

CHURCH NEWS

Kingston United Reformed Church

MARCH 2019



Anna and family at her baptism on 10 February

CHURCH DIARY: MARCH 2019

(for regular activities see inside back cover)

Sunday	3 March	10.00	Worship (Communion)
		11.30	All Age Worship
		18.30	Reflective Worship
Friday	8 March	09.00	Lent Prayer Day until 09.00 Saturday, 9/3
Sunday	10 March	09.30	Coffee/Tea available
		10.30	All Age Worship
		11.30	Church Meeting
Copy deadline for April Church News – Editor: Robin Pilbeam			
		15.30	Messy Church does Water
Thursday	14 March	12.30	Lunch-time Recital – see pg.10
Sunday	17 March	10.00	Worship
		11.30	All Age Worship
		18.30	Reflective Worship (Communion)
Tuesday	19 March	19.30	KURC Book Club at Katie Frost's home
Sunday	24 March	10.00	Worship
		11.30	All Age Worship
		18.30	Reflective Worship
Sunday	31 March		British Summer Time begins
		10.00	Worship
		11.30	All Age Worship (Communion)
		18.30	Reflective Worship



FLOWERS FOR MARCH



3 March		The Verge Family
10	“	Bron & Nick Robinson
17	“	Ruth Anderson
24	“	Natasha & John Reid
31	“	# F r e e

Unusually there are 5 Sundays in March; if anyone would like to give the flowers for 31 March (Mother's Day), please have a word with Jean Thompson.

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LESLEY'S LETTER



Dear All,

Jonah

Jonah is called by God to go to Nineveh

Runs away to Tarshish

Gets on boat

Storm comes

Sailors pray for storm to stop

Jonah sleeps

They wake him up and in conversation it

becomes clear he is running away from

God

He suggests the sailors should throw him
overboard

They decline. Put in loads of effort but the storm continues to rage and then reluctantly they do throw him overboard

Big fish, blah blah blah.....

Jonah is called by God to go to Nineveh

Does go

Walks about and tells the people that they are going to be punished

The people believe him and turn to God

God says that there will not be punishment

Jonah is furious

Jonah disobedient is a better person than Jonah obedient.

Disobedient, he thinks of the sailors. Obedient, he wants the slaughter of 120,000 children in Nineveh to prove his point.

When we are doing good things, it is too easy to lose sight of the importance of the big picture. There are eternal truths.

Love is patient.

Love is kind.

Yours, Lesley

CATHY'S CONVERSATION at 11. 2.19.



Today, a Monday, people came to the church to sort out the reported gas leak that was found by the building inspector from the Southern Synod last Friday. They won't have finished the job by the end of the day, but they will have been able to make sure that the church is once again warm. Unfortunately, we may not have hot water for a little longer, which will affect some of the people that use our building regularly to maintain their dignity by taking a shower. For this, we apologise.

Faced with the possibility of a cold weekend, what did we do? After trying hard to get the problem fixed and being unable to, Catherine Treweek and I started to make sure that those people who would be affected were told. The numbers made up well over a hundred. And what happened? A super KURC New Year Party, a wonderful service that included Anna's baptism, a winter-themed Messy Church and a special evening service, where people spoke with honesty and humility.

So, thank you to all of you who came to our church despite it being colder than we would have liked. I found your responses very heart-warming!

Don't forget that the next church meeting is on Sunday, 10th March, after the combined morning service.

Cathy

SULHEE



After a short visit to South Korea, Sulhee will have to return to South Korea at the end of February to renew her visa. Unfortunately, the regulations state that Sulhee must remain in South Korea for one year before she can reapply. This is really bad news, and we are going to miss you, Sulhee, and your music very much while you are away. *Ed.*

PASTORAL NEWS at 10. 2.19.

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Out of care for people’s privacy, Personal News has been deleted from the web edition of Church News. Anyone wishing to receive the full edition of Church News by e-mail should send an e-mail to

tony.wenman@gmail.com

Church and church linked groups in our prayers this month are: People linked to our church aged 0 to 20 years old; all who work for Christian Aid; the Friday dance group; the Community ministry group.

