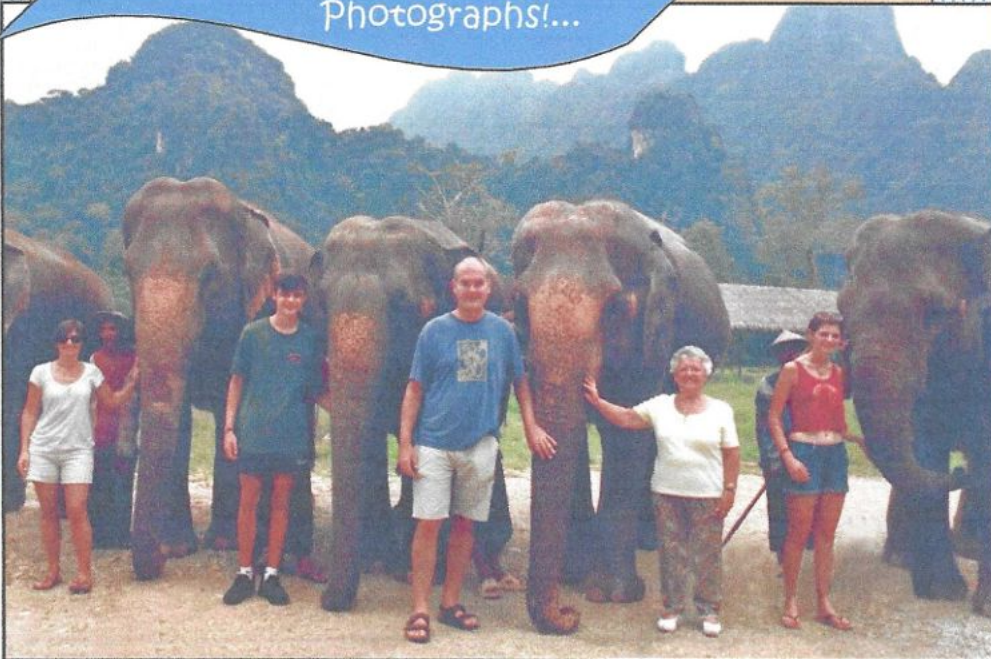


♦ Trinity Methodist Church ♦ Kidderminster ♦

Trinity *Tidings*

Favourite

Photographs!...



'A TASTE OF THAILAND'

Photograph supplied by Jean Hunt

...all are welcome in this place!

February 2025

**Trinity Methodist Church,
Churchfields, Kidderminster, DY10 2JL**

Church Website: www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk

Circuit Website: kandsmethodistcircuit.org.uk

Superintendent Minister:

Rev'd. Nick Collison OSL. B.Th. MA Tel: 01562 823300

Senior Stewards:

Mrs Bev Kernohan 01562 632156

Mr Albert Wilkinson 01562 747716

Contact People for:

Finance: Mr Iestyn Davies 01562 740429

Property: Mr John Bacon 01562 744502

Bookings: Mr Stephen Howles 07580 009755

Custodian: Mr Stephen Howles 07580 009755

Trinity Tidings Editorial Team:

Mr David Skitt 01299 401047

Mrs Joan Davies 01562 740429

The closing date for items for the March '25 Edition of Trinity Tidings is

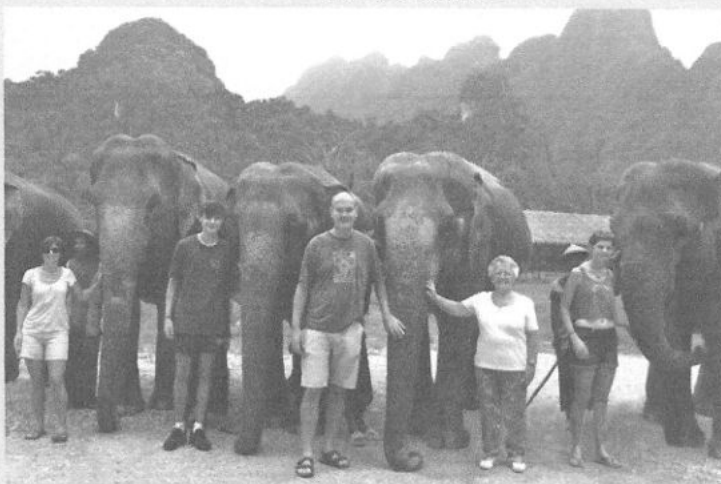
Sunday 23rd February 2025

**Please email articles, preferably as a Word Document to:
arleystation@aol.com**

Thanks to John Harris for Designing the Front and back covers each month.

Favourite Photographs!...

Front Cover Photograph:



A Taste of Thailand

"This is a favourite photograph because I was enjoying a very memorable holiday with my family in Thailand. The Elephants were huge, but so very gentle!"

Jean Hunt

A Taste of Thailand

Photograph supplied by Jean Hunt

Dear Friends,

Diane and I bought our first house (well, mortgaged) in 1980 I think it was, to allow us to do whatever necessary jobs that needed doing, like decorating etc. in readiness for us getting married in the May of 1981 and then moving in.

As we began a family and as our family grew we subsequently moved a couple more times, largely to upsize in order to accommodate this growing family of two adults and five children (and in the early days a number of dogs), and chose our houses accordingly.

The last two house moves we have had, first to Norwich and then to Kidderminster, were quite different though. When we went to Norwich and when we came to Kiddy the arrangement was, 'If we extend an invitation to you and you accept, this is where you will be living', i.e. the manse.

That said, we consider ourselves to have been very fortunate in my appointments, in as much as, the manses we have lived in have been very comfortable and very soon felt like home to us. This has also been helped by having good manse stewards and being in circuits that understand the needs of ministers and their families.

As I approach 'A new phase of ministry' (also known as retirement) Diane and I are once again back in the business of house-hunting. There are a number of factors we want to consider during this process like, location. We don't want to be too far away from this area as four of our five children are this side of the country. We would like to continue to have similar access to the rail services and motorways that we enjoy at the moment. We really need to have a minimum of three bedrooms, so family and friends can come and stay with us as they do now. Also being a man of a certain age, having toilet facilities both upstairs and down isn't just a luxury, and definitely nonnegotiable!

There are of course a few other considerations like, which way the garden faces, i.e. do you get the sun in the back garden and at what time of day? Does it have a garage, or alternative parking space? How modern is the kitchen, etc, etc.

To be honest I'd forgotten how time consuming, how stressful and how disappointing the whole process can be. Having looked at pictures of various properties online, it is surprising how much smaller they are in real life. We've been to view properties only to be told an offer has already been made and accepted, and we've had appointments cancelled at the last minute for the same reason. And the turnover is relatively slow. The properties we looked at this week are pretty much the same as those we looked at last week.

When I entered into ordained ministry, I suppose like for others in the same position, it was something of a leap of faith. Will it work out? Will it be fruitful? Will we be happy? All questions, especially in the early days, that are never far away.

But I really do believe that as we have travelled God has travelled with us, and I don't believe God will 'hang us out to dry' now, simply because I am becoming supernumerary. However arduous house-hunting turns out to be, I'm sure God will have a hand in it somewhere.

