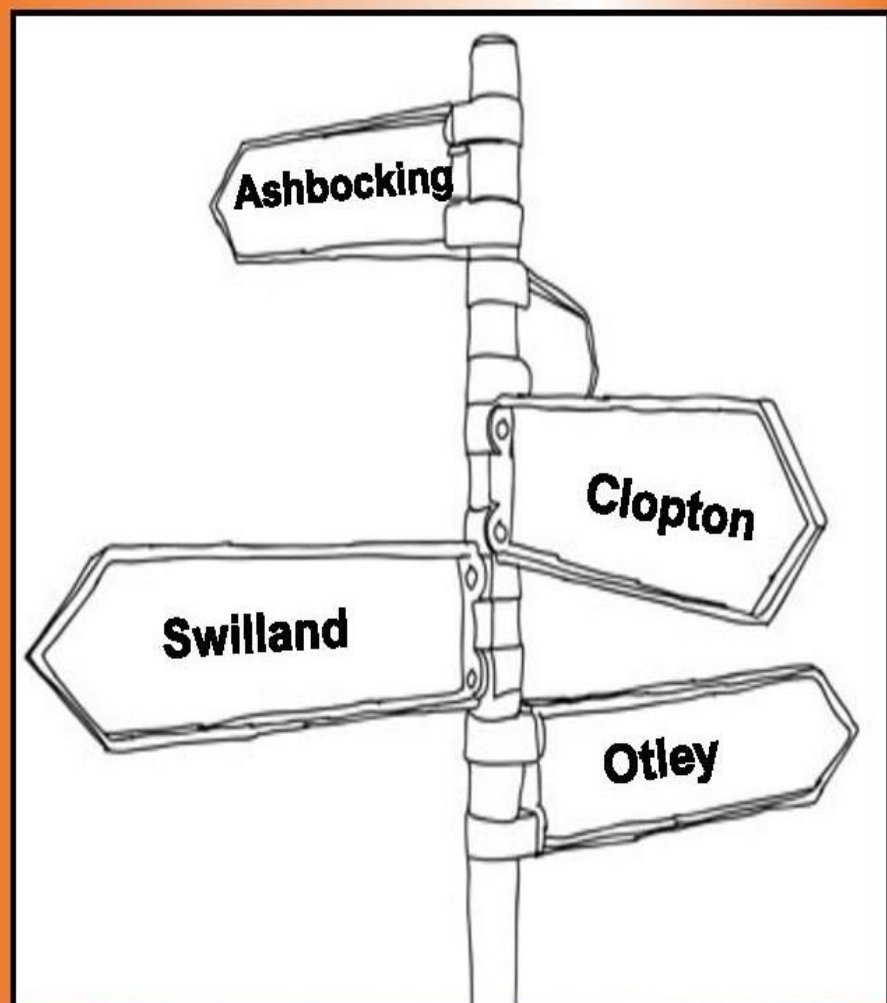


The Signpost



News from the Parishes

A Word from The Editor.....



Welcome to the **June** edition. We are officially halfway through 2023 and what a first half of the year we have all had.

An amazing reaction to all of the King's Coronation events which took place during May – well done to everyone who helped organise and run such successful events.

This month is a time for Dad's to be celebrated for all they do or have done for us. We will certainly still think and thank those who are no longer on this earth. I know I am incredibly lucky and thankful to have a dad who is salt of the earth with wisdom, humour and kindness oozing out of him.

I am very excited to announce that we have a new feature article each month written by Dr Emily Nightingale, from Nightingale Vets (opening soon) in Ashbocking. I hope you will enjoy the delights of all creatures great and small along with some very useful advice for all of us animal lovers.

The veggies in the garden are loving life in the warm sunshine and growing well, I love this time of year when you can step outside pick fresh from the garden, not only does everything homegrown taste so much better but it is incredibly satisfying being more self-sufficient and carbon neutral.

**Wishing all fathers, stepfathers, foster dads and grandfathers a very
"Happy Father's Day!"**

If there is anything else you would like to see within the magazine, whatever it may be, I would gratefully receive it for consideration for upcoming editions.

If you would like any family or friends' birthdays, exam results or anniversaries celebrated, then please do let me know and I will include in next month's magazine.

**The next magazine will be the July issue,
with a deadline of 24th June 23.**

To register to receive The Signpost via email, each month,
please email Amy bakergirl174@gmail.com

News of the Carlford Churches and details of online Worship can be found on the website carlfordchurches.org and within the Mini Grapevine. If you would like to receive the Mini-Grapevine weekly via email, please register via the website carlfordchurches.org or with amy@carlfordchurches.org. There are links on the Carlford Churches website to the Facebook page, Mini-Grapevine and The Signpost. The Carlford Churches Facebook page can be accessed directly <http://facebook.com/carlfordchurches>.

Should you wish to speak with Rev'd Katrina Dykes or a member of the benefice team,
please telephone 01473 735183.

Keep safe, enjoy the bank holiday and take care till next month.. best wishes, Amy

The Wonder of Creation



The rising sun that streaks the sky with colour,
Each day we see more marvels that unfold,
Nature has a palette like no other –
Creation is a wonder to behold.

And can it be this happened all by chance,
Or did some cosmic force become involved?
A Power operating out of time
That has a greater story to be told.

Our Universe defies all understanding,
Its vastness reaching endlessly in space,
Eternity – we find it hard to fathom
Or of One perhaps who set it all in place.

A Deity beyond the realms of time?
We do our best to try and understand –
Of a mighty hand that flung the stars to flight
Could be the hand still beckoning to man.

By Megan Carter

April 2023

The month began with some very sunny days until Easter weekend when we had some unsettled weather with rain. This was followed by the yearly blackthorn winter when it always turns cold with a north or easterly wind with some sunny days. In the last week of April, it started to warm up during the daytime with the promise of better days to come. This year there has been a spectacular display of cowslips to follow the primroses. The total rainfall was more normal at 1.95 inches.

Russell Ling

June Weather Sayings.....