We ask your blessing on all those associated with our church who are between 0 and 20 years of age; inspire their youth and help those nurturing them. May they grow to know your love for them. We give thanks for all those in our church who work on behalf of Christian Aid; those who collect, walk and rattle tins during Christian Aid week but also those who work tirelessly throughout the year. Give them a new sense of the value of the work they do in raising money and awareness of some of the poorest people in the world.

We give thanks for the Friday dance group; all who attend or lead the group; for the fun and friendships built there. We remember the work of the Community ministry group giving thanks for all they do throughout the year developing and overseeing much of the outreach activity in the Foyer and beyond. Give them wisdom as they decide what to do next. Finally, we pray for our ministers, Lesley and Suk-In. May their love for You and the people they serve in Kingston remain strong. May the love of all who gather here grow so that the world in which we serve can see the love among us and praise our Father in heaven. Amen.



GIVING A PRACTICAL GIFT

Would you like to give something in memory of someone you love? Or as thanks? Or to mark a celebration? Of course, there are many causes that people choose to give money to and they are the work of the Kingdom – we do not have a monopoly.

However, would you like to give something specific in the building?

Maybe you could bear this in mind for the future. If you would, we have a number of ideas. Please speak to Catherine, Cathy, Lesley or Suk In.

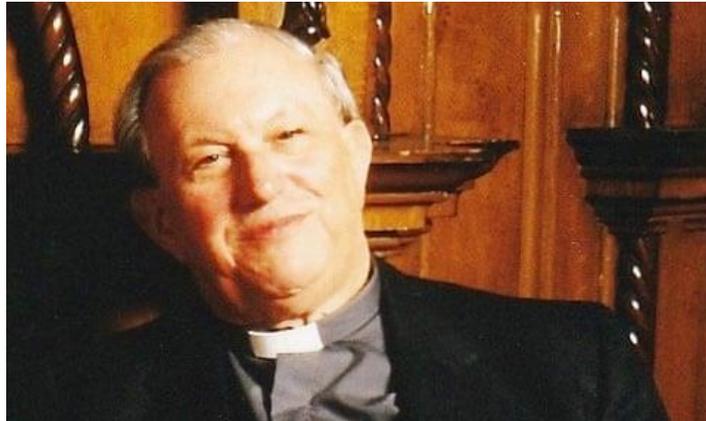
Specifically, at the moment we have an issue with Bibles in the sanctuary chairs and, speaking of chairs, we could do with some new ones in the hall.

Thanks, Lesley

One 3-year old's attempt at learning the Lord's Prayer – 'Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from email'. *I know the feeling! Ed.*

This obituary of Bron Robinson's father was recently published in The Guardian's "Other Lives" series:

Rev Dr Owen Ellis Evans
Published online in The Guardian 'Other Lives', 19 January 2019
By Geraint Evans (Bronwen Robinson's brother)



In recognition of his work on the new Welsh Bible, Owen Evans was awarded an honorary doctorate of divinity by the University of Wales

My father, Owen Evans, who has died aged 97, made a significant contribution to the 1988 translation of the Bible into modern Welsh.

In 1963 the Joint Council of Churches in Wales had agreed to sponsor and begin work on a "New Welsh Bible", and Owen, a Methodist minister and New Testament scholar, was appointed to the New Testament translation panel, later becoming its chair. Following many years of dedicated work by a distinguished group of scholars, the New Testament was published in 1975. The complete Bible followed in 1988. It was dedicated at a service in Cardiff and presented to the Queen at Westminster Abbey later that year at a service to mark the 400th anniversary of the first translation into Welsh.

My father's full name was Owen Ellis Evans – he sometimes published as OE Evans and was known by friends as "Owie". He was born in Barmouth, north Wales, to Welsh-speaking parents. The family briefly moved to London, where

his father, also Owen, worked as a pharmacist. While Owen was still an infant, his father fell ill with a type of encephalitis known as sleeping sickness, prompting a return to Barmouth, where he died soon afterwards. Owen's mother, Elizabeth (nee Jones), ran a guest house to support Owen and his brother, John.