That said, as we go through this process, your prayers would be much valued and appreciated.

Every blessing,

Nick

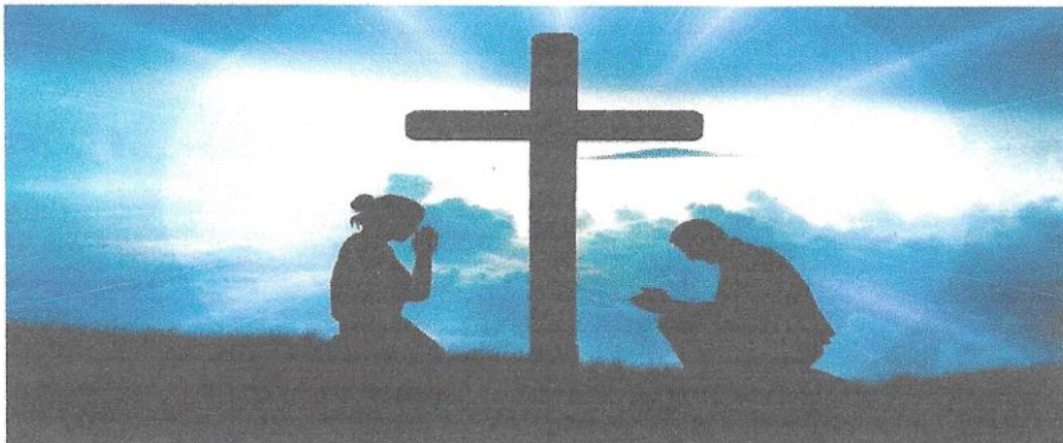
PRAYER CORNER

We remember in our prayers Liz Potter, Betty Norman, Josephine and Ranzi Seremwe, Maureen Homer, those on the Prayer Vine, those whose names are put in the prayer book and people we know who need the love, comfort and the knowledge of Christ's presence with them.



During the month of February, please remember in your prayers, the people and places in the area of Kidderminster known as Larkhill.

<u>Larkhill</u>	<u>February</u>
St Mary's Church	
Trinity Methodist Church and the congregation of Baxter URC	
St Mary's School and Nursery	
Kidderminster Mosque	
Retail Properties	
Residential homes (including the new housing development and those families moving in)	
Orchard Street Sheltered Accommodation	



Dear Friends,

Have you heard of Gaia. In Greek mythology Gaia is the personification of our earth. She was what we sometimes call 'Mother Nature'. She was in control of the earth, and all the creatures living on this planet.

In 2006, an eminent scientist, James E. Lovelock wrote a book which he called 'The Revenge of the Gaia: Why the Earth is Fighting Back.' The book started by asserting that the Earth is a living integrated and interconnected self-regulating system, and on the whole has kept its equilibrium. He could see that the Earth's climate was changing, and global warming was starting to take place.

In order to make his point, he likened it to Gaia saying enough, it's time to fight back. In effect the Earth was starting to take its revenge. Needless to say, many eminent people poured scorn on his ideas in the book. However, 19 years have passed since the book was published, and it does seem that James Lovelock was right. It seems quite obvious now that the climate is changing, we only have to see on television or listen on the radio to hear of more frequent disasters caused by the weather. We have had increasingly wet months in this country, and more severe storms than ever before. There have been extremely high temperatures in some countries and recent wildfires in America. We read of the ice melting in the Arctic, and the Antarctic, causing great distress to the wildlife, and more worryingly a rise in sea levels. Locally there have been fewer butterflies, bees and birds last year. Then we have Donald Trump withdrawing America from the Paris Accord (or Agreement) on Climate Change, and stating to great applause 'Drill, Baby Drill!'

Is there any hope for our beautiful world? Yes, there is always hope. We forget that it is God's world, he created it and all the living things on it, so let us do what we can to help to protect this world, and do it in God's love knowing that Gaia will not get her revenge!

The snowdrops are out, the hellebores flowering, and the daffodils growing well. Hope springs eternal so I'll end on that more cheerful note.

David



OFFERTORIES FOR THE NINE WEEKS TO 26th JANUARY ARE AS FOLLOWS

	Envelopes	Loose Cash	Standing Orders	Total
	£	£	£	£
01.12 & 08.12.24	121.00	170.00	1237.60	1528.60
15.12 & 22.12.24	480.00	218.00	1237.60	1935.60
29.12.24	30.00	103.10	618.80	751.90
05.01 & 12.01.25	232.00	215.65	1519.50	1967.15
19.01 & 26.01.25	256.00	175.00	1519.50	1950.50

This is a weekly average of £903.75

For the current church year to 31st August 2025 it is estimated that offertories of £1200 per week will be required to break even.

The Christmas Eve and Christmas Morning collections raised £400 for Action for Children and £387 was collected for Kemp Hospice from the Christmas card scheme.

The church project fund for Adavu anti-modern slavery charity reached £1000 at the year-end and a cheque for that amount was sent on 6th January.

Donations for church funds amounting to £352.60 were received at the performance of the musical Zacchaeus, by New Life Together choir, last Sunday evening. We are grateful to the choir for this gift and for a fine performance.

SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

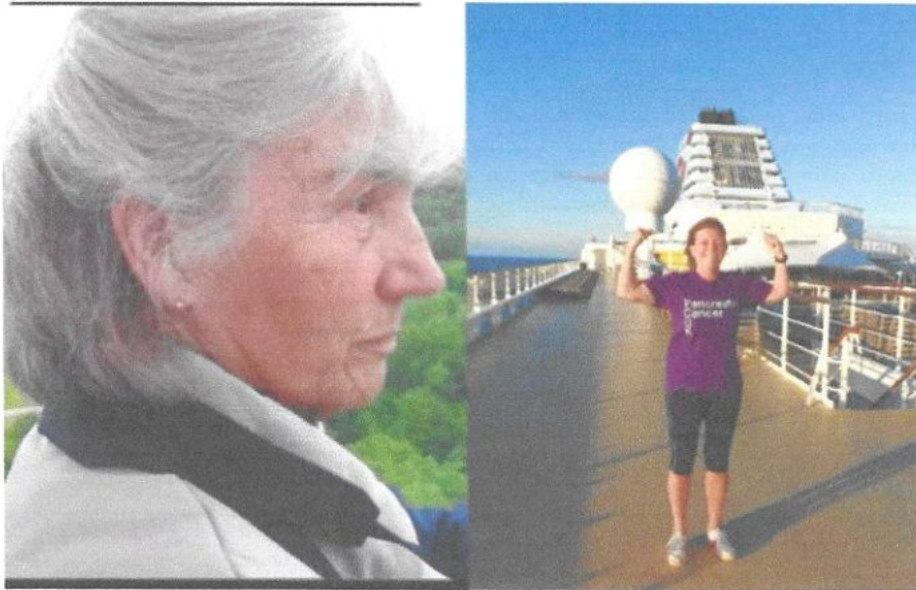
February 2 nd	10.30am	Local Arrangement
	6.30pm	Rev Nick Collison - Healing Service
February 9 th	10.30am	Mrs Sue Green
	6.30pm	Mr Albert Wilkinson
February 16 th	10.30am	Rev Nick Collison - Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Rev Nick Collison - Café Worship
February 23 rd	10.30am	Rev James Hamilton
	6.30pm	Mr David Skitt

