Poetry and Prose

Although he wrote exclusively in the English language, **Dylan Marlais Thomas** (born in Swansea, Wales) is recognized as one of the most important Welsh poets of the 20th century.

These are the opening lines of his delightful "play for voices", Under Milk Wood. which covers the day in the life of a small Welsh fishing village and introduces its inhabitants. In these days of audio books and plays, it's a true pleasure to spend an evening, with the lamps turned low, listening to the lilt of Welsh voices conjure up an eccentric community.





Under Milk Wood

To begin at the beginning:

It is spring, moonless night in the small town, starless and bible-black, the cobblestreets silent and the hunched. courters-and-rabbits' wood limping invisible down to the sloeblack, slow, black, crowblack, fishingboatbobbing sea. The houses are blind as moles (though moles see fine to-night in the snouting, velvet dingles) or blind as Captain Cat there in the muffled middle by the pump and the town clock. the shops in mourning, the Welfare Hall in widows' weeds. And all the people of the lulled and dumbfounded town are sleeping now.

By Dylan Thomas (1914-1953)







2013

The Chaplain Writes

Pentecost

For most people Pentecost is a mystery and not only for nonchurchgoers. As churchgoers we also struggle with the idea.

What did Jesus mean when he mentioned that he would send us a helper? Do we notice that we are helped or do we take it for granted? Do we simply plod on and, if help is at hand, then that is simply lucky ...?

Let us try to keep Jesus' words in mind when we celebrate Pentecost. Let us expect help, because his promise is not an empty gesture: it is for real!

A father doesn't give his child a stone when it asks for bread. Any promise needs to be kept and with Jesus we can count on his promise, and by asking him to make his promise come true, it means that we believe in his word.

Pentecost is not celebrated with the same emphasis as Christmas or Easter, but that is certainly not justified. We need the Spirit to understand Christmas, to understand Easter, but probably even more to live as Christians according to his will — to carry out the message and demands of the Gospel, to stick to our beliefs.

Pentecost is the fulfilling of what happened at Jesus' birth and death: to give us life. As long as we are able to ask for this gift, we will have life!

Alja Tollefsen Chaplain of the East Netherlands



Moral Test

This test has only

a very important

one. By giving an

honest answer, you

will discover where

vou stand morally.

The test features a

completely fictional

situation in which

vou will have to

make a decision.

You are a photo

for a major

disaster.

You are in London.

iournalist working

newspaper, and you are caught in the

middle of an epic

There is chaos all

around caused by a

The situation:

one question but it's

St Mary's Summer Teas

The Summer Teas have become an important feature of the St Marv's calendar and play a key role in advertising the presence of the Anglican Church in the Twente region. This year they will be held on the following Sundays: 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th July, and 4th and 11th

August. Nearer to the time lists will pinned to the notice board, requesting volunteers for baking, serving in the Hut and welcoming visitors in the chapel. Not only is it an occasion to meet new people, it's also an excellent opportunity to get to know one another even better!

Garden Day Sale

On Sunday, May 26th, the Flower Guild will hold its annual sale of plants, bouquets, bulbs, seeds, veggies, fruit, garden equipment, etc., etc. Spring is a month late this year and we haven't seen the last of ground frost. This is a bring-and-buy sale to benefit the Flower Guild. Please see what you can contribute. My window sill is bursting with seedlings that need potting up and growing on. Isn't Spring a glorious, colourful, and expectant time of the year? Linda ten Berge (0546-868139)

Key Dates

9th May:

Service followed by

Picnic

19th May: Pentecost Sunday

And looking ahead to summer:

Ascension Day

Garden Day Sale 26th May:

> 7th July to 11th August: Summer Teas 7th September: Castle Fair

abroad. What they learned from these visits was reflected in the beauty of their own creativity in the Wilhelminalaan.

In remembering what Rudy accomplished for St Mary's, we think of how he was a very "hands-on" person, and when needed he was there in all weathers, helping others to achieve the good results that helped to secure the future of the Anglican Church at Weldam.

The most fitting tribute to the memory of Rudy would come from working hard to preserve and perpetuate the effect of his contribution to what was once his "second home". Malcolm McBride.

Sad News

We were greatly saddened to learn that Arthur Lawson passed away at his home in Apeldoorn on 29th April. He was 75 years old.

