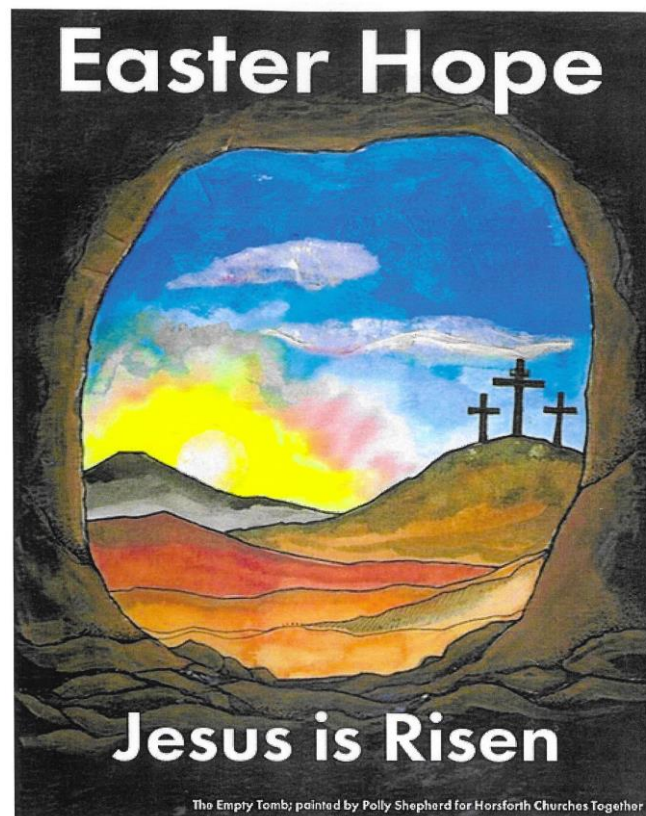


GROVE VINE

Online Edition

The Magazine of
Grove Methodist Church
Horsforth, Leeds
April 2021



The Grove Methodist Church is called to respond to the Gospel of love in Jesus Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship, service and mission

Minister – Rev Mark Godfrey

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Minister's letter

Dear Friends,

The Easter story is an amazing one. It is stranger than fiction, yet it is wonderfully true. It has been said that there isn't a horror story with more horror, or a love story with more love. It began with apparent defeat but ended in glorious victory. It happened two thousand years ago in Jerusalem, but its effect has spread over the whole world. It seemed that the power of evil had succeeded in destroying all that Jesus came to do, but God used these events to bring new life.

On the day that Jesus died, his disciples and friends were in despair. Their hopes and dreams were shattered. They did not realise that God was not defeated but was at work in these traumatic events. After three days, Jesus was given back to the world alive and free.

Now, two thousand years later, he is still the central figure in life and history, offering his love and peace to all who open themselves to him. Through all the events of Easter God is not saying to us, "Here is an illustration of life; learn from it". The good news is far greater than that. God is saying to us, "Here is life; receive it". We are called upon to share in the resurrection life of Jesus, not just to learn from it.

I hope and pray that Easter may be for you a time of new life and hope and strength.

With best wishes,

Mark





Just to let you know that it has come to our attention that there is a scammer at work in the area. His working method is to arrive at the door and claim that he has done some work for which he needs to be paid. When money is given there is little the police can do about it if no threats or force are used, it is deemed to have been given voluntarily. The advice is do not give money to those who turn up on the doorstep.

Church Family News.....

Please remember in your prayers all those known to us who face a variety of difficulties; bereavement; health problems; anxiety about loved ones and loneliness.

We ask for your prayers for Jean Orton as she recovers her strength.

David Hall died suddenly on March 2nd. His funeral was on 23rd March.

Gladys Pagden would like to say Thank You to everyone who has sent cards and messages of sympathy following the death of Hilary on 3rd March. Your thoughts and prayers are very much appreciated. Hilary's funeral will take place on Wednesday 7th April.

