

April 2021

He is
risen!



50p

THE PARISH OF MELTHAM

CHRIST THE KING



Your Church is OPEN!*

Meltham Parish Churches are now open every Sunday for a spoken word service, of Communion or Morning Prayer.

St Bartholomew's 9.30am**

St James' Meltham Mills 9.30am

St Mary's, Wilshaw 11.15am*^

Christ Church, Helme 11.15am

Wednesday morning 10.30-11am St Bartholomew's,
spoken BCP service

***All current government guidelines WILL be adhered to so please keep your distance and wear a face covering. It is also subject to any government changes advised.**

** This service will be streamed live, but able to view anytime. See our website for the link:

www.Melthamparish.co.uk

*^ You can actively join in this service via Zoom.
Please call Jacqueline France 01484 663867
for more details.



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Safeguarding Officer Janet Rockett 851424

All magazine enquiries.

melthamparishmagazine@gmail.com

Or via The Vicarage, 150 Huddersfield Road, Meltham, HD9 4AL

Coronavirus Outbreak Prayer.

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of
your mercy in this time
of uncertainty and
distress.

Sustain and support
the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are
brought low;
that we may rejoice in
your comfort knowing
that nothing can
separate us from your
love
in Christ Jesus our
Lord.
Amen.

A note from the editor ...

Happy Easter!

Welcome to April's edition of the magazine. This month it is full of the joys of Easter, hear about giving away hearts and finding pebbles in the Real Love project throughout this edition. Also find out more about the new additions to the Crossroads team (pg14) or how Jill has been keeping busy during lockdown (pg 9).

Next month we will be starting a new feature on Christian music and what song speaks to you most, so please get involved and let us know your favourite hymn, chorus or song.

Finally I would like to say another great big thank you to all those who have contributed, all content is really appreciated, please keep them coming!

The next deadline will be:

Monday 19th April

Send your submissions via:

melthamparishmagazine@gmail.com

or

via the vicarage letterbox.
(150 Huddersfield Rd, HD9 4AL)

Thank you,
God Bless
Fiona.

Meltham Prayer Chain

Meltham Prayer chain has representatives from every church in Meltham and serves to pray for any need or difficulty.

Confidentiality is always respected.

If you would like to ask for prayers to be said, please contact

Rev Peter Rolls 340342

Lay reader Hester Deacon 657069

DIMPS

by Ville

**11 Station Street
Meltham, Holmfirth
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tel. 01484 850960**

Letter from the Vicar's Wife

(because John is swamped with Easter preparations)

As I prepare to put together this month's magazine, the world is starting to reflect on the events of the last twelve months and more. We have had the need to be distant from others while still trying to hold onto what we can to help keep us together via many phone and video calls. It has been said that people are not missing the material things in life but the interaction of a friendly face or a simple hug from another. It started with empty supermarket shelves and as we start to see the end in sight, it finishes with empty places at a family table.

However within all of this, many families feel closer than ever, some parents have spent more time at home with the children than they would have before. Families and friends have talked more often. I know from personal experience, I have spoken with my wider family "via Zoom" on a much more frequent basis, as we tried to keep our parents from feeling disconnected. We have been full of love and showing people how much we care. Friendships have found new ways of 'catching up' whether it be sitting freezing in a park hugging the life out of a cuppa or sat with a phone in one hand and something cold in the other.

During this time of Easter this got me thinking about Jesus' life. The Easter story starts with him 'self isolating' in the middle of the desert for 40 days having to be 'tested', not for Covid 19 obviously, but for his loyalty and teachings. Then on what we now know as 'Maundy Thursday' the evening before Good Friday, it all starts with Judas' empty place at a table. He gets Jesus arrested and tortured, the next day Jesus is convicted of prejudice and lies. Jesus doesn't get imprisoned, he is given a death sentence and executed the same day. Once dead he is laid in a tomb. However it doesn't stop there, three days later Jesus rises from the dead and leaves behind an empty tomb!

Why? Because He loves YOU! The real you, not the one you put up in front of social media or the one you try to portray to others, the REAL deep down YOU.

Jesus has been through loneliness, isolation and grief. He understands what it feels like to have an empty place at his family table, He is waiting for you to fill it.



Happy Easter to you all,

Fiona Dracup



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WHEN LOCKDOWN IS OVER

By Pam Murgatroyd

We wish that lockdown was over
And we could meet with our friends,
Eat & drink with our family safely,
As soon as lockdown ends.

