

THE ROCK

FREE
Issue 8

PEOPLE | REVIEWS | WHAT'S ON | LOCAL INTERESTS



The Rock is the quarterly magazine of the Costa Blanca Anglican Chaplaincy. For the people about the people whoever you are!

Message from the Editor

Happy Easter everyone!

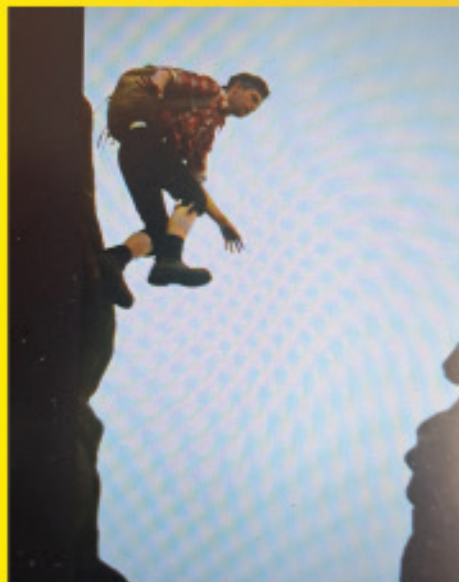
I was just looking through issue's 1 and 4 which came out over the past Easter periods and now we are on issue 8. Two years of The Rock have flown. In issue 4 I wrote that Easter represents the triumph of good over evil with our saviour Jesus Christ giving his life for our sins then rising from the dead. Now we are approaching Easter 2025 and I with many others pray that this year will see an end to some if not all evil in this world. Especially in Ukraine and the Middle East.

Also in this issue I have repeated Fr Rodney's excellent article from issue 1 "Lent to Easter and their Traditions explained." If you are like me I do need reminding of each part of Lent to Easter and what each represents.

Let us approach this Easter understanding the opportunity that Jesus Christ has given us in this earthly life and our hopes for the life to come.

Wishing you all a peaceful Easter and Joy in the year to come.

Ed.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Online services

Father Rodney and Father Robin continue to stream a service on Facebook each week. Due to early commitments most Sundays this service will usually be on Saturday at 7pm, but occasionally on Sunday at 10am. Simply open Facebook and search 'Rodney Middleton'. You can also open his Facebook page to check the time of the service, which will be confirmed on Saturday morning. The Service is available for viewing at any time after the live stream.

We have our very own Facebook group page, so please look for Albir, La Fustera and Gandia Anglican Church on Facebook, like it and follow it. For information to be included please mail David on dhernandezmitchell@gmail.com

If you have a story you would like to publish in The Rock, then please email it to me. Sports news, jokes or quiz questions are all welcome.

Or if you would like to advertise in The Rock please contact the editor. davidwarblers@gmail.com

"If you know of someone who is alone, give them a call and have a chat!"

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Love



Love is patient and kind.
Love is not jealous or boastful
Or proud or rude.
It does not demand its own way.
It is not irritable, and it keeps no
Record of being wrong.
It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices
Whenever the truth wins out.
Love never gives up, never loses faith,
is always hopeful,
And endures through every circumstance.
1 Corinthians 13:4-7



Easter Message

From Fr. Paul Dean

*Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is
Risen indeed! Alleluia!*

When Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early on that first Easter morning, she went with a heavy heart, expecting to find the dead body of her Lord Jesus Christ. Instead, she found an empty tomb. What was she to make of it? Three days earlier, she watched Jesus die right in front of her, hanging on a cross. Grief stricken, all she could imagine was that someone must have stolen His body.

She had forgotten the words of Jesus when He told the disciples not only of His coming death, but also of His resurrection on the third day.

"We are going to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn Him to death and will hand Him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day He will be raised to life!" Those words from Matthew 20:18-19.

It wasn't until Jesus appeared and spoke to Mary calling her by name, while she stood weeping at His empty tomb, that she was finally able to hear Jesus and believe that He had risen from the dead and was alive.

Filled with joy and excitement, Mary Magdalene went to the disciples and said,

"I have seen the Lord!" Jesus had indeed risen from the dead, conquering the power of sin and death, paving the way for Mary Magdalene and you and I and all who believe in Him and follow Him as Lord and Savior to have eternal life as inheritors of God's heavenly kingdom.

Mary couldn't help but go and share the Good News of Jesus' resurrection with the others. We too are called to share this good news of Jesus Christ within our Chaplaincy today.

There are many who have difficulty in believing the Christian message of the resurrection, perhaps they have never met the risen Lord Jesus Christ; the One who loves them more than they could ever imagine; the One who can help them through all the trials and tribulations and sorrows of life; the One for whom nothing is impossible. The Lord is calling each of us to be the face of Jesus here on the Costa Blanca. May I take this opportunity to invite you to any of our services over the Easter season and may the risen Christ continue to bless you and keep you safe.

*Happy Easter! "Alleluia, Christ has risen!
He is risen indeed, Alleluia!"*

This page is sponsored by Roger Davis

LENT and EASTER



and their TRADITIONS

LENT is the 'getting ready time' before Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday and traditionally lasts for 40 days - following the tradition of Jesus's 40 days in the wilderness. But if you count up the days from Ash Wednesday to Easter Day you'll find there are more than 40 days - that's because we don't count Sundays, which are always celebrations of the resurrection. Lent comes from an Old English word meaning 'spring' and, in the northern hemisphere at least, Lent always falls in springtime.

