



St Hilda's
Ashford

St Hilda's News

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We are looking for more contributions from the St Hilda's community, if you would like to contribute, please either call, email or send an article to the Parish Office.

If you would like help or to speak to a member of the ministry team please contact:

- Parish Office Tel 01784 253525
 Email office@sthilda.org
- Father Joseph can be contacted on 01784 254237

St Hilda's Church

It is with great regret that we are going to have to close the doors of St Hilda's Church again following the government's announcement last Saturday. The Sunday Eucharist service will continue to be live streamed during this time.

We will be open for private prayer only on Wednesday mornings during lockdown between 9.30am – midday.

The art installation was erected ahead of time to enable those of you who were able to join the Monday All Souls or Wednesday's Eucharist service to view this amazing display, I am informed that the display is made up of over 1,500 knitted or crocheted poppies that were made by various members of the church community. A HUGE THANK YOU to you all as well as to Alison Garner who produced the final design. A team of ladies were then extremely busy for 5-6 hours last Friday attaching each of the poppies.

On Sunday, under the guidance of Alison, the finished article was erected by a team of six people, including Will Gething and his friend Chris.

A big thank you to all of you as well.

Thank You

Both of these will remain in situ throughout December as well as November, on the next page are a few pictures of these, as well as the now traditional poppy garden.



November 11th has a special place in the lives of many people.

For some it is the general remembrance of those who lost their lives fighting in either of the 2 world wars and conflicts since. For some it is a moment to recall family members who died.

For my husband it is a time to remember his grandfather Pte GJ Young QORWK who died on 8th May 1918 and his uncle F Hills (AG/RAF) who died 20th February 1944. Grandad Young is buried at Duhallows ADS Cemetery Ypres and we have visited a number of times, the last being on the 100th Anniversary of his death, where we planted a poppy cross. And in visiting the French and Belgium cemetery sites at different times of the year we see poppies left to mark particular graves and memorials. So the poppy, Field Poppy or Corn Poppy, of the Royal British Legion is used throughout the year.

The Poppy became the symbol of the Royal British Legion in 1921. From the RBL website: *In the Spring of 1915 shortly after losing a friend in Ypres, a Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae was moved by the sight of these poppies and that inspiration led him to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields*

The poem then inspired an American academic named Moina Michael to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the war. She campaigned to get it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance across the United States and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia, and the UK.

Also involved with those efforts was a French woman, Anna Guérin who was in the UK in 1921 where she planned to sell the poppies in London.

There she met Earl Haig, founder of the Royal British Legion, who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as an emblem for the Legion in the UK. The Legion, which had been formed in 1921, ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November that year.

Interestingly, fields covered in poppies with their appearance conveying visions of the bloodied land following the death of so many in battle, was recorded back in Napoleonic times. There are extant, but anonymous documents from the time of these battles in Belgium and France which refer to the poppies and to their bloodlike appearance. Just as was done approximately a hundred years later. It is highly likely that the major disturbance of the soil enabled the tiny seeds to be distributed across wider areas and the friable land made it easier to germinate.

As any good gardener will know there are many varieties of poppy. According to Kew Gardens there are 70 species of poppy in the genus Papaver. The two most famous varieties are the Opium Poppy and the Corn or Field Poppy.

The Corn Poppy has over the centuries been used as a pain killer for mild aches and pains, as a mild sedative/ relaxant, as an expectorant for coughs and catarrh, as a digestive, a lipstick and even to help reduce the appearance of wrinkles.

The Opium Poppy has much higher levels of potent narcotics. Do see the Kew Website for more information.

The earliest reference to the use of the poppy for medicinal purposes goes back to the Sumerians in Mesopotamia at about 3400 BC. And there are many accounts of the poppy being traded along the Silk Road in Asia.

Not only has it been recognised as a medicine since earliest times it has also been associated with endless sleep and death. The best evidence for this comes from the Greeks and Romans. But the same is found in other cultures. This is obviously from the sedative effect of the poppy sap.

