October/November 2025

OPEN DOOR





£1.00

For Churches in Tiptree, Tolleshunt Knights, Great Braxted, Messing & Inworth



Contacts

Team Rector (Vacancy)

Team Vicar

Revd Jo Wood (From November 2025)

Associate Ministers

Revd Liz Barnes 01621 333027 liz barnes@sky.com

Revd Christine Eaton christine.gorringe@btinternet.com

Revd Michael Hatchett Rev.michael.hatchett@gmail.com Revd Ruth Hatchett ruthhatchett54@yahoo.com

Revd Christine Newmarch 07946 722801 christinenewmarch@hotmail.co.uk

Licensed Lay Ministers

Harold Toms 01621 818595 Harold.toms@talktalk.net

Anne Wild 07837 248134 awild2014@gmail.com

Wendy Borgartz 01376 573184 w.borgartz@btinternet.com



Team Administrator - Christine Hall.

The office number is 01621 819557 (with voice-mail).

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, available for phone enquiries from 10 am to 12.30 pm on the mobile: 07421 078981 (with voicemail). Available in St Luke's Church at the Office: on Tuesday afternoons by appointment only & on Thursday from 10 am to 12.30 pm.

Email: thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com

www.thurstablewinstree.org

Deadline for the next edition: December 2025/January 2026 Sunday 9th November 2025.

Items for the magazine: can be emailed to thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com or delivered to St Luke's Parish Office or sent to m.borgartz@btinternet.com

Rev'd. Jo Wood writes:

I have been invited to write a few words to introduce myself ahead of taking up the post of Team Vicar, looking after the parishes of Layer de la Haye, Salcott, Tollesbury, Tolleshunt D'Arcy and Tolleshunt Major. Having spent most of my life living in North West Essex, I will be moving from one lovely part of the county to another. I'm looking forward to discovering the delights of the Blackwater estuary and surrounding area and getting to know the churches and communities in this part of the Witham Deanery.

Before being ordained I had a varied career in teaching, most recently as a peripatetic music teacher. During a break from teaching, I worked for a while in public libraries and also with a



charity supporting prisoners and their families. All of these roles brought me into contact with lots of different people. One of the particular privileges and joys of parish ministry over the past few years has been the opportunity to meet and get to know lots more people of all ages — sometimes at very significant moments in their lives. I am very much looking forward to meeting and getting to know many of you too.

I'm writing this just before the beginning of September which for me, as a former teacher, always has something of that "new year, new beginning" feel about it. Maybe it feels that way for you too? New beginnings always bring a certain amount of change and this year will undoubtedly contain some significant changes for me. I will be joining you during a time of change for the churches in these villages too, as the new Team Ministry for this area begins to take shape. Change can be exciting - and sometimes a little bit scary too. So, as we journey into the future together, it's good to trust that we are held safely in the eternal and unchanging love of God. As we prepare to begin this new chapter together you will be in my prayers. Please do pray for me too. I look forward to meeting you soon.

Revd Jo Wood

Jo's installation as Team Vicar takes place at 7.30pm on Tuesday 4th November at Layer de la Haye

A PRAYER TO USE DURING VACANCY

Heavenly Father we thank you for the ministry of Anne-Marie our previous rector, and we pray your presence and blessing upon her as she takes up her new post as Archdeacon of Morgannwg.

We ask now that you will help us

- to share responsibility,
- grow in faith,
- love one another,
- care for those in need,
- reach out to others,
- and welcome newcomers.

Lord Jesus, guard and grow our churches as we serve you together in this period without a rector. Be with all those in the ministry team who will lead us during the interregnum, and all of those whose unseen and unheralded work behind the scenes ensures that the work of Christ continues.

Please guide those who are seeking the right minister for us, and those who are seeking the right church for their ministry, that together we may discover your way for the future and see your kingdom grow.

Amen.



Inworth Church Harvest Flower Festival



Saturday 4th October 12 noon - 4.30pm Sunday 5th October 1pm - 4.30pm Refreshments and Raffle

Memories of Inworth

We will have some interesting photographs on display. The theme will be memories of Inworth over the years.

The Church will be decorated and open to visitors

Everyone welcome

Inworth Church is in the village of Inworth on the B1023 between Feering and Tiptree.

All proceeds towards the upkeep of this beautiful Church

Continuing the Celebration!

Dr Ruth Bancewicz

On 6th-13th October this year many people around the world will be celebrating the Jewish festival of Tabernacles, or Sukkot. They will celebrate the Harvest, and also remember God bringing the Israelites out of Egypt and through 40 years in the desert.

The biblical book of Deuteronomy contains a description of what Tabernacles should have been like back then. "Celebrate... for seven days. Be joyful... you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, and the Levites, the foreigners, the fatherless and the widows who live in your towns."

These festivals were not just a celebration, but also an expression of gratitude to God: "celebrate the festival to the Lord your God...For the Lord your God will bless you in all your harvest and in all the work of your hands, and your joy will be complete." Tabernacles was a proper holiday, with two whole days off normal work and seven days of feasting.

Farming looks very different today. Very few of us have had to sweat long hours over crops, so we're not as ready for (or deserving of) a rest and a party as our ancestors were at this time of year. That might be even more the case in future, as the agri-tech revolution unfolds. For example, small autonomous tractors are already becoming available that do less damage to the soil and make better use of steep or oddly shaped fields.

Many arable farms already hire contractors to do the routine work with large specialist GPS-equipped machinery. In future years those people might find themselves using very different kinds of high-tech kit, acting more as land-management advisors, helping farmers to gather data and to find ways of improving soil quality, biodiversity and the water cycle.

I'm very grateful for the food that arrives on my shelves. Instead of worrying about whether or not we earned it, our modern-day Tabernacles or Harvest celebration could include ways of encouraging those involved in agriculture and developing new agricultural technologies, as well as enjoying how we can learn about and benefit from God's creation through Science.

So, after you celebrate Harvest at church, why not follow it up with a trip to a local farm this month? Why not learn from the ancient Israelites, and follow it up with a meal together? It stands to reason that those of us who live in countries where food is plentiful and cheap could do with being proportionately more generous in our gratitude and giving. Should we throw better parties? Probably!

Celebrating 200 years of the public railroads

by Tim Lenton



Two hundred years ago, on 27th September 1825, the world's first public railway opened. It was the Stockton and Darlington Railway in north-east England.

Inspired and supported by a prominent Quaker, Edward Pease, and backed financially by many Quakers nationally, it has been described as "the great theatre of railway operations", sparking the explosion of railways across the world and boosting the industrial revolution. About 20 miles of the original 25 mile stretch still exist, now as part of the Northern Rail line.

The technical expertise behind it all came from George Stephenson, an extraordinary self -taught engineer whose expertise, which originated in the mines, stretched beyond railways. His *Locomotion No 1*, built for the Stockton and Darlington line, was the first steam locomotive to carry passengers on a public rail line. He worked with his 18-year-old son Robert, who is known for creating the more famous *Rocket* four years later.

The first Stockton and Darlington train – which in fact ran from Old Etherley Colliery, some distance north of Darlington – was led by a man on horseback with a flag. The motto of the organising committee was "At private risk for public service".

