

May 21 is Ascension Day. When this important feast of the Church comes round, I always remember something that happened to me many years ago.

All my science days I was a Fellow of Trinity. The College has a feast on Ascension Day and one year I invited a visitor to my research group to come as my guest. She was a very secular Jewish American woman and she was intrigued that an academic institution should celebrate a religious occasion. As Loretta talked to me about this I began to realise that she was confusing the Ascension with the Resurrection! I had to put this right, but found it difficult to do so. If I just said it was the day Jesus went up to heaven I could see a picture forming in her mind of the kind one sometimes sees in medieval stained glass: the disciples looking up to a small cloud from which the Lord's legs are poking out. I don't exactly remember what I finally stuttered, but it was only afterwards I realised what I should have said.

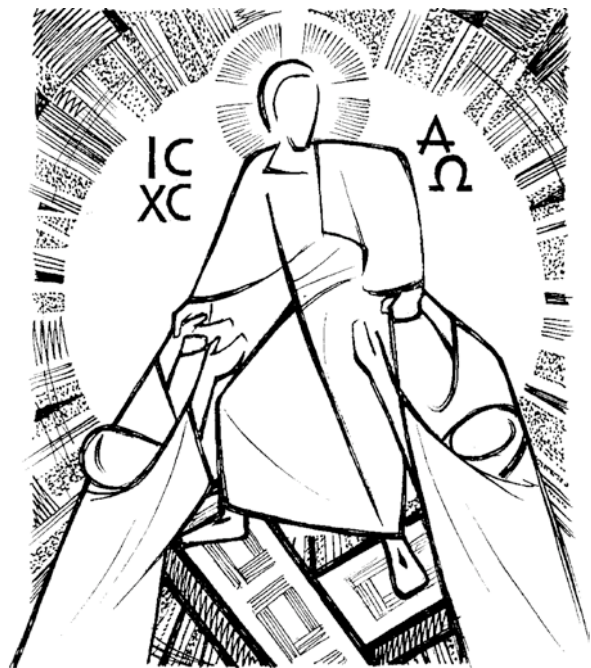
I should have told Loretta that Ascension Day is the feast of the Lordship of Christ. It is not a story about Jesus setting out on a curious space journey, but his exaltation to the right hand of the Father is the symbol that he is indeed the King of all. Exactly what the disciples experienced I am not sure, but they certainly were confirmed in their commitment to the cause of Christ. Only Luke tells us the story of the Ascension. In his gospel it seems to happen the first Easter Day, but in Acts we have the story that is familiar to us and forms the basis of our calendar, of its taking place after forty days of appearances by the risen Christ. This difference of timing in accounts given by the same author surely indicates that it is not just a

plain tale but it is loaded with symbol. The cloud that received Jesus from the sight of the disciples is not a mere meteorological phenomenon, but a scriptural image of the presence of God. Think of the cloud that descended on Sinai in the Exodus story. Matthew does not tell us about the Ascension, but the same truth is conveyed by him when, at the end of his gospel, the risen Christ says "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me". This is one of the foundations of our Christian faith and hope.

John Polkinghorne

A Prayer for Ascensiontide

Christ is the King to whom all authority has been given in heaven and on earth. We own him as our Lord. We yield him our obedience. We dedicate our lives to his service. Come, Lord Christ, and reign in us, and make us the servants of your kingdom in the world, to the honour of your name



PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Rev. David Maher	351844
Honorary Assistant Curate	Rev. John Polkinghorne	360743
Reader	Linda Dean	328658
Churchwarden	Iris Brown	565956
Churchwarden	Henry Disney	359396
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	351844
PCC Vice Chairman	Henry Disney	359396
PCC Secretary	Ruth Banger	234409
PCC Treasurer	Ginni Carroll	01954 212993
PCC Electoral Roll Officer	Lilas Davison	354300
Administrator	Ruth Banger	234409
Altar Linen	Finsetta Cummings	352757
Assistant Treasurer	Bill Elsey	357622
Assistant Treasurer	Jim Bass	363156
Book of Remembrance	Monica Shipp	353734
Chalice Bearers	Bill Elsey	357622
Chantry Book	Tom Shipp	353734
Child Protection Co-ordinator	Ruth Banger	234409
Children's Society	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Children's Work	John & Alison Phillips	502969
Christian Aid	Simon & Clare Redfern	740513
Church Cleaners	Monica Shipp	353734
Church Hall Bookings	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Church Heating	Horace Giles	359001
Coffee Makers	Irene Langley	367964
Coffee & Rolls	Fiona Blows	329822
Director of Music	Dorothy Holliday	234409
Flower Arrangers	Iris Brown	565956
Flower Arrangers	Jeanne Elsey	357622
Friends of Etterbeek	John & Elizabeth Lamont	565559
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Eva Hutson	574070
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinators	Evelyn Walker	364067
Good Shepherd Players	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Good Shepherd Players	Ruth Banger	234409
Health & Safety Officer	Peter Covill	729573
Historic Churches Cycle Ride	Ros Lund	565303
House Group	Terry Barringer	424584
Intercessors	John Lamont	565559
Jimmy's Night Shelter	Ann Callear	357694
Lesson Readers	Lilas Davison	354300
Monday Club	Eva Hutson	574070
Newsletter Editor	Ruth Banger	234409
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	Rhodri James	357607
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	John Phillips	502969
North Cambridge Council of Churches	Ruby Leyshon	352151
North Cambridge Council of Churches	Michael Lovell	328521
Pastoral Care Co-ordinator	Linda Dean	328658
Planned Giving Secretary	Lilas Davison	354300
Registrar of Planned Giving Envelopes	Tom Shipp	353734
Rural Development Movement	Henry Disney	359396
Sacristans	Ian & Else Catchpole	474540
Servers	Bill Elsey	357622
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Iris Brown	565956
Sidesmen & Sideswomen	Henry Disney	359396
Social Events Co-ordinator	Evelyn Walker	364067
Sound System	John Lamont	565559

READINGS FOR MAY

Sundays and holy days

- 3 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER –
ALL AGE
Acts 4: 5-12
John 10: 11-18
- 10 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Acts 8: 26 - end
John 15: 1-8
- 17 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Acts 10: 44 - end
John 15: 9-17
- 24 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Acts 1: 15-17, 21-end
John 17: 6-19
- 31 WHIT SUNDAY – PARADE SERVICE
Acts 2: 1-21
John 14:15-17, 25-28

Wednesdays

- 6 Acts 8: 26 - end
John 15: 1-8
- 13 Acts 10: 44 - end
John 15: 9-17
- 20 Acts 1: 15-17, 21-end
John 17: 6-19
- 27 Acts 2: 1-21
John 15: 26-27; 16: 4-15



REGULAR SERVICES IN MAY

- Sundays 8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Communion
(first Sunday in the month is an All-Age service)
- Mondays 9.30am Morning Prayer
- Tuesdays 9.30am Morning Prayer
- Wednesdays 9.30am Holy Communion
- Thursdays 9.30am Morning Prayer
- Fridays 9.30am Morning Prayer

**The Church will be closed on Monday
May 4 and Monday May 25.**

SPECIAL SERVICES IN MAY

May 17 The service at 10am will be a service of Holy Communion which will include the Lying on of Hands with Prayer
Ascension Day (May 21)
Holy Communion at 7.30pm
Whit Sunday (May 31)
Parade Service at 10am

EVENTS IN MAY

Sunday May 3 at 12 noon Sunday Lunch Club meets in the Church Hall.
Sunday May 3 at 8pm Social Evening in the Carlton Arms
Sunday May 10 at 8pm Quiz at the Carlton Arms in aid of Christian Aid (See page 4)
Saturday May 16 at 5.00pm Summer Concert followed by tea. All to support Christian Aid. (See page 6)
Sunday May 17 after 10am service COGS Kids Crazy Car Clean (See page 4)
Saturday May 30 Plant and Book Sale 10.30 – 12 noon in the Church Hall (See page 8)

MEETINGS IN MAY

Monday May 18 PCC meets at the Vicarage at 7.30pm

Christian Aid Week Fundraising - May 10th-17th

Our fundraising efforts, as part of Christian Aid's national campaign to raise money for development projects in some of the world's poorest communities, are as follows:

Quiz Night

Sunday May 10th 8pm at The Carlton Arms on Carlton Way with landlord Glyn as quizmaster.