The Greeks and Romans offered up poppies to the dead. The Egyptians included them in their tomb iconography as a symbol of resurrection.

The Chinese and the Japanese recommend giving poppies to couples to denote a deep and passionate love between two people. They link the white poppy to death as do other cultures.

Our Victorian ancestors gave meanings to all sorts of flowers, creating a secret language. This can be seen most vividly in the paintings of the Pre-Raphaelites. For the Victorians the poppy represented principally eternal sleep: also consolation and imagination. And if you think about effect of the poppy sap all three are relevant.

So whilst we respect the simple Corn/Field Poppy emblem used so effectively through the offices of the RBL let us bear in mind the poppy has for thousands of centuries been linked to endless sleep: death.

Rosalyn Young

Remembrance, a reflection

My Grandmother had eight children, five daughters and three sons. A large family not well off Grandad was a collier. Times were very hard in the 20's and 30's especially in the north east. Then in 1939 Great Britain went to war with Hitler's Germany. My father's two brothers joined the army, George was with The Tyneside Scottish Black Watch, Frederick with The Durham Light Infantry. George was killed in May 1940 during the retreat to Dunkirk. He was 32. Frederick was killed in May 1944 in what was then Burma fighting the Japanese. He was 31.

Thankfully, my father was in a reserved occupation. He was employed at Hawker Aircraft, where they were producing Hurricane fighters.

When I was younger, I didn't think much about my uncles who I never knew. Now at times of remembrance I think of them often. In recent years I have dedicated a cross to them which is placed outside Westminster Abbey with thousands of other tributes. This is all organised by the British Legion. Usually Derek and I go to the Abbey to see all the crosses it is a marvellous sight. We then walk to the Cenotaph to admire the wreaths. I'm afraid that will not happen this year.

Valerie Scott

Two Brothers lost in World War I

A story from a very different age, that may bring a tear to the eye.

2nd Lieutenant Herbert William DOBBIE

Was born on 22 July 1897 at Thandiani, India. He was killed on 14 November 1916 (aged 19), near Serre by Beaumont Hamel. His body was never found so his name is commemorated on the great Thiepval Memorial, Pier 11, Face D.

His servant, Pte James Jones wrote as follows:

Dear Sir & Madam,

At the request of Mr Dobbie I write these few lines.

On the morning of the 14.11.16 the Regt attacked the German trenches. Mr Dobbie led his Platoon as brave & bold as any man could but on nearing the German trench he was killed I am sorry to say.

His Platoon & men of C Coy send their Deepest Sympathy to you and your Family in your Bereavement, also from myself. This servant who mourns the loss of a Gallant Officer & Gentleman.

I should welcome a few lines from you. The last words Mr Dobbie told me before leaving for the attack was: "If anything happens write to Mother & Father." I was his servant as soon as he joined the Regt.

I am yours faithfully

(Signed) Jas Jones

Captain John Shedden DOBBIE (Herbert's elder brother)

Was born 7 July 1894 at Landour, Punjab, India. Was killed on 5 October 1917 (aged 23) near Polygon Wood. His body was never found so his name is recorded on Memorial Panel 135 at the great Tyne Cot Cemetery, Belgium, but the family like to think that his remains might be laid in a grave marked, 'An unknown officer of the Gordon Highlanders'.

On October 19, 1917 the Keeper of the Privy Purse, Buckingham Palace, wrote to their father, Colonel Herbert Dobbie:

Dear Sir,

The King and Queen deeply regret to hear of the loss you and the Army have sustained by the death of your son Captain J. S. Dobbie, in the service of his Country.

The King and Queen realise that this is the second beloved son you have given in your Country's cause, and I am commanded to convey to you the expression of Their Majesties' true sympathy with you in your further sorrow.

Yours very faithfully

(Signed) Keeper of the Privy Purse.

On November 16, 1917 Herbert replied to the letter:

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge with humble gratitude the graceful message of sympathy from Their Majesties the King and Queen on the sad bereavement that has befallen me in the death of two of my sons, killed in action.

