

Is willpower enough?

"In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned." (Titus 2:7-8)

I wonder how your Lenten fast went. This year I have spoken with many who had tried to give up biscuits and chocolate until the Easter celebrations. I find food so hard to resist, we make it such a temptation!

Willpower can be defined as the ability to delay gratification, resisting short-term temptations in order to meet long-term goals.

Last month I was looking at the idea of freedom. This month I am thinking how we can reach towards the full potential our life holds. How can we resist the temptations that pull us away from what we want for our lives. You will probably know the joke "Tomorrow I will stop procrastinating."

One thing many of us learn at school is that self control, or will power can enable achievement. Being tempted away from the homework, or practice did not make us better at our chosen task; while being single minded helped improve things little by little. I learned to play the piano, but only because I kept trying after my many failures. Without willpower I would have spent my hours making things from Meccano.

Being brought up in a house which never discussed faith and belief, but having values of self improvement, I was pushed by my parents to use my willpower to get good grades at school and get into University. I used my willpower to escape the traps of drink and drugs. But I came across people from different backgrounds who had been damaged by their upbringing, then I started to realise that we all have damage from our upbringing – my birth mother had died when I was 7 and I had issues of abandonment.

Sometimes the temptations come from a deep source and willpower is just not enough to keep us on the straight and narrow. Guilt then finds its way into our lives. The Bible tells us we are to fight against the world, the flesh and the devil, and we can assume that those with strong willpower will get through and the rest of us will fall by the wayside.

But no – it is not will power that is required – God promises power to those who "keep in step with the Spirit" (Galatians 5 in verses 15, 18 and 25). We are not told to never fall into sin. We are to keep coming back to God knowing his forgiveness and then look for the way forward.

Think of King David the man who committed both murder and adultery but who earnestly tried to follow God and was filled with repentance once he realised what he had done – who is described in Acts (13:22) as a man after God's own heart.

How do we have access to this power? There are habits to cultivate, such as positive thoughts, and reading the Bible or regular prayer and meeting with other believers. Learning that guilt is used by the Devil to bring us down, but should be used by ourselves allowing God to bring us back to Him as forgiven sinners. [contd. Next page]

A Warm Welcome to Sunday Services in April

Sunday 7th April (2nd Sunday of Easter)

10.45am Church Family Communion. Revd. Brian Leathers With support from Andy & Marion Brown, Caroline Munroe and Stephen Dunn

Sunday 14th April (3rd Sunday of Easter)

10.45 Morning Prayer. Service led by Martin Balderson With support from Rhona Hunt, Margaret Balderson and Gwen Rose))

Sunday 21st April (4th Sunday of Easter – ***St Georges Day)**

10.45 Morning Prayer Revd. Brian Leathers

Special St George's Day Parade to Church by 1st Mayfield Scouts

With support from Charles Wimbush and 1st Mayfield Scouts

Sunday 28th April (5th Sunday of Easter) 10.45 Morning Prayer. Service led by Diana Houghton With support from Carol Akers, Charles Wimbush and Arnie Rainbow

*St. Georges Day Service.

We celebrate St George's day on Sunday the 21st of April the nearest Sunday to the day itself on Tuesday April 23rd. 1st Mayfield Scouts will parade to the church and take part in the service.. Refreshments will be available from the scouts with all donations received going to scout funds.

Mayfield Lent Lunch – Over £200 raised

The Lent Lunch at Mayfield Church Rooms on Wednesday 13th March was well attended with parishioners enjoying fellowship as they shared a lunch of home made soup followed by cheese and biscuits. Over £200 was raised for Church Funds

[continued from previous page]

At Easter we celebrate that Jesus died in our place, taking our punishment. He rose from death showing that death is not the end, and that our lives can be lived in "Resurrection power".

So will power can start us off – and we do need it. But it is not enough for what we need in our lives. We need to come back to God and know His resurrection power.

So in your prayers – just ask Him for His power – and see what He shows you. "The Spirit helps us in our weakness." (Romans 8:26)

Brian Leathers

A new Family Comes to Mayfield



Chamil, Evangeline, Keziah and baby Kleiah at the door of their new home, Mayfield Vicarage

I have known Chamil Fernando for only a short time – I took him around the vicarage and gardens three weeks ago, when he came to interview for role of Associate Priest, based in Mayfield. His wife Evangeline was imminently expecting their third child and did not come and he, poor fellow, was juggling carless travel from Leeds; advice on getting here with all the road closures and, no doubt, had some trepidation about the dramatic change from working and living in urban Leeds to rural Mayfield.

Chamil is from Sri Lanka, has trained for the Church at theological college in UK and served at Pudsey Parish Church in Leeds. At the same time, he has been working in the Care sector. He comes to our Church as an associate priest, just like Martin before him, but in the capacity of 'House for Duty'.

Chamil's family and he will have an elegant house, a massive garden and orchard and, as a curiosity of his employment, no salary or furnishings for that same elegant house! Kind people are helping him right now to furnish the house for a family of five.

Chamil's wife, Evangeline saw the vicarage for the first time today, 9-year-old Keziah whizzed around the garden, saw the treehouse and promptly she asked: 'Is this ours?' Yes, of course it is. Tiny baby Kleiah was fast asleep and firmly attached to her mother in all this. 2-year-old Chael was left at their home in Leeds with a friend of his parents. A nice surprise awaits him.

Chamil is a fanatic cricketer, (he has already met Ed Barker from Wooton cricket club) and enjoys rugby. He's a nice guy, and I know you will all like and welcome him and his wonderful family to their new life in Mayfield.

Charles Wimbush

NEW SUBMISSION DATE FOR OUR MAY MAGAZINE Due to holiday and work commitments our May magazine has an earlier than usual copy date,

Articles for the May 2024 Issue of the Magazine.

We always welcome articles for the magazine, both from Mayfield itself and the surrounding villages. To ensure your article is published in our next issue,

May 2024

It must be submitted earlier than usual by **Friday 19th May** at the latest. **Articles and information submitted beyond that date may not be published.** You can submit articles by email to our editors. Stephen Dunn Email: s.w.dunn@btconnect.com Tel. 342188 or Joyce Beeson Tel. 346959 and contact us to deliver them by hand.



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Looking Ahead to Parish Projects

We're into a new financial year and the next big event in the parish council calendar will be the Annual Meeting which will take place next month. It will be a milestone meeting for the council, marking a full year since the elections last May.

Sadly, since then, six of our members have stepped down, with three casual vacancies open at the time of writing. Of course, circumstances and commitments change, and sometimes a voluntary role is no longer manageable, but I am also aware that Mayfield Parish Council has its own challenges to face, some of which are ongoing. Which is why it was a double whammy after the March meeting to receive the resignation of our Clerk, Mrs Ginny Gibson, who has done a sterling job since being appointed to the post in September.

Having completed all the outstanding admin that had accrued from May to September alongside the work required September onwards, Mrs Gibson had also made herself known to several groups and individuals in the village and worked tirelessly to ensure the council would be in a position to push forward some improvement projects over the coming months.

As Clerk, Mrs Gibson would also have acted as project-manager for the plans we had for the spring and summer, gathering all the information required for councillors to vote on, and then putting the agreed proposals into action

During her time in-post she liaised with our lengthsman to organise a tidy-up of the Memorial Garden, worked with ESBC to ensure missing bins were replaced at key points around the village, sorted out a number of staffing and banking issues and facilitated the reinstatement of the noticeboard outside the shop.

