

DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH  
AND  
CROSS STREET CENTRE ST ALBANS



**MAGAZINE**

**APRIL 2026**

**Free**

**Minister:** Mark Welch

**Church Secretary:** Chris Penn

**Finance Deacon:** Trevor Oakley

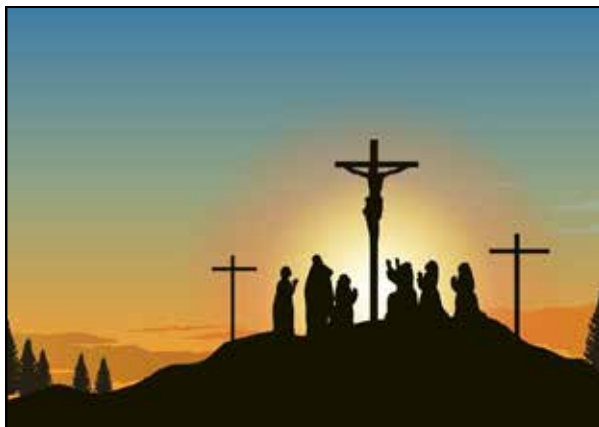
**Property:** Ray Saunders

**Site Manager and Caretaker:** David Hobbs

**Cross Street:** 01727 846891

**Bookings:** [bookings@dsbc.org.uk](mailto:bookings@dsbc.org.uk)

**Charity Registration Number:** 1127791



***FREE CHURCH SERVICES***  
***St Albans Cathedral***

This service is celebrated monthly on the first Wednesday of every month at 11am with our Free Church Chaplain and other ministers.

For further information:  
Contact: Rev Simon Carver  
[simoncarver@btinternet.com](mailto:simoncarver@btinternet.com)

More details in the magazine

## APRIL SERVICES

2 <sup>nd</sup> April	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> <b>8pm</b> – A reflective Tenebrae Service with Holy Communion in the main Church
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	<b>Good Friday</b> <b>10.15am</b> – A short reflective service in the main Church at Dagnall Street, followed by a walk and pub lunch
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	<b>St Albans Cathedral</b> <b>8pm</b> <b>Unity at the Cross.</b> An Ecumenical Service with the London Central Fellowship Band of the Salvation Army. The preacher and service leader is the Rev. Mark Welch, with readings and prayers led by members of Churches Together in St Albans
5 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Easter Sunday</b> <b>9am</b> – A short reflection in the Cross Street Café, followed by breakfast. <b>10.15am</b> -A service celebrating the resurrection, starting with a short Holy Communion
12 <sup>th</sup> April	Paula Iddiols is leading the service and Colin Kerry is preaching
19 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>All Age Family Service</b> <b>“Picnic on the Beach”</b>
26 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>“Protecting the Vulnerable”</b> Matthew 5:27-32

Dear Friends

We are now in the Season of Easter, and Spring is moving towards Summertime. It's a cliché to say that we can see signs of new growth with flowers coming out and the world waking up, but it's also true.

I talked recently with a very clever man who remarked that trying to get Ministers to take on extra tasks between Christmas and Easter is almost impossible because the clergy are exhausted. I'd never thought of that before, but he's quite right.

The build-up to Christmas, followed by extra Lent activities and all the other stuff of church life, can feel a bit like scaling a mountain.

But here we are, having celebrated the resurrection of Jesus, and there are some good things to celebrate. We have baptisms of new Christians from the ALPHA course, and new families have joined the Church family, so the Sunday School is gently growing.

So, just as we can see the natural world waking up, we can see signs of new life in the church as the resurrection life of Jesus is evidenced through the presence of the Holy Spirit, bringing new life.

But just as gardening is hard work, planting the seeds of faith and harvesting requires sustained hard work and concentrated effort. I want to say, "a huge thank you to everyone who helps keep the wheels of church life turning."

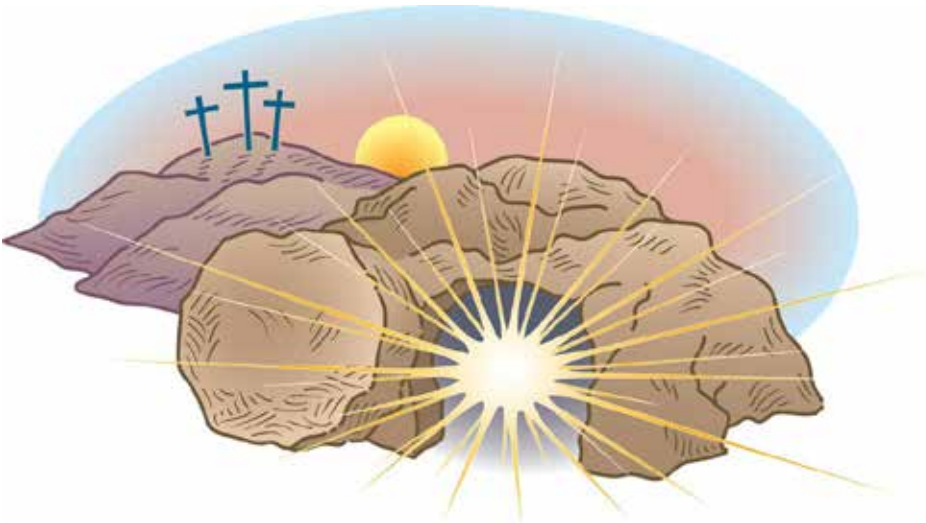
I sensed a huge sense of relief from some people about being able to call a new Minister. You may not realise this, but I feel much the same when I see you all faithfully going about the many tasks that are needed to keep the church running. If a Church needs a Minister, it is equally true that a Minister is about as much use as a chocolate teapot without the skills and gifts of the

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congregation that are necessary for a church to function and carry out its mission. I am concerned that every single one of you both understands and feels that you are called by God to be a part of this church. That you understand that you are vital to its life, Ministry and mission and loved, cared for and valued. It's together that we form the body of Christ in this place. It's together that as we love, care for, encourage, and support one another that we can reach out beyond ourselves and bring a little bit of heaven to earth.

With my love and thanks to you all, keep on, keeping on! The risen Lord is at work among us.

*Mark*





## ***PASTORAL TEAM***

The members of the Pastoral Team are always happy to make appointments to visit, talk or pray with you. This can take place in your home, at Cross Street or at our homes at your convenience and at mutually convenient times.

Martin Taylor (07787 555730), Marjorie Jones (01727 422930), Jill Potter (07779 797928), Liz Blight (07884 431051) and Alison Ashmore (01727 867335), are active members of the Pastoral Team.

The team hope you will notify them of anybody who you think may be ill, lonely or who needs help.

*Mark Welch*

April 2026

## **PASTORAL NEWS**



After some rather cold, wet and windy weather, it does appear that some warmer, sunnier weather is on its way, according to the BBC Five Day Forecast. Whatever the weather the bulbs have started flowering and the magnolia and blackthorn blossom are out in full force.

