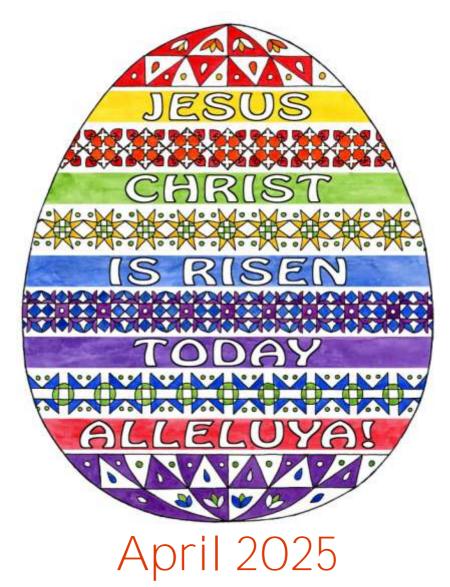
# Winterbourne Churches' Newsletter

www.fromesidechurches.org.uk

www.salemchurch.org.uk



# ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Church Lane, Winterbourne, BS36 1SE

	Rector: Rev Malcolm Strange, 70 High Street, Winterbourne Phone: 01454 775529 Email: m.strange@fromesidechurches.org.uk				
	Associate Priest	Rev Joanne Hodge		07758 648264 .hodge@fromesidechurches.org.uk	
	Associate Priest	Rev Julia Chard	Phone:	07811 524533	
	Churchwardens	Chris Greef Derek Andow	01454 <sup>-</sup> 01454 <sup>-</sup>		
BENEFICE AND PARISH OFFICE 95 High Street, Winterbourne, BRISTOL, BS36 1RD Administrator Nessa Jarman Phone: 01454 776518 Email: office@fromesidechurches.org.uk Opening hours Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-1pm					
	WEDDINGS/BAPTISMS/CONFIRMATION/FUNERALS Enquires should be made to the Benefice Office - 01454 776518				
	PASTORAL VISITING If you need a pastoral visit or know someone who does, please contact Jo on 01454 775529 or Pearl on 01454 314184				
	St Michael's Con	nmunity Centre Book	kings	Contact the Benefice Office	

# SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

Factory Road, Winterbourne, BS36 1QL

Minister Rev Leigh Maydew, 31 Quedgeley, Yate, Bristol, BS37.4JJ Phone: 07388 083488 Email: leigh.maydew@methodist.org.uk To whom enquiries for Weddings, Baptisms, or Funerals should be made.				
Senior Steward	Margaret Johnston Phone: 01454 773626 Email: 123margaretjohnston@gmail.com			
Hall Bookings	Jayne Glass Phone: 07935 377790 Email: jaglass103@gmail.com			

# A message from Revd. Malcolm Strange

The festival of Easter always falls at some point between the 23<sup>rd</sup> March and the 23<sup>rd</sup> April, depending on the paschal moon, so this year it is almost as late as it can be. By the time we start tucking into our Easter eggs, Spring has well and truly sprung, the lambs have put on weight, the daffs are almost over, and the evenings are quite light and bright. Summer is just around the corner!





Easter is one of the great Christian festivals of light with the **new paschal candle being blessed at the 'Easter Vigil' on Holy** Saturday. The lighted candle is brought into a darkened church a symbol of the risen Christ shining brightly in the world, bringing both love and hope to all humanity. However, when the evenings are lighter, it is so much harder to create, within the church building, the symbolic image of this fragile light of hope & love, so strikingly represented by the paschal candle, being brought into a place of total darkness.

None the less the message is clear: it matters not how dark the world is, how much it is laden down with the impact of evil, the struggles of poverty, the impacts of human greed, the thirst for power and control being exerted by the tyrant over citizens and neighbours. Despite all of this we are reminded afresh each year that true human fellowship will always be stronger than hate, justice and hope will endure, and that love & peace will abound.





Christians firmly believe that Easter shows us all, that through the sacrifice and pain of the cross, in the enlightening and glory of the resurrection, the 'Love of God' is unconditionally bestowed on the whole human family and is within touching distance for us all. More than ever when we look at our world, the horrors of the conflict in Gaza, Ukraine and in much of the developing world, the marginalization of so many and the increasing levels of poverty even in wealthy countries like our own, the message of Easter and all it represents is both relevant and significant; it is as desperately needed today as it has ever been.





