

St John's Church

serving Stanborough, Lemsford, Cromer Hyde



October/November 2022

£1



Front cover: Gina Butler's picture of the flowers in Green Park (page 13)
Above: Charity walkers/bikers: Frank Puranik, Lucy Earl, Paul Butler,
Kevin Earl, Gina, and John Blanch (page 7)
Below: Sue & Geoff Stilwell, Kitty & Graham Stilwell, and Kitty's parents
Debbie and Gary Chamberlain (page 5)



At the time of writing, I'm enjoying memories of a brilliant first weekend as parish priest in St John's, Lemsford and St Michael's, Birchwood. The love my family and I were shown at my Welcome Service on Saturday evening will remain with me for a long time, and it was a real joy to meet so many new people (as well as see familiar faces) at my first 8am and 11am services at St John's.



My arrival wasn't wholly celebration focussed, as it fell towards the end of a time of national mourning after the death of Queen Elizabeth II. My first Sunday morning services were adapted to commemorate the Queen, and we held special reflective services in the evening to remember Her Late Majesty, to pray for our new King, and to take time to think of all those we've loved and lost. The church was also open each day for people to come and sit quietly, reflect, light a candle, and write in the book of condolence. It felt like a real privilege to have become your parish priest at this time.

One of the things that particularly struck me about the very different events of my arrival weekend, was the coexistence of joy alongside sadness. In life, I find that we often try and keep sad or painful experiences separate from happier times. We might, for example, expect people to mourn immediately after the death of a loved one, and then hope that they'll quickly return to a more cheerful normal after the funeral. Or conversely, we might feel guilty for enjoying a holiday or a party when we're grieving or hurting in some other way.

I wonder if the Queen's death has reminded us that it's ok for mixed emotions to exist side-by-side. Joy, sadness, excitement, hurt, gratitude, grief, tears and laughter – they are all part of what it means to be human, and it's normal and healthy to experience them in close proximity to each other. The Queen's funeral (and all church funerals) acknowledged this well when it gave space for sadness, thanks and hope for the future.



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One of my favourite authors, Barbara Brown Taylor, has written a wonderful book called *Learning to Walk in the Dark*. In it, she reminds us that God is alongside us in our challenging emotions, as well as in those feelings that are easier to bear. Rather than try to push away difficult 'dark' emotions, so we can quickly return to the 'light', she suggests that we acknowledge *all* emotions, and listen to how we might be being prompted to respond to them. Perhaps we need to talk to someone; take a break to properly grieve; take action to bring good out of a difficult situation; or do more of what we find life-giving.

The forthcoming season of Remembrance in November gives us an opportunity to do more of this kind of reflection. The season is most well-known for 'Remembrance Day' – the day when we honour the sacrifice of those who have lost their lives in war. But it is also a time in the church when we confront our fears (All Hallows Eve), remember the lives of those who have



Kathryn with the Archdeacon of Hertford, Janet Mackenzie, and Lord Brocket, our Patron, after her Service of Welcome

inspired our faith (All Saints), and remember all those we have loved and lost (All Souls). Look out for details of services and events on our Facebook page, and perhaps take time this year to be with some of your more difficult feelings, as well to receive messages of comfort, hope and joy. There is space – and a need – for both.

With love.

Rev'd Kathryn

October**2nd Harvest**

8 am HC BCP Rev Iain Lane
 11 am All Age Service of Worship Rev KA
Philippians 4:4-9 John 6:25-35

9th The Seventeenth after Trinity

8 am HC BCP Rev KA 11 am HC Rev KA
2 Timothy 2: 8-15 Luke 17: 11-19

16th The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

8 am HC BCP Rev KA 11 am MP Rev Iain Lane
2 Timothy 3: 14-4.5 Luke 18: 1-8

23rd The Last Sunday after Trinity

8 am MP John Marks 11 am HC Rev Iain Lane
2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18 Luke 18: 9-14

