



# WINKFIELD PARISH NEWS

**February 2021**

## CONTENTS

How can we sing the Lord's song in a Strange time?	2
Be Prepared	3
About this issue	4
Parish Notices	5
Around the Parish	7
Services within the Parish	9
Thoughts of all sorts	11
Puzzles	17
Children's Corner	20

# Winkfield Parish News – February 2021

## A word from Revd Patrick

### **How can we sing the Lord's Song in a Strange time?**

Psalm 137 could be put down as perhaps a song of despair. This Psalm has been popularized in chants, ballads, and even disco genre. You will remember the German pop group Boney M popularizing it by singing:

“By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down and wept when we remembered Zion. When the wicked carried us away in captivity, requiring from us a song. How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?”

This recounts the plight of ancient Israel, the people of God who were taken captive and exiled into Babylon 700 miles away from their homeland in Israel in 586BC. They were Stripped of their country, their property, their livelihood, their jobs, their economy and even their worship.

The Exile experience was a traumatic one. Everything is strange with an absurd new normal. The food is not kosher. The temples hosted all kinds of idols forbidden to them.

And the Babylonians taunted them to sing one of the songs they had sung in their now razed down Temple in Jerusalem. How would anyone expect us to sing the Lord's song in these strange circumstances? They were ready to give up on their mainstay of singing songs of joy, songs of Zion, songs of the Lord. In despair and frustration, they hung up their harps on the poplar trees. They were broken, traumatised and very much in a vengeful mood.

The Pandemic has put all of us in an exile of sorts. We are banished from our own churches and normal life. Everything is strange. We cannot go out when we want to. We cannot see our friends and family when we want to. We cannot even hug them. We have lost our businesses and jobs. We are not sure of our mental health.

But we must not forget to sing the Lord's song in these strange times. So, what song might we sing in the strange land to which the coronavirus has brought us? In some places, people on their balconies joined in a

bold and joyful protest against the power of the virus to silence their songs. For our own mental health wherever we are, we continue singing the Lord's song in favourite hymns, prayer and scripture meditation. We must take every opportunity for exercise and permissible interaction to help us through the exile.

In exile the people of Israel were able to continue to worship, to grow in their knowledge of God, to be challenged by new possibilities. Daniel and his friends survived that 70-year exile because they chose not to forget the goodness of God even in Exile and continued singing the Lord's song. We like them must look to the day of redemption and restoration. The promise of the vaccines is indeed an assurance that we will soon be free off the Coronavirus Exile. We are a people in exile and a people of hope, we are a people for such a time as this.

### **Be Prepared**

Patrick has given us spiritual exhortation – and we are now reaching a time when we can see some kind of a lull, at least, in the Pandemic. Many of the older members of the community have now had their vaccinations, and are feeling more secure than they have been for nearly a year, and these oldies can be ready to enjoy what life they have been spared to enjoy, and to take comfort from the restoration of some kind of familiar daily and weekly life, full of fruitful human interaction?

But what about our churches? Are they going to thrive – survive? – as we come out of the pandemic? Are we going to continue to be able to attend to our devotions and worship God in the beautiful and much loved buildings that we have cherished for so many years? Or have we come to regard the World of Zoom as the true home for Sunday worship?

Zoom has been a huge benefit to our church life over the Pandemic months. We have been able to keep actively in touch with our spiritual lives, and we have enjoyed glimpses of Parish friends, something that would otherwise not be possible. We have said the familiar words of prayer, and we have been refreshed by an experience made easier by not having to brave the wind, the rain and the cold.

Meanwhile, all too many churches have stood unattended to, without the life that a real church service imparts, or music to be inspired by, and

without the important social life that is the mainspring of Christianity. We need actively to Be Prepared to support them after Lockdown ends.

St Mary's Church has been a leader in showing that it is still a relevant building, after 600 years, and that it is there to provide a home for our spirituality that Zoom cannot support. Sunday by Sunday there have been services that have inspired people, by music, by the presence of young people entering into Christian life, by using the ancient and familiar rituals of the Book of Common Prayer, and by just being there.

We pray that other churches in our community and outside it will be inspired soon to reenter the lives of our parishioners and of all local people who look to them as being community havens, for the key events of human life invoked by birth, marriage, long term fellowship and death.

