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## Christ Church



## and People

Please get your  
contributions for  
the May  
magazine to the  
editor by Friday  
21<sup>st</sup> April

*Gosh, we're into  
the fourth  
month of the  
year already -  
that means it's  
time for our  
Annual Parochial  
Meeting!*

*Ed.*

## Cover Story

This month? We're Looking into Prince's Street from the junction with Oulton Road. By the way, if you've noticed that the only street furniture to appear in these pictures is the telephone poles, you're right - they are drawn by an ex-BT man!

## Christ Church on the Internet

Parish website: [www.churches.lichfield.anglican.org/stone/stonecc](http://www.churches.lichfield.anglican.org/stone/stonecc)

Parish Office email: [christchurchcentre@pgen.net](mailto:christchurchcentre@pgen.net)

Magazine contributions: [christchurch\\_mag@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:christchurch_mag@yahoo.co.uk)

# April

## 2006

Sa	1	8.30 am	Prayer Meeting at Christ Church followed by
		9.00 am	Breakfast
Su	2	<b>Lent 5</b>	
		9.15 am	<b>Parish Communion</b>
			Sermon text: Mark 9:38 - 50 "Rewards for all"
		6.00 pm	<b>Lent Course Session 7 at Christ Church</b>
			Speaker: Rev Paul Darlington from Oswestry
Mo	3	9.00 am	Prayers for schools and young people - in Church
		6.30 pm	Cornerstone for teenagers, at 13 Queen's Square
		7.30 pm	Standing Committee
Tu	4	10.30 am	Causeway Prospect Easter Service in church
		12.45 pm	<b>Short Talk for Lent</b> by Revd Roger Vaughan in the Centre
We	5	2.00 pm	Mothers' Union – Lady Day Service at St Luke's Tittensor (Members meet at Church Centre at 1.30 pm)
		6.30 pm	Explore – Teenage Enquirers Group in the Centre
		7.45 pm	Lent Course - Session 8 in the Centre
Fr	7	11.00 am	Christ Church Middle School Service in church
		2.00 pm	Christ Church First School Service in church
		7.30 pm	Rock Café for young people in the Centre
Su	9	<b>Palm Sunday</b>	
		9.15 am	<b>Morning Prayer</b>
			Sermon text: Mark 11:1 - 14 "Donkey ride"
		6.00 pm	<b>Holy Communion at St John's Oulton</b>
			Sermon text: Hebrews 11:31 "Rahab"
Mo	10	9.00 am	Prayers for schools and young people - in Church
		6.30 pm	Cornerstone for teenagers, at 13 Queen's Square
			** Centre carpet cleaning **
Tu	11	10.30 am	Holy Communion in church
		12.45 pm	<b>Short Talk for Lent</b> by Revd Roger Vaughan
Th	13	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	
		7.45 pm	<b>Holy Communion at Oulton</b>
Fr	14	<b>Good Friday</b>	
		10.00 am	<b>CTiS service at St Michael's</b> - ending up at Christ Church for Family Service
		10.00am	Craft Activity for children in the Centre - to join service in church approx 10.40 am

*The Lord will defend you from all evil:  
It is he who will guard your life.*

*Psalm 121:7*

**Su 16 Easter Day****9.15 am Parish Communion**

Sermon text: Mark 16:1 - 8 "He is Risen"

**6.00 pm Holy Communion at All Saints Moddershall**

Sermon text: Hebrews 11:32 - 12:3 "Fix your eyes on Jesus"

**Su 23 Easter 2****9.15 am Family Service**

Sermon text: 2 Timothy 3:14 - 17 "Inspired word"

**6.00 pm Holy Communion at St John's Oulton**

Sermon text: Hebrews 12:4 - 13 "God's discipline"

Mo 24 9.00 am Prayers for schools and young people - in Church  
 6.30 pm Cornerstone for teenagers, at 13 Queen's Square

Tu 25 10.30 am **Holy Communion in church**

We 26 6.30 pm Explore – Teenage Enquirers Group in the Centre  
 7.30 pm **Annual Parochial Church Meeting, followed by Refreshments, Prayer and Praise**

**Su 30 Easter 3****9.15 am Morning prayer + Commissioning of new PCC**

Luke 1:1 - 4 "Are the Gospels reliable?"

