

## There's talent among us

Among the various skills and wide range of experience in our congregation we find that our Secretary, **Rob Derry**, has now had his first novel published and there are more in the pipeline too. "The Waterman" (Austin Macauley, also available on Amazon) is not your average ghost story and has a twist in its ending. Rob has used his internet know-how in his work for our Church and has also begun to preach for us occasionally. He has a keen interest in science and history (which shows in the book) and is still loyal to his Midlands roots as an Aston Villa supporter.



### Bible quiz: Things Jesus said

1. What did Jesus tell he must do? (John 3.)
2. What did He ask a woman to give Him? (John 4.)
3. Where did Jesus claim He had come from? (John 6.)
4. Who did Jesus tell to go up to a feast without Him? (John 7.)
5. Where did He tell the blind man to go to wash? (John 9.)
6. What did Jesus say He, the Good Shepherd, would give to those who believed Him (His sheep)? (John 10.)
7. What did He say to Lazarus before He raised him from the dead? (John 11.)
8. What did Jesus say about the poor? (John 12.)
9. What new commandment did Jesus give to His disciples before He went to the Cross? (John 13.)
10. What did He promise His disciples? (John 14.)

### Verse for the month

**Your word is truth.**

**John 17 verse 17.**



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## Still a useful resource

Have you looked at our website recently? With the growth in social media it can be easy to overlook the ongoing value afforded by this means of communication and sharing larger chunks of information than is possible on Facebook or Twitter. We have noticed that visitors to the Chapel have often found us through it and the message section on the Home page enables questions to be answered. Our livestreamed services and videos can be found on the Recent Videos page and there are links to other churches and organisations on the Our Friends page. The News page is worth keeping an eye on and there's a page about our History too. Just head over to [langfordevangelicalchurch.org](http://langfordevangelicalchurch.org) which is the Home page. Don't forget to tell your family and friends about it and remember you can help us if you find a broken link or an error!

### In this issue

New occasional feature: Out and about, *inside*.

Where we are and future direction? From the Pastor's study, *inside*.

First novel is published. There's talent among us, *back page*.

## Out and about



We often comment that we are privileged to live in a beautiful part of the country and we think the photo above illustrates this. It was taken several years ago on a winter walk and shows the view down-hill on Burrington Ham. It is still a popular area for rambling. Such photos bring to mind the words of Psalm 19 verse 1, “The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament sheweth His handiwork”. Whatever the season there is beauty to be enjoyed. Just below and to the left is Burrington Combe, where the cleft in a rock is said to have inspired the famous hymn Rock of Ages.

### ***Prayer requests***

Pray for those in **poor health**, including S.R., L.G., D.B.

Remember those who are being **persecuted** for their faith.

Ask God to help the relief efforts following the **Tonga** tsunami.

Pray for wisdom as the Church seeks the **Lord's will**.

Give praise to the Lord for the **gifts** He has given to His people.

Pray for people who are feeling **lonely**.

Pray for **children** and **young people** who are struggling with all the confusion and competing voices in the world.

## From our Twitter account

**Langford Evangelical Church** @Langford\_Chapel Jan 9

"I am listening Lord, for Thee; what hast Thou to say to me?" #Listen #God #Jesus

Frances Ridley Havergal 1836-79

## From the Pastor's study

Following an email discussion I have been reflecting on where we are as a local Church and where we should be heading. I'm pretty sure that this is being mulled over in many other places too - Covid has forced us all to adapt many of our activities and the on-off nature of Government restrictions has not helped in that. Some people are still fearful of attending events with conflicting reports on the efficacy of the vaccines. Looking forward, how should we fulfil the mission Christ gave us to share His gospel, His good news, with everyone? Not all traditions are bad and regular times for worship and Bible study should not be jettisoned lightly. The use of online facilities, forced on us through the lockdowns, must have a continuing place, yet sharing the love of Jesus through visitation and the *Aroma* coffee morning may still flourish again when the threat of the virus recedes. The question that struck me was what might make anyone want to join us? Could they get a clear idea of what we stand for? I know of thriving churches that are *outwardly* different in style to each other. Both types do well because they are *inwardly* united in purpose and those who join them are committed to the same aims. If we build in the right way, in accordance with the true foundation, then surely we will know the Lord's help (1 Corinthians 3:10). A time to think and pray?

## For your diary

This month is the shortest one of the year which simplifies the planning. We are continuing to hold live morning and evening services on Sundays. Prayer and

Bible studies on Tuesdays are on Zoom, ask us for the link.

The **Aroma** coffee morning will be on Saturday **26th**, starting at the usual time of 10.30.