

# Trinity Times

# SUMMER 2021



FAITH  
SUMMER KIT  
FOR YOUTH & FAMILY  
Inside

**Holy Trinity Church**  
*Maisons-Laffitte*

2 Euros Donation

# Who Does What

<b>Chaplain</b>	Charlotte Sullivan 06 83 08 59 67
<b>Reader</b>	Richard Medcalf

<b>Church Wardens</b>	Christine Salisbury David Bean
<b>Church Council Secretary</b>	Didier Trufanow
<b>Chaplain's Assistant</b>	Jenni Gibson

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Contact person</b>
Address List	Jenni Gibson
Book Stall	Sarah Masset
Buildings/Grounds	Adrian Parr
Charitable Giving	Rachel Ischoffen
Choir	Rachel Meuriot
Coffee Rota	office@htcm.com
Crèche Rota	Jenni Gibson
Ecumenical Group	Christine Salisbury
Electoral Roll	Elizabeth Bean
Flower Rota	Fiona Dabas
Guiding	Christine Salisbury
Intercessions	Elizabeth Bean
Lesson Readers	Elizabeth Bean
Little Fishes	Jessamy Dinot
Trinity Times	Nancy Huguet
Organist	Joan Bauman
Outreach Group	Eric Peyrard Chris Parr

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Contact person</b>
Pathfinders	Chaplain
Pew Sheet	office@htcm.com
Planned Giving	Robert Manterfield
Prayer Net	Edith Briard
Safeguarding	Alice Auperin
Scouting	Gillian Barratt
Sidesmen	Patrick Gautier-Lynham
Sunday Groups	Chaplain
Treasurer	Bob Hughes
Trinity Tots	Jenni Gibson
Web Site	Richard Medcalf
Welcomers	Jane Gorini
Youth Worker	Joy Van Staaldunin & Chaplain
<b>Home Groups</b>	
Monday p.m.	Richard Medcalf
Tuesday a.m.	Nancy Huguet
Thursday a.m.	Hesry Marshall

# Chaplain's Corner

Our Bible study groups at Holy Trinity have just embarked on a new study; the Book of Acts.

After the first session, I left the zoom call feeling really energised and hopeful. An evening enjoying each other's company, sharing views and discussing God's word had left me wondering if that was how those early Christians felt after they had met together.

Once when Billy Graham was invited to speak at a church during one of his early crusades, some of his critics complained, they commented that his particular message could set their church back 50 years. Billy Graham smiled and said, "I don't want to set the church back 50 years. I want to set the church back 2,000 years!"



Every time I read about the early church in the Book of Acts, I understand why Dr. Graham made that statement. When you read about the early church in the first few chapters of Acts and then you look at the church today, you can't help but ask the question, "What happened?"

In Acts we read about mission; 3000 people being saved in just one day, and people coming together and sharing whatever they had. We read about ordinary people, shepherds, farmers and fishermen bearing witness to anybody that would listen to them about Jesus Christ.

What is even more incredible is they did it all without buildings or budgets. Financially, they had no money. Politically, they had no influence and numerically they were just a tiny fraction of the world's population. Yet the church to this day has never seen such explosive growth and such tremendous power.

A doctor named Luke gives us not only the answer to why the church is so different, but also how we can set the church back 2,000 years. He wrote the book of Acts and it is the most unique book in the New Testament, because unlike every other book its main purpose was not theological or doctrinal, but historical.

It is a spellbinding story of how a ragtag band of believers who no one had ever heard of became a spiritual juggernaut that turned their world upside down for Christ and started a movement that is alive and well 2,000 years later. But how did it happen?

Well, it was fire! This was a church that was corporately and individually set on fire by the Holy Spirit. The Book of Acts talks more about the Holy Spirit than any other book in the New Testament. The Holy Spirit is mentioned over 50 times in this one book alone. The major symbol for the Holy Spirit in the New Testament is fire. When you read the Book of Acts, you discover that Christianity spread like a fire from one place to another. The good news is that we have this fire today!

In our first study together, we tried to answer the question “What is church?”

St Luke shows us that the church was meant to be energised around one event : the resurrection of Jesus Christ. He is risen!

Today, more than 2,000 years later, we have the same mission and the same message and the same might that can literally set this world ablaze.

Because Jesus Christ is alive and since the Holy Spirit is here, we can be ignited and excited to fulfill His mission, given to the Apostles in Acts and to us, of taking this message to the entire world.

Lord set us on fire and let our light shine as bright and our faith burn as hot today as it did 2,000 years ago.

If you would like to join the Bible Study Groups on Tuesday at 10:30am or Wednesday at 8pm you would be most welcome!

**Charlotte**

***After the recorded Sunday service, there is an intriguing invitation to [Den@10](#). Serge Bastide talks about what goes on at these Sunday school meetings.***



Den@Ten is a fun zoom session in which a leader and our sound technician, Robbie, interact with children and teach them about the Bible and do fun stuff like talking and singing and praying etc....

This zoom session—held every Sunday from ten o’clock—lasts 15 to 20 minutes. It is a way of learning about God in these perilous times of Covid-19. We have learnt many interesting stories about Jesus’s life and all the miracles he performed.

It is a great idea for many reasons such as for learning new songs and interacting with our Sunday school friends.

**SB**

*As we celebrate the long life of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, many will have reason to remember him.  
LJ Desmeulles shares one such memory.*

## The Duke of Edinburgh



Back in 1988, my teacher gave an inspiring talk on The Duke of Edinburgh award. I remember feeling excited along with a couple of friends about the adventures we would have; we signed up immediately. Over the following four years adventures and challenges are what we had in abundance. The expeditions took me all over Scotland and the North of England, developing a love for walking in the hills

and the extraordinary beauty to be found in the wilds of Scotland. I do still however, shudder at memories of the midges that descended on us rendering our bright red cagoules black and watching the army blow up a collapsing bridge that we had been due to cross. The one thing the Duke of Edinburgh scheme taught me was team work, when working as a group having soaking wet rucksacks and shoes, or the ankle-height stream was now waist height and flowing fast all made for a unique adventure that pulled us together, not to mention the rescue by the British army being a highlight of our Gold Award. Through the skills section I learned to cook, drive, maintain a car, helped in Sunday School, helped younger pupils prepare for their Bronze award as well as spend a week learning German with a family in Bavaria. Mind you, I think I have forgotten any German since moving to France!