30th All Saints Sunday

8 am HC BCP Rev KA 11 am HC Rev KA
Hebrews 12: 18-24 Matthew 5: 1-12
 12—3 pm Church open for All Souls

November**6th The Third Sunday Before Advent**

8 am MP Frank Puranik
 11 am All Age Service of Worship Rev KA
Isaiah 25:6-9 Matt 25:31-46

13th Remembrance Sunday

8 am HC BCP Rev KA **10.50 am***** HC Rev KA
2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13 Luke 21: 5-19

20th Christ The King

8 am HC BCP Rev KA 11 am MP Rev Iain Lane
Colossians 1: 11-20 Luke 23: 33-43

27th The First Sunday of Advent

8 am HC BCP Rev KA 11 am HC Rev KA
Romans 13: 11-14 Matthew 24: 36-44

HC Holy Communion; MP Morning Prayer; BCP Book of Common Prayer; KA Kathryn Alford

NB Kathryn's day off is Friday each week

Weddings

On 29th July, **Graham Stilwell & Kitty Chamberlain**; on 6th August, **Michael Fowles & Claire Timpson**; and on 25th August **Robert & Nicola Moyes**, who had their marriage blessed. We wish them all every joy.

Sue Stilwell writes: "It was a wonderful day, and such a privilege to officiate at my son's wedding. Thank you to all at St Johns who made Kitty and Graham so welcome, Nigel for all his organisation, Judith and the bell ringers for such a wonderful treat when the happy couple with a spring in their step came out of the church to a wonderful peal of bells and everyone who made the day so very special".
(*picture inside front cover*)

Funerals

On 5th August, **Ann Coe** (see tribute on page 11); on 31st August **Michael Maisey**; and on 22nd September **Susan Butterfield**. We send our sincere condolences to their families and friends. We particularly offer our deepest sympathy to Ray Butterfield, Susan's husband, on his loss.

June Copping

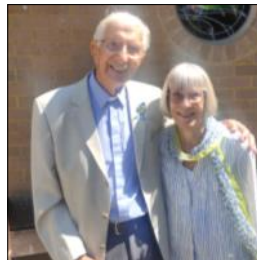
We are very sorry to report the death of June, whose funeral is on Friday 30th September. We will carry a tribute to her in our next issue.

Baptism

On 7th August, **Leonard Daley**. Many congratulations to his parents.

Ron Ingamells writes

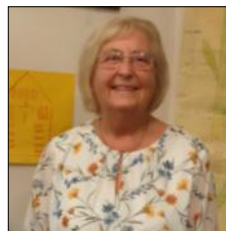
"Many thanks for your kind welcome when Ann and I came in August! It was a lovely day and the bring and share lunch, with



the chance to see old friends, was very much appreciated. When I preached at St. Peter Mancroft, in the centre of Norwich, on 4th September I mentioned three churches for which I have a special affection - St John's Lemsford; St. Mary's Buckden and Mancroft. The service was streamed and is available on the St Peter Mancroft web site. My very best wishes to Kathryn for her new ministry at St. John's".

Carole Payne

Many congratulations to our Choir Leader, on her 80th Birthday. Singing as well as ever!



Harvest Festival 2nd October

There will be a **Bring & Share lunch** after the Service; soft drinks, tea and coffee provided.



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**Ted Webb's
Reflections on a
royal life.**



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seventy-one years.

Recording her smiles, recording her tears.

Cameras ready for any false word of which there were none (at least, none that we heard).

Life under a microscope like any new cell;

and for all of those years, well, didn't she do well!

Now the focus has shifted, we have a new King; and the media, revitalised, won't miss a thing.

So God Bless You, Your Majesty; long may you reign, and we'll still see this media circus again.

But the pain and the sorrow so publicly seen means we'll always remember your mother, our Queen.

