



## Editorial

17<sup>th</sup> March is the cut off date for articles etc. for April newsletter. Please put any news etc into the box at the back of the church, or send to [Shirleybdraper@gmail.com](mailto:Shirleybdraper@gmail.com)

## Graham Powell

It is with sorrow that we announce that Graham died in Morriston Hospital. We extend to Sue and all her family our greatest sympathy.

## News of Members

**Helen Rees** is celebrating the arrival of a great niece – congratulations!

**Alma** sends her greetings to everyone and thanks them for their best wishes after she had her stroke last December and lost her voice. She has recovered well, and been well looked after by her family, and neighbours in Paxton House (where she is the oldest resident being in her 90s).



**Ron Hurlow** is now in Park House hospital ward and would welcome any visitors at visiting time.

Our sympathy and love to **Brenda** as in the last six months both her daughter and son-in-law have passed away.

## Drinking Tea from a saucer

Did your grandmother drink her tea from the saucer? And you always thought it was because it was too hot!

But may be this is the reason:-

## Drinking from my Saucer by John Paul Moore

I've never made a fortune and it's probably too late now.

And I don't worry about that much, I'm happy anyhow

And as I go along life's way, I am reaping better than I sowed.

I'm drinking from my saucer, 'cause my cup has overflowed.

I don't have a lot of riches, and sometimes the going's tough

But I've got loved ones around me and that makes me rich enough

I thank God for his blessings, and the mercies He's bestowed

I'm drinking from my saucer because my cup has overflowed

I remember times when things went wrong, my faith wore somewhat thin

But all at once the dark clouds broke and the sun peeped through again

So God, help me not to gripe about the tough rows that I've hoed

I'm drinking from my saucer because my cup has over flowed

If God gives me strength and courage, when the way grows steep and rough

I'll not ask for other blessings, I'm already blessed enough

And may I never be too busy, to help others bear their loads

Then I'll keep drinking from my saucer 'cause my cup has overflowed.

## Left - Right

Always listen to your heart. It may be on the left but it is always right. *Silver surfers.com*

## Craft Group

The people who come are now learning from Caroline how to make a hedgehog from an old book.

*Hedgehog book folding instructions.*

Tear the cover off the spine of your paperback. As a guide remove a block of 100 pages (200 sides) Now remove 5 pages from each side and put to one side. This will stabilize any loose pages and you can use them to make prickles. Start folding.

# St Johns Church Newsletter



## March 2023

Fold the first page in half towards the spine. Next fold both points of this page, at an angle towards the spine. Repeat this for every page until all pages are folded.

Finishing your Hedgehog – cutting prickles  
Take a page from the book you used to fold your Hedgehog. Fold that page in half again. fold again (into 4) cut some points and slits along the open edge. Open out and cut into 2 pieces. Push the prickles into the gaps between folded pages. Add as many as you want. Add eyes and nose. Use stick-on eyes,



felt or draw on with a marker pen.

If you want a

tutorial video on YouTube, search for channel True Colours Tenby.

### Kindness

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted. Kindness is free, Sprinkle that stuff everywhere. *Aesop*

### He's off again!

John Hayton completed his 100<sup>th</sup> Parkrun on 11<sup>th</sup> February. He runs most Saturday mornings with about 80 others running or walking 5km around the old Haverfordwest Racecourse. Some of you may have noticed him running around the streets of Tenby and Penally. He is in training again - to run the Yeovil half marathon (13.2 miles) on March 26<sup>th</sup> in memory of a dear friend from Yeovil who died from Pancreatic Cancer. He is raising money for Pancreatic Cancer UK (PCUK).

### John's Guide Dog

Eddy is just marvellous. In January, Eddy took John to a meeting at the Mayor's Parlour for the first time ever. Leaving, Eddy took John

back up the 5 steps and then turned into the door on the left, but this was a storage room. Laurence Blackhall came out and Eddy, obviously realising it was not right, followed Laurence along the passage and then took John through the next door on the left. How clever to have memorised from his arrival that he had to turn to the left to go out!!

### Book of Hours 1514

God be in my head, and in my understanding.  
God be in mine eyes, and in my looking.  
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking.  
God be in my heart, and in my thinking,  
God be at mine end and at my departing.  
(We sang this in church a few weeks ago.)

### Sayings

Dirty waters don't stop plants from growing, so don't let negative words stop your progress.

Meet today's problems with today's strength. Don't start tackling tomorrow's problems until tomorrow.

You do not have tomorrow's strength yet. You simply have enough for today.

*Max Lucado*

### Making others Happy

Rivers don't drink their own water,  
Trees don't eat their own fruit,  
the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature.

We are all born to help each other.

No matter how difficult it is.....Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you.

*Pope Francis*

### King Charles's Coronation

He is asking people to make the holiday Monday into a Volunteers Day. St Johns is thinking about how to celebrate his Coronation. Any ideas?