The highlight of course was receiving our Gold Award at Holyrood palace with the many friends I had made throughout the scheme. Although the Duke himself only spoke briefly to our group, I feel indebted to him. The scheme he set up back in 1956 has given myself and many others the opportunities to grow, experience amazing things, not to mention my love of hill walking that has remained with me to this day. I am now excited for my own offspring to take on the challenge, as my son Cameron begins his bronze award in September.

The Duke's legacy will remain for many years to come, through this award he created with John Hunt back in 1956. The children of the future will know him through this award and the achievement they will feel when they finally receive their Gold.

I have recently been asked what is The Duke of Edinburgh Award?

Started in 1956 by HRH Duke of Edinburgh and his old Headmaster, Kurt Hahn, the Duke of Edinburgh Award has gone onto become a living legacy of the Duke. The idea was to initially encourage boys between the ages of 14-26 to serve others, learn new skills and explore the countryside. However, less than a year later girls were allowed to participate. The scheme has since grown, with over 6.7 million participants starting the award since 1956 and of which 3.1 million have gone onto achieved their gold award.

This award is divided into three stages, Bronze, Silver and Gold. At each stage participants have to complete four sections: volunteering; a physical activity; a new skill; and an expedition. Each section becomes progressively longer and more difficult, the Gold Award is 12 months of volunteering, participating in a physical activity, learning a new skill, 5 days of hiking and an additional week-long residential.

This scheme is now worldwide and participants come from 130 different countries, with over 490,000 actively involved today this includes 25% of children from economically and socially deprived areas. Hopefully, his death will encourage young children in our area to ask the question how can I get involved in this scheme? If you are a member of the Paris Explorers, Scout troop or attending the BSP or Lycée International then you are eligible to participate. It really is a great opportunity and you never know who you will meet and what life skills you will learn along the way.

**LJD**





*A prayer has been answered. We have a new virtual Youth Worker, Joy Van Staalduin, interviewed here by Jo Devlin, who has been working with the HT Youth Group.*

## **Youth: our future, our church - latest news**



Church youth groups are a time-honoured tradition for teens. They are an amazing opportunity for teens to get together once a week, to talk about almost anything. During Youth group we have games, fellowship, and a quick Bible study. Our main goals are to have fun, get to know the kids in our church, and teach them about God's Word.

Joy Van Staalduin, joined Holy Trinity Church as our virtual Youth worker at the end of March 2021. It is a delight to have her among us. Get to know Joy and our Youth Group in the article below!

*JD: Joy, tell us a bit about yourself...*

Joy: I was born and raised in the United States. I accepted a call to ministry while working at a youth camp and have been in ministry with youth ever since! I attended seminary at Emory University in Atlanta and am an ordained Deacon in the United Methodist Church.

*JD: Tell us Joy, what is the role of a Youth worker?*

Joy: Youth workers have a vital role in walking alongside adolescents as they take responsibility of their faith. We get to watch students bloom and grow as they participate in worship and make Jesus a priority in their lives. Being a youth minister has its challenges as we are in ministry with students who are experiencing constant change. We must be there to offer pastoral care, a listening ear, and games to lighten the mood.

*JD: Why involve children and young people in our community? How would you say Youth groups are the future of the Church?*

Joy: Jesus calls us to ministry with young people. In Matthew 19:4 he says, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." It is important to acknowledge youth as both the future of the church, and the church present. We must not wait until they are older to include them but cherish their gifts now. By gathering students in youth group, we are creating a bond with fellow believers and fostering a passion for Jesus.

*JD: What would you say are the main challenges in leading a Youth group, and what do you like about it?*

Joy: When leading youth, it is important to allow students to take the reins. It is often a challenge to remind myself to step back and also allow the students to lead each other. As I mentioned earlier, youth are the church now and we need to remember to empower them from an early age. I love encouraging youth and watching them lead others in ministry.

*JD: How would you define your “teaching” style?*

Joy: I have a hands on approach to ministry and teaching. Blooms taxonomy shows us that when we learn we go through six stages: remember, understand, apply, analyse, evaluate, and create. My goal is to allow students the opportunity to go through these stages at their own rate and to acknowledge that we all get there in different ways.

*JD: How would you describe our Youth Group and team in a few words?*

Joy: Loving, compassionate, and silly

*JD: What would be your final words to our families at Holy Trinity?*

Joy: I’m just so grateful for the chance to be in ministry with Holy Trinity during such strange times. Even during a global pandemic, God is still at work and I’m honoured to be part of such an incredible faith community.



Are you **11-18 years old**? Come and try out our weekly **Zoom for teens (Accelerate)** on Thursdays @7.30pm. All newcomers are very welcome to join in - different themes each week. **Don't be shy, give it a try!**

**JD**





*What new activity did you take up during confinement ?  
Or which forgotten or discarded old interest did you return to ?  
Jane Gorini shares one such interest.*

## How to occupy one's time during a lockdown

This time last year, I remember that spring cleaning kept me busy during the first lockdown : each wardrobe was emptied and cleaned, each mattress turned and hoovered, each bookcase emptied and polished, interesting articles reread and then discarded. Interludes in the garden were helpful.

But when the second lockdown came in October, I needed something new and decided to create a book of poems chosen by my family and close friends. This was a good excuse for getting in touch with lots of people and meant that, in the days that followed, I received lots of post, always a pleasure when one lives alone.

So now I can dip into this selection whenever I fancy and enjoy its variety. An Austrian retired English teacher sent me his favourite Shakespeare sonnet, his wife her favourite "Recueillement" by Baudelaire ; one is in Italian, another is in French, and most are just lovely English poems.

So thank you one and all ! If anyone I did not contact feels inspired to send me his or her favourite poem, there is still lots of room in my Book of Poetry.

**JG**

PS In this third lockdown I am transforming part of my garden with new plants and bushes ! I pray that we may be spared a fourth one !



Photo source: [writing forward.com](https://writingforward.com)

# Jane's favourite poem

**Pied Beauty by Gerard Manley Hopkins**

Glory be to God for dappled things –  
For skies of couple-colour as a brindled cow;  
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;  
Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings;  
Landscape plotted and pieced – fold, fallow, and plough;  
And all trades, their gear and tackle and trim.

All things counter, original, spare, strange;  
Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)  
With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim;  
He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change:  
Praise him.

*BunCoeur Damoclès is a name you will not likely forget! Sylvaine Hughes introduces us to HT's newest charity, a local organisation with which we are working hand-in-hand.*

## **Bun Coeur Damoclès: the local charity we had been looking for**

For those of you who read our weekly newsletter assiduously - as you all do! - the name *Bun Coeur Damoclès* will already be familiar: in the past few weeks



you will have read a short report about the Charity itself and about the Food Bank collection organized on Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The HT Outreach Committee had been looking for a local cause/charity to support directly and actively for quite some time. Indeed, within our area, we were already supporting the *Secours Catholique* in Mesnil /Maisons Laffitte and *Pierre Blanche* in Conflans Ste Honorine, but the general feeling was that our congregation should find a worthy local project to support with more than just financial help.