After Barmouth county school, Owen passed the civil service exam and returned to London to start work. Here he first felt a ministerial calling and trained as a local preacher in the Welsh-language Methodist church. A lifelong pacifist, Owen was a conscientious objector during the second world war and served in civil defence during the blitz.

In 1946 he decided to train for full-time ministry and began his studies at Wesley College, Leeds. Ordained in 1951, he worked as a Methodist minister for two years before being appointed New Testament tutor at Hartley Victoria College, a ministerial training establishment in Manchester. In 1953 he married Margaret Williams, sister of a college friend, and they raised four children in Whalley Range.

In 1969 Owen was appointed lecturer in New Testament studies at the University of Wales, Bangor, and the family relocated to Anglesey. He remained at Bangor for the rest of his career. After retirement in 1988, Owen continued his scholarly work, painstakingly completing the concordance for the Bible, while continuing to preach and support the local Wesleyan Methodist Church circuit into his late 80s.

By way of relaxation, Owen loved Welsh literature and culture, choral singing, football (especially Manchester City FC), cryptic crosswords and being with his family.

Margaret died in 2017. Owen is survived by his children, Angharad, Bronwen, Dewi and me, and by four grandchildren and a great-grandson.

LUNCH-TIME CONCERT – 14 March



Catherine Leonard (pianist) will be playing works by Bach and Schubert on Thursday, 14 March, at 12.30.

Catherine lives locally; she is a graduate of the Royal Academy of Music and has given more than 230 recitals throughout the UK and beyond.

Admission is free with a retiring collection.



For the benefit of early e-readers of Church News there will be a cello and piano recital in our church on **Thursday, 21 February, at 12.30**, given by our very own Haeun Kim (a former pupil at the Royal Academy) and her mother, Yoonjoo Hong, (an accomplished pianist). It is called “A Celebration of the Cello” and is a slightly shortened version of a recital they gave recently in Bristol to great acclaim, and includes works by Haydn, Schubert, Elgar and Popper. Admission is free with a retiring collection. Haeun is going back to Korea at the end of February, so this will be the last occasion for us to enjoy her prodigious musical talent – at least for some while. We will miss you so much, Haeun!

SCEPTICAL CHRISTIANITY

(Exploring Credible Belief)

I came to this church just over 50 years ago as a teacher in a C of E primary school and a former cathedral lay-clerk. In my 20s I was a failed atheist to the extent that, in spite of my best efforts to do so, I could not prove that God does not exist. Now I see myself as an attempted Christian to the extent that I share Christ's view that we need to love one another, but I have many arguments with myself over other aspects of the Christian tradition of beliefs. I have problems with Christ's recorded view that we should love God because I cannot make up my mind precisely what God is, and therefore do not know precisely what Christ wanted us to love. In spite of that, KURC asked me to become an Elder!! Perhaps KURC did not know how confused I really am!

Given that bit of information/confession, you may not be surprised to know that when I spotted a book on a shop bookshelf entitled "Sceptical Christianity" I bought it. It is written by Rev Robert Reiss, Canon Emeritus of Westminster Abbey where, prior to his retirement in 2013, he had been Canon Treasurer and, for the last two years of his ministry, Sub Dean. The book is clearly the writing of a committed Christian, but it raises lots of questions about beliefs that have traditionally been supported by church authorities, and claimed by members of congregations: the virgin birth of Jesus, the "truth" of biblical accounts of miracles, the resurrection, the nature of God, to name but a few.

I think the book is worth a discussion group, and I would be prepared to run one. Ken Bartlett has already read the book and shown a great interest. Please let me know if you would be interested in joining a group at a mutually convenient time and place. The book is available from Amazon and you could get one for just £8.99, but I will get a copy for you if you wish. Just let me know. ***Tony Wenman***



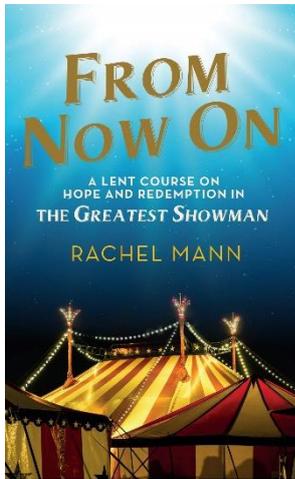
Slim 'n Trim A few of us are intent on losing a few pounds and we have set up a What's App group for sharing and encouragement. If you would like to join the group, please speak to **Linda Austin**.

