

Triangle



Spring 2008

Message from the Manse

Spring is just around the corner, and the shops are full of Easter eggs and pictures of flowers and rabbits and chickens, for Easter will soon be upon us!

One of my favourite Christmas (yes, Christmas!) poems begins “Christmas is really for the children,” and the first verse is full of references to the traditional Christmas story. Here’s the second verse:

Easter is not really for the children unless accompanied by a cream
filled egg.

It has whips, blood, nails, a spear and allegations of body snatching.

It involves politics, God and the sins of the world.

It is not good for people of a nervous disposition.

They would do better to think on rabbits, chickens, and the first snowdrop
of spring.

Or they’d do better to wait for a re-run of Christmas without asking too
many questions about what Jesus did when he grew up or whether
there’s any connection.

(by Steve Turner, in the Oxford Book of Christmas Poems, OUP 1983)

We all (well, nearly all) celebrate Christmas, but in our society Easter is a festival completely swamped by the celebration of new life in the natural world. Christians are joyfully determined to celebrate the great good news that Jesus Christ is risen! Hallelujah! The baby of Christmas has become the Lord of glory whom death could not hold. Our God has brought him through the agony of Good Friday to the explosion of joy on Easter Day.

Yet our Christian faith calls us to get involved in the affairs of our time, just as Jesus was caught up in the conflicts of his everyday life. Christianity makes great promises about God’s presence in our lives through His Holy Spirit, about His love and care for us, and about His plans for our lives and the way we can get to know what they are. It also challenges us not only to worship Him, but also to serve Him in lives of practical action to help others, and involvement in the issues of our day.

So Christianity is about justice for all people, including producers and immigrants and ethnic minorities. It is about responsible living, and concern for the environment and pollution and climate change.

The great truth at the heart of the Easter festival is that God's power is greater than all the powers of evil. Jesus died and lives again so that the work of his kingdom might go on. That's what we are called to work for!

With Easter greetings,

Robert (Rev. Robert Ely)

Springdale Vestry News

Well, it is vestry newsletter time again - my last one. The winter has been mild and the birds are singing and the flowers are blooming. Who would have thought the snowdrops and daffodils would be flowering together? Don't we have a lot to be thankful for with the beauty of God's creation?

In December our Junior Church showed their talents, presenting The Christmas Story with a surprise for us all at the end. Well done for all the hard work put in by the children and Junior Church leaders.

Our Covenant Service on 13 January renewed our commitment to serving God. The following week on, 20 January, the Penn Covenant Service celebrated the churches in Penn working together for the last 23 years. Long may it continue. The Reverend Clive Gregory, Bishop of Wolverhampton, attended and was impressed with the Penn churches commitment to one another, working and sharing together. A faith tea followed; fellowship was enjoyed and a cake was cut and shared.

Well, were you there Tuesday 5 February, the "All Age Fun Night"? Once again - ecumenical - a good night was had by all. There were seven teams with approximately eleven in each one, who had great fun doing silly things. There were lots of young people and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, and we were all given a pancake to eat as it was Shrove Tuesday. A collection taken raised over £100 for the GAVI Fund.

As we progress into February Lent begins, and the house groups are again sharing faith and fellowship together. It's very comforting and uplifting meeting old and new friends to discuss this year "The Lord's Prayer". Meanwhile each Sunday our worship reminds us of the suffering of Jesus towards Easter, and the joy of Easter Sunday.

This last twelve months as Senior Steward has gone quickly, the challenges great, some easier than others to cope with, but God has given me comfort and strength to carry things through. Special thanks go to my team of stewards, Barbara B., Lesley, Keith, Barbara M., David and Denis.

I must say thank you to all those people (they know who they are) who kept Springdale functioning as normal before and after Christmas when Robert and I were unable to fulfil our duties.

Barbara Beynon will be Senior Steward from 1 May 2008.

God bless you all.