- *A cold and wet June spoils the rest of the year.*
- *A good rain in June sets all in tune.*
- *The north wind in June blows in a good rye harvest.*
- *If June is sunny, the harvest will come early.*
- *In June, when there is no dew, it indicates rain.*
- *An early harvest is expected when the bramble blossoms early in June.*
- *When it is hottest in June, it will be coldest in the correlating days of the following February.*
- *If it rains on the feast of St. Medard (June 8th), it will rain forty days later; but if it rains on St. Protitis (June 19th), it will rain for the next forty days.*
- *Cut your thistles before St. John (June 24), and you will have two instead of one.*
- *If it rains on St. Peter's Day (June 29), the bakers will have to carry double flour and single water; if dry, they will carry single flour and double water.*

Brainteasers

Body Parts Brainteasers - The answer to each of the following clues is an idiom or an item, which includes a part of the body e.g. At the top of the bed = Headboard / To keep silent = bite one's tongue

1. Pull the pin for an explosion
2. To celebrate lavishly
3. Usually upholstered and supportive
4. A unique impression
5. A gangsters punch weapon

(Solutions on Page 37)



How to prepare for your new puppy



(or: what the dog training manuals will never tell you!!)

Begin now – and build up your stamina!

1. Pour cold apple juice on the carpet in several places and walk around barefoot in the dark.
2. Wear a sock to work that has had the toes shredded by a blender.
3. Immediately upon waking, rush outside in your pyjamas in the rain and dark and say several times: “Be a good puppy, go potty now – hurry up – come on, let’s go!”
4. Cover all your best suits with dog hair. Dark suits must use white hair, and light suits must use dark hair. Also, float some fur in your first cup of coffee in the morning.
5. Play ‘catch’ with a wet tennis ball.
6. Run out in the rain in your bare feet to close the gate.
7. Tip over a basket of clean laundry, scatter clothing all over the floor.
8. Leave your underwear on the living room floor, because that’s where the dog will drag it anyway. (Especially when you have company.)
9. Jump out of your chair shortly before the end of your favourite TV programme and run to the door shouting, “No, *no*! Do that OUTSIDE!” Be sure to miss the end of the programme.
10. Put a little heap of chocolate pudding on the carpet in the morning, and don’t try to clean it up until you return from work that evening.
11. Scratch the legs of the dining room table several times with a screwdriver – they are going to get chewed on anyway.
12. Take a warm and cuddly blanket out of the dryer and immediately wrap it around yourself. This is the feeling you will get when your puppy falls asleep on your lap.



5th June - Boniface of Crediton – Apostle to Germany, Martyr



Boniface is the saint for all preachers and teachers who wonder if they can make a lasting difference to anyone's life. For this monk-teacher from Crediton went on to become the apostle to Germany and is considered to have been the most influential Englishman in the history of Europe.

Boniface began life as Wynfrith, when he was born in at Crediton, in what was then Wessex, in 675. He became a monk in Exeter, moved to Nursling, near Southampton, and worked in the community as a teacher. He became an expert in biblical exposition and compiled the first Latin grammar ever written in England.

Writing the first Latin grammar was a peaceful occupation. But then in 718, when he was 43, Wynfrith felt called by God to go as a missionary to the pagan tribes of Frisia, an area on the present-day border between the Netherlands and Germany. He was not welcomed! In fact, the hostility against him was so great that soon he fled for his life. The following year he was offered a good post as an Abbott back near Southampton, but he refused, and instead went on to Rome to ask for help for his mission.

By 722 Pope Gregory II had given his support, and consecrated Wynfrith as Boniface, a missionary bishop to the pagans of Bavaria and Hesse. With the support Boniface now had from Rome, he returned to Frisia, and began to see some success.

Boniface devoted the rest of his life to evangelising Frisia and building up the young church there. He was fearless, famously felling a sacred oak tree dedicated to the worship of Thor. When nothing bad happened to him, the people decided that perhaps Thor was not so strong after all, and many converted to Christianity.

Boniface was also a gifted administrator. He founded monasteries and in 741 made a joint commitment with the Frankish King Pepin to reform corrupt clergy. Boniface went on to improve leadership for the church throughout Europe, which won him the respect of both Pope and Kings.

In about 747 the Pope made Boniface Archbishop of Mainz, but he soon resigned, and returned to his beloved Frisia. Boniface carried on preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ until he was martyred in Dokkum in 754, by a group of pagan bandits.

Later, Hildegard of Bingen wrote of him:

*'O Boniface, you are the friend of the living God
And the true crystal shining
In the benevolence of the straight way
Where you ran wisely.'*

Wildlife to look out for this June

- **Swallows** – They can be told apart from house martins by their forked tails and red/orange throats.
- **Brimstone Butterflies** – feeding on a variety of garden plants.
- **Leafcutter Bees** – They use bee hotels to lay their eggs, wrapping them in a cocoon of leaves.



Everything I need to know... I learned from Noah's Ark

1. Don't miss the boat.
2. Remember that we are all in the same boat.
3. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
4. Stay fit. When you're very old Someone may ask you to do something really big.
5. Don't listen to critics. Just get on with the job needing to be done.
6. Build your future on high ground.
7. For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
8. Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
9. When you're stressed, float awhile.
10. No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.



Author unknown

VETS AND PETS

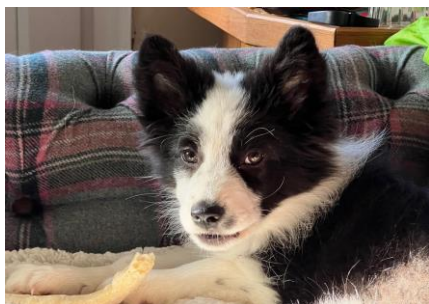
Pets' Corner

This new feature will highlight some very special pets, and every month we'll be interviewing a pet and their person, to give you an insight into their lives, likes and loves.

This month features young Snoops, owned by Adine Schrankel of Ashbocking.

Questions for Snoops

- Name: *Snoop Boop*
- Date of birth *29/07/2022 (I'm only little!)*
- Breed: *Border collie cross*
- Colour: *Black & White*
- Favourite dog food: *Anything I can steal. I'm fed otherwise on Royal Canin Puppy*
- Best place to sleep? *I love to cuddle up with my mummy Adine to sleep.*
- What do you like doing the best - *Oh that has to be going with mummy to the boating lakes and then diving in when speed boats dash around.*
- If you were a famous person who would you be? *Brian Cox the physicist. I love looking at the night sky, I have a naughty side and everyone loves me.*
- If you had to tell us a secret about your mum Adine what would it be? *She's mad as a hatter, so very suited to me :-)*



Questions for Adine

- What made you fall for a breed of dog like Snoops? *Border Collies are great thinkers. Border Collies are 'hot wired', but*

they are loyal, fun, energetic, intelligent & totally mad, which suits my character.

