The Pointer

June 2025

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The Magazine of the Church of Ireland Parishes

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Clonallon & Warrenpoinz with Kildroney in the Diocese of Down and Dromore



Sunday 25th May was a special day. It was the day that little Olive O'Hagan was baptised. It was the day when we declared God's love for this beautiful child both loudly and clearly. There are many honours that come with my role in the church and one of them is to look into the face of an infant and speak words of blessing.

God Loves You

That Sunday was a special day for other reasons too. I had the honour of looking into the faces of sisters and brothers of all ages and stages in life and speak words of blessing. I met people who were joyfully looking forward to a wedding. I met people who were wistfully looking forward to retirement. People who were scared or worried for a family member. People who were mourning the loss of a loved one. Others who were dreading the upcoming loss of a loved one.

It is an honour to meet people in church and in their homes and speak words of blessing. Of course, the blessing is not mine. Can you imagine being blessed by Andy the middle-aged bloke with a beard? Big deal! No, the blessing is from God. And what *is* a blessing? It is hard to nail down a definition but when children come forward to the rail for communion I tell them these words:

God loves you.

God smiles whenever he thinks of you.

God goes with you wherever you go.

Of course this is a simplification, and we need to remember that God may not be happy with all of the situations we put ourselves in. So, it is here we may make a simple response:

God, I love you too.
I also smile when I think of you.
I welcome you as I go to the places you would have me go.

Ionallon and Warrenpoint Facebook https://www.facebook.com/warrenpointcoi/ Kilbroney Facebook https://www.facebook.com/KilbroneyParishChurchRostrevor



cwkparishes



Lectors					
	10.00 am	11.30 am			
1 st June	Evelyn Greer	Karl Teggarty			
8 th June	Rene Murphy Dorothy Major	Alanah Donaldson Rosie Teggarty			
15 th June	Emma Cooper Stephen Cooper Andy Hay	Jonathan Heyhoe Shelagh Roberts			
22 nd June	Christopher Cooper Hugh Tyrrell Andy Hay	Billy Graham Susan Farrell Mellissa Jeffers			
29 th June	Liz Farnan	Elizabeth Hanna			
6 th July	Dorothy Major Evelyn Greer	Stewart Nash Timothy Alexander			

It was said that Archbishop Tench of Dublin, in his later years, had a fear of sudden crippling paralysis. One night at a formal dinner he sat looking more and more forlorn. Finally, he confided to the guests around him: "Well, it's come at last — total lack of feeling in my right leg." Whereupon the lady sitting next to him said soothingly: "Not at all, your Grace. It will comfort you to know that during the whole of this meal it has been *my* leg that you have been pinching!"

A certain bishop had a fondness for using Bible quotations whenever he visited a function. When he arrived to open a new Maternity Home the organisers thought: "Now we have him stumped." However, after a few well-chosen words, the bishop smiled and said: "I know you are waiting for a quotation, so here it is: 'We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed!" (1 Corinthians 15²¹)

Started a new job as a delivery man today.
When I got to my first address there was a sticky note on the door saying, "Dear Mr delivery man, we're out, please hide in garage."
That was eight hours ago and still nobody's found me.

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9	2		4		3	9		

Standing Orders

Parishioners are encouraged to use standing orders for free-will offerings.

Details of how to do this may be obtained from the church treasurers.

Mr Stewart Nash—Kilbroney

Dr David Gaw—Warrenpoint & Clonallon

Visits

There are small cards in each church building so that information can be given to the Rev Andy ... especially details of hospital/residential/nursing care admissions and other illness or special needs. It is better to be told a number of times than not hearing at all. Clergy are no longer informed by the hospitals so it is really important for family/friends to pass on this information.

Flowers in the Churches

A number of folk take the opportunity to put flowers in our churches in memory of a loved one or to mark a celebration. If you'd like to do this please sign the flower list ... and if you want

someone to do the arrangements for you that is also possible. Just have a word with anyone who does the flowers.



Church Services					
	10.00 am	11.30 am			
1 st June Sunday after Ascension	United Holy Communion Open Air at the Kilbroney Centre 11.00 am				
8 th June The Day of Pentecost	Holy Communion Clonallon	Family Service Kilbroney			
15 th June Trinity Sunday	Morning Prayer Warrenpoint	Holy Communion Kilbroney			
22 nd June The First Sunday after Trinity	Morning Prayer Clonallon	Morning Prayer Kilbroney			
29 th June The Second Sunday after Trinity	United Service Clonallon 11.00 am				
6 th July The Third Sunday after Trinity	Holy Communion Warrenpoint	Holy Communion Kilbroney			

Lectionary Year C				
Old Testament	Epistle	Gospel		
1 Samuel 12:19-24 <i>or</i> Acts 16:16-34 Psalm 97	Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21	John 17:20-26		
Genesis 11:1-9 Psalm 104:26-36, 37b	Acts 2:1-21 Romans 8:14-17	John 14:8-17, (25-27)		
Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Psalm 8	Romans 5:1-5	John 16:12-15		
1 Kings19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a Psalms 42, 43	Galatians 3:23-29	Luke 8:26-39		
2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20	Galatians 5:1, 13-25	Luke 9:51-62		
2 Kings 5:1-14 Psalm 30	Galatians 6:(1-6), 16-20	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20		



The Church of Ireland is committed to ensuring all children and vulnerable adults are protected from harm.

"i before e" except for when your neighbour Keith receives eight counterfeit beige sleighs from feisty caffeinated weightlifters. Weird.

What's so important about the Trinity?

On Trinity Sunday (15th June) we will celebrate God as one God in three Persons. This understanding is based on how we see God at work in the world. We trust in a God who is: 'God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist; God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again and God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world'.

The Trinity provides a model for *Christian community*. God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit relate together in a love relationship of mutual accountability with one another. They complement and build on the work of each other. At his baptism, Jesus the Son is obedient to his Father, who declares his approval as the Spirit anoints Jesus for ministry. *'The Holy Spirit descended on Him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'* (Luke 3:22). To what extent does the life of our church reflect this?

We also find our *mission* in the Trinity. Jesus said, 'As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' (John 20:21). As the Father sent his Son into the world, so Jesus sends us out to do the Father's work, equipped by the Spirit of God. How are we called to share in God's mission ourselves?

If we live with a renewed awareness of the Trinity, our spiritual lives will deepen, our vision of God's mission will expand and take on a new vitality.



Sunday Explorers

11.30 am each Sunday

Make sure you're present for the last few Sundays before the summer break at the end of June.

