

Kingston Parish & Church Magazine



March 2020

Village Diary

Wednesday 4 th March	Village Coffee/Tea – Village Hall – 10.30am
Saturday 7 th March	Pub Night at the Village Hall, 6pm-10pm
Tuesdays 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th , 24 th & 31 st March	Wellness Workouts, 10.00am & 6.30pm
Thursday 19 th March	Kingston Music Club, 7.30pm
Saturday 28 th March	Pub Night at the Village Hall, 6pm-10pm

Wheelie bin collection dates

Wednesday 4 th March	Black bin
Wednesday 11 th March	Blue and Green bins
Wednesday 18 th March	Black bin
Wednesday 25 th March	Blue and Green bins

Editorial

The beautiful photo on the front cover, taken by Tom Reynolds, is of an increasingly rare bird called a Spotted Flycatcher. These birds are in SW Africa right now but will be back in our area in May and we are asked to look out for them in our gardens (see the article below).

Please note the changes in the Pub Nights calendar – again see below.

The new feature, Kwirky Korner, seems to be of some interest to you. This monthly collection of quirky, oddball and amusing stories gleaned from far and wide is aimed at bringing a smile to your face and is obviously fulfilling its purpose. Hopefully, as two readers have already done, you will have your own examples to add to the mix. If you do, please don't hesitate to contact me at the email address below.

Peter Holly pjholly45@gmail.com 01223 264 556

Vicar's Letter

What do Atiyah, Brendan, Ciara, Dennis, Ellen, and Francis have in common?

The answer is that they are the names chosen for this season's Atlantic storms, of which, at the time of writing, we've experienced the first four. It's slightly worrying to me that the 14th storm, if that arises, will be named "Noah"!

Apparently, naming a storm means people take more notice of it, which is good, because it makes preparation more effective. Unfortunately research has shown storms with girls' names are perceived as less dangerous than those with boys' names, which means people don't take them as seriously, and lives are lost unnecessarily as a result.

It got me wondering why don't we name the good times in our lives? Holiday Amelia, Wedding Bertie, Birthday Charlotte, Grandchildren Daniel ...

Perhaps it's because all those things already have names attached – the family and friends who made those occasions special. The joyful times in our lives are the ones we share with those we love.

The Bible is full of stories about storms – from the original Noah's Flood onwards. On one occasion in the Gospels, Jesus faces two very different storms. In the first, he and his disciples are in a storm on the Sea of Galilee: the disciples, despite being seasoned fishermen, think they're going to die, but Jesus calms the storm with a word of command.

As soon as they land, Jesus is faced with a man who has many "demons": he lives, naked and raving, among the tombs, a source of fear for all in the neighbourhood. Once again, with a word of command, Jesus calms the storm and restores the man to his right mind.

You may be experiencing storms in your life right now, and they may have names: Anxiety, Bereavement, Cancer, Disappointment. You may be experiencing joys – I hope you are – and they will have the names of your loved ones.

But in every storm there's one name you can call on for help, and in every joy there's one name who will make that joy complete – the name is Jesus.

Rev. Steve Day

Church Services for March

Sunday 1st March **Holy Communion 8.30am**

Sunday 15th March **Family Service 10.30am**

Wednesday 25th March **ANNUNCIATION Holy Communion 7.30pm**

Church cleaning

1 st Sunday	Peter and Suzy Stokes
2 nd Sunday	Donal and Monica O'Donnell
3 rd Sunday	Peter Reynolds
4 th Sunday	Janet Clear
5 th Sunday	Linda Rimmer

Church flowers and brasses

1 st March	Henrietta Burbridge
8 th March	Joan Reynolds
15 th March	Kay Forsythe
22nd March	Linda Smith
29 th March	Lee Steele

Home Communion

If you cannot get out and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please let the office know and we will arrange for the sacrament to be brought to you on a regular basis. If you are having difficulty getting to church, but a lift would make that possible please contact the team office on 01480 839933 and we will be able to help.

Annual Church Meetings:

Thursday 26th March 7.30pm in the Village Hall

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners will take place at 7.30pm on the 26th March in the Village Hall. All those who are registered electors of the parish, whether church members or not, are entitled by age-old right to attend and nominate and elect two churchwardens for the coming year. There then follows the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, at which the Parochial Church Council officers and members are elected by those registered on the church's electoral roll. Annual reports and the audited accounts will be presented. Everyone is very welcome to attend. Finally, a routine PCC meeting to discuss current issues concludes the evening.

