

APRIL/MAY 2010

Dear Friends

What do we mean by Christian unity? Is it all to do with trying to bring together the different denominations? Or is it more to do with supporting and serving and loving one's fellow-Christians within the life of the church-family?

In our 10.30am series on Paul's Letter to the Ephesians we made an important discovery, in chapter 4, about Christian unity – where Paul writes about two unities.

The first of these two unities is something that we **already** have as a gift from God. Paul calls on his Christian readers to be “*eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace*” (Eph.4.3). This is not a unity that we are to pray for or to manufacture, but to “maintain” – in other words, we already have it! Whenever a person becomes a Christian, and joins God's “new society” (the church), they step into a marvellous unity with Christian believers everywhere.

What is the basis of this Christian unity? Paul explains that this unity is based on the oneness of God himself: he is “one” God, and therefore there is “one” church. Also it is based on our one hope and calling, as revealed in the Bible. Of course, there will be different expressions of church-life and different ways of doing things (styles of worship, church-government, etc.). But these are side-issues. Unity is not to be confused with uniformity, or even unanimity on every point (provided we are seeking to be faithful to Scripture).

We are not to take this unity for granted, of course – which is why Paul urges Christians to be eager to maintain it. We have to work at it in terms of our behaviour. So he spells out in v.2 the need for “*humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing one another in love*”. All this requires hard work and determination from all of us!

The second unity in Ephesians 4 is a **future** unity. In v.13 Paul writes: “*until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ*”. While the first unity is one to “maintain” (because we already have it), this second unity is one to “attain to” (because we do not yet have it). This is the unity of Christian maturity – and what a breath-taking goal it is! Paul

describes it in terms of complete Christ-likeness, which will only become a full reality in heaven.

How do we attain to this unity of maturity? *Negatively*, according to v.14, we are to avoid childish immaturity, and the wild waves of confusion, and deceptive false teaching. So, for example, we need to be very discerning about the latest theological fad, or the latest fashionable leader, or the teaching of unhelpful so-called Christian programmes on the television. *Positively*, we are to make the most of sound Bible-based Christian teaching within the life of the church. Paul writes in these verses about “Christ’s gift” – the ascended Lord Jesus has given teaching gifts to the church. Why? – “*to equip the saints (that is, all Christians) for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.*”

So that’s how we grow together towards the goal of the unity in maturity: we exercise discernment in order to avoid all wrong teaching and trends, and we make full use of the teaching available in the church-family, in order to be equipped as effective Christians for today. Isn’t that an exciting goal – let’s work at it together!

With Christian greetings,
Yours,
Robert Bashford

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

We extend our prayers and sympathy to the relatives and friends of those committed to God’s care:

FUNERALS: 3rd February Joyce Foskett, aged 85 years
 17th February Doug Burton, aged 87 years

FEBRUARY/MARCH SERMON CDs

All CDs of the sermons preached on Sunday mornings and evenings in February and March 2010 are available on request from Elizabeth and Nigel Hadley (Tel: 831067) as usual. If you have requested a CD please collect from the back of Church the following Sunday. CDs £1 each.

SERMONS IN APRIL AND MAY 2010

Sunday 4 th April	8.00am	"Jesus is raised from the dead" (Mt,28.1-10)
	10.30am	"Who moved the stone?" (EASTER DAY FAMILY SERVICE)
	6.30pm	"Easter joy"
Sunday 11 th April	8.00am	<i>To be announced</i>
	10.30am	"Easter certainty"
	6.30pm	"Easter confidence"
Sunday 18 th April	8.00am	"The parable of the sower" (Mt.13.1-9, 18-23)
	10.30am	"New lives for old" (Eph.4.17-23)
	6.30pm	"The final verdict" (Amos 9)
Sunday 25 th April	8.00am	"The purpose of parables" (Mt.13.10-17)
	10.30am	"Living as God's children" (Eph.5.1-21)
	6.30pm	"Devotion and hostility" (John 12.1-11)
Sunday 2 nd May	8.00am	"The parable of the weeds" (Mt.13.24-30, 36-43)
	10.30am	"God's blueprint for marriage" (Eph.5.21-33)
	6.30pm	"Life and death" (John 12.12-26)
Sunday 9 th May	8.00am	"More on parables" (Mt.13.34-35, 44-52)
	10.30am	"Happy families" (Eph.6.1-9)
	6.30pm	"Light and darkness" (John 12.27-36)
Sunday 16 th May	8.00am	"Jesus rejected at Nazareth" (Mt.13.53-58)
	10.30am	"Famous last words" (FAMILY SERVICE)
	6.30pm	"Belief and unbelief" (John 12.36-50)
Sunday 23 rd May	8.00am	"The death of John the Baptist" (Mt.14.1-12)
	10.30am	"Who is the Holy Spirit?"
	6.30pm	"A minor prophet with a major message" (Obadiah)