Compline in Kilbroney

6.30 pm on the Third Sunday









Badminton Warrenpoint Parish Hall

Mondays from 5.30 pm and Thursdays 5.30 pm until 7.30 pm

Join the **WhatsApp** group for updates.



Ladies Bible Study on the summer break

Next meeting Tuesday 14th October at 10.45 am in the vestry Warrenpoint Church.

All ladies will be made very welcome.



Parish Prayer Time

10.00 am in the Parish Room, Kilbroney

Each Wednesday

Everyone Welcome

Kilbroney Crafters on Wednesdays

Crafting, chatting with tea/coffee in the Parish Room **11.00** am to **1.00** pm. All levels of Crafters welcome.

All are welcome

Warrenpoint Parish Church

Open Church

From 11.00 am until Noon Each Wednesday

Everyone is welcome to drop in



Ladies Guild on the summer break

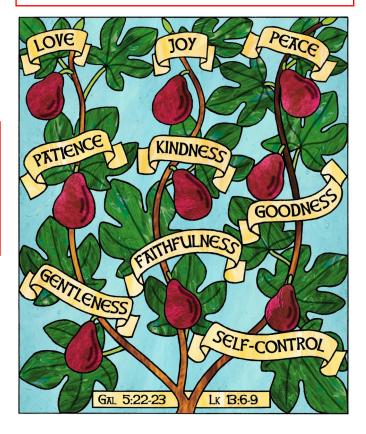
AGM 25th September



Tower Bells and Handbells on Thursdays

Tower bells 6.45 to 7.30 pm Handbells 7.30 to 9.00 pm

If you're interested in joining this ministry please speak to **Liz Farnan** (handbells) or **Kenny Roberts** (tower bells).



A man was attempting to build a patio for the first time. He bought 100 cement blocks. Laying them out in a pattern, he discovered the chosen area was too small.

He stacked the blocks against the house and cleared more space. The next day he put the cement blocks back down, only to find that the ground was too hard to keep the patio level.

He ordered a truckload of sand to be delivered the following morning. Again, he stacked the 100 blocks against the house.

Observing all this, the neighbour asked, "Are you going to put your patio away every night?"

Telling Jesus You Love Him.

The Woman had a strange dream. In her dream she'd heard a voice. The voice said: 'Jesus will be on the hill in the morning. If you love him, go and tell him.'

When she woke up, she put on her best Sunday dress and shoes, and after a bit of deliberation, a hat. As she walked out her front door, she saw her neighbour stepping out of his. He was wearing a suit and the shiniest shoes she'd ever seen.

'Did you have a dream too?' She called over. He nodded. Jesus is on the hill.

They hadn't needed to ask which hill. There was only one hill for miles around and it started at their street. The Woman started to walk and the Man fell into step beside her.

'What do you think he's like?' he asked.

'Amazing,' she said.

'How will we know it's him?' he asked.

'I think that will sort itself out,' she replied.

As they walked up the slope they came to a dirty old car in the middle of the road. The driver was clearly distressed as she had no signal on her mobile and her baby was crying in the back seat.

'Do you need help?' Asked The Woman?

'Can you help push the car off the road?' replied the Mother.

The Man and the Woman looked at the dirty car and then down at their good clothes. Then the Woman rolled up the sleeves of her cardigan and got ready to push. The Man looked at his shoes.

'You push, I'll steer, he said.

He got into the driver's seat while the Woman and the Mother pushed. They had to push pretty hard on that hill, but they managed to get it off the road. As she straightened up, The Woman's hat was caught in a breeze, and it flew off. She instinctively grabbed for it, but all she ended up doing was putting her grimy hands on her hair.

'There you go,' said the perfectly clean Man, getting out of the car.

'Are you going to a wedding?' asked the mother.

'We're going to see Jesus,' said The Woman.

'Can I come too?'

Leaving the car locked up, they began to walk. The Woman took a turn carrying the Baby and got milk spit on her shoulder. The Man was immaculate. Soon they were passing the last house on the street and saw its front door was lying open, hanging on one hinge.

'Shall we go and see if they need help?' Asked the Mother.

'No, just call the police,' said The Man.

'No phone signal,' said the Mother.

Ten minutes later there were four of them on the hill, going to see Jesus.

- The Man,
- the Woman (who had torn her dress on the broken door),
- the Mother with The Baby and
- an Old Man.

The Old Man's house had been broken into, and he was pretty shaken up but when he heard they were going to see Jesus he said he was coming too. The house would wait.

As they neared the top of the hill, the road came to an end, and they started on a dirt path. It was then that they heard a cry for help from behind some rocks.

'No more detours,' the Man said, 'Jesus is on the hill, and I want to see him!'

With that, he upped his pace and headed for the top of the hill, carefully avoiding mud and puddles. The cry for help came again. The others knew they had to go and investigate. Rounding the rock, they saw a man lying next to his bike with an obviously broken leg. This was going to take a while. The Woman, the Old Man, and the Mother did their best to tend to the Wounded Man, while The Baby gurgled and dribbled. Knowing they needed more help, the Woman said she would go down to call an ambulance while the others waited with the Wounded Man.

'But weren't you going to see Jesus?' they asked.

She looked down at her dirty, torn and now bloodied dress. She ran her hands through her grimy hair.

'I was, and I was planning to tell him I love him but there will be another time. I am sure he'll understand,' she said.

'I do understand,' came a voice. The Woman blinked and the others had gone. In their place was Jesus.

'I love you,' said The Woman.

'You have been telling me that all morning,' Jesus replied, 'and I love you too.'

'Did a man in a smart suit find you?' She asked.

'I did see him, and I said 'hello', but he didn't recognise me. He's at the top of the hill, sitting on a rock buffing his shoes.

Rev Andy



You raise the dead to life in the Spirit: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You make one by your Spirit the torn & divided: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of your love.

We pray for God to fill us with his Spirit.

Generous God,

we thank you for the **power** of your Holy Spirit. We ask that we may be strengthened to serve vou better.

Lord, come to bless us

and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the **wisdom** of your Holy Spirit. We ask you to make us wise to understand your will.

Lord, come to bless us

and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *peace* of your Holy Spirit. We ask you to keep us confident of your love wherever you call us.

Lord, come to bless us

and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *healing* of your Holy

We ask you to bring reconciliation and wholeness

where there is division, sickness and sorrow. Lord, come to bless us

and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the *gifts* of your Holy

We ask you to equip us for the work which you have given us.