Jackie Neilson

»»» *Thank You* »»»

Wombourne Vestry News

As you probably know, Wombourne had a very sad approach to Christmas. First Robert was taken ill and, as well as our prayers and good wishes, practical arrangements needed to be made for worship. Dorothy Stubbs had a tragic fatal accident. She was a beautiful person who always seemed to know what to say to make you feel worthy and loved. We are very much poorer for her absence - Bill please accept our sympathy and our prayers. Maureen Francom and then Alan himself were poorly - we are happy to say that they are both out of hospital and getting stronger each day. Two ladies from our congregation had broken bones; they are on the way to recovery as well.

We wish to thank all who stepped in to help, especially Denis who worked very hard and with good humour. Our covenant service, led by Robert and Teresa Ely, seemed to mark a real new beginning for us and we pray for continued energy over the coming months.

The Sanctuary services were a success, offering a different approach to the preparations to Christmas. The toys generously given at the toy service were appreciated by the Hope Community. The carol service was uplifting and true worship.

Wombourne Methodist Church hosted the Week for Christian Unity Service and welcomed Rev John Marsh, Moderator-elect of the United Reformed Church of Great Britain, as our preacher - such a gracious man who invited us to share hospitality amongst ourselves, not only materially but also the hospitality of ideas - brilliant!

Lent was upon us almost before we could draw breath after the Christmas season. This gives another opportunity for joint ecumenical reflection, both in the Lent lunches which we share on Tuesdays and in the house groups where we are invited to 'look beyond the picture', using film as a starting point for discussion about discipleship and mission.

At the time of writing, Mothering Sunday approaches and we look forward to the children who come to the cradle roll service and seeing how they have grown. The "Prayers and Bears" and "Good news for Kids Club" continue to thrive and grow. The children all join in everything energetically and leave us all feeling spiritually fed, (but bodily shattered!)

We are aware that good financial stewardship is vital to the continuing life of the church and our Church Council agreed to embark upon the TRIO scheme (The Responsibility Is Ours) this spring. We will be asking ourselves searching questions about our financial commitment to discipleship. Through the trials of the last few months we have been privileged to see the congregation pulling together, not just to ensure services can go ahead, but that those who need help are looked after and held in our prayers. It is great to belong to such a loving part of God's Family!

God Bless.

Brenda and Janet

Springdale Pastoral News

It was good to welcome Robert back in January after his spell in hospital and convalescence; also for Robert and Teresa to have their family with them over the Christmas holiday. Our love and prayers were with Jackie Neilson and family on the sudden death of Jackie's mum on 3 December; also to Rev Bill Stubbs and family and friends of Gospel Ash following the sudden home-call of Dorothy on 12 December - to these and anyone in our church family who has suffered a bereavement - we uphold you all in our Lord's name. We remember Alan and Maureen Francom - Maureen broke her hip just before Christmas and is now making good progress following surgery; Alan also had a spell in hospital after Christmas and is now doing well.

Margaret Race is now in Atholl House, Rene Ashfield is back in Aldergrove Manor Nursing Home and Dora Clayton is now in Coton House, all three ladies having been in hospital recently. Vera Green fell and broke her wrist just before Christmas but is now making good progress, and Hilda Willcox also fell and broke her wrist and hurt her back in January and is slowly improving. Laura Priest has also been in hospital but is now back home and at university; we remember, also, Sheila and Norman. To these and all the many friends of our church family who have been unwell or attending hospital, and also the house-bound, we remember you all and pray that God will be with you and give you strength each day.

Congratulations to Lisa and David Weighton (now in Sweden until Easter) on the birth of a granddaughter born on 11 January weighing 8lb 6oz, Iona Maiken, a daughter for Karin and Andrew Hobbs; also to Jackie and Ken Neilson, a granddaughter born on 3 February weighing 7lb 4oz, Georgina May, daughter for Andrew and Charlotte and a sister for James.