Sunday 30th May 8.00am *To be announced*
 10.30am “What is the Trinity?”
 6.30pm “The Lord our keeper” (Psalm 121)

ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

This year’s Annual Church Meeting will take place on **Wednesday 28th April** at 7.30 pm in the Church Centre. All members of the church Electoral Roll are invited to attend.

An Annual Church Meeting is not just a legal requirement in the life of any parish church, nor is it just a business meeting. It is an opportunity to give thanks for God’s leading over the past year and to set our sights afresh on the task that lies ahead.

So please do plan to join us for this year’s meeting.

Robert Bashford

LADIES’ BREAKFAST

On Saturday 24th April there will be a Ladies’ Breakfast in the Church Centre at 9.00 am

There will be short talk at the end of the Breakfast from Becky Saywell, who is a Christian Mum with five children.

There will be a Crèche available, in the larger Portacabin, for any children who can’t be looked after at home. If you want to make use of it, please let us know when you book in.

Tickets cost £3.50 each and can be obtained from myself (tel: 832380) or Christina Cruywagen or Debbie Schroeder. If you are also buying a ticket for a guest who does not normally come to St James’, the two tickets together will cost £5.

Come along and have a relaxed breakfast!

Barbara Bashford

THANET BIBLE WEEK

Please do make a note in your diaries of this year's Thanet Bible Week: Tuesday 8th to Friday 11th June.

The two speakers this year are Rev. William Taylor (Tuesday and Wednesday) who is the Rector at St Helen's Church, Bishopsgate, in the City of London – and Rev. Geoff Thomas (Thursday and Friday) who is Minister at Alfred Place Baptist Church, Aberystwyth. Both these men are gifted Bible teachers, and we are privileged to have them come to speak in Thanet. The Thanet Bible Week is really like having a Keswick Convention on our own doorstep!

The evening meetings start at 8.00 pm at St James' Church. Coffee and tea will be available in the Church Centre after the meeting.

Each of our two speakers will also lead a lunchtime seminar – William Taylor on the Wednesday and Geoff Thomas on the Friday. These start at 12 noon when we eat lunch together (bring your own sandwiches – but drinks are provided). We hand over to the speaker at 12.30 and finish at 1.30.

Robert Bashford

ANY QUESTIONS?

How far is God still speaking today? Why was the Bible not added to, as time went on?

It's *Christ*, who provides the answer to this question. The contention of the Scriptures themselves is that God has nothing definitive to say to us *on top of, or beyond*, his word that culminates in Jesus Christ. Hebrews 1.1-2 expresses it perfectly: "*In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son...*"

That explains so much. **No one is ever going to improve on Jesus!** After God's disclosures – that reach their goal in Christ and the message of his chosen apostles – we are not going to inherit new teachings that we have never

heard before. In Jesus, God has said all that he wants to say to the human race. There is no extra revelation to follow, no additional prophetic word. Jesus himself warned against future claimants to some new messiahship – even if they performed miracles by way of proof; they are not to be received (Matthew 24.23-26; Luke 17.23).

It is not that everything has stood still since the first century! Christ is alive and active, and guiding his church in fulfilling his will and extending the kingdom of God. Hence the excitement and the growing sense of momentum imparted to Christians of every century.