Arthur was a very committed and devoted member of St Mary's for guite some years and also served as our Archdeaconry Representative. He will be sadly missed by many within our community, and his family and friends are especially in our thoughts and prayers at this time of loss.



This is what the past is for! Every experience God gives us, every person He puts in our lives is the perfect preparation for the future that only He can see.

> From "The Hiding Place" By Corrie ten Boom







hurricane with

Page 2 Page 19



To the Memory of Rudolph Hendrik Klokgieters

(5th May 1928, Delft – 29th March 2013, Lochem)

A short time ago, quite unexpectedly, Rudy Klokgieters died. Missing now from the congregation that he, along with his dear wife Heleen and other friends, helped to make strong and durable, we mourn the loss of this very special fellow.

It was at a place that for many became a "second home", a place that became an outlet where togetherness, productivity and common belief showed the strength that can be generated from such a variety of folk that made up the Weldam Anglican church community.

St Mary's Chapel at Weldam hosted this congregation, which contained people from a mixture of nationalities and many walks of life and professions. It promoted the forming of bonds between those who elsewhere would have had little in common, and therefore no reason to meet as regularly as we did.

Rudy's role in this group was that of treasurer, which he performed flawlessly for many years, supporting others on the church council to provide an opportunity for Anglican churchgoers to meet, worship and, though independent, to integrate fully into the Dutch society from which Rudy came.

His profession of qualified engineer, which he practised for many years in Vancouver, Canada, and in the Netherlands, gave him the ability to view a situation, see whether it was good and, if not, to recommend a suitable remedy. This he often did for the benefit of St Mary's, and his satisfaction came from seeing that his and also other's decisions were fruitful and to the benefit of the Church.

Speaking of enjoyment, one pleasure he shared with Heleen was the work they did in their own garden in Harfsen, the small town where he lived. Mutual keenness for gardening was clear, as during their long married life they enjoyed many holidays that included as a theme the visiting of gardens, both at home and



What a cause for celebration! We would like to offer our warmest congratulations to our organist Louw Talstra, who on Friday, 26th April, received a *lintje* in recognition of 55 (yes 55!) years of musical service in a number of churches, in locations ranging from Haarlem here in the Netherlands to Fremantle in Western Australia. Officially Louw is now *Lid in de Orde van Oranje-Nassau*. Naturally a lengthy procedure is involved in the awarding of such an honour and our thanks go to Cor Bosma, who faithfully accompanies our services on the organ when Louw is away, for setting the ball in motion. We are indeed doubly blessed at St Mary's!



Our thanks to Simone Yallop for this photo of Louw and Pauline with the Burgemeester of Apeldoorn, captured from the television interview (minutes 14 to 15) via the following link:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K-UV9UstgAE&list=UU-In9Kw3REi7VZiXvO9as3q&index=2



Intercessions

If you wish to have someone included in the intercession, please contact the Chaplain or one of the Churchwardens before the Service.

If you know of anyone who is sick or in need of pastoral care, please contact the Chaplain or one of the Churchwardens.

severe flooding, and the situation is nearly hopeless.

There are houses and people swirling around you, some disappearing into the water. Nature is unleashing all its destructive fury. You are trying shoot career-enhancing photos.



Suddenly you see a beautiful blonde maiden in the water. She is fighting for her life, trying to stay afloat by hanging on to the debris. You notice that the raging waters are about to carry her under for ever.

You have two options: you can save the life of this blonde maiden or you can shoot a dramatic Pulitzer Prize winning photo documenting the tragedy.

The question (and please give an honest answer):



Page 18

Page 3

Would you select high-contrast colour film or would you go for the classic simplicity of black and white?