Like the Easter story our weather in March and April is both a mixture of sadness and promise, finishing on Easter Sunday with a burst of joy and hope.

Fortunately most of our church family and friends seem to be reasonably healthy at the moment, in spite of waiting for further treatment or operations.

However, there are still people who need our prayers:

Elizabeth and Bill Allen, Jack and Brenda Passmore, John Peters, Krisztina Schreiner, Olly Branch and family, Tom and Velma and their family, Ruth Sayers, Sandra and John Carpenter, Jan Morse and Jenny Johnson.

We also remember Mark and Sarah, all the deacons and the Cross Street staff.

***With all my soul I thank you Lord,  
For the victory you have won.  
For the taste of things to come,  
For this love that makes us one, I thank you Lord.***

***With all my voice, I thank you Lord  
For the sacrifice of pain.  
For the Spirit and the flame,  
For the power of your name, I thank you Lord.***  
(Paul Field)

*Marjorie Jones*



*Topics Include:*

1. What is a wound of the heart?
2. What can help our heart wounds heal?
3. What happens when someone is grieving?
4. If God loves us, why do we suffer?
5. How can we forgive others?
6. Bringing our pain to the cross
7. Moving Forward



**Event Details:**

**Where:** Dagnall Street Baptist Church, St Albans, AL3 5EE

**When:**

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 29th April

OR

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April - Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>

May 2026

*Cost: £15 contribution for resources and light refreshments.*

**Apply today!**

<https://www.dsbcc.org.uk/> Go to Latest News

**Enquiries:**

Email: [minister@dsbc.org.uk](mailto:minister@dsbc.org.uk) or [amutabazi@ywamharpندن.org](mailto:amutabazi@ywamharpندن.org)

If accommodation is needed please let us know.

**ALL WELCOME**



Trauma Healing Institute  
www.traumah healinginstitute.org



April 2026

**TRAUMA HEALING GROUP**  
***Healing the wounds of trauma***

It is such a very great joy to be partnering with friends from Youth With a Mission and the Trauma Healing Institute to be providing Trauma Healing Courses.

For more information contact: [minister@dsbc.org.uk](mailto:minister@dsbc.org.uk), or complete the online registration form.

**A group seminar**

A big welcome to you as you apply to join us on what we pray will be a life-transforming seminar with us! These are a safe environment in which to find a way through the trauma caused by all kinds of life events like bereavement, divorce, high-level conflict, or any situation that has left scars. The facilitators are all accredited by the Trauma Health Institute.

There are two sessions available: Mon 27th—Wed 29th April, or Thu 30th—Sat 2nd May. Please note that it is important to attend all three days of a trauma healing group. We will start at 9am and finish by 5pm each day. There will be morning and afternoon tea/coffee breaks and a 1 hour break for lunch. On Mondays and Tuesdays the church café is closed so we would advise bringing a packed lunch, or there are shops close by. Accommodation can be provided at the Youth With a Mission Campus in Harpenden, with transport to and from Dagnall Street, if required. There is a £15 charge towards the cost of resources and light refreshments. If this is a problem, please speak to the minister.

A registration form can be found online at: [https://www.dsbc.org.uk/Go to Latest News](https://www.dsbc.org.uk/Go%20to%20Latest%20News)



# Birthday scheme



Be a blessing on  
your birthday.  
Transform a life.

Join your church's Birthday Scheme today to change lives with BMS World Mission. Go to [www.bmsworldmission.org/birthday](http://www.bmsworldmission.org/birthday) to find out how your birthday can make a difference.

Your Birthday Scheme Co-ordinator is:

**LINDA WILLIAMS**

Photo: Each year, gifts to the Birthday Scheme save lives at Guinebor II Hospital in Chad.  
The Baptist Missionary Society: registered in England and Wales as a charity number 1174364 and a company limited by guarantee number 10849659.

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## **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

**2nd Denise Tromans**  
**6th Judy Cook in Thailand**  
**8th Diane Saunders**  
**14th Jakey Vokuhl (18) in Nepal**  
**26th Julia Plant**

'Many people have a vague hope that death is not the end. Many Christians believe that they will live with Jesus after they die. Few live now as if the eternal life has already begun. What difference would it make to your daily decisions if you lived with that as a reality?'

From a Christian Aid book '365 Ways to Make a Difference' by Peter Graystone.

'About the World Today,  
The absurdities, the complexities of life can only be answered with a continued faith that God will put the fragments together in time. We must continue to believe he is the Lord, even when we cannot understand. We must always keep Him in the picture.'

Quoted from 'A Light Shines' - a Lion Book.

'Hope is always more important than happiness.' - Katie F Wiebe

Happy Birthday to all born in this Spring month.

*Linda Williams*

HAPPY

BIRTHDAY!

# **DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH ST ALBANS, AL3 5EE**



## **ALL AGE FAMILY WORSHIP**

**Come and join us on**

**Sunday, 19th April  
10.30 am**

***'PICNIC ON THE BEACH'***

**All are welcome to any of our services and activities**

**Do just come along, we would love to see you**

**There are activities, crafts and games for  
children at all our  
services**



**Our Cross Street Café is open for everyone  
Wednesday – Saturday, 10am – 2pm**

*Serving a range of drinks, meals and delicious cakes*

April 2026

**ST. ALBANS  
CATHEDRAL**

**You are invited to attend a  
Free Church Service in the Lady Chapel  
on the following Wednesdays at 11.00am:**

**1st April 2026**

**The Reverend Kevin Walton**

Canon Chancellor, St Albans Cathedral.

**NB: this service will precede a service of burial of the  
ashes of the Revd Peter Hudson**

**6th May 2026**

**The Reverend Ian Green**

Minister of Amersham Free Church.

**3rd June 2026**

**The Very Reverend Jo Kelly-Moore**

Dean, St Albans Cathedral.

Free Church Ecumenical Chaplain: Reverend Simon Carver,  
Email: [simoncarver@btinternet.com](mailto:simoncarver@btinternet.com)

## **DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH ST ALBANS, AL3 5EE**



# **TODDLERS**

**Wednesday mornings at 9.45 am**

*(Maximum limit of 30 Adults)*

**£2 donation per family; Refreshments provided**

**Meeting every Wednesday during term-time  
in the Lower Hall**

*Entrance via the church car park*

***Back for the Summer Term on Wednesday, 15th April.***

**All are welcome to any of our services and activities.  
Please come along and join us**



**Our Cross Street Café is open for everyone  
Wednesday – Saturday, 10am – 2pm**

*Serving a range of drinks, meals and delicious cakes*

2026  
**DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**ST ALBANS, AL3 5EE**



## **Who Let the Dads Out (WLTDO)**

*Meets on the Second Saturday of each month*

**£2 donation per family; Refreshments provided  
For Dads, Grandads, Uncles etc..**

**Taking place in the Lower Hall**  
*Entrance via the church car park*

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON**  
**Saturday, 11th April**  
**10-11.15am**

