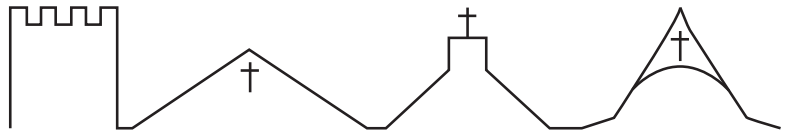




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OF ENGLAND



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perspectives

In this issue:

- Visit of Bishop Given from Tanzania
- Local Charity DAVSS
- Travel in Europe
- Ringing The Changes



Issue 56 - Autumn 2022
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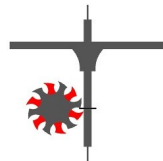
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Visit of Bishop Given & his wife Lilian from Kondo, Tanzania

We were delighted to welcome Bishop Given in mid-August, who told us about the inauguration of St. Paul's cathedral in Kondo, built in part with support from our parish, and the work of the Anglican church in his diocese in Tanzania.



The Bishop Given gives a Certificate of Thanks to Rev'd Wendy Carr at a parish meeting in August.

If you have any comments or questions, would like to make any contribution to the next edition of Perspectives or would like to receive this magazine on a quarterly basis please contact the editorial team via: perspectives@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk

The Greatest Story Ever Told?

Charles Dickens knew about stories! So, which do you think he described as 'the greatest story ever told'? Believe it or not, it was the one we looked at in our church Holiday Club this July – the one known as 'The parable of the prodigal son.'



It turns out that's not a very good name for it! Another look (in Luke chapter 15 of the Bible) shows us the father in the story has two sons, not one. And it's not just one son who has a broken relationship with his father, but both of them.

Sure, only the younger son looks like he's lost, as he grabs his share of the money, storms out of the house, and heads off to waste it on wild living. He comes home empty but only when the famine strikes. But at the end of the story there's also a total breakdown in relationship between the older son and his father, as that older son angrily refuses to join the party the father is throwing to celebrate the younger son's return.

There are so many good things about Holiday Club at Tonbridge Parish Church. Fun and games. A great place to meet and make new friends. The sun [usually!] shines. But the best thing is the chance to look at some of the biggest questions ever: Who is God? What's he like? Why did Jesus come? What does it mean to follow Jesus? Each time we think about those we find some wonderful things!

The most wonderful thing we saw this year is that for both – the people whose lives look lost (like the younger son), and those whose lives look sorted (like the older son) – God offers to fix our broken relationship with Him. That is our greatest need, and he offers to do so because of His great love for us. Whether we look like rule-breakers or rule-keepers, God's great love for us all means that anyone who turns and trusts in Jesus can have a new relationship with a Heavenly Father! Which is what Tonbridge Parish Church is about! A group of people – some of us natural rule-breakers, others natural rule-keepers – but all needing and having found a restored relationship with a Heavenly Father as we trust in Jesus. So whichever of the two sons you are more naturally like... you'll fit right in if you come along! And we would love to welcome you any time.

With best wishes

Ben Thorndike
Vicar, Tonbridge Parish Church

My Faith and My Role in the Community

MERLE BIGDEN

Merle has been linked to St. Peter and St. Paul since 1995, and after working with her husband with the UK office of the Overseas Mission Fellowship for 6 years during her career, she has now been involved with work in the local community for more than 10 years. We asked her to tell us a bit about herself.

My family moved to Tonbridge in 1995 where our two teenagers were attending local schools. The house move was an extraordinary testimony to God's provision, and we were warmly welcomed to the Parish by Michael Perry and invited to join a home group. Fast-forward to 2019-20, we were unable to attend church, as Timothy was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukaemia and all risk of infection was to be avoided during the aggressive chemotherapy. Timothy faced the end of his life triumphantly, telling the doctor that he had had 'clearance for take-off' and was shortly to meet his Lord and Saviour. He wrote his testimony to God's faithfulness which was read out at his Thanksgiving Service here at St. Peter and St. Paul, the day before lockdown. Bereavement with lockdown was tough.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR FAITH JOURNEY?

