

LOTS TO DO!

There are always people bemoaning the lack of things to do in Fosdyke yet there's lots going on at various venues. If there's something that you'd like to see in the village, a club or an event, then let us know at *Fosdyke Magazine* headquarters. We might be able to put you in touch with like-minded residents.

FOSDYKE FOR LIVE MUSIC

The social club in Puttock Gate may not be open as much as people would like but most of the work done there is voluntary and we think it does a great job of giving the village lots of alternatives to watching telly on a Saturday night.

What gets us buzzing here at the *Fosdyke Magazine* HQ is the second Thursday of every month - the only Thursday in any month when the club is open - when the doors are open to talented musicians to pursue their art to a discerning audience (there's usually a different type of crowd to other nights because musicians come from far and wide to ply their trade. The bonus is it's free.

But that's not all. A couple of times a year the social club also book bands. One of those is coming up soon with Kit and the Knight Ryders performing on Paddy's Night celebrating St Patrick's Day. Tickets are £6 for members and £6.50 for guests although these should be available on the door if they're not sold out. Contact Jane on 01205 260455 if you want to be certain.

FOSDYKE FOR PILATES

Thursday morning at 10.30 in the village hall is the time to strengthen your core muscles and gain more flexibility with pilates.

Pilates is for all ages and should improve your wellbeing. April is your contact on 07904281259 to book a place.

FOSDYKE WEIGHT LOSS CLUB

The weight loss club has got off to a good start and have recently decided to do away with the evening session as it wasn't well attended.

But if you are interested in a bit of support for a personal goal to lose weight then the morning and afternoon sessions are still available.

Check out the advert on Page 7 or speak to Jacqueline on 07460860860

FOSDYKE ART CLUB

Last month we reported on the prospect of a Fosdyke Art Club. There has been progress. A permanent venue has not yet been decided but meetings will be on a Wednesday. Contact Maxine on 0786562454 or Janet on 07814598651 if you are interested.

FOSDYKE DOG TRAINING

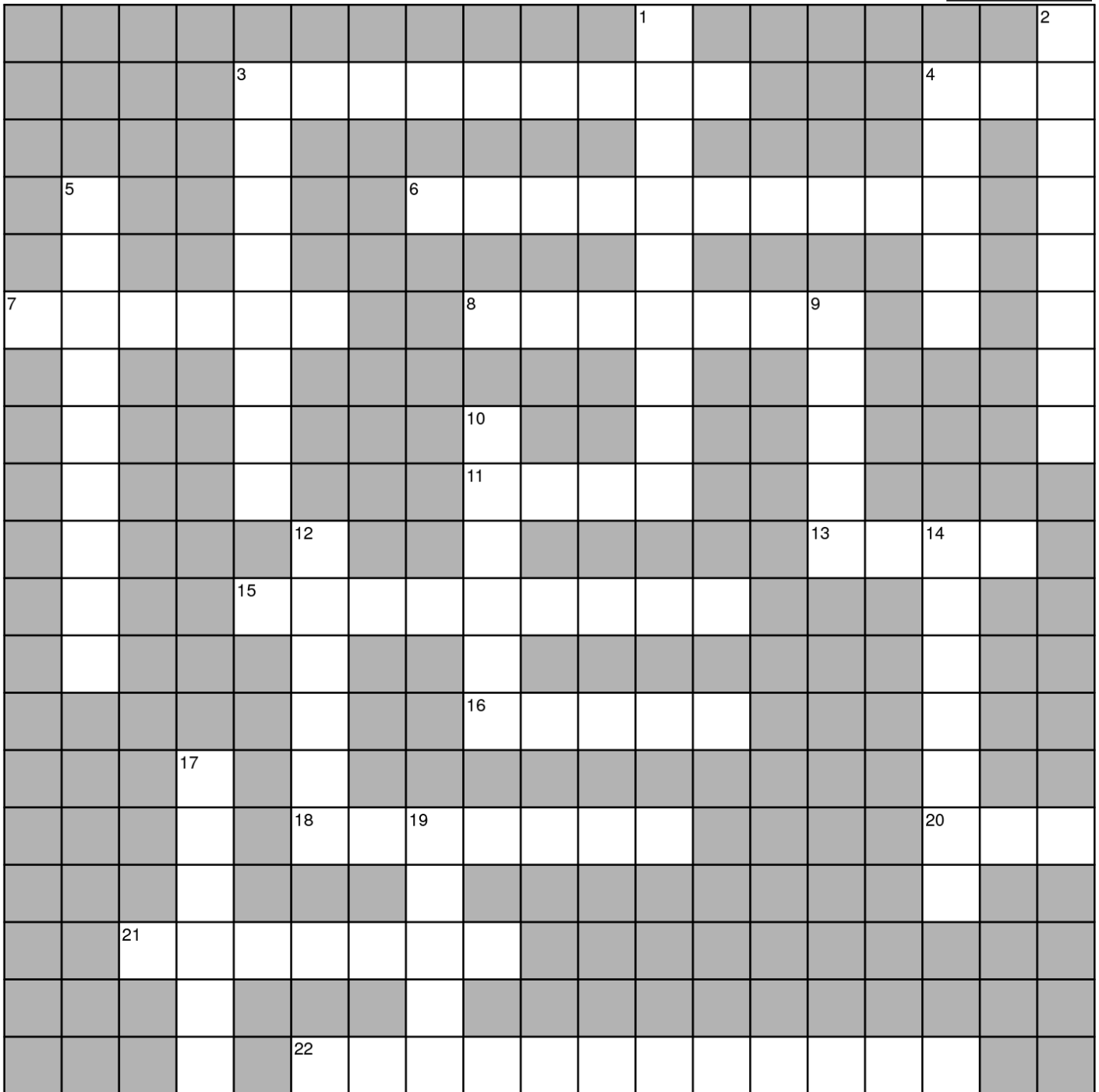
If you want a dutiful dog then obedience training is a must. While Margaret Law can take your dog up to Kennel Club standards just having a well-behaved dog makes life so much more enjoyable for you and your best friend.

