

St Martin's West Acton Parish Magazine



Summer 2023

St Martin's Church, Hale Gardens, London, W3 9SQ

(Registered charity no. 1132976)

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Magazine Editor & Cover Photos	PJ Grayson

The Vicar is available for consultation and enquiries by appointment.
Please ring the Parish Office.

**Articles and photos for the next season's magazine should be
sent to the editor (email: pjgrayson@hotmail.com)
Please title the email "magazine item"**



ST MARTIN'S
WEST ACTON
LOVING, THRIVING, WELCOMING

Dear all,

As the warm embrace of summer surrounds us, I find myself reflecting on the beauty and joy that this season brings. It is a time of renewal and growth and a reminder of God's abundant blessings.

The summer invites us into the outdoors to enjoy the wonders of creation that God has given us. Whether we go to the beach, walk through a forest, or sit under the shade of a tree we are reminded of God's handiwork and his presence in our lives.

In the midst of our busy lives, summer offers us a chance to slow down, rest, and replenish our souls. We could say it is a season of 'Sabbath', where we can find the refreshment in the reflective moments in prayer and quiet. Use the time to draw close to God and seek his guidance and wisdom.

Summer is also a great time for hospitality. We can gather with others and enjoy the connection or reconnection with family and friends. We have several summer activities being organised in the church.

Our summer fair is on the 25th June from 12-3 with fun games and food, and a summer barbeque in the vicarage, on the 15th July at 6pm. We also have a camping trip to 'Greenbelt' a Christian arts festival on August 24th - 27th for anyone interested.

But at the same time let us also remember those who face challenges, illness or anxieties, loss and bereavement. We can be a helping hand, or a listening ear or maybe give a word of encouragement for those in need.

So a season filled with gratitude, joy, fellowship, growth and service.

Wishing you all a blessed and joyful summer

Julia Palmer

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&

the local
community



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Coronation Sunday

On Sunday 7th May, the sun shone – as did St Martins choir and the local community – as we came together to celebrate the coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla.

We had a very joyful Holy Communion service in the morning, celebrating Christ's resurrection this Easter season, as well as reflecting on the nature of service and community as symbolised by King Charles' coronation. The church was decorated with red, white and blue flowers, and during Holy Communion our choir sung Handel's Zadok the Priest – every bit as beautifully as was heard in Westminster Abbey the previous day.



The street party afterwards was a joint event with CARA, the local residents' association, and featured an incredible range of food, a barbecue, games for the children (of all ages!), a crown competition, as well as Morris Dancing. Our local MP Rupa Huq attended, as did the deputy mayor Hitesh Tailor.

Towards the end of the afternoon we were paid a visit by the Representative Deputy Lieutenant for Ealing, Richard Kornicki Esq CBE DL, representing King Charles III and Queen Camilla, who read a message from the King and Queen thanking the community for their good wishes and support and the efforts made to organise events such as ours.

We would also like to extend our thanks to everyone who contributed to the service and to the street party – there are far too many people to mention but we would like to say a particular thanks to Shelley and family for all they did in making the street party happen.

Written by Bryony Franklin

Photo Credits: Ben Mason & Bryony Franklin





JOIN US FOR OUR
**Summer
Fair**

SUNDAY 25TH JUNE
12PM TO 3PM



ADULT ENTRY £2
CHILD ENTRY £1

Come along for family friendly summer fun! The church will be full of new stalls brimming with great gifts from local artisans.

BBQ with Pimms • raffle •
homemade cakes • bouncy castle •
tombola • jewellery • live music •
children's activities
and much much more!

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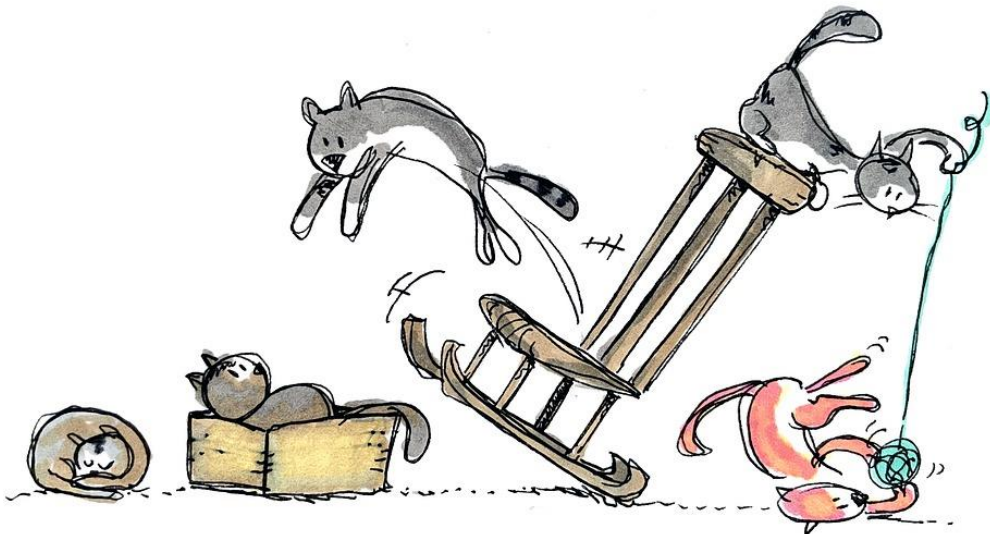


Cat Psalms – A Higher Being

Herbert Brokering

I am a cat. I follow you, sit by you, purr when you look at me; I look up to you.