- *Most embarrassing moment so far? Not paying attention to Snoops at a friend's house & my friends' husband coming out of the hot tub in a robe and Snoops going under the robe to nibble a sausage!!!*
- *Best local walk location? I love the walks around Ashbocking & Otley, but in the winter time I love to go back to my home turf of Sudbourne & walk all the places I used to ride my horses.*
- *Favourite time of year so far? It's all been so amazing, but summer does have its issues with the heat and so limits when Snoops can be out with me, so I think Snoops and myself would say the best time is spring/autumn*
- *Favourite toy: Got to be her giggle ball - every morning about 5 am I hear the ball being played with.*
- *Favourite treat: Kisses, Snoops loves to give kisses and to her that's way above any food treat. (pic of Snoops with Gaston the donkey)*
- *Does Snoops like having a bath? OH NO DEFINITELY NOT. She turns into a shivering wreck.*
- *Dislikes? Bathtime & not being the centre of attention.*
- *Taste in music? Bird song - Radio Suffolk has a bird call guessing game around 5 am - Snoops loves that!!!!*
- *If you had to describe your dog in three words how would you do it? Loving, Mad, Funny.*



Upcoming dates for your diary

Saturday 1st July: Otley Village Fete complete with Dog Show. 6 classes including waggiest tail, fancy dress, best young handler (for children age 5-8), best junior handler (for children age 8-12), best puppy (<12 months) and golden oldie (>8 years of age)

Sunday 10th September: Suffolk Dog Day at Helmingham Hall. Run by St Elizabeth Hospice, Nightingale Vets are in attendance for first aid, and advice.

Sunday 24th September: Beardies in Need Companion and Novelty Dog Show at the Moon and Mushroom, Swiland. Contact Shirley Hinchcliffe 07765630182.

Thank you to Adine and Snoop Boop! If you'd like your pet to feature in next month's Pets' Corner, then please email us at hello@nightingalevets.co.uk



About Nightingale Vets

Nightingale Vets is a new, independent small animal veterinary practice and we are so delighted to be opening our doors to welcome patients and their people this summer.



As an experienced vet with over two decades of providing knowledgeable and compassionate care to patients and their families, I am so delighted to be fulfilling my dream of creating a love-filled and heart-led vet practice. I am devoted to supporting

the relationship you share with your pet through all their life stages and serving village communities in this beautiful rural location.

Based in Ashbocking, we will be providing veterinary care in our beautiful, purpose-built practice as well as in the community, courtesy of our mobile vet vehicle, “Florence”. We’ll also be holding our carefully curated “Welcome to the World” puppy and kitten experiences, educational events and much more.

“At Nightingale Vets our team will care for you and your pet, nose to tail, every step of the way”

You will be able to read more about our vision for the veterinary care we’ll be delivering in the July issue of the Signpost, but in the meantime you can pre-register and be kept updated on our opening day by visiting nightingalevets.co.uk.

We’re also on Facebook and Instagram and will be at the Otley Village Fete on the 1st of July running the annual dog show. Do come and say hello!

We are so excited to be part of this wonderful animal loving community and look so much forward to meeting you and your pets when we open our doors very soon!

Kind regards,

Dr Emily Nightingale DVM MRCVS

Archbishop Of Canterbury Speaks About Depression – And Winnie the Pooh

The Archbishop of Canterbury has said that he takes antidepressants so that he can maintain an “Eeyore status”, instead of “something much worse.”



He referred to his depression during a recent lecture he gave in Canterbury Cathedral, where he also spoke of having sought professional help for his mental health.

Archbishop Welby said: “As the psychiatrist I see tells me, the aim is not to make me so laid back that I’m horizontal, but just to settle things enough that I react like an average sort of human being. I’m sad when things are sad, and happy when they’re happy, and so on and so forth.”

The Archbishop went on to say that he likens human emotions to the characters in Winnie the Pooh, and compared himself to Eeyore, the often melancholy donkey, as opposed to a “bouncy” Tigger.

The Archbishop said that taking antidepressants “restores me to Eeyore status from something much worse.” He went on: “Some of us are Tiggers, some of us are Eeyores. Probably, some of us are many of the other characters in Winnie the Pooh.”

Archbishop Welby then recalled a conversation he’d had with a former Archbishop of Canterbury. “Rowan Williams once said to me: ‘There is almost no human situation that cannot be explained with the hermeneutical tools of Winnie the Pooh.’ Only Rowan could say that and be both humorous and profound at the same time.”



“We can do more good by *being* good, than in any other way.”

Rowland Hill

DID YOU KNOW.....

June is National Smile Month! and it is international men's month.

June was most likely named for the Roman goddess Juno, patroness of marriage and the well-being of women. Another interpretation says that the name came from the Latin juvenis, "young people," who were celebrated at this time.

1st 1946 For the first time, television licenses were issued in Britain. They cost £2.

1st 1843 Female anti-slavery activist and women's rights advocate Isabella Baumfree changed her name to Sojourner Truth.

2nd 1875 While working in a room with their experimental telegraphic device, Inventor Alexander Graham Bell and his assistant Watson made the first sound transmission.

2nd 1953 The Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II took place at Westminster Abbey, and it was the first event where the British TV audience (20 million) was greater than the radio audience (12 million).

5th 1873 150 years ago, the great slave market in Zanzibar (now part of Tanzania) was closed after Britain issued Sultan Barghash bin Said with an ultimatum to close it or face a blockade.

6th 1935 The Dalai Lama, Tibetan spiritual leader was born.

7th 1848 Paul Gauguin, French post-impressionist artist, was born.

9th 1898 Britain leased Hong Kong from China for 99 years, and it became a British Crown Colony. It was transferred back to China in 1997.

9th 1958 London's Gatwick Airport was officially opened.

11th 1998 The UN declared an official famine in Sudan. About 250,000 people were saved by international aid, but up to 100,000 died in South Sudan. A ceasefire in the Second Sudanese Civil War was signed on 15th July but collapsed in April 1999.

13th 1922 The longest recorded attack of hiccups began. Charlie Osborne's hiccups lasted for a striking 68 years.

15th 1215 King John (of England from 1199 until his death in 1216) and his barons gathered on the banks of the River Thames at Runnymede and signed the Magna Carta.

19th 1917 During the third year of World War I, British King George V ordered the royal family to renounce all German names and titles and adopt the name of Windsor instead.