Funeral

18th March Barbara Bainbridge

Thought for the month

And, in the end, it's not the years in your life that count, it's the life in your years

Abraham Lincoln

BELIEVE the WOMEN

Good Friday



*Matthew 27 v55/56: "Many women were there [at the cross] watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to care for his needs. "

*Matthew 27 v61: Joseph of Arimathea lays Jesus in his tomb and rolls the stone across the entrance. "Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there across from the tomb."

Easter Sunday

*Matthew 28 v 1-10

"After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb....."

The angel said, "Go quickly and tell his disciples 'he has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee..... so the women hurried away from the tomb. Afraid, yet filled with joy, they ran to tell the disciples....."

"Suddenly Jesus met them 'Greetings' he said.....

Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."



An Easter Sunday Prayer

Lord Jesus, here we are, your (2021) disciples.

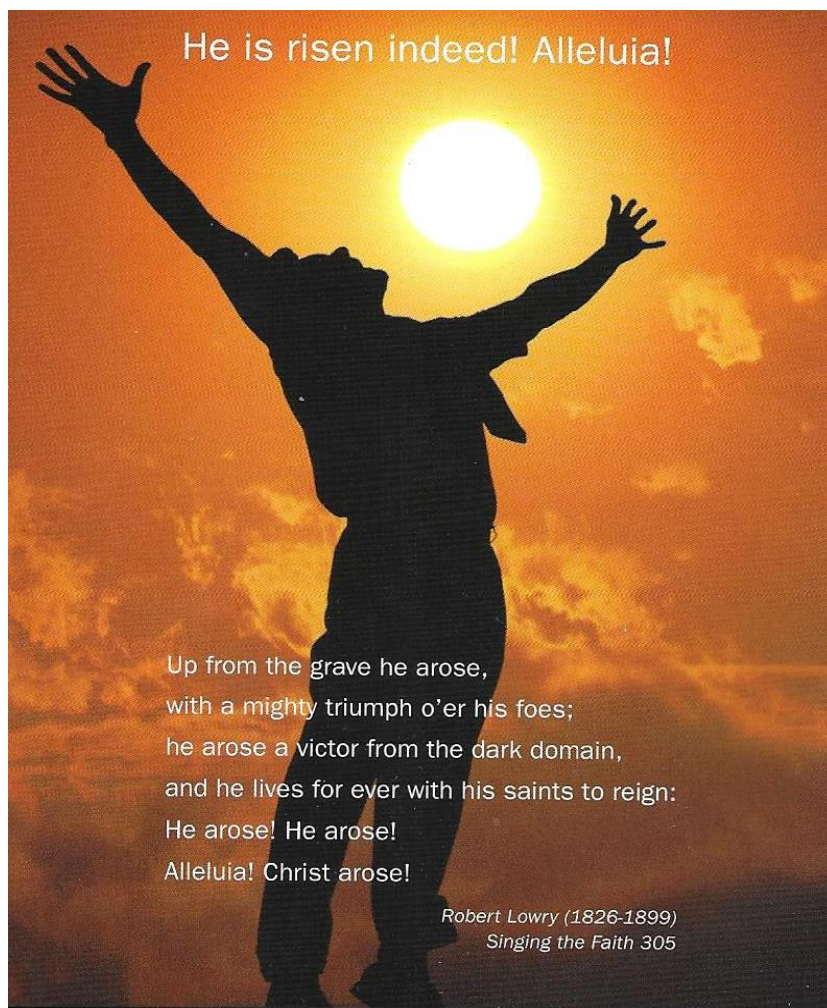
At times we have been the frightened ones, keeping our distance. But you come close to us, bringing peace and challenge; unlocking our potential.

At times we have been the doubting ones. But you come close to us and allow us to speak our mind; accepting us and setting us free.

At times we have been the confused ones, with unanswered questions.

The risen Christ says to us (John 20 v19-22) "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me I am sending you. Receive the Holy Spirit."

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An Outing to Iraq?

I have always felt attracted to the rich fertile land known as Mesopotamia, the land between the Tigris and Euphrates, the traditional site of the Garden of Eden, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon and the city of Nineveh (and its link with Jonah). But now is not the best time to arrange a visit.