There are classes at the village hall on Tuesday and Wednesday. See advert on Page 15.

AND MORE!

Cold Sports Puzzle

Solutions
Page 7



CROSSWORD CHALLENGE

We'd love you to make us a crossword puzzle to be published in Fosdyke Magazine. There's a nifty little free crossword maker that can be downloaded at eclipsecrossword.com.

It's easy to use. All you need to enter is twenty words and their clues and the app does the rest. Save two pdfs (blank with questions, and full with answers) and send to terry@fosdyke.org.uk.



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**EMERGENCY CALL
OUT**

Across

3. Board designed to slide on snow. (9)
4. A narrow strip of semi-rigid material worn underfoot to provide stability over snow. (3)
6. Has its roots in BMX. (10)
7. See 20 Across.
8. See 17 Across.
11. Small one or two person sled travelling supine at speed. (4)
13. H₂O. (4)
15. Gravity powered sled carrying two or four athletes. (9)
16. Awarded to top three placed. (5)
18. Played with stones. (7)
20. Played with sticks and a rubber puck (3), and 7 across. (6)
21. Eddie the Eagle did this, first word is also 4 Across. (7)
22. Removed from competition. (12)

Down

1. Performing flips and spins and rails. (9)
2. Cross country shooting and skiing. (8)
3. Lizzy Arnold's bones perhaps. (8)
4. Racing on ice (5) and also 8 Across (7)
5. Capital city of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. (9)
9. See 14 Down
10. Siing zig zag between poles. (6)
12. Name for combined cross country skiing and jumping. (6)
14. Four yearly (7) and 9 Down (7)
17. Dancing on ice (6) and 8 Across (7)
19. Coloured hoops (5), first word also 14 Down (7)



ALE OR LAGER?

Strange to see real ale drinkers switching to lager but that's what happened recently at the social club when they introduced draft Cobra.

After many years of Carling the club committee decided it was time for a change and it seemed to go down well (pun intended!).

Meanwhile Doombar and Bombadier are still the two favourite real ales with other guest ales appearing from time to time.

And on the subject of real ale, local Kirton-based micro brewery Fuddy Duck will have one of their ales available at the social club's Paddy's Night on Saturday, 17 March.

Local ale and live music. Can you beat that?

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March madness

The weather can be fickle at this time of the year, with one day having clear blue skies and the next wintry showers. Make the best of the good weather and crack on with tasks such as making seed beds for sowing hardy annuals outside. Do always bear in mind that we can still get sharp frosts, so don't be tempted to buy bedding plants starting to appear at garden centres unless you have a greenhouse or frost-free place in which to keep them until all danger of frost has passed. And don't be tempted to remove protection from those frost tender plants which were covered up over winter. Plants can be uncovered during the day, but keep the protective material to hand in case frost is forecast at night..

Perennials

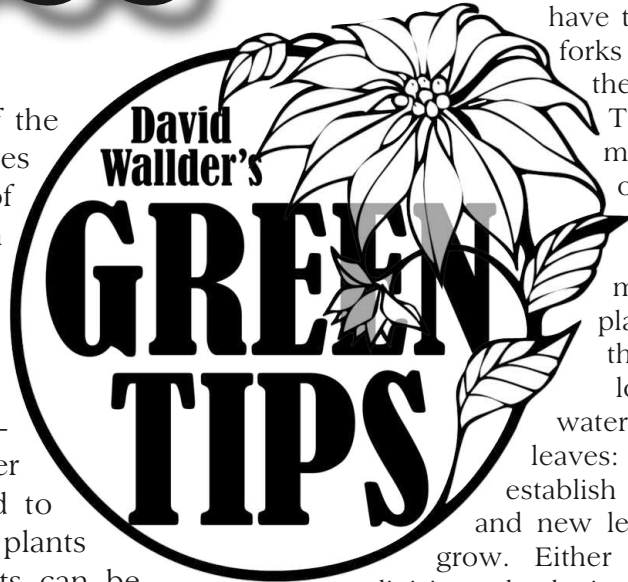
Cut down all growth left over winter. Even if seed heads and stems are still managing to look good, you need to get rid of them now to make way for new growth.