With brakemen stationed between the wagons, the train reached 12 to 15mph and was greeted by an estimated 10,000 people at the Darlington junction, where some passengers left and more boarded. The average speed was calculated at about 8mph. Six wagons of coal were given to the poor by way of celebration.

A nine-month festival in County Durham and the Tees Valley – with artwork, spectacles

and community events – is marking the bicentenary of the opening of the railway.

As a tribute to his life and achievements, a bronze statue of George Stephenson was unveiled at Chesterfield railway station in 2005. An earlier statue stands in Neville Street, Newcastle.

More info at: https://www.railwaymuseum.org.uk



The Nicene Creed: The Ascended and Returning Jesus

Canon Paul Hardingham

On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

This time we are looking at what the Nicene Creed says about the present and future ministry of Jesus.

'On the third day He rose again in accordance with the scriptures': Jesus' resurrection is central to the Christian Faith, for as Paul says, without it 'our preaching is useless and so is your faith.' (1 Cor 15.14). The Resurrection demonstrates the triumph of Jesus over sin and death, as well as recognising the breaking in of the new creation and Jesus as Lord over creation. The Creed affirms that it also fulfils the promises of Scripture, as Jesus explains on the Road to Emmaus: 'And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, Jesus explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself.' (Luke 24:27).

'He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the father': In the Creed, the Ascension is given equal weight to the Cross and Resurrection, as Jesus is restored to the place of honour alongside His Father. With Christ seated on the throne, there is now a man on the throne who is also God the Son. In His absence on earth, Jesus sends His Spirit to live in believers, 'Exalted to the right hand of God, He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.' (Acts 2:33). He remembers His people, 'because He always lives to intercede for them' (Hebrews 7.25).

'He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end': Jesus will return in judgement as 'the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead.' (Acts 10:42). God will put all things right, punishing all evil and establishing His full reign over everything. In contrast to human judgment, which is always partial and subject to error, this final judgment will be utterly true and right, because God knows our hearts completely.

How much does the idea of judgment help make sense of the fate of evil in the world?

The Person of the Holy Spirit

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

This time we are also considering what the Nicene Creed says about the Holy Spirit.

'We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life': The original version of the Nicene Creed ended simply 'We believe in the Holy Spirit.' However, the phrase 'the Lord, the giver of life' was added to counter the teachings of Macedonius (Bishop of Constantinople), who viewed the Holy Spirit as a creation of the Son. The Holy Spirit is part of the Trinity who shapes us, according to Christ's image, through His fruit and gifts: 'the Spirit gives life...we are being transformed into His image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.' (2 Corinthians 3:6,18).

'who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified': In the late 6th century the Latin churches added the phrase 'and the Son' (the Filioque Clause), which was rejected by the Orthodox Churches. Augustine described the Spirit as 'love proceeding' from the Father and the Son, so we can know God: 'When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, He will testify about me.' (John 15:26).

The Creed is clear that the Holy Spirit is due equal status and worship with the Father and the Son, as a distinct divine person: 'May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.' (2 Corinthians 13:14).

'He has spoken through the Prophets': Why does the Creed include this activity of the Spirit? It is not just referring to the OT prophets, but the whole of Scripture. He has inspired Scripture, so that we have God's word communicated by human writers: 'All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness' (2 Timothy 3:16). When we read the Bible, the Spirit enables us to hear what God is saying to us.

In what areas of life have you felt the Holy Spirit at work in you?

Parish Pump

CAFE CHURCH

When Cafe Church started here in St Luke's I was unsure how it would work and what we would get from it. As time has gone on I have found it is stimulating and challenging.

It has allowed us to explore our faith in many different ways. We can answer the questions posed during the service and also ask questions. It has given us reassurance that we all have doubts but there are people around us who can support us and help us. We can also share the pleasure of our faith and what it can bring to our lives.

Cafe Church has also enabled us to make new friends and strengthen our friendships within our church and we all know how valuable a good friend is.

Cafe Church is a relaxing way to start a Sunday morning, tea, coffee and a muffin or pastry, time with friends and sharing faith. Please do come along to the next one it may surprise you like it did me, I never knew how interesting a messy tee shirt could be!!!

Sheila Gunson

The scary amount of money spent on Halloween

When did you first spot Halloween-themed items in the shops this year? Some were on sale in August. Seriously. August.

But perhaps no wonder – as in the UK Halloween has become the third-largest retail event after Christmas and Easter. In 2019 we spent £474million. By last year it had grown to £776million.

Who spends all this money? Millennialists and young children are driving the sales, with about £40 spent on each costume. The supermarkets are the most popular places to buy the costumes, and then there is all the party stuff and trick & treats to add to the shopping trolley...

Some retail analysts predict that America will spend about \$12 billion dollars (£8.8 billion pounds) on Halloween this year. The UK might spend about £800 million. That may be frightening enough, never mind the costumes.

Parish Pump

Government urged to make Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme permanent

The C of E has welcomed a recent call by MPs on the Culture, Media and Sport select committee for the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme to be made permanent, and for the cap to be lifted on claims.

Chair of the Committee Dame Caroline Dinenage has written to the Heritage Minister Baroness Twycross, calling for the scheme – which gives grants covering the VAT on repairs of more than £1,000 for listed places of worship – to be made permanent.

In the letter, Dame Caroline says the scheme was initially introduced 'in recognition of the social work of churches and their important contribution to our country's heritage.'

"These features still stand: 45% of the UK's Grade I buildings are owned by the Church of England and churches remain communal spaces for social and charitable activities," she said.

She added: "The scheme is welcome recognition of the role of churches and their contribution to our heritage, but without certainty over its future many repair and refurbishment projects are at risk of never getting off the ground.

"The Government needs to commit to the scheme by making it a permanent source of support, and by lifting the cap of £25,000, so historic places of worship can concentrate on the important work they do in our communities."

"As one diocese said: 'funding into built heritage will multiply to wider community benefits ... VAT relief for a listed church is also often VAT relief for a food pantry, youth work and mental health groups."

Parish Pump

Millions are still available to help Listed Places of Worship

Almost three-quarters of the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme funding remains available for the 2025-26 period.

With seven months still to go in which applications can be made, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) says that - of the £23 million available — £5,498,850 has been used to date, and there is currently £591,237 worth of claims in progress.

The 2025-26 scheme will close on 31 March 2026, or once the £23-million cap has been reached, whichever is earlier. According to Church House, at least 38 churches and cathedrals are undertaking initiatives at an estimated cost of more than £2 million.

Parent & Toddlers at St Luke's

Meet here every MONDAY morning 9.15am – 11.15am



(includes holidays, but not bank holidays) photo by Marcus Spiske Unsplash

Everyone welcome! Parents or carers, grandparents, friends and childminders.



Meet up, have a chat, relax and play!



There is a small charge of £2.00 per family - drinks & biscuits are included



Further information from Margaret Peek 01621 810804 or Maureen Horn 01621 817497

New Extension Canopy

This photograph shows the completed Canopy Roof at the entrance of the Church Extension which was part of the Architects original approved design. Although it was our intention to include this with the original building work, due to costs it was necessary to put this on hold and wait until sufficient funds were available. However, following subsequent discussions with FOSL (Friends of St Luke's) they kindly agreed to make this their fundraising project and over many months have raised sufficient funds to allow us to put the work in hand, which was undertaken by Tiptree Conservatories Ltd.



