

**February
2016**

BRAMPTON PARISH NEWS

**What, When, Where,
Who, and Why this month**



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We Are Family



I HOPE YOU'LL FORGIVE the Sister Sledge reference in the title above!

There is much talk in both the Bible and around church about Christians being “family”. Whilst there is much more to say the condensed version is this: because we are adopted into God’s family through the atoning work of Jesus we are all brothers and sisters in Christ.

That may be the theory but my own experience has been mixed—sometimes it does and sometimes it doesn’t. I have often heard other people saying things like, “It doesn’t feel much like a family” or grumbling about the way this person has behaved or about a decision they don’t agree with. I wonder what your experience has been?

Aspects of how we experience our church family will be directly affected by our experience of our natural families. All our relationships are coloured by the way our natural families have dealt with certain

issues and, especially, conflict and disagreement. Some families will have blazing rows when they disagree and an hour later it’s all forgotten; others avoid conflict at all costs, never publically disagree and find other ways to cope (or not cope) with difference. Added to that, and I’m just going to say it here: some people are just easier to love than others—even family members.

Jesus told us to “love one another” because that was how ‘outsiders’ would know that we were his followers. The primary criticism that Jesus levels against the church in Ephesus is that they no longer love one another as they once did (Revelation 2:1–7). So what are we to do?

Well, it’s just a fact that sometimes there will be disagreements, differences of opinion and conflicting preferences both in churches and families. Taking scripture as a whole, we should generally try to be



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➡ loving, humble, forgiving, patient and long-suffering with the people around us, putting their needs before our own. That doesn't mean avoiding conflict or being a doormat for others but it does mean looking at the bigger picture and trying to find a mutually acceptable way forward when disagreements happen. On occasion it will also mean sticking to your guns whilst trying to stay in right relationship with others; loving them through the disagreement, if you will.

One problem that sometimes affects church life is the consumer culture we inhabit. Assuming we can afford it, we can consume what we want when we want in precisely the way that we choose—that's how the consumer model works. If we don't like what is being offered by one vendor we switch allegiance to another and, if they disappoint us too, we switch again until we are happy with what we find. Sadly, this mentality even spills over in to family life: don't like your current spouse so much any more, are things

getting difficult? then get another one, move on, you deserve to be happy! Of course nobody would actually say that out loud but it's an attitude that is all too prevalent. When this attitude spills over into church it can be just as toxic.

A friend of mine used to say, "You can choose your friends but you're stuck with your family" and he was dead right! We cannot, must not, interact with our natural or church families like consumers. We cannot expect church to feel like a family if we treat it like a business: attend, critique, use; instead we must treat church like family: commit, love, devote—even when sometimes it isn't reciprocated. The Bible tells us that we are going to spend an eternity with our brothers and sisters in Christ so we'd better be in this for the long-haul. And, unlike Nectar or Clubcard points, the rewards are out of this world!

Jason

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

THIS YEAR THE Mothers' Union celebrates 140 years of Christian service. It is worth remembering that even though we are a Christian organisation, we support families in need throughout the world of all faiths and none. In the latest issue of our magazine "*Families First*", Lynne Tembey the worldwide president of the MU, talks about how impressed she is on her travels by the way members work alongside other agencies, to bring comfort and relief to those on the edge of society and in great need.

The MU supports marriage and family life but recognises the stresses and strains

of modern day relationships. National Marriage week from 7–14 February is a time to celebrate all that is good about marriage and the vows we undertake.

Our evening meeting on 9 February will take place in the Chapel in Hinchingsbrooke Hospital with Rev Scott Watts. During our afternoon meeting in Hilary Lodge on 16 February we shall be looking at the work of the MU in different parts of the world. Both these meetings are open to non-members.

Julie Anderson

Fairtrade Fortnight

29 February to 13 March



FAIRTRADE
FOUNDATION

Sit down for breakfast, stand up for farmers!

AS MARTIN LUTHER King famously said, ‘before you finish eating breakfast in the morning, you’ve depended on more than half the world’. Despite our dependence on farmers and workers for the foods, drinks and products that we love, about 795 million people are undernourished globally.

It’s a scandal that the people who grow the food we take for granted can’t always feed their own families. We can support farmers and workers to put food on the table for their families by harnessing the power of a Fairtrade breakfast.

When people are paid a fairer price, they can have more control over their

lives when times are hard, and worry less about how they will feed their families. Whether it’s the extra cash in their pockets or being able to expand their farms to grow more food to eat, Fairtrade means many farmers and workers are able to fulfil a basic human need — to put enough food on the table for the people they care about, all year round.

At this time of financial difficulty for Supermarkets it is sad to see that the range of Fairtrade products they hold is reduced. Do keep the pressure on them by asking for specific products and also expand the range or Fairtrade product that you regularly purchase.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day — 9 February

IT’S ODD, REALLY, that confessing one’s sins to God should ever have involved making pancakes. And yet the beginning of Lent brings us both — Shrove Tuesday is Pancake Day, and is followed by Ash Wednesday, and so Lent begins.

In centuries gone by, the pancakes were made to use up the milk and eggs before the fasting of Lent. More recently,

many readers will have childhood memories of the wonder of watching



our mothers break an egg, mix it with milk and flour — and out of that gooey mess, to produce a light and delicious pancake.

These days more and more of us buy pancake mix, or even ready-made pancakes. It seems we prefer the certainty of ending up with pancakes - to the risk of having made nothing BUT a mess of the kitchen.

In many parishes they used to hold pancake races on the day. Why anyone would want to run around a field while holding a pancake is not clear, but in Olney, Bucks, they have held a pancake race almost every year since 1445.

