

Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Isa 43:18-19

I am sitting down to write this on the eve of Pentecost, and wondering how to say Goodbye to you all. I love variety, but I find change and letting go very hard. At the moment, I am planning to move to a place where I have no idea of what God is calling me to do. I want to know what is going to happen when I arrive, where we will be settling and what I am supposed to be doing. I don't currently know, and this fact is testing my patience at the moment. It will be easy for me to look back to this place, and remember all of you, and be cross at God for taking me away, from where I was useful and knew what needed doing.

In the context of Pentecost, I wonder how much the disciples felt the same – change was all about them, swirling, unsettling, scary. First Jesus died, which left them grief stricken. Then he rose again, making them confused and overwhelmed. For 40 days they got to see him, and talk to him, so that they could try to understand it all. Then Jesus left them again, and they had another 10 days where they are confused, and scared. The Holy Spirit came at Pentecost, and they were filled with power and grace and love and it was all amazing. Then in a very short time, there was persecution and Christians were scattered around – and God grew the church through that. But that was a lot of change for the disciples – it must have seemed overwhelming at times.

And for many of the great lives in the bible, we read stories of huge change in their lives – moving between countries, from slavery to freedom – or the other way around. Change is part of God's plan for all of us. As one person said, "the only

things that don't change are things that are dead".

We can think of change as a bad thing, but God never calls change bad – we know that God's mercies are new every morning – just like the Israelites in the desert weren't meant to hoard the manna that they collected, but trust God to provide new, fresh food each day, so we look to God to provide us with the new things we need, and the new things that he will call us to do. When the Israelites did not trust God for the new, but hoarded the old, they found it went stale and mouldy – is there a lesson in there for us, I wonder?

I will miss Cambridge, I will miss Arbury, and I will miss you here at Church of the Good Shepherd. At times, I will be grumpy with God for moving us away (I'm good at grumpy!). But ultimately, I know that, however hard it will be, God has new things in store for us, and that they will be good things, things that bring blessing in wilderness and desert.

And, I know that God also has new things in store for you here at COGS. It's too easy to look back and see the old days as the best, but God has new things in store for you too. Will you let go of the old, to have your hands empty and willing to receive the new things that God wants to give you, the new ways that you can be blessed and the new ways that you can bless the neighbourhood of Arbury? That will be my prayer for you, and I ask that you will pray for me and my family to let go of what we're not supposed to hold on to, so that we will be able to take on the new things God wants to give us too. It is okay to grieve for the past, and to cry as you let go, but don't hold on when the time is here to let go.

Love and prayers, and farewell,

Judith

PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Rev. David Maher	351844
Associate Priest	Rev. Judith Gretton-Dann	750013
Assistant Curate	Rev. Mark Osborne	560494
Honorary Curate	Rev. John Polkinghorne	360743
Honorary Curate	Rev. Harry Rose	01954 211553
Licensed Lay Minister	Linda Dean	328658
Licensed Lay Minister	Terry Barringer	424584
Authorised Lay Minister (Admin & Music)	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Authorised Lay Minister (Pastoral Care)	Lilas Davison	354300
Authorised Lay Minister (Social Awareness)	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Community Chaplain	Anastasia Sanders	07467 056296
Churchwarden	Guido Barzini	300497
Churchwarden	John Phillips	502969
PCC Chairman	Rev. David Maher	351844
PCC Vice Chairman	Guido Barzini	300497
PCC Secretary	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
PCC Treasurer	Jinty Keir	572303
PCC Electoral Roll Officer	Terry Barringer	424584
Administrator	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Convenor PCC Buildings and Grounds Team	David Wilson	07899 917831
Convenor PCC Children and Families Team	Judith Gretton-Dann	750013
Convenor PCC Discipleship and Teaching Team	David Maher	351844
Convenor PCC Pastoral Team	Linda Dean	328658
Convenor PCC Social Awareness Team	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Convenor PCC Worship and Music Team	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Altar Linen	Margaret Handley	357970
Children's Society	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Church Hall Bookings	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Coffee Makers	John Phillips	502969
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinator	Ruby Leyshon	352151
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinator	Evelyn Walker	364067
Fund Raising Events Co-ordinator	Paula Carter	07952 919701
Intercessors	John Lamont	565559
Jimmy's Night Shelter	Paula Carter	07952919701
Food Bank	Liz Collinson	01954 251377
Lesson Readers	Rhodri James	357607
Good Shepherd News Editor	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
North Cambridge Area Deanery Synod	Guido Barzini	300497
North Cambridge Council of Churches	David Maher	351844
Rural Development Movement	Henry Disney	359396
Sacristan	Stuart Keir	572303
Safeguarding Officer	Paula Carter	07952 919701
Sound System	David Wilson	07899 917831
Sunday Lunch Club	Jinty Keir	572303
Sunday Lunch Club	Ruth Banger	07764 613862
Welcomers	Fiona Blows	329822