After a good tidy, if you didn't feed plants last month, you can dress the soil with a fertiliser now so that it is ready for a layer of mulch.

New shoots should be growing strongly from the crown of plants, and it is an ideal time to increase plants such as achillea, artemis, delphiniums, gypsophila and lupins. It's very easy to take cuttings, when the shoots are about 3-4" high. Remove the shoots from as close as possible to the plant using a sharp knife. It's very like taking dahlia cuttings, except that the parent plant is in the ground.

Insert the cuttings into a pot containing a mix of equal parts peat free compost and perlite or vermiculite, cover with a polythene bag, and put on a shady windowsill or in a cold frame until they root in a few weeks' time.

Towards the end of the month split up polyanthus type primulas as the flowers go over. To divide them, dig up each clump with a fork. With large clumps you may have to use two forks to prise them apart. Trim off most of the old foliage. Apart from making the plants tidier, this reduces loss of water from the leaves: the plants establish quicker and new leaves soon grow. Either plant the divisions back in situ after



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and you will have the occasional joke



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revitalising the soil with compost or manure, or plant them in row in the corner of the vegetable garden to grow through the summer and plant out again in the borders in the autumn. The plants will then give a terrific splash of colour in the spring.

Lift and divide overgrown clumps of summer flowering herbaceous perennials. Most can be lifted and divided in spring just as growth gets under way, and if the divisions are reasonably sized, they should flower later in the year.

Plants which need dividing are usually quite easy to see. As perennials age the clumps push outwards, with fresh young growth to the edge of the clump, and the centre dies out. This is the stage at which they should be divided. Lift each clump with a fork, and prise it apart; smaller pieces can be pulled apart by hand. Add organic matter and fertiliser to revitalise the soil, and plant the young divisions in groups of three, five and more, depending on the space you have. Water them in well if the soil is dry.



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GEE- GEES



Always a popular event. Which at one time was held in the village hall, but is now held in the more intimate social club, a Ham Supper evening, with horse racing being the main side dish, on Saturday, 7 April.

Booking is a must so contact Jane Bristow as soon as you can on 01205 260455

STILL WHINGING

At the time of going to press the parish council has still not posted any recent minutes of its meetings. The most recent minutes are those from October last year.

Fosdyke Magazine has tried to be as positive as it can about the council but it seems to have slipped back into its old ways.

Once upon a time when the council was asked if the minutes could be looked at it would answer that they are available to view at Boston library which is far from convenient for the residents of Fosdyke interested in what the parish council is doing. The council, though, appeared to be happy enough with what was in place.

But when Jon Tofts became a councillor he made sure that the minutes were available online. Since his resignation, and co-option of Terry Wright, postings to Fosdyke Parish Council's website have been sporadic.

The simple solution would be to put them on the noticeboard near the village hall. Far more convenient, friendlier and practical for Fosdyke residents. Sutterton Parish Council, for example, used to do just that.

Some villagers have commented to *Fosdyke Magazine* that the council is being awkward and secretive by not making the minutes accessible to all residents, as though it was frightened of revealing what it did. Having attended meetings we can see that that is not the case yet the council seems to make no concerted effort to be more informative.

So, our open question is, why aren't the minutes being posted on the noticeboard and on the website?

All types of game required

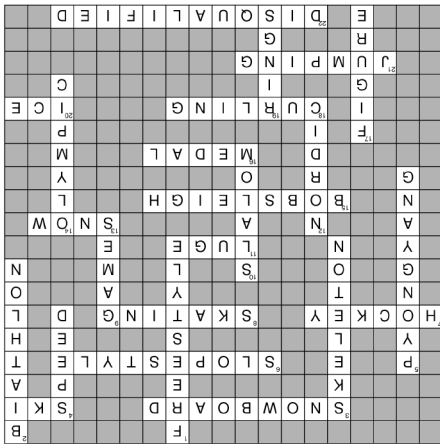
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HAT-TRICK HERO

This bit of news should really be on the football page. But there's no room there.

Ryan Bristow (also known as Ryan McMeechan) has lived in Fosdyke all his life. He is also one of the few people playing for Fosdyke FC who lives in the village. It's therefore worth mentioning while we're just over halfway through the football season that Ryan has scored ten hat-tricks already. Well done mate!

FOSDYKE BINGO

Okay, so bingo might not be your cup of tea but it's not just a cool place to socialise, you can also win a few bob. Not to be sniffed at.

Every Monday night in the village hall. Eyes down at 7pm.

FOSDYKE QUIZZES

If you like quizzing there are three a month. A popular monthly quiz at the social club and a fun quiz every fortnight at The Ship.