The kids missing out on their lessons,
Need to get back to their schools,
As soon as Covid has left us
And Boris relaxes the rules.

But we will have to be sensible
And stay safe when lockdown is gone,
Or Covid might just come back again
And then it will have won.

We have managed for over a year
To stay safe and still be here,
So don't take too many risks too soon
And give us some more to fear.

Covid's been making the rules,
Now let us show it who's boss,
Keep to the new rules given by Boris
To help us reduce our loss.

Then hopefully by mid June,
We might get things back as before
And Covid might just go away for good
And will not return anymore.

A Gift that keeps on giving.

We all have found this Lockdown hard and all have stories to tell. Mine is making cards, that started with me making a few at home. People giving me cards to recycle and selling them to people to give to others to give pleasure on a birthday, or Anniversary etc. The profit from the sales is given to the Welcome Centre who give help to the needy and homeless.

A gift that keeps on giving!!!

Other people came on board and **gave their time**. Jane Greenfield who was amazing doing cutting and glueing and others who when they could and did some glueing. Then when we were selling packs of 5 and 10, Christine Rolls, -who taught me all I know, and leads the Community Card group-, brought card, ribbon and cellophane all a big help and also Community Cards that were made up and stored to sell at a later date.

Then people spread the word and the takings grew and made more profit for the Welcome Centre. So a big **thank you** to all who helped in any way. People who gave cards and bought cards and helped sell the cards. It's got me and Jane through this pandemic and people have enjoyed the cards and the amount of profit we made far exceeding all our expectations. It has, and continues to be a community effort that helps the homeless. **This gift that keeps on giving was a gift given to us to get us through the months of shielding.** Jill Horsman

If you would like to donate your cards so they can remade please drop them in at Jill's home, the Crossroads Centre or Shop (when it reopens).



Real Love



The 'Real Love' project started from Nigel Priestley hearing about it happening in Wakefield. Discussions took place and it was decided to do something similar in Meltham.

The aim is twofold. The first is for school staff and children at all the schools in Meltham and staff and residents in Meltham's care homes to receive a felt heart and a card with a message. We want to thank the carers for caring – whether parents or care staff and to thank the teachers for their hard work. The second aim is that we want them to know the Real Love Story of Easter – Jesus loves us without limits. The children and the residents pass on the heart to someone who has cared for them. Hearts are also being included in Food Bank Easter parcels.

When the numbers were added up, we realised that we needed 1,000 hearts! We needn't have worried. The response was amazing and the enthusiasm was fantastic. Packs of materials were made up and delivered.



Soon lots of volunteers, some from the churches and some not, were busy sewing the felt hearts designed by Lucy Whiteley. It was great to see all the chat and support in the Meltham Churches at Home WhatsApp group. Our only male volunteer had a bit of a problem with his first heart!



But he improved with practice.



Another idea which came from the discussions was to create a cairn of pebbles at each end of the Greenway for walkers to collect one and take it home. It can be kept by them or given away.

Andy Pearson bought and washed the pebbles and once again there was a number of enthusiastic people ready to demonstrate their creative skills. The hen is a whole other story!) The 'Real Love' project has been a real team effort.



Over the Easter weekend, each church in the Parish will be sharing the real love story of Easter, not only through the services but also through their creativity outdoors. Each church will be decorating a tree and using a large cross to remind us of the love of God.

From Good Friday (April 2nd) to Easter Sunday (April 4th) why not take a walk and look at what has been done?



Alison Whiteley

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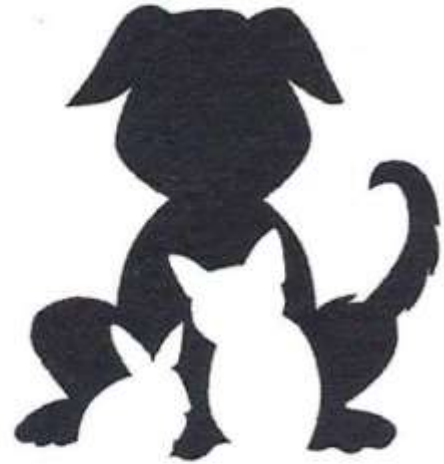
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National Day Of Reflection

Twelve months ago the nation was given a 'Stay at Home' order so that lives could be saved from the Coronavirus.