READINGS FOR JULY

Sundays and holy days

- 7 TRINITY 3
Isaiah 66: 10-14
Psalm 66: 1-8
Galatians 6: 7-16
Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20
- 14 TRINITY 4
Deuteronomy 30: 9-14
Psalm 25: 1-10
Colossians 1: 1-14
Luke 10: 25-37
- 21 TRINITY 5
Genesis 18: 1-10
Psalm 15
Colossians 1: 15-28
Luke 10: 38 - end
- 28 TRINITY 6
Genesis 18: 20-32
Psalm 130
Colossians 2: 6-15
Luke 11: 1-13

Weekdays at 9.30am

- 3 HOLY COMMUNION
Habakkuk 2: 1-4
Psalm 31: 1-6
Ephesians 2: 19 - end
John 20: 24-29
- 10 MORNING PRAYER
Genesis 41: 55 – end; 42: 5-7, 17 - end
Matthew 10: 1-7
- 17 HOLY COMMUNION
Exodus 3: 1-6. 9-12
Matthew 11: 25-27



REGULAR SERVICES IN JULY

- Sundays 8.30am Holy Communion
10am Parish Communion
- Wednesdays 9.30am Holy Communion
or Morning Prayer
- Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
Morning Prayer, when said in church, will
be at 9.15.
Second Monday of each month will be set
aside for Staff Prayer.

SUMMER CLOSURE

After the 10am service on Sunday July 21 the church goes into Summer mode. This means there is only a 10am service on Sundays from July 28 up to and including September 1. On Thursdays from August 1 up to and including September 5 there will be coffee and cake from 6pm and Compline at 7pm. There will be no midweek services over the Summer but from July 31 up to and including August 21 there will be our usual Wednesday activities and lunches for local families. And of course the August tradition of music chosen by the congregation.

SPECIAL SERVICES IN JULY

- Sunday July 14** at 10am All Age Parade service
Sunday July 21 at 10am Judith's last service with us

EVENTS IN JULY

- Sunday July 21** Bring and Share Lunch at 12 noon in Hall to say goodbye to Judith, Matt and Simeon



INTERVIEW WITH JOHN POLKINGHORNE

Dave: You are a priest, and a scientist. What area of Science were you involved in?

John: I worked in the area of physics which describes the smallest bit of matter, quarks they are called, out of which the whole universe is made. And they have very remarkable properties. so much so that they enable the whole universe. The universe started as an expanding ball of energy, 'the big bang' as people describe it. It became ordered, structured, stars and planets and so on, then on one planet, perhaps on others, matter even become so organised that the human life evolved there. The way to think about evolution, I think, is the way that Charles Darwin's great Christian friend, Charles Kingsley, said - God could have made a ready made world by just snapping his fingers, but God does something cleverer than that, he made a world which could make itself. God made the universe charged with potentiality and I find that a very profound and helpful thought....

Dave: So God created the world "charged full of potentiality" in order for it to become what it is now?

John: Yes, the universe is endowed with these properties, it's not just any old matter, so to speak! It's a world that has very deep potentialities! Which you and I are an example of!

Dave: So how would you see the Holy Spirits work within that?

John: Always difficult to think about the Holy Spirit, part of the reason for this is where he is, in this deep pattern, which we don't see directly but we learn about through science. The Holy Spirit is the aspect of God, the person of the Trinity, concerned most directly with the forming of the very creative pattern of the universe. The Holy Spirit is at work in creation, and works through Creation itself, the Holy Spirit works in partnership with the matter of creation it's the basis, I think, of the potential order which has been given to the basic structure of the universe.

Dave: So do you see a conflict with science and religion?

John: Not at all no, I think that they compliment each other, the universe that I have been stuttering to describe is a universe which is endowed with a fundamental order and that must come, I think from a mind which is behind it, which is the mind of God. I think it is particularly the Holy Spirit, who is the aspect of the mind of God that we are perceiving in these discussions. But it is complicated and not easy to say these things and understand them.