Happy Christmas!

From all of us at the Place of Grace



Belated Christmas Greetings

From: **John and Gillian Robinson**
<placeofgracebkk@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Dec 13, 2015

PLEASE FIND ATTACHED a Christmas card — the picture was taken on a recent trip to Harrow school with 50 of the children where much fun and chaos was had!

We are in Christmas party season, and we had the first party on Friday evening at our discipleship group. We had the most moving time, as Khun Jiap had all the teenagers line up, and the adults go along the line to each and pray for each of them. Some of these young lads had never been prayed for before and were very moved; in others we saw God really impact them too. We would ask you to pray for Khun Jiap as she has recently been diagnosed with tumours in her womb. We asked all

the young people to pray for her, and it was very moving to see them all lay hands on her and pray for her.

We have 5 parties in the next 3 days for the children and teenagers; please will you pray for these, and especially for the nativity which the discipleship group teenagers are putting on at each for the first time, and in front of the community leaders and families as well as the children.

Please also pray for us as we celebrate Christmas without Leah being home for the first time — definitely the hardest part of being a missionary is being so far away from our family and especially from Leah, and next year Natalie too.

We hope that you have a wonderful Christmas and much love and thanks from us all,

John, Gillian, Leah, Natalie and Joel xx

Daddy

Policeman to man pacing pavement at 3 o'clock in the morning: "What are you doing here?"

Man: "I forgot my key, officer, and I'm waiting for my children to come home and let me in."

Recent report on religion and belief in Britain ‘seriously misguided’

This story broke late last year, and has potentially very serious consequences for the future of Christianity in the UK.

A RECENT REPORT LED by Baroness Butler-Sloss which said that Britain is no longer a Christian country has been criticised by cabinet ministers who said it was ‘seriously misguided’, and by the Church of England which claimed it appeared to have been ‘hijacked’ by humanists. The report into religion and belief in Britain, calls for a ‘new settlement’ for religion because the religious landscape has been ‘transformed’ by a growth in non-Christian religions and numbers of people with no religion.

In response, a spokesperson for the Church of England said: “We welcome the call in this report for greater religious literacy and the highlighting of the scale of social action by the Church – as well as its recommendation that where a religious organisation is best placed to deliver a social good, it should not be disadvantaged.

“We also welcome the acknowledgement that the establishment of the Church of England has helped the integration of non-Christian perspectives in British society and helped them to make their voices heard in the public sphere. The Church of England, through its dioceses, parishes and at national level has been at the forefront of work to increase understanding between the different faiths.

“We are however disappointed that the report misunderstands the role of Church of England schools in providing a

rounded education to more than a million pupils from all backgrounds as part of our commitment to the common good. If there is a significant problem with our schools it is that many of them are so popular that they are oversubscribed and not every parent who wants to can send their children to one.

“The report also misunderstands collective worship in schools. We believe that if the law on collective worship were repealed schools would risk losing this vital element of shaping a community that reflects the full breadth of human experience. We know, for example, that the response of many schools to the horror of the Paris attacks will have been in the context of collective worship.

“The report is dominated by the old fashioned view that traditional religion is declining in importance and that non-adherence to a religion is the same as humanism or secularism.”

After recent “overwhelming public support for the Church of England over the Lord’s Prayer cinema advert, it is important to remember that most public opinion is strongly opposed to the marginalisation of Christianity.”

To read a blog by Nigel Genders, Church of England Chief Education Officer see

<http://cofecomms.tumblr.com/post/134520796697/church-schools-make-a-difference>

Read more: [Christian Today](#) 7/12/15

Read more: [The Telegraph](#) 7/12/15

PP

PCCs across the region join forces to recruit legally qualified chairs

AS AN OVERHAUL of the police complaints system gets underway, Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) across the Eastern region have worked together to recruit lawyers to chair public hearings into allegations of police misconduct.

From January 1 2016, police misconduct panels will be chaired by legally qualified chairs rather than senior police officers, as part of efforts by the government to make the process more transparent.

Within the Eastern Region, PCCs for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk have recruited 17 lawyers to preside over hearings held in each of the counties.

The successful candidates were required to demonstrate integrity, sound judgement, objectivity and a commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion. They have been appointed on an initial four year term to chair hearings as and when required, and will undergo training to assist them in their role.

Sir Graham Bright, PCC for Cambridgeshire, said, “Any case of

wrongdoing has to be dealt with appropriately and in a manner that the public can have confidence in. I therefore welcome the appointment of the Chairs, which brings further transparency to policing.”

Information on how members of the public can attend disciplinary hearings will be published on the relevant Constabulary’s website.

For more information contact:

Charles Kitchin
Director of Public Engagement and Communications
Office of the Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner
PO BOX 688, Huntingdon, PE29 9LA
Office: 0300 333 3456
Direct Dial: 01954 713906
Mobile: 07809 332291
Mobex: 7114000

To visit Cambridgeshire Constabulary's website please follow this link:

<http://www.cambs-police.co.uk/index.asp>

Issued on behalf of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Afternoon tea, anyone?

DO YOU TAKE afternoon tea? Ever wondered where it started? The custom seems to date back to the mid-1800s, and the seventh Duchess of Bedford, Anna Russell. The Duchess got hungry at about 4pm each day, and complained that she had “that sinking feeling”. As it was still four hours until dinner (at 8pm), she began to have sandwiches or a small cake with some tea. Her friends thought this was marvellous, and the idea spread quickly through (hungry) upper class circles.

