

A church near you...

ORESTON METHODIST CHURCH Plymstock Rd, Oreston PL9 7LL WORSHIP AT 10.30am

Minister: Rev'd Simon Leigh Tel:335773 Secretary: Mrs Ann James Tel: 404971 Treasurer: Mrs Val Hopkin Tel:403425

Senior Steward: Mrs Dorothy Turpitt Tel: 484038

Link rep: Mr Roger Dodd Tel: 406850

POMPHLETT METHODIST CHURCH Pomphlett Gardens, Plymouth PL9 7BL www.pomphlettchurch.org.uk. WORSHIP AT 9.30am

Minister: Rev'd Andrew Day, Tel: 342519 Secretary: Bert Symons, Tel: 210820 Treasurer: Mrs M Williams Tel: 493251

Senior Steward: Mrs Mary Symons Tel: 210802

Link rep: Mr Bert Symons Tel: 210820 or email: pomphlett.church@gmail.com

ELBURTON METHODIST COMMUNITY CHURCH Springfield Rd, Elburton PL9 8PR WORSHIP AT 10.30am AND 6.30pm

Minister: Rev'd Simon Leigh Tel: 335773 Secretary: Mrs Tricia Stringer Tel: 482532 Treasurer: Mr Robert Faulkner Tel: 491779

Senior Stewards: Mrs Elizabeth Coleman Tel: 335662

and Mrs Jean Davies Tel: 404239

Lettings Secretary: Mrs Helen Carhart Tel: 480319

Link rep: Tony Raine Tel: 405483

GATEWAY PROJECT, CATTEDOWN

3 Tresillian St, Cattedown

WORSHIP AT 11.00am every 2nd Sunday of each month

Minister: Rev'd David Youngs Tel (880286) Senior Steward: Mr Roger Dodd Tel 406850

FEBRURY 2018 133

ABOUT YOUR LINK

Editor: Tony Raine. Advertising Manager: Tony Raine email: tonyraine@icloud.com

Tel: 01752 405483 mobile: 07505 286682

NB The Editor may need to amend or omit articles submitted though he will do neither without discussing it with you.

THE APRIL ISSUE DEADLINE: SUNDAY MARCH 11th The Link is available in printed format or online in colour, at www.elburtonmethodist.org.uk/thelink or your church web site.

> Contact Tony Raine on 405483 for details. mobile: 07505 286682

THE LECTIONARY

March 4th

LENT 3

Exodus 20:1-17

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

John 2:13-22

March 11th

LENT 4 Mothering Sunday

Numbers 21:4-9

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Ephesians 2:1-10

John 3:14-21

March 18th

LENT 5

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 51:1-12 or 119:9-16

Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33

March 25th

LENT 6 The Passion

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 14:1 - 15:47 or 15:1-47

FRONT COVER: Daffodils are around from Christmas onwards in some places but, in profusion, they confirm Spring is here.

Letter for Elburton and Oreston



Simon was in New Zealand when this was required so these thoughts are written by the editor.

Dear Friends,

Recently, I visited Stratford-on-Avon. The Holy Trinity church there is the site of the burial of William Shakespeare and a number of his family including his wife Anne Hathaway who was buried next to him. She was buried very close indeed which has led to a strange theory.

Shakespeare died in an age when grave robbers frequently stole the heads of the notable dead and sold them to quasi-scientists who hoped to discover the origin of their genius. Shakespeare suspected it might happen to him and had the following poem carved into the stone above his body.

> Good friend for Jesus' sake forbear, To dig the dust enclosed here, Blessed be the man that spares these stones, And cursed be he that moves my bones.

Notwithstanding this there is a strong belief that Shakespeare's skull was indeed stolen, but for some reason the buyer refused to pay and the head was dumped and is now in a church in Beoley 20 miles away. A TV documentary looked into it and had the skull examined. They were told by experts that it could not possibly be Shakespeare's, It belonged to a woman in her seventies. Using X-ray on the grave they have established there are two bodies buried very close together but with just a single skull. They are forbidden to lift the tombstone to find out any more. Imagine you are robbing the grave by candlelight. Is it not possible they may have taken the wrong skull by mistake? Anne Hathaway died at the age of 69. There is a theory among some that Shakespeare's skull is still there in the grave.Elsewhere in Holy

Trinity, is a chamber used as an ecclesiastical court. In such places, those who didn't attend church are brought to answer for their non-attendance. Among the punishments available to it for the persistent offender was excommunication. The power of that punishment lies in the fact that the one punished is totally ostracised by the community and inevitably becomes a vagabond. In the end it is the opinion of the people that controls the effect of such a punishment.

