

The Keston Magazine

News of your Parish and Village



June/July 2022

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The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Psalm 19:1

Front cover: Path through Leaves Green field in July by Sally Churchus ©

Thought for the month

What a Journey!



As an Ordained person in the Church of England I had to sign a pledge of allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as part of my journey to Ordination. It is quite an emotional thing to do and a real reminder of Her Majesty being the Defender of the Faith and Head of the Church of England.

As we all prepare to commemorate and celebrate our monarch's reign for 70 years, I am humbled that my pledge of allegiance made 13 years ago, and the commitment that it asks for, is very little in comparison to Her Majesty's great and steadfast commitment lived out over the past 70 years.

What a journey she has been on – being somewhat thrust into the role, before she was expecting it, following the early and sad death of her father, King George VI. Life's journey often brings the unexpected – the pandemic and the world situation shows how we can be plunged into something we were certainly not expecting.

The unexpected in life, and the journey through it, can pull on all our inner

resources. Having some extra 'tools' in our toolkit can help sustain us. Having a trusted friend to turn to may be enough, or maybe accessing something extra from a specialist source is what is needed. Look out for our coffee morning on Saturday 18th June, to which everyone is invited; we'll hear a short talk on keeping mentally well and how we might access services. *(See p21 for details).*

Learning how we can draw on positivity and resilience, or even our faith in God, is not only something we can use for our own journey in life but also something we can pass on. With an element of unpredictability in the world our children and young people would certainly benefit from techniques for resilience.

Maya Angelou says: 'I can be changed by what happens to me. But I refuse to be reduced by it'. Sometimes, in life, the difficulties we journey through can serve to make us more resilient, positive and whole. This would be a 'best case scenario!'

'When you can't control what's happening around you, challenge yourself to control the way in which you respond. That is where true power lies'.
(resiliencecounsellingnetwork.com)

Sometimes we can surprise ourselves with the power that lies within us if we dare to dig a bit deeper. As we celebrate our Queen's Platinum Jubilee we can be mindful of the surprising response possible in the human spirit through life's sometimes challenging, journey.

The Prophet Isaiah tells us that God says: 'Don't panic or be afraid. I'm with you. There's no need to fear for I'm your God. I'll give you strength. I will help you'. (41:10)

Rev'd Carol Morrison

From the Editor

Welcome to this issue of the magazine, in which we have quite a bit of Royal content, as you would expect. There are also some articles about travel and pilgrimage, including my own recent one to the Holy Land. It was my second visit, having been there eight years ago with my daughter, but there was so much to take in that I have always wanted to go back. This one was organised by Rochester Diocese and we visited some different sites this time too, which was wonderful. The temperature was variable to say the least, ranging from 8 to 34°C! At least we knew beforehand, so you can imagine the size of my suitcase to cover all eventualities!

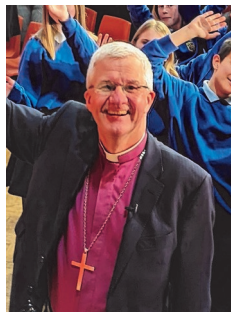
Whilst there we attended the Sunday service at St. George's cathedral in Jerusalem, which was an experience – in two languages. Afterwards, the Dean of the College, the Very Rev'd Canon Richard Sewell, talked to us about the many problems that Christians have in Jerusalem. He also explained the meaning of the Jerusalem cross which was on the door to the cathedral and we had seen in numerous other places. The main cross in the centre represents the cross of Christ whilst the four smaller crosses in each quadrant represent the good news of Christ going out to the four corners of the world. You may notice me wearing my new cross and chain, which I bought whilst I was away!

Sally Churchus



New Bishop

At the end of March HM The Queen approved the nomination of the Rt Rev'd Jonathan Gibbs as the next Bishop of Rochester. He is currently the Bishop of Huddersfield and is also the Lead Bishop for Safeguarding.



He is married to Toni and together they have three grown up children. His interests include walking, usually accompanied by their Cocker Spaniel, and rummaging in second-hand bookshops. It is expected that Bishop Jonathan's installation will take place some time in September.

