

## **Ascension Day**

Last year, when I did the letter for the magazine, I talked about the three festivals that were going to take place in May- Ascension Day, Pentecost (also known as Whit Sunday) and Trinity Sunday. However this year only Ascension Day takes place in May- on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May.

This is because the date for these three festivals is fixed by the date of Easter Day. Ascension Day is 40 days after Easter, then 10 days after Ascension is Pentecost and a week later Trinity Sunday . Easter was much later this year than in 2016.

So we will have to wait until June to celebrate the other two great festivals but it gives me a chance to look more closely at what happened on Ascension Day which celebrates Jesus returning to his Father in heaven.

Luke Chapter 24 verse 51 says that Jesus, after blessing the disciples, 'departed from them and was taken up to heaven'. Acts Chapter 1 describes the event as 'he was taken up before their very eyes and a cloud hid him from their sight.'

It is interesting that on Good Friday the disciples must have been devastated by the death and loss of Jesus but when he returned to his Father on Ascension Day, Luke tells us that the disciples ' returned to Jerusalem filled with great joy'. The fact that Jesus was raised from death on Easter Day and returned to the disciples to tell them of the meaning of his death and resurrection had completely changed their mood and attitude. Ascension was a confirmation of all that Jesus had told them and was therefore an event to celebrate.

Churches around the world observe many Ascension Day traditions, such as "the blessing of the first fruits," in which grapes and beans are blessed. Some churches depict the Ascension of Christ by raising a statue of Jesus above the altar and lifting it through a special door in the roof. Other churches have outdoor processions with torches and banners. In an old Ascension Day tradition in England, parishioners carried a banner bearing

the symbol of a lion at the head of the procession, and a second banner bearing the symbol of a dragon at the rear. This represented the victory of Christ over the devil. I wonder what the residents of Hartshill would make of that - perhaps we should try it!

We will be celebrating Ascension Day in a different way this year. We have been invited by the Bishop of Coventry to join in a special ecumenical service at Coventry Cathedral. Further details of this event are shown below.

Whatever situation you are in and the worries/stresses you may have, Ascension Day provides a sense of great hope as it is a reminder that Jesus is in heaven awaiting his triumphant return one day. It is also a reminder that, while we wait for his return, the ever-present Spirit of God is watching over and protecting us.

God Bless - *Nick Blamire-Brown*

### Church Flowers

7 <sup>th</sup> May	Mrs Kelly
14 <sup>th</sup> May	For Ray Benn
21 <sup>st</sup>	For Bryan Jackson
28 <sup>th</sup>	For John Zeslawski

Thank you for your generous donations towards the flowers.

If you would like sponsor the altar flowers, perhaps to celebrate an event or remember a loved one, please see Jan in church or telephone her on 02476 395467.



## Thy Kingdom Come



Between Ascension and Pentecost this year, the Archbishop of Canterbury is encouraging Christian communities across the country and around the world to commit to pray. More information about this movement, called "Thy Kingdom Come" can be found **a [www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global) or [www.dioceseofcoventry.org/TKC2017](http://www.dioceseofcoventry.org/TKC2017)**

As part of this the Bishop is inviting the Diocese to come together for a special service on Ascension Day. With this in mind we are cancelling our local service to allow as many people as possible to join in with the service at the Cathedral (we will offer as many lifts as possible.)

We were told that Ascension Day this year is also the 55th anniversary of the consecration of the Cathedral, and we will be marking this with an ecumenical service at 7.30pm with His Grace, Archbishop Bernard Longley of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham. This will be an important occasion in the marking of the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation too.

**All are welcome to come and celebrate Ascension Day on 25<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm in Coventry Cathedral.**

As part of this we will also be celebrating as a Deanery by different churches hosting different prayer events every day between Friday 26th May and Saturday 3rd June inclusive, and Holy Trinity, Hartshill, will be doing this on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May between 7-8pm. All are welcome.