Feast of the Annunciation

Wednesday 25th March

The Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, also known as the Feast of the Incarnation, or Lady Day, is traditionally celebrated on March 25th, nine months before Christmas Day. Before the adoption of the Gregorian calendar in 1752, it was regarded as the first day of the year and was traditionally the date when tenancies were agreed, workers hired and debts paid. There will be a small exhibition of images of the Annunciation in our church all day on Wednesday 25th March, with a service of Holy Communion at 7.30pm. All welcome.

**Exhibition: Wednesday 25th March,
(Church open, come and go as you like)**

Followed by

A Service of Holy Communion at 7.30pm



Team Service Sunday 29th March

with Bishop Dagmar

at the Church of St John the Baptist, Papworth St Agnes

There will be a service for the whole Papworth Team at Papworth St Agnes on March 25th at 10.30am. This will be the first service in our patch at which our newly appointed Bishop of Huntingdon, the Rt Rev Canon Dr Dagmar Winter, will preside. Bishop Dagmar is of British and Swiss descent and has studied in both the UK and in Germany. She started her ministry in the Church of England in the Diocese of Rochester, before moving to Northumberland, undertaking various roles, and becoming Rector of Hexham Abbey in 2015. She has served on the General Synod since 2005, and has special interests in rural and women's ministry. Dagmar is also a member of the Meissen Commission which promotes fellowship between the Church of England and the Evangelical Church in Germany. Please note that this service is at the church of St John the Baptist in Papworth St Agnes, (take the road to Graveley off the A1198, just north of Papworth Everard). St John the Baptist was declared redundant in the 1970s and nearly demolished: it is in the care of The Friends of Friendless Churches and doubles as a village hall.

In the Spirit of Kwirky Korner, David Heath submitted this poem which deserves to stand in its own right.

A young relative of mine was clearing out the attic of her mother's house when she came across the "Poem" below. She sent me a copy as she thought it would appeal to a person of advanced years. Certainly my 'GET UP AND GO JUST GOT UP AND WENT' and one or two other afflictions plague me but I can still see the funny side!

Dave Heath.

I'M FINE! HOW ARE YOU?

There is nothing the matter with me
I am as healthy as I can be.
I have arthritis in both knees
And when I speak I talk with a wheeze

My pulse is weak and my blood is thin
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.
Without the arch supports I have for my feet
I would no longer be able to get on the streets.

Most of my own teeth have sadly gone
And my tedious diet is best not dwelt on.
I'm over weight and can't get thin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

Sleep is denied me night after night,
But every morning I find I'm all right.
Memory is fading and my head's in a spin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in

The moral is this, as my tale I unfold,
That for you and I who are growing old,
It's better to say "I'm fine" with a grin,
Than to let folk know the shape we are in.

How do I know that my youth is all spent,
Well my get up and go just got up and went!
But I really don't mind when I think with a grin,
Of all the grand places my 'get up' has been.

Forthcoming Event

On Saturday 4th April 2020
there is an Easter Craft & Gift
Fair taking place at Eversden
Village Hall,
11am-4pm, Free Entry.

For more information
or to book a table contact
Emma on 07519 938824
or email
info@ejheventplanning.co.uk"

Emma Houghton
Managing Director
EJH Event Planning

01223 871928
07519 938824

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Book by Lionel Bart & Joan Maitland

**COMBERTON VILLAGE COLLEGE
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Thursday 19th March
Friday 20th March
at 7.30pm
Saturday 21st March
at 2.30pm and 7.30pm

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and Bourn Village Shop

British Red Cross

We create a production in partnership with
the British Red Cross to support their work
in the UK and abroad. All profits from the production
will be donated to the British Red Cross.

Old age is golden, I have heard it said,
But sometimes I wonder as I get to my bed,
With my ears in a drawer, my teeth in a cup,
And my eyes on the table until I get up.
Ere sleep overtakes me, I say to myself,
Is there anything else to lay on the shelf?

I get up each morning and dust off my wits,
And pick up the paper and read the orbits.
If my name is still missing I know I'm not dead,
So I fix me some breakfast and go back to bed!

Anon.

East West Rail News

Dear all

I'm sure most of you are now aware that the broad 'band' of the route has been chosen, and that it is the northern route that seems to pass rather close to Kingston.

The precise alignment in this band has not yet been decided, and East West Rail have informed us that over the coming months they will be surveying the route, contacting landowners where necessary.