But there is something about the “givenness” of the Bible that means that it is not to be added to. Timothy, the protégé of the apostle Paul, was to *keep the pattern of sound teaching*, and to *guard the good deposit* (2 Timothy 1.13-14). Here is no interesting collection of human insights. Elsewhere we read of *the trustworthy message ... the sound doctrine ... the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints* (Titus 1.9; Jude 3). Quite evidently this is a library of books that is not to be tampered with. Its end perfectly matches its beginning. It starts with creation; it closes with the *new* creation. It originates in a garden; it terminates in a garden *city*. A tree features in the opening pages of the Bible; the tree of life is present in the final pages. In this way the two covers of the Bible can be bent back on themselves, so that Genesis meets Revelation, and Moses shakes hands with John. How could anyone think of adding extra material to such a perfect entity? This is the book of God and we can only pity those who have fatuously claimed, “We wrote the Bible; we can *rewrite* the Bible.” As it is, a divine judgment rests on those who would add to, or subtract from, the last book of the Bible (Revelation 22.18-19).

No, there is nothing more to be revealed... but there is plenty more to *learn*. This is the excitement of Bible study, theology and scholarship. We will never reach the stage when we sense that we have mastered God’s book. We need to explore its contents until the end of time!

From an article by Richard Bewes

FRIENDS OF TEARFUND THANET SUPPORT GROUP

Our next meeting will be held on Monday 12th April at 7.30pm at St James’ in the Church Centre. Refreshments will be provided and we shall meet the new co-ordinator for the South East, John Archer, from Tearfund head office. We

shall have an update on how Tearfund have spent donated funds in Haiti and what is still to do. This is a wonderful opportunity to find out everything you ever wanted to know about Tearfund, a charity which we support by prayer and giving at St James'.

STJAMES MISSIONARY PAGE

(Available in printed version of magazine only.- Web Ed)

LAYING DOWN YOU LIFE FOR THOSE WHO DESPISE YOU

On Tuesday 20 October two Taliban suicide bombers blew themselves up at the International Islamic University in Islamabad, the Pakistani capital. One attack took place at a two-storey cafeteria for female students where around 400 young women were having lunch, yet only three of them died. Why were there not scores more killed in such a crowded environment?

The next day the reason emerged. It was the deliberate self-sacrifice of a Christian man that had saved the lives of the Muslim girls.

The bomber approached his target wearing a black burqa, the all-enveloping head-to-toe garment. This caused suspicion, as none of the students covered themselves to such an extent.

Mohammed Shaukat, a Muslim, intercepted the bomber, who took out a gun and shot him. As Mohammed Shaukat fell to the ground, a Christian called Pervez Masih rushed forward to grapple with the bomber and managed to hold him at the cafeteria entrance, preventing him from going right inside the dining hall. There the bomber detonated his explosives, killing himself, Pervez and the three students. "There would have been dozens of deaths had the suicide bomber not been blocked by Pervez Masih," commented Saifur Rehman, a senior security official at the university.

Pervez was a day labourer. Like so many poor Pakistani Christians, he had to hire himself out afresh each morning, but was often working at the university. "He was very simple and, by nature, he was quite different from the other workers in the university," said the contractor who employed him daily.

Our brother, despised by the Muslim majority and discriminated against because of his Christian faith, recognised the danger and could have run from the scene to save himself. But he did the opposite. This poor, simple and lowly Christian knowingly gave up his life to save the lives of the Muslim students.

Jesus said, “Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends” (John 15:13). Yet our Lord Himself went further than this, laying down His own life on the cross not only for those who loved Him but also for those who hated, despised and persecuted Him. His disciple Pervez followed the example of his Master, giving his life to save not his friends but those who looked on him with nothing but contempt.

At the beginning of a new year, let us find new inspiration to walk closely with the Lord through the glorious example of Pervez Masih.

Dr Patrick Sookhdeo
International Director

Reprinted by kind permission of Barnabas Aid

MEN’S BREAKFAST

Twenty two of us sat down to enjoy a “Full English” and each others company on Saturday 20th March.

This was followed by a talk given by Chris Knowles, the guest speaker for the following Sunday morning service.

Chris delivered a very simple but effective message about what it means to become a Christian and building a relationship with God through Jesus.