On Sunday 20 January we welcomed the family and friends of Keon Subanda as they brought him for baptism; also, on 17 February we welcomed the family and friends of Reuben Robert Peterson as they brought him for baptism. May God bless each of these little ones.

To all who have recently celebrated a birthday or another celebration - we send our best wishes.

So as we approach Easter we look to the new life offered to us; also,

the new life bursting around us of spring.

“O, who am I, that for my sake, my Lord should take frail flesh and die?”

Gwyneth M Wade *Pastoral Secretary*

Community Prayer Outreach

The Prayer Groups for community concerns are now meeting on a regular basis to pray for all those who use our church premises through the week as well as wider concerns. At present we have 15 people, divided into 3 groups who meet regularly to pray. There is a community prayer board in the vestibule and we would encourage you all to make use of it, especially if you are a member of one of the groups who meet during the week or have concerns about the wider community. All prayer requests will be treated in the strictest confidence. We also have a link through the church website and this is completely confidential. We would love to welcome new people to this important part of our church life and outreach: if you would like to know more please speak to either Liz Green or Val Campion.

These groups are in addition to the church prayer list, available from Ruth Hipgrave for your private prayers, and prayerfully considered by the Thursday House group at their meetings. Please remember the Church Prayer book at the back of the church for prayers for members and friends of our church family and also the wider community and the Junior Church book. These are presented and used during our Sunday worship.



Val Campion

Found in an old church magazine from Cumbria - One of John Wesley's Rules:

“If there are less than twenty people in the congregation, do not preach, just sing and pray.”

District Project - Rwanda and the Peace Building, Healing and Reconciliation Programme (PHARP)

Introduction

PHARP Rwanda began its activities in 1998. The activities were aimed at bringing about healing and reconciliation by focusing on training leaders from groups of youth, women and pastors, who in turn reach out to many people in their own churches and communities.

The main purpose was to create opportunity for dialogue where people from different ethnic groups (mainly Hutu and Tutsi) and religious backgrounds could begin to share experiences and sufferings and create an understanding. This led to confessions and the offering of forgiveness between the participants as well as the transformation of attitudes people previously held towards one another.

Since its launch in 1998, PHARP Rwanda had been operating on a temporary renewable registration. However, in April 2004, it got permanent registration from the Rwandan government as a local association. PHARP Rwanda continues to share in the PHARP International's vision, mission and objectives.

PHARP aims at equipping women, men, youth leaders, children and refugees with knowledge and skills of trauma healing, conflict transformation, reconciliation, community building, peace advocacy, HIV/AIDS and counselling.

PHARP's programmes seek to initiate and facilitate dialogues that promote reflection of the knowledge and experience from target groups. These programmes also aim at developing training manuals applicable to the needs of the target groups.

How can the District Help? John Howard - The District Chair.

All the activity of PHARP Rwanda, described above, is run from a temporary building owned by a sympathiser, who may need it back at almost

any moment. The building is much too small, lacking in basic facilities and in a difficult location.

The vision is to build a facility capable of housing the seminars, counselling and community building work, training rooms for development of the range of training needs met by the project, office facilities for the PHARP workers and a guest house providing both facilities for those who come to courses at the building from across Rwanda and offering accommodation to others who are staying in Kigali – generating income helping to sustain the project as a whole. There is a considerable need for such guest houses as transport is very difficult, most people walk on most of their journeys and as a result they need to stay in Kigali, even if, by western standards they don't live all that far from Kigali.

We also anticipate helping to provide the project support – in the way of helping with project management where we can and where it would be helpful to PHARP itself.

Having seen the old building, and worked with PHARP groups in it, I know how greatly this support is needed. I do hope that the wonderful enthusiasm shown in building the isolation ward at Kibogora will be sustained as we work now in the area of Peace building - so greatly needed.

Springdale visit Rwanda!

In July and August this year Springdale will be sending two of its young people to Rwanda with the District Youth Project. In order to raise funds for the trip Lucy Gilbert and Emma Baker will be hosting a

Quiz at Springdale Church on Saturday 19 April

Doors open 7pm for a 7.15pm start.