Soon, it seems, everyone in England was looking forward to Afternoon Tea, and a great British tradition was born. Though during the last century the sandwiches and cake gave way to biscuits, still we reached for the teapot each afternoon. Not so much any more, it seems. In the last five years, sales of tea have dropped by nearly a quarter, and sales of biscuits have sunk by a tenth. Nowadays we reach for bottled water and fruits, nuts or even cheese. The research was done by retail analysts Mintel.

PP

Half Nights of Prayer The New Magazine

Dear All,

AS THE NEW Year begins I am more convinced than ever that prayer must be a core part of our spiritual lives together.

With this in mind I am proposing to hold half nights of prayer in church on the second Thursday of each month between 6pm and midnight. These will be divided into one hour slots and will vary in content from more formal/structured prayers led from the front, to opportunities for group and reflective prayer, as well as times of bible reading and silence. There will be opportunities to pray for ourselves as well as others, the villages around us and the world.

The hour slots will be led by a variety of people, not just me, in a variety of styles and I hope on occasion to have musicians present so we can sing too.

Please feel free to come and join us for as much or as little as you are able on any of the Thursday evenings. You can arrive and leave at any point that suits you — there is no need to 'fit in' with the hour slots as it were!

*I hope to see you there
Very Best Regards,
Jason*

IF YOU RECALL from last month's magazine Jason (Rector) told us about the amalgamation of Brampton Matters and Brampton Parish News which we hope will start from April.

This copy will be delivered free every month to all houses in the village — currently some 2,000 homes. At the moment I have 30 people who deliver our magazine — about 450 copies and there are a similar number who deliver the quarterly Brampton Matters. I need to coordinate a team that will operate in future delivering the new magazine (name to yet be decided) to every house once a month. If you are in either team and would like to be part of the new one I would be very grateful to hear from you. I have already spoken to some BPN 'deliverers' and have had a positive response. However if after reading this you would like to join the team as a new 'boy or girl' it would be great to have you on board!

Please call me on 01480 454453 or email billieleighton@aol.com
Billie M. Leighton
20, High St. Brampton.
PE28 4 TG



Messy Church is not just for children it is for everyone to enjoy. If you've not yet been and would welcome some sociable time with a group of happy people come and join us.

Next Messy church is on Sunday 7th February at 3.30pm and we shall be thinking about Jesus, light for the world.

You will be most welcome

St James the Least of All

On how to survive a residential conference...

*The Rev Dr Gary Bowness continues
his letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...*

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

I am glad you enjoyed your conference, but please do not be deluded into thinking that conferences are there to teach you anything. Conferences exist to provide another entry on your CV, to give you time off while flattering yourself that you are working, and to make the person leading it feel that their life is not wholly pointless.

As it happened, I was also invited to the same one, the one entitled 'Learning how to say 'no''. But I refused to attend, thereby proving that I didn't need it anyway.

There are certain useful points you need to learn for conferences. First, about half the attendees will have been together only the previous week attending another conference in another part of the country. They will be eager, enthusiastic and overflowing with management platitudes. Avoid them at all costs. Should one of them say to you: 'expect the unexpected' you have my permission to strangle them. They won't have expected that!

Secondly, when you are all asked to go through that ghastly process of introducing yourselves to everyone else, make it up. I think the last time I was obliged to do this, I became a butcher specialising in exporting offal to Saudi Arabia. All your clerical colleagues will then panic that they have turned up for the wrong course and the leader will make sure that you are not asked another single question throughout the event. Both outcomes are satisfying.

Thirdly, do realise that when you are asked to divide into small discussion groups, it means that the conference leader has run out of ideas about what to do next. Do not, at all costs, volunteer to be chairman. It only means that when you have to report back — and if the leaders use the word 'plenary', then by all means contemplate strangling them also — you will be involved in sticking sheets of paper on to walls, which will then rip off the wallpaper when you try to remove them.

You will also have the embarrassment of finding that every felt tip pen you try to use will be empty, and what you thought were the conclusions your group had arrived at will be volubly contradicted by all the other members.

No, if you are ever obliged to attend another course, take a good book, enough claret to cover every evening away, and develop a debilitating illness that, while enabling you to attend every meal, obliges you to retreat to your room for the rest of the day. You will leave having learned as much on whatever the topic was as your colleagues, but will return refreshed and eager to make the next booking.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

PP

One in Four

THE MAJORITY OF the population have a birthday every year. For a minority this event takes place one real birthday every four years. This happens on the 29th February. Called by some as St. Oswalds Day, named after the Archbishop of York who died on this day in 992. The event is celebrated on Feb 28th in Common years, thanks to the Earth orbiting the sun in 365 days and 6 hours. The Gregorian Calendar corrects the anomaly and creates the leap year.

As one who has a birthday on this day I have grown up with it. I would celebrate it between midnight on 28th Feb and 1st March. Two birthdays on the same day.

One leap year day event that I recall was the birth of Princess Alexander's only son, James Robert Bruce Oglivy. (No title).

The Princess opened the Cheshire Home in Brampton.

On my real birthday eight years ago I went to Peterborough Greyhounds and it was comforting to hear dedications over the Tannoy system. I was not alone.

There are still some oversights in the date. This year the magazine 'Steam World' printed the 2016 Calendar without the date. Fortunately it did not throw out all the days and dates after 1st March 2016.

Several traditions are also associated with the date and year. In Ireland St. Brigid struck a deal with St Patrick that allows women to propose to men. (In some countries the day is called bachelor's day). If the man refused he had to pay a penalty to the lady of 12 pairs of gloves. This was to hide the embarrassment of not having an engagement ring.

Men beware!!!!!!