The construction is of UPVC which matches the

windows and doors in the building and will need minimal maintenance other than cleaning from time to time.

We would like to express our grateful thanks to Sandra and the FOSL Team together with all the various functions which have been held and contributed to achieving our target.

Clive Eastbrook (Fabric Officer)

Before we work on artificial intelligence, why don't we do something about natural stupidity?



2025 FRIENDS OF ST LUKE'S



26th Sept, 24th Oct, 28th Nov & 19th Dec 2–4 pm, and every 4th Friday of the month, Games Afternoons join us in the Hall





13th September 7.30 pm in the Hall

Barn Dance

Hosted by John Dorsett

27th September 10am in the Hall

Coffee Morning Fundraiser for Cancer

Craft Stalls, Bacon rolls, Face Painting Cakes & Raffle





11th October 7.30pm in the Hall Quiz Night

22nd November 7.30pm in the Hall

Dance through the Decades Music Night

All the hits from the 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's & 90's



To book for FoSL events please contact foslbookings@gmail.com

Book the Hall

for your meeting, group or event

we are in St Luke's Church Extension, St Luke's Church, Church Road, Tiptree, CO5 0SU



Good rates and improved facilities!

Hourly Rate:

£20 - regular bookings

£23 - one-off bookings

both including use of all facilities & kitchen

Wi-fi available for group leaders or speakers (discuss your needs when making your booking)



Bookings & Enquiries to:

Gareth Williams: 01621 818069

Email: hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com

Why not give us a call?

We now have a Facebook Page www.facebook.com/tiptreechurchhall/

Regular Hall Bookings, at St Luke's:

For all hall bookings call Gareth Williams 01621 818069

Email: hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com

Weekly Morning: Afternoon Evening

Monday Parent & Toddlers; Chair Yoga

Tuesday Tiptree Volunteers Coffee Morning, Chair Pilates, Up in Lights Dance Academy

(2nd & 4th Tues)

Wednesday Slimming World, Jan Scott Dance regular private booking

WEA (autumn/winter)

Thursday Sound Collective Coffee Morning & Choir U3A Choir (2nd & 4th Thurs)

Friday Tiptree Art Club Chair Pilates

Sunday Coffee after Service KYDS Youth Drama Society

Monthly

Sunday Sunday Club (3rd Sunday morning)

Tuesday Little City (1st Tuesday morning)

Wednesday U3A Line Dance (2nd Wednesday afternoon)

Tai Chi 2.30 pm (3rd Wednesday) & 1.30 pm (4th Wednesday)

Tiptree Tipplers (3rd evening in month)

Thursday U3A History (1st afternoon), Tiptree Garden Club (1st evening), Flower Club (2nd evening),

St Luke's Ladies Group (3rd evening)

Friday Messy Church (1st Friday afternoon), Priory Heath WI (2nd Friday afternoon in the month)

Games Afternoon (4th Friday afternoon)

If you are interested in making contact with any of the groups listed, please contact the Hall Bookings Administrator on hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com

Find us on Facebook: 🚮 / tiptreechurchhall

May 2025



"Good news on the lottery-funding for the organ repairs, Vicar – three of our numbers came up for £25!



...if you have been affected by any of the issues raised in this sermon...





St Luke's Church

LUNCH AT THE NEW TIMES

Meet up with us for lunch, company & a chat,12 Noon on the Fourth Monday in the month at:
The New Times, 87 Maldon Road, Tiptree, CO5 0BN

Monday 25th August

22nd September

27th October

24th November

22nd December (Christmas Lunch)

No need to book, just turn up at 12 noon and order from the menu of the day.

Cost: £14.50 for a Two course Lunch & hot drink

Christmas Lunch - more details to follow

Contact Christine & David Eaton to find out more: 01621 819166 Email: christine.gorringe@btinternet.com

Photo by Rob Wicks on Litisplisch



St Luke's Church

COFFEE AT THE NEW TIMES

Join us after morning service on Thursdays

Meet up with us for coffee, chat and fellowship at The The New Times each Thursday from 11am

Come along meet new people, good company & conversation. Just turn up.

We are at: The New Times, 87 Maldon Road, Tiptree, CO5 0BN

Contact Christine & David Eaton to find out more:

01621 819166 Email: christine.gorringe@btinternet.com

Photos by Jeremy-Yapp-1992 22 on Linspiesh & joyo-yuen-sharemyloodd-BlyPTIUviBY-unspie

All Saints Church, Messing

Hatchments update and progress at 6th August, 2025

We are delighted to announce that work is progressing well on all 5 Hatchments

- The old restoration glue, a substance no longer used or permitted, has been completely removed;
- All the frames have been removed and are being rebuilt. They were all rotten and eaten by woodworm;
 - · New 'stretchers' have been made and are ready to take the Hatchments when they are complete;
- The first clean after the glue removal has revealed the true potential magnificence of the Hatchments;
- Much has been made of the 'mysterious 5th Hatchment'. The cleaning has revealed hidden secrets and we are on the trail
 of whom it commemorates



Is Gen Z coming to church?

Dr Peter Brierley considers some recent statistics. His sources for this article include: The Quiet Revival (Bible Society); Church Times reports from March and April; Daily Telegraph "Features" supplement, 16th April; and Statistics for Mission 2023, Church of England.

Could it be true that a *Quiet Revival* (as the report is called) is taking place? Another reasonably large survey commissioned by the Bible Society's research team suggests it could be.

In March 2025 Bible Society repeated a survey they had carried out in 2018, asking 13,000 people if they went to church (It was 19,000 in the 2018 study).

Perhaps to their surprise, but, as suspected by others, and to the incredulity of still many others, they reported that attendance at church once a month in England and Wales had increased from 8% in 2018 to 12% in 2025, and the increase was mostly seen among those aged 18 to 34, defined generally as those born between 1997 and 2012; that is, those now aged 12 to 27 in 2024.

A more detailed breakdown showed that in every age-group, men are attending more than women, except for those aged 65 plus, where the percentages are equal. For men aged 18 to 24, this meant an increase from 4% in 2018 to 21% in 2024 and for women from 3% to 12%, respectively.

Whatever the reason some Gen Z people are coming to church, the report's findings agreed with other studies - that churchgoers are often happier than those not going to church.

As for denominations, the Roman Catholic growth has been substantial and widespread. The *Daily Telegraph* 'Features' supplement in April had the headline: 'The extraordinary resurgence of Catholicism in Britain', and explained, "Gen Z want to belong – modern life can be lonely They have digital friends but never meet them. They are crying out for community." The Catholics have 1.8 million people attending Mass on a Sunday.

Parish Pump

Plastic carrier bags

This year marks ten years since England introduced the 5p charge for single-use plastic carrier bags. The charge has had a dramatic effect – with a reduction of 98% in sales.

In 2014, 7.6 billion single-use plastic bags were sold in the UK. By 2023, 133 million single-use bags had been sold in the major supermarkets. The average person in the UK now buys only about two single-use plastic bags per year.

Is there a spiritual revival going on among our young people?