Church good for you

According to *The Telegraph* recent research suggests that going to church and volunteering can help reverse memory problems in people with early signs of dementia.

The study found that having a rich social life could help brain function return to normal, even if it has already started to deteriorate.

Other research suggests that religious people cope better with cancer than non-believers do. A US study found that believers had better physical health, greater ability to keep doing daily tasks, and fewer physical symptoms of cancer and its treatment. Those who could reconcile their illness with their beliefs also experienced less anxiety and depression.

Ukraine Bake Sale



From left to right: Tom Rose, Ben Carter and Ben Rose

Last month my son Ben, (aged 10), asked if we could do something to raise money for those in Ukraine. We settled on the idea of a bake sale, and his twin brother Tom, and a friend Ben got to work with posters, while Ben and Tom's sister Ophelia got to work baking. We also had very generous donations of cakes made by several friends, and despite some pretty awful weather at the start of the sale on Commonsidge, (on the afternoon of Sunday 13th March), we raised just over £380!

I wanted to thank all the locals who were really generous with their donations, and also my friends who helped and brought cakes. Everyone who came along and bought were generous, with some giving much more than the £1 we were asking for each piece of cake. NatWest doubled our donations so we were incredibly happy with our end total. Thank you Keston residents!

Catherine Rose

ChildAid

The war in Ukraine has shocked us all and has stirred in many of us the desire to do what we can to help the refugees, mainly women and children, who have literally run for their lives. Bromley based charity, ChildAid to Eastern Europe which originated from Keston College, has served the vulnerable and disadvantaged in the ex-Soviet Union region for nearly 50 years. Their local partners in Moldova and Ukraine are working tirelessly to support the fleeing refugees.

In Kamianske, eastern Ukraine, one of ChildAid's partners wrote recently: "It was quiet today. No sirens. We brought some of the children together, including refugee children from a small town in Donetsk. For 10 days they sat in their basements without leaving, until they could escape.

We tried to distract them from horror and anxiety by just drawing and mixing colours in peace and quiet. However, they talk about how to survive shelling in the basements, they know the level of danger from how sirens sound, they know the hours of silence between. And I, wiping my tears, hold out a cookie and offer to paint once more. And



tomorrow... tomorrow we will come up with something else! To distract these little hearts from the horror of war!"

Well tomorrow did come and together with an equestrian club ChildAid's partner organized horse-riding therapy for the refugee children. With joy and enthusiasm, they rode, fed and cared for the horses. For a moment, the children again felt calm and peaceful. But not for long... an air raid alert once again! They were forced to leave everything and go to shelters. Tears, despair, confusion were in the eyes of every child. They wanted to spend time with the horses even more! These children are deprived of childhood and joy.

The very young have nowhere to hide during the sirens, they lie on the floor and cover their ears. Sveta grabs her kitten and puts it under her sweater and sits waiting for silence. She has scratches all over her body but like all the children she worries about the pets.

This mission will continue now and long after the fighting stops. Find out more about ChildAid's work with refugees at childaidee.org.uk/blog/supporting-conflict-victims-update.

Martin Wilcox, Director of ChildAid

Mud Pie anyone?

Keston Forest Pre-school is fully outdoors in a beautiful private woodland. We are open term time from 9.30am until 2.30pm. We cover the early years foundation stage curriculum through play based learning, forest school activities and nature. Here are some of our testimonials:

- My daughter has been enrolled for two terms now, (the coldest and wettest terms, although surprisingly sunny), and I have witnessed her enthusiasm for nature develop as we go out for walks and at home in our garden. Two of her favourite books have been covered – Stick Man and Superworm – and it is enjoyable to see her talk about these. There is an allotment which has been a great educational piece to learn where her food comes from, an outside mud kitchen and of course the famous mud slide. The sheer excitement and exhaustion I see on her face when I pick her up is enough for me to know that I have sent her into the right environment to learn and be nurtured. I cannot recommend it enough! *Victoria (parent)*

- As a true nature-lover, A loves going to Keston Forest Pre-school and hunting for insects, caterpillars and spiders. She really enjoys making crafts like bird feeders, leaf collages and wind streamers, and getting to take them home". *Eleanor (parent)*