**Teams of up to 4 people, £10 per team,
payable on the door, and to include refreshments.**

**Book your places early to avoid disappointment!
See Helen Cooper for more details and for booking.**

01902 330040

PS Brush up on your Rwanda facts as there will be a Rwanda round!

Towards One Circuit

Since I last wrote, we have decided that the new circuit will be called “The Wolverhampton Methodist Circuit”. There is to be a “launch” service at 5pm on Sunday 31 August at Darlington Street, at which the preacher will be Rev Inderjit Bhogal, former President of the Conference. I hope you have seen the smart leaflet produced to help us all keep “up to speed” with the developments. (If not, look out for a copy, or ask me or one of the stewards.) It answers the Why? Where? and When? Questions, and describes our partners in mission.

You will have heard about the “Worship Clusters” in which we shall be involved, recognising that there are many occasions for worship in addition to those listed on our current preaching plan, and we want to give as much support to all of these as we can. Each church will need to choose members for its worship team, to meet with those from other churches to plan all these services, and gather together all information about resources of people and of things. “Making the plan” is not just about filling slots! Leading up to this, Wombourne have arranged for a Consultation about Worship at 8pm. after the Midweek Communion on Wednesday 2 April.

Please keep these plans in your prayers, remembering especially our superintendent Rev. Cecil King as he leads our preparations for this venture.

Robert Ely

P.S. At the service on 31 August there is to be a Circuit Choir, led by a minister who is an experienced choir leader, which will meet to rehearse beforehand. If you could be a member, please let me know before Easter, so that I can pass on your name.



Children's Bit!

Hi!

Not sure where the time goes as it only seems a few weeks since I did the last Children's bit, that's what happens when you get older - something to look forward to, eh?

Well I must admit I'm slightly disappointed with you young ones, as I've not received anything from you to include in this section of Triangle. I'm sure it would be much more interesting if you sent something to me to put in. Please send some in the next few weeks to include in the next issue - it could be a joke, poem or prayer or just something that you want to share with others in the church family. Plus you get to get your name in print!

The easiest way to send your contributions is by email: sarahjphilpott@hotmail.com but if you want to call me you can on 01902 659152 or put it in an envelope and hand to your church secretary and I'm sure it will get to me or Helen (main editor of Triangle). That's my moan over with!

As I write this we are well into Lent and quickly approaching Easter. Easter to me is what being a Christian is all about - it reminds me that in all situations there is hope. Sometimes when we watch the news or read the papers or perhaps when you hear adults talking it can seem that this world is hopeless - in other words without hope. However, I think that we don't have to look too far in bad situations to find someone doing good and trying to make a difference to others in a positive way.

I pray that we all are capable of bringing hope and God's love into other peoples lives as we go about our normal activities. If we try and do this in our normal, everyday lives then we really are putting our belief in God and Jesus into practice.

Happy Easter, and don't eat too much chocolate!

Sarah

What is Fairtrade?

Millions of farmers depend on selling their crops to survive, but when prices drop it can spell disaster. If farmers earn less than it costs to run their farm, they face real hardship.

Fairtrade makes sure that farmers and producer organisations get a fair and stable price for their products to help them support their families and invest in a better future.



Why not visit www.fairtrade.org.uk/schools to find out more about fairtrade and how YOU can get YOUR school more involved in fairtrade.

CHOCOLATE REFRIDGERATOR CAKE

Ingredients:

150g Fairtrade plain chocolate
125g butter
1 egg
25g Fairtrade sugar
125g (approx) digestive biscuit

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR METHOD



Method:

Melt the butter and chocolate together in a saucepan over a low heat. (Tip: you can put a heatproof bowl over a pan of simmering water to melt the chocolate.)

Beat the egg and sugar together in a bowl or jug until foamy, then gradually add the chocolate mixture.

