

Friends & Neighbours

Newsletter

Issue 9

Don't forget that the **Daily Hope** phone line 0800 804 0804 is FREE to call from all places within the UK & available 24/7.

The St Bart's Church Office is now working remotely and is 'open' to take calls on **07864 653764** Mon–Fri, 9am - 12.00 & 1pm - 3pm.

There is a team of people ready and willing to help anybody in need. **Please do not hesitate** to phone the number above if you need additional help.

Each Sunday a Church service is premiered online at 10.30am, and remains available to view thereafter.

To view, go to www.stbartsbath.org, scroll down until you see the red button labelled '**St Bart's You Tube Channel**'. Click on this to be forwarded to the right place!

ST BART'S CHURCH
www.stbartsbath.org BATH

Dear Friends – I imagine that during lockdown literature has played a more important role in your lives alleviating isolation and tedium. Through books we can escape briefly into other worlds: realms of mystery, romance, science fiction, foreign parts and whodunnits! Literature can fire our imaginations, and allow us to experience circumstances very different to our own. Through the eyes of various characters in stories, fact or fiction, we can gain insights, enlarge our capacity for empathy and increase our connectedness with humanity.

In this edition I hope you are reminded of previously read and enjoyed classics, or be prompted to read those books you have never quite got around to tackling!

Our well of resources that several of you contributed to, is running dry! We would greatly value more – whether prose or poetry – serious or humorous. So please put pen to paper and send them in! For a later issue we are thinking of food as a theme. So we would love to have your recipes: maybe those you have particularly enjoyed throughout lockdown, or a family favourite, or recently discovered. If we get a goodly number we could collate them into a booklet!

Priscilla Russell

I Opened a Book By Julia Donaldson

I opened a book and in I strode.

Now nobody can find me.

I've left my chair, my house, my road,
My town and my world behind me.

I'm wearing the cloak, I've slipped on the ring,
I've swallowed the magic potion.

I've fought with a dragon, dined with a king
And dived in a bottomless ocean.

I opened a book and made some friends.

I shared their tears and laughter

And followed their road with its bumps and bends
To the happily ever after.

I finished my book and out I came.

The cloak can no longer hide me.

My chair and my house are just the same,
But I have a book inside me.

**Happy
Birthday
Caroline
Marsden
on 1st
August!**



A Reflection.... by Priscilla Russell



In January 2018, whilst strolling among sand dunes on a remote beach in Western Australia, a woman discovered a partially buried, glass bottle in the sand. On investigation this bottle turned out to have a 'message' inside.

It had been deliberately dropped ... as part of an experiment ... back in 1886!

It had been deliberately dropped overboard by an ocean going vessel, as part of an experiment into ocean and shipping routes by the German Naval Observatory back in 1886! The ship was the Paula, sailing from Cardiff to Makassar, Dutch East Indies. A

search of the archives in Germany found the Paula's original Meteorological Journal and there was an entry for 12 June 1886 made by the captain, recording a drift bottle having been thrown overboard. The date and the coordinates corresponded exactly with those on the bottle's message, 32°49'S 105°25'E (a point in the Indian Ocean!)

The finder was quoted as saying that this was the most remarkable event in her life.

“Life doesn't get better than this!”

Her husband had added “Life doesn't get better than this!” Now, I cannot deny that if I had been the finder, I too, would have been excited. But however scintillating it must have been to find that this 'message' had survived 131 years and preserved well enough to be deciphered - the message was basically a form requesting the finder to contact the German consulate when they found the note!

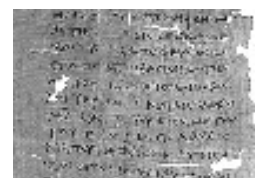


The woman and her husband were really 'wowed' by this scrap of communication from little more than a century ago. **But – consider the Bible!** If wanting to be awed by communications from the past ponder that the most

recent parts of the bible, the New Testament, were written around **nearly 2,000 years ago**, and the Old Testament, **in parts as far back as 4,000 years ago**.



The Bible is not a book of forms – rather a mix of history, instruction, poetry, prophecy and letters. It is a book which speaks as much today as it did to the original readers. It tells the story of what went wrong with humanity and how God took steps to sort out the mess because of His great love for humanity. Although



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invisible, God reveals Himself, His character, through this communication and the key to understanding is Jesus. Like millions of other Christians, now and down through the centuries,

I believe the Bible to be the living Word of God and experience its transformative power.



Lord God,



Thank You that we can learn of Your holiness, yet great love and mercy through the Bible.

