



Tanya White

Letter from the Editor Easter Greetings to everyone and welcome to our April Link magazine.

I hope that everyone is keeping well.

Inside this month:

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See what details and events you can discover and enjoy our magazine,
regards from **Tanya**



PLEASE NOTE Link Deadline—

All copy for the May 2020 edition of
The Link must be with me, Tanya White, by 7th April 2020.

Copy may be sent to tanya_white58@hotmail.co.uk

or posted to: Tanya White, Rockymead, Coleford Road, Tutshill,
Chepstow, NP16 7BU (01291 623169)



From the Vicar

Vicar David Writes...



Vicar
Revd David Treharne

Why is Good Friday good?

As Jesus was crucified on that Cross with all its agony, humiliation, abandonment and horror it hardly seems good! When Jesus said "It is finished" bowing his head and handing over his spirit (John 19:30), was that the good bit? Was the 'good' bit the release from the torment?

At that moment of death, at the moment he said "It is finished," Jesus had completed his mission to save the world from sin and eternal death. The dividing wall that had separated us from God was smashed to pieces. Our separation from God was/is truly finished! Now we can confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy (Hebrews 4:16). The blood that flowed from Jesus' body is the blood that continues to wash us clean from all sin and its effects "once for all" (Hebrews 10:10). That's why it is Good Friday!

Yes, yes, yes... BUT...

How confident are you of God's mercy? Do you ever wonder how God could forgive you and your sins? Did you feel like the exception to the rule, the one who surely can't be forgiven, the one who is condemned for eternity?

Bishop Rachel...

When Bishop Rachel came to the Parish back on 1 March (what a splendid day) she engaged in an absorbing Question and Answer session after lunch together. The question, submitted by one of the young people, which provided the longest discussion and several supplementary questions, was on the subject of forgiveness. It is pretty clear there are many of us who struggle to know, or rather accept, God's mercy and forgiveness and struggle to forgive ourselves as well as others.





Good Friday is good because it is the day when mercy and forgiveness was eternally poured out!

“But surely God’s mercy has limits?” “Surely God can’t forgive a sin that we commit over and over again?” “What about that Bible passage in Hebrews which says that if we keep on sinning there’ll be no sacrifice for sins left (Hebrews 10:26)? Oh how we allow guilt and shame and the voice of Satan to bind us and hold us from the glorious release and freedom that Christ has won for us through his death on the Cross and his glorious resurrection! Oh how loud the voice of guilt can be! It is incredible the lengths we go to in order to justify guilt and unforgiveness and in so doing deprive the Cross of its power!

The lengths God has gone to for you...

God in Christ Jesus goes to unimaginable lengths to assure us that we will always receive his mercy when we approach him. God the Father sent his only begotten Son, his Beloved, to become what we are in order that we might become what he is! He came to where we are in order that we might go to be where he is. That’s how much he loves us. That’s how much he desires to forgive us. That’s why Good Friday is so good!

As we focus on the Cross this Lent, Holy Week and particularly on Good Friday remember that God’s mercy is for YOU and is truly limitless. Hold the Cross literally in your hand and receive the mercy of God, then hold the Cross in your heart and mind day after day. Never believe that the pain and suffering that Jesus endured was not enough to save you. Never think that the blood that flowed from his side was for everyone but you. Never let ANY sin stand between you and the Lord. For by his Holy Cross he has redeemed the world... and that includes YOU.

May you and I know the power of the Cross and resurrection of Jesus!

Happy Easter

David



**Your Priest and Vicar
Revd David Treharne**

*Vicar of Tidenham
with Beachley and Lancout
and Priest in Charge of St Briavels with
Hewelsfield & Brockweir*



Coronavirus

I write this article as concern is spreading about the Coronavirus. As things stand fear and panic is rising and we are all unsure how things will unfold.

What should churches do at this stage?

Parishes are receiving advice and guidance on what to do. The advice and guidance is being updated frequently so I am not going to issue any detailed guidance here as it is highly likely to be out of date. However there are some things to draw attention to at this time or any other time.

✚ **Anyone with cold or flu symptoms should refrain from taking communion from the Chalice/Cup** and receive the wafer/bread/host on the hand only.

✚ **Intinction (dipping the bread in the wine) is NOT recommended**, as it is a route for transmission from the individual through handling the wafer/bread/host, and tiny fragments could affect people with allergies to gluten etc.

✚ The **placing of the wafer/host on the tongue** by anyone administering Eucharist is **NOT recommended** as it is a potential source of transmission.

✚ Ensure **ministers of the Eucharist sanitise their hands** before and after distributing communion. This can be done by washing hands thoroughly (for 20 seconds at least with soap and water) or using good quality hand gel. I have been doing this since my Kathy was on chemotherapy.

✚ When **visiting parishioners at home**, wash hands before and after giving the sacraments.

The Diocese of Gloucester is following current government advice and guidance for parishes issued by the national Church of England office.





Geoff Mead, Church Cottage. A heart-warming end to the story!

Back in December one of our parishioners, Geoff Mead of Church Cottage in Tidenham, died suddenly.

Geoff was an only child, didn't marry and had no children. In latter years Geoff because of living on his own, self-sufficiency and failing health did become increasingly isolated. Therefore when he died I did have some concern that there would not be many in attendance at his funeral.

This concern deepened as it took some time to trace extended family and there was talk of the Coroner's Office arranging a funeral away from the Parish which he loved. This would have been a great shame as Geoff loved Tidenham Parish. His parents were buried in Tidenham churchyard and for many years Geoff wound the church clock as did his father before him. Geoff only attended Tidenham Church services occasionally but he was very supportive of the church and did profess the Christian faith. Geoff was instrumental in enabling the disabled access path to be built between his garage and the churchyard wall, for which many will be grateful. Therefore to not have Geoff's funeral and sacred remains buried near his beloved home and church and parish would have been sad.

To cut a long and zigzagging story short, a funeral was eventually arranged to take place at Tidenham. It took 11 weeks but we got there in the end. I turned up at St Mary & St Peter's on Monday, 2nd March expecting a small gathering. Instead around 50 people were in attendance to give thanks for the life of Geoff and commend him to the Lord.