- Attending Keston Forest Pre-school is without a doubt the absolute highlight of our son's week. He has so much fun with Anna, Elizabeth, and his friends! Being outdoors all day in whatever the weather has never bothered him at all. As long as he is dressed appropriately,

he is happy. His personal favourite would be when it's been raining as he says there will be more mud for him to play in! We have loved seeing how our son has grown in confidence and become so knowledgeable about the outside world and woodlands since he has been attending. I would have no hesitation in recommending Keston Forest Pre-school and look forward to my youngest son being able to attend when he is older! *Hayley (parent)*

- My son absolutely loves it, he very much enjoys being outside so this was perfect for him and he's thriving there. He's certainly comfortable with all weather conditions and started when it was pretty cold, but it didn't bother him in the slightest. He was wrapped up and always wears waterproofs, the staff always make sure they are dry and well looked after so this wasn't an issue. My son always comes out happy so I'm happy. The staff are super friendly and have a great relationship with me and my son, he's learning so much and enjoys the mud the most I think, also finding creepy crawlies! Forest school is fantastic, I wouldn't send him anywhere else now. *Suzi (parent)*

For further details please contact enquiries@kestonforestpreschool.co.uk



A trip down the river Jordan



On a recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land, I was fortunate to visit some of the sites on the river Jordan. It has now dawned on me that we had actually been from the source to the end of the river.

The river arises from the foot of Mount Hermon in the north at a beautiful place called Caesarea Philippi, (or Banias), where in Jesus' time there were numerous temples to pagan gods, including Pan. It was here that Jesus said to his disciples, 'Who do you say I am?' and Peter replied 'You are the



Cave and shrine of Pan at Caesarea Philippi

Messiah, the Son of the living God'. Jesus told him, 'You are Peter and on this rock I will build my church'.

The river leads into the Sea of Galilee, where we enjoyed a boat trip back to the hotel that we were staying in at Tiberias, near Nazareth. I was relieved it was calm as I don't have very good sea legs! Because of the geography of the area, storms can blow up quickly, especially in the late afternoon. In the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke the writers all give an account of how Jesus calmed the storm when the disciples were terrified they were going to drown, although they were seasoned fishermen.



Our boat, arriving back at the hotel

It is also where Jesus walked on the water, and Peter briefly did too. In 1986, during a severe drought when the water levels were low, the remains of a 1st century boat were found and after years of treatment it is now on display. Analysis of crew sizes suggests that this was the type of boat used by the disciples referred to in the Gospels.

On the north-west shore of the Sea of Galilee where the resurrected Jesus appeared to his disciples, we visited a church called Mensa Christi, which is Latin for the table of Christ. There is a large rock both inside and outside the church, said to be the site of the breakfast of bread and fish, cooked on



First century boat

a charcoal fire, that Jesus shared with the disciples early one morning on the shore. They had been fishing all night but not caught anything. Jesus called out to them to lower the nets on the right side of the boat, and they were soon full to bursting. Jesus then asked Peter three times if he loved him, (to counter the three times that he had denied knowing him on the eve of the crucifixion), and also told him 'Feed my sheep'.



Mensa Christi

We were able to renew our Baptism vows at a place called Qasr El-Yahud, which is just south east of Jericho and within a military zone, with warning signs of landmines. This is very likely the site where Jesus himself was baptised by John the Baptist, when the Spirit of God descended on him like a dove and a voice from heaven said 'This

is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased'. On the opposite bank, which is Jordan, others were being baptised too.

The river Jordan is also mentioned other times in the Bible, including when the prophets Elijah and Elisha crossed it dry-shod and when Naaman was cured of leprosy by following Elisha's instructions to bathe in it seven times.



Rather silty site where we renewed our Baptism vows

The southernmost part of the river flows into the Dead Sea, which is 430m below sea level, (so its shores are the lowest place on earth), and it has no outlet. The warm climate causes the water to evaporate leaving all the salt and minerals at very high concentrations. We had fun floating in it – it is impossible not to, but we were warned that the salt stings like anything if you have a cut! It was an amazing experience, as indeed was the whole of the pilgrimage... but that's another story.