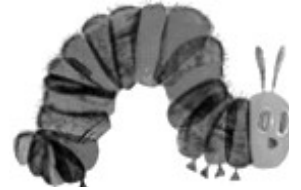


As we read Your inspired Word please give us wisdom to understand it, to hear You speak and to be obedient to what we learn so we might live lives that are pleasing to You. **Amen.**

Tales from Book Week School Assembly

by Naomi Pauley

The assembly hall was full of excited, chattering children all dressed as their favourite book characters. Parents had obviously been up all night creating the elaborate costumes with varying degrees of success. One by one, the staff filed in dressed as various characters: Red Riding Hood, Pinocchio, The Big Bad Wolf and Friar Tuck amongst other creations. The hall fell silent as a large red felt head, the size of a beach ball, appeared through the door at floor level and it was followed by a large fluorescent green furry body creeping along the floor. The initial silence was broken as children noisily began to wonder - who was encased in this giant-sized Hungry Caterpillar costume? All the children from the youngest to the oldest knew and loved the book by Eric Carle 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'.



Suddenly a little red felt hand appeared through the green body and waved and the rather worried younger children relaxed as everyone laughed. Well, for the children the mystery was never solved as the caterpillar left the hall and disappeared for the rest of the day but I will let you into a secret: the Very Hungry Caterpillar was none other than our Mike Pauley!



I have made a number of costumes for myself and Mike for Book Week and other events at school but none as spectacular as that particular creation.

What's the best thing to read in the woods? Poetry



Why are first books afraid of sequels? Because they always come after them.

Good Books *By Edgar Guest*

Good books are friendly things to own.
If you are busy they will wait.
They will not call you on the phone
Or wake you if the hour is late.
They stand together row by row,
Upon the low shelf or the high.
But if you're lonesome this you know:
You have a friend or two nearby.
The fellowship of books is real.
They're never noisy when you're still.
They won't disturb you at your meal.
They'll comfort you when you are ill.
The lonesome hours they'll always share.
When slighted they will not complain.

And though for them you've ceased to care
Your constant friends they'll still remain.

Good books your faults will never see
Or tell about them round the town.
If you would have their company
You merely have to take them down.
They'll help you pass the time away,
They'll counsel give if that you need.
He has true friends for night and day
Who has a few good books to read.



What is a Book?

By Lora Daunt

A book is pages, pictures and words
 A book is animals, people and birds
 A book is stories of queens and kings
 Poems and songs - so many things!
 Curled in a corner where I can hide
 With a book I can journey far and wide
 Though it's only paper from end to end
 A book is a very special friend.



Simply Connect – Sixteen Authors but can you see the connections to place them in four groups of four?

Carroll	Austen	James	Keats
Christie	Blyton	Dahl	Doyle
Rendell	Steel	Blake	Milne
Cartland	Pilcher	Milton	Donne

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible (merely by a fluke). It kept people looking so hard for the facts and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam especially since the name of the books were not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now. There really are sixteen names of books in this story.



So, can you find 16 books of the Bible in the above account?!

Yesterday a book fell on my head.

Well, I only have my shelf to blame.



A Shakespearean Romance – From Shakespeare's play titles below, can you choose a fitting answer to each question about a fictitious wedding scenario?

Who were the bride and bridegroom?	
When did he propose?	
What did she reply?	
From whom was the ring obtained?	
Who were the chief guests?	
Who were the bridegroom's friends?	
Who prepared the wedding breakfast?	
Where did they live after their marriage?	
What was the honeymoon like?	
How would you describe their first quarrel?	
What was their married life like?	
What was the bridegroom's chief occupation?	
What did she give him?	
What did their friends say?	

Play Titles:

All's Well that Ends Well
Antony and Cleopatra
As You Like It
Hamlet
Julius Caesar
King Lear
Love's Labour's Lost
Measure for Measure
The Merchant of Venice
Much Ado about Nothing
The Taming of the Shrew
The Tempest
Romeo and Juliet
The Merry Wives of Windsor
A Midsummer Night's Dream
The Two Gentlemen of Verona
Troilus and Cressida
Twelfth Night

Book Quote Challenge - Below are some well-known quotes from much-loved books – but can you match them up correctly?

