

# Epiphany News

The magazine of Holy Epiphany Church

June/July 2019



Summer activities at  
Holy Epiphany Church  
- something for  
everyone

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**There is a loop system available in church.  
Please adjust your hearing aid to the relevant setting**





## Letter from David Thompson

Dear friends,  
John Rutter's setting of the famous hymn 'For the Beauty of the Earth' has particular resonance with me as it reminds me of the blessings that we receive from God. We see them both in the beauty and wonder of the natural world and in the bonds of love that may exist between family and friends.

I have many happy memories of walking through woods and fields when young; of hours spent in the countryside pond dipping and identifying plants. My mother used to pack me off with some sandwiches when I was 9 or 10 and I would go out bird watching and taking photographs.

Rather older now, with the pressures of life and work, it is more difficult to find the mental space and time to spend doing these things. Spiritually, I am aware that I am missing something in my life. It is only when we learn to observe carefully the world around us that we can truly appreciate what we have been given. We see the importance of each plant, insect and animal in the micro worlds around us and we feel the wonder of the world God has given us to live in.

It is often said that summer is a time for refreshment and relaxation, when we may suspend our day to day lives by going on holiday. We should not however, limit ourselves to holiday times, but enjoy being in the moment and appreciating the weather (hopefully) and the rich greens and colours of summer wherever we are.

Living here, we have no excuse as the sea, beach, Purbeck Hills, Poole harbour, Dorset coast and New Forest are on our doorstep. My promise to myself this year is to visit Brownsea Island. Though I have taken a boat around it many times, I have never actually set foot on it and I have lived here for 28 years.

What will you plan to do?



*For the beauty of the earth  
For the beauty of the skies  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies  
Over and around us lies  
Lord of all to thee we raise  
This our joyful hymn of praise*

...

*For each perfect gift of thine  
To our race so freely given  
Graces human and divine  
Flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n  
Flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n  
Lord of all to thee we raise  
This our joyful hymn of praise*

*Extract from hymn by Follitt S Pierpoint (1835 – 1917)*

God Bless,

## From the Editors

This magazine is free; a donation of at least £1.20 a copy helps to offset the costs of printing. Contributions by 15 July please, for the next edition, to be published on 28 July.

**Disclaimer: Views expressed in Epiphany News are those of contributors, not the editors or the ministry team. Editors reserve the right to edit or shorten articles or hold them for a later edition. Mary Hogg and Julie Renton**



## Are you a Bucket or a Spade?

We are now in the holiday season and though in many ways we are not a traditional bucket and spade town, Bournemouth does have the most wonderful sand.

My granddaughter doesn't need an excuse to visit the beach; she would be there winter or summer with her bucket and spade.

A funny question popped into my head recently as I was thinking about summer. **'WOULD YOU RATHER BE A BUCKET OR A SPADE?'** I suppose we could think of a spade as being more active than a bucket, which might appear to be rather passive. If you want to make a good sandcastle



though you most definitely need both - have you tried to fill up the moat round the castle by carrying water on a spade or in your hands? And where would those turrets be without your bucket?



As I thought more about my bucket and spade, I was reminded of two sisters in the Bible, friends of Jesus. Their names were Mary and Martha. You will remember Martha was the busy one, making sure the dinner was cooked and everything ready for the visitors. Martha would miss much of the conversation because she was just too busy making sure everything would run smoothly for everybody else.

In contrast we have Mary, who would much prefer to sit at the feet of Jesus and listen to him, no doubt infuriating Martha with her lack of activity. Martha got rather angry one day and was telling Mary just what she thought about her.

She should be out in the kitchen helping, in Martha's eyes. It just wasn't fair and finally she asked Jesus to intervene.

Unfortunately for Martha, she didn't get the answer she wanted. Jesus was gentle but made the point that her priorities, though good, were not the best. This seemed a little harsh to me, after all I thought, no doubt, they would all want something to eat later on. Perhaps I am more of a spade than I thought!!

I think what Jesus was trying to say to Martha was that there is a proper time to listen to Jesus and a proper time to work for Him.