And our prayers have been answered! As soon as Nancy Huguet accidentally found out about *BunCoeur Damoclès* on Facebook, the HTML Outreach

Committee felt we had at last discovered the local charity we had been hoping to find. For those of you who have missed the recent Newsletters, here is a quick summary of what *Bun Coeur Damocles* does:

The Charity started in February 2020 in Viry-Châtillon, it distributes hot soup and other food, blankets, clothing and hygiene products to homeless people (mainly men) sleeping out on the streets of Paris, 3 to 4 times a week. One of the three founders, Pierre, 19, lives in Maisons Laffitte and is currently setting up the Maisons-Laffitte branch with a few frontline volunteers and the help of the *Scouts et Guides de France* but he badly needs background support, especially as all the Charity's fundraising activities had to be suspended due to COVID. He has developed partnerships with various bakeries and restaurants in Maisons Laffitte (*Ballon Voyageur*, *Graine de Gourmandise*) providing food/cooked

meals and storage space for the various donations the Charity receives.

Pierre also goes round schools to collect material and to increase young people's awareness of drug abuse and of homelessness.

HTML Outreach immediately decided to help by funding the repairs of the two vehicles the Charity uses for their distribution rounds (brakes and steering problems).



Then, early March, a group of volunteers from our Church, the “Bun Coeur HT group”, met with Pierre at the church to see how more practical help could be given. One of the first difficulties that emerged was the need for a kitchen they could use regularly. The food for the 1000 meals distributed mainly around Gare de l’Est, metro Stalingrad, and Canal de la Villette in Paris on Saturday nights and three other nights every week, was so far prepared either in Pierre’s or in other volunteers’ houses, with all the difficulties one can

imagine, having to change cooking premises so often. We were very pleased to be able to offer the weekly use of HT kitchen every Saturday afternoon unless it is needed for a special occasion (with the support of our Chaplain and of our Church Council) and some storage space, thanks to HT’s Girl Guides, to store their kitchen equipment. On his first visit, Pierre was very impressed with our kitchen, even ecstatic in front of our huge coffee machine (as they were using small ones to fill their flasks). He did not forget to mention they would take care of the cleaning afterwards (to the church’s relief...) and his team has been very efficient so far.

The Bun Coeur HT group is very much involved in this new partnership and those of you who came to the Food Bank Collection on May 2<sup>nd</sup> could see how successful this first event was! Some of us were helping out Pierre in front of the Church, others were in the Hall, sorting out bags of clothes, preparing cardboard boxes ready for distribution... Indeed, the charity also collects men’s clothes and so far, the challenge is to sort out what has already been collected.

The Bun Coeur HT group is there to listen to Pierre's needs and help, suggest but not to take over... We feel he is extremely good at what he is doing for the homeless, but when practical problems get in the way (such as for example him not having had the time to learn to drive yet and therefore having to rely either on his bike or on other people's good will to drive him...), we want him to know we are there and hope his Charity will grow to help more and more people in need.

If you would like to help, here are a few suggestions:

- ◆ Become members of the Charity (€5 per year) which will help with petrol, paper cup expenses etc. (important!!)  
<https://www.buncoeurdamocles.fr/l-asso/agir/j-adhere.html>),
- ◆ Start collecting sanitary products and other much needed items such as toothpaste/brushes, liquid soap, men's clothes, men's shoes, hats, caps, gloves, jumpers, tents, tarpaulin/protective canvas, scarves, bath towels, etc... there will be collections organized in the near future.
- ◆ Watch the Church Newsletter for specific requests such as help with sorting out, transport, making food boxes etc.
- ◆ Introduce Pierre to various schools.

**SH**



## Butterfly Quiz

1. How many species of butterflies are there?

a) 10,000 b) 28,000 c) 48,000

2. How many wings does a butterfly have?

a) 2 b) 4 c) 6 d) 8

3. What country is called the Land of Butterflies with over 3,700 species?

a) Peru b) Mexico c) New Guinea

4. What do butterflies use to taste?

a) antenna b) proboscis c) thorax d) feet

5. How many lenses does the eye of the butterfly have?

a) 10 b) 200 c) 2,000 d) 6,000

6. What happens if their body temperature falls below 30°C/86°F?

They a) die b) cannot fly c) cannot see d) hibernate

7. Which statement is incorrect:

◇ Butterflies have been found on all the continents except Antarctica.

◇ People who study butterflies are called lepidopterists.

◇ There are several mentions of butterflies in the Bible.

◇ Monarch butterflies migrate from Canada/US to Mexico & back, flying almost 100,000 km. This takes 4-5 generations of butterflies to accomplish.

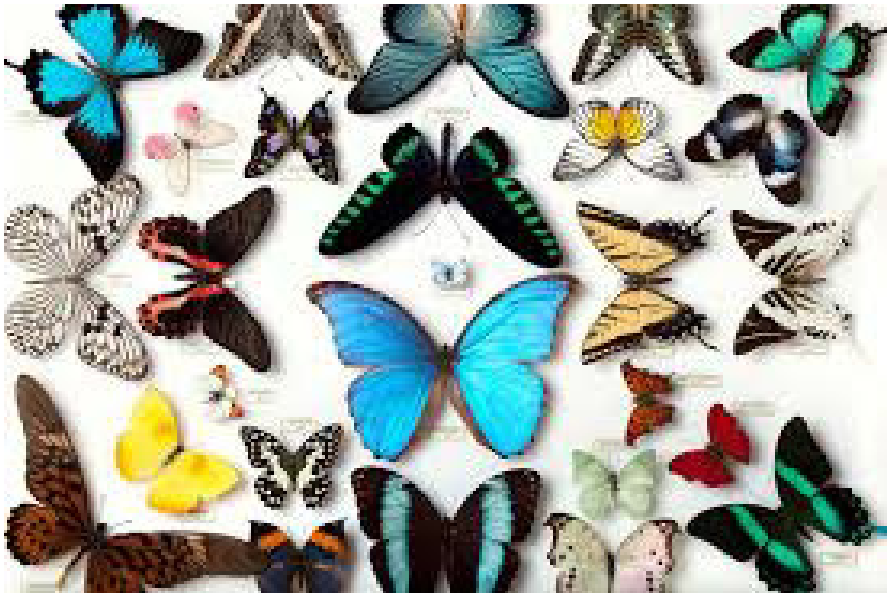
◇ Threats to butterflies include habitat change, climate change, pesticides, insects, man.