*Allan Mott
Warboys*

Leap Year – 29 February

2016 BRINGS US a Leap Year. We need to add this extra day every four years in order to keep our calendar in alignment with the Earth's revolutions around the Sun. The problem is very simple: our calendar has 365 days, but it actually takes 365.242199 days (a tropical year) to circle once around the Sun. That means we are 'out' by nearly six hours a year. Four times six hours is 24 hours — hence an extra day every four years.

Adding the extra day in February goes back to Julius Caesar in 45 BC. In his Julian Calendar, February was the last month of the year, and 24 February was Leap Year Day. PP



Had a recent experience of using health or social care?

Tell us what it was like for you

Listen:

At Healthwatch, we listen. Tell us what is working well within our local health and care services and what you think needs to be better.

We log what you say and share this anonymously with the people who make decisions about our care. This helps them improve care where it is needed.

Involve:

We can make sure you know about local opportunities to have your say on health and care decisions. You can sign up for regular updates, or get in touch whenever you want some information.

We can help you find out what health and care services are available locally, or how to raise a concern. This is a free, independent and confidential service.

Challenge:

Healthwatch can challenge health and care decision makers, if care isn't working in the way it should. We can also challenge, if we think a decision has been made where people have not been able to contribute. They have to listen to us, and they have to reply.

Get in touch

Please do tell us how care is working right now for you and the people who are important to you. Your experiences are important to us.

We are happy to talk to local groups and attend events, so please do invite us.

Contact us

www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk or call 01480 420628.



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Judgement?

THIS TRUE STORY concerns the visit of a visiting preacher to a little village chapel... 'He was a few minutes into his sermon when, without warning, about twenty square feet of thick and decayed Victorian plaster fell from high on one wall and

crashed into a group of empty pews below. As the dense fog of dust began to settle, and it became clear no one was injured, the minister prepared to resume his sermon. Then he paused, and looked heavenward and in a slightly pained voice, asked: "Was it something I said?"



WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
(interdenominational)



RECEIVE CHILDREN. RECEIVE ME
4th March 2016

Prepared by Christian women of Cuba

**Women's
World Day
of Prayer**

Friday 4 March

2.30pm

The Methodist
Church
on
The Green,
Brampton

Leader;
The Revd. Pam
Siddall



*For "those viewing in
black & white" the
flag has a red triangle
superimposed on 3
blue and 2 white bars.*

Description of the Cuban Artwork

In a wall of yellow, the colonial colour, stands an open door—symbolising unity and working together.

Above the door, the stained glass lights are in the colours of the Cuban flag.

Outside, the country road is lined with royal palms, the national tree of Cuba. The ox cart, familiar on country roads, takes the men home from work.

On the left is seen part of the figure of a woman. Her hand holds the smaller hand of the child. The different skin colours represent the diversity of the Cuban people.

Graphic designed by Ruth Mariet Trueba Castro

It's Not German And It's Not Enigma

How breaking Italian ciphers impacted on deception in the desert

CAIRO WAS A gossip town during World War Two, full of spies, many working for more than one side at once.

This made the job of gathering reliable intelligence and keeping it sufficiently secret all the more difficult. The new episode of the Bletchley Park Podcast, *It's Not German and It's Not Enigma*, tells the little-known story of how an outpost of the Government Code and Cypher School, set up in a former flora and fauna museum, supported the operation to push the Italian invading force back out of



Egypt. General Wavell, the Commander in Chief responsible for Operation Compass, knew how leaky Cairo was and constructed a deception to protect the real plan.

Bletchley Park's Research Historian, Dr David Kenyon, describes Wavell's feint "He tells very few people, he has hardly any orders written down. At the same time they release the rumour and produce radio messages and logistical paperwork saying they're going to pull troops out of the desert and send them to Greece. So when they attack the Italians, it's a complete surprise for everybody concerned, not only the Italians but also some of the troops involved. But that's why the operation is a success."

Harry Hinsley, the former Codebreaker who went on to write the official history of British Intelligence in WW2 said the contribution of signals intelligence to Operation Compass "was of decisive importance".

Even before the war with Italy began, the Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park had 'all but completely mastered' Italian ciphers. Unfortunately for GC&CS the Italian armed services changed all their code books at the outbreak of hostilities in June 1940. But by October, the Codebreakers had broken into the new system.

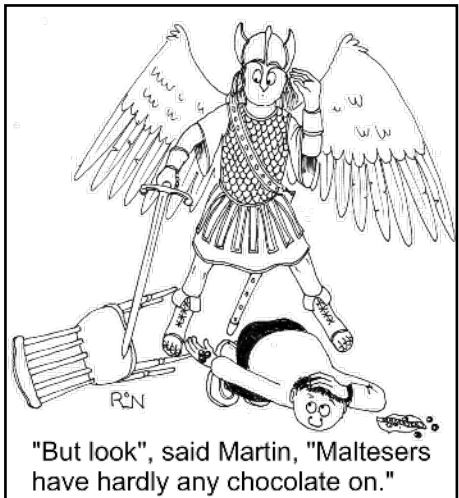
Dr Kenyon says "You have to appreciate the determination of the people involved. They had spent years gradually working out what each code number meant and assembling dictionaries of all the terms and how it all worked, and in June 1940 it all changed and they had to start again. That doggedness and ability to accept that kind of setback and just crack on is, I think, really impressive."

The Washington Post reported on one trip by Wavell with this superb headline...

Wavell Flies Back to Front After Secret Talks in London

By the United Press
London, Sept. 24.—Gen. Sir Archibald Wavell, commander of the British Indian army, was revealed today to have been in London for secret talks in London for a full scale campaign is expected to break out soon on the Egyptian-Libyan border. One of

Chocolate in Lent...