Break the biscuits into small pieces and stir in (along with raisins or sultanas if including).

Grease a 6 inch loose bottomed cake tin. (A 7 1/2 inch diameter works just fine as well).

Tip in the mixture and press it well down with the back of a spoon or similar.

Chill in the fridge overnight (or for about 12 hours).

To serve:

Turn onto a plate, slice and eat!

Variation:

Replace 50 gm of the biscuits with 50 gm **FAIRTRADE** Raisins.

Lord,
In all that we do,
In all that we say
Help us to do it your way.
Amen



Joke Time



How Do You Get To Heaven?

"If I sold my house and my car, had a big car boot sale, and gave all my money to the church, would that get me into heaven?" A teacher asked the children in her Junior Church class.

"NO!" the children all answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the grass, and kept everything neat and tidy, would that get me into heaven?"

Again the answer was, "NO!"

"Well, then, if I was kind to animals and gave sweets to all the children and loved everyone, would that get me into heaven?" She asked them again.

Once more they all answered, "NO!"

"Well," she continued, thinking they were all quite clever, "then how can I get into heaven?"

A five-year-old boy shouted out, "You gotta be dead!"

Hope '08

What is Hope '08?

Hope '08 is a nationwide Christian mission initiative aiming to “unite the whole church for the whole nation, for a whole year; to do more, do it together and do it in word and deed.”

On Holy Saturday, 22 March there will be a March of Hope starting from West Park (South Gate, Bath Road) at 11.00 am and walking to the Civic Centre. We feel it would be good to take part in this as a church community, showing our Christian presence in this city. How about joining Robert and Denis in all or part of the walk or coming to the Civic Centre for a mass act of worship?

The Rev. Martyn Atkins, President of the Methodist Conference, has this to say: “Hope '08 is a great opportunity for local Christians to work together to proclaim the love of Jesus in word and deed. I heartily endorse it.”

What can we do as Christians together in Penn? Have you any ideas of how we can show the love of Jesus in our community?

For more information visit the Methodist Church website.

Whose Job is it?

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

History Fair 2007

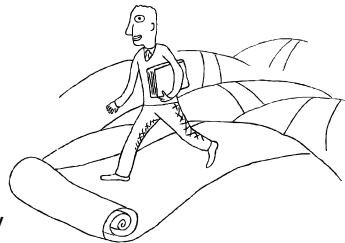
On Friday 3 and Saturday 4 August, 2007, the Penn History Fair was held at the United Reformed Church on the Penn Road. It was well attended both days, with plenty to see from a “far gone age”. Real nostalgia, especially the old photographs of Penn, Wombourne and old Wolverhampton. There were potted histories of some old Wolverhampton firms like the Crown Nail Company, Ever Ready, and the Midland Counties Dairy. It’s a sign that we’re getting older when we can recall the before and now. Did you know there was a Penn Brick works over the Common? There were also items on display made in the Wolverhampton area like a motorbike, lawnmowers, and tin plate items. There was also a display of memorabilia from the Royal hospital.

I presented a display of the History of Springdale Church, and although I have copies of some items of our church’s history I would be happy to receive any others that are relevant. Also, any photographs of church events only extend to the groups my family have used. If anyone has any old documents or photos relevant to our church’s history that I could copy I would be very grateful. Pictures of our previous ministers would be useful to add to my collection.

I’m sure the event will be held again this year (in June). Although there will probably be some of the same” to see, you can refresh your memory and take in a little more of your local history.

Jackie Neilson

God Calls us on a journey:
a journey into the unknown,
a journey into love and laughter,
a journey into pain and despair,
a journey where we walk together,
a journey where we walk alone.
So come, lets walk life's journey together,
knowing it is God who invites us to journey
and it is God who will journey with us.



Happiness

Happiness is to be found among life's common things. It is not great wealth, great learning, great genius or great power; it is not these things that make the possessors happy. It is health, friendship, love at home; it is the voices of children, it is sunshine. It is the blessings that are commonest, not those that are rarest.