And so, like many others, I was surprised that Pope Francis was making a visit there. Iraq is not the most welcoming place for a Christian leader, I thought. Would it be safe? And is it wise for any prominent leader to make visits, attracting large crowds, during the current epidemic? There were 10,000 people at a final rally, which was surely rather risky.

The security staff would be relieved that, after a two day visit, he arrived safely back home. Presumably the medical staff hope there will be no rise in virus infections.

But what an impact it must have had on the Christians there, or at least, the ones who remain. Iraq has one of the oldest continuous Christian communities. Estimates vary, but in 2003 there were around one and a half million. In 2020 a mere 150,000. For the first time in Mosul's history there were no Christians left.

Persecution has been their lot in the past, but never more so than during the time of ISIS. 243 cathedrals and churches were destroyed. A special tax was levied and : convert to Islam or die.

As the Pope said: "How cruel it is that this country, the cradle of civilisation, should have been afflicted by so barbarous a blow."

He met the leading Shia cleric, the Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani in a dramatic gesture, as a means of demonstrating reconciliation. It is hoped that this will help in stabilising the country and bringing people together.

Not only in Iraq, but in many parts of the world, Christians are being persecuted , in greater numbers than any other faith. They need our prayers.

Peter Reasbeck

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Solutions to March Puzzles

Small Crossword: Across: 1 Abraham, 5 Sects, 8 Owe, 9 Landlines, 10 Lemon, 12 Antioch, 13 Salome, 15 Asides, 18 Ariosos, 19 Titus, 20 Emulation, 21 Awe, 22 Aleph, 23 Miletus.

Down: 1 Apollos, 2 Rue, 3 Helen, 4 Menial, 5 Salutes, 6 Concordat, 7 Susah, 11 Multitude, 14 Meshach, 16 Sisters, 17 Ostium, 18 Arena, 19 Tonal, 21 Apt.

Add a letter: HEROD, SIMON, TITUS, SILAS, RHODA, FELIX.

Tony Orton

An Easter Memory

Easter 1958 was approaching and I was due to come home from university for the vacation. Gill and I arranged with our friends and fellow Methodist members, John and Jo, to spend that weekend at the Methodist Guild Holiday's Willersley Castle, near Cromford in the Derbyshire Dales (almost if not quite as lovely as the Yorkshire ones!)



On the Saturday the manager announced that there was need of a preacher on the evening of Easter Day at a chapel in the nearby village of Holloway. John and I volunteered to take the service as I had recently become a fully-accredited local preacher and John was to become one. There was little time to prepare what with all the outings and activities at Willersley but John and I worked hard to oblige.

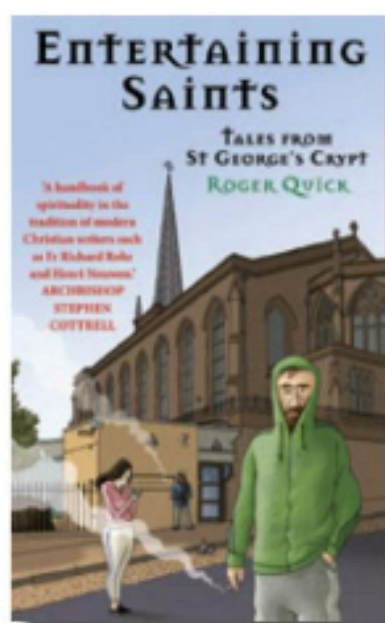
We duly arrived at the relevant chapel (or so we thought). We didn't think that the vestry stewards were particularly welcoming and we were soon to find out why. We were about to have the vestry prayer when the door burst open and another man presented himself as the appointed preacher and we were advised that we were probably expected at the other Methodist chapel in the same village which was an ex-Primitive Methodist one whereas where we had arrived was the ex-Wesleyan one! It should be noted that the various Methodist churches nationally had united in 1932 but still many buildings had not been closed. Both of those in Holloway were still very much carrying on in their own traditions! John and I beat a hasty retreat through the church, duly picking up Jo and Gill who were waiting for the service to begin, and hurried up the road to the other one, full of apologies for our lateness. After a somewhat frosty welcome however, we thought the service went quite well.