For newcomers and old stagers it was most refreshing. Chris explained that Jesus is Christianity with the religion (i.e. all the trappings of religion) taken out.

Our thanks to Chris, to Michael for organising the event and to Pam, Marion and Sandy for all their excellent work in the kitchen.

Ed.

My Childhood Adventure

I was only seven years old when I went on an exciting adventure in Central Africa in the 1930s. Young though I was, everything about it is indelibly etched on my mind.

My parents met in Switzerland and it was a very romantic encounter.

In the First World War, my father had been a Lieutenant Commander in sailing ships in the Royal Navy. He had a rigorous training and knew what it was to climb up into the 'crows nest' and to sail around Cape Horn in those treacherous seas. He possessed a badge on which was portrayed the head of an albatross, which was given to all 'Cape Horners'. He also knew how to consume a weevil ship's biscuits, which some said would provide extra protein!

Unfortunately he contracted tuberculosis and this caused him to be sent to a sanatorium in Switzerland for recuperation.

My mother had been an ambulance driver in the war, taking wounded soldiers from trains and ports to hospitals in London. Due to long hours and little time for meals, she also contracted tuberculosis and was sent to the same sanatorium in Switzerland as my father.

In their convalescence, romance flourished. They were soon married and advised to live in a warm dry climate, and so went as poultry farmers to S. Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) in the 1920s. The farm was not a success so my father became employed as a surveyor on the Rhodesian Railways, opening up the railway to the Copperbelt, and made the family home in Broken Hill in N. Rhodesia (now Zambia) where I was born. It was a zinc mining town.

My father had a caboose in which he lived when away from home – 'up the line'.

My mother had always been an adventurous and a keen car driver, and was asked by a friend to accompany her on a journey to Abercom on Lake

Tanganyika (now Tanzania) and to share the driving of a Model T Ford. This lady's husband was a government official and important business documents had to be delivered to the government in Tanganyika. There was no rail or air transport in those days, everything had to go by road, and the roads were poorly maintained and were what they called 'strips' – two tracks for wheels of the vehicle and grass growing up the middle, and in some parts, the grass was very tall. There were rest huts along the way but everything was very primitive and one had to take all one's provisions. These rest huts were called 'rondavels' and were made of walls of mud with thatched roofs and had no amenities.

As there was no one to care for me at home, and dad was 'up the line' I, at the age of seven, was taken along for the ride. Everyone said my mother was mad to take me because of malaria, tick-bite fever, snakes, lions and other wild animals. My mother was unconcerned now that this new adventure presented itself, always fearless and the proverbial optimist and so we set off. Three females and one African servant 'Button'. He was the one to make fires, cook meals and to attend all our needs. He was a wonderful African from Nyasaland (now Malawi) loyal and trustworthy. Nyasa boys had a good reputation and were much sort after as 'house boys'.

Mrs Humphreys was a 'good shot' and in charge of the expedition, took her rifle with her and the Model T Ford was loaded up with bedding, food and all conveniences.

At our first rest hut, we met two Government officials also going up north taking the mail and they gave me a couple of oranges, what a treat! They advised us to go on ahead of them in case anything happened and we broke down they would be there to help. A very comforting thought.

I remember Mpika with one petrol pump and we had to fill up. President Kaunda was born in Mpika and when visiting colonial presidents came to Britain and photos were taken with the Queen, one would always find President Kaunda sitting next to the Queen – a very loyal subject and he idolised the Sovereign.

At Mpika we had real beds to sleep in at a small lodging house. As our meal was being prepared, a young child was busy laying the table with a white cloth with tassels around the edge. A playful kitten played with the tassels and each time it was placed in position the kitten pulled the cloth off, much to my amusement. A roaring fire in the room was a welcome sight, as nights in Central Africa can be extremely cold.

On our journey we often stopped by the roadside for a cup of tea, Button obligingly making a fire and boiling the kettle. I remember on one occasion asking Mrs H for a tea spoon to stir my cup of tea, and she said 'use a stick, we are camping'. We couldn't stay long in that part as Button had noticed some lion 'spoor' (footprints) so we moved quickly to the safety of the car and were soon speeding on our way.