20th 2003 The Wikimedia Foundation was founded in Florida. The non-profit charitable organisation operates several websites, including Wikipedia.

22nd 1814 The first ever cricket match was played at England's Lord's Cricket Ground between the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) and Hertfordshire. MCC beat Hertfordshire by one innings and 27 runs.

25th 1903 George Orwell was born.

26th 1483 Richard, Duke of Gloucester, began his rule over England as King Richard III after his nephew Edward V was dethroned.

29th 1613 London's Globe Theatre was destroyed by flames after a theatrical cannon was fired to announce the king's entrance in Shakespeare's *Henry V*.

30th 1859 Jean Francois Gravelot. "The Great Blondin", as he was also known, became the first person to tight-rope walk across the quarter of a mile gap of Niagara Falls.

9th June - Ephrem the Syriac, Prolific Hymn Writer

Here is a saint for you, if you have ever been touched by the words of a song.



Ephrem the Syriac was born 306AD in Nisibis, Turkey. Baptised in 324, he joined the cathedral school in Nisibis, where it was soon obvious that he had an outstanding gift for writing both music and lyrics.

Ephrem would have agreed with St Paul about the value of using music to express our faith in God. In an age of widespread illiteracy, he saw that hymns could be powerful carriers of orthodox Christianity, even when sung by uneducated people.

And so Ephrem wrote – and wrote. His poetry was so powerful, and his melodies so evocative, that soon his hymns were spreading far and wide across the Roman Empire. And wherever they went, his hymns took the Christian gospel along with them.

Some of Ephrem's hymns were written to refute heretical ideas, while others praised the beauty of the life of Christ. To Ephrem, everything around us could become a reminder of the presence of God, and thus an aid to worship.

Ephrem became the most prolific and gifted hymn-writer in all of eastern Christianity. His hundreds of hymns influenced the later development of hymn-writing in both Syriac and Greek Christianity.

Ephrem was also a well-respected Christian theologian and writer, always keen to defend orthodoxy from the widespread heresies of the time. Ephrem stressed that Christ's perfect unity of humanity and divinity represented peace, perfection and salvation.

After Nisibis fell to the Turks in 363, Ephrem fled to Edessa, where he continued to work. But plague struck the city in 373, and while nursing others with the plague Ephrem finally died of it himself on 9th June. But his music lives on - more than 500 of his hymns still survive today.



David Pickup, a solicitor, considers

the do's and don'ts of our letters

The letter is in the Post....



After this letter has been read to you, see that it is also read in the church of the Laodiceans and that you in turn read the letter from Laodicea. (Colossians 4:16)

We all like getting post, so drop a friend a line if you can! A nice card, or a letter. But what if it goes wrong?

Suppose the pile of letters on the mat includes a letter for your neighbour which went to you by mistake, a brown envelope addressed to a Mr Smith, but the address is yours. There is a letter for a relative who is at college and another from an ex-partner who has been making a nuisance. The letter for Smith looks official and your relative is getting mail from a bank.

Technically you should put misdirected mail into the post-box. It is a bit worrying that Mr Smith's mail comes to you. You could just put the wrong letters through the right letterboxes. It is a crime to open other people's post. It is even a crime to delay mail getting through. Don't box the mail deliverer's van in!

It does no harm to phone your relative to say they have mail, and you could offer to send it on. Would you offer to open it? You might think it is good news from Aunt Agatha but if it is something personal it would be embarrassing.

If you keep getting letters at your address, but not to you, just put 'wrong address' on the envelope and return it. If you throw away mail meant for someone else, it is a crime as well.

Supposing you then go to the post-box and see the post office worker there can you give it to them, or do you have to post



it in the letterbox? If you do drop it in the mail box and then realise you posted the wrong letter can you get it back?

You can give it to the mail worker, but he or she is unlikely to let you take out mail that has been posted. As soon as it is in the post office or box then the Royal Mail has to deliver it. If you think your letters are being stolen, you should contact the Royal Mail.

Sometimes letters get held up, but generally the Royal Mail is excellent, and the daily delivery service is an essential part of the community.



Support National Week of the Ocean 4th-10th June

The National Week of the Ocean is held each year during the second week of June. It aims to spotlight the threats faced by marine habitats and species, and also to offer some solutions on how to solve them.

The health of the oceans is critical to the health of our planet. The ocean makes up about 70% of the world's surface, and supplies about 50% of oxygen in the world. It acts as a vital source of carbon and even regulates the weather. It is the main source of protein for more than a billion people around the world, and as such, is essential to the economy of many nations, with an estimated 40 million people likely to be employed by ocean-based industries by 2030. More information at: <https://worldoceanday.org>



NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

ASHBOCKING

Having just got back from holiday this is a little hurried and short, but at least I can let you know what is going on in Ashbocking church.

Now that it is June, can you believe it {?} we have left Pentecost behind and with Easter well and truly behind us we are approaching Trinity.

The start of the month opens with Coffee morning on June 2nd at 10:30am, held at Hawthorns, The Green, Ashbocking and everyone is invited to join us for refreshments and chat. It's also a chance to catch up on what is going on in the village and in the church.

On Sunday the 4th June we join Swilland at their church for a lay led service, at 11:00am. All welcome to attend.

On Monday 5th June is Knit and Stitch when we join together at Hawthorns between 10am and 12:00noon to continue with any crafts, knitting or sewing and enjoying tea or coffee and a chat. There is usually a lot of chat and some people come just for that! Anyone interested in crafting etc. is welcome to join us and it is not necessary to be only Ashbocking residents.

All welcome.



Our next church service in Ashbocking is on Sunday 11th June at 11:00am. Everyone is welcome to join us. There will be refreshments afterwards.

Sorry, this is such a short entry for June, but I am already late in my submission!! Please phone me, Linda Pollard 07887537152 if you require any information regarding the above.



Linda Pollard
Church Wardens: John Pollard 07786 803490

CLOPTON

Lashings of rain and pools of squelchy mud did nothing to deter the good folk of Clopton and beyond from celebrating the King's Coronation in style. The rain soon abated and in no time, we were dancing and singing along to songs from our hugely talented local lad Adam Thomas and the dazzling ABBA tribute band "Kiss the Teacher". Great food from the BBQ and unlimited supplies of cake, tea and coffee, made for

an evening to enjoy and remember. And after two days of bake sales we were still able to

share our celebration cakes with the Salvation Army Hostel in Ipswich who greatly appreciated some home baking. A big pat on the back for the event organisers (and "clearer uppers" who spent a long time sloshing and brushing to get the mud off the village hall floor!).