I was a little emotional as the service began as I was so proud to be a part of this Parish of Tidenham. Yes, a number of family had been traced and made the journey to the funeral which was fantastic, however a good number of the congregation were people from Tidenham Parish. They were people who looked in on Geoff, kept in touch with him and assisted him with the practicalities of shopping and other matters. They were/are truly good neighbours who at that funeral reminded me of the power and beauty of what it means to be community! The song lyric asks "When I needed a neighbour, were you there, were you there?" The answer in Geoff's case is "yes, we're here!"

Lord, continue to teach us what it means to be community.

Amen!



11, King Alfred's Road, Sedbury
NP16 7AG,
e-mail: info@sedburyspace.org.uk



Regular Groups and Activities

Monday 3.30-4.30pm - Homework Club (in term time)

Tuesday 9-9.30am - Morning Prayer

10am-12pm - One Stop Café

12.45-3pm - Gentle exercise class (in the Village Hall)

Wednesday 2-3.30pm - Memory Café (1st of month in the Village Hall)

11.30am-9.30pm - The Well (2nd of month)

2-3.30pm - Shared Reading Group (last of month)

7.30-9.00pm - Life Group

Thursday 11am-12pm - Health Walkers Café

7.30-9.30pm - Board Games Café (occasional)

Friday 10am - Happy Crafters

*Please check days and times as
sometimes plans may change*



A whole new way of doing & being church!

2nd Wednesday of each month,
11.30am - 9.30pm. Drop-in any time

At Sedbury Space,

11 King Alfred's Rd

For more info contact:

Rev'd Janice Hamilton

626158, 07749 130323,

janice-hamilton@outlook.com

Come, all who are thirsty!

Check out our website:

www.sedburyspace.org.uk

Designed, built and hosted by Primebox



Crowdfunding appeal for Sedbury Space Centre Manager

We're raising money to recruit a part time Centre Manager to embed and sustain the good work achieved to date and to develop and increase capacity of what we can offer for the good of the whole community.

We are taking part in the Aviva Crowdfunding campaign.

Our target is £3000

Please support us....

Go to:

www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/sedbury-space-centre-manager

to make your pledge before 20th April 2020

You can also benefit from some great rewards.

Thanks to St Pierre Golf Course and Chepstow Racecourse for their generosity and thanks to Alex White Multimusic for the production of the promotional video and composition and performance of music

If you don't do online payments but would still like to make a contribution please contact Janice



Greeting people at the door after Easter services, Pastor Jane was delighted to shake hands with "Seldom-Seen" Steve, and even more delighted when he complimented her on her sermon and said service was "amazing." Faced with such evidence of faithfulness, she asked why he didn't come to church more often.

"I'm just following the Lord's example," he said. "If Christ can rise up early only one Sunday a year, that's good enough for me, too!"



Bullet Point News

† **Children's Society**

Congratulations on raising over £670 for the Children's Society through the Christingle collection and the collection boxes! If you would like a box to collect loose change then please contact Jane Penny cfmtidenham@btinternet.com .

† **Want to be confirmed?**

Bishop Robert is coming to the Parish on 13 September 2020 for a confirmation service. If you would like to be confirmed then please contact Vicar David as soon as possible. DTRevd@aol.com .

If you don't know what confirmation is then you are not alone. Briefly and simply it is when someone owns and takes on for themselves (confirms) the baptismal promises that were made for them when they were too young to make them for themselves.

† **Are You New to the Parish? ...**

Welcome to the Parish if you are new to the area! If you would like to find out more about what goes on we'd be delighted to welcome you and talk about how you might be involved or how we as a church family can support you. Please feel free to make contact with any of the relevant individuals on the notice boards or those listed on the inside cover of this magazine.

† **Thinking about Baptism/Christening or a Wedding in church?**

Many congratulations if you're at this stage of life!

For weddings visit <https://www.yourchurchwedding.org/>

For baptisms/christenings visit <https://churchofenglandchristenings.org/>

Here in Tidenham Parish we'd be delighted to explore baptism and/or marriage with you but do try and get in touch with us sooner rather than later as diaries fill up.

With regard to baptism/christening there is necessary preparation to prepare parents (and godparents) for baptism. The vicar also looks for families to attend church before a baptism is booked! Please note there are usually no weddings during the seasons of Lent and Advent

† **Is God calling you?**

All of us reflect on the purpose of our lives at some point. Part of this reflection can lead us to having a sense of being called to do something particular in or with our lives. May the Holy Spirit lead you to respond to what the Lord may require of you. Please do not hesitate to speak with someone at church about this. It is quite normal and remember, God can use any of us he chooses!



† **Illness/Hospitalisation**

We would like to remind parishioners (church and non-church goers alike) that they should not hesitate to contact the Pastoral Visiting Team, especially in cases of illness and hospitalisation.

We will try our best to respond but can only respond if the information has come our way.

Please contact the vicar Reverend David Treharne, Tel: 01291 760034 or Julia Parsons, Tel: 01291 622163.

Chaplains at various hospitals can be contacted, home visits arranged and anointing with oil/prayers for healing offered. If nothing else vital prayers can be offered for those in need.

† **Legacy**

Have you made a will? If not, why not seriously think about leaving a legacy to the parish and help extend God's kingdom in this place. That would be a great legacy!

† **GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation)**

Following a change in the law in May 2018 the Parish of Tidenham has been addressing GDPR. We are committed to taking your right to privacy very seriously. Therefore if you are in receipt of email communications from the Parish, or would like to be, then you can change how you receive communications. Please contact admin@tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk

To see our privacy statement visit:

<https://www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk/privacy-policy/>

† **Churchyards:**

A reminder to all those who tend and care for churchyard plots. Our churchyards are very special spaces for remembering loved ones who have died. Therefore out of respect for **all** mourners please remember that grave-areas **should conform** to the churchyard regulations. This allows for peaceful use and trouble-free maintenance throughout the churchyard. The Parochial Church Council kindly asks that no extraneous additions (stones, plastic flowers, ornaments and statuary, plants, trees, vases, kerb-edging, etc.) are placed in or around graves. Thank you.

† **Parish Website Address**

<http://www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk/>

The calendar is now more up to date!





*Tanya's Link Prize Challenge
Easter Greetings & Welcome to everyone*

Welcome to our Wordsearch puzzle.