Anonymous

Caught out

The wee lad was obviously not paying attention during the Bible story. "Robert", said the teacher sternly, "Can you tell me how God knew Adam and Eve had eaten the forbidden fruit?" Robert frowned hard; then he beamed. "Please Miss. It was because God saw the peelings!"

These words were noted on church notice boards:

"If you are heading the wrong way - God allows U-turns."

"Get in touch with God by Knee-mail."

"God knows when you were last in touch."

Our church is a

Special
Place
Reaching
Into the hearts of all
Needing
God
Daily,
And
Loving
Everyone.

John Wesley's Rule of Conduct

Do all the good you can
By all the means you can
In all the ways you can
In all the places you can
At all the times you can
To all the people you can
As long as you can.

Little Hands



This is the name of the playgroup that meets each Tuesday and Friday at our Springdale Church from 9.30 to 11.45am. There is plenty of room for more children, so if you know of anyone with children of pre-school age, get them to call Debbie on 07789 262025, or have a word with Lesley Cook: or do it yourself! They recently had an excellent “OFSTED” report, and Debbie is offering a free session to anyone who brings a new child into the group.

Robert Ely

Annual Church Meetings

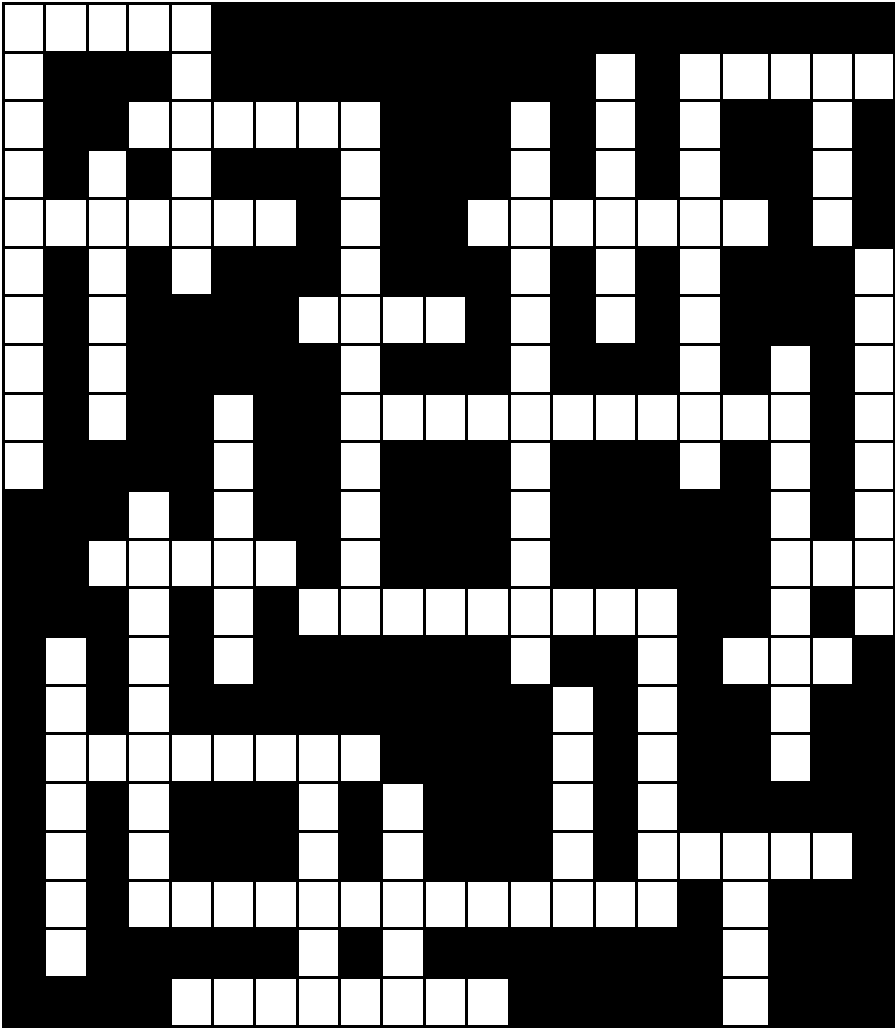
These meetings are the once-a-year chance for every church member to have their say about what is happening in their church. The amount of formal business is not large: we need to elect our church stewards and the representatives from the membership onto the Church Council, and hear a brief account of the state of our church life and finances. This leaves time to discuss the future pattern and direction of our church life and mission. If you have any items for discussion please let the minister or one of the stewards know at least a week before the meeting. Gospel Ash incorporates its Annual Meeting into its Spring Church Council, but Springdale and Wombourne hold their meetings at 4:30 pm on Sundays 13 April and 27 April respectively. I expect there will be at least a cup of tea on offer before a brief concluding Communion Service at 6:30pm. Do come if you can!