Ring Jane on 01205 260455 to book the social club, or have a meal at The Ship before their 8pm start.

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Sounds like a pretty good property, doesn't it? But I'm not talking human habitation, but rather a nest box for birds. This time of year might seem rather dank and cold to us, but wildlife knows that spring is on the way. So they start to make preparations and, in the case of birds, that involves finding somewhere snug to raise their family.

Putting up a nest box can be a really great way to encourage a little slice of nature into your garden. And it isn't just good for the birds. Watching a pair of birds raising their chicks can provide hours of enjoyment. Some nest boxes these

days even come with cameras inside that can be attached to your TV or computer, so you can see everything that happens. Rather like your very own Springwatch. Keen gardeners too should be interested in providing a home for the birds. Hungry chicks need a lot of caterpillars and grubs to eat, so your garden will get some thorough pest control, free of charge! Someone once worked out that a family of great tits will chomp their way through 30,000 grubs and caterpillars in a year. That is some saving in bug spray!

Nestboxes come in various sizes and shapes, but the basic model is a

squarish box, with a round hole in the front. This will attract members of the tit family. Blue tits will like boxes with small holes, roughly 25 mm in diameter. If you increase the hole size up to 28 mm you get great tits. And a hole of 32 mm will be ideal for house sparrows. If instead of the round hole you have a large opening, you may attract a robin or a wren instead. This can be quite useful if you want to attract a variety of birds. Also, remember that for most birds they are territorial. Around an occupied nestbox there will an area of land which belongs to that bird, and from which it will try to drive all others of its own kind. So there is



Courtesy Eleanor Bentall (rsppb-images.com)



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very little point in putting up two identical boxes, as often only one will get used. However, a great tit is not interested in blue tits, and vice versa. So by putting up different boxes you can get more birds. The exception to this are house sparrows, which actually like nesting alongside others of its own kind, and prefer it if there are more than one nestbox.

Mind you, it isn't just garden birds that can be attracted to nestboxes. Local farmers have had a lot of success with barn owl boxes for example. And there is currently a lot of interest in providing boxes for swifts so they can nest under the eaves of tall buildings.

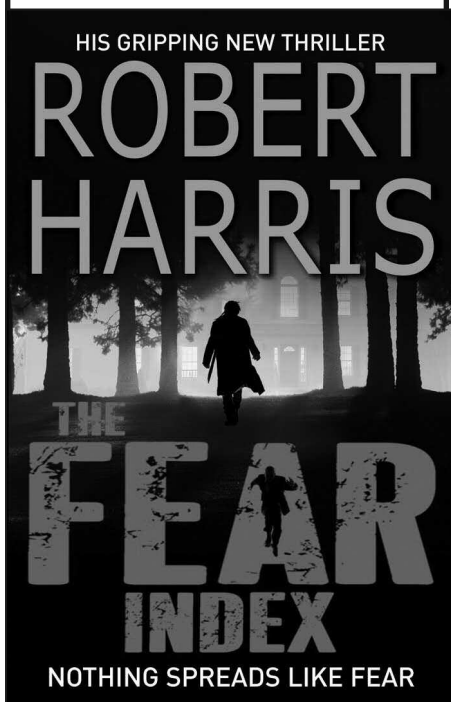
I am often asked where the best place to put a nest box is. Direction is quite important, with boxes facing between north and east doing best. South-facing they can get too hot and cook the chicks. West-facing the rain can come in and soak and chill the chicks. The

amount of nearby cover and proximity to bird feeders are also matters to consider, as is height off the ground. Different species of birds prefer different things. For in-depth advice, visit the RSPB web pages.

Nest boxes are now sold in most garden centres, or you could build one yourself. There are designs to follow on lots of websites, including the RSPB one. The important thing to check for any box though is that there is at least 12 cm gap between the bottom of the hole and the bottom of the box. Any shallower, and cats will be able to fish the nestlings out. Woodpeckers will sometimes enlarge the entry holes to eat eggs and chicks, as will squirrels. You can deter them from doing this by adding a steel plate around the hole, again available from most decent garden centres.

So this February, set yourself up a nestbox, and experience the joys of giving nature a home.

Liz Wallder's
Book Review
THE FEAR INDEX
 By Robert Harris



I have read a couple of Robert Harris novels, the most famous of which is *Fatherland*, a fictional story set in a world where Hitler won the second world war. This book, like that one, is a gripping read.

It is set in the financial world where a rich, middle-aged maths genius is running a computer run hedge fund and starts with him being attacked in his own home by someone with an uncanny resemblance to a picture in a book that he had just anonymously received.

The story only covers about two days in time, but an awful lot happens in those 48 hours. We follow the anti-hero all over Geneva, getting more and more confused as more and more facts are presented. This hectic story didn't let up until the finish.

I found out far too much information about hedge funds and the financial market though and it was very complex and confusing at times. My eyes just ran over facts and figures and didn't take them in, that said, it in no way detracted

from the enjoyment of the book, which leads me to wonder why Harris had to include them all in the first place.