And so Lent, for Christians, has traditionally become a time for spiritual spring-cleaning. Ash Wednesday - the first day of Lent - this year falls on March 5th.

Even before Lent begins, there are traditions which have grown up:

Pre-Lent traditions

Lent has always been a period of 'fasting' in the Christian Church - a time when certain foods were abstained from as an exercise in self-discipline.

This usually meant meat and other animal products - like milk, eggs, and anything to do with animal fat, like lard, dripping etc. So before Lent began you had to use up these 'banned' products.

This gave rise to our tradition of 'Pancake Tuesday' - originally the day when you used

up the eggs, milk and fat which would be banned for the rest of Lent.

These days some people might give up sugar for Lent - or even alcohol! Speaking personally, 24 years ago on Ash Wednesday I gave up smoking. (I called it 'No-Ash Wednesday!') And I haven't had a cigarette since...

SHROVE TUESDAY - as it is known in England gets its name from the old word 'shrive', meaning to receive forgiveness. And so Shrove Tuesday is traditionally the day when Christians were shriven' (i.e. went to confession and received absolution) before the beginning of Lent.

In other countries, of course, there are many different traditions:

In France, Shrove Tuesday is known as 'Mardi Gras' - literally, 'Fat Tuesday', the day when all left-over fat would be used up. The phrase Mardi Gras has come to mean a Carnival - and so it is in many countries.

Here in Spain, and many other parts of Europe, and in Latin America, we have 'Carnaval': (and, yes, it is spelled correctly!) In many places there are great processions and celebrations through the streets. But the word 'Carnaval' (however you spell it!) comes from the Latin 'Carnis vale', which literally means 'goodbye to meat'.

The first day of Lent is **ASH WEDNESDAY**. The day gets its name from the ceremony of 'ashing' - making the sign of the Cross in ash on the forehead, with the ashes made from palm crosses of the previous Palm Sunday. Ash Wednesday and the ceremony of Ashing, is a reminder of our mortality and our dependence on God.

Just over half-way through Lent we have **MOTHERING SUNDAY** (NOT 'Mothers Day!'). This is always the Fourth Sunday of Lent. In the Church this is also known as 'Refreshment Sunday' - a day when the more strict rules of Lent were relaxed for a day.

Many traditions surround this particularly 'English' celebration.

On Mothering Sunday we give thanks for the Mother of Jesus, as well as our own mothers. At one time it was traditional to attend your Mother Church (maybe your Cathedral) on this day. In times past it used to be a Sunday when those who were 'in service' could go home to see their mothers - they went 'mothering'; and what flower is most associated with Mothering Sunday? - daffodils - the Lent Lily.

Then comes:

PASSIONTIDE - which is actually the last two weeks of Lent, when our thoughts turn especially to the sufferings of Jesus. Originally the word 'passion' comes for the Latin word meaning 'suffering'.

And then

HOLY WEEK - the last week of Lent. Holy Week begins with **PALM SUNDAY** - when we commemorate Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem: We have our Palms

and Palm Crosses to remind us of this.

MAUNDY THURSDAY - The word 'Maundy' comes (again) from the Latin word 'mandatum' - which means 'commandment'. On this night, as well as celebrating the Last Supper with his disciples, and so giving the Church the gift of the Eucharist (Holy Communion), Jesus also gave his disciples a 'new commandment' - that they should love one another.

GOOD FRIDAY - Literally, 'God's Friday' - apart from the Christian significance of this day, when we commemorate the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross, it is also traditionally the day to eat Hot Cross Buns - the cross reminding us of the Cross of Jesus.

All these traditions can teach us about the Christian Faith - and they can even be fun! All the Lenten traditions came about to help prepare for the most important day in the Christian year:

EASTER DAY - when we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

And again, apart from the obvious importance of this day for all Christians, we have perhaps the most popular tradition of all - **EASTER EGGS**. These days they are made of chocolate (hopefully!) but the reason we have eggs is that they are symbols of the Resurrection: the chick breaking out from the egg is a symbol of new life breaking out of the tomb.

May you enjoy these traditions, and may they help you have a very blessed Lent and Easter.

Fr Rodney Middleton
Assistant Chaplain.

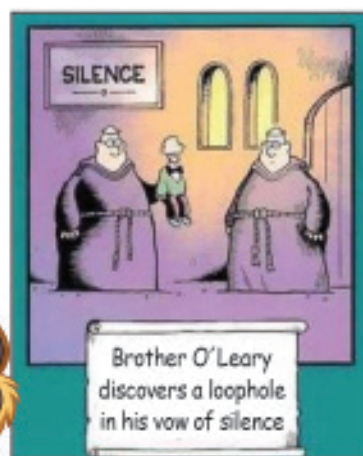
Church Humour

*In your prayers don't give God instructions
just report for duty!*



The oldest computer was owned by Adam and Eve. It was an Apple with very limited memory. Just one Byte and everything crashed!

What do you do with a sick bee?
- Take him to a wasp-ital.



How do you make a jacket last?
Make the trousers first.

