

Newslink Lite

Issue 2
February 2021

An occasional publication of happenings at
St Faith's Great Crosby



Rublev's Trinity

The cover picture was suggested by Judy Riley and shows Rublev's Trinity. She reminds us that Bishop Bev mentioned it when she visited us last year. Space here doesn't allow a long explanation, but speak to Judy who has acquired a copy of this beautiful icon and she will be happy to explain the full meaning.

Letter from Fr Dennis

December 1966 was Father Charles Billington's first Christmas at St Faiths and featured without doubt the tallest and most gargantuan Christmas tree the church had ever seen. Come Epiphany, in the tradition of previous years, we all expected the tree would be coming down on the figures of the Wise Men would be replacing those of the shepherds at the crib.

But we were wrong in our assumption. Father Charles insisted that the Christmas season wasn't over on 12th night, and the tree was to remain in place until Candlemas, February 2, the 40th day of Christmas and the proper liturgical end of the yuletide festival.

Ever since those far-off days I have followed in the spirit of retaining the Christmas season by keeping up all cards that have been sent or given, on various rows of string adorning my morning room wall. That is until this last year when I have to admit that feeling very un-Christmas like and generally low in spirits, I couldn't muster the inspiration, interest or motivation to even bother to put the cards up.

Having been shielding for the greater part of the last nine or 10 months, and for the first time ever, I haven't bought or sent any cards to relatives or friends. Instead, after Christmas Day, I decided that I would pick up the phone and ring all those from whom I had received cards. And what a joy and blessing it has been! Speaking to family and friends many of whom are dotted all over the country and some whom I had not spoken to for many years, proved to be a thoroughly enjoyable enriching and uplifting experience.

Communication and keeping in touch with others has been, and remains, one of the essential lifelines in our survival against this terrible and destructive pandemic, which has so blighted our everyday lives. I wonder who might not only be surprised but also, perhaps delighted, or even overjoyed to receive an unexpected New Year phone call from you?

View from the Engineers Desk

Thank you for the many positive comments that I have received over the past few weeks regarding Newslink Lite, including a note from Mary Crooke who also mentioned the various food treats during the year delivered by a band of cheery helpers. I know that I speak for all of the team when I say that "You are welcome"

I asked in the last edition for someone to send three words that best describe the last Christmas and I thank Peggy Mattison for being the first to make it to my inbox. She suggested SMALL, SAFE & STRESS-FREE. Do you agree? Have you any other suggestion? Denis Griffiths sent in an explanation with his three words for Covid as you will see overleaf, but if you have just three words then send them in.



From Rev Denise:

Muriel Harrison now lives in Woodlands Lodge, Formby, an excellent care home where she is safe and being very well looked after. When visitors were allowed I had the pleasure of visiting her and talking about St. Faith's. Muriel seemed very happy and appeared to know who I was and she still had her lovely smile. Unfortunately due to the

pandemic I haven't been able to visit and Muriel has not been able to receive communion which I know she would like. Hopefully this will happen in the not too distant future.

Her short term memory has really diminished but Izzy, her daughter, tells me that she remembers she played the organ at All Saints Church when she was only 12 and shewas in the choir and got married at Christ Church.

Izzy also says that Muriel is generally happy, and that certainly looks to be the case in her lovely photograph playing for the other residents.

Liz Mackert wrote to tell me of a free organisation who helped her with some computer problems. Drop me a note if you need details.

As I write this note we say goodbye to Robert Woods who has directed our music for the past 6 years and given us some wonderful organ recitals and choral pieces. We wish him well for his future musical career.

Please don't forget that the future of [Newslink Lite](#) really is up to you! Pictures of what you did during the lockdowns, your stories and contributions and which three words best describe your past year? Don't hold back just drop me a note.

Rick@17mayfair.com

Three Words for Covid-19

HUG

We all like being hugged whether it be for comfort, love or affection, or for congratulation. A hug is mutual and both parties get satisfaction. Sadly corona virus has deprived us of that satisfaction, but one day it will come right and maybe we should establish Hugging Day. I have missed out on two very important hugs. My granddaughter was 21 in March 2020 and in June 2020 she graduated from university; two very huggable events. However, one day she and I shall share the longest hug we can imagine.

HAIRCUT (from an unfulfilled Hippie from the 1960s - Ed)

When I was at sea you could only visit a trained barber when you were docked in a port but this was not always possible. Long hair in the engine room was uncomfortable and could also be dangerous. This resulted in the shipboard barber, an untrained person who could handle a pair of scissors and would set to work for a couple of cans of beer. Naturally results were never consistent but the hair was short and, as someone once said to me, "the difference between a bad haircut and a good haircut is a week." I have not had a haircut since February 2020 and I am aiming for a year so not long to go.

HERO

One dictionary definition of Hero is "A person who is admired for courage or outstanding achievement". I am fine with the courage part of that, but outstanding achievement seems a trifle weak. A footballer scoring a good goal is not a hero. We have brave people during wartime and peacetime who put their own lives at risk to save others; they are heroes. All of those serving in the NHS can be considered as heroes because they are putting work before home and are also putting themselves at risk by being in work if they do not have effective PPE. Similarly care home personnel, the emergency services and teachers, as well as delivery drivers, postal and supermarket workers, refuse collectors and street cleaners. Many of these workers are on minimum wage. The worth of a person is what they achieve and without the heroism of these lowly paid workers we would all be in more serious trouble.

Denis Griffiths

Services at St Faith's

The church is currently closed for services until until 14th February, but Fr John will be posting recorded services on Thursdays and Sundays. Details will be posted regularly on the church website. A weekly letter & pew sheet will be sent out by post & email.