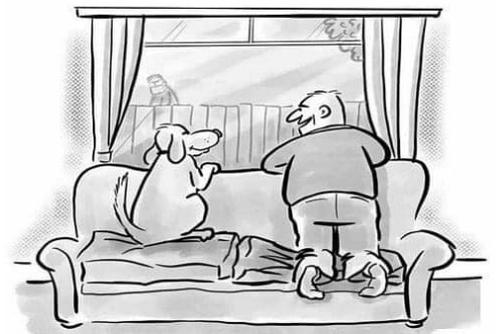




**T**hought For The Day. Lockdown has now been with us for more than a month. When will it end and when will things return to normal? In his recent BBC 'Thought for the Day' broadcast, Revd Dr Sam Wells, Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields, said we can never go back to 'normal' and in any event, normal wasn't that great! The Bible isn't interested in going back to normal; God's future is made out of our past. It's what the Bible calls God's kingdom. This isn't the time for looking back. It's for imagining the future and starting to live that future now. Hear or read the broadcast here -<https://mailchi.mp/smitf.org/p7ehptetvm-568565?e=92b53717f3>.

**P**at Hubbard is self-isolating at home like the rest of us, but her restricted mobility makes it impossible for her to go out. A keen supporter of Keep Connected!, Pat thought this cartoon made a good portrayal of the current situation - I hope it makes you smile too! Why not give Pat a call and help lift her spirits.



*"Until now, I never understood why you got so excited when someone walked past the house."*

**C**hristian Aid Week is **NOT** cancelled!

This year's Christian Aid Week will be very different from any experienced since it was launched in 1957. None of the usual events can take place, but Diane Hudson, who runs CA activity for St Andrew with St Alban, is thinking about holding a Virtual Quiz at 8pm on Friday 15 May 2020. Quizzical expert Mick Wood has offered to be our Quiz Master. He will run it using the Zoom meetings application. The aim will be to raise money from participants' donations whilst having fun! Please contact Diane at [dianehudson412@btinternet.com](mailto:dianehudson412@btinternet.com) or Tel: 020 8857 0953 to signal your interest and/or ideas on fundraising. The total raised last year was almost £3,200 - lets see if that can be beaten! More information and ideas on fundraising can be found on our website on the Christian Aid page.

**W**anted! - have you seen this man, lately? Ray Andrew, we miss your lunchtime film shows and hope it won't be too long before they resume. In the meantime here's a potted version of Ray's rise to fame!



Born in Lulworth Road. Mottingham and a scout and choir member at St Andrew's, Ray took an interest in photography at the tender age of nine. On leaving Edgebury school in 1955, a couple of months before his 15th birthday he joined a small film company in Soho, which led to him working as a 'clapper boy' on an early BBC children's TV programme 'The Bumblebees' starring Michael Bentine (hands up those who remember The Bumblebees!). Six weeks after leaving school Ray secured his first feature film to work on - *Moby Dick* with Gregory Peck! Since then Ray has been involved in many movies including, *Guns of Navarone*,



*Heroes of Telemark*, *The Shining*, all 25 *James Bond* films, three of the *Carry On* films and, as an on stage cameraman on *Live Aid*.

Ray says, 'Now, at nearly 80 and 65 years behind the camera I am still at St Andrew's, but showing films to the lovely people of Mottingham - when the coronavirus will let me!' (Bumbly pictured left!)

**A**nother anagram quiz from Jane. This time it's UK tourist hotspots or attractions, excluding London. Put your thinking caps on and if you can't wait for the answers next week, call Jane!

- |                          |                           |                          |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Froth sliced off view | 6. Revolt cased           | 11. Twins lose card      |
| 2. Scone crab bone       | 7. Hurry accented lab rat | 12. Rot pale Violet      |
| 3. He gone nest          | 8. Look Rob, clap wet     | 13. A heart rusts        |
| 4. Graded her cog        | 9. No risky term          | 14. Ream were linked     |
| 5. A cat yawn, I guess   | 10. Hint robe grip        | 15. Hot, green flan, hot |

**O**bservation on the current situation by Holy Trinity Brompton (HTB)! David & Thelma write, "Amazingly Covid-19 has taken us back to the time of the first Christians who were regularly praying, worshipping and breaking bread in their homes. We have the added advantage of printed gospels, letters from the apostles and modern technology. It has never been easier to realise a church in every home! This cartoon was shared by Nicky Gumbel on "HTB service online" which can be accessed every Sunday any time between 9.30am and 9.30pm. What a brilliant cartoon (Ed)!



**T**he Tarn to the rescue! Local volunteer, Alison, writes, "Along with many others in our community, this dose of natural beauty has raised our spirits and brought new interest on our regular visits. Spring is the perfect season to enjoy all the Tarn has to offer - vibrant colour of flowers and foliage, wildlife at its cutest and fluffiest, and tranquility in an oasis of calm... or not quite! In spite of the lockdown quietness, the trains still rattle past, the parakeets still squawk and the geese honk even more. However, the melodic birdsong of robins, blackbirds, wrens, a song thrush and other unidentified species is delightful.



Last Thursday was an extra delight as Bob and I held socially distanced conversations with Sue & Mick Wood (en route) and then in the Tarn with Janet & David Hughes, Mary Wyborn and Imogen, Sophia, Rafe and Theo. It was good to see them all and it was noticeably easier for us all to walk round with no-one lingering on the bridge or sitting on benches by narrow paths. Regular police patrols, as witnessed by Sue and Mick, are obviously proving a deterrent to those who previously ignored social distancing rules. Thank you to our South Eltham Neighbourhood Team. If you haven't yet had a chance to visit, try to go before the bluebells fade, the rhododendron petals fall and the fluffy baby goslings and coot chicks grow out of their cuteness!

**Z**oom, zoom! Iris Miller reports on the now widespread adoption of the Zoom virtual meeting application: "Four weeks ago I had never heard of Zoom and then friends suggested a quiz night on Zoom. What a great idea we thought, and after speaking to our IT Family support we were connected to the Zoom App. Now, we're in a whole new world. I've signed up to Pilates classes via Zoom; we have Zoom chats and quizzes with family and friends; and we have Revd Ian's Sunday services on Zoom. I participated in the Easter Sunday service joined by about 8-10 people (visible to me). I enjoyed taking part, knowing other friends were there at the same time. Once you have the zoom app installed, it is easy to use and join a meeting. You can opt to use video or sound only and sound can be muted at any point during the service. Please do join in. I look forward to seeing you there. Keep well and stay safe."

**L**ast word - for now! Thank you to all contributors, with apologies to those who have not featured in this issue - your time will come! Keep the contributions coming; it will help to keep our community together and in good spirits. Look for more detailed information on our website - it's updated regularly. Keep in touch with one another and, if you can, give copy of this to members without broadband. Let me know if there's anything you would like included or added to the website. Until the next issue on 3 May, stay well and keep safe!

Bob Lawrie

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