LENT COURSE – NEW FOR 2019

‘From Now On’ (based on the hugely popular film ‘The Greatest Showman’) is a Lent Course on Hope, Redemption and New Life by Rachel Mann who is an Anglican priest, writer and poet.

There are 6 sessions:

1. Watching the film ‘The Greatest Showman’
2. A Million Dreams
3. Come Alive
4. Rewrite the Stars
5. Never Enough
6. The Greatest Show



If you enjoyed the film and/or you want to think about questions like ‘what does hope mean?’ and ‘how does faith bring purpose and meaning?’, then this is a good option for you.

This is a joint course with All Saints, St John’s and Fairfield Methodist Church.

Look out for when and where details soon.

Lesley

LENT LUNCH-TIME TALKS – IN CONFLICT?

Beginning Wednesday, 13 March, at All Saints a series of 5 talks will explore what it is to disagree, how it affects us, whether disagreement means conflict, and how we might disagree productively. The talks will include speakers and case studies from a mixture of religious, political, social, personal and familial viewpoints.

More details will be available shortly.



Lent Prayer Day On Friday, 8 March, from 9 am to 9 am on Saturday, KURC are having a Prayer Day. If you can contribute, please see Lesley, or just come. All welcome.

Julia Yoon, who plays the violin at some of our services, has sent the following to Church News:



‘Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Hallelujah!’ Psalm 150:6

My whole family loves singing and playing string instruments, especially my parents always have encouraged me to be a person who has a great passion to play the violin in my childhood. The musical passion I have had in the past, led me to come to London to study, specialising in music. No doubt, I believe it is God’s plan for the purpose of my creation.

My musical journey started at the age of 14 as I attended all privileged music schools and music conservatoires in London. So, my education and the environment that I have had were always full of classical music and performances. In fact, I love to share and interact with people through my playing.

Nevertheless, facing the reality, there was a wall behind me in my musical life, as I sometimes found it difficult to carry out my goals for the future. I suppose most people have their own worries, which would make your life heavy. However, when I pass those times, God has given his words to my heart, just like an arrow through a sermon in the service, or through my time of prayer and through his people.

Receiving God’s words have made me realize that he walks with me in his love and strength in every step forward.

How good or popular you are on the violin, what curriculum you have, and how often you have previously given concerts in big concert halls, isn’t that important. My only concern and priority is to obey him with humility and expect his plan for me as ‘I can do all this through him who gives me strength’ - Philippians 4:13. Interestingly, most classical instrumental music has no lyrics but I’m trying to sing through my playing, especially expressing the words of David’s Psalm and preaching the gospel as a music missionary. God loves you!

Julia Yoon

A week in the life of Sue Shaw, Street Pastoring in Antigua Friday

There's only three of us tonight – myself, Brother Ephraim and Charmaine, an observer on her first night out. She is planning to do the training to become a Street Pastor soon.

Town is relatively quiet. We speak to T, a slim guy carrying a white bucket who is looking for work cleaning cars. I have been told he is a drug user. He asks for sandwiches and looks so desperate we give him two.

Outside the Fish Market we meet Ricky walking on his crutches. He's wearing a scruffy orange fleece hoodie and grubby jeans. It's good to see he isn't drinking and he is very appreciative of the food.

On a low wall sits N, absolutely pie-eyed. He cannot focus his eyes and is slumped against another more sober guy. We give him a bottle of water but he just looks vacantly ahead staring into distant space.

Behind the Fish Market where the gambling guys are playing cards, there's no sign of the usual older men who sleep on cardboard. J asks for a sandwich. One of the men, P, a tall broad shouldered guy in a baggy yellow shirt, tells us they now sleep near the supermarket Bargain Centre beside a container. We go off in search of them, trawl through the car park, around the back of the supermarket, down by the loading bay to no avail.

