

Update from Doug & Jackie Marshall in Malta

Doug Marshall



Dear Friends, I'm not going to lie to you. It is tough out here. It's not idyllic, it's not a paradise, despite most people knowing of Malta only as a tourist destination. It is hard and it isn't just hard for us. This year has been a rough one. There have been many changes in the lives of those we work with, and also a fair amount of change personally. Add to this the imperialist attitudes on both sides of the Atlantic, a global re-ordering and huge power plays along with other woes, and it is daunting. I then came across this, which I believe is a quote from the Talmud: "Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief. Do justly now, love mercy now, walk humbly now. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it." Obviously this applies to wherever you are in the world, and whatever you may be doing. Salt and light and all that. And then, the other day, I randomly opened George Orwell's 1984, to find myself on page 10. Winston Smith has apprehensively started a written diary: "April 4, 1984. Last night went to the flicks. All war films. One very good one of a ship full of refugees being bombed somewhere in the Mediterranean. Audience much amused by..." The rest of the story is about the injuries and horror of the attack, death and destruction the inevitable outcome. Orwell is obviously referencing the refugee migration of Europeans across the Mediterranean, post-World War Two. Whether there were such attacks is up to the historians but certain individuals have suggested that boats today should be attacked in a similar fashion so as to dissuade migration across this great sea. The situation is far more complex than most people realise. But we sit here today, in an era that Orwell foretold, and the battle has heated up with double-speak – war is peace and peace is war, and so on. Sadly migration is as old as humanity itself. The journey out of central, east, west and north Africa is perilous, with extortion, rape and a constant threat of death. As in the book 1984, refugees are not Europeans, but their arrival is apparently a "crisis". However, the only evident crisis is a European one of identity and values. The Dublin Regulation burdens southern nation states with a disproportionate distribution of refugees, effectively making a bureaucratic border between the north and the south. You may or may not have heard of the Libya-Italy deal whereby Italy provides resources for Libyan militias in the south to prevent irregular migration. Strictly this is not a deal made with the government but instead directly to violent and disparate groups. We have heard of one report where the body-count in the Sahara, made worse by smuggling being criminalised in Niger, is higher than ever seen. Groups get lost as they deviate from age-old routes, the militias halting those they find, and then what? If conditions in Tripoli detention centres are deplorable, what is happening in the Sahel? If refugees are left to die in the desert, does anyone see them? God does... he doesn't pretend they don't exist. He still knows them and loves them.

On a lighter note, the end of the school year has finally come! The kids have been enjoying school a bit more this year; they have been applying themselves and it is great to see their different learning styles emerge, along with loves and hates of the curriculum. Their extra-curricular swimming lessons have been going well, with Ethan now ready to graduate up a level and Chloe making steady progress. The Friday afternoon swimming lesson is a good ending to the week, despite us parents having to sit in a hot, underground swimming pool room, watching. We are about to embark on our annual working-holiday! We can't wait! The kids are very excited to spend time with the grandparents, cousin and uncle and aunt – especially the small stuff, like going to the park and getting up to mischief with granny and grandad. We'll be doing our usual church tour. As you might know, we alternate our visits each year so if you saw us last year you probably won't see us this year. We wish you all a wonderful summer, with some rest and relaxation, and refreshment in Jesus.

Doug and Jacqui

The Guild

Guild Syllabus Meeting Dates

Theme – Seeking the Way

2018

4th October - Rev. Jerry Eve
18th October - The Queen's Mother-in-Law - Mr. Philip Cornish
1st November - Open Night – The Glasgow Boys –
Dr. Maureen Park
15th November – Guest Night - Octave
29th November – Craft Night – Mrs. Pearl Munro
13th December – Christmas Party

2019

17th January – TV Humour – Mr. Chris Scott
31st January – Burns Supper
14th February – Love Letters from a Desert Rat –
Ms. Liz McIntyre Allan
28th February – Joyce Grenfell – Ms. Yvonne Waring
14th March – Church House – Ms. Angela Molloy
28th March – AGM

Autumn Coffee Morning – 15th September, 2018
Spring Coffee Morning – 16th March, 2019
Harvest & Guild Dedication Service – 30th September, 2018
Guild Week – Dates to be confirmed 2018
Theatre Night – March 2019 (TBA)
End of Session Meal – April 2019 (TBA)

Christian Aid

Angela Marshall



We are drawing to the end of our Summer recess, and gearing up to the next session in many organisations feeling, I hope, refreshed and reinvigorated! Schools, committees of various kinds, parliaments etc have such a recess every year, and benefit from it.