Choir Concert

Saturday May 16th 5pm at The Good Shepherd followed by tea. All donations to Christian Aid.

COGS Kids Crazy Car Clean

Sunday May 17th Give your car a treat!

Street Collection

As always, volunteers are needed to put out envelopes and collect them the following week, on a street in the parish. Please sign up if you want to give a few hours to raise money in this way. Lists will be out on the table in church after Easter. Help with counting money raised is also always appreciated. Please talk to us if you would like more information.

*Clare and Simon Redfern (Tel: 01223
740513)*



A prayer for refugees

Lord Jesus, it is better to light one candle
than to give up hope
and curse the darkness.

It is better to save one stranger from
deportation

and reunite one separated family,
than it is to say it is not our problem
and we can't do much to help.

It is better to join hands in one work of love
than to sit on our hands and feel powerless.

Lord, help us to love you in the stranger and the
refugee.

Help us to love ourselves enough to believe
that we can change things for the better.

Help us to love as you have loved us.



If we accept that we are made in the image of a God who longs for justice, who yearns to love and be loved, who aches for peace and wholeness in a world created to be joyous and beautiful and among people imbued with God's spirit, we will begin to live in a different way ... We will resist war and killing because we will recognise that life is sacred, that forgiveness, reconciliation and healing is possible, and that as friends of Christ it is our duty as well as our joy to bring these about. Our highest calling, irrespective of what jobs or roles or other responsibilities we have, will be to live in the active loving service of Christ.

Cristina Rees **The Divine Embrace**

How up to date are you?

The following have been listed as *the* words of last year. How many are you sure of?
(Answers on page 7)

1. A bailout

- a) emergency parachute jump
- b) the act of removing water from a leaky boat
- c) an injection of cash to save an insolvent organization

2. To tase

- a) to hit with a taser stun gun
- b) to annoy out of mischief
- c) to comb the surface of cloth

3. A flame attendant

- a) a safety officer in a firework factory
- b) someone who pines for lost love
- c) Chinese security man guarding the Olympic torch

4. A polyclinic

- a) a large surgery for several GPs
- b) a surgery for parrots
- c) the consulting rooms of a plastic surgeon

5. To misspeak

- a) to fall short of your best performance
- b) to express yourself in an inaccurate way
- c) to stammer or stutter

6. to medal

- a) to interfere
- b) to create a commemorative medal token
- c) to win a medal in a sporting event

7. A mosquito

- a) a small mosque
- b) an early type of firearm
- c) device used to drive away teenagers by making a high-pitched sound inaudible to older people

8. a tweet

- a) a fool
- b) an entertainment provided free, especially to children
- c) an electronic message limited to 140 characters



FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Matrimony

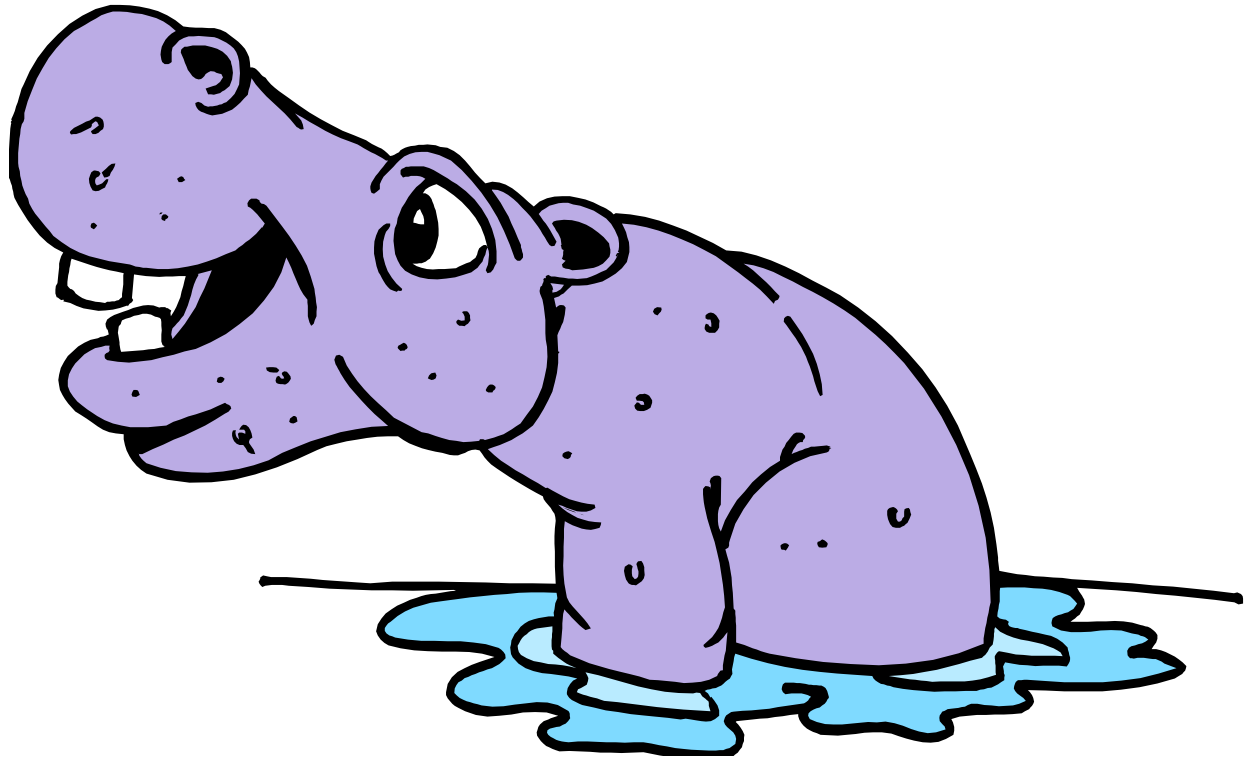
April 9

Paul Andrew Griffiths and Anne Tachya Brobbey

Holy Baptism

April 12

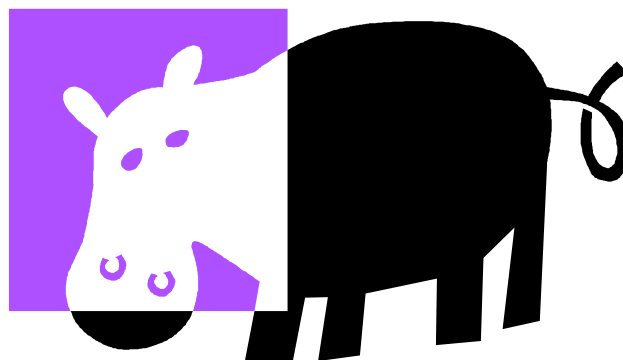
Grace Courtney Anne Marriott



I had a hippopotamus ...

**Our next Choir concert will be at the Church at 5pm
on Saturday May 16. We shall be exploring a
“world wide” range of material in music and verse
and all proceeds will go to Christian Aid.**

**Come along and join us, enjoy the music (and the tea
afterwards), contribute to Christian Aid and discover
the link between *I had a hippopotamus* and
missionaries**





Celebrating Ely 900 – future dates for your diary

June 20	Children's events centred on the Cathedral
September 19	Children's Festival
September 27	Bishop and Vice-Chancellor's Walk (celebrating the 800th anniversary of the founding of the University)
October 17	St. Etheldreda's day celebrations
November 20-21	Visit of the Archbishop of York

Some of my fellow scientists are puzzled as to how I accept the findings of science and still believe in God. To me the problem is how one can fail to see that the findings of science reinforce the need for belief in God!

BEYOND BELIEF

I learn from book that half the vast,
And life requiring, lengthy ranks
Of protein troops required to keep
Me on the go, for which my thanks
I daily give, are found in spud
I've speared on fork. Indeed we both
Require some sets of genes we know
As Hox. It's not an act of sloth
That means we share a thing or two.
Our common stock of basic tools
Required to stay alive reveals
That it, myself and worst of fools
Descend from ancient line of slime
That basked on rocks in shallow seas
Of distant past beyond belief.
So when I feel at one with trees
And creeping things we know it's true.
But all of these are like the air
We breathe, or else the ground on which
We walk and dance, they're merely there;
Devoid of feelings felt for us,
All unaware that we exist.
And what is more both they and us,
Embrace another ancient twist
To tale. The atoms forming all
Our building blocks were forged in heat

Beyond belief in cores of stars,
Before the system was complete
In which our planet earth resides
In minor suburb on the fringe
Of Milky Way's extensive spread.
Because these musings will impinge
On way we see ourselves, it makes
Us wonder what it's all about.
Our sense of worth derives from love
Of God for us, unless we doubt.
In latter case a mocking gust
Will treat us as a swirl of dust,
Replacing awe with black disgust.
But in my faith in God I trust.