Lord, come to bless us and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the **fruit** of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to reveal in our lives the love of Jesus.

Lord, come to bless us and fill us with your Spirit.

We thank you for the **breath** of your Holy Spirit,

given us by the risen Lord.

We ask you to keep the whole Church, living and departed,

in the joy of eternal life.

Lord, come to bless us

and fill us with your Spirit.

Generous God,

you sent your Holy Spirit upon your Messiah at the river Jordan,

and upon the disciples in the upper room: in your mercy fill us with your Spirit,

hear our prayer,

and make us one in heart and mind to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Daily Prayer



Lectio 365 is a useful app which may be freely downloaded. Each day has short devotions for morning, midday, and evening.



Holy Baptism Olive May O'Hagan 25th May 2025

Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives, the first step in response to God's love. For all involved, particularly Olive May but also parents, godparents and sponsors, it is a joyful moment when we rejoice in what God has done for us in Christ, making serious promises and declaring the faith. The wider community of the local church and friends welcome the new Christian, promising support and prayer for the future. Hearing and doing these things provides an opportunity to remember our own baptism and reflect on the progress made on that journey, which is now to be shared with this new member of the Church. The service paints many vivid pictures of what happens on the Christian way. There is the sign of the cross, the badge of faith in the Christian journey, which reminds us of Christ's death for us. Our 'drowning' in the water of baptism, where we believe we die to sin and are raised to new life, unites us to Christ's dying and rising, a picture that can be brought home vividly by the way the baptism is administered. Water is also a sign of new life, as

we are born again by water and the Spirit. This reminds us of Jesus' baptism. And as a sign of that new life, there may be a lighted candle, a picture of the light of Christ conquering the darkness of evil. Everyone who is baptized walks in that light for the rest of their lives. As you pray for **Olive May**, picture her with yourself and the whole Church throughout the ages, journeying into the fullness of God's love.



Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us that to enter the kingdom of heaven we must be born again of water and the Spirit, and has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new birth. Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean. Here we are clothed with Christ, dying to sin that we may live his risen life. As children of God, we have a new dignity and God calls us to fulness of life.



Olivia and David with Olive and the Rev Andy



Almighty God, bless the home of *Olive*, and give such grace and wisdom to all who have the care of *her*, that by their word and good example they may teach *her* to know and love you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

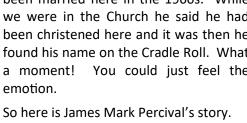


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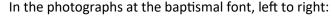


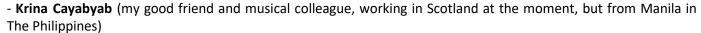
Warrenpoint Parish Church ... Serendipity

One of the privileges of being a People's Church Warden is meeting visitors. About a month ago, on an ordinary Saturday afternoon, Bill and I were calling into Warrenpoint Church. A group of four people were having their photo taken at the Church Gates. I just knew there had to be a reason. As I got out of the car to open the gate. I said "hello, would you like to come in and have a look around". As we were walking, one of the group told me his parents had been married here in the 1960s. While we were in the Church he said he had been christened here and it was then he found his name on the Cradle Roll. What a moment! You could just feel the



Dorothy Major





- Me (James Mark Percival)
- Mervyn Dowd (my oldest friend, we met in Primary 7 at Millington Primary School in Portadown)
- Mervyn's wife, Janet (I was Best Man at their wedding in Portadown back in 1997)

Here's a wedding photo of the wedding from 1st October 1962 (from my younger sister, Karen Sturdy-Percival, currently living in West Yorkshire). The other gentleman is my Dad's best man, whose name (shamefully) I can't remember. I think you can see the distinctive edge of the church profile in the background and the familiar looking gravel on the ground.

My parents: Ann Elizabeth Murphy (1937-2004), Stanley Thomas Percival (1929-2017).

My Mum was a Warrenpoint girl, her father James Murphy owned what is now the Walsh Pharmacy, she grew up above the shop with her parents, James and Louisa, and her brother, Jim at 25 Church Street. My Dad was born in Birmingham and brought up there and later in Blackpool.

They met through a mutual friend in London, at a New Year house party 1960 into 1961, when Mum was studying for her Midwife qualifications in Guildford and my Dad was working in the Moss Bros menswear in Covent Garden. They lived in Warrenpoint for two years after getting married (joined by me on 3rd July 1963). They moved to Belfast in 1965 where Dad worked in Menswear at Robinson & Cleaver and Mum was a midwife at



Musgrave Park Hospital. We relocated to Portadown in 1968 and were there until we moved to Scotland in 1980 (Mum, Dad, me, my younger sister Karen and our younger brother John, along with my grandmother Louisa Murphy). In Portadown my Dad ran his own one-man business, Percival Menswear and Mum was a District Nurse, then a Health Visitor. My Grandfather, James, died in Warrenpoint in 1968, my Grandmother in Scotland in 1986. Both my grandparents are buried in the cemetery at Clonallon.

It would be lovely to see inside Clonallon Church when we are next over there - last time I was there was for my Grandmother's funeral.



Sunday Explorers ... Talents



Inspired by the Parable of the Talents - **Sunday Explorers** discussed their best five talents that God had gifted them. Represented by little drawings on card discs. Their various talents were then attached to the finger tips of a plastic glove which was stretched over the mouth of the cup.

The container represented themselves and as they blew into a straw, the glove expanded and the talents rose up out of the cup. The explorers had talked about their individual talents and learnt that their own talents were better used than left neglected inside of them or left untouched inside the cup.

Pauline Coffey, Serena Hylands, Shelagh Roberts

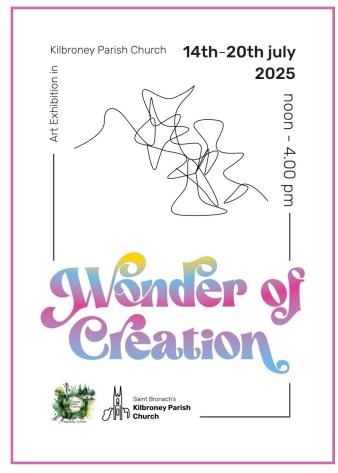












The Wonder of Creation

To all creative souls ...

For the Fiddlers Green Festival - you are invited to offer a piece or two for display in the Parish Room at Kilbroney Parish Church – this may be in any media of your choice.

If you would like to register an interest in this please send a reply to either April Feng or Elizabeth Hanna, and we'll keep you updated as to when to deliver your contribution. There is no hanging fee. The venue is a sacred space so any work submitted should keep that in mind.

