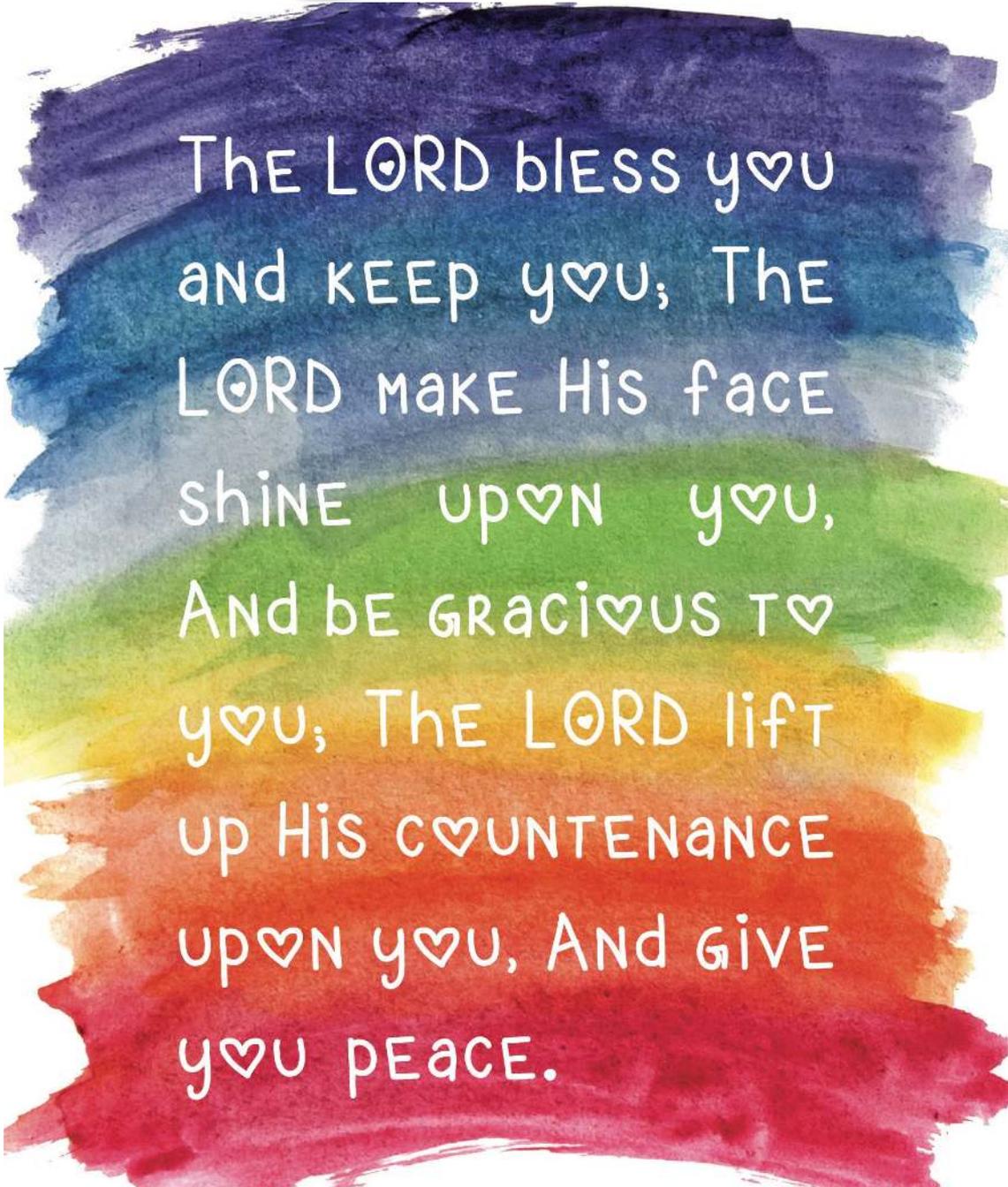


# Silchester Magazine



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July 2020



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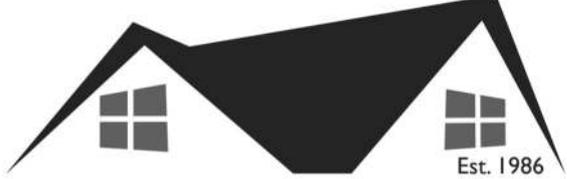
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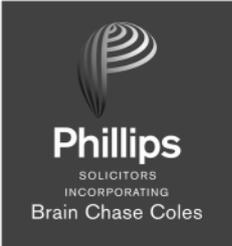
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# Silchester Magazine

## July 2020



This month we are tentatively restarting our Diary Page. It is hoped that the situation will have changed enough that these events may take place - but obviously, right now, everything is subject to change...



### July

Sun	5th	8am	Book of Common Prayer said Communion Service ~ at St Mary's
Mon	13th	midnight	<b>Magazine Copy Deadline</b>
Sun	26th	5pm	Night Prayer (Compline) Service at ~ St Mary's

### August

Thu	13th	midnight	Magazine Copy Deadline
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### September

Sat	12th		Sponsored Ride & Stride ~ calling at St Mary's Church
Sat	12th		Silchester Association Beer Festival ~ at the Village Hall
Sun	13th	midnight	Magazine Copy Deadline
Sat	19th		Silchester Village Fete and Dog Show ~ on the Common

Copy for this magazine should be sent to: [editor@silchester.org](mailto:editor@silchester.org)

**PLEASE NOTE:** The next deadline for copy for the August issue is **midnight on 13<sup>th</sup> July**

Thanks are due to Steve Spillane for printing copies of the magazine over the past few months for those who do not have internet access. We are very grateful to Steve and know that those getting the physical copies much appreciated them.

In a time when most of the news is at a national (sometimes international) scale, it is sometimes nice to hear about local people and the things they have done.

**Have you** seen something interesting while out on a distanced walk?

**Have you** thought about something others might be interested in reading?

**Have you** taken photos of wildlife that are out when most people are at home?

**Have you** learnt a new skill or taken up a new hobby during lockdown?

If so, why not submit an item to the Silchester Magazine:

[Editor@silchester.org](mailto:Editor@silchester.org)

## People News

If you have any news for the People News, be it happy or sad, please send details in an e-mail to [peoplenews@silchester.org](mailto:peoplenews@silchester.org) or telephone Ann-Marie on 9700627 or Irene on 9700996





25.06.2020

I don't know about you, but I am feeling a bit apprehensive at the moment. I know part of it is about whether or not we are over the worst of it, and if the government has got the balance right between "keeping safe" and the economic and social life of the country, but I think it's also because I've got used to the daily routine culminating with the daily ministerial press conference, and the limited choices as to what to do with my time! I've also almost stopped planning ahead, because there is very little to plan for! And now, is the world becoming my oyster once again? And if so how do I respond to that? Do I just slip back into the old routine, even though for me some things, including relationships and how I value them, have changed?

I was recently at Basingstoke Crematorium and, as I waited for the previous service to finish, I realised this was for a person who had been the oldest man in the world; Bob Weighton aged 112 from Alton. Subsequently reading his obituary I found he had led a good life, apparently in good health and humour for most of it, and well thought of.

I have just had a routine birthday but at an age which has made me wonder - what next? And for how long? However, this thinking changed when faced with Bob's life, I realised I might still have nearly a third of my life still to live, (though on the other hand I might not!). Bob's 112 years is now influencing my thinking about emerging from our Covid 19 crisis and asking myself "What next?".

It's still early days in my thinking, but it seems to me that one thing we can take from the present situation is an appreciation of the good things, the natural world, the relationships, the opportunities we have. That may be much more limited for those who are housebound, but for all but the most disadvantaged there is usually something, and there continue to be opportunities for the rest of us to alleviate difficulties others may be experiencing - at least a phone call.

Secondly, when did you last "dream". It may no longer be dreaming for a knight in shining armour (you may already have one) but if you might have a third of your life still to go, what do you really want to do with it? Could you build on the new skills and interests you found during lock down? Could you develop your spiritual life? What could you do to help others? How could you best use the renewed freedom? On the other hand maybe you are just content to return to how it was before, but can I suggest that at least all of us look around at what others could still receive from us - maybe our time?

God created us to live life to the full right up to its last moment. Abraham didn't set out from Haran until he was 75 and was 86 when his first child was born! For the housebound living life to the full may be far harder, but that's where the social contact and help (even at a distance) the rest of us can give is so important.

Sorry - I have raised more questions than I have answered - but these questions are important not just for us as individuals but also for the church where many places are growing on-line congregation, but also struggling to cope with shrinking financial resources.