Saturday

I attend an Evangelical leaders' meeting at the Mount of Blessings New Testament Church of God, where the topic of conversation is the lack of young male leaders in the church. We are informed a major Crusade is planned for July with American evangelists and a team coming from Florida. They will also be bringing a container full of medical supplies and food parcels. I give a short presentation on the work of Street Pastors.

Sunday

After church I go into town and at the Market I meet young unemployed J who is desperate for me to buy a potted date palm from him. He says, 'I'm trying to be good.' I also buy a small plastic tub which he fills with soil and custard apple seeds. He's hoping to come to the UK to find work.

Monday - Prison Visit

I am turned away at the gate as the sleeves of my tee shirt are a tad too short. Fortunately I have a shirt with elbow length sleeves in the car so I return to put that on and am duly allowed in.

I talk to O through a metal grill and we both have to stay seated, keeping our distance, presumably so I don't slip anything through. O speaks more easily today; presumably he is now on the right dose of medication. He is keeping fit playing football in the yard and has borrowed a book from the prison library to read. We both pray at the end of our allotted fifteen minutes.

Wednesday

I spend the day with Kevin Birch and his wife Sian from the UK on a day visit from their cruise ship holiday. Kevin is the Street Pastor Coordinator for

Eccles in Manchester, my home town. (See photo below.)

It's good to share our experiences of working with Street Pastors and many issues seem to be the same regardless of geography.

Thursday - 'Drop Off ' Prison Visit

I have the requisite plastic bag, items listed on a sheet of A4 paper, a cardigan to cover my arms and photo ID. After the male guard swipes me with the scanner I report to the office where I place my mobile in one of their metal lockers and sign the visitors' ledger.

Everything I have brought is opened and inspected, including a packet of Cadbury's chocolate flake cakes, which I decant into a smaller plastic bag.

O will be pleased. He loves cake. However, she won't let me give him a new pair of beige cargo pants.

She puts aside a packet of wax crayons, a sketch pad and a book, 'Dreadlocks' by Les Isaac. "The welfare office will look at those," she explains. "Can I drop off again?" I ask. "You can bring fruit once a week but you cannot come and see O again until March."

'March!' Only fifteen minutes every two months. It seems so unfair!



KURC BOOK CLUB: REVIEW

The group met for the first time in 2019 on Tuesday, 15th January. We reviewed '**How to find love in a bookshop**' by Veronica Henry. Enter the world of Nightingale Books for a serving of romance, long-held secrets and unexpected hopes for the future. This is an easy-to-read story of Emilia and the unforgettable cast of customers whose lives she has touched and the books they all cherish. It could be regarded as quite superficial, even corny, but as the story progresses it has spiritual depths to it.

The story begins with a young widower, Julius, with his baby daughter, Emilia arriving in Peasebrook in the Cotswolds. He had come to look at the empty shop he had just purchased and which he planned to turn into a bookshop. Julius was working in a bookshop in Oxford after taking his finals when a young American, Rebecca, visited the shop. He suggested various books for her to read including 'Anna Karenina', but she was clearly very well read. She decided on 'Middlemarch', having not read it before. They fell quickly in love and she decided to apply to Oxford rather than go back to America to university. She became unexpectedly pregnant; they were married, and she died in childbirth. Her father paid Julius, presumably a substantial sum of money, to have nothing further to do with his family.

The bookshop, and its importance in people's lives is the focus of the book. Julius dies of cancer when Emilia is 32 and she comes home from abroad to take on the running of the shop. Her father was clearly a well-loved person in the village and everyone rallies round to help Emilia as she discovers that the shop is not as financially viable as she had thought - and the property developers are circling. Emilia's loyal customers have become like family, and she can't imagine breaking the promise she made to her father to keep the store alive. Each chapter shows the transformative effect of the bookshop, its books and staff (including Julius and later Emilia) on their lives. Emilia herself not only takes on the bookshop but also learns to play her father's cello again. She then develops a relationship with Marlowe who has encouraged her to play in the quartet her father also played in. People do attend the local church, known locally as St Nick's but, interestingly, it is the bookshop that really meets the need of the community. Peasebrook is the place where "everybody knows your name," your business - and it's the bookshop where they all congregate to share their dreams.