You keep me fed, make me safe, call me by my name, open the door and let me in. You do what I cannot do. You are greater than I and I do not clearly comprehend magnificence. You have earned my trust and loyalty. You give me what I cannot reach or do on my own. You open tins, pour milk, give me a blanket, open and close doors and give me a name. Did you create the trees I climb, the rain I watch from the porch, the sun that warms me and the snowflakes I chase? I did not make these, so surely you did. How did you create the squirrels I chase and the dog next door and a mouse? Who helped you make the hill I run up and the warm rock I stretch out on in summer? How did you make the butterfly I can never catch and the bird taunting me from the high branch? You are taller than I, greater and higher. I need you to look up to.



Dear God,

I am not the highest. You are, and I need a higher being. So I look up and see beyond myself. I give glory and feel myself lifted up, exalted. I need someone outside myself and family to give thanks to. Someone to esteem. I will stay in wonder and awe; I will marvel and bow and see beyond the end. I will trust and not comprehend; believe and commit myself. May I stay in the miracle of mystery and see every blade of grass, each bud, hear each birdsong, know each aroma of bread and savour all raindrops as signs of your holiness. So may I obey you with speech and eyes and walk and will. Draw me to yourself through hope and dreams and faith. I will find you in my neighbour, where you show me your grace.



Taken from *Cat Psalms: Prayers My Cats Have Taught Me* by Herbert Brokering



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Comparing the Two Creation Stories in Genesis

PJ Grayson

This is an extract from an assignment I wrote for my Old Testament module. (Where I got a mark of 77%!!!!) I'm specifically talking about Genesis 1-2:4 and 2:4-9, 18-23. I wanted to write something to commemorate Pride Month and an essay talking about gender in Genesis actually felt incredibly relevant!



The first account of creation differs from the second in how it depicts the order of God's new creations. They are often shown in binaries: day and night, creatures of sea and creatures of air, male and female. According to the Revd Dr John Holdsworth, this is intended to present a picture of a sacred society, where humans must exercise pastoral care in order to maintain balance between these binaries.

Comparatively, the second creation story more often depicts complementary pairs, or even groups being created simultaneously. A notable example is the creation of the first human. Dr Michael Carden notes that Kabbalistic Judaism interprets the creation stories as depictions of the creation of the Tree of Life, which consists of a male, female and indeterminate column to embrace all genders. Carden explains that in Jewish tradition, this first human was an androgynous being, with one side representing masculinity and one representing femininity.

God then split the being down the middle to create what is now understood as 'man' and 'woman'. Carden supports his argument with reference to Sally Gross, who explores evidence in Rabbinic Judaism suggesting cultural awareness that 'not everyone was born male or female'. This is further supported by scholars such as Will Moore, who points out that the common translation of "rib" can be more accurately translated as "side." In addition, Moore notes that the Hebrew word *ha'adam*, the origin of Adam's name, is a word used for humanity as a whole. The Jewish Talmud also makes several references to intersex characteristics throughout.

Both accounts of creation in Genesis show the inception of humanity in different ways. Each account is significant in the wider context of the Bible, as both demonstrate foreshadowing to later significant events in Genesis. Genesis 1-2:4a shows God creating the world out of waters of chaos. Later, in Genesis 7, the world is returned to the water with The Great Flood. God demonstrates in Genesis 1 that he is capable of ordering chaos in a way humanity never could, and in Genesis 7 he demonstrates this power again.

The second creation story, where humanity is fashioned from the earth with God's hands rather than from the waters of chaos, is akin to an Egyptian creation story where Khnum, god of fertility fashions humans on a potters' wheel. After the events of The Fall in Genesis 3:19 when God curses Adam that man shall return to the dust from which he was created, this is demonstrated to be meant literally in Genesis 4:10 when Abel's blood cries out to God from the ground.

Although the two creation stories differ, they both show humanity being created from natural resources by God, and both connect to other moments in Genesis in order to emphasise this connection. This suggests that both accounts are significant for different reasons. Water and earth are both seen in moments of birth and death, indicating that humanity's connection to their environment is a vital aspect of their relationship to God.