Aid organisations have no such respite. Globally the need for Aid is escalating, not only due to natural disasters e.g. flooding, earthquakes, famine, epidemics, but also due to man's inhumanity to man. This takes many forms; war, social injustice, prejudice, greed, despotism, terrorism, corruption, victimisation of the vulnerable, ignorance, to name but few. There is, sadly, no respite for fundraising organisations, nor for many who are in desperate need of their help.

The Christian Aid organisation is recognised and operates globally as well; their support is for 'All Faiths and None' believing in *Life Before Death*. Their work, as with all aid organisations is both urgent and continuous.

A 'Hunger Lunch' held at Busby church on 19 August raised £147 for Christian Aid's famine relief. A 3 or 7 mile sponsored walk, organised by Christian Aid Scotland is taking place on 25 August at Whitelee Windfarm to raise more funds.

The Local Christian Aid Committee will again arrange a fundraising sponsored swim at Eastwood Baths in October, and the Annual Art exhibition and Sale will again take place in March next year. Watch out for details of these on information boards around the village. We thank everyone for their support in the past, and look forward to it continuing in the weeks and months to come.

Thank You

Christina Hogg

Gillian, Josh, Graham & Christina would like to thank Jerry & Michelle for the wonderful day we had on Sunday 5th August at the Baptism of Rebecca Gillian Christina McClinton. We would also like to thank Carol for the lovely Certificate she gave Rebecca. We would also like to thank all the Congregation for welcoming all our relatives and friends who came along to celebrate Rebecca's Christening.

We are so lucky to have a very friendly and welcoming Church and we hope more new friends will join us soon.

Situation Vacant

CHURCH OFFICER, BUSBY PARISH CHURCH

Part time, approximately 9 ½ hours per week comprising "Beadle" duty at weekly Sunday morning Services; monthly Sunday evening Services; occasional weddings and funerals; and general caretaking weekdays.

References required.

Further details including remuneration on application to:-

The Session Clerk
Busby Parish Church
Church Road,
Busby,
Glasgow G76 8EB

June Crossword Solutions

CROSSWORD

Across 1 Dudley-Smith; 9 Angel; 10 Strike off; 12 Falsetto; 13 Heralds; 15 Cited; 16 Gear-stick; 17 Kind; 18 Boat; 19 Greenhorn; 20 Haste; 21 Debussy; 24 Guiseley; 26 Day school; 27 Amati; 28 Commandment.

Down 2 Ultra; 3 Loitered; 4 Yield; 5 Muff; 6 Hassock; 7 agitation; 8 Old, old story; 11 Fashioned; 13 Hark the glad; 14 Suspended; 16 Gnostical; 18 Brougham; 19 Genetic; 22 Essen; 23 Spoon; 25 Yarn.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

Across 1 Tigris; 4 Autumn; 7 Abuzz; 9 Soldier; 10 Cardinal; 11 Slush fund; 13 Rabbi; 16 Miracle worker; 18 Stave; 19 Wrongdoer; 23 Rearrest; 24 Festus; 25 Elder; 26 Exodus; 27 Clergy.

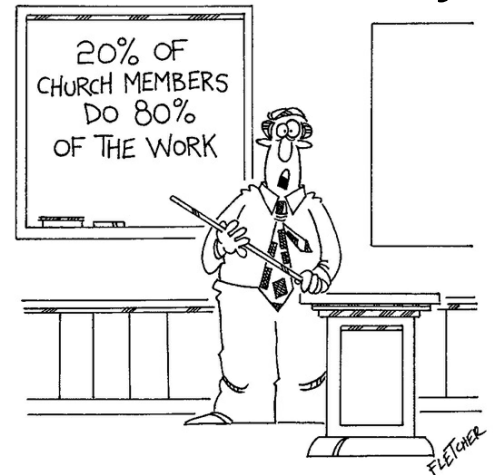
Down 1 Tarsus; 2 Rhodes; 3 Sacrifice; 4 Azure; 5 Taxi rank; 6 Nuclei; 8 Unconsecrated; 12 Limit; 14 Burse; 15 Joan of Arc; 17 Reverend; 18 Scribe; 20 Dosage; 21 Rosary; 22 Lewes.

Picture Quiz

The answers to June's picture quiz, left to right: St Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh; York Minster; Notre Dame du Haut, Ronchamps, France; Basílica i Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Família, Barcelona; Coventry Cathedral



....and finally

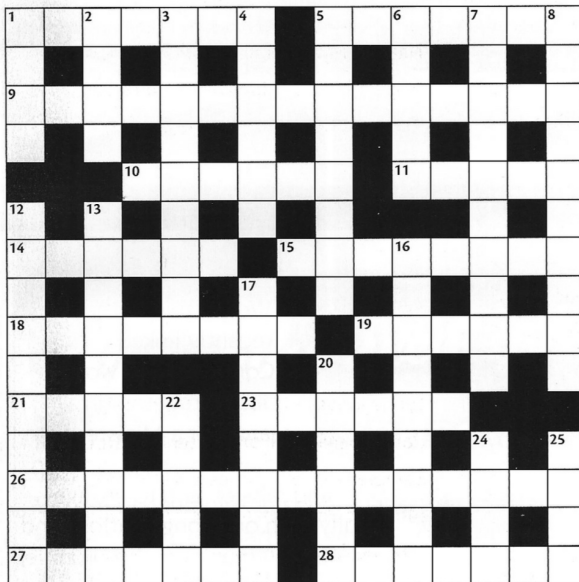


"So the question is: 'How to get that 20% to press on to greater achievement?'"