A leading Roman Catholic professor of Pastoral Theology at the University of Vienna thinks that this may well be so. For the Revd Paul Zulehner says that while Church is still losing young people, it is also gaining them.

"We're clearly witnessing a protest against mainstream secularisation, as groups of youngsters yearn for re-spiritualisation or re-enchantment. Many are looking for meaning beyond material success, when such perceptions have become enfeebled in our pluralistic societies."

Professor Zulehner was speaking to the *Church Times* after the recent Roman Catholic Church's *Jubilee of Youth*, which attracted a million-strong gathering in Rome, led by Pope Leo XIV.

Meanwhile, in Britain, Youth for Christ, an international evangelical youth ministry, has reported that weekly church attendance by young people had doubled from four to eight percent in five years. YFC said that half of young people were now declaring a belief in God, and 96 per cent express an openness to "supernatural experience".

The report also said that the number of younger people claiming to pray regularly had also increased sharply, although it is still small. 65 per cent said that they now viewed churches "positively", compared with just eight per cent in 2020 — defying "every prediction about declining religious engagement".

Professor Zulehner added that while many young people are sceptical about institutional Churches, they have found a "medium and language" through social media for sharing their religious interests.

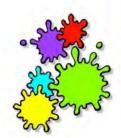
He told Church Times: "Gospel influences are at work through Instagram, TikTok, and the networks today's youngsters rely on, which may ultimately prove as important in finding followers for Christ as the Church's leaders and traditions."

Parish Pump

As you tidy your garden for winter...

Gardens are preparing to go to sleep, but next Spring will soon be here. So why not consider some changes now:

- ~ Install a water butt now, to store up the winter rain for the Spring.
- ~ Reduce the hard standing in your garden. Instead, let rain soak into the soil, rather than go down a drain.
- ~ Plant something tall to create shade in your garden next year the soil will remain wetter.
- ~ Put in more plants the more you have, the more protection they give the ground. Try to use native species, as your local wildlife depends on them.
- ~ Consider adding a pond it will be a great boost to your local wildlife!



Messy Church!

Join us here at St Luke's Church: after school on



Friday 5th September Friday 3rd October

from 3 pm to 5.30 pm

Friday 7th November

A simple meal

Songs

Friends

For:



Activities
Stories
Crafts

a short service

Games

St Luke's Church, Church Road Tiptree, CO5 0SU

Find us on Facebook: /tiptreestlukes

Did you spot many butterflies this past summer?

The wildlife charity Butterfly Conservation is deeply worried about our butterflies. Or rather, the lack of them. It seems that more than 80 per cent of our species have declined sharply in number since 1970s.

Each summer sees the Big Butterfly Count, when the public is encouraged to send in the number of butterflies they have seen over a short period of time. Last year saw the lowest number of butterflies spotted in the count's 14-year history. Even the familiar species like the small white, common blue and small tortoiseshell had their worst summer ever. And a record number of people saw no butterflies at all.

Butterflies have been hit by climate change, the use of pesticides, and damage to their habitats. The drought this summer will have been bad news for their caterpillar offspring, which need growing plants to feed on.

So, this autumn, why not plan a happier year for butterflies in 2026? As you prepare your garden for winter, go to https://www.rhs.org.uk/wildlife/butterflies-in-your-garden for some ideas of how to make your garden butterfly-friendly.



Parish Pump

'He gave us eyes to see them': Lucas Cranach's 'Adam and Eve'

Revd Michael Burgess

In October we traditionally give thanks for the good gifts of God's creation at harvest time. In the readings for our worship, we often return to that original goodness in the Garden of Eden, described for us in the opening chapters of Genesis. We glimpse that scene of paradisal harmony in Lucas Cranach's painting 'Adam and Eve.' It shows a wonderful menagerie of birds and animals around the couple, all unaware that the harmony will be shattered as Adam takes the apple from Eve.

One version of this painting is in the Courtauld Gallery of Somerset House in London. It is a large, neoclassical building by the Strand in the centre of the city. In the summer months 55 fountains play in the courtyard outside, while in the winter people skate on the ice rink. Somerset House was built on the site of a Tudor palace and dates from the 18th century. It is now a centre for the visual arts with an impressive collection of paintings.

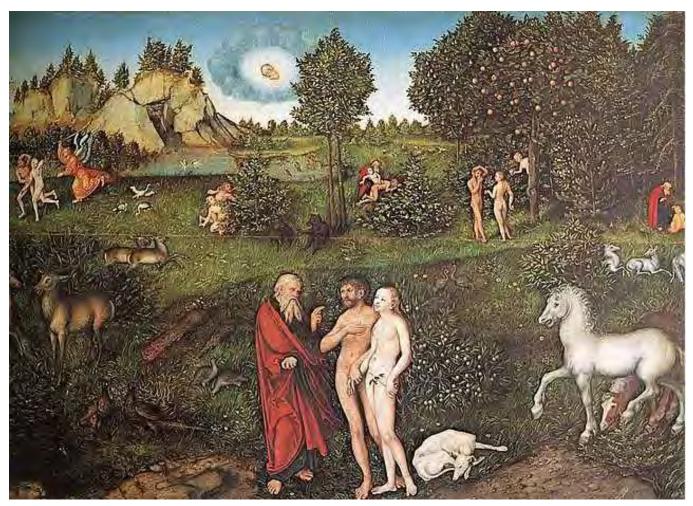
Lucas Cranach, this month's artist, was born in 1472 in what is now Bavaria. He became a court painter to the Electors of Saxony until his death in 1553. Cranach was a close

friend of Martin Luther, but also had Catholic patrons. Like the Electors, they marvelled at his mastery of landscape and animals. In this painting we are invited into the garden to look on all the beauty and wonder there. Among the animals we can see a hog, a lion (although Cranach would never have seen a lion in the flesh), a sheep, and a stag, a symbol of Christ. There are birds as well, including a pair of partridges, who traditionally represent the power of love, but also deceit. The roe deer drinking from the pool in the foreground is a reminder of Psalm 42 and the soul thirsting for God. But dominating the scene is that moment of turning from God: there is a glorious tree, laden with fruit, and in front Adam and Eve, whose hands clutch an apple, while the serpent slithers down the trunk in a moment of triumph.

The painting is reminiscent of medieval tapestries and, like them, has a beguiling quality. All is beautiful and harmonious: it is Isaiah's vision of the lion lying down with the lamb amid the fruitfulness of nature and the oneness of creation. As we look on, we know that the defiance of God and the temptation to eat will lose this paradise. But we also know that creation will be redeemed by another fruit. Around Adam and Eve are the vine and grapes: they represent the Eucharist, the gift of Christ's body and blood.

The fruit of the tree in the painting leads to a fall from grace, but the fruit from that other tree, the vine, will redeem and lift humanity again to share in the bread and wine, the gifts of creation given at harvest and shared at every Holy Communion.

Parish Pump



'Lucas Cranach's 'Adam and Eve, public domain'

Anne-Marie's Farewell Lunch

On Sunday 7th September after Anne-Marie's final service at St Lukes people from around the team met in St. Luke's extension for a bring and share farewell lunch. After lunch some of the Churchwardens spoke and a presentation was made to Anne-Marie of some Tiptree jams, assorted service books in welsh and a cheque for £1,645. There are some items of furniture that Anne-Marie wishes to buy for her new house and this will go towards the cost of this.















