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The Pinnacle

**A Magazine for the parish of
Kildwick, Cononley and Bradley**

***The Churches of St Andrew's,
St John's and St Mary's***

St John's is a Local Anglican/Methodist Ecumenical Partnership

April 2021

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“Our plans, God’s plans”

Unless you have a keen interest in commercial shipping, before this week I'd be surprised if you'd heard of the Ever Given. But I bet you have now.

On Tuesday 23rd March, the 400m long container ship navigating its way up the Suez Canal encountered unusually high winds. As a result it became wedged diagonally across its southern section, thereby bringing one of the busiest waterways in the world to a standstill. Since then, every effort has been made to refloat the mammoth vessel, but at the time of writing continuing strong tides and winds have rendered them all unsuccessful. Any hopes of sorting the problem quickly (and minimising the knock-on effects) have withered. Some shipping lines are now considering whether they now need take the alternative route around the Cape of Good Hope, adding a couple of weeks and additional cost to their carefully crafted plans. Supply chains, already under strain through the pandemic, are stretched even further. Many commercial plans and expectations are having to be hastily and dramatically revised.

“ I experienced
a kind
of mental and
emotional paralysis
for a while ”

An event like this is a fresh reminder of how quickly human plans can be upended. One of the lessons of the last year has



been about the fragility of plans, and how easily they can be blown off course. When the pandemic first hit this country last March, I experienced a kind of mental and emotional paralysis for a while (and I don't think I was alone).

The last 10 days or so of the month seemed to last for an eternity. The event was so cataclysmic, so outside anything that had ever happened previously in my life that I couldn't process it. So many plans and expectations had to be laid aside or recalibrated. Slowly, as the weeks passed, I began to adapt to the reality of the situation. I stopped trying to look too far ahead, concentrating on the short term. And then gradually I started once more to make new plans (personally and, with the PCC, for our churches) albeit tentatively, and recognizing their inevitable provisional nature. As we're all well

aware, the autumn and winter held many more bumps in the road, with further occasions when we had to change our plans and make new decisions as circumstances changed around us. We have tried new ways of being the church when the old ways were barred to us – via Zoom and Facebook, through liturgies for home use, through inviting our communities to hunt for carols. Even when it hasn't been easy or what we would have chosen, we have shown that we can adapt.

Of course the church is founded on an event that was so cataclysmic and unexpected that it changed the world for ever, not just a few plans. Jesus' resurrection was the irruption of eternity into history, of the kingdom of God into the kingdoms of this world. It shattered preconceptions about what Israel's Messiah was going to be like. And it definitively upended the plans of many people, starting with Jesus's closest followers. Before long it was turning upside down the lives of thousands, drawing them into a new community of people filled with the Holy Spirit and united in ways that crossed all barriers of language, gender or social position. For hundreds, thousands of years, it looked as if the world had been going in one direction

only. Easter marks the time when all those expectations and preconceptions were overthrown, and the world was set on to a new trajectory. None of the apparent reversals and setbacks it has experienced since then can alter that. God calls people of every time and nation to know the joy of being part of God's people, to live the life of God's kingdom here and now, in the confident expectation of the new creation heralded by Jesus' rising from the dead. However fragile, tentative and liable to change our plans might be, they are made in the shelter of that confident expectation. The prophet Jeremiah foresaw the destruction of Jerusalem and the exile of its people some 600 years before Jesus. And yet it was through Jeremiah that God spoke to his people in exile with these words: *For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope* (Jer. 29.11). Seventy years later, the exiles were able to return and start to rebuild their lives. When God makes plans, we can be confident that they will come to pass.

With every blessing

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Julie', with a stylized, flowing script.

*Another great magazine - worthy of dipping into through the month!
Thanks to all. Carolyn*

Service Times

From 11th April we hope to revert to the service pattern that had been agreed before lockdown restrictions threw us into chaos.

