	8	6	7	4	2	9	1	3
4	6	9	2	7	5	1	3	8
7	5	2	3	1	8	6	4	9
1	3	8	4	6	9	2	7	5
6	9	5	1	2	7	3	8	4
2	7	3	9	8	4	5	6	1
8	4	1	5	3	6	7	9	2

a	k	u	g	m	l	a	n	d	g	e
v	n	n	w	b	i	r	y	n	s	b
c	i	i	o	q	g	n	i	t	y	i
s	g	v	m	d	h	h	n	n	d	r
p	h	e	e	a	t	a	o	f	w	d
e	t	r	n	y	l	i	g	h	t	s
o	r	s	r	p	t	s	m	s	k	y
p	s	e	p	a	r	a	t	e	d	r
l	v	a	e	v	e	r	y	o	n	e
e	a	r	g	o	o	d	a	r	k	s
y	c	f	i	s	h	m	a	d	e	t

- |            |           |          |
|------------|-----------|----------|
| animals    | birds     | creation |
| dark       | day       | everyone |
| everything | fish      | good     |
| land       | light     | lights   |
| made       | men       | night    |
| people     | plants    | rest     |
| sea        | separated | sky      |
| sorts      | universe  | women    |