Dave: Is it OK not to understand everything?

John: Not only OK but unavoidable!!

Dave: That's a relief!

Did you meet much opposition as a scientist for your faith?

John: Well a variety of reactions, there were some people who were bitterly opposed to Christianity, they had a false picture of a sort of dominant God who is a dictator of the universe, that's not the case - God has created the world and he gives it this great gift, that ability to make itself.

Many scientists who think of science as disposing of Christianity, actually are not the fundamental scientists. Those who study the fundamental building blocks of creation see the beautifully balanced finely tuned structure of the world, with these creative properties. The more you look at it the more it looks like there is some vast creative mind behind it, which I see being the Holy Spirit.

Dave I mentioned last Sunday about Brian Cox, of whom I am a big fan, but I often get frustrated because he talks about the finely tuned aspect of the nature and the design of the universe and how it's all in balance behind but he never allows himself to take that step and talk about God.

John: Yes I think that's connected to the fact a lot of people just don't want there to be a God. They think if there is a God somewhere or other brooding over us then I am not free. In fact, of course, God's will is freedom. The world making itself is part of the gift of God's freedom but they don't see that, and that's a pity!

Dave: As a scientist were you happy to accept the wonder, because sometimes with science it can be presented as a way of finding facts and answers.

John: My experience as a scientist, which I think many fellow scientist would agree with, is the more we understand the world the more remarkable that it seems. Therefore I think those who work in fundamental physics, basic structure of the world, are more inclined to wonder than those who work in science on a more day to day level.

Mark: Do you think that God is sustaining creation, continuously, so, if he stopped, everything would disappear - if he so chose?

John: The Holy Spirit sustains creation, continuously. It is endowed it with organisation and fruitfulness. If you think about God's relationship with the world, there are two extreme views which seem to me to be unacceptable to anyone who believes in the Christian God of love. One is the idea that God that simply sets the world rolling, says, get on with it, and stands back and says 'let's see what is going to happen'. That's an indifferent God, a stand back God, that can't be the God of love. Equally God can't be a cosmic dictator who's says, this, this, this and this because the gift of love is the gift of the appropriate degree of freedom.

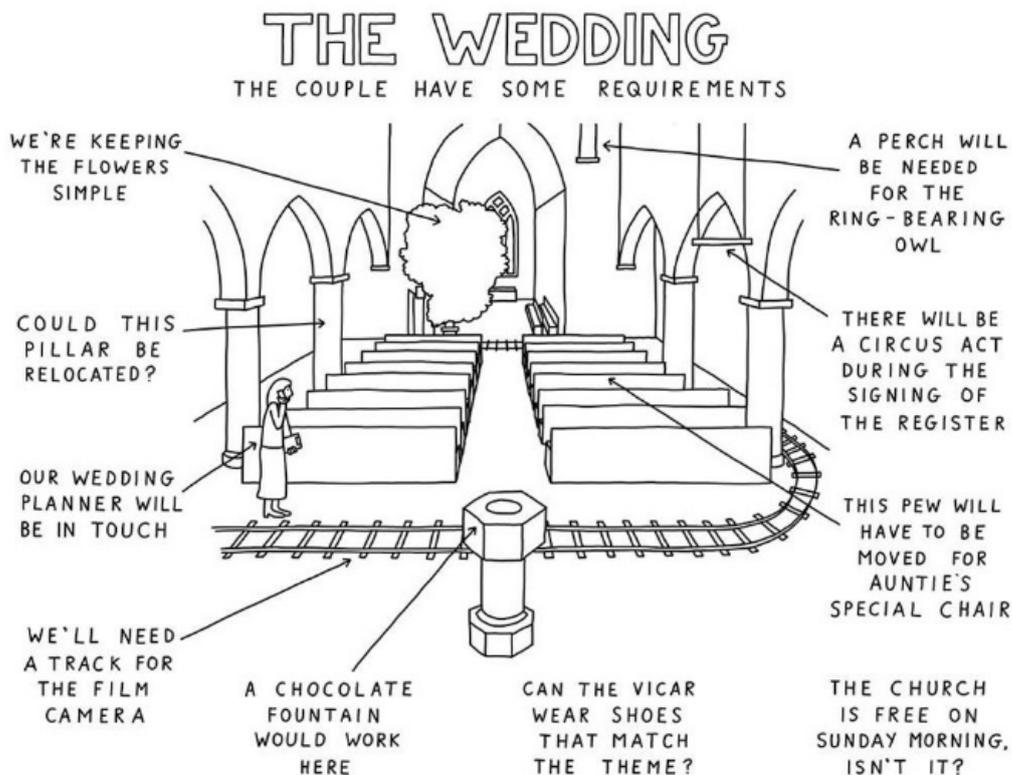


OUT OF HAND?

