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Online Edition

# ST PETER'S CHURCH BRACKLEY



**“LOVING GOD,  
LOVING EACH OTHER,  
LOVING BRACKLEY”**



## **Rev. Rich Duncan writes...**



What's in a name?

We all know what it's like to see the same person routinely every weekday on the High Street, each morning on a dog walk, or every Sunday at church, and have absolutely no idea of their name.

We might greet them with a warm smile, exchange pleasantries, even learn something deeply personal about their life story, but all the while we are thinking, 'If only I knew what you were called!' They may be thinking the same thing, but you both know the time for asking has long since passed. On that point there is silent agreement.

Names are very important in the Bible.

God's given name "I AM" (Exodus 3:14) goes to the core of his essence. His name carries all of his power and authority (Acts 4:12, Proverbs 18:10, John 16:23). Famously, the Israelites are commanded, "Do not take the Lord's name in vain," (Exodus 20:7). Then one of the highest blessings in Scripture is when God calls us by name, "I have called you by name; you are mine," (Isaiah 43:1). Jesus, referring to himself, says the Good Shepherd "calls his own sheep by name and leads them out," (John 10:3). Elsewhere, he tells the disciples, "Rejoice that your names are written in heaven," (Luke 10:20).

To be called by name is to be known, and to be known is one of our deepest needs as human beings.

I therefore cringe to think of how often I use the phrase, "Just remind me of your name?" I cringe even more to think how frequently I get the *wrong* name. Sometimes repeatedly and confidently! Profuse apologies if you have been personally affected by my nominal amnesia. I won't be starting a victim support group: it would have too many members. Let's face it, I'm no Canon Peter (if you know, you know).

So what's the solution?

If only there was some form of ingenious technology that could allow us to broadcast our name to everyone we met, without having to say it every time. If only!

Oh wait... there is.

It's called a name tag.

And so, on 5 July and 12 July, we will be having '**Name Tag Sundays**', where everyone will be invited to write their name on a badge as they arrive at church. For some, this idea will instinctively fill you with horror and conjure up memories of awkward parties or tiresome work functions. Nevertheless, enough people have suggested this idea over recent months to give it a go, especially in light of the many new faces at church and our recent sermons on deepening our fellowship. Just two Sundays to mentally log a few monikers before we return once more to our natural British state of reserved anonymity and nameless ignorance.

The time has come to embrace the sticky labels! Be sure to make the most of it. 🙄

WHAT'S IN A NAME





ST PETER'S

# SUMMER PICNIC

SUNDAY 5 JULY



# PRAISE EVENING

**TUESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> JULY, 7.30 PM**

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## Annual Church Quiz

St Peter's Church quiz : Champions retain the crown.

Teams were buzzing for the much loved annual Church Quiz Night. Neighbours , friends, and families formed teams with pun-filled names, ready for an evening of brain-teasers, laughter and community spirit.

At the helm for the first time was Sue Smith, who guided us through rounds that ranged from general knowledge to picture clues .

The room was filled with warm good humour and fun . There were many enthusiastic quizzers in the room.



As scores mounted, it became clear that we were witnessing a sequel to last year's triumph. Congratulations goes to Denise's team on a remarkable back-to-back victory proof that lightning can strike twice when teamwork and trivia collide.

Events like this remind us why the quiz has become a favourite: it brings people together. New faces found a seat at the table; old friends reconnect over shared answers ( and the occasional disagreement) . The atmosphere was warm , the competition friendly and the sense of belonging unmistakable. An unforgettable fish and chips was enjoying by everyone at the interval.

A heartfelt thank you goes to everyone who made the event possible.

If you missed out this year , mark it in your diary for next year. Until then keep your team sharp , read a little, notice a lot , and bring a friend. £548 was made for church funds.

Kath Bell

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### **Miracle at the Table**

Thy table is set, but no lavish spread  
A simple communion of red wine and bread.  
Simple yet holy – where heaven bends low  
That those knelt before Thee Thy true grace may know.

We follow where firstly our Saviour has led  
We listen to words that Jesus first said:  
'This is My body, it's broken for you  
And this is My blood, shed for you too.'

