ST CHAD'S CHURCH, BAGNALL —NEWSLETTER 14.04.24

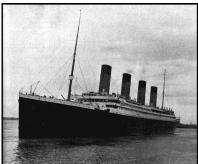
Well, Easter is over and what an Easter! From a newsletter point of view we've had a bumper time, up to 8 pages in one case. Well, now we're back down to 2 pages and I'm struggling to fill those!

I have had a really bad cold for the last week and it still continues. I can't remember the last time that I felt so ill with a cold. Consequently I have neither the energy nor wit to spend time on the newsletter, so please forgive me,

One thing that I did look up was events on the 14th April and I can't believe some of the things that have this date as their national day (mostly in the USA)!

In history here are a couple of items that caught my eye.....

Lincoln Shot at Ford's Theatre. Shortly after 10:00 p.m. on April 14, 1865, actor John Wilkes Booth entered the presidential box at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C., and fatally shot President Abraham Lincoln. As Lincoln slumped forward in his seat, Booth leapt onto the stage and escaped out the back door.



1912 – The Titanic strikes an iceberg and starts to sink



• April 14th 1986 – The heaviest hailstones ever recorded hit Bangladesh. The lumps of ice weighed about 1 kg (2.2 lb). A total of 92 people reportedly died as a result.

And here are some of the things that have April 14th as their national day......

National Gardening Day was established in 2018, by Cool Springs Press, a publishing organisation that prints gardening books. It was done to encourage more people to take up gardening and to get seasoned home gardeners to learn even more about gardening. This day is also a celebration of gardening including all its physical and mental benefits.

Gardening is one of the oldest hobbies taken up by people in history. It dates back to 1500 BC when there is artistic evidence of people gardening for pleasure and to make their gardens beautiful, in Ancient Egypt. During the 16th century in Europe, people would use their gardens to plant food and herbs, with some flowers added here and there for decorative purposes. In America, during the 17th and 18th centuries, the first gardeners were those who owned land and used their gardens as a source of income, by selling whatever crops they could harvest. By

the 19th century, home gardens became more popular, and gardening as a hobby grew in popularity, with people preferring decorative gardens to edible ones.

Over the years, gardening has gathered even more hobbyists, and millions of people enjoy spending time taking care of their gardens. One of the appeals of gardening is that it is a very social hobby, with avid gardeners sharing tips with each other, and those without a home garden taking their green fingers to allotments and community gardens, where they can grow food together with others in their community.



INTERNATIONAL MOMENT OF LAUGHTER DAY

April 14 every year is International Moment of Laughter Day, a day to remind people to laugh out loud every day. Originator Izzy Gesell says laughing out loud is as essential as breathing. He says, "Laughter comes right after breathing as just about the healthiest thing you can do. It relieves stress, instils optimism, raises self-confidence, defuses resistance to change, and enhances all your relationships.

HOW TO OBSERVE

Make it a goal to laugh, make someone laugh and share a laugh! Here are some ideas on how to do that. Be sure to use .

- laugh out loud at the funny cards in a greeting card shop
- share a funny story with a friend
- buy a "laugh-box" in a joke shop and turning it on at work or at home
- show your baby pictures to someone who's never seen them
- think up your own way to get someone else to laugh with you
- laugh for no apparent reason at all
- watch laughing baby videos
- go to a comedy show
- ask a 4-year-old to tell you a joke

And so the list goes on getting better all the time......



National Ex Spouse Day, Instead of focusing on the negatives, this day encourages us to reflect on the positives from past marriages and partnerships.

National Dolphin Day is a day dedicated to dolphins, aimed at educating people about dolphins and how they help protect the oceans.

National Reach As High As You Can Day, When former First Lady Michelle Obama began to speak out about the need for more Americans to be educated past a high school diploma, this passion contributed to the launch of the Reach Higher Initiative in 2014.

Look Up at the Sky day, The goal is very clear: to encourage people to take a little time to slow down and appreciate the smaller, more precious things in life.

Most people are extremely busy these days. The world goes at a breakneck speed and sometimes it is difficult to keep up. So much so that many people hardly have the time to just spend enjoying the simple things in life anymore!