On Tuesday 23rd March, a minute silence was kept and a bell tolled at 12pm we remembered and reflected on the past year...



St James used yellow ribbons



St Bart's was lit yellow



Christ Church used daffodils

People remembered



CROSSROADS CENTRE



From his fullness we all have all received, grace upon grace.

John 1:16

I know someone who often posts on Facebook saying 'Feeling blessed'. It's not a word I use but I often feel thankful. As we faced what I believed to be insurmountable challenges at the Shop, the Centre and the Foodbank, we were not sure how to proceed. However God seemed to have plans when we didn't.

Needing volunteers to step up in the shop, to take on more responsibility trustees with time and experience, and someone to handle our finances. All were a real concern.

Many months later these roles have been filled and I would like to introduce you to some of our new volunteers.

Liz Rogan -

Liz has lived in Meltham for 30 years. She owned Bookworm from 2001 – 2006. She has been secretary of the Chamber of Trade and a School Governor at Meltham CE and Meltham Moor. She is a Magistrate and a volunteer in the Shop and is keen to take on her new role. Taking over from Jean Liz will chair Supervisor's meetings and deal with admin. and security tasks working with the Supervisors to improve Communication and supporting them in their efforts to create a happy working environment.

Sangeeta Enright - Trustee

Sangeeta is a long term supporter of the Project having been our Welfare and Rights Advisor at the Centre for about 3 years when working at Ridley & Hall. She now works for the Cystic Fibrosis Trust delivering a Welfare and Rights service. Sangeeta has 'experience and abilities in Training and skills in working with volunteers and is passionate about helping communities to tackle inequalities and food poverty'

Andrew Collins - Treasurer

Known to many of us Andrew stepped forward at the beginning of the pandemic to support us with our finances and then to take over the role of treasurer when Pat indicated that she was ready to retire.

Andrew was born in the east Riding of Yorkshire and moved to Huddersfield aged 16. He trained as an electrical engineer, working throughout the UK and the world and spending 2 years in Mexico with his wife Jane. He finally retired in 2018.

We are blessed for all our volunteers past and present and we ask that you continue to support and pray for the Project as it continues to expand its work throughout Meltham and surrounding areas.

THANKS

I want to take this opportunity to again thank all our volunteers who have worked so hard during the last 25 years, to keep the Shop and Centre such an essential part of our Community.



Thanks to Pat Radford our treasurer who has done magnificent work over many years keeping us financially sound and always encouraging us to be generous, giving back to God what He has so generously provided.

Thanks Pat, for your cheerfulness and good humour in all situations and always being willing to go that extra mile whenever needed.

Thanks to Jean Burhouse, our Project Secretary from the very beginning. Jean committed many hours to ensuring the smooth running of the Shop and Centre. Always available to help, offer advice and being a brilliant administrator for all our Committee meetings and events. Jean believed (and still does) in the importance of what we always aim to do 'to show God's love in the Community'. Thank you Jean, we will miss your input and wise advice.

Sue Priestley



Please contribute to Meltham Food Bank

They especially need the following items:

Sugar, s s long life milk, tinned veg, tinned fruit, rice pudding, soup, rice, noodles, pasta sauce, custard, cereals, tinned meat, tinned pasta meals, Jams, pet food, washing powder, washing up liquid, shampoo, shaving cream & shower gel.

Drop into the bins at Morrisons or the Coop. Fresh & frozen veg welcome but these must be delivered to the centre only.

Financial donations are also welcome.

Post through the centre door, labelled clearly 'Food bank'. **Mon - Fri 10—12.30.**