I can't remember a time when I didn't have faith in Christ. Perhaps it was embedded within me as a baby when my life was miraculously saved during an air raid when a terrified nurse dropped me headfirst on the concrete hospital floor. The diagnosis was brain damage, blindness and deafness. My father got all the men in his Army Unit to pray for me – and here I am.

Aged 14, I was nearly decapitated in what could have been a terrible road accident. Cycling to school I heard a loud voice in my head saying "DUCK." I flattened myself over the handlebars as a lorry overtook me. Turning right, the huge steel girder sticking out of the back swept off my school hat. Not long afterwards, my younger sister and I were violently threatened with murder by our drug crazed lodger. We called on him to stop in the name of the Lord Jesus. He shrieked at us and then, in a stunned moment let us go. We escaped by jumping out of a window. An unseen heavenly hand opened the garden gate, and we escaped next door.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR WORK IN THE COMMUNITY?

My career was in national industrial relations (remember the dustmen's strike?) and subsequently in community development locally. I have also assisted as a School Governor, and as a Trustee with Kenward Trust and a



local Housing Charity. At that time the critical issue of domestic abuse was almost completely unacknowledged. In 2010, a small group of us got together and set up DAVSS, a local charity in West Kent supporting women and men experiencing domestic abuse. I have been volunteering there ever since. We are very grateful for all the support provided by the church - prayers, donations and volunteers.

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO BE DOING IN THE COMING YEARS?

I hope to continue working with DAVSS and attending my wonderfully supportive home group. I would also love to see Messy Church started up here as this is a fantastic way for children and their parents or caregivers to have huge fun after school or on Saturday, enjoy refreshments and hear more about the love of God at the same time.

My life has been filled with many ups and downs - with celebrations and disappointments, challenges and successes, sadness and joys. Underpinning all of this has been an abiding faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, whose love, wisdom and guidance have never failed. I hope to be able to experience more of his wonders as I continue on life's journey.



Welcome to DAVSS Domestic Abuse Volunteer Support Services

Join DAVSS as a volunteer: 'This is the most rewarding thing I have ever done'.

DAVSS volunteers describe their role with great enthusiasm: 'People experiencing domestic abuse show extraordinary courage in coming forward. They have confidence in DAVSS to support them and they work with us to transform their lives.'

'The training was fantastic. It included a comprehensive understanding of domestic abuse and a thorough explanation of the role of a Domestic Abuse Advisor.' Others said they were pleased with the advice and support they receive from their Managers and colleagues. 'Above all, it's wonderful to see survivors building new lives with fresh hope for them and their children.'

During the last year DAVSS received over 1,200 referrals involving more than 1,800 children with over 6,000 calls to the Helpline, so we are always looking for new volunteers to join us. It could be you!

DAVSS is an award winning local community based Charity supporting anyone aged 16 and over experiencing domestic abuse in West Kent. We provide opportunities for local people to volunteer and receive accredited training to provide services to our clients from early intervention through to recovery.



Carol, former DAVSS volunteer

DAVSS volunteers are supported by our professional staff team. There are many opportunities to volunteer with DAVSS such as answering calls to our helpline, providing telephone support or meeting clients face-to-face at safe convenient locations, preparing individual support and safety plans, helping clients to make decisions and take action to make them and their children safe including helping them to obtain legal protection, and giving support so that they can turn their lives around. This gives new hope to our clients and their children.

Anna (not her real name) explained that she had experienced many years of domestic abuse, but had only just summoned up the courage to seek help. With the support of her volunteer Domestic Abuse Advisor she is now living in a new safe home, her children are settled at school and she has started training for a new job.

DAVSS is looking for new volunteers to join the team right now to support others like 'Anna'. Full details and an application form are available on our website www.davss.org.uk or you are very welcome to phone our office to talk to one of our Managers for more details on 01892 502074. We look forward to hearing from you.