**All are welcome to any of our services and activities.**  
**Please come along and join us**



**Our Cross Street Café is open for everyone**  
**Wednesday – Saturday, 10am – 2pm**

*Serving a range of drinks, meals and delicious cakes*



## **THE ALPHA COURSE**

<b>Week One</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Is there more to life than this?</b>
<b>Week Two</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Who is Jesus?</b>
<b>Week Three</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>Why did Jesus die?</b>
<b>Week Four</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	<b>How can we have faith?</b>
<b>Week Five</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Why and how do I pray?</b>
<b>HALF TERM BREAK</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> February</b>	
<b>Week Six</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Why and how should I read the Bible?</b>
<b>Week Seven</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	<b>Why and how should I tell others?</b>
<b>MARK ON RESIDENTIAL</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> March</b>	
<b>SATURDAY ALPHA DAY</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Who is the Holy Spirit? What does the Holy Spirit do? How can I be filled with the Spirit?</b>
<b>Week Eight</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>How can I resist evil?</b>
<b>Week Nine</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Does God heal today?</b>
<b>Week Ten</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>What about the Church</b>
<b>SATURDAY ALPHA DAY</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Why and how does God Guide us?</b>





# Easter Jokes

How does the Easter Bunny stay fit?  
*EGG-xercise and HARE-robics!*

Why can't a rabbit's nose be 12 inches long?  
*Because then it would be a foot!*

What did the rabbits do after their wedding?  
*Went on their bunnymoon!*

What happened when the Easter Bunny met the rabbit of his dreams?  
*They lived hoppily ever after!*

How do you catch the Easter Bunny?  
*Hide in a bush and make a noise like a carrot!*

How many Easter eggs can you put in an empty basket?  
*Only one - after that it's not empty anymore!*

How do you know carrots are good for your eyes?  
*Have you ever seen a rabbit wearing glasses?*

How does Easter end?  
*With the letter R!*

How does the Easter Bunny travel?  
*By hare plane!*

What do you call a dumb bunny?  
*A hare brain!*

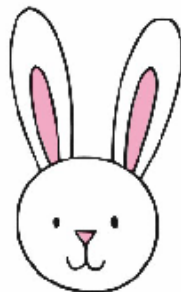
How does a rabbit keep his fur looking good? *With hare spray!*

Why did the Easter egg hide?  
*He was a little chicken!*

What did the rabbit say to the carrot?  
*It's been nice gnawing you!*

Why did the Easter Bunny cross the road?  
*Because the chicken had his Easter eggs!*

What kinds of books do bunnies like?  
*Ones with happy endings!*



# Scrabble Club



DSBC Scrabble Club is on the ***first and third*** Tuesday of the month from ***14:30 to 16:30***.

***Tuesday 7th and 21st April***

**All are welcome.**

So come along to the Cross Street Centre and give it a try.

Speak to me for further information.

***Colin Owen***

April 2026

## **FOODBANK**

### ***Can you add one extra thing to your weekly shop?***

There is even more need for food bank donations in the St Albans area. All DSBC food donations are now sent to the St Albans and District Foodbank run by the Trussel Trust Charity whose depot is in Redbourn, who also collect from the Foodbank baskets placed in many of the local supermarkets and the Town Hall and the Verulamium museums.

You can now access the shopping list needs on a free app called 'Bank the food', however, it seems that the most urgent needs are:

LONG LIFE JUICE  
LONG LIFE MILK  
MULTI SURFACE CLEANER  
LUNCH BOX SNACKS  
TINNED CUSTARD  
TUNNED FRUIT  
TINNED MEAT

If you want to see the full list but cannot get the app speak to me.

If we just add one item to our shopping list we can bring it with us on a Sunday and I can ensure it is taken to a collection point.

Many thanks

*Diane*



# Judy Cook

## Love in Action

February 2026

[www.bmsworldmission.org/jcook](http://www.bmsworldmission.org/jcook)



Greetings from Chiang Mai, Thailand, where the weather is warming and drying up following cold season. I admit to being a little sad that the cooler weather is no longer here, but for others they relish the return of heat.

However February, for us at Hope Home, is a time to celebrate our love and respect for each other, and for celebrating our young people in particular through the Night to Shine event.

On the Friday before Valentine's Day an organisation called Night to Shine puts on amazing prom nights for special needs young people across the world. Look them up - they are very special. We have been privileged these last three years to have our children from Hope Home attend, with staff members too. The preparation to get ready to 'be presented' as queen/king means choosing outfits, getting all made-up and whatever else is all part of the excitement, and involves all staff, even those who are not attending. This year was no exception and everyone looked great. Sadly we left one boy behind due to ill health-next year!!! At the evening there is worship music, dancing, lots of food and time for testimonies and song presentations - as well as the red carpet prom presentation of sashes and crowns for each young person, cheered on noisily from the sides. Why do this? Well it is made abundantly clear in words and actions that God loves every single person and they are worthy to be honoured and praised for who they are. The smile on our children's faces demonstrates that they indeed did feel very special and loved. One of our boys shared his testimony and this was very moving and undeniably showed his deepening faith and trust in Christ as healer and Saviour. My prayer is that I, and others can daily continue to show our love and care and respect to these wonderful young people placed in our care, and not wait for special days only.



One of the boys, who due to ill health missed out on his first Night to Shine, but he did however the week before have the opportunity to do assisted wall climbing. Three of our boys went and they had a wonderful time, reaching new boundaries, conquering fears and being supported and loved by an organisation committed to seeing all people of all abilities to have the same opportunities. Again very clear demonstration of God's love being shown through others to the lives of our children and the staff attending with them. We at Hope Home feel so appreciative and privileged to be able to partner with others of a similar mindset to help every individual reach their full potential and to have access to new learning opportunities. Our prayer is that we too can keep seeking ways to do this, not only with the children in our care, but with those we are getting to know in community too.



The staff of The Social Development and Services Unit of the Church of Christ in Thailand (SDSU) where I also help out, have had a busy time this last month. Following the severe flooding in South Thailand, along with a donor organisation, they have been able to be the hands and feet of the CCT going into help with relief work there. This month hundreds of families have received parcels of essential supplies, and later this month they will be having support to mend and rebuild their houses. The SDSU team joined with local churches there and officials from the CCT to be a presence and a witness to communities who suffered badly due to the severe floods. It is a privilege to be able to help support SDSU to be such a practical witness in Thailand, on behalf of the wider church, the CCT.

This month has been a month with much to thank God for- for opportunities to learn new skills such as wall climbing, opportunities to shine and be honoured for our young people and opportunities to help others in times of ongoing need, and all these events done in honour of Christ. His light, His love and His compassion for us, for those we serve is made evident through not only our words, but our actions, and through our partnering together.

Praise God for all these opportunities, and may we continue to seek out ways to be His presence in people's lives around us.

Pray for the staff and children of Hope Home and the families we work alongside-for ongoing health, and for a deepening sense of their worth in Christ as His children, dearly loved.