Mrs Gibson has been a real asset to the council bringing expertise, experience and enthusiasm to the role and I would like to publicly thank her for the time, effort and determination she has shown.

Now that the role of Clerk is again vacant, we are once more in the position of having to prioritise recruitment and we are seeking support from a number of sources to help us ensure more positive outcomes for volunteers and employees moving forward. The latest agendas, minutes and information from Mayfield Parish Council can be found at: <u>mayfieldparishcouncil.org.uk</u>.

Mayfield Parish Council finances are all on the website, <u>https://mayfieldparishcouncil.org.uk/mayfield-parish-council-finances/</u>

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Scouts Chocolate Bingo.



Yes, that's right, it was bingo where every prize was chocolate, perfect for Easter. This was a special fund-raising evening for 1st Mayfield scouts on Friday the 22nd March at 6:00pm with eyes down at 6:30pm.

Katy was bingo caller and the event was attended by scouts and supporters of all ages with the Mayfield Arms Bar on hand for those old enough to have a drink or two.

And at the end when house was called for the final time, a magnificent £150 was raised for a special scout trip this year to Germany.

Come and Join Us.

If you have a family member who would like to be a Scout, Cub or Beaver why not come and join us, we meet at the Memorial right in the centre of the village with lots of free parking.

Scouts aged 11-14 meet 6.30 – 8pm on a Tuesday evening in term time.

Beavers aged 6-8 & Cubs 8-11 meet 6 – 7pm on Thursday evening in term time.

Contact Katy Lewis on 07961824674 for full details

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Mayfield Friday Club.

We started back to the now renamed Friday Club on February 16th when we had an open meeting to discuss what future speakers, trips out and entertainment we would like to take the club forward.

Lockdown was difficult, not only did we miss out on socializing but also our financial state suffered. The great news last month was when we received a very welcome grant from the Mayfield Parish Council but also on member's contributions with their yearly subscriptions.

This will now give us the opportunity to pay some speakers a small cost to their travel and time, however I can reassure you we are very frugal in that department. I would encourage ladies and gentlemen out there to come along and see what we get up to every other Friday at 2pm, not only a cup of tea and biscuits but a friendly welcome and a chance to meet and get to know one another.

This month we have had not one but two quizzes. First at the beginning of the month Stephen did a musical quiz on the themes of films and movies, from Hollywood classics through to James Bond and it proved both entertaining and a bit tricky at times as often one film theme reminds you of another completely different film!

Then at our next meeting Pat Smith gave us one of his picture quizzes, This one had pictures of over 60 people from all walks of life, including Mayfield people, some of whom were actually in the Friday Club that day. it was amusing to hear different groups whispering 'isn't that XXX' whilst pointing across to another Friday club member. Both quizzes were fun as well as challenging our knowledge.

We are not having a meeting on Good Friday March 29th

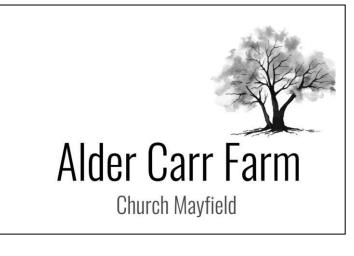
In April we have two meetings

April 12th Janet Chatfield. Janet will be showing us chair-based exercises that will strengthen our legs and arms, which improve our balance. Balance is so important to us, I have found the exercises very helpful after having a stoke last year.

April 26th Linda Torr will be coming to do some flower arrangements. Linda, I am sure many of you will know Linda and she will surely brighten up the afternoon.

I am busy sorting other dates at the moment, which you will soon hear about. Just watch this space. Everyone is welcome and meetings start at 2pm.

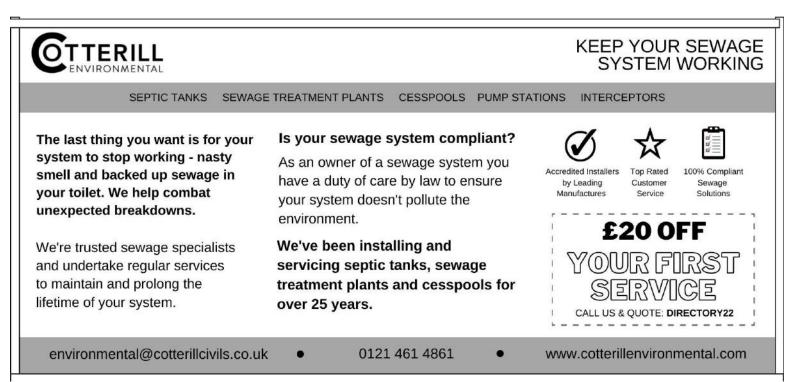
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Messy Church

We have two reports this month on Messy Church firstly from Catherine about preparing for Easter and having fun making caves and cakes and then from Arnie about last month's Lent Event complete with pictures of participants young and old enjoying themselves. Enjoy their reports, they are great Fun. Editors

Easter at Messy Church!

Messy Church met on Saturday 23rd March. In this session we looked at Jesus' resurrection.



We started off by talking about caterpillars (specifically the very hungry one) and how out of the dark and dull cocoon emerges a beautiful butterfly. We then read the story of Jesus' resurrection.

The first activity was to decorate a butterfly cake. Everyone really got stuck in and we finished up with a very beautiful butterfly of our own.

We then decorated some eggshells and made wooden clothes pegs into tombs that, when you squeeze them, the stone moves revealing that Jesus is risen!

Since we had all arrived, it had turned out that the Easter Bunny had left eggs for the children in the car park, so a hunt ensued

until they had all been found.

Using all of our construction skills, we made a cave with a stone that could be rolled away. We used this during our celebration to act out the Mary and Peter finding the empty tomb. We finished off by singing "Alleluia, alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord".

We then tucked in to a delicious meal of chicken with pasta followed by the butterfly cake we decorated earlier. All very yummy!



We will be next be meeting on 27th April 3.30-5.30pm in the Church Rooms. Keep your eyes out for more details nearer the time. *Catherine*

Messy Church Explores Lent!

The start of Lent is time for Shrovetide Football or pancakes, depending on your point of view. But it's also the time to remember Jesus's 40 days in the desert, wrestling with worldly temptations (i.e. the devil), and it's our lead up to Easter – arguably the most important time of year for Jesus's followers (not just an excuse to eat loads of chocolate!)

At our 'Lent Event' we re-enacted those 40 days with a mini-drama and by



...Making a Mini Desert.....then Painting Pebbles.....



.....made a world/wildlife jigsaw...... built towers from beakers and - best of all



made delicious bread rolls, which featured in our shared supper.

This supper which also included wraps, ham, cheese and salad, followed by a variety of fresh fruits.

As always, we had a time of learning, reflection and worship. Funnily enough, us leaders reckon we get as much from Messy Church (in the planning and leading) as our guests!

Interested? Come along, whatever your age you'll be very welcome. **4**th **Saturday** of every month, **3.30 – 5.30**, in Mayfield Church Rooms. No charge but donations towards the food are welcome. Next session: 27 April. Arnie



White Peak Nordic Walking.

If you're planning to get fit in, then I've got a variety of Nordic Walking classes to help



you achieve your goals, no matter your age or fitness level. The walks are mostly 1 hour (three miles or less), with varied terrain that will help build your stamina. There are plenty of beautiful views too, which provide the perfect motivation to head outside and get active..