We Will Remember Them

HAROLD EDWIN HUNTER was born in Brampton in 1895 to John and Ellen Hunter who had married in 1884. John was a gardener at Hinchingbrooke House, living in 'The Lodge'. Harold enlisted at Huntingdon in the 11th Battalion, Essex Regiment, 6th Division. In January 1916, as a Lance Corporal, he was wounded near Ypres and died in the military hospital at Poperinge on 1st February. He is buried in Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Poperinge, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

During the First World War, the village of Lijssenthoek was situated on the main communication line between the Allied military bases in the rear and the Ypres battlefields. Close to the Front, but out of the extreme range of most German field artillery, it became a natural place to establish casualty clearing stations. The cemetery was first used by the French 15th Hopital D'Evacuation and in June 1915, it began to be used by casualty clearing stations of the Commonwealth forces. In 1918, the casualty clearing stations fell back before the German advance and field ambulances (including a French ambulance) took their places. Soldiers devised amusing names for these



CCSs, which sounded curiously Flemish, but still had a grim meaning: Lijssenthoek was also popularly known as Remi Cemetery, from the name of the farmer who lived behind the clearing station's complex of tents. The farm can still be seen today.

Belying the stereotype of lions being led by donkeys, there are a number of senior officers buried here, giving lie to the myth that the Generals in the Great War kept safe and sound out of harm's way: Hugh Gregory Fitton, GOC 101st Brigade, 34th Division, has the unique distinction of being the only general officer to become his division's first battle casualty. He was the seventeenth British general to be killed in action or to die of wounds on the Western Front.

Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, after Tyne Cot, it is the second largest cemetery for Commonwealth forces in Belgium.

If you are looking to love... good food

HERE'S A 'DATING website' with a difference: if you dream of finding quality food that's been locally produced, then BigBarn.co.uk may help point you in the right direction.

The website puts you in touch with all the farm gate food producers within 20 miles of your home. Overall, it connects thousands of local producers of quality

food across the UK with those of us who are looking for an alternative to mass produced, and often tasteless, food.

Just visit the site and tap in your postcode, and you will be offered a map showing all of the local producers near you. Think of it as a kind of 'virtual farmers' market.

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PP

My Long Road to Brampton

Part 6 — 1996–1997 (The Welsh 15 months)

THIS PART OF my journey was the shortest of my career, from August 1996 until October 1997. I went from Benson in Oxfordshire and joined my old unit (229 OCU) who had moved from Chivenor to Brawdy on the south-western tip of Wales. This part of Wales has a wonderful coast line, beaches and country side and there is always something to do. The flying was hardly interrupted by the weather, so I can understand why they had made the move to such a wonderful spot.

RAF Brawdy is situated between Salva and Newgale on the A487, not far from St David's, which as you will know has the smallest cathedral in the UK and a wonderful place to visit. The beaches are to die for with most of them being devoid of people even at the height of summer.

Coming back to my old unit was the right move as I was able to fit in as if I had never been away. In the intervening years I had gone up a rank and now I was put in charge of long term rectification. An aircraft had gone into the barrier and had done the usual amount of damage. It had been assessed and the parts demanded. The this sort of repair I had done before whilst at Chivenor, but had never been in charge of the whole operation. I was told I could have whatever trades I needed when I needed them and I could select another airframe mechanic/fitter to work under me. I knew roughly how long the aircraft would be out of action, and my estimate proved right.

We were allocated a married quarter in Haverfordwest. Trish called it the white washed cow shed when she first saw it (see photo of the house with Trish & I and Sarah looking around the corner); the



house is about 10 miles from Brawdy and a mile out of town. It is a pleasant town with everything you need and the drive to Brawdy, even at the height of summer, was a pleasure; the Newgale beach was never crowded, I passed it every day and even had the odd swim on my way home from work.

Our married quarter was perfectly situated. We had friends living down the road whom we had known from our Chivenor days. Add to this we only had to go over the back fence and into the bakery which had superb bread and cream cakes. It was no wonder I put on a few pounds, but the cakes went down well of an evening with a cup of coffee after a day's work. I even used to take cakes and rolls to camp with me to sell in the crew room. These really were happy days.

When our eldest daughter Patricia (Trish) came home for Christmas leave she got on the wrong train and instead of Wales she headed for the midlands. We arrived at Swansea station to meet her train and were called to the station masters office to be told the news. She would not now be arriving until after midnight. It was a bitterly cold night, the waiting room was closed, and nothing was open so we had to walk around to keep warm (not a good idea with our 10 year old daughter with us).



Sometime in the wee small hours she eventually arrived and we then had the fifty odd miles to drive home; to make it worse it had started to snow and by the time we arrived home it was laying. But we did have a lovely Christmas with the whole family altogether.

At times we did have gale force winds or I should say hurricane winds, and one week end I was asked to pop on to camp while I was that way and see all was well, as we had had a real hurricane the night before. All was ok around our flight line, but there on the tarmac was a light aircraft upside down. It was the first time I had seen such a sight, but apart from that all was well. The wind the night before was an exception rather than the rule of the weather we usually enjoyed.

Although I had settled into my work all was not well on the domestic front. Peter was not settling into his school, but Sarah being Sarah had done well in her 11 plus and attained a mark which should have given her a place at grammar school, but they would not give her the place as she was a service man's child. So once again it was into battle, and we got an understanding that if we moved to an area with a grammar school they would give us a letter to say that under normal circumstances she would have got a place.