Revd Patrick has several times touched on the practical issue of funding for our churches, and the need for all who cherish Church as being at the core of our lives to be proactive – in money as well as support by voluntary activity. Our churches desperately need financial support, and Revd Patrick has rightly thanked the many people so far who have dipped into their pockets. We are the only sources of this funding!

One additional way of support that we, the editors, have personally espoused is to remember our churches in our wills – not perhaps a lot, but something – providing a gift to those who we will have left behind, and also a gift in memory of our loved ones in the church-yard. It is always heart-warming for the rest of us to have bequests from departed parishioners, and to know that they loved their churches and their church communities enough to leave something to future generations.

It seems silly to have to mention it, but an important form of support is actually to attend church, and to take part in its spiritual, musical and social life. In St Mary's, we sometimes wonder if people realise that it is very much open, even in these difficult times, not only for private worship, but also for public services; and the size of the church is such that social distancing is not so much of a problem in Covid-days. Do come to church as soon as you feel safe enough!!

So we come back to the headline – Be Prepared to be generous to the life our churches, as we recover from the pandemic, by support in various

ways, particularly by helping them financially – and then Be Prepared to enjoy the fruits of your generosity by seeing the people around you thrive in the blessings that they bring and that they will continue to do .

If you don't use it, you will lose it – and all of us who were in the Scouts or Guides, with Be Prepared as our motto, will remember the value of our busy competent activity and our making life work productively. Please focus, with that thought, on saving our Church and our churches!

Editors

## *About this issue*

We hope that you have enjoyed the slightly less formal style of the recent monthly Parish Mags. For the time being, we will continue in this vein, but as we wrote in last month's editorial, we do hope to return to a bi-monthly physical printed version. And we fervently hope that new people with editorial instincts will contribute to an institution that has long been an important organ of parish life, and that they will be supported by people who can help promote and distribute documents that will not only be enjoyed but also will form some kind of historical record of what goes on in the lives of our churches,

## *Notices*

### **Please help to keep our churches going!**

The best way to help is to set up a regular donation – this entails setting up a standing order to pay monthly to the PCC. You will find information about how to do this by going to the Parish Website:

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/welcome.htm>

and selecting “Church fees and finances “ from the left hand menu.

Towards the bottom of the page that you reach, you will find links for standing order forms, either to St Peters or to St Mary's with St Martins.

Online banking facilities also allow you to set up your own standing order, and setting this up is just as easy as asking the Parish to do it for you. PCC Bank details can be found on these standing order forms.

The church can obtain 25% Gift-Aid rebate from your gifts, if you are a UK taxpayer, and paying enough tax to cover the rebate. The Standing

Order forms also provide Gift Aid forms – if you are eligible, please fill in a Gift Aid form and send it in to the Church Office. This is optional and can be revoked at any time.

Your gifts to the parish will be applied to any costs that our parish may incur, particularly the Parish Share, which pays for our priest and also pays for support from and for the Deanery and Diocese. You may wish to support a particular cause, and this is a useful option. Doing so will not upset general Parish fund-raising – rather, it will help with the Parish’s obligation to support that purpose.

The Friends of St Mary’s Winkfield are focused on the need to preserve the fabric and contents of St Mary’s Church, and to keep it viable as an active community asset. The maintenance of St Mary’s is the responsibility of the PCC, and so the Friends represent an additional fund-raising arm, which gains strength by being able to focus on the merits of a beautiful 600-year-old building. The Friends enhance PCC fund-raising, and have been able to enhance its facilities (for example to restore the fine 170-year-old organ). Their ‘objects’ do not provide for direct support of the Parish Share, but, rather, take some of the load off the PCC for the expensive maintenance of St Mary’s church.

You can join the Friends as a member, for a modest subscription, and take an active part in Friends events on behalf of St Mary. Details of how to join can be found on the Friends’ website [www.fosmw.com](http://www.fosmw.com) by pressing the ‘Become a Friend’ button near the top of any of the FOSMW webpages.

Friends of St Mary’s Winkfield also contribute to the PCC funding by standing orders – it isn’t a question of one or the other!

Your help and enthusiasm to keep our churches going is much appreciated. And we would encourage you to consider making a bequest to the Parish in your will, particularly if you have loved ones or ancestors in the graveyards of our churches.