The regular pattern for each church should be:

Kildwick:

First Sunday	11.00am	Eucharist (Holy Communion)
Second Sunday	9.30am	Eucharist (Holy Communion)
Third Sunday	11.00am	Morning Prayer
Fourth Sunday	11.00am	Eucharist (Holy Communion)

Cononley

First Sunday	11.00am	Methodist-led Service
Second Sunday	11.00am	Holy Communion
Third Sunday	11.00am	Holy Communion
Fourth Sunday	11.00am	Morning Prayer

Bradley

First Sunday	9.30am	Holy Communion
Second Sunday	9.30am	No Service
Third Sunday	9.30am	Holy Communion
Fourth Sunday	9.30am	Holy Communion

Morning Prayer is a non-Eucharistic (not Communion) service and is normally led by a lay member of the congregation.

The Worship Team have not yet decided exactly what will happen when there are five Sundays in a month (the next one will be in May). Watch this space!

On Easter Sunday (First Sunday, 4th April) the pattern will be as above, with a service in each church.

Low Sunday (Second Sunday, 11th April) is traditionally a time when clergy take a break. There will be Morning Prayer at Kildwick and Cononley.

On 3rd and 4th Sundays of Easter (18th and 25th April), the pattern will be as shown above.

For a different name for Low Sunday, turn the page!

Set Readings for April

4th April	Easter Day	Acts 10.34-43	1 Corinthians 15.1-11	John 20.1-18
11th April	2nd Sunday of Easter	Exodus 14.10-end, 15.20,21	Acts 4.32-35	John 20.19-end
18th April	3rd Sunday of Easter	Zephaniah 3.14-end	Acts 3.12-19	Luke 24.36b-48
25th April	4th Sunday of Easter	Genesis 7.1-5, 11-18; 8.6-18; 9.8-13	Acts 4.5-12	John 10.11-18



Quasimodo Sunday

The Second Sunday of Easter is often known as Low Sunday, probably because it is far less important than the celebrations of Easter Day.

But it can also be called "Quasimodo Sunday" – and, no, it's not called after a certain French bell ringer! Rather, he was called "Quasimodo" **because** Monseigneur Claude Frollo finds the deformed and abandoned child inside Notre Dame Cathedral on this Sunday.

The name derives from another introit. (Remember we met one last month when thinking about Mothering Sunday?) This Sunday's introit, in Latin, reads, "*Quasi modo geniti infantes*". It's translated as "like newborn infants" and comes from Peter's first letter; "Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation."

This reference is to those who were baptized during the Easter service, whether infants or adults. New Christians live into their baptismal vows throughout their lives and this is a prayer for spiritual maturity.

Introit: a short prayer said or sung as the celebrant is entering the sanctuary to celebrate Mass or Holy Communion.

Why is it that lemon juice is made with artificial flavouring but dish washing liquid is made with real lemons ?

Good Friday – Why is this Friday called Good?

Those who were there would not have called it that. They had put their hopes in this man. He had reconciled ancient enemies, healed the sick, raised the dead. The blind had been made to see and the deaf to hear. The lame had learned to dance again. Compassion was alive. Peace was possible. Their world was being born again. But then he was nailed to a cross and the sky turned black.

All hopes were ended. Their dreams were shattered. It was all an illusion. They might have known He could not win. How could He? One man against the viciousness of the world. One man's love against the vested interests of political and economic might. They smashed him to pieces, so much for dreams.

We know how they felt. Young men still fight over the land he lived in. In other places shoppers are bombed, worshippers are murdered on their way home from church. Young bodies are ruined by drugs, old ones with drink. Minds are manipulated, children are cold. Mothers go hungry and fathers are imprisoned for their political opinions. This is a time when might is right, when viciousness wins, power is Lord.

But look again at that cross. They take away his freedom. They spit in his face. They put a crown of thorns on his head. They beat his body. They push a spear into his side. They take away everything they can touch and many things they cannot. But they cannot defeat his love. That could not be taken away. Love won.

If he had come down from the cross love would not have won. Fear would have won. Pain would have won. The armed might of the occupying power would have won. The conniving sophistry of the religious hierarchy would have won. But none of them did win. LOVE won.

That is why Friday is good.




Sandie Walton

April Fools Day

Many years ago, in the late 60's I was lucky enough to spend time, over the Easter period, with my French penfriend and her family in Paris. Whilst I was there, I discovered the tradition of 'Poisson d'Avril (April Fish). Instead of trying to trick people as we do in the UK, children in France make brightly coloured paper fish which they then stick on the backs of unsuspecting adults and then run away shouting 'Poisson d'Avril'!