Sally Churchus



Floating in the Dead Sea

A (Royal) Dog's Life

We dogs, who live with royal folk
Who feel Her Maj's royal stroke;
We like to hear **important** talk
Of dinner time, and our next walk.

But lately there's been so much rushing
People bowing, people fussing.
Trumpets blare and soldiers shout
What *is* all the noise about?

No-one thinks of corgis' needs
Like, where's our bone, and where's our leads?
We're not allowed a doggy romp
'Midst all the pageantry and pomp!

Adding to our canine woes
They all wear their finest clothes,
So we're all stuck behind closed doors
Lest we might smudge them with our paws.

But things will come to settle down.
It's life, when Mistress wears a crown;
Yes, it will pass, you all will see
This business of the Jubilee.

So, we shall wag our doggy tails!
Be happy, like the Prince of Wales!
We think the Boss has done just fine
Being Queen for all this time!

By Nigel Beeton



Church Services

1st Sunday of each month – Informal Family Communion Service

All other Sundays – 10am Holy Communion

Platinum Jubilee Weekend

The previously advertised service on Thursday 2nd June is no longer taking place, instead there will just be a Service of Celebration at **9.30am** on Sunday 5th June in order to allow time for people to prepare for and attend street parties.

From the Registers

Funerals

7th March Jennifer Ann Bennett (aged 83 yrs)

10th March Joan Irene Wright (aged 91 yrs)

17th March Thomas Scrivener (aged 82 yrs)

Memorial Service

3rd April John Louis Goldby (aged 97 yrs)

Burial of Ashes

8th April Valerie Margaret Burton (aged 87 yrs)

6th May John Hill (aged 43 yrs)



Royal Afternoon Cream Tea

3-5pm Thursday 2nd June

Keston Church Hall, Church Rd. BR2 6HT

The church will be open with flower displays

Tickets £15 in advance from Tricia Coward 01689 854373

kestonconsult@btconnect.com

Royal Encounters

Receiving an MBE

The sudden death of our King, George VI, on 6th February, 1952 shocked the whole nation. This very sad event launched the careers of both Queen Elizabeth II and myself. But it would be 61 years before we met. That day my headmaster at Bromley Grammar School closed the school and most went home. Instead I slipped into the library and found a book on Roman forts, four of them in Kent. One was missing and another was being rapidly washed into the sea. With a friend we rushed to Reculver to recover masses of Roman artefacts from the beach and that began a non-stop 70 year career in rescue archaeology.

Then suddenly, in 2013, I found myself standing in the grand ballroom in Buckingham Palace, with our Queen pinning an MBE medal on my jacket for services to Kent archaeology. My family and friends also attended with many others. Since, work continues for both of us and I will be looking forward to the grand celebrations planned for midsummer.

Dr Brian Philp, Director, Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit.



50th anniversary of Bath University

I am a maths graduate of Bath University, which was founded in 1966. Its Chancellor is HRH Earl of Wessex, Prince Edward. In 2016 it celebrated its 50th Anniversary and I was invited to St. James Palace for a knees up. I managed to corner his Highness and apparently shared an amusing exchange of words with him and my wife. I don't really recall what they were but I do remember that he was intrigued by Tiziana's name badge being something more unusual. (In case you are wondering, she is Italian).

The photo was taken by the official photographer for the event as all personal photo taking inside the Palace was banned and indeed our mobile phones were locked away on entry.

Larry Herbert

The Queen's visit

On 26th March 1986, H M The Queen came to Bromley to open the new Civic Centre.

I was leader of the 1st Keston Guides at the time. We had taken part, the previous year, in Bromley's Clean and Green campaign, (planting trees and other practical activities), and because of this, we were invited to take 24 Guides

to be there to greet her (along with many other voluntary organisations).