Whether late or early, whether we are believer in God or not, Easter reminds all of us that the gift of love is what truly lights up the darkness of our world. So as you tuck into your Easter eggs this year, perhaps take a moment to recall these words from Katrina and the Waves hit song 'Love Shine a Light', which captures in its own way what our response to the Easter story might be.

*"Love shine a light in every corner of the world* Let the love light carry, let the love light carry Light up the magic, for every boy and girl Let our love shine a light in every corner of the world"





# SUNDAY WORSHIP IN OUR CHURCHES

# ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

1st Sunday	4pm	St Michael's Community Centre
2nd Sunday	10.30	St Michael's Church PARISH COMMUNION
3rd Sunday	10.30	St Michael's Community Centre
4th Sunday 10.30		St Michael's Church PARISH COMMUNION



Also in St Michael's Church

2nd Sunday at 4pm - Pause for Thought or Healing Service 1st & 3rd Sunday at 8am - Holy Communion

See page 17 for details of special events Holy week & Easter services on pages 11 & 13 www.fromesidechurches.org.uk

Recorded services are available on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays on the Benefice website www.fromesidechurches.org.uk where details of all services in the Benefice can be found.

# SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

### SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30

6th AprilRev Leigh Maydew13th AprilPalm Sunday Songs of Praise20th AprilEaster Cross of Flowers serviceRev Leigh MaydewRev Anthony Hick



Further details on the website www.salemchurch.org.uk



### Wolves in the Scottish Highlands?

**You've probably heard that there are now beavers back in** the UK although they were hunted to extinction in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Many are held in enclosed reserves but there is an increasing number of truly wild animals. Their dam building activities help increase biodiversity and also slow down the flow of rivers so that the downstream flooding risk is reduced.





Well, it has now been suggested that the reintroduction of wolves to the Scottish Highlands could have environmental benefits too. Scotland is the most poorly forested country in Europe with only 4% of tree cover. The problem is that red deer numbers have dramatically increased since wolves were eradicated about 250 years ago and the deer browse on young tree saplings, effectively preventing

any new trees from growing. It has been estimated that a population of wolves, by helping to control deer, would have a very substantial impact on the ability of Scottish forests to regenerate naturally and would store a lot of carbon in the process, helping to mitigate climate change. A similar scheme in Yellowstone National Park in the USA which was started about 30 years ago has had a dramatic effect on forest re-growth by controlling elk numbers. And wolves have now re-established themselves in 67% of their historical range in mainland Europe – there are even wolves in the Netherlands, which is significantly more densely populated than the UK.

Of course, there aren't going to be wolves in Scotland soon. There are many issues to be addressed. They could help ecotourism, reduce deer related traffic accidents and the incidence of Lyme's disease, but the impact on farming and deer stalking would need to be taken into account. There is also the question of the general public attitude to the reintroduction of large predators.



It may be that the idea of bringing wolves back in the near future is too controversial but these sorts of ideas should not be dismissed out of hand. Carefully managed reintroduction schemes have proven to have valuable environmental benefits, something our world desperately needs. What do you think?

Chris Greef



### Sharing the Easter story – with the help of an egg

There are 80 million Easter eggs being sold in the UK this year, but The Real Easter Egg is unique.

It is the *only one* which has a copy of the Easter story in the box, is made of Fairtrade chocolate and which supports charitable projects.



There are six types of eggs to choose from. Each Real Easter Egg comes with an Easter story in the box, the stories range from simple guides to 24 page activity book versions. So, buy a 2025 edition Real Easter Egg this Spring, and encourage others to give one to their loved ones, a school or sponsor a food bank donation.

The 2025 Real Easter Egg is not available in any supermarket, but the full range can be ordered at www.realeasteregg.co.uk, or by calling 01925 877004.



The Real Easter Egg is made by The Meaningful Chocolate Company which was 'crowd founded' in 2010 by thousands of churches and church schools which pre-paid for the manufacture of The Real Easter Egg. Since then more than two million eggs have been sold, and £420,000 raised for charitable causes.



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### Step back and just "be"...