A long time ago the New Year used to start on April 1st but in the January of 1563 King Charles IX wanted to change the date of the New Year to the 1st of January: this was ratified eventually, in 1567. Legend has it that not everyone was happy with the legal enforcement of this and they continued to celebrate the New Year in their own way in April. Those who embraced the change mocked the reluctant ones by playing tricks on them and giving them false presents.

At that time, the end of Lent coincided with April 1st and throughout the Lenten period people were forbidden to eat meat: they could, however, eat fish which was often used as a gift to celebrate the end of Lent and the beginning of the New Year. Hence, the origin of Poissons d'Avril, which were stuck on the backs of the fools who would not accept the changing times!

For me though, the best thing about the tradition were the delicious fish shaped pastries filled with frangipane that we could buy in the patisseries. The French do love their frangipane pastries; they have a similar one for the start of Epiphany called Galette des Rois which is surrounded by a gold paper crown and often has two ceramic figures hidden in the filling. The tradition goes that whoever finds the figures become King and Queen for the day and everybody must obey their every whim. The recipe below is a bit of a cheat as you really should make your own almond cream, but I find bought almond paste is good enough; and, if you don't want to use a vanilla pod a teaspoon of vanilla essence will work just as well. 



Gravestones

On a periodic check round the graveyard, I spotted two memorials that were very wobbly. I laid them flat and fixed a notice.

Sadly, someone thought better and stood them up again despite the notice. One has now fallen - and broken in half.

Please don't mess with the memorials! They can be dangerous.

Poisson d'Avril Recipe

Ingredients

Patisserie Custard

500g puff pastry	125ml whole milk	1 egg yolk
1 egg yolk <i>for glazing</i>	10g cornflour	12.5g butter
1 egg white <i>to seal pastry</i>	30g sugar	1 vanilla pod
Almond paste		2 raisins <i>for eyes</i>

Method:

1. Cut 4 large fish shapes out of pastry (reserve any trimmings)
2. Make patisserie custard – put cornflour and 15g sugar in a small pan. Pour in milk whilst whisking continuously. Split the vanilla pod and add to mixture. Bring to the boil whisking continuously
3. In a bowl whisk egg yolk and remaining sugar until mixture turns white. Gradually add hot milk, stirring continuously.
4. Return to the pan and bring to the boil still stirring continuously until mixture thickens, remove pan from heat as soon as the mixture comes to the boil.
5. Remove vanilla pod and allow to cool before adding the butter and mixing to a smooth consistency.

Assembly:

1. Cut 2 fish shapes out of the almond paste (these need to be slightly smaller than the pastry fish.)
2. Using the pastry trimmings make a frame around the outside edges of 2 of the pastry fishes using the whisked egg white to seal
3. Spread a layer of the custard on the 2 pastry fish shapes, then place the almond paste fish shapes on top and spread the rest of the custard over the almond paste.
4. Take the final 2 pastry fish shapes and place on top using the remaining egg white to seal and crimp the edges
5. Place in the fridge for 20 minutes, remove and use a sharp knife to mark fish scales on the pastry (be careful not to cut through the pastry or the filling will leak out during cooking)
6. Brush with egg yolk to glaze and stick raisin eyes on each fish
7. Bake for 10 minutes at 210°C /200°C fan; then lower temperature to 180°C/170°C fan and cook for further 20 mins. If the pastry browns too quickly cover with foil.

Eileen Boothman

A Message from Bob

I am missing praying and singing with my friends at Church. I would like to say or sing this hymn/prayer by Faber together in fellowship:-

There's a wideness in God's mercy
Like the wideness of the sea
There's a kindness in God's justice
Which is more than liberty

For the Love of God is broader
Than the measure of man's mind
And the heart of the eternal
Is most wonderfully kind

R Holland



Cononley WI

Hello Everybody
I hope you are
all enjoying
Easter and lots of
Easter Chocolate.



The weather is
improving and our garden pots
are looking nice with the spring
flowers.

Cononley WI are still doing their
walks and enjoying the birds and
wildlife as they walk along.