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Crossword

compiled by Jeannie Hollands



Across

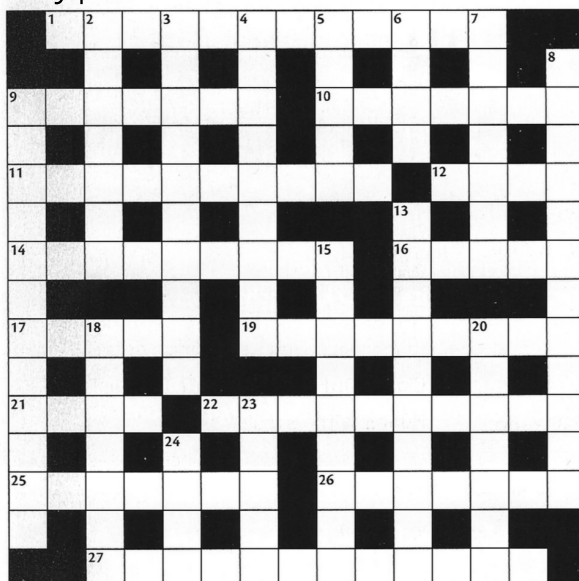
- 1 Lachrymator (4,3)
- 5 Dignity of Bishop of Rome (7)
- 9 'O for a _____ to sing', (hymn) (8,7)
- 10 Wilderness (6)
- 11 Gramophone needles (5)
- 14 Ponticus, translator of OT into Greek (6)
- 15 Member of body of Czech Protestants (8)
- 18 Summary of account of one's life (8)
- 19 Stableman (6)
- 21 '_____ and join the dance', (modern hymn) (1,4)
- 23 Grandson of Benjamin (Numbers 26:40) (6)
- 26 '_____ rejoice' (Advent hymn) (5,2,3,5)
- 27 Choirscreen (7)
- 28 Redirect (7)

Down

- 1 South African archbishop (4)
- 2 Book following Joel (4)
- 3 Preacher (9)
- 4 Offender (6)
- 5 Formal request (8)
- 6 Coniferous trees (5)
- 7 An English RC translation of Scriptures (5,5)
- 8 Religious worker (10)
- 12 Server in a religious house (3,7)
- 13 International currency medium (4-6)
- 16 Teetotaler (9)
- 17 By-products (4-4)
- 20 RC priest (6)
- 22 Lessened (5)
- 24 Pakistani language (4)
- 25 Biblical you (4)

Cryptic Crossword

compiled by Peter Chamberlain



Across

- 1 Expected to come down in the Middle East (8,4)
- 9 Large drink half-German charity worker had (7)
- 10 She distressed Samson (7)
- 11 Mad trainee could have been restored to life (10)
- 12 Some are persevering at all times (4)
- 14 Journalist, male with sex appeal, Edward, surrendered (9)
- 16 Expression of pain from Graham stopping short (5)
- 17 Where Mrs Gandhi lost rupees (5)
- 19 Shared time for Christians (6,3)
- 21 Shipbuilder from Hanoi I left (4)
- 22 Essential nature with depth having a moral basis (10)
- 25 Popular little paper (7)
- 26 Red edges in blue (7)
- 27 See head of it installed at it (12)

Down

- 2 Balderdash repeatedly heard in theatre might be growing (7)
- 3 One replacing measure in beautiful canticle (10)
- 4 Crass act I performed being cynical (9)
- 5 Miss this city in Kansas (5)
- 6 Old Scotch (4)
- 7 Free to make a sermon (7)
- 8 Lay officer's pipe (12)
- 9 Belief in charity, it's wavering! (12)
- 13 Jo's minicab displayed monk's ethical standards (10)
- 15 New island first for monk (9)
- 18 Dabbler disposed to become wet and dirty in muddy water (7)
- 20 Novelist on New York island first (7)
- 23 Haggard bicyclist (5)
- 24 Baptismal vessel not right in position ahead (4)

Reprinted by kind permission of Life & Work magazine - Answers will be in the December edition of Focus or can be found at www.busbyparishchurch.org.uk/focus/ at the end of October if you can't wait!