Our local Help Line is open weekdays **01892 570538**
In emergency please call 999

Merle Bigden



**The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service**
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Visiting the European Union

Bob Challis lives in Tonbridge and has been a member of the Parish Church since 2012. During his career in the Civil Service, he dealt with matters relating to Europe, and worked in several different departments, covering areas including the provision of aid to Southern European countries, the world of radio and telecommunications, and the application of European law to public sector contracting. After gaining an honours degree in European Studies from universities in London and Paris as a mature student, he taught this same subject until retirement. Once he had retired, he decided, with his wife, that it was time to go travelling!

Following my career, which dealt with matters relating to the European Union, I felt it would be instructive for me and my wife Pauline to become better acquainted with all the 27 EU member states. Having now visited all these countries - which all share our Christian heritage - it is clear that we have much more in common than that which divides us. The EU flag, with its 12 golden stars, actually speaks of God's completeness, a point well recognised in non-Christian lands.

Our earliest visits were to countries in Western Europe, like France, but for us, a key point was our first trip to the Baltic States, where we stayed in a Russian hotel in Tallinn, the capital of Estonia. Here you could choose potato pie for breakfast, if you wished, plus potatoes! The walled city was spectacular, and the people delightful. In later years we also visited Latvia and Lithuania, but not staying in Russian hotels; all three Baltic States offered wonderful holiday destinations.

The furthest east we went on mainland Europe was to Bulgaria and Romania. To the south of Bulgaria lies the Pirin mountain range, the local centre being the town of Bansko, a notable location for skiing. It is also the



cultural centre for the national language and for poetry. In Romania we focused our travels in Transylvania, with its castles, fortified churches and the myth of Dracula. Organic farming helped produce excellent food and wine in both Bulgaria and Romania, and at very reasonable prices. For us the most remarkable small country was Slovenia, formerly part of Yugoslavia. The coastline near Piran on the Adriatic Sea was beautiful, with strong Italian influences. Further inland, the capital city, Ljubljana, blessed with great architecture and bridges, reminded us of the Left Bank in Paris. Elsewhere there were lakes, mountains and caves to explore.

Finally, the country with the greatest influence on us had to be France. My education tended to focus on Paris and Dijon, but frequent visits have also taken us to Avignon, in deep Provence. France offers its diverse, traditional cuisine, good wine, and great painters and architects like Claude Monet and Gustave Eiffel respectively. France is my favourite among the larger EU countries, and by quite a margin.

So what changes post Brexit? Have our borders become more secure? Has the situation become clearer regarding Scotland or Ireland? Has travel abroad got easier? And have prices started to come down? Clearly the situation in this early post Brexit period has not been helped by the Covid pandemic and by the war in Ukraine; both of these have contributed in different ways to our present problems of rising inflation and labour issues. These pose significant challenges for our government. We can only hope and pray that our new Prime Minister, once elected, will have the wisdom and skill to navigate the troubled waters into a better future.

Bob Challis





Ringling The Changes

For generations the sound of church bells has been an audible sign to announce to the community church services, weddings, baptisms, funerals and important events such as the Queen's Jubilee or Skinners' Day here in Tonbridge.

For most of us the bells have become a pleasant part of the background of local life; the sound of a peal of bells on a Sunday morning or at a summer wedding is too easily taken for granted. There are over 6,000 rings of bells in the UK, not just in small village churches, but also in mighty Cathedrals and even a few secular buildings like Quex Park and Manchester Town Hall. We forget that somewhere out of sight a team of people is working together to produce these beautiful, shifting patterns of sound.



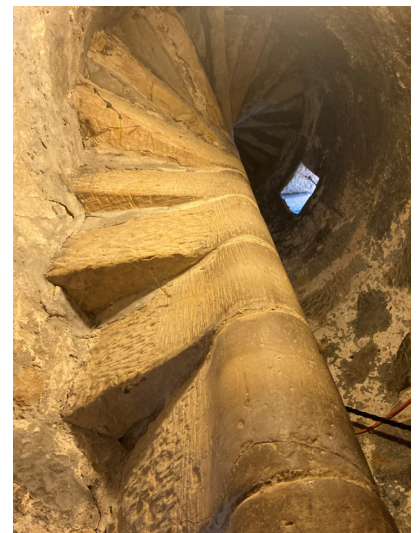
To enter the small door at St Peter and St Paul in Tonbridge feels almost like stepping into a hidden world. From here we climb a set of steep, winding medieval stairs up the tower until we step out into the light of the tall square ringing chamber where the sallies of 8 bells hang in an arc from the ceiling. The bells range in size and weight from

the hefty tenor, which weighs nearly a tonne, down to the lightest treble. The ringers gather, take their sallies and then the ringing begins. The leader calls out instructions to swap, changing the pattern to create almost infinite variations. The room hums with the vibrations of the bells as the notes ring out. It is strangely mesmerising.