THURSDAY SERVICES at 12.30pm

February 6 th	Deacon Becky Lovat
February 13 th	Rev Nick Collison - Holy Communion
February 20 th	Mrs Louvain Beer
February 27 th	Rev Andrew Mann Ray

A SPECIAL REQUEST FROM PIPPA

Run 28 Miles in February for Pancreatic Cancer UK



♥♥ I'M RUNNING THE PANCREATIC CANCER RESEARCH UK CHALLENGE ♥♥

Hi everyone, I am doing the jog 28 miles in February in memory of my Mum Linda Hill. My Mum bravely fought this silent disease, Pancreatic Cancer, until she fell asleep on 22nd Nov 2020. She was our hero and remained positive and determined right to the end. This is my 5th year doing this challenge and I feel proud to be able to support Pancreatic Cancer Research UK. Therefore, can I ask you to please please dig deep and donate, no matter how small, every penny makes a difference to this amazing cause and helps fund the valuable research needed to fight this awful disease. £212 could allow researchers to study 12 patient samples to learn more about the genetic changes that make people more likely to develop Pancreatic Cancer. It is a tough one but I am one of many taking it on and supporting those affected by the disease, investing in ground-breaking research, lobbying for greater recognition of Pancreatic Cancer and being a voice for everyone involved in the fight.

Donations can be made on my Facebook page on the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/donate/634816742320832/>

Or donations, in cash, can be handed to PIPPA and I will make the donation online on your behalf.

Many thanks to you all for your support. xx Pippa ♥

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

As I am sure you know, Monday 27th January was Holocaust Memorial Day, when we remember the unspeakable things that happened in World War 2. Loree Napier, the mother of Rachel Cobon, was one of the Kindertransport, and allowed to come and live in this country. Loree died in December 2022, but she had written a short account of her life as a child in Germany. It was in Tidings a year or two ago, but is well worth repeating.

My Life in Berlin.

I lived the first three years of my life in a small town in Poznan called Shoenlanke. It was a peaceful, rural place and I grew up secure and happy. I lived with my mother, Kathe, father, Siegfried and my younger brother Aribert.

However things changed dramatically; 1933 was not only the year we moved to Berlin but it was the year which saw Hitler come to power. Life became harder for us; slowly Jews were being turned into second rate citizens with far worse yet to come. My parents left Shoenlanke because of the uncertainty of life in Poland. They believed that they would blend in more in a large city, also the hatred towards Jews had begun to spread to the Polish communities and life was becoming unpleasant. My father's family owned several factories and my mother's had a large departmental store so we were comfortably off.

I attended a state school for about nine months but moved to a Jewish boarding school for various reasons but mainly due to the breakup of my parents' marriage; theirs had been an arranged marriage as was the case for many Jews at the turn of the last century. Also life was becoming harder and my parents believed I would be safer.

After Kristallnacht we Jews were stripped of our freedom. We were no longer allowed to enter public buildings. My mother defied these rules and we did eat in restaurants and go to the cinema and my father took me to cafes where I remember eating Frankfurters dipped in mustard. My parents did not look like stereotypical Jews; my mother had blond hair and blue eyes and my father followed the popular fashion of a small moustache. I do recall feeling anxious as there were stories about what might happen if we were found out! One day I was out shopping with my grandmother when there was a lot of excitement. I rushed forward only to be pulled back by her as Hitler's cavalcade came past. I recall not wanting to salute but being made to so we did not stand out in the crowd.

Amongst the Jewish community there seemed to be almost a hiding our heads in the sand attitude towards the Nazis. We were aware of what was going on but there was a belief that it would all blow over and life would return to normality. In fact even after I had been sent to England my mother sent a letter to my first foster family informing them in no uncertain terms that I would be returned to her once all this nonsense was over!

Sadly life for many Jews became a living hell. I was protected to some extent because I was at school most of the time but during the holidays there were some sights that still haunt me. Many of the local boys had joined the Hitler Youth and I once saw them hitting elderly Jews for no other reason but to make them feel superior and to inflict misery. It was at this time that my mother no longer allowed me to run errands alone for fear of what might happen. Everywhere there seemed to be signs "JUDEN VERBOTEN". Our, Jewish, doctor was only allowed Jewish patients but soon he was no longer allowed to practice.

My father would not hear of emigrating, "This will not last; they will see through it, it's a temporary thing. This is my country. I am German". He believed that common sense would prevail after all he fought in the last war and was decorated for his bravery. Prisoner 105716 was murdered at Auschwitz in March 1943.

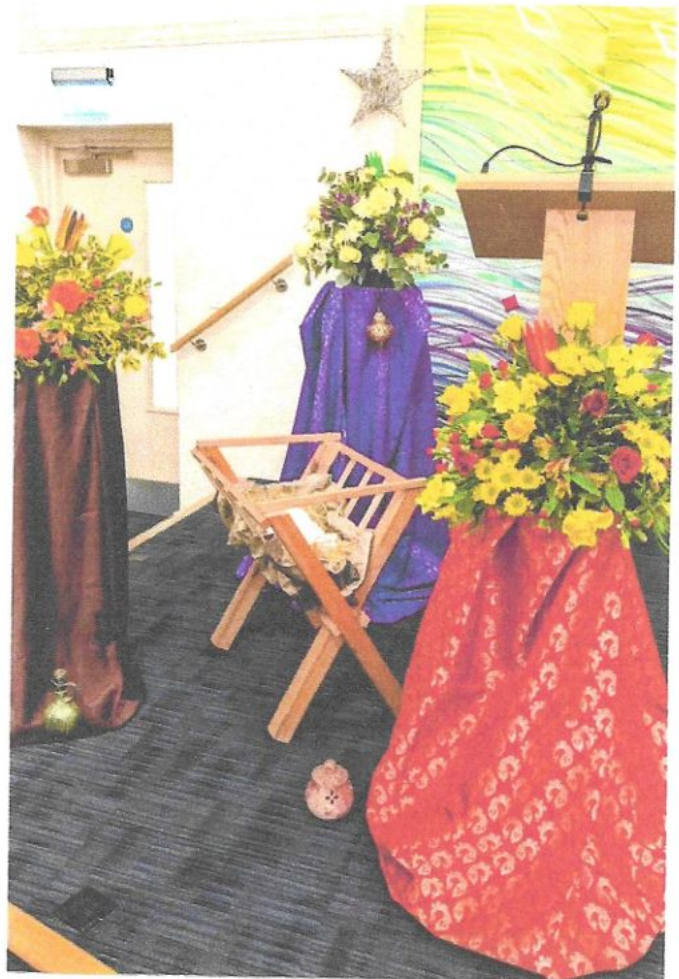
I was being ostracised by children whom I had previously played with. This really upset me and my mother explained that their parents had probably told not to speak to me, it was no longer allowed for 'Aryans' to speak to us Jews. The man in the apartment above used to drop little Swastika flags on to our balcony; to this day I am unsure whether he was entertaining us or whether it was a warning,

My mother realised that life was getting harder and decided we should emigrate to America, as we had relatives there. I recall queuing for hours in a hall only to be told that their quota was full. My Uncle and his wife had already left to start a new life in Argentina. Thankfully, the British Government agreed to allow a specified number of unaccompanied Jewish children into the country, so long as they were of no burden to the British Taxpayer. I am one of those 10,000 Kinder who was saved. I came to England on 20th June 1939 speaking a few words of English that my mother had taught me and wearing my new clothes that she had had made for me.