This Easter Wordsearch puzzle time I have included words from a great Easter hymn by Michael Saward:

***“Christ Triumphant, ever reigning”
Saviour, Master, King,
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
Hear us as we sing:
Yours the glory and the crown,
The high renown, the eternal name.”***

There are 35 words to locate. See what you can find.

Once you have completed this, gather the remaining letters in order to spell out the answer to the puzzle, please send this to me: Tanya White, at Rockymead, Coleford Road, Tutshill, NP16 7BU (e-mail: tanya_white58@hotmail.co.uk) to be in with a chance winning the prize!

CHRIST	HUMBLE	REIGNING
CROSS	HYMNS	RENOWN
CROWN	INCARNATE	SAVIOUR
CRUCIFIED	JUSTIFIED	SERVANT
ENTHRONED	KING	SIN
ETERNAL	LORD	SON
EVER	LOVE	SONG
GLORY	MAJESTY	SUFFERING
HEARTS	MAN	SUSTAINING
HEAVEN	MASTER	TRIUMPHANT
HIGH	NAME	VOICES
12	POWER	WORD



T L O R D D E I F I T S U J
C R U C I F I E D G L O R Y
G N I N G I E R N H I G H R
S H S U S T A I N I N G T E
A G Y T M S K M A N C N R N
V L N M S P C S T R A E H O
I U A O N T H H E V R N M W
O R R N S S R A R M N I A N
U C W O R D I E N E A S J N
R V O I C E S V T T T N E N
D E N O R H T N E S E V S W
E O R E W O P E A V A L T O
S U F F E R I N G E O M Y R
R E V E L B M U H I N L G C



In our February Link we started our Wordsearch New Year celebrating **JEWELS** including **RUBY, DIAMOND and SAPPHIRE**, with a total of 35 precious words. I'm glad that many people spotted that I miss-spelt "**CANRNELIAN**" rather than "**CARNELIAN**" on the bottom line of the puzzle, but I still received 8 correct entries! When the remaining letters were gathered in order this gave the answer: "**BANGLE, BRACELET, BROOCH and CROWN**". Thank you all for your entries and well done for rising above the confusion that I may have caused! A special well done to the first out of my hat this time, **Kay Hillier** of Tutshill. So please enjoy this puzzle and even enter the competition, it does help me to keep going with my puzzle setting, and you may even win!



The Larks

On Saturday 7th March an audience of about 70 people was entertained splendidly by Larks Community Singers' Concert, in a performance raising funds for Chepstow Mencap and the 3 churches in the Tidenham parish.

The 20 singers had been together as a group for about a year, meeting at The Green Man, and St Luke's church was privileged to be the venue for their very first public performance. They were under the leadership of their conductor and accompanist Ben England who introduced the various pieces with entertaining enthusiasm and humour.

They performed a very wide range of material which appealed to all tastes and ages including foot-tapping jazz by Nat King Cole, a medley of War songs which the audience joined in with, and a lullaby from "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang".

In between, the soloist Sue Skinner sang a delightful folk song by Sandy Denny of Fairport Convention and Glyn Jones a Welsh language piece "I'll Send a Guardian Angel". The second half had a particularly unexpected and special moment after Nina Simone's "How it Feels to be Free" when Lyn Smith sang, unaccompanied, Puccini's "Oh Mio Bambino Caro". St Luke's acoustics lent themselves beautifully to the purity of sound.

"The Down to the River to Pray" from the 2000 film *Oh Brother Where Art Thou* saw a complete change once again as did the trumpeter and jazz singer Steve Smith's solo "Georgia". The finale of the concert was a rousing rendition of "Hey Jude" followed by "One Day Like This".

Chepstow Mencap is hoping to move into their new building at the Old Board School by the beginning of June with the help of a £500,000 Lottery bid and a vast amount of fundraising totalling £1.2 million for the project. It was a pleasure to welcome Mencap representatives and their guests to St Luke's with the Larks Singers. We all look forward to a return visit.

Finally credit must be given to the folk who provided excellent refreshments, organised and donated to the raffle, and last but not least Nicholette who, as ever, made sure everything ran smoothly.



Coffee Morning and Collection Box Opening

Well done and THANK YOU to all who have collected over the past year. So far your generosity has raised over £650 for The Children's Society.



Supporters enjoy coffee, cake and a natter!

Thank you to all who supported the morning by counting money, attending, making cakes and giving a warm welcome.



Lisa and Susan counting some of the 911 pennies, several foreign coins, a button and even a battery!

Every penny really does count and makes a difference in the lives of vulnerable children and young people in the U.K.

There are still some boxes to collect in and count so a final total will be given later in the year. If you would like to have a collecting box then please contact Susan Riordan: sdriordan@aol.com 07742 673394



News from our Parish Schools



Wyedean

School and Sixth Form Centre

Aspire together, achieve together
adfecere pariter, perfecere pariter

Wyedean School & Sixth Form College

A huge well done for year 7 students who volunteered to take part in our second local community clean up on 10th March, their dedication and behaviour was exemplary.

For an hour students went to two local parks and a variety of green spaces to assess the area and clean rubbish.

Our local community engagement officer-Leah provided equipment and guided us to areas of most concern. Students found a range of litter from plastics to bottles.

Students will be reflecting on their experiences in forms. Many had stating that they enjoyed the activity and found it had a positive impact on themselves and on the local wildlife.

This initiative will be repeated in May in Tutshill as we feel it is important to look after our community and teach our students the importance of recycling and reducing our plastic waste.



*Miss Barbato
Teacher of History and Humanities / Eco
Coordinator*



Wyedean School – 01291 636180



ST JOHN'S ON THE HILL Chepstow Fairtrade Assembly



St John's on-the-Hill School welcomed members from the Chepstow Fairtrade Forum for a special assembly on Thursday 27th February.

Tanya White, Chair of Chepstow Fairtrade Forum, Jan Koning, Chair of Tidenham Parish Council, Julia Parsons, Chepstow Fairtrade Forum, Cynthia Giles, Chepstow Fairtrade Forum, and John Giles, photographer, visited the school to speak to the children about the importance of Fairtrade. The Forum is promoting community initiatives as part of Fairtrade Fortnight and works to maintain Chepstow's status as a Fairtrade Town.

They presented three pupils with awards for winning places in the Forum's Fairtrade poster competition. Eddie Hillman and Mali Price received highly commended certificates and winner, Alfie Denning, received a certificate and a Bala Sport Fairtrade football. St John's was delighted to also receive a football for all the children to enjoy.