Looking back, I hadn't remembered the reason for her visit, how we managed to get all the girls there, or how long we waited...but what I **do** remember is the absolute **joy** felt by everyone there when she arrived. She walked very close to us, and stopped to talk to some of the girls. She was dressed in brilliant daffodil yellow, (hat and coat), and her smile was stunning. It was the most memorable day, and we were all utterly thrilled to be there.

Angela Godfrey



The Royal Garden Party

Having belonged to Corona Worldwide for some years, I was selected to visit the Palace Garden Party. I was thrilled to receive my official invitation from the Palace on my doormat. I replied and could not believe my luck.

I tried on various dresses and finally chose one. Pam Robertson very kindly lent me a lovely hat to complete my outfit.

The day arrived bright and sunny. I made my way to the Rubens Hotel which is near the Palace, meeting up with other ladies who had been chosen from their branches all over England.

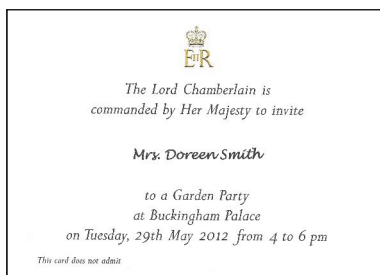
We eventually stood in line outside the Palace gates and the police ushered us into the courtyard. We entered the Palace and walked through to the terrace at the rear and stepped down onto the lawn. There were two marquees, one for tea to be served during the afternoon, the other one was for Her Majesty and her personal guests. There were Beefeaters standing each side of the entrances.

I stood near the lake and listened to the Band. The Royal Party walked amongst the people and I had a wonderful view of the Queen dressed in pink and smiling. She was followed by the rest of the family. I watched the dignitaries arrive from all around the world. They took tea with the Queen and I went to the other marquee where we were served tea with dainty sandwiches and delicious cakes.

Later in the heat I found a table and was served ice-cream, then I walked around the gardens enjoying the scent of the roses. The fashions were fascinating to see and everyone looked lovely in every colour imaginable.

Eventually it was time to depart. I sat on the train feeling very overdressed. It had been such a special day and will stay in my memory forever. I hope Her Majesty enjoys her anniversary, she truly is a remarkable lady.

Doreen Smith



The Bus Shelter and God

Across the road from our house is a bus stop. Because it is for buses into town it has a bus shelter, which I can see from our landing window. That bus shelter makes me think of God's presence with us. The bus shelter is there all the time. People can come and shelter in it whenever they need – even if they are not waiting for a bus. Sometimes the local teenagers use it,

God is always there for us, pilgrims on a journey

when it is too wet or windy for them out on the street.

The shelter is there for people who are travelling, so they know where to wait for the bus; can be protected from the worst of the elements, except cold; there is a, rather rudimentary, seat to rest on, and information about when the bus should arrive, what number it should display and where that route number goes to. There is also a light, so that anyone using the shelter is not left in the dark but can read the information, see anyone else who is there, and be seen by the bus driver.

It is when I look out at 3.00am in the dark of the morning, and see the light on in the shelter, that I think of God. No-one is around. Most people are in bed. There is no bus due for at least three hours, or six on a Sunday.

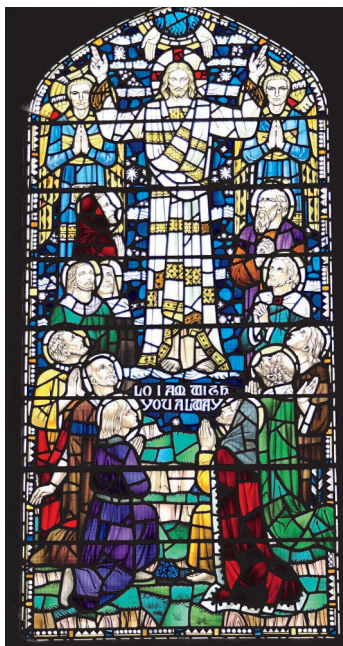
But the shelter is always there, always ready for use, and the light is always on, for anyone who needs it. Just as God is always there for us, pilgrims on a journey. He provides guidance and information, in the Bible, and places for us to rest along the way, and a shelter from bad weather, and light in the darkness.

