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Harrietsham Network is published by the Harrietsham Fish Scheme

Network Magazine March 2025 deadlines:-

Saturday 1 February 2025 12 noon advertising and copy deadline for March Network.

In addition to printing the magazine and distributing it to all homes in the village, Network is uploaded to our website by the 1st of each month.

Please send advertising contributions to <u>adverts@harrietshamfishscheme.org</u>
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Message From the Editor

Welcome to the February 2025 edition of the Harrietsham Network. This month's issue includes updates on local events, community news, and opportunities to get involved.

We'd like to highlight the Harrietsham Fish Scheme's need for new committee members. The committee plays an important role in supporting village initiatives and the production of this magazine. Joining is a great way to contribute to the community with only a small time commitment. If you're interested, please get in touch—we'd love to hear from you.

Additionally, don't miss the details of the special 100th monthly draw of the 100 Club on page 12, with a reminder to mark your calendars for the next draw taking place during Soup Saturday on 8 February.

As always, we welcome your stories, photos, and feedback for future editions. Please email us at editor@harrietshamfishscheme.org with your contributions. Thank you for your continued support, and we hope you enjoy this month's issue.

Visit our website: www.harrietshamfishscheme.org

Cover photo by Monstera Production: https://www.pexels.com/photo/crispy-toast-bread-with-cut-hearts-5874704/

Whilst every effort has been made to include as wide a variety of information as possible, the editor reserves the right not to publish, or to edit, any item. The editor's decision is final. Responsibility for the information and views set out in articles and notices in this publication lies entirely with the authors.

Any opinions expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the officers or committee of the Fish Scheme.

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Harrietsham Gardening Society

In December 11 members of the society enjoyed a Christmas lunch at the Park Gate Inn. Also in December we had our Christmas social. This started with a 'Trip Down Memory Lane', a presentation by Kevin including his video of a visit to RHS Hyde Hall and slides



of other group visits and shows. Some of these were from the early days of the society. Members were invited to bring along an old item of interest and they did us proud. David and Elaine showed us their very delicate WW11 gas mask for a baby, complete with instructions for use. Thank goodness these were never needed, imagine inserting a wriggling baby into that. Angela showed us her fascinating collection of old postcards and photos of Harrietsham. Some parts of the village seem not to have changed very much but some were difficult to recognise. Audrey demonstrated her old prison officer's truncheon. A formidable weapon which we all managed to dodge. Kevin brought along a very ancient piece of oak, possibly 1,000 years old, exposed in the peat on his family's East Anglian farm. David showed us his very delicate vase and a hunting horn. He and Kevin attempted to sound the horn with somewhat limited success. Brenda brought along her little perfume container, which would have been used for inhaling in the rather smelly conditions in our old towns and cities. The afternoon was rounded off with a very nice Christmas buffet tea and raffle.

We have a full itinerary for 2025 including a coach trip in July, which will be free for members.

The February meeting will be at 2.30pm on the 18th and will include a talk by Alison Marsden on how gardening can benefit health and well-being.

Chris Bone

Harrietsham In Bloom

Apart from weeding and tidying, the volunteers have had minimal tasks during January.



Harrietsham in Bloom is made up of a small group of volunteers who provide and maintain the planters, and the flowers in them, along the Ashford Road plus one in Church Road. The group also provided the displays on the village green for the Jubilee in 2022 and the Coronation in 2023.

Harrietsham in Bloom is supported by local businesses and the Parish Council but is always looking for volunteers to 'adopt' a planter – weed it when necessary and plant it in the Spring and Autumn. All plants etc are provided by the group so there is no financial cost, only time.

If you can spare the odd half-hour and are willing to help improve the look of the village, please do contact Andrew Rogers (Chair) on 01622 859352.

Countryways Quilters

Last month we were easing our new members into our program with a simple project. In February I'll teach you how to design and create a shopping bag from a bag of scrap fabric and some batting. We meet on 4 and 18 February.

I hope you'll come join us and try your hand at something new or just enjoy the company, have a chat and a cup of tea. An enjoyable way to spend an afternoon.

We have our meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of every month except December and would love to see you.

We meet usually in the Osbourne room in the Lenham Community Centre from 1:30 to 4:30.

If you would like more information on our group or would like a copy of our 2025 program please contact me, Pamela Gillard at 07914 809946 or e-mail moonbeamspinner@gmail.com

Pamela Gillard

Quiz Corner

Round 16

- 1. In the film 'Jaws' what was the name of Quint's boat?
- 2. What is a Dactylogram?
- 3. In Queensland, Australia, what is the World's longest at 3488 miles?
- 4. Who was Shakespeare's wife?
- 5. In 'Tom Brown's Schooldays', what school did Tom attend?
- 6. What is the World's largest web-footed bird?
- 7. 'The Entertainer' is the theme tune for which 1973 film?
- 8. What is England's largest mountain?
- 9. In what direction does the Nile River flow?
- 10. What was Roger Moore's first Bond film?