### Fun Facts:

In hot weather, butterflies gather in mud puddles in order to extract minerals. These mainly male gatherings are called puddle clubs.

When they are not drinking, they roll up their proboscis (much like a straw) and tuck it under their chin.



newscientist.com

**Answers on page 35.**

*Our Chaplaincy Council report with thanks to Didier Trufanow.*

## **Chaplaincy Council – Highlights of Last Two Meetings**

The Chaplaincy Council met on 1 March and 19 April 2021.

*All Council meetings have regular updates about spiritual development matters, safeguarding and our financial situation.*

The Chaplaincy Council has continued to devote a great deal of time to our worship services and, specifically, to the question of resuming physical services at Holy Trinity. Subject to Church of England and French government Covid-related restrictions and requirements, different scenarios were discussed. These scenarios were based on the following factors: total, partial or weekend lockdowns, travel distance restrictions, etc. The Council discussed at length the continuation of our Zoom services as well as the Den@Ten Sunday morning groups and Youth Group meetings. As you know, the public health situation is very fluid and often changes, so it is important for our church to be ready to act based on the current situation. Finally, it has been decided to create a small Working Group to reflect on our worshipping in the future if the pandemic situation improves. Should we adopt a “hybrid” model (both physical and virtual services)? How should our children’s and youth groups be organised? Physically and/or virtually? If we do indeed have a “hybrid” model, what should our worship times be? As you well imagine, there are many issues to be considered.

The Chaplaincy Council also discussed the recruitment of a virtual Youth Worker to work with our young people. We are now very happy to report that Joy Van Staaldunen has joined Holy Trinity as our virtual Youth Worker!

Much time has been spent on the current and future building works. Thanks to the hard work of Adrian Parr (our Infrastructure & Grounds Coordinator) and his team, the Council has continued dealing with the structural issues that need to be addressed. In addition, the scope, timing, financing of possible future building works are being considered.

Other matters which were raised during the last two meetings included the following:

Christine Salisbury and David Bean were re-admitted as Church Wardens following their re-election at the AGM on 18 April.

Council welcomed 4 new members elected at the AGM – Johanna Devlin, Bob Hughes (who had previously been a co-opted member), Beth Jusseaume and Henry Marshall.

The following church members were elected as officers for 2021-2022: Vice Chair – Robbie Gibson / Treasurer – Bob Hughes / and Secretary - Didier Trufanow.

Alice Aupérin was re-appointed as the Church Safeguarding Officer for 2021-2022.

Nigel Bartram was re-appointed as the Environmental Link Officer for 2021-2022. The role of the Environmental Link Officer is to ensure the Chaplaincy's commitment to a responsible attitude regarding environmental issues and to liaise with the Environmental Officer for the Anglican Diocese in Europe.

Joy Van Staaldin (our virtual Youth Worker) was appointed as the Youth Officer. The role of the Youth Officer is to liaise with the Diocese about matters related to youth and children.

In its March meeting, the Council began discussing a letter which all chaplaincies in the Diocese in Europe had received from Bishops Robert and David. This letter stressed the importance of taking concrete action to help the world's environment, which has been gifted to us by God. In their letter, Bishops David and Robert commend all chaplaincies to do the following: (i) Include an **"Eco-church"** item on 'the working agendas of our Council meetings, (ii) Better understand the environmental impact of our activities by exploring our carbon zero footprint and (iii) Distribute the 'First Steps' documents (some practical ideas for churches to achieve a carbon zero footprint). For these purposes, concrete actions are presently being discussed and evaluated by our Green Lantern environmental group and the Chaplaincy Council. If you have any questions or suggestions, I would strongly urge you to contact Nigel Bartram to share your thoughts on how we can better take care of our environment whose management has been entrusted to us by God.

Finally, the Chaplaincy Council has spent considerable time working on a partnership with a local charity group called *BunCœur Damoclès* (<https://www.buncoeurdamocles.fr/>). This charity was founded by a 19 year old Scout and two friends. It seeks to help the homeless in Paris by providing hot meals, clothes and other items. Our Charitable Giving Committee has investigated this association and has been very impressed by their motivation and energy. It was then decided to provide financial support to help them in their mission. Additionally, Holy Trinity will be providing support in other ways, for example by providing them with the use of our kitchen on Saturdays and assistance in preparing food.

## Members of the Chaplaincy Council for 2021-2022

Revd. Charlotte Sullivan, Alice Aupérin, David Bean, Johanna Devlin, Anna-Danute Dobrovolskis, Jenni Gibson, Robbie Gibson, Sylvaine Hughes, Bob Hughes, Beth Jusseaume, Angela Labaisse-Brodie, Hesry Marshall, Henry Marshall, Richard Medcalf, Rachel Meuriot, Adrian Parr, Christine Salisbury, Julie Tavé, Didier Trufanow.

(bonus question – which two Council members have almost identical names?!)

**Date of next Chaplaincy Council meeting:**

7 June 2021

***DT***



Source: [tintanglecards.co.uk](http://tintanglecards.co.uk)

# La Réalité by Elspeth Scott (née Taylor)

*This is a poem written by Elspeth Scott (nee Taylor) for the school magazine at Eccles Grammar School in 1961.*

Qu'il est beau se trouver sur les cimes  
Quand la vie turbulente apporte trop de peine ;  
Quand le bruit du monde bourdonne aux oreilles  
On peut encore s'arrêter pour reprendre haleine,  
Car là-haut parmi les pentes gelées,  
Au milieu de l'orage qui mugit sans cesse,  
Quand l'homme semble envahi par les forces du Ciel  
Se trouve un grand silence d'une autre espèce.

Oh lieu tant désire ! dis-moi ton nom,  
Afin que je te gagne y rester à jamais  
Où depuis des siècles rien ne change.

Heureux l'homme qui seul rêve sur la montagne  
Mais plus heureux encore celui qui peut descendre  
À travers les ombres jusqu'au pays des hommes.

I am reminded of the Transfiguration of Jesus described in the Gospels (Mathew 17: 1-8, Mark 9: 2-8 and Luke 9: 28-36).

Jesus took Peter, James and John, the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain where they were alone; and in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. They saw Moses and Elijah appear, conversing with him. Then Peter spoke and said “Lord, how good it is that we are here! If you wish it, I will make three shelters here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my Son, my Beloved, on whom my favour rests; listen to him.” At the sound of the voice the disciples fell on their faces in terror.