Deidre Morris

Matt. 28:20 The last words of Matthew's Gospel are *Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*

Isaiah 43:5 God says *Do not be afraid, for I am with you.*

These are two Bible promises that God is always with us, even if we are not aware of this.



East window of Keston Parish Church with the words: Lo I am with you always

People are funny creatures; they want the front of the bus,
the middle of the road and the back of the church.

Keston Residents' Road Safety Group

It is some years since we wrote on the work of Keston Residents' Road Safety Group, (KRRSG), and I thought that readers may be interested to have an update on our progress. Founded in 2015, our main aim remains 'to protect and improve the levels of safety on the roads in the area' and our membership is made up of residents living in the areas covered by the residents' associations of Keston Village, Bromley Common and Keston Mark and Keston Park.

Since our formation, despite some changes to the committee, we remain an enthusiastic and committed group, who continue to have success in working towards our aim.

I assumed the role of Chairman in 2019 and like every other organization we have had to find innovative ways to continue our work over the last two years due to the severe restrictions of Covid, but I am pleased to say that we are again holding our regular committee meetings at the 'Two Doves, in Oakley Road.

We have been fortunate throughout our time to have the support of our elected L.B. Bromley councillors, in particular Cllr Alexa Michael, who despite heavy council commitments, has attended many of our meetings. We hope and trust that such support continues following the 2022 local elections despite ward changes. We also recognize that with constraints tightening even further on both central and local government finances, for some politicians road safety is not a

priority, making achieving our aim even harder.

The long-term challenges that we face remain unchanged, continuing to push for improvements to the Keston Mark junction considering unsuitable building developments close to it and the ongoing development at Biggin Hill airport with associated increased traffic, the volume and speed of traffic using Heathfield Road, inconsiderate parking impacting on road safety and the speed of the traffic using our roads generally. We continue to strongly support the Met Police Community Road Watch initiative, with our members regularly attending events borough-wide, and particularly in our area.

As part of our wider aim, we are now at an advanced stage of purchasing a defibrillator to be positioned in the Keston Mark petrol station for use by anyone requiring it. As a further example of our work, we were recently contacted by several residents, whose complaints to TFL over the removal of the bus shelter in Westerham Road were rebuffed. Writing as a community group, on residents' behalf, we met with a positive response from TFL and in early April the shelter was restored.

If you have any road safety issues that you wish to raise, please contact us. Our contact details are provided inside the front cover of this publication.

Andrew Barrett, Chairman KRRSG



Fox Lane Picnic



In 1920 it seems there were only four buildings on Fox Lane – the photo of the picnic took place in 1922, (probably in June). Enjoying the picnic are the Previté children and their mother and nurse/nanny before helping again with the haymaking. A hay rake can be seen at the edge of the field. Circa 1750s

there was a wooden built semi cottage, (nos. 27 and 29) on Fox Lane, then by 1890 the three other buildings had been built – the six cottages in the photo. Some time after 1900 Fox Hill House was built by Leafy Grove and also The Granary, (photo below dated 1950), at the start of Jackass Lane.



God Save the Queen

By Chalkpit



The 'Queen' and courtiers seated in their carriage

It was while looking through my archives for a different article that I came across the celebrations for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II for both Keston and Leaves Green. Sally has already done an article covering both areas, but Leaves Green only briefly, so I have taken the opportunity to elaborate on the Leaves Green end of the parish!

The Coronation was on Saturday 2nd June 1953 and all over the country events to mark the day, both large and small, were taking place. It does not seem possible in today's world of televisions the size of small cinema screens and computers and mobile phones that can do practically anything other than cook your dinner, that in 1953 to view the events many were sharing small black and white televisions with neighbours to witness the

Coronation of a British Monarch for the first time as it was happening! The day here in Leaves Green commenced at 10 o'clock when all the residents over 60 years old were invited to a venue to watch events unfold in comfort until 3 o'clock. I wonder if any actually stayed the whole five hours!