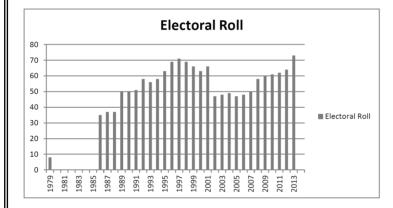


Tricksters

Tom and Lenny. two scallywags, go into a bakery. Tom steals two pastries and puts them into his pocket. He turns to Lenny and says, "See how clever I am? The owner didn't notice a thing!" "I'll show you something much smarter," replies Lenny. "Just you wait." And he goes to the baker and says. "I will show you a magic trick if vou give me a pastry." Intrigued, the baker gives him a pastry. Lenny eats it and asks for another one. The baker gives him another one and Lenny eats it just the same as the first one.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on Sunday 7 April 2013 at 12:00, after coffee, following the Sunday morning service of Holy Communion. The AGM was attended by 34 members of the congregation. The business was completed very swiftly in just 35 minutes. That must be something of a record because mostly it takes much longer. Talking of records, we were able to inform everyone that the number on our Electoral Roll now stands at 73, which is an all time record for Twente. The most we ever had on the Electoral Roll was 71 and that was in 1997. The numbers have fluctuated over the years, starting with only 8 in 1979, as can be seen in the graph below.



At the AGM the reports of the Chaplain, the Secretary and the Treasurer were all received without any questions. The budget for 2013 was approved and the auditors were appointed. Then we went on to the election of the wardens and council members. Joyce Wigboldus and Everhard Ottens were re-elected as wardens. Louw Talstra, Caroline Siertsema and Simone Yallop were re-elected as council members. There were no items brought up for discussion under any other business. At the end of the meeting our Chaplain Alja thanked everyone

As a child I was brought up to go to church and I was confirmed at the age of 15 and yet I had a limited understanding of the Christian faith. During my first year at Southampton University a mission was held. During that mission I attended a talk during which it all became much clearer to me. The speaker said that in Old Testament times, the Israelites used to bring animals to the priest to be sacrificed. The priest then killed the animal and sprinkled its blood on the altar as a temporary covering for the sins of the person making the sacrifice. The animals had to be perfect in order for the sin of the one making the sacrifice to be transferred to the innocent offering. This was looking forward to the coming of the Lamb of God, Jesus, the One whose blood would not just cover man's sins temporarily, but would wash them away for ever. I think that it was then that I first understood that God sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, who was perfect, without sin, to die upon the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. When I look at the painting I am reminded of the words of Revelation Chapter 5 so beautifully set to music in Handel's Messiah:

"And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne ... saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, ... saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever."

Seeing Linda's little lamb on the altar on Easter Sunday reminded me of all this and enhanced my experience of what was already a wonderful Easter Eucharist.

Simone Yallop

grieving wife, and nearing the spot where his daughters died he wrote this inspiring hymn: *It is Well with My Soul*. It runs:



When peace like a river attendeth my way When sorrows like sea billows roll. Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me

to say,
It is well, it is well
with my soul.

Parish Pump 2013

Grow Old along with Me

Grow old along with me. The best is yet to be; the last of life, for which the first was made.

Our times are in his hands who saith, "A whole I planned, youth shows but half.

Trust God; see all, nor be afraid."

By Robert Browning



Tragedies

How do we feel when tragedies come And life seems out of control? Can we still hold on to the Holy One And say it is well with our soul?

By Megan Carter

It Is Well with My Soul

Horatio and Anna Spafford knew heartache. They had five children, but in 1871 their only son died, aged four years. More tragedy followed with financial ruin during the great Chicago fire. The family decided to sail to Europe. Anna went ahead with the girls, Horatio staying behind on business to follow them later. While crossing the Atlantic the ship sank and all four daughters were drowned. Anna sent a telegraph "Saved alone" Horatio sailed from

Agnus Dei

You may have noticed that on Easter Sunday this year a statue of a lamb, sitting on a Bible, had been placed on the altar. I thought it was a nice idea. After the service I discovered that the lamb belonged to Linda ten Berge and she had placed it on the altar.

Some years ago, in 1980, I followed a course, which used the television series made by Francis Schaeffer called *How should we then live? The rise and decline of western thought and culture*. The book that went with the series had on its cover a reproduction of part of the painting of the *Adoration of the Mystic Lamb* by Van Eyck. The painting shows people of all backgrounds coming to Christ, who is depicted as the Lamb of God on the altar. I find the painting very inspiring and a few years later, while I was on holiday in Belgium, I visited the Cathedral of St Bavon in Ghent, where the original painting forms the central theme of the altarpiece, so that I could see it for myself.