The proceeds went towards purchasing a full support kit for a Community First Responder, and Clopton Church's cake stall raised an amazing £600 towards our Organ Restoration Fund. Various village bakers outdid themselves with our best array of cakes ever – thank you so much to all the wonderful people who contributed and brought us that much closer to our goal. We have managed to raise over half the funds we need – great job! We'll keep you posted on our progress.



This month will end on a high note as we celebrate the wedding of Rosie Voller and James Atkinson who are warmly welcomed to the parish. We are all looking forward to this happy event, which they will celebrate, as generations of villagers before them, in time-honoured fashion within the walls of our ancient village church. We wish them both a very happy day.



Great news – **the Clopton Strawberry Tea is back!!**

It is planned for Saturday, 1st July, to be held in the Village Hall in aid of our local church. More details closer to the time but please mark the date in **red in your diaries**. There will be strawberries and cream, cakes, teas/coffees, a tombola and a fun afternoon guaranteed!

.....and more exciting news – all is set for the start of our project to bring the altar forward by a couple of feet to allow the clergy to administer Holy Communion facing the congregation. This will make the service feel more inclusive whilst not disturbing the visual integrity of the altar and reredos. We were generously awarded a grant for this from the Suffolk Historic Churches' Platinum Jubilee Fund, and we are proud to have such a worthwhile project with which to celebrate the late Queen Elizabeth II's 70-year reign, and also, of course, to mark her sad passing. Work will start at the beginning of June (after the wedding!) so do feel free to pop in and see how it is progressing.



Clopton's regular get-togethers in the village hall (IP13 6QN) continue to be a highlight of the village calendar:

- On the first Wednesday of each month, we meet for a Hobbies Group. For just £2 you can enjoy tea/coffee and biscuits, and natter and knit/sew/paint or have a go at whatever craft catches your fancy (bring it along and enjoy seeing others at work on their various projects); or just relax among friends. New people are always welcome, so if you haven't yet discovered us, do come along on Wednesday, 7th June at 10.30-12.30pm.
- And every third Wednesday of the month, we'd love you to join us at our really popular coffee mornings, which were started by the church many years ago. You can enjoy free coffee/tea and biscuits, and a nice chat. The next gathering is Wednesday, 21st June at 10.30am – 12.30pm and you will be sure of a warm welcome. See you there!

Clopton church services continue to be held on the second and fourth Sundays of every month. These are the services in June:

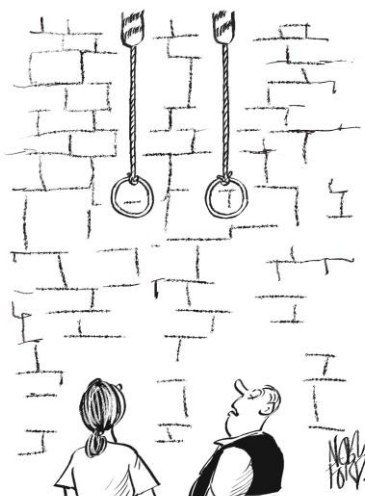
- Sunday, 11th June, Lay-led Morning Prayer, where we shall be looking at some of the unusual medieval celebrations around the Festival of Corpus Christi (which falls the previous Thursday). A chance to reflect and pray, and also to meet friends for a cuppa and a slice of home-made cake (or two!) after the service. All are most welcome.
- Sunday 25th June, 9.30am, Holy Communion, a wonderful way to start your Sunday and your week ahead. This service is also followed by refreshments and everyone is warmly invited to join us.

We wish you a wonderful June!



Mr Mackenzie kept forgetting his PIN

Jenny Schurr



"Apparently, the new member of the bell-ringing team is a keen gymnast"

Coronation Bell Ringing

The coronation of King Charles III was celebrated in many ways not least of all with the ringing of church bells across the country. Locally there was an aim to have the bells rung at all 55 of the churches within the area covered by the South East District of the Suffolk Guild of Bell Ringers.

The Clopton bell ringers rang on coronation day at Clopton and later in the week rang the bells at Burgh. The associated photographs show those who rang together with the certificates produced by the Ringing World magazine especially for the occasion.

The ringers in the photos left to right are:

(Clopton photo right) Sarah, Joanna, David, Gillian, Helen, Elizabeth, Gayle, Andrew, Linda, Abby)



(Burgh photo left) Jonathan, David, Elizabeth, Sandy, Michael, Ruth, Gayle, Andrew, Linda. Sarah not present for the photograph.)

David Stanford, Clopton Bell Ringers



Suffolk Guild

On Saturday, 6th May 2023

Clopton, Suffolk
St Mary

Called Changes

Abby L Antrobus
Andrew J Beattie
Sarah M Cavanagh
Elizabeth J Christian
Joanna M Crowe
Helen E Ellerby
Linda J Garnham
David I Stanford (C)
Gayle Thompson
Gillian E M Twissell

Rung for the Coronation of King Charles III



Suffolk Guild

On Friday, 12th May 2023

Burgh, Suffolk
St Botolph

Called Changes

Andrew J Beattie
Michael Block
Sarah M Cavanagh
Elizabeth J Christian
Jonathan Cottrell
Ruth Darton
Linda J Garnham
Sandy E Jones
David I Stanford (C)
Gayle Thompson

Rung for the Coronation of King Charles III



OTLEY

The family service held on the first Sunday of May coincided with the Coronation celebrations. The church flowers were arranged by Carole Russell, including a wonderful Royal Crown. The theme of the service was a celebration of our new King.



The monthly 'warm space' in the village hall has been continued and re-named 'cake and a cuppa'. It has been well supported and now takes place on the afternoon of the second Wednesday each month, between 2 and 4 pm.

The 'Thy Kingdom Come' initiative, set up by our Curate, Gail, ran from 18th to 28th of the month. We have nine churches within our benefice and the basic concept was that these nine days would be a 'benefice pilgrimage', with parishioners visiting each, or some, of the churches, to pray for that church and its needs. A prayer tree was set up in each church and prayer ribbons were attached by visiting worshippers. Otley was pleased to be the first church to be visited, with an early morning prayer service on Friday 18th of May.