< *Picture of Jan Koning presenting to winner Alfie Denning*

**St John's on the Hill School
01291 622045**



Tutshill Church of England Primary School

This Easter, the School's Worship Club will be planning and delivering their own Easter service. They are looking forward to showing how the disciples showed different values within their friendship with Jesus. The Church team have been invited to attend and share this special celebration with the school. As the children do each year at Tutshill, each class will have time to reflect upon the sacrifice Jesus made for the world by giving thanks and celebrating throughout the week.

Tutshill School – 01291 622593



I love Climbing a Tree



War Memorial Hall, Coleford Road, Tutshill, Chepstow NP16 7BN

01291 629134

Tutshill Community Pre-School



Bishop Rachel visited Pre-School on 2.3.20 and joined us at Nature School within the grounds of Tutshill School. We had a gloriously sunny morning and she was very interested in talking with the children and watched them climbing trees, balancing on tree trunks and building creations with logs. Bishop Rachel was also able to listen to a story that one of the children had made up, that was written and then read out by a teacher. While the story was being read other children acted it out.

The Pre-school teachers can really see the value of giving the children space to learn outdoors, and we felt supported in that by Bishop Rachel joining us in the field, and being interested in the learning taking place there.





TUTSHILL SCARECROW TRAIL
28th March to 17th April 2020



**CHILDREN'S BOOKS AND
STORIES**

Buy your Trail from Lifestyle Express
Refreshments available in St Luke's Church
Sundays/Mondays 2-4pm

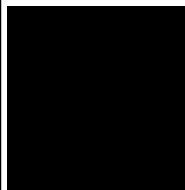
Results Show: Saturday 18th April
2.30-4pm
St Luke's Church, Coleford Road, Tutshill, NP16 7BN

Proceeds to Tidenham Parish Church
10% to SARA (Severn Area Rescue) & 10% to Winston's Wish
SARA - specialist marine and land search rescue service for
Gloucestershire, Hereford & Worcestershire and Gwent
www.sara-rescue.org.uk

Winston's Wish supports bereaved children, young people,
their families and the professionals who support them.
www.winstonswish.org

We are excited to be working in Wyedean Secondary School.
Ethan, our Parish Youth Coordinator will be there once a week,
holding 2 different alternating groups:

one week will be a Christian Union
and the other will be a Pastoral Chill Space
for the young people to just hang out...
Please keep these in your prayers.





Life Groups

As well as services there are various opportunities for Christians to meet together in small groups to grow in faith & support one another. All welcome.

LIFE GROUP	DATE TIME	NAME & LOCATION	CONTACT NO'S	DETAILS OF GROUP
BIBLE STUDY	TUES Afternoon 12.30pm to 2pm	Julia Parsons Or Beryl Healey The Old Bakery, Woodcroft	Julia 622163 Or Beryl 625551	Small friendly group not afraid to take on questions raised by the Bible.
FOOD FOR THOUGHT	WED Morning 10.30am to 12 pm	Steven Shaw TOAST (Live & Let Live) Tutshill	Steven 07934 436936	Always light and informal to encourage openness and authenticity on what can be difficult subjects.
SEDBURY SPACE	WED Evening 7.30-9.00 pm	Janice Hamilton	Janice 01291 626158	Sedbury Space
REFRESHMENT ROOM	WED Evening 7.30pm for 8.00pm start	Fiona Gardiner Elm House Woodcroft	Fiona 01291 624868	We will aim to go deeper with God, to support one another in prayer and in practice and to have fun.
WELCOME	THUR 1.30-3pm	Jane Penny Rockymead, Tutshill	Jane or Tanya 01291 623169	Exploring faith through worship, prayer and discussion. Spirit-led, Bible based time of fellowship,
DISTRACTION	Meeting Once every 4 – 6 weeks	Contact Steven Shaw for venue	Steven 07934 436936	Informal gathering. A chance for children to meet & play and parents talk about life and faith.





Folk Club

St Luke's Church



Saturday, 9th May 2020

6 - 8.15pm (doors open 5.30pm)

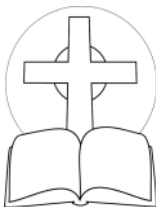
Refreshments

Contact Steven & Jenny Shaw
(07474 608797)
or Bill & Tanya White
(01291 623169)



Jesus told them another parable:
"The kingdom of heaven is like
a mustard seed, which a man
took and planted in his field.
Though it is the smallest of all
your seeds, yet when it grows, it
is the largest of garden plants
and becomes a tree, so that the
birds of the air come
and perch in its
branches."

Matthew 13: 31-32



Sewing
Group

meets most weeks
at 10.30 am
on Tuesday mornings
venue may vary
contact
Judith Wells for
information
(01291) 624678



The Friends of Tidenham Church are getting ready for **FLOWER FESTIVAL 2020**

**Dates for the Festival:
Saturday, 11th July until Friday, 17th July**

**This year's theme is
Stories from the Bible
(this can be from the
Old or New Testament)**

**Anyone interested, please chose your title
and contact
Anne Martin (01291) 627800**



TIDENHAM FRIENDS AGM

The Tidenham Friends held their AGM in the Parish Church on the 12th March. Possibly due to Coronavirus the attendance was only 21.

Reverend David opened the meeting and Peter Gilchrist Chaired the remainder of the evening.

Peter updated everyone on what had been achieved since the last AGM, namely finishing the lighting for the car park, putting in the ramp for the wheelchair access and contributing to the under-seat heating. After the formalities Peter briefed on the plans for the re-organisation and the repairs to the Tower which were of great interest.

Following the meeting there was cheese and wine and an opportunity for the Friends to look over the plans and ask questions.





MUSICAL DIRECTOR: GRAHAM BULL
*CCS is affiliated to Ty Cerdd & Making Music, and is a
Registered Charity (no. 112798)*
www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk

CHEPSTOW CHORAL SOCIETY IN 2020

CCS are now rehearsing for their **SATURDAY APRIL 4th concert** which marks a breakthrough change for the Society as a whole.