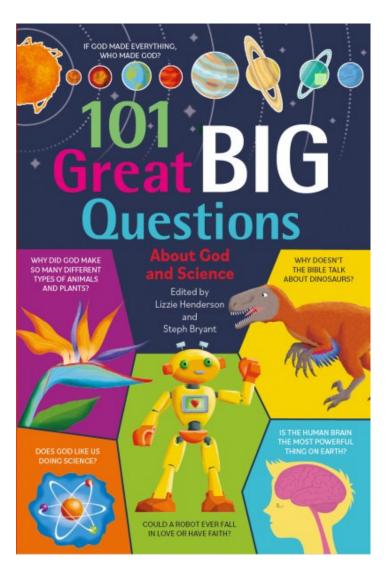
Please pass on the information to anyone else who may be interested in taking part in the exhibition as we celebrate "The Wonder of Creation".

Some of the artwork on display will be for sale. That is to be arranged with the artist and KPC should receive at least 10% of the money raised.

We look forward to a wide range of items for display between $14^{th} - 20^{th}$ July during the hours from **noon until 4.00 pm**. Viewings may be arranged for other times if booked in advance.

April Feng: aprilfeng9@gmail.com

Elizabeth Hanna: hannamanor15@btinternet.com



This book features 101 Great Big Questions asked by children, with fascinating responses from leading experts in the areas of science, theology, philosophy and beyond!

Answers contributed by world-class, knowledgeable scientists, philosophers and theologians are presented in a clear, engaging and open-ended style, **alongside** personal stories about their experiences of exploring their own big questions about God, life, and the amazing universe we live in.

Discover what the experts think about questions like:

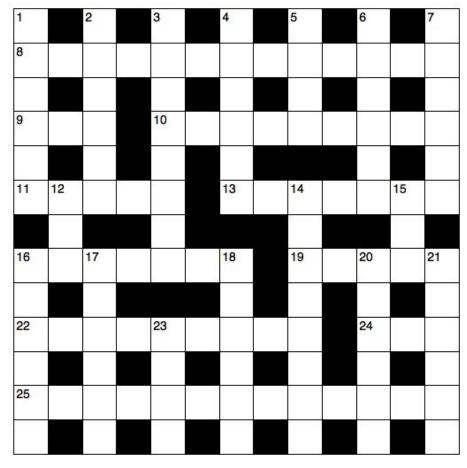
- Could humans ever become mermaids?
- Do other animals have religions?
- Why doesn't the Bible mention dinosaurs?
- Could Jesus get out of a black hole?
- Can science prove the existence of God?
- Does God like aliens?

Age Range:

7+

Publisher:

Lion Hudson



Across

- 8 Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)
- 9 In favour of (3)
- 10 'The child's father and mother at what was said about him' (Luke 2:33) (9)
- 11 Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)
- 13 'Terrors him on every side and dog his every step' (Job 18:11) (7)
- 16 Bay bits (anag.) (7)
- 19 Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)
- 22 Holy Communion (9)
- 24 'On their way to out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land"' (Joshua 18:8) (3)
- 25 Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

Down

- 1 'Assyria's pride will be brought down and sceptre will pass away' (Zechariah 10:11) (6)
- 2 'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in with God and men' (Luke 2:52) (6)
- 3 The descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)
- 4 The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)
- 5 Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6–12) (4)

6 One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the Israelite army 'to make atonement' (Numbers 31:50) (6) 7 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set — — ' (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4) 12 Ate (anag.) (3) 14 'We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our — as sons' (Romans 8:23) (8) 15 Abram's nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)16 Rupture (Job 30:14) (6) 17 'Yet to all who received him... he gave the right to - children of God' (John 1:12) (6) 18 'I... asked him the true meaning of all — . — he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things' (Daniel 7:16) (4,2) 20 Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6) 21 'Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to her to public disgrace' (Matthew 1:19) (6) 23 Diva (anag.) (4)

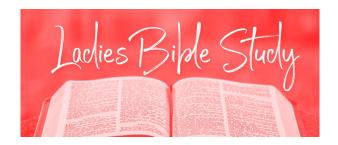
When the English tongue we speak. Why is break not rhymed with freak? Will you tell me why it's true we say sew but likewise few? And the maker of the verse, cannot rhyme his horse with worse? Beard is not the same as heard, cord is different from word. Cow is cow but low is low shoe is never rhymed with foe. Think of hose, dose, and lose and think of goose and yet with choose. Think of comb, tomb and bomb, doll and roll or home and some. Since pay is rhymed with say why not paid with said I pray? Think of blood, food and good. Mould is not pronounced like could. Wherefore done, but gone and lone is there any reason known? To sum up all, it seems to me sound and letters don't agree.

Lord Cromer, the Spectator of 9th August 1902.



Freephone: **0800 088 6042**

9.00 am—9.00 pm Monday—Friday 10.00 am—6.00 pm Saturday and Sunday



A beautiful morning for our Bible Study. We had three apologies but four of us gathered round God's Word for the last Bible Study of the term. We thanked God for all he has been and we look forward to what is to come.

Continuing with our study of woman of the Bible. We took a different slant and kind of diversion.

We looked back to times when there was:

the good room the good china my good outfit my good perfume

All these "good things", maybe never see the light of day, or kept tucked away and very seldom used. They are special.

Let's look at something that was kept for a special time. It was an alabaster jar with about a pint of very expensive perfume. Mark and John describe it as "pure nard" so it was as we would say the real McCoy.

The story is recorded in all four Gospels, the details differ but at the end of the day it's all about the same thing.



So who owns this alabaster jar of expensive perfume ... Mary? Which Mary?

Matthew doesn't give a name, but the Village of Bethany is mentioned and in the home of Simon the leper. Matthew 26 v 6-13.

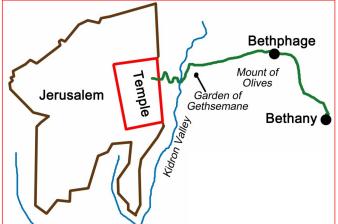
Mark doesn't give the name, but it happened in Bethany in Simon the leper's house. Mark 14 v 3-9.

Luke describes her as a sinful woman, no village named, but it's at Simon's house. Luke 7 v 36-50.