Pray for the SDSU team and their energy and enthusiasm to keep on reaching out to vulnerable community groups in very practical as well as spiritual ways.

Praise God for partnerships in the Gospel, and for increased working together.

Thank you for your ongoing support of BMS and of us personally here in Thailand. We are partners together and you are appreciated always. I pray that in this season coming towards Easter that His presence will remain real and tangible in your life, and that you too will be able to seek and be participatory in ways that actively demonstrated the great love God has for each one of us.

We have a message people need to hear, and for some hearing comes more easily through seeing it manifest in actions. I look forward to being home the end of April through to July and visiting churches in the UK.

With my sincere thanks and prayers

Judy

Dear Friends

Please excuse a short message this month—I am attempting to get my Home Assignment schedule around to folks as soon as possible so that, hopefully, we can also fit some catch-up time in while home.

All is going well at SDSU and Hope Home though both places are crazily hectic just now as I try to prepare everything ready for coming to the UK for just over 2 months. This has not been helped by two staff members leaving for personal reasons this month and some hasty recruitment happening so that they can be trained up during April while I'm still there. God is good and has provided contacts just at the right time! Pray they settle in, please. The children are all pretty healthy though hot season has hit now and that brings its own challenges for each one. We have all the children off school—so trips out have been attempted again. This week we went to the local Night Safari (in the daytime!) and had a wonderful 2 hours strolling around and learning about the animals. Unfortunately 2 hours is our current limit due to needing to take oxygen cylinders with us for Joy. A few photo's for you.



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At SDSU we are in constant busy mode it seems just now but everyone just gets on! We are saddened by the recent death of the sister of our Director and we uphold him and the family in our prayers at this sad time.

I will end for now—we are looking forward to having the church youth come and do an Easter special at Easter weekend, and to attending Thai church all together on the Sunday. Our staff are very excited for both, and I trust it will be a meaningful time for all.

If time allows I will maybe get a jotting out too.....watch this space.

Much love

Hope to catch up with folks while in the UK from 29th April to 6th July—travel permitting since I am booked to fly through the Middle East at this point!

Many thanks

Judy

***Judy will be at Dagnall Street on 24th May (for Fellowship Lunch)***



## ***UNLOCK WALK*** ***Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April***

The February magazine outlined plans for this year's Unlock London Walk so, for some of us, the date will be in our diaries and we can begin to look forward to a fascinating walk around the Kilburn and Hampstead areas of North London. The title for this year's 7.2 mile walk is, "**Homes, History, Hills & Heath.**"

The walk takes us to 7 wonderful churches that reflect the character of the peoples and the places they serve. We will discover how these churches are working to address the issues and concerns facing their communities in this very diverse area.

The different levels of prosperity along the walk can be quite stark, but there are lots of subtle contrasts here, too. So, as you walk along the handsome road in Hampstead called New End Square look for Wells House and you will discover it's part of a council estate snugly built around the gardens of Burgh House, the grand mansion next door.

And, as you consider how this urban area still retains names harking back to a distant rural past, you might reflect on how narrow lanes like Shepherd's and Springs became the servants' access paths and the conduits for the rubbish of the grand houses beyond the high fences. We pass at least three sites of significant wells or springs and the spring referenced in the narrow lane was a source of very pure water (see the plaque on the corner of Lyndhurst Road) important to local people up to the mid-19th century. This spring is the source of a small tributary of the Thames called the Tyburn which gave its name to an infamous place of execution located near Hyde Park Corner that was used from the 12th to the late 18th Century. Highwaymen who

operated in this area were executed there, as were other criminals and some Catholic martyrs, but the strangest hanging there was the posthumous “execution” of Oliver Cromwell! (Google it!)

We also traverse one of the great corridors of transport that has made London such a powerful and wealthy place. Some of the main roads we cross are ancient; for example, Kilburn High Road is part of Watling Street. We also cross over a number of major railway lines that connect the capital with much of Northern Britain.

The hills we climb on our way promised clean air, views of the city and access to the Heath to those who settled and developed there. However, while rich people continue to live up in Hampstead, many of the large country estates in this area were established on the lower, flatter lands to the west and those ended up accommodating the transport links and the great explosion of population and industrial development that took place in the 19th and 20th centuries. Brondesbury and Salusbury are just two of the names from these wealthy landowners. In Kilburn we pass down roads that were once occupied by the families of the men (many Irish) who built the railway lines and roads we are using today. So, as the industrial past fades, new housing has gradually replaced the factories, and new economic migrants have replaced the old ones.

Up in Hampstead, those wealthier, more “cultivated” residents took it upon themselves to ensure that the Heath survived, undeveloped, and we can thank them for the beautiful open spaces we now enjoy. We can also be grateful that this wonderful Heath now acts as one of the “lungs of London” helping to alleviate some of the effects of our human-made climate crisis.

We pray that this year’s walk will help us connect people with places, faith with the past and future, nature with frenetic urban activities and lively, worshiping communities with the beauties and dangers that face those living in this part of the city. It is not just the high viewpoints that can give us a new perspective. The love and commitment of all we meet today, and the heritage and history they are placed in, should give us all hope for this challenging year.

There will be the usual variety of church stops en-route, including Heath Street BC in Hampstead where a former DSBC minister, Rev. Dr Edwin Robertson ministered from 1983-2001; he came to Dagnall Street during the war in 1942, leaving in 1947 when he was appointed to the Allied Control Commission in Germany, as a Brigadier responsible for religious affairs.

