

The LINK

30p

November 2017



The Parish Church of St Michael Braintree
www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk

Reformation 500

A celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation

Talks by Roger Cooke

Monday 30 October, 7.30

7.30pm. – 8.15pm: The revival before Luther

Refreshments

8.30pm – 9.15pm: Luther's step further

Monday 6 November, 7.30

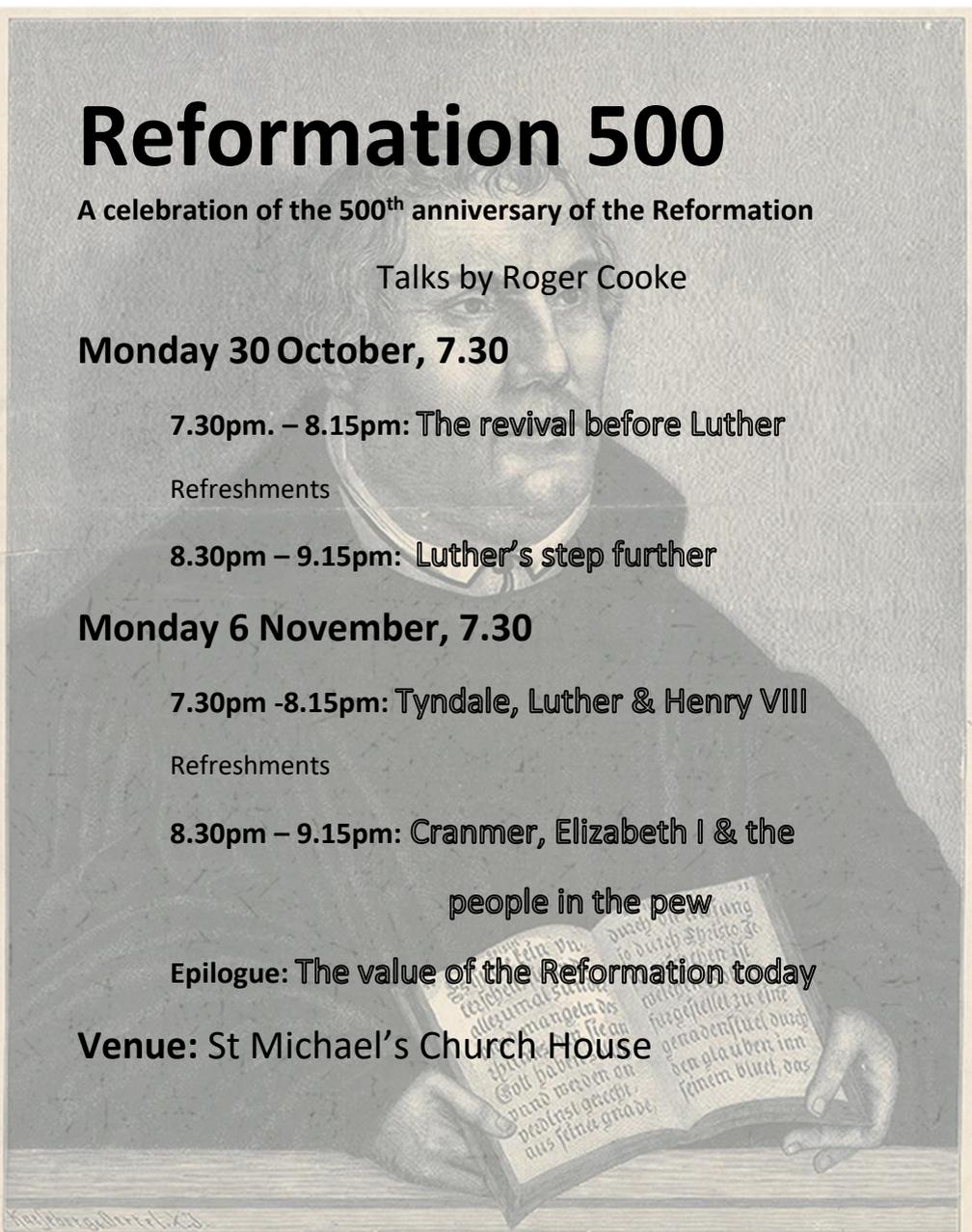
7.30pm -8.15pm: Tyndale, Luther & Henry VIII

Refreshments

8.30pm – 9.15pm: Cranmer, Elizabeth I & the
people in the pew

Epilogue: The value of the Reformation today

Venue: St Michael's Church House



Dr. Martin Luther. Nach einem Gemälde von Lukas Cranach.