The bread that is broken, the wine seen outpoured  
They tell of the sacrifice made of our Lord.  
His body was broken that we might be saved  
But death was defeated – He rose from the grave!

So, kneel in the stillness of this holy place  
Gladly receiving these tokens of Grace.  
Then go from here knowing His Spirit in you  
Will help you to do what He'd have you do!



*By Nigel Beeton*

2026 sees the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mothers' Union. In 1876 a rector's wife by the name of Mary Sumner started the Mothers' Union, let us find out why she did this.



Mary Haywood was born in 1828 in Swinton, near Manchester. The family moved to Herefordshire where her father was a banker and historian and her mother was described as a woman of "faith, charm and sympathy" who held "mothers' meetings" at her home, maybe this influenced Mary in later life.

When Mary was in her late teens, she visited Rome where she met George Sumner, the son of the Bishop of Winchester. Mary & George married in 1848 after his ordination, and they moved to Old Alresford in 1851. Mary focused on raising their three children and supporting George's ministry with music and Bible classes.

In 1876 the Sumner's eldest daughter gave birth and Mary recalled how difficult she had found the burden of motherhood. She soon decided to invite local women, of all classes, to her home. She wanted to find out if women could be brought together in prayer and mutual support in their roles as wives and mothers. That meeting at the Old Alresford rectory was the inaugural meeting of the Mothers' Union.

The meetings were only held in Old Alresford for the first 11 years but in 1885 The Bishop of Newcastle asked her to speak at the Portsmouth Church Congress, she gave an ardent speech about the poor state of national morality and asked the women to use their ability as mothers to change the nation for the better. Some of the women went back to their parishes and soon the Mothers' Union had spread to the dioceses of Ely, Exeter, Hereford, Lichfield and Newcastle. By 1892, there were already 60,000 members in 28 dioceses, and by 1900 there were 169,000 members.



By the time Mary died in 1921, she had seen Mothers' Union become an international organisation of prayer and good purpose.

### **Would you like to hear more from St Peter's?**

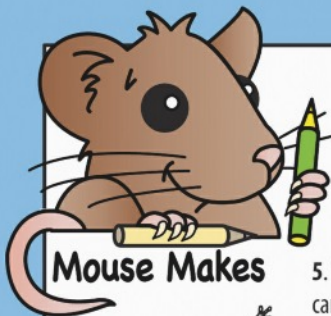
If you would like to receive an update by email from Rich every few weeks, including news and information of upcoming events at St Peter's, you can subscribe to the email list by sending an email to [brackleyvicar@gmail.com](mailto:brackleyvicar@gmail.com) and ask to receive the bulletin

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## Mouse Makes

1. What bird makes its nest on high?  
*Job 39:27*



2. What ate the seeds along the path?  
*Matthew 13:4*



3. The hair of which animal was used to make curtains?  
*Exodus 36:14*

4. What insect can we learn from?  
*Proverbs 6:6*

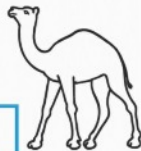
7. Which animal was Jesus compared to?  
*John 1:29*



5. What plague came out of the River Nile?  
*Exodus 8:6*



6. What animal would go through the eye of a needle easier than a rich person?  
*Luke 18:25*



**B I B L E**

8. What bird did Noah release from the ark first?  
*Genesis 8:7*



9 across.  
In what creature's mouth was a coin found?  
*Matthew 17:27*



9 down.  
What lives in holes?  
*Matthew 8:20*



12. Which bird did the Holy Spirit appear as?  
*Luke 3:22*

15. What insects did John eat in the wilderness?  
*Matthew 3:4*



13. Which animal did Jesus ride on?  
*Matthew 21:7*

14. What bird did God provide for food in the wilderness?  
*Exodus 16:13*



10. What insect would God send to destroy the enemy?  
*Deut 7:20*



11. What animals eat crumbs from under the table?  
*Matthew 15:27*



16. Which animal is the "mightiest among beasts"?  
*Proverbs 30:30*

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