So where is the worshipping life of the church at Silchester heading at the moment?

From the beginning of June the Church has been open for individual private prayer only, 9.30am to 4.30pm every day, though there may still be occasional 72 hour closure for sanitation purposes.

Hand gel is available. Doors are left open, and for the most part pews are taped off. Whilst we will do the best we can regularly to wipe clean those parts of the fabric most likely to be touched, it will be the responsibility of each visitor to take care, and please deter children from ducking under the tapes!

After 4 July weddings (up to 30 people) will be able to resume, along with other services. The Church of England Recovery Group will in due course be issuing more detailed advice on subjects including singing and music for which a review by Public Health England is currently in progress, but at the moment no singing.



Prior to the government's decision the Silchester PCC at its earlier June meeting did give some thought to how this might all work. It was felt our normal size Sunday congregation can probably be accommodated with social distancing if we tape off every other pew, particularly bearing in mind many attendees are couples from a single household but at the time of writing we await the Church of England Recovery Group review mentioned above. There are cleaning issues to be addressed including the extent, cleaning materials, and recruiting enough cleaners as many of our regular cleaners are vulnerable. The PCC also recognised that some people may not wish to take the risk of attending services in Church at present, whilst other attendees at our Zoom services just seem to enjoy the online Zoom service offered at present. Therefore, pending more detailed guidance, it was concluded we should for the moment continue the 10.00am service as an online service but in addition should, when safe, introduce the occasional 8.00am or 6.00pm "traditional (said) Sunday service" in the Church building. This may help meet the wishes of some regular worshippers but also, based on previous experience, is likely to be less in number of attendees and, therefore, be easier to accommodate with social distancing.

Therefore the 10.00am Zoom Sunday service will continue for at least all of July and, whilst we are still learning how to keep as safe as possible, in addition to the Zoom service there will be two services in the church building during July. The first will be a Book of Common Prayer said Communion Service at 8.00am on Sunday 5th July. The second will be said Night Prayer (Compline) at 5.00pm on Sunday 26 July. There will be leaflets containing the service for you to use and take away, but please bring your own books if you have them. This plan for services in church may change when up to date advice is received from the Diocese but we will keep you informed via the website and our mailing list. So with this and other new detailed advice expected can I encourage you to keep in touch by joining our mailing list?

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<http://www.silchesterchurch.co.uk/contact-us/receive-news-emails/>

Where we go from here in terms of church services will depend to a considerable extent on Church of England advice and the response of worshippers, but where you and I go with looking to the future in our daily life, for many of us, will be largely up to us.

*God bless and keep safe*

*Rob*

*Rev Rob Young ~ Resident Vicar ~ St Mary the Virgin ~ Silchester*

*robwyong101@gmail.com*

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## Prayers & Poems

### Name Above All Names

Name above all Names, what's in a name?  
Jesus, Messiah, He's coming again,  
Alpha, Omega, Beginning and End,  
Apostle and High Priest, the sinners Friend.

Walking on water, calming the storm,  
God incarnate calling us home  
Creator, the I Am, nailed to a tree  
Lion of Judah dying for me.

Risen, the Victor, conquering King  
Coming with clouds redemption to bring  
To gather His bride for heaven above  
To reign with the Lamb whose name is Love.

*Megan Carter*

### Stone-Throwing

*(John 8:1-11)*

A familiar scene ...  
Crowds of people with strong views,  
clamouring, demanding their way,  
intolerant of others  
who made different mistakes, different  
choices.

A raucous, intimidating, egocentric baying for  
action.

A familiar scene...

Where is the love?

Where is the compassion?

Where is the concern for the common good?

How long Lord, will your teaching be ignored?

How long till the stone-throwing stops?

*Daphne Kitching*

### Good to Know

The little word of love,  
the right time and place  
Will be blessed by God above,  
and watered by His grace.

*Author Unknown*

### I am Only One

I am only one, but I am one.  
I cannot do everything, but I can do something.  
What I can do, I ought to do,  
And what I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do.

*Author Unknown*

### Peace Be With You

*(Jn 20:24-31, 14:5,11:16)*

Through absence,  
Through doubt,  
Through questions  
And fears,  
Through locked doors  
And longing  
Jesus comes.

His risen presence  
Bringing blessing,  
Hope and healing,  
Restoration  
And His precious,  
Faith-affirming  
Gift of peace.

*Daphne Kitching*

### 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm for the Hard-Pressed Student

The Lord is my real instructor and I shall not want.  
He gives me peace, when chaos is all around me.  
He gently reminds me to pray before I speak  
and to do things without complaining.

He reminds me that He, and not my school,  
is my Salvation.

He restores my sanity every day and guides  
my decisions  
that I might honour Him in everything I do.

Even though I face absurd amounts of social isolation,  
live streaming and exams, I will not stop -  
for He is with me!

His presence, His peace, and His power will see me  
through.  
He will raise me up, even if I fail to get a good grade.  
He claims me as His own and knows that I have done  
my best.

His faithfulness and love are better than any A+.  
In eternity it won't matter what degree I got.

When it's all said and done,  
I'll be working for Him a whole lot longer than  
I'll be in school (even when it doesn't feel like it)  
and for that, I bless His name!

*Author Unknown*



## Sad News

We are sad to report the death on Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup> of Sandra Hare. Sandra and Alex were the first people to move into Dukes Ride as soon as these homes were built. She was for many years, Brown Owl of 1<sup>st</sup> Silchester Brownies, when it was the only pack in the village. Sandra will be very much missed by her husband, Alex, their children Maxine, Heather and Zoe and their grandchildren and her many friends in the Village.

*Nancy & Marsden Jones*



## Sponsored Ride & Stride Saturday, 12 September 2020

The Trust is confident that by the above date, our churches will be open, at least to some extent, for visiting by cycling, walking, motor car etc. Regulations about safeguarding, issued by the authorities, change frequently, but up-to-date notice about going into churches should be published on the Trust's website, [www.hihct.org.uk](http://www.hihct.org.uk) nearer the time.

Our churches need funds, especially because of the lockdown, which is not good for old buildings. Numerous grant applications are still being received and St Mary's has benefited this way, in the past. Financial assistance, by the Trust, is not confined to the Church of England.

*Ralph Atton ~ Church Representative*



## Silchester Village Fete 2020

The Silchester Fete and Dog show has been rescheduled to Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2020. We hope that circumstances will allow us to provide as full a programme as we had hoped for. More details to follow nearer the time.

*Richard Eldridge*



## Hampshire Alert ~ Covid-19 Track & Trace Scam

I thought it worth passing this on to you as a warning to others. My son had a call from the "Track and Trace service" and was told that according to their system he had been in close proximity to someone who has tested positive for Covid 19. This meant he had to isolate for 7 days and take a Covid 19 test. The caller was unable to tell him any details as it was confidential information. He kept emphasising that my son needed to take a test within 72 hours and that the caller needed his mailing address for the kit. He then went on to say he needed the card number for the kit which cost £50, and even threatened him with non-compliance. He then realised that it was a scam as the test kit is free.

So please be warned and pass this on to your family, your friends and neighbours.

# Silchester Players

This is a very frustrating time for Silchester Players. At this stage of the year normally we would have dismantled set and scenery from our May production. After a short break we would have held auditions for our autumn play. We would also be planning summer social events.

Rather than shut up shop completely, we have continued with such activities as have been possible. Committee has met via Zoom and our AGM, also via Zoom is scheduled for 26 June. We held a very successful Zoom Quiz Night on Saturday 23 May with several rounds of questions all with a theatrical theme, and raised £125 for NHS charities.

While we patiently await the slow return to normality, this is an opportunity to write in more general terms about the process of planning and preparing our productions.

We invite any of our members who enjoy directing plays, pantomimes, or musical entertainments to come forward with suggestions for productions. Proposals are then brought for committee approval, dates for the performances are scheduled and often a producer is appointed to work alongside the director.

As the term implies, the director's job is to direct and oversee the artistic side of the production. This is a very challenging role involving the following:

- Considering the type of set required and its general design;
- Deciding on sound and lighting effects;
- In discussion with cast and wardrobe team, taking decisions on costumes;
- Listing the necessary props and appointing someone to take charge of their creation, assembly and availability on production nights;
- Holding auditions;
- Directing the cast.

Naturally a director in choosing a production will consider whether there are sufficient actors and actresses within our company to fill all stage roles. However we always hold open auditions and welcome newcomers. Indeed it often happens that a newcomer arrives at auditions, turns out to be perfect for a particular part and accordingly makes a debut with Silchester Players.