Robert Ely



Spring Kriss Kross

Can you fit the words listed into the grid above? Answers on p 23



3 letters

May
sun

4 letters

buds
nest
snow

5 letters

April

birth

bulbs
lamb

March

renew

6 letters

chicks
crocus
Easter

garden

spring
tulips

7 letters

catkins
equinox
puddles
showers

8 letters

birdsong
tadpoles
umbrella

9 letters

bluebells
daffodils
frog spawn
snowdrops

10 letters

longer days

11 letters

caterpillar
spring clean

12 letters

thunderstorm

13 letters

shorter nights

A Jar of Pebbles - the Meaning of Life?

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly, and the pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full; they agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous “yes.”

The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

“Now,” said the professor, as the laughter subsided, “I want you to recognise that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things: your family, your children, your health, your friends, and your favourite passions, things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter - like your job, your house, and your car. The sand is everything else: The small stuff.”

“If you put the sand into the jar first,” he continued, “there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your partner out to dinner. There will always be time to clean the house and fix the disposal. Take care of the golf balls first, the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just filler.”

One of the students raised his hand and enquired what the coffee represented.

The professor smiled. "I'm glad you asked. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend."



Easter Wordsearch

Can you find the words listed in the grid? Answers on p 23.

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T V B P A L M L E A V E S N J E S U S B D
E H R W G A R D E N E R B L O O D R G G E
F D E S A X C U M A R Y O N H G I D Y G A
B J A L Z P A L M S U N D A Y B S C A F T
A P D Y A U M O I J N B Y B D K C L D O H
N C P R I S E N C H R I S T O F I V I U K
N T R K F E T A L O C O H C N T P C R I J
E O F U D F G S T O N E G F K R L D F R F
R M C D C E H P U C R O S S E E E A D E E
S B F G J I S L J P L P J N Y D S Z O T N
G U A R D S F G G J P R A Y I N G S O S I
P K J F R T K Y G I O E B F W Y G X G A W
L H E C N A R B M E M E R V T E M P L E D
    
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Banners
 Blood
 Body
 Bread
 Chocolate
 Cross
 Crucify
 Death
 Disciples
 Donkey
 Easter
 Eggs
 Gardener
 Good Friday

Guards
 Jesus
 Mary
 Palm Leaves
 Palm Sunday
 Praying
 Remembrance
 Risen Christ
 Stone
 Temple
 The Last Supper
 Tomb
 Wine

Thank you to Matthew Cooper (age 8) from Springdale who created this wordsearch himself.

Why not submit your own list of words or complete wordsearch for inclusion in future issues?

Send to Helen or Sarah.

Letter from the Editor!