We live in what can sometimes feel like a very frenetic world. Despite so many new breakthroughs in technology and inventions that make life both at home and in the work place easier, we still seem to spend a lot of time rushing from place

to place, or task to task – often causing us to feel tired, stressed and generally burnt out. I know I am my own worst enemy often finding it difficult to time manage or even sometimes say 'no' to a request mainly because we can often feel we need to justify our existence by how much we 'do'. It's almost as if we are saying that the more we do the more accepted in society we are.



For sometime I have had the privilege of facilitating 'prayer' or 'thought spaces' in some of our local schools. This involves providing a number of activities for



the children to take part in that provide time to think through various issues in a quiet, reflective space. For example, one of the activities called 'Overcoming Hurdles', invites them to think about any hurdles or challenges they may be facing in their lives and then, if they wish to, write a thought or prayer about issue and hang it onto a hurdle.

At the end of each session I ask the young people how the thought space felt. The one recurring theme that the children identify is how helpful it is to be given time to stop, be still and think in a quiet space. They often say this makes them feel relaxed and peaceful and often ask if this can be provided more often!

We all need time to step back from our frenetic pace of life and just 'be', time to reflect on our lives, and, as a Christian, I believe time to receive God's love and peace that is His gift to everyone.

I am writing this whilst holidaying in a remote part of Somerset. I am surrounded by beautiful landscapes, many signs of spring including snowdrops, daffodils and lambs in the fields. It is so life restoring to have the time to be able to take in the beauty of creation and receive that inner peace which I believe is a gift from God. It feels almost like being given an MOT. Our cars like ourselves get worn and tired and the MOT provides all that



is needed to get them back on the road. Times away from our everyday life provide us with an opportunity to be refilled with all we need for our everyday lives, return to them energized, with our priorities prioritized and a sense of deep peace.





One of my favourite bible quotes is from Matthew's gospel where Jesus says 'Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest'.

Whether you are someone of faith or no faith we all deserve and need that time to step away from our everyday lives, receive our 'MOT' and be restored to full life and strength for all that life calls us to.

Jo Strange



# MIKE HARBORD OPTICIANS

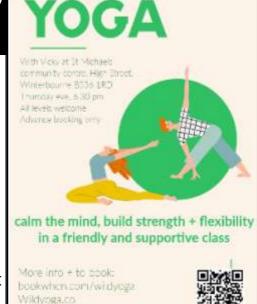
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# JOURNEY THROUGH HOLY WEEK TOGETHER...

Monday 14th April 7.30pm STATIONS OF THE CROSS All Saints', Winterbourne Down **Tuesday 15th April** 7.30pm COMPLINE St Peter's, Frampton Cotterell Wednesday 16th April 7.30pm TENEBRAE St Michael's, Winterbourne Maundy Thursday 17th April **AGAPE & WATCH** 7pm St Saviour's, Coalpit Heath Good Friday 18th April 9.15 **COMMUNION OF THE CROSS** All Saints, St Peter's & St Saviour's 10.00 STATIONS OF THE CROSS - St James 2pm THE CROSS OF CHRIST - St Michael's Saturday 19th April 3.30 MESSY FASTER St Saviour's Church Hall 7.30pm EASTER VIGIL St Peter's, Frampton Cotterell Daily Eucharist as normal - Monday-Thursday mornings Fromeside See website for more details Benefice www.fromesidechurches.org.uk



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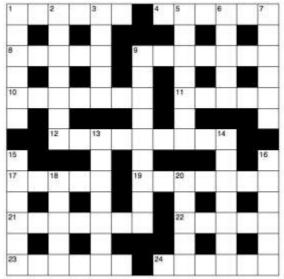
## CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks – hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)
- 11 'Look, here is . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)
- 12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
- 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3–4) (5)
- 19 'Moses was not aware that his face was because he had spoken with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7)
- 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)
- 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
- $23\,$  'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)
- $24\,$  'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in and you came to visit me' (Matthew  $25{:}36)\,(6)$

Down

- 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
- 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
- 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
- 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)
- 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)
- 7 He reps (anag.) (6)
- 9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
- 13 Man who asked question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
- 14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Tim 3:8) (7)
- 15 The human mind or soul (6)
- 16 **'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is** (Graham Kendrick) (6)
- 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)
- 20 Bared (anag.) (5)



Answers on page 18

All are welcome to join us for the events in Holy Week & Easter Day

SALEM PAGE FOR APRIL

As we work through Lent, we look forward to Holy week and the resurrection at Easter. We have shared in The World Day of Prayer,



Lent Bible studies and Lent lunches.