This page is sponsored by Ted Barnett

ORBA WARBLERS GOLF SOCIETY

This is one of the oldest and best established golf societies on the Costa Blanca, and yet the Orba Warblers continue to recruit 'youngsters' and new members year after year.

With over 70 members and more than 50 players the Society continues to offer a weekly hack, (challenge) around a multitude of Valencian golf courses.

A love of the game has led to many long lasting friendships, both on and off the hallowed links.

An eclectic mix of those who live permanently in Spain and those who visit once, or maybe several times throughout the year, members come from the UK, Spain, France, Germany, Switzerland, Poland, USA and Canada and we welcome visitors and guests, whether for just a game or two, or to join us for the longer term.

Or maybe you come from elsewhere, but really origins are not that important. What matters is where we are, and where we are going. Tee direct to green hopefully; but more likely via a bunker, the rough, a backward step or two, in to the water and out again.

Finally the welcome aroma of coffee, beer and paella emanating from the 19th hole, along with laughter, banter and many a tall story.

Adventurous shots are re-lived, lady luck is toasted, bad luck is bemoaned, congratulations and commiserations given and received.

If you are a golfer, or know someone looking for a game, company, a laugh, or a pot of Baggaley's slice curing pickled jam (so he says), why not try us out.

For further information contact us via our website below, or email

Julian Leckie: julianleck@aol.com

<https://orba-warblers.golf-club.website>



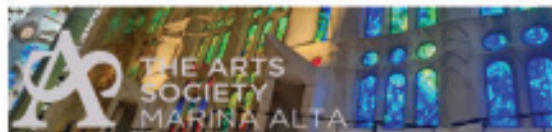
"Another successful and happy day of golf."



"Captain Gary working on selfies after the match at Levante golf course."



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Doors open at 18.45 for 19.30 hrs. lecture.

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WEDNESDAY, 5 MARCH 2025: Who's Andy Warhol?



By Alejandra Carazo

Andy Warhol is remembered as the king of pop art who embraced celebrity and consumerism, and who would become an American icon. Yet there is a lesser-known side to him: the shy gay son of immigrants whose prolific and experimental artistic practice enabled a counterculture that would play a part in transforming modern art. Don't miss this incredible success story!

WEDNESDAY, 2 APRIL 2025: J.S. Lowry: A Visionary Artist



By Michael Howard

J.S. Lowry is one of Britain's most famous artists, known for his portrayal of the human condition. In this lecture, Michael will present the case that his work is the visual counterpoint of T. S. Eliot's poetry and can be claimed as the British Van Gogh. Too much? Listen to this fascinating presentation and decide for yourself!

WEDNESDAY, 7 MAY 2025: Francis Bacon



By Frank Woodgate

Until his death in 1992, Bacon was regarded as Britain's greatest 20th Century artist, and his dramatic images can be exquisitely beautiful and shocking at the same time. Perhaps more than any other artist, he captured the darkness at the heart of the human experience. Come to learn how his work explores abjection, nihilism and hope!

WEDNESDAY, 4 JUNE 2025: The Age of Jazz



By Sandy Burnett

Jazz is one of music's most important genres: a fascinating blend of rigorous structure, creativity, close-knit ensembles and imaginative improvisation. Back by popular demand, a musicologist and gigging musician, Sandy will shed light on jazz from the inside. His talk covers the early years of jazz up to WWII. Swing by one of our most entertaining lectures of the season!

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Singing with disabilities:

by Elaine Mitchell

I remember listening to an interesting talk a few years ago. It was about the singing of hymns by those who are deaf or without the power of speech. An impossibility? Far from it. The presenter talked about a Carol Service held for deaf people at St Paul's Cathedral. I hadn't really appreciated that you could "sing" hymns in sign language although since then I have seen plenty of sign language being used, particularly in Songs of Praise repeats. I realise how poignant the carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem" is with the verse "How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given". The carol continues "no ear may hear His coming..." What a wonderful message for us all - if our fellow worshippers with a variety of disabilities can feel the love of God, how much simpler for us all to appreciate it.



Baptism and confirmation service at The Comm.



Bishop Norman Banks and Father Rodney Advent Service Gandia.



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This page is sponsored by Elaine Mitchell

SIX VCs BEFORE BREAKFAST

On the 19th February 2015 It was the 100th Anniversary of the Gallipoli landings, which is often thought of as mainly an Australian and New Zealand Action (the ANZACS), the British Forces also took part, it was April 25th 1915, this was the date when the first landings on the Gallipoli peninsula were made.

I come from a town called Bury in Lancashire which was the regimental home of the Lancashire Fusiliers.

The Wellington Barracks are on the outskirts of the town, the Barracks had been built before the Crimean War, though the Lancashire Fusiliers had only been there since 1873. This was a famous regiment was held in high regard throughout the Army. In the precedence of infantry it came behind the Guards and the Rifle Brigade.

On April 25th 1915 the Lancashire Fusiliers were part of a battalion numbering 1,029 men who captured a beach on the Gallipoli peninsula in Turkey as part of Britain's response to a Russian appeal for assistance against the Turks.

Unlike the Australians who landed at dawn beyond Gaba Tepe on the beach later to be known as Anzac Cove, the British in the south were to land in daylight on five beaches around Cape Helles. To make up for this lack of surprise, a heavy naval bombardment was to cover the British landing. This meant that the Turks had a good idea what was coming.