(First published in 2012 in Henry Disney's
"Teach us of Love" Pneuma Springs Publishing)

The joy of winners knows no bounds.
Olympic medals won adorn
Their chests as anthems play and scores
Ascend on board. There's some who scorn
The ballyhoo, rejecting claim
It fosters friendships, trumpets peace:
Apart from boosting country's name
Proclaimed by winners' flags. Increase
In nation's pride is suspect cause,
Along with pleasure when a long
Established foe is seen to lose!
Forget the sounds of national song,
It's lift to self belief that lasts
Beyond the media hype. But when,
As bonus, winner's name appears
In Honour's List, along with ten
Retiring civil servants, clutch

Of quango chairmen, brace of tired
And passé ministers of state,
And rest, it's then that I'm inspired
To advocate it's time to pull
The rug from under all this farce
Of adulation out of hand.
Esteem's enough, when cash is sparse
For most of those who join in cheers.
But media spin corrupts as queue
Of sponsors grows. Too soon the glow
Will fade as greed, and gossip few
Escape, becomes the latest news.
Or else their record's smashed before
A year has passed, and they are soon
Forgot, no longer held in awe.



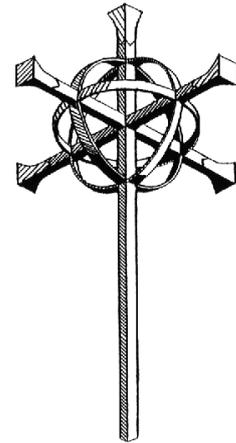
This is the wedding season and most of this will be horribly
familiar

(Image is reproduced with permission)

IN THE CHURCH HALL (to book call 352151 (evenings))

THE SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB 1 st Sunday of the month noon – 1.30pm	Jinty Keir	572303
RED HEN Monday 8.15 – 11am	Christine O'Reilly	0781 6444439
SANG Monday 10– 11.30 (meets in Haven in Church)	Anastasia Sanders	07467 956296
THE MONDAY CLUB Monday 2.00 – 3.30pm	Ruby Leyshon	352151
THE GOOD SHEPHERD CUBS Monday 6.30 - 8pm	Charles Brown	07720 441123
LINE DANCING Tuesday 10am-12 noon	Deborah Walker	01954 231382
KEEP FIT 50+ GROUP Tuesday 2.30 - 4pm	Margaret Briggs	01954 250870
THE GOOD SHEPHERD RAINBOWS Tuesday 6.15 – 7.15pm	Miss Rachel Marsh	574520
DOG TRAINING CLASSES Tuesday 7.30 - 9.30pm	Susannah O'Hanlon	235281
THE 18th & 25th GOOD SHEPHERD BROWNIES Wednesday 6 - 7.15pm	Mrs Pat Marsh	574520
PILATES Thursday 12.40-1.40	Lexi	367639
TAI CHI Thursday 1.40-2.40	Lexi	367639
THE GOOD SHEPHERD BEAVERS Thursday 6.15 - 7.30pm	Emma Roberts	426043
THE GOOD SHEPHERD SCOUTS Thursday 7.30 – 9.00pm	Chris White	0700 891511
CHURCH TODDLERS' CLUB Friday 9.15 – 11.30am	Claire Duell	0787 4850867
TAI CHI Friday 2 – 3pm	Mike Tabrett	503390

**Submission date for
September Newsletter:
August 11
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CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Here at the Good Shepherd we like to help you to celebrate and commemorate many of the milestones on the journey through life; these include weddings, anniversaries, funerals, and baptism services.

If you wish to find out more about these, the first step is to contact the Vicar, the Reverend David Maher. He will be able to tell you what is involved and arrange for a meeting with you if you then wish to take things further.

He can be contacted on 01223 351844

Church website: www.churchofthegoodshepherd.co.uk