Saint Bavon Cathedral Ghent © Lukas-Art in Flanders vzw, photo Hugo Maertens

for all their work and Philippa te West presented her with some flowers. Count Alfred then stood up and said that while everyone was saying nice things he wanted to say how much he and many others enjoyed the services in Holy Week and the vigil and Easter Sunday service. After a warm round of applause the meeting concluded with the Prayer for St Mary's.

Simone Yallop

ChristenUnie in de Hof van Twente

In maart 2014 zijn er weer gemeenteraadsverkiezingen. Tot nu toe is de ChristenUnie nog niet vertegenwoordigd geweest binnen de Hof van Twente, maar daar gaat verandering in komen!

Het lijkt ons hoog tijd om Christelijke politiek in de Hof van Twente een plek te geven. Al enige tijd zijn we in klein comité bezig geweest met het maken van plannen. Dit is mede in samenspraak met afgevaardigden van het landelijk en provinciaal bestuur van de ChristenUnie gebeurd.

Binnenkort organiseren we een informatieavond hierover. Dan kunnen we u vertellen wat de speerpunten zijn en wat er nog moet gebeuren moet voor het zover is. Ook willen we ruimschoots de tijd nemen om met u in gesprek te gaan. Welke ideeën leven er bij u? Heeft u (politieke) ervaring? Ziet u kansen? Kunt u ons tips geven? Lijkt het u leuk om mee te werken? Of bent u gewoon geïnteresseerd en wilt u eerst eens rustig aanhoren wat de plannen zijn? Dan bent u van harte welkom! Opgeven is niet nodig, maar als het kan stellen we dat wel op prijs. Hopelijk tot ziens!

Datum: Donderdag 22 mei 2013

Aanvang: 20:00 uur

Locatie: De Klokkenkamp, Diepenheimseweg 2,

7471 LX Goor

gerrit.potkamp@hofvantwente.christenunie.nl; tel. 06-2260 6761

The baker is starting to wonder where the magic comes in and. rather annoved. says to Lenny. "What did you do with the pastries? Are you trying to make a fool of me?" "Not at all," replies Lenny, "Just take a look in Tom's pocket and abracadabra vou'll find



your two pastries."

Comment from a professor to a student: "I am returning this very good paper to you because someone has written nonsense all over it and put your name at the top."

At 20, we don't care what the world thinks of us; at 30, we worry about what it thinks of us; at 40 we discover it isn't thinking about us at all!

Chicago to meet his

Vive la Difference!

Ever wondered what the difference between granny and granddad is? Read on

. .

A five-vear-old granddaughter is usually taken to her school each day by her grandfather. But one day, when he had a bad cold, his wife took the grandchild instead. That night she told her parents that the ride to school with granny was very different. "How come? What made it different?" asked her parents.



"Well, Gran and I didn't see a single stupid idiot, speed maniac or raving lunatic anywhere on the way to school today!"

Seeds Take Root in Groningen

Encouraged by Archdeacon John de Wit, Sam Van Leer is realizing the potential for ministry in one of a few major Dutch cities without an Anglican presence.

A seed. That is the image Jesus famously used (the Sower, the Mustard Seed) to capture the immense potential of the gospel to



grow the Kingdom in fertile hearts. It is also how *Mission-shaped Church* (Church House Publishing, 2004) describes one of the models of church-planting. Others, all based on botanical imagery, include *runners* ("shoots" running out from a well-established church centre), *grafts* (connecting new, independent growth up to established ministries), and *transplants* (replanting [part of] an established congregation in a new place). But *seeds* "refer to the process by which a tiny seed is blown on the wind, perhaps a long way from its host ... and may make a new beginning where perhaps this kind of plant was previously absent." (ibid, p. 115).

Well, that last image describes us. Starting small and sown far off! Our city's motto is *Er gaat niets boven Groningen*. This translates "Nothing beats Groningen", but also plays on the city's remoteness: there's nothing *boven* (above, beyond) it in the Netherlands. In an otherwise densely-packed country, Groningen province is full of wide-open green space, stretching to the North Sea. Groningen city, the eighth biggest Dutch conurbation, is home to a vibrant university and much of the Dutch energy industry. Students constitute a quarter of the city population, and a quarter of them are internationals.