## Service Dates in May

<b>Date/Time &amp; Service</b>	<b>Season / Theme</b>	<b>Readings to reflect on</b>
May 7 <sup>th</sup> - 10am Holy Communion	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	John 10:1-10
May 14 <sup>th</sup> - 9am Holy Communion	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	John 14:1-7(or 1-14)
May 21 <sup>st</sup> - 10am Holy Communion	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	John 14:15-21
Thursday May 25 <sup>th</sup> 7.30pm – <u>service at the Cathedral</u>	Ascension Day  <u>service at the Cathedral</u>	See previous page
Friday May 26 <sup>th</sup> 7-8pm <u>At Holy Trinity, Hartshill</u>	Thy Kingdom Come Prayer Event	See previous page
May 28 <sup>th</sup> - 10.00am All Age Worship	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	John 17:1-5(or 1-11)

### WHAT'S ON IN MAY

Thursday 4th	7pm Singing Group in church
Thursday 11th	7pm Mothers' Union Deanery Service
Wednesday 17th	3.30pm Messy Church in the Community Centre 7.30pm Mothers' Union in the Library
Saturday 20th	2pm to 4pm Cake and Crafts
<p>Prayer group takes place in Church every Tuesday at 9.15am</p> <p>Children' groups take place on 1st and 3rd Sundays during Holy Communion</p> <p>Trinity Tots in the Community Centre every Monday during term time at 1pm</p> <p>Over 50s group in the Community Centre every Wednesday at 1pm – 3pm</p>	



For Hartshill, Galley Common and area

It was great that on Easter Day morning we were able to celebrate the risen Christ together on Hartshill Hayes. The previously forecasted rain didn't appear which was very good – so we were able to enjoy the sun rise and the amazing view as we worshipped and prayed together. This was followed by breakfast at Holy Trinity – where the fellowship continued – so thank you to all who came along and especially to those who made and served breakfast for us. All in all, another lovely start to our Easter day celebrations.

A new event has been added – to join in with the national celebration of 'Thy Kingdom Come' (see page 3 for full details) – but will be a part of a 10 day focus on prayer between Ascension Day and Pentecost

Deanery & Ecumenical Prayer Event

At Holy Trinity, Hartshill - Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 7-8pm

Plus – a date for later on in the diary - our annual

Songs of Praise Service

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – at St Peter's Galley Common at 4pm

Please do join us if you can... ..for... “*How good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters live together in unity...for there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.*” (Psalm 133)

*Heather*



All are  
welcome

Come along for fun, crafts,  
food and a little mess!!!

*Our next few dates for the next year are:*

May 17 <sup>th</sup> - Daily Bread	}	Themes from
June 21 <sup>st</sup> - God's Power & Glory	}	the
July 19 <sup>th</sup> - Eternity and Amen	}	Lord's Prayer

All at the usual time of 3.30pm – 5.30pm

\*\*\* At Hartshill Community Centre \*\*\*  
(next to Holy Trinity Church, Church Road)

Children must be accompanied by an adult.  
Cost? Free – but donations are welcomed.

Invite your friends too & hope to see you there!

## Praying for our Parish in May

*Then he said “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom”*

*Luke 23:42*

1 A new month, a new week and a bank holiday to enjoy. Give thanks to God for this welcome gift.

2 The friendly Community care continues to provide meals and drinks for the customers. Thanks God for the workers and their skills.

3 The Over 50s bring together a group of active mature people who pass time in the company of their friends. Pray that they will continue to keep well.

4 The singing group is an enjoyable time spent together singing hymns and songs for pleasure and praise to God. Praise God in your own way today.

5 The library now has a new group on their premises in addition to their present activities. Pray and welcome those who come to join ‘Needles and Natter’.

6 Take the opportunity this weekend to look and enjoy the beauty of the trees and flowers and listen to the birds.

7 Thank God for what you have seen and heard of His wonderful creation – and cherish it all.

8 Thank God for both old and new members of the PCC and for all who have served and are serving the Church.

9 Pray for the Deanery Synod as they meet to discuss and make decisions for and about church issues.

10 Pray for Nick and Sally as they are admitted into the office of Wardens for our church.

- 11 Pray that the Parish Plan project AGM goes well as the management meet in the community centre.
- Also pray for the Mother's Union as all the branches within the Nuneaton Deanery meet together.
- 12 Pray for those who produce the church magazine and produce a varied content.
- 13 Church grounds group – these are people who give their time to make the building and grounds a comfortable place to be in. Thank God for them all.
- 14 Pray for all carers, whether in the home or Nursing Home. Give thanks in your prayers for the work they do.
- 15 Trinity Tots enables mothers with small children to meet and mingle. As they play together the children learn to share. Ask God to bless them.
- 16 Pray for the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides as the teaching and learning continues with fun and happiness.
- 17 Messy Church – pray for those who give their time and energy to allow children to create items using a range of materials.
- 18 Pray for the emergency services – people who keep us safe – the military, fire service, police, ambulance crews, hospital staff.
- 19 Pray for teaching staff, pupils, caretakers, cleaners and catering staff in our schools. That their time in school will be a happy and rewarding one.
- 20 Coffee and craft social event is being held in the community centre. Pray that all goes well and everyone enjoys it.