## Synod

Mollie has retired from being St Johns representative to Synod, so we are looking for another member to take on this position. It entails being on zoom at the next meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> March....and at some time spending a day away. Reporting is the biggest requirement!

## Dates into the future

2<sup>nd</sup> March 8pm St David's concert.

3<sup>rd</sup> March Women's World Day of Prayer 2pm at the Salvation Army

1<sup>st</sup> April 7:30pm, Choir on Tour, Gloucestershire Police Male Voice Choir are joined by Tenby Male Choir.

28<sup>th</sup> April Church Meeting and AGM 2pm

17<sup>th</sup> May Christian Aid special Coffee morning

16<sup>th</sup> August Summer Fayre

9 -23<sup>rd</sup> August Teddy Bear Festival

## Teddy Bears

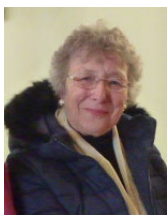
We would love ideas: A Teddy bear picnic? Tableaux around the church of Bible stories using a Teddy as the characters. Have you a teddy that could be a "star". Ideas please?

## Defibrillator in Hall entrance.

Most of St John's Elders have now attended a course in the use of this machine (It tells you what to do, so very easy to use!).

## Ceiling above Organ

We are still awaiting specialist advice so that the organ below does not get damaged while work is carried out.



## Pianist

We thank Mollie for playing every Sunday that she can for the church service. It would be good if someone knew someone who could be a relief

player for Mollie so she can be part of the service occasionally.

## Pancake Party

Our thanks to Ian Bonser and John Hayton for organising this. Over £175 was raised for the Turkey and Syria Earthquake Appeal.

## Moving on

Simon Walkling is retiring from being United Reformed Church Moderator, and moving to a Swansea Pastorate in the Autumn. Stephen Wigley, the Methodist District Chair, is also stepping down about the same time, so there will be some new officers in the United Reformed Church National Synod of Wales and the Methodist Cymru Wales region.

## Landsker Pastorate

Have called Rev Ruth Whitehead, and her induction will be at the beginning of April.

## Sunday January 29<sup>th</sup>

Rev Lorette Hinson closing words of her sermon were "God calls his followers to wholeheartedly do what they can, in any way they can, in the places they can, at the times they can, to the people they can, as long as every they can"

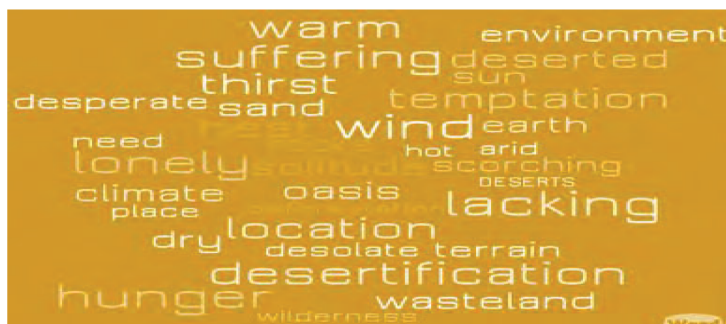
## Church Membership

If you would like to become a St Johns church member, or just talk about faith, why not come to chat to Stella and Kate at 10.30am on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at St Johns?

## Lent Course

Our Lent Course, based on the film "The King's Speech" will meet on Thursdays at St Johns from 2.30pm and at Tabernacle on Fridays at 10.30am during Lent. Kate will be leading this for us. Come along and enjoy the discussions!

# Deserts



What do you think of when you hear the word 'desert'?



## Isaiah 35

*The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, <sup>2</sup>it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendour of our God.*

In the Gospels the desert is the place where ...

- ✿ the Good News was first preached
- ✿ Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit
- ✿ evil was resisted
- ✿ people flocked to hear the Gospel
- ✿ people were baptised
- ✿ there was time for prayer
- ✿ people followed Jesus
- ✿ people were fed
- ✿ the lost sheep are found

**Discussion** All over the world human beings, without a second thought, create deserts through deforestation, destruction, and dumping. Including in your neighbourhood. Where are the places in your community that have become 'urban deserts'? Talk together about places near you where people thirst for righteousness, hunger for justice. Are there areas of wasteland in your area? Who are those who suffer from lack of housing, food, work, faith?



## Let us pray:

Read Psalm 107:1-9

God of life we pray for the places of desolation and death. May new life blossom. We pray for those who hunger and thirst for justice. May their hope grow. We pray for those who are in distress. May they find joy in Jesus, our Saviour. Amen

## Get Active:

- ✿ Get involved in a local litter pick.
- ✿ Learn about 'Seed Bombing'.
- ✿ Transform a 'local desert space'.
- ✿ Check out [greenchristian.org.uk](http://greenchristian.org.uk) Including the inspirational "Nine Ways of Living Gently on this Earth"