What of the rest of my family? My brother had sadly died as a toddler in an accident. My father perished in a death camp, my last sight of him was as he drove alongside the train taking me to my freedom. And my mother, well she managed to escape. We do not know the details but she was a changed woman when she arrived in England and never really recovered.

I am German by birth but England took me in and saved my life. I am proud of my heritage as both a Jew and a German.

This photo is of the lovely flower display in Trinity over the Christmas period. It depicts the Three Wise Men with their gifts at the manger. It was arranged by Diane Collison, so 'Thank You Diane', for a wonderful display.



Trinity Tidings Covers 2025... ...your favourite photo featured!

We have decided to follow on again in with featuring **your** favourite photos on the front covers of Trinity Tidings. So, if you have a favourite photograph of a location or subject, it could be featured on one of the Front Covers of Trinity Tidings in 2025 and...

...your chance to be famous!

A favourite photo from a local beauty spot, park, countryside, or holiday location?...the choice is yours!

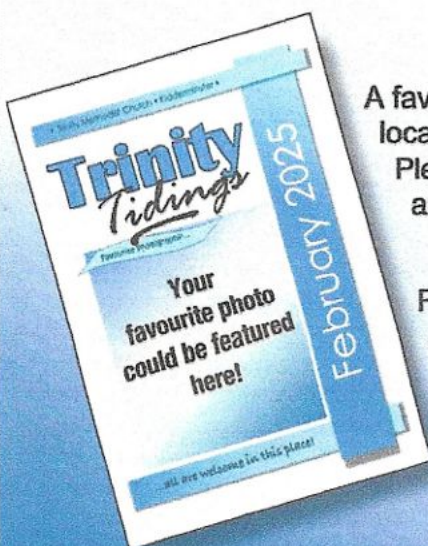
Please submit a short explanation of where the photo was taken, and why it is one of your 'favourite photographs'.

Photos can be supplied as a printed photo, which can be scanned, or photos can be emailed directly to:

John Harris Email: john@johnharris15.plus.com

Thank you,

John Harris



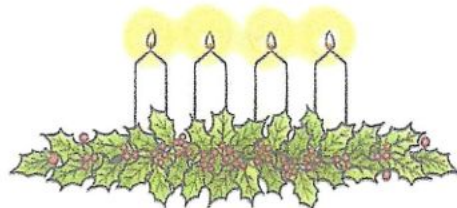
WARM WELCOME SPACES

In January 2025, Trinity Methodist and Baxter Church will be joining the Government supported **Warm Welcome Space** on a Thursday morning from 9.00 am to 12.00. This is a wonderful new way of reaching out to the folks in the area with God's love.

MAGAZINES **JIGSAWS** **KNITTING** **PLAY A GAME** **CHAT OVER A CUP OF TEA OF COFFEE.** **KEEP WARM**



Warm Welcome Spaces are places of belonging. The difference Warm Welcome Spaces bring to communities is remarkable, they bring connection, friendship and human warmth, helping people feel less isolated and boosting wellbeing. There is a growing network of 4000 Warm Welcome Spaces. Every one is unique and offers different kinds of support and activities. Each one is heated and able to provide basic refreshments such as tea and coffee. They are non-judgemental spaces, where everyone can expect a warm welcome from volunteers. There is only one in Kidderminster at the Library, and the one in Bewdley has been running for quite a while, and very successfully. We would like to have 3 volunteers each week, so we would love to have you join us, just once a month would be great. Please speak to me or to Rachel if you can help. Many thanks
Maureen.



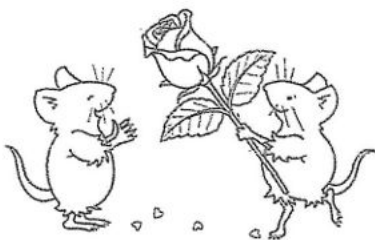
A Nursery Rhyme Quiz

Do you know the missing words in these Nursery Rhymes?

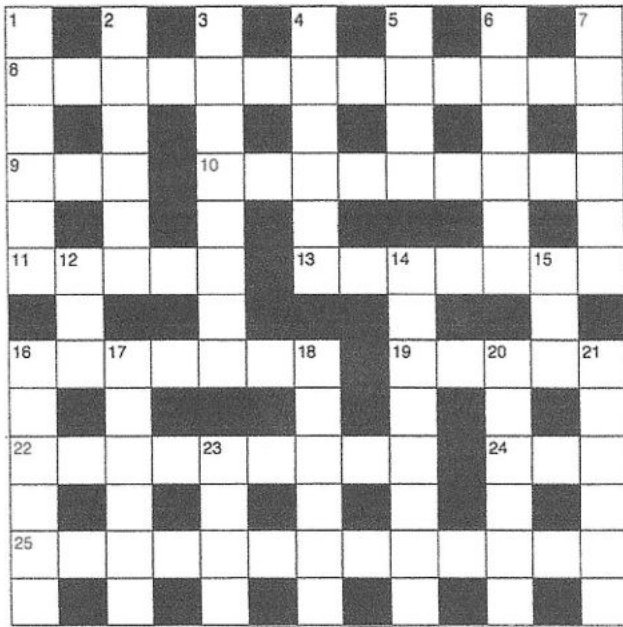
1. Simple Simon met a man going to the
2. Ring – a ring of roses, a pocket full of,, we all fall down
3. Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch Jack fell down and broke his
4. Humpty Dumpty sat on a, Humpty Dumpty had a great
5. Baa baa sheep have you any
6. Hickory Dickory a ran up the
7. Hey diddle diddle the and the the jumped over the
8. Little Miss Muffet sat on a eating her
9. The Grand Old Duke of he had men
10. Londonis falling down
11. A-tisket, a-tasket a and basket
12. Here we go round the bush
13. The was man who walked a
14. Three blind
15. There was an old woman who lived in a She had so many
16. Old King Cole was a old soul, and a merry old soul was he. He sent for his
17. Georgie Porgie and kissed the girls and made them
18. Wee Willie runs through the, and in his
19. See saw Daw, shall have a new
20. The was a little who had a little right in the middle of her



...are you late with your 'Vicar's Letter' again, dear?



Parish Pump Crossword



Across

- 8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)
 9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)
 10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)
 11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)
 13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)
 16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)
 19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)
 22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)
 24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1) 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

Down

- 1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)
 2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)
 3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)
 4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)
 5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)
 6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)
 7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' — salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)
 12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)
 14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)
 15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)
 16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)
 17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)
 18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)
 20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)
 21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6)
 23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)

Sudoku Puzzle (medium)

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

© 2013 KrazyDad.com

A miscellany page

A small town in USA had no rain for weeks and the crops in the fields beginning to die. The church minister suggested that they had a day of prayer during which they would pray for rain. It was decided to hold the prayer vigil outside the church, and most of the people from the town arrived.