One can only imagine what a person from then would make of life today. There is almost no shame these days for doing anything. Divorce is now common place. Two years ago (latest figures available) it was accepted that only 4.7% of the population regularly attended church, on Sundays every big superstore is open, football matches are played and children tend to visit estranged parents - all things that would never have happened in Shakespeare's day. Would any of us like to go back there? Who had the better life? Would a bit more shame be a good thing? Perhaps we should control ourselves, rather than being controlled by fear of being shamed. All food for thought.

Bless you,

TONY RAINE



Every Thursday, 15 February – 19 April

Bible Course 2018

Elburton Methodist

We are running the new Bible society Bible course this Easter time. For more details Please contact Jon (480319) if you are interested in attending.



SUNDAY

SERVICES	Morning	Evening
	10.30 am	6.30 pm
March 4th LENT 3	Miss Judith Walker	Rev'd Simon Leigh SACRAMENT
	Mrs Brenda Youngs 「HERING SUNDAY ALL	Deacon Linda Brown - AGE WORSHIP am
March 18th LENT 5	Rev'd Simon Leigh SACRAMENT	Mr Paul Whitell ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP
March 25th PALM SUME	Mrs Di Smart DAY	Rev'd Simon Leigh

Darlene was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again. Finally she spoke up, 'Grandpa, did God make you?' 'Yes, darling,' he answered, 'God made me a long time ago.''Oh,' Darlene paused, 'Grandpa, did God make me too?'Yes, indeed, poppet,' he said, 'God made you just a little while ago.' Feeling their respective faces again, Darlene observed, 'God's getting better at it, isn't he?'

JaM (JESUS AND ME)

- 10.30 a.m.

JaM is the name for our children's and youth ministry. We meet in the Moore Hall for 10.30 am. The first Sunday is a family and parade service which we are also part of, in the church.

SOUNDS ALIVE SINGERS

When we have a presentation to work towards we meet for rehearsals at 11.45 am after church on Sundays to share our love of music.

MONDAY

DANCE FITNESS - 10.30 a.m.

Contact Sarah Danning, 01752 881447 or email:

info@physicallyfabulous.co.uk www.physicallyfabulous.co.uk

LUNCHEON CLUB - 11 a.m.

On Mondays lunches are provided for those less able to cook for themselves. Contact June Dinner (407418) for 3rd Mondays, Barbara Jeffery (311100) for the other Mondays.

BEAVERS - 5 p.m. - 6.30 p.m. **CUB SCOUTS** - 6.00 - 7-30 p.m. **SCOUTS** - 7.30 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.

There are a few vacancies for boys and girls and also helpers. Contact Roger Galloway 268803 for more information.

NOTE NEW TIMES FOR SCOUTS

TUESDAY

METHODIST WOMEN

IN BRITAIN - 2.30 p.m

March 6th Mrs Di Smart March 13th Rev'd Arno Bessel

March 20th Janet Cowland

"A Royal Love Affair"

March 27h Sacrament Rev'd S Leigh

RAINBOWS

BROWNIES - 6.00 p.m.

The Women's Network Fellowship, now called MWiB, meets in the Moore Hall of Elburton Methodist Church. For more information contact Carol Batchelor 491962

Contact Julie Hoskin on 481605. There is no Guides group at present.

7

PLYMSTOCK & RIDGEWAY MEN'S GROUP 7.30 pm

March 13th Sandy South - the homeless veterans (at Ridgeway) March 27th Pauline Kadoche - My Dancing Career (at Elburton)

Contact Andrew Gow (341037) for more details. Half the meetings are held at Ridgeway, the others are in the Rank Hall, Elburton Methodist Community Church.

WIVES CLUB - 7.45 pm March 6th - Robin Blythe Lord - A sedentary tour around our area. March 13th - AGM and auction March 20th - Julia Bowrey - Language (514818) or Carol Pike (311150). March 27th - Hot X Buns and Quiz

Ladies are invited to join us on Tuesday evenings at 7.45 pm in the Elburton Moore Hall. For more information contact Sylvia Harris

HOME GROUP 1 - 7 p.m.

The Tuesday group is held at Pam Kingsland's house and led by Rev'd Simon Leigh.