On April 17th at 7.30p.m. there will be a Maundy Thursday Communion meal. All are welcome but numbers are required to assist catering. Please contact Margaret if you would like to attend

(123margaretjohnston@gmail.com or tel 773626)

On Good Friday we will join friends at Badminton Road for a meditative service led by Mrs Viv Lear





Our regular events continue with a weekly Prayer group on a Monday evening at 7.30p.m. This is held in the vestry

The monthly Coffee morning will be on Wednesday April 2nd from 10 a.m.

The film on April 8th at 2 p.m. stars Kathy Bates and Jessica Tandy. It follows the story of how Evelyn (Bates), a bored housewife, meets Ninny (Tandy), an old woman who tells stories about her home town. Evelyn finds inspiration in the stories and her outlook and life improve.

It is good to gather together and enjoy "brunch" - a bacon



butty or toasted teacake on a Saturday morning. Please join with us on Saturday April, 19th from 10 a.m. Yes it's Easter Saturday, but we'll be there, and would love to see you



On Tuesday April 22nd at 2.30 pm the ladies group will meet for an hour of fellowship together. We are small in NIB number, but always welcome new friends

# Special events in & around St Michael's



Sunday 6th April at 4pm in St Michael's Community Centre with activities for children

HOLY WEEK AT ST MICHAEL'S.... Details of services throughout the Benefice on page 13



Sunday 13th April at 10.30 CelebratePALM SUNDAY in St Michael's Church

Sunday 13th April at 4pm PAUSE FOR THOUGHT in St Michael's Church





Wednesday 16th April at 7.30pm TENEBRAE in St Michael's Church

Friday 18th April at 2pm THE CROSS OF CHRIST Music & readings for Good Friday in St Michael's Church





Sunday 20th April at 10.30 CELTIC FAMILY COMMUNION in St Michael's Community Centre

Sunday 27th April from 1-4 Learn about Bells & Bellringing at St Michael's Church see back page



### 2025 - time for a new Church Electoral Roll

Every six years, the church electoral roll gets torn up and we have to start again. In between times, we merely update the list as required.

The Electoral Roll is a statement of commitment and belonging to the church and formally speaking enables you to vote at the Annual Parish Church Meeting.



We'd be pleased if you could affirm your continuing membership of St Michael's by filling in one of the forms available from the church or the Benefice Office and returning it before Easter.

Fancy doing something creative, mindful and prayerful?

Why not join St. Michael's Flower team !

We need <u>at least</u> four new members, that way you'll only be on the rota now and again.





No previous experience needed . We'll support you as you learn. Both men and women welcome.

All flower expenses re-imbursed. If you fancy having a go, or have any questions, please contact Yvonne on 01454 775024 or <u>vonandow@gmail.com</u>

#### CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1, Cosmic. 4, Thomas. 8, In his. 9, Delaiah. 10, Falwell. 11, Water. 12, Recovered. 17, Sidon. 19, Radiant. 21, Centaur. 22, Broil. 23, Eleven. 24, Prison. DOWN: 1, Cliffs. 2, Scholar. 3, Issue. 5, Holy war. 6, Moist. 7, Sphere. 9, Deliverer. 13, Candace. 14, Deacons. 15, Psyche. 16, Stolen. 18, Dance. 20, Debar.

### Reflecting faith – Easter Flowers

Many types of flowers are used in churches, but during Easter, there is one that is especially loved: the Easter Lily. It is a tall, stately flower topped by large, graceful, white trumpet-shaped blooms.

While commercial bulb production of Easter lilies only began in the 19th century, Easter lilies make many appearances in both the Old and New Testaments, emphasising the flower's importance to Christianity. King Solomon spoke of them, and Christ referenced them, too.