## **Safeguarding**

Please visit the Safe Spaces link:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/news-and-media/news-and-statements/safe-spaces->

as a new addition to the Safeguarding page. For anyone feeling

vulnerable, it serves to provide a place to reach-out-to. For some, it may feel like the only safe point-of-contact during these times of isolation.

Camille Jeffs, Parish Safeguarding Officer

[safeguarding@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk)

## **Easter Memorial Lilies**

Every Easter St Mary's women's Guild and Church Flower Arrangers decorate Winkfield Church with lilies donated in memory of loved ones.

If you would like to purchase one or more Easter Lilies please contact [lesleyphilpot50@gmail.com](mailto:lesleyphilpot50@gmail.com) or 01344 4275651.

The cost of each lily is £3.00.

## *Around the Parish*

### **New Year greetings from the bell ringers!**

Like everyone else we were deeply saddened by Huw' demise – some of you may remember that, when he first came to the Parish: Huw would help us out by ringing a hand bell or two – he had no experience but was happy to give it a go! Although he enjoyed it he could not join us regularly due to his other commitments.

We continue to ring or chime the tower bells each Wednesday and Sunday. Due to Covid restrictions we can only go up to the tower in family groups/bubbles. Sometimes this means a solitary ringer, sometimes two or three and, on one occasion we had all six bells chiming. We are grateful to the family (non ringing) members who come along and chime with us. We plan a collage of pictures to commemorate our efforts – a little piece of social history.

We hope that the locals enjoy hearing our efforts to keep the bells ringing in some way.

The hand bells are silent for the moment although we hope to contribute to 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday service at the end of January with minimal practice – so fingers crossed!!

We are looking forward to the better weather, the vaccine and life (especially bell ringing!!) starting to get going again.

Take care and keep well,

Jill Glennerster 01344-884071

## **St Mary's Choir**

The choir has continued to take part in the two Communion services each month and Morning Prayer on the fourth Sunday. As the congregation is still unable to join in the singing, we have recently sung only two verses of the hymns. We are most grateful to our visiting singers. Harvey Lin, the young organist and BBC Young Musicianship of the year finalist, played the organ for the Family Communion service in January and thrilled all in the congregation with his playing before and after the service.

Lesley Philpot

## **St Mary's Women's Guild**

The Guild does not meet in January although members have kept in regular contact by emailing and telephone calls. It is probably unlikely the Guild will be able to meet on 2 February.

Lesley Philpot

## **Friends of St Mary's Winkfield**

The Trustees have agreed to accept one of the quotations for an improved sound system recommended in the report prepared by Richard Loveys and Lesley Philpot.

The recommendation will be passed to the PCC. It is the PCC who will place the order. Funding is already available, with the benefit of a grant by the Mercers' Company; this grant was originally provided to help fund the organ restoration, but the Friends managed to raise all the money needed without using the grant. So, with the Mercers' Company permission, the funding is available for other Friends' projects.

A faculty will also be required and the Diocesan Advisory Council will need to be contacted.

Lesley Philpot

## **Family Matins – January 10**

The Flight into Egypt was the theme at the service and once again the children told the story. In addition two children read the Bible passages and one youngster played the piano. A very talented group.

Lesley Philpot



# Services within the Parish

As service plans may be affected by government policy, please check on the Parish Website to be certain that the service will take place.

## St Martin's

DATE	DAY	TIME	SERVICE
7 Feb	The Second Sunday before Lent	9:30am	No services in St Martin's church or church hall at the present time
14 Feb	The Sunday next before Lent	9:30am	No services in St Martin's church or church hall at the present time
17 Feb	Ash Wednesday	9:30am	No services in St Martin's church or church hall at the present time
21 Feb	The First Sunday of Lent	9:30am	No services in St Martin's church or church hall at the present time
28 Feb	The Second Sunday of Lent	9:30am	No services in St Martin's church or church hall at the present time

## St Mary's

DATE	DAY	TIME	SERVICE
7 Feb	SEXAGESIMA	10am	Family Communion (BCP)
14 Feb	QUINQUAGESIMA	10am	Family Matins
17 Feb	Ash Wednesday	11am	Holy Communion (BCP)
21 Feb	The First Sunday of Lent	9:30am	Family Praise
		11am	Holy Communion (BCP)