WEDNESDAY

EXERCISE CLASS 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Contact Denise Avent (402818)

HOME GROUP 2 7.30 pm

Held at the home of Trisha Stringer and led by Maureen Richardson (407137)

HOME GROUP 4 8 p.m. A group meets at a different home each week (helpful for the young families who attend). Contact Jon Carhart (480319).

THURSDAY

WORKING PARTY from 9,30 am Normally FIRST Thursdays

Come and help us keep our church in a good state of repair. Contact Tony Sleep (403247) for details.

MEET AND EAT

THIRD Thursday from 10 a.m.

A good meal, tea/coffee, and good company for everyone, led by Rosemary Lee, Barbara Jeffery (311100) and Jennifer Tomlinson

(403896).

TABLE TENNIS 3.15 - 5.15 p.m.

Contact David Finemore (406372)

HOME GROUP 3 7.30 p.m.

David and Brenda Youngs (880286) lead this group on Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm at

Ruth Sweetland's home.

FRIDAY

LUNCHEON CLUB

11 a.m. (in term time)

A lovely lunch provided for those less able to provide for themselves. Good food. good company. Contact Trisha Stringer (482532).

SATURDAY

COFFEE MORNING

Last Saturday of the month 10 a.m. - noon

MESSY CHURCH

First Saturday of month 10.30 a.m.

Held in the Moore Hall, Arranged by Margaret Passmore (404929), run by various groups. Funds go to church projects, term time only.

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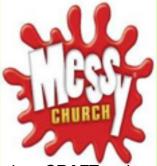
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MESSY CHURCH SATURDAY 3RD MARCH

The theme this month is Prayer and Mothers Day. Messy Church



is FUN, it's MESSY, it's for FAMILIES, it involves CRAFT and

FOOD which is why it's MESSY!

REFRESH (for your diary)

the next Re-fresh will be at Elburton Methodist Church on 17th June starting at 6.30pm with refreshments.







Come and join us for good food, good company, games and happy conversation.

REFUGEES

They have no need of our help So do not tell me These haggard faces could belong to you or me Should life have dealt a different hand We need to see them for who they really are

Chancers and scroungers Layabouts and loungers With bombs up their sleeves Cut-throats and thieves They are not Welcome here We should make them Go back to where they came from They cannot Share our food Share our homes Share our countries Instead let us Build a wall to keep them out It is not okay to say These are people just like us A place should only belong to those who are born there



(Now read from bottom to top)

Do not be so stupid to think that

The world can be looked at another way

Brian Bilston

This brilliant poem was found on the internet and first seen in the Plymouth Central Hall magazine, to the editor of which I offer my thanks.

Sometimes the littlest things in life are the hardest to take. You can sit on a mountain more comfortably than a drawing pin.

Every path has its puddle.

The light at the end of the tunnel is an oncoming train.

ELBURTON METHODIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

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All our facilities are available for letting.

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Women's World Day of Prayer at Elburton Methodist Church on Friday March 2nd at 10am

There will be a service for the Women's World Day of Prayer at Elburton Methodist Church on Friday March 2nd at 10am. On this day ladies from Elburton and from St Matthews will be joining over 3 million people around the world in a service that has been written this year by the women of Suriname in South America.

Entitled "All God's Creation is very Good", we are reminded that we all have responsibilities in caring for this wonderful world we live in.

This is not simply a day of prayer for women, but for everyone who cares about our world and those who live in it. Do come and join us. You will be very welcome.





LENT - Fast from judging others; Feast on Christ dwelling in them.

Fast from emphasis on differences; Feast on the unity of life.

Fast on words that pollute; feast on phrases that purify.

Fast from worry; feast on God's providence.

Fast on bitterness; feast on forgiveness.

Fast from problems that overwhelm; feast on prayer that sustains.



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PAY IT FORWARD

One driver decides to pay the toll for the next person in line, that person pays for the following driver, and so on. A recent example started on Christmas Eve, when more than 1,000 patrons at a Starbucks in Connecticut agreed, one by one, to pay for the customers behind them. People have engaged in pay-it-forward chains at laundromats, fast food joints and car washes. There's good reason to think that these random acts of kindness might be common; after all, generosity has been shown to make us not only happier but healthier, too.

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Prayer Page

MOTHERING SUNDAY 11th March: Thank you, Lord, for our mothers. We remember today their loving care, and their ceaseless love for us. May we show them by our gifts, our words and our actions that we love them and care about them. Father, we thank you for the family of the church. Thank you for those who are true mothers within our Christian family. May they know your blessing and strength as they care for others. AMEN.