Sadly, Willersley Castle closed last March 2020, and the last remaining Guild hotel, Treloyhan Manor in Cornwall, is now up for sale. We had greatly valued the friendship, fun and fellowship they always offered.

Fortunately, since the early 1970s we have gone to the two-yearly Methodist Summer Fellowship (MSF) at The Hayes in Swanwick and will be going again this year to receive our two-yearly injection of what is on offer.

Albert Jewell

Roger Quick, *Entertaining Saints*, DLT Sept. 2020, 160 pages,
ISBN-10: 0232534896, ISBN-13: 978-0232534894, £7.69



Entertaining Saints is a book born of the author's wisdom, experience, and deep compassion for the quirky, hurting, despondent, mixed-up, sometimes frustrating, often highly intelligent, always care-worn individuals who together make up the users of St George's Crypt. Roger Quick gives us fleeting glimpses into the lives of a cross-section of humanity; each an individual with his or her own needs and issues, hopes and cares. Here are people who have been impacted by the vagaries and misfortunes of life, too 'wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world' (to quote the old prayer) to be able to keep on top of life's demands. The fact that most of the characters are depicted on a single page makes for

easy reading. Or rather the structure of the book makes it easy to pick up and put down (though I picked it up and didn't put it down until I had finished it) for in another sense it is anything but an easy read.

The book provides a glimpse into the broad range of situations that the staff and volunteers at the Crypt face on a daily basis, and paints insightful and incisive pen portraits that bring the characters to life, whilst respecting their dignity and preserving their anonymity. The individuals who feature are not clones; we do not read about 'generic down-and-outs' devoid of personality, identity and backstories, as though those who have fallen on hard times or are finding life tough can be lumped together – 'them' as distinct from 'us'. Nor is this a book of sermons. There is challenge certainly, and there are also many small indications of just how paper-thin the line can be between holding down a career, a stable home and family life on the one hand, and finding oneself on the streets on the other, but the reader is certainly not being preached at in any conventional sense. The snapshots of people's lives that we are given, comical, tragic and often tragicomic, are sometimes deliberately left hanging slightly, compelling the reader to think for him or herself. It is not a book of tidy endings, nor does it set out to shock, shocking as some of it might be; it is likely to leave the reader wanting to laugh or cry, or laugh and cry.

One highly commendable feature of *Entertaining Saints* is the way in which the author is very present without taking centre stage, sometimes stepping in and at other times leaving the words of others to speak for themselves. His humour is evident on almost every page – perhaps that is why he can do the job

he does – and the writing style is light and informal without being flippant or casual. This all leads to a nice balance; the book is neither dominated by nor devoid of the personality of its author.

Could it have included more backstories? Undoubtedly so, and they might have led to a deeper grasp and a greater understanding of the predicaments that had led people to the Crypt. Could it have been written as a heavier-weight tome and presented some theory to undergird its message? Certainly, and some, those training for public ministry for example, might have valued something more approaching a textbook. But had it attempted to do/be either of these it would not have been the book it is. *Entertaining Saints* plays delightfully on the words of the title. The ‘Saints’ who use the Crypt and who are portrayed here remind us of both the fragility and the resilience of the human heart; of the need that we all have for love, for touch, for compassion; of the importance of places where, whatever life brings, we can be heard, and helped to see that our fundamental dignity and worth count for something. This is a book that reminds us not only that all are made in God’s image, but that that image is indelible.

Cathy Rowling,

(Interim) Dean of Pastoral Studies, The College of the Resurrection

Beryl Thompson writes:

Thank you to David Quick for his lovely story about his brother Roger. I remember Roger well from his university days in Leeds. At that time I worked in the bank on the campus so came across Roger regularly. I’ll leave you to work out why for yourselves.

