

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH NEWS

The church that welcomes one and all with closed doors (temporarily)

Blair Country



Sam Blair writes, Dear All, As there is a little bit of talk in some quarters about holidays as we get closer to August, I thought about what that means for me. Well the above picture pretty much says it all – sun, sea and sand (and of course wonderful company!).

For those of you who are not sure where this was taken, it's the view from the car park looking down on Beauport. Millie and I

walked down the path and then huffed and puffed our way up the steps – if only we had taken our swimming kit! Until the next newsletter. Sam x

Lockdown News

This week's person responding to the questionnaire about coming out of lockdown is our very own Val Park:

Q.: Have you used the weeks/months to concentrate on a hobby which you had little time for prior to the lockdown?

Val: I have always Enjoyed painting in watercolour but found that in the lockdown my style has taken a new direction. The "old masters" are now my target, with a few alterations.

Q.: Have you surprised yourself with a new skill?

Val.: My cooking techniques have improved. Particularly home-made cheese sauce with no flour and also a new tomato sauce.

Q.: Have you a special appreciation for a thing/person (s) who made your time in lockdown easier?

Val: Sasha Gibbs from the Art Gallery in Hill Street helped me by picking out one of my paintings that she liked so that I can enter it into a competition. A lady artist I already know will help me enter.

Q.: *What are you looking forward to doing as the lockdown eases?*

Val: I really must learn more computer skills. Also eating in restaurants. I ate in Voisins the other day and it was great.

Q.: *Have you felt God's presence more strongly/less strongly in the past few months?*

Val: Certainly I have felt God's presence more strongly in the past few months.

Q.: *Is there anything you wish to carry on doing after lockdown eases, that you weren't doing before it happened in March?*

Val: Carry on painting.

Your attention please; we are pleased to announce the arrival of... Sinclair Calling

Musings from Jim Sinclair, The past week has seen a couple of disappointments, both related to my birthday on 25th July. In June Christel ordered me a copy of the reprinted British Rail Corporate Identity Manual (many of you may remember I used to work for BR). Maybe you didn't realise it but BR's rebranding in the mid 1960s has been recognised as one of the most successful ever by a large organisation. Their manual is still held up as one of the best in the world. Everything about the organisation had to be rebranded and the BR letters font (rail alphabet) on signage is considered to be the clearest of all time. Long story short, there was no sign of it mid July so she contacted the sellers. They sent another one and yep, you guessed it, that never arrived by the big day. Still no sign. The much maligned BR, although a butt of jokes, was, in the mid 1980s, running more 100 MPH plus trains per day than the whole of Europe combined.



The second disappointment was a planned trip to the Echreous booked for Monday 27th July. This was cancelled due to high winds. It is rebooked for Friday 31st July. Birthdays, who'd have 'em? Well, all of us actually, else this column wouldn't appear.

On top of these I revisited Grosnez on Tuesday night to see the comet Neowise. What with wispy cloud and a gibbous, bright Moon, this proved impossible. However, in the wee small hours early on Wednesday morning I looked out the back at Chez Sinclair in First Tower and even with the street and house lights I did manage to spot it to the left of the Plough through the binoculars, though it was just like a fuzzy star. The tail was not much in evidence. So farewell Neowise it was nice seeing you.

Church Walk - 19 August at 2pm

Sam Blair writes, We will have our first church walk on Wed 19 August. It will be a familiar one for all and will start at my house – the reason for this is so that we can all have a lovely cup of tea and a socially distancing chinwag in my garden afterwards!

Please, please could you let me know in advance if you plan to come so that I know how many we will be. As always any problems contact me on 07797 754532 or email me on samgblair@gmail.com

Competition News

Last week's quiz questions all had the answer, 17, 18, 19 or 20. A bumper mailbox and excellent answers with C. Ludlow having a week off. Winners this week are B. Bennie, E & B Glover

Answers: 1. 19, 2. 20, 3. 17, 4. 20, 5. 20, 6. 18, 7. 19, 8. 17, 9. 18, 10. 20

This Week's Competition

Inspired by Jean's recent singing at our Sunday service, this week's quiz is all about music. You have a while...deadline is 19 August.

1. Pete Best was the "fifth" member of which pop group?
2. Which seven-letter word, beginning with "v" is the name of an Anglican evening service?
3. What does the abbreviation "SATB" stand for in choir music?
4. Who recorded the song "Heartbreak Hotel" in 1956?
5. How many sections (e.g. brass) are typically in a symphony orchestra: 3, 4, 5 or 6?
6. If award-winning musician Evelyn Glennie was playing in an orchestra, which section would she be in?
7. Gary Barlow, Howard Donald and Mark Owen are members of what British boy-band? (4, 4)?
8. "Hepsaoonx" is an anagram of which musical instrument?

9. Which pop group had a hit with "Tragedy" in 1998? (Clue: there are 399 of these in Big Ben, 1,576 in the Empire State Building, 2,909 in the Burj Khalifa and 14 in the manse).
10. Crash, hi-hat, suspended and finger are types of what musical instrument?
11. R&B is short for which style of music that originated in African-American communities in the 1940's?
12. How many symphonies did Beethoven finish? (5, 9, 13, 17)?
13. The Scottish accordion player Jimmy Shand was brought up where: Glasgow, Auchtermuchty, Stonehaven or Mallaig?
14. One of these is not an instruction to a musician. Which one: Andante, Adagio, Allegro, Albinoni?
15. Sarah Brightman and which opera singer recorded "Time to say goodbye"?

[That seems like an appropriate question to end with. Ed.]

Twitter News

@stephenaltrogge

25 Jul

I have a joke about modern worship.
 I have a joke about modern worship.
 I have a joke about modern worship.
 I have a joke about modern worship.
 I have a joke about modern worship.
 I have a joke about modern worship.

Replying to

@stephenaltrogge

1. I have a
 2. Joke about
 3. Preaching sermons
- Let us pray.

@margarethouston

25 Jul

I have a joke about children's ministry but
 I wonder what YOU think it is.

And Finally...Fact News

Courtesy of Katie Bennie:

- February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon;
- Babies are born without kneecaps;
- Scissors were invented by Leonardo Da Vinci;
- A goldfish has a memory span of 3 seconds;
- Almonds are members of the peach family;
- A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds [Sigh. Ed.];
- "Race car", "kayak" and "level" sound the same whether they are read left to right or right to left.

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Please send complaints to the Editor

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