PASSION SUNDAY: 18th March: God our Father, in obedience to whose will our Saviour Christ became man and suffered on the cross for our redemption: help us by your grace to learn from his meekness and to partake of the benefits of his passion, that we may share his triumph and know the joy of his resurrection; who loves and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

Frank Colquhoun

O God the Father of all mankind, who loved the world so much that you gave your only Son to die for man's salvation: make us, who have been redeemed by his precious blood, to die with him to sin, to rise with him to righteousness, and to walk with him in newness of life; through the merits of the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Adapted

PALM SUNDAY 25th March: Lord on this Palm Sunday you were given a hero's welcome as one who was going the way of the crowd; but you had chosen the way of the cross, and the applause was short lived. Keep bright and clear before us the vision of our calling, that we may never be diverted from the way you have chosen for us, but may follow in the steps of you, our crucified and risen Lord, to whom be all glory, laud and honour, this day and for evermore.

Jesus, you rode into your city in triumph on this day, receiving the shouts and the welcome of many. Come into your church today. Receive our welcome and acclaim. Come to rule in the hearts and minds of all who lead our worship and then help us all to go out and to proclaim you as King over all the world and every life. Dear Master, we remember that many who claimed you as King on Sunday shouted "Crucify" on Friday, so confirm our faith today that our love for you will never falter or turn to hatred but will remain constant now and for ever. We offer our worship to you, Lord, with all our love. Amen From Prayers Before Worship

GOOD FRIDAY 30th March

Not because of your promised heaven do I wish to devote my love to you; nor from dread of a much-feared hell do I wish to cease from offending you. You touch me, Lord, when I see you nailed — nailed on a cross — when I see you mocked; I am stirred by the sight of your body bruised, by your sufferings too and by your death. I am stirred by your love in such a way that even without hope of heaven I shall love you and without any fear of hell I shall fear you. Naught you need give me that I may love you for ever without hoping for the hope that is mine I shall love you as love you I do.

Sonnet attributed to St Francis Xavier (1506-1552)
Today he who hung the earth upon the water is hung upon the cross. He who is King of the angels is arrayed in a crown of thorns. He who wraps the heavens in clouds is wrapped in the purple of mockery . . . The Bridegroom of the Church is transfixed with nails. The Son of the Virgin is pierced with a spear. We venerate your Passion, O Christ, show us also your glorious Resurrection.

Eastern Orthodox Church hymn for Good Friday

Faith is the art of holding on to things your reason has once accepted, in spite of your changing moods. C S Lewis

ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP



In the evening of the third Sunday of most months we hold an alternative form of worship. We use guitar and keyboard for more modern songs with strong tunes, and tea or coffee is provided at the beginning of the service. Preachers often allow the congregation to ask questions and discuss what they have said, as part of the worship.

NEXT: Sunday March 18th

MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING

Every month except Gethe holiday periods, on the last Saturday there is a coffee morning held in the Moore Hall in aid of church tune by a half of social event with many regular att Mores.



NEXT: Saturday 24th March

ADULT CINEMA

at the EMC March 25th 2.00 pm



FAMILY CINEMA

March 18th 2.00pm





FAMILY CINEMA SUNDAY 18th March 2PM @ Elburton Methodist

We had such fun at our first family cinema in September that we are going to do it again. Yay! We hope to show you one of the latest film's at 2PM on the 18th Please join us for popcorn and a film at EMC.





!! FREE !!



For More details: CALL: 07884 232829 Mail: Janui/Carhart.co.uk

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Images Created by Freepix

Hot Cross Buns



at Elburton Methodist Community Church Maundy Thursday 29th March As well as coffee, tea and buns there will be cakes and a raffle.

Tickets £2

Proceeds to church projects and Send a Cow



Oreston Methodist Church



SUNDAY SERVICES ARE AT 10.30 AM

Our Sunday Service for March at 10.30 am is on Sunday 18th and will be led by Brian Gerry.

(This varies from the circuit plan which was printed before the Church decided to only have one service a month.)





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ORESTON EVENTS...

Oreston Parents and Toddlers

The Group meets every Friday in term time, in the Church Hall



Oreston Stitch, Knit & Natter

The group meets every Monday from 2.00 – 4.00 pm in the Church Hall. Craft activities of many types take place and all are welcome to



All Age Table Tennis

2 pm to 4 pm each Tuesday (excluding School Holidays) Used to Play? Want to Learn? or just want to have some fun & exercise at the same time? Drop in any Tuesday and expect A WARM WELCOME!