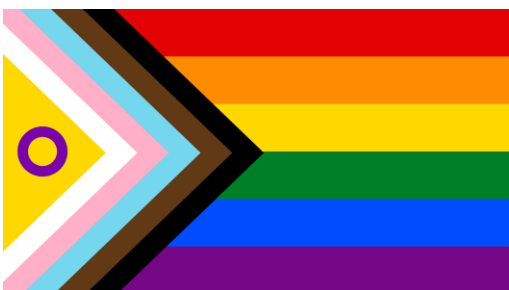
While the first account highlights humanity's pastoral role, the second arguably challenges modern ideas of gender and patriarchy, particularly in light of its context in Jewish literature.

Further Reading & Listening

Torah Queeries: Weekly Commentaries on the Hebrew Bible by **Gregg Drinkwater, Joshua Lesser & David Shneer**

God: An Anatomy by **Francesca Stavrakopoulou**

It's in the Book: A Queer Bible Podcast **J. Sylvan**



Opportunities to get involved at St Martins

Sidespeople

Welcoming people and bringing up bread and wine for communion

Junior church helpers

To be an extra adult during Junior Church sessions

Junior church leaders

Helping lead our popular junior church

Stay and Play

Helpers for our toddler group on Tuesday mornings

Leading prayers

In our Sunday service

Flower Arranging

Providing refreshments

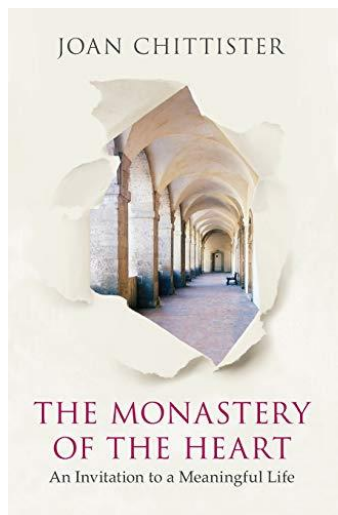
After the 10am service



Summer Reading List

Want a book to read on your summer travels? Something to read on that long journey? Or maybe you're staying closer to home and just want something new to read, look no further!

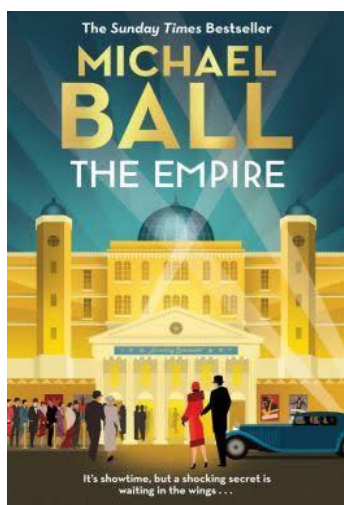
If you've got book recommendations for the autumn issue email the editor at pjgrayson@hotmail.com, we'd love to know what you're reading!



The Monastery of the Heart (2011)

By Joan Chittister, Recommended by Julia Palmer

Every age has answered the questions and challenges of spiritual living in its own particular ways through its languages, arts, and lifestyles, giving seekers various concepts for guidance. In this original manifesto, bestselling author Joan Chittister delivers a roadmap based on the ancient Rule of Benedict that stands as a practical model upon which to build a satisfying life, despite the seemingly limitless (and at times meaningless) supply of options in the modern world.

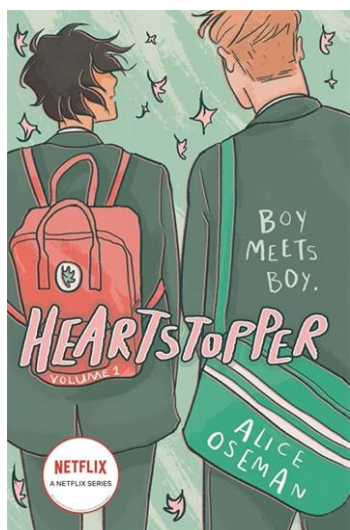


The Empire (2022)

By Michael Ball, Recommended by Angela North

Welcome to The Empire theatre

1922. When Jack Treadwell arrives at The Empire, in the middle of a rehearsal, he is instantly mesmerised. But amid the glitz and glamour, he soon learns that the true magic of the theatre lies in its cast of characters - both on stage and behind the scenes.

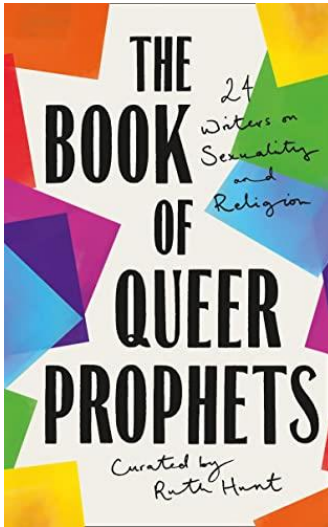


Heartstopper (2019)

By Alice Oseman, Recommended by Emily Merrick

Charlie and Nick are at the same school, but they've never met ... until one day when they're made to sit together. They quickly become friends, and soon Charlie is falling hard for Nick, even though he doesn't think he has a chance.