The next time I met him after that was when he was at the Church of the Epiphany in Gipton where a very dear friend of mine was the Vicar. He was then the Reverend Stuart Burns and I always went to the Midnight Mass service on Christmas Eve. That is when I met Roger again. I remember him as a very talented musician. Roger moved on from there and Stuart went to be a monk at Burford Priory in Oxfordshire. The Monks sold Burford and had a new place, Mucknell Abbey, built in Stoulton in Worcestershire. Stuart was the Abbot there for 10 years until his age said he had to step down. Hopefully, Howard and I will be able to go down and see Stuart later this year and I will take the copy of *The Vine* with me. Stuart always remembers Roger fondly.

A year last December, Howard and I went to a Masonic service in Central Methodist in Brighouse. Who was there, but Roger Quick. I managed to have a word with him and talk about how I knew him and my connection with Stuart. I can tell you that Roger cringed when I told him I remembered him for his university days.

It was so good to read his full story. Thank you David.

Puzzle Page: 1. For All The Saints Wordsearch 2

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

The names of thirty-two saints, all associated with Britain and Ireland, are hidden within the grid.

Can you find them all? They may go

L↔R, up↔down or diagonally.

But wait! One name seems to have gone missing! Which of the names do you think is missing from the grid?

2. Conundrums Can you sort out the four jumbled words?

CABLE TREE	This word means 'engage in festivities'
CURT SPIRE	This word describes sacred writings
IN NEAT CAR	It means 'embodied in human form'
SEND A CLAM	This day marks Christ's presentation in the temple

3. Countdown numbers

You need to combine the given numbers using +, −, ×, and ÷ (/), and each of the six numbers must be used just once.	Given numbers						Target
	50	9	2	6	2	9	290
	75	50	1	4	6	8	560
	50	10	2	2	9	5	645
	50	5	2	6	8	5	409

§

Meandering Round Our Monads

It is now a year since the first lockdown and the brakes were put on to stop all our social activities. One of the things for us was the end of our indoor meetings and field trips with the Bradford Botany Group. Our botany group suggested we might like to adopt a monad to study and compile a list of all the wild plants growing on our doorsteps. Monad? I had no idea what a monad was! I do now though! Its a 1km x 1km square on an ordnance survey map. Needless to say when we got the map out we live practically on the longitudinal line which runs roughly down the centre of the King George VI playing fields along Westbrook Lane. Consequently we decided to adopt 2 monads so we could decide on any given day whether to turn left or right out of our gate.

For many of us local exercise walks have been the order of the day and often a highlight of a day. Walking along a footpath just beyond North Ives Farm we met a fellow “Vine Reader” and stopped to enjoy a chat.

With our notebook and pencil in hand, and binoculars round our necks, he wanted to know what we were “up to”. I explained. He made the following suggestion “Why don’t you write an article for the Vine?”

I was somewhat doubtful. “Its all about Horsforth and of interest....and I would certainly read it!” said he.

So yes, it's about plants, but more than that – for we have discovered streets, lanes, ginnels we have never walked along before – met lots of people for chats – and actually found a few plants we had never encountered before. By taking photos and e-mailing them to our Group they have helped with identification. One sample was even sent to a national expert for confirmation. Its been interesting to see how the pattern alters as the year progresses : an ever changing picture. It reminds me of that hymn “*Through all the changing scenes of life, in trouble and in joy, the praises of my God shall still my heart and tongue employ*” which also seems to sum up this last year.

The results of all our wanderings are that in square SE23-39 which roughly takes in a pond in Trinity University, Southway, Whetstone Wood, Scotland Lane area, Ling Bob, we saw 207 species. In the other monad SE23-38 which covers Hunger Hills, Church Lane and

the waste-ground there (possibly soon to be turned into tennis courts for Horsforth School), the roads on the Hall Park estate and the top half of Hall Park, we recorded 241 species. These results have been sent to the Wild Flower Society which is a national body and for whom we do other surveys. For instance the first week in March we note any plants that have started to bloom and when the results are published it paints an interesting picture. Members in the Channel Islands will have a list of 170 or more, a member in Inverness is lucky to get 10, and here in Yorkshire we will get between 40 and 65 depending on what sort of winter it has been.