Also when we celebrate our achievements in our Drammies (our version of The Oscars!) every three years, we always have an award for 'Best Newcomer'.

The message from this, for anyone interested, is to come to auditions once restrictions are lifted. You never know your luck!

Turning to the producer's role, this is twofold. Firstly, it is to take responsibility for all organisational matters. An early task is to call a production meeting to be attended by the director and those responsible for such matters as set construction, lighting, sound, props and costume. Beyond that the producer will attend to all the necessary bookings for performances and rehearsals. Also it may be necessary to attend to such things as obtaining a production licence when plays are still subject to copyright. The second role is to give advice and support to the director and to assist at rehearsals.

The roles of director and producer are essential to a successful production. But everything we do is always the result of a team effort. We look forward to welcoming our patrons when it is possible to put on performances again next year. Perhaps this article will help you to realise that although you may spend only two to three hours watching one of our performances, it represents the culmination of hundreds of hours of work by a large number of people.



# Silchester Methodist Church

Minister Revd Dr Ruth Midcalf (0118 9700139)



We are meeting as a church on Zoom ID 4112933992 Password 146313 every Sunday morning at 10.30am with our friends from the Tadley and Mortimer churches. Anyone is welcome to join.

All events at the church are cancelled at least until the end of July. We hope that maybe in August we will hold a service in the garden.

We are trying to keeping the garden round the church in some sort of order and all are very welcome to come, relax and enjoy the garden.



*The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...*

## St James the Least of All

### Beware the spell-checker!

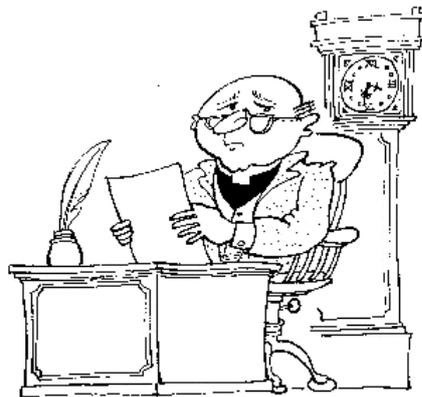
The Rectory,  
St James the Least

*My dear Nephew Darren*

When producing material for your magazine or church services, beware the computer spell-checker. We once let our own system check a Christmas carol sheet and, on the night, found ourselves obliged to sing "away in a manager", mangers apparently being unknown to our machine.

If you use special sheets regularly, it seems a law of nature - as with metal coat hangers - that they all intermingle while no one is watching. Thus, on Easter Day, half the congregation will have been issued with sheets for Harvest, which will only become obvious once the service begins. The first hymn will be entirely lost while sidesmen scuttle about looking for replacements only to find that there won't be enough of them anyway and then the second hymn will be lost while others helpfully wander about church donating their sheets to those looking helpless and then trying to find someone to share with.

Never, ever, print on them 'Do not take home' as this will only ensure everyone does so. I have sometimes wondered if the instruction 'Take this sheet home for reference' would ensure that they stayed neatly arranged in the pews after the service. And if it is a service where babies are likely to be present, be assured that many of the copies will be returned half chewed and coated with bits of whatever the infant had for breakfast. There must be a market for paper treated with a child-repellent flavour for such occasions.



Anyone who thinks we are an unimaginative nation should visit a church after a special service to see how many places members of congregations can invent to hide the booklets: under kneelers, neatly folded and hidden inside hymn books, among flower arrangements and behind heating pipes so that no one can quite reach them. They then lurk

there reproachfully for the next ten years until mice solve the problem.

No, stick to large, hard bound books. They are resistant to teeth and are too substantial to be hidden in pockets. Their only drawback is that they tend to fall victim to the pull of gravity at the quietest moments.

*Your loving uncle, Eustace*

# In Memory of Philip

## Resident of Silchester August 1994 to May 2020

Philip Pearce, a longstanding member of the Silchester community, passed away on 16th May 2020.

Philip was born on 25th June 1947 to Jacqueline (née Daire, later Giacomini) and Laurence Pearce. His childhood was spent in London, with his adored, adoring and flamboyant mother; his father; his stepfather, Sigfrido Giacomini, an Italian opera singer; his French grandmother, who demanded his services as a translator; and, when he needed a retreat, with his godmother and her family. He attended the Lycée Français Charles De Gaulle, and decided at a young age to join the British Army to help fight the Cold War, taking A-Level Russian to prepare himself. After sitting his A-Levels shortly before he turned 17 - still too young for the army - he spent some time working at a wine bar in Soho before joining the army in 1966, aged 18.

Philip was among the highest-placed graduates in his year from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. He joined the Intelligence Corps, but first went on attachment with the Royal Fusiliers to the Persian Gulf. Philip loved it. When his superior officers persuaded him to return home to the UK to attend university, he chose the University of Sussex, on the grounds that it had no Officer Training Corps that he would be required to help run.

After university, he resumed his career as an Army Intelligence Officer, and at the end of 1971, he was posted to Cyprus. There, he met and fell in love with Liz Poole, a WRAC officer assigned to the Royal Signals. Liz's tour was nearly over, and she returned to the UK barely two months later. Philip asked her to marry him before she left, which she did not think very sensible on such a short acquaintance. After returning to England, she decided it would be sensible after all, and they married in England on 8th April 1972. They spent their honeymoon driving back through Europe to Cyprus, and - as Philip would later claim - getting to know each other. They would later often tell their children that they had one argument in their marriage - something to do with breakfast cereal, in around 1973 - which obviously presented something of a daunting example to follow.

Their first child, Simon Christopher, was born in 1974 in Cyprus, and their second child, Caroline Elizabeth, in 1976 whilst Philip was serving in Germany. After attending Staff College in 1979 (again graduating as one of the highest-placed students), Philip transferred from the Intelligence Corps to the infantry, joining the Queen's Regiment.

Philip, Liz, Simon and Caroline spent the next several years moving between army postings. Some highlights included two years at the British Embassy in Washington D.C.; a tour as battalion Second-in-Command in Gibraltar; and six months (unaccompanied) in Kampala as the British Military Advisor to the Ugandan government. Philip then commanded the 5th Battalion of the Queen's Regiment in Canterbury, and his last posting was at the NATO military headquarters (SHAPE) in Mons, Belgium. It was during this posting that Philip's beloved mother Jacqueline passed away after a fight with cancer.

After Belgium, Philip chose to take early retirement from the army at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. In 1994, he and Liz bought a house in Silchester, where Liz's brother Chris and his wife Rosemary were then living.

Early on in their time in Silchester, Philip was recruited by an old army friend to work for Challenger UK creating and running large-scale corporate team-building events. This role was a

great fit for Philip's skills, as it required him to manage complex logistical operations; develop tasks that combined physical and mental challenges in entertaining ways; and give orders to people wearing mildly silly uniforms. Philip's time at Challenger became something of a family affair, with Simon, Caroline and other young family friends working for him as event marshals over the years, while Liz and Chris came on board to support logistics and management for the biggest events.

In around 2001, Philip began working for Anglia Tours as a Battlefield Guide, taking groups to Belgium, France, Germany and elsewhere, and he became one of the founding members of the Guild of Battlefield Guides. He adored sharing his extensive knowledge of and enthusiasm for military history and was requested as a guide again and again by teachers and other group leaders. This work also meant that, whenever Caroline complained about him watching yet another war documentary, he was able to reply that it was "research".

Philip and Liz had not originally expected to stay long in Silchester - having never stayed long anywhere previously - but they settled into a full and sociable life there. They both loved village life. Philip served for a long period on the Silchester Association Committee, helping to run events such as the annual Fun Run; Liz worked on her garden; and Philip promised to tidy up his study and the garage one day. Most importantly, they developed a wonderful and loyal group of friends, most of whom meet each Sunday at the Calleva Arms as the self-proclaimed Silchester Parliament. Steve and Irene Spillane, Pete and Jan Hughes, Nigel Hutt and many others can always be relied on for anything from watering the garden, to a lift to the airport, to helping Philip escape from Basingstoke Hospital.



The core of Philip's existence was always his family. He was unreservedly devoted to Liz, and even after decades together, he still often seemed stunned by his good fortune in being married to her. On every day that they spent together in the 48 years, one month and eight days from their marriage until his death, Philip told Liz that he loved her.