But love works in surprising ways, and Nick is more interested in Charlie than either of them realised.



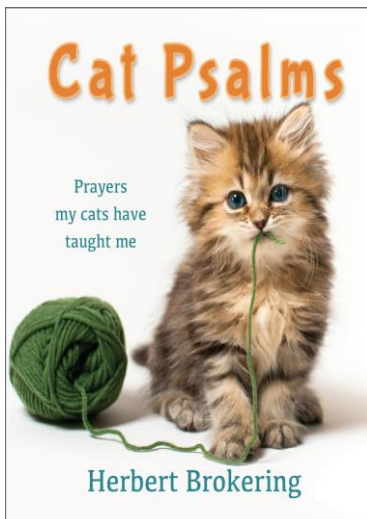
The Book of Queer Prophets: 24 Writers on Sexuality and Religion (2020)

By Multiple Authors, Curated by Ruth Hunt

The book of Queer Prophets contains modern-day epistles from some of our most important thinkers, writers and activists: Jeanette Winterson tackles religious dogma, Amrou Al-Kadhi writes about trying to make it as a Muslim drag queen in London, John Bell writes about his decision to come out later in life, Tamsin Omond remembers getting married in the middle of a protest and Kate Bottley explains her journey to becoming an LGBT ally.

Cat Psalms: Prayers My Cats Have Taught Me (2016)

By Herbert Brokering

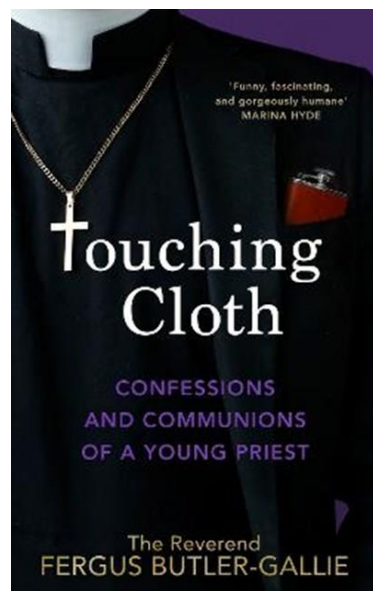


This collection of whimsical, insightful psalms, or prayers, is based on Brokering's observations of cats he has known through his life - farm cats, house cats, alley cats.

Each psalm expresses an observation about a cat's nature, written in the "voice" of the cat, followed by a prayer in which the human spirit speaks of its cat-like nature to God. *Cat Psalms* is for those who wish to pray more deeply, with more imagination and understanding, and offers fresh ways to see ourselves and new ways to pray.

Touching Cloth: Confessions and communions of a young priest (2023)

By Fergus Butler-Gallie



The very word 'reverend' inspires solemnity. To be a priest is to dedicate one's life to quiet prayer and spiritual contemplation. Isn't it?

Fergus Butler-Gallie reveals what it's like to become a priest in the twenty-first century. Find out why black really is slimming, how to keep a straight face when someone is inadvertently hot-boxing a funeral, and which royal-themed biscuit tin can best contain a very loud personal alarm that no one knows how to switch off. Spot a sweet old lady trying to pay for a taxi with coinage from fascist Spain?

Congratulations, shepherd, she's your problem now. 16

Summerdoku!

Beginner

		4	
4	2	3	
		1	3
1	3	2	4

Answers on page 26

Advanced

			6		1	8	
	3	6	2			5	7
				3			2
8			9	7			5
							8
6	2		7	3		9	
3	1	7	4			5	6
4		8	6	5		3	1