They will be holding public events at which more information will be provided and questions answered - it is not clear yet to what extent there will be further consultation, or any opportunity to influence the exact route. The Parish Council will be discussing the latest developments at the next meeting on 10 March.

We will disseminate further information as we receive it, by emails like this or in the magazine. In the meantime you might like to visit their website:

<https://eastwestrail.co.uk/>

Peter Stokes

#LiveLent: Care for God's Creation is the Church of England's Lent Challenge for 2020. With weekly themes shaped around the first Genesis account of creation, it explores the urgent need for humans to value and protect the abundance God has created. #LiveLent offers 40 short reflections and suggested actions to help you, your family and your church live in greater harmony with God, neighbour and nature. It is inspired by the book, *Saying Yes to Life* by Dr Ruth Valerio. To receive the daily Lent reflections by email visit <https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/living-out-our-faith/lent-holy-week-and-easter/livelent-care-gods-creation>

S-T-R-E-T-C-H-I-N-G

How flexible are you?!

Flexibility is one of the five components of fitness, so stretching should be an integral part of our lives but during our busy day how many of us take time to stretch?

Here are ten reasons why we should always take the time to stretch:

1. Decreases muscle stiffness. Stretching helps improve your range of motion, which may also slow the degeneration of your joints.
2. May reduce your risk of injury. A flexible muscle is less likely to become injured if you have to make a sudden move. By increasing the range of motion in a particular joint through stretching, you can decrease the resistance on your body's muscles during various activities.
3. Helps relieve post-exercise aches and pains. After a hard workout, stretching your muscles helps keep them loose and lessens the shortening and tightening effect that can lead to post-workout aches and pains.
4. Improves posture. Stretching the muscles of the lower back, shoulders and chest helps keep your back in better alignment and improves your posture.
5. Helps reduce or manage stress. Well-stretched muscles hold less tension and, therefore, can help you feel less stressed.
6. Reduces muscular tension and enhances muscular relaxation. Chronically tense muscles tend to cut off their own circulation, resulting in a lack of oxygen and essential nutrients. Stretching allows your muscles to relax.
7. Improves mechanical efficiency and overall functional performance. Because a flexible joint requires less energy to move through a wider range of motion, a flexible body improves overall performance by creating more energy-efficient movements.
8. Prepares the body for the stress of exercise. Stretching prior to exercise allows your muscles to loosen up and become better able to withstand the impact of the activity you choose to do.
9. Promotes circulation. Stretching increases blood supply to your muscles and joints, which allows for greater nutrient transportation and improves the circulation of blood through your entire body.
10. Decreases the risk of low-back pain. Flexibility in the hamstrings, hip flexors and muscles attached to the pelvis relieves stress on the lumbar spine, which in turn reduces your risk of low-back pain.

Help is at hand with a new Mindful Movement initiative...

Recently one or two Kingston men have sustained muscle injury while taking part in their chosen sports activities so together we decided some intervention is necessary to help with further injury prevention. Focusing on stretch and flexibility the new weekly 30 minute sessions will run from February 2020 Tuesdays, 5:45pm - 6:15pm at Kingston Village Hall. Come along for a free taster session, £3 thereafter.

For further information, to discuss any concerns beforehand or to provide feedback please contact Jacqueline Smith, The Barn 07979 802749 jacqslsmith@gmail.com

Lent Groups

will be taking place on

Thursdays

3pm at Papworth Church

7.30pm at Caxton Church

until 2 April

with Holy Communion at

7.30pm on 9 April

(Maundy Thursday)

at Caxton Church

Meditation & Compline by Candlelight for Lent

at St Peter's Boxworth

Fri 6, 13, 20, 27 March

8.30pm Silent Meditation~

9.00pm Compline

On 20 March there will be a

Plainchant Compline

led by the choir of

St Andrew's, Swavesey

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- One large and one smaller hall
- Both newly refurbished
- Up to 50 people sitting
- Tables and chairs supplied
- Fully equipped kitchen
- China, glassware and cutlery
- Fridge
- Alcohol licence
- Disabled access and facilities

Hire charges per hour:

Kingston residents: Before 7pm - £5. After 7pm - £7

Non residents: Before 7pm - £10. After 7pm - £13

Enquiries: Sarah Wright (secretary)