The Crowning of the Leaves Green Queen, surrounded by her many attendants all suitably attired for the grand occasion took place at 1.30 pm. The procession left from Green Acres Riding School to parade around The Green, the Queen and her Courtiers seated in their carriage – or I should say 2-wheeled cart! They were joined at Milking Lane by a Band from the Sea Cadets, led by Town Crier Mr Bruncker, followed soon after by a large group who, entering into the spirit of the day had donned fancy dress.

Penelope Pickard as Miss Muffet was probably the youngest and Lal Horwood the oldest as a cockney with her cock linnet, but the bravest of all perhaps was Joyce Buck on horseback led by her father – as Lady Godiva! The Under 5's enjoyed their very own sports events watched by their proud parents who, I remember gave a great deal of encouragement! At 4 o'clock it was time for the Old Folks Tea, followed by the children, all served in the Baptist church, now sadly derelict after serving the community in so many ways. The rest of the day was taken up with more sporting events, some of them classed as novelty games, also an unknown competition for adults only with no further information on what this involved being given in the programme!

Two hours of dancing on The Green was then enjoyed by all, probably after a visit to one of the pubs before the Grand Finale – A Firework Display at 9.45 pm. The lighting of the large bonfire went smoothly as did the first of the fireworks. What happened next was not according to plan! A stray spark set off the complete box of fireworks sending rockets, roman candles and other missiles into the startled spectators but fortunately nobody was injured and when order was restored everyone agreed it made a glorious display – far better than the one originally organised!

Looking through the programme for Leaves Green Celebrations it all looks very old fashioned compared to today's fast moving world. Will there be the same bringing of the community together for the next Coronation? We shall just have to wait and see!

The Queen's Faith



'I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God...I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel.' – Queen Elizabeth, 2002 (p6 in *The Servant Queen*, by Mark Greene and Catherine Butcher)

Prayer for the Platinum Jubilee

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the reign of your servant Elizabeth our Queen, and for the example of loving and faithful service which she has shown among us.

Help us to follow her example of dedication and to commit our lives to you and to one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Community Draw

As part of your local Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, Keston church are organising a Community Draw with proceeds being shared between the church and the Keston Village Residents' Association lamp post decorations which we all enjoy eg. Christmas lights, poppies etc. We have asked our local businesses to donate their services to support this draw, and they have very generously responded as follows (in addition to selling tickets):

- Keston church (four hours hall hire worth £110)
- Greyhound pub (£80 voucher – meal for four)
- Heathfields (£60 voucher)
- Daisy Grey (evening meal for two with a bottle of wine, approx. £60)
- Next Ahead hairdressers (£50 voucher)
- Jack Frost (a free standing bird table worth £50)
- The Fox pub (£40 drinks voucher)
- Holwood Farm Shop (voucher for afternoon tea for two)
- The Crown – to be advised

Please do your part and give generously to support your community. Tickets will go on sale from the Jubilee Bank holiday weekend.



All in the month of June

It was:

100 years ago, on 10th June 1922 that Judy Garland, American actress and singer, was born. Best known for her films *The Wizard of Oz* and *Meet Me in St Louis*. Died 1969.

80 years ago, from 4th-7th June 1942 that the Battle of Midway took place. The USA defeated Japan in the most important naval battle of the Pacific Campaign.

65 years ago, on 1st June 1957 that the first premium bond prize draw took place in Britain.

Also 65 years ago, on 27th June 1957 that Britain's Medical Research Council reported that there was a cause-and-effect relationship between smoking and lung cancer.

50 years ago, on 17th June 1972 that the Watergate Scandal began.

40 years ago, on 14th June 1982 that the Falklands War ended.

40 years ago, on 21st June 1982 that Prince William of Wales was born. Son of Charles and Diana, he is second-in-line to the British throne.

25 years ago, on 26th June 1997 that J K Rowling's first Harry Potter novel, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* was published in the UK.

15 years ago, on 27th June 2007 that Gordon Brown became British Prime Minister.

Also 15 years ago, on 29th June 2007, that Apple released the first iPhone.