Caption Contest

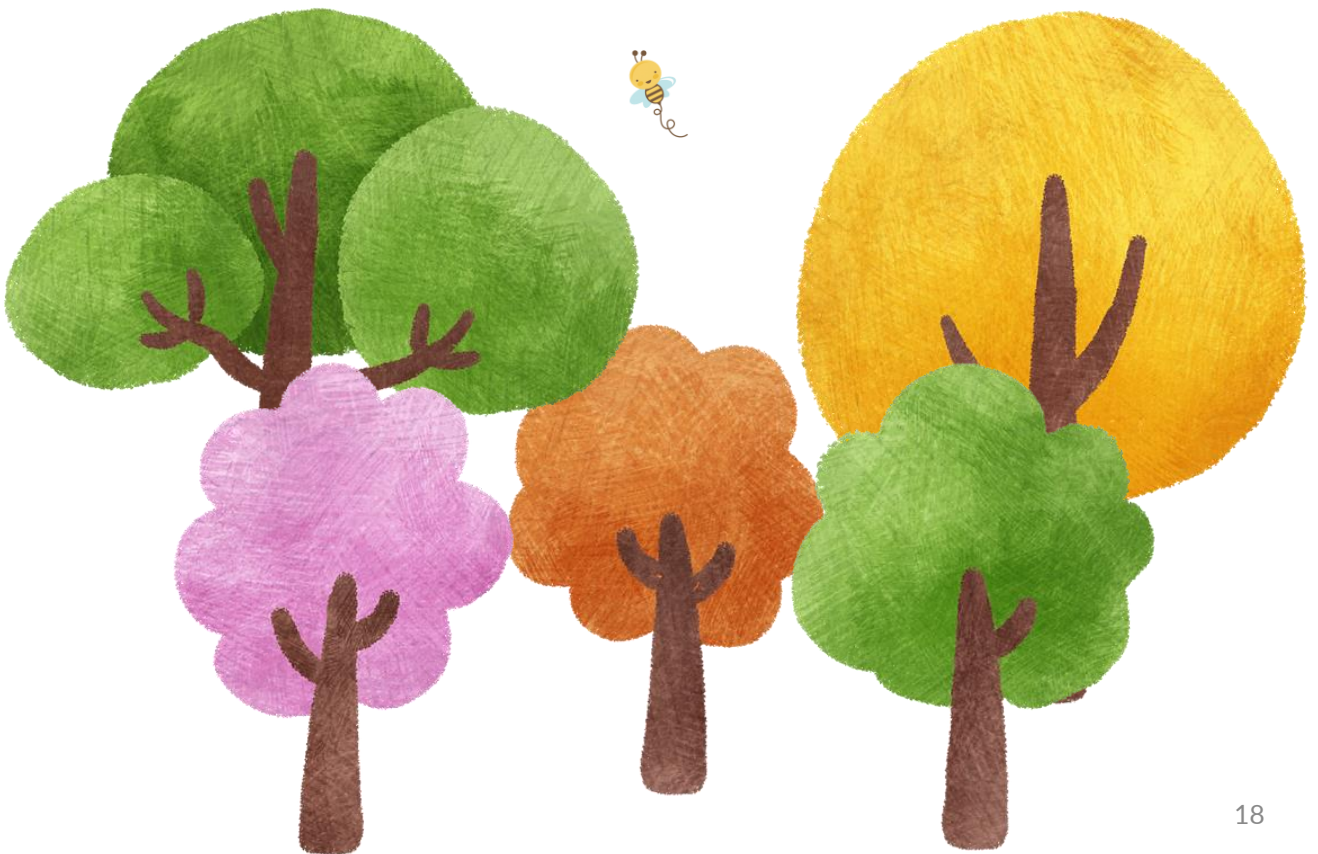


Our parish administrator Michael got a picture of a snail on his way into work, send your captions to the editor
 pjgrayson@hotmail.com
 and the best one will be in the Autumn issue!

I Love Nature

By Annabel Merrick

I love nature, that's the statement for me,
I love the call of the Bird, and the buzz of the Bee.
I love every tree, every bush and flower,
Because each one holds a superpower:
They give us air that we can breathe,
Which makes it hard for me to believe,
That deforestation, which causes trauma,
Upon wildlife and makes our Earth warmer,
Has come to take our nature away,
Which is why it's important we all have our say.
Cutting down trees is harmful to all,
And already it's making nature fall.
I love nature, that's the statement for me,
But it might be gone, all the animals and trees



I Never Learned to Swim

B. J. Istead

We've been friends now since we were at school
And that is a long long time.
We played football and cricket, rugby and squash,
But I never learned to swim.

I was always happy to be your friend, and we did all sorts together,
Climbed trees, hiked and camped
Adventures in suburban gardens.
But I never learned to swim.

We never spoke about feelings and such,
We never talked of attachment
I was never one for discussion or chat
And I never learned to swim.

And now I can see that I was a fool,
My love for you is so special.
I should have told you all this back then,
And perhaps I'd have learned to swim.



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Summer Holidays

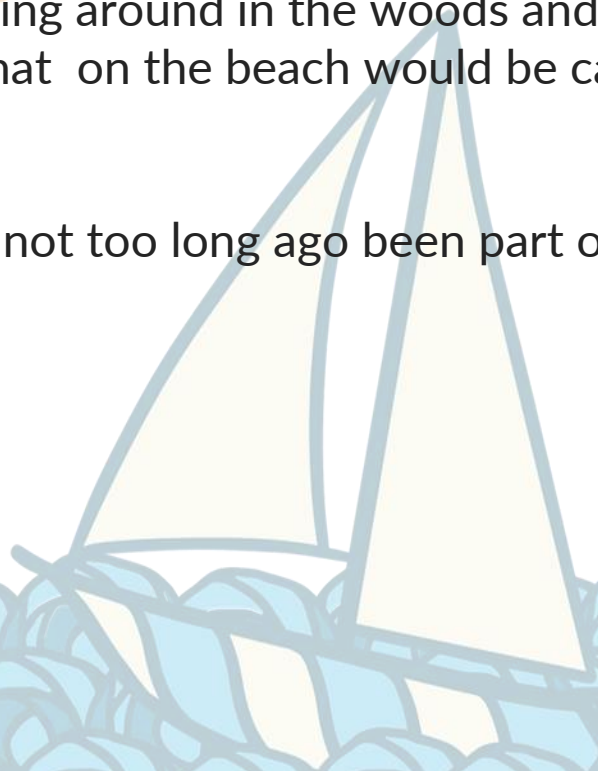
Like most of the people I know of about my age, our memories of summer holidays come in two sorts. It is either a beautiful, sunny summers day or it is raining.