Dear Friends,

I write this shortly after the shocking shooting incident in Las Vegas. It is reported that Stephen Paddock opened fire on a huge crowd of music fans from the 32nd floor of a hotel. 58 people were killed and almost 500 injured.

It is perhaps easy for us to think that the US have serious problems with their gun laws and to be grateful for our stricter UK gun restrictions. Yet, in the UK, we are experiencing an increasing number of, generally low-tech, terrorist incidents. Vehicles and knives used to deadly effect.

From the UK, it does look like the US should look at the extent of gun ownership. But the root of the problem isn't gun laws. As someone once said, "The heart of the human problem is the problem of the human heart."

Thousands of years ago, the prophet Jeremiah said, "The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?" (Jeremiah 17:9)

In each of us, there is a tendency to deceive ourselves – to think that we are basically good people. For some people, they think that destroying others' lives will somehow push forward their own views. For others, to think that using violence against innocent bystanders is somehow good.

But thanks be to God, for our Lord Jesus Christ – that God sent his own Son into our broken and sinful world. And thanks be to God that Jesus took on himself the sins of the whole world – that his death offers us the hope of forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

Please pray for all who have been caught up in this seeming wave of terror attacks across the world. Please pray for success for the police and security services, seeking to prevent such attacks. But pray also that God will be changing deceived hearts and minds.

Yours in Christ,

Nigel

LADIES MEET AND SWEET
(aka Pudding club)

TUESDAY 7 NOVEMBER

From 7pm
CHURCH HOUSE

Please come along and bring a pudding for others to share, enjoy a cuppa and chat.

Don't feel obliged to bring a pudding, please feel free to come along for the chat.

For further details call Christine Hart

(lifts can always be arranged, so don't miss out!)

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD
(SHOEBOXES)

A big thank-you to all who supported our coffee morning in October both in Church House on the Saturday and in Church on the Sunday. A grand total of £177 was raised. This will go towards the cost of transporting the boxes to their final destination.

Thank you too for the boxes and fillers already received. Please try to bring your donations to church by 5 November. If you are running late or would like further information please contact one of the following:

Jenny Chapman
Sue Marriott

MISSION OF THE MONTH CHRISTIAN AID

Christian Aid is an international organisation which insists that the world can and must be changed to one where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty and inequality. It works with some of the world's most vulnerable communities in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean. Also, at present it is working to give much needed aid to the Rohingya people who in their tens of thousands have fled from Myanmar to Bangladesh. We have seen pictures of them on TV.

Christian Aid carries out ground breaking work in key areas such as gender, health and effective assistance to support people in poor countries to improve their lives. It has programmes in more than 60 countries, working with more than 400 local, national and international partners. It is committed to being accountable by sharing information, encouraging participation in decision making and through activities such as feedback.

Frank's story

Frank confronts the devastating reality of climate change every year. He used to rely on growing maize to feed his family but Malawi's unpredictable and extreme climate causes the crop to easily fail. One year, when drought ruined the harvest, Frank's four-year-old son became critically ill and Frank carried him by foot to the hospital four miles away, to be told that Peterson was severely malnourished. Then Frank's wife tragically died due to hunger related weakness. Frank said, "It is very pathetic, as a father, to feel you can't provide food for your children and that there is nothing you can do to stop them from crying."

How can a tiny pea change lives?