When his children met their partners, he fully embraced them into the family; he adored both Simon's wife, Mary, and Caroline's husband, Jesse. In his final years, Philip and Liz spent months of each year in the US, staying with Caroline and Jesse in Philadelphia and seeing Simon and Mary as much as possible. He was fiercely proud of his children, and would share their achievements with anyone who would listen - as many times as they would listen - from the cashiers at Sainsbury's in Tadley, to teachers on battlefield tours, to fellow members of the Silchester Parliament. His granddaughters, Dulcie and Selma, born in 2015 and 2017 respectively, were a source of never-ending delight to him. As well as spending as much time as possible with them, both in the US and during their summer visits to Silchester, he would watch videos of them over and over again, thrilled when he noticed a new detail.

Philip was a thoroughly decent, unstintingly loyal and loving man. He also loved to have fun, and for others to be having fun. He loved parties, and telling (and retelling) jokes, and making sure everyone had a glass in hand. We all feel sorrow at his passing; but, most of all, we will remember him with joy, as he would unquestionably have wanted.

Philip leaves behind him his wife, Liz Pearce; his children Simon Pearce and Mary Elise Chavez Pearce, Caroline Pearce and Jesse Wilderman; and his granddaughters Dulcie Daire Wilderman and Selma Joy Wilderman.

# Silchester Association

www.silchester.org

Silchester is still very quiet this month though it is great to see that the Pop Up Café is open once again.

We are still hoping to have some village events after the summer and are happy to see that the Village Fete and Dog Show has been re-booked in for the 19<sup>th</sup> September, so hopefully that will be the start of the return to normality in the village. The Association is still hoping to run the Beer Festival on the 12<sup>th</sup> September in some form, even if we still have to keep our distances!

We will have the Boundary Walk to look forward to in October as well and then the Halloween Scarecrow Trail through the village. Both these events are held outdoors with relatively easy social distancing so should be safe.

We are holding off plans for the children's Halloween party until after the summer to see what the situation is like then and will then make a decision on what format it will take.

I am happy to report that the donations from the proceeds of the Fun Run have now been sent to the two nominated organisations - The British Legion and the NHS Charities Together. We have received thanks from both of them and hopefully the cash will make a difference to some of the people they support. We'd like to thank everyone again for participating and making this possible.

The Silchester Volunteer Group is still active in the village so if you have any need of any support or assistance please don't hesitate to contact us.

Call or text

Steve - 07775547642 or  
Amy - 07877635387

Or email [secretary@silchester.org](mailto:secretary@silchester.org)

Meanwhile stay safe and well and we look forward to times when we can all meet up again in the future.

*The Silchester Association*



@silchesterassociation



@silchester\_org

#### Privacy and Refund Policies

If you attend any of our events, you may appear in a photo which may be published on our website or Facebook page. However, if you are unhappy about any photographs that are published, please let us know and we will remove them. For our pre-event ticket sales refund policy please read the information available on our website.



## Anon was very wise!

- If men speak ill of you, live so that no-one will believe them.
- Life's evening will take its character from the day that has preceded it.
- Life is a journey that no-one makes alone. The more people you touch along the way, the more meaningful and rewarding your time.
- Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% of how you respond to it.
- Tomorrow is often the busiest day of the week.
- Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself.



## **Second-hand Books for Sale on behalf of Parish Church**

I am sure you are all eagerly looking forward to patronising the second-hand bookstall at the forthcoming Fete, hopefully scheduled next September. However, during the lockdown, I have been able to read more books than usual. As a result, I have a number of books for immediate sale, at knockdown prices, as below. Any proceeds will be devoted to parish church funds. Any enquiries are best made in the evening please - 0118 970 0825. Cash only - no cards.

*Ralph Atton*

### **NON-FICTION - ALL £1.95 EACH**

The following are from The Oxford History of England Series, usually accepted as authoritative. Hardbacked, all but one have dust jackets and are in excellent condition. These books are getting scarcer in second-hand bookshops: mostly reprinted in 1988.

Domesday Book to Magna Carta, 1087 to 1216, A.L. Poole, 2nd edition, 1955  
Thirteenth Century, 1216 to 1307, Sir Maurice Powicke, 2nd. edition, 1962  
Fifteenth Century, 1399 to 1485, E.F. Jacob, 1962  
Earlier Tudors, 1485 to 1558, J.D. Mackie, 1958  
Reign of Elizabeth, 1558 to 1603, J.B. Black, 2nd edition, 1959  
Early Stuarts, 1603 to 1660, Godfrey Davies, 2nd edition, 1959  
Later Stuarts, 1660 to 1714, Sir George Clark, 2nd edition 1972  
Whig Supremacy, 1714 to 1760, Basil Williams, 2nd edition, revised 1962  
Reign of George III, 1760 to 1815, J. Steven Watson, 1960  
England, 1870 to 1914, R.C.K. Ensor, 1936

### **FURTHER NON-FICTION, ALL AT 95p EACH**

Bourbon, Fabio & Lavagno, Enrico - The Holy Land, Guide to Archaeological Sites - Israel, Sinai & Jordan, 2001  
Butcher, Alan C - Mid-Hants Railway (Watercress Line), 1996  
Foster, Margaret - Elizabeth Barrett Browning (Biography) 1988  
Guinness, Sir Alec - My Name Escapes Me (Biography) 1996  
Hardwicke, Joan - Clementine Churchill, 1997  
Huxley, Elspeth - Florence Nightingale, 1995  
Keegan, John - American Civil War, 2010 and History of Warfare, 1993  
Murphy, Graham - Founders of the National Trust, 1997  
Preston, Anthony (Ed) - History of Royal Navy in 20th Century, 1987  
Watson, D.R. - Charles I, Life and Times, 1972

### **FICTION, ALL 95p EACH**

James, P D - Death Comes to Pemberley, 2011  
La Plante, Lynda Prime Suspect, 1991  
Le Carre, John - Absolute Friends, 2003  
Secret Pilgrim, 1991  
Tailor of Panama, 1996  
Wesley, Mary - Part of the Furniture, 1997



# Parish Council News

## Planning Application

Planning Application 20/01285/PIP - "Land At O/S Ref 462670 161631 Little London Road Silchester Hampshire Permission in Principle for residential development of 9 no. dwellings".

At the last Parish Council meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> June the council decided to object to the above planning application. Whilst the initial application is only for "up to" 9 dwellings, we are also concerned as to what might follow on that site, given the size of the field in question. Our objection has been submitted and we have made available our objection letter so that others can use it as a template. If you wish to object, don't worry about making points distinct from those made by the Parish Council, what counts is the volume of objections at this stage. Our letter is available on our website at <http://www.silchester-pc.gov.uk/Silchester-Parish-Council/UserFiles/Files/News/20.01285.PIP%20-%20Land%20Opposite%20Hydes%20Platt%20-%20Letter%20to%20BDBC.pdf> and we have used the village email system to notify residents of this application. If you are not registered to receive Parish Council emails but would like to (or indeed, wish to unsubscribe) then please contact our Clerk; Chris Gunnell on 07470 809086 or email [clerk@silchester-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@silchester-pc.gov.uk)

We will update you on any developments as and when we are informed.

## Gateways Project

We are happy to say that the Gateways Project is still progressing albeit slowly due to current conditions. However, we are very pleased to announce that we have been awarded funding from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council from the Local Infrastructure Fund and further funds from Hampshire County Council.

We are grateful to both councils for their funding to help us provide Silchester with the traffic calming measures that were voted for by our residents as a result of our survey.

It is intended that the gateways are a reminder to drivers that they are entering a different environment to the open road. We hope that their visual impact will also be a reminder of the speed limit and will encourage drivers to drive safely and respectfully through our village.

If you would like a reminder of what the plans are please follow this link to our website; <http://www.silchester-pc.gov.uk/Silchester-Parish-Council/UserFiles/Files/News/Gateway%20Project%20copy-pages-1-4.pdf>

## Emergency Plan

We are undertaking a review of Silchester's Emergency Plan. This plan when complete is lodged with Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. It is to help our resilience and to work out how we support our community when faced with an emergency.

## Footpaths Officer

Our current footpaths officer is looking to stand down in a few months. Would you be interested in becoming a footpaths officer for the Parish Council? It involves walking our local footpaths and providing the Parish Council with a report on their conditions.

If this is something you may be interested in then please do contact Chris Gunnell our clerk on 07470 809086 or [clerk@silchester-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@silchester-pc.gov.uk)

## Flex Ditch

We are hoping to organise a working party to give Flex Ditch a tidy up and are looking for volunteers to help. If you are interested in helping out, please contact our Clerk.