Answers on page 27

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Anxious about having to stop working for a while?

Is your money not going far enough?

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If the answer to any of these questions is "yes" then the Culpepper Charity may be able to help.

Founded in the seventeenth century, the Culpepper Charity was created to help those people of Harrietsham with financial needs. It has been dormant for a long time which may be why you haven't heard of it.

However, the Charity has limited funds available to provide monetary assistance to those people of Harrietsham who are worried about how they will pay all their bills. The Trustees believe that in the current financial crisis the Charity needs to be back in the limelight to help the people of Harrietsham.

If you are claiming benefits of any kind, or even if you are not, and want further help with your family finances, do write to us explaining how you are in need and requesting a Grant claim form to be sent to you.

We are at either: Culpepper.Charity@outlook.com

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February 2025







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100 Club to celebrate 100th Monthly draw

The Friends of St. John 100 Club announce that they will be celebrating the Club's 100th monthly draw on 8th March 2025 with a guaranteed prize fund of

£300, giving a 1st prize of £150, with £90 and £60 for the 2nd and 3rd prizes.

"This is a great achievement", said Audrey Joy, the Chair of the Friends, "as nobody in 2016 thought that the 100 Club would grow to be the largest 'Club' in Harrietsham and last so long. New members are always welcome".

How the 100 Club works

The Friends of St. John 100 Club is a monthly lottery which raises funds for the Friends for the upkeep of the church and pays out 50% of funds raised in prizes. It is open to members who are residents of Harrietsham and their family and friends, as well as people who have or had a connection with the Church, whether they live in Harrietsham or not.

Each member pays £2 per month for a Number which is entered into the monthly draw. Half of each subscription is added to the prize fund, half of which goes to the first Number drawn out. The second prize winner receives 30% of the prize fund whilst the remaining 20% is given as the third prize. Members are not restricted to just one Number but may have as many as they wish thereby increasing their chances of winning.

Membership is by application and application forms may be obtained from friendsofstjohnharr@outlook.com or phone 859 885.

What do the Friends do?

Although the Friends are a secular organisation, many people believe it is an extension of the church itself. However, the Friends is a separate registered charity raising money to improve the Grade 1 Listed building for the benefit of ALL the people of Harrietsham. Whilst it is true that the Friends work with the church authorities, we are independent of them being concerned with the building itself. The Friends' aim is to ensure the church's contribution to the character, life, and amenity of the whole community of Harrietsham continues well into the future.

The Friends of St. John 100 Club is registered as a Small Society Lottery with Maidstone Borough Council with number 22/00267/LOTTER. The Friends of the Church of St. John the Baptist, Harrietsham, Kent is a registered charity with number 1090622.

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Secretary boothandbaldwin@hotmail.co.uk

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Friends of St. John the Baptist Church

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Gardening Society

Chairman Mr David Oversby 01622 859674

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Harrietsham Academy of Ballet

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Harrietsham History Society

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Harrietsham in Bloom

Chairman Mr A Rogers 01622 859352 **Harrietsham Preschool** Mrs Florence Sealy 07458 915213

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Local Directory Ha-Z

Harrietsham Social Club

Secretary Jed Stone 07759 8771198/whipacres2@gmail.com

Harrietsham Ladies Group

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 Contact
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warden@harrietshamparishcouncil.gov.uk

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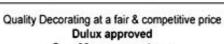
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For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, do not fear: I will help you. Isaiah 41:13

Sunday 2 February

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church

9.30am Harrietsham: Family friendly Morning Worship

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

Wednesday 5 February

9.30am Lenham: Holy Communion (BCP)

11.00am Harrietsham: Chippendayle

Sunday 9 February

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church

11.00am Lenham: Holy Communion

11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

3.30pm Boughton Malherbe: Choral Evensong

Sunday 16 February

8.00am Lenham: Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am Boughton Malherbe: Holy Communion

9.30am Harrietsham: Holy Communion

9.30am Lenham: Breakfast Church 11.00am Ulcombe: Holy Communion

11.00am Lenham: Morning Worship

Sunday 23 February

11.00am Benefice Holy Communion at St Mary's, Lenham 'Re-Sourced in Christ - Stillness'



The Friends of the Church of St John the Baptist, Harrietsham

Registered Charity No. 1090622

invite you to come along and bring your family to

Soup Saturday

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Tea, coffee and biscuits also available - 50p extra

Saturday 8th February 2025

12 noon to 2pm

at St. John's Church, Harrietsham

Proceeds go to the upkeep of our beautiful village church.