A boy was the only one who brought an umbrella. That's Faith

On an old man once wrote this sentence. 'I am not 80 years old; I am sweet sixteen with 64 years experience.'

Florynce Kennedy, a black woman activist well known in USA, once said:

Make noise,
Cause trouble,
You might not win, but you'll sure have more fun!

From the film, 'It's a Wonderful Life' One of the characters, Clarence Odbody, (Angel in Waiting) says 'Strange isn't it? Each man's life touches so many other lives and when he isn't around he leaves an awful hole doesn't he?' *If you've never seen the film, put it on your must-see list for next Christmas.*

Maya Angelou wrote:

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.

Ed Morrow, an American journalist, when broadcasting from Belsen Camp when it was liberated in 1945:

I pray you to believe what I have told you about this place. I only reported what I saw and heard, but only a part of it. For the rest I have no words.

Satan's cleverest trick is to convince people that he does not exist.

We were made in God's image, but we would think it better if he were made in ours.

C.S.Lewis wrote:

I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen – not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything.

It is always necessary to speak the truth - but not always necessary to speak.

A short prayer written by our District Chair, Rachel Parkinson:

Jesus says, 'Love,' and I say, 'Who?'
Jesus says, 'Give,' and I say, 'What?'
Jesus says 'Follow,' and I say, 'Where?'

And Jesus Says:

'Whoever'
'Whatever'
'Wherever'

Life is Fragile --- Handle with Prayer

GARDENING NOTES FOR FEBRUARY

With the winter solstice of December 21st now well behind us, the sun is on a daily climb up towards the equator for the spring equinox on the 21st march. Hours of daylight will be lengthening from now on and the sun's strength will be growing in intensity, although it is often the end of February before we appreciate that 'first warmth' in prolonged sunshine.

February can be a very variable month weather-wise, sometimes wet, often very dry. If characterised by anti-cyclonic conditions, February is often cold and settled. The words 'Scandinavian High' from the lips of a meteorologist is not something any horticulturalist wants to hear. An anticyclone positioned over Scandinavia can be very slow moving, often remaining stationary for weeks on end, a bitterly cold and frequently strong easterly breeze bringing air directly out of the Continent or Western Russia. Any precipitation falling out of the sky will be of a wintry nature, with the threat of more significant snowfall to southern Britain should low pressure attempt to push milder air into 'the mix' as it approaches from the south. Frost, under clear skies and light winds within a mid-winter area of high pressure, can be severe and intense - precautions must be taken to limit the damage.

If, however, the 'throw of the dice' is completely different and mild, wet and unsettled conditions predominate, plants in the garden respond with growth and an early sign of spring. Personally, I'd go for somewhere in the middle, preferring to protect now rather than seeing soft growth which could get 'clobbered' by spring frosts later on.

When the weather conditions are favourable, and the ground is in a fit state to work on, it is still okay to plant out within certain limitations. If the weather has recently been windy please do check newly planted subjects for the effects of any loosening by wind-rock or frost action, re-firming where necessary.

Later in the month it may be possible to prune back summer flowering varieties of clematis. A 'hair-cut' back to a foot or so above the ground to within two strong buds on recent growth will be fine. After winter jasmine (*Jasminum nudiflorum*) has flowered it should be pruned back to keep it tidy and encourage new growth.

Containerised roses may be planted out if the conditions allow, but don't even think about it if the soil is waterlogged, dry or frozen solid. If you haven't already done so, clear away all remaining dead foliage of herbaceous plants as soon as possible. As mentioned earlier, plants will be responding to increasing light levels and the gradual warming of the soil with Spring-flowering bulbs emerging. Winter-flowering subjects prominent this month include:- *Daphne mezereum*, *Garrya elliptica*, Mahonia, cyclamen *coum*, crocus, *chinodoxa*, *Iris reticulata* and muscari, to name but a few.

Witch Hazels (*Hamamelis*) are wonderful for mid-winter colour and delightful fragrances, with some varieties having the added advantage of spectacular autumn colour. Being fully hardy in all but the severest of winters, Witch Hazels are ideal for medium and larger sized gardens. Requiring a moderately fertile, moist but well drained, acid to neutral soil, they are adaptable to either full sun or partial shade, but do avoid aspects that are windy or exposed. A couple of my favourites include:- *H.x intermedia* 'Arnold Promise', a beautiful bright yellow flowered variety, *H.x* 'Pallida' which produces clusters of large sulphur-yellow flowers. All the *intermedia* varieties tend to be 'V' shaped with upward ascending branches and have delicate fragrances from flowers carried on bare branches. If you prefer something a bit darker then choose *H.x intermedia* 'Jelena', which bears coppery-orange coloured flowers and has good autumn hues. Get planting!

Bob.

With These Hands.

This is the 15th Century and we're in Germany. It was common to have a large family and Albrecht Durer was no exception. He had 18 children and no, they didn't live in a shoe. He worked 18 hours a day to clothe and feed his family and life went on. However, two of Albrecht's children had a dream; they were both intelligent and wanted to pursue their love of art. Their names were Albrecht (Jnr.) and Albert. They knew their father could never afford to send them to university so the two of them came to an agreement. The two boys worked out a deal, one boy would go down the mines and the money he made would support his brother at university. After 4 years they would swop. The boy would come out of the mines and his brother would support him while he did his spell at the university, either through sales of his artwork or by labouring down the mines. Albrecht went off to Nuremberg to the Academy, Albert went down the mines.

This went on for 4 years. The Durer family held a wonderful family dinner to celebrate Albrecht's homecoming. After a lovely meal, Albrecht made a lovely speech, thanking his brother for the years of sacrifice down the mines to enable him to go to university. "Your turn now Albert, you go to university, I will look after you, we shared a dream, now it's your turn". However, Albert burst into tears. "No brother", he said, "look at my hands. It's too late for me". Four years down the mines had given him problems. Every bone in both hands had been broken or smashed. Hard to believe that they had dreamed together and that dream would not come true. Albert had arthritis in both his hands and would never be able to hold a pen or a brush. For him it was too late. However, he had made a wonderful sacrifice for his brother Albrecht.

500 years have passed and Albrecht Durer (Jnr.) has become world famous. His portraits, sketches, watercolours, woodcuts and engravings hang in practically every museum worldwide. You may not have heard of him but you will definitely be familiar with one of his works. In fact, you may have a copy on your wall or a sculpture on your desk. The work in question was to be eventually known as "The Praying Hands".

One day, paying homage to Albert who had sacrificed 4 years of his life for him to go to university, Albrecht drew his brothers crippled hands. Palms were together, bent fingers pointing to heaven. He called this powerful drawing simply "hands". On seeing this, almost the entire world recognised it as a great masterpiece. Of course, they renamed this great tribute of love "The Praying Hands", and, of course, love is the great theme of The Bible. Think "Greater love had no man". The love of these two brothers shows this.