At another place, I wandered off to play with some piccanins (young Africans) and got into some very tall grass, called elephant grass, and Mrs H came looking for me carrying her gun! I must have been quite a liability to the smooth running of the expedition.

In the rest huts I slept on the car seats which were balanced between two wooden crates. Needless to say these were restless nights, as I kept slipping off. Mother slept on straw and Mrs H had a camp bed!

When we came to the Chambezi River, I was tucked up in bed under a mosquito net and was given some delicious and very memorable tinned tomato soup. Heinz of course! The Model T Ford cross the Chambezi River by pontoon and I went across in a dug-out canoe.

A highlight of the trip was when we passed through Chitambo where there was a memorial to David Livingstone. He died there and his heart was buried by a tree on which was a plaque. He had two trusty African servants, Susi and Chuma, and on his orders he told them that after his death they were to bury his heart at Chitambo and carry his embalmed body to the East Coast, to Zanzibar, for it to be shipped to England.

The journey from Chitambo to Zanzibar was 15 hundred miles and Susi and Chuma faithfully carried out Livingstone's wishes, and his body was eventually buried in Westminster Abbey.

In due time we arrived at Abercorn at the southern end of Lake Tanganyika and Mrs H handed over the documents to the Government officials, and after a rest period we travelled the long journey back to Broken Hill.

As we travelled in our faithful Model T Ford through remote villages, I was amused that the young African children would run alongside the car cheering and clapping their hands. Perhaps it was a rare sight for them to see a young white child in those parts.

On arriving home safely and without mishap, we turned our thoughts to our ever faithful God in gratitude and thanks for blessing us with health along the way and protecting us from all the dangers. Alleluia!

Lesley Mayes

NB: I hope that this will encourage others to share their stories for future articles in the magazine.

Ed.

SPONSORED BOUNCEATHON

2ND Garlinge Beavers, Cubs and Leaders took part in a 'Sponsored Bounceathon' to raise money for 'ShelterBox' and the Haiti Earthquake. They raised a staggering £1000 and this was enough money for more than two ShelterBoxes!

They achieved this amazing feat by bouncing ... on their feet! Around 30 eager participants were sponsored to see how many times they could bounce on an inflatable castle in a minute. The number of bounces ranged from 79 to 128! The children took it all in their stride and bounced without

any problems. The leaders on the other hand struggled to stay upright and were out of breath after the minute! After an appeal on local radio the castles were provided free of charge by Caribbean Castles. If you are interested in hiring these castles Stuart can be contacted on 07846 634506.

EASTER

A yawning gap and deep divide,
Was bridged at Calvary,
'Twas there the Son of God he died,
And by his love has set us free.

It isn't for us yet to know,
The agonies he suffered there,
But we see while here below,
A love so deep beyond compare.

The fearful gap twixt God and man,
We opened by our sin,
Christ is the only one who can,
Completely fill it in.

But now the path is there to find,
For mankind now to tread,
To leave someday this world behind
For countless joys ahead.

Based on Hebrews 10:10

A PRAYER FOR ALL

When we feel unlovable, unworthy and unclean, when we think that
no one can heal us:

Remember,
God Can.

When we think that we are unforgivable for our guilt and our
shame:

Remember,
God Can.

When we think that all is hidden and no one can see within:

Remember,
God Can.

And when we have reached the bottom and think that no one can
hear:

Remember,
God Can.

And when we think that no one can love the real person deep inside
of us:

Remember,
God Does.

AMEN

Anonymous

NB: This prayer was said in Church recently by Kate and Ian Crosher

DEADLINE DATE: Please may all articles for the June and July magazine
be with the Editor by Friday 21st May 2010. Thank you.

EASTER CONFUSION

It has got beyond a joke, I really must get a grip.

Friday is shopping-for-the-week day. It's no fun – but it's got to be done. My wife and I have a system designed to get the job done and then to get home in the shortest possible time.

The plan kicks off with my dropping her off to start the shopping while I get petrol. So far so good, I return, park, go into the store ... and begin to check the isles ...

My wife is nowhere to be seen!