Biggin Hill Community Care Association



BHCCA organises a number of activities for older people to enable them to be more active, and to provide them with an opportunity to take part in social events and hobbies. All of our activities are open to anyone from Biggin Hill and the surrounding areas including Keston, Tatsfield, Downe and Cudham. We hire St. Mark's Centre, which is attached to St. Mark's Church in Church Road, Biggin Hill which has its own car park. Our facilities include a large hall, a comfortable lounge, a small garden and a professionally fitted kitchen. We have three opportunities:

- 1) Our Art Club is a chance to meet together with other interested adults. It is for any level of skill from beginner upwards and we provide some tuition if required and is very informal. The Club meets on Wednesday afternoons from 2pm. Light refreshments are served during the afternoon. Some of our members take part in local exhibitions.
- 2) If you think you might enjoy chatting to others over lunch, then you

may be interested in our very friendly Lunch Club that meets every Wednesday from 12.15pm. A 3-course meal is provided which is cooked by our own staff on the premises and is followed by tea or coffee. Our volunteers will be very keen to look after you and make you feel welcome!

- 3) Our Day Centre provides a friendly and sociable environment where our members are supported by our caring professional staff. We have a regular activity programme each morning and afternoon and provide a 3-course meal that is prepared in our own kitchen. It is open to any older people who would like some company or are in need of a level of support or whose carers need regular respite. We are able to support those who are experiencing isolation, frailty, a physical disability, early stages of dementia, or have suffered a stroke. The Centre is wheelchair friendly. The Day Centre meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 3.30pm. If you are not sure if the Day Centre is suitable for you, you can talk to our Centre Manager, who may offer to visit you at home if that is appropriate.

If you would like any further information about any of the above please send an email to bigginhillcommunitycare@gmail.com, or you can visit our website at bigginhillcommunitycare.org, or you can call us on 01959 577400. The office is usually open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9.30 to 3pm. Outside these times you may need to leave a message. All of our activities need to be booked in advance so please get in touch if you are interested.

Mental Wellbeing Coffee Morning

As we continue to emerge from the effects of the Covid pandemic many of us are aware of the toll it has taken on us. Our confidence may have been lowered and we may be struggling to raise our general mood and mental wellbeing. We at Keston Church would like to provide an opportunity for a chat over tea/coffee and cake and to hear a local mental health professional gives us a few tips on how we access help and keep ourselves well. Please come along to the church hall, adjacent to the church in Church Road, on Saturday 18th June between 10am and 12pm. Please let us know if you would like to come by calling 01689 853186 – please leave a message if there is no-one in!

Regular Events

Prayer Walks

We meet on the Green opposite The Greyhound pub at 9.30am on the 1st Tuesday and 3rd Wednesday in the month. We usually return about 11am.

Men's pub social

Do join us at 7pm at The Greyhound on the 3rd Wednesday of the month for social chat, a few drinks and a meal for those who want it. (You don't have to be a church goer to come). More details from Martin Becker on 07484 609102.

Book Reading Fellowship

Come and discuss books with some Christian content that you have read at 2pm on Monday 6th June. Please let Sally Churchus know if you would like to come. Tel: 020 8462 8750.

New Keston WI

We meet from 1.30-3.30pm in Keston Village Hall on the 2nd Wednesday in the month, all welcome.

Friends of Keston Common

Monthly walks continue on the 1st Wednesday in the month at 2pm under the village sign. Everyone welcome.

Keston Book Club

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 8th June at 7pm in The Fox. We will be discussing *Love Marriage* by Monica Ali and *Snow Country* by Sebastian Faulks. More information from 07503 268001 or angelahollamby@gmail.com.



IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE!

The Queens Platinum Jubilee

3rd June 1pm -6pm

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Everything I need to know about life, I learned from Noah's Ark

1. Don't miss the boat.
2. Remember we're all in the same boat.
3. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
4. Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
5. Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
6. Build your future on high ground.
7. For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
8. Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
9. When you're stressed, float a while.
10. Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
11. No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

Author Unknown

Magazine Deadline

Please send photos and articles for the August/September issue of The Keston Magazine to the Editor, Sally Churchus, by 8th July at the very latest via email to editor@kestonparishchurch.org.uk or contact her to discuss ideas on Tel: 020 8462 8750. Thank you.





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