John, in Chapter 12 we're in Bethany again, where Lazarus lived, there was a dinner and Martha was serving. Go back to Chapter 11 v 1 & 2 John was quite precise when he wrote

"This Mary whose brother Lazarus lay sick was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair"





So it had to be Lazarus and Martha's sister Mary. Mary had this very expensive perfume sealed in an alabaster jar. Something she had been keeping for something special.

Another fact ... wasn't Mary always at Jesus' feet.

Remember how she sat at Jesus' feet listening to him while Martha was busy preparing a meal.

Then she fell at Jesus' feet pleading with Jesus to heal her brother Lazarus.

Now here she is kneeling at Jesus' feet again, this time worshipping him, showing love and adoration.

John 12 v 3 tells us she poured the expensive perfume on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. She had to break the jar.

He was her all, he was her best, he was her joy and righteousness and she loved him.

She give it all and held nothing back.

John 12 v 7 might imply that she was keeping the perfume for the day of Jesus burial.

In those days it was customary that the dead body of a loved one would be anointed but Mary chose to anoint Jesus while he was living. This was one of the last acts of kindness that Jesus experienced. There is no mention of her going to the tomb on that first

Easter morning. She had already given her gift while he was alive.

Oh yes Mary was criticised for what she had done, for being foolish and wasteful, but Jesus rewarded Mary with blessing, confidence and assurance. Listen to his words:

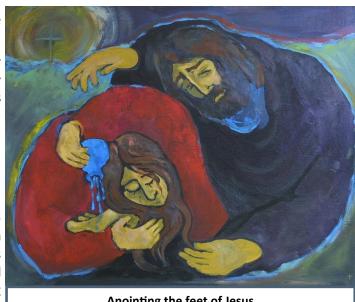
"She has done a beautiful thing"

"Leave her alone"

"She did what she could"

"She will always be remembered for what she did"

A few years ago I was at a Ladies Service in my home Church and the Speaker used the alabaster jar as a challenge to us. She asked what was precious to us and encouraged us to break the alabaster jar. We all have our own alabaster jar, what is the precious thing or things inside. Maybe the Church has an alabaster jar. Maybe it is time to break it open and pour it out at Jesus' feet. Allow him to take it. In return he will give us something much better.



Anointing the feet of Jesus Ann Lukesh Elizabethtown, Pensylvania

A beautiful worship song puts it like this and as we were in a singing mood ... we sang it

Jesus, all for Jesus, all I am or have and ever hope to be. All my ambitions hopes and plans, I surrender these into your hands. For it's only in your will that I am free. Jesus, all for Jesus, all I am or have and ever hope to be.

May this be our prayer. Amen

Our Bible Study is finished for the Summer. We will recommence again DV in the Autumn on Tuesday 14th October 2025.

We blessed each other by singing Hymn 75 - Lord dismiss us with your blessing.

Thank you for your support throughout the year. Without you there would be no Ladies Bible Study. Have a lovely summer.

Love , God Bless and stay safe. **Dorothy Major**

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing, fill our hearts with joy and peace; let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace;

O refresh us,
O refresh us,
travelling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound; may the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound; may your presence, may your presence with us evermore be found.

18th century Attributed to John Fawcett (1740-1817)



The Pointer will have been printed before we have our meal. So you'll have to wait until the next issue to hear and see how we got on.

This will finish our Ladies Guild meetings for the summer and DV we will recommence on Thursday 25th September 2025 for our Autumn term.

This will be an AGM, collection of fees and maybe we will have a bit of light-hearted fun and go for a 'beetle drive'.

All for now Love, God Bless and take care

Dorothy Major



Completion Report for Erankau Community Water Catchment



Erankau (the name means a whistling thorn tree) is a remote community situated in North Eastern Kajiado. The landscape is very hilly and the roads are covered with exposed rocks and deep rain-worn gullies — making transport into the tank site quite

a challenge. Currently the only other source of water is from a seasonal river and a shallow dam.

Water – and especially clean and safe drinking water – is the biggest challenge that this community faces.

There are approximately 57 Maasai homesteads (Bomas) in the area with each homestead containing up to six households. An average of 6 people live in each household, meaning there are approximately 2,000 people within the area, and all of them will benefit from this water supply. Approximately a quarter of this number are children under 10 years old. This community is centred around the local church — Saint Faith's Erankau — and there is a small primary school of 150 pupils.



The work on the construction began on 7th February 2025 and was fully completed on 10th March 2025 when we formally handed the water storage tank over to the local community.

The work carried out by Water Drops is as follows:

- Construction of a block-built 100m³ water storage tank on the agreed site.
- Design and fit a rain catchment gutter system across the church building to ensure safe passage for the rainwater into the tank.
- Fix down-pipes and cleaning chambers from the gutter system into the water tank, to ensure only clean water pours into the tank.

• Construct a water draw-off pipe-stand for easy access to the water.

Some significant savings were made with transport of bulk materials and with a favourable exchange rate, we were able to bring this project in under budget. This frees up some funding which will be used for our next project. This is good stewardship of the financial resources that we receive in Water Drops.



It can be hard to believe that there are so many people across the world who are still faced with the daily challenge of trying to find clean and safe drinking water. Our challenge is to do something about it! Seeing the delight within this community when they realised that they now have clean water makes all our efforts worthwhile.

Many of the local women - who will be the main users of this water - helped provide water for the building process from a nearby shallow dam.

One of the women's community leaders made this comment: 'Now that we have clean water nearby we don't have to travel many miles searching for water. Words are not enough to express our gratitude to everyone who helped with this project. This water will have a huge impact on all of us who live in this area'

They expect more than 30 people will come to this tank every day – and along with the water sent to the school - the benefit will reach into every home. Just a few weeks ago this would not have been possible, so there is a real sense of achievement across the whole community.

Building the tank is the easy part of this process – securing the funding is the difficult part – so we, and the entire community of Erankau, are incredibly grateful to everyone who contributed in any way to make this dream become a reality.

Clean water really does change lives!

Ronnie and Maggie Briggs

Surprising Realizations!

Sometimes the way we spell our words may change from shore to shore the structuring of nouns and verbs can sometimes be a chore!

Our friends across the pond delight in colors, – splendors too! The British think it's only right by putting in a 'u'!

The New York man may mark his land by putting in a 'fence'; but if you cross it, understand that you will cause 'offense'!

Pedants may, perhaps surprised with U.S. friends agree; for both will spell out 'realized' by dropping 's' for zee!

And nether nation's pundits wise will cease their harmony both will spell the word 'surprise' with no sign of a zee!