Apart from too much irrelevant information it is a well written and easy to read book and, in fact, difficult to put down, but I didn't enjoy it as much as *Fatherland*.

WHIST WINNERS

The whist winners at the regular social club drive on Saturday, 3 February, were Ray Hoey and Malc Armstrong, with Tammie Ryan and Jane Bristow second.

FOSDYKE

HYPNOSIS WORKSHOP

On Sunday, 18 March, Claire and Mike Burrow are running An Introduction to Hypnosis Workshop at Sunset Farm.

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against your values.

This is a three-hour workshop and numbers are limited so please book your place in advance. The cost of the workshop is £25.



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OPEN MIC



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And where is God in it all?

I don't underestimate the impact of these words and of their underlying and related questions.

However, as the words and questions gather, in the month of March at least I am comforted by the fact that as the 25th approaches, I can draw strength from the example of one amazing woman who has trodden the human path before us. The 25th of March is the Feast of the Annunciation, which is the day on which Mary was told the news that she would bear a child who would be Son of God – and not surprisingly, she exclaimed 'How can this be?' (Luke 1.34)

If Mary asked this question, then I think I am in good company if, on occasion, I ask it myself as well.

'How can this be?'

And once it had been explained to Mary that if she said 'yes', she was to enact God's will, then Mary did indeed summon her strength and courage and love and obedience, and having expressed her incredulity, proceeded to bring about God's purpose for her and for the world. She could have said 'no'. However, she said 'let it be so', and thus a new chapter opened in the life of God's creation.

Can I echo Mary's words? Can we?

Can we, having faced the questions, place our trust in God and respond with similar strength, courage, love and obedience? Can

Dear Friends,

The words 'How can this be?' seem to me to be hovering in the air a great deal at the moment.

'How can this be' that we are so close to the date of leaving the EU and we don't know precisely what is happening yet? 'How can this be' that I've paid my stamp all these years and all I hear about is hospitals and schools under huge stress? 'How can this be' that every year the trees seem to burst into bud a few days earlier than they did last year, but that many people cannot accept the evidence that says that this is as a result of human impact on the climate?

These and so many other

versions of the question buzz around in my mind and heart – as do the very prosaic ones of human living that in different ways we each face – and in my case: 'How can this be' that my parents, who have been reasonably well physically to this point, suddenly seem now to be failing so rapidly?

'How can this be?'

These are big questions and real questions. They affect different parts of our lives. They require us to draw on deep sources of strength. They can depress us or energise us. They can encourage us to reach out to others for support, and they can also make us want to hide and to turn in on ourselves.



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we draw strength from Mary's example?

It is my firm conviction that we can!

With every prayer and blessing, then, for March and for the Feast of the Annunciation,

And for the coming joy of Easter,

Bishop Nicholas

P.S. – And thank you to everyone who accepted my invitation to share thoughts about Christmas. I received some wonderful contributions from across the diocese that I continue to treasure.

All Saints Fosdyke

LENT ACTIVITY

Every Wednesday Evening in Lent at 7-15pm Fr Paul Blanch and Rev David Curran will be leading an ecumenical Lent course at the Methodist Church in Kirton for the whole group of Parishes. Please sign up on the list if you would like to purchase the course booklet @£5-99. Our session begin on Feb 21st with the showing of the entire film- "Chocolat". "Christ and the Chocolaterie" by Hilary Brand

Churchwardens:
Jon 01205 260672
Terry 01205 260408

is based on the film "Chocolat" starring Johnny Depp and Juliet Binoche. Our course explores questions about God, the world, and what it means to be as truly human as God intended.

Every Saturday morning at 10am in Kirton Church we will walk the Way of the Cross in Lent. This will be a thought provoking spiritual discipline for all ages. We begin on Saturday February 17th

POP-IN LUNCH

Thanks to all who helped make our first pop-in of the year such a great success. Over forty folks came to join together for lunch at the village hall. A good time was had by all and almost £300 was raised for the church. The next pop-in should be on 24 April.

FR. PAUL IS HERE IN THE VILLAGE

On Thursdays to help anyone who wishes help, after our weekly short service at 12pm. If you have been bereaved, need a sick visit or perhaps just someone kindly to talk – he is your man, and here every week in Fosdyke. Just pop in church and have a chat.

MIDNIGHT MASS FOR EASTER?

The most important season of the Christian church is Easter, when we celebrate the rising of Christ from the dead. We have services all during the run-up to Easter itself, called 'Holy Week'. Details are in the diary above. Everyone is warmly encouraged to come to whatever Service they can do. Our main service this year will be in candlelight on Easter Saturday at 7.30 in the evening when we will be celebrating not only Easter, but also an adult baptism during the service and - refreshments will be available afterwards - -think of it as across between a party and the Midnight Mass for Easter!! There will be no service here on Easter Sunday.