- 21 Hospitals are important to our health. Pray for those who work within them and thank God for their skills.
- 22 Pray for your friends and neighbours, they are a valuable set of people to have around you. Give thanks for them.
- 23 Pray for your family and let them know that your love and care for them.
- 24 Pray for those you work with, share the ups and downs of the day with and help each other as the need arises.
- 25 Ascension Day – 40 days after His resurrection Jesus rises into heaven leaving His disciples to await the arrival of the Holy Spirit. Pray for the service that remembers this event.
- 26 Pray for our church –for Heather, the Readers and the congregation. Give thanks to God.
- 27 Pray for the elderly and housebound, try to find time to give them your company and help.
- 28 Faye and Jaxon are to be baptised today. Pray for them and for their parents, god-parents and families.
- 29 Spring Bank holiday – whatever you choose to do with the time, enjoy the day and give thanks for the opportunity to do so.
- 30 Pray for yourself. Give thanks to God for your life and ask for His continuing care.
- 31 As this month closes go forward into June anticipating what lies ahead – knowing that you won't be alone if you love the Lord.

*Maureen*



## CHRISTIAN CHARITY NEWS

### **XLP (stands for The eXcel Project)**

I hadn't heard about this charity until last month when I attended an event held at Manor Court Baptist church where Patrick Regan and a team from XLP spoke to us and showed some video stories about their work.

In 1996 in response to a stabbing in a school playground, the school's headmaster asked Patrick Regan, who was then a local church based youth worker to come into the school and work with their students and teachers to help with difficult behavioural issues. In the early days Patrick began by hosting a lunch-time club on school premises.

Since then XLP has grown from that one school to operating in over 70 schools and numerous communities across the poorer areas of London and today on a daily basis XLP has projects dealing with a wide variety of issues, including gang culture, anger management and violence, poverty, prejudice, racism and image and identity.

Much of their work is still school based but also works in 22 inner London estates, using community facilities and their own double-decker bus, which has computer equipment for homework support upstairs and a space downstairs for the young people to meet together. XLP staff have witnessed positive stories of young people whose futures have changed from going nowhere to having hope and purpose. They work in collaboration with local councils, schools, police, churches, community groups, volunteers and other agencies.

Patrick Regan has a passion to see children and young people from the most deprived and challenging backgrounds to succeed in life, helping them to avoid making the wrong choices, to overcome the challenges they face and to realize their potential. XLP trains and monitors its staff and volunteers and team members consist of many backgrounds, but who are

faithful to God and passionate about making a difference to young peoples' lives as they mentor and encourage them. Some children sadly receive no encouragement from home and have no confidence in their own abilities.

XLP use performing arts and stage Arts Showcase events across 7 London boroughs using music, dance, drama, poetry and comedy. Young people are chosen through auditions held at schools or by recommendation from teachers or pupil referral units. Often these performing arts events have been life changing for some of the young people involved.

Derek's life changed over 3 years ago. He had been the target of bullies at school from an early age and he became angry and disruptive. His mum knew one of the mentors at XLP and she introduced him to another mentor who worked with him for 3 years. Derek loved music and he became involved in the Arts Showcase and he has become a happy, smiling young man who is now planning to go to university. There are many stories like Derek's, where peoples' lives have been turned around and you can read about them if you are able to go online at <http://www.xlp.org.uk/>

Gap year placements to work with XLP are available; so if you know of a young person with a passion to work with young people in inner city London and to develop their own walk with God, this may be for them.

XLP are making a real difference in the communities that they work in and this is acknowledged by the schools, police, politicians and the churches and communities.

If you would like to find out more, their address is XLP Office, All Hallows on the Wall, 83 London Wall, EC2M 5ND Tel: 0207 2566240 or for Gap year enquiries e-mail [experience@xlp.org.uk](mailto:experience@xlp.org.uk)

*Lynda Kelly*

## **THE LEPROSY MISSION**

If anyone would like their box emptying, please hand it in to me during May. Thank you.

*Lynda Kelly*

## Hartshill Community Library

Your Warwickshire Library card works here!



