



## 2020 is a Leap Year

Why do we have them? An extra day is added to February every 4 years, because, while we have 365 days in our calendar, the Earth takes longer than that 365 days and  $\frac{1}{4}$  in fact – to fully rotate around our sun. Those  $\frac{1}{4}$  days need to be accounted for so they're added up every four years to give one full extra day. Without this leap year, we'd actually lose six hours every year and after 100 years our calendar would be askew by nearly 24 days.

## Children's Corner

For babies born on February 29<sup>th</sup> most countries including UK and Hong Kong the legal birthday of a "leapling" is March 1<sup>st</sup>. But in New Zealand it is February 28<sup>th</sup>, so if a leapling flew from one country to the other they could enjoy the world's longest birthday!

## The Church Mouse says

Neither your story or scars define you - HIS scars do!

## And another:

In every walk with nature, we receive more than we seek.

## Prince Phillip Hospital Discharge Lounge

has a plaque on the wall which says:  
"the past is history, the future is a mystery, but this moment is a gift, which is why it's called the PRESENT."

## Church Dates

February will be a month of prayers in St Johns Church. On Wednesdays at 11am – 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> March; February 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday is the Induction and Blessing service for the start of Rev John Hayton Ministry at 2pm. All are welcome.

## Editorial

The close off date for the March Newsletter is 15<sup>th</sup> February. Shirley is gathering up the threads of her life after her heart attack, and not being able to travel to New Zealand to see her family, but who knows what lies in the future..... each day is God's gift.

Please send any copy, or news, etc. to [Shirleybdraper@gmail.com](mailto:Shirleybdraper@gmail.com) or leave in the box on the bottom shelf at the back of the church.

## Rudyard Kipling (1865 – 1936) says

Teach me delight in the simple things  
And mirth that has no bitter springs:  
Forgiveness free of evil done,  
And love to all men 'neath the sun.

## Church in the Hall

Please remember and tell everybody that for the next while, all the Church services will be held in the Hall (through the door of Warren Street) whilst the Church itself has maintenance work done.

## Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January

The service in the Hall was taken by Rev John Hayton when the theme was "Home Sweet Home" and a menu of the service was on each table, with the service starting with a cuppa and biscuits. Very different and very memorable.





**Accept what is  
Let go of what was.  
And have faith in what will be.**

### **Three Wise Women would have...**

Asked directions,  
Arrived on time,  
Helped deliver the baby,  
Brought practical gifts,  
Cleaned the stable,  
Made a casserole,  
and then there really would have been Peace  
on Earth.

*seen in a shop in Keswick.*

### **Today's page from our Marriage Manual.**

"After 35 years of marriage, a husband and wife came for counselling. When asked what the problem was, the wife went into a tirade listing every problem they had every had in all the years they had been married. On and on and on: neglect, lack of intimacy, emptiness, loneliness, feeling unloved and unlovable, and entire laundry list of unmet needs she endured.

Finally, after allowing this for a sufficient length of time, the therapist got up, walked around the desk and after asking the wife to stand, he embraced and kissed her long and passionately as her husband watched – with a raised eyebrow. The woman shut up and quietly sat down in a daze.

The therapist turned to the husband and said, "This is what your wife needs at least 3 times a week. Can you do this?"

"Well, I can drop her off here on Mondays and Wednesdays -but I fish on Fridays."

### **Man**

Man is a creature of intellect, reasoning and emotion, routine, time and habit. A paragon of nature made in the likeness of God.

*by William Francis.*

### **The Tenby and District Arts Club**

meets on Fridays in St Johns Church Hall at 7.30pm. All are welcome. Great time for socialising!

Feb 7<sup>th</sup> "The Lucky 12" music with Duncan and Rebecca Whitehurst and friends.

Feb 21<sup>st</sup> 'La Volta' Medieval Music Group

Feb 28<sup>th</sup> "Street Photography" Gill Mackay

### **Spiders**

*Whoever said "out of sight, out of mind" never had a spider disappear in the bedroom.*

### **News of Members**

Janice Gryciewicz's husband Vincent's funeral service was held on Friday 24th January in St Johns and was well attended.

Ron Hurlow is gradually taking up his life, and is looking forward to the Noson Lawen on Sat 11th March.

Ann Maggs and Gill Vickery are recovering from a bad bout of holiday sickness.



Laura Davies has been seen by A and E for a sore area surrounding her eye. "Do not blame leuan" she says.

### **A Prayer**

God, keep my anger from becoming meaner  
Keep my sorrow from collapsing into self-pity  
Keep my heart soft enough to keep breaking  
Keep my anger turned to justice not cruelty  
Remind me that all of this, every bit of it, is for love  
Keep me fiercely kind. Amen



## **Recipe of the month: Tourain, a Tomato Soup.**

*This tomato soup is from southern France. In winter, when vitality and vitamins, to say nothing of sunshine, seem conspicuously lacking, it brings a promise of warmer days ahead.*

¾ pint canned tomato juice, 1 onion, ½ pint water, ½-1oz long rice, or spaghetti broken small, ½ oz oil or butter, seasoning.

Slice the onion and soften it in the fat. Mix tomato juice and water, and sieve the onion into the liquid. Bring to the boil, season, especially with enough pepper, throw in the rice and cook fairly quickly 12 -15 minutes until rice is done.

## **Gratitude Scavenger Hunt**

Find something that makes you happy

Find something to give someone else to make them smile

Find one thing that you love to smell

Find something that you enjoy looking at

Find something that's in your favourite colour

Find something you are thankful for in nature

Find something that you can use to make a gift for someone

Find something that is useful to you.

## **Graham Powell, Secretary of St Johns**

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January was the last Sunday that Graham officially gave out the church notices. He officially retired from being our very, very efficient Church Secretary for the last good number of years, at the AGM on 22<sup>nd</sup> January.

St Johns thanks him for all the hard and extra work he has performed during the years he has been Secretary. This work has been invaluable on behalf of all of us. We, the Elders and members of St Johns will miss his wisdom and guidance, but as he said "he's not going anywhere" so he will still be with us in the pews. But the Sunday morning

announcements, organising events, sorting out in the "back room" so many things... all his duties are being divided amongst the Elders.

Graham says "please if you have any questions... ask someone else!"



**A new Secretary is wanted – the job specification to be negotiated. Please apply as soon as possible. Help will be given by everyone!**

## **Christmas Cracker Jokes**

Q. What do you get if you cross Santa with a Duck?

A. A Christmas Quacker

Q. How do snails keep their shells shiny?

A. They use snail varnish.

## **An Inspirational poem**

God hath not promised  
Skies always blue,  
Flower-strewn pathways  
All our lives through;  
God hath not promised  
Sun without rain,  
Joy without sorrow,  
Peace without pain.

But God hath promised  
Strength for the day,  
Rest for the labour,  
Light for the way,  
Grace for the trials,  
Help from above,  
Unfailing sympathy,  
Undying love.

# St Johns Church Newsletter



**February 2020**

*By Annie Johnson Flint.*