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www.callingtoncluster.org.uk

FROM THE FRONT LINE - COVID-19

You can say what you like about the coronavirus, it has certainly brought some colour into our lives! This morning I encountered one of my colleagues. Starting from the top, she was wearing a bright yellow visor, a pale blue regulation issue surgical mask, bright pink scrubs and bright orange clogs. She looked like one of those rainbows that we now see all over the place!

I can assure you that her bright pinks scrubs did not come through the NHS supply chain! No indeed, those scrubs were put together and stitched by a member of the public.

Scrubs, for those of you not addicted to Holby City, are pyjama-like outfits of trousers and top which do nothing for your figure (mine's a hopeless cause anyway) but which are cool to wear and easy to keep

clean. The idea is that you can change out of your day clothes and into scrubs and vice versa so you are not carrying bugs into or out of clinical areas. They were originally worn in the operating theatre environment, hence the term associated with 'scrubbing up' for theatre. Their use had become considerably more widespread but the advent of the requirements for PPE in the covid situation put enormous pressure on demand for scrubs, and our existing stocks quickly ran out. It was the same story across the NHS.

But the public have responded magnificently. Carol, my wife, sews, and in fact she has made us both masks that we can wear when out and about (but not at work). It took her a while, and of course she's at work nursing so doesn't have the time to make scrubs. but I would think that a set of scrubs must take several hours to make.





FROM THE FRONT LINE - COVID-19

The hospital has put one of those wire cages on wheels in the front entrance so that donors can put their home-made scrubs into it. There's a poster on it thanking contributors most effusively but otherwise it's just a bare wire cage. So



these paragons of home sewing, after all these hours of cutting, stitching, overlocking and elastoplasting the occasional cut finger, just drive up to the hospital and deposit the fruits of their labours into a wire cage.

I think that is true charity. No formal thanks, no prize for producing the most scrubs, no smiling grip and grin photos in the local paper (grip and grins are out for the duration anyway). Just the simple satisfaction of knowing that you are making a real difference to the working lives of staff facing the greatest challenge of their health service careers. (It's certainly been the greatest challenge of mine, and if any twenty-somethings setting out on their careers will have to face worse, then I tremble at the thought.)

If you, or someone you know, has been sewing scrubs, then on behalf of all of us, may I say:

Thank You!

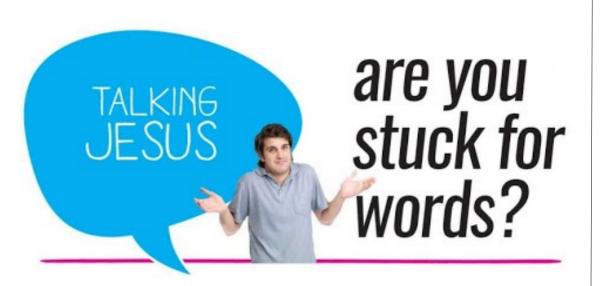
Nigel Beeton works in Radiology in a hospital in the East of England. He is writing a weekly diary of his life at the hospital.

TALKING JESUS - FREE COURSE!

Online 'Talking Jesus' course FREE during lockdown

HOPE Together has made the hugely popular Talking Jesus course available to rent free to watch online during the Covid-19 crisis.

Announcing the new online opportunity, Roy Crowne, executive



director of HOPE Together, said: 'We have had lots of requests during the Covid-19 lockdown to make the Talking Jesus course available online. We are thrilled to do this and to make the course free for churches to use online over the next few months. There seems to be an increased interest from non-Christians in spiritual issues. People are searching for hope. We want to help equip Christians to tell their story and to make the most of every opportunity to talk about the hope we have because of Jesus.'

The Talking Jesus course includes six practical, video-based teaching sessions with inspirational testimonies to give real-life examples from people who are talking Jesus. There are also short parable-style films designed to get groups thinking. To access the course free until the end of August visit www.hopetogether.org.uk/ talkingjesus

HOPE Together, the Church of England, and KingsGate Community Church in Peterborough, developed the course to equip Christians to talk about Jesus, sensitively, appropriately and with respect in everyday life.

Recommending the course, the Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu said, 'The most helpful way people hear the Good News of God in Jesus Christ is by a follower of Jesus Christ sharing their encounter with Jesus Christ. This inspiring course will help Christians to be witnesses to Jesus Christ wherever God has placed them.'

The Talking Jesus course is ideal for small groups. Group members are invited to discuss the video teaching, apply it to local situations, and pray together asking God to help each one to make Jesus known naturally and effectively as opportunities come up in everyday life. The goal is to equip Christians to make the most of every opportunity to help friends, colleagues and family members to consider Jesus for themselves and become his followers.