Otley has two 'special services' in the coming months. On Sunday 4th June we have a baptism and on Saturday 8th July a wedding. Such services are relatively uncommon in our small parish and are very much to be celebrated.



On Saturday 10th June a progressive supper has been arranged by the church fund-raising committee. These are always popular and very enjoyable evenings. They provide welcome funds for the church and generally involve many people who would not normally attend church.

Nigel Crowley

"A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawnmower is broken."

James Dent

Don't Forget.....The Otley Players are back this month....

The Otley Players are back in business with a light-hearted evening of entertainment loosely themed around “Beside the Seaside” on the evening of Saturday 3rd June at the village hall.

There will be a “Seaside Landlady” type three course meal served during an evening interspersed with quizzing, sketches, village entertainment and singing for all.

It promises to be a fun evening with something for everybody. Spaces are limited so be sure to secure your place, as tickets will be in demand, at a bargain price of £15.00 ea.

Table service, bring your own tippie. Box office – Joan on 01473 890715



SWILLAND

The Coronation Street Party was a huge success. We set up tables and chairs in Church Lane and everyone brought their own picnic. Tables were decorated and bunting put up. About 75 people came which was wonderful. It was a real community effort. Clare provided the music and led the singing. Our thanks to all who helped make this a great event, particularly Clare, Gina, Richard, Brian and everyone else I have forgotten to mention. There was a general consensus that we should do it again next year.





The primroses and cowslips too have been a great sight in the churchyard. With generally damp weather since early March everything has grown hugely. Before the grass gets completely out of hand it has been cut and the graves and extremities strimmed. We are most grateful to John Lord for the mowing and to Gina Wilden for the strimming.

Recently there was a classic car event at the Moon and Mushroom. This entailed quite a lot of hard work setting it up. A collection was made for the Church which raised £162 for our kitchen/toilet project. Our thanks to all who helped with this.

The next coffee morning is on 24th June at 7 High Road, hosted by Gina Wilden.



Ann Kent



In celebration of Refugee Week, 23rd – 27th June

These stories come from conversations in the Diocese of Canterbury, and simply represent the experiences of the refugees who have chosen to contribute.

How are the refugees who have come to the UK getting along?

Refugee Week, a UK-wide annual festival which celebrates the contributions and resilience of refugees, provides a programme of arts, cultural, educational and media events, though which refugees can find their voice in the UK.

This year the refugees have chosen to share their experiences on the theme of 'what compassion looks like in action'.

Hanna from Ukraine tells her story:

We are all very traumatised, even if it doesn't show. Every day we read news about our country, talk with relatives there. We are also trying to work, study English, manage our home, raise children, and understand the UK culture. People in Ukraine are constantly in danger. Those who have left feel guilty. It tires and exhausts.



Life has changed for everyone; the whole world feels the worsening economic situation due to the war, yet you in the UK continue to support us. It's incredible.

My heart is torn in half. I am afraid for everyone who stayed in Ukraine. I am angry with Russia for everything she is doing. My anger will pass. What remains unchanged is a feeling of deepest gratitude to the British for opening their hearts and families to us. Your kindness and mercy help us not to despair. We understand that without you, we would not exist long ago. Perhaps this is how God created people.

Canterbury resident Richard Llewellyn writes of his experience:

I had volunteered to be a 'mentor' to a young man from Chad, so two years ago I met Adam from Chad, to help him learn English. Since then we have tried to meet weekly for about an hour simply to have a conversation about whatever seems appropriate at the time.



I am not able to tell you anything about how, why, and when Adam became a refugee and arrived in England. In the training I received I was told never to ask, but only to wait until the refugee wants to tell his or her story. I am still waiting.



I know Adam wants to stay here, and train as a plumber. I also discovered that he is a devout Muslim, saying his prayers five times a day and going to the mosque on Friday. I told him that I am a committed Christian and therefore we have something very important in common, in that we have put our trust in the same God – the only God. With a puzzled expression he asks me, "Then what about Jesus?" I reply that for Muslims Jesus is a Prophet, and for Christians something more than a Prophet, but that we both worship the same God. I don't think that he was entirely convinced but, for all our differences, we have remained good friends.

Sahed, 18 last month, has been living in a small English town for a year, after she and her family fled Jordan.

I came here with my parents and my two brothers and little sister, and I arrived knowing only 'Hi' and 'How are you' in English. So I set myself the goal of learning the language online, going to college and volunteering at the local library.



Now I am virtually fluent, which means that I am the only one to act as interpreter for my family. It's vital, as my 20-year-old brother has a severe mental health illness, which means frequent hospital admissions.

Some of our neighbours, alarmed at the noise my brother was making during an episode, called the police. They were actually very kind and just wanted to make sure everyone was alright; in fact all our neighbours are kind and welcoming - except one who is always very rude.

I want to get my GCSEs, and then go to University - maybe York or Manchester. I want to study business management.

Please pray for these refugees, and others, and for those who, in Christ's name, are providing sanctuary.

For more on Refugee Week, please go to: <https://refugeeweek.org.uk>

The secret of
living well and longer
is: eat half, walk double,
laugh triple and love
without measure.

Tibetan Proverb



STORIES FROM THE STRANGER SIDE OF LIFE

Haunted Piano at Taylor Swift Gig

A Taylor Swift gig “appeared to take a paranormal turn” when her piano began playing by itself. The singer-songwriter was “left visibly freaked out” when her keyboard began playing by itself before she started a song at the concert in Massachusetts. She eventually told the crowd not to worry and explained that the “haunted” self-playing piano was because of water damage. A New York piano technician agreed that it’s possible that torrential rain damaged the instrument.



When Kyle met Kyle...and Kyle

Nearly 1,500 Kyles descended on the Texan city of Kyle for a three-day festival. The city held a spring celebration of the name Kyle, with the lofty ambition of breaking the world record for the largest single-name gathering. “Kyle, Kyle and Kyle joined Kyle, Kyle, Kyle, Kyle and Kyle in Kyle for the Kyle fair,”. However, the attendance fell short of the 2,325 Ivans who gathered in the town of Kupres in Bosnia and Herzegovina six years ago.

Seal wanders into US hotel

Police in California responded to an unusual hotel trespasser in the form of a “wayward seal”. The Pismo Beach Police Department said officers with its “seal team” responded to the Sandcastle Inn in Pismo Beach on a report of a seal strolling along a hallway. “This little guy figured out how to go up the stairs, but needed some help to get back down,” adding that officers safely escorted the animal out of the hotel.