**Macmillan Coffee Afternoon
Jackie Spry writes:**

"I would like to express grateful thanks to all those who supported The Macmillan Tea Party on Friday 16th September where approximately £200 was raised . Special thanks to Jenny, Gina, Jean and Brian "

Bike & Hike September 9th

Kevin Earl writes: Six intrepid souls (pictured inside the front cover) had a great time discovering Hertingfordbury, Hertford and Bengeo Churches, ate nice cake, studied payment devices for donations, spoke to volunteers and finally the Vicar of the Bengeo Parish Churches [yes, 2 parish churches].

We are most grateful to those who kindly sponsored us; so far we have raised £380, half of which will go to St John's and half to Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust.

It is not too late to sponsor! Just scan this QR Code - and thank you!



New Editor needed

After the next issue I will be standing down as Editor. Do you know anyone who would like to take on this role? They would need to be familiar with computers, and will be given a great deal of help from me initially. I can honestly say that this role is most fulfilling and rewarding. Anyone interested should contact a Warden.

Parish Magazine copy date for the next issue: **20th November**

School Report

We have completed our first two weeks of the new school year. The start of the Autumn term is always a busy one, with everyone settling into new routines and getting used to being back at school once again. However, with the sad passing of Queen Elizabeth II, it has been a particularly poignant start with much for us to reflect on. I have very much enjoyed my start as Head teacher at St. John's. The school is a lovely community and everyone, staff, parents and children have been very welcoming. I feel very fortunate to be part of the school.



To commemorate the passing of Queen Elizabeth the focus of much of our collective worship has been on her life, legacy and faith. In our church collective worship, Jo led us in a lovely service in which we reflected on the Queen's Christian faith and the way in which she dedicated her life to serving others. One of our children dressed up as the queen and read part of the speech made by the twenty one year old princess:

'I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service ...'

This was followed by the children bringing up flowers to place around pictures of the Queen. On the flowers the children had written their thoughts, thanks and prayers for the Queen. Here are some of the things that the children had expressed:

"Dear Queen, you have been like a mother to the country."

"Thank you for making me laugh with Paddington Bear."

"Thank you for being an amazing, inspiring queen to millions of people, helping people to get through the bad and good times. We will miss you so much and the world won't be complete without you."

"Elizabeth was our inspiring Queen. Lord bless our Queen for her time and dedication to us."



Our life at school is beginning to build up in terms of the number of things that are taking place. School clubs have begun once again and include a range of sports, yoga and choir. We are looking forward to our Harvest collective worship at the church and class 4 will be visiting Hatfield House to attend a music concert. We have welcomed back our fantastic team of instrument, music and sports teachers as well.

It was lovely meeting so many members of the church at Kathryn's Welcome Service recently. I look forward to building on the strong links between our school and church as the year progresses.

Best wishes,

Michelle

Jo Brooks *writes too:*

In our collective worship on Thursday 15th September we spent some time remembering and being thankful for the Queen, her long life of service and her faith. We read her words from her Christmas broadcast in 2002, and the children brought their thoughts and prayers, written and drawn on flowers, which we arranged around her photo as our tribute.

To quote from this broadcast: "I know just how much I rely on my own faith to guide me though the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God. Like others of you who draw inspiration from your own faith, I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel."

Admissions to St John's Church of England Primary School, Lemsford

The school will be open for tours for parents of children who will be reception age in September 2023. Please do come along and visit our lovely school in action. The tours are: **Tuesday 8th November** 9.30 am; **Wednesday 9th November** 9.30 am, **Thursday 10th November** 1.30 pm. There will be an opportunity to look around the school and to have a chat with Mrs Boylan, the Head teacher.

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Ann Coe 1929—2022

Edward Cardale took Ann's funeral at St John's; this is taken from his address.

Ann was born in Hatfield Hyde on 6th June 1929, one of six children. She attended Applecroft School; her first job was at the Danish Bacon Company in Welwyn Garden City.