Those magnificent men in their flying machine...

by Tim Lenton

It was 125 years ago, on 20th October 1900, that the American aviation pioneers the Wright Brothers made their first untethered glider flight at Kill Devil Hills in North Carolina.

This was a key moment in the history of aviation, although their first powered flight of a heavier-than-air aircraft came three years later, on 17th December 1903, also at Kill Devil Hills, which is near Kitty Hawk.

Orville and Wilbur Wright, who lived in Dayton, Ohio – more than 600 miles from Kitty Hawk – were the sons of a bishop in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, and were both named after clergymen. However, they became inventive mechanics and owned a bicycle shop at a time when cycling was becoming safer and popular. They chose the Kitty Hawk area for flight attempts, based on advice from the US Weather Bureau.

There had been many unpowered glider flights in Europe before, and the Wrights, who were in their thirties, were particularly impressed by the successful German pioneer Otto Lilienthal, who had been killed in 1896. The Wrights' big leap forward, however, was a system of three-axis controls that made fixed-wing powered flight possible. It enabled the pilot to steer the aircraft and maintain its equilibrium. It remains standard on aircraft today.

Flying changed the world for us all. It had long been a dream, dating back at least as far as the Greek legend of Icarus and Daedalus, and including kite-flying in China and ballooning in 18th-century France, with the Montgolfier brothers. A small piece of the Wright Flyer is now on Mars — a piece of cloth attached to a small but active reconnaissance helicopter called *Ingenuity*.

Parish Pump

Learner drivers must wait months for driving test

If someone in your family wants their driving licence this autumn, they may have to wait months before even getting a driving test.

For the average waiting time across all test centres has recently increased to 22 weeks, up from 14 weeks back in February 2024, according to the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA).

The AA Driving School says that: "With the vast majority of driving test centres now showing waits at the maximum the system will allow, the situation cannot get much worse.

"While we would expect [the DVSA's] changes to take a few months to show a positive impact, it is still disappointing to see that learners are continuing to face an uphill battle when it comes to booking their driving test."

Parish Pump

24





Games Afternoon

4th Friday, Every Month, 2-4pm

£3 per person Includes Biscuits, Coffee, Tea, & Good Company!

Rummikub, Cribbage, Scrabble, Mahjong, Cluedo... and many more Games available













Share

There are only two things a young child will share willingly - communicable diseases and mum's age.

Smart car

A clergy friend of mine bought a new car that sported an on-board computer. On Sunday morning he got into the car to drive to church, and the digital display lit up. Glancing at the readout, he chuckled at the announcement: "Time for service."

Tempting

Don't tempt me, I can resist anything but temptation.

Reply

A curt reply to a bishop who had suggested that a certain incumbent consider moving read: Dear bishop,

I REMAIN, vours faithfully....

Not any more

Two young tourists went into a Quaker Guest house in Lakeland. As they were strangers, the warden approached them and asked, "Are you Friends?"

The answer came back politely, "Oh no, not now, we are married."

Choice

Why do Americans choose from just two people to run for president, and 50 for Miss America?

If you understand it...

When you get to the point where you really understand your computer, it's probably obsolete.

Where two or three are gathered...

A lady was describing the small attendance at her local church. "We were so few last Sunday that when the vicar began 'Dearly beloved,' I blushed."

Ten

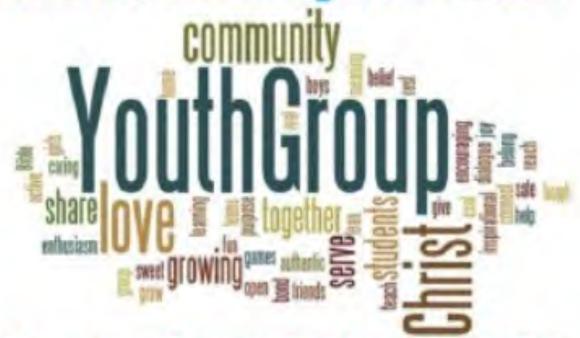
Asked to name one of the Ten Commandments, one little girl replied: "Do not admit adultery."

Golf

A golf player is a person who can drive 70 miles an hour in traffic with perfect ease, but who goes to pieces on a two-foot putt if somebody coughs.



Churches In Tiptree Youth



An inclusive Christian faith based Youth Club for young people in school years 7°-11 (ages 11 - 16open to year 6 from Easter

Fridays, Term Time, 7pm - 8:45pm

@ Tiptree URC, Chapel Road Fun, games, sports, cooking, lifeskills, snacks, conversation

Want to know more?

Contact: andy@typo.uk.net



CITY CITY CITY CITY

Churches In Tiptree Youth

Books of the Bible

Canon Paul Hardingham

2 Corinthians

'For anyone operating under the naïve presumption that joining a Christian church is a good way to meet all the best people and cultivate smooth social relations, a reading of Paul's Corinthian correspondence is the prescribed cure' (Eugene Peterson).

Paul sent four letters to the Corinthian church: one mentioned in 1 Cor.<u>5:9</u>; 1 Corinthians; a 'severe' letter mentioned in <u>2 Cor. 2:3–4</u>; and 2 Corinthians sent around AD 55 around a year after 1 Corinthians.

Paul had a number of reasons for writing this letter:

To express the joy he felt at their response to his painful letter (1:3-4; 7:8-9,12-13).

To share his troubles in Asia (1:8-11) and why he changed his travel plans (1:12-2:4).

To ask them to forgive those who had offended him (2:5-11).

To warn them not to be "yoked together with unbelievers" (6:14-7:1).

To explain the true nature of Christian ministry (2:14-7:4).

To encourage them in giving and completing the collection for the Jerusalem Christians (chs. 8-9).

To deal with the opposition (chs. 10-13) and prepare for his coming visit (12:14; 13:1-3,10).

In this very personal letter Paul defends his leadership against accusations of inconsistencies in motives and credentials. A major theme concerns the relationship between suffering and the power of the Spirit. His opponents argued that Paul *suffered too much* to be a Spirit-filled apostle.

Paul responds by saying that his sufferings embody Christ's death and his endurance reveals God's glory: 'He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.' (2 Cor 12:9).

Galatians

Paul's letter to the Galatians has been described as the 'Magna Carta of Christian Liberty', because it emphasises the freedom that we have through faith in Jesus Christ. Paul vigorously defends the truth that people are justified ('made right with God') by faith in Jesus Christ alone. Our standing with God is not determined by what we do, but

by dependence on what Christ has done.

It is generally believed that Paul wrote this letter in 48/9AD to the churches in the southern area of Galatia, which he planted on his first missionary journey. It was written before the Council of Jerusalem (Acts 15), making it the earliest of Paul's letters.

Paul is dealing with Jewish-Christians (or Judaizers) who were advocating ceremonial practices of the Jewish law, including circumcision, in addition to faith in Christ as the means of salvation. They were undermining Paul's authority as an apostle, by asserting that his gospel didn't agree with the apostles in Jerusalem.

In response, Paul defends his apostolic authority and presents the true gospel, by emphasising the unique importance of Christ and His cross in salvation. He argues that 'a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ' (2:16). He appeals especially to the examples of Abraham (3:6-9) and Hagar and Sarah (4:21-31), who stand in contrast as being a 'slave' under the law and 'free' in Christ.