Tuesday 10am to 2pm  
Wednesday 2pm to 4pm  
Thursday 2pm to 4pm  
Friday 10am to Middy  
Saturday 10am to Middy

The following sessions are also held in the library:  
Family History Group Mondays 1.30pm to 3.30pm  
Needles and Natter Fridays 10am to 12pm  
Book Club first Tuesday of the month 10.30am

## Future dates for your diary

**Summer Fayre** Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2pm

**Harvest Supper** Saturday 23rd September 6pm

**Christmas Fayre** Saturday 2nd December 2pm

Please come and join us at any of these fun and informal events, you will be very welcome.

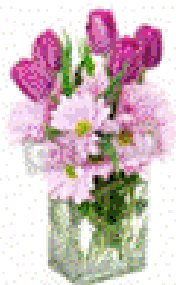
Further details will be in future magazines or please ask a member of the social committee for information.

**Our next meeting is to be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May, we always welcome new ideas or members and help at individual events.**

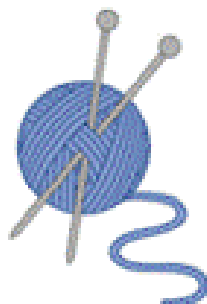
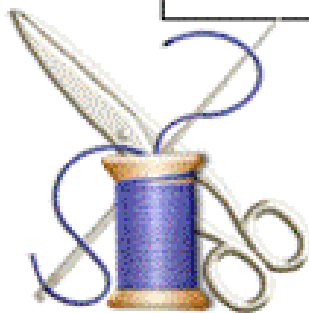
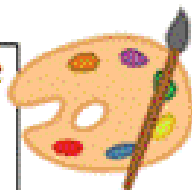
Holy Trinity  
Church  
Hartshill  
Cake and Crafts

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May

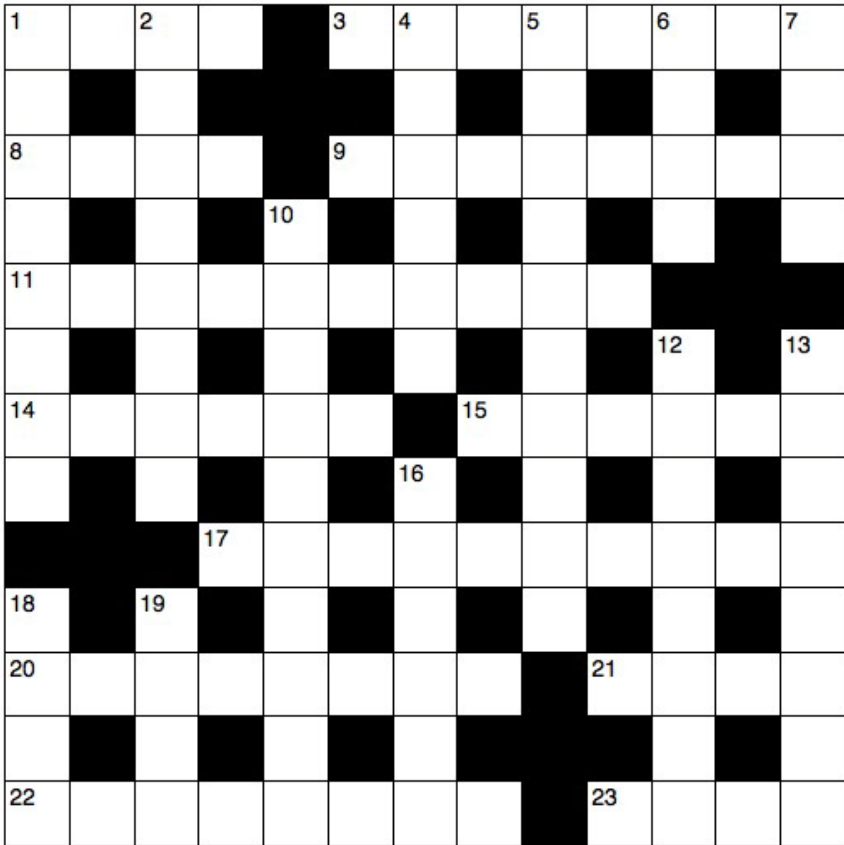
2.00pm – 4.00pm



Bring a craft to work on while we all enjoy tea and cake, or come along and see what others are making and gather ideas or maybe learn a new skill.