We are currently reading '**A Perfectly Good Man**' by Patrick Gale and the month after we will review '**The Red Tent**' by Anita Diamant. Why not join us for our next meeting at Katie Frost's home on Tuesday, 19 March, at 19.30? You will be very welcome.

KURC Book Club

SUNG JIN & HER FAMILY



Natasha and John have recently received news from Sung Jin in South Korea. The family worshipped with us some 12 or more years ago when their son and daughter were young and her husband was here for religious studies. Unfortunately he became ill and they had to return. He is now well and is a pastor at Seohae University. Their daughter, Hae-Shin, is a teacher at a private institute and sings and plays the flute and piano at the church. Their son, Gwang Yeom, is getting married in February, and below is a photo taken before the wedding. (It is the custom in South Korea to make a photo album before the big day.) Gwang Yeom is an evangelist in Seoul Pomok Church. Sung Jin has happy memories of their time in England and sends her best regards to everybody who remembers them.



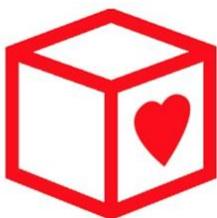
THE NEW YEAR PARTY on 9 February



A great mix of ages from the community that is KURC enjoyed a fun time with a superb afternoon tea.



Thank you to all who made it possible.



The Red Box Project

A simple scheme, made with love for the young women in our community

Tackling Period Poverty with The Red Box Project

The Red Box Project is part of a nationwide initiative to stamp out period poverty, and ensure that no young person ever has to miss school because of their period. Sadly, recent studies have shown that one in ten young women in the UK will miss school at some point in their educational career due to insufficient access to menstrual health products, and The Red Box Project wants to change this.

In order to support as many young people as possible, we set up donation points around the community and ask the public to donate packets of sanitary towels, tampons, wipes, new knickers and tights.

We then pack these donations into Red Boxes which are given out to schools in the borough, so, should a student find herself without, she need simply ask for “The Red Box” and she can take what she needs; be that one or two items to see her through the day, or a whole packet to see her through the rest of the month, with the knowledge that The Red Box will be there when she next needs it.

KURC have decided to support the Red Box Project and we now have a red box set up in our foyer next to the entrance of the Mayo Hall. Please donate as and when you are able to. Thank you.

FOYER SCREEN



Those observant amongst us will recognise this lovely photo of Leith Hill, taken by Eddie Kear, on the foyer screen recently. Thank you Eddie, and a thank you to Jane Allden who ensures we have a changing sequence of pictures every week. Many people comment on the calming effect this creates in the foyer. Jane would very much appreciate any scenic photos you would like to share. *Ed.*

Finlay and Georgina Forbes have been on their travels again and Georgina shares **LANZAROTE** with Church News:

This could be subtitled 'How wrong can you be'. I went to Lanzarote expecting to see very little and spend most of my time reading. With this in mind I had taken a rucksack full of reading matter. In the first few days Finlay and I walked up and down the coast to Costa Teguisse and Arrecife and rapidly became aware of the bleakness of the countryside.

Lanzarote rose out of the Atlantic Ocean as part of the drift as Africa separated from South America. A weakness in the earth's crust led to volcanoes erupting, initially under the sea and then later producing a series of islands now called the Canary Islands. The last major eruptions were in 1730-36 when eleven villages were buried in molten lava. There were further eruptions in 1824 but these were far less devastating than those in the 18th century. The Island is still monitored for volcanic activity as the earth's crust is still very thin under the island and some of the volcanoes have molten lava not far below the surface.

The earliest settlers are believed to be the Majos tribe of the Guanches. They lived undisturbed until 999 when the Arabs arrived. In the late 14th century Castilian slavers deported hundreds of Guanches to Spain where they were sold. In 1402 the French invaded and deported most of the remaining local inhabitants. The first European settlement was started in an area called El Rubicon. The Islands remained in Castilian hands until the end of 18th century. The country is now self-governed but has strong ties with Spain.