As part of a wider British attack the Lancashire Fusiliers were chosen to land on and take control of a small sandy



cove - codenamed "W Beach" just 350 yards long and 40 yards wide, between Cape Helles and Tekke Burnu. It was so well defended that the Turks may have regarded it as impregnable to an attack from open boats.

Nevertheless, the attack began at 6am on April 25th. Despite the success of taking the beach, it came at a terrible price, with up to 700 members of the regiment killed or wounded. Of the first 200 men who landed, only 21 survived.

After the battle the Lancashire Fusiliers were allotted six VCs and were asked to choose the recipients, the decorations and the names were formally announced in the London Gazette on August 24th 1915. After the decorations were announced, the regiment became famous for its "Six VCs Before Breakfast" and the beach was renamed the "Lancashire Landing" in honour of the fallen and wounded fusiliers.

To this day, Gallipoli and the heroism displayed by the Lancashire Fusiliers is celebrated each year with a Gallipoli Day march, and church service in Bury, the spiritual home of the Regiment, which is now called the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. I can remember attending these as a child growing up in Bury.

There is a Fusilier Museum in Bury and at the moment all six of the VCs are going to be reunited, three on loan from Lord Ashcroft KCMG, it is well worth a visit if you are in the area.

I sailed through Dardanelles in 2012 and standing prominently above the sea on a ledge at the northern edge of Anzac Cove, is a memorial which the Turks have erected. It is a heavy piece of masonry, an abstract sculpture that is supposed to represent hands held open, in the Islamic manner, at prayer. On it a most remarkable inscription something that Kemal Ataturk said in 1934, not very long after he had thrown the invading armies off his land.

THOSE HEROES THAT SHED THEIR BLOOD
AND LOST THEIR LIVES.
YOU ARE NOW LYING IN THE SOIL OF A FRIENDLY COUNTRY,
THEREFORE REST IN PEACE.
THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE JOHNNIES
AND THE MEHMETTS TO US, WHERE THEY LIE SIDE BY SIDE
HERE IN THIS CONTRY OF OURS.
YOU, THE MOTHERS
WHO SENT THEIR SONS FROM FAR AWAY COUNTRIES,
WIPE AWAY YOUR TEARS.
YOUR SONS ARE NOW LYING IN OUR BOSOM
AND ARE AT PEACE.
AFTER HAVING LOST THEIR LIVES IN THIS LAND THEY HAVE
BECOME OUR SONS AS WELL.

Patricia Spencer 2015

Ref: Hell's Foundations. Geoffrey Moorhouse.



This page is sponsored by Anne Riddell



QUIZ TIME!



1. Where would you be if you were standing on the Spanish Steps?
2. What city is known as "The Eternal City"?
3. In which country would you find Mount Kilimanjaro?
4. True or false: Halloween originated as an ancient Irish festival.
5. What is the largest Spanish-speaking city in the world?
6. Which country has the most islands?
7. In Australia, what is commonly known as a bottle-o?
8. In which U.S. state is the country's busiest airport located?
9. Which is the only continent with land in all four hemispheres?
10. Which river flows through the Grand Canyon?
11. Where is Angel Falls, the world's largest waterfall, located?
12. What is the state capital of New York?
13. On which continent would you find the world's largest desert?
14. What is the capital of Ireland?
15. What is the smallest U.S. state by area?
16. What is the tallest type of tree?
17. True or false: Holland is a region in The Netherlands?
18. What are the five Great Lakes?
19. How many European capitals does the Danube flow through?
20. Fill in the blanks: The capital of Bulgaria is _ofi_.

Answers: Seek and you shall find!



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Questions and answers on TV shows.

Beg, Borrow or Steal (BBC2)

Jamie Theakston: *Where do you think Cambridge University is?*

Contestant: *Geography is not my strong point.*

Jamie: *There's a clue in the title.*

Contestant: *Leicester!*



Late show (BBC Midlands)

Alex Trelenski: *What is the capital city of Italy?*

Contestant: *France.*

Alex: *France is another country. Try again.*

Contestant: *Oh, um, Benidorm.*

Alex: *Wrong. Let's try another question. In what country is the Parthenon?*

Contestant: *Sorry, I don't know.*

Alex: *Just guess a country then.*

Contestant: *Paris.*



BBC Norfolk

Stewart White: *Who had a worldwide hit with "What a wonderful World?"*

Contestant: *I don't know.*

Stewart: *I'll give you some clues. What do you call the part between your hand and your elbow?*

Contestant: *Arm*

Stewart: *Correct. And if you not weak you are...?*

Contestant: *Strong.*

Stewart: *Correct. And what was Lord Mountbatten's first name?*

Contestant: *Louis.*

Stewart: *Well, there we are then. So who had a worldwide hit with the song "What a wonderful world?"*

Contestant: *Frank Sinatra?*

The Weakest Link (BBC2)

Anne: *Oscar Wilde, Adolf Hitler and Jeffrey Archer have all written books about their experiences in what:- Prison, or the Conservative party?*

Contestant: *the Conservative party.*

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CALPE AND BENISSA LIONS

The Calpe Benissa Lions were delighted to receive a visit from the Governor of their District, Paloma Fernández from León, and representatives of the Jávea, Denia, Pedreguer Lions club. The Clubs received certificates thanking them for all their hard work for social causes.