**6.00 pm Holy Communion at St John's Oulton**

Hebrews 13 "Keep going"

**Take note of the location of our evening services this month - they move around!**

The following Activities take place every week in the Centre during school term time:

**Monday Toddlers****9.30 am****Friday Little Fishes****11.00 am**

Activities for children and young people take place in the centre during the Sunday morning service each Sunday (except on the fourth Sunday of the month, which is family service):

**Climbers 3-7 years****Explorers 7-11 years****Pathfinders 11-14 years**

All children are welcome



## 4

### Beyond belief?

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**W**e live at a time when almost anything passes for Christianity. One author records how, while on a radio programme, a caller stuck in traffic on the Santa Monica freeway rang in and said: "I am sitting here in traffic holding onto my crystals and feeling really close to Jesus, and I am wondering, what is the connection between these crystals and Jesus?" The author replied – "nothing, except that he made those crystals!"

To add to this confused outlook there are many novel claims, or sensational revelations, about Jesus currently in circulation. Interest is heightened by the claim that the Church has suppressed these claims due to the scandalous nature or devastating effect such knowledge would have on traditional views about Jesus.

We could scoff at such claims made in books like Dan Brown's '*The Da Vinci Code*' as yet another work of fiction. But the remarkable popularity of such books shows that there is a sea change in thinking. Many people are soaking up what is in fact beyond belief. The new wisdom is portrayed as being found within (a self-help religion), rather than coming from outside (recognising our need of the Saviour).

During our morning services after Easter we will explore some of the claims made in '*The Da Vinci Code*' and investigate whether they stand up to scrutiny against the historic evidence. The Christian faith has always been attacked, but it has always rested on evidence that demands a verdict.

At Easter time we will remember once again that Jesus' death and resurrection are **not** beyond belief, but are historic facts. The resurrection of Jesus unveiled how the Truth has broken into the world. The resurrection is the ultimate proof of Jesus' identity as explained by the apostle Paul: '*declared with power to be the Son of God, by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord*' (Romans 1v4). In Jesus we find the truth and nowhere else. In the light of this we are to trust him as our Saviour and live with him as our Lord.

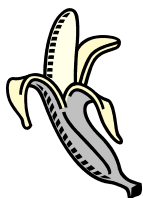


I hope that you have a great Easter.

*Paul Kingman*

## Bananas and Pancakes!

**O**ver the February half term the church centre was transformed into "Banana Island," as Ripe and Rotten, the Banana Boys welcomed around 50 children each day to "Going Bananas" Holiday Club. We had a great time learning about different people from the Bible who went completely bananas for God; Noah, Gideon, Elijah, and Zacchaeus and Jemima, (the woman who poured perfume over Jesus). We did a range of activities to help the children to understand that going bananas for God was not only the best thing that they could decide to do but also a fun thing to do as well! We watched videos, played games, made crafts and sang songs accompanied by the Banana Band.



The family service that followed this was particularly well attended as many of the children brought their families to get a taste of what we had been up to during the week. The Banana Band (made up of young people from the church) played once again, and we all learnt more about going bananas for God as Paul climbed a tree (yes in the middle of church!) to illustrate the story of Zacchaeus!

The holiday club was followed by the first official Christ Church Pancake party, held, as you may imagine, on Shrove Tuesday. Thirty children aged 3-11 attended this, and enjoyed a range of games and craft activities (the parachute and finger painting were especially popular!) before a buffet tea, and a short Bible talk from Paul, before the much looked forward to pancake races. The children were highly competitive and thoroughly enjoyed it, but the adults seemed even more so – well done to Paul for a hard fought victory (I was second!).



Thanks to everyone who worked hard to make these events such a success, and all those who supported in every way, particularly the church youth who really helped out this year! Look out for more fun and games soon at Christ Church!

Becky x

### Proverbs for our times . . . .

When your life reaches a cross roads . . .  
Follow the way of the cross.

## Easter Flowers

The Flower Guild would be most grateful for donations towards the cost of Easter Flowers. There will be a plate at the back of church on **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** and **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April**, or donations can be taken to the Parish Office.