As Christians, we are where we are, to build the kingdom of God wherever God has placed us. You could say that involves being like a bucket **and** a spade. There are times when we need to be still and quiet to allow ourselves to be filled with God's presence, the Holy Spirit. Unless there is something in our bucket, there is nothing to give away to others.

At other times, we are called into busyness. Busyness can be a dangerous place to be; we can be so caught up in the detail that we forget the main reasons for our actions. We can envision a wonderful sandcastle but we still need our bucket to help us complete the task.

We need not only to have a healthy balance in our physical lives but also in our spiritual lives as well. There is a proper time to listen to Jesus, to rest and fill the bucket and there is a proper time to work with Him. Be busy, but not over busy.

**How's your balance?**

**Fill your heart with wisdom and it will be like a deep well**



## Agape Outreach Ministry – work this church supports in Malawi

**Dennis and Sheila Eaton, who we heard from in church in the Spring, have returned to Malawi, which has been very badly affected by flooding. They write: -**

‘The floods have deeply impacted many people.

It is one thing to hear reports, or see pictures on the news, but the devastation comes with a new depth of force when you are sitting with people outside the pile of bricks that was once their home and they are now living in a shelter made of grass. It’s heart-rending to listen to their stories of escape when walls fell and roofs caved in at night and hear of their lack of food - their crops being destroyed in the flood water.

Now they face the challenge of finding work to earn a little money to buy food (when there is no work and no one has any money to pay anyone) and to mould bricks and have the time to build their house whilst their family goes hungry. We have spent time walking from place to place assessing the needs, seeking to prioritise those who have no means to help themselves - especially widows, the sick and disabled. We are starting a programme of rebuilding houses for those who are particularly vulnerable and have been able to buy 240 x 50kg bags of maize to provide for those who are struggling for food. Please pray for the logistics of meeting so many needs across a wide area. This will not be a ‘quick fix’ as people now face another 9 months until the next harvest.’



The audio Bibles which were distributed last year were received with much joy as illiterate people were able to hear the Bible clearly read in their own language.

This year, thanks to generous donations from their various supporters they have been able to send a further 120 audio Bibles. ‘It’s been thrilling to see the audio bibles still being treasured and used regularly. The Muslim village chief told us he listens to his audio bible with his wife every evening and even takes it to the field to listen while he is working there with other people. He said he is learning a lot.

Sitting alongside people in their distress, showing love and genuine care, gives opportunities to share about the greatest love of all - the love God has demonstrated in providing salvation through Jesus. Please pray for eternal fruit and for God’s clear leading as to who to help and how.

We are having opportunities for bible teaching amongst children, women’s groups, men’s group, youth, and Sunday services. We have been so encouraged to see evidence of sustained spiritual growth amongst some with whom we have been working for many years now and also to hear from those who have recently come to faith in Christ or are coming to investigate because they are drawn by ‘the extraordinary love of Jesus’ they have witnessed through the pastoral care.’

**READ MORE ABOUT THIS WORK IN THE NEWSLETTER ON THE NOTICEBOARD AT THE BACK OF CHURCH**

## Christian Aid – Thank you!



**Thank you to all who supported fundraising events for Christian Aid week**

**A total of £280 was raised which has been sent to Christian Aid**

*Fundraising activities included a Saturday Coffee Morning with Bring and Buy, Raffle and Plant Sale which raised £124 and the sale of cakes both on Saturday and at church on Sunday, which raised £76.*