We are all hoping for a warm
day so we can meet up outside
and have a picnic and a catch
up while keeping our social
distancing. Wouldn't that be
lovely!

Do take care keep safe and well.

Pauline Link
President Cononley WI

Lockdown Lessons

1. List a few teachers who aided your journey through school
2. Name 3 friends who have helped you through a difficult time
3. Name 5 people who have taught you something worthwhile
4. Think of a few people who have made you feel special and worthwhile
5. Think of 5 people you enjoy spending time with

The lesson from this is that the people who make a real difference in life are not necessarily the ones with the most credentials, the most money or the most awards

They are simply the ones
who care the most

Libba Utley

A New Assistant Bishop

When I was in Khartoum several years ago, I was privileged to be guided for some of my time by a delightful young man called Fajak who was working at the Wycliffe Bible Translation centre in Omdurman, just to the north of the city.

At its meeting on 19th March the Diocese of Khartoum elected the Revd Canon Fajak Avajani to be Assistant Bishop of Khartoum. Fajak and his wife Cici are well known to visitors to Sudan as Fajak has risen to head of the ECS Bible Translation Department. He is a quiet, gracious man with a deep love of the Lord and an amazing testimony of how God has led him through his life.



Fajak is featured in this month's picture in this year's Sudan picture calendar (above). Born in 1964, he speaks good English and Arabic but his mother tongue is Tira, his home village being in the eastern Nuba Mountains, far from Khartoum and bitterly contested in the civil war that led to the division into Sudan and South Sudan. He is an African in an Arabic country.

Almost from the beginning of his becoming a Christian Fajak knew he was called to translate the Bible into his home language. In 2009 as the Tira New Testament was dedicated and distributed for the first time he prayed "My prayer is that this Bible will not take a holiday in boxes but will visit every Tira speaker, and engage him or her with the message of eternal



redemption, and draw him or her near to God. May God's Spirit create hunger and thirstiness for His word in every Tira speaker in this generation and in every generation to come till Christ returns, so that they will be among God's elect who will welcome Him."

The Prayer

Father, We are living in a day unlike anything we have ever seen before. Chaos, confusion, and turmoil has been stirring in the hearts of so many people. We trust that justice belongs in Your hand, But we also trust that You have a great plan for us to see hearts transformed and I Jesus, thank You for Your mercy that was displayed upon the cross That has given those who call upon Your name and trust in you for forgiveness and Help us fix our eyes on Christ when we are tempted to only look at the problem. We are asking that You would give us the boldness to proclaim the only solution to what our world is experiencing – and that is Your glorious C In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Christ is Risen: The world below lies desolate
Christ is Risen: The spirits of evil are fallen
Christ is Risen: The angels of God are rejoicing
Christ is Risen: The tombs of the dead are empty

Christ is Risen indeed from the dead,
the first of the sleepers,
Glory and power are his forever and ever.

- St. Hippolytus of Rome

yer Page

ives changed.
nd new life.
s around us.
Gospel!

Christ our life,
You are alive - in the beauty of the earth
in the rhythm of the seasons
in the mystery of time and space
Alleluia

Christ our life,
You are alive - in the tenderness of touch
in the heartbeat of intimacy
in the insights of solitude
Alleluia

Christ our life,
You are alive - in the creative possibility
of the dullest conversation
of the dreariest task
the most threatening event
Alleluia

Christ our life,
You are alive - to offer re-creation
to every unhealed hurt
to every deadened place
to every damaged heart
Alleluia.

You set before us a great choice.
Therefore we choose life.
The dance of resurrection soars and
surges through the whole creation,
This is grace, dying we live.
So let us live. Amen

Spring is in the Air

For those few short days of nice weather we were kidded into believing that Spring was already here but tonight that is definitely not the case. As I'm writing this I can hear the wind roaring outside. The forecast has given stormy weather for the next couple of days and, like many of you, we have battened down the hatches. When strong winds are due it's always very tedious walking round the nursery making sure everything is anchored down and that there's nothing left outside that could blow away down the field.

But looking on the bright side, by the time you are reading this, Spring will officially be here. Soon the days will be long enough and we can enjoy blue skies and sunshine.

