

LIFE

May 2023

Christ Church
Eccleston
magazine



Easter

As a night owl kind of person, the Easter Sunrise Service always presents itself as a significant challenge but once I am there and find others ready to worship it is a great joy. This year we were blessed with a clear sky and stunning sunrise (pictured above) as we remembered the grief, confusion, doubt and eventual tentative joy that the women and the disciples experienced that first Easter morning.



The joy of Easter Sunday always feels greater if I have been able to dwell on the events leading up to the first Easter. On Maundy Thursday this year I found myself greatly moved by sharing a sensory experience of the foot washing. It's so easy to get caught up in counting the number of heads at services and church events, this time there were just 2 of us and it was beautiful. We listened to some of the teachings of Jesus, first with our bare feet on turf to connect with the crowds listening on the Mountainside and in the country. Then, with our feet in dry sand, we listened to scriptures recording Jesus in the dusty city environment. After, as we washed one another's feet, the mud and sand between our toes gave me a greater sense of connection to the disciples experience than the usual clean feet that are presented from fresh socks at footwashing services. A poignant sense of how much I daily need Christ's forgiveness, cleansing and healing available to all by the power of the Cross.

Sorry

As you can see, and as some of you previously noticed, the May magazine is late. It's entirely my fault, I am sorry. I am especially sorry to Jennie and Rachel as their contributions were ready in a timely manner. The Annual Report needed pulling together quickly as the accounts arrived later than I had hoped and my fourth time getting Covid left me struggling. June's issue is a bumper issue to try to make up for it.

CHRIST CHURCH ECCLESTON

holding you with God for life

Vicar: Rev Sonya Doragh 07852244537 sonya@ccemail.org.uk
Verger: Pauline Parr 01744 28612

Ready to be bowled over with fun and friendship?

Judith Johnson has kindly been in touch again with details of the wonderful things on offer at our local bowls club. You'll remember we promoted the club's Bowls for Health initiative last year and it seems lots of you got involved. "It went very well" Judith tells us, "and quite a few people who had never played before came along and had a good time." It went so well, in fact, that Judith reports "we have decided to hold the coaching sessions again this year!"

The sessions are open to all, from absolute beginners who have never picked up a bowl in their life, to those who may have played a lot before but wish to rejoin the game. A warm welcome for all is assured, and it's a great way to enjoy some gentle exercise, have fun and enjoy good company. Full details below!

WANT TO TRY CROWN GREEN BOWLING? PRESCOT & ODYSSEY BOWLING CLUB VIA ITS 'BOWLS FOR HEALTH' PROGRAMME IS OFFERING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ANYBODY INTERESTED TO BE COACHED TO LEARN TO PLAY THE GAME AT OUR BOWLING GREEN IN BURROWS LANE PRESCOT.

WE WILL PROVIDE COACHING AND A SMALL RANGE OF BOWLS TO USE ALL FREE OF CHARGE

AT 2PM EVERY TUESDAY FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS STARTING ON 25 APRIL 2023 AND FOR THE NEXT 6 TO 8 WEEKS - WE WELCOME PEOPLE WITH NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE GAME OR ANYONE TAKING IT UP AGAIN.

TO REGISTER, FIND OUT MORE OR ASK A QUESTION USE ANY CONTACT BELOW.



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CHRIS SHEPHERD - MOB 077 6666 1414

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BOWLING GREEN, BURROWS LANE

PRESCOT L34 6JW

PICTURED LEFT: The bowls club has welcome many members of Christ Church congregation over the years.

Rev Gregor's Licencing



On 28th April some of us joined others from the Eccleston Team by going to celebrate Rev Gregor's licencing as Rector of The Fellside Team. It was lovely to see a wonderful turn out and welcome for Gregor and family. Do pray for them as they settle in their new home and jobs.

Funerals

JAMES MICHAEL HIGGINS

JOYCE KNOWLES

RITA MOSS



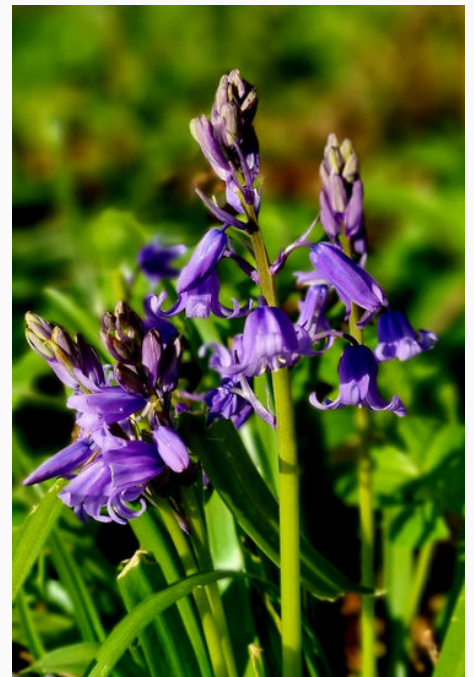
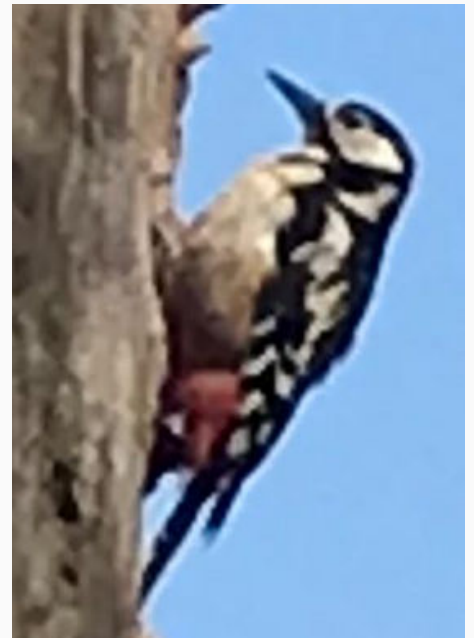
Special Moments **with Jennie Platt**