Data. We've heard a lot of that word this last year. All surveys rely on lots of input, however small or seemingly trivial, ("from little acorns do big oak trees grow" so the saying goes). We have enjoyed our exercise walks peering at the pavements and waste-ground around Horsforth and are set to take on a different monad this year, but will still check the others to see what new plants pop up!

A hobby is a happy thing to have.



"Scarlet Red Peony" Opium Poppy

By wall outside St.Margaret's Church, Church Lane



Rock Cranesbill, Whetstone Wood



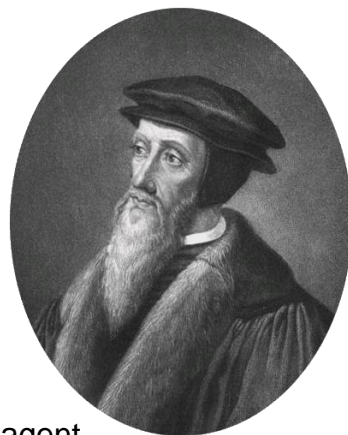
Salmonberry *rubus parviflorus*, edge of King George VI playing fields

Rita Grainger

The Swiss Reformation of the 16th Century:

The Life of Jehan Cauvin or Jean Calvin

Jehan Cauvin, who became the third great reformer in the European Reformation of the 16th century, was born in France at Noyon in Picardy. This was his name then in mediaeval style French spelling and pronunciation. French language changed in the 16th century in both these aspects, influenced by the growing interest during the Renaissance in Greek and Latin literature, with an adoption of their words. Thereafter Jehan Cauvin became known as Jean Calvin.



Calvin was well educated. His father was a 'procureur', a legal agent handling matters between church and state. He wanted his son to be a priest. That is why Calvin chose to study theology at the University of Paris and then law at the Universities of Orleans and Bourges. He met German students and started to identify with their ideas from Martin Luther. We already know that he became active in Paris in the growth of religious reform, whence he fled to seek refuge from the persecution of King François I. He went to Strasbourg, then travelled to seek refuge in Basel, Switzerland. Having established himself there he published, in 1536, a book which has made him famous called 'Institutio Christianae Religionis' or 'An Instruction in Christian Religion'.

The first edition was written in Latin, the language of the church, in elegant and precise style. It opened with an address to the King of France pleading for toleration of the newly formed church in his country, followed by six chapters regarding his thoughts on what should be the nature of christian belief. He wrote about the corruption of mankind and the necessity of the grace of God for all sinners. This was nothing new, but he then introduced something new, the idea of predestination.

Predestination became a major idea in his preaching and teaching throughout his life in Geneva. Human beings, he stressed, through the strong will of God, are selected before birth, as to those who will be saved and those who will not. The ones to be saved - the elect - will be rewarded with eternal life. Those who will not be saved will face damnation. None would know during life, he warned, into which category they would be placed. No good works, he predicted, would change the situation, nor would feelings of pride or fear. God's will would come to pass for each individual.

He made numerous revisions of his book. Later editions appeared in contemporary French for his readers with 80 extra chapters. Historians have long discussed where his ideas came from. It is thought that he was influenced as a student by the works of St Augustine of Hippo and the Epistles of St Paul. Certainly these two names appeared in disputations or public controversies during his lifetime. As a student I remember having to study this book as a set text. Like the other seven students I chose the version - a huge book like an atlas - in modern French! The original text would have taken months to read!

From Basle, Calvin transferred to Geneva but his way was blocked by the military. He only wished to stay one night there! Geneva, a small city, had been governed by the Duke of Savoy, whose territory was in south-west France. The Duke withdrew, defeated in battle. The catholic church also owned land there and the city of Berne, not too far away, had interest in reforming the place. Another French refugee known to Calvin, Guillaume Farel, begged Calvin to stay in Geneva and lead a reformation of the city. Calvin succumbed to the invitation and would lead the way to a reformed religion, away from catholicism, that would eventually successfully spread into Europe.

Christine Mathers

From the Editorial Group

Note that the Editorial Teams alternate..... n.b. the May issue will be prepared by Paul and Jenny and you should send items to them no later than 5pm on Wednesday 21st April. Please include details up to 6th June.

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