Daily Bible Readings for the month of April

<u>Date</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>New Testament</u>
1 st	Isaiah 50:4-9a	John 13:21-32
2 nd	Isaiah 52:13-end of 53	John 18:1-end of 19
3 rd	Job 14:1-14	John 19:38-end
4 th (Sun)	Acts 10:34-43	John 20:1-18
5 th	Song of Songs 1:9-2,7	Mark 16:1-8
6 th	Song of Songs 2:8-end	Luke 24:1-12
7 th	Song of Songs 3	Matthew 28:16-end
8 th	Song of Songs 5:2-6,3	Luke 7:11-17
9 th	Song of Songs 7:10-8,4	Luke 8:41-end
10 th	Song of Songs 8:5-7	John 11:17-44
11 th (Sun)	Acts 4:32-35	John 20:19-end
12 th	Deuteronomy 1:3-18	John 20:1-10
13 th	Deuteronomy 1:19-40	John 20:11-18
14 th	Deuteronomy 3:18-end	John 20:19-end
15 th	Deuteronomy 4:1-14	John 21:1-14
16 th	Deuteronomy 4:15-31	John 21:15-19
17 th	Deuteronomy 4:32-40	John 21:20-end
18 th (Sun)	Acts 3:12-19	Luke 24:36b-48
19 th	Deuteronomy 5:1-22	Ephesians 1:1-14
20 th	Deuteronomy 5:22-end	Ephesians 1:15-end
21 st	Deuteronomy 6	Ephesians 2:1-10
22 nd	Deuteronomy 7:1-11	Ephesians 2:11-end
23 rd	Joshua 1:1-9	Ephesians 6:10-20
24 th	Deuteronomy 8	Ephesians 3:14-end
25 th (Sun)	Acts 4:5-12	John 10:11-18
26 th	Isaiah 62:6-10	Acts 12:25-13,13
27 th	Deuteronomy 9:23-10,5	Ephesians 4:17-end
28 th	Deuteronomy 10:12-end	Ephesians 5:1-14
29 th	Deuteronomy 11:8-end	Ephesians 5:15-end
30 th	Deuteronomy 12:1-14	Ephesians 6:1-9

Daily Prayer

Opening prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation, to you be praise and glory for ever. As once you ransomed your people from Egypt and led them to freedom in the promised land, so now you have delivered us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your risen Son. May we, the first fruits of your new creation, rejoice in this new day you have made, and praise you for your mighty acts.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Blessed be God for ever.
Amen.

The reading for the day can be found on page 16

Prayers

Intercessions are offered

¶ for the day and its tasks

¶ for the world and its needs

¶ for the Church and her life

The Collect

God of life,

who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, The power and the glory,

Forever and ever. **Amen.**

Closing prayer

May Christ, who bore our sins on the cross, set us free to serve him with joy.

Amen.

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Plants wanted

If you are reorganising your garden this Spring or can take cuttings from your plants, we would love some donations for the 3rd bed we've made in St. James' graveyard. We're especially keen to include plants that will attract butterflies and bees.

If you can help, you can email me at alisonwhiteley@ntlworld.com or leave the plants at 15, Cardinal Close, Meltham.



The graveyard has a log pile and will have a long grass area. Both will hopefully attract some small wildlife. The clover lawn seeds have been scattered so we'll wait and see what happens!

**We can all contribute to an act of Kindness for the Church Hall by doing the following if you shop and are a member of the Co-op.
If you are not a member its £1 to join.**

MELTHAM PARISH CHURCH HALL

This year, the church hall is one of the Co-Op Community causes and you can support this by logging onto: **coop.co.uk/membership** and choosing the Church Hall.

If you cannot do this, you can call **0800 068 6727**. **Option 1** is to sign up for membership and **Option 2** is to choose which cause to support.

Please help this important community building to survive its closure due to the pandemic. This does not affect the dividend that the Co-Op pay to you for shopping there. Thank you.

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St Mary's Report

As I write this report the sun is shining; the crocus and snowdrops are brightening up the gardens and the future seems much more hopeful - God is good.

Over the last month we have had some interesting and well attended services on zoom and our thanks go to Jacqueline for hosting this each week.

Rev John Dracup led a Service of the Word on 21st February when we were reminded that the Kingdom of God is very close and that we need to turn our backs on worldly kingdoms and turn towards God's Kingdom and towards Jesus who is our good King.

The following Sunday Rev Judy Kenworthy encouraged us to think about our favorite names for God and for Jesus and how names feature in our lives. We also thought about how God loves and forgives us when we get it wrong and how Jesus challenges us to deny ourselves and take up our cross. This was a Holy Communion service and Rev Judy was celebrant and took the bread and wine on our behalf.

On 7th March Jacqueline led a Service of the Word and gave a talk which was based on "The Ten Commandments". We watched a short video, Rev Dennis Shields and Jacqueline led the prayers and we enjoyed listening to a song about "Love"

On Mothering Sunday Rev John led an All Age Service. We watched a video about "Moses in the Bullrushes" and Rev John told a story about God creating mothers and of how special they are and how they nurture us. During the prayers we planted three bean seeds as we thought about growing peace, growing love and growing kindness. We sang Happy Birthday to several people who were celebrating birthdays and it was good to share this happy time with 19 adults and 8 children. Prior to the service invitations were sent out and lavender bags, made by some of the congregation, were delivered to mums and carers in lieu of flowers.