At 17 she married Don and had three of her four children by the age of 20: Donald and twins Julie and Carol. It was another six years before Geoffrey came along. Years later she married Jim Coe, who died in 1992. In her last years she shared her home in Mill Close with Stan Pugh, another long-time member of the church.



When her children were young, their dad was working nights, and it couldn't have been easy for her. They remember her pushing Geoff in his pram from home in Hatfield to her mum's in Welwyn Garden, with the girls and Donald by her side. Ann worked at Welwyn Stores before moving to Hawker Siddeley Personnel Department, in charge of the apprentices and finding them accommodation. She loved her job and called them her boys. She enjoyed the film *Reach for the Sky* and was delighted when she met Douglas Bader.

She was a member of Lemsford Church for sixty years, joining the choir in 1960 when her mother died. She had a lovely voice and the choir became a huge part of her life; she only gave up some fifty years later when overtaken by ill health. Ann was a churchwarden over the millennium. She was so pleased she could always catch a glimpse of the church from her window, across the field and up the hill, especially when it was floodlit at night.

She loved her 9 grandchildren and when they were younger she used to knit them little suits with matching hats. She also had 12 great grandchildren and was always saying how lucky she was and how much she loved them all. She was always willing to help her daughters with their catering business, for which they were very grateful. They wrote: 'in the end, when she was taken into hospital last year and then to Autumn Vale Care Centre, it was a blessing. We knew that mum would be well cared for, and she certainly was. It was very frustrating that because of covid we could only visit for one hour a week. We have some lovely memories. Although mum was confused at times we had lots of laughs.'

Ann's long life of singing in the choir, and supporting the various wonderful organists, puts her up with Gwil Walker and other 'legends' of our church music and worship. How good that the legacy has carried on and continued, despite the challenges, through to the new times of today. Behind all this, Ann was a person of faith, witnessing to that faith by her commitment to this church, our village, and local community. She believed in what the Church stands for, in a changing world. **Thanks be to God. May she rest in peace.**



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It was such a shock last Thursday when they said the Queen was not well, which rapidly became apparent that it was much worse, until the news finally broke at around 6.30 that she had died. Details of the plans for her funeral and the events that would enable the general public to pay their respects began to come out at the weekend. I went to church on Sunday and mentioned I would like to go to London and Ian Douglas said that Mary had the same thought. I caught up with Mary and found out that Jo Brooks too would also like to go. Checking our diaries, we chose Wednesday, the day they were moving the Queen's coffin from Buckingham Palace to Westminster, as we thought that would give us the best chance to get a glimpse of the procession.

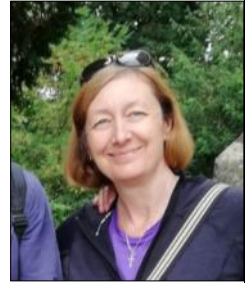
Paul drove me early on Wednesday morning, picking Mary up from her house en route and dropping us both at the station in WGC. We caught the 8.53 am and managed to find a rare 4-seater with just 1 occupant, I popped my bag down on the 4th remaining seat to save it for Jo who was getting on at Hatfield. We went to Kings cross and then tube to Charing cross, to avoid queues as much as possible. Currently, everything

was going to plan.

We then walked down towards The Mall, It wasn't that busy at this time but we found the crowds when we went through Admiralty Arch. Crowds were lining the barriers so the question was where should we go to get a decent view? As we were walking, we looked to the left and saw that the other side of Horse Guards parade looked a bit quieter and after a bit of "should we, shouldn't we" we headed over. We were very pleased to find a spot on the second row and then prepared for our 4-hour wait for the procession to start.

We made friends with Daniel a very tall man next to us who stood behind a tiny lady and was, therefore, able to video the whole thing for us and later sent us wonderful pictures. I made friends with a lady in front who was from California and Mary and Jo made friends with a family behind. They had brought a little stool which Mary requisitioned!!!