THE INTERCHURCH BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Twice monthly from 1 pm. 2nd Tuesday at Pomphlett with Revd. Andy Day (342519) and 4th Tuesday at Oreston. Current Bible Study Subjects: Bad Girls & Bad Boys?



ORESTON

We remember in our prayers all members and friends at Oreston who have been unwell in recent times and unable to be with us for worship. We pray for God's blessing on you all.

WHO IS THIS GIRL?

Answer on page 35

Measure wealth, not by the things you have but by the things you have for which you would not take money.





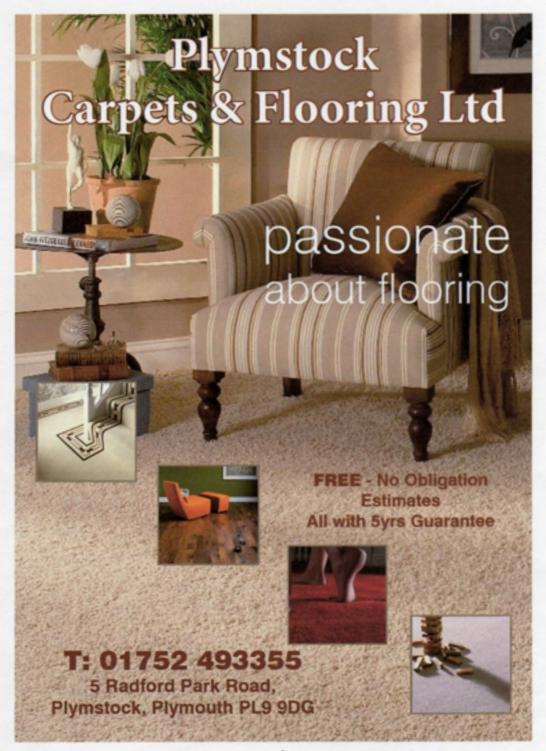
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POMPHLETT METHODIST CHURCH





PREACHERS AT POMPHLETT ON SUNDAYS AT 9.30 AM

March 4th Miss Teresa White

March 11th Local Arrangement,

Fresh Expressions

March 18th Mrs Di Smart

March 25th Rev'd Andrew Day

SACRAMENT

The work of a Beethoven and the work of a charwoman become spiritual on precisely the same condition - that of being offered to God, of being done humbly "as to the Lord". This does not, of course, mean that it is for anyone a mere toss-up whether he or she should sweep rooms or compose symphonies. A mole must dig to the glory of God and a cock must crow.

C S Lewis

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Welcome to Family Worship



Sundays @ 9.30 am

Experience the Pomphlett Welcome
Please pop in for a cuppa
After the service at about 10.30 am



10 am

4th Friday

of each month in The Lounge

Mee ing & Bib e

Study



Coffee Colhes Chat

Saturday March 17th Teas Coffees from 9 am

Bacon Butties from 9.30 am









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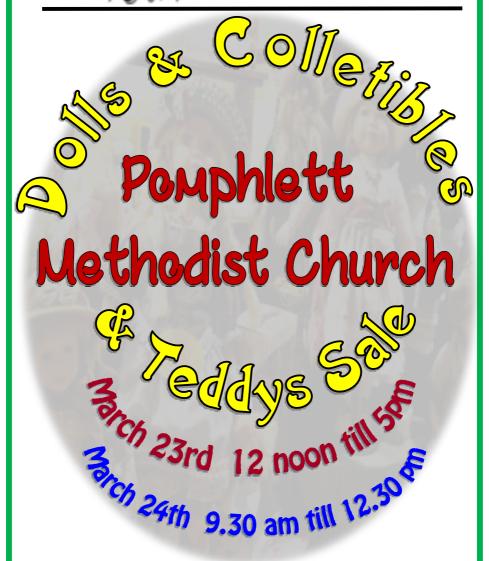
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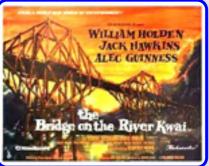
pomphlett Methodist Church Friendship Group

March 14th Jewellery

March 28th Easter Bonnets







Friday March 9th
Buffet @ 12.15 pm Movie at 1pm.