We will be performing **Will Todd's Mass in Blue** - the first time this work has been performed in Chepstow, The work is an exciting mix of jazz and the traditional Mass liturgy. Composed in 2003, it is increasingly being programmed by choral societies, as we all realise that we cannot "stand still"! We now have to look at what the 21st (and late 20th!) centuries are producing in choral music, as well as continuing with the great music produced in previous centuries!

We shall be also performing a truly delightful set of five songs set to words by William Blake –**Bob Chilcott's Jazz Songs of Innocence** (2011) for female voices, and the third item on this programme is an absolutely beautiful 11-minute setting of the Mass - **William Lloyd Webber's Missa Princeps Pacis** (1963)

The instrumental ensemble for this exciting programme will consist of a Jazz Trio, and Jazz Soprano from the RWCMD, along with piano performed by the Society's accompanist Richard Kubiak

This WILL be a programme for all. Our choir, used to performing conventional choral classics, are rising to this challenge with real vigour and plenty of enjoyment! Please come and support them!

SATURDAY APRIL 4th, St Mary's Priory Church, 7.30pm

Tickets will be available from Chepstow Bookshop, £12, students and u/18s free – for further information, contact 623310, or our website.

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS – WHY NOT GIVE US A TRY ?

Tel. 623310, Marjorie, for info concerning singing membership, or view our website (www.chepstowchoralsociety.org.uk)

This is a good time to be a member of CCS! – we are YOUR local choral society – but can only exist with YOUR support!

Thank you. On behalf of CCS - Marjorie Duerden



Some Dates for your Diary

Lent, Holy Week & Easter

Lent Midweek Communion

Throughout Lent there will be a morning service of Holy Communion, 10:15am at St Luke’s, Tutshill.
25 March plus 1 & 8 April

Holy Week

Palm Sunday 5 April 9am Tidenham

Holy Communion and reading of the Passion

10.45am Palm Sunday Procession

Meet at 10.30am at Tidenham War Memorial Hall for procession to St Luke’s Church with Breeze the donkey for the service to start at 10.45am.

6pm Tidenham Chase

A Special Passiontide service

Wednesday 8 April 10.15am St Luke’s, Tutshill. Healing Eucharist
11am-9pm ‘The Well’ at Sedbury Space

Maundy Thursday 9 April 7.30pm. St Luke’s Tutshill. Passover Meal

Good Friday 10 April 10am. Children’s service at St Luke’s Tutshill
Hot cross buns will be available!

12-3pm Good Friday Devotions
(starting every 30 minutes) at St Luke’s, Tutshill

Holy Saturday 11 April Film Evening at Sedbury Space
9pm. Tidenham Church. Easter Vigil service

Easter Sunday 12 April 2020

9.00am St Mary and St Peter Church, Tidenham.
Holy Communion

10.45am Tutshill School, Tutshill.
Family Communion

**6pm St Michael & All Angels Church,
Tidenham Chase.** BCP Holy Communion





Scarecrow Trail 2020

Dates are: Saturday 28th March to Friday 17th April
Results Show in St Luke's on Saturday 18th April: 2:30
-4pm

Refreshments to be provided in St Luke's from 2-4pm on:

Sunday 29th March
Monday 30th March
Sunday 5th April
Monday 6th April
Sunday 12th April
Monday 13th April

Some other things...

- Youth & Children's Provision including Family Fun Day no longer in June... probably September 2020
- Life Groups
- Spring Harvest. Monday 13-Friday 17 April
- Parish Quiet Day with Revd Ian Bussell at Ty Mawr Saturday 16 May
- David Rees to be ordained priest at Gloucester Cathedral, 3pm on Saturday 27 June
- Nicki Bullivant to be ordained deacon at Gloucester Cathedral, 10.15am on Sunday 28 June
- Parish celebration in the afternoon for Nicki and David on Sunday 5 July
- Tidenham Flower Festival 11-18 July
- Confirmation service with Bishop Robert 13 September at 10.45am.
If you would like to be confirmed by the Bishop then please speak to David sooner rather than later.



Some Easter Quotes...

God proved His love on the Cross.
When Christ hung, and bled, and died,
it was God saying to the world,
'I love you.'
Billy Graham

A man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act.
Mahatma Gandhi

Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song.
Pope John Paul II



The Bible tells us that Jesus Christ came to do three things. He came to have my past forgiven, you get a purpose for living and a home in Heaven.
Rick Warren

We are told to let our light shine, and if it does, we won't need to tell anybody it does. Lighthouses don't fire cannons to call attention to their shining - they just shine.
Dwight L. Moody



Love always involves responsibility, and love always involves sacrifice. And we do not really love Christ unless we are prepared to face His task and to take up His Cross.
William Barclay



To a Christian, Easter Sunday means everything, when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
Bernhard Langer

What did our Lord do by his Passion, Death, and Resurrection? He bridged that gulf which exists between God and man, a gulf which can only be bridged by him.
Basil Hume





From the Registers



Holy Baptism

Beatrix Joan Angela GINNEVER

Sunday, 23rd February 2020

St Mary & St Peter's Church, Tidenham

Funerals & Burials

John Eric BOWEN (88)

Wednesday, 12th February 2020

Service at St Luke's Church, Tutshill

Committal Service at Forest Crematorium

Rosemary McKENNA (73)

Friday, 14th February 2020

Burial at St Michael & All Angels, Tidenham Chase

Geoff MEAD

Monday, 2nd March 2020

Service at St Mary & St Peter's Church, Tidenham

Committal Service at Forest Crematorium

June Marjorie TAGG (89)

Saturday, 7th March 2020

Burial at St Michael & All Angels. Tidenham Chase

Further register entries will appear in the May 2020 edition of the Link



Singing Together

@ St Luke's

For everyone with Dementia & their Carers
& anyone who would enjoy time to sing together

On Mondays in April (NOT 6th or 13th)

Singing Together on 20th & 27th April

Singing at 10.30am followed by refreshments

Finish by 12.00 noon

Helpers & singers welcomed, contact Tanya White (01291 623169)