Most of the houses are painted white, have flat roofs and small windows. As temperatures are rarely below 20°C during the day, homes are designed to keep out the heat. As there is very little rainfall (average rainfall is about 4ins per year) they are also designed to collect water and many have a sump under the house to collect rain water. Nowadays water is less of a problem because there is a desalination plant just outside Arrecife which provides water for domestic use.

As Finlay and I walked around the Island we were struck by the number of fields/gardens which were covered in coarse lava. This is the technique used by the Canarians to attract and retain as much water as possible for their plants. The soil is covered with several inches of coarse lava which is used to condense water from the humid atmosphere when the temperatures fall at night. The plants are bedded in the soil underneath and are provided with water which trickles through the lava at night. During the day the lava helps to protect the plants and prevent the water evaporating. Because the Island is small and windswept, wind breaks are built from blocks of lava to protect growing crops.

We took a trip round the South of the Island. The first stop was El Golfo where there is a half sunken crater with a green lagoon in it and a black beach. The water in the crater is sea water and is green because algae grows in the protected lagoon. We were told that some of the finest fish was served at the local village, but were not given time to sample it. Our next stop was Los Hervideros (the boiling pots) where the coastline was pure lava. Erosion has formed a tunnel and overhang through which the sea moves in fascinating ways. The sea is also a beautiful clear blue/green colour. Next, we passed salt pans, still in use, on our way to visit some camels. The camels were imported to move the salt from the pans to the ports.

Nowadays mechanical means of transport are used and the camels are used to give tourists a chance of a ride. The camel I was allocated had a definite mind of his own and a very swaying gait, but was placid enough not to cause any major consternation.

After this we headed to Timanfaya National Park where we were treated to displays of the heat just below the surface. At the car park there is a café which is frequented by the local population and tourists. Here one may eat chicken roasted on an open grill, the heat for which is generated by the volcano underneath. After the demonstrations we were taken round the volcanic plains and given a chance to see inside some of the craters. We noticed some white patches on some of the lava and were told it was lichen beginning to grow. The process started a few years ago, now quite large areas are affected. After a buffet lunch we headed to La Geria to see the way grape vines grow and to sample the local wine.

It would be hard to go to Lanzarote and not hear about César Manrique. Born in 1919 he trained as an artist and travelled around the world honing his craft. He returned to Lanzarote in 1966 and encouraged the development of the country in a way that protected its natural and cultural heritage. Two houses he designed are on show and are built into the rocks and lava. His own home incorporates six volcanic air bubbles as living space and Lagomar, Omar Sharif's house, is built into rocks. Both buildings are well worth visiting.

We quickly found restaurants which served good food, and in fact we were spoilt for choice. We couldn't get the TV to work so had a welcome two week break from Brexit! What was there not to like!



The solution to Finlay's Word Puzzle on page 22 of February's Church News:

The answer is that they can all be represented by "Leer" in different European languages:

Leer = a lecherous glance in English

Leer = to read in Spanish

Leer = empty in German

Leer = scythes in Danish

Leer = leather in Dutch (and Afrikaans)

(Ik) leer (somewhat confusingly) = (I am) learning in Dutch (and Afrikaans)

IBRA READINGS FOR MARCH

Psalms of Ascent

Friday 1 March	Psalm 126
Saturday 2 March	Psalm 127
Sunday 3 March	Psalm 131
Monday 4 March	Psalm 132
Tuesday 5 March	Psalm 133, 134

LENT 1 The way to the desert

Wednesday 6 March	Luke 3:1-14
Thursday 7 March	Luke 3:15-22
Friday 8 March	Luke 3:23-38
Saturday 9 March	Luke 4:1-13

2 Waiting

Sunday 10 March	Psalm 27:1-14
Monday 11 March	Psalm 40:1-8
Tuesday 12 March	Lamentations 3:25-33
Wednesday 13 March	Psalm 130:1-18
Thursday 14 March	Habakkuk 2:1-4
Friday 15 March	Psalm 69:1-15
Saturday 16 March	Isaiah 30:15-18