This being my first summer at Brawdy I was persuaded to play lunch time cricket in the inter-section league. It was the first time I had played regular cricked since I left Chivenor, but it was a good way to get to know the rest of my workmates. We did not do very well, but what the heck, it was a way of passing the time!

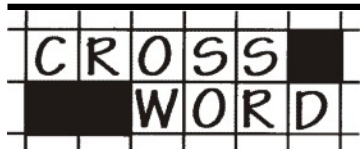
Our favourite past time while I was on shift work was to head for the beach, soak up the sun and swim in the lovely clear waters, as some of the smaller bays were like heaven, and all in all I collected quite a tan, but all good things have to end!

In August I was reading Station Routine Orders (SROs) and saw RAF Halton wanted airframe fitters as instructors. I found that there was a grammar school in Aylesbury, the main town near Halton. So I applied for the post, was accepted for interview, my interview went well, with my experience they were more than happy to offer me the post, and asked if I would forgo my 28 days' notice to move. So I left Brawdy in October and took up my new post on 1 November 1977 at 1S of TT as an Airframe Instructor.

My stay at Brawdy was the shortest of my career on any station other than training, and in some ways I was sorry to leave my favourite aircraft and friends. Some of them I had known for many years, and newer ones I had only just met, but then that is life! So for the sake of the family we upped sticks and headed for Halton in Buckinghamshire, and the start of a new career.

I hope you are enjoying my journey? If so keep reading and learn a little more about me as I start the last leg of my journey to Brampton.

JL



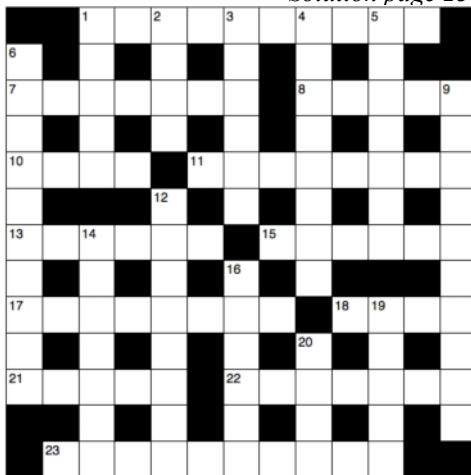
Across

- 1 Success or wealth (Deuteronomy 28:11) (10)
- 7 Forbidden fruit for Nazirites (Numbers 6:3) (7)
- 8 Concede (Job 27:5) (5)
- 10 Look at (Psalm 48:13) (4)
- 11 Much in evidence after weddings (8)
- 13 Condense (Job 36:27) (6)
- 15 Breakwater (6)
- 17 Give a tan (anag.) (8)
- 18 More usually now called Pentecost, — Sunday (4)
- 21 After living for 365 years, it was said of him that ‘he walked with God’ (Genesis 5:23–24) (5)
- 22 Trampled (Judges 9:27) (7)
- 23 For example, Miriam, Deborah (Exodus 15:20; Judges 4:4) (10)

Down

- 1 Arrogance (Proverbs 8:13) (5)
- 2 Roman poet from first century BC (4)
- 3 So rapt (anag.) (6)
- 4 Declare again (2 Corinthians 2:8) (8)
- 5 Paul’s ‘fellow worker’, to whom he sent two epistles (Romans 16:21) (7)
- 6 God’s foreseeing care and protection (Job 10:12) (10)
- 9 Traditional form of Roman Catholic Mass (10)

Solution page 23



- 12 ‘The Lord... has given the — of Israel to David and his descendants for ever’ (2 Chronicles 13:5) (8)
- 14 ‘My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my — ’ (Luke 1:46–47) (7)
- 16 The central element in Nebuchadnezzar’s dream, identified and interpreted by Daniel (Daniel 2:31) (6)
- 19 ‘On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of — will not overcome it’ (Matthew 16:18) (5)
- 20 City where Paul was under house arrest for two years (Acts 28:16) (4)

PP

The Bible version used in our crosswords is the NIV. Crosswords reproduced by kind permission of BRF and John Capon, originally published in *Three Down, Nine Across*, by John Capon (£6.99 BRF)

No news

A TRAVELLER WAS marooned in a small town because of a landslide caused by heavy rain. It fell in torrents for three days. Looking out of the window of the restaurant, he finally remarked to the waitress: “This is like the flood.”

“The what?”

“The flood. Surely you have heard about the great flood and Noah and the Ark?”

“Sorry, sir, “ she replied. “I haven’t seen a newspaper for four days.”

All in the month of FEBRUARY

IT WAS 500 years ago on 18 February 1516 that Mary I, Queen of England (1553–58) was born. She was also known as Mary Tudor or Bloody Mary.

400 years ago on 26 February 1616 Galileo was ordered by the Catholic Church to abandon his opinion that the Earth and planets revolve around the Sun (known as the Copernican theory). He was banned from holding the opinion, promoting it, or teaching it.

60 years ago on 11 February 1956 two members of the Cambridge spy ring, British diplomats Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean, announced that they had defected to the Soviet Union. They had both vanished in mysterious circumstances in 1951.

20 years ago on 10 February 1996 the IBM supercomputer Deep Blue defeated reigning world chess champion Garry Kasparov in one of their six games. This was the first time a computer beat a world champion under tournament conditions.