After lockdown we started group sessions again in small groups of 5 clients and 1 instructor. Clients have their own pair of

Nordic Walking poles. We carry wipes and hand sanitising gel and ask clients to do the same. While walking we are social distancing with staying Poles Apart.

Power of Poles intro course. Find out how to use fitness walking poles to achieve the results YOU want. So, if you're keen to come out with us, you can be sure we will do our best to make it a safe and rewarding experience. If you have been enjoying your daily walk and are looking to learn about the Power of Poles, please give me a call. For details contact: **White Peak Nordic Walking**: Janneke Gorzeman 07469895267. Janneke@nwukwhitepeak.co.uk Or book now: www.nwukwhitepeak.co.uk

Mobile Library Service Dates for Feb, March & April 2024

The mobile library comes to Mayfield on Tuesday 13th & 27th Feb, 12th & 26th Mar. and 9th & 23rd April at the junction of Mayfield Avenue and The Crescent from 10.30 to 10.45 am

MAYFIELD VILLAGE WEBSITES

Mayfield's Church website www.mayfieldparishchurch.org Mayfield Memorial Hall www.mayfieldmemorialhall.org.uk Mayfield Heritage Group www.mayfieldheritage.org.uk Mayfield Parish Council www.mayfieldparishcouncil.org.uk MARNA. https://marna.org.uk/.

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Faith and Food Group Enjoy a Special Easter Meal



In the week before Easter the Faith and Food Group undertook a special Seder meal at their monthly meeting at the church rooms.

The Seder meal is a ritual meal that takes place at Passover and is a direct link back to the Last Supper, that Jesus and his disciples undertook on the evening of Maundy Thursday.

The Revd David Leese led the group during the meal, explaining from a Christian viewpoint the key parts of the meal and the rituals associated with it, giving the group a fascinating insight into understanding how this traditional Jewish Passover meal links directly into our Christian traditions at the Easter.

David's wife Sue prepared this special meal and church warden Maggie Cook provided a dessert of fruit salad.

The Faith and Food Group meet monthly to explore topics relating to Christian fait h as well as enjoying a meal together. The group meets on the 4th Friday evening of each month at 7:00 PM. If you would like to join the group, please contact Churchwarden Maggie Cook either by email <u>darleycook@yahoo.com</u> or Telephon e 01335 345691





Shan Gough @ Mayfield Memorial Hall

Sunday 31st March 2024 @ 6pm

Ø @shangoughmusic
 Ø @shangoughmusic
 Ø 07599 596 907
 Shan and Matt Music

Memorial Hall News

You should just get this magazine in time for Easter Sunday March 31st And

Super Sunday at the Memorial Hall

A very special Easter Sunday starting with a race around the village, followed by a **FREE BB**, a children's colouring competition and rounding off with live music.

The full list of activities on Super Sunday are.....

<u>2.30pm</u> A three-legged race around the village.. To enter just text or call Graham (Bush) Sowter on 07341 335479

<u>4.30pm – 5pm</u> A FREE BARBECUE. Yes that right there is a free barbecue courtesy of the Mayfield Arms but stocks are limited so its first come first served so be there early, in this case to catch the hot dog or burger before stocks run out

All afternoon a FREE children's colouring competition with prizes

<u>6pm</u> We round off the day with **a FREE concert of live music** from local singer Shan Gough, a perfect way to round off a SUPER SUNDAY,.

Then....One of Mayfield's most popular events is coming back this April with our

SPRING CAR BOOT SALE. Saturday 7th April 9am – 12noon

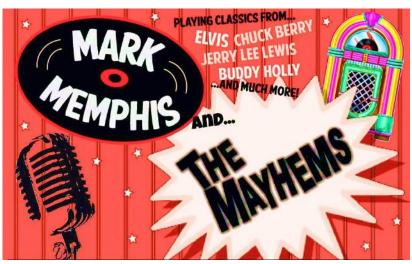
Its the chance for everyone in Mayfield to clear out the cupboards or the back of the garage and sell the things you don't want but other people would love to have... At the right price of course.

There is always a strong demand for tables and at £5 per table it's very good value. **Contact Mandy now on 07766 702508** to book your table.



Saturday 20th April - A Rock'n'roll/ Rhythm and Blues Night

featuring Mark Memphis and The Mayhems - A new Rock'n'roll / Rhythm and Blues band doing all the greats, Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, Jerry Lee Lewis, Chuck Berry and many more. It will be a great night of dancing and live music. Doors open 7pm.Tickets are just £5 on the door. Put it in your diary now!



The Beauty of Mayfield – Spring is Here!



One of the first places Spring arrives in Mayfield is in Mayfield churchyard where beautiful displays of daffodils entice you in to walk and enjoy the countryside around us. And the flag is flying, perhaps getting ready for St Georges Day?

Mayfield Memorial Hall

Forthcoming events

Mayfield Arms Sunday Openings. 2pm -7pm 7th 14th 21st & 28th April

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY end March/April 2024

Easter Sunday 31st March Super Sunday at the Memorial Hall 2.30pm – 9pm. 3 legged race, Barbecue, competitions PLUS Live music from Shan Gough 6pm

Monday 1st 8th 15th 22nd 29th -Line Dancing 7pm-9pm.

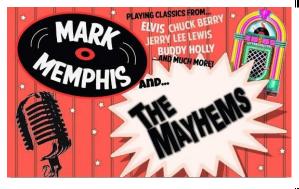
Tuesday 2nd 9th 16th 23rd 30th - Indoor Bowls 10.30am–12.30am

<u>Friday 12th 26th April</u> - NEW Mayfield Friday Club 2pm - 4pm Everyone is welcome <u>including</u> non members. <u>Tuesday & Thursday Evening in Term Time</u>, 1st Mayfield Scouts and Beavers.

Tuesdays 6.30pm -8pm Scouts Thursdays 6pm -7pm Beavers And Cubs. Contact Katy Lewis for full details 07961824674

Saturday 7th April CAR BOOT SALE 9am -12noon

<u>Saturday 20th April</u> Rock'n'Roll. Rhythm & Blues Night with Mark Memphis & The Mayhems Doors open 7pm. £5 on Door.



Saturday 27th March Country Music

Club with Live Music from Paul Martin Doors open 7pm, Artist on 8.30pm.

Mayfield Business Makes Good

Loopy Loop opens a new Studio/Shop in Ashbourne

A small business originally set up here in the heart of Mayfield has grown in recent years to a point where it has expanded into a beautiful new studio/shop in the heart of Ashbourne.

That business is Loopy Loop which has for the last few years been run by Ewa Morszner from her house in Holme Bank Terrace. Business has been good for Ewa to the point where she needed more space to work and meet her clients and luckily, she found a beautiful studio shop in Ashbourne, which was recently opened by the Mayor of Ashbourne no less!over to Ewa with all the details.

'Hello, as many of you will know my name is Ewa (Or Eve or Eva if you like) and I have lived in Mayfield now for more than 7 years and I love this peaceful village. I am originally from Ostrzeszow in Poland. My mother was a master tailor and my father was a shoe maker. My parents are the reason why I have a passion for sewing and craft work and went on to become a seamstress.