Mike Knott (Stourport Wesley)

Albrecht Durer's "Praying Hands"



Mikes Smile Lines

One of the famous acts in pubs and clubs was Pete and his amazing parrot. The parrot could impersonate anything, anybody. The parrot was marvellous, they made a fortune. Then suddenly they disappeared from the scene. Two years on, a man is walking through London and sees Pete wrapped up in a sleeping bag. "What happened?" asked the man. "I hit hard times, had to give everything up" was the reply. "If you don't mind me asking, what happened to your parrot?" "I became so desperate last Christmas, I had to eat it". "Blimey", said the man, "As a matter of being curious, what did it taste like?" "Turkey with stuffing and gravy, that bird could impersonate anything".

**

This is the past. It's South Africa. Winnie Mandela is in the garden. A delivery van turns up (This is before Amazon, Evry, DHL, UPS and Tesco), actually it could be Pony Express.

"200 car batteries for Nelson Mandela" shouts the delivery driver. "What does Nelson want with 200 car batteries?" "Says on my chitty, 200 car batteries for Nelson Mandela". So he leaves them in the barn.

Two days later, the delivery driver turns up again. "200 car tyres for Nelson Mandela" shouts the delivery driver. "What does Nelson want with 200 car batteries?" "Says on my chitty 200 car batteries for Nelson Mandela". So he leaves them in the barn.

Two day later the delivery driver turns up again. "200 car tyres for Nelson Mandela". "What does Nelson want with 200 car tyres?" "Don't ask me, but that's what it says on my Chitty, 200 car tyres deliver to Nelson Mandela"!

Life goes on. 2 weeks later the delivery driver is back again. "I've got 200 gear boxes for Nelson Mandela". I can't believe it" says Winnie, "What does Nelson want with 200 gear boxes?" "Well that's what it says on my chitty". "You fool" she says, "These car parts weren't for Nelson, it doesn't say Nelson Mandela, it says Nissan Main Dealer"!

**

A woman comes downstairs early in the morning and finds her husband frying bacon and eggs in an old Quality Street tin. (OK, it could have been Roses, Heroes or any chocolates that came in a tin, but I settled on Quality Street). "What are you doing, she asked him, "frying your breakfast in an old chocolate tin? "Well, it was the doctor" he said, "He didn't like the look of me, said I was overweight and out of condition. The first thing to do, he said, was to get rid of the frying pan, so here I am frying my breakfast in an old chocolate tin"!

**

Patient: I'm having trouble with my hearing"
Doctor: What are the symptoms"
Patient: A yellow T.V. cartoon family.

**

Never replace your sandwich toaster, better the Breville you know!

Thank you, Mike, for all your contributions to Trinity Tidings.



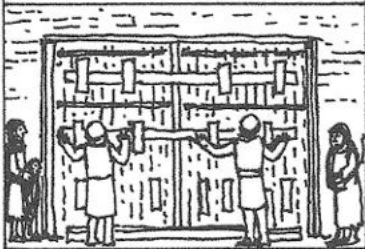
Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Joshua chapter 6 verses 1-27

Joshua led the Israelites across the river Jordan. They camped near the town of Jericho and prepared to fight.

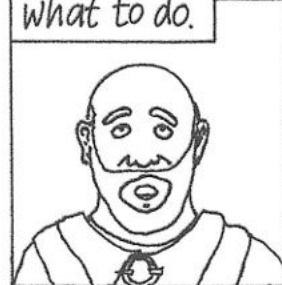
The people in Jericho locked the town gates.



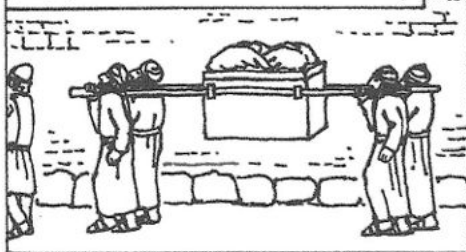
They thought they were safe.



God told Joshua what to do.



On the first day, the priests carried the sacred chest,



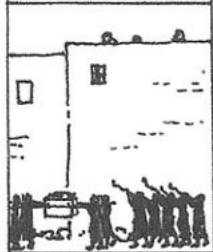
they blew trumpets, and walked round Jericho once.



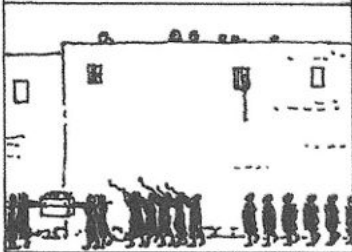
The army followed not saying a word.



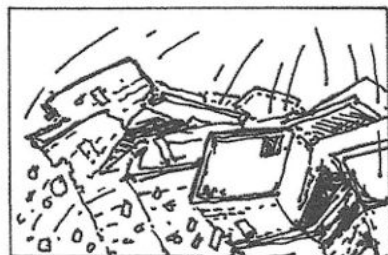
They did this for 6 days.



On the 7th day they walked round 7 times.

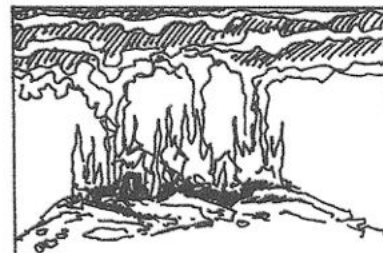
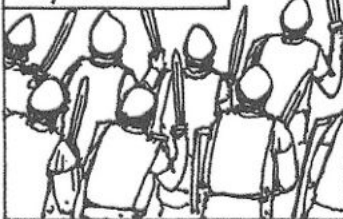


The army gave a victory shout!



The walls of Jericho collapsed.

The army rushed into the town and captured it.



Jericho was destroyed.

Former head of MI5 to lead search for new Archbishop of Canterbury

The Prime Minister has appointed The Lord Evans of Weardale KCB DL to chair the new Crown Nominations Commission for Canterbury.

The Crown Nominations Commission is the C of E committee that will nominate the candidate to be the next Archbishop of Canterbury. Archbishop Welby completed his duties on 6th January.

Jonathan Evans has been a Crossbench member of the House of Lords since 2014. Until October 2023 he was Chair of the Committee on Standards in Public Life. He is currently Chair of the HALO Trust, the anti-landmine charity, and of the Public Interest Committee at KPMG UK. He is a former Director-General of the Security Service, MI5. He is an active and communicant member of his local parish church.

Parish Pump 2025

14th February – Valentine’s Day

There are two confusing things about this day of romance and anonymous love-cards strewn with lace, cupids and ribbon: firstly, there seems to have been two different Valentines in the 4th century – one a priest martyred on the Flaminian Way, under the emperor Claudius, the other a bishop of Terni martyred at Rome. And neither seems to have had any clear connection with lovers or courting couples.

So why has Valentine become the patron saint of romantic love?

By Chaucer’s time the link was assumed to be because on these saints’ day -14th February – the birds are supposed to pair. Or perhaps the custom of seeking a partner on St Valentine’s Day is a surviving scrap of the old Roman Lupercalia festival, which took place in the middle of February. One of the Roman gods honoured during this Festival was Pan, the god of nature. Another was Juno, the goddess of women and marriage. During the Lupercalia it was a popular custom for young men to draw the name of a young unmarried woman from a name-box. The two would then be partners or ‘sweethearts’ during the time of the celebrations. Even modern Valentine decorations bear an ancient symbol of love – Roman cupids with their bows and love-arrows.