Talking of which, I can definitely tell Spring is in the air with all my poultry. Now is the time when Alfred Hitchcock, my cockerel, looks his most handsome. He has quite a lot of lady friends that are after a bit of affection. It's no wonder he has taken to perching in the apple tree at night. I don't think he can cope with all the girls pestering him. He's taken to wandering off for a stroll and I think it's to get away from them wittering at him. I'm sure if the hens could speak I would hear 'Alfred... should my nest box be painted different to hers' and 'Am I the best looking hen here?' Every now and then I catch him standing with Onslo, my big drake, looking very fed up. They both look to be having a good old moan about all their lady friends but as soon as Onslo's two girls, Hyacinth and Daisy come along the peace is shattered.

On another note, I have to admit now, I thought I'd clicked send a few nights ago but I'd pressed save instead so this email didn't reach Eileen for inclusion in the magazine; so, I thought I'd use the opportunity for a quick update!

I have just bought a Call drake – I have quite a few Call ducks that were in some need of male company so along came Jeremy. He's a handsome little chap who I'm hoping will bring a lot of happiness to his new duck friends!

Lydia



From Cerys Llewellyn to me:

What is the difference between a piano, a tuna fish and a tub of glue?



A Time for Reflection

To mark a year from the beginning of the first lockdown, the Marie Curie Foundation introduced a Day of Reflection. Across the country, people stopped what they were doing and remembered. Some did this in the evening, on their doorstep with a lighted candle. Others observed a minute's silence at midday.

This time was marked in Kildwick by the sounding of the church bells. The clock should have struck 12 at the beginning of the Silence but that is not yet recommissioned – and so the unique Kildwick chimes were sounded by hand, using the “Ellacombe Chiming Apparatus” that is installed in the tower and restored to working order several years ago by Peter Ford.

You'll read elsewhere that the regulations seem to rule out a quick return to ringing but we hope to be fully up and running – and able to take full part in the next National Day - which has been arranged by Bruno Peek, the Pageant Master who organised much of the London Pageant for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.



The NHS, Social Care & Frontline Workers' Day is on July 5th – and there is something there for everyone! At 10.00am a special flag will be raised and at 11.00am there will be a 2 minute silence. We are asked to pause at 1.00pm and raise a glass of refreshment of our choice to join in the

Nation's Toast – “To those who give so much, 24 hours a day, seven days a week within the NHS, social care and on the front line, we thank and salute you.” At that point we are all invited to party! Street, Garden and Village parties will take place across the country - or you can party with your own friends and family.

The day will draw to a close from 8.00pm when we will turn out as we have done before to clap in the street to show our support for those waging the battle against coronavirus. At the same time, all over Britain, we will hear the sound of our church and cathedral bells ringing 73 times – one ring for every year of our beloved NHS. Exactly how we ring just 73 blows remains to be seen. The idea was clearly dreamed up by a non-church bellringer! I am sure that discussion among Those Who Know These Things will produce a solution

Kate and Tim Lee Link Letter – March 2021

This is a shortened version of Tim's latest newsletter. To see the whole document, visit <https://tinyurl.com/timlee2103> – or scan the QR code here:



Dear friends,
Thank you for
your love, prayers
and gifts for Jigsaw and Asia-
CMS.

Jigsaw is going through a tough time after the sad passing of Ate Beth, who faithfully served Jigsaw for almost 17 years as the programme coordinator. Beth loved Psalm 28 and it has been great comfort to Jigsaw in these difficult days:

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him" Psalm 28:7.

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults

Asia-CMS supports local partners to share Jesus with unreached groups and those living on the edge of society across three geographical regions of South Asia. We are developing a framework to protect children and vulnerable adults and we are excited at how this is developing. God is working incredibly bringing in the right people at the right time.

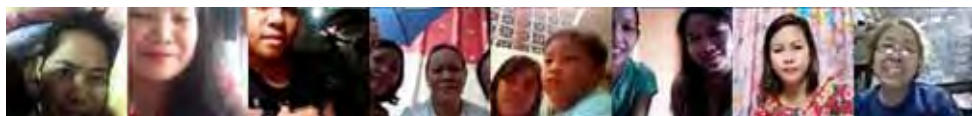
One of the exciting features of this work is the plan to use storytelling as a base for the training in the context of cultures across the region. We praise God for the appointment of Hwei Mian, an experienced policy and document writer, and for Esther from Sri Lanka, who has joined Asia-CMS as the safeguarding manager. Asia-CMS is to first develop a safeguarding framework within its own organisation and then to become a hub to share resources and training with other Christian organisations and churches across the region. It is not a small job as we cover staff in Malaysia, South Asia and the Mekong region and local partners across more than eight countries in Asia.