Pigeon peas give poor farmers like Frank hope for the future. This



easy to grow crop is high in protein and resistant to drought. It can be lifesaving in Malawi. Sadly, Frank hasn't been able to make a profit by growing it.

Unscrupulous middlemen take advantage of people like him by buying directly from farmers and using illegal scales. As a result, Frank's peas earn only £100.00 a year. He simply

can't afford to send his children to school or properly feed them.

In situations as with Frank, through our giving to the work of Christian Aid, £10.00 could pay for enough pigeon seed to plant an acre. £50.00 can provide seeds, pesticides, and tools for a family like Frank's.

Not only can we give to the work of Christian Aid but our prayers for their work are so important.

Marion Richardson

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/>

BELFRY BULLETIN

As hosts to the EACR Northern District's Advanced Practice on Saturday 16 September it was gratifying to see the number of attendees, the good standard of ringing and the wide range and difficulty of the methods rung, making for a very enjoyable evening.

On 25 September we were pleased to welcome Nigel and Jo to our regular weekly Monday practice night. We hope we showed them our commitment to St Michael's and ringing. We tried to explain the rudiments of change ringing to them and we hope whilst ringing we were able to show them how this is achieved. Nigel and Jo thanked us for the welcome we had extended and our dedication to our service ringing.

That evening Ellie and Ellis were learning to ring Stedman, a complicated method, for the 1st time and with 5mins to go to the end of the practice they managed it. So, we thought we would finish early and end a pleasant evening on a high note.

Reproduced here is an entry I have found in the Log Book. Seen by me for the 1st time.

Sunday 17 September 2017

Rounds and call changes on 5. [Peter was the only "Upstanding" one!! who did what he was told]

Rounds and call changes on 5- and everyone "stood" when they were asked!!

Peter Smith

NOVEMBER DIARY

1 Wednesday

- 9:45am Meeting Point Bible Study
10.00am Holy Communion
6.30pm 4th Braintree Cubs & Scouts
7.25pm Elders Meeting – Church House
8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study

2 Thursday

- 7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study
8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

3 Friday

- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

5 Sunday 4th before Advent

- 8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Church Family Worship – Fix your eyes on Jesus
6.30pm Evening Worship – Good news for everyone
7.30pm Focus

6 Monday

- 12.15pm Spotlight
5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers
7.30pm Bell Ringing
7.30pm White Horse Tavern – Church House
8.00pm Badminton

7 Tuesday

- 1.15pm Tiddlywinks
7.00pm Ladies Meet and Sweet – Church House

8 Wednesday

- 9:45am Meeting Point Bible Study
6.30pm 4th Braintree Cubs & Scouts
8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study
8.30pm SuMMiT – Beer and chat – Wetherspoons,
Fairfield Road

9 Thursday

- 3.30pm ASK

7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study
8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study
10 Friday
5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts
11 Saturday
1.45pm Walk in the Countryside: From Rayne Station platform. Contact Terry/Miriam Clark
12 Sunday Remembrance Sunday
8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Morning Worship – Remembrance Sunday
3.30pm Civic Service
6.30pm Holy Communion – A light from heaven
7.30pm Focus
13 Monday
12.15pm Spotlight
5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers
7.30pm Bell Ringing
7.30pm White Horse Tavern – Church House
8.00pm Badminton
14 Tuesday December LINK SUBMISSION DUE
1.15pm Tiddlywinks
8.00pm First Priority
15 Wednesday
9:45am Meeting Point Bible Study
6.30pm 4th Braintree Cubs & Scouts
7.25pm Elders Meeting – Church House
8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study
16 Thursday
3.30pm ASK
7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study
8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study
17 Friday
5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

19 Sunday 2nd before Advent

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 10.00am Holy Communion – Sometimes we just don't get it!
- 6.30pm Evening Worship – A life transformed
- 7.30pm Focus

20 Monday

- 12.15pm Spotlight
- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers
- 7.30pm Bell Ringing
- 7.30pm White Horse Tavern – Church House
- 8.00pm Badminton