Despite all the physical and emotional pain Joseph experienced, he knew that God was with him. He believed that nothing had happened to him by accident and refused to be crushed by his adverse circumstances. Whether he was in a dirty dungeon or the royal household, Joseph lived with the conviction that God had a specific purpose for his life, and events were being directed by a loving God.

This story is an encouragement to us because it shows that God is close to those who love Him. Even when we are bewildered by troubles, illness, family upsets, hardships and when life deals us cruel blows, God *is* with us.

Whatever is our personal need, the life of Joseph gives us hope. God will never abandon those who belong to Him.

My trust is in you, O Lord; you are my God. I am always in your care. (Psalm 31:14-15)



Earth's crammed with heaven, And every common bush afire with God;

But only he who sees, takes off his shoes, The rest sit round it and pluck blackberries ...

From "Aurora Leigh" By Elizabeth Barret Browning (1806-1861) and ran together.
Then they sat
together enjoying the
fruits. When asked
why they had run
like that, as one
could have taken all
the fruit for him- or
herself, they said:
"Ubuntu, how can
one of us be happy if
all the others are
sad?"

Ubuntu is a philosophy of African tribes that can be summed up as: "I am because we are".



A man would do nothing if he waited until he could do it so well that no one could find fault.

> – John Henry Newman

Gospel not in the Bible alone, but also on trees, and in the flowers and clouds and stars.

– Martin Luther

Page 6

Ubuntu

Open-source software is becoming increasingly popular. Students who have followed a course using a particular opensource software package can continue to work at home using the same software. One such package that can be downloaded from the internet has the unusual name of Ubuntu. Unusual or perhaps highly appropriate?

An anthropologist proposed a game to children of an African tribe. He pu a basket of fruits near a tree and told the kids that the first one to reach the fruits would win them all.



When he told them to run, they all took one another's hands

Trusting God

By Lester Amann

TV serial dramas are regularly filled with family quarrels, fierce domestic arguments, betravals, fights and even murder! Many characters demonstrate a deceitful streak and their misdemeanour or affair is sooner or later revealed.

For some reason, many of us are drawn to TV soap operas and witness family problems that display all manner of emotions and attitudes - anger, bitterness, mistrust - to name a few!

The Bible records a number of family upsets, but one ends happily - the story of Joseph. In Genesis chapter 37 we read of Joseph's brothers turning against him. They plot to kill him but instead sell Joseph to be a slave in Egypt.

Joseph had to cope with a new culture and language. He suffered slander and was imprisoned. Amazingly, later, he was given power and authority. At this point, a TV drama would show Joseph seeking out his brothers to unleash his vengeance on them!

But the Bible story is very different. Joseph is not filled with hatred. As a slave in Egypt, Joseph had a deep trust in God and had love in his heart. So, when Joseph was reunited with his family there was no revenge or malice. He was overwhelmed with compassion for his brothers and hugged and kissed each one!

Joseph said, "Now do not be upset or blame yourselves because you sold me here. It was really God who sent me ahead of you to save people's lives." (Genesis 45:5) Isn't this an amazing statement?

Groningen first arose as a prospect for us when Coretta was offered a great job as a Consultant Virologist at the University Medical Centre here.

Seeds start small. With no start-up funding, I would work on a voluntary, non-stipendiary basis: initially there was no worship venue. Daily care for our three primary school-aged children would be one of my main responsibilities, alongside National Council of Churches representation. I had never been involved in a church plant before. Small seeds, indeed. A colleague serving in Rwanda remarked, "It's good to be led out of your comfort zonel" Ameni

But God, who makes trees out of seeds, was and is gun shop; find at work. The interdenominational pastoral team to the university welcomed me as a member. Fortnightly worship began in our home, and we now have use of the Groningen Student Pastorate building. Come next autumn, we hope to share a new city-centre worship space with the Old Catholics.

God is always at work before one arrives anywhere; so too with English-language ministry in Groningen, HOST, an IFES-linked student group with a heart for supporting international students, already offered Bible studies and social activities, so we connected up. They have since invited me to give introductions of the Gospels of Mark and John for their studies, and I was also asked to preach at $\| \text{in a nearby} \|$ the Christian Student Union's Christmas Service. HOST and the Student Pastorate have provided a great way to connect with new foreign students and Uni employees.