From me to Cerys,

I don't know...

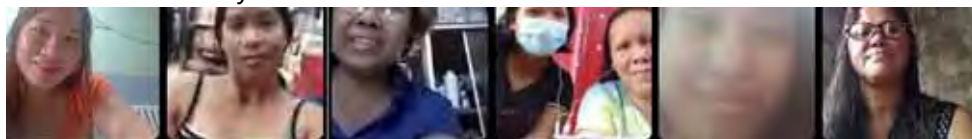
What *is* the difference between a piano, a tuna fish and a tub of glue?





Women's online Bible groups sharing the good news of Jesus

Jigsaw has been building many strong and significant relationships with mums, aunties, older sisters and single women across the communities where it works. Each community ministry is now running a weekly Bible group with around 20 women per group. In Batasan there are two Bible groups as so many women wanted to join. More than 100 women are now studying the Bible each week and Jigsaw is handing out internet data cards and women are sharing phones and Jigsaw's Samsung tablets to join the Bible study. Nila, our Batasan team leader, said God is working incredibly and for many women it is the first time they have ever read the Bible or discussed the things of Jesus. Praise God! Please pray that as the women read, discuss the Scriptures and pray, the Holy Spirit will come into their lives and they will know Jesus for themselves.



Family Update by Kate

We are gradually coming out of lockdown, which is good as we have been stuck inside for so long. I have been back teaching since January as early years settings were not included in the closure of schools. It has been lovely being back "live" teaching, albeit under strict rules. We praise God that Grace is feeling much better and is settling into her studies for IGCSEs and is learning the guitar among other things. James has accepted an offer from the University of East Anglia for September 2021 to study environmental science. Tim is busy with Jigsaw and Asia-CMS work and is enjoying connecting with people from so many different countries. Rebekah returned to the UK after being in Germany and is now back with her student friends in Norwich.

Our big news is that we have made the decision to leave Kuala Lumpur in July. Being here for two years during COVID meant we could help Jigsaw redesign its programmes as well as develop its sustainability. By June the bulk of what we came here to do will be complete and we feel God is calling us home to continue in his mission in and from the UK, as well as establishing a base for the family. Please pray for God's guidance as we make plans to come home.

With love, Tim, Kate, Rebekah, James and Grace

Winners!

For a couple of years, we put in an entry in the fairly prestigious “Sarah Beacham Youth Award” category in the annual ART awards. Nothing much came of it and, as it is quite a lot of work, I reckoned that the eclectic mix of activities that the MiniRingers undertake, it was probably not time well spent.



Jane, a good friend of the MiniRingers, thought otherwise - and this year she submitted us again to take our place in the most hotly contested set of awards ever.

And – blow me down – we won!

The winning of an award like this is lovely for the nice warm feeling you get (as well as the £400 prize!) but there is far more than that involved. While it is nice to have Bragging Rights, our little certificate has already brought three more serious enquiries about how we organise things.

Nationally, the MiniRingers are a bit of a one-off. The way we do things, with our limited resources is at least one “right” way to do it. A gold(ish) certificate gives us the chance to talk with others about what we do; to share their ideas and to learn from them and maybe have a hand in developing a new approach to ringing with young people.

That’s so much more important than a certificate and, even, a crisp cheque.

Meanwhile, our Thursday virtual practices go on. These are mainly for the young ringers though our one MiniRinger is doing just as well as the rest. Erin can’t wait to get her hands onto a bell rope! Because ringing on-line makes geography irrelevant, we are joined by a couple of young people in Pontypridd (who just happen to be my grandchildren) with their mother. So we make up quite a happy band! Using the keyboard, they have built up an impressive portfolio of methods, far beyond the simplest “tunes” that I had expected to be the limit of their range. The sad truth is that they are actually far better at manipulating a keyboard than I am!