(But Gentle Reader, we both know that they will fight instead – their arguments will hotly flow – should it be 'zee', or 'zed'?)

Nigel Beeton



A young man is hired to paint lines on a little country road, so the boss gives him a big can of paint, a brush and sends him out.

At the end of the day, when he comes to get paid, he tells the boss he got two miles done. The boss is pretty impressed.

At the end of the second day, the painter reports that he did half a mile. The boss is a little surprised at the drop, but thinks maybe the first-day enthusiasm just wore off.

At the end of the third day, the painter reports that he did 400 yards.

The boss says, "That's quite a difference from the first day." The painter replies,

"Yeah, well it's a lot longer walk back to the paint can now."

The new curate had visited the local prison and taken along his electric guitar. He was so pleased with the applause that he responded: 'Thank you very much for your appreciation. I so hope that I will see you all back here again next year."

Flowers in Church





It makes a big difference to have flowers in our church buildings. If you can help to do them, or provide money for someone to create on your behalf, please make it known. Here's Joan busy doing two things in KPC ... arranging fresh flowers for Sunday and a mammoth job of sorting the "fillers" of artificial material. If you'd like to do the flowers, but perhaps feel a tad anxious, do have a word with Joan, or any of the other folk who regularly do flowers, and you'll get lots of help and advice.

So I saw an old fellow with a fishing rod outside my local cafe, fishing in a puddle.



He looked so lonely and cold!

I said to him, "Come in for a drink and get warm."

As we sipped our cappuccinos, I thought I would humour him.

I asked: "How many have you caught today, old buddy?" He took another drink of coffee, raised his mug with a smile, and replied: "You are the 8th."

A teacher was reading the story of the Three Little Pigs to her class.

She came to the part of the story where the first pig was trying to gather the building materials for his home. She read, "And so the pig went up to the man with the wheelbarrow full of straw and said: 'Pardon me sir, but may I have some of that straw to build my house?"

The teacher paused then asked the class: "And what do you think the man said?"

One little boy raised his hand and said very matter-of-factly, "I think the man would have said, 'Well, what do ya know?! A talking pig!"



Visit a Church — Saint Paul's Church, Covent Garden, London

The wording on the stand just inside the entrance reads:

We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, gay, confused,



well-healed or down at heel. We especially welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers.

We welcome you whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself.

You're welcome here if you're 'just browsing', just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Archbishop of Canterbury or haven't been to church since Christmas ten years ago.

We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome keep-fit mums, football dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters.

We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like 'organised religion'.

We offer a welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell or are here because granny is visiting and wanted to come to church.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throat as kids, or got lost in Covent Garden and wound up here by mistake.

We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters, ... and you!



On a recent visit to London for a meeting I had some time to spare so I went a wandering, just aimlessly with no specific purpose, the weather was lovely, the sun was shining and humidity low so it was very pleasant and I don't really like shopping. Anyway, I ended up in Covent Garden and while I had often spent time in Saint Paul's Church gardens I had never before visited the church, so why not today?

Saint Paul's Church in Covent Garden holds a unique place in English ecclesiastical and cultural history. It was the first Anglican church constructed after the English Reformation and is commonly referred to as the 'Actors' Church'.

The church was designed by the renowned architect and stage designer Inigo Jones, whose neoclassical vision left an indelible mark on British architecture. The church was commissioned by Francis Russell, the 4th Earl of Bedford. Saint Paul's was constructed between **1631 and 1633** as part of an architectural plan for the grand piazza of Covent Garden. Russell famously stipulated that the church should cost no more than £5,000 and remarked that it need not appear more elaborate than a barn. In response, Inigo Jones is reputed to have declared that he would build "the handsomest barn in England."

The Church has a very grand portico to the east (the side that faces Covent Garden) which is sealed, this is all down to the then Bishop of London, later the Archbishop of Canterbury, Bishop Laud (1573-1645) and is to do with traditional Christian architecture where altars are placed at the east end so that the congregation symbolically faces east towards Jerusalem, the site of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. Bishop Laud insisted that the altar was placed in the traditional position so the great east door was never used.

Saint Paul's association with the theatrical world began in earnest following the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660. King Charles II, a great patron of the arts, granted royal patents to two theatres: the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane and what is now the Royal Opera House, both located nearby. Since then, Saint Paul's has served as a spiritual home to the theatre community, providing pastoral care and commemorating its members through numerous memorials and dedications. Many of the memorials are household names, Charlie Chaplin, Peter O'Toole, Nicholas Parsons, Noel Coward and many, many more.

The church has undergone frequent alterations over the years. Entering the Church through the 'more modest' entrance in the churchyard one is struck by the serene and beautiful simplicity of the interior.







Walking around the Church there are a large number of theatrical memorials, many of the names are very familiar. A very ornate pulpit stands to the north side of the church its design is attributed to either Grinling Gibbons the Dutch Sculptor or one of his pupils.

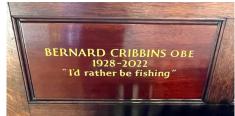






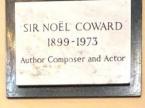


Above the Altar there is a striking reproduction of Botticelli's masterpiece of 'The Madonna and Child'. Turn around and look up is the impressive organ built in 1861 by Harry Bevington using part of the case designed and installed by Hardwick.



hustle and bustle of Covent Garden.
I can definitely recommend a visit.









Today, Saint Paul's remains an active parish church and a peaceful refuge amidst the

Reflections

Jonathan Heyhoe has an exhibition titled "Reflections" at the Market Place Theatre & Arts Centre in Armagh from 6th June to 19th July.

It is an unusual format of photographs and poems displayed together. The prose poems were written by Csilla Toldy as an imaginative response to Jonathan's photographs which will be hung on two levels of the foyer area of the theatre.

The photographs might be described as "interior landscapes" in contrast to the exhibition of traditional "exterior" landscapes held last year in Kilbroney Church.

The first set were taken in a cafe at Tate Modern in London - capturing interesting reflections inside the building and observations of people in their interactions - or lack of them!

The second set of photographs explore our interior identity and self-knowledge through a series of self-portraits and pose the question "how well do we really know ourselves?" These were never intended for public display but Csilla twisted Jonathan's arm to show them once she had written words to accompany them!

A limited edition book has been produced to accompany the exhibition and will be on sale, priced £15, it reproduces all the exhibition photos and poems.

The foreword to the book has been written by Paul Sanders, a fine art photographer and formerly Picture Editor of The Times for ten years. He describes the book as "A powerful combination of words and images raising questions about our place in the world".