'It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.' (5:1). We are justified through faith alone and it is by faith alone that we live out our new life in the freedom of the Spirit.

Parish Pump

Eustace King

& Birkin Funeral Directors



Independent family funeral directors who pride ourselves on caring for our local community in their hour of need.

Tiptree (01621) 819145 87 Church Road, Tiptree, Essex. CO5 0HB

Email: tiptree@ekbirkin.com

On what those adverts from parishes wanting clergy REALLY mean...

The Rectory St James the Least of All



My dear Nephew Darren

So, you are being encouraged to look at adverts for parishes for that happy day when you will have charge of your own church. You wonder if you should look to moving to another part of the country; I suspect it may be better if you look to moving to another planet, as your reputation may not yet have travelled that far.

Reading the specifications that parishes provide, giving a picture of life in their community, need to be read in the same way as estate agents' specifications for houses for sale. Both demonstrate a triumph of optimism over reality. Let me help you decode some of the statements you will find:

"We look to grow our Sunday School" – We do not have a Sunday School.

"We have an enthusiastic choir" – We have a choir totally out of control.

"Our youth group is always eager to learn" - Our youth group experiments with some strange substances.

"The new incumbent should be sympathetic to our musical tradition"- The new incumbent must be able to play the organ as well as lead the Services.

"While cherishing our traditions, we see the need for change" – We always see the need for change, but alter anything at your peril.

"Plans for church renovations are in hand" – The building is in imminent danger of collapse.

"We have a large range of church groups" – You will have to run a large range of church groups singlehandedly.

"The vicarage is being refurbished" – The vicarage is a death trap. Its rising damp and dangerous electrics will not be fixed for many months yet.

"There is opportunity for developing ecumenical relations" – No one in living memory has ever spoken to clergy of other denominations in our town.

"The new incumbent should have a sense of humour" – He or she will need it when reading this specification.

My dear nephew, caveat emptor. Let the buyer beware!

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

Reduce speed now in Newbridge Road

On Newbridge Road in Tiptree heading towards Layer Marney the 30-mph speed limit ends and reverts to the standard 60 mph when a further 350 metres of road passes through an area of homes and businesses to open countryside.

The road is comparatively narrow for the volume of traffic it carries, and the permitted speed poses risks to people exiting their properties; pedestrians on narrow footways; and other road users such as cyclists, horse carriages or riders.

The road then continues over a single-track bridge.

Please consider signing our petition to Essex County Council to extend the 30-mph speed limit to enhance safety for all users.

To sign the petition online or read more background information see: www.tiptreeparishcouncil.gov.uk

If you don't use the internet you could sign the petition in Tiptree Parish Council Office, opening hours:

Monday – Wednesday from 9.30 am to 4.00 pm Thursday & Friday from 9.30 am to 11.30 am

The petition runs from: 11/07/2025 to 11/10/2025



All in the month of October

It was

20 years ago, on 3rd Oct 2005 that Ronnie Barker, TV comedian, actor and writer, died. Known for *The Frost Report, The Two Ronnies, Porridge, Going Straight* and *Open All Hours*.

60 years ago, on 8th Oct 1965 that the Post Office Tower (now the BT Tower) in London was officially opened. It was the tallest building in the UK until 1980.

90 years ago, on 12th Oct 1935 that Luciano Pavorotti, Italian operatic tenor, was born. Considered one of the finest tenors of the 20th century, and one of the most commercially successful of all time. (Died 2007.)

70 years ago, on 20th Oct 1955 that *The Return of the King*, the third and final part of J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*, was published.

40 years, on 26th Oct 1985 that the Australian government returned the ownership of Uluru / Ayers Rock to the local Pitjantjatjara people, on condition that they lease it to the National Parks and Wildlife Agency for 99 years and allow it to be jointly managed.

750 years ago, on 27th Oct 1275 that the city of Amsterdam in the Netherlands is traditionally considered to have been founded.

All in the month of November

It was

30 years ago, on 1st Nov 1995 that the first all-race local government elections took place in South Africa, marking the end of the apartheid system.

135 years ago, on 4th Nov 1890 that the first electrified underground railway system was officially opened in London.

85 years ago, on 14th Nov 1940 that in one raid 449 German Luftwaffe bombers dropped 503 tons of bombs and 881 incendiaries onto the English City of Coventry.

405 years ago, on 19th Nov 1620 that the 180-ton wine ship Mayflower arrives at Cape Cod, America, it's passengers, 87 members of a Protestant sect – The Pilgrim Fathers.

330 years ago, on 21st Nov 1695 that Henry Purcell, English composer and organist died.

135 years ago, on 22nd Nov 1890 that Charles De Gaulle (1890-1970) was born in Lille, France. He led the Free French against the Nazis during World War II and later became President of France, serving from 1958-69.

Wordsearch

Wordsearch on St Andrew (Feast Day 30th November)

St Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland, though his only connection with the country is that some of his bones were reputedly transported in the 8th century to Fife and preserved at a church in a place now named St Andrews.

Andrew was one of the first disciples of Jesus, and the very first to bring someone else to Christ - his own brother. Like many fervent Jews at the time, Andrew and an unnamed companion had been drawn to the prophet John the Baptist. When one day John pointed Jesus out to Andrew and his friend, and described Him as the 'Lamb of God', the two young men realised that the next stage of their spiritual search was about to unfold. So, as Jesus made off, they followed Him.

When Jesus turned and asked them what they were 'seeking', all they could come up with was a lame enquiry about His current place of residence: "where are you staying"

The reply of Jesus was the most straight-forward invitation anyone can receive: "Come and see". So they did, and the results of their response were life changing. For Andrew brought his brother, Peter, to Jesus, and soon the little apostolic band who would carry the message of Jesus to the whole world was formed. And right at the front of the column, as it were, was Andrew, the first disciple of Jesus.

Р	F		F	Ε	W	L	Α	M	В	D
N	Α	D	Ε	1	Ε	J	M	Ε	Р	D
J	S	M	W	1	R	E	Ε	S	W	N
P	0	1	R	R	D	S	I	S	O	1
C	R	Η	Ε	O	Ν	U	Т	Α	R	L
P	Α	Т	Ν	Ι	Α	S	Ε	G	L	В
J	Ε	F	O	L	L	0	W	Ε	D	Α
P	S	В	Α	P	Т	1	S	Т	O	N
S	R	N	Т	N	O	R	Т	A	Р	D
1	Ε	L	Р	1	C	S	1	D	W	0
C		L	O	Т	S	0	Р	A	Α	G

Andrew Patron Saint Scotland Fife First Disciple John Baptist Lamb God followed

Jesus Come See Peter Apostolic Band Message world



Tiptree Choral Society reconvenes after the summer break at 7:30pm on Thursday 11th September at the URC in Chapel Road Tiptree. We are looking forward to beginning rehearsals for our Christmas concert on **Saturday 6th December 2025** when we will be performing John Rutter's 'Magnificat', together with a selection of carols and Christmas music. We hope you will be able to make the date and start Christmas with us – why not put it in your diaries now!