<i>Quote</i>	<i>Title & Author</i>
1 <i>“It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever done; it is a far, far better rest I go to than I have ever known.”</i>	<i>David Copperfield,</i> by Charles Dickens
2 <i>“Whatever our souls are made of, his and mine are the same.”</i>	<i>A Tale of Two Cities,</i> by Charles Dickens
3 <i>“But soft! What light through yonder window breaks? It is the east, and Juliet is the sun.”</i>	<i>Pride and Prejudice,</i> by Jane Austen
4 <i>“Real courage is when you know you’re licked before you begin, but you begin anyway and see it through no matter what.”</i>	<i>Romeo and Juliet,</i> by William Shakespeare
5 <i>“A bear, however hard he tries, grows tubby without exercise.”</i>	<i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> by Anne Frank
6 <i>“Not all those who wander are lost.”</i>	<i>The Lord of the Rings,</i> by J.R.R. Tolkien
7 <i>“I cannot fix on the hour, or the spot, or the look or the words, which laid the foundation. It is too long ago. I was in the middle before I knew that I had begun.”</i>	<i>To Kill a Mockingbird,</i> by Harper Lee
8 <i>“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”</i>	<i>When We Were Very Young,</i> by A.A. Milne
9 <i>“My advice is, never do tomorrow what you can do today. Procrastination is the thief of time.”</i>	<i>Wuthering Heights,</i> by Emily Bronte

What's the difference between a cat and a comma?
A Cat has claws at the end of its paws, and a comma is a pause at the end of a clause.



What is a rabbit's favourite book?
Warren Peace.

DINGBATS -
Each dingbat here represents a well-known book title. Can you puzzle them out?

C
LEAGUE X 20,000

CATCH, CATCH, CATCH, CATCH, CATCH,
 CATCH, CATCH, CATCH, CATCH, CATCH,
 CATCH, CATCH, CATCH, CATCH, CATCH,
 CATCH, CATCH, CATCH, CATCH, CATCH,
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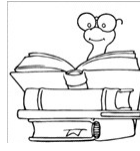
GOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO
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OOOOOOOOOOOBYE

FEDORA
TOM

28 JUL 1914
11 NOV 1918

Are you a Whizz at a Book Quiz?

Can you match the Author to each Title?



TITLE	AUTHOR
1 A Passage to India by	Daniel Defoe
2 Animal Farm	Daphne du Maurier
3 Charlotte's Web	E B White
4 Frankenstein	E M Forster
6 Great Expectations	George Orwell
7 Gulliver's Travels	Mark Twain
8 Jane Eyre	Mary Shelley
9 Rebecca	Charles Dickens
10 Robinson Crusoe	Charlotte Bronte
11 The Canterbury Tales	Geoffrey Chaucer
12 The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	Jonathan Swif



Which children's book is the focus of Quarry Wood, beside the Thames at Marlow? Its author was Secretary of the Bank of England, and inspired by the spot. Was it:

- A) Swallows and Amazons
- B) The Magic Faraway Tree
- C) The Wind in the Willows

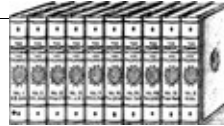


What's the nine-letter word?

R	C	T
H	A	S
I	V	I



Bookworm Challenge



A bookworm eats a straight way through an encyclopedia consisting of ten parts. Each part has 1000 pages. The bookworm starts on the front cover of the first part and ends on the back cover of the last part. From how many pages did the bookworm eat?



Which nursery rhyme has its alleged origins in a tree that still stands in a Yorkshire prison yard, where female inmates and their children one danced at exercise time?



Please send your written or drawn contributions for future issues to:

Priscilla Russell,
625 Wellsway,
Odd Down,
Bath
BA2 2TY

You can also contact Priscilla by telephone, 01225 834905 or 07913 235719 or email: prisc.russell@googlemail.com

PUZZLE ANSWERS

from ISSUE 8:

Riddle-de-dee – What everyone needs, asks for and gives but doesn't take? **Advice.**

The person in the photograph was **his Son.**

The fourth child was **May.**

The 9-letter word: Godmother

Family Groups (name of group, name of missing member) – 1.

The Famous Five, Julian; 2. The March Sisters (*Little Women*), Beth

3. The Crawley family (*Downtown Abbey*), Sybil 4. The Archer family (*The Archers*), Ben 5. The Bennett Sisters (*Pride and Prejudice*), Mary 6.

Tracy brothers (*Thunderbirds*), Virgil **and** John are missing! 7. Pevensie siblings (*The Chronicles of Narnia*), Edmund. 8. The 'Outlaws' (*Just William*), Douglas 9. Thomas & Friends - Engines on Island of Sodor (*The Railway Series*), Thomas 10. The Royal Family, Edward.