Their Majesties gracious regard for the grief of those who are mourning the loss of the pride and flower of their homes, affords great comfort to the hearts of stricken parents, and endears them to their people.

I trust that They may be pleased to accept the sacrifice of these lives laid down as tokens of devoted loyalty to Their Royal Persons; and the deep gratitude of a humble subject for Their gracious expression of sympathy.

I have the honour to be,

Sir

Your obedient Servant

(signed) Herbert H. Dobbie

Colonel

Robert Dobbie

The Gettysburg Address

As we remember those who died or were wounded in war, it is good to reread the Gettysburg Address by President Lincoln. It really encapsulates what our Remembrance should be about.

“Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

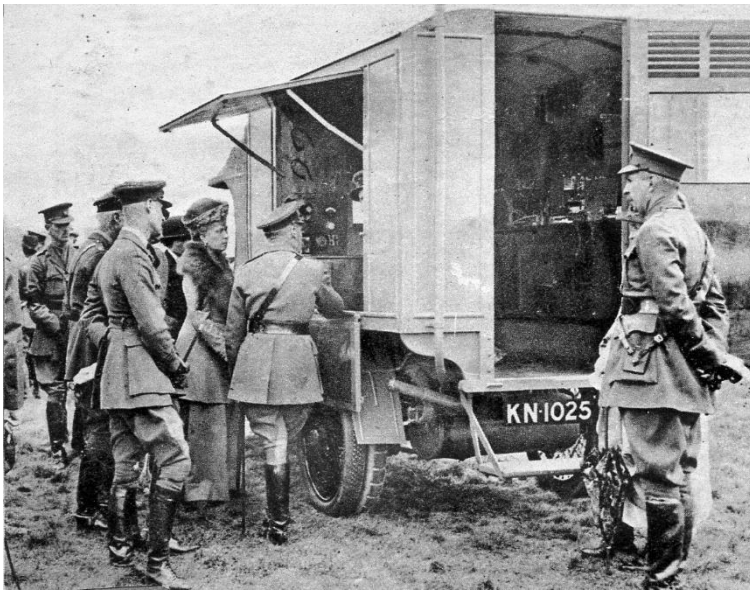
Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate -- we can not consecrate -- we can not hallow -- this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom --

and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Abraham Lincoln November 19, 1863

King and Queen



A photograph of the King & Queen taking a tea break while watching Army exercises in 1922. The Officer on the right is my grandfather, Lt Col William Dobbie RE

Robert Dobbie

Remembrance Lilies

Unfortunately, with the announcement by government on Saturday evening, we have again had to delay the display of Remembrance Lilies.

The current plan is to have the display over the Christmas festive period.

There have been over 120 lilies dedicated in memory of loved ones, the names of all are displayed in the church.

It is not too late if you would still like to dedicate a lily to a loved one, please contact the parish office.

Call for second lockdown to be a 'month of prayer'

The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby has urged Church of England clergy to embrace the spiritual practice of prayer as England heads into a second national lockdown.

In a joint letter, Welby, along with the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, and the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, wrote that as leaders seek to serve their congregations during these challenging weeks, God will "give us the courage and humility we need to be faithful witnesses to the gospel of peace".

"A second lockdown will be upon us on Thursday," the trio wrote. "It is going to be different from the first one. The days are getting shorter and colder. We are anxious for ourselves, for those we love, especially those who are vulnerable and elderly, and for our families.

"We know that this pandemic is having a devastating effect on our economy and on people's mental health. Thousands of people are dying. The National Health Service is being stretched to the limit. We also know and must continue to bear witness to the fact that the poorest communities in our nation are suffering the most. We are in for a long haul. It is going to be a hard winter. But this second lockdown will also be different in other ways."

They added that there is "much that we have learned from the first lockdown and there is much to celebrate and be proud of".

"Of course we are full of gratitude and respect for the amazing courage and commitment of all key workers, especially those working in the NHS. Their contribution is rightly and widely recognised. We also applaud the many creative ways that churches up and down the land have been serving their local communities and working with others to make sure that the hungry are fed and the vulnerable cared for.