Many members of the Valencia Lions Club were directly affected by the flooding. They gathered together with their Leos members and started cleaning their streets. If there is a Lions Club in a disaster area money is sent to that Club to help with the relief aid, from **the Lions International relief fund based in America. \$15,000 were sent from the fund within a few days** to the Lions district account, to buy essentials for those affected. **The Calpe Benissa Lions have so far donated 3,000€ directly to Valencia.** Clubs from all over Spain and Europe have been sending aid to the disaster area. All of the Lions Clubs around the World have been asked to



donate a minimum of 500€ to the Fund in America. America will then double that amount and send it back to Valencia to fund recovery projects they have prepared. **Paloma Fernández was pleased to announce the fund had reached 300,000€ so far.** The Calpe Benissa Lions are hoping to send as much as possible to the fund in America. Please help us do this by purchasing something from the

Calpe Benissa Lions Club Charity Shop, on calle Pintor Sorolla, 15, Calpe. If you would just like to give a donation please call the President Carole Saunders on 639637520. Thank you.

Chicken Liver Paté / Mousse



Ingredients

50 grams dried cranberries soaked in wine for two days

(sounds good so far Ed)

½ - ¾ kilo of chicken livers

2 medium diced onions

Garlic and butter



Cooking method

Gently fry the livers, onions and garlic in butter until thoroughly cooked BUT not brown.

Pour in a glass of red wine previously used to soak the cranberries.

Continue cooking on a very low heat until the wine is almost completely absorbed.

Blend until texture is as desired i.e. less if you prefer it as a mousse.

Stir in cranberries leaving aside a few for decoration at the end.

Spoon into an earthenware dish and leave in the fridge until firm.

Melt a little butter to pour over the top and add a bay leaf and cranberries to decorate.

Enjoy



Food for thought

"I fear the day that technology will surpass our humanity. The world will have a generation of idiots.

The human spirit must prevail over technology."

Albert Einstein

"We think too much and feel too little.

More than machinery, we need kindness and gentleness.

Without these qualities, life will be violent and all will be lost."

Charlie Chaplin

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ZOG - THE INVINCIBLE PT 2

by David Brown

Zog was muttering angrily to himself as he walked along the sea shore. He had been to inspect his long boat, the Jolly Clubber, after the winter layup. Zog felt fat and sluggish after a rather boozy winter break. He knew he had eaten and drunk too much because when he strapped on his sword belt he had to let it out two notches.

Now the carpenter had informed him that far more work than normal was required on his ship to make it ready to go raiding. An informal term for golfing, drinking and a little bit of benefits payments in England. After some haggling and a reduction in the number of spare oars he needed he managed to get a ten percent discount.

He was also struggling to understand the new EU guidelines on illegal entry into England. He wasn't worried about Scotland as they let anyone in. However, after last year's trouble at Royal Troon golf course where members of his crew tried to make off with the trophies from the club house he thought it better to try going to Newcastle or better still York.

His beach walk ended at the Raiders Arms where the word was out he was hiring for the Easter cruise.

He could see that all the usual layabouts were there. Plus Olaf his steers man and navigator. Dimnit his seer who was supposed to know all the EU and British custom regulations.

Squawking on his perch was Odin the parrot whom Zog guessed he would have to hire for the season from the



landlord as for some weird reason no one would row without Odin calling out the time. Still I suppose it save the cost of a drummer. He last one, Ringo, had gone off with some band.

Back at his long House Zog grumbled to Grizzler his wife. They, the crew, wanted a twenty percent increase and double widows pension payments! Plus that fat landlord is asking double last year's money for the damn parrot!

The carpenter told me I've got wood worm in the dragons head on the boat and it needs replacing before it spreads. I've a good mind not to replace it but the new rules state any illegal channel crossing boat must have a dragons head! Who would be a Viking in this day and age?

They had been rowing for three days in a thick sea mist.

Cont. on next page...

"Eternity is a long time to think about where you went wrong!"

This page is sponsored by David Brown author of The Darkness

Olaf leaned over the side of The Jolly Clubber and tasted the water. "Fresh" he declared "We have reached the river Ouse that will take us all the way to York."

Zog was impressed with Olaf as most of the crossing he had looked asleep at the steering oar. Even Odin the parrot had been subdued by the oppressive mist.

Suddenly out of the mist they could see buildings and a landing stage. "Get ready" Zog commanded and half the men shipped oars and got shields and weapons ready while the others rowed to the landing stage.

Just as Zog went to jump onto the landing stage a voice rang out! "Hold it, hold it. Just where do you think you are going my lad?"

Zog stared at the uniformed figure of a large man with writing on his helmet.



Just as Zog went to raise his axe Dimnit caught his arm and whispered "let me



deal with this he's the customs and immigration officer."

Dimnit explain they where lost in the fog and didn't know where they had landed.

"You are in merry England and God's own county of Yorkshire at the great city of York. However, if you want to land here there's a landing fee. Plus a tax to be paid on those axe's, spears and swords. No tax on the shields and helmet." The officer said sternly.

At that moment Odin said "taxes, taxes stuff that for a game of monkeys!"