Jonathan Heyhoe



REFLECTIONS



Jonathan Heyhoe and Csilla Toldy

"A powerful combination of words and images raising questions about our

-Paul Sanders, fine art photographer, former Picture Editor of *The Times*



"The artist Csilla Toldy has made memorable work throughout her career, in a variety of genres, tussling with complex ideas of self and place and the others around us. In Reflections, she finds startling perceptions in images not her own - sometimes reading directly into and out of Jonathan Heyhoe's photographs, sometimes drawing stunning lessons simply by being in contact with this visible world. In seasonal brackets, Toldy brings to photographs which themselves play with reflections and mirrors, doubles and triples, distortions and puzzles, a rigorous poet's eye, humane and empathetic, making the images her own, with the precision of a glass cutter."

-Damian Smyth, poet, Head of Literature & Drama, Arts Council of

Limited Edition 100

The Crucifixion by John Reilly 1928-2010



I (Edward) have been asked to tell you how I came to know John Reilly, the painter of the Crucifixion.

My twin brother introduced us to John Reilly's art in 1971. It is a ceramic bull on a piece of stoneware. He

has a beautiful blue mane and a big bunch of flowers on the flank. But despite these additions he looks neither effeminate nor aggressive. But he did intrigue us and we looked for John's studio/shop.

In the early 1970s my twin lived with our parents in St. Lawrence near Ventnor on the Isle of Wight and John Reilly lived in Ventnor and his shop/studio was also in the centre of Ventnor.

We saw ceramic pictures and thought these were his main output. In his book, "The Painted Word", he wrote that he funded his painting by creating these ceramic pictures for the tourist season.

In 1973 Liz and I were lucky to be able to stay with the parents of someone who is now probably my best friend. Our friend's parents lived in Kuala Lumpur. After we got back Liz wanted a reminder of our visit and asked me to ask John to do a ceramic picture of a tiger. Why a tiger, I do not know; There are no tigers in Malaysia!! John did accept the commission. In due time I went to pick up our ceramic. When I arrived at the studio, John said it was just out of the kiln and still hot, but to follow him. As I walked along a passage, I

saw a big picture which grabbed my attention.

It was named The Great Dragon (GRD), but more formally, The Flame of Life. At a later visit to John's studio we saw 2 smaller pictures and we bought those

too. Thus started a friendship which included Christmas cards. John sent us cards to: Edward, Liz and GRD and siblings.

From where we lived in Swindon, trips to exhibitions in Portsmouth and Winchester were not difficult.

In Portsmouth Cathedral, we bought a painting called The Spirit of Life. Not only is it an amazing picture, but also it reminded me of the Canadian Rockies and of the smoky holograms

we had seen in 1986 at an international exposition in Vancouver showing North American First Nation people in canoes, totems and smoke signals.

In Winchester cathedral, we saw a triptych of the Crucifixion, the Resurrection and the Ascension. I was struck immediately by the power apparent in the Crucifixion. Simply, I had to buy it. John subsequently painted a second version of the Crucifixion.

At a later meeting, John told me how he painted many of his pictures. In my painting there are 2 Jesus. In the eye of the 'triumphant' one there is a wee hole from a compass point. Onto the empty canvas, John used a compass and pencil to draw feint lines to mark arcs of circles and a ruler and pencil for straight lines. All the



rest is hand painted using a brush.

When I first saw Crucifixion, I thought of: "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27 v 46)

And of

"Jesus answered, 'Truly I tell you: today you will be with me in Paradise.'" (Luke 23 v43)

Thus confirming to me what I read in the bible; that Jesus loves us all no matter who we are and with no pre-condition.

I have a book by John of his paintings; "The Painted Word" referred to above. In it he stated: "Beside each painting I

have quoted passages from the Authorised King James Version of the bible which were my main sources of inspiration for that picture.

All paintings are oil on canvas mounted on board." The passages for the Crucifixion are given as:

Mark 15:12 – 15:22,25.

And Pilate said again unto them, What will ye then that I shall do unto him whom ye call the King of the Jews? And they cried out again, Crucify him. Then Pilate said unto them, Why, what evil hath he done? And they cried out more exceedingly, Crucify him. And so Pilate, willing to content the people... delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified. And they bring him unto the place Golgotha And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.

Luke 28:20

Then Jesus said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.

There are 3 other verses, namely: Matthew 28:20; Galatians 5:24 and 1 Corinthians 15:22.

John also told me that the painting shows the 4 elements:

Fire, Water, Earth and Air

and the 4 seasons:

Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter.

And yes, there two images of Mary.

To me it is a very powerful image of Christianity. I hope all who come into the church find it uplifting as well as somewhat challenging

Edward Woolley

John Reilly was born in Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, in 1928, where he spent his early childhood with his parents and four sisters. During the Second World



War, his family moved to Leeds. He trained in Kingston-upon-Thames Art College (1949-52). He moved to the Isle of Wight in 1954. There he met and worked with the potter Joe Lester Senior.

In 1958 he and his wife, the potter Elspeth Henderson, set up the Ventnor Pottery Studio. They had two daughters, one of whom also became a potter.

John Reilly specialised in distinctive, brightly coloured ceramics, mainly plaques and tiles using subtle, jewel-like colours and geometric patterns which are very recognisable. Figures appear to be part of the pattern of the painting, yet stand out from it. He painted in oils.

On the day that Edward gifted this painting to Saint Bronach's there was great interest as he pointed out the various significant features.



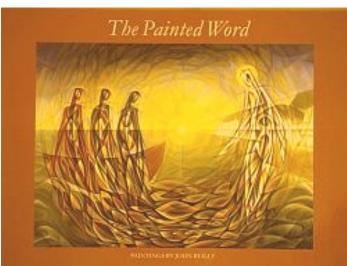
A location for it was identified in the nave, on the south side, and, as so often happens, we asked for help from the Rostrevor Men's Shed!





Thank you Edward for this magnificent gift to the permanent collection in Kilbroney Parish Church.





The Daily Office — Michael Ramsey

"The point of the Daily Office is to root your prayer in the scriptures and in the Church's corporate prayer. The Daily Office in psalm and canticle and lection tells of God's historic revelation and redemption and of the response of the Church down the ages in praise and thanksgiving. We need to soak ourselves in this if our prayer is to be fully in Christ's name and to his glory, and one with the redeemed people of God. In the Daily Office we are lifted beyond the contemporary; and let us be sure that we will serve the contemporary scene effectively only if we are sometimes lifted beyond it, praying with the Church across the ages and with the communion of God's saints. We all experience times when the Daily Office is a burden; persevere, and you [will] find it less a burden than a wonderful liberation."