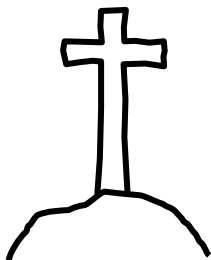


Marylyn Hillman

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## Holy Week at Shallowford House

Shallowford House is offering a retreat for Holy Week. Come and be with Jesus through this last and most significant week of his life. Come for a few hours, a day, two or more days or the full week. You may be resident or non-resident, whatever you wish or fits in with the demands you have in Holy Week.



This is a silent retreat with worship, meditations for Holy Week, prayer workshops, an art room, time to talk with a priest if you wish, time to enjoy the house and garden and to walk in the Staffordshire countryside. The retreat will be led by the Rev'd Pamela Freeman.

To book please contact:  
The Warden, Shallowford House,  
Shallowford, Stone, Staffs ST15 0NZ  
Tel: 01785-760233



## FAIRTRADE

Our sale of Fairtrade goods this month will be on

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**

in the Centre, following the morning service.

Guarantees **a better deal** for Third World Producers

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## I Know That Face!

Anyone using Christ Church Centre recently will have noticed the appearance of our 'Rogues Gallery'. The idea is to put faces to the names (and vice versa) of those who have particular roles in the running of our church. If there is some aspect of the church that you want to talk to someone about, you can have a look at the board to see who deals with that.

Inevitably there are differences of opinion as to who should appear on the board, so perhaps **you** can help us get it right. Who do you think should be on display? Remember that this is not about conferring a particular status on anybody, it's a question of who are the people that someone - particularly a new member of the church - will find it useful to be able to identify.

If you have any comments or suggestions, either jot them down and drop them into the Office (please don't belabour Irene with your comments!) or pass them to **Phil Tunstall** or **Sue** or **Jeremy Cooper**.

## Stony Ground!



V V V

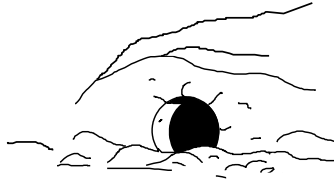
## Proverbs for our times . . . .

Enjoy the simple pleasures of life,  
But don't live simply for pleasure.

# 8

## Man of Mystery

Who is that man,  
My Teacher, my Master?  
He deserved my homage,  
But he washed my feet.  
I tell you in truth,  
I never knew him.



Who is that man,  
The Son of David?  
He mastered demons,  
But now he is the prisoner.  
I tell you in truth,  
I never knew him.

Lord, where you went  
I could not follow;  
Even so Lord,  
You know that I love you.

Who is that man,  
The Holy one of God?  
He walked on water,  
But now he walks to his death.  
I tell you the truth,  
I never knew him.

Lord, I did not understand  
The purpose of your dying;  
Even so Lord,  
You know that I love you.

Lord, my wisdom, fails me  
I look only to your unfailing love;  
And yes, Lord,  
You know that I love you.

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There's no **PCC NEWS** this month because the March meeting was after the deadline for this issue. However you can get a full report of the PCC's activities by coming to the

### **Annual Parochial Church Meeting Wed 26th at 7.30 pm**

**Followed by Refreshments, prayer and praise!**

This is also the time to elect Wardens and PCC members for the coming year. After the meeting we will join in a time of prayer and praise. It's **your** church, so come and take part!

PS: Make sure your name is on the Electoral Roll! (**Irene Gassor** is our Electoral Roll Officer).





## Stone Outward Division Guide Show

### 'A Handful of Songs'

From our first show in 1975 in Barlaston Parish Rooms, through our years at Alleyne's Theatre to our new home The Rep Theatre, Leek Road, Stoke the show goes from strength to strength. A cast of over sixty plus girls from the age of 7 will delight you with an evening of music, dance and comedy performed to a high standard.

We have enjoyed the support of the local community over the last 31 years and we are sure that you would enjoy seeing the young people from your area performing so do come along and let us entertain all the family.

Tickets are available by visiting our web site on **[www.handfulofsongs.org.uk](http://www.handfulofsongs.org.uk)** or telephoning the ticket secretary on **01785 760682**.