A news crew from The Netherlands stood next to us and interviewed both Mary and Jo, I kept in the background.



Four hours disappeared in a flash with good company, a barista coffee van, Salvation Army tea and public toilets right behind us.

They had stopped people crossing the parade ground quite early, so it was a maximum of four people deep where we were. If we'd stayed at the other side or down the mall there would have been an awful lot more.

At exactly 2.22 pm as planned, we could hear a gunshot from the direction of the Palace and assumed that the procession had started. From then to it turning off the Mall seemed the longest wait of the day. When it got to us it was magnificent. They paraded past and the crowd were in total silence. At first, you couldn't see the coffin in the sea of soldiers but once you could, you couldn't take your eyes off it with the crown riding majestically on top.

It was all over so quickly but it wasn't until I saw the last glimpse of the coffin go through the arch and out of view that the emotions fully hit home. That was it! All finished.

We had said goodbye to the Queen, and we now bid farewell to our friends of the last few hours, exchanging phone numbers so we could send pictures to each other.

Our next plan, to visit Green Park and see the flowers, was far more traumatic. It seemed a great idea to cross Horseguards where there were far fewer people, but we became trapped. We ended by going up Whitehall and along side roads trying to get back to Trafalgar Square and then the Mall to go to Green Park. I have to admit one building looks much like another to me. I do not know London at all well, so was grateful to be with two experts. Not that it helped as every road was blocked and we had to walk miles to get back.

When we finally got to Green Park it didn't disappoint. It wasn't just the flowers, the gifts, the cards, the poems but also the scent, and over all, the peace. Jo laid her flowers and card from James and we walked around with the hundreds of others. Eventually, we sat down, for the first time since getting off the tube 7 hours earlier. We sat as people milled around, lost in our thoughts.

I am so glad we went. It was a magnificent day and a privilege to be there. It was the least we could do to say goodbye to such a wonderful lady. **Thank you, your Majesty, for 70 years of loyal service to me, the UK, the Commonwealth and the world.**



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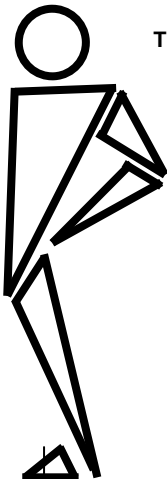
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The 8th of September 2022 will forever be known in world history as the date of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Like most people I was deeply saddened by her death. In the Aug/Sept parish magazine, I wrote about the connection between the royal family and Lemsford Parish. If you wish to read it again please go to http://www.lemsfordvillage.co.uk/parish_mag.htm.l (You will also find there copies of magazines going back to 2014). During her time as monarch Elizabeth II oversaw 15 Prime Ministers including the latest, Liz Truss. 

There have now been 56 Prime Ministers; two of them resided in Lemsford Parish. The first was the second **Lord Melbourne**, William, who inherited Brocket Hall in 1805 from his father Peniston Lamb, 1st Viscount Melbourne, son of Sir Matthew Lamb. The Brocket Estate was sold to Matthew in 1746 at an eventful time. He engaged one of the leading architects of the day, Sir James Paine, to build a new Brocket Hall. Sir Matthew died around 1765. Peniston widened the river into the lake and the work was complete by 1775. How the hall looks today is mainly due to work done during this period.

William Lamb's wife, Caroline, famously had a great passion for the poet Lord Byron. William was a Whig politician who served as Home Secretary (1830–1834) and Prime

Minister (1834 and 1835–1841). His first premiership ended when he was dismissed by King William IV, the last British Prime Minister to be dismissed by a monarch. His second spell, ran into the reign of Queen Victoria and he trained her in the art of politics. She is said to have regarded him as a father figure; he was 40 years older than her.