Even more heartening is the seemingly spontaneous appearance of co-workers in the field An Anglican ordinand from Australia – a gifted

Those Headlines Again

Army vehicle disappears:

An Australian army vehicle worth \$74,000 has gone missing after being painted with camouflage paint...



Federal agents raid weapons

Barbershop singers bring joy to school for deaf

Domicide victims rarely talk to police

Hospitals resort to hiring doctors

Pew sick policy requires 2-day notice

Written in Stone

Two boys were reading headstones cemetery. "Goodness!" says one. "Here's a fellow who was 152!" "What's his name?" asked his friend. "Miles ... from London!" came the reply.

Assumptions

An 80-year-old man went to the doctor for a check-up. After giving him a thorough medical, the doctor declared: "You're in great shape. At this rate, you might live for ever!



Tell me, how old was your father when he died?" "Did I say he was dead?" said the old man.

man.
The doctor was amazed. "Well, how old was your grandfather when he died?"
"Did I say he was dead?" replied the old man.
"This is unbelievable!" exclaimed the doctor. "You mean

to say you're 80

your father and grandfather are still

vears old, and both

guitarist — and his theologian wife showed up last year. Both now help lead our worship music. Dutch students with international experience and interest have also been drawn to the work. The Dutch Protestant Theological University opened a department in Groningen this year, so several African and Asian pastors-in-training are now with us.

We are in a very early phase of growth, only "seed-pod" stage perhaps, but the prospects look good. Pray God may continue to nurture us and provide what is needed for us to mature, for "only God ... makes things grow". (1 Cor. 3:7)

(Source: ICS News, Issue 54, April 2013. By permission of Intercontinental Church Society)



St James the Least of All Beware Those Modern Choruses

My dear Nephew Darren,

I am afraid we shall have to agree to disagree on yet another topic – although I suspect the list of items we agree to agree on would be considerably shorter. I like to think my appreciation of hymns resembles a connoisseur of fine wines savouring a grand cru claret; yours seems to resemble a Russian female tractor driver who is a Hero of the Nation.

We at St James the Least are more than happy with *Hymns Ancient & Modern* – the original 1861 edition naturally; the later editions display a dangerous tendency towards modernism. Sadly, St Paul was not able to sing *Onward*, *Christian Soldiers*, but I am sure he regretted the fact that it had yet to be written. The hymns our grandparents pretended to sing when they were in church are quite good enough for the ones we pretend to sing when we sit in the same pews.

At least when we come to the last verse, we know

Worst Nightmare Come True!

"It is the stuff of sitcoms and nightmares: the best man losing the ring in the middle of a wedding ceremony. For one couple, the scenario was all too real. They were in the middle of their vows when the groom's brother (the best man) dropped the ring. Flower displays were pulled apart, carpets lifted and floor grates removed, all to no avail. The mortified best man even let guests rummage inside his sporran, but the ring was nowhere to be found. After 10 minutes of fruitless searching, the bride's mother offered the use of her own ring so that the couple could be married."

Fortunately, this was not the end of the story, as the Revd Nicholas Calver of St John's Church in Redhill, Surrey – not a man to give up easily – returned to the church after the service and continued to search for the missing ring. Two hours of patience and determination were rewarded when he finally found the wedding band lodged in a crack between the step and the raised dais. A quick dash to a hotel in Horley and the intended ring was finally placed on the bride's finger by her new husband during the reception – naturally accompanied by a few well-chosen words from the vicar. A very special day that will certainly be remembered by all who attended!

And how does this story come to feature in *St Mary's Magazine*? Well, this newspaper clipping was sent to Joy Romeijn by a friend who recognized that this was the very church in which Joy and Henk were wed many years ago.

(Source: Anita Singh, Daily Telegraph, September 2012)

Safe Haven

Avoid riding in automobiles: they are responsible for 20% of all fatal accidents.

Do not stay home: 17% of all accidents occur in the home.

Avoid walking on streets or pavements: 14% of all accidents occur to pedestrians.

Avoid travelling by air, rail, or water: 16% of all accidents involve these forms of transportation.

Of the remaining 33%, 32% of all deaths occur in hospitals. So above all avoid hospitals.

But you will be pleased to learn that only .001% of all deaths occur in church services. Therefore, logic tells us that the *safest* place for you to be at any given point in time is at church!