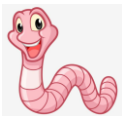
Rome ‘smelt of patchouli’

Archaeologists in Spain have recovered a Roman perfume from a rare quartz bottle sealed 2,000 years ago. The researchers from the University of Córdoba described it as having a “smell of patchouli”, a fragrant plant native to Asia. The remains of the perfume were found during an archaeological excavation in 2019 in a mausoleum uncovered during the construction of a swimming pool in the southern town of Carmona. “Rome smelled of patchouli,” they said.

Library book returned 96 years late

A book has been returned to a library in the US almost 100 years late. The copy of “A History of the United States”, by the American historian Benson Lossing, was on loan from St Helena Public Library in California, with a return date of 21 February 1927. However, it was handed back last week, some 96 years overdue. The man who returned the book to the front desk offered no explanation before leaving. Fines were scrapped in 2019 but had they stood, he would have been due to pay \$1,756.

Worm Charming Championships



The third annual Falmouth Worm Charming Championships saw hundreds of worms enticed up to the surface. This year’s “utterly bonkers” competition saw participants charm 260 worms out of the ground - a significant increase on last year, which was held during a heatwave and only saw one worm reach the surface. Among the techniques used during the event include praying to the worm gods, writing a love letter to the worms, playing the didgeridoo, and blowing into vuvuzelas.

World’s tallest dog hopes for new gong

The two-year-old Great Dane from Texas who was named the tallest dog last year may also be the tallest dog that’s ever lived, claimed his proud owners. Zeus, who stands at a record-breaking 3ft 5.18in, is “so tall he drinks out the kitchen sink and draws lots of attention while out on walks”. “Coincidentally, the tallest dog EVER was also a Great Dane named Zeus, who was also from the US,” but the current Zeus may break his namesake’s record.

Lost ring found in sewage

A crew performing sewer maintenance in California found an engagement ring that had been flushed down the toilet by its owner’s five-year-old son the previous year. Explaining the loss of the ring, the boy’s mother, Yana Glass, said it “was in the bathroom, it was shiny, he wanted to look at it, dropped it and didn’t want to tell us and thought the best thing to deal with this was flush it down and hide the crime”. After the public works employees found the ring, they returned it to the owners, after “thoroughly” cleaning it.



Very 'Fence-y' Crochet!!

A resident of Hamnavoe, Shetland Islands in Scotland, Anne Eunson decided to knit herself a beautiful lace fence using twine. The fence is fashioned from strong black twine - the same kind that is used to make fishing nets - and Anne knitted it on specially adapted curtain rods. It took her about three weeks to knit enough lace to surround her front garden, using a 23 stitch repeat of a familiar Shetland lace pattern.



The Leasing of Hong Kong



Just 125 years ago, on 9th June 1898, Britain leased Hong Kong from China for 99 years, and it became a British Crown Colony. It was transferred back to China in 1997.

The original contract was arranged to ensure that the territory could be defended efficiently. Claude MacDonald, the British representative in the talks, said he decided on a 99-year lease because he thought it was "as good as for ever": at the time the UK did not think it would ever have to give the territories back.

The Chinese Government had already agreed to make Hong Kong a Crown colony in 1842, following British victory in the First Opium War. Although the 1898 lease specifically referred to the New Territories, a productive inland area north of Hong Kong Island, it was agreed that the island and the Kowloon Peninsula would also be returned to China in 1997, and at midnight on July 1 of that year it was handed over in a ceremony attended by international dignitaries including Prime Minister Tony Blair and Prince Charles.

The new Hong Kong chief executive agreed on behalf of China to maintain a two-system capitalist government with some independence from China, although China had sovereignty.

Since then, there have been civil disobedience protests about increasing Chinese influence, notably in 2014, 2019 and 2020. Some Christians have supported these protests, but so far there have been no overt curbs on religious freedom, except where religious activities have been interpreted as political.

Hong Kong's population is now in decline – a process precipitated by harsh restrictions during the pandemic.



"Kindness is a language that the deaf can hear
and the blind can see."

– Anon

RUSSELL LING REPORTS

The Country in Wartime

A summary of events that took place.



The beginning of hostilities began when the German forces overran Holland and Belgium and then Hitler turned his attention to invading France. The French to protect themselves from any future invasion from Germany after WW1 had built what they considered an impregnable line of fortresses facing Germany called the Maginot Line. This consisted of large guns in moveable turrets plus concreted fortress with tank traps, the soldiers to man the defences were also housed in this complex and were transported by an underground rail system to the

defences. The cost of this would have been extremely expensive, unfortunately for the French the German tanks came through Belgium and bypassed the Maginot line making it obsolete.

A large number of British soldiers and weapons called the British Expeditionary Force known as the BEF had been sent to France in 1939 to support the French in case of attack. The speed of the German advance took the French and British armies by surprise and it soon became clear that with the superior air cover by the Luftwaffe the German tanks and ground forces it was only a matter of time before they were overrun. The bulk of the army had to retreat to Dunkirk as the Germans had seized the Channel ports, the evacuation of most of this section of the army from Dunkirk is one of the miracles of the war. Most of the remainder of the army managed to escape through other ports but all of the British equipment of field guns, tanks and small arms plus fighter planes were destroyed to prevent them from falling into enemy hands.



Some of the French army were also evacuated with the BEF but as the Germans advanced through France Marshall Petain who was the head of the French forces signed an armistice with the Germans and was allowed to keep control of the southern half of France known as Vichy France which became a puppet state. On

orders of Hitler the armistice was signed in the very same railway carriage as the one used in WW1 in order to humiliate the French. Although Petain retained the southern half of France he was under Hitler's orders to carry out his commands one of which were to deliver the French Jews into his care which in effect was the transportation to the German concentration camps to be gassed. The purpose of allowing the French to keep control of Vichy France was the hope that they would be amenable to German control of the country. This did not happen and in June 1942 they took control of the whole of France. General Charles de Gaulle formed a Provisional French Government in London, he was however a very difficult person to deal with. He insisted on leading the march of the army through Paris when it was liberated despite the fact that the vast majority of the fighting had been carried out by the British and American forces.