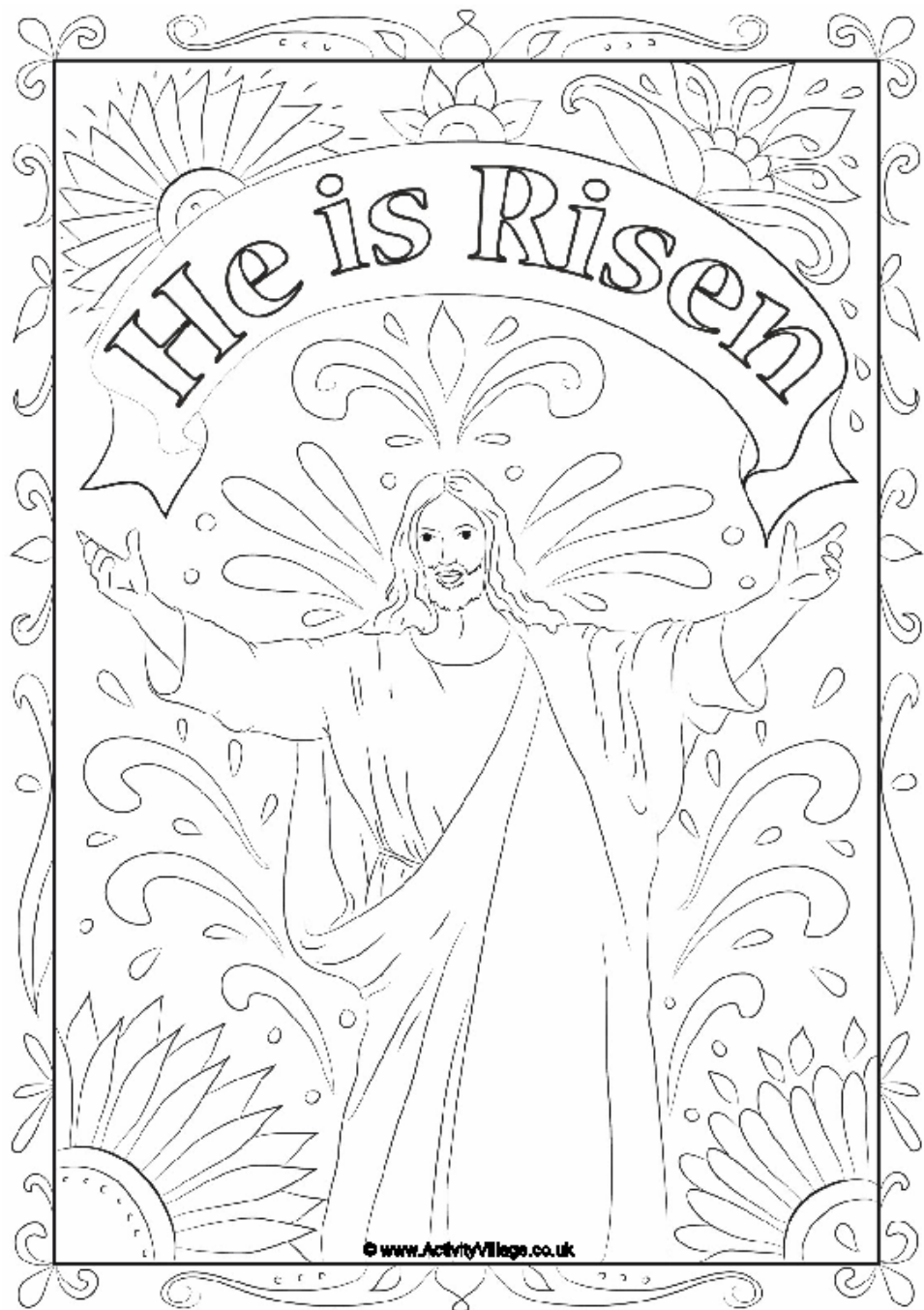
The Unlock London Walk is remarkable; a unique way of seeing London and engaging with some of its churches. If you are interested in joining us, I have copies of the route map available or you can look it up on the Unlock website. We will meet at St Albans City Railway Station at 8.30am on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April**, for the trip to West Hampstead station and a memorable day out.

If you are interested in supporting UNLOCK but without the walking, you may like to sponsor the church group. You can do this either by sponsoring someone you know who will be walking, or by using the church sponsor form which will be on the table in the link during the next few weeks.

Thankyou.

*Chris Penn*





© www.ActivityVillage.co.uk

# Origami Bunny

This very cute little bunny is fun all year round, but also makes the perfect Easter decoration for a greetings card or even an Easter tree! Perhaps you could use some double-sided sticky tape to attach him to a boiled egg for your Easter breakfast!

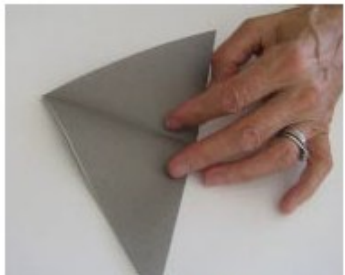
We have used googly eyes and a black marker to decorate our bunnies.



1. Start by folding your square in half diagonally, and creasing carefully.



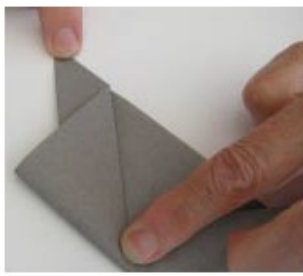
2. Fold the triangle in half again, like this. Crease.



3. Open up the last fold, so that you once again have the larger triangle, as shown.

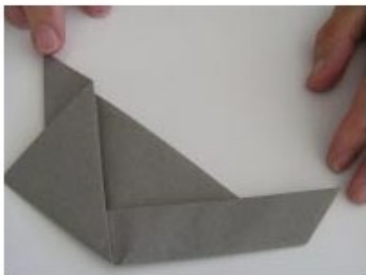


4. Carefully fold up the long edge of the triangle, about 1/4 of the distance. Crease well.

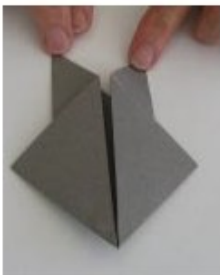


5. Fold one of the bottom corners up along the middle crease line.

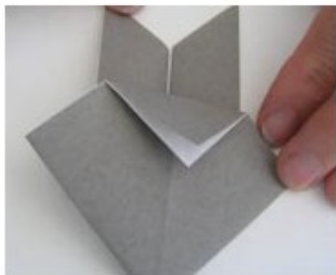
## Origami Bunny- Page 2



6. Your model should look like this.



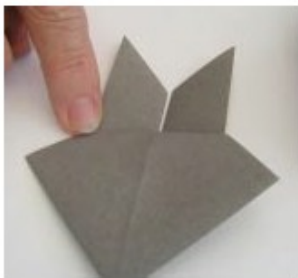
7. Now fold the other corner up in the same way.



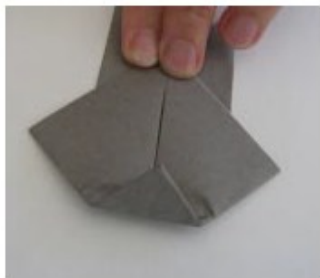
8. Flip the model over to the other side. Now turn the top corners down



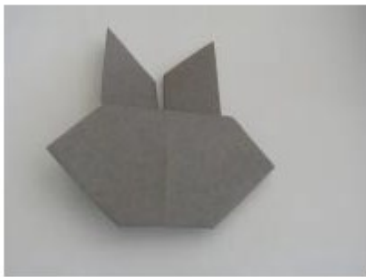
9. Undo the fold you just made and reverse it - folding the points backwards and in towards the ears.



10. When you press the crease down, your model should look like this.



11. Flip the whole thing over again, and turn the bottom point up about 1/4 of the way, as shown. It can be a little tricky to do this as the paper will be stiff.



12. Turn the bunny back over again, and he is ready for a face!

If you are careful, you can stand your bunny up, using the last fold you made to balance him.





## ***CHURCH IN THE CAFE***

During our 22<sup>nd</sup> March meeting we heard about the work of VSO. Formally known as Voluntary Service Overseas, it began 68 years ago in 1958, when Alec and Mora Dickson recruited and sent 16 British volunteers overseas in response to a letter from the Bishop of Portsmouth asking for people to teach English in Borneo.