In the past I have applied my skills to many things from working in a wedding salon and a furniture and upholstery factory, but I have always loved sewing and eventually, I did a specialist course when I made my home in





Mayfield.

I stared 'LOOPY-LOOP' (my sewing studio) in 2017. I wanted a catchy and funny name and I thought it sounded like looping the needle and thread. My first big project came from Abbotsholme School to do all their curtain alterations. And there were many customers from Mayfield who came to support me and give me work.

My business is expanded to the point where my house is not really suitable for the space, I now need for both my workshop and a space for clients for fittings and I've been very lucky to find a beautiful spacious studio/shop at 13 Church St in Ashbourne.



And I was very privileged when the mayor of Ashbourne agreed to formally open my studio shop this year on Saturday 24th February.



At my Studio, I can help you with anything sewing related. From tailoring, repair of clothes, new cushion covers, curtains and many more. I can also offer my professional advice as I've worked in the industry for the past 22 years."

Please drop in and say hello when you are in Ashbourne or call me on 07881 947121 I look forward to seeing you. Eva Morszner

And Eva's work has gained much praise from her customers as the reviews below show. Editors

'Eva did a fabulous job on my dress. 100% I would highly recommend Loopy Loop studio. She's amazing'.

'Eva is wonderful. She's shortened curtains. Taken up dresses. Put in coat zips and Velcro. Nothing is too much trouble, and every result has been perfect. Would not hesitate to recommend her.'

Wordsearch

Α	Ρ	R	I	L	F	0	0	L	S	D	Α	Y	Y	Α	Т	Κ	L	Ρ	Е
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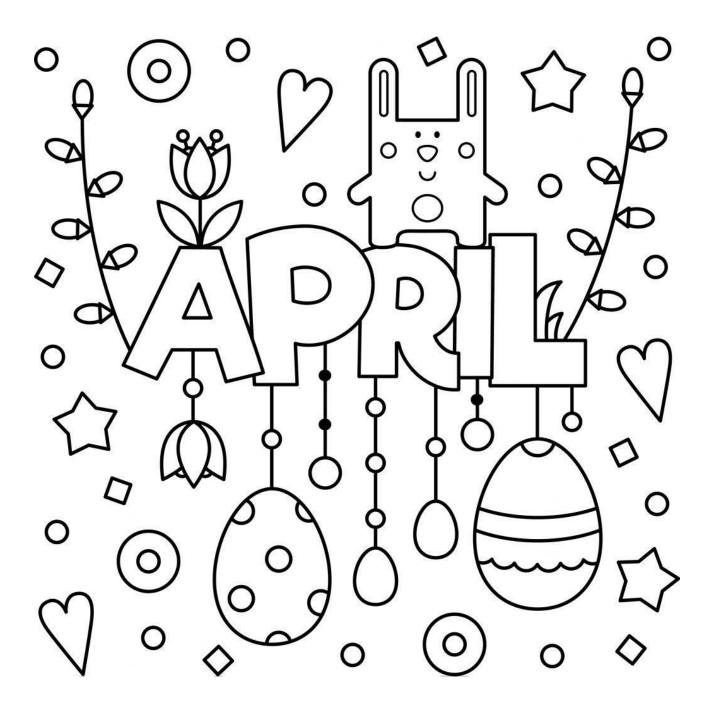
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Monthly Sillies

How do pirates celebrate April Fools Day? They walk the prank! Why shouldn't you tell jokes to ducks on April Fools Day? They'll just quack up! Why is everyone so tired on 1st April? Because they have just finished a 31day March!

What monster plays the most April Fools' jokes?Prankenstein.Knock, knock! Who's there? Noah. Noah who?Noah body — April Fool's!Why don't eggs play April Fools' pranks?They might crack each other upWhat did the tree say when spring finally arrived?What a re-leafHow can you tell when April is happy?It has a little spring in its step.What did the tree say to the new spring flower?I'm rooting for you.

Colour Me In!



The Beauty of Mayfield – Spring is Here!



It seems it's been a long time coming, but finally the trees around Mayfield are suddenly bursting into magnificent displays of blossom. It really feels that seasons are finally changing, and we can look forward to a bright Spring.

Craft Club

CRAFT CLUB

OUR PROJECT FOR APRIL. SCRAPBOOKING

Have you got lots of photographs just sitting in a draw

or gathering dust in a box somewhere ?

Wedding photo's, Party night, The Grandchildren.

If the answer is `YES` then collect them all together and bring them

along to our next craft night on April 3rd

you can then turn them into your own little scrapbook of memories .



My Month - Quizzes, Film Stars Real Names & Interfamily Rivalry

Quizzes have been on my mind in the last month or to be more precise one quiz.

Occasionally in the past, I have undertaken the production of a quiz, usually with the help of an excellent quizmaster, a certain Catherine Mellor of this parish and we have together been known to produce such quizzes for church events; the last being for the harvest supper last year.

Catherine produces questions that checks your general knowledge, as well as current events and I tend to do questions that are a bit more fun and quirky or feature local knowledge. It tends to work because we like different subjects and therefore people undertaking the quiz are more likely to end up with questions they are either interested in or have some knowledge of.

However, it is a different matter when you do the quiz yourself and that happened to me last month when the new Friday Club ask me to do a quiz for them. I had undertaken a musical quiz for the old Senior Social Club last year which proved to be popular and so the new Friday Club asked me if I could do another for one of their first meetings as a club.

As its name suggests, a musical quiz is where questions are all pieces of music, a song, a theme tune, or something like that and you have to guess what song it is, or which film or TV show it has come from.

The first quiz I did was all based on radio and television from the 1950's to today and created a sense of nostalgia as a piece of music can be a very powerful way of remembering something from your past and can evoke memories very quickly.

However, the music alone can often not be enough to remember the thousands of songs and music you may know and a verbal clue to accompany the music may often be required. I discovered when doing the first music quiz; blank faces in the audience told me I needed to give more help.

It is fair to say that such help was not always welcomed by the quiz teams who had already got the answer, but it made the quiz a lot more fun, like a game of verbal charade where you have to give them a hint without saying the actual name.

I think it was me trying to give such clues, as much as the music, that made that first quiz popular and so I was asked to produce another one. I chose to do Movies and realised I had to generate a set of verbal clues as well as the music and that required much more effort on my part. Constructing a list of music from Hollywood or British films along with say James Bond or Disney films proved relatively easy. Constructing verbal clues to go with them was much harder, particularly as the aim of the quiz was to have as much fun as possible with most people able to answer most of the questions. Nothing's worse than attending a quiz where you don't know most of the answers. It's not fun when most of your questions remain blank at the end of a round.

However, for me the verbal clues were a lot more difficult than choosing the films to play music from. As the day of the quiz drew nearer, there were still questions I had no clue for. And then for one of those questions, my mind came up with a clue from my dim and distant past and set off a series of memories about doing quizzes as a child and gave me an insight into why I enjoy some fun quizzes even today. (that particular clue, funny and a bit rude will be revealed later)

Now in my distant childhood we did not have quiz nights or Pub quiz's but in the days when television had not quite wiped out making your own entertainment, quizzes and other family games were a staple of any family get together.

In my family quizzes were started at a very early age by my father, who when my brother and myself were still quite small would conduct a quiz on a weekend morning, whilst in the kitchen preparing his home grown vegetables for lunch . As small boys have a tendency to get in the way of a busy mother seemingly obsessed with hoovering and cleaning, us boys were taken into the kitchen out of the way, placed up high on a work surface and to keep us quite, whilst preparing vegetables, father would conduct an impromptu quiz between us.