Michael Ramsey, Baron Ramsey of Canterbury (14th November 1904—23rd April 1988) was the archbishop of Canterbury (1961–74), theologian, educator, and advocate of Christian unity. His meeting with Pope Paul VI (March 1966) was the first encounter between the leaders of the Roman Catholic and Anglican churches since their separation in 1534.

He studied at Magdalene College, Cambridge, where he took first-class honours in theology.

He attended Cuddesdon Theological College and was ordained in 1928. He held a number of lesser positions before becoming professor of divinity at the Universities of Durham (1940–50) and Cambridge (1950–52),

He was bishop of Durham (1952–56) and then the archbishop of York (1956–61).

While archbishop of Canterbury he served as president of the World Council of Churches (1961–68). On his retirement in 1974 he was given a life peerage as Baron Ramsey of Canterbury.

Saint Columba of Iona 9th June Feast Day



In 563 AD Saint Columba sailed from Ireland to Iona – a tiny island

off Mull, in the Western Highlands bringing Christianity with him.

Columba (c. 521 -97) was born in Donegal of the royal Ui Neill clan, and he trained as a monk. He founded the monasteries of Derry (546), Durrow (c.556) and also probably Kells. But in 565 Columba left Ireland with twelve companions for lona, an island off southwest Scotland. Iona had been given to him for a monastery by the ruler of the Irish Dalriada.

Why would a monk in his mid-40s go into such voluntary exile? Various explanations include: voluntary exile for Christ, an attempt to help overseas compatriots in their struggle for survival, or even as some sort of punishment for his part in a row over a psalter in Ireland. Whatever the reason, Columba went to Iona and spent the rest of his life in Scotland, returning to Ireland only for occasional visits.

Columba's biographer, Adomnan, portrays him as a tall, striking figure of powerful build and impressive presence, who combined the skills of scholar, poet and ruler with a fearless commitment to God's cause. Able, ardent, and sometimes harsh, Columba seems to have mellowed with age.

As well as building his monastery on Iona, Columba also converted Brude, king of the Picts. Columba had great skill as a scribe, and an example of this can be seen in the Cathach of Columba, a late 6th century psalter in the Irish Academy, which is the oldest surviving example of Irish majuscule writing. In his later years Columba spent much time transcribing books.

Columba's death was apparently foreseen by his community, and even, it seems, sensed by his favourite horse. He died in the church just before Matins, and it is

a tribute to this man that his traditions were upheld by his followers for about a century, not least in the Synod of Whitby and in Irish monasteries on the continent of Europe.

A prayer of Saint Columba

Christ With Us.
My dearest Lord,
be Thou a bright flame before me,
be Thou a guiding star above me,
be Thou a smooth path beneath me,
be Thou a kindly shepherd behind me,
today and evermore.



Parish Pump

A Letter to Parents

Possibly from a school principal



Dear Parents,

The exams for your children are to start soon. I know you are all really anxious for your child to do well.

But, please do remember, amongst the students who will be sitting for the exams there is an artist, who doesn't need to understand maths.

There is an entrepreneur, who doesn't care about history or English literature.

There is a musician, whose chemistry marks won't matter. There's an athlete whose physical fitness is more important than physics.

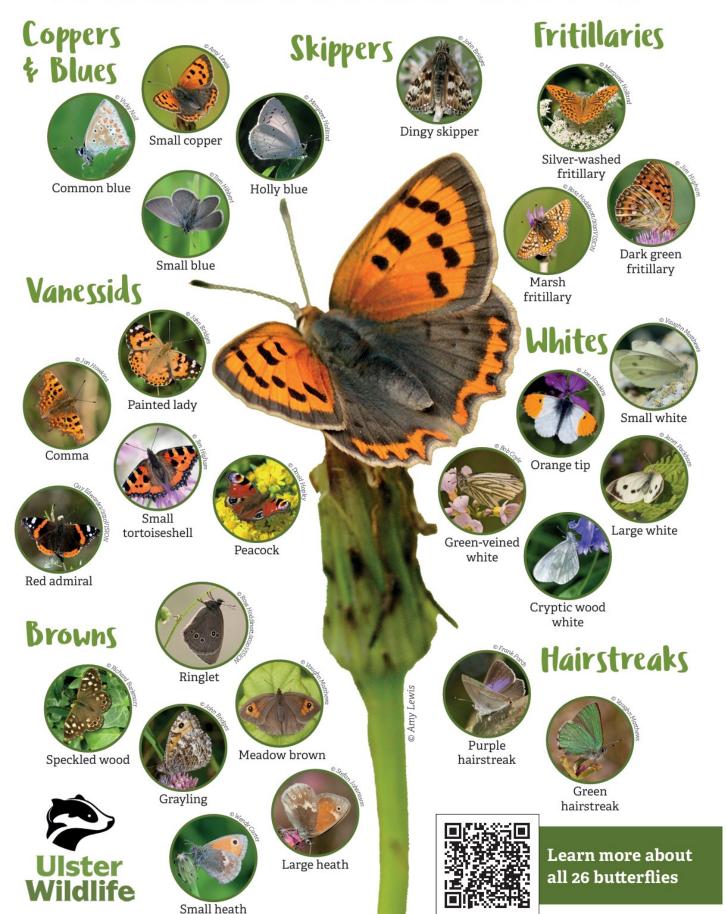
If your child does get top marks, that's great! But if he or she doesn't, please don't take away their self-confidence and dignity from them.

Tell them it's OK, It's just an exam! They are cut out for much bigger things in life. Tell them, no matter what they score ... you love them and will not judge them.

Please do this. and when you do watch your children conquer the world. One exam or a low mark won't take away their dreams and talent.

And please, do not think that doctors and engineers are the only happy people in the world.

Butterflies of NI



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Please save your stamps for

Royal National Institute of Blind People



July-August 2025 Pointer

Deadline: Friday 27th June

Editor: hannamanor15@btinternet.com



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16, Breach. 17, Become. 18, This So. 20, Armies Tea. 14, Adoption. 15,

8, Grandchildren. 9, Pro. 10, Marvelled. 11, Strut 13, Startle. 16, Babysit. 19, Orate. 22, Eucharist. 24, Map. 25, Commissioners.

ACROSS:

Crossword

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