Let's devote the day to discovery and delight! Begin with a light-hearted laugh, maybe watch a favourite comedy or share some jokes with a friend. Embrace nature by planting something green or visiting a garden. Honour the playful spirit of dolphins by splashing around in water or learning more about marine life. Challenge yourself to reach new heights—literally or metaphorically. Reflect on past relationships, finding closure or gratitude. Remember to look up at the vast sky, finding peace and perspective amid its vastness. Let each moment be filled with joy and whimsy, celebrating the simple pleasures of life.

Congratulation to Kath and Peter.....

Victoria had Baby Ava at 2.30 this morning (Sunday 7th).

Ava was 6lb 4oz and Victoria and Ava are doing well.





Looking Back at Easter Sunday!



Just a quick pictorial overview of the social goings-on after our Easter Sunday service! How lovely to see old friends and new, gathering together in fellowship at St Chad's, to celebrate Christ's resurrection. Chatting, celebrating, coffee and cake-sharing and in Sheila's case, taking home **THE BIGGEST HAUL OF EASTER GOODIES** imaginable, after taking part in the village Easter egg hunt with her two grand-daughters the day before.

A joyous occasion! Esther x























Prayer Corner:

Lord Jesus,

Your resurrection brought peace to the world.

Peace between a fallen humanity and our creator God, and the gift of peace - one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

We ask that you grant peace to our troubled world.

We pray for communities and homes in this
country torn apart by division, relationship
breakdown, racial prejudice and inequality.
We pray for all caught up in vicious cycles of
division and family breakdown.

We pray for healing and peace.

• We pray that as your church we would be peacemakers in our communities.

Help us show your love, kindness andcompassion.

Empower us to be ministers of reconciliation in our communities and those who need your peace.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Princeof Peace.

Amen.

Adapted from The Children's Society prayersfor April.

Muriel

April Services:

↑ 7th – Family service Julia and Claire

★ 14th—Praise and Prayer Terry Bagguley/MF

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★ 21st— Holy Communion Rev P Robinson

28th—Morning Prayer KH/MF

Dates for your diary:

Sunday 28th April - APCM(AGM) after the service.

Monday 29th April - Social evening at the Stafford Arms at 7pm.

2 courses – menu to be confirmed nearer the time.

APCM (AGM)

This year's AGM will take place on Sunday 28th April immediately after the morning service.

Please attend if at all possible.

Make arrangements to go to the pub for lunch, get someone to cook for you or call in at Chippylicious, but do come!!!!!!

This is your church—Please support it

Smiles

An inexperienced preacher was to hold a graveside burial service at a pauper's cemetery for an indigent man with no family or friends. Not knowing where the cemetery was, he made several wrong turns and got lost. When he eventually arrived an hour late, the hearse was nowhere in sight, the backhoe was next to the open hole, and the workmen were sitting under a tree eating lunch. The diligent young pastor went to the open grave and found the vault lid already in place. Feeling guilty because of his tardiness, he preached an impassioned and lengthy service, sending the deceased to the great beyond in style. As he returned to his car, he overheard one of the workman say to the other, "I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years and I ain't never seen anything like that."

A priest and a rabbi are in a car crash and it's a bad one. Both of their cars are demolished but amazingly neither one of them is hurt. After they crawl out of their cars, the rabbi says, "So you're a priest. That's interesting; I'm a rabbi. Wow, just look at our cars! There's nothing left, but we're unhurt. This must be a sign from God that we should meet and be friends and live together in peace." The priest replies, "Oh, yes, I agree. It's a miracle that we survived and are here together." "And here's another miracle," says the rabbi. "My car is destroyed but this bottle of wine didn't break. Surely God wants us to drink the wine and celebrate our good fortune," he says, handing the bottle to the priest. The priest nods in agreement, opens the wine, drinks half of it, and hands it back to the rabbi. The rabbi takes it and puts the cap back on. "Aren't you going to have any? asks the priest. "Not right now," says the rabbi. "I think I'll wait until after the police make their report"