Thursday, 1 March
Noontide Prayers
followed by vicars surgery
12 noon

Thursday, 8 March
Noontide Prayers
followed by vicars surgery
12 noon

Sunday, 11 March
Holy Communion
9.30am

Thursday, 15 March
Noontide Prayers
followed by vicars surgery
12 noon

Thursday, 22 March
Noontide Prayers
followed by vicars surgery
12 noon

Sunday, 25 March
Palm Sunday
Holy Communion with
Procession and Palm
Liturgy
9.30am

Thursday, 29 March
Maunday Thursday
Eucharist of the Last
Supper
12 noon

Friday, 30 March
Good Friday
"The Way of the Cross"
12 noon

Saturday, 31 March
Easter Saturday
Easter Vigil with adult
Baptism and Easter Party
celebrations
7.30pm



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BOSTON SATURDAY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

DIVISION 2

FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

POS	HOME					AWAY					OVERALL					GD	PTS		
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F				
1	Boston International	17	6	1	2	28	18	6	0	2	21	16	12	1	4	49	34	15	37
2	Fosdyke	17	7	1	2	26	14	4	0	3	24	20	11	1	5	50	34	16	34
3	Park United	13	5	0	1	17	10	5	1	1	29	12	10	1	2	46	22	24	31
4	F.C. Hammers	13	4	1	2	17	12	5	1	0	23	11	9	2	2	40	23	17	29
5	Railway Athletic Reserves	14	5	0	2	29	20	4	1	2	16	17	9	1	4	45	37	8	28
6	F.C. Wrangle	16	5	2	3	21	20	3	1	2	16	13	8	3	5	37	33	4	27
7	Colsterworth Sports & Social Club	18	2	1	5	25	21	3	3	4	31	21	5	4	9	56	42	14	19
8	Wyberton "A"	17	3	1	3	20	12	2	0	8	19	31	5	1	11	39	43	-4	16
9	Holbeach Bank	14	4	0	3	24	22	1	0	6	7	15	5	0	9	31	37	-6	15
10	Boston Athletic	16	3	0	6	16	26	1	1	5	14	21	4	1	11	30	47	-17	13
11	Coningsby Reserves	14	3	1	1	10	12	0	1	8	8	30	3	2	9	18	42	-24	11
12	Caythorpe	17	1	1	6	16	33	2	0	7	12	42	3	1	13	28	75	-47	10

While Boston International and Park United have swapped their third and first positions Fosdyke first team have remained in second place despite an up and down performance.

The Reserves have dropped a place but then they did lose 10-0 to Spalding Harriers!

There have been a few cancellations recently with pitches being frozen or unplayable due to the wet conditions.

DIVISION 3

POS	HOME					AWAY					OVERALL					GD	PTS		
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F				
1	Skegness Town "A"	18	10	0	0	56	4	5	0	3	24	17	15	0	3	80	21	59	45
2	Eagle United	16	8	0	1	47	17	6	0	1	32	9	14	0	2	79	26	53	42
3	Benington Reserves	18	5	2	1	24	8	6	1	3	31	18	11	3	4	55	26	29	36
4	Northgate Olympic	19	6	1	1	40	11	4	4	3	24	19	10	5	4	64	30	34	35
5	Digby	19	5	2	3	27	19	4	1	4	24	24	9	3	7	51	43	8	30
6	Boston College Reserves	19	6	2	2	30	20	3	1	5	20	24	9	3	7	50	44	6	30
7	Spalding Harriers	17	5	0	5	26	19	4	1	2	15	17	9	1	7	41	36	5	28
8	Woodhall Spa United Reserves	19	4	3	3	22	18	3	1	5	14	20	7	4	8	36	38	-2	25
9	Fosdyke Reserves	17	4	0	2	21	12	3	3	5	26	47	7	3	7	47	59	-12	24
10	Old Doningtonians Reserves	19	4	1	5	24	29	3	1	5	24	27	7	2	10	48	56	-8	23
11	Swineshead Institute "A"	20	2	2	6	30	46	2	1	7	17	48	4	3	13	47	94	-47	15
12	Leverton Sheepgate Reserves	19	2	1	7	18	34	0	0	9	13	53	2	1	16	31	87	-56	7
13	Mareham United	18	1	0	7	15	41	0	0	10	14	57	1	0	17	29	98	-69	3

RESULTS

Saturday, 10 February

Fosdyke 2 - 3 F.C. Hammers
Spalding Harriers 10 - 0 Fosdyke Res

Sunday, 4 February

Fosdyke Sunday 4 - 2 Pinchbeck Utd

Saturday, 3 February

Fosdyke 2 - 1 Holbeach Bank

Saturday, 20 January

Old Leake 10 - 2 Fosdyke
Fosdyke Res 4 - 1 Woodhall Spa United Res

HOME FIXTURES

Saturday, 3 March

Fosdyke Res v Old Doningtonians Res

OPEN TO FAMILIES OF MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Don't forget that during first team games on a Saturday, and Sunday team games, Fosdyke Social Club will be open to families from just before half-time, which will be between 2.45pm and 3pm on a Saturday and between 10.45am and 11am on a Sunday.