There are no churches in England dedicated to Valentine, but since 1835 his relics have been claimed by the Carmelite church in Dublin.

Parish Pump 2025

How do you keep your life going in the right direction?

‘Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be ...successful.’ Joshua 1.8

Any flying instructor will tell you that periodically all aeroplanes need to be ‘trimmed’ or ‘balanced in flight’. After flying through storms and hitting air pockets, the plane’s instruments need to be readjusted. That’s true of our attitudes too. The air currents of life can ‘knock you out of line’ and keep you from reaching your destiny. ‘Unexpected weather’ like sickness, unemployment, divorce, death and disappointment can drive you off course.

In other words, your attitude needs to be constantly checked and adjusted. Have you checked yours lately? What are you encountering that calls for an attitude change? How are you handling

it? Are you adjusting or resisting? So long as you live, you'll always need to be 'trimmed and balanced'.

The most important thing that affects your attitude in life is your faith, and that grows only as you live in God's Word. That's why God told Joshua to read the Word, speak the Word and obey the Word if he wanted to succeed.

Try the 3 x 5 Technique! Each week, write out one faith building scripture on a 3 x 5 card. Carry it with you wherever you go and memorise it. In one year, you'll know 52 new scriptures, and more importantly, your attitudes will be in line with God's Word, your faith will be strengthened, and your life will keep moving in the right direction.

From UCB The Word for Today

Parish Pump 2025

In praise of the humble egg

We love eggs. On average, we eat at least two of them each week, which makes eggs one of Britain's most popular foods.

Eggs are exceptionally good for you – high in protein, containing all the essential amino acids, rich in the B vitamins, vitamin D and A, and choline, and a source of healthy fats.

Eggs are also filling, and with 7.5g of protein in less than 80 calories per egg, there are few other foods that can match them for so much protein per gram. They are also inexpensive and easy to cook.

Experts recommend eating one or two eggs a day, and choosing a low-fat way of cooking them, by boiling or poaching. Cooking them in butter is a bit lower in fat than frying them in olive oil.

Free-range eggs generally contain more vitamin D.

Parish Pump 2025

National Nest Box Week – 14th to 21st February

Where can family-minded birds raise their young these days? As our gardens and parklands become smaller and tidier, too many natural nest sites – such as holes in trees, old buildings and unkempt hedgerows – are rapidly disappearing

No wonder that our sparrows, greenfinches and swifts are in precipitous decline, and that one in four of our UK bird species are now under serious threat.

This makes it more important than ever to care for our remaining birds. By feeding, providing water and putting up nest boxes we can give them a safe space to raise their chicks.

The National Nest Box Week initiative encourages bird conservation across the UK, and it's easy to get involved, whether you're a teacher, part of a local wildlife group, or just wanting to boost the bird numbers in your own garden.

Visit: <https://www.countryfile.com/wildlife/birds/national-nest-box-week-how-to-help-birds-in-your-garden>

Parish Pumo 2025

All in the month of February

It was:

175 years ago, on 23rd Feb 1850 that Cesar Ritz, the Swiss hotelier, was born. He founded several notable hotels including the Ritz and Carlton Hotels in London, and the Hotel Ritz in Paris.

125 years ago, on 27th Feb 1900 that the Labour Party was founded in the UK.

80 years ago, during Feb 1945 that Anne Frank died. The young Dutch Jewish diarist and Holocaust victim died in Bergen-Belsen concentration camp at the age of 15, probably from typhus.

Also 80 years ago, on 6th Feb 1945 that Bob Marley, the Jamaican reggae/ska/rock steady singer, songwriter was born. He became a musician and cultural icon (died 1981).

75 years ago, on 8th Feb 1950 that the world's first payment by credit card took place. The founders of Diners Club (now Diners Club International) used it to pay their restaurant bill at Majero's Cabin Grill in New York City.

65 years ago, on 8th Feb 1960 that the Hollywood Walk of Fame was established in Hollywood. It consists of more than 2,700 stars embedded in the pavement, that bear the names of notable figures from the entertainment industry.

Also 65 years ago, on 8th Feb 1960 that Queen Elizabeth II issued an Order-in-Council stating that she and her family would be known as the House of Windsor, and that her descendants would use the surname Mountbatten-Windsor.

50 years ago, on 11th Feb 1975 that Margaret Thatcher became the first female leader of the Conservative Party. She became Britain's first female Prime Minister in 1979.

Also 50 years ago, on 14th Feb 1975 that P G Wodehouse died. This well-loved British-born American comic novelist, short story writer, lyricist and playwright is best known as the creator of Jeeves.

40 years ago, on 7th Feb 1985, the Mayor of New York City, Ed Koch, adopted the song *New York, New York* by Frank Sinatra as the city's official anthem.

30 years ago, on 23rd Feb 1995 that James Herriot, veterinary surgeon and best-selling author, died. Best known for his autobiographical book *All Creatures Great and Small*, which was adapted into a popular TV series.

Also 30 years, on 26th Feb 1995 that Barings Bank, the oldest merchant bank in London, collapsed after its chief trader in Singapore, Nick Lesson, lost £827 million on unauthorised transactions.

20 years ago, on 7th Feb 2005 that yachtswoman Ellen MacArthur broke the record for the fastest solo circumnavigation of the globe, gaining international renown.

Also 20 years ago, on 10th Feb 2005 that Charles, Prince of Wales, and Camilla Parker Bowles announced their engagement. They were married on 9th April 2005.

10 years ago, on 27th Feb 2015 that Leonard Nimroy, actor and film director, died. Best known for his role as Spock in the *Star Trek* films and TV series.

Parish Pump Smile Lines

The new vicar was doing the rounds to meet his parishioners. At one house where he knocked, a woman inside called out: "Is that you, Angel?"

The vicar hesitated, and then replied: "No, but I'm from the same department."

**

"Dad," asked little Ted, "what does 'a man's better half' mean?"

"Usually," his father said, "she means exactly what she says."

**

When my sister Andrea got married, she asked to wear my mother's wedding dress. The day she tried it on, Mother's eyes welled with tears. "You're not losing a daughter," I reminded her in time-honoured fashion. "You're gaining a son." "Oh, forget about that!" she said with a sob. "I used to fit into that dress!"

**

A Sunday school teacher was telling her youngsters about Daniel and the Lion's Den. To illustrate the lesson, she drew a picture of Daniel standing, brave and confident, with a group of lions around him. Suddenly, one little girl started to cry. The teacher said, "Don't cry. Daniel is going to survive."

Snuffling back the tears the girl replied: "That's not what I'm crying about. That little lion, over in the corner, isn't going to get anything to eat."

**

My family was at the dinner table when my five-year-old daughter startled us all by announcing to my three-year-old son: "Dad is not your real father." My son hotly denied this.

"No, he's not," she insisted. "God is your heavenly father." Then pointing to my husband, she added: "That's only our homely father!"