OTHER EVENTS IN THE PARISH OF TIDENHAM

MONDAY each week <i>(except bank holidays)</i>	9.30 am	Morning Prayer	Tidenham
MONDAY each week <i>(except bank holidays)</i>	10.30 am	Singing Together	Tutshill
TUESDAY each term time week	9.30 am	Parish Toddler Group	Tutshill Memorial Hall
TUESDAY each week	10.30 am	Sewing Group	Various venues Contact Judith Wells 01291 624678
WEDNESDAY each week	9.15 am	Contemplative Prayer	Tutshill
WEDNESDAY first in month	10.15 am	Healing Eucharist	Tutshill
WEDNESDAY each term time week	9.30 am	Parish Toddler Group	Sedbury Village Hall
THURSDAY second in month	12.15 pm	Parish Lunch	Woodcroft Centre
FRIDAY each term time Week	9.15 am	Tutshill School Assembly	Tutshill



Highlights from PCC meeting on 4th March 2020

PCC members:-

- approved the Trustees Report and Annual Accounts for 2019
- reviewed and approved the revised Health & Safety Policies, fire risk assessments and church evacuation plans for each church
- discussed the issues for the Parish Ministry day: what is flourishing? what is frustrating? what are the priorities for the future?
- agreed the way forward to fully reinstate St Luke's room following the autumn water damage



If you are interested please
talk to Wendy 01291 623642
or Judith 01291 624678

Do you enjoy traditional hymns?
Do you like to sing?
Can you spare one hour a month?
We need to boost the numbers in
St Luke's choir to give a good lead
to the congregation in traditional
hymns on the
2nd Sunday communion
and would love
to welcome you to join us.



Q. Why did the Easter Bunny cross the road?

A. Because the chicken had his Easter eggs!

Q. What did the rabbit say to the carrot?

A. It's been nice gnawing you!

Q. How did the Easter Bunny rate the Easter parade?

A. He said it was eggs-cellent!



Fairtrade Fortnight 2020

Coffee grower, Jenipher Wettaka Sambazi from Uganda, visited Monmouthshire on Wednesday 4th March. Following a morning Schools Conference for pupils from schools across the county, Jenipher came to Chepstow to talk to people here at a Pop-up Café held at the Methodist Church Hall.

Jenipher told her story about the hard work involved in growing coffee beans. She talked about some of the difficulties she and other local farmers face, like the low prices they get for their coffee, pests spoiling the coffee bushes, and climate change causing heavy rains which result in landslides. Last year many local people lost family members, farms and homes in a landslide down the side of the mountain, due to Climate Change.



Jenipher explained the difference that Fairtrade makes, enabling them to feed their families well, send their children to school and build things for their communities, such as wells, clinics and schools. It also helps the farmers to share training on how to diversify, and to farm in ways that help to combat some of the effects of Climate change. Also, the Welsh Government have given them grants to enable the farmers to plant more trees to help combat Climate Change.

After time for questions and answers, Jenipher was pleased to receive a guide book to Chepstow and the Castle – a small gift to squeeze in her case.



Julia Parsons
(01291 622163)





It is a little known fact that there is an invisible creature that pushes your hand down when you write on unlined paper. I think they look something like

this



DW



Save money this Spring

David Price

(07539 477286)

Living on a tight budget can be a struggle but there are ways to be creative with very little. Lots of people are now rejecting the extreme consumer culture and finding ways to reduce spending so there's plenty of useful information available. Here are some ideas to help you save and even make money this April.

Cancel what you don't need

We all think we're on top of our money but when was the last time you checked your Direct Debits or standing orders? It's worthwhile taking the time to go through.

According to Money Saving Expert, we could be losing out on several hundred pounds from regular payments we've forgotten about.

See moneysavingexpert.com/banking/direct-debit for some great tips.

Check your statement and receipts

It's also worthwhile taking the time to check your bank and credit card statements to make sure you're paying the amounts you expect to be paying. If you spot an error, get in touch with the

company to get it sorted as soon as possible.

Plan your meals for the week ahead

Planning what you're going to eat for the coming week can boost savings, contribute towards eating more healthily and prevent food waste. It can also be fun being creative with what you already have in the cupboards. Plus, you can use any leftovers as packed lunches for work and school – according to research from vouchercloud.com, taking your own lunches instead of buying sandwiches every working day could save you around £1,300 per year!

Upcycle your wardrobe

Splurging on new clothes can feel like a luxury when you're on a tight budget, but these days everybody seems to be buying less in an effort to halt the damage being made to the environment by fast fashion. Why not try upcycling some of your old clothes? Check out pinterest.co.uk/jenuinemom/diy-upcycle-clothing for inspiration.

If upcycling isn't your thing, you can still save money by making the most of charity shops, having a look on eBay or organising a clothes swap with friends.



Craft and create your own cool gifts

When birthdays and events come around, we may want to get a nice gift or card for someone but struggle to afford it. However, a handmade version can be such a pleasure to receive and save pounds in the process. Search *5-minute crafts* on YouTube for some creative ideas.

Make cash out of clutter

Decluttering your home is good for mental wellbeing but can also be great for your wallet too. You could

start with just one room and then ruthlessly get rid of anything that you no longer use, want or that doesn't fit. Check out free ways to sell your stuff like Facebook Marketplace and get the cash rolling in!

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) is a UK charity with 588 services across the country delivering debt counselling, money management, job clubs, life skills groups, and support for people breaking habitual dependencies. Visit capuk.org to find out more.



At dinner after church on Palm Sunday little Maria began chattering away about learning a new song in Sunday school about a cross-eyed bear named Gladly.

It took her parents a while before realizing that the hymn Maria had been singing was really: "Gladly The Cross I'd Bear."



Thank you to everyone who helps with the Foodbank.

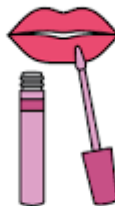
Current needs:

- Tinned Vegetables (Potatoes, Peas, Tomatoes)
- Tinned fruit
- Instant pasta & quick rice packets
- Shampoo & Deodorant

chepstowfoodbank@gmail.com



Chase WI



Any hopes that that spring would be on the way at the March meeting of Chase WI were dashed as the rain which has characterised this winter appeared to be still falling with it's usual enthusiasm.

However our Speaker, Sian Fisher brought some colour to the meeting with her talk on Colour pertaining to our wardrobes. With the aid of a chart she explained we were either Autumn, Spring or Summer people and should think about the colours in those seasons when we bought new clothes. She then went on to remind us that probably we had too many clothes and to be more careful when we went shopping to make sure that we shopped sensibly. She demonstrated this by making a few changes to a dress with various jackets and accessories and so making different outfits. She ended by saying that everybody can wear red, wear different accessories and to always wear lipstick!