DATE	DAY	TIME	SERVICE
28Feb	The Second Sunday of Lent	9:30am	Crafty Church
		11am	Morning Prayer (BCP)

### St Peter's

DATE	DAY	TIME	SERVICE
7 Feb	The Second Sunday before Lent	8am or 11am	No 8am or 11am services in St Peter's church at the present time
14 Feb	The Sunday next before Lent	11am	No 11am service in St Peter's church at the present time
17 Feb	Ash Wednesday	7:30pm	No 7:30pm service in St Peter's church at the present time
21 Feb	The First Sunday of Lent	8am or 11am	No 8am or 11am services in St Peter's church at the present time
28 Feb	The Second Sunday of Lent	11am	No 11am service in St Peter's church at the present time

### Zoom services

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/8479172258?pwd=bUo3YlfluM3hrU2t2V2swTGRFN3Qxdz09>

DATE	DAY	TIME	SERVICE
7 Feb	The Second Sunday before Lent	11am	Zoom All Age Together – St Martin's or St Peter's style
14 Feb	The Sunday next before Lent	11am	Zoom Holy Communion (CW) – St Peter's style

DATE	DAY	TIME	SERVICE
17 Feb	Ash Wednesday	7:30pm	Zoom Holy Communion (CW) – St Peter’s style
21 Feb	The First Sunday of Lent	11am	Zoom Morning Prayer (CW) – St Martin’s and St Peter’s style
28 Feb	The Second Sunday of Lent	11am	Zoom Holy Communion (CW) St Martin’s style

## Thoughts of all sorts

### Patrick on Mission

Mission simply means loving and caring for God and His creation. Jesus in summing up the Commandments said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." Love your neighbour as yourself.' (Mark 12:30-31).

Mission is what each member of the Church does with our different gifts and talents to channel God’s love and blessings.



From the Garden of Eden, God had commissioned Adam and Eve to care for what He had created. The selfish independent action of eating what was forbidden brought extremely bad results that still affect us today.

Humans were separated from what gave them life, what energised them and what gave them purpose for that life. The image of God was spoiled. Disobedience and sin took its toll. Fear and shame pushed took

the place of love and trust. Self-centredness, blame and finger pointing became the major thing.

We still see the results everyday: hatred, injustice, murders, wars and many evils fomented in the human heart. Even after humans failed to love and trust God completely, God did not give up on them or any of what He had created.

Instead a plan is set in motion to get back, to redeem, and to buy back humanity and the creation that had gone bad as a result of human action. A new dimension in God's mission began.

### **Blessed to Bless.**

God called a 75 year old man together with his wife of similar age from pagan Ur-near Nasiriya in modern day Iraq. Their Mesopotamian names Abram and Sarai were changed to Abraham and Sarah, meaning they would become ancestors of many peoples even though they had no children.

God blessed them so that they and their descendants would be channels of blessing to all people on earth. Wherever they went they were a magnet for God's blessing. In Genesis Joseph became salvation for the Egyptians.

In Kings 5 a little Israeli slave girl was the channel for her captor Naaman's healing. Daniel and his friends brought a lot of wisdom to the Babylonian and Persian masters.



The blessing was completed in the birth, life, death and resurrection of the promised Messiah Jesus Christ. His family tree in the Gospels point to that fulfilment. Angel Gabriel confirmed to Joseph that His name would be Jesus because He would set His people free from their sin.(Matthew1:18). God's mission now focused on Jesus Christ being the

Messiah, Saviour, Redeemer and Ransom for sin.

John the Baptist recognised Him as "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the World." Abraham, Sarah and their descendants, especially the prophets with all their weaknesses, were God's mission agents.

Jesus Christ whom they prophesied about, was the perfect agent. He showed Himself to be the gate to freedom and salvation in the Kingdom of God. He is the ultimate fulfilment of God's mission and purpose to reconcile God's people and creation back to Him. So where do we come in?



We are part of this great plan of God. What a privilege! When Jesus ascended He gave the Church the power and authority to carry on God's mission to the ends of the earth. The mission was to witness to His birth, life death and resurrection and

to baptise those who believed and make them Jesus' followers and witnesses.

In other words they become witnesses and channels of the Father's love.