The bells at Tonbridge are rung by a friendly and enthusiastic group but as numbers have reduced in the wake of Covid they are rarely able to ring all the bells. Sadly, this is the case all over the country and unless a new generation of recruits can be found the day may eventually come when the time-honoured sound of the bells is no longer heard.

If you are interested in learning more, do please come along to meet us in the Ringing Chamber: we would love to show you what ringing is all about. If you are tall enough to reach the "sally" (the woolly bit) and fit enough to raise your arms above your head and count to 8 you are a potential ringer! Contact our Tower Secretary Milly: (mill74@outlook.com) to let her know you're going to climb the stairs to see us.

Angela Clark



Keeping Warm in Winter

With energy bills climbing, as we head into winter, Perspectives decided to look at ways to minimise your bills and maximise your warmth. It's time to take action now before the cold sets in.

Quick Wins

There are many small changes you can make which will allow your home to warm up quicker and be cheaper to run. Draught proofing is a cheap and quick way to retain heat, minimising draughts and improving your home heat retention. Fitting thick, lined curtains, especially ones with a thermal lining, or adding extra lining to your existing curtains will make a significant difference. Do make sure that the curtains are not trapping heat by covering radiators.



You can also add draught proofing around doors, windows and floorboards, either by permanently sealing gaps or by using various forms of draught excluder. Keep doors closed to stop the cold air from moving into the rest of the house.

If you have a fireplace which you do not use,

your chimney is probably a major source of unnecessary draughts. If you do not want to use the fireplace at all you can get a professional to permanently fit a cap over the chimney pot. For a simpler, less permanent option chimney draught excluders are available.

A hot water cylinder jacket is relatively inexpensive, and fitting it is a fairly straight-forward job. Pipe insulation (foam tubes which are available from DIY stores) can also be fitted around any exposed pipes that carry hot water. It is quite simple to fit reflector panels behind your radiators which will reflect heat from the radiators back into the room. They produce the most benefit when fitted on external walls especially if those walls are uninsulated solid walls. Get to know your heating controls before winter. Consider in which areas of your home to prioritise heating

and when. Check where your thermostat is placed. Ideally it should be on an interior wall, away from draughts, in a frequently used room.

Are there areas of your house that you don't normally use and don't need to heat such as a spare room? Turn the heating down or off there, and keep that area sealed off to retain the heat in your main area.

If you don't spend much time upstairs a heated blanket can actually be cheaper than heating the bedroom. It is even possible to buy heated gilets now which run on rechargeable batteries for use during the day.

Bigger Effort, Bigger Returns

Some issues will require more initial outlay but will in the long term pay for themselves many times over. These can include replacing outdated heating and hot water controls, installing cavity wall insulation, adding a layer of insulation in the loft or attic, which can be done even beneath flat roofs. After all, around one third of the heat from our homes is lost through the walls and another quarter through the roof.

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How are you, really?

O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear!

Do these words seem familiar? They come from a popular traditional hymn originally written in 1855 by preacher Joseph M. Scriven to comfort his mother, who was living in Ireland while he was away in Canada.

Life is full of challenges and we will all be in a position where we need help at some point! Yet it is often very hard to admit, even to ourselves, that we need help and it requires a further summoning of courage to admit it to others.