"A parrot! You have a parrot on board? Now you will all have to go into quarantine for six months!" Shouted the officer.

"But sir" whined Dimnit "we are poor refugees being hunted and are in fear of being killed."

"Oh, that's different. Now let me see" muttered the officer as he pulled a parchment from inside his tunic.

Cont. on next page....

"Refugees in fear of their live." Running his finger down the parchment he suddenly said "That's it! Right no landing fee, no taxes and you are entitled to ten gold coins each, free accommodation and food at the York Central hotel.

Oh and if any of you play golf you get two free rounds of golf at the Easingwold golf course.

"Thank you, thank you." Dimnit said shaking the officer's hand. "Err is there a local pub where we can get something to drink. We got very dehydrated rowing all this way."

"Just over there pointed the officer to a building shouded in mist, is the Fish Wife Arms. Give them this voucher and



as refugees you will get all the ale half price."

Zog led the way into the warmth of the Fish Wife arms and thought what a wonderful country to visit!

Always Have a Dream

by Amanda Bradley

Forget about the days when it's been cloudy
But don't forget your hours in the sun.

Forget about the times you've been defeated,
But don't forget the victories you have won.

Forget about the mistakes you can't change now,
But don't forget the lesson that you have learned.

Forget about misfortunes you've encountered,
But don't forget the times your luck has turned.

Forget about the days when you've been lonely,
But don't forget the friendly smiles you've seen.

Forget about the plans that didn't seem to work out right,
But don't forget to always have a dream.

FABULOUS FLORENCE on FOOT



Elaine with Ponte Vecchio

One of my favourite places is Florence. Well, I have to say, it is one of many.

The Kingdom of Italy, which was established in 1861, moved its capital from Turin to Florence in 1865, although the capital was moved to Rome in 1871.

Florence was established by the Romans in 59 BC as a colony for veteran soldiers and was built in the style of an army camp. In the 15th century,

Florence was among the largest cities in Europe, with a population of 60,000, and was considered rich and economically successful.

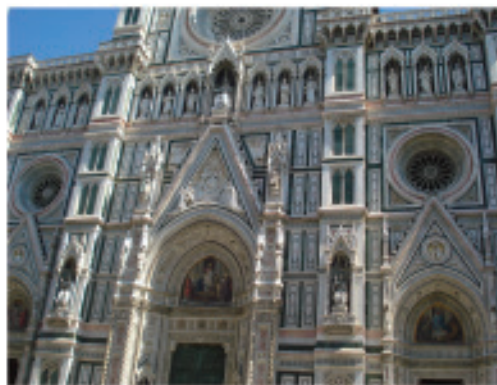
Geoff and I walked our socks off exploring the city, this was after we'd already walked, albeit not quite so far, in Pisa. Pisa was interesting but Florence beat it hands down.

I am wondering whether you know this story. Michael was only a little boy playing in the streets of Florence but he was making some beautiful models out of the mud. He was noticed by Ghirlandajo, one of the city's great artists who was responsible for several frescoes in Florence's churches and further away too.

He invited the boy to his studio in order to study art seriously.

It wasn't long before he had learned all that Ghirlandajo was able to teach him and he went on to the studio of Duke Lorenzo the Magnificent.

The boy was very nervous in the presence of another great painter, however, he drew the hands of Ghirlandajo - and thus began a further stage in his artistic career. He never forgot his old master and much later in life paid him a visit. He left a package for him to open - a beautiful drawing of those two hands which had been



Cathedral of St. Mary of the Flower

instrumental in teaching the delicate art of drawing.

Ghirlandajo might never have been known to us, had it not been for the gratitude of the little boy he picked up out of the gutter - and who we know best as Michelangelo.

The city attracts millions of tourists each year, and UNESCO declared the Historic Centre of Florence a World Heritage Site in 1982. The city is noted for its culture, Renaissance art and architecture and monuments.

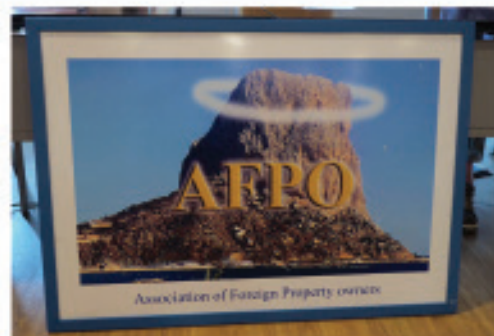
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Due to Florence's artistic and architectural heritage, Forbes ranked it as one of the most beautiful cities in the world in 2010. Geoff and I visited in 2013.

Photos are with the Ponte Vecchio over the Arno River, Florence Cathedral, formally the Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Flower and we stopped at the Michelangelo square overlooking the city on the way back to the ship. A magnificent view.

J Elaine Mitchell



AFPO, the Association of Foreign Property Owners, has worked tirelessly over the last 30 years to help people living on the Costa Blanca with their problems with their new lives in Spain. We have a comprehensive website,

www.afpocalpe.com

which gives a daily up-date on local and National Spanish news.

Our most important work at the moment is helping translate at the Calpe Centro de Salud. We have informative meetings three times a year. Our international team of volunteers help many nationalities with translating at their consultations with their Doctors.

AFPO - The Foreign Property Owners Association

You do not have to be a member of AFPO to receive the help of the AFPO translators, this is a service we offer to the community of Calpe.