# Parish Council Contact Details

Our primary point of contact is our Parish Clerk

Parish Clerk: Chris Gunnell	07470 809086	clerk@silchester-pc.gov.uk
Mike Baldock (Chairman)	0118 970 1931	mike.baldock@silchester-pc.gov.uk
Janet Earl	0118 970 2251	janet.earl@silchester-pc.gov.uk
David Livingstone	0118 970 0135	david.livingstone@silchester-pc.gov.uk
Paul Miles	07760 888995	paul.miles@silchester-pc.gov.uk
Richard Westwood	07876 610577	richard.westwood@silchester-pc.gov.uk
Graham Wright	07837 248047	graham.wright@silchester-pc.gov.uk

## Planning

### Planning Applications for Consideration

1	Ref. No: 20/01285/PIP - Land At O/S Ref 462670 161631, Little London Road, Silchester <a href="#">Permission in Principal for residential development of up to 9 no. dwellings</a>	
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### Approvals/Refusals/Withdrawals\*

1	None	
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### Notifications\*

1	None	
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### Pending Applications\*

1	20/00297/FUL – Land at rear of Bridles View, Byes Lane, Silchester <a href="#">Erection of 1 No. new dwelling with detached double garage and garden/bin/bike store</a>	Objection
2	20/00567/ROC variation – Wood Farm, Ash Lane, Silchester <a href="#">Variation of Condition 1 of 19/00713/ROC to allow for amendments to plans to include revised swimming pool position, the formation of a tennis court, erection of a loggia and erection of a wall with gate between barn and proposed loggia.</a>	No objection
3	20/00861/HSE – 1 Romans Field, Silchester <a href="#">Erection of single storey rear extension</a>	No objection
4	20/00876/HSE – Woodstock, Byes Lane, Silchester <a href="#">Erection of front and rear extensions, alterations to the roof to form additional first floor living accommodation including raising of the roof and front and rear gables</a>	No objection
5	20/01018/HSE - Bournebrook House, Ash Lane, Little London <a href="#">Erection of single storey rear/side extension incorporating swimming pool</a>	No objection

\*Objections/no objections listed are the opinion of Silchester Parish Council only, and do not reflect any submissions placed by members of the public or other bodies with Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council.

## What Effect Will Coronavirus Have on Society?

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has found that, following an initial period of great anxiety and confusion, now almost half the population understands that life will not return to normal within the next six months.

Other findings include:

- 75% of us are "very worried" or "somewhat worried" about the effect that coronavirus is having on our lives now.
- Many parents have struggled with home schooling, with 33% saying it has put a strain on family relationships.
- 41% of us expect our financial situation to get worse over the next 12 months.
- 41% of us think that the wellbeing of our child or children is being negatively affected.

But it is not all bleak - a huge 57% of us think that Britain will be more united in the future, and 67% of us say that Britain will be kinder after coronavirus. That is good news!

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## What Will Your Office Life be Like?

The days of 'hot desking', sitting opposite one another, lending your colleagues a pen, or chatting while making tea together are over. Instead, when we get back to work, desks will be spaced out, and factory-style shift times may be introduced.

"Coronavirus has turned everything upside down," says Janet Pogue McLaurin, a Gensler workplace expert. "Before we can ask people to return to the office, we've got to make sure they feel safe, healthy and valued in their workplace."

And - vitally important: "Employees must not assume that now they have returned to work, they no longer need to keep away from people. Unless people are wearing face masks, the 6ft social distancing rule should apply in the physical workspace until there is a vaccine and the coronavirus is no longer a health threat."

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## The new absolutely-must-have item for your kitchen

Here is a curious winner in the coronavirus crisis: the humble egg cup. It has been flying off the shelves in recent months, as more of us find solace in a cooked breakfast.

At one point, John Lewis had sold out of most of its egg cups, with even the most expensive lines selling out (Such as Le Creuset's set of six egg cups for £45, or Emma Bridgewater's set of six for £27.95).

As Nicola Hattersley, tableware buyer for John Lewis, explained: "One positive from being at home more is taking the time to make mealtimes more of an occasion."

"The humble egg cup - something many of us haven't used since childhood - is gracing tables once again and hopefully we'll see a new generation becoming familiar with 'soldiers' and debating the best way to smash open a boiled egg."

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## High Point of the Day

The Royal Mail reports that 45% of us have been receiving more parcels since lockdown began. 53% of us say that receiving parcels has become more important to us, while just over a third of us even admit that receiving our parcels has become a highlight of our day.

There is a downside, however. Andrew Goodacre, chief executive of the British Independent Retailers Association, recently warned MPs that one in five high-street shops could close permanently as a result of the pandemic.

# Silchester Gardens During the Lockdown

Most of us in Silchester are lucky enough to have a bit of garden and, with this lovely sunny weather that we have enjoyed since the start of the lockdown, we have been able to enjoy a bit of gardening and, if we have had the energy, the chance to complete some long overdue outdoor tasks.



However, for us, the really special thing about spending so much time at home has been the opportunity to observe nature and watch the wildlife. It is a magical time of year with birds nesting and other wildlife rearing their young.



We have been entertained for the past month by two families of rabbits, a group of three adolescent squirrels and a woodpecker teaching its young how to drill into a tree. We have watched little fledgling blue-tits learning to fly, a young nuthatch discovering our bird feeder and seen a fantastic number of bees on the flowers gathering pollen.

It has been a real blessing and has helped us to bear the enforced separation from family and friends.



I dug out my long focal length lens and tried my hand at wildlife photography.

*Lesley Brewin*



# The Man Who Created Sherlock Holmes

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the multi-talented writer who created Sherlock Holmes, the world's most famous detective, died 90 years ago, on 7<sup>th</sup> July 1930 at his home in Sussex, probably of a heart attack. He was 71.

He had been born in Edinburgh to a prosperous Irish-Catholic family with a dysfunctional father and a loving mother who had a talent for inventing stories. He spent seven years in a Jesuit boarding school in England, which he loathed, and qualified as a medical doctor at the University of Edinburgh. He added 'Conan' to his name at that stage.

He wrote the first Sherlock Holmes story, *A Study in Scarlet*, in 1887. In all, he wrote nearly 60 novels or short stories involving Holmes and his sidekick, Dr Watson. He did not regard them as his best work - he wrote prolifically on many subjects - but their characterisation and ingenious plotting made them by far the most popular.

He was married twice - first to "gentle and amiable" Louisa Hawkins, the sister of one of his patients, and then, after she died of tuberculosis in 1906, to the "strikingly beautiful" and talented Jean Leckie. Towards the end of his life he developed a strong interest in the occult and spiritualism. He was knighted in 1902.

*Tim Lenton*

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## Remembering the Man Who Founded Barnardo's

It was 175 years ago, on 4<sup>th</sup> July 1845, that Thomas Barnardo, the humanitarian and philanthropist, was born in Dublin. He founded Barnardo's, a charity which continues to care for vulnerable children and young people.

The son of a furrier, he worked as a clerk until converted to evangelical Christianity in 1862. He moved to London, intending to study medicine and become a missionary in China. He never qualified as a doctor - despite being known as Dr Barnardo - and soon decided that his real calling was to help poor children living on the streets of London, where one in five children died before their fifth birthday.

He opened his first home for boys in 1870 and soon vowed never to turn a child away. Most Victorians saw poverty as shameful, associating it with poor morals and laziness, but Barnardo refused to discriminate. He made sure boys were trained and found them apprenticeships. Because he believed that children should ideally grow up in a family setting, in 1887 he introduced an early form of fostering - boarding out children to host families.

When Barnardo died in 1905, he left 96 homes caring for more than 8,500 vulnerable children, including those with learning difficulties.

*Tim Lenton*

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## Tidal Wave of Sales Coming

"This summer will be an absolute bonanza for shoppers, and they should be selective and patient... discounting will continue throughout the summer." So says Clive Black, a retail analyst at Shore Capital.

He explains that billions of pounds of winter stock is coming over to the UK in ships, but the retail warehouses are still full of unsold summer stock... "The magnitude of what has happened has never been seen in modern times."

No wonder, then, that some analysts predict that shops will offer up to 70 per cent off throughout July, August and September.



SILCHESTER 1939 - 1945

HARRY W. GILES.

1910 - 1941

Henry William - known as Harry - was born to Thomas and Julia Ellen Giles on 17<sup>th</sup> October 1910. He was born in what is now known as "The Cottage" on Kings Road which had been the home of his father since before Thomas was a teenager, the family having moved there sometime between 1871 and 1881 from another house, near the brook in the dip between Wall Lane and the Red Lion.