The Friends of the Church of St John the Baptist, Harrietsham

Registered Charity No. 1090622

Soup Saturday

We will be continuing with Soup (tinned) Saturday this month on **Saturday 8 February 2025**. Usual time – 12 noon to 2pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits also available. Look out for the posters! All profits go to the upkeep of our beautiful village church. The 100 Club lottery draw will also take place at 1pm.

100 Club Lottery Results

The results of the Ninety-Seventh Draw of the Friends of St John 100 Club, drawn on Saturday 14 December 2024 by various diners at the Ploughman's Platterday lunch under the supervision of Michael Gear (Independent Adjudicator) and Chris Roots (Promoter), are:

- First Prize £71.50 number 47 Valerie & Stephen Brown
- Second Prize £42.90 number 30 Robert Rusbridge
- Third Prize £28.60 number 55 Andrew & Jackie Moore

There were 144 numbers included in the draw giving a prize fund of £143.

Events

Please make a note in your diaries – our AGM this year will be held on **FRIDAY 28 MARCH**, **7pm in the church**. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

We are planning another Bingo night on SATURDAY 15 MARCH, doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. Please bring your own snacks and drinks.

Make a note in your diaries for this new event – on SATURDAY 21 JUNE - we have the Kettle Bridge Concertina Band concert in the church. This will be a great evening of singalong music for all. More details next month.

If you would like further information or an application form to join either the 100 Club or as a Friend, please email Chris Roots at friendsofstjohn@outlook.com or phone 851 885.

Please remember that Audrey is standing down as our Chair at our AGM this year and we are still hoping that someone will come forward to take up this role. Audrey has been an excellent Chair, leading us always and setting an example. We are also looking for new committee members, could this be you??

Local Churches

Parish Church of St John the Baptist

<u>Vicar</u>: Revd. John Huggins 01622 850280 vicar@lvb.org.uk (Day off: Wednesday)

Assisting priests:

Revd. Millie Hart 07766 555415 millie.hart@uwclub.net

Readers:

Pamela Cuerden 01622 859442 pamela@lvb.org.uk Benefice Office:

Sarah Hills 01622 850604 churchOffice@lvb.org.uk
For details of services see p.23

United Reformed Church

Week Street, Maidstone

Minister: Rev Andrew Royal
Sunday Service at 10.30am with creche. No evening service.
01622 686053

maidstoneurcoffice@talktalk.net

Baptist Church

Knightrider Street, Maidstone

Minister: Bill Miller
Office: 01622 686013
Sunday Services at 10.30am with creche, and at 6.30pm

www.maidstonebaptist.net

Bearsted and Thurnham Methodist Church

Bearsted (next to Station)

Minister: Revd. Robert Zachar
117 Crossways
Sittingbourne
ME10 4RN
01795 422573
Sunday Service 10.30am

Church of the Good Shepherd Roman Catholic Church

Rectory Lane, off East Street, Harrietsham

<u>Parish Priest</u>: Fr Geoffrey Pointer Deacon: Rev Cyril Durbin 736100 Mass every Sunday at 8.45am and Wednesday at 10.00am Holydays Mass 7pm

St Peter's Roman Catholic Church

Button Lane, Bearsted 736100 Confessions, Saturday 5 – 5.30pm Saturday Evening Mass 6pm Sunday Mass 10.30am Weekday Mass generally Monday and Tuesday 7pm and Friday 10am Holydays Mass 10am and 8pm

Pathways Church, Maidstone

1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 10.30am in Lenham Community Centre. Wednesday evenings in homes in Lenham and Harrietsham.

<u>Church leaders</u>: Ben and Kaat Doggett <u>info@pathwayschurch.org.uk</u> <u>www.pathwayschurch.org.uk</u>

For all church services please see information on page 21/22 or contact your own church for up to date information.