With the invasion of France completed Hitler began to prepare to invade Britain, barges began to be assembled in the French channel ports. In order to carry out this invasion the Germans required control of the air and Goring who was head of the Luftwaffe promised Hitler he would achieve this. In September 1940 the battle of Britain commenced between squadrons of Spitfires and Hurricanes against the Messerschmitt 109 and the Dornier bombers of the Luftwaffe. At the beginning the Stuka dive bombers were also used but they were no match against the Spitfire and were shot down in large numbers until they were withdrawn from service. The Spitfire was deployed against the Messerschmitt which were there to protect the bombers and the Hurricane was mainly used to shoot these down which they did very successfully. Because of this Goring ordered the German fighter planes to closely escort the bombers which restricted the ability of them to engage with the Spitfire before being attacked themselves. At the beginning the Germans had the advantage both with the numbers of fighter planes and the bombing of the airfields, factories and radar masts which gave an early indication of attacks. On one bombing attack a German pilot lost his way and dropped his bombs on London. The British in retaliation bombed Berlin, this so infuriated Hitler that he gave the



order to bomb London and other cities. This gave our airfields, radar installations and factories time to recover and as time went on they were able to replace more quickly our losses of fighter planes. The tide began to turn with the Germans getting heavier losses and it became obvious to Hitler that control of the air was not going to happen so eventually he decided to give up his invasion plans and invade Russia instead, this was our savoir.

To be continued....

Russell ling

This American Enjoyed the Coronation



As some readers may have guessed, I revelled in the Coronation proceedings. It was not because I am a closeted royalist but because the ceremony represented the evolution of British history from elected warrior kings to constitutional monarchies. I switched on our BBC World Chanel at 4:00 A.M. mountain summertime and began an all-night view and snooze. I managed to see most of the Coronation service and the two processions. What I missed I caught on reruns.

Oh my, I don't quite know where to begin except to suggest that innumerable June honors ought to go to the military and clerical organizers. It was a remarkable ceremony from beginning to end and, ..., and it could happen only in the United Kingdom. The amount of symbolism, history, and military tradition captured in the 4-hour event left me speechless.

Anglo-Saxon kingships, the Norman Conquest with its feudal obligations, the rise of baronial privilege, the War of the Roses, the Protestant Reformation, the Glorious Revolution, and the growth of Parliamentary government— it was all there. And then, of course, there was the display of practical horsemanship and soldierly bearing.



The opening of the Coronation ceremony, when the 14-year-old chorister welcomed King Charles III, was an interesting departure from tradition. The King's response stressing a desire to serve the nation was also. I know that there were other changes in the ceremony that widened community participation, recognized the four countries within the United Kingdom, and embraced the many languages and faith traditions in the U.K. Yet the changes were modest, and I suspect that any monarch from the Tudor period onward would have been familiar with the ceremony.



I did feel a surprising depth of emotion at Prince William's oath to his father to be his "liege man of life and limb" with its echoes back to feudal vassalage. I was saddened at Prince Harry's isolation and estrangement from his family but realise it was, to a large degree, the result of his choices. I was pleased at Princess Anne's role as the King's official bodyguard. She has been an ever-present strength for the royal family and one of its mainstays. I was "wowed" when all 4,000 troops

stepped out simultaneously at the start of the Coronation Procession. Such coordination was remarkable.

In short, I spent some lovely hours embracing things British. I would not want a monarchy here, but I absolutely respect the role that the Monarch and the institution of monarchy play in the life of the United Kingdom. I hope it continues because I think it gives a sense of continuity and unity to the western world in a time of fragmentation.

Mary Miner

susiespinner36@msn.com

SMILE LINES

Reasons for marriage

Studying our wedding photos, my six-year-old asked, "Did you marry Dad because he was a vicar?"

"Not at all," I replied.

"Did you marry him because he was good-looking?"

"No, not that either," I replied.



Looking Good

“Did you marry him for his money?”

“Definitely not,” I laughed. “He didn’t have any.”

“So,” he concluded sadly, “you just felt sorry for him.”

DIY

Our churchwarden has the courage, but not always the skills, to tackle any DIY job that needs doing around the church. For example, in the church shed are still pieces of the church lawn mower that she once tried to fix. So, our vicar wasn’t surprised the day he found her in the vestry, attacking the vacuum cleaner with a screwdriver. "This thing won’t cooperate," she complained.

The vicar thought for a moment: "Why don’t you drag it out to the shed and show it what you did to the lawn mower?"

Marriage

During a heartfelt chat with her friend about relationships, my wife sighed and said, “You know, if something happened to Lloyd, I don’t think I could ever marry again.”

Her friend nodded sympathetically. “I know what you mean,” she said. “Once is more than enough.”

This next one...

A local DJ was introducing a record at our annual church fete/parish party. "This next one," he said, "is for Charlotte, a choir member, who is a hundred and eleven! Hey, Charlotte, congratulations on a ripe old age!"

There was a short pause and then the DJ said in a somewhat more subdued voice, "I'm sorry, I got it wrong. This next one is for Charlotte, who is ill."



Miscellaneous observations on life

It's weird, being the same age as old people.

Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.



You know that indestructible black box that is used on airplanes? Why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff?

Solutions to the Brainteasers on Page 4

- 1 Hand Grenade
- 2 Let your hair down
- 3 Arm chair
- 4 Sight for sore eyes
- 5 Knuckle dusters

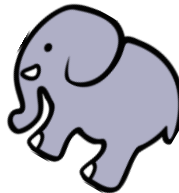


CHILDREN'S CORNER

What do you get when you cross a fish
and an elephant?



Swimming Trunks!!



What do you call an everyday potato?

A commentator!!



B-i-ird!!



What 's smarter than a talking bird?



A spelling bee!!

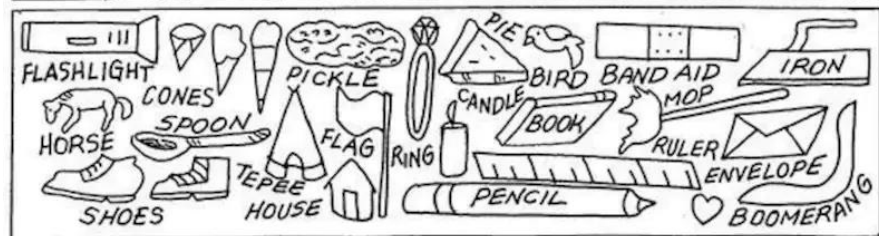


What 's blue and tastes like red paint?



Blue paint!!

See if you can locate all of the hidden items listed beneath the picture!



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