*A further £80 was donated in gift envelopes.*

## What's happening at Epiphany in June and July?

 <p><b>Church Services</b></p>	<p><b>2 June and 7 July</b>            9.00am Breakfast @ 9 – Especially for families with young children            10.00am Coffee followed by a short, informal Family Service</p> <p><b>9 June and 14 July</b>            10.00am Holy Communion (sung) with Roots for Children and Crèche</p> <p><b>16 June and 21 July</b>            9.00am Holy Communion (said)            10.00am Informal Service (coffee served from 9.45am)            3.00pm Messy Church in the hall (see advert on the last page)</p> <p><b>23 June and 28 July</b>            10.00 Holy Communion (sung) with Roots for Children and Crèche</p> <p><b>30 June</b>            10.00am All Age, with baptisms</p> <p><b>Wednesday Holy Communion 12.15pm on 19 June and 17 July</b></p>
	<p><b>Home Groups</b> – friendly groups who meet fortnightly to share fellowship, study God's word and pray. New members welcome - please talk to Jan Farrow.  <u>Monday Evening Group meets at 7.30pm</u>  <b>Please see Lynley Wilkes for dates and venues</b>  <u>Wednesday Morning Group meets at 10.00am</u>  <b>5 and 19 June; 3 and 17 July. Please see Jan Farrow for venue</b></p>
<p><b>PRAYER</b> <i>changes things</i></p>	<p><b>Prayer Meetings</b> in the Jubilee Room – all are welcome.            Saturday evenings 6 – 7pm – Coffee and prayer on <b>1 June and 6 July</b>            Tuesday afternoons 2 – 3pm on <b>11 and 25 June; 9 and 23 July</b></p>
	<p><b>Epiphany Bright Stars</b> – parent/carer and toddler group on Tuesday mornings in <b>term-time</b> at 9.30am in the church and Jubilee Room.  <b>Last meeting before the summer holidays is on 16 July. Restarts 10 September</b>            Contact Jodie Burge on 01202 776270</p>
	<p><b>Messy Church</b> – family fun for parents and children followed by a shared meal. Lots of craft activities, biscuit or cake decorating, Bible stories and buffet tea.            3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month 3.00 – 5.00pm in the hall. Next meetings are on <b>16 June (Father's Day Special) and 21 July (Summer Special)</b>.  <b>See back page for details.</b> Contact Lynley Wilkes on 01202 823261</p>
	<p><b>Men's Breakfast</b> – next meeting is at <b>Holy Epiphany on 22 June</b>, when our speaker will be Major Howard Webber. On <b>27 July</b> we meet at <b>St Paul's, Throop</b> when our speaker will be John Stones from Barnabas Fund. Full English breakfast served at <b>8.00 am</b>. All men welcome.            Contact Andy on <b>07484 203076</b> or andy.renton56@gmail.com.</p>
	<p><b>Muscliff Care Home:</b> – Mondays at 2.45pm, monthly  <b>10 June – Pentecost</b>  <b>8 July – Moses</b></p>

	<p><b>Epiphany Pre school</b> meets Monday - Friday in the church hall during <b>term-time</b> from 9.00am to 3.00pm. Closed during summer holidays. Please check dates with the pre-school staff. Phone 01202 612337 for more information</p>	
	<p><b>Tea Cosy</b> – tea and coffee and time for a chat. Mondays in term-time from 9.30am – 12.00 in the Jubilee Room. <b>Last meeting is on 15 July. Restarts on 9 September</b></p>	 <p><b>Choir practice</b> - please contact Susan Bright for up to date information. See the 'Who's Who' page for contact details.</p>
	<p><b>Lunch Club</b> – coffee at 10.30am followed by games and social time. Lunch is served at 1.00pm and is prepared by 'Crumbs'. A 2-course meal costs £4 and (pre-booked) menu choices are available. Please contact the church office on 01202 612337 to book.</p>	
	<p><b>Pie and a Pint</b> – an opportunity for men to chat and 'put the world to rights'. 7.00pm Wetherspoon's in Winton. <b>Next meetings 26 June and 31 July.</b> Contact Alan Hogg on 07963 706907. All men welcome, no need to book.</p>	
	<p><b>Hymns and Cake</b> – come and join in with some favourite hymns, learn a little about them and afterwards enjoy tea and cake. <b>Friday 19 July at 2.30pm</b> in the Jubilee Room. A dementia friendly event. <b>No meeting in June.</b> Contact Joanne Davis for information about July's meeting. Tel 07906355271.</p>	
	<p><b>Beavers</b> Jacqui Elena jacqui.elena15@gmail.com <b>Cubs</b> Jan Kingsland 01202 517627 <b>Scouts</b> Simon Blake 07500 901 561</p>	 <p><b>Brownies</b> Sam Pattermore 07930 581851 <b>Guides and Rainbows</b> Sandra Coomber 07712 129445</p>

	<p><b>Save the date – who could you invite?</b> <b>Cream tea with musical accompaniment</b> <b>17 August between 2.30 and 4.30pm</b> Bring your family and friends!</p>	
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## The Bournemouth and Poole Convention 1 – 5 July

**Everyone is welcome**

Evening talks at Citygate (see ad alongside)

Morning talks on Paul's letter to the Ephesians - Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 10.30am at Christ Church Westbourne

*Ask Alan and Mary Hogg for more information*

Charles Price

International Preacher from the Peoples church in Toronto, Canada.