Now nothings worse than sibling rivalry and me and my brother were naturally competitive, and both wanted to win. I was 18 months younger but compensated by having a near photographic memory and great curiosity on all subjects. My brother was more normal with a great interest in sport and typical boy's things, so father would cleverly design the questions we got, in turn, to suit our strengths - we never quite cottoned on why so many quizzes ended in a draw! We loved this game and started requesting it the moment we came back from the allotment or in from the back garden. We often demanded that mum gave us a question as she bustled through to the washroom with buckets of soapy water but she reckoned father had the "brains" and refused to take part. "*Give her a question Dad, see if she can answer as well as we do*" was our next joyful cry and this was ignored until one day he gave her what I thought was a girl's name and then asked mum which film star it was. "*John Wayne*" was the immediate reply, Absolutely correct , father said and smiling broadly, she left us, mop and bucket in hand.

The effect on me was electrifying. I had no idea that people could have two names, that men could be called women's names and best of all I never knew that my Mum knew everything! She clearly was hiding her light under a bushel and I was blissfully unaware that father had again adapted his question to suit his audience. I quizzed my mum further and it seemed she knew every film star's real name (and frankly I could see why they wanted to change them, their real names were absolute rubbish). Mother clearly enjoyed this adoration/attention from her youngest and one by-product of all this was her belief I was interested in these odd people; so, on wet Sunday afternoons me and my mum watched old films on the TV and I discovered John Wayne, the ultimate cowboy, Fred Astaire, the ultimate dancer and developed a love of old Hollywood films, I still maintain today.

There was however another by-product of that John Wayne's real name question. On special family occasions we went to our aunt and uncle's house. My uncle John was an inveterate quiz master, the sort of bloke who today would haunt the pub quiz circuit. On special visits he would set us an interfamily quiz, the Dunn's against his family, the Mould's. It was meant to be friendly but in reality, was intense rivalry that put me and my brother's intellectual battles well into the shade!

His quizzes frankly had a distinct bias to his and his boy's knowledge. Invariably the Mould family won and John put it down to how bright his boys were. Mother and Uncle John would inevitably have "words", blatant bias and fixing would be mentioned and Uncle John would laugh it off. We would leave with mother swearing that there would be no more quizzes, to have it all smoothed over with a visit from my aunt the next day to apologise and blame it all on male hormones!

However, on one visit a few years later, we arrive to find Uncle John recovering from the flue and the quiz only half done. Mother was all for abandoning it but John was not having that and suggested the children compose questions to test the adults. *"Make 'em tough kids*" was his final remark. My brother and my older cousin refused to give up play time for this task, leaving just me and my cousin Colin to compile the quiz. We started by writing questions on Beano characters and Watch with Mother and quickly got bored. *"These aren't hard*", said my cousin *"Dad said make them hard, what's the hardest question you know Stephen"?*

Then it came to me. Film stars real names was the hardest questions I had ever heard. My cousin was as amazed as I was that John Wayne was really a girl and we set-to, with me providing the questions and Colin writing them down in neat pencil handwriting in his new exercise book.

We then had lunch and started on the quiz. The children's questions were last and by that time the Mould family had a substantial lead. Uncle John was smirking even more than usual, mother was looking daggers at him and father and my aunt were both trying to look the other way. Colin started reading out the questions from his exercise book. As each film star name was read out Mother got it and whooped with triumph. Uncle John looked at first perplexed and then realising he was losing, became quite vocal. "*There's a fix going on here just who wrote these questions*" he said, glowering at me.

I opened my mouth but before I could speak, Colin proudly said "*I did dad, here in my new exercise book, look the handwriting is really neat just how you like it*". Uncle John started to say that's not what I mean, but his son put the final nail in the coffin by continuing *"Why everyone knows who John Wayne really is, Stephen and I know and were only children"*. True he had only known from that morning, but you can't fault a child's logic. Uncle John was trapped. Colin continued the round with mother getting every question right and her sister's family just one or two.

The quiz ended and the Dunn family had won by two points. John fumed in the corner, but he fumed alone. We children lost interest and went off to play and the rest of the adults got on with the serious task of afternoon tea.

"We'll have to do this again next time" said mother, a big grin on her face. Uncle John remained silent but after that the quiz was mysteriously abandoned in favour of party games and the atmosphere improved noticeably. I also learnt a lesson; games and quizzes should be fun first and winning second. In all honesty I do not apply it to national team sports, but it is still a rule in our house where games are played for fun rather than just to win. However, should I want to be competitive I do know that the man christened Marion Morrison went on to be the ultimate film cowboy John Wayne and that Frederick Austerlitz turned out to be a damned good dancer called Fred Astaire along with Virginia McMath (who stuck with her family nickname "Ginger" and used her step fathers surname Rogers!)

Until next time. Stephen Dunn

PS Oh and that one particular clue that started all these memories? I had chosen as a Hollywood question, the theme to the film Gone with the Wind, a classic from 1939 starring Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh. A normal verbal clue that goes with that film is Clark Gable's famous line "Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn" but to be honest it only helps those people who already know the film and since it's been 85 years since the film came out and most probably 40 years since people last watched it on TV that's not much help.

And as I was pondering this problem a phrase came to mind a phrase my father used to use about the film that would gain laughs from the people around him including me and my brother and then a very quick telling off for my mother, 'You may think it's funny, but not in front of the children', (who were still curled up laughing on the floor.) And my father's clue to the film Gone with the Wind - he would simply say 'The name of this film is a polite way of saying someone farted!'

It generated both laughter and recognition way back then and some 60 years after my father first said that joke, it had exactly the same effect on members of the Friday club, when I inserted it into the quiz last month.

After I had played the Gone with the Wind theme song, I was aware that only half of the teams got it and so like my father I gave out the clue and once again it got the laughter and also the recognition from the other teams of what the film was called.

And in that moment, I was taken back to my childhood and once more found myself laughing along to my father's joke.

Discover 'Discovering Mayfield'

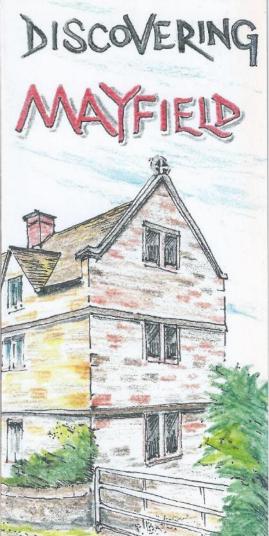
The Discovering Mayfield leaflet has been one of the most successful and popular guides to our village, offering fascinating and interesting information on over 50 buildings in our historic village.

Created by Paul Miles and the Mayfield Heritage Group, this free guide and map has been available from five special information boards spread across different part of Mayfield and you will often see walkers, both visitors and villagers using the guide to discover the hidden gems of Mayfield.

Where else would you learn that our oldest building dates back to 1440 and some Mayfield residents are living in cottages originally called Velvet Row?

Now some 12 years after the guide was created Paul, with help from Linda Greenwood from Mayfield Heritage Group will be displaying his archive on the development of the Discovering Mayfield leaflet and Information boards at **Mayfield Memorial Hall on the afternoon of Sunday 19th May from 3.30pm to 6pm.**

Included, in the display, will be Pauls original drawings and map plus lots of background information on how this invaluable Mayfield



resource was created.