April and May are special months for blossom and colour. Walk down Chapel Lane and in the hedgerow, you can see a range of blue flowers. Dark bluebells and violets alongside the gentle forget-me-not. Wild flowers show such resilience as regardless of the weather they succeed in adding pleasure to our lives.

The warmer weather has encouraged people to restart their outdoor activities and the young canoeists enjoy Taylor Park alongside the more sedate activity of sailing model boats. The singing canoeists did not disturb the woodpecker working tirelessly on a hole in a tree trunk very close to the café. There is possibly a pair and they are not shy if you fancy a walk with a camera. Hopefully, successful nesting and a new family to follow. Chris Hoyle caught a glance of very small coot chicks just off the nest. Lambs can now be seen on Howards Lane and a tiny mouse is visiting my plant pots.

As we approach Ascension Day, we have been focussing on the sightings of Jesus following the Resurrection. Rev Sonya preached on the walk to Emmaus when the walkers failed to recognise Jesus. I think today we often look but do not see in enough depth to appreciate the beauty of nature. Tulips come in amazing colours. Daffodils vary and are worthy of a closer look inside the trumpet. I spotted a very attractive double flower. Mike Horton sent me this photo of a dandelion clock. We usually look at these from the side as we blow the seeds and count the time. Mike explained the photo was taken directly above the plant revealing the amazing intricacies of the plant and the perfect circle.

Fading daffodils are being replaced by striking displays of yellow dandelions. The new rabbits in our family are feasting on the flowers. A smile for today revolves around the vet's identification of two females and one male bunny. Watch this space!
Best wishes, Jennie





Planting Seeds

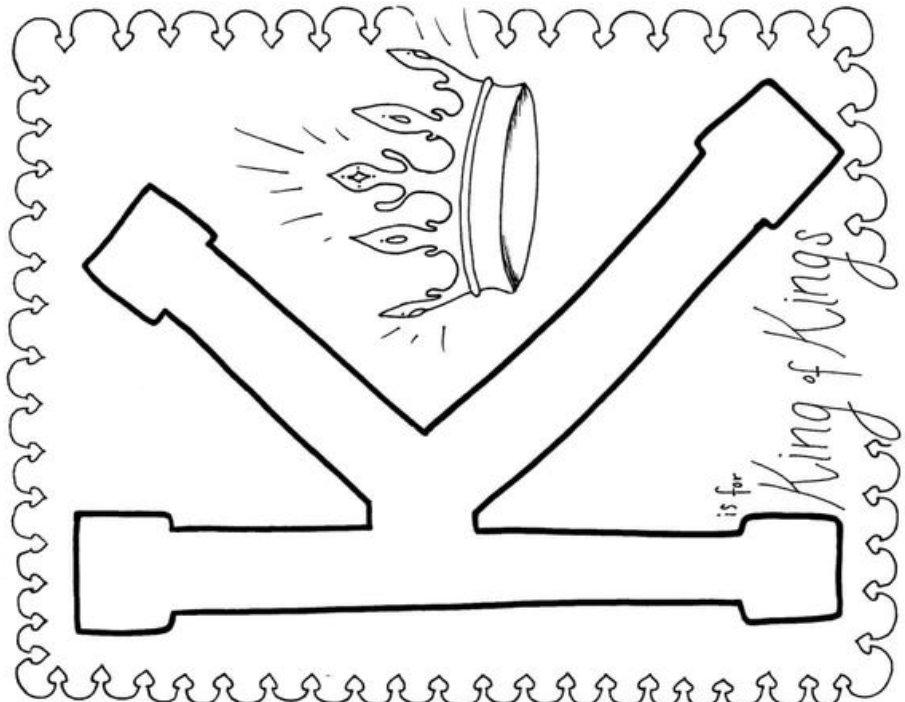
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FOWLS
 ROOT
 SPRANG UP
 WITHERED
 DOCTRINE
 SEA SIDE
 PARABLES
 GATHERED
 SCHORCHED
 UNDERSTAND
 MULTITUDE
 GLADNESS
 SOWER
 FORGIVEN
 WAY SIDE
 CONVERTED
 CHOKE
 YIELD
 DEVOURED
 THORNS



Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/5756/>

In May we celebrate a very historic event; the Coronation of the new King of the United Kingdom, Charles III. To celebrate we have a regal colouring-in picture and a wordsearch that looks at planting seeds for the future as we enter into the reign of our new Monarch.



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Mandy Grace '12