Jesus then came up to them, touched them and said: “Stand up; do not be afraid.” When they raised their eyes, they saw no one, but only Jesus.

On their way down the mountain, Jesus asked them not to tell anyone of the vision until the Son of Man had been raised from the dead. The Apostles’ experience at the Transfiguration reminds us that no matter how powerful a spiritual experience is, the time comes when we have to come down off the mountain and re-join our everyday life. But when we do so, we need to do it as a changed person.

**ES**



Spring comes to Maisons Lafitte. Louise Lannes pictured by street artist C215 in his parcours urbain throughout ML .



# Mixed Salad

*For the hot summer days ahead, Sarah Masset shares this salad recipe.*



Photo source: [womensweeklyfood.com](http://womensweeklyfood.com)

Ingredients (for about 6 people):

1 packet of lambs lettuce (mache)

2 endives

1 large or 2 small avocados

12 cherry tomatoes

Salad dressing

Wash the vegetables and cut into small slices.

Put the lambs lettuce + vegetables in a salad bowl and add the dressing before serving.

To make the salad into an “entrée” you can add small slices of smoked salmon !!

**SM**

*Jean Genock shares memories of her childhood during the war years.*

## **Memories of my Childhood**

Looking back on my childhood and life I have come to believe that there was, and hopefully still is, 'Someone' looking out for me.

The war broke out in September 1939 but it didn't affect us too much. However, by January 1940 food rationing had started and each home was issued with ration books which contained coupons, the number depending on the number in each household.

By the summer of 1940 things had "hotted" up. The first enemy air attack on Southern England was in July, the eventual target being the City of London. We were about 30 kms out of London so were in the danger zone.

I started school in September 1940, the war was in its second year. My mother took me on the first day of school and then we went with an older girl (at least 8 years old!) who lived nearby. This we did four times a day as we didn't live far enough away to qualify for school lunches. The area where we lived was North West of London between Wembley and Harrow. It was a new estate built around 1935. The roads were all named after lakes in the Lake District and we lived in Rydal Gardens, made up of about 70 houses. Many of the residents were couples with young children so we had plenty of friends to play with.

Air raids became more frequent and the rule was that if the warning sounded when we were past the halfway mark to school we carried on, otherwise we went back home. The School's shelter was in the basement and each class had a space. We sat on mats, or if you were lucky, like me, a stool which my grandfather had made for me! We did have some lessons: spelling, mental arithmetic and reading aloud, but as you can imagine it was very noisy, especially when we were all singing.

I had two brothers (a lot older than me) who were 'called up', one in the Army and the other in the Navy. My father was past the age of conscription but worked shifts on maintaining the steam engines in the Round House (now a theatre and concert Hall) in Chalk Farm London. It always fascinated me the way the engines were driven in and were on a turntable so they could be driven out again forwards. It was a dangerous place to be working, a target for the bombs, but luckily it didn't receive a direct hit. Looking back, I realise how worried my mother must have been. My two brothers were away on active service, one in Persia (now Iran) with the Royal Engineers working on the construction of a railway line - not perhaps dangerous but away from home - and the other a signalman on a French corvette escorting food convoys. (not sure why a French ship!!)

Before we had a shelter my mother and I would sit under the stairs when there was an air raid. Eventually we had a Morrison shelter in the lounge. It was a metal construction the height of a table and about the size of a double bed, with a mattress underneath, and we had to crawl into it. So it was mainly used at night. Our windows had to be covered with blackout curtains so that at night no light could be seen from the outside. There were no street lights so we carried small torches if we were out in the dark.

We grew vegetables and fruit and kept chickens and rabbits. I have unpleasant memories of my grandfather killing chickens when they no longer laid eggs... I guess we ate them!

In September 1940 the Germans bombed London non-stop day and night for 57 days. Although we were not in the centre we could hear the bombs going off, see the flares and searchlights lighting up the sky and the red skies of London on fire! People living in the centre took shelter in the underground stations and in shelters which had been hastily built. As a child I was not fully aware of what was happening but looking back it must have been terrifying to be in London at that time.

Towards the end of the war the Germans sent over unmanned bombs called doodlebugs and later V2 rockets. The doodlebugs made a distinctive noise and if you saw one whose engine had stopped you knew it would shortly hit its target. We did have one that landed in our road and two or three houses were destroyed or damaged. Luckily no-one was hurt. Many people had gone to stay with family or friends in the country. All our windows were shattered but that was the extent of the damage we incurred.

Despite all the bad things that went on I think I had a very happy childhood. There was such a friendly community in our area and we all helped each other.

Our family came out of the war unscathed, except perhaps with some unpleasant memories, but was it destiny or God's will... I shall never know, but why were we saved when so many others died?

**JG**

*The true story of how walking the SW Coastal path helps one couple face illness and homelessness as reviewed by Elizabeth Bean.*

## **The Salt Path by Raynor Winn**

This book recounts a remarkable adventure on which a middle-aged couple embarked, despite the husband having been diagnosed with a terminal illness. It is a book that one can engage with in many different ways. I believe it should be lauded for the fortitude and bravery of Winn and her sick husband, but also for the many insightful observations that she makes. In particular she explores the issue of homelessness, voluntary and involuntary (as was their experience) and the attitude of other people regarding it.

I read this book at the suggestion of Nancy as she knew I was not finding Lenten guidance from the “official” text, i.e. the one recommended by the Archbishop. I was enchanted by “The Salt Path” and learnt so much from it. Almost at the beginning of the book the author declares that she doesn’t have faith or a belief in God, but as I read of their adventures and their mishaps, I was convinced that God was there, helping them along the way.

Having been persuaded by a friend to offer their farm as security for a loan, three years later the couple found themselves being taken to Court by the creditor, the friend’s venture having failed. In my view the couple were badly let down by the arbitrary decision that the Judge made, he being one of the people I hope who will have read this book and identified how they contributed towards creating the difficulties this couple found themselves in. There are a number of distrustful and rude people mentioned in the book about whom I have the same hope!

Having to vacate their farm, thereby losing the only income they had from letting out a barn to holiday makers, the couple were reluctant to apply immediately for social housing.

Instead they set out on a 1,000 kilometers trek along the South Coast of England, their sole income being from benefits of 55€ per week. Unable to afford the fees for camping sites, they went “wild camping ” which is illegal but tolerated to some degree. Everything they needed they carried in backpacks. Their staple diet was instant noodles though occasionally they would splurge out on something that they could share such as a portion of chips or a sausage sandwich. They didn’t have the luxury of a daily shower and often wore the same clothes for several days running, night and day.