Come and learn all about your village, including just which building is 584yrs old and just who lives in Velvet Row?

Entry is Free and the Mayfield Arms Bar will be open for a Sunday afternoon drink, so do come along.



The Social History of Mayfield

In a series of articles for our magazine Mayfield historian Pat Smith will write about various parts of Mayfield in terms of its social history. In this second article about the Terraces Pat writes about his own memories going back 70 or more years,

My Memories of The Terrace

The residents of The Terrace were a tightly knit friendly community, the neat wellkept gardens were planted with virtually all the same variety of plants. Many of the plants being rescued from the annual spring clearance from the gardens of Mayfield House. Some of the gardens had an unusual feature, plant supports were made of blue, green or clear glass and were at least four feet high and approximately 3/4 inch in diameter. The glass rods having been discarded by the mill and would previously have been used during the processing of yarn. During the summer months residents would sit outside their front doors chatting to neighbours across the gardens

During the mid 1940's tradesmen supplied the village and The Terrace with a variety of goods. Some of the traders remembered were: Wilson's of Clifton, who delivered their own freshly baked bread and general grocery goods, Kerry's came from Stoke on Trent with bread and cakes and the local Co-op delivered bread from a specially designed covered handcart. Two of the butchers supplying meat, sausages and other meat goods were Purdy's of Ashbourne (their shop is now the Cheddar Gorge in Dig Street, Ashbourne) and Arthur Evans of Ellastone (Mr Evans built the bungalow at the top of Calwich as his retirement home). Hulme's of Ashbourne made weekly visits selling fresh fish and Foxen's of Ashbourne visited one evening a week, usually on Friday's selling freshly cooked fish and chips from a purpose built vehicle complete with coal fired fryers. A trader from the Potteries came at least once month selling crockery, he first came by rail carrying a large wicker basket full of his wares. Later he graduated to a van and for many years sold all sorts of household goods in all areas of the village. No-one ever seemed to know his name but he was always referred to as 'The Potman". Storrie's of Osmaston Road, Derby provided a weekly tailor/clothing service supplying clothes (on the never never) to order.

When I was demobbed from the army I wanted a certain style of coat, I could not find what I was looking for either locally or in Derby, within a week Mr Storrie had found exactly what I needed. Mr Storrie was a skilled tailor, he also offered a made to measure service and would take measurements one week, give a fitting the week after, and usually delivered a made to measure quality garment the following week. I had several suits including my wedding suit from him. Coal was delivered weekly by the Co-op, Fred Hallam of Ashbourne and local man from Upper Mayfield, Roly Brunt, who used a horse and cart. Suppliers of milk were, Mr. Smith of Calwich (Gilbert Prince took over when Mr. Smith retired), Harrison's from Clifton and Albert Booth of Mayfield. The Harrison farm was at Clifton Mill, now the site of the "Downards" Shrovetide goal, the original goal was the waterwheel at the farm. Mr. Smith and the Harrisons used a pony and trap to transport the milk. Milk was delivered in a special bucket, with measuring cans hanging inside, it was then measured into jugs at the door, bottles did not appear until the early 1950's. Mr. Booth had a strange delivery contraption, it consisted of a large stainless steel cylinder mounted on two large wheels, with a small jockey wheel on the front, a tap on the front of the cylinder supplied milk into the delivery bucket. Mr. Booth lived next to the school house. The Co-op and other suppliers came much later. Coal, for the mill boilers, was supplied by coal merchants Eckersley Brothers of

Uttoxeter using two large lorries, they did not visit on Mondays - washday. A reserve of coal was stored at the side of the line in a bunker made from old railway sleepers. On Friday afternoons, during the summer, shortly before the mill closed for the weekend, an ice cream man from Monks of Derby would arrive on a motor bike and sidecar. He always did a roaring trade - Friday was pay day at the mill.

The Terrace and the surrounding areas were, for kids, akin to a large playground. Cricket, football, 'hide and seek', 'cowboys and Indians', 'miniature cricket '(played with a marble and a very small bat) and skipping games were all enjoyed by the local kid's. Two evacuees, the Pollard brothers from Sheffield, introduced the local kids to 'Tin Can Tommy 'a new version of hide and seek involving a tin can and played during the dark evenings. No one worried that children were out and about 'in the dark 'in those days. Even during the dark nights of winter The Terrace was a haven for children with games of hide and seek, cowboys and Indians being the most popular.

It was possible to have five or six cricket test matches or football cup finals before dinner (lunch) and even more in the afternoon. Cricket, with wickets drawn in chalk, and football 'three and in 'were played in front of the mill garage, or in the field that is now the site of the mill HJ buildings. During 1948 a version of the Olympic Games was held, each boy was a country, I was Canada, I can't recall if I won any medals. The marathon was from The Terrace to Clifton Station and back, at the time it did seem like a real marathon, I can't remember who won. During the summer months residents would sit outside their front doors and chat across the gardens. During the second world war double summertime was in effect, this meant that it was still daylight when most people went to bed.

The River Dove provided the local swimming and bathing facilities at 'Brookwall' situated under the main bridge on the Line and at the "Weir" a few hundred yards further up the river.

The area of sand and shingle at "Brookwall" provided a perfect spot for picnics and sun bathing. The younger children could safely paddle in the shallow waters while the older ones would brave the cold, the always cold, deeper water. A favourite pastime with the children was catching 'bullheads 'or some of the more elusive minnows. In the faster flowing waters Lampreys could be found, but their rather frightening appearance meant that no one went near them. Freshwater Crayfish were also to be found under the bridge concrete foundations. The Weir was a popular spot with the more serious swimmers. The "Dam" alongside the Weir was a ideal place to swim and even had access ladders provided by Scoutmaster Mr. Lawson of Mayfield House. However the "Dam" was rarely used for swimming, it was flanked on both sides by huge trees which blotted out any sunlight making the water even colder than that of the main river.



Bathers at the Big Bridge, The Terrace. Rear L-R: Pat smith, Brian Harrison, Gerald Smith, Tony Kellow. Front L-R: Michael Smith, Brenda Harrison, Maureen Smith.

I remember little of the early years of WW2 but I can recall all the house windows having gummed paper tape applied, usually in a diagonal pattern, as a precaution to prevent flying glass during an air raid. Thankfully there were never any air raids, although one night the sirens went and an enemy bomber, being pursued by night fighters, flew over Mayfield and to hasten it's retreat dropped the bomb load in the fields near Calwich Abbey. We were staying at granny Avery's house and I remember being crammed in "the glory hole" (under the stairs) with all the family, the bombs shook The Terrace and all the surrounding district. All the larger fields had wooden posts, usually branches of trees, erected upright at a height of six feet or more as a prevention against enemy gliders or aircraft landing during any invasion.

I never actually lived in The Terrace but my granny Avery lived at No. 3 and I along with many other children spent most of my 'playing' time there.

Pat Smith

Lord Byron, Miss Rosemary Meynell and Mayfield Connections

The magazine has received some correspondence from a Mrs Mavis Ellis from Sidmouth in Devon, concerning the poet Lord Byron and Miss Rosemary Meynell and their connections with Mayfield. We feature it below.