Of course we all encounter difficult periods in our lives but look out for these warning signs that more help is required:

- Not sleeping properly, finding it difficult to fall asleep or stay asleep
- Struggling to cope with everyday life
- Feeling exhausted all the time
- Experiencing 'brain fog', find it hard to think clearly or concentrate
- Feeling restless and agitated or tearful, much of the time
- Not wanting to talk to or be with people or to do things you usually enjoy
- Turning to unhealthy strategies to distract from feelings, like alcohol, gambling or comfort eating

If you or someone you know is feeling like this it's important to find ways to get out of the destructive cycle of negative thoughts which lead to and are then reinforced by negative behaviours.

So, what can you do:

- Firstly, take a few deep breaths. Numerous studies have shown that breathing deeply and calmly can provide an almost instant improvement in our stress and anxiety levels.
- Be kind to yourself. Consider what advice you would give to friend if they were in your situation. We are often our own undeserved harshest critic.
- Prioritise eating as healthily and regularly as you can. You would not expect your car to run without the proper fuel. How can your mind and body work well without the sustenance it needs?
- Take what steps you can to improve the quality of your sleep. Try to have a calm period when you allow your body to wind down before going to bed; avoid looking at screens in that time or if you wake in the night.

- Take the time to recognise and celebrate everyday achievements and pleasures. What went well today? What did you enjoy?
- Look for ways to get out of the house and get some fresh air. Even a short walk will lift your mood.
- Look for opportunities to meet or help other people. Using your talents, perhaps by volunteering, can give great satisfaction, boost your self-esteem and help others.
- Find someone you trust to share your problems with. When you are struggling to cope it can be difficult to see beyond your current situation. Talking about how you're feeling can help put things into perspective and help you to feel more positive about the future.
- Pay attention to what you are feeling. If you are unable to find someone to talk to or you know that you need further help call a helpline or your GP.

Look at the people around you. We all ask each other "How are you?" but are we prepared to hear any answer other than "Fine"? None of us really knows what issues the person next to us may be struggling with. Perhaps the next time you meet someone you could ask "How are you really?" and be prepared to take the time to listen to the answer.

Morwenna Fernandez

Helplines

Samaritans - Call 116 123 (free from any phone) or email jo@samaritans.org

Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM)
Call 0800 585858 from 5pm-midnight everyday

Citizens Advice Bureau 0800 144 8848
For help with financial problems

Age UK 0800 00 9966

Cruse Day by Day 0844 477 9400

National Debt Line 0808 808 4000

The Changing Seasons

The summer of 2022 will be remembered for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year, celebrating 70 years of her dutiful and gracious reign, directed wholly by her unwavering Christian faith. There were street and garden parties, and happy times spent sharing a cuppa with friends and sometimes even strangers. Looking back, we will recall the nation's joy and perhaps remember those we sadly miss, as summer starts to give way to autumn.

The seasons inexorably change every year with our trees, flowers and shrubs somehow knowing, perhaps better than us, when change is coming. Some will still be showing us the last of their summer beauty of leaves and petals for us to touch, their perfume continuing to waft gently upwards for us to enjoy. The birds too will start their migration back to warmer climes for the winter.

It will not be long before the trees show their wonderful display of the shades of autumn leaves, red, orange, yellow and gold. When later the high winds come, all that will remain will be the bare, skeleton branches as nature settles down for its winter slumber. And as November comes, there will be the Remembrance Day services across the country, and in London with the laying of wreaths at the Cenotaph in honour of all those who bravely lost their lives in wars, whilst fighting for our freedom.

In a world which seems increasingly turbulent, God's promise to Noah in Genesis 8 is a real encouragement: "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."

Angela Gaunt



Samaritans Purse/Operation Christmas Child Ukraine Appeal



The Samaritan's Purse/Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Gift Project (supported by many here in the parish each year) has a long history in the Ukraine and a network there with over 3200 churches. An amazing band of local volunteers helped us to pack hygiene kits and send a truck to Kyiv filled with 8,206 of these kits on 5th August and we will again be sending the Christmas Child shoe boxes later in the autumn. A gift to the Samaritan's Purse/ Operation Christmas Child Ukraine appeal will help fund vital medical work, provide shelter, food and clothing. To learn more or donate online our website is: www.samaritans-purse.org.uk

If you are interested in packing a Christmas Child shoebox gift this autumn to bring joy to a child this Christmas or helping at our Tonbridge Processing Centre, to process these boxes ready to be sent to children around the world in November and December, you can find all you need to know on our website.



Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells Beekeepers Annual Honey Show

Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells Beekeepers will be holding their annual honey show on Saturday 1st October at St John's Church Centre, Hildenborough between 2pm and 4pm. Free entry. As well as a display of honey and wax products, there will be photography, baked goods, beekeeping gadgets and handicrafts. For further information, please contact Liz Birchenough on membership@sevenoaksbeekeepers.org.uk



BRILLIANT BEES

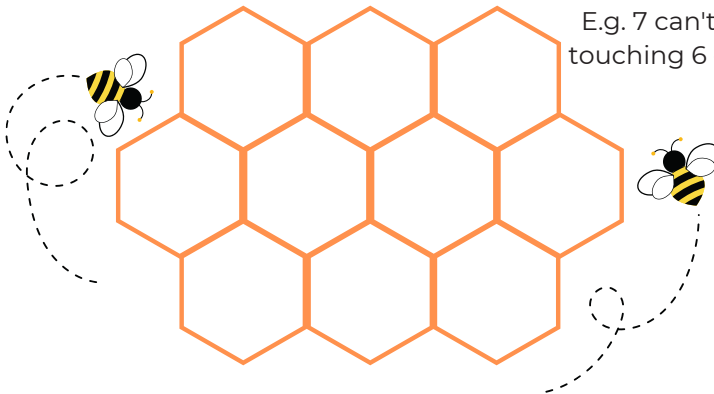


In this issue of Perspectives we're going wild for bees, for no other reason than we think they're un-bee-lievable!

HONEY COMB

Can you arrange the numbers 1 - 10 in this honey comb so that numbers in sequence aren't touching? How many solutions can you find?

E.g. 7 can't be touching 6 or 8.



DID YOU KNOW...?

Here are some incredible bee facts that you might not know.

- Honey bees have 4 wings (in 2 pairs) and 5 eyes!
- Bees don't sleep (but they do spend time motionless to conserve energy)
- Bees can see blue really well, and even ultraviolet, but cannot see the colour red!
- A bee colony can fly the equivalent distance from the Earth to the Moon *each day!*
- Bees sting when frightened or to protect the colony, and the only bee that can survive after having stung is the Queen.
- Honey bees can fly up to 20 miles per hour!

THE ANSWER IS...

1. What's the name of the Space Ranger in the Toy Story films?
2. What dance do honey bees do to tell others where food is?
3. Which man in the New Testament lived in the desert and ate locusts & honey?*
4. Roughly how many species of bee are there? a. 200 b. 2,000 c. 20,000
5. Which artist sang about 'Fields of Gold' and being an 'Englishman in New York'?

*Hint: Look at Matthew 3:4 in a Bible

BEE KIND



Bees may be most active over Summer, but during September & October there are still things you can do to help bees.

CREATE A PLACE FOR BEES TO HIBERNATE

Bees looking for a place to hibernate will appreciate a patch of long grass or a log pile - some even like old walls.

PLANT BULBS READY FOR SPRING

Autumn is the perfect time to plant spring bulbs to provide nectar for Queen bees emerging from hibernation in Spring. This could be in the ground or in a pot.



BUZZY BEES

Play a game of Buzz with a friend or family member. Stand facing each other, take a deep breath, and then buzz for as long as you can. The winner is the one who buzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzes the longest.

Do you know the answers to these bee related questions?



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'We invite you to an evening of music at St Peter and St Paul's Church, Tonbridge on Saturday 8th October at 7.30pm. We'll be playing music from the America's, including dances from West Side Story and Horowitz's wonderful Bacchus on Blue Ridge.