None of the white cloudy skies we see a lot of these days. Now clearly my meteorological recollections are not accurate, or the global warming has even more to answer for than I thought.

Summer hols were a great thing when we were young. I had an aunt and uncle at the seaside and my sister and I went off to Bognor for about a month each summer. Usually, for the first fortnight we were on our own, then our parents joined us.

We got to know the area round there quite well, including the wonders of Slindon woods, where you can find sea shells. I used to love digging around in the woods and finding sea shells and find what on the beach would be called shingle patches.

There had at one time in the not too long ago been part of the sea there, I was told.



One year, when I was about 14 and my sis about 8 we went to Portsmouth to see HMS Victory, and my sister was behaving very oddly, she was very nervous and kept looking round over her shoulder and hanging on like grim death to my father. This rose to a crescendo when she saw two policemen that were patrolling,

She grabbed my father and my uncle and said. "Quick, quick, hide in here till they are past us", pulling them into a shop doorway. "What's the matter lovely?" said my Mum - "It's the police!" she said "so what's the problem?" she asked again "It's the Press Gang" said my sis. "They will take them away to sea!".

Helpfully, I convulsed with laughter, and Mum and Dad explained that the Press Gang had stopped dragging folk off to sea some time ago, (about 1815 ish, I have since found out). She had been convinced that the police were on the lookout for likely people for the Navy.

This brings me on to other points of historical interest. Arundel castle was another place we used to love to visit on our trips. One of the things that is connected with Arundel is that it belongs to a Roman Catholic family, the Howards, Dukes of Norfolk and the Earl Marshal of England.

The Earl Marshal is responsible for organising great state occasions like funerals and coronations so, has been busy this year.

The thing we wanted to see whenever we went was the sword Morglay, which was 5' 9" high, and was supposed to be thrown from the parapets of the castle to mark the place where the owner was to be buried.

The second most interesting thing in the castle was the chapel and priest holes, where Roman Catholic priests would hide from Roundhead soldiers. What intrigued us was the size of the holes – really small, we thought.

Lynne Armstrong



Image: The Sword of Morglay,

Source: [facebook.com/seesouthampton](https://www.facebook.com/seesouthampton)

Workshop: Suicide Prevention & Self-Harm in Ealing Priorities & Action

Wednesday 21st June 2023
12 noon – 3pm

Parish Hall
2 Marchwood Crescent
Ealing, London W5 2DZ



Closing date to book your place **Friday 16th June**
Register via the [Eventbrite link](#) or scan the QR code

Aims of workshop:

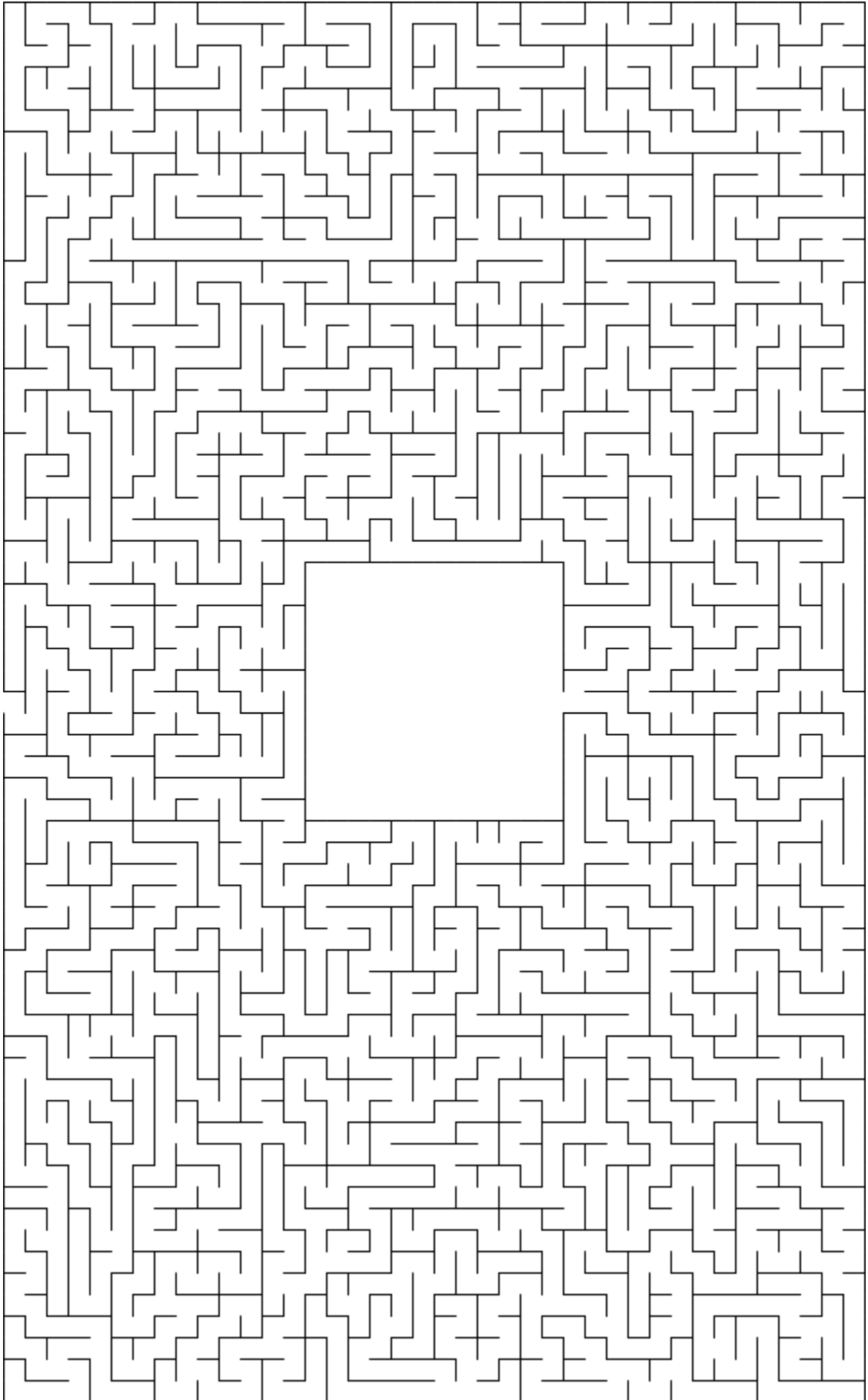
- To share data regarding suicides in Ealing
- To collaborate with local partners, stakeholders and those with lived experience to agree a set of priorities and action for suicide prevention and self-harm
- To ensure the voice of those with lived experience is heard and reflected in the suicide prevention action plan



This workshop is aimed at statutory services, voluntary sector groups, faith groups, emergency response and transport staff as well as those with lived experience.



Advanced Escape Maze



Summerdoku Solutions

3	1	4	2
4	2	3	1
2	4	1	3
1	3	2	4

2	7	4	5	6	9	1	8	3
1	3	6	2	8	4	9	5	7
5	8	9	1	7	3	4	6	2
8	6	2	9	4	7	3	1	5
7	5	3	8	1	6	2	4	9
9	4	1	3	2	5	6	7	8
6	2	5	7	3	1	8	9	4
3	1	7	4	9	8	5	2	6
4	9	8	6	5	2	7	3	1

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Famous Ukrainians – Lubomyr Romankiv

Lubomyr Romankiv is a Ukrainian who changed the world. His inventions include personal computer, hard disk, solar panels, ATMs possible. He is one of ten inventors, nominated for the United States Inventors Hall of Fame. He made 180 scientific discoveries, 67 of them were patented.

“People are asking me,” says Romankiv. - Show me which of your inventions I use on my computer. My answer is very simple: press the "Start" button on the keyboard, and you will see a picture on the screen - this is my magnetic head on the hard disk already working. Besides that, seven of my other patents work for you

He was a Director of the Department of Electrochemical Technology and Magnetism at the Research Center of IBM Corporation. Such discs were purchased from IBM by another well-known American of Ukrainian origin, Steve Wozniak, for a small startup in the garage. Over time, the famous Apple company, led by Steve Jobs, emerged from this. Lyubomir Romankov also invented the technology of soldering microcontacts on a computer chip and the technology of forming multilevel connections, which are now in every computer.

The invention and work of Lubomir Romankiv allowed IBM to earn millions of dollars, while he trained a whole new generation of engineers for the company. In general, the Ukrainian received 13 awards for outstanding inventions and contributions from IBM and 25 awards for inventions and achievements, he was written about in the prestigious publications “Who's Who in the Scientific World” and “Who's Who in America”.



Born in Zhovkva, Lviv region, he identifies himself as a Ukrainian. Lyubomir Romankiv is one of the active leaders of Ukrainian boyscouts - Plast. 91 years old, Lubomyr is writing a book about his life and inventios.

"I left Ukraine when I was 13 years old. When the Soviet troops came to Zhovkva in the evening, lists of those to be shot the next morning appeared earlier at night.