10 years ago on 18 February 2006 British rock band the Rolling Stones played the world's largest free rock concert on Copacabana Beach, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. An estimated two million people attended. PP

A local connection to Mary's time

AN INDENTURE, DATED May 8, 3&4 Philip & Mary (1557) between the Princess Elizabeth and Simon Throgmorton whereby “the right excellent Princess the ladie Elizabeth’s grace” leases to Throgmorton the 4 watermills in Brampton (3 corn & 1 Fulling mill) and also a meadow called Turndell meadow & three acres of meadow lying in south meadow for £20 a year. The deed recalls the fact that “Sir

Richard Williams alias Sir Richard Cromwell KT” [i.e. Oliver Cromwell’s great grandfather] had let these in 1541/2 to Robert Goddard of Huntingdon, Yeoman, and that he had conveyed them to Throgmorton (in 1550) and that the reversion had been conveyed to the Princess “who by reason there of is now seised of the premises.” The Princess thereupon lets them to Throgmorton as stated above. The real interest of this deed is that Elizabeth has signed it herself. Signatures before she became Queen are very rare — she was much too cautious to sign her name too often! Throgmorton himself is quite interesting and one of a dangerous family for Elizabeth to have had any dealings with at that time. It is not known why this document is at the Muniment Room of Westminster Abbey, probably left by accident with a large collection of legal manuscripts left there by a former Chapter Clerk.

Simon Throgmorton had seventeen children and was twice elected to Parliament for Huntingdonshire. But he never attained the commission of the peace and was not really of knight of the shire status. He was almost certainly a Catholic (another reason for his not becoming a J.P., at any rate under Elizabeth), and the remainder of his life was passed in comparative obscurity. A road on the ex-RAF station is named for him. He was succeeded by his 37 year-old son Robert whose successors eventually sold Brampton Park to Thomas Hetley (later Sir Thomas Hetley, knight and 'Sergeant at Law' and one of the Queen’s Council) who in his will left ‘To Poor of Brampton, where I was born & now dwell, £5’ and mentioned one of his friends, Edw. Lenton (still a village name).

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The Date The Time The Place

Brampton Flower Club:

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bramptonflowerclub.com

Brampton Historical Society:

Fourth Wednesday, odd numbered months, 7.45 pm in the Stocker Room, Brampton Institute. Non-members welcome.

Details: Pat Last 451514

Brampton Ladies Social Group:

Outings, talks and socials. Meet in members houses, 3rd Monday each month, 8pm.

Details: Leslie Morris 458818.

Brampton Women's Institute:

First Tuesday in the month, at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

Details: June Osborne 352152

Bridge Club:

6.55 to 10 pm Monday evenings in the Church Hall. £2. Details: Anne Roberts 411390

RAF Association:

Meet on the first Wednesday of the month in the Officers Mess, RAF Wyton, 7.30 for 8pm. For serving and ex-serving members of the RAF and WRAF. Details: Mrs Maureen Wigley 01480-383898

Trefoil Guild:

In Trefoil Guild, women and men aged 18+ make new friends, travel, explore, serve their communities and help Guiding and Scouting. Your local contact is Jean King 01480 890901 (or E-mail jeanmking@outlook.com)

The First Brampton Scout Group caters for boys and girls from the age of 6 upwards. For more information contact Group Scout Leader Nigel Owen on 01480 437786.

WAAFA (Ex WAAF and WRAF)

See RAFA above.

Biodiversity: Anglian Water's Natural Partner

THE HUNTINGDONSHIRE LOCAL Group of the Wildlife Trust is pleased to present an illustrated talk entitled 'Biodiversity: Anglian Water's Natural Partner' on **Wednesday 10 February at 7.30pm** at Brampton Memorial Centre, Thrapston Road, Brampton, PE28 4TB.

The talk will be given by Chris Gerrard who is Anglian Water's Climate Change and Biodiversity Manager. Chris will explain how the company is working to conserve and enhance wildlife on its land and how this work impacts the whole region through the provision of water and

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Local Group



water recycling services to its six million customers.

Chris will go on to discuss the range of projects and initiatives that the company are involved with, including their enduring partnership with the Wildlife Trust.

Anyone interested in wildlife is most welcome to attend. No Need to book. Entrance charge £2.50 (accompanied children free). Please contact Tim on 07941 261346 for further information.

Part of the Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire
Registered Charity No: 1000412



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February Bulletin from Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

THINK THE FIRE service is all about putting out fires and rescuing people from road crashes? Think again.

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And we'd like *you* to think about joining us.

The role of a firefighter is varied and exciting but most importantly, it can make a real difference to people's lives.

The next recruitment process for wholetime firefighters opens on 6 February. To find out more, log on to www.cambsfire.gov.uk.

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— firefire@cambsfire.gov.uk

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- I just called to say.... (Stevie Wonder)
- Lady in Red (Chris de Burgh)
- Smoke Gets in Your Eyes (Cole Porter)
- Killing me Softly (Roberta Flack)
- Everything I do (Bryan Adams)
- Love is all Around (Four Weddings)
- My Heart Goes On (Celine Dion)
- One Fine Day (Puccini)
- Some Enchanted Evening (South Pacific)
- The Power of Love (Jennifer Rush)
- Unchained Melody (The Righteous Brothers)
- When a Man Loves a Woman (Percy Sledge)
- Without You (Nilsson)
- Wonderful Tonight (Eric Clapton)
- You'll Never Walk Alone (Carousel) *pp*

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Saturday 6.30 pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 9.45 am Family Mass
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12 pm and 7.30 pm Mass

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for children Sunday from 10.30 am

Confessions

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Rev Matt Finch, 19 Audley Close, St Ives
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Mrs Rosemary Marchant Tel:01354-677779
(*Lay Ministry Assistant*)

Church Contact:

Mrs Myra Prior, Tel. 01480 414353
e-mail: norma_nil2000@yahoo.co.uk

Hall Bookings

Mrs B Rands, Tel: 01480-52852

Services: Each Sunday at 10 am

- 7 Mr John Bridge
- 14 Mrs Leonore Charlton
- 21 Mrs Katy Salmon
- 28 Rev Matt Finch

Thursday Fellowship: This is interdenom-
inational, not a Methodist Fellowship. You do
not need to attend a Church on Sunday to
come along. Everyone welcome at 2.30 pm.