The 1911 Census shows Thomas, Julia and Harry living at the cottage with Thomas's widowed mother Sarah (aged 72) as well as Julia's younger brother, Fredrick Whitlock (aged 31). Thomas had worked as a steam sawyer but in 1911 was working as a labourer in a wood yard - quite likely at Valentines Wood (now Easter Park) at the end of Soke Road.

Harry's mother, Julia, died in 1923, leaving him and his father in The Cottage. The 1939 Register shows them still living there with Harry listed as a builder's labourer but by now his father, aged 72, is a "permanent invalid". The Giles family had by then lived in that same house for around 60 years, which may be why at that time the road was known as Giles Lane, becoming Kings Road sometime later.

In 1940 Harry enlisted in the Royal Navy, and found himself based in Portsmouth - HMS Victory, as the site was formally known. He was there on the night of the 17<sup>th</sup> April 1941 when, as reported the next day by the United Press Association: *"Processions of enemy planes heavily attacked Portsmouth last night. The raid began soon after dark and lasted several hours. The bright orange flashes of the exploding bombs lit up the sky and houses were constantly shaken"*.

A subsequent secret report to the War Cabinet a few days later on the "Naval, Military and Air Situation" said:

*"During an air raid on Portsmouth during the night the 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> three or four bombs fell in the Dockyard causing minor damage. Admiralty House received a direct hit, and there were 6 killed and 60 wounded in R.N. barracks."*

Harry was one of those 60 wounded and he was taken to the Navy's Royal Haslar Hospital in Gosport, where he unfortunately died of his wounds the following day. Subsequently he was buried in the churchyard of St Saviour's church in Mortimer West End, where his grave can still be seen.



Harry W Giles grave, St Saviour's Church, Mortimer West End

Mike Baldock  
ww2@silchester.org

# Short Story Challenge

Our short story challenge is still open to all readers of this Magazine, whatever their age, children to seniors:

The challenge is for us to write a short story of up to 1000 words to be submitted electronically to silchesterstory@gmail.com by the closing date for the next Magazine and for a selection of the stories to be published in the Magazine over the coming months.

Below is a lovely story from Jo - please use this as inspiration to try and write something yourself!

It would be wonderful if more people submitted items - on whatever topic - fiction or non-fiction - so please do consider sending something in to us - we are grateful to Jo for her story.

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## The Garden

Amy Norris was pleased with herself. It had been a long day pottering in her garden but she was grateful for it. These days in lockdown were the strangest of times and they troubled her in a way the war years had not. This was something very different, a virus causing all this mayhem, far too confusing to even begin to comprehend. At the age of eighty-eight and considered vulnerable, she was indebted to the kindness of the local community and her close neighbours who had rallied to the cause, helping her with shopping and running various errands. Folk were kind and she appreciated all their efforts.

Loneliness had played its part at times, but the weather had been wonderful of late and being sad on sunny days was just not an option, so her garden provided a haven of peace, where her observations there kept her occupied for hours.

She preferred to put the ceaseless worries of the outside world aside, it was the only sensible thing to do and Amy was sensible. She focused on the beauty of her surroundings and the joy that nature was bringing her way. She would while away time in the splendour of her beloved garden. Her place of peace and tranquillity.

She sat in the old rocking chair on her new patio, weary after several hours outdoors and wistfully surveyed the ever unfolding scene before her. Spring was turning into summer, the daffodils and tulips had already given way to the white and purple lilacs and the roses and magnolias were breathtaking. The common hawthorn hedges would shortly be adorned with wild roses and the horsechestnut trees were now covered with their long white spiked blooms. Soon the geraniums that had wintered in the green house would be transferred to the garden to make a pink, red and white display of colour and the borders of foxgloves would soon be a blaze of purple against the old garden wall. As she sat reflecting, she remembered the days when she and her late husband had planted the rhododendrons which had now blossomed into delicate shades of pink and of course their fondness for the towering blues of the agapanthus, the 'love flower', according to the Greeks. Everything was flourishing, even the birds and the bees were busy about their business and interesting to observe. She felt privileged being a spectator to such activity. All kinds of birds flitted in and out of her garden, the tender doves, mischievous magpies, blue linnets and the ever present inquisitive robin. The constant presence of grey pigeons, big and full breasted strutting around together and forever squabbling when they met but the one bird that



captured Amy's heart was her faithful little blackbird. Each morning he heralded in the new day accompanied by the joyful tweets of the smaller birds and the distant call of the cuckoo. She named him Bertie - it seemed to fit his character.

Most days when Amy worked in the garden he could be found close at hand, keeping watch. On days when she was downhearted, he cheered her up with his song, entertaining her with his joyful hops across the lush grass then flying off and returning on a whim to start the procedure all over again. His appearance was peculiar, sporting a coronet tuft of black feathers on his head. A damaged beak made drinking from the water trough difficult to manoeuvre but he always somehow succeeded. Amy loved to sit and be entertained by his antics, his little dances and his interaction with the other birds, it was as though he owned the garden and paraded his patch keeping other birds at bay with great success.

She had become so distracted in thought, she had not noticed the drop in temperature and realized she had begun to shiver, time perhaps to move indoors and retire for the day. She stood up and looked beyond the garden at the fields shimmering in the light of the afternoon sun. The trees swayed in the gentle breeze and the weeping willow covered with fresh green had again become a haven for the smaller birds that chased from tree to tree, their last playtime of the day.

She turned, gathered her small gardening basket and entered through the pantry door to her kitchen. She knew she would have to listen to the news tonight, learn of any changing rules or guidelines for surviving the ongoing crisis. She had to return to reality for a while before she could say good night, be thankful for the day and look forward again to the privilege of being part of God's natural world at dawn.

Jo Pearson



## Why Did God Make Mothers?

Here are some of the answers seven-year-olds gave to the following questions...

Why did God give you your mother and not some other mum?

*God knew she likes me a lot more than other kids' mums like me.*

What kind of little girl was your mum?

*I don't know because I wasn't there, but my guess would be pretty bossy.*

What did your mum need to know about your dad before she married him?

*His last name.*

Why did your mum marry your dad?

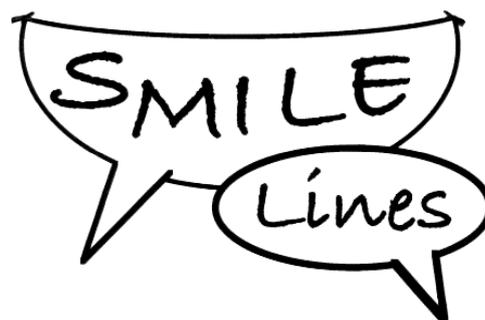
*She got too old to do anything else with him.*

What's the difference between mums & dads?

*Mum knows how to talk to teachers without scaring them.*

What would it take to make your mum perfect?

*On the inside she's already perfect. Outside, I think some kind of plastic surgery.*



Here we continue *The Labours of Heracles* written by Stephen Bibby - it was aimed at children of around 10 years old ... But was enjoyed by all ages last issue.

## The Labours of Heracles

### Heracles Made Mad

Because he was such a strong man, Heracles became an excellent soldier. He fought in many battles, often winning them by himself because others were easily felled by the power of his mighty muscles.

Hera, watching from Mount Olympus, grew more and more angry. She would never forgive Heracles for the pain he had inflicted on her when he was a tiny baby. Hera had failed to destroy him, but in a cunning and evil plan, she decided to drive him mad.

This was a truly terrible time for Heracles. Out of his mind, he simply did not know what he was doing. In one rage of madness, he viciously attacked and killed his children. Wrongly thinking they were enemies, Heracles shot them with his arrows before throwing their bodies onto a fire.

When, finally, the mad episode passed, Heracles was horrified by what he had done and desperately upset. He shut himself away in a dark room for several days, not talking to anyone at all. He had no idea what to do with his life.

After a long time, when once more he could think clearly, Heracles decided that he would travel to the city of Delphi. Once there he would visit the Oracle and ask for guidance.

The Oracle at Delphi was famous in the ancient Greek world. It was a temple where the priestess gave prophecies or advice.

Heracles walked into the dark temple, his head bowed. The priestess was seated behind a constantly curling cloud of smoke, veiling her from onlookers. With great sadness Heracles told her what had happened.

There was a long silence.