21 Tuesday

- 1.15pm Tiddlywinks

22 Wednesday

- 9:45am Meeting Point Bible Study
- 6.30pm 4th Braintree Cubs & Scouts
- 8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study

23 Thursday

- 3.30pm ASK
- 7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study
- 8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

24 Friday

- 2.00pm Bradbury House Service
- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts
- 7.30pm Flower Club

26 Sunday Christ the King

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 10.00am Morning Worship – Take up your cross
- 6.30pm Evening Worship – The power of Jesus
- 7.30pm Focus

27 Monday

- 12.15pm Spotlight
- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers
- 7.30pm Bell Ringing
- 7.30pm White Horse Tavern – Church House
- 8.00pm Badminton

28 Tuesday

- 1.15pm Tiddlywinks

29 Wednesday

- 9:45am Meeting Point Bible Study
- 7.25pm Elders Meeting – Church House
- 8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study
- 6.30pm 4th Braintree Cubs & Scouts

30 Thursday

- 3.30pm ASK
- 7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study
- 8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

FROM THE REGISTERS

No entries (tbc)

CLOCK TIMES (part 3)

More research showed that both William and John were definitely Churchwardens together at St Michaels in 1705 when the clock was purchased in Queen Anne's reign and the previous year we took Gibraltar. This would also tie in with the clock being made by Thomas Hutley *senior* and possibly being one of his first commissions as his will states he traded from 1704 to 1726 when he left the business to his son also Thomas. However, there are Thomas Hutley clocks as early as 1685 although with a slightly different spelling.

Then I had a stroke of great fortune. Out of the blue one evening I received a phone call from a friend of a friend of a friend who thought he would be able to help me. It was a rather cagey phone call asking me about the clock so I said that rather than describe the clock it would be better to see it. I then met Ian Coote who is an horologist and just as excited as I was. At last I had someone who knew about these clocks. He asked me if I would like him to help *me* rebuild it. I jumped at the chance although it was me helping *him* to rebuild it. He further said that his horological society had certain small monies they had put by for projects such as this and they would fund the restoration provided they could have their plaque put on the clock and that it was put back into the church where all could see it. I agreed.

Searching for further information on the clock, Ian found what he thought to be a forge mark; it was very indistinct and covered with paint. When the paint was removed and the iron work cleaned I found it was indeed a forge mark so I have done some further research into Swedish forge marks and have come up with the following information from Knights Penny Magazine of March 1844. I have also cleaned up the marks on the clock and removed the paint from the mark area; parts of it now positively gleam! The mark is not a crescent as we thought but the deep indentation

comes from the angle that the mark was struck. It would appear that the mark is not just denoting the forge but also the quality of the iron produced. It is the hoop L mark which shows that it is the highest grade of iron that Sweden produced namely Oregrund Iron. This iron was from the Dannemora Mine 30 miles from Upsala as Ian suspected. This ore was of such superb quality that it was a monopoly to England and only exported to Messrs Sykes and Co through the port of Hull. It was then sold throughout England but principally to Sheffield. This made the Sykes family very wealthy from the first half of the 1700s to the date of the magazine but not much longer. The Sykes family moved into the higher echelons of society and built mansions accordingly. This is something I could have missed entirely; it just goes to show that you need to know what you are looking at!

Rod Davey

PATTERN OF SUNDAY SERVICES

The Book of Common Prayer is used for the services marked 
Common Worship is used for all other services

Sunday in the month	8.00 am	10.00 am with crèche	6.30pm
FIRST	 Holy Communion	Church Family Worship (all-age)	Evening Worship
SECOND	 Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Holy Communion
THIRD	 Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Worship
FOURTH	 Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Evening Worship
FIFTH	 Holy Communion	Holy Communion	United Service

MIDWEEK SERVICES

 Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Wednesday of the month (except August) at 10.00am in the Jesus Chapel.

**The above is subject to change at festivals
Please check Diary section for exact details**

St. Michaels Church is located in:

St Michaels Lane, Braintree, Essex, CM7 1EY