Ok! So I've got a page to spare - I'm thinking "what could I fill the space with?" I could go and search for some anecdotes or recall a special church service that I've been to. I could write about the flowers bursting through the frosty ground now that spring is arriving. The blue skies uplift the soul, yet we know at this time of year there's always the possibility of snow. I could tell people about a holiday I've been on recently - we spent a lovely week in Wales in the February half-term in a warm Scandinavian lodge surrounded by hills and sheep - it was the first week of really good weather and waking up every morning to the beautiful scenery I felt I was truly blessed to be in such a wonderful place.

The fact is, though, that I, like a handful of others (about 4 or 5 people) regularly contribute to the pages of Triangle, but there surely must be others that could put pen to paper and wax lyrical, or not so lyrical (as the case may be!) about something or other - anything, really. This magazine can reach all those that are housebound and are unable to keep in regular contact with other church members. I'm sure that they would love to share in other little snippets or read a joke or two.

You may notice that this edition is smaller than the last couple - I'm rebelling a little and refusing to put in all my own "padding"! So come on all of you reading this - let's rally round and produce something that's really interesting. It would be especially good to get some articles from Wombourne and Gospel Ash to provide balance in the magazine.

We also need to look to the future when our Circuit changes - do we have a magazine that can embrace the changes that will be encountered or will it be something that dies out either naturally, or because other churches have something better to offer? I know that I am prepared to do the hard work of putting the magazine together but I can't do it on my own - the magazine needs to be the voice of the people of all our churches.

And to those at Springdale - we also have a website that needs your thoughts and not just those of the webmaster! It is a big enough job keeping the website running without having to search for material too!

Happy Easter to you all! (Now re-read the bottom of page 15!)

T B P A L M L E A V E S J E S U S D
 H R G A R D E N E R B L O O D E
 E M A R Y O I Y A T
 B A L P A L M S U N D A Y S A H
 A D A Y D C D
 N C R I S E N C H R I S T O I I
 N T R E T A L O C O H C N P R R
 E O U S T O N E K L F R
 R M C U C R O S S E E D E E
 S B I S P Y S O T N
 G U A R D S F G P R A Y I N G O S I
 Y G E G A W
 E C N A R B M E M E R T E M P L E

PUZZLE ANSWERS

L A M B S
 O P G B U L B S
 N C R O C U S T A L U
 G T I P H R U D
 E Q U I N O X R P U D D L E S S
 R L G I N E B B
 D I S N O W D N E I
 A P G E L F R
 Y S C C A T E R P I L L A R D
 S H L S S O S
 D I E T G O
 M A R C H A O S U N
 F K S N O W D R O P S P G
 C F S M H M A Y
 A O B O W
 T A D P O L E S I W N
 K I A A R E
 I L S P T R E N E W
 N S H O R T E R N I G H T S E
 S E I S
 U M B R E L L A T

Dates for your Diaries

20 March	Upper Room Holy Communion	Wombourne	7.30pm
21 March	Meditation on the Cross	Springdale	8.00am
	United Service	Windmill Bank	12 noon
	United Service	St Michael's	8.00pm
23 March	Holy Communion	Springdale	8.00am
	Holy Communion	Gospel Ash	3.00pm
	Holy Communion	Wombourne	6.30pm
13 April	Annual Church Meeting	Springdale	4.30pm
19 April	District Synod	Ellesmere	10am - 4pm
22 April	Circuit Network	Brewood	2.30pm
27 April	Annual Church Meeting	Wombourne	4.30pm
14 May	Circuit Network with dedication of Wombourne		2.30pm
	Easter Offering		
14 May	Healing, Wholeness and Peace Service	Codsall	7.30pm

Deadline for the next edition of Triangle is
Sunday 25 May.

Please would all stewards, pastoral secretaries, etc., etc. make a note in their diaries so as not to miss this deadline. Thank you.

This will be the last Triangle before the Circuit changes! Make the most of it!

Remember! No photocopies! Please check copyright and gain permission where necessary! Email if you can - it makes things so much easier for us! Thanks!

Please hand in your articles directly, or via your stewards, to **Helen Cooper** or **Sarah Philpott**.