'TIPPING POINT' FOR THE WORLD'S POOR

Christian Aid warns of 'tipping point' for world's poor

Gordon Brown has stepped up his urgent plea for international cooperation in the face of the crisis: "It is in all our interests to prevent a second or third wave starting in the poorest, least protected countries with the most underdeveloped health systems. So, a threat to



others is a threat to us, and we help ourselves by helping others. Protecting ourselves locally means we need to act globally."

Gordon Brown writes in the foreword of a new report – Tipping Point: How the Covid-19 pandemic threatens to push the world's poorest to the brink of survival – by international development charity Christian Aid.

Mr Brown said: "Christian Aid Week 2020 has been

focusing on the needs of those ...in the poorest countries with the least developed health systems, often with no social protection.

The report, published to mark Christian Aid Week, focuses on four countries that exemplify some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable populations: Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Gaza, and the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. In the Tipping Point report, Christian Aid highlights the health, economic and humanitarian 'tipping points' in the four country contexts that could see millions of women, children and men 'plunged from crisis into catastrophe'. It is calling for specific, urgent measures to address these.

Mr Brown says: "As governments around the world struggle to find their way through the crisis, and multilateral organisations find it difficult to forge a coordinated global response, Christian Aid is filling a gap: its concern is for the most marginalised people living in extreme poverty and inequality, exacerbated by Covid-19. In providing health care, creating jobs, defending human rights and delivering humanitarian aid, Christian Aid is making a difference."

How THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC THREATENS TO PUSH THE WORLD'S POOREST TO THE BRINK OF SURVIVAL

ST. SAMPSON'S IN THE NEWS!

The Diocese of Truro has published and article on the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on fundraising and has featured our very own St. Sampson's. We include an extract of the piece about St. Sampson's and you can read the full article by clicking this link <u>https://www.trurodiocese.org.uk/2020/05/the-impact-on-fundraising-during-the-covid-19-crisis/</u>.

TAKING A BRICK BY BRICK, £1 BY £1 APPROACH TO FUNDRAISING

At St Sampsons they are doing the same but they are also taking a brick by brick, £1 by £1, approach. Reader Judith Ayers has been very proactive. This time last year, she opened up her beautiful garden for visitors and sold her produce for fundraising. That isn't possible in the present crisis. So Judith has made her garden available online, through the Just Giving platform, and has so far raised £145.





"I was really heartened by the response. But it is hard to motivate people beyond the immediate community to contribute. We really want our church building to still be around as a community resource, a heart for our village, in years to come."

Judith is part of a fundraising group called CRUX, which stands for cherished, restored, unlocked Church. It is made up of church and community members for fundraising and community engagement. The banner was made by the local toddler group.



FUNDRAISING IS IMPORTANT, BUT SO IS PRAYING

As one parishioner said, "The setting in which the church stands was ordained by God. When you think of all the prayers and hymns that have been sung down through the centuries, its presence is a vital part of where we are today and where we will be tomorrow for not just this generation but the next and the next. God's presence protecting and upholding us all now and always."

It's in times like these that prayer seems to be the only thing left to do. Prayer started these projects and prayer will see them through, as the Bible says, "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us."

Walk for St Sampson's

Around this time St Sampson' Unlocked CRUX team would have been hosting a "Beat The Bounds" community walk with donations to St Sampson's Unlocked project. Last year's walk was great – remember the pasties and cake! "We want to do it again, but how can we?" I hear you say.

There is an alternative. We can still walk, but a bit differently. Here's the plan: between Sunday 31st May and Sunday 14th June, go for a walk for St Sampson around South Hill Parish, You could be walking in St Sampson's footsteps! You can make it as long or as short as you like - you don't have to keep walking for the whole fortnight - fit it in during the fortnight to suit you. Walk on your own, with your household, or two people 2m apart. Mark your efforts with a donation through Just giving – St Sampson's Unlocked. We are now raising funds to repair and restore the beautiful stained-glass windows costing £60,000 and donations of any size gratefully received to stop the damp and draughts getting in and we can all be warmer at the carols by candlelight.

https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/StSampsons-Church-SouthHill-Cornwall

AND there's more... take a photo of yourself in the most interesting or unusual place and post in on St Sampson Unlocked face book page or email it to janenadco@hotmail.com

and I will post it for you. There will be a prize for the funniest/ most unusual location.