On the death of Melbourne in 1848, the Hall passed to his sister Emily Mary. She had married the 5th Earl Cowper of Panshanger who died in 1837. Two years later she married **Lord Palmerston** who became our second Prime Minister. He had two periods in office, 1855–1858 and 1859–1865 before his death at the age of 80 years, a few months after victory in a general election in which he had achieved an increased majority. He remains the last British Prime Minister to die in office.

Queen Victoria and most of the political leadership distrusted him. Palmerston's alleged weaknesses included mishandling of personal relations, and continual disagreements with the Queen over the royal role in determining foreign policy. Queen Victoria wrote after his death that though she regretted his passing, she had never liked or respected him: "Strange, and solemn to think of that strong, determined man, with so much worldly ambition". He died at 10:45am on Wednesday, 18 October 1865 two days before his eighty-first birthday. 

The cost of living is in the news at the moment. It is interesting to compare the inevitable struggles we will all have over the next few years with those faced by our forebears. Victorians knew all about poverty - less money coming in than expenditure going out—which Mr Micawber in Charles Dickens's 1850 novel *David Copperfield* called 'misery'. St John's School was founded 150 years ago, so let us consider how we live today compared with 1872.

Income: In 1872 the average agricultural worker weekly wage was 65p today it is £320. It's likely that the 1872 worker had to work 12-hour days.

Benefits: In 1872, there was no free health service and diseases were rife and often fatal. The average life expectancy was about 40 years. A visit to the doctor was expensive and there was very little effective medicine available beyond alcohol, opium and bloodletting with leeches. The workhouse was an institution where those unable to support themselves financially were offered accommodation and employment. Alms-houses were built to provide long-term shelter for the disabled and aged infirm, and soon became a common feature of towns and cities.

Today we have free health service, Universal Credit, Family Allowance, Bus Passes and the State Pension.

Food And Drink: Bread: in 1872 the average price of a 2lb loaf was 2p today it is £1.20. Milk in 1872 was 1p per pint, today it is 40p per pint.

A Victorian Gamekeeper who lived in Cromer Hyde described how people would shop and eat:

'The large garden provided, practically all of the family's vegetables and the adults worked to provide produce throughout the year. Potatoes, Swedes and carrots were stored in clamps in the garden and onions in the shed.'

'Meat came from the butcher in Hatfield, who called twice a week in a pony and trap, as did the baker. Milk and butter came from the farm in Brocket and groceries were purchased at a little shop in Lemsford or in Hatfield.'

'It is known that many children were from poor families, and they must have often been very hungry. In 1875, two children were caned for eating another child's dinner.'

Transport: In 1872 the main form of transport was shank's pony (walking), a horse and cart for the few and some had a pony and trap like Lucy Cochrane of Cromer Hyde (see image inside back cover). Trains were 20 years old, and the cost was out of the reach of most villagers.

Today we are spoilt for choice, car, bus (rare though in the Stanborough area, last spotted 20 years ago) train, boat, plane, bike but still for some shank's pony.



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School Uniforms: As the schools went back this year, I had my regular Victor (I don't believe it) Meldrew moment when I read that the average cost for a school uniform was over £300. It caused me to think what the cost was in Victorian England at St John's school. The answer is I don't know. Images on www.lemsfordvillage.co.uk/

[Classphoto.html](#) show in 1890 and 1901 boys wearing an Eton Jacket. With help from our friends at Hatfield History Group I found a possible source for these clothes (pictured opposite): *'In 1840 William Hankin, set up business at No.38 Fore Street as a tailor. His brother F.F.Hankin was in business at No.44 Fore Street as a linen drapers and clothing business.'* Thank you, Marion Hill & Christine Martindale.

I'm not sure how parents could afford these clothes, but it must have been the same struggle parents have today.