Henry Disney

**Answers to *How up to date are you?*
on page 5**

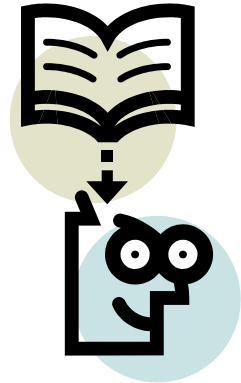
1c 2a 3c 4a 5b 6c 7c 8c

Dates for your diary

Saturday May 30th (10.30 – 12.00) Plant and Book Sale

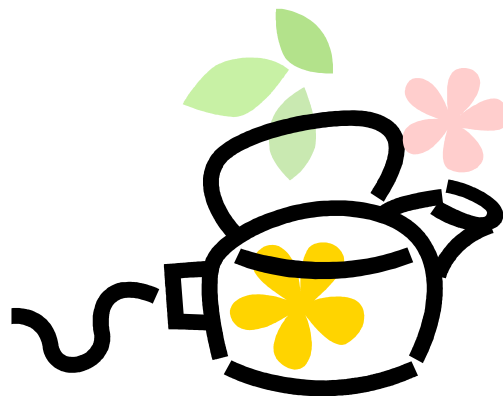
Please think about the sale when you're in the garden or the greenhouse and set aside a plant or two for the sale. Tomatoes are best seller, closely followed by peppers, courgettes, cucumbers, marrows, etc.

All house-plants and garden plants for borders (annuals and perennials) will also be welcome, so bring along your horticultural offerings on the day at 9.00 onwards.



Saturday June 13th Arbury Carnival

Following the success of last year, COGS will be presenting two stalls this year at the Carnival again. This year, we will have a Cake Stall and a Plant Stall, offering our usual high quality produce to the carnival crowd. If you would like to donate a cake, please contact Eva. For plants, Evelyn will be the contact again.



FIVE STAR KITCHEN

Did you know we have a Five Star kitchen in the Church Hall? The facilities in our “new” kitchen (i.e. the one in which Sunday lunch is cooked) have been inspected by Environmental Health Officers from Cambridge City Council and given **FIVE STARS** for cleanliness.

Congratulations to Finsetta, Monica and Evelyn Dennington for all they have done to achieve this.

Coffee after Church

I have agreed to take over the Sunday morning coffee rota when Irene Langley retires from the role in the summer after many years of fantastic organizing. As I am new, I shall be looking for some new help, so do volunteer! The more helpers we have, the fewer times we each need to do it. Serving coffee is a really good way of getting to know people and of making a contribution even if you don't have a great deal of time. Of course, you may not know who I am. You can identify me in person by looking at the choir: I usually sit between Ruth Banger and Maureen Carter. But if you can't find me in person you can still volunteer. My phone number is 01223 858994 and my e-mail address is gill.ambrose@happyserver.co.uk. Otherwise, I will come and make myself known to you!

Another development: because the tradition of people providing coffee in support of a charity on the Sunday mornings in August has been so successful, the PCC has decided to extend it to the first Sunday of each month. Doing this on the first Sunday of the month means that it coincides with the Sunday Lunch Club, giving its members an opportunity to take part. So if you would like to raise some money for a particular cause this would be a good way to do it. If you would like to take this opportunity, please get in touch. I will take bookings from 1 September. Contact details are the same as those above.

Gill Ambrose

An extra bit of Easter

Many thanks to Gill also for this photo of the amazing Palm Sunday donkey. I am very grateful to Jeanne and Bill for making a really great effort to write up Easter in time for this Newsletter's deadline. I would like to add a special memory of mine – over 120 people meeting together outside the Community Centre and pinning hands on to the wooden cross. Sharing that act of witness was truly wonderful, as was meeting up with friends from local churches and enjoying hot cross buns with them afterwards (many thanks to Hazel for all the organization). Such a happy day!