***A warm welcome awaits you!***

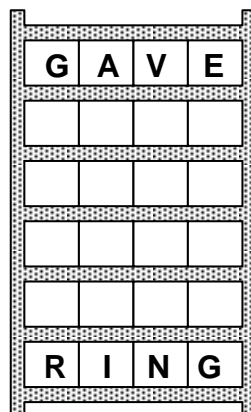
### Su Doku

Fill in the grid so that each row, column and 3X3 square contains the digits 1 - 9

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

### Word Ladder

Change one letter at a time making a new word on each rung.



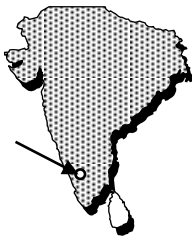
## Kelly and Cecilia's visit to Hebron School

**H**ebbron is a co-educational, Christian residential school with some 350 students ranging from 5-18yrs, situated in 20 acres of woodland. The School follows the English National Curriculum.

*Kelly Maltby and Cecilia Wilding flew out to Ootacamund in the Nilgiri Hills, South India, at the end of January for two weeks to visit three families our church supports at **Hebron School**.*

The majority of students are children of Christian workers, both Indian and expatriate, with a sizable minority of 'business students', covering 21 nationalities at present. The staff are both Indian and expatriate. There are a large number of staffing vacancies from the summer – see the School's web-site [www.hebronooty.org](http://www.hebronooty.org) for details if you are interested.

Our aims in visiting were to encourage the families we support, and to see the situation for ourselves so that as a church we can be more knowledgeable in our prayers and support for them. These aims were abundantly achieved.



We were made very welcome and quickly felt at home, although I was only just taking the quickest routes by the end of our time there. The School is a three-dimensional maze, built on a steep hillside! We arrived just at the start of the second of the two terms in the year.



**The Baron family** have been supported by us for many years, firstly when they were in Faisalabad, Pakistan, and then at Murree Christian School up to the armed attack there in 2002. Following a year with the senior Murree students in Chiang Mai, North Thailand, they moved to Hebron. Dagmar is Head of Science in the School and teaches Chemistry and Biology. It was good to see Dagmar in action teaching in the labs, although I felt a bit ashamed when I couldn't answer some of the questions! Ralph has taken a year out to do some advanced computer studies. Their older daughter, Helen, is studying law at Oxford. Their younger daughter, Sarah, is on a gap year in Pakistan and starts Medical Studies in the autumn. Simon is still at Hebron and does his GCSEs this year. They live in a flat just off campus and entertained us on a number of occasions. Dagmar's a good cook! While Kelly entertained friends visiting from Bangalore on the first Saturday, Ralph & Dagmar took me on a tour of the surrounding countryside. The Nilgiri Hills are a

tea and vegetable-growing area and there are terraces of tea bushes and vegetables everywhere. The countryside is beautiful.



**Owen & Tracy and their three boys** were due to go to Murree Christian School but the armed attack intervened. They ended up going to Hebron instead where they are now into their second three-year contract. They welcomed us to use their home as a base while at Hebron and we visited them a lot. The boys live with their parents but are attached to a dorm of their age. Owen teaches Std 6. Kelly spent much of her time acting as a classroom assistant with Owen's class and built up a great relationship with the children. Tracy is Head of Art and I spent a lot of time in the art room where I learnt to value art in a way I had not done before. Ben is now in Std 12 (LV1) and is doing AS Levels, while Steffan & Jonathan are not into exam years yet. All three have good friends in the School and seem happy and settled. A highlight of our time with Owen & Tracy was a visit to a river in an out-of-the-way place where a field-work project was being planned. We had a picnic by the river, and were excited by the finding of a large paw-print in the river mud identified as belonging to a tiger! Were big cat eyes watching our every move from the undergrowth above?



**Dom, Clare and Erica** live very centrally in an upstairs flat. We spent quite a lot of time with them and were made very welcome. Dom is doing a great job as Erica's main carer and tries to fit in some computer work in the two hours when she is in Play-Group each morning. I went to the Playgroup most mornings on arrival at the School and helped a little with the eight toddlers there. They seemed a happy group but are in need of new equipment to replace some which is getting almost too old to use. I felt quite at home following toddler groups here at Christ Church. Clare continues teaching Technology, although doesn't find this easy when it's not her first subject and she has to learn some things from scratch – but she's doing a great job. I went to see her in action in the technology workshop on several occasions.



All three families are very grateful for our support and send greetings back to the Christ Church family. Their up-to-date prayer requests are in the Mission News and Prayer Diary in the centre of this Magazine.