Hot drinks, soft drinks or alcoholic beverages and bar snacks available. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

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Wednesday 7.30 pm - 9.15 pm

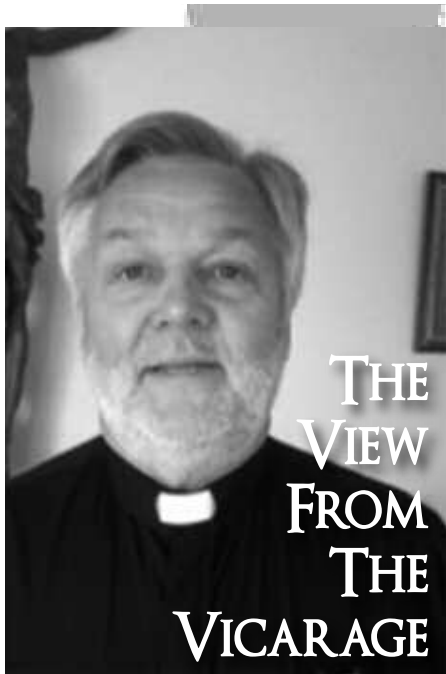
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Chestnut Lodge Dog Training Margaret Law
Cert. Applied Animal Behaviour - University of Southampton, Aff. The Kennel Club Gt Britain, Aff. The British Institute of Professional Dog Trainers

Margaret is an experienced dog trainer and competitor in Obedience Competition. She has also trained her Golden Retrievers to work for the gun and has carried out demonstrations of gun dog training at County shows including All About Dogs in Brentwood, Essex, for three years running. She currently offers Behavioural advice for problem behaviour in pets.

www.petbehavioursolutions.net
For further information please ring Margaret on 01406370920 margaret.law4@gmail.com





THE VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE

Encountering the Holy – being scared of the sacred. Have you noticed the play on words – scared and sacred, simply swap two letters around and you change the meaning completely, scared and sacred.

I often feel that many people in today's modern secular world, Christians included are afraid or scared of the sacred. Why should this be, possibly because the sacred takes us out of selves, out of our comfort zone and even suggests that we lose control and give that control to God, a higher power. One of the other reasons for being scared of the sacred is that entering into the sacred leads us beyond ourselves and our own

powers to actually doing something about the sacred – action is required, and here is where it gets unnerving.

We lament the decline in mission and evangelistic fervor in today's Church. We lament the decline in worship attendance and heartfelt worship. Perhaps we haven't understood how these problems are related. We've isolated the

problems. We have tried to inspire mission and evangelism by alarming ourselves and others with an unbalanced emphasis on sin and judgment. Churches have tried often in often in panic mode to manage worship and increase attendance with an unbalanced emphasis on obligation and procedure. These attempts are unbalanced because both are missing the same thing: A vision and experience of God's holy presence and the good news of his kingdom rule. This leads to being scared of sacred.

Good worship is about all about awe, not strategy. Worship happens when people become aware that they are in the presence of the living God. This happened when Moses realized he was standing on holy ground. This isn't the same as being afraid of God. That will drive us away from Him. It isn't the same as feeling sentimental about God either. That reduces God to what some spiritual writers call "the heavenly sweetheart." If we are afraid of God, then how can we

ever know him and how can his news be good; if God's only purpose is to make us happy then how can we call him Lord? These reductions of God's presence and his good news diminish God and approach him as a force to be manipulated. But when we are in awe of God we are aware of His power and goodness and we are compelled to worship.

Some years ago staying with a priest friend of mine in Minnesota USA I came across the writings of Annie Dillard, and she has some fascinating things to say about all this.

Annie Dillard in her book, "Teaching a Stone to Talk" 1982, describes awe: "Does anyone have the foggiest idea what sort of power we so blithely invoke? Or as I suspect, does no one believe a word of it? The churches are children playing on the floor with their chemistry sets, mixing up a batch of TNT to kill a Sunday morning. It is madness to wear ladies straw hats and velvet hats to church; we should all be wearing

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crash helmets. Ushers should issue life preservers and signal flares; they should lash us to our pews. For the sleeping god may wake someday and take offence; or the waking god may draw us out to where we can never return."

Awe should not be reduced to a single emotion. Awe includes many emotions. For instance, we can be in awe of beauty or majesty. We can be in awe of power and strength. We can be in awe of talent and artistry. We can be in awe of mystery and wonder. Likewise, reverence should not be reduced to a single emotion. It does not simply mean sedate. For instance, we show reverence of marriage at a wedding and it is proper to be joyous. We show reverence for life and loved ones at a funeral and we feel grief and sadness but also may recall happy memories. Awe and reverence involve many moods and styles but they have one thing in common – response! Maybe it is the response element that makes us scared of sacred.