Five Evenings @ 7.45pm  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July  
@ The Citygate Centre  
Bournemouth BH8 8AS

Don't miss this chance to hear him speak – Admission is free.



## Spring Harvest 2019 by Joanne Davis

Joanne recently attended Spring Harvest and shares with us some of the teaching on prayer.

The theme for Spring Harvest 2019 was Prayer and we studied the gospel of Matthew chapter 6 where Jesus taught his disciples, and indeed us, how to pray. We learned that:

- Prayer is the place where humans and God meet - we have unlimited access to an unlimited God through prayer with God - alone, with others and for others.
  - Prayer is motivated by different things, at different times, in different places and by our own individual personalities.
  - There is no right or wrong way to pray – it is being present with God, listening to God, waiting on God, persisting/persistent and unlimited.
- James chapter 4 v 8 says *“Draw near to God and he will draw near to you”*.

A handy guide to praying is the word ‘PRAY’ –

**P for Pause** - *“Be still and know that I am God”* (Psalm 46 v 10)

**R for Rejoice** - *“Rejoice in the Lord always”* (Philippians chapter 4 v 4)

**A for Ask** - *“You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it”* (John chapter 14 v 14)

**Y is for Yield** - *“Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice”* (Romans chapter 12 v 1)

If anyone would like a copy of Joanne’s notes or any more details about Spring Harvest do speak to her.



## Parish Registers from April and May 2019

**Baptisms – We welcome into the church family:**

**7 April**

*Florentina Diane Fryer*

*Marley John Stephen Sherry*

**14 April**

*Joshua Andrew Tobias Fancy*



**Funerals – We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of:**

**11 April**

*Paul Griffiths*



## Obituaries

We also record here, with sadness, the recent deaths of two long-standing members of Holy Epiphany whose funerals were held at Bournemouth Crematorium.

**Margaret Bundy**, a former Cub Leader and loyal member of the flower arranging team.

**George Little**, former Church Treasurer and Chair of Governors at Epiphany School.

We extend our deepest sympathies to their family and friends at this time.

## The Big Church Survey

You might have heard of the Big Garden Birdwatch – it's an annual survey of garden birds and provides a snapshot of which species are doing well and which are declining in numbers.

Christian churches in the UK have decided that they would like to know more about who goes to church these days, why they go and how going to church helps them with their daily lives. If you like, it's the Christian equivalent of the Big Garden Birdwatch. Winchester diocese has been chosen to pilot what will eventually be a national survey.

We will be taking part on **Sunday 16 June** and everyone will be given a short questionnaire to complete before they leave – don't worry, it's anonymous. The information we provide will be sent to the Research and Statistics unit of the Church of England for analysis.

To help us all, we will be talking about some of the questions asked during our service, so come along, find out more and take part in this important survey.



A **BIG** snapshot leading to a **BIG** conversation...  
join **The BIG Church Survey!**



[www.bigchurchsurvey.org](http://www.bigchurchsurvey.org)

## TKC Prayer Breakfast



As part of 'Thy Kingdom Come', on Ascension Day we held a prayer breakfast where we explored different ways to pray for people in our locality. Some ideas were:

- To identify items in the local news and bring them to God's heart using sticky plasters.
- To draw our neighbours' houses on coffee filters which we then drew round with red felt pen (to represent the Holy Spirit). Spraying on water made the pen marks run and illustrated the Holy Spirit surrounding our neighbours.

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen**



## Lessons from Bible characters - Caleb by Lynley Wilkes

We may face “giants” in our lives through ill health or because of difficulties in relationships, work, or in our spiritual wellbeing.

We may feel we are surrounded by other people’s negativity and we struggle to find courage to deal with these things in our lives.