Cerys; Well, you can tune a piano but you can’t piano a tuna.

Me: ... but what about the glue?



One spin-off from our recent fame has been a letter from Simon Linford. He is no less than the President of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers – and an extremely notable ringer in his own right. He runs a youth group in Birmingham (called the “Brumdingers”). He claims that they look in awe at what the MiniRingers do but when you see the ringing that they can do, I rather doubt it!



Simon is pressing our online ringing group to enter a competition. This is to be a “Striking Contest” which is a test of how rhythmically we can ring our bells over the duration of a test piece. We’re going to have a practice – if it looks like we can at least get to the end of the test piece, we’ll enter. This is a national, open competition. All sorts of crack bands may be there; this isn’t a young people’s thing, although I think we’ll ignore those gods of ringing and compare ourselves with anyone who is more like us!

The MiniRingers themselves should be starting up again after Easter. The rules for school clubs are somewhat different from the Road Map flags for most of us and the school and I are in conversation about when and how we can do this. I hear from several of the group how keen they are to get started again and that’s great to hear.

...And then, of course, there’s the Big Bells.

As our churches are beginning to re open, it will be good to hear the bells again. Some feel that ringing is a part of a church service so, with proper precautions, some towers will be ringing for Easter. At Kildwick we will be waiting for Step 3 that allows the indoor “Rule of Six” to come into play before venturing into the bell tower.

There has been a good deal of research into the spread of Covid in ringing chambers. The places most at risk are small, poorly ventilated rooms. It is universally acknowledged that Kildwick tower, claimed to be “the coldest tower in Yorkshire” is the least risky ringing room in the country!

Chris Wright

A Single Deserted Disc

Having been a professional musician for a long time (50 years this Autumn!) I would find it virtually impossible to choose just 8 pieces of music. I do however have one or two very special memories from my teenage years, when music was a daily journey of discovery. Growing up my brother and I made our own entertainment. We had no car, no tv and our parents worked all hours on our rented smallholding. We did have an enormous radio that was very important to all of us. I particularly remember Sunday lunchtimes-2way family favourites followed by comedy. (The Navy Lark, Steptoe, Ray's a Laugh etc.) I loved Children's Hour, and we all listened to Housewives' Choice and Billy Cotton! One rainy day I was fiddling with the controls and came across the third programme. The announcer was explaining the movements of Scheherazade by Rimsky-Korsakov. I knew and loved the stories (the 1001 nights) so went on listening out of curiosity. I will never forget that experience. Hearing the sea, the exploits of Sinbad, the struggle with the sea monster all brought to life so vividly, and with such glorious tunes, amazed and delighted me. I never looked back-listened to everything I possibly could, started a listening club at school and got a special notebook so I could write it all down! It was the first time I fell in love with a piece of classical music and I love it still.

Glyn Evans



Cononley Art Group



It is likely that the group could meet again in May and all the members will be so happy to see each other again and be able to swap ideas in person instead of on line as we are doing at the moment. We have been given some money from the wildlife calendar profit so we will start again with

new easels for which we are very grateful. Looking forward to a good year for the group.

Ruby Sedgwick



Cerys: I thought you'd get stuck on that one!



Ian Boothman's Discs

Continuing our series of "Discs for a Deserted Island", we hear this month from Ian Boothman from Cononley who gives us a bumper set of ten...

Born to Run *Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band.* My all time rock legend. I have bought more of his albums and seen him live on more occasions than any other.

Ships in the Night *Be Bop Deluxe* A little known West Yorkshire band, I saw them regularly at King Georges Hall in Bradford in the 70's. Great electronic sound.

Music *John Miles* A classic from the 70s. Seeing him in Skipton Town Hall was my first ever "gig" in 1976. This song is still played regularly on national radio. The words explain why you need music on the desert island.

Rhapsody in Blue *George Gershwin* - I love the sound of the clarinet and it rarely sounds better than at the beginning of this.

Everybody Wants to Rule the World *Tears for Fears* Provides great memories of the 80's from this excellent duo who have recently been performing in UK again, pre lockdown of course.