Dear Sirs,

Over the coming weeks there will be much renewed interest in the famous poet Lord Byron, who died 200 years ago on April 19th, 1824 in Greece.

I wonder if any of your readers remember Miss Rosemary Meynell who used to have her own column in the Ashbourne News Telegraph? Rosemary was a member of the London Byron Society, and on one occasion she mentioned to readers of the Ashbourne newspaper that Lord Byron had visited his great friend the Irish poet Thomas Moore at the cottage in Mayfield (formerly Stancliffe Farm) which now bears his name.

Here Thomas Moore composed his well-known works, 'Lalla Rookh' and 'Those Evening Bells the latter being inspired by pealing bells of Ashbourne church just across the river.

It was, added Rosemary Meynell, that at Mayfield, Thomas Moore suffered tragedy with the death of his one-year-old daughter Olivia Byron Moore on March 18th 1815. It was Moore's friendship with Lord Byron which led to her name. The little girl is buried in Mayfield churchyard under a slate tombstone.

Born in 1918 at Coxbench Hall near Derby the well-known journalist Rosemary Meynell was the daughter of Brigadier General Godfrey Meynell and as a writer she had perfect command of the English language. She also contributed to the Derbyshire Life and Countryside magazine for 40 years.

Mavis Ellis.

Joyces Garden Notes April 2024

I hope spring is almost here, it should be but there's still a really strong cold wind -I was hoping to get my late husband's garden done but its still very wet soil, but I don't think it would take too long to dry.

I have lots of plants and seeds and am looking forward to planting the garden. When summer arrives, I am going to have a party in the garden in memory of Wally and all his friends will be invited.

Wally would have loved to have been able to see them, including his football friends, and the workmen from his garage. All his friends and families will be asked to come to remember him and enjoy his newly planted garden.

Joyce Beeson

This month we are very pleased to publish a very touching and moving story from Arnie Rainbow. You may want to have a handkerchief ready as you get to the end. The Editors

The Red Shoes

Nowadays you seldom meet a real gentleman. I guess many of us are too full of ourselves, confusing ambition with selfishness. But Les Johnson was a gentleman in the true sense of the word: a gentle person, yet with underlying strength. Strength that just occasionally came to light. He had a gentle strength tempered by experience. It wrapped itself protectively around Mary, his wife and life-long love, and his beloved roses – both sources of deep joy.

I got to know Les soon after joining his church near Felixstowe, Suffolk. We often shared gardening experiences and, when I received two tickets for Chelsea Flower Show, I invited Les to join me. He was overjoyed and, during the train journey, he shared his story.

As a teenager (some sixty odd years previously) he'd joined the army and qualified for the Royal Military Police. It showed in the way he walked – as straight as a pike-staff – and in his character.

After many years of trying for a baby Les and Mary adopted Ruth, the daughter of Rebecca, a Jewish student from Prague. Rebecca had come to England in 1920 to study dance and drama, fell in love with a fellow student, became pregnant, was deserted by the father-to-be and disowned by her parents, citing immorality – such are orthodox Jewish mores. While Rebecca became increasingly absorbed by her acting career, Les and Mary gave Ruth all the love and attention that parents could give and, by the time she was ten Rebecca's 'dancing DNA' was beginning to show.

Les and Mary paid for dancing lessons for Ruth, ranging from ballet to Latin, but her favourite by a mile was tap. She was soon craving her own tap shoes so, on her 16th birthday, they set off by train to London, to Harveys in Charing Cross Road – the leading specialist in dance shoes. Needless to say, she fell for the most expensive pair: bright red with small silver bows.

Mum and dad looked at each other and smiled in agreement. Ruth was ecstatic. She had the best tap shoes that money could buy. She was besotted with them – they rarely left her feet. Before taking them to the dance class, for peace of mind, she wrote her adopted name – Ruth Johnson – on the soles in indelible ink.

A few days later a letter, postmarked Prague, arrived via the adoption agency. Her maternal grandparents had clearly mellowed, asked after her, and invited her to holiday with them in Prague. Les and Mary were thunderstruck but Ruth was thrilled at the thought of discovering her roots, and the adoption agency were supportive. So, despite their anxiety and sadness, Les and Mary relented and took Ruth to London Airport (as Heathrow was called then), where – trying to look happy - they waved her off at the departure gate, then turned away to dry their eyes.

At first, the culture-change was bewildering for Ruth, with so many Jewish traditions to take in. But she loved learning about her birth family – meeting umpteen aunts, uncles and cousins - and even took part in some traditional dances: where her red shoes were the envy of all the other youngsters! Ruth bonded particularly strongly with her grandmother and when she developed TB, Ruth immediately adopted the role of carer.

The so-called holiday dragged on from weeks to months. Les and Mary fretted that Ruth was missing college but she refused to leave her grandmother, who showed no signs of recovery, and their pleading letters went unheeded.

Les and Mary's anxiety grew with rumours of war and, with Hitler's invasion of Slovakia, the Czech republic and Poland, their worst fears were realised. Britain was at war with Nazi Germany and Ruth – being Jewish – was at severe risk. Soon all forms of communication were crushed by the German forces. All Les and Mary could do was pray and hope.

But matters were to get even worse. Much worse. Les was part of the ill-fated British Expeditionary Force and Mary spent several sleepless nights worrying about Les as well as Ruth. Eventually Les, with 300-plus thousand others, was rescued from the Dunkirk beach and lived to fight another day.

News of the blitz in London and other key cities was disturbing but, apart from the nearby Felixstowe docks, Suffolk was undisturbed. Small comfort to Les and Mary who were worried sick for Ruth. The Battle of Britain lifted national morale: the mighty Luftwaffe had been sent packing and the blitzkrieg lessened. Then news came of Rommel's defeat at El Alamein, closely followed by The 8th army's invasion of Italy. The tide was beginning to turn!

But Ruth was constantly in their thoughts. D-day came and, shortly after, Les was shipped out to France. Les the soldier was elated but Les the father - and Mary – were desperately anxious.

Despite the tragic shambles and set-back of Operation Market Garden, the Allied forces progressed slowly, first through France, then Belgium, Holland, Germany and, eventually, German neighbours such as Czechoslovakia, where Len received orders to investigate a number of concentration camps, the first being Theresienstadt ghetto, established by the SS in the town of Terezin, and rumoured to be a way-station to extermination camps.

As Les's jeep followed the narrow road winding through the forest, he noticed that birdsong and squirrel chatter faded to a gloomy, dark silence. Les sensed that Nature had been repelled by the evil hanging over the area.

As they neared Terezin, the twin stench of excrement and decaying flesh grew until it was nauseating, overwhelming, choking. They tied handkerchiefs over their faces but to little effect.

Arriving at the gates, they broke the lock and entered on foot to avoid driving over the abandoned, numerous corpses. Emaciated, near-skeletal inmates crept, nervously, towards them, eyes dark and sunken, hands outstretched, mumbling incoherently. Les's driver translated, "I think they're asking for bread sir".

Les did a quick reconnoitre. "Radio HQ and report 'no enemy sighted', and ask them to send at least ten MO's, twenty trucks, 400 blankets and as much bread as they can find, as a matter of utmost urgency. Make that emergency". "Sir!"

Les gingerly entered a barn-like building and was instantly transfixed by a series of huge heaps: suitcases, spectacles, coats, hats, false teeth, hair and shoes. For a moment he stood frozen, mouth open. Then he slowly moved along the hills of human effects until he reached the pile of shoes.