**

A teenager who had just received her provisional licence offered to drive her parents to church. After a hair-raising ride, they finally reached their destination. The mother got out of the car and said in a quiet but fervent voice: "Thank you!"

"Anytime," her daughter replied.

As the woman slammed the car door she said, "I wasn't talking to you. I was talking to God."

**

A traveller was marooned in a small town because of a landslide caused by heavy rain. It fell in torrents for three days. Looking out of the window of the restaurant, he finally remarked to the waitress: "This is like the flood."

"The what?"

"The flood. Surely you have heard about the great flood and Noah and the Ark?"

"Sorry, sir," she replied. "The internet's been down for three days."

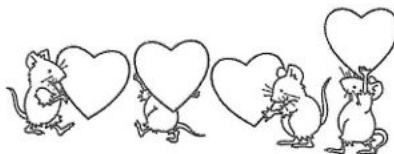
**

Policeman to the vicar, found pacing outside the vicarage at three o'clock in the morning: "What are you doing here?"

Man: "I forgot my key, officer, and I'm waiting for my children to come home and let me in."

With Valentine's Day in Mind, an observation on Love ...

"Marriage is more than finding the right person; it is being the right person." – Anon



Answers to the Nursery Rhyme Quiz, Crossword and Sudoku

1. Simple Simon met a PIE man going to the FAIR
2. Ring – a ring of roses, a pocket full of POSIES, ATISHOO, ATISHOO we all fall down
3. Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch A PAIL OF WATER Jack fell down and broke his CROWN
4. Humpty Dumpty sat on a WALL, Humpty Dumpty had a great FALL
5. Baa baa BLACK sheep have you any WOOL
6. Hickory Dickory DOCK a MOUSE ran up the CLOCK
7. Hey diddle diddle the CAT and theFIDDLE the COW jumped over the MOON
8. Little Miss Muffet sat on a TUFFET eating her CURDS AND WHEY
9. The Grand Old Duke of YORK he had TEN THOUSAND men
10. London BRIDGE is falling down
11. A-ticket, a-tasket aGREEN and YELLOW basket
12. Here we go round the MULBERRY bush
13. The was CROOKED man who walked a CROOKED MILE
14. Three blind MICE
15. There was an old woman who lived in a SHOE She had so many CHILDREN
16. Old King Cole was a MERRY old soul, and a merry old soul was he. He sent for his PIPE
17. Georgie Porgie PUDDING and PIE kissed the girls and made them CRY
18. Wee Willie WINKIE runs through the TOWN, UPSTAIRS and DOWNSTAIRS in his NIGHTGOWN
19. See saw MARJORIE Daw, JOHNNY shall have a new MASTER
20. The was a little GIRL who had a little CURL right in the middle of her FOREHEAD

Crossword answers:

ACROSS:

8, Cross-examined. 9, Ash. 10, Apocrypha. 11, Sci-fi. 13, Typical, 16, Visited. 19, Offer. 22, No account. 24, RAC. 25, Sovereign Lord.

DOWN:

1, Oceans. 2, Hophni. 3, Islamist. 4, Exhort. 5, Omar. 6, On spec. 7, Add all. 12, CBI. 14, Plotting. 15, Awe. 16, Vanish. 17, Starve. 18, Daub it. 20, Furrow. 21, Recede. 23, Cure.

Sudoku solution:

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



TRINITY LUNCHEON CLUB

Trinity Methodist Church, Kidderminster

Every Wednesday at 12.15

Would you like a mid-week meal cooked for you with pleasant friendly company round the table?

Then why not come to our Luncheon Club – you don't have to be a church member or on your own, couples are welcome.

Enjoy a delicious main course and pudding with tea or coffee.

Only £3.50

Our main courses include:

Meat Loaf Salmon Flan Chicken Casserole

Corned Beef Flan Sausages

Ham and Pineapple Cheese and Bacon Flan

and our puddings (naughty but very nice):

Cheesecake Bakewell Tart Sponge Pudding

Fruit Crumble Sticky Toffee

Passion Pudding Bread & Butter Pudding

For more information or to book a place please contact Mrs. Jill Green via 07580009755 (between 9am and 5pm)



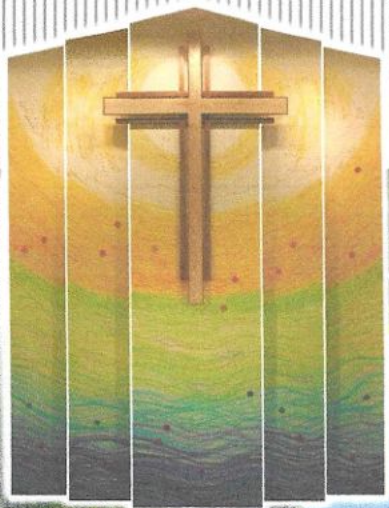
ROBINS SPIRIT CRAFTS
[HTTPS://ROBINS-SPIRIT-CRAFTS.SUMUPSTORE.COM/](https://robins-spirit-crafts.sumupstore.com/)

 @ROBINSPIRITCRAFTS  ROBINSPIRITCRAFTS

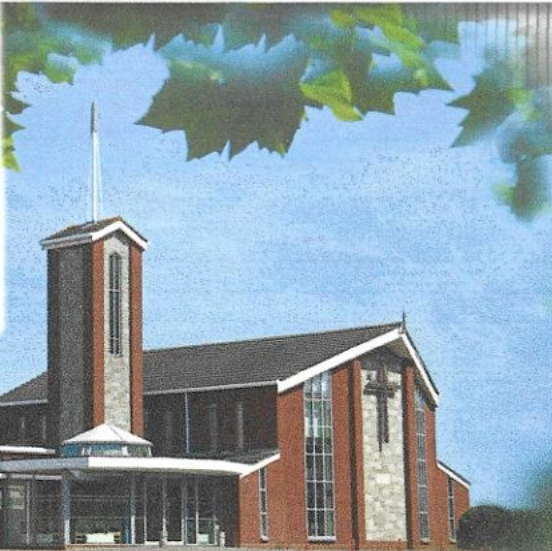
 @ROBINSPIRITCRAFTS  ROBINS SPIRIT CRAFTS

 ROBINSPIRITCRAFTS@HOTMAIL.COM

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING A SMALL BUSINESS



◆ Trinity Methodist Church ◆



Sunday Services

- Morning Worship at 10.30am
- Evening Worship at 6.30pm

Start the week...

Monday Morning Prayer Meeting

A short quiet time of contemplation and prayer.

Every Monday 9.30am – 10.am

Mid-Week Lunchtime Service at Trinity

Every Thursday 12.30pm – 1pm

Trinity Toddlers
Every Tuesday
9.45am – 11.15am

Contact:
Mrs Stella Batson - 01562 863503
Rev'd. Nick Collison - 01562 823300

Trinity
Luncheon Club
Every Wednesday
at 12.15pm

Co-ordinator:
Mrs. Jill Green

...2025...2025...2025

Trinity Methodist Church, Churchfields, Kidderminster, DY10 2 JL

Telephone: 07580 009755 (Mon-Fri 9am -5pm)

www.trinitymethodistkidderminster.org.uk