Ruth Banger



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

Our Holy Week devotions began on Palm Sunday with members of the congregation that were able to process round the Church, assembling in the forecourt of the Church for Prayers and a Gospel reading.

Carrying their large Palm Crosses and led by the Crucifer, the procession went out on to the path and round the Church, singing "All Glory Lord and Honour" with the loudspeaker system coming into operation just in time.

The Service which was very well attended for the Commemoration of the Lord's entry into Jerusalem, was enhanced by the junior members parading round the Church spreading Palm leaves before Jesus riding on a beautifully made Donkey, the congregation waving wands of coloured streamers making it a very joyous occasion and singing with the Choir "Praise the Lord".

What a difference from the morning celebration was the Sunday afternoon "The Cross of Christ", a quiet solemn service. The Choir in perfect harmony, singing very exacting Anthems, interspersed with readings and time for meditation. Tea and biscuits were served afterwards at the end of the Service.

On Maundy Thursday we gathered together in a circle in the Nave of our Church, The Cross before us in the centre. We shared the Passover feast, with readings and hymns. During a period of silence we placed a pebble on the cairn before the Cross and lit a candle for remembrance. The betrayal of Jesus by Judas giving us a feeling of much sadness as we gathered for the Watch.

For the Good Friday liturgy with much sadness still within us we sat together in the Sanctuary, so close to Christ on the Cross which focused us most profoundly. The readings and hymns tore at our heart strings and we felt with Christ and his depth of despair as he suffered for us. At the end of the Service we were invited to touch the Cross and look up into the face of Christ, say a prayer, and quietly and silently leave the Church.

Easter Sunday saw twelve of us at 6am in the gloom listen to the dawn chorus, gathered round the warming fire from the Brazier and lighting a candle from it. We listened to a reading 'Christ is raised from the empty tomb'. The twelve of us once again followed the Crucifer into Church with our hearts uplifted to Christ. Breakfast was enjoyed by us, as it was by members of the 8 o'clock congregation and several joining us before the 10 o'clock service.

The 10 o'clock Service began with Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!, lifting the hearts of the congregation in the All Age Service and the magic used by David in his talk when he dipped a small badly stained doll into water bringing it out clean, as in Baptism when we were all cleansed from sin.

Easter bonnets made with imagination gave a happy note of pleasure to the congregation.

Thine be the Glory, a new hope, a new beginning for each of us.

Bill & Jeanne

IN THE CHURCH HALL

THE MONDAY CLUB Monday 2.30 - 4pm	Eva Hutson	574070
THE GOOD SHEPHERD CUBS Monday 6.30 - 8pm	Charles Brown	07720 441123
LINE DANCING Tuesday 10.15 - 11.45am	Mrs B Wright	426517
KEEP FIT 50+ GROUP Tuesday 2.30 - 4pm	Mrs V Ford	870711
THE GOOD SHEPHERD RAINBOWS Tuesday 6.15 – 7.15pm	Miss Rachel Marsh	574520
CARERS & SUFFERERS OF DEMENTIA Wednesday 10 – 12 noon	Jo Hughes	0776 6058767
THE 18th & 25th GOOD SHEPHERD BROWNIES Wednesday 6 - 7.15pm	Mrs Pat Marsh	574520
THE CAMERA CLUB Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm	C.N. Hall	350516
GUILDHALL RETIRED MEMBERS CLUB 2 nd Wednesday of the month 2 - 4pm	Yvonne Wisbey	523549
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION 3 rd Wednesday of the month 2.30 - 4.30pm March to November	Mary Glasscock	155 Minerva Way CB4 2TZ
T G W U 4 th Wednesday of the month 2 – 4pm	John Drake	244030
CAMBRIDGE INSTRUMENTS PENSION FELLOWSHIP 3 rd Thursday of the month 10am - noon	Mr Richard Luff	424027
THE GOOD SHEPHERD BEAVERS Thursday 6.15 - 7.15pm	Alan Leader	563233
CHURCH TODDLERS' CLUB Friday 9.15 – 11.30am	Claire Duell	0787 4850867
TAI CHI Friday 2 – 3pm	Mike Tabrett	503390
THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB 1 st Sunday of the month noon – 1.30pm	John & Elizabeth Lamont	565559

TO BOOK THE CHURCH HALL

Please ring 352151
(evenings)