"We have managed to maintain and, in many cases, extend our outreach by streaming worship online and by developing other ways of building community online."

The leaders went on to call the church into a season of prayer to coincide with this latest period of lockdown: "Bearing in mind our primary vocation as the Church of Jesus Christ to pray and to serve we call upon the Church of England to make this month of lockdown a month of prayer. More than anything else, whatever the nation thinks, we know that we are in the faithful hands of the risen Christ who knows our weaknesses, tiredness and struggles and whose steadfast love endures for ever."

The trio urged Christian leaders to return to "the fundamental spiritual disciplines that shape our Christian life" during the upcoming lockdown. "How we do this is up to each congregation and clergy person," they wrote. "We will publish resources to support you before the first day of lockdown. During the first lockdown we cheered for the NHS every Thursday. During this second lockdown we invite you to fast in a way appropriate to you as well as pray for our nation every Thursday, for its leaders, its health and essential services and all those who suffer."

Prime Minister Boris Johnson is today expected to tell parliament that there is "no alternative but to take further action at a national level" and enforce a fresh lockdown to reduce the spread of Covid-19.

In his speech on Monday afternoon, Johnson will add that unless the lockdown is implemented immediately, we could see deaths over the winter that are "twice as bad or more compared with the first wave".

God,

We pray for all those who are feeling fear and uncertainty ahead of the upcoming lockdown.

Draw near to them by your spirit, Lord, and comfort them,

We ask, too, that you would lead us all into a place of prayer over the next weeks.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

St Hilda's Parish News

Ashford Christmas Craft Trail - Sunday 6th December (1pm – 5pm)

Due to the lockdown this has been postponed, the likely revised date will be 6th December, watch this space for updates!

Following the huge successes of the Ashford Jumble Trails, a Christmas Craft Trail has been arranged and once again St Hilda's are taking part.

We are planning to have a stall selling various crafts – tree decorations, cakes and biscuits amongst other things. Planning is underway, and further details will be shared shortly.

Church Chairs

It has been agreed by the PCC that we will be selling all the remaining wooden chairs, they have become very inflexible and many have seen a better day.

We are looking to sell the chairs at £20 each, if you would like to purchase, please contact the parish office. Proceeds from the sale of the chairs will be partly used to purchase additional white chairs, with the remaining funds ringfenced for the more permanent replacements.

If you have any Parish News you would like to share, then please send them into the Parish Office.

Tea and Chat after Sunday Service

With new lockdown in place, this is a great opportunity for you to have a cup of favourite brew whilst have a chat amongst the St Hilda's Community.

We would like to invite you to join us for a virtual Tea and Chat after the service on **Sunday 8th November 2020 at 11.15am**. See below on how to join. Any queries please call the Parish Office.

The meeting is hosted by Zoom.

There are 2 ways in which you can join the Tea and Chat session



1. Join via a computer or tablet, for a video style experience (like Skype)

- Download the Zoom app – www.zoom.us
- Click – Join a Meeting
- Enter the Meeting id – **990 2445 3404**
- Enter password – **981553**

2. Join via telephone – cost of a local call.

- Dial – 0203 051 2874

More Tea ... – Weekday Tea and Chat

The second of the weekly Tea and chat sessions where you are able to 'meet up' over a cuppa. In this weekly session, we have introduced a topic for discussion –

This week however, there is no topic and would welcome everyone for a general chit-chat.

If you haven't yet joined one of these sessions – give it a try, you can connect either on-line or via the telephone, we would like to see or hear as many of you as possible and encourage you to join us. We encourage all those who haven't yet joined one of the sessions to do so, and if you have any apprehension in doing so, please call the Parish Office and Denise will guide you through the process – it is quite simple once you've done it once.