Energy: In 1872 the main requirements were lighting, heating, and cooking. Lighting was by candle or oil lamp. Kerosene (**paraffin**) lamps came in about 1850. HJ Brown Victorian gamekeeper who lived in Cromer Hyde explains heating and cooking: *'Heating was by coal or wood, the former being supplied by coal merchants in their horse drawn carts from Hatfield coal yards by the station. Wood for burning and kindling was collected from the woods and hedgerows---they were not allowed to cut down trees but fallen branches and dead wood was gathered up. Collecting wood was a continuous process over the*

year, and if you were lucky, you started winter with a well stocked coal and wood store.'

A hand drawn map by Trevor Rogers in 1945 has notes on energy sources : *'No Electric – Accumulators (Batteries) recharged and Stanborough for radios. Paraffin for Lamps Cookers from Stanborough Garage.'*



The pink cottage behind the Long and Short in 1800s was a bake house. (Pictures inside the back cover). The clue is a large extension where the chimney is. Once bread was baked workers would give the baker pots with chopped veg casserole; for a small fee these would stay in the embers all day. When they returned from the fields, they had a cooked meal, saving fuel at home. Probably the first takeaway, but too early for 'Ye olde Just Eat' to deliver. This was the home of the late Bruce Sherriff who kindly showed me the bake oven from inside.

If you have any questions about Lemsford parish history or want to share memories, email us at info@lemsfordhistory.co.uk or go to our website.



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Parakeets are small parrots with long tails. There are many species, including the budgerigar, but the wild green ones we see nowadays are ring-necked parakeets (*Psittacula krameri*), a non-migratory species native to Africa and the Indian Subcontinent. They are becoming familiar—the one pictured landed on my bird feeder last year. They cluster in groups and have very loud tweets, so cannot be missed.



There is some dispute as to how they arrived here.

One nice theory says that some escaped from studios in Isleworth during filming of *The African Queen* in 1951. Another is that a pair were released by Jimi Hendrix in Carnaby Street in the 1960s. In truth no one knows, but they have rapidly increased in numbers since the 1990s, spreading gradually northwards from south of London, presumably helped by milder winters. They were so numerous in Esher Rugby Ground that in 2007 Esher Rugby Club named their women's team "The Parakeets" (whether this title was dreamt up by the male or female members is not recorded).

Parrots are not mentioned in the Bible, other than in the catch-all Genesis 1 vs 20: And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky." (Q: which bird is the first named in the Bible? Answer below).

Should we be worried about this influx? Parakeets are not aggressive but can crowd out smaller birds where resources are scarce. Also, their habit of being voracious eaters of apples does not endear them to fruit farmers; in 2009 they were added by Natural England to the list of birds that can be lawfully culled.

On the other hand they are attractive to predator birds such as sparrow hawks and falcons. Bird Societies love such predators because their numbers are good indicators of the general health of all birds. A sparrow hawk killing a parakeet is not particularly pleasant, certainly not for the victim, but is Nature's way of keeping populations under control.

The first Biblical bird was not the Dove but the Raven: Genesis 8 vs 6

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for the people entrusted to his care
the freedom that comes from unity and peace.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, God, for ever and ever.*

Cardinal Vincent Nichols

And finally

Pet owner to Vet: Please help—my parakeets
are stuck together!

Vet: You have the wrong birds; an easy
mistake to make, as it's toucan fusing.



My aunt's parakeet can say over 30 phrases, but each one is offensive
and belittling. I say parakeet; it's actually more of a mockingbird.

A Vicar walks into a pub, carrying a penguin under his right arm,
a crocodile on a leash in his left hand, and a parakeet on his shoulder.
He orders three pints of Guinness.

The barman looks at the Vicar, at the penguin, at the crocodile, at the
parakeet, and back to the Vicar. *What's all this supposed to be then?* he
asks. *Some kind of joke???*

What do you call a parakeet that loves maths and hates food?
A polynomial.



Lemsford Local History Group's pictures (see pages 16-19).
Above is the old bake house before and after renovation.
Below is Lucy Cochrane with her pony and trap





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