3 Stillness

Sunday 17 March	Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
Monday 18 March	Ezekiel 3:22-27
Tuesday 19 March	Psalm 46:1-11
Wednesday 20 March	Psalm 62:1-8
Thursday 21 March	Psalm 39:1-9
Friday 22 March	Psalm 4:1-8
Saturday 23 March	1 Kings 19:11-13

4 Seeking

Sunday 24 March	1 Chronicles 28:9
Monday 25 March	Proverbs 2:1-11
Tuesday 26 March	Jeremiah 29:11-14
Wednesday 27 March	Isaiah 26:7-12
Thursday 28 March	Isaiah 55:6-13
Friday 29 March	Psalm 77:1-15
Saturday 30 March	Colossians 3:1-11

5 Finding

Sunday 31 March	Habakkuk 3:17-19a
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Regular Activities

Sunday:	Messy Church (monthly, but Sundays vary)
15.30	
Monday:	
10.00	Parents & Toddlers (during school terms)
Tuesday:	
19.30	Book Club (third Tuesday monthly) Speak to Linda Austin or Katie Frost for location
Wednesday:	
10.00	Tots' Praise
13.10	Lunchtime Service
14.00 & 19.30	Faith Studies – check date & frequency of courses
Thursday:	
19.00	International Friendship Café
19.30	Line Dancing
Friday:	
13.00	Friday Prayers
14.00	Quiz afternoon for Foyer guests (second Friday monthly)
14.00	Ballroom & Latin American dancing with Lyn
22.00	All night prayers and Street Pastors (until 04.00)
Saturday:	
10.00	Stay and Play (third Saturday monthly)
22.00	All night prayers and Street Pastors (until 04.00)

How to contribute to Church News:

Contributions on matters of reflection and opinion as well as reports of activities are welcome. Copy for **Church News** must reach the editor, preferably by email, no later than midday on the **second Sunday of the month**.

The next copy deadline is 12 noon on Sunday, 10 March. Editor: Robin Pilbeam

FINANCIAL DONATIONS may be made to the church in a number of ways, including via our “My Donate” page, accessible through every page of our website at www.kingstonurc.org. You can also pay directly into our bank account: sort code 20-46-76, account number 33054942. If you would like more information on giving to KURC, please ask any elder.

Kingston United Reformed Church is a member of the **Local Ecumenical Project** in Kingston Town Centre with its partner, **All Saints Parish Church** in the Market Place.

The town centre ministers meet regularly.

*We are a part of **Churches Together in Kingston**.*

*Kingston URC is also affiliated with the **Presbyterian Church of Korea (PCK)**
and the **Presbyterian Church of the Republic of Korea (PROK)***

Thank you to Mail Boxes Etc. 29 Castle Street, Kingston, KT1 1ST, for printing Church News.
Tel: 020 8547 1547 e-mail: info@mbekingston.co.uk

You can also keep in touch with worship and activities at our church through our website: www.kingstonurc.org. You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Kingston United Reformed Church – Information

A warm invitation is given to all who read this magazine to come and share in our services and activities

The Sanctuary is open for private prayer with access via the foyer.

Coffee and Tea: Our foyer is normally open every weekday and Saturday from 11.00 until 14.00 for coffee and tea.

Need to talk to someone about a problem or concern? There is sometimes a designated listener available in the foyer; if not, please speak to the coffee server or contact Lesley Charlton.

Our Sunday Services:

10.00 – Traditional Worship (with communion first Sunday monthly)

11.30 – All Age Worship (with communion on the last Sunday monthly)

18.30 – Reflective Worship (with communion on the third Sunday monthly)

On the **second Sunday** of each month a **combined service at 10.30** replaces the 10.00 and 11.30 services

Tea and coffee are served between the 10.00 and 11.30 services, before the 10.30 service on the second Sunday and after the 18.30 service

During the 10.00, 10.30 and 11.30 services there are **group activities for children** of all ages. Visiting children are welcome to join them.

Ministers:

Rev Lesley M Charlton, tel: 020 8399 4423 e-mail: minister@kingstonurc.org

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Treasurer:

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Youth & Families Worker:

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Mission Development Worker through Music:

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Centre Manager:

Catherine Treweek

Operations Assistant:

Stuart Chandler

Monday – Friday: 09.00 – 17.00

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