You would be very welcome to join us for a new year of singing – we don't audition and we love having new members. You can get in touch via tiptreechoral@outlook.com or just turn up at a rehearsal and have a trial sing with us.





The Friends of St Luke's Present







Dance through the Decades

50's, 60's, 70's, 80's & 90's
All your favourite music in one night with our live DJ

Saturday 22nd November 2025 7.30pm St Luke's Church Hall, Tiptree CO5 0SU



Raffle Bring your own drinks and nibbles Tickets £12



Tickets on sale at Don Tyler Opticians, Tiptree

or

E-mail: foslbookings@gmail.com

Which milk is best?

Plant-based milk drinks, including soya milk, oat milk and almond milk, have soared in popularity in recent years. But how do these compare with cow's milk?

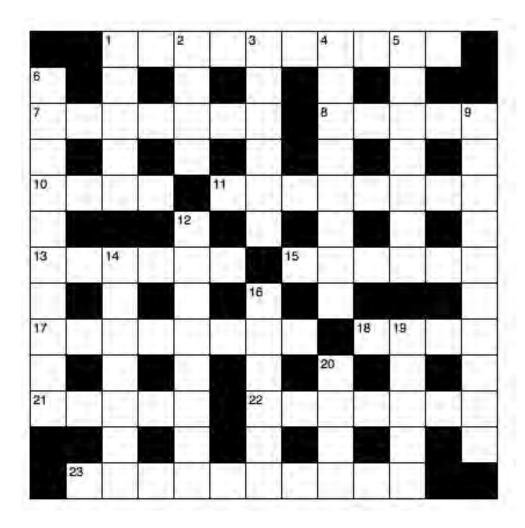
A recent report from the nutritional experts who advise the government says that vegan milk is not 'nutritionally equivalent' to cow's milk.

The Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN) and the Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment has also warned that the vegan alternatives to cow's milk often have a higher amount of sugar.

The report suggests that nutritional concerns might be "lessened" if people instead go for the unsweetened soya, oat and almond milk drinks, and if those drinks were to be fortified with vitamin A, riboflavin, vitamin B12, calcium and iodine at similar levels to those found in cow's milk, and also with vitamin D.

Parish Pump

Crossword



Across

- 1 He was replaced as king of Judah by his uncle Mattaniah (2 Kings 24:17) (10)
- 7 'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus... who for the joy set before him the cross' (Hebrews 12:2) (7)
- 8 Relieved (5)
- 10 Impetuous (Acts 19:36) (4)
- 11 Surprised and alarmed (Luke 24:37) (8)
- 13 'It is for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God' (Mark 10:25) (6)
- 15 Directions for the conduct of a church service (6)
- 17 One of the acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19) (8)
- 18 and 20 Down 'She began to wet his with her tears. Then she wiped them with her ' (Luke 7:38) (4,4)
- 'We will all be changed, in a flash, in the twinkling of an -, the last trumpet' (1 Corinthians 15:51–52) (3,2)
- 22 'But he replied, "Lord, I am — go with you to prison and to death" (Luke 22:33) (5,2)
- 23 Third person of the Trinity (2 Corinthians 13:14) (4,6)

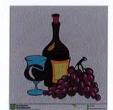
Down

- 1 He betrayed Jesus (Matthew 27:3) (5)
- 2 Paul's assurance to the Philippian jailer: 'Don't yourself! We are all here!' (Acts 16:28) (4)
- 3 'Fear God and keep his commandments, for this the whole of man' (Ecclesiastes 12:13) (2,4)
- 4 The sort of giver God loves (2 Corinthians 9:7) (8)
- 5 Sun rail (anag.) (7)
- 6 Naboth, the ill-fated vineyard owner, was one (1 Kings 21:1) (10)
- 9 Paul said of young widows, 'When their sensual desires overcome their to Christ, they want to marry' (1 Timothy 5:11) (10)
- 12 This was how Joseph of Arimathea practised his discipleship 'because he feared the Jews' (John 19:38) (8)
- 14 Mop ruse (anag.) (7)
- 16 Foment (Philippians 1:17) (4,2)
- 19 Where Joseph and Mary escaped to with the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:14) (5)
- 20 See 18 Across

Tiptree Guild of Beer and Wine Makers

Tiptree Tipplers





Meeting here every 3rd Wednesday 7.30pm for 8.00pm

A fun night out in a friendly atmosphere

Themed nights – see list

Why not come along & give us a try- no commitment

New members always welcomed

Annual membership only £35 with no entrance fee.

Upon arrival ask for Bill or Sonia who will welcome you and introduce you to our members

Our events for 2025 are -

Jan 15th – Wine Roulette	July 16 th – Summer Trip TBA
Feb 19th – Non Alcoholic beer discussion	Aug 20th – Wine Talk &
Mar 19th – Scones & Bread Competition	Ploughman's
+ Quiz	Sept 17th- Beer/Chutney
	Comp.
Apr 16th - Cheese/Port/Chocolate Tasting	Oct 15th - AGM & Hot Dogs £3
May 21st – Games Night + Pizza £3	Nov 19th – Talk
June 18 th - Wine Competition + Quiz	Dec 17th - Christmas Party

On Monday 8th September, a bench and plaque were unveiled at Tiptree Duck Pond in honour of the late Roger Mannion, former Tiptree Parish Council Chairman and later, Colchester City Councillor who sadly passed away in November 2024.

Roger's partner, Christine unveiled the bench together with current Tiptree Parish Council Chairman, Jonathan Greenwood. Also present were City Councillors Will Calverley and Paul Dundas as well as other Tiptree Parish Councillors and friends of Roger.

Roger spent many years tirelessly making Tiptree a better village including being responsible for the defibrillators that are now available around the village and which

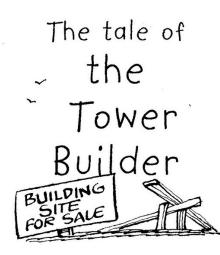


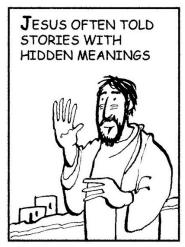
have already saved lives. Although his later years were spent bravely fighting cancer, he was still very much involved with village life and as a City Councillor still made a big impact on our village, a role he was very proud of.

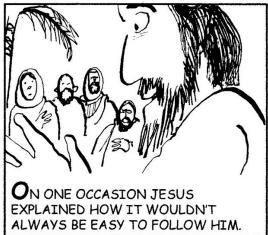
Roger is sadly missed by all that knew him. The bench now stands as a lasting tribute to him and will offer a place of quiet reflection and fond remembrance. When you next pass the bench or sit on it to watch the ducks, please remember Roger and everything that he did for our village.