Our thanks go to Judith Moore, Jacqueline, Tim, Jonah, Elizabeth and John Andrews for reading our lessons and to Elizabeth and Peter for preparing the power point presentation and providing the music. Thanks also to Rev John, Rev Judy and Jacqueline for leading our services and to Kim and Jacqueline for leading the intercessions. After each service we enjoy a chat and share our news and this is an important time of fellowship for us all, even if it is on a screen.

We were sad to hear that Fred Hall had passed away and extend our condolences to his family. Fred has lived in St Mary's Court since the 1960's where he and his late wife Molly raised their four children. He was well known as a watchmaker and amateur radio operator and celebrated his 100th birthday last year. He will be missed and our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

We are now looking forward to Easter when hopefully we will be back in church as well as on zoom. May we take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and peaceful Easter and a safe and healthy future when we can all meet up again. Until then stay safe.

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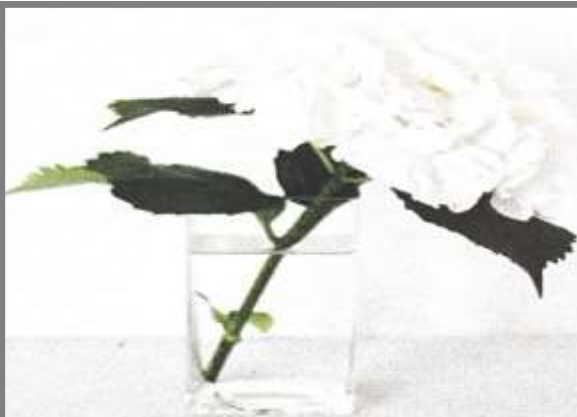
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FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Weddings - A gift of God in Creation & a means of His grace

Baptisms - We welcome you into the Lord's family

Funerals - May they rest in peace

David Rattigan,

Diana Lythe,

Denise Percival,

John Dennis Schofield,

Audrey Draper,

William Radcliffe,

Gordan Wood,

Philip Rayner

Anyone wishing to have their loved ones names included in the book of Remembrance at St Bartholomew's please contact Jean Collison : Telephone 851816
(there is a small fee of £5 for church expenses)

To contact our vicar Rev John Dracup: 07983 937132 parishofchristtheking@gmail.com

200 CLUB :

April Winners:

556	£50 Mrs. B. Kaye
004	£10 Mr. M. Townsend
803	£10 Vacant Number
095	£10 Mr. A. Farrell
502	£10 Miss B. Peel

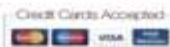
There are still several vacancies in the 200 Club. If you would like to become a member & support the Church Hall, please contact Michael Farrel 07768258257
m.farrellphd@btinternet.com
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BELL HOUSE REPORT

We continue to keep the residents and carers at Bell House in our thoughts and prayers as covid restrictions remain in force. Kim Howe delivered a bunch of spring flowers and a card on behalf of the HD9 Club and we hope that this cheered them up. Please continue to pray for them and for Greenacres and Helme Hall.

ideal carehomes



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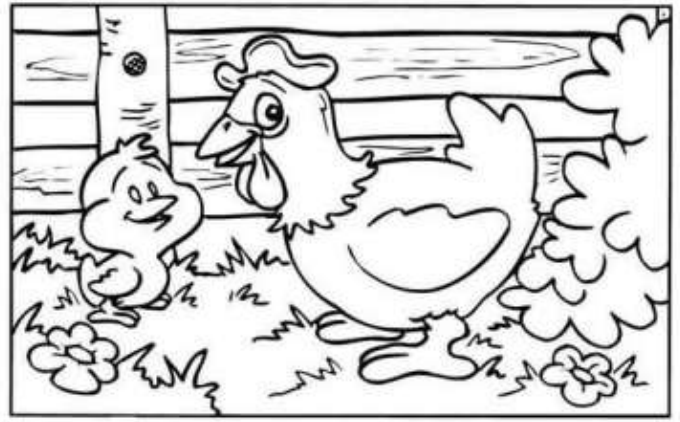
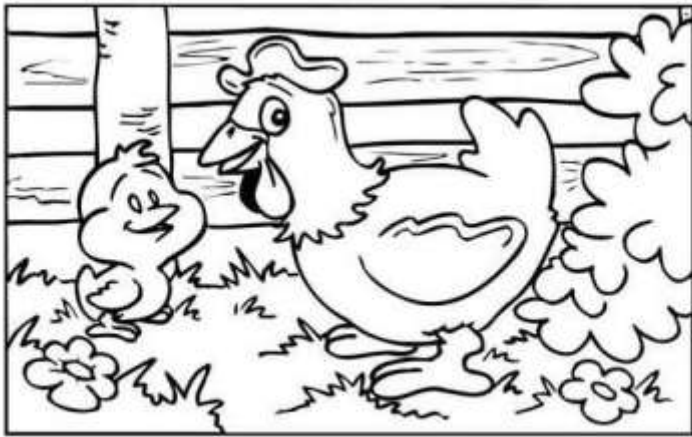
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Find the 7 differences