We all need to have people around us that inspire us to keep going and give us spiritual hope. Just when we feel at a loss and want to give up, we read about a character in the Bible who gives us inspiration and feeds our spiritual hunger. Caleb, in the Old Testament, is such a person - a companion of Moses and Joshua who was known for his astute powers of observation and his fearlessness in the face of overwhelming odds.

After 40 years in the desert the Israelites were reaching the Promised Land of Canaan. Moses sent out some spies, including Caleb, to see what they might be up against when they entered the country. Bad news came back - there were giants in the land and taking it over was beyond their ability. Then up stepped Caleb who reported just the opposite saying, **“Let us go up at once, and occupy it; for we are well able to overcome it”** (Numbers 13:30) He also said, **“If the Lord delights in us, then He will bring us into this land, and give it us.”** (Numbers 14:8)

Caleb was eager to get going and tried to motivate the people to go up and possess the land which God had promised.

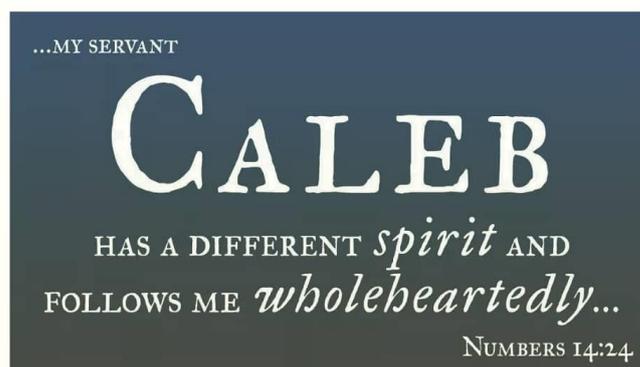
He was willing to take a stand for God when the crowd was more than willing to oppose God’s will. Caleb put his trust in God despite the giants they faced. The crowd wanted to kill Caleb. Think about it! These people would rather have killed him than listen to his words of encouragement.

Well, hopefully people won’t want to kill us for giving words of encouragement, but they can kill our eagerness and dampen our spirit. The Israelites’ unfaithfulness to God meant that they were forced to wander in the wilderness for forty years, but despite this, Caleb’s character and faithfulness to God remained strong. He would not get sucked into others’ negativity and he never blamed God.

Caleb also shows us that in maturity our faith and trust should not grow weary - there is no “retirement plan” in doing the Lord’s work. At the ripe old age of eighty-five Caleb inherited some of the land God had promised because his faith never wavered. He was confident that with the power of God that they would be able to take this tough territory. Because of his faith he was later blessed with land by Joshua (*Joshua 14:13*).

There will always be those who remain negative. Faithful followers of God must be prepared to face adversity when we stand for the truth of God’s word. The “key” to our understanding of Caleb’s character is found in Numbers 14:24 which says he has a **“different spirit”**. As faithful followers of Christ we too should possess a “different spirit” in order to be pleasing to God. The church belongs to Christ and must get to grips with the fact that we are not like everyone else. Standing for the truth will not be popular with those of the world (*John 15:19; John 17:14; 1 John 3:13*). As Christians we are often more concerned what others think about us rather than what God thinks about us. So, will we persevere in the face of negativity and remain faithful to God’s calling in our lives? Will we have the courage of Caleb to fulfil the promise God has given us?

*Caleb is a name of Hebrew origin, and the meaning is “faith, devotion, whole hearted”.*



## Marjorie's Memories - (interviewed by Jan Farrow)

**First and foremost, Marjorie, may I wish you a very Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.**

Thank you, Jan. I had a lovely day with friends and family. I had a cake and you can see all my cards.

**How does it feel to be 90, Marjorie?**

I feel that I am a very lucky girl. I am in my own home; my sons look after me; I have carers come in and friends who are always in contact. My memory is not very good now and I am rather forgetful.

**Who's this cat, Marjorie?**

This is Sophie, she's a wonderful companion. Sophie's a house cat and doesn't go out of the garden. I have always liked animals. When I was younger, we had dogs.