Eventually, from behind the swirls of smoke, Heracles heard the sing-song voice of the priestess. As if in a trance, she announced that to obtain peace Heracles should atone for the terrible things he had done. Still hidden and speaking with a strange chant, she directed him to travel to the land of King Eurystheus and once there to perform whatever tasks he was given.

Heracles did as he was told. After a long journey he presented himself to King Eurystheus and told his sorry tale.

The king listened carefully then said to Heracles, "I will give you ten tasks. Carry these out and

return to me with proof that you have done what I commanded and you will be forgiven."

These tasks have become famous the world over. They are known as the 'Labours of Heracles'.

### The First Labour - The Nemean Lion

Near the town of Nemea lived an enormous lion. It was a vicious beast which caused havoc in the surrounding countryside. The lion would come out of its cave to attack and eat any person unfortunate enough to fall into its path.

Many people had tried to kill the lion but had died in the attempt. The creature was simply too strong for them. They did not realise that all weapons would fail as the lion's skin was tougher than even the strongest shield. No one knew that the hairy hide could not be damaged in any way: not by fire, metal or stone.

King Eurystheus commanded Heracles to travel to Nemea. Once there he was to find the lion, kill it and bring back its skin to prove that he had carried out the task.

Heracles set off on a long journey. Once he reached Nemea he asked anyone he met where he could find the lion's den. But there were very few people who could tell him as most of those who dwelt nearby had been attacked and killed by the fearsome beast.

Instead, Heracles began to search a wide area of countryside. At last, on a bare mountainside amongst large rocks and boulders, he spotted several caves. Near the entrance to one of these he spied a heap of strange white shapes. Looking more closely, he saw they were scattered human bones and shattered skulls. Heracles had found the lion's lair.

Crouching behind a large rock, Heracles remained hidden all day. At last, towards nightfall, the lion appeared.

As soon as the creature was within range, Heracles fired off a rapid flight of arrows. They sang with a high-pitched hum as they shot through the air. His aim was perfect. The arrows flew directly at the lion's flank. But when they hit, they simply bounced off. The lion's skin was so tough that even speeding arrows could not penetrate it.

The snarling beast turned towards Heracles. It now appeared even more evil. Its slavering mouth was covered in blood, still dripping, as it had



feasted well that day on yet more unfortunate citizens of Nemea.

Fearing he would become the lion's next meal, Heracles charged. He held his sword straight out, stretching his stout arm, and thrust with all his might. But to his shock, Heracles saw his weapon bend. It crumpled when it hit the lion's skin as if it were not made of hardened bronze but of lead, one of the softest of all the metals known to man.

Heracles was becoming desperate. He swung the enormous wooden club which he always carried, his sinews taut as he delivered a mighty blow to the lion's head. The weapon simply split on contact with the solid skull. But the force of the blow sent the lion roaring into its cave, angrily shaking its huge mane. It had not felt the slightest pain but had been driven into a fury by an almighty ringing sound in its ears as the club cracked to pieces.

But the lion of Nemea had made a huge mistake. It did not know that Heracles had already discovered the cave. Neither did it know that Heracles had also looked carefully and spotted that the cave possessed two entrances. As soon as the lion had retreated inside, Heracles stretched a huge net over one mouth of the cave. He then crept inside through the other entrance.

Slowly, Heracles made his way into the depths of the dark cavern, carefully stepping over boulders and broken bones. He heard the sound of the lion's breathing long before he saw it. He knew the beast would be crouching, waiting for the right moment to pounce upon its attacker.

With a mighty snarl, the lion bounded to its feet, roared and charged. Realising that his weapons were useless, Heracles stretched out his powerful hands. As the huge, tough hide and hairy mane crashed down upon him, Heracles grasped the throat of the charging creature and pressed as hard as he could on its thick windpipe.

An almighty wrestling contest began. The lion roared and writhed, but Heracles courageously clung on. He cried with pain as the lion bit off one of his fingers. But he was determined he would win. He crushed the lion's neck with tremendous pressure, just as he had crushed the necks of Hera's serpents when he was a babe.

Slowly the lion's coarse breathing began to fade away. Its body fell limp and lay at Heracles' feet, choked to death.

To complete this Labour Heracles knew he was required to strip off the thick skin from the lion and carry it back to King Eurystheus. He drew his knife along the belly of the beast but found it made not so much as a scratch. Like his sword

before, his knife was useless against the hide which was as hard as granite.

Heracles spent several hours wondering how to complete his task. Finding no solution to the problem and tired out, he eventually fell asleep. While he was dreaming he was visited by the goddess Athene.

Athene had always favoured Heracles, in contrast to the goddess Hera who had always disliked him. Now, in the depths of his slumbers, Athene whispered softly into his ear and an idea took root in his mind.

When he awoke, Heracles turned to the lion's body nearby. He grabbed the beast's foreleg, bent it towards its stomach and used one of the animal's razor sharp claws as a knife. Immediately it cut through the tough hide.

Handling the claw like a sheep-shearer's knife, Heracles removed the thick mane. In the same way he peeled back the entire skin. Then he wrapped both the lion's mane and its hide into a bundle and started his long journey back to the court of King Eurystheus.

The king was amazed that the ferocious lion had been killed and pleased that the people of Nemea were safe. Yet he was also terrified. He never thought that Heracles would succeed and now became very afraid. Eurystheus now realised how much strength Heracles possessed. Being a suspicious man, he feared that one day Heracles might attack him and that he would immediately be defeated by someone so powerful.

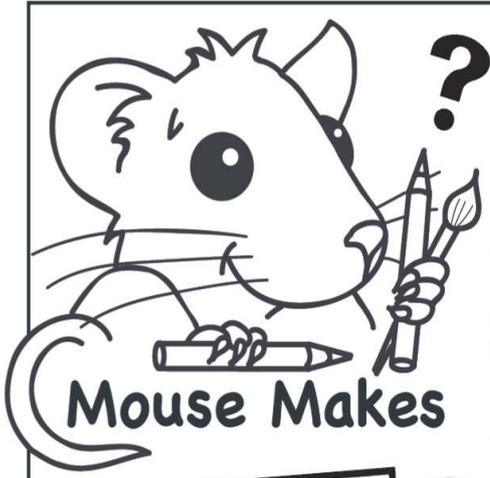
King Eurystheus issued two very strict orders. Firstly he decreed that in future Heracles was never to enter his city. Secondly he required his blacksmiths to cast a huge urn made of bronze. After this, whenever Eurystheus was told Heracles was approaching, he hid himself inside the urn to make sure that he would always be completely safe.

But this cowardly king said nothing about the bundle which had been brought back to him. Once he was alone, Heracles unwrapped it. He decided that he would drape himself in the tough skin of the lion which for ever after acted like a suit of armour and protected him during many other adventures.

*Stephen Bibby*

*To be continued ... Next issue we will have  
The Second Labour - The Lernean Hydra along  
with The Third Labour - The Ceryneian Hind.*





### Mouse Makes

### WHO AM I?

The last letter of one name is the first letter of the next name.

P \_ \_ \_ L \_

- Wrote 13 New Testament letters
- He wrote the third Gospel



\_ \_ \_ \_ \_

- I
- Mother of John (Luke 1:3)
  - Sarah's servant (Genesis 16:21)

\_ \_ R \_ \_

- Joseph's mother (Genesis 29:35)
- His wife turned to salt (Genesis 11:31)

\_ \_ \_ \_ L \_

- S
- Paul's friend (2 Corinthians 8:27)
  - A brother of Jesus (Matthew 13:55)

\_ N \_ \_ \_

- Ruth's mother-in-law. (Ruth 3:1)

### IT'S A PUZZLE!

God sent 9 plagues on Egypt...

What were they?

Change each letter to the one after it in the alphabet to find out.