Our outings Advisor Anne Webster has already arranged some outings for us this year the first one being to Oakham Treasures near Bristol.

Next month will be our 50th birthday to which we are much looking forward. We will be having a party with a well known local singer and guests from the surrounding WIs.

We welcome visitors at any time.

*Chase Women's Institute meet
on 2nd Monday of the month
at 7.15pm
Chase Old School*

Please contact Poppy Moss for further information (01291 628739).

Please Notice This



**Found in another church's notices:
"Don't let worry kill you off -
Let the church help"**



Tidenham Wives & Friends

We were delighted to welcome our extremely good speaker Gill Huntington to our March meeting at Sedbury Village Hall. Gill is a dietician from the NHS who works in local hospitals in the area.

Gill spoke to us about the need to Eat Better to reduce our risk of heart and circulatory diseases. She placed on a table a coloured eating guide with models of the food we eat such as bread, pasta , vegetables, eggs , margarine and other foods and we were able to ask her questions on the values of the different foods. She reminded us that we all needed to drink and tea and coffee did count as well as water but I am afraid a glass of wine did not!



We will be entering the July Flower Festival at Tidenham Church when the theme this year will be Bible stories . This will be discussed at our next meeting.

Our next meeting will be our AGM and in May our speaker will be Chris Dale talking about Mounton House.

Tidenham Wives & Friends meet
on 1st Wednesday of the month
at 7.30pm
St Luke's Room

We are a friendly group and welcome visitors at any time. Please contact Pauline Civil on 01291 624479 for further information.

Usually 2nd Thursday of month
but 1st Thursday in April



For info and lifts
phone
George or Beryl
on 01291 625551

Parish Lunch

Thursday, 2nd April
12.15pm

Woodcroft Centre



CHASE GARDENING CLUB



On yet another cold and wet night in February the Club reconvened for its first meeting of 2020. An encouraging number of members braved the weather to hear Paul Jupp from Devizes, formerly a sales manager with Wolf Tools, who in 2010 set up the company “A Meadow in My Garden” to encourage the use of private gardens as mini nature reserves and to beautify public spaces like roundabouts with planting to encourage vital pollinators such as bees and butterflies. He was a very engaging speaker who encouraged audience participation; we were staggered to learn that words such as “acorn”, “dandelion”, “ivy” and “buttercup” are now omitted from a junior dictionary as having no relevance for the modern child. He had brought a large number of wild flower seeds with him so look out for some guerrilla gardening in the area! A very interesting and thought-provoking talk.

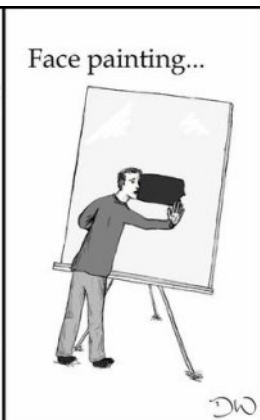
A welcome break for refreshments followed and then boards were passed round for two proposed summer outings. The first is to Exbury Gardens near Southampton on Saturday 16th May and the second to Tyntesfield on Saturday 18th July.

Members were reminded of the Chase Spring Show to be held at the School on Saturday 14th March. Possibly the last?

The speakers in April are John and Ingrid Millington of Hillview Hardy

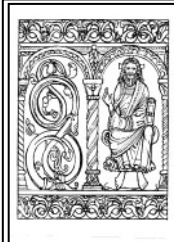
Plants Nursery in Shropshire and their subject is “Herbaceous Perennials”> There will be plants for sale!

All are welcome. For further information, please contact Bob Elliott on 01291 625659 or Bill Kerr on 01291 621100.





tidenham historical group



Evening meetings from September to April are normally* held on the **last Tuesday of the month** at 7.30pm in Sedbury Village Hall, on King Alfred's Road, Sedbury NP16 7AQ.

Visitors are always welcome.

For more information about the group's varied activities contact Liz on 01291 621694, Carol on 01291 623736, or e-mail info@tidenhamhistory.co.uk.

VILLAGE HALL MEETINGS

Tuesday 28th April

“ The ANOB and local historical news”

Andrew Blake,

Manager of the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Beauty, will talk about the ANOB and recent local historical news including Offa's Dyke, Lancaut and Spital Mynd.

Meetings at Sedbury Village Hall will resume in September 2020 after the end of the summer programme.

Our summer excursion this year is on July 28th to Highclere Castle .

For further details and availability of spaces

please phone Liz on 01291 621694

or e-mail info@tidenhamhistory.co.uk.

The house stands on the site of an earlier house, which was built on the foundations of the medieval palace of the Bishops of Winchester, who owned this estate from the 9th century

The palace was rebuilt as Highclere Place House in 1679.

In 2003, Lord and Lady Carnarvon undertook major roof repairs and created the Egyptian Exhibition, which lies in the cellars of the castle and tells the story of the discovery of Tutankhamen by the 5th Earl. It is still lived in by the owners and used extensively for filming.





the messenger

From the Diocese of Gloucester

The Messenger, produced monthly by the diocesan communications office, to see the whole bulletin www.gloucester.anglican.org

Being advocates for flourishing, through initiatives which combat injustice, environmental destruction, exclusion and isolation

Candles for change: Pauline Farman, Churn Valley Benefice

“What happens to your candle-ends; wax chipped off those window ledges following a carol service; wax shavings from making candle-ends fit; votive-candle bits and containers, etc? Does it all end up in the bin and subsequently in landfill? If so, there is a solution.

“Put your candle-waste into a separate bag or bin and it can be recycled. The Recycled Candle Company recycles candle-waste from cathedrals, churches, hotels, pubs and the general public. It is then made into new candles that they sell. It won't make any money for your church, but it won't cost you anything either, except you will know that you are helping the environment as it's not going into landfill.”