For the last 2000+ years people of every class, culture and race have experienced and been transformed by this extraordinary love. They as we do took responsibility of living out and testifying to this Gospel. Like Christ they sacrificially served their families and neighbourhoods, villages and cities, their nations and continents.

They crossed cultural and physical boundaries to flesh out the good news and blessing to the nations.

Ordinary people like Saints Patrick, Augustine, Francis and Columba went with the Good News and made disciples in the British Isles. For example, we know about The Salvation Army especially for their Mission to the underprivileged in society.

Orphanages, schools and hospitals were built through which many have been blessed and become blessings themselves.

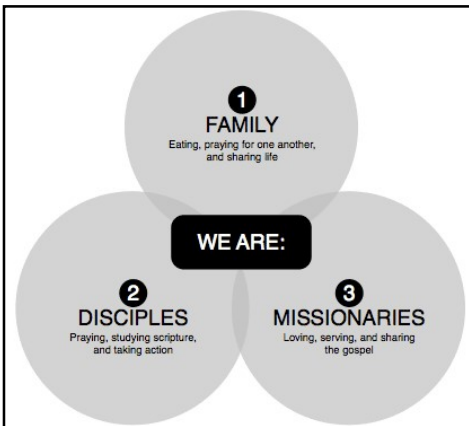


Mission is The Mission of God and is not just for a special class of people called priests, pastors, Bishops - or even the PCC. Every Christian is a missionary- a vessel of God's blessing, bearing witness to Jesus in their homes, neighbourhoods, work, and business.

This is what we promise to be and to do in our baptism vows. To each one a special grace is given to be a witness and a light in talking and action.

Christian is a gossip of the good news of God's love which (s)he practices. There are no spectators in the church! Everyone is a player; everyone is a special mission agent-a missionary.

When we meet together we give and receive the fullness of God's



love and daily display the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. According to the apostle Paul, Bishops, Vicars and all other ministers are merely coaches and mentors to train, encourage and deploy the people of God for work of Mission(Ephesians 4:11-13). Jesus came to restore the potential of human life as God had wanted it to be. The more we experience God

the more fully we are changed and the more completely we express God's image of love to each other. God the Creator is working for the restoration of all that he has created. In this mission, God offers and seeks the partnership of people. He chooses people, restores them, gifts and then sends them out to restore another people.

### **Vaccination fake-news - sterility**

The conspiracy theorists of the deep USA have, among other nonsenses, come up with the idea that Covid-19 vaccination can cause sterility in women. It seems that this idea stems from a German doctor and epidemiologist called Wolfgang Wodarg, who noted that a spike in the Covid virus shares a distant resemblance to a protein called syncytin-1 which is an important component of the placenta – could a vaccine targeting the spike also target syncytin-1? Conspiracy theorists saw an opportunity to cause trouble!

Vaccines work by creating antibodies that form a close fit to a part of the virus, and so stop it working properly. We are now used to the idea that small variations in the Covid viral particles can affect its sensitivity to a vaccine, so the specificity of the vaccine is enough to debar it targeting syncytin-1. Wodarg himself wrote: “there is no indication that antibodies against spike proteins of SARS viruses would also act like anti-Syncytin-1 antibodies.”

There is a convincing practical test that Pfizer used as part of their testing program for their vaccine: in the vaccine testing with more than 37,000 people, women were given pregnancy tests before they were accepted to the study. They were excluded if they were already pregnant. During the trial, 23 women conceived, apparently by accident. Twelve of these pregnancies happened in the vaccine group, and 11 in the placebo group. They continued to be followed as part of the study.

The body will create antibodies to fight the virus: it seems unlikely that it would thereby create a factor that will attack an important biological function – reproduction – and the Pfizer test, which causes such antibodies to be created, shows that it is also untrue.

Yes, it's fake news that that vaccine can cause sterility, put about by US far-right-wing scaremongers and repeated dumbly by the social media. Don't believe a word of it!

## Pickle raises Stroke awareness in Rotary Challenge

Pickle, a Bichon Frise rescue, is helping Easthampstead Rotarian, Peter von Bergen with his latest 500+ miles Community Challenge to Cycle (on his trusty exercise bike), Row (on his Pilates machine), and Walk (which is where Pickle steps in) 500+ miles for the Stroke Prevention Day campaign.