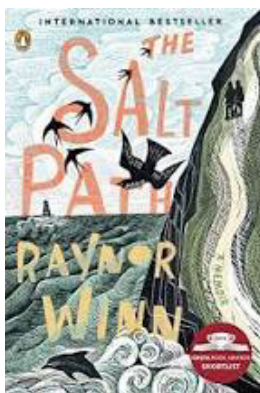
Along the way the couple met many other backpackers, the majority of whom described the couple as old (they are in their mid-50s) and others, the Good Samaritans, many of whom were generous and courteous to them. The few people

who weren't pleasant stick out, but apart from verbally abusing the backpackers (who were, by all accounts, rather smelly) did them no harm. The many acts of generosity the couple received are heartwarming to read about. It is incredible that the husband, despite the cruel diagnosis and prognosis he had been given, was able to walk and carry his backpack over the many kilometers they hiked.

Throughout a summer which at times saw very hot weather and at other times torrential rain, the couple walked some two-thirds of the planned route. They then accepted a friend's offer of accommodation in a former meat processing shed that needed renovation. They spent the winter there, renovating the shed and working on the friend's farm. By the time they left, the husband had secured a place at university (after which he proposed training to be a teacher), and a student loan. They returned to their route but began at the other end, walking back towards where they'd left off the year earlier. Again they received many acts of generosity from those they encountered as they walked, culminating, almost unbelievably, on the last but one day with a chance meeting with a woman, who having heard their story, offered them a flat they could live in whilst the husband was studying.

As well as being an account of the physical and emotional journey that this couple undertook, the book contains many colorful descriptions of the geology and history of the landscape through which they walked. Having being raised in the country the author is knowledgeable and observant. Her descriptions of close encounters with wildlife are educational and amusing. Overall, however, for me this is an account of human endurance and fortitude. In the face of incredible difficulties, the author and her husband succeeded in a remarkable achievement.

**EB**



*We are all called to different ministries. Julie Tavé shares memories of her prison visits in Dubai from 2001 to 2006*

## **Reaching OUT.... Notes from the Outside looking IN**



A couple of years after our arrival in Dubai an American woman killed her American professor husband, 30 years her senior, with a kitchen knife. This macabre news made the front page for weeks on end. She got 7 years for unintentional murder and would be 51 today.

For me, after insistence from the wife of an active and well tolerated Lutheran minister, I finally accepted to enter the Dubai prison, to visit this American woman. That was the beginning of a life changing period in my life.

To enter, I offered my French passport for ID. Though it was a legal document, as soon as I opened my mouth, I wasn't necessarily looked upon with acceptance. Needless to say, as an American in the Middle East (or anywhere for that matter) one is much more conscious of the conflict inherent to the region and one's own "image". This was 2001 - the year of the World Trade Center bombings and time of palpable world stress, beyond my comprehension.

Chronological setting is always important. This was after the Iran/Iraq war 1980-1988, ongoing war in Yemen, the Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi (Gulf) War 1990-91. We were in Dubai during the Iraq war 2003-2011 . We left after 8 years, in 2006.

The men inside the prison (I originally visited in the women's prison before moving to the men's side and that is another story) were mostly paying time for drug trafficking, credit card fraud, robbery or murder. The members of our more and more seasoned group were impressed by their strength, dignity and courage. Clearly this experience would be one of the most difficult "lessons" in their lives. At the time, I spoke to them of how they could eventually share this lesson and their mistakes with the youth of today.

In addition to prayer, motivation and training of volunteers, our REACHOUT DUBAI group lead weekly visits, followed up with family contact, fundraised for necessities and tickets home, initiated letter writing campaigns, partook in community sensitization and interacted with local authorities. It was "grassroots" in the true growing sense of the word.



The one particular prisoner I was visiting kept saying, “God works in miraculous ways”, as I stretched my mind, my heart and ears to hear those words. It was 35C, we were about 3 feet apart, his large black lips and face punctuated by shadows from the two “walls” of heavy metal grillwork that separated us. The serious looking foreign citizen guard (at that point in history, the employees in most services in Dubai were not national Emirati citizens) walked back and forth in the “lane” between us.

His sentence was 13 years and he had been inside for four.

His gentle voice could be heard over the din of the many others who were inspired and “excited” to have a visit on that Friday. He told me about how he would only ever be able to dream about the dunes and the blue waters of this country. The airport police found him “in transit” with drugs.

He worked in the prison workshop, proud of the honor to have been chosen to do so. His beautiful manner of speaking reflected more than his high school education and belied the violent circumstances. “In this place, I have seen things that have changed my life.” More than once during those years of visiting my own imagination ran wild: the cement cells, odors, lack of hygiene, unbreathable air and undrinkable water, loneliness, promiscuity, isolation, guilt and inhumane treatment in that very old prison just beyond where we were standing. We were later invited to the inner sanctum to actually sit with the prisoners, both men and women.

Before I left that day he said, “It is a miracle of God to know that there are people here who care about us as much as our parents would or more.” We often felt that we took more out with us than we had taken in.

***JT***

There is a tremendous strength that is growing in the world through... sharing together, praying together, suffering together, and working together.

Mother Teresa

*Adrian Parr looks back at some HT history through the following book review of Captain and Mrs. Jones.*

## Book Review: *Captain & Mrs Jones* by Christopher Robillard

Publ. Marketing Solutions Devon Second edition (2020), 186 pp. ISBN 978-0-9934451-1-8.



A cold stone memorial tablet always has faces and history behind it. This book gives us both.

Sydney Jones was born at Paris in 1902, the second of Emily (née Haste) and Charles Jones's three children. Charles was a master saddler, who had removed from Salisbury to Le-Mesnil-le-Roi in

1898 and made a living from the racing fraternity around Maisons-Laffitte. Charles also contributed for several years to the project to build the new Holy Trinity church.

The teenaged Sydney qualified as a radio operator, joined P&O in 1919 and later moved on to Cunard. Following the Wall Street Crash, in 1931 he joined the Elizabeth Arden company: the eponymous businesswoman was a horseracing enthusiast and family friend of the Joneses. Elizabeth's younger sister, Gladys, had been running a salon at Place Vendôme, Paris, and the company wished to expand across France. Clearly this was a major career change, though we assume Sydney may have crossed paths with his fellow Holy Trinity member, Vera Leigh. Some years earlier she had co-founded the Grande Maison Rose Valois, likewise at Place Vendôme.

