

St David's Messenger

MAY 2011

VOLUME 12 Number 5

Lay a little Egg for me

Easter now behind us. All Easter eggs consumed.

The egg is a powerful symbol of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. New life breaking out. From each egg comes a brand new little bit of creation.

Anyone who knows me will tell you that I have bored anyone who would stand still and listen to tales of my ex battery hens and their progress. They say any civilised society can be judged by the way it treats it's sick, elderly and impoverished. I would like to add livestock to that list.

The last time food prices shot up I encountered a young woman pondering the poultry display at the supermarket. She was agonising as to whether she should buy the 'ethical' chicken at great expense or the one that had suffered which she could afford. As she had four children to feed, no prizes for guessing which one she chose.

Battery hens or 'caged' as they are now called have a short and miserable life. Crowded into a barren cage with only the space of an A4 size of paper to live in. Unable to turn around or flap their wings. Kept in artificial light eighteen hours a day. Feeding by poking their heads through the bars of the cage. Sleeping and laying on the cage floor. At eighteen months old they are culled. The 'British Hen Welfare Trust' is a fast growing charity which work with these organisations and have a network across the country which rescue sorry birds. There

are approximately 13 million caged hens in Britain and so far only 2,500 have been rescued. For a small donation you are able to obtain them. Its a growing trend to have a couple of hens in your back garden. When you meet them they are positively ugly. Featherless and tatty, pecked and often unable to stand and walk. They are bruised and terrified, and in dire need of care and attention. The really poorly ones have to go to the 'Hentensive' care unit. Someone's back kitchen, to be rested and helped to stand and walk again. It's very rewarding to see these distressed chicks rested and fed and taking their first steps onto the grass to bask in the sun and scratch about. They re-feather very quickly. They are friendly, inquisitive and follow you about. They jump in your plant pots, peck on the door for someone to come out to play. If you click on their website and look at 'The Gallery of spoilt

hens' you will see how much fun they can be. They still lay beautiful big brown eggs. Why am I fussing over a few chickens while all over the world earthquakes, tsunamis, nuclear disasters are on our TV screens so regularly?. That it is the downside of being religious. It leaves you with an itchy conscience that occasionally you have to scratch 'Compassion overkill', I believe it is known as. We can't all be aid workers and go off round the world helping out. We can all only do so much to ease the burden of others, and we all have our own style. A very wise lady of our parish put it in a nut shell. 'Seeds only blossom where they are planted'. In other words 'you can only do what you can do' at the place you are at, and with the means you have available. I do hope May is a fine month so it is not just my chicks that get a chance to bask in the sunlight with renewed hope for the future.

Wendy Cobourne

St David's Childwall

SPRING FAYRE

Saturday 21st May
1.30pm - 3.30pm

*Cakes * Gifts * Bric-a-Brac * Books * Tombola * Raffle *

* Strawberry Teas * Refreshments * Cheese & Wine *

* Outdoor Games *
and many other activities
Admission 20p

Published by the people of St David's Church for all local residents
Address for correspondence: St David's Vicarage, Rocky Lane L16 1JA Tel: 722 4549
www.stdavidchildwall.org.uk Twitter - @stdavids

WHAT'S ON IN THE GLADSTONE HALL

(entrance in church car park,
Rocky Lane)

AGE CONCERN LUNCH CLUB

Mondays at 12noon. Phone 228
6881 to enquire. Everyone over 60
welcome!

HELEN O'GRADY DRAMA ACADEMY

Mondays 4.00 pm. For age 5+. For
further details phone 482 0443.

GLADSTONE BABE AND TODDLERS PLAYGROUP

Tuesdays between 13.30 and 15.00
hours during school term time.
Children, bring your carer for a
cuppa, while you play with our toys.

TIME-STEP SCHOOL OF DANCE

Tuesdays from 4.00 pm. For ages 3
to 21 years wanting to learn Mod-
ern, Ballet, Tap, Street Jazz, Drama
Song & Dance. Further information
from Miss Jill 226 8020 or Miss Jan
291 6936.

PARISH OFFICE

Open Tuesdays 6.00-7.00 pm in
Gladstone Hall. A member of
clergy will be available.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

15TH-23RD MAY

BAPTISMS

Amy Rose Martindale
Bobby Rueben Owens
(27 March 2011)

KIDS CORNER

Hi! Welcome to your
corner! Are you a
new reader? - A warm
welcome! Are you
not very well? - We hope and pray
you will get well soon! Is it your
birthday this month? - (sings) -
Happy Birthday to you, happy birth-
day to you, happy birthday dear
....." There I go getting carried
away again!

(Little Jim—"Hello Brian! That
was nice singing! What are we
chatting about this month?")
Hello, Little Jim! We are having a
chat about families. So let's get on
with our chat, prayer and puzzle.
What do families do?

(Little Jim—"They love each
other.")

Yes, that's right and they care for
each other and protect each other
and help each other. AND THEY
SHARE!

(Little Jim—"My dad says, -a fam-
ily that prays together, stays to-
gether")

Quite right! You are clever to re-
member that! What do you like do-
ing with your family, Little Jim?
(Little Jim—"I love to go with my
family to zoos, aquariums and mu-
seums because I love animals and
fish and I like to learn new things.
And there is nothing better than go-
ing to the beach with my family, on
a sunny day, playing football on the
sand, then relaxing with a nice cold
ice cream. Mmm!")

Little Jim is going to say the prayer
this month.

PRAYER

Dear God take care of mum,
And please look after dad.
And watch out for my sister
(although she drives me mad!)
Look after grandad and my nan,
I love them both, you see.
And God I want to thank You
For your Love and Care for me.
Amen

(Little Jim—"See, I do have my
good moments!")

PUZZLE

Answer to April's puzzle -

If you do your 9 x table up to 12 x 9
the answers are: 9, 18, 27, 36, 45,
54, 63, 72, 81, 90, 99, 108. Add the
numbers of each answer together
and you get 9, except for 11 x 9 =
99 (added together = 18 so this is
the odd one out.)

Find the family words in the grid,
but one word is not in the grid.
Which one?

FAMILY, MUM, DAD,
BROTHER, SISTER, GRANDMA,
GRANDPA, NANA, GRANDAD,
AUNTIE, UNCLE, COUSIN,
NIECE, NEPHEW, SON,
DAUGHTER.

D A U G H T E R A B
G E R W E H P E N R
R C O U S I N I N O
A A U N T I E A R T
N E U N S O S O N H
D F A M I L Y T I E
A P D N A R G O E R
D U A N D A M M C R
U N C L E A U U E E
A U N T I N D M N S

Well that's all for now!

See you next month!

Take care of yourselves and of each
other!

Brian.

SERVICE TIMES AT ST DAVID'S

Sunday

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.30 am Sung Eucharist

Except

2nd Sunday

10.30 am Family/Parade Service

11.30 am Holy Communion

6.30 pm Holy Communion

Wednesday

7.30 pm Holy Communion