Peter, a self-confessed 'word nerd' is stroke

aware: "I rowed as a youngster, I now stroke Pickle ... and I'm a stroke survivor." "The coronavirus is causing more strokes among younger otherwise healthy people, so I started my Community Challenge to coincide with #StrokePreventionDay last Thursday."

Four years ago, Peter supported the Stroke Association's fundraising walk at South Hill Park. This year, complying with current guidelines to 'Stay home. Protect the NHS. Save lives', 72-year-old Peter has so far Cycled, Rowed and Walked 50 miles on his 500+ miles Community Challenge, and has already received £160 via his fundraising page. Every penny goes to Stroke Association.

Stroke Association Head of Research Awards, Dr Richard Francis, said in December "There is growing evidence that people with more severe coronavirus infection are at an increased risk of stroke ... and ... that people who have stroke and coronavirus are likely to be younger than expected."

Stroke Association is not alone in recommending 'Being more active can help improve your mood, reduce anxiety and increase your energy levels. It can also help you reduce your risk of a stroke.'



And Peter admits "I'm exercising and supporting the Stroke Association at a time when public fundraising events aren't possible. Every penny raised helps them promote a healthy lifestyle, support stroke sufferers and their families, and undertake further key research."

To help with this cause please consider supporting Peter's appeal:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/pa-vonbergen>

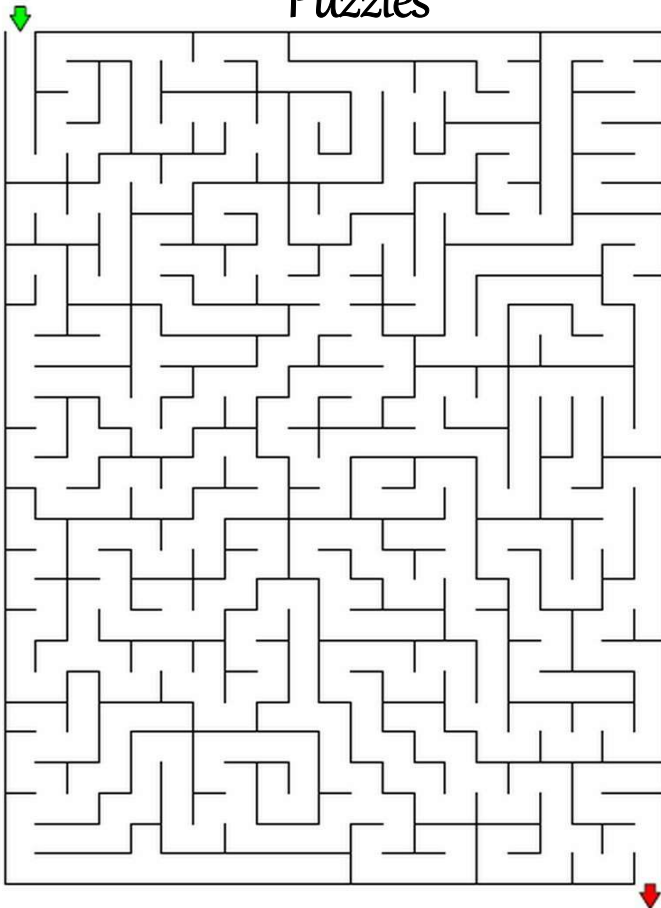
And for the Stroke Association do check out the following links.

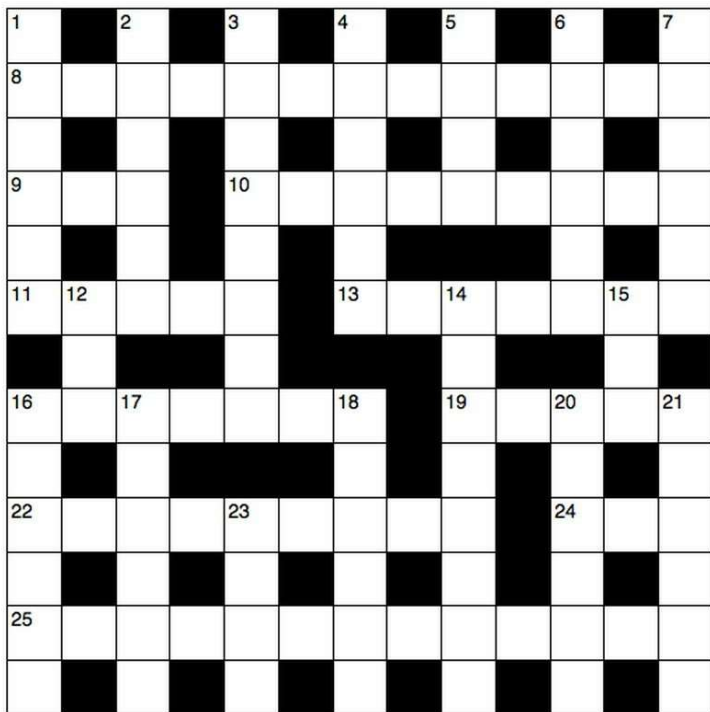
[www.stroke.org.uk/news/does-coronavirus-cause-stroke-look-current-research](http://www.stroke.org.uk/news/does-coronavirus-cause-stroke-look-current-research)