These strikingly beautiful flowers are highly perfumed, with the central stamens covered in bright yellow or orange pollen. Unfortunately, the pollen can be a hazard, as it can permanently stain cloth due to chemicals it contains! For this reason, good florists and especially church flower arrangers will remove all the stamens before bringing them anywhere near church fabrics, or near to where ministers wearing white might brush against them.

It's thought that Easter lilies came to symbolise Christ because they embody purity - the trumpet-shaped blooms recall the horns that heralded the resurrection of Christ. This is also why lilies are identified with the Virgin Mary, and in artworks depicting the Annunciation to the Virgin they are often found in the angel Gabriel's hand.



The second reason that Easter lilies represent Christ is because of their life cycle. Each one grows from a bulb that for several years Heis Risen has lain quietly beneath the earth, before growing tall and stately, and blossoming into magnificent flowers. What a picture of Jesus' life and resurrection!

#### This month

Have a look around the church over Easter. Daffodils and Easter lilies are often displayed, because they are the first flowers of spring, when Nature is being reborn. Their life after the death of winter reminds us of the Resurrection. For we cannot imagine the death and the passion of Christ without having in mind the empty tomb, radiating hope. Christ's death has no meaning without His Resurrection.



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All events can be booked online at Ticketsource or via the Barn website www.winterbournebarn.org.uk. If you want to book in person at the Barn please ring 0117 403 1536 to arrange a time (office is open part-time). Friday 4th April at 7.30 pm - Sisters of Swing Big Band

We are delighted to welcome back Sisters of Swing to the Barn for another fantastic evening of live music with their 20+ piece swing band! . Bar from 7pm. Seating is unreserved. Free parking at the Barn.

Food and Drink Workshops (age 18+)

Foraging Walk with Steve England, Sunday 13th April 10am - 2.30pm Walk in a small group and gather wild foods, being guided by Steve's expertise on what to pick....and what not to pick! Back at the Barn you will turn your pickings into a sociable snack to enjoy together.

Craft Workshops for All Ages

Craft and Cuppa - Saturday 5th April, 1 - 3pm

Spend a couple of relaxing hours making a set of four decoupage ceramic coasters. The class is aimed at adults, but accompanied teens (ages 12+) are welcome to come along too.

Easter Family Crafts - Tuesday 8th April, 10am - 12:00

A relaxed and inclusive session of family-friendly spring and Easter inspired crafts and fun, including an Easter Trail with a treat on completion! Aimed at 5 -11 yr olds with an adult.

Ceramic Mug and Coaster Painting - Tuesday 8th April, 10am - 12:00 For ages 10+. Paint a ceramic mug and coaster in an Easter or Spring theme Glass Mosaics Workshops - Tuesday 15th April, 10am or 11.30am

For ages 8+. One hour workshops to make a mosaic-style fused glass square or Easter egg shaped sun-catcher, with brilliant colours that will last forever! Fused Glass Workshop - Tuesday 15th April, 1pm - 3pm

For ages 16+. Make colourful miniature glass decorations in a variety of shapes.

Winterbourne Medieval Barn, Church Lane, Winterbourne BS36 1SE For further details about Winterbourne Medieval Barn Trust see www.WinterbourneBarn.org.uk and facebook.com/winterbournemedievalbarn WMBT Registered Charity number 1112908



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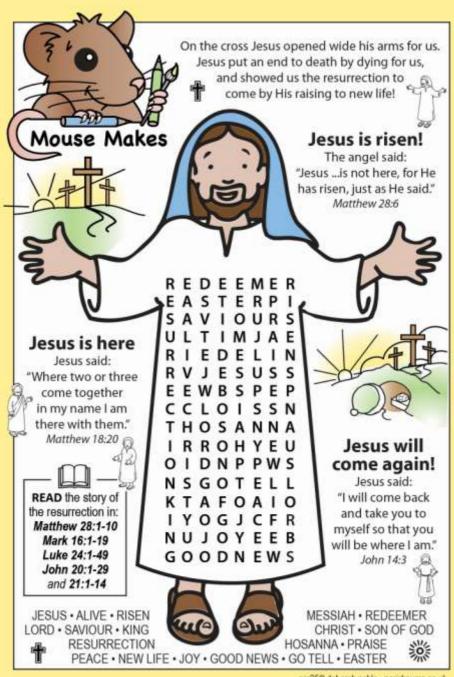
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### St Michael's C of E Primary School

Learn · Care · Enjoy

Linden Close, Winterbourne Headteacher Mrs. Kirsty Robson Phone 01454 867105

What a fantastic month we've had at St Michael's! Our little ones have been busy learning, exploring, and most importantly, having fun!