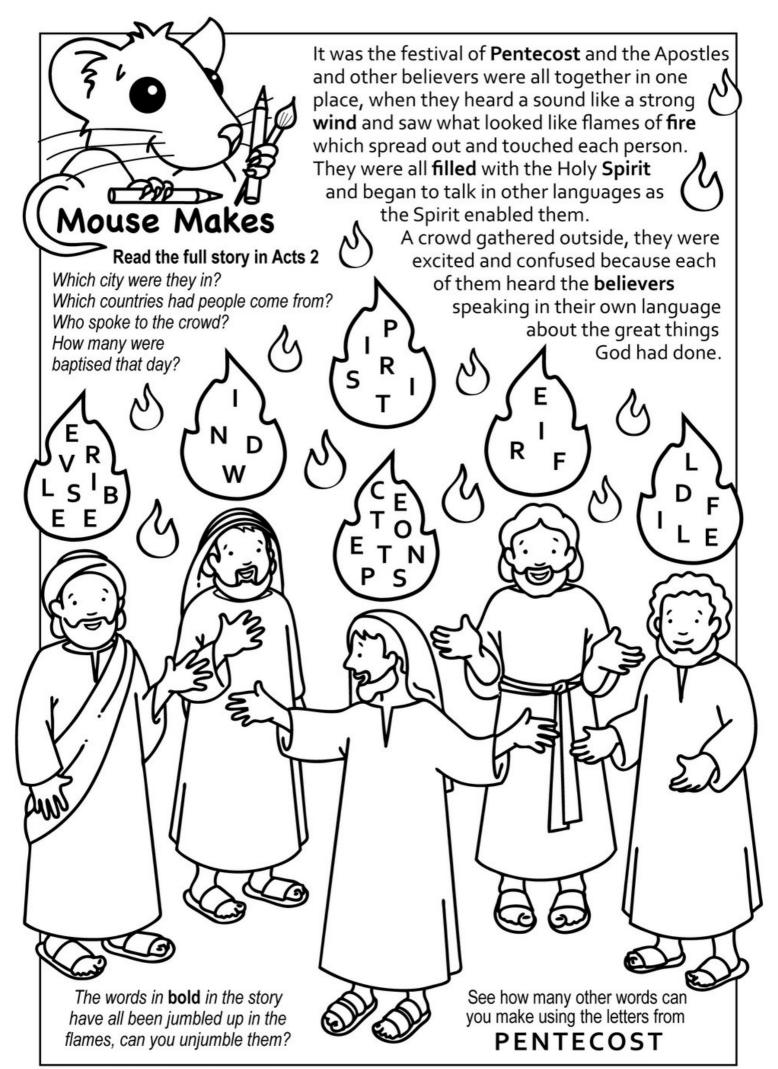
Tell us how many miles you have walked and let's see how many collective miles we can clock up.

WE CAN DO THIS!

CRUX cherished, restored, Unlocked Church

Jane Newberry





WHO'S WHO ACROSS THE CLUSTER

Rector

Vacancy

For bookings, please contact - bookings@callingtoncluster.org.uk

Families' Leader Amy Wheeler 07984 199930 families@callingtoncluster.org.uk

Church Wardens			
Callington			
Garry Morris 01579 382944 gdandmkmorris@btinternet.com			
Dave Wheeler 07971 072459 davewheeler90@gmail.com			
South Hill, St Sampson's			
David Brent 01579 362312 (no email)			
Miranda Lawrence-Owen 01579 382863 m.lawranceowen@btinternet.com			
Stoke Climsland			
Steve Brocklebank 01579 370243 steve.brocklebank@icloud.com			
Rob Stewart 01579 370943 wellhouse01@gmail.com			
Nob Stewart 01377 370743 Wetthouseo Rugman.com			
Linkinhorne St. Melor's/St Paul's			
Sarah Doney 01579 362602 thedoneyclan@gmailcom			
Michelene Norris 01579 363515 michelenenorris@hotmail.com			

PCC Secretaries		
Callington Pauline Farr	01579 383482	paulinefarr44@gmail.com
South Hill, St Sampson's Judith Ayers	01579 384617	judithayers@yahoo.co.uk
Stoke Climsland Kathryn Carnegie	01579 370187	kathryn@pempwell.co.uk
Linkinhorne St. Melor's/St Pa Maxine Browne	ul's 01579 362611	linkinhornechurches@yahoo.com

Cluster Magazine contacts

Stoke ClimslandKathryn Carnegie 01579 370187kathryn@pempwell.co.ukCallingtonPauline & Michael Farr 01579 383482paulinefarr44@gmail.comSouth HillMiranda Lawrence-Owen 01579 382863m.lawranceowen@btinternet.comLinkinhorne/Upton CrossBrian Norris 01579 363515briannorrisics@hotmail.com

MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL JOY AND PEACE AS YOU TRUST IN HIM, SO THAT YOU MAY OVERFLOW WITH HOPE BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

ROMANS 15:13