Thank you for praying for us on our visit. If you would like to know more, I have written a report of our visit tracing a day at Hebron, and I would be happy to let you have a copy.

*Cecilia Wilding*

## and Kelly Maltby adds . . .

**T**his was a great opportunity to see how Dom, Claire and Erica have settled into Hebron life, to get to know the Humphreys family better and to meet the Baron family. I spent an enjoyable time with all of them.

I spent most of my time at the school helping in Owen Humphreys standard 6 class (ages 10-11). This was an enjoyable and rewarding experience, meeting and working with children from all over the world who have grown up with a unique experience of different cultures. I was made to feel welcome by everyone I met at Hebron, both teachers and pupils alike and the pupils seem to genuinely enjoy being there.

We stayed at King's Cliff hotel. It is an old colonial villa with log fires in the bedrooms and a communal lounge where a band entertains the residents and diners every evening. The staff were terrific and couldn't have been more helpful and friendly. As we discovered during our stay, the restaurant serves fantastic food.

Whilst I was in southern India I had the opportunity to meet with some friends from Bangalore. They made a 9 hour journey to visit on my first weekend. We undertook part of the journey on the famous Nilgiri Blue Mountain Railway and saw breath-taking views of the mountains.

With the help of the school travel office I took the opportunity to take two days off to visit Mysore in Karnataka state and the famous Maharajah's place. The journey there and back involved tackling the 36 hairpin bends on the road through the Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary. On the journey to Mysore I was lucky enough to see wild elephants in Bandipur National Park. The interior décor of the palace is a lavish display of oil paintings, stained glass and marble and gold.

## Not The Authorised Version . . .

Here are some more answers given by children in a test on the Bible:

*The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards Moses went up to Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments.*

*The Seventh Commandment is thou shall not admit adultery.*

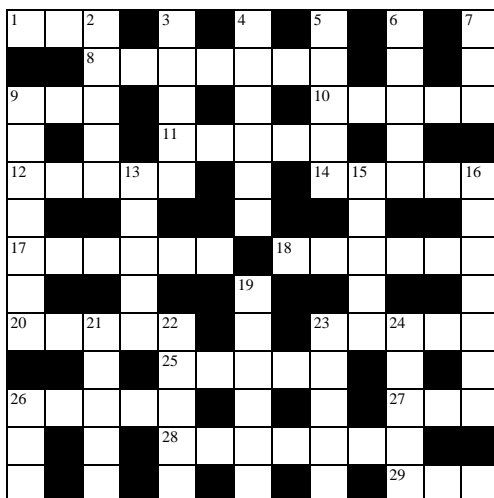
*The greatest miracle in the bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.*

*Solomon, one of David's sons, had 300 wives, and 700 porcupines.*



**Clues Across**

- 1 Firm part of the match. (3)
- 8 Rank method for conveying traffic. (7)
- 9 So you sound like claiming a minute amount! (3)
- 10 Dive (not quietly) into a sudden attack. (5)
- 11 Phonetically first person. (5)
- 12 Say, you are putting a limit on built up area. (5)
- 14 Worn out? Note it's a mistake. (5)
- 17 Bring nothing in? That's a waste of time. (6)
- 18 Blow back around misfortune gets support. (6)
- 20 Driver loses head - you can bank on it! (5)
- 23 Former hobo (not represented) gets more. (5)
- 25 Undo yearly without one. (5)
- 26 Chop about a sleeping policeman. (5)
- 27 Time to mature. (3)
- 28 In taste identify as tasteless. (7)
- 29 Encourage? Point to horse! (3)

**Clues Down**

- 2 Tom contains drone in scourge. (5)
- 3 Object to success once more. (5)
- 4 News returns about the newsman here. (6)
- 5 It's compulsory - but not all over! (5)
- 6 Language in record confused. (5)
- 7 Poem due on reading? (3)
- 9 Point to wood in the Land of Nod. (7)
- 13 A team not for all to hear. (5)
- 15 Part ten for the timekeeper. (5)
- 16 Bare gag turns into rubbish. (7)
- 19 In the end, Northerner is pointless. (6)
- 21 Very painful? Assure that it's so! (5)
- 22 King paid mistakenly, but fast. (5)
- 23 Eel squirms about work to make romantic escape. (5)
- 24 Dart back east for commerce. (5)
- 26 Dish once poached contains mushroom. (3)

**CHAIN GANG**

*Find a word to link  
each pair of words.*

Apple - Chart  
Runner - Feast  
Body - Glazing  
Diving - Tower  
French - Cleaner

## The National Memorial Arboretum

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**I**nspired by the Arlington Cemetery and National Arboretum in Washington DC, USA, the National Memorial Arboretum was created as a living tribute in this country to all those who died in the conflicts of the twentieth century and beyond.