Public Services and Emergencies Directory

Doctors' Surgery (Lenham and Harrietsham)	01622 858341
Dentist, Lenham	01622 858204
Dentaline (out of hours emergency treatment)	01634 890300
Saxon Warrior Pharmacy	01622 858287

Hospitals:

Maidstone ME16 9QQ	01622 729000
The Tunbridge Wells Hospital, Pembury, TN2 4QJ	01892 823535
William Harvey Hospital, Ashford	01233 633331

Councils:

MP - Helen Whately	01622 758053
Kent County Council	03000 414141
Maidstone Borough Council - all departments	01622 602000
Harrietsham Parish Council - Parish Clerk	01622 850089

Police:

Emergencies only	999
Non emergencies	101

Samaritans, 48 Grecian Street, Maidstone	01622 674444
Citizens Advice Bureau, 2 Bower Terrace, Maidstone	0808 2505704
Childline	0800 1111
KCC Children's Social Services	03000 411111
KCC Adult Social Services	03000 416161



Lenham Film Club

at Lenham Community Centre, Groom Way



You've Got Mail

Friday, 14 February
Performance begins 19.30, doors open 19.00
Running time 1hr 59 mins

Friday 14 February is a night for romance and greeting us will of course be St Valentine. What better way to salute him than by watching the romantic **You've Got Mail** (PG, 1998), starring Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks, which was our audience's choice for this season. Tom Hanks plays Joe Fox, the go-ahead owner of a chain of bookstores, who is dismissive of the nearby quaint little bookshop owned by his bitter rival Kathleen Kelly, played by Meg Ryan. They are at odds with each other in real life to say the least. Things are very different when they meet online, however, as they have no idea of the other's identity and there's no such animosity between them. On the contrary, they fall in love. But what will happen when their true identifies are revealed? The film is directed by Nora Ephron and is an unforgettable comedy; do come along and share the story with us.

Our film for March is **The Miracle Club** (12, 2023) a comedy drama with a difference, in which three women, later joined by a fourth, win the chance to make a pilgrimage to Lourdes. Friday, 14 March is the date for your chance to see an all-star cast in this riveting film.

Please get in touch for more information or to join our mailing list.

Admission: Adults £5, under 16s £2; cash only, card payments not accepted. lenhamfilmclub@gmail.com www.lenhamfilmclub.org @lenhamfilmclub



February 2025 Diary

Abbreviations:

Mon Mon Wed Thurs Fri Sat	3 3 5 6 7 8	2.30pm 7.30pm 10.00am	Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls Knit, Crochet and Craft Harrietsham Ladies Group Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH HVH Scout Hut HVH HVH St John
Mon Mon Wed Thurs Thurs Fri Fri	10 10 12 13 13 14	7.30pm 7.30pm	Purple Yoga Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls Craft and Chat Lenham WI Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls Group Coffee Morning Lenham Film Club	HVH HVH LCC LCC HVH HVH LCC
Mon Mon Tues Thurs Fri Sat	17 17 17 18 20 21		Harrietsham Gardening Society Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls	HVH HVH HVH HVH HVH LCC
Mon Mon Thurs Fri	24 24 27 28	9.45am 2pm 7.30pm 10.00am	Purple Yoga Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls Harrietsham Short Mat Bowls Group Coffee Morning	HVH HVH HVH HVH

М	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

HARRIETSHAM SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

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Five and Let Die	١٥.	A Fence (dingo/kangaroo)	3.
South to North	.6	fingerprint	2.
Scafell Pike	.8	Orca	٦.
The Sting	٦.		
Black footed Albatross	.9	91 bni	лоЯ
Rugby School	5.		

Juiz Corner Answers

Anne Hathaway

Accessible Well-being - Creativity

Have you ever asked yourself the question "What would you have been doing in your life if money were not a question"? But maybe there is a chance to do what you really would love to do, while still having a day job? As a matter of fact, today you can find extensive research into the benefits of "multiple careers" which states that deep involvement in more than one career or having a creative hobby may improve your professional skills on all fronts. So, creativity is something worth considering even for professional grows.

Go into the arts. I'm not kidding. The arts are not a way to make a living. They are a very human way of making life more bearable. Practising an art, no matter how well or badly, is a way to make your soul grow, for heaven's sake. Sing in the shower. Dance to the radio. Tell stories. Write a poem to a friend, even a lousy poem. Do it as well as you possibly can. You will get an enormous reward. You will have created something.

Kurt Vonnegut

Furthermore, a hobby you feel passionate about, gives you an opportunity to experience the Flow state, we discussed in previous article. To disconnect from daily routine and dissolve in something creative will bring more meaning into your life, will strengthen your self-worth and will make you feel more alive.

But there is more about creativity. It has deeper, more profound meaning for our life and our well-being, which was well expressed by Canadian physician Dr Gabor Maté MD.