Much has changed since then. Over the past six decades, they've worked in over 90 countries, with more than 100,000 volunteers, supporting over 90,000,000 people. From being a UK charity, today VSO is a truly global organisation. They recruit skilled volunteers from all over the world, and from all sectors of society, including business leaders, parliamentarians and young people.

Currently, over 30% of volunteers come from within the country of their placement. They also send increasing numbers of people from one developing country to another.

They're always looking for new ways to turn human energy and ingenuity into lasting change by sending professionals to share their skills with their local counterparts. But they've embraced a range of methods that allow provision of whatever kind of help is needed most, including promoting international understanding and action, knowledge sharing and youth exchanges.

### **Values - Collaboration:**

- Empower poor and marginalised people to take charge of their own development.

- Share skills and knowledge to create long lasting, sustainable change.
- Build collaborative partnerships that promote innovation, growth and impact.

**Inclusion:**

- Stand beside and advocate for those who have been denied choice and opportunity.
- Promote diversity and equality throughout their work.
- Encourage different, inquisitive perspectives.

**Knowledge:**

- Lead volunteering for development, setting the standard for ourselves and others.
- Use evidence and insight to guide our actions.
- Recruit the right people and work where they have the greatest impact.

**Integrity:**

- Commit to safeguarding and take a zero-tolerance approach to abuse and harm.
- Treat others with respect, as equals.
- Be open, transparent and accountable in everything they do.

**Funding -**

In 2023-2024 Total expenditure was £34.5m:- 40% Education projects, 26% Resilient Livelihoods projects, 19% Health projects & 15% Fundraising.

Income in the same year was £32.1m:- Govt grants 28%, Institutional grants 49% & Other donations 23%. (Pre Covid income was £60m with approx.. 50% from Govt. grants)

***Our next meeting will be Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April and will be led by our very own Frank Iddiols. Usual arrangements, 4pm start in the CSC. Everyone is very welcome to these informal gatherings in Cross Street as we meet together with tea and cake.***



## **BAPTIST UNION PRAYER DIARY**

### **April 2026**

**5 April** A prayer for Easter Day, taken from Gathering for Worship:

***‘Dear Father, this is the best day of the year – the best day of all time. For on Easter Day we find that Jesus, who was dead, is alive again: and we see his promise that those who put their trust in him will not be swept away by death, but shall have eternal life.’***

**12 April** This week we pray for Webnet – the West of England Baptist Network. Pray for their work in helping Christians fully engage in the mission of God in Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, North Somerset, and Bristol. [www.webnetwork.org.uk](http://www.webnetwork.org.uk)

**19 April** Chaplaincy presents great opportunities to minister and bring God’s love to a wide variety of people, whether they have a faith or not. Chaplains take the good news of Jesus outside the church’s walls to embody it in the public arena. Please pray for all those called to a ministry of chaplaincy. [www.baptist.org.uk/chaplaincy](http://www.baptist.org.uk/chaplaincy)

**26 April** This week we pray for the Ministries Team, who support all forms of recognised and accredited ministry amongst our churches, as well as providing guidance and advice on ministry-related matters. [www.baptist.org.uk/ministries](http://www.baptist.org.uk/ministries)

April 2026

## ***Walk of Witness and Unity at the Cross***

On **Good Friday**, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, CTSA will be organising the Walk of Witness, starting from St Alban & St Stephen church in Beaconsfield Road at 7.20 pm, ending at St Albans Cathedral at 8 pm, in time for the Unity at The Cross Service. This year the service will be led by Mark and the Central London Fellowship Band of the Salvation Army. All are very welcome to join the walk of witness and/or the service of Unity at The Cross.



## **UNLOCK Walk - Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup>:**

Reminder that the 7.2 mile annual UNLOCK sponsored walk takes place on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April around the Kilburn and Hampstead areas of North London.

UNLOCK's London Walk is a unique way of seeing London and engaging with some of its churches. If you are interested in joining us, copies of the route map, quiz and sponsor forms are available from me. We will meet at **St Albans City Railway Station at 8.30am, on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April**, for the journey to West Hampstead, and an inspiring day out.

If you are interested in supporting UNLOCK but without the walking, you may like to sponsor the church group. You can do this either by sponsoring someone you know who will be walking, or by using the church sponsor form which is on the desk in the link. Thankyou.

(Full details in the magazine)

## **BMS Church Partner:**

**Judy Cook** will be on Home Assignment from Hope Home in Chiang Mai in Thailand during May and June and will be coming to Dagnall Street on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May. She plans to visit with her dad and to join in morning worship and stay for a fellowship lunch and presentation after. This will replace the scheduled May CITC.

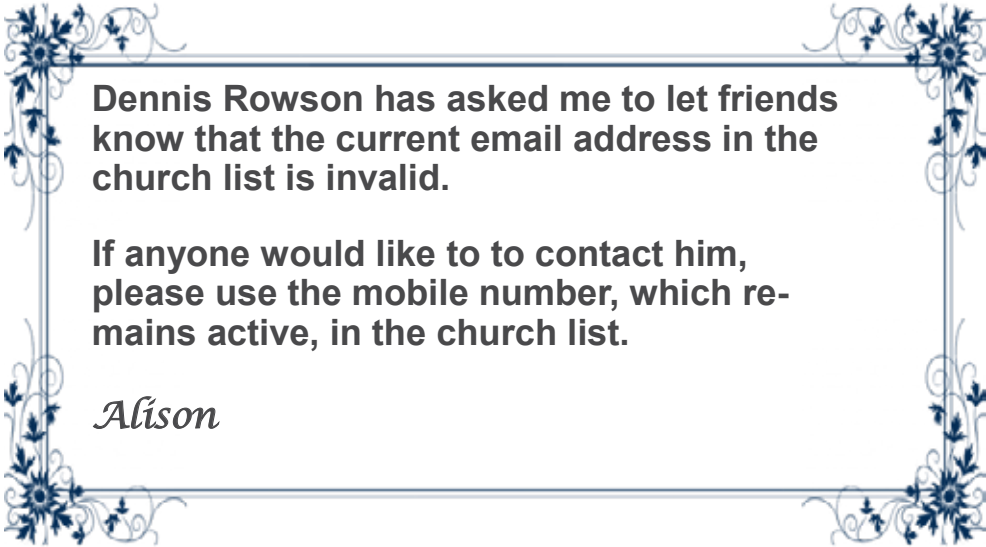
## **Interserve Church Partner:**

We continue to support the **Vokuhl** family in Nepal, although this will be their last year with Interserve. A recent email from Pippa enclosed a copy of their 2026 prayer calendar which indicates that they will be returning home to UK later this year. They were former BMS church partners with us working in Nepal until 2023 when BMS terminated their partnership with INF. They were called to stay in Nepal and transferred to Interserve where Toby has set-up and managed a

project to deliver the construction of 7 safe homes for returning young trafficked Nepalis. The project is now at an advanced stage with initial planning completed, a main contractor appointed and ground work already started on site.