## Crossword



### Across

- 1 Infant (Luke 2:12) (4)
- 3 Luis must (anag.) (8)
- 8 What Jesus called the devil (John 8:44) (4)
- 9 'My God, my God, why have you — me?' (Matthew 27:46) (8)
- 11 Anglican form of church government (10)

14 ‘Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like — ’ (Isaiah 40:31) (6)

15 Ministers of religion (6)

17 Make stronger (1 Thessalonians 3:13) (10)

20 Devoutness (1 Timothy 2:2) (8)

21 The father of Jesse (Ruth 4:22) (4)

22 Pool where Jesus healed a man who had been an invalid for 38 years (John 5:2) (8)

23 ‘[Jesus] said to them, “ — here and keep watch”’ (Mark 14:34) (4)

### **Down**

1 Follower of Christ (Acts 16:1) (8)

2 One of the punishments endured by Paul (2 Corinthians 6:5) (8)

4 Soldiers (Exodus 14:9) (6)

5 Scholarly study of melody, harmony and rhythm (10)

6 ‘I am God, and there is none — me’ (Isaiah 46:9) (4)

7 ‘And how can they preach unless they are — ?’ (Romans 10:15) (4)

10 Favourable reception (1 Timothy 1:15) (10)

12 Hip orbit (anag.) (8)

13 End of life (Isaiah 22:14) (5,3)

16 ‘About midnight the sailors — they were approaching land’ (Acts 27:27) (6)

18 He married Jezebel (1 Kings 16:30–31) (4)

19 ‘According to your great compassion — out my transgressions’ (Psalm 51:1) (4)

### **Solution on page 19**

**Holy Trinity  
Church  
Hartshill**  
**Summer Fayre**

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June

2.00 – 4.00pm

*Refreshments*

*Crafts*

*Games*

*Raffle*

*Tombola*

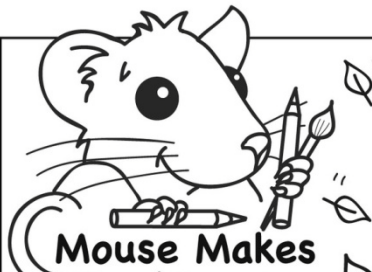
*Cake stall*

*And more.....*

*Everyone welcome!*







Mouse Makes

SEEKLOSTS  
 IGFOZHMSAVE  
 NINOTAXHALF  
 NVUTCODVAJ  
 ERICHUZADE  
 RXGMHTSITOS  
 PFEAWEIWU  
 POSSESIONS  
 FOURUNING  
 TREES

### The Man in the Tree

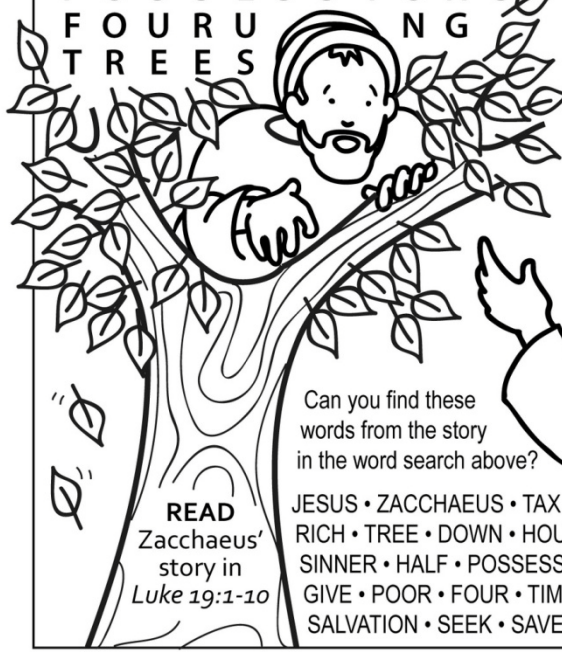
With Jesus passing through the town  
 A crowd of people gathered round,  
 But as Zacchaeus could not see,  
 He ran ahead and climbed a tree.

Jesus stopped as he passed by,  
 And saw Zacchaeus there up high,  
 Said, "Dear Zacchaeus, come with me,  
 I'm going to your house for tea".

Zacchaeus climbed  
 down to the floor,  
 And walked with Jesus  
 to his door,  
 Amazed the Lord would  
 want to be  
 With such a liar and  
 cheat as he.

Zacchaeus, sorry for  
 all he had done,  
 Said, "Lord, I'll pay  
 back everyone,  
 Half I own I give  
 to the poor,  
 Those I've cheated get  
 four times more."

Jesus said,  
 "Today you're saved!"  
 Zacchaeus replied,  
 "May God be praised!"