Page 13



May13 ©deborahnoble @parishpump.co.uk

by gluing onto card before folding.

that we can then sit down, mission accomplished. The last time I attended your church, just as I saw the last words and therefore the finishing line of one of your choruses coming into sight, we were told it would be splendid to sing the thing another three times. At least it gave me another analogy to use when I next preached on eternity in hell.

And your method of singing would plunge our congregation into an existential crisis. What do they do with their hands when they don't have books to hold and are obliged to look at a screen? To be deprived of being able to hold a book in church is like a smoker who is trying to give up being unable to grasp a cigarette when in the pub. The ladies do not know whether to clasp their handbags, which then makes it look as if they suspect the rest of the congregation of theft, or to hold some flowers, which looks a little too matrimonial. The men experiment with putting hands in pockets, which they then realize looks scruffy, so they try to hold on to the pew in front, which is inevitably too low, so they have to adopt some form of half crouch, which makes them look as if they have recently had hernia operations.

Your choral tradition – if I can flatter it with such a description – also seems to require half an hour before the Service spent singing for our congregation. That time is more usefully spent discussing government incompetence, livestock prices and why Miss Threlfall always wears a red felt hat with her tangerine coat.

Should we ever have a joint service, I can't imagine how we'll all get through the first hymn together.

Your loving uncle, Eustace © The Revd Dr Garv Bowness

alive?" "Not only that," said the old man proudly. "but my grandfather, who is now 122, has iust got married again after 45 years as a widower." The doctor was almost speechless. "What on earth would make your grandfather want to get married again?" "Did I say he wanted to?"

Value

Davy took

two stuffed dogs along to the

popular television programme The Antiques Roadshow. "Now." said the presenter, "this is a very rare set. produced by the celebrated Johns **Brothers** taxidermists who operated in London at the turn of last century. Do you have any idea what they would fetch if they were in good condition?"

"... Sticks?" suggested Davy.

crowd come from?

Forthcoming Services

Forthcoming Services

Forthcoming Services

5th May	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Canon Geoffrey Allen
	Duty Warden	Joyce Wigboldus
Easter 6	Intercessor	Joyce Wigboldus
	Chalice	Janice Collins Simone Yallop
	Simone Yallop	(1) Acts 16: 9-15
10:30 am	Hans Siertsema	(2) Revelation 21: 10, 22-22: 5
Sung Eucharist	Gospel	John 14: 23-29
9th May	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Canon Geoffrey Allen
Ascension Day	Duty Warden	Everhard Ottens
	Intercessor	Simone Yallop
	Chalice	Caroline Siertsema Pauline Talstra
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Els Ottens	(1) Acts 1: 1-11
	Philippa te West	(2) Ephesians 1: 15 to end
	Gospel	Luke 24: 44 to end

12th May	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Canon Geoffrey Allen
	Duty Warden	Joyce Wigboldus
	Intercessor	Philippa te West
Easter 7	Chalice	Janice Collins Pauline Talstra
	Janice Collins	(1) Acts 16: 16-34
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Linda ten Berge	(2) Rev. 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20 to end
	Gospel	John 17: 20 to end

19th May	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Alja Tollefsen
Pentecost	Duty Warden	Everhard Ottens
	Intercessor	Janice Collins
	Chalice	Janice Collins Joyce Wigboldus
	Agnes Lee	(1) Acts 2: 1-21
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Victor Pirenne	(2) Romans 8: 14-17
	Gospel	John 14: 8-17

26th May	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Alja Tollefsen
	Duty Warden	Joyce Wigboldus
Trinity Sunday	Intercessor	Jeanet Luiten
	Chalice	Count Alfred Solms Simone Yallop
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Louw Talstra	(1) Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31
	Pauline Talstra	(2) Romans 5: 1-5
	Gospel	John 16: 12-15

2nd June	Celebrant & Preacher	Revd Alja Tollefsen
Trinity 1 (Proper 4)	Duty Warden	Joyce Wigboldus
	Intercessor	Pauline Talstra
	Chalice	Janice Collins Caroline Siertsema
10:30 am Sung Eucharist	Erica Bonting	(1) 1 Kings 8: 22-23, 41-43
	Joyce Wigboldus	(2) Galatians 1: 1-12
	Gospel	Luke 7: 1-10