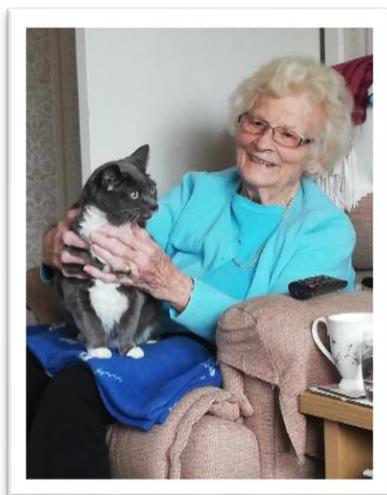
**You have a very big garden Marjorie.**

We used to keep ourselves in vegetables; it's put down to grass now.

**Tell me a little about yourself Marjorie.**

I'm a Bournemouth girl, like my mum, but I was born in Portsmouth. My father was in the Royal Navy. When I was young, I was brought up in Boscombe. I remember the house five doors away being hit by a bomb; we were in our shelter under the table.

The damage was so bad we could see daylight through our roof. That was a very frightening time.



**I expect you didn't see much of your Dad.**

No, he was twenty-three years in the Navy. I do remember when he used to work at Bournemouth pier. If he forgot his sandwiches, I had to take a penny bus ride and go and find him. He was recalled to the navy in WW 2 and died in Germany. He is buried at Kiel and I went there twice with my brother Norman.

**Have you any more really early memories, Marjorie?**

Yes, I recall my mother used to love to sit on the beach and knit. One day, when I was 4 and a half, she sent me off to find and bring back my twin brother so we could eat our sandwiches at tea time. Somehow, I got lost, I walked past Bournemouth pier and was eventually found at 8.30pm at Alum Chine. My mother thought I had been drowned.

**You mentioned Norman, Marjorie?**

Yes, I used to say I have two 'better halves' because Norman was my twin brother and I married a Norman. Both have sadly passed away.

I met my husband ballroom dancing and was married at 23. I have two engagement rings and two wedding bands. Being war time, it was difficult to get things. I saved up so I could have a white wedding. I was a ledger clerk.

**Tell me a little about your church life, Marjorie.**

When I was 14 my mother, Norman (my brother) and I were confirmed. Before that I went to Sunday School. My mum was good living and believed in God. Roger and Chris, my two sons, were christened at Epiphany. I used to enjoy the ladies' group that Pat Matthews ran and, of course, our Sunday services. I cannot get to church so easily now, but I sometimes go to Tea Cosy, Lunch Club, and Hymns and Cake. My faith means a lot to me and I am so pleased when I can get to church.

**Do you have a favourite hymn, Marjorie?**

Yes, I have two. 'Praise my soul the King of Heaven' and 'Love divine all Loves excelling' - they were my two wedding hymns. I always try and pray to God when I go to bed, sometimes now I forget.

**Marjorie, I sometimes forget to pray as well, fortunately God knows us well enough to understand. Thank you so much for talking to me, it's been really good to share in your memories. We look forward to those times when you are able to join us in church, and pray that God will continue to bless you.**



# Messy Church 3 - 5 pm

## Father's Day 16 June

with Cream Tea



Bring your Dad, Grandad or someone who is like a Dad to you

# Summer Special 21 July

Fun, games and craft followed by a family BBQ

We've been thinking about the Lord's Prayer with some of our Children's Groups recently

Here is a version of the Lord's Prayer written in modern words – does it help us understand it?

Hello Daddy! We want to know you and be close to you. Please show us how.  
 Make everything in the world right again and in our hearts too.  
 Do what is best - just like you do in heaven and please do it down here too.  
 Please give us everything we need today. Forgive us for doing wrong – for hurting you.  
 Forgive us just as we forgive other people when they hurt us.  
 Rescue us! We need you. We don't want to keep running away and hiding from you.  
 Keep us safe from our enemies. You're strong, God. You can do whatever you want.  
 You are in charge. Now and forever and for always! We think you're great! Amen! Yes, we do!

*(Lloyd-Jones, S., Jesus Storybook Bible, 2012, p.226).*

### Now try the Wordsearch

All the words come from the traditional version of the Lord's Prayer.

Can you find them all?

- Bread
- Ever
- Forgive
- Glory
- Hallowed
- Heaven
- Kingdom
- Power
- Temptation
- Will

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