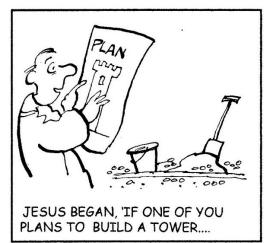
Written by Sandra Redgewell

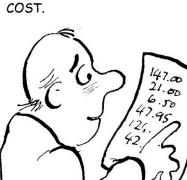








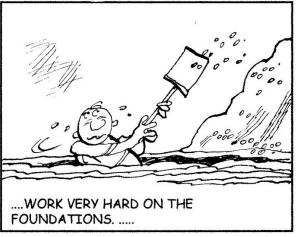


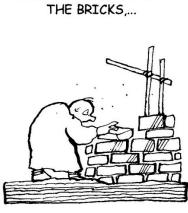


...YOU'LL FIRST NEED TO WORK HOW MUCH IT WILL



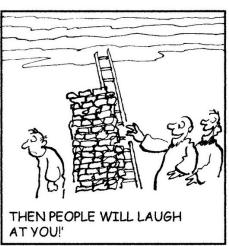






...THEN START TO LAY







St Luke's Ladies Group

17 July Goat in a Soap - Irene Barnett

21 August St Helena Hospice Charity Evening

18 September In Costume from Kentwell House - Eleanor Jenkins

16 October Live Your Life in Colour + Scarves - Sandra Sparrowhawk

20 November Sugar Craft Guild

18 December Christmas Meal + Entertainment15 January 2026 Gemstone Talks - Jason Middleton

Various local charities are supported every year.

Look out for details about outings on the noticeboards.

MEETING IN THE CHURCH EXTENSION

3rd THURSDAY IN THE MONTH

at 7.30pm

ADMISSION £4.00

INCLUDES RAFFLE

& REFRESHMENTS



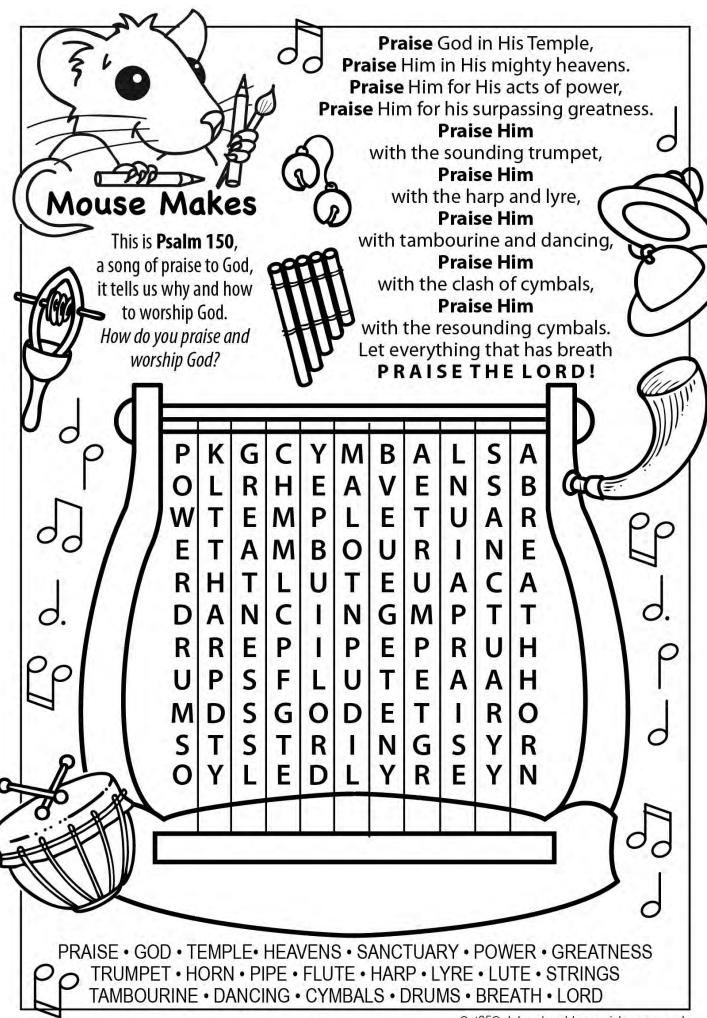




Contact BFS for prompt delivery of your domestic heating oil direct from our local Danbury Fuel Services depot. You'll find no better service, no better value.

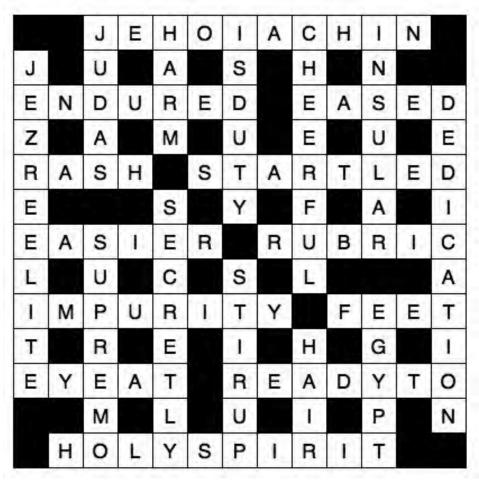
Fuel Services

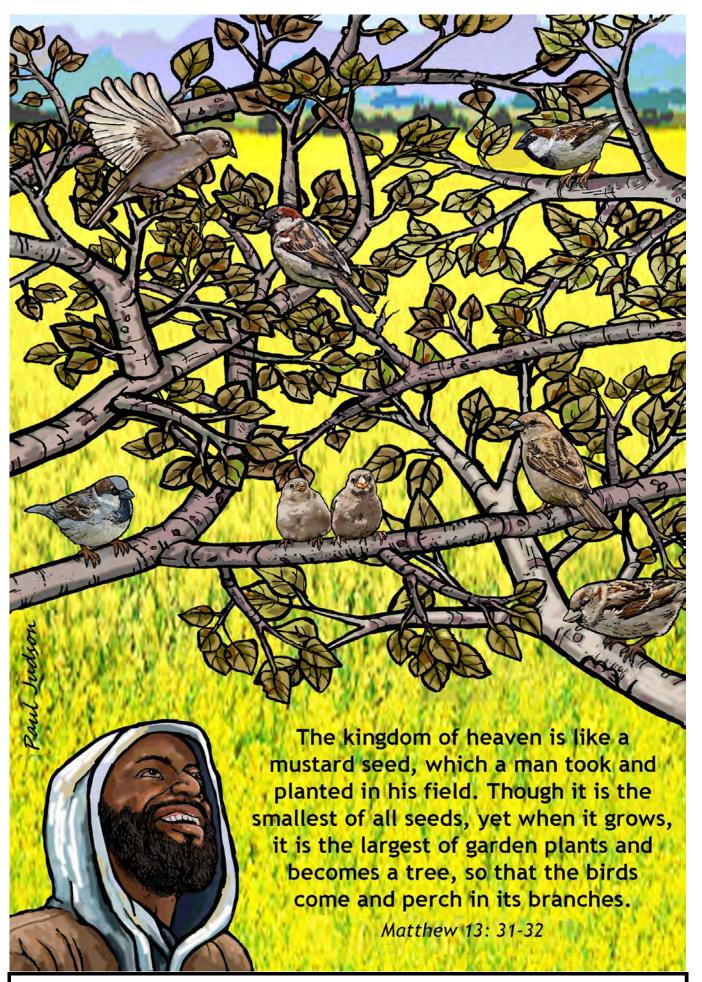
T 01245 425251 www.bfsfuelservices.uk



Solutions:







The opinions expressed in Open Door are not necessarily those of the Ministry Team, Team Council or Parochial Church Councils of the Thurstable and Winstree Team Ministry. Open Door is not responsible for errors or omissions, accuracy of the content, nor the failure of any published event to go ahead.