It's *then* that the confusion begins. What was she *wearing*? I can't remember! Wandering up and down I begin to wonder what she *looks* like. Then what is her *name*. How sad is *that*?

I don't think I'm crazy. It's just the old problem of *not recognising someone out of their usual environment*.

This may explain why two travellers suffered the same experience on the first *Easter Day*.

Jesus' had warned his disciples what lay ahead. His teaching increasingly brought him into conflict with religious leaders. It could only end in trouble. Eventually Jesus was betrayed by a friend, accused of things he didn't say or do, condemned by the Roman governor, and nailed to a cross between two thieves.

Crucified on Friday at 9.00am, Jesus died at 12.00 noon. At 3.00pm permission was given for friends to take his body down and lay it in a borrowed grave. With time running out they could only wrap the body in strips of cloth, roll a stone over the door, and return to complete the job two days later, after the Jewish Sabbath.

We know little about the two travellers, returning home to their village, 7 miles from Jerusalem. We wish that Luke had given us more information about them (Luke 24:13-35).

They were clearly *disciples* of Jesus, having followed him, taken on board his teaching and come to believe that he was the Christ who had come into the world to rescue them. After all, his words and miracles were very powerful.

But now, they were *disillusioned* and *disappointed*. Women had gone to Jesus' grave early that morning –and found it *empty*. They had met angels who said Jesus was *alive*. ***But no-one had seen him!*** So with evening approaching, and *still no sign of him*, they gave up, turned their backs on Jerusalem – and their hopes – and headed for home to get on with their lives *without* him.

During the journey they were joined by a stranger. He asked what they were discussing so passionately as they walked. They stopped in amazement, and one asked rather roughly if he was a *visitor* to Jerusalem, not to have heard of the amazing events there over the past weekend. They opened the flood-gates of their dashed hopes – all in the *past* tense! None of it was *relevant* now!

Rather than be offended, the stranger *rebuked* them for their unbelief, and reminded them that the Bible predicted Christ's *suffering* and *death*. It was both *foreseen* and an *essential part* of this mission to *rescue the world*. In fact, he could never be the *Saviour of the World* without suffering, dying and rising again!

Eventually the travellers reached their village home. The stranger was about to walk on but was invited to share an evening meal. Suddenly, the *Guest* became the *Host* – and gave thanks for the food before serving *them*. It was *then* that they recognised him – *the living Jesus* – no doubt still bearing the *wounds* of his terrible ordeal.

Strange how *unbelief* can blind us to the most solid reasons for believing Jesus' resurrection. The most *reliable* evidence is the eyewitness accounts in the Gospels. These continue to be the *foundation for faith* for countless men and women who will greet the risen Christ again this year – and *you* could be among them!

All I've got to do is to work out how this can help me *recognise my wife* while shopping next Friday!

Michael Toogood

JESUS SAID:

“It is written: Man does not live on bread alone.” (Luke 4:4)

“It is written: Worship the Lord our God and serve him only” (Luke 4:8)

“It says: Do not put the Lord your God to the test” (Luke 4:12)

These words were spoken by Jesus when tempted by the devil.

SATURDAY SHOP

The Saturday Shop continues to thrive and we must give thanks to God for his continued goodness.

The takings in February amounted to £310.99 and £240.77 in March. Our thanks to all concerned and we look forward to your support in the following months.

WHAT THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE CONTAIN

In *Genesis* the world was made by God’s creative hand,

In *Exodus* the Hebrews marched to gain the promised land.

Leviticus contains the law - holy and just and good,

Numbers records the tribes enrolled – all sons of Abraham’s blood.

Moses in *Deuteronomy* recounts God’s mighty deeds,

Brave *Joshua* into Canaan’s land the host of Israel leads.

In *Judges* their rebellion oft provokes the Lord to smite,

But *Ruth* records the faith of one well pleasing in His sight.

In First and Second *Samuel* of Jesse’s son we read,

Ten tribes in First and Second *Kings* revolted from his seed.

First and Second *Chronicles* see Judah captive made,
But *Ezra* leads the remnant back by princely Cyrus' aid.