My father, who worked as a lawyer in Zhovkva, was on those lists. He managed to escape across the Solokia River to Ugniv and to the German side. And we, my sister and my mother, were taken out the next night. For those who wanted to escape from the Soviet occupation, a special unlit train ran to Ugniv at night.

If I had stayed in Ukraine, I would have been in Siberia or shot"

Iryna Donenko / Olena Humeniuk



Key Dates & Events Coming Up at St Martin's

Saturday 24th June – 4pm Holy Communion to celebrate Pride Month

Sunday 25th June – 12pm-3pm Summer Fair

Sunday 2nd July – 10am All Age Service, Sea Sunday with Baptism

Saturday 15th July – 6pm BBQ at the Vicarage

Events Around the Diocese of London



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AN EVENING WITH DR PEARL JARRETT

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HARRY BIRD × HOLY MOLY & THE CRACKERS × HOUSE OF EL × IDA MAE
JUSTIN ADAMS & MOHAMED ERREBBAA × K.O.G × KAPIL SESHASAYEE × LEE BAINS III
LOWKEY × MOUSES × OH MY GOD! IT'S THE CHURCH × PHILIPPA ZAWE
PROBLEM PATTERNS × RIANNE DOWNEY × RUMBA DE BODAS × SAMBAMBO
SISKIN GREEN × SORORITY GRRRLS × STRAIGHT GIRL × SUNTOU SUSSO × TAWIAH
TC & THE GROOVE FAMILY × THE DEEP BLUE × THE RABBITS

IDEAS, IMAGINATION & ACTIVISM

ADJOA ANDOH × BRIAN ENO × GORDON BROWN × KATHRYN MANNIX

ANDREW COPSON × ANN PETTIFOR × BETH SINGLER × CARMODY GREY
CARRIE & DAVID GRANT × CLAIRE GILBERT × COLE ARTHUR RILEY × DANIEL MUNAYER
DAVE ANDREWS × DAVE TOMLINSON × DAVID DARK × EVE POOLE × HENRY RABY
JACK MONROE × JASMIN O'HARA × JASPREET KAUR × JOEL MCKERROW × JOHN BELL
JOLYON MAUGHAM × LUKE TURNER × MARTIN SHAW × MICHA FRAZER-CARROLL
MUNA NASSAR × PAUL COOKSON × RICK DOVE × ROBERTO MARTINEZ × RU CALLENDER
RUTH PEARCE × RUTH VALERIO × SIMON SHARPE × SOPHIE HOWE
STEFANIA MAURIZI & EWAN MACASKILL × SUNETRA GUPTA
THE LOSS PROJECT & THE FANDANGO KID WITH GRIEF MOVES
TIM FARRON MP × YASMIN ALIBHAI-BROWN

ON ISSUES LIKE CLIMATE EMERGENCY | MIGRATION | DEATH & DYING | PALESTINE | POVERTY | AI | INEQUALITY

THEATRE & COMEDY

ALL OUR MONEY PRESENTED BY STAN'S CAFÉ × ALASDAIR BECKETT-KING
ATTENBOROUGH AND HIS ANIMALS × CASTING OFF PRESENTED BY A GOOD CATCH
ELVIS IN BLUE HAWAII PRESENTED BY SPITZ & CO × HARRY & CHRIS × JOSIE LONG × MILTON JONES
THE CHOSEN HARAM PRESENTED BY SADIQ ALI

SPIRITUALITY

ANDY HUNTER, THE PRAYER × BELOVED SARA ZAITASH × FISHERMEN'S CHAPEL CHOIR
GRACE NOTES × LEE BAINS III GOSPEL HOUR × SEKRIIT × TAIZÉ × WILDERTHORN, IMMERSE
PLUS LOTS MORE FESTIVAL FAVOURITES

PLUS LOADS MORE TO COME, INCLUDING: WORKSHOPS × VISUAL ARTS
CHILDREN'S & YOUTH PROGRAMMES × FUN & GAMES × THE GREAT OUTDOORS × FOOD & DRINK

MORE NAMES
ADDED
(LISTED A-Z)





ST MARTIN'S WEST ACTON

LOVING, THRIVING, WELCOMING

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Ephesians 4:2

Regular Services @ St Martin's

Communion Service every Sunday 10am with Junior Church
Book of Common Prayer Service first Sunday of every month 8am
All Age Service first Sunday of every month 10am
Weekday Communion Service Wednesdays 11am in parish room
Japanese Worship third Sunday of every month 3pm

Regular Events @ St Martin's

Junior Choir rehearsal 6pm every Monday
Adult Choir rehearsal 7pm every Monday
Stay & Play Toddler Group 10am every Tuesday
Japanese Community Café first Saturday
of every month 10am

How You Can Donate

You can make a one off donation by bank transfer to:
St Martin's PCC West Acton
AC No: 60482676
Sort code: 40-11-58