The Translators are at the Centro de Salud in Calpe every week day, from 9am until 12.00pm.

If you would like the help of a volunteer, or indeed offer your help as a translator please call Noel Lawrence on 620 687 633 for more information

For any other enquires call Carole Saunders on 639 637 520 or write to the association through the website,

www.afpocalpe.com

The next General Meeting will at 10am for 10.30am, on Tuesday, October the 8th, at the Calpe Tennis Club.



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A Capri In Africa Pt 2

The latter part of our drive in Tanzania was spent climbing up into hills, through beautiful countryside. Such well-kept tea plantations, with many types of other produce and all so green. This is what I imagined this section of Africa would be like from the time when the country was called Tanganyika and the amazing pictures you would see in the Natural History type of books.

We arrived in Mbeya, an old mining town. At this stop we got the short straw and were one of a few people who stayed in a hotel in town (the majority being in a stunning hotel in a tea plantation). Unfortunately, we were treated to an African version of a wedding reception and were awake until the early hours.

Up sharp and bleary eyed the next morning we set off to arrive at our first border crossing of the trip into Malawi. We needed to get temporary Visas, Passports stamped (out of Tanzania and into Malawi and the Carnes processed for taking the cars from one country into another. It's unbelievable how many times pieces of paper can be moved from one place to another for another stamp. It was all done with good humour but it took three hours!! What a lovely country Malawi is but unfortunately our time there was quite short. Everywhere we drove people were waving, laughing and cheering as we drove along, watching all the old cars. It was a Sunday and families were out in their "Sunday Best" walking seemingly miles to their local Church. How they managed to keep their clothes so lovely as so many were living in tiny shacks. We were told later that here you were considered well off if you had a push bike.

Malawi is a long, narrow country with a massive lake along much of the eastern border taking up approximately of third of the country. There are beautiful flat beaches much of the way along the side of the lake with, curiously, no development. We found out later that there are nasty parasites in the water that even the locals needed to be careful with. Such a shame. There were many shacks and covered tables standing along the road selling all that you could imagine and what seemed like piles smoked fish which we dare not try. Our second night of travel saw us in a lovely hotel. There was a political rally taking place in the area. I couldn't stop Joan getting involved although she wasn't sure who she was canvassing or!!



Our transit from Malawi into Zambia proved as chaotic as coming into Malawi. We came to find that this was the norm through all the border crossing we came to.

Into Zambia and quite a contrast to Malawi, dustier and seemingly poorer. The car spent a long time queuing at the border and inevitably overheating. We made it through the crossing into Zambia and decided to park up and let the car thoroughly cool down. It was quite busy near the border and after a while we had

A Capri In Africa Pt 2 (cont)

crowds of curious, young kids near us. Joan tore coloured pictures of animals from pamphlets we'd been given and handed them around. Soon we were all the best of friends just by laughing and larking around. Another car arrived and they had a tennis ball that they threw into the middle of the kids and soon they were all playing disorganised football.



We finally got going again towards Chipata and shortly started long climb up through steep hills and into the beginning of the Muchinga Mountains on towards Lusaka. Later in the afternoon we arrived at some steep mountain roads and started to climb. The roads were wide but the gradients on some of the hairpins were quite daunting.



TEULADA MORAIRA LIONS

Activity Schedule

Annual Easter Egg Chocolate Hunt - from Moraira beach on Easter Saturday.

3000€ donation approved for "Club Deportivo - Montgo Xabia" (Spanish federated) for their training foam pit.

Celebratory Lunch to be held in February for the Lions volunteers working in the The Lions Den to thank them for their loyalty and service.

500€ donation to Benitachell Civil Protection to supply back packs.

Tortoise

by Doreen Hammond

Sleepy eyes open wide
From his winter sleep.

He was safe and warm inside,
The straw so snug and deep.

The tortoise now must stay awake,
He stretched and looked about;
Rested from his winter break
And hungry too, no doubt.





MOFTAG CLUB OF CALPE

PUT THE SPARKLE INTO CHRISTMAS FOR SOME NEEDY PEOPLE

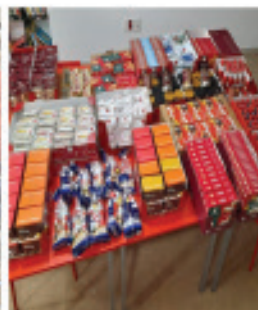
As published in the last edition of The Rock, Moftag had a fantastically successful Christmas Fayre and raised €3318 for local charity organisations.

Here are just a couple of heartwarming stories of how some of the money has been used.

Cruz Roja in Calpe are now supporting 280 families and give basic food items but Moftag likes to add something Christmassy to make those food hampers a bit special for the festive season. They bought Turrón, marzipans, Christmas biscuits, stollens and chocolates. This was a major shopping expedition but luckily Fran from the Red Cross was very willing to help them. He is pictured here with one of the Moftag Committee members, Eileen, clearly very pleased with their purchases!

Another charity that Moftag supports is Guardian Angels, an organisation who support single parents. Every year they organise a Christmas party for the children and Moftag bought gift vouchers to the value of €500 from Don Dino to be given to the children at the party.