We hope to see them once again at Dagnall Street later in the year.

*Chris Penn*

A decorative rectangular border with ornate floral and scrollwork designs in blue and black, framing the central text.

**Dennis Rowson has asked me to let friends know that the current email address in the church list is invalid.**

**If anyone would like to to contact him, please use the mobile number, which remains active, in the church list.**

*Alison*

## ***ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES***



Let's remind ourselves of the items we can undertake as a church.

### **Food Bank**

A list of items we can give to support this are listed in the church magazine.

Any items can be taken to the Town Hall (11am to 5pm, please check times)

### **TWAM** -Tools with A Mission.

Any items of hand and machine tools to support people in overseas countries to help them be self-sufficient. Any tool items can be taken to Marshalswick Baptist Free Church, Sherwood Ave. St Albans, on any Thursday afternoon.

TWAM leaflets are in the leaflet rack in the Centre, or if you require further details contact me.

**Emmaus**; who recycle old furniture as well as supporting people who are homeless.

**Used Postage Stamps** for local charity. Please leave in the box on the link table

April 2026

Due to circumstances, I will no longer be attending Car Boot sales, so any items can be taken to your local Charity shop of choice.

***We can all play our part with environmental issues in protecting God's planet.***

Recycling you can undertake at home:

Recycle Paper - Cardboard Tin – Glass and Plastic with the council waste collection.

Recycle food waste and plants in a compost bin, if you can.

Many thanks in anticipation

*Trevor Oakley*



## **Table Tennis – Snooker – Pool and other Indoor Games**



Every Monday at;  
Dagnall Street Baptist Church, St. Albans  
In the Lower Hall from 10.30am till 12.30pm

*Come along and join us for a time of  
Fun and Fellowship*

*All are Welcome*

*Contact: Trevor Oakley*



## ***PHOTOGRAPHY***

You may have noticed bright yellow signs placed in areas of the church and Cross St café. These are a reminder to us all that any photos taken on our premises are for personal use only and **must not** to be shared on social media or in any form of publicity, **unless** permission has been granted by those being photographed, or in the case of children, by their parents or carers.

There are consent forms available if needed.

For further information please contact:

**LINDA ROBERTS on 01727 858869 or FRANK IDDIOLS on 07939 287785 (both responsible for Safeguarding) or CHRIS PENN on 07770 334339 (Church Secretary)**

Thank you.

## **CHRISTMAS WALK 2025**



On Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> December, 6 hardy souls met in Panshanger Park. At 10:30 we set off on a 4 mile walk around the park. The weather was ideal: sunny/cloudy and not too cold.

We saw the phoenix (see photo) but unfortunately the long-horned cattle, wild pigs and deer did not make an appearance. Perhaps they were still suffering a Christmas hangover!

Later, we were joined by several more people for an excellent lunch and fellowship in the Attimore Hall.

Join us for our next walk on Good Friday.

*Colin & Sue Owen*

April 2026

## **GOOD FRIDAY WALK 2026**



The Good Friday walk this year will be around Wheathampstead. The walk will be 4 miles or there are shorter walks available.

We will meet in the public car park behind The Bull at 12:15. Join us for a picnic lunch on the benches by the river. There are toilets available at the entrance to the car park.

The walk will start at 13:00. Alternatively, just join us for the picnic lunch and fellowship.

***For further information, speak to Colin or Sue Owen.***

P.S. If you want to know the identity of my new friend, come and join us on Good Friday!

## ***FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE CHURCH***

As we all know our household bills are rising and the cost of heating and lighting the church is no different to the energy costs at home. Our church relies on raising its own income. Some of this comes from hiring out our rooms, but the majority comes from congregational giving. There are various ways in which this can be done. There is a plate by the door of the church for cash and offering envelopes.

We now also have a contactless offering device which accepts card or phone payments of specific amounts and this is also by the main church doors on Sundays. These donations are completely anonymous.



We are happy to receive bank transfers and standing orders and the details are below:

***Deacons of Dagnall Street Baptist Church***  
**60-18-11**  
**42087783**

If you decide to make an offering in this way, it is helpful if you are able to email our Finance Manager, Liz Blight, [lizblight@gmail.com](mailto:lizblight@gmail.com), so that she can connect up the entry on our bank statement.

Thank you for your generosity!

***The Deacons***



'Share St Albans' is a 'library of things' where we lend DIY, garden, kitchen, party items or something for your home. Set up for St Albans and district to borrow not buy. Whether you want to loan a gazebo or DIY equipment we are here to share and reduce our collective environmental footprint and have a collaborative community.

By borrowing something for a small fee you can save yourself money, save on space needed for storage and help to save the planet.

Locations:

The Green House, 46 London Road, AL1 1NG  
Sandridge Parish Council Car Park, The Ridgeway AL4 9TU

Please log onto the site to see opening times at these locations



***AND DEATH SHALL HAVE NO DOMINION***

And death shall have no dominion.  
Dead men naked they shall be one  
With the man in the wind and the west moon;  
When their bones are picked clean and the clean bones  
gone,  
They shall have stars at elbow and foot;  
Though they go mad they shall be sane,  
Though they sink through the sea they shall rise again;  
Though lover be lost love shall not;  
And death shall have no dominion.

And death shall have no dominion.  
Under the windings of the sea  
They lying long shall not die windily;  
Twisting on racks when sinew give way,  
Strapped to a wheel, yet they shall not break;  
Faith in their hands shall snap in two,  
And the unicorn evils run them through;  
Split all ends up they shan't crack;  
And death shall have no dominion.

And death shall have no dominion.  
No more may gulls cry at their ears  
Or waves break loud on the seashores;  
Where blew a flower may a flower no more  
Lift its head to the blows of the rain;  
Though they be mad and dead as nails,  
Heads of the characters hammer through daisies;  
Break in the sun till the sun breaks down,  
And death shall have no dominion.

***Dylan Thomas***

# Easter Word Search

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

APOSTLES  
CROWN  
LAMB  
PRAYER  
RESURRECTION  
SON

CHURCH  
FAITH  
MARY  
REDEMPTION  
RISEN  
SUNDAY

CROSS  
JESUS  
MIRACLE  
REJOICE  
SAVIOR  
TOMB



## ***MY VISIT TO THE LIBERAL REFORM SYNAGOGUE***

My friend Tina asked me if I would like to visit the synagogue where she worships. I decided I would like to go. We left at 9.45am and I am sure my friend was nervous about what I would think about the service.

The synagogue is in an old school building. During the week it is used as a nursery. The hall is reserved especially for the synagogue.

We entered the grounds to get to the carpark and to enter the building we had to go through an electric gate. The school was bright and clean and modern. In the hall chairs were set out.

I asked if I could take photographs. It was a surprise to see the Ark as it was very colourful, a bit like a stained glass window. The Torah is kept in the Ark for the service but afterwards it is locked in a cupboard. There was a wooden memory tree plaque on the wall. People could put names of dead loved ones on it.