Pauline says that she is happy to coordinate the collection of the candles. Contact: paulinefarman19@btinternet.com To sign up for Eco Church visit <https://ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk>

Everyday Faith Event

This October, every benefice is being invited to send representatives to an inspirational day conference, equipping people to live out their faith every day, in the situations and places they find themselves. It's a packed timetable of workshops, including;

- ✚ *Being a Christian in your school community*
- ✚ *Courageous Advocacy: How and why can Christians be brave and make the world a better place*
- ✚ *Inspiring everyday faith at home: ideas to help families grow in faith together*
- ✚ *Know your Story*





- ✝ *Praying with your eyes open*
- ✝ *Standing up for God’s world: being a green Christian*
- ✝ *Confidence in God: Know you are loved and liked’*
- ✝ *Discover how to reach deeper places: meaningful conversations*
- ✝ *Live your faith in your place of work*
- ✝ *That’s a good question: enjoy exploring the big issues*
- ✝ *To do or not to do: managing time in the light of eternity,*
- ✝ *The power of food and friendship*
- ✝ *Transform your workplace*
- ✝ *Reading the Bible with everyday life in mind*

Your member of clergy should have details of how to get your benefice’s representatives signed up to this brilliant opportunity.

Events and training

More details for all these events at gloucester.anglican.org/events

Have your say

Visit Facebook [Diocese.of.Gloucester](https://www.facebook.com/Diocese.of.Gloucester), email Katherine kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk, follow us on Twitter [@glosdioc](https://twitter.com/glosdioc), view videos on YouTube [Diocese of Gloucester](https://www.youtube.com/Diocese%20of%20Gloucester) or visit our website gloucester.anglican.org

Events and Training

**Question and answer session with Bishop Robert and Bishop Rachel
Wednesday 1 April 2020, 7pm to 8pm, Gloucester Cathedral**

Ask Bishop Rachel and Bishop Robert all your questions about faith, the Church, Christianity, God and Jesus in a special event at Gloucester Cathedral. Contact dbest@glosdioc.org.uk for more information.

**Environment and Eco Church Workshop
Tuesday 21 April, 7.30pm to 9pm at The Church of St Peter and St Paul, Blockley
OR Thursday 30 April, 7.30pm to 9pm at St Andrew’s Church, Churchdown**

Practical workshop on environmental concerns, with a focus on the Eco Church awards, for churches who want to go started or are already engaged and want to explore the next step. Be inspired by what others are doing; ask questions; and share with others who are working in this area of ministry. Make a booking at <https://bit.ly/2U97vqH>



*I forgive my accusers,
says Asia Bibi in interview
by Hattie Williams 06 March 2020,
Church Times.*

ASIA BIBI, the Pakistani Christian woman who was imprisoned on death row for most of a decade, accused of blasphemy, has said that she has “forgiven everyone from my heart”,

and is not angry at her accusers.

In her first broadcast interview since her release, Ms Bibi told Radio 4’s Today programme on Saturday that she was proud of her country for freeing her, and that she hoped, one day, that it might be possible to return.

Ms Bibi was acquitted in November 2018, more than eight years after she was sentenced to death for allegedly insulting the Prophet Muhammad during an argument with her neighbours at a well (News, 19 November 2010). The original sentence was overturned by a three-judge panel, sparking protests in Pakistan by Islamic extremists (News, 31 October 2018).

She left Pakistan and arrived in Canada in May, four months after her acquittal was upheld by the Supreme Court of Pakistan (News, 10 May 2019).

“Demonstrations started in my country, but it was my country that freed me,” she said. “That makes me proud, that I was freed by my country. . . Things get better, things change, and I can imagine that one day God will take me back and give me a chance to see my country again.”

Ms Bibi, who is Roman Catholic and has five children, was in France promoting her book, *Finally Freed!*, which she co-wrote with the French journalist Anne-Isabelle Tollet, who had campaigned for her release. In it, she recalls having her neck put in a brace that was tightened by a key and pulled on a chain by guards. The Pakistani government has dismissed the claim as implausible.

Speaking of her ordeal for the first time, she said: “It was very hard. I suffered. A lot of people tried to mislead me. They said: ‘Change your faith and you will be free.’ But I said no. I will live my sentence with my faith.”



She urged the government of Pakistan, and its Prime Minister, Imran Khan, who has defended the country's blasphemy laws, to review the justice system in the country. "Innocence should not be punished for no reason, and people who are innocent in prison should be freed," she said. "During an investigation, both parties should be questioned properly."

Ms Bibi had not been questioned or allowed to speak during her trial, she said. "I was very scared. I could not even imagine thinking that something like this could happen to me. I kept going to the court and not once did the judge hear my side of the story. I kept hoping that I would be allowed to speak — I even asked; but they sentenced me to death."

Despite her experience, and the effect that it has had on her family, she said: "I am not angry at all. I have forgiven everyone from my heart. And there is no hardness in me. There is patience in me because I learnt how to be patient when I had to leave my children behind."

Ms Bibi later told the anti-persecution charity Open Doors that God had told her that she would be tested. "When I was born, the priest told my mother: 'This girl is going to be tested by God.' And my parents kept telling me this story; so I knew that this was going to happen some day."

She had never doubted God. "My faith has always been strong because my family had a lot of devotion, but it did get stronger, because now I know that God is with me — and God won't leave you alone: he is always with us."

The Bishop of Truro, the Rt Revd Philip Mounstephen, told the Today programme that the UK Government should take a "proactive stance" on the abuse of blasphemy law. "Often, these laws are used at a local level in a thoroughly vindictive matter to settle local scores and local disputes — Asia Bibi's case is a prime example of that — but, sadly, it is by no means the only one." "The Government should be bringing significant pressure to bear both locally in the country and in bilateral conversations at a government level."

It should also abandon its mantra of responding to "need, not creed", with UK aid. "Internationally, we choose to take a religion-blind approach, and, to be honest, that is a religiously illiterate approach, because to say that we focus on need, not creed, ignores the fact that creed can make people significantly more vulnerable when they are in a minority situation."



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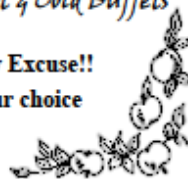
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▶ Pensions and Retirement Planning	
▶ Savings and Investments	
▶ Inheritance Tax Planning and Probate	
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▶ Equity Release	
▶ Protection	
▶ Long-Term Care	

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The FCA do not regulate Inheritance Tax Planning.

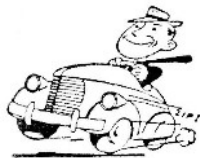
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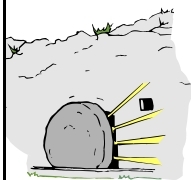
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