Tickets at the door or at a reduced price from concerts@bacchuswind.org.uk

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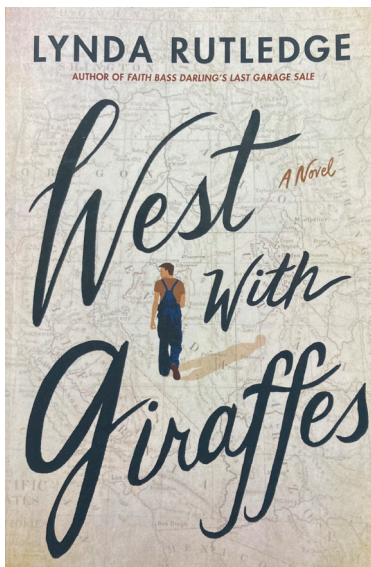
Other offices at: Borough Green - 01732 780600, Chelsfield - 01689 452525,
Chislehurst - 020 8467 2222, Sevenoaks - 01732 742400, Swanley - 01322 619100, Tunbridge Wells - 01892 300330

The Book Club meets at the Parish Church on Monday mornings from 10.15am to 11.45am. It is an informal space to explore Christian books together, books which challenge and inspire us to have conversations around our Christian faith: from prayer to sharing our faith, to some of life's questions, forgiveness, who is Jesus? and so much more. Contact Patricia King via the Parish Office for more info. All are welcome to join. Here is a brief review of two of the books which we have been reading recently:

West with Giraffes

Lynda Rutledge

(Published by Lake Union via Amazon)



Two giraffes survived an Atlantic hurricane to make headlines and capture the hearts of Depression-era America in this emotional and rousing novel based on true events.

It's 1938. The Great Depression lingers. Hitler is threatening Europe, and world-weary Americans long for wonder. They find it in two giraffes who miraculously survive a hurricane while crossing the Atlantic. A twelve-day

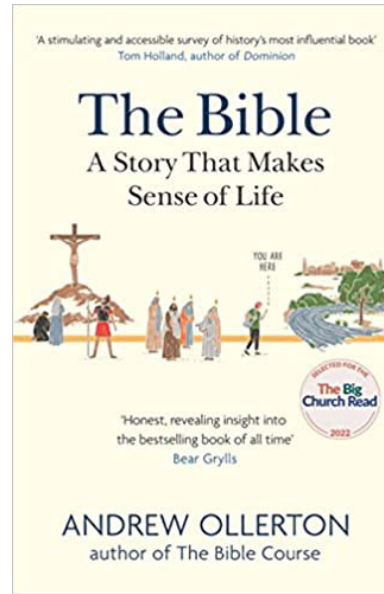
road trip to San Diego zoo in southern California follows, and Lynda Rutledge weaves an imaginative novel around this historical framework. Young tearaway Woody, the only survivor of his family from the horrors of the Texas dustbowl disaster, wheedles his way into driving the makeshift truck carrying the giraffes with zoo-keeper old-man Riley Jones.

Real life figures mix with fictional ones, including a pretty red-haired photographer and a sneaky travelling circus boss with designs on stealing the giraffes. Adventures and near-disasters crowd the narrative on mountains and plains. The depths of human emotions are revealed as Woody's guilt and pain are forgiven and healed by the care of friends and the love of two enormous animals.

Part adventure, part historical saga, and part coming-of-age love story, West with Giraffes explores what it means to be changed by the grace of animals, the kindness of strangers, the passing of time and a story told before it's too late.

David Robins (& the book blurb)

Andrew Ollerton: "The Bible: A Story That Makes Sense of Life"



Do you sometimes struggle to make sense of the Bible, or to understand how all of the books within, fit together? If so, (and even if not) then this book is for you! Andrew Ollerton connects the storyline of the Bible in a clear way. He writes in an engaging manner, whilst including plenty of relevant passages from the Bible, and the occasional diagram and map.

After introducing the Bible, Andrew begins with

one garden: the Garden of Eden in Genesis (the first book of the Bible), and finishes in another garden: the Garden City which is described in Revelation (the last book of the Bible). In-between these two gardens he connects the books with concise detail and relevant information, which ultimately shows how Jesus fits into the whole picture throughout the Bible. The Old Testament points to Jesus, and, in the New Testament, we see so many Old Testament prophecies fulfilled.