AKNNC

EQNFR

FMZSR

EKHDR

CHRDZRD

OKZFTD

GZHK

KNBTRSR

CZQJMDRR



### FIND THE MISSING HUSBANDS

Match the wife to their husband

MARY

BOAZ

SARAH

JACOB

RUTH

ZECHARIAH

REBEKAH

JOSEPH

RACHEL

ABRAHAM

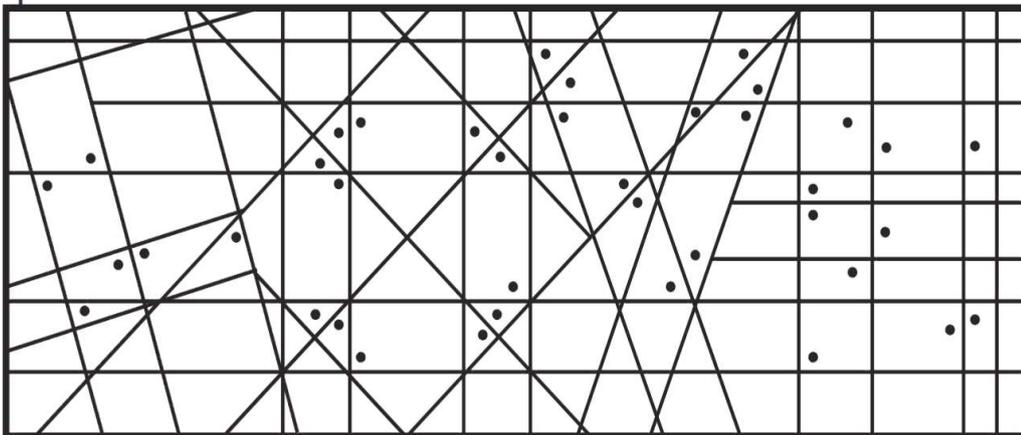
ELIZABETH

ISAAC



### FIND THE FISH

The Disciples have been fishing and have caught TWO fish the same, can you find them?



Colour in all the shapes with a DOT to find out what Jesus want us to do



# Stars in the Grass

Exotic and striking in appearance, orchids can be found in a diverse range of habitats - between now and September is the perfect time to see them in full colour.

## Early purple orchid

As its name suggests, the early purple orchid is one of the first of our native orchids to bloom, strong enough to grow in the light shade of woodland or out in the open grassland of a road verge. Even when not in flower, it is identifiable by its glossy green leaves with dark purple blotches. It remains relatively common but has declined in recent decades due to urban development and modern farming methods. When the flowers first open they have a sweet scent like honey, but once pollinated the flowers smell like the urine of a tomcat! It is thought this may be to warn insects that the flower is no longer worth pollinating.



Green-winged orchid © Lianne de Mello

## Green-winged orchid

Similar in appearance to the early purple orchid, the green-winged orchid can be distinguished by its narrow, unspotted leaves and the distinctive veined hoods that sit above its flower, which give it its name. Until the advent of modern farming this orchid was one of the most widespread and common grassland species. Intolerant of artificial fertilisers and herbicides, it has disappeared from half of its historical range and is now mostly confined to nature reserves.



Pyramidal Orchid © Mark Heighes

## Pyramidal orchid

The pyramidal orchid is the county flower of the Isle of Wight. This orchid is easy to identify from the bright pink, pyramid-shaped cluster of flowers on top of the stem. Botanists did not appreciate the close relationship between

pyramidal and green-winged orchids until scientists unravelled the plants' DNA. The association is surprising as there is very little in common about the appearance of their flowers. The pyramidal orchid, which flowers between June and August, sports a long spur containing nectar to entice moths to drink.



Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

## Bee orchid

The bee orchid is a master of mimicry and has evolved to look like its main pollinator - the longhorn bee. Bizarrely, this bee is rarely found in the UK so the bee orchids found here appear to be self-pollinated - the plant's male pollen sacs drop onto the female stigma allowing self-pollination to take place. Its windborne seeds germinate freely allowing rapid colonisation of small patches of bare ground. This ability means that short-lived populations turn up in unlikely places such as on the edge of car parks. The bee orchid is, however, at its best in parched sunny habitats and can be abundant where the ground has been disturbed.

When admiring orchids, please remember the immature plants that may surround the flowering spike. Avoid trampling future flowers by keeping to the paths and thoroughly checking where you put your feet.

Abi Webber  
Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust



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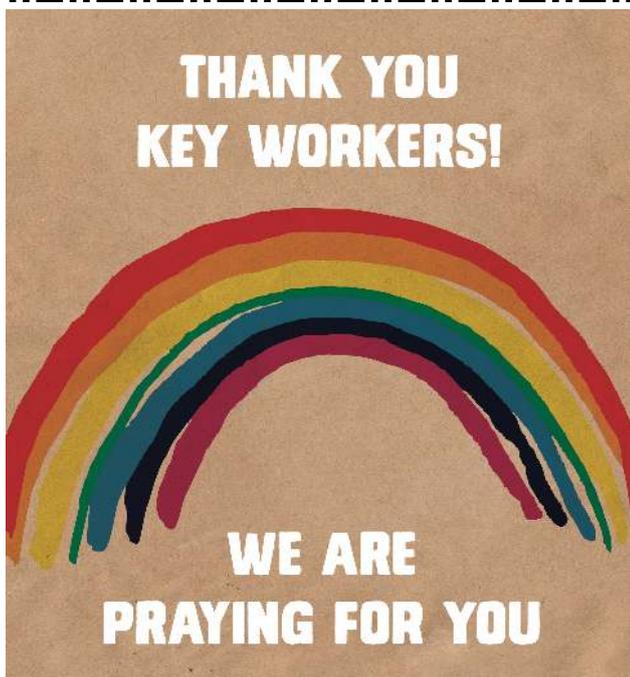
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Editors	John & Claire Richardson	E mail: editor@silchester.org
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## ADVERTISER INDEX

Abinger Joinery (Windows, Doors & Staircases).....	B	McGee's Muts - Dog Care Services .....	G
Accountants (Edmonds).....	I Back	Monumental Sculptor - M.J. Sly .....	F
Apollo Satellite & Aerial Services .....	E	Music Tuition - Robin Scott .....	D
Ash Brook Funeral Directors .....	I Back	Oakey Tree Services .....	H
B.D. Carpentry.....	A	Orchard Plumbing & Heating .....	C
Barking Mad (Dog Sitting).....	D	P. Cooper (Plumbing & Heating).....	A
Ben Wheeler Pianos (Sales, Repair & Tuning).....	I	Painter & Decorator (Graham Lemm).....	I
Berkshire Parts and Panels.....	K	Painter & Decorator (Jacki Whitehouse) .....	D
Best of Flooring.....	K	PC Help To You (Computer Support).....	F
Bo Peep's Day Nursery .....	I	Phillips Solicitors .....	C
Brant Builders.....	B	Pilates Classes .....	E
Brian Nash - Tree Surgeon.....	G	Plastering (GW Sievwright).....	G
Building Services - C E.....	J	PVR (Vehicle Recycling) .....	K
Cabinet Maker (Samuel L Beckett).....	D	Radiance Hair & Beauty .....	H
Calleva Arms (Local pub serving meals).....	F	Rainbow Double Glazing.....	O Back
Carpenter - K.G. Matthews .....	G	Reading Warehouses.....	I Front
Cat-kins Cattery .....	B	Residential Lettings - Simmons & Sons .....	B
CJ Landscapes .....	I	Roofing Services - P.J. Smith.....	A
Complementary Works (Annette Hornby).....	C	Rowberry Morris Solicitors .....	I Front
Domestic Appliance Repairs - RDS .....	C	Silchester Village Hall (For Hire) .....	E
Drum Lessons - John Lezana .....	G	Spencer & Peyton (Funeral Directors).....	J
EA Autos .....	E	Spratley's of Mortimer (Vehicle Servicing & Autocare).....	A
EA Laming (Flat Roofing).....	H	T.G. Turner (Plumbing & Heating).....	F
ELD Construction (Building & Renovations).....	O Back	T.P. Monger (Tree Surgeon).....	I Front
F James & Sons (Building Contractors).....	H	Tadley Cars - Private Hire .....	F
Forever Treasure (Silver Keepsakes) .....	I	The Home Chef.....	I Back
G.P. Vets.....	I Front	Tidy Time Services (Cleaning & Housekeeping).....	B
Garden Maintenance & Machinery Repairs (MJ Whitford) .	J	Tranquil Beauty Clinic.....	J
Hall Rental (Silchester Methodist Church) .....	D	UPVC Expert (Windows & Doors Repaired).....	D
Home & Garden Property Maintenance - Allan Watson.....	J	Window Cleaning - Clean & Easy .....	L
Honeysuckle Interiors .....	C	Window Cleaning Services (Basingstoke).....	H
JCM Construction & Maintenance .....	I		
La Capanna - Italian Restaurant.....	F		
M&M Printers.....	G		

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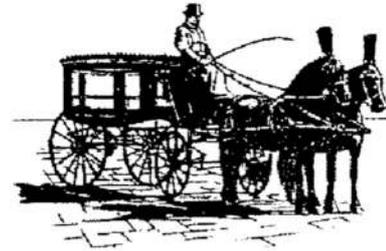
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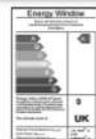
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