I met the American Rabbi. He wanted to look at the passage in the Torah. It is treated with great respect. It is kept in a decorated bag and it needs two people to hold it while the Rabbi lifts it out. He looked at what he was going to read but only pointed and did not touch it. It was put back in the bag and back into the Ark.



As people arrived I was introduced. The service began. Everybody had a book, it was service 15. What surprised me was that it began from the back of the book and worked forward towards the front.

Each page had two columns, on the right it was in Hebrew and on the left in English. It was read in Hebrew and I found it difficult following the English.

There was no singing and no music. The congregation chanted the Hebrew.

The Rabbi used a pointer to read from the Torah, it was on a lectern. He then gave a sermon about Moses. There was a TV screen with key points on it.



They don't use the term 'God' but use the term 'Eternal' as it is gender free. I can't remember if there were any prayers.

At the end of the service notices were on the TV screen. They had just joined with another synagogue and there were quite a lot of interesting things going on at the synagogues. For example talks on famous women—Anne Frank, and craft activities.



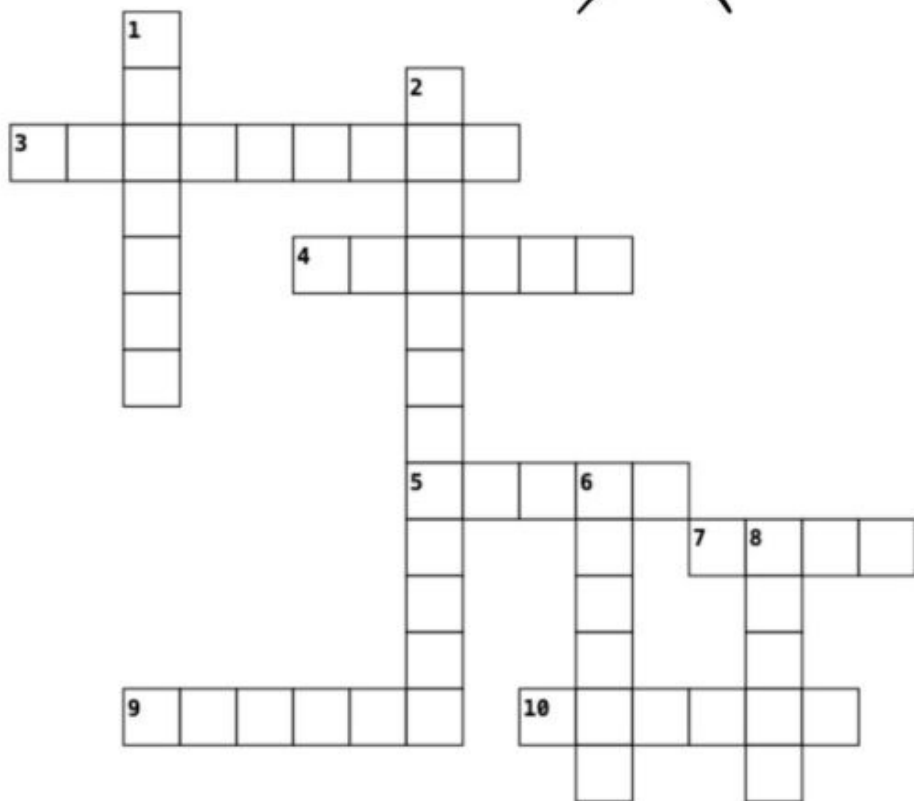
After the service there was the Kadesh—which was a small glass of wine or orange juice and some savoury things. Nothing like Cross Street! People ha a chat and then leave. Everybody was very friendly and I was glad that I went.

*Linda Williams*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# EASTER CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### Across

- Jesus' followers were called this
- Many people go here to celebrate Easter
- Jesus died on this
- Jesus is called the \_\_\_\_ of God
- Jesus prayed in the \_\_\_\_ of Gethsemane
- Used to collect Easter eggs

### Down

- People shouted this when Jesus entered Jerusalem
- Another word for Jesus rising from the dead
- Easter always falls on this day of the week
- Announced that Jesus had risen

***Christ the Lord is risen today***

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!  
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!  
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!  
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!  
Once he dies our souls to save, Alleluia!  
Where's thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

Soaring now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!  
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia!  
Praise to thee by both be given, Alleluia!  
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!  
Hail the Resurrection, thou, Alleluia!

King of glory, soul of bliss, Alleluia!  
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!  
Thee to know, thy power to prove, Alleluia!  
Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!

***Charles Wesley***

April 2026

**THE NEXT DATE FOR COPY FOR THE  
MAGAZINE WILL BE THURSDAY,  
16th APRIL, 2026**

A couple of Sundays ago Jan and I went to see Hamnet at the Odyssey. I thought it was a very good film. I have also read the book and the book is also very good. It reminds you of how important women were in those years. They foraged for herbs and learnt the art of medicinal plants and used them, not always successfully, they ran houses and bartered and bargained for food, or grew it themselves. Very few women could read or write, but they could still be powerful beings. The film and the book are, I think, a feasible fiction, as in the whole very little is known about Shakespeare and Anne Hathaway's private lives. Although the death of his son Hamnet is public record. Some people just have wonderful imaginations and can convert them to book and film. I would like to see the new Wuthering Heights which I think is a completely different take on the book and previous films.

I have just re-read Sylvia Plath's 'The Bell Jar'. A very sad book, the only one she wrote, following a young successful persons decline in mental health. It is thought to be her story. It is beautifully written and very poignant considering her death by her own hands. How precious life is.

But sadness apart, we have had a few lovely sunny days and the garden is calling. It needs a good tidy before the plants, the ones I can't remember what I ordered!, turn up.

Happy St George's Day on the 23rd.

*Glynis*

**glynis.griffiths1@gmail.com**

**01462 733665**

**07517 877601**

## **What, When and Where April 2026**

The church is open for services at 10.30am each Sunday. There are activities, games and crafts for children during every service on a Sunday.

After service coffee is served in the Cross Street Centre.

Church in the Café, Sunday, 26th April, 4pm, led by Frank Iddiols

Tea Chat and Prayer to be announced.

Scrabble Club is held on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 7th and 21st April, 2.30-4.30pm.

Toddlers is held every Wednesday during school term time from 9.45—11.15am. Summer term starts on Wednesday, 15th April.

Who Let the Dad's Out . Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month. The next meeting will be on Saturday 11th April, 10-11.15am.

Monday table tennis/games club is held in the Lower Hall from 10.30am

The fourth Tuesday of each month the Prayer and Share Group meet in the Cross Street Centre at 7.30pm.

First Saturday of the month Prayer Hour at 10am in Cross Street.

The Cross Street Café opens weekly from Wednesday to Saturday, 10am to 2pm.

Newsletter by email, weekly.

You can view this magazine in colour on our website.  
<https://www.dsbc.org.uk/>

Carnegie Museum of Art