At a fashion event in 1936, Sydney met a beautiful model, Rose-Maria Braun (or Braün - and she seems to have subsequently francicised her first name to Rose-Marie). She was 14 years younger than Sydney and from an Austrian Jewish family. Even before the 1938 *Anschluss* with Nazi Germany, economic and political life in Austria were deeply troubled. Rose-Marie had started work in a fashion-related business at Vienna, but the firm was losing money. Aged barely 20, she seems to have resolved to try for a new life at Paris. She and Sydney married in June 1937. [Seventy-four years later, this reviewer and his wife were married in the same *Salle de mariages* at Courbevoie].

Anthony Jones was born in August 1938. Thirteen months later, war was declared. Sydney was commissioned in the British Army's Royal Engineers, training in England in early 1940 before returning to France on active service. He was evacuated at Dunkirk; his wife, son and ageing parents remained in France. Promoted to Captain, he worked on pay and administration in England until, in 1942, he joined the Special Operations Executive (SOE). This force was intended to wage irregular warfare in enemy-occupied countries. As a trained radio operator, fluent French speaker and already familiar with weapons and explosives, Sydney was clearly a strong candidate. He was also keen to return to France.

Entering France via Gibraltar, Sydney took part in two sabotage operations in the Marseille area in November 1942 and January 1943. He and others were subsequently exfiltrated by the Royal Air Force. In May 1943, his second mission was to identify railway infrastructure and power station targets in eastern France. Besides a French radio operator, his courier was Vera Leigh. This second mission began with an infiltration flight to rural France and then a train to Paris. Sydney had his first chance in three years to meet Rose-Marie. She had taken an apartment at Montparnasse; she helped both the *Résistance* and shot-down Allied airmen. The young Anthony was with his now-widowed grandmother and Sydney made the train trip to Maisons-Laffitte.

In July, Sydney led a group which attacked a railway junction at Nancy, blowing up the control room and sets of points [US: railroad switches]. The Vitrey power station was similarly attacked. Plans to blow-up canal lock gates at Frouard were not realised. Sydney was also tasked with rebuilding the "Inventor" network of agents at Paris. Unhappily, the *Funkabwehr* (German Army radio-interception service), *Abwehr* (military intelligence) and *Gestapo* (secret state police) were now very effective at locating and infiltrating networks of patriots and Allied agents, arresting and torturing them for information. Sydney's radio operator and then Vera Leigh were both arrested. Sydney left Paris for the countryside and returned in November, managing to see Rose-Marie again. He then rented an apartment on the outskirts of Paris, but the network had been comprehensively betrayed and Sydney was arrested here on 19 or 20 November 1943.

In *The White Rabbit*, Bruce Marshall describes in dreadful detail how SOE agent Wing Commander F. Yeo-Thomas was tortured by the enemy after being arrested at Paris in 1943. We can only speculate what Sydney Jones and Vera Leigh may have suffered. (Yeo-Thomas was another Briton who had worked in the pre-war Paris fashion industry – could he have actually *known* the Joneses and Vera Leigh? He narrowly survived the war and this reviewer has been to see the street in the 13<sup>th</sup> *arrondissement* which is named after him).

Initially imprisoned at Fresnes, Sydney was deported to Rawicz (western Poland) in May 1944. Three months later he was transferred to *Konzentrations-*

*slager* Mauthausen (Austria), a place of utter horror. The available information is that he was subsequently shot here, aged about 42 – the book creates uncertainty about the date on his memorial tablet. (Dozens of Dutch SOE agents were also killed here, victims of the terrible *Englandspiel* – see *Between silk and cyanide* by Leo Marks). Rose-Marie was arrested in December 1943, and was killed at *Konzentrationslager* Ravensbrück, near Berlin, on 31 March 1944, aged 27. Vera Leigh, an accomplished horse rider and businesswoman before serving her

natal country in uniform, was murdered in cold blood at *Konzentrationslager* Natzweiler-Struthof in occupied Alsace, on 6 July 1944, aged 41.



Vera Leigh

Anthony Jones was adopted and grew up England. He received his late father's British and French medals. In 2016, Anthony was sent a large envelope containing details of his father's wartime service, held as an Official Secret by

the UK Government for 70 years. He contacted Christopher Robillard, a local author, to write a book. While stumbling through the Internet in 2018 or 2019, I somehow came across the publication details (cf. Facebook) and realised the significance for Holy Trinity church. Chris Robillard kindly sent me copies of the first and second editions; we exchanged emails for months, clarifying points of history and local information. He has also had contact with Patrick Gauthier-Lynam; members of Patrick's family had, among many other things, known the Jones and Leigh families. [I think it best to leave those stories to Patrick].

Chris Robillard has clearly invested much time and effort to put together this sad but very valuable narrative, so long after the events and without the chief protagonists to advise him. As a professional proof-reader, my only criticism is that some infelicities have crept into the text and captions. I am also erroneously listed as "a church warden" in the Acknowledgements!

Anthony Jones's son, Jason, is a fashion photographer who lives in France. Perhaps we can invite him when the future "Place Vera Leigh" is inaugurated at Maisons-Laffitte. I plan to ask the *Conseil Municipal* at Courbevoie if Sydney and Rose-Marie's no-longer-identifiable place of residence can be found on the old maps, with a view to a possible commemorative plaque.

**AP**

*Pictures from the book are reproduced by permission.*

*Photos of the memorial tablets are by the reviewer.*

# Stay tuned with your faith during the Summer!



The school year is finally coming to a close and while some of you start the exam season, you are finally catching a glimpse of what you have been waiting for since the first few days of school – summertime! The time for hanging out with friends, taking cool trips, and of course catching up on all the shows and movies that home-work/studying prevented you from watching.

But when it comes to our spiritual lives, summertime can be a time of spiritual dryness – a time when we fall off our spiritual path – especially when some youth groups don't meet as often, if at all during the two months of summer break.

During the school year, youth groups and Bible study groups serve as places where we can discuss and rest from the many spiritual battles of the week – a place where we can talk about love, faith, encourage one another, and learn from our mistakes so that we can jump back into the battle, armed and ready for whatever challenges lie ahead. But when this isn't available to us during the summer, what can we do? How can we still grow spiritually?

Pondering these questions, here are activities, put together by Jo Devlin, that you can look at with your family every week to stay tuned with your faith during the Summer!

Looking forward to seeing you all in September!

## *The Postcard Challenge!*



Holy Trinity Church Maisons Laffitte  
15 Avenue Carnot  
78600 Maisons Laffitte

Choose a nice postcard from wherever you are during the Summer and send it to Holy Trinity Church!