This week the Tea and Chat will be held on **Tuesday 10th November @ 10.30am**

The codes are as per the following, to join follow the instructions above

- Meeting id – **958 8179 0044**
- Password – **235870**

Canaan Ministries following the recent government's announcement the shop is closed, however, they are still available to take and deliver /post anything you may want to purchase over the next month including items for advent. All you need to do is call or email them and they will arrange the rest. In addition, please join the (Canaan) Facebook group, as it will be the best way for them to keep everyone up to date in this fast changing situation that we find ourselves in!
Any other information can be found on their website www.canaanchristianministries.co.uk/

Philippians 1 v 3

I thank my God every time I remember you,

Crossroads

Please email Rosemary at crossroads_ashford@hotmail.com if you have anything to be included in the parish magazine. The November edition is now available on our website.

This weeks services

Sunday Eucharist – 8th November @ 9.30am

This service can be viewed via our Facebook page, our new YouTube channel (St Hilda's Ashford), and Twitter.

Please see our website (www.sthilda.org) for updates and the weekly service sheet.

Vacancy – St Hilda's

We have 2 vacancies for cleaners on a job share basis for the Church Hall,
the requirement will be 2 hours per day 7 days a week.
The hours will be either early mornings or late evening.
References will be required
If interested please contact the Parish Office.

Please hold in your prayers and thoughts this week those who are affected by the Corona Virus as well as the family and friends of those below.

The Sick

James Bedford	Michael Dixon	John Radford	Sandra Swain
Michael Browne	Eileen Gilbert	Elizabeth Savill-Burgess	Rev. Peter Taylor
Pamela Claridge	Jim Hennessey	Delphine Scrivener	Chick Wilson
Robb Clarke	Jane Johnson	Riley Shaw	Peter Wilson
Rebecca Cohen	Libby Mills	Anne Shenton	Jo Wood
Ann Considine	Raymond Nation	Elsie Stone	Nic
Chris Davenport	June Prentice	Roy Stone	Martyn
Joey			

The Recently Departed

Helen Briggs	Joyce Winter	Keith 'Cobber' Suckling
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Prayer

Almighty God,
 you have knit together your elect
 in one communion and fellowship
 in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:
 grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints
 in all virtuous and godly living
 that we may come to those inexpressible joys
 that you have prepared for those who truly love you;
 through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.
 Amen

Puzzle Page

Wordsnake

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

Instructions
 Can you find 13 words relating to the subject 'Things to Play'
 Start at the Red letter and follow a path, until all the letters are used.

Riddle
 Two in a whole and four in a pair.
 Six in a trio you see.
 Eight's a quartet but what you must get is the name that fits just one of me.
 What am I?

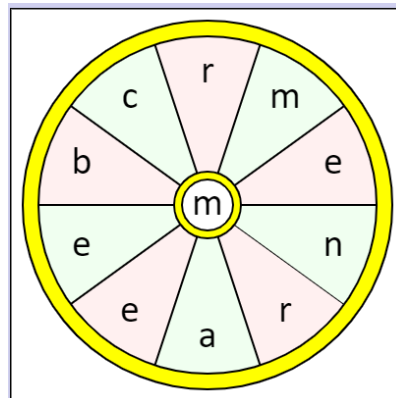
Niners

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all letters.

- 272796 a flower
- 52187327 a flower
- 8148927346 a weed

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Word Wheel



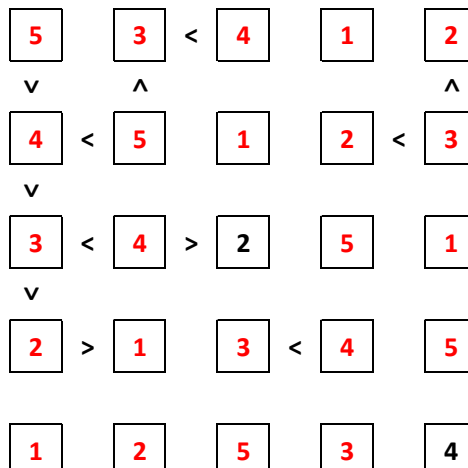
How many words can you find using the centre letter?
 There is one 11 letter word, theme of this Newsletter!

Answers from last week

Wordsearch

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

Futoshiki



Riddle
 A Compass!

Word Wheel
 9 letter word –
 All Saints (Day)