Being very much aware about people less fortunate over the festive season, Moftag has, for several years given gifts to residents at Les Boqueres, a care home facility in Altea. For those residents who have no family and therefore nobody to organise the gifts for the 3 Kings celebration, they liaise with the manager each year about how many people would be without gifts.



(cont. on next page)

This page is sponsored by MOFTAG



Moftag continued

This year they provided gifts bags for 19 residents, each one containing 8 individually wrapped presents.

Photos are attached of some of the recipients. In amongst all of these Christmas preparations we must not forget the devastation that hit Valencia and Moftag donated €500 towards the relief fund.

Is Moftag proud of their achievements??? Yes.....and they will soon be thinking about their next Fund Raising event in May. Their Spring Fayre will probably be held on 17th May so watch the local press and media for details closer to the date.

In addition to fund raising they are very focused on organising social events for their members and encouraging them to have company and help were needed.

So if you think this could be something for you and would like to find out more please contact Jenny, their president on mobile 639 139 518, new members are always welcome.

The Quest

by Robert Service

I sought Him on the purple seas,
I sought Him on the peaks aflame;
Amid the gloom of giant trees
And canyons lone I called His name;
The wasted ways of earth I trod:
In vain! In vain! I found not God.

I sought Him in the hives of men,
The cities grand, the hamlets grey,
The temples old beyond my ken,
The tabernacles of to-day;
All life that is, from clod to clod
I sought...Alas! I found not God.



Then after roaming far and wide,
In streets and seas and deserts wild,
I came to stand at last beside
The death-bed of my little child.
Lo! As I bent beneath the rod
I raised my eyes... and there was God.

Quiz Time Answers!
1. Rome 2. Rome 3. Tanzania 4. True 5. Mexico City 6. Sweden (270,00 or 267,570)
7. An Off licence 8. Georgia 9. Africa 10. Colorado River 11. Venezuela
12. Albany 13. Antarctica 14. Dublin 15. Rhode Island 16. Redwood 17. True
18. Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario 19. Four 20. Sofia



What's happening in a church near you?

www.costablanca-anglicanchaplaincy.org

CALPE LA MERCED

Sunday Services at 10.30am

We have coffee afterwards at the Café opposite.

If you don't wish to attend the service you are still welcome to join us for coffee. Check the website for details of our monthly lunches.

LA FUSTERA

Sunday Services at 12.15pm

in the Ermita de San Josep.

JAVEA

Sunday services at 9.45am

at the Ermita on the Jesus de Pobre Road 160, Javea.

DENIA

Sunday Services at midday

in the Ermita Las Rotas.

GANDIA

Sunday Service at midday

in the Chapel of the Franciscan Hospice.

ALFAZ DEL PI and ALBIR

Sunday services at 9.30am

Thursday at 11am

Albir Forum Mare Nostrum
(now known as The Comm)
Camino del Pincho 2,
03580, l'Alfás del Pi.

EL CAMPELLO

Sunday Services at midday in the Chapel
in the grounds of Los Salesianos.

Organisations that may be of assistance to you

MOFTAG Calpe : Jenny 639 139 518

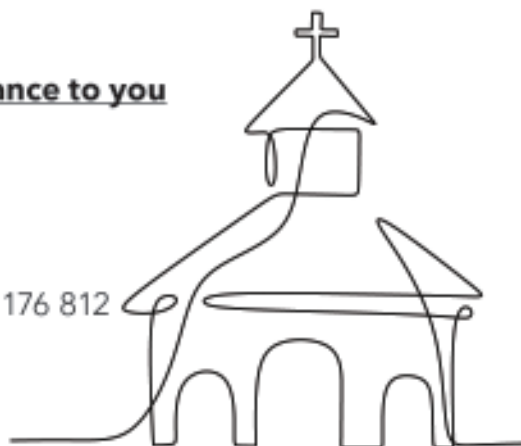
HELP of Marina Alta : 686 320 435

Lynwen's Nurses : Jayne 634 345 685

Widows & Widowers Orba : Julie 639 176 812

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AFPO: Carol 639 637 520



This page is sponsored by Roger David

Welcome to our service



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND



Alfaz del Pi and Albir
Forum del Nostrum
(Now known as The Comm)
Camino del Pincho 2,
Alfaz del Pi, 03580, Alicante
Service times: Sunday 9.30
Thursday 11.00



Jávea
Ctra. de Jesus Pobre, 160
03737 Jávea, Alicante
Service times: Sunday 9.45
(9.30 July to September 11)
Wednesday 10.30



EL Campello
Carrer Bernat Metge, 3
03560 El Campello, Alicante
Service times: Sunday 12.00



Gandia
The Chapel of the Franciscan
Hospice, CV 686, 671.
07600, Palma de Gandia
Service times: Sunday 12.00



La Fustera
Avinguda Fustera, 33-39
03720 Benissa, Alicante
Service times: Sunday 12.15



Calpe
Parroquia Nuestra Señora
de la Merced
Av. Jaime I El Conqueridor /
Av. de la Merced, 2
03710 Calpe, Alicante
Service times: Sunday 10.30



Dénia
Ctra. Provincial del Barranc
del Monyo, 39
03700 Dénia, Alicante
Service times: Sunday 12.00

"Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good." Romans 12:9
"Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all sins." Proverbs 10:12

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