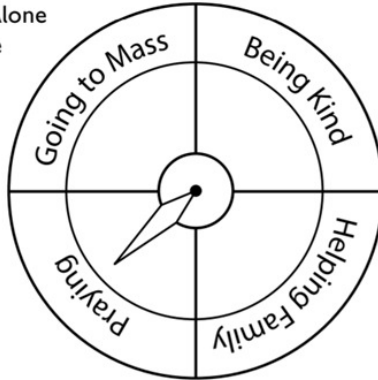
We'll exhibit all the postcards in the hall at HTC at the end of the Summer!

## Activities

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### Mini-Task

Make a Praise Spinner. Alone or with a partner, decide on three or four ways you can praise God. Your Praise Spinner can remind you to praise God every day. Or it can help you inspire a friend that we all need to praise God.



### Mini-Task

“We can do small things with great love.”

In what ways can this quote remind us of what it means to be a member of a team or community? Turn to and talk with a partner.

What is a need that you see in your family, classroom, or parish?

What are some small things that could be done to help meet the need you identified?

Prioritize your list of “small things” by highlighting what should be done first.

Then answer the following questions.

need
small things

What people are needed for this “small thing”? \_\_\_\_\_

What research must be done? \_\_\_\_\_

What materials are needed? \_\_\_\_\_

Other considerations: \_\_\_\_\_



## *Reflection*

1. Ask your family members how you can pray for them, and let them know how to pray for you. Take a few moments together to pray tonight. As a family, pray one of the following prayers:

In the morning, say: “God, thank you for this new day.”

When you need help, pray: “Be with us, Lord.”

Allow each member of your family a turn to lead the prayer.

2. Think about a time when you experienced the love of Jesus. What happened? How did you feel? Did you celebrate this experience?

3. With your family, read or remember a Gospel passage in which Jesus heals, forgives, or gives nourishment. Talk about how Jesus heals, forgives, and feeds you in the sacraments.

4. Can you remember a time when someone helped you when you were lonely or when you felt afraid? What happened? How did you feel when you were helped? How have you helped others when they needed you?

5. In prayers of intercession, we pray for other people’s needs. Talk with your family about people you know who need your prayers. Then take some time together and offer prayers for those people.

6. When was a time that you allowed God to be more present to you? When do you make time for yourself to let God’s Word speak to you? Can you think of something that you remember that God has given to you? How did you feel?

7. Can you think of a time when you had to do the right thing? Have you ever had to “stand up” for someone who was being bullied or made fun of? How did you feel?

***JD***

*What do the Jurassic Era, Australia and Prince Philip have in common? Read on to discover this amazing story by Nancy Huguet.*

## Look around you, Keep your eyes open, Look out



Without putting it in context, this phrase could be interpreted as very menacing. Let me set your mind at rest. It is the translation of the Aboriginal word, *wollemi*. I first came across this word on the Canterbury Cathedral Morning Prayer for April 25<sup>th</sup>. Those of you with a link to New Zealand or Australia, or a love of history, will recognize the date as Anzac Day. This day in 1915 was the landing of the Anzacs at Gallipoli, and has come to be the day which commemorates Australians and New Zealanders who have fought in wars. In memory of Anzac Day, Dean

Robert had a wollemi pine fern leaf, or perhaps frond is a more accurate word.

The history of the Wollemi Nobilis pine is fascinating! This tree was known to exist some 200,000 years ago through fossil records, a time when dinosaurs walked the earth. It was presumed to be extinct. However, a NSW National Parks and Wildlife Services Officer, one David Noble, was out abseiling with friends in a remote part of the Blue Mountains, in the Wollemi National Park, just outside Sydney (150 km) in 1994. Noble came upon a tree in a gully surrounded by rainforest wilderness that he recognised from the fossil record and reported it.

The Wollemia Nobilis is a majestic conifer from the Araucariaceae family, growing to 40 meters high and with a trunk diameter of over 1 meter. New foilage is light apple green and the older foilage a darker green, multiple trunks are common and the bark resembles bubbling chocolate.

Discovering the wollemi pine has been called the botanical find of the century. Less than 100 trees are known to have survived in the wild. Some are thought to be over 1000 years old, making the wollemi pine one of the oldest trees in the world, as well as one of the rarest. Once discovered and identified, the next step was to come up with a conservation strategy. While protecting the original wild trees, it was also decided to release the Wollemi Nobilis to the world to be planted and grown wherever possible, in parks and gardens around the world, to ensure it's perennity.

The first *Wollemia Nobilis* seed to be planted outside Australia was planted by Sir David Attenborough in May 2005 at the RBG Kew, alongside other seeds planted by David Noble, the Australian ranger who made the amazing discovery, and who gave his name to the tree.

In May 2009, a *Wollemia Nobilis* tree was planted to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of RBG Kew by Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

Everything is being done to protect the remaining *Wollemi* pines growing wild in Australia. They were almost destroyed in the forest fires of 2020. A specialised team of brave firefighters fought to save the species sometimes called the dinosaur tree.

You can buy *Wollemia Nobilis* trees on various Internet sites (although many seem to be sold out). And looking to the environment, planting one *wollemi* pine tree offsets over 2% of your carbon footprint.

**NH**

\* \* \* \* \*

## **Answers to Butterfly Quiz on page 14:**

1. b) 28,000 (this doesn't include moths that have 140,000 species).
2. b) 4 (2 forewings and 2 hind wings). When they fly, their wings move up and down, in a figure 8 pattern.
3. a) 3,700 in Peru (compared to 700 in North America).
4. d) feet (they have no mouth) They drink with their proboscis.
5. d) 6,000 (they have compound eyes, they can see ultra-violet colors, they can see 314 degrees around themselves)
6. b) cannot fly (they warm themselves up by shivering, or opening their wings to sunbathe)

Incorrect: No mention of butterflies in the Bible.

# Sunday Services

Please keep an eye on our website for up-dated information of all our services—live and virtual—and other activities :

<http://htcml.com/news/>

## Dates for your diary

- ♦ On 6th, 13th & 20th June after each of our 10.30am services:  
Summer Sale of secondhand books, jams & curds,  
and cakes & bakes.  
We need YOUR help to make this a fun and worthwhile event!
- ♦ Sunday 4th July 2pm - 5 pm: Messy Church.  
All children and teenagers welcome for an afternoon of fun,  
drama, craft and games!
- ♦ 2nd week of September : Living in Love and Faith course  
led by Rev'd Canon Elaine Labourel .



The Trinity Times committee wishes everybody  
a safe and peaceful summer.

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*The policy of this magazine is to publish articles of interest provided they are neither illegal nor immoral. The content of the magazine does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editorial committee.*