The city walls of Zion *Nehemiah* builds again,
Whilst *Ester* saves her people from the plots of wicked men.
In *Job* we read how faith will live beneath affliction rod,
And David's *Psalms* are precious songs to every child of God.

The *Proverbs* like a goodly string of choicest pearls appear,
Ecclesiastes teaches man how vain are all things here.
The mystic *Song of Solomon* exalts sweet Sharon's rose,
Whilst Christ the Saviour and the King the "rapt *Isaiah*" shows.

The warning *Jeremiah* apostate Israel scorns,
His plaintiff *Lamentations* their awful downfall mourns.
Ezekiel tells, in wondrous words, of dazzling mysteries,
Whilst kings and empires yet to come *Daniel* in vision sees.

Of judgement and of mercy *Hosea* loves to tell,
Joel describes the blessed days when God with man shall dwell.
Among Tekoa's herdsmen *Amos* received his call,
Whilst *Obadiah* prophecies of Edom's final fall.

Jonah enshrines a wondrous type of Christ, our risen Lord,
Micah pronounces Judah lost, lost but again restored.
Nahum declares on Nineveh just judgement shall be poured,
When Christ our risen Saviour shall come to be adored.

A view of Chaldea's coming doom *Habakkuk's* visions give,
Next *Zephaniah* warns the Jews to turn, repent and live.
Haggai wrote to those who saw the temple built again,
And *Zechariah* prophesied of Christ's triumphant reign.

Malachi was the last who touched the high prophetic chord,
Its final notes sublimely show the coming of the Lord.

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John the holy Gospels wrote,
Describing how the Saviour died, His life and all He taught,
Acts proves how God the apostles owned with signs in every place, Paul in
Romans teaches us how man is saved through faith by grace.
The apostle in *Corinthians* instructs, exhorts, reproves,
Galatians shows that faith in Christ alone the Father loves.
Ephesians and *Philippians* tell what Christians ought to be,
Colossians bids us to live to God and for eternity.

In *Thessalonians* we are taught the Lord will come from heaven,
In *Timothy* and *Titus* a shepherd's rule is given.
Philemon marks a Christian's love as only Christians know,
Hebrews reveals the Gospel prefigured by the Law.

James teaches without holiness faith is but vain and dead,
While *Peter* paints the narrow way in which the saints are led.
John, in his three epistles on love delights to dwell,
But *Jude* gives awful warning of judgements, wrath and hell.

The *Revelations* prophesy of that tremendous day,
When Christ, and Christ alone, shall be the trembling sinner's stay.

Probable period of publication 1880-1900

Submitted by Christine

“FOR WORDSMITHS” - DO YOU THINK ENGLISH IS EASY?

1. The bandage was **wound** around the **wound**.
2. The farm was used to **produce produce**.
3. The dump was so full that it had to **refuse** more **refuse**.
4. We must **polish** the **Polish** furniture.
5. He could **lead** if he would get the **lead** out.
6. The peasant decided to **desert** his dessert in the **desert**.
7. Since there is no time like the **present**, he thought it was time to **present** the **present**.
8. A **bass** was painted on the head of the **bass** drum.

9. When shot at, the **dove dove** into the bushes.
10. I did not **object** to the **object**.
11. The insurance was **invalid** for the **invalid**.
12. There was a **row** among the oarsmen about how to **row**.
13. They were too **close** to the door to **close it**.
14. The buck **does** funny things when the **does** are present.
15. A seamstress and a **sewer** fell down into a **sewer** line.
16. To help with planting, the farmer taught his **sow** to **sow**.
17. The **wind** was too strong to **wind** the sail.
18. Upon seeing the **tear** in the painting I shed a **tear**.
19. I had to **subject** the **subject** to a series of tests.
20. How can I **intimate** this to my most **intimate** friend?

Let's face it – English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple or pine in pineapple.

English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices? Doesn't seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a fund of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?

In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all. That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

LIVING ALONE

When you live on your own. All on your tod,
You talk to yourself, and mutter and nod,
You're always right, and never wrong.
And you wonder why you're living so long.

You look for things you cannot find,
The home help calls she's very kind
Who tipped the sugar in the caddy of tea.
There's no one else here so it must be me.