The Arboretum is easy to reach from Stone, being situated just off the A38 between Lichfield and Burton on Trent, one mile east of the village of Alrewas. With over 50,000 trees and over 100 Memorials or plots, all of which have a story to tell, it is a wonderful place of peace, contemplation and reconciliation. Each day an act of Homage is held in the chapel - the only place in the country where this ceremony is performed on a daily basis.

The NMA opens each day at 10.00 am and entry is free. You are advised to wear stout footwear for a visit, and for those who need them there are both manual and motorised wheelchairs available. There is an information centre, bookshop and restaurant.

On a visit you will encounter members of the volunteer group "Friends of the National Memorial Arboretum", who help with meeting, greeting, retailing, guiding and maintenance of the plots.

If you would like to join them, or know anyone else who would please call our Membership Secretary, Roger Davies-Lee for details. **Tel: 01283 791218.** The annual fee is only £5 and you will receive a quarterly newsletter with all the latest developments about the NMA.

For further information about the Friends and the Arboretum visit **[www.friendsofnma.org.uk](http://www.friendsofnma.org.uk)**



### Proverbs for our times . . . .

You can rely on God in times of trouble;  
Don't forget him when times are good.

## Streets of Prayer

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*Please pray this month for all the people living in these streets in our Parish.*



**2<sup>nd</sup> April**  
Mount Street  
Old Road  
Stonefield Court  
Stonefield Square

**9<sup>th</sup> April**  
Victor Street  
Victoria Street  
Whitebridge Lane  
Alma Street

**16<sup>th</sup> April**  
Bromfield Court  
Dominic Court  
Granville Terrace  
King's Avenue

**23<sup>rd</sup> April**  
Longton Road  
Margaret Street  
Newcastle Road  
Newcastle Street

**30<sup>th</sup> April**  
Northesk Street Radford Close  
Radford Street Station Road

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## What The Future Holds

"You ought to go back to driving a truck."

*Concert manager, firing Elvis Presley in 1954*

"Television won't matter in your lifetime or mine."

*Radio Times editor Rex Lambert, 1936*

Predicting the future is always difficult, and it's easy to make fun of those who got it horribly wrong. Yet we do often wonder what it holds for us. Unlike the "experts", Christians don't know what the future holds, but we **do** know who holds the future! May we take comfort in that knowledge.

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## Puzzle Solutions

### Crossword



### Sudoku

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

### Chain Gang

Apple/**Pie**/Chart  
Runner/**Bean**/Feast  
Body/**Double**/Glazing  
Diving/**Bell**/Tower  
French/**Window**/Cleaner

### Word Ladder

One solution is:

GAVE, SAVE, SANE, SINE, SING, RING

# 16

## From the Registers

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### Weddings

18th February

Robert Gregory Fleetwood & Lindsay Alexander

### Baptisms

26th February

Samuel Lewis Game-Blackmore

12th March

Hannah Kelly

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### Sidespersons for April

	<b>9.15 am</b>	<b>6.00 pm</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	V.Ledward, J. Cooper S. Gerrard, T. MacFarlane	P. Tunstall
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	A. West, D. Pickles S. Hallam, C. Wilding	<i>Oulton</i>
<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	M. Holden, G. Holden D. Wilson, T. Lockett	<i>Oulton</i>
<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	P. Hipkiss, A. Greer B. Hutchinson, M. Hutchinson	<i>Oulton</i>
<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	P. Tunstall, J. Rowlands V. Ledward, S. Gerrard	<i>Oulton</i>

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### Flower Rota for April

<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Lent
<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	Palm Sunday
<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	Easter
<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Flower Guild
<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs. A. Greer

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