<https://www.stroke.org.uk/finding-support/staying-active-when-staying-home>

Making a Difference in the Community: [www.easthampsteadrotary.org](http://www.easthampsteadrotary.org)

## Puzzles





## Crossword Clues and Answers

### Across

8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)

9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)

10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)

11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)

13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)

16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)

19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)

22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)

24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1) 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

**Down**

1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)

2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)

3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)

4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)

5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)

6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)

7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' — salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)

12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)

14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)

15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)

16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)

17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)

18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)

20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)

21 Noah was relieved when the flood waters continued to — (Genesis 8:5) (6)

23 Jesus gave the Twelve the power and authority to do this to diseases (Luke 9:1) (4)

23, Cure.

14, Plotting. 15, Awe. 16, Vanish. 17, Starve. 18, Dab it. 20, Furrow. 21, Recede.

1, Oceans. 2, Hophni. 3, Islamist. 4, Exhort. 5, Omar. 6, On spec. 7, Add all. 12, CBI.

**DOWN:**

Offer. 22, No account. 24, RAC. 25, Sovereign Lord.

8, Cross-examined. 9, Ash. 10, Apocrypha. 11, Sci-fi. 13, Typical. 16, Visited. 19,

**ACROSS**

# Children's Corner

## The parable of the Shrewd Manager



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



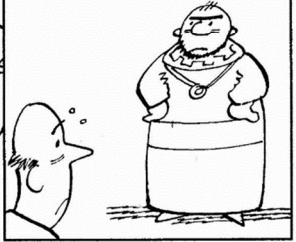
ONCE JESUS TOLD A STORY ABOUT A RICH MAN...

...AND HIS SERVANT, WHO MANAGED THE RICH MAN'S PROPERTY.

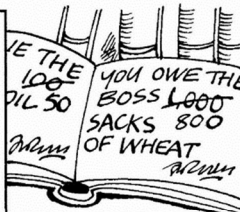


THE RICH MAN HAD HEARD THAT THE MANAGER HAS BEEN WASTING MONEY.

SO HE CALLED THE MANGER TO ACCOUNT FOR HIMSELF!



OH NO! I AM GOING TO GET THE SACK!

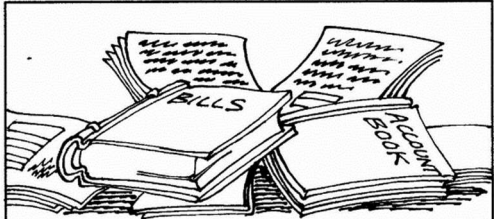
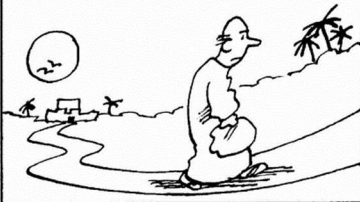


THE MANAGER AGREED TO LET THE RICH MAN'S TRADERS FIDDLE THEIR BOOKS!



SO THEY ALTERED THEIR DEBTS - AND STAYED FRIENDS WITH THE MANAGER.

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT THE MANAGER HAD BEEN WISE IN MANAGING HIS FUTURE... EVEN THOUGH HE WAS BEING DISHONEST.



JESUS WAS TRYING TO ENCOURAGE THE PEOPLE TO THINK ABOUT THEIR OWN FUTURES TOO. BUT IT'S A HARD PARABLE TO UNDERSTAND!