**READ**  
 Zacchaeus'  
 story in  
 Luke 19:1-10

Can you find these  
 words from the story  
 in the word search above?

- JESUS • ZACCHAEUS • TAX
- RICH • TREE • DOWN • HOUSE
- SINNER • HALF • POSSESSIONS
- GIVE • POOR • FOUR • TIMES • GOD
- SALVATION • SEEK • SAVE • LOST



## Sharon's Recipe - **Date and Walnut Flapjacks (makes 16)**

### **Ingredients**

100g (3½ oz) unsalted butter

3 tbsp sunflower oil

55 g (2 oz) light muscovado sugar

3 tbsp clear honey

grated zest of 1 orange

2 tbsp orange juice

100 g (3½ oz) dried

stoned dates, chopped

75 g (2½ oz) walnut pieces, chopped

250 g (8½ oz) porridge oats

30 g (1 oz) sunflower seeds

### **Method**

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C (350°F, gas mark 4). Lightly grease a shallow non-stick **baking tin** measuring 28 x 18 x 2.5 cm (11 x 7 x 1 in), or a 20 cm (8 in) square tin. If you do not have a non-stick tin, lightly grease an ordinary baking tin, then line the bottom with baking parchment.
2. Place the butter, oil, sugar, honey, and orange zest **and juice** in a heavy-based saucepan and heat gently, stirring until the butter has melted. Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the dates and walnuts. Then stir in the oats, making sure they are evenly coated with the butter mixture.
3. Turn the mixture into the prepared tin, pressing it down firmly and evenly. Sprinkle the sunflower seeds over the top and press down so they are lightly embedded in the surface.
4. Bake for 20 minutes or until deep golden around the edges. Remove from the oven and allow to cool slightly in the tin, then mark out 16 pieces on the top surface with a sharp knife.
5. Leave to cool completely, still in the tin, before cutting into bars along the marked lines. The flapjacks can be kept in an airtight container for up to 1 week.

**As an alternative pumpkin seeds can be used instead of sunflower seeds.**

## From the Registers in April

### Baptisms

30<sup>th</sup> April – Dylan Thomas, Jacob Hale, Ivy & Craig Shilton

### Funerals

26<sup>th</sup> April – Betty Dutton (at Meriden Church)

28<sup>th</sup> April – Raymond Macon

## Solution to crossword on page 15

**ACROSS:** 1, Baby. 3, Stimulus. 8, Liar. 9, Forsaken. 11, Episcopacy. 14, Eagles. 15, Clergy. 17, Strengthen. 20, Holiness. 21, Obed. 22, Bethesda. 23, Stay.

**DOWN:** 1, Believer. 2, Beatings. 4, Troops. 5, Musicology. 6, Like. 7, Sent. 10, Acceptance. 12, Prohibit. 13, Dying day. 16, Sensed. 18, Ahab. 19, Blot.

## From the Editor

Thank you to all contributors to the magazine.

If anybody has anything they would like to share with readers of the magazine, please either write it down and give it to me or email it to me at [susan.foster@bcs.org](mailto:susan.foster@bcs.org). Please send text in either email form or as a word attachment and send photos as jpg attachments.

The deadline for articles for the June edition is 22<sup>nd</sup> May.  
You can find past recent editions of the magazine at <http://hartshillmu.uk/publications.html>

## Who's Who?

Vicar	Revd. Heather Barnes	02476 392266
Curate	Revd. Michael Brandsma	01827 437292
Church Wardens	Mr Nick Miles	02476 394339
	Mrs Sally Young	02476 397276
PCC Secretary	Mrs Carol Miles	02476 394339
Treasurer	Mrs Wendy Albrighton	02476 397183
Planned Giving	Mrs Wendy Albrighton	02476 397183
Mothers' Union	Mrs Susan Foster	02476 319943
Verger	Mr David Hodson	07773 992270
Weddings	Mr Nick Blamire-Brown	02476 395467
Flowers	Mrs Jan Blamire-Brown	02476 395467
Baptism	Revd. Heather Barnes	02476 392266
Community Centre Bookings	Mr John Randle	02476 392856
Sunday School	Mrs Ruth Kinderman	02476 395326
Magazine editor	Mrs Susan Foster	02476 319943

**Church website:** <http://holytrinity.avexi.co.uk/>

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/holytrinityhartshill/>

**Hartshill Mothers' Union website:** <http://hartshillmu.uk/>