"The gods, we are taught, created humankind in their own image. Everyone has an urge to create. Its expression may flow through many channels: through writing, art, or music or through the inventiveness of work or in any number of ways unique to all of us, whether it be cooking, gardening, or the art of social discourse. The point is to honour the urge. To do so is healing for ourselves and for others; not to do so deadens our bodies and our spirits. When I did not write, I suffocated in silence"

So, if you have not yet found your creative passion, I urge you to do so. Try as many things as you want. Do it on your own or go public. Join a local group, a Choir or dramatic society, or do something for yourself or your close circle only. Whatever you do, it will change your life, or, rather, it will help you to discover new you. You that is happier, more resilient and radiant, and capable of bringing continues positive changes in your own life and lives of others regardless of circumstances.

Lenham W I

It is so nice to think that Spring will soon be here. There are bulbs coming up now giving us hope for longer days and better weather. Our members enjoyed going to the Panto at the Community Centre last month. The cast are all so talented. We also had a games evening where we had a quiz or two and a Beetle Drive.

This month we are welcoming back Kim White OBE who is going to give us a talk on the Gypsy and Traveller Culture. She became a fully-fledged police officer in 1977. Her ambition was to join the CID. Kent Police were the first force in England to introduce Intelligence Led Policing and she was tasked with recruiting informers. She worked with the Gipsy Traveller Liaison Team and learned a lot about gypsy culture. She spent 30 years in the service and ended up with an OBE for her work.

Next month we will be going to the Federation Annual General Meeting at Gravesend. The speakers are Adam Frost, presenter on Gardeners World. He has also featured on The One Show, DIY SOS and the Alan Titchmarsh Show. The other speaker is Janie Ramsay who will talk about why she became a WI member and why a speaker.

Every member is entitled to vote for one of the Resolutions put forward by the National Federation of WI's. There are four resolutions – 1. Let's talk about incontinence 2. Bystanders can be Lifesavers 3. Join the Repair Revolution and 4. Eliminate Landfill of Medication Packaging. The resolution with the most votes will go forward to the National AGM in June and will be the next campaign to take to the Government.

Our speaker at our meeting in March is Amanda-Jane Doran who is speaking about "Beauty, Duty and Trench Coats". Amanda-Jane has been Collections and House Manager at Ightham Mote. Previously as a freelance curator, editor and writer she specialised in the area of 19th and 29th century illustrated books and magazines. She has worked in the Historic Book Collection of the RA since 2010 cataloguing books and prints. In June 2014 the Bodleian published her book "The Huns have got my Gramophone".

She has also worked at Tunbridge Wells Museum and Art Gallery as part of the Visitor's Services team, developing resources for children based on the museum's Natural History collection, fossils and dinosaurs. Sounds interesting.

If you want to join us we meet at Lenham Community Centre on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. Please come along and see what we get up to. If you want to find out more please contact me on rrgodden@btinternet.com

Chris Godden

Christian Message

February the season of lambs, spring flowers, valentines, and Lincoln's birthday my diary tells me. 12 February is still a state holiday if you happen to live in one of three states in the US.

It seems strange to us in Britain to imagine getting a day off for a prime minister's birthday, however famous. We do have various 'Bank Holidays' over the year and I am not sure of their origin, I just know how much I appreciate them when they pop up!

The word 'holidays' actually stems from their original source, they were the 'holy days' of the year when you were not expected to work but rather take time out and refocus on what really matters.

Many of our annual days off are still related to remembering and celebrating certain Christian feasts, events, traditions and rituals – Easter, Christmas for instance. Naturally we are glad to have these days interspersed in our year. Without them where would the natural breaks be? They give us time to be thankful, to slow down and to be with friends and family; to draw aside from ordinary life and possibly think about matters of a different nature – spiritual, ethereal, liminal.

As Christians, and I will say as humans, believers or not, we are also encouraged to do this with one seventh of our week – shabbat, sabbath, Sunday, a day of rest. A day when 'thou shalt do no work, wherever you live'. See Exodus 20:10.

Sunday rest has been stolen from us in the past 40 or 50 years – tho' we did not see that coming. We just wanted to break away from legalism and religious enforcement. And that wasn't wrong. But I do wonder how this lack of rest has contributed to burn out, anxiety, dis-ease, agitation, rage, conflict, depression and exhaustion – it is so prevalent among us.

Fascinating stuff – I can see over and over how faith and the practices attached to it of simplification, prayer, mindfulness, rest, generosity, hospitality, magnanimity and humility – living justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly with our God are actually good for us. (Micah 6:7)

God is not a tyrant – quite the opposite; He is desirous of healthy community, wellbeing for those He created and loves, and time – time for all of us and each of us to spend with Him, with each other and even with ourselves. This way we flourish. Simple.

Enjoy February, take a long slow look at the lambs over in the field - they know how to rest and reset by in green pastures by still waters.....

The Lord really is our Good Shepherd.

Rev Canon Lorraine Apps - Huggins



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