We have moved one week forward for this month to accommodate the Womens World Day of Prayer Service on March 2nd at Pomphlett Church

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER (INTERDENOMINATIONAL)



2nd March 2018 @ 1.45 pm Pomphlett Methodist Church





March 5th March 19th

Come along and

enjoy the music, the dancing, the friendship, a cuppa and a bun

For more information please call 519168 Just Pop in and Dance !!!



Gateway

The Church in a House

Dear Friends,



It was nice to see so many of you at the Dartmoor Diner the other Sunday and my wife Brenda enjoyed meeting you all. By the time you read this we will be in the season of Lent when we remember how our Saviour Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness, endeavouring to discover what God wanted him to do with his life. For many people in this modern age, Lent is about giving something up for forty days, like sugar or biscuits or anything that might make them fat!?!

Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. The Lenten season is a time when many Christians observe a period of fasting, repentance, moderation, self-denial and spiritual discipline. The purpose is to set aside time for reflection on Jesus Christ - his suffering and his sacrifice, his life, death, burial, and resurrection. During the six weeks of self-examination and reflection, Christians who observe Lent typically make a commitment to fast, or to give up something — a habit, such as smoking, watching TV, or swearing, or a food or drink, such as sweets, chocolate or coffee.

Some Christians also take on a Lenten discipline, such as reading the Bible and spending more time in prayer to draw nearer to God. Strict observers do not eat meat on Fridays, having fish instead. The goal is to strengthen the faith and spiritual disciplines of the observer and develop a closer relationship with God. With thanks to Mary Fairchild for the above.

I pray that this will be a time for you to draw near to Jesus and to ask Him into your life as a friend a brother, a healer or even a Saviour. Your brother and friend in Christ,

David

Our Sunday Celebration on 11 th March at 11 am will be led by Nigel Norris. In March Pauline Raine and Julie Dodd celebrate birthdays. It was young Millie's last month.





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SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

THE GRENADE MOMENT

"I hate that woman," Lilly said angrily. "If I saw her unconscious in the street I'd probably just walk on by."

"Why?" asked Mia surprised. "That doesn't sound like you."

:She hurt me badly." Lilly answered.

"What happened?"

"Well, you know she's our downstairs neighbour?

"Yes"

"Remember I broke my ankle last year, I was shuffling downstairs on my bottom. It was not just humiliating but very painful. Frank was helping me and we must have disturbed her. She came out, saw me on the stairs and told us off for making too much noise. She reckons we always slam the door as well. I was hardly able to move, upset at how immobile I'd become and she was having a go at me when I was vulnerable."

"Have you talked about it with her since then?"

"Have I what?" Lilly queried with incredulity.

"Come on, Lilly. Life's too short. You can't stay mad at her forever."

"Watch me try. I had a laugh yesterday - her flat was flooded from a leaking pipe. She's going to have to move out for a while."

"You have to talk. You can't leave it." Mia insisted.

"Of course I can, and if you don't like it..." Lilly looked at Mia knowingly.

"May I tell you a story?" Mia began. "It's true."

"If you have to," Lilly responded crossly.

"There was an eighteen-year-old lad whom everyone bullied. He joined the army because his Dad wanted him to - thought it would make a man of him, but it didn't help. Some people seem to bring out the worst in others, and the other guys made his life unpleasant by teasing him at every opportunity. He accepted it as part of life.

"One day they thought of a joke that would show up the lad as a coward. One of the guys had a dummy hand grenade. He was playing with it when the pin dropped out as the grenade fell and rolled across the floor. The rest of the hut were in on the joke and shouted as they dived over the furniture in an effort to escape the imaginary explosion. That was when they saw a side of the lad that they hadn't guessed was there. While everyone else jumped away from the grenade, the lad

jumped on top of it so that his body would absorb all the shrapnel and the others would be saved.

Instead of laughing at him, they stood and stared at him, realising what he had done. Finally the guy who had dropped the grenade helped the lad up and shook his hand. He was never bullied again."

There was a short pause, then Lilly said, "Interesting story, but what exactly has that to do with me?"

"What I would do if I were you is look for the grenade moment," Mia said, enigmatically.

- "You what?"
- "You said your neighbour has found a leaking pipe in her flat."
- "Yeah, so?"
- "You think she'll have to move out while they fix it."
- "I'm sorry. I don't get what you're trying to say."
- "So offer her free use of your flat. You aren't going to use it for the next three weeks. You're going on holiday."
- "You've got to be joking!" Lilly exclaimed.
- "This is your grenade moment. Use it and change everything between you forever." TR

Answer: Dorothy Lurpitt