We really appreciated reading this book recently in the Parish Book Club. As well as talking about what we had read, we made use of the discussion questions that are provided at the back of the book. Andrew Ollerton has also produced The Bible Course, which is a DVD/online course that leads people through the story of the Bible. I can thoroughly recommend both this book and The Bible Course both of which help not just with understanding, but with growing one's Faith .

Patricia King



Parish Information & Contacts

SERVICES

St Peter & St Paul

Church Lane, TN9 1DA

Sundays

8am Holy Communion
10.45am Morning Service* (Holy Communion on 1st Sunday of the month) and children's groups (school years R-5 and 6-9)
6pm Evening Service (Holy Communion on 4th Sunday of the month).

*Also available online on our YouTube channel

Wednesdays

10.30am Holy Communion (First and Third Wednesday of the month).

St Philip

Salisbury Road, TN10 4PA

Sundays

10.45am Morning Service (Holy Communion on 2nd Sunday of the month) and children's groups (school years R-5 and 6-9).

St Andrew

Hadlow Road, TN10 4LS

Sundays

9.15am Morning Service (Holy Communion on 3rd Sunday of the month).

St Saviour

Dry Hill Park Crescent, TN10 3BJ

Sundays

9.15am Morning Service (Holy Communion on 4th Sunday of the month).

Youth, Children & Families

- Worship in the Wild on the last Sunday of every month, 3.00pm in the churchyard at St Peter & St Paul. All families welcome.
- Sunday Club (school years R-5) and SOS (school years 6-9) every Sunday at 10.45am St Peter & St Paul and 10.45am St Philip.
- Refresh (school years 10-13) meets weekly on Sunday evenings. More information can be found on our website or by emailing ycoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk

Contact	
Parish Administration Parish Office, Tonbridge Parish Church, Church Lane, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1DA	(01732) 770962 ext. 24 parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk
Vicar The Rev'd Ben Thorndike	(01732) 770962 ext. 23
Associate Vicar The Rev'd Wendy Carr	(01732) 770962 ext. 32
Youth & Children's Minister Andy Page	(01732) 770962 ext. 22
Licensed Lay Minister Sally Musson	07713 352 017
Parish Administrator & Vicar's PA Jane Higgs	(01732) 770962 ext. 24
Church Family Administrator Jane Thorndike	(01732) 770962 ext. 24
Churchwardens David Balcombe & Paul White	(01732) 770962 ext. 24
Parish Treasurer Ray Tanner	(01732) 770962 ext. 25
Finance Manager Yolanda Roberts	(01732) 770962 ext. 25
Perspectives Team John Schluter (Chair), Morwenna Fernandez, Patricia Osborn, Jenny Macpherson, Tom James	perspectives@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk

Parish Office Hours: 10am-1pm, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

GET INVOLVED!

There is a vast range of groups and activities across the Parish:

- Men and Women's Ministry
- Tiny Acorns for parents and carers with under 1s
- Teddies for parents and carers with preschool children
- Prayer Gatherings
- Home Groups
- Health Walks
- Stepping Stones Bible Study for women
- Book Club
- Open House at St. Philip

Visit our website www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk to find out more or complete the online form on our Contact Us page: www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk/contactus



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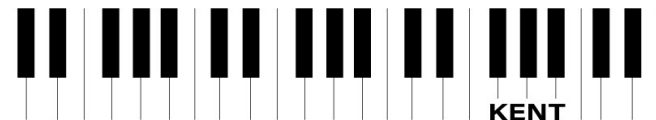
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**Musical Bumps
Tonbridge & Sevenoaks**

Our weekday classes for 0-4 years are usually held at the Parish Church.

At the time of writing, we are having fun with the full timetable taking place via zoom online!

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

New families are always welcome to trial a class

margaret.lewin@musicalbumps.com
07736 244142



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Saturdays 10am-12pm

www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk

Questions about life, faith and God?

Join us weekly for Alpha from Wednesday 12th October, 7.45pm

At the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Tonbridge

Light refreshments included

For more information or to book a place

Contact the Parish office:

parishoffice@tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk / 01732 770962 x 24