Denis A - Covid Continued.

When leaving the house in 2019 I used to take; keys, phone, and wallet. Now in 2021 I take; keys, phone, wallet, hand sanitiser, face mask, garlic salt, written will, rabbits foot, stress ball and Holy water.

Being almost computer illiterate, I rang a friend and told him I had a problem with my computer. "What kind is it?" he asked. "A white one", I replied.

I'm bored with Covid, I went outside and knocked on my own door, then went back inside and shouted "who is it?".

I got a letter from a team of psychiatrists which said " During quarantine it is considered normal to talk to plants and pets. Contact us only if they reply!

Someone asked my Great-Grandson, "How old is your Dad?", "5 years" replied Teddy Lee. "What?!, How is this possible?" they said. "He became by Dad when I was born" replied Teddy Lee.

Did you know there are more aeroplanes in the sea, than submarines in the sky?

Now a days its always 'Sods Law', 'Murphy's Law' or 'Coles Law'. "What are they?" a neighbour asked. Sods Law—if you dropped a slice of buttered toast with jam on it , it will always fall buttered side down on to the carpet. Murphys Law—if something can go wrong, it will do. 'What's Coles Law?' she asked. "Thinly sliced cabbage in mayonnaise" I replied.

A teacher asks the class to make up a sentence using these words; defence, defeat, detail. A boy replied " When a horse jumps over defence, defeat go first then detail."

Finally- I have a copy of the 1982 Radio Times if anybody wants to know what's on the BBC next Christmas.

Stay safe and sane (if possible), God Bless, Denis A.



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Meltham Family Page

HD9 Club

The HD9 CLUB have met up a couple of times on zoom and have enjoyed two internet games evenings which is what they like to do to wind down from the strains of school work and living in "lock down". There is lots of chatter and laughter. Hopefully it won't be long before they will be able to meet together face to face but until then zoom has kept them in touch. Our thanks go to Kim and James for continuing to lead this group.

"CARE AND SHARE"

This group is open, during covid lockdown, for anyone who is feeling lonely and would like to share some conversation and friendship. Care and share takes place on zoom every Tuesday between 8pm-9pm. Each week there is a talk or activity which lasts about half an hour and then time for a friendly chat. On 23rd February we had a talk about "Trains" which pleased the menfolk but which was also enjoyed by the ladies. The following week we had fun with a short quiz and a relaxing chat over a glass of wine and on 9th March, Rachel took us on a tour of the world as she shared some of her holiday memories and photographs. Finally, on the 16th we enjoyed a time of quiet reflection with a "Trinity Dance" meditation.

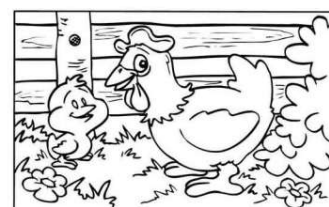
Mother's Day

St Mary's, Wilshaw celebrated Mother's Day on zoom this year. Ahead of the day they lovingly sent out a lavender bag, a palm cross (in readiness for palm Sunday) and an invitation for the mothers day service with 3 seeds included. During the service we were invited to plant these seeds as a symbol and a reminder of growing grace, kindness and love.



Spot the difference - answers

1. Hole in fence,
2. coloured beak on hen,
3. extra wing feathers,
4. extra tree bush line at the top,
5. missing flower petal lines,
6. missing grass tuft near chick,
7. line round hen's eye.



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#realLove



Happy Easter
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