Our Thursday club is well worth while
It cheers you up and makes you smile.
It gets you out, new friends to meet
And a nice hot lunch once a week.

A coach with a lift takes us out for a treat,
The wheelchairs in the boot, packed in so neat.
The helpers come, and they push us about,
Making sure we enjoy a lovely day out.

Old age creeps on, come what may
Life's what you make it – so they say,
To laugh and be merry is not a sin,
And you get out of life, just what you put in.

APRIL 2010

Thursday 1 st	10.30 am	Parents and Toddlers, Old School Hall
	2.00 pm	Dandelyon Patchers, Church Centre
	8.00 pm	Maundy Thursday Lord's Supper with Bible address
Friday 2 nd	10.30 am	Good Friday Family Service
	2.00 pm	Good Friday Devotional Service
Sunday 4th	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Easter Day Family followed by shortened Lord's Supper
	6.30 pm	Easter Day Evening Service
Saturday 10 th	10.00 am	Saturday Shop, Old School Hall
Sunday 11th	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.30 pm	Evening Service
Monday 12 th	7.30 pm	Tear Fund Prayer Meeting, Church Centre
Tuesday 13 th	12.00 noon	Garlinge Lunch, Old School Hall
Wednesday 14 th	8.00 pm	Focus on Prayer, Church Centre
Thursday 15 th	2.00 pm	Dandelyon Patchers, Church Centre
Sunday 18th	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.30 pm	Evening Service with the Lord's Supper
Monday 19 th	2.30 pm	Friendship Club: "Thanet O.W.L.S." (Meryl Hawkins), Church Centre
Wednesday 21 st	7.45 pm	Garlinge Outreach Team, Church Centre
Thursday 22 nd	10.30 am	Parents and Toddlers, Old School Hall
Saturday 24 th	9.00 am	Ladies' Breakfast, Church Centre
Sunday 25th	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.30 pm	Evening Service
Monday 26 th	10.00 am	Living Stones Bible Study Group, 49 Orchard Rd
Wednesday 28 th	7.30 pm	Annual Church Meeting, Church Centre
Thursday 29 th	10.30 am	Parents and Toddlers, Old School Hall
	2.00 pm	Dandelyon Patchers, Church Centre

MAY 2010

Sunday 2nd	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Morning Service with the Lord's Supper
	6.30 pm	Evening Service
Tuesday 4 th)	
Wednesday 5 th)	Home Bible Study Groups (<i>whatever date and time have been arranged for your Group</i>)
Thursday 6 th)	
Thursday 6 th	10.30 am	Parents and Toddlers, Old School Hall
	2.00 pm	Dandelyon Patchers, Church Centre
Friday 7 th		Extremely Friday Scavenger Hunt
Saturday 8 th	10.00 am	Saturday Shop, Old School Hall
Sunday 9th	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.30 pm	Evening Service
Tuesday 11 th	12.00 noon	Garlinge Lunch, Old School Hall
	7.30 pm	PCC, Church Centre
Thursday 13 th	10.30 am	Parents and Toddlers, Old School Hall
	8.00 pm	Ascension Day Lord's Supper with Bible address
Sunday 16th	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Family Service
	6.30 pm	Evening Service with the Lord's Supper
Monday 17 th	2.30 pm	Friendship Club: "The tapestry of life" (Miriam Plank), Church Centre
Wednesday 19 th	7.45 pm	Christian Encounter: "Defending life and liberty" (The Christian Institute), Church Centre
Thursday 20 th	10.30 am	Parents and Toddlers, Old School Hall
	2.00 pm	Dandelyon Patchers, Church Centre
Sunday 23rd	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.30 pm	Evening Service
Monday 24 th	10.00 am	Living Stones Bible Study Group, 49 Orchard Rd
	8.00 pm	Thanet Bible Week Prayer Meeting, Church Centre
Wednesday 26 th	7.45 pm	Garlinge Outreach Team, Church Centre
Thursday 27 th	10.30 am	Parents and Toddlers, Old School Hall
Sunday 30th	8.00 am	The Lord's Supper
	10.30 am	Morning Service
	6.30 pm	Evening Service