The Way It Is *Bruce Hornsby and the Range* A song with a statement and a unique piano playing style always worth listening to.

Beyond the Sea *Bobby Darren* A great voice and I can imagine standing on the beach of my desert island trying to recall what is "Beyond the sea"

Troika *Prokofiev* I would need something for when I thought it may be Christmas.

Shine Jesus Shine I also would need something for when I assume it is Sunday. I may even sing it myself as there would be nobody in earshot having to suffer.

You Win Again *The Bee Gees* Reminds me of a certain moment in a certain place, that's all.

My Book A History of the World by Andrew Marr.

My Luxury Item An umbrella in case there is no shade.

Do you have a selection? Make up your dream playlist and let us have it!

The Birds in Your Garden Goldfinches



Goldfinch numbers in our gardens have increased some 60-fold over the last 30 or so years, most likely due to our spending a small fortune putting out oil-rich seeds such as nyger and sunflower. At this time of year there are flocks of anything up to a few dozen roaming around

looking for food, and if you cock an ear, they make a lovely twittering sound as they chat to each other.

I intended penning (keying?) a general article about them but became side-tracked when I came across so many names for them, as well as several collective nouns for flocks: so, I decided that I'd share my findings!

The best-known collective noun for flocks of Goldfinches is 'charm'. The first article I read suggested that this may be linked to the use of the term for the blended voices of a choir – perhaps alluding to the gentle jingling calls and Goldfinches' constant 'tswitt-witt-witt' -ing. The second suggested that it is related to the Latin word 'carmen' meaning 'magic song or spell'. Yet another suggested that charm derives from the old English c'irm, describing the birds' twittering song' or 'mingled tinkling', which certainly captures the aural effect created by a flock of Goldfinches - though most certainly not their personalities. If you've watched them on a feeder for a while, you'll have seen how aggressive they can be to each other, as well as to other species

I then came across a couple more collective nouns: "a drum of Goldfinches", and "a troubling of Goldfinches". The latter I can well understand!

The Anglo Saxon name for the Goldfinch was 'thistle-tweaker', underlining their liking of teasel and thistle seeds. The male is the only UK bird able

to extract thistle seeds from their narrow seed heads: females find this difficult because their bills, while narrow, are not quite as long so they favour thistle seeds.

The next name to come up was Redcap.

*The redcap is a painted bird
and beautiful its feathers
are;*

*In early spring its voice is
heard*

*While searching thistles
brown and bare...*

(From 'Redcap', by John
Clare)



At first glance, this name might arise simply from the bird's tell-tale red mask, but a Redcap is also a malevolent, murderous goblin found in Border folklore. He is said to inhabit ruined castles, especially those that were the scenes of tyranny or wicked deeds and is known for soaking his cap in the blood of his victim

Other names too, arise from this red mask: the Irish name for the Goldfinch is *lasair choille*, which translates as 'bright flame of the forest'. Elsewhere, it was known as the 'proud tailor', "because his plumage is varied like a suit of clothes made out of remnants of different colours, such as a tailor might be supposed to wear". Similarly, "tailor-birds" because the white tips to their feathers look like stitches. Add on "seven-coloured Linnet"...

Goldfinches were for many years valued too for their song, as well as their colourful plumage, and were caught and caged by 19th century bird trappers until they were almost extinct. Indeed, the French name for a bird-trap, *chardonneret*, now used instead to catch birds for ringing, comes from the French word for thistle, *chardon*.

By any name, they are a delight to have around, both visually and audially.

If you find the lives of our garden birds to be of interest, and would like to join in and count the feathered occupants of your garden, please contact me or visit the BTO Garden BirdWatch website (www.bto.org/gbw).

Mike Gray mikegbw@btinternet.com.

Looking forward to the May edition?
Have you done your "Discs for a deserted Island"?
Get your pen/keyboard out – or polish up your camera lens.
The deadline for this is

Saturday 24th April

Please let us have your material at least by then
(but earlier is better!)

Both of the main photos this month come from the Editorial Camera. We're always after suitable pictures for the cover and the Prayer Page. The Pinnacle itself is an obvious candidate, but any appropriate photo is welcome. Do send them in!

If you keep relying on me, they'll tend to be rather Kildwick-orientated!