Year 1 had an exciting adventure when they visited the SS Great Britain. The children were absolutely enchanted by the ship, learning about its history and how it was once the epitome of modern engineering. We're hopeful that they will take these experiences and weave them into their understanding of maritime history!





Meanwhile, Year 2 took to the stars with their after-school space camp! They dived into the incredible stories of astronauts and planets in preparation for their upcoming lessons on the legendary Neil Armstrong. The enthusiasm for space was palpable, and we can't wait to see the projects they produce!

A highlight of the month was certainly Pancake Day. All classes enjoyed delightful pancake races on the playground, with plenty of laughter and cheering. The spirit of friendly competition brought everyone closer together, and it was heart-warming to see the encouragement between classes.





And of course, World Book Day was a real treat! Our talented students shared their favourite books and engaged in a range of fun book-related activities that sparked their imaginations.

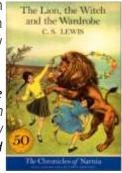
As always, thank you for your continued support. Here's to another exciting month ahead at St Michael's!

Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham considers the effect of Easter...

The Real Easter

In CS Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe,* the lion Aslan is put to death by the White Witch. The stone table on which He is killed cracks in two, but Aslan meets with Lucy and Susan alive again. He explains the Witch's failure:

'her knowledge goes back only to the dawn of time. But if she could have looked a little further back, she would have known that when a willing victim who had committed no treachery was killed in a traitor's stead, the Table would crack, and Death itself would start working backwards.'





This is a great picture of what Jesus' cross and His resurrection has achieved. As Paul writes, '*1 want to know Christ, to know the power of His resurrection*' (Philippians 3:10). To understand the real Easter, we should experience the same power that raised Jesus from the dead!

*New Hope:* Like the girls in the story, Easter highlights the sadness and confusion that loss brings. Yet the resurrection of Jesus brings new hope, as it demonstrates the victory secured by the cross over sin, Satan and death. We can face life's difficulties knowing that Jesus walks beside us.





*New Love:* Our relationships are often characterised by a lack of forgiveness, hurt **and betrayal. Yet Jesus' resurrection opens** the possibility of new love, as His power enables us to accept others and forgive them.

*New Life:* When we are trying to make sense of life, like the girls in the story, Jesus offers us a living relationship with Himself. It's a friendship with God through Jesus that can begin today and continue for eternity.

When Lucy met Aslan again, she cried: *'Oh, you're real, you're real!'* We too can find the real Easter through a life changing encounter with the living Christ.



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Wide variety of work undertaken, including Glass and supply of engraved Plates in sizes and materials to requirements. Dog Discs, Cups and Trophies also supplied and engraved.

TELEPHONE 01454 773316 or Email rachael.gale195@btinternet.com

Project **1** 

Building Renovation Maintenance Improvement

232 Ormonds Close, Bradley Stoke. Tel 01454 201150, Mobile 07973 912971

Do you require a reliable local builder? Does your house need repairs, maintenance or improvement? If so call me for a no obligation free quote.

RoofingBrick/block layingPaving/patiosCarpentryKitchens fitted/suppliedBathrooms fitted/suppliedPlumbingTilingPainting & Decorating (interior & exterior)ElectricsUPVC windows/doors/fascias/guttering supplied and fittedFencing

With four City & Guilds qualifications (electrical installation, carpentry & joinery, painting & decoration, site management) plus 22 years experience in building and maintenance, you house will be in safe hands.

Project 1 Proprietor: Ken Acland Trading since 1994



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- Makes a beautiful noise it's the ultimate Heavy Metal

Come and find out more at St Michael's Church

# Sunday 27th April 1pm-4pm

Please send contributions for the May Newsletter by email to Gill Greef (gill@gillgreef.com) or deliver them to the Church Office St Michael's Community Centre, 95 High Street by Tuesday 15th April.