Awe and reverence are about

more than "shock and awe" demonstrations of force. Do you recall how around this time a few years ago many people were moved by the movie by Mel Gibson "The Passion of the Christ?" Very few people watched that movie in a sedate, calm, reflective atmosphere. People were moved with grief and sorrow. They were, in the words of Scripture, cut to the quick. I remember at the end when the risen Christ leaves the tomb someone shouted "YES!" and applause broke out. This wasn't exhibitionism. It was awe and reverence! The film also convicted people. Some responded by changing their lives. I recall coming out of a movie theater and watching how people were almost bowing to screen as if an altar in Church. This is what happens in worship: God's presence and his actions are revealed and we must respond.

Our Response to God involves elements that we can speak of separately, but we must be careful not to break these down and

separate them completely. On the one hand we have the substance of worship: these are things like the preaching of God's word, praise, the Lord's Supper, baptism, prayer, the public reading of the word, confession, and thanksgiving. We include all the actions, forms, and traditions that God's people have always used to participate in worship and encounter God's presence. On the other hand, there is the experience of the worshipper and the worshipping church. This involves current events, language, issues, problems, feeling, style, style of church music. When a local congregation experiences a tragedy, perhaps a sudden death of a beloved member or leader, their worship that Sunday is going to be different than the congregation that on the same Sunday celebrates because people they have been praying for respond to the gospel. Each church participates in the same substance of worship, but their experience is different. That's biblical; the psalms are a collection of Israel's worship songs. Not every song comes from the same experience. Sometimes the psalmist is angry, confused, sad, thankful, joyous, or reflective. The experience can also vary because of culture.

When the substance of worship and the experience of the worshipper combine, worth is ascribed to God. That is the core dynamic of our response to God's presence and his mighty acts. Combined, these elements represent our way of participating together in our worshipful response to God.

When you break out of the ordinary, the well worn ways of worship, when you dare to take off your shoes, you will find that you are indeed standing on Holy Ground – and what a difference it makes. Today think outside your normal Church of England worship box, let the silence, the lack of familiar words and postures speak to you of a deeper encounter with God.

Your friend and parish priest,

Fr Paul Blanch



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FOSDYKE BOWLING CLUB

If you have ever been interested in giving bowling - that's the one on the green not the lane, and not to be confused with the ten-pin variety - a try but thought it's just for old folk you'd be pleasantly surprised.

It's for all ages and because of the age fallacy it's relatively easy for youngsters to make county and even national teams.

Goodfellowship, our own club in Puttock Gate, are holding an Open Day on Sunday, 22 April, at 1pm. Give it a try!

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION?

Chris Andrews'
WILD TIMES

Don't forget if there's a question you have about animals or birds Chris Andrews, who writes the Wild Times column for *Fosdyke Magazine*, is your man.

Let us know if you have, preferably by email at terry@fosdyke.org.uk or by phone on 01205 260275. If you don't get an answer just leave a message with your name and number

Copy Deadline

If something has happened to you or a friend, or is going to happen, we want to hear about it. So, contact Terry - preferably via email: terry@fosdyke.org.uk or phone: 01205 260275 or knock on the door or post your info through the letter box
6 Whitecross Gate

no later than 14 March

LOSS

Sad to say that Alan Ruff, who has lived in a caravan behind The Ship for twelve years, passed away recently.

Condolences go out to his family and friends. He was a regular at The Ship.

His funeral will take place at 1pm on Thursday, 1 March, at Peterborough Crematorium

BIRTHDAY WISHES x3

Birthday wishes go out to Kelly and Colin Hoyles' triplets, Freddie, Jack and Bella.

They were five on 26 February. Doesn't time fly?

FOSDYKE PARISH COUNCIL

<http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Fosdyke/>
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Councillor Mike Cooper

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR for FOSDYKE

Councillor Mike Brookes Tel. 01205 820616

Fosdyke Social Club

Saturday, 3 March
WHIST DRIVE
8 pm



Thursday, 8 March
OPEN MIC
Opens 8pm - music 8.30-11pm



Saturday, 17 March
**PADDY'S
NIGHT**
Live band
**KIT AND THE
KNIGHT RYDERS**
8 pm

£6 members, £6.50 guests



Saturday, 24 March
**DOMINO
DRIVE**
8 pm



Saturday, 31 March
QUIZ
8 pm
Chicken/fish/scampi and
chips supper.
Members £5.50, guests £6

For bookings and inquiries contact
Jane Bristow 01205 260455

Fosdyke Village Hall Lottery 250 Draw - Latest Winners

73	Mrs C Gilname	Holbeach	£10
171	Mrs A Barrand	Pinchbeck	£10
214	Mrs M Dennis	Gosberton	£10
10	Mr R Prichett	Fosdyke	£10
128	Mrs M Wade	Holbeach	£15
112	Mrs J Deaton	Fosdyke	£20
96	Mrs L Burt	Fishtoft	£25

Next draw: Monday 12 March at the Village Hall Bingo Night