- 11 Billie Leighton
- 25 Rev Matt Finch

Other Events:

Coffee Morning:

Wednesday 3 — 10 am–12 noon

Soup Lunch:

Wednesday 17 — 12.30 pm

Emmaus:

Wednesday 10, 24 — 2.15 pm

Brampton's Local Councillors

Your **Cambridgeshire County Councillor** is

Peter Downes Tel: 07765 833 486
email: peter.downes@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Your **Huntingdonshire District Councillors** are
(Brampton, Grafham & Perry villages)

John Morris Tel: 458818

Twitter: @johnmbrampton
email: john.morris@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Patricia Jordan Tel: 457802

email: patricia.jordan@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

The **Clerk to the Parish Council** is:

Janet Innes-Clarke Tel: 454441

email: clerk@brampton-cambs-pc.gov.uk
Brampton Memorial Centre, Thrapston Road,
Brampton, Huntingdon, PE28 4TB

Crossword Solution



Items for consideration for inclusion in the **March**
Edition of the **BRAMPTON PARISH NEWS** to the Editor
(contact details on rear cover) by **11 February please.**

The **BRAMPTON PARISH NEWS** is happy to print letters or any other
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PARISH MINISTRY TEAM

Rector: Revd Jason Taylor, The Rectory, 15 Church Road
If you would like to meet with, or speak to, the Rector please contact him
using the details provided. His rest day is Friday
Tel: 453341, rector@stmarym.co.uk

Associate Minister & Lead Chaplain of Hinchingsbrooke Hospital

Revd Scott Watts JP, Tel: 411141, scott@stmarym.co.uk

Children and Families

Adventurers' Sunday School (3–10s) Karen Large, Tel: 433922
during the 11am service children@stmarym.co.uk

Youth Club for years 6–8 Thursday 6.30–7.45pm youth@stmarym.co.uk

Pastoral Assistant Jan Edwards, Tel: 417380

OTHER OFFICERS & LEADERS

Churchwardens Ian Stracey, Tel: 457525, ian.stracey@stmarym.co.uk

Ken Mackenzie, Tel: 434374, ken@stmarym.co.uk

P.C.C. Treasurer Tony Page, treasurer@stmarym.co.uk

P.C.C. Secretary Karen Large Tel: 433922, pccsec@stmarym.co.uk

Mothers' Union 2nd Tuesday 8pm Church Hall — 3rd Tuesday 2.30pm Hilary Lodge
Branch Leader: Elizabeth Arkle, Tel: 434924, mu@stmarym.co.uk

Tower Bells Tower Captain: Ian Stracey, Tel: 457525, ian@stmarym.co.uk
Practice Monday 7.30–9.00 pm

Church Hall Booking Secretary: Tel: 434374, hall@stmarym.co.uk

Church Mission Society Coordinator Tel: 433220

Children's Society Coordinator Tel: 435200

Bible Study Notes Jean Carter, Tel: 436846

Church House Groups House groups provide an opportunity for people to meet, to learn, and to help each other as Christians. We have a number of groups which meet and we welcome new people. For more information, contact Revd Jason Taylor.

Across the Churches Bible Study Ellington normally 1st and 3rd Tuesday evening
Contact Jean Clark 890033

Car-ride

A TEENAGER WHO HAD just received her provisional licence offered to drive her parents to church. After a hair-raising ride, they finally reached their destination. The mother got out of the car and said in a quiet but fervent voice: "Thank you!"

"Anytime," her daughter replied.

As the woman slammed the car door she said, "I wasn't talking to you. I was talking to God."

The Parish Churches in February

Thursday 4 15.00 Holy Communion Hinchingbrooke Hospital Chapel

Sunday Before Lent

SUNDAY 7 09.15 Parish Communion
10.45 *Holy Communion* Hinchingbrooke Hospital Chapel
11.00 Parish Praise
11.00 *Service of the Word* at Grafham

Tuesday 9 20.00 Mothers' Union Hinchingbrooke Hospital Chapel
(see page 4)

Thursday 11 15.00 Holy Communion Hinchingbrooke Hospital Chapel

Lent 1

SUNDAY 14 09.15 Parish Communion
11.00 Parish Praise with Baptism
11.00 *Service of the Word* at Ellington

Tuesday 16 14.30 Mothers' Union (see page 4) Hilary Lodge
Annual Parochial Church Meeting Church Hall, Brampton
Subject to Parochial Reorganisation Agreement

Thursday 18 15.00 Holy Communion Hinchingbrooke Hospital Chapel

Lent 2

SUNDAY 21 9.15 Parish Communion
10.45 *Holy Communion* Hinchingbrooke Hospital Chapel
11.00 Parish Praise
11.00 *Holy Communion* at Grafham

Thursday 25 15.00 Holy Communion Hinchingbrooke Hospital Chapel

Lent 3

SUNDAY 28 10.00 Service of the Word
11.00 Parish Praise
11.00 *Holy Communion* at Ellington

In March

Thursday 3 15.00 Holy Communion Hinchingbrooke Hospital Chapel

Mothering Sunday

SUNDAY 6 09.15 Parish Communion
11.00 Parish Communion
11.00 *Service of the Word* at Grafham
15.30 **Messy Church** (see page 9)

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