He stooped and picked up a bright red tap shoe with crumpled silver bow. His trembling hand turned the shoe over. The ink had faded but it was unmistakable: 'Ruth Johnson'. Les clutched the shoe to his heart and sobbed.

'How in God's name do I tell Mary and Rebecca?' thought Les.

I'll never know. I turned the conversation around to roses. There were bound to be lots of new varieties at Chelsea to keep Les happy.

Arnie Rainbow

Carols Recipes for April

<u>Pavlova</u>

This recipe is the first pavlova I ever made from The Dairy Book of Family Cookery which I bought from my milkman, this book was always the recipe book I reached for many times.

Ingredients

3 egg whites
A pinch of salt
250g caster sugar
1 tsp vanilla essence
1 tsp vinegar
300ml fresh couple cream, fresh strawberries, raspberries, or desired fruit of you choice.

Method

1 Draw a circle of 23cms on some baking paper and on a baking tray.

2 Whisk egg whites in a very clean bowl, until stiff, then gradually then beat until stiff peak again. Fold in the vanilla essence and vinegar with a metal spoon.

3 Spread the meringue over the circle and bake in the oven 140/fan130/ gas 1 for an hour till firm.

4 Leave to cool. Then carefully remove the paper and place plate and cover with cream until stiff and decorate with the fruit.

Enjoy

Vegetable Lasagne

Ingredients

225g carrots, peeled and sliced 225g courgettes, trimmed and sliced 1 onion skinned and thinly sliced 100g green pepper thinly sliced 1 veg stock cube 25g butter 2 level tbsp. flour 300ml milk Salt and pepper 175g lasagna 175g Cheddar grated cheese

Method

1 Place vegetable with stock cube and boil for 10 minutes

2 Melt the butter in a pan, stir in the flour and cook for 1 minute, stirring all the time, gradually stir in the milk and thickens and add seasoning to taste. If too thick add some of the vegetable water.

3 Meanwhile cook lasagna if using dried sheets ****, try to keep whole.

4 Make alternate layers of lasagne, vegetables and cheese. Top with the sauce and remaining cheese.

5 Bake in the oven for 190/ fan180 /gas 5 for about 30 mins

**** Since when I first made this dish we now have Lasagne sheets that do not have to be cooked, or if using fresh.

Mayfield Book Club

The book we had read was "Days without End" by Sebastian Barry.

The novel is told by a young Irishman, who is in America after leaving the Great Irish Famine. In America he meets and befriends another young man and they fall in love. To earn a living they are employed by a man who provides dresses, wigs and makeup so they were able to dance for money with the cowboys who came in from driving the cattle. They then join the army and take part in the Indian wars and the American Civil War.

The descriptions of the battles are very graphic and I found it very uncomfortable to read but was important to the horrors of the wars. Part of the story is when they rescue a little Indian girl and provide with a safety and educations and towards the end of the novel we see them leading a settled life.

The members all thought what a great well-written novel it was and would recommend it.

NB, I was told a few years ago that Line Dancing came about because Cowboys who liked to dance whilst out on the long drives across the prairies, but not with men, developed line dancing.

Carol Akers



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Thank you!



About the MRA

The Mayfield Recreational Association is a registered charity, number 700004. It provides sporting and social amenities to the people and clubs of Mayfield.

For more information see our website mramayfield.org.uk







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Reflections

Empty Promise..

Have you ever put your trust in someone only to be let down so completely and unexpectedly that it shakes your whole existence?

Almost 2000 years ago, the shock discovery by women, of an empty tomb where they fully expected to find a dead body to anoint and mourn over, threw them into chaos. Instead of a sealed and guarded tomb, they find it open and empty. It was bad enough that Jesus, their teacher and Lord was dead. Now it seemed, someone had taken the body.

Why that tomb was empty is of utmost importance. If it was empty because someone indeed did come and steal the corpse of Jesus – if that is really all that took place – a criminal's death and an ordinary burial then hope died with him on the cross. Trust in all he had said was destroyed – it was nothing more than an epic and life-shattering let-down. And that, at first, is what the devastated followers of Jesus think has happened.

On the last weekend of March, Christians across the world and in this community greeted Easter day with the shout of 'He is Risen!'. Many of us, Christian or not, will have given Easter Eggs to those we love. The hollow egg is traditionally a symbol of that empty tomb.

We shout 'He is risen!' because beyond all expectation, hope did not stay dead. The impossible happened on that first Easter day. It blows our western, rational minds to even think it – despite some very compelling (and rational) evidence that supports it! It blew the minds of the first disciples too. They took some convincing - Jesus appeared to them several times, but he had to let them touch him and had to eat in front of them to bring the point home.

The reality of the resurrection of Jesus kick-started the growth of Christianity. Over 2 billion people in the world today hold the hope that stems from that first shock discovery of the empty tomb. God's not dead. He is alive – and because of Jesus any human being on this planet can know what it is to be loved by God. Some of the first followers and friends of Jesus even went to their deaths for that incredible claim, but they wouldn't retract it.

The tomb is empty, but if you really are seeking the risen Jesus, you will find him and discover a hope that is death-proof. Find that, and life will never be the same.

Revd Nicola Briggs

MAYFIELD CHURCH (St. John the Baptist)

Web Site www.mayfieldparishchurch.org

Vicar of Weaver Benefice	Rev. Brian Leathers (Te	eathers (Tel: 01538 702469)	
Assistant Minister for Mayfield	In Interregnum Vicarage answerphone	(Tel: 300022)	
Churchwardens:	Mr Charles Wimbush Mrs Maggie Cook	(Tel: 324083) (Tel: 345691)	
Deputy Church warden PCC Secretary PCC Treasurer Electoral Roll Officer	Mr Philip Cook Amy Hawksworth Mrs Catherine Mellor Mrs Catherine Mellor		
Organist	Mrs Janet Knox	(Tel: 346487)	
Verger: Magazine Editor	Mr Doug Greenway Mr Stephen Dunn	(Tel: 344932) (Tel: 342188)	
Magazine Editor/Distribution Church Room Bookings and	Mrs Joyce Beeson	(Tel: 346959)	
Key Holder Bell Captain	Mrs Charlotte Heathcote (Vacant)	(07772 360472)	

MESSY CHURCH

Details of Messy Church are available from Hilary Dowson (01335 324350) and Mrs Catherine Mellor (07752 772715)

ECUMENICAL CONTACTS

Ashbourne Methodist Minister:

Rev. Nicola Briggs 16, Booth Drive Ashbourne (Tel: 01335 702174.)

SUNDAY SERVICES

All Morning Services at 10.45am.

- 1st Sunday: Church Family Communion
- 2nd Sunday: Church Family Worship
- 3rd Sunday: Morning Prayer
- 4th Sunday: Morning Prayer
- (5th Sunday: See magazine for details)

For Baptisms and Marriages please contact Rev. Brian Leathers (Tel: 01538 702469)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ashbourne Medical Practises. Clifton Road 216885. The Surgery, Clifton Rd 300588 St Oswald's Hospital 230000. Ashbourne Community Transport 300670 Police emergency 999 . Police non emergency 101 Gas emergency service 0800 111 999 . Electricity emergency service 0800 056 8090 Ryecroft Middle School 01889 590394. Thomas Alleyne High School 01889 561820

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