01223 263500 or 0787 999 1068

kingstonvillagehall@gmail.com

Date	Title	Bourn	Kingston	Caxton	Longstowe
Mar 1	1 st Sun of Lent	10.30am FHC	8.30am HC	10.30am MP	
Mar 8	Lent 2	10.30am W4A		10.30am W4A	8.30am HC
Mar 15	Lent 3	8.30am HC	10.30am FS		
Mar 22	Mothering Sunday	10.30am FW		8.30am HC	10.30am MP
Mar 29	Lent 5	10.30am Team HC Service with Bishop Dagmar at Papworth St Agnes Church			
Apr 5	Palm Sunday	10.30am W4A	8.30am HC	10.30am MP	
Apr 12	Easter	10.30am FHC	10.30am HC	10.30am HC	9.30am HC
Apr 19	Easter 2	8.30am HC			
Apr 26	Easter 3	10.30am FW		8.30am HC	10.30am MP

HC = traditional Holy Communion (BCP)

MP= traditional Morning Prayer (BCP)

EP = traditional Evening Prayer (BCP)

FHC= Common Worship/All Age Holy Communion

W4A/FS = Family Service

FW = All Age Worship/Morning Prayer/Prayer & Praise/Morning Worship

P&P=Prayer & Praise

Spotted Flycatchers –

have you got this increasingly rare bird breeding in your garden?

Let us know!

In recent years many Cambridgeshire community and parish newsletters, magazines and websites have helped with a County-wide survey of Spotted Flycatchers. These are attractive little migrant birds which are summer visitors to village gardens and churchyards. Although they breed with us, they spend up to nine months of the year travelling as much as 16,000 miles a year between here and their wintering grounds in Southern Africa – Angola and Namibia. This is an increasingly dangerous journey for them, and sadly they are in deep decline. Widespread losses amounted to a 50% decline during 1995-2010, continuing an 90% decline since 1970.

Only a few hundred pairs remain breeding in Cambridgeshire, but most villages still have a pair or two; they rarely breed out in the wider countryside. We are continuing our work to find and monitor nesting pairs. It's almost certain that there are many additional pairs out there of which we are not aware.

Do you have flycatchers in your garden? Will you see one this year, or have you in recent years? The few that remain are here from mid-May to September. And there's lots more to read about our project and Spotted Flycatchers in general at

bit.ly/SpotFly

Please email: spofl@cambridgebirdclub.org.uk with any sightings.

Walking the Dog

Browsing through my human's newsfeed recently I actually found an article that made a lot of sense. Apparently, in America (where I was born and brought up), there's an organization called PETA and this article is based on an interview its president gave on American TV. Walking your dog, she said, is "more than a bathroom break". Amen to that, I say. For a good walk, I would argue, doing my business is necessary but not sufficient. There is so much more to do. The woman stressed the importance of not rushing a dog when the pug (is that what they call us?) is outside. "Let them sniff!" she said. "That's their way they read the news, that's their internet. Don't drag them along...Dog owners should take the time to let their canine companions explore the world in a safe manner." Absolutely, I say. Thank goodness that someone is saying it as it really should be. Every day there are old smells to investigate and new clues to unearth. It's a constantly changing pattern; as she says, it's my version of the internet, my very own newsfeed, you might say.

She continues, "It's their walk, you know. That's a very special occasion for a dog, to be outside and to smell and to look." In my case, of course, looking is not so easy; but smelling, well that's my Olympic sport and I'm the gold medallist! Warming to her message, the same woman concludes about us dogs: "they don't want to be stuck in a room all day with their legs crossed. It's more than a bathroom break, it's an excursion."

She obviously really gets it. It is my walk, my time to explore, and my time to shine. Now I just need my human to read the same article.

Buddy Holly

Music Club News

Kingston Music Club had its second meeting of the year on Thursday February 20th with Peter Holly presenting. The session was called "Guitarists" and contained tracks from Peter's favourite blues and rock guitarists including the likes of Duane Eddy, Prince, Peter Green, Eric Clapton, Hank B Marvin, Carlos Santana, Jeff Beck and Duane Allman. The next session is scheduled for Thursday March 19th at 7.30pm when the presenter will be Suzy Stokes.

Kwiry Korner (2)

Those Krazy Kats... In Adelaide, South Australia, a one year old cat somewhat inappropriately named Eve, managed to climb up on her owners' washing machine overnight, switched on the laundry tap to full blast and trained it on the ground, flooding the entire downstairs of the house and causing £15,000 worth of damage. Would you Adam and Eve it! Meanwhile, in California, Max the cat was cornered in a back alley by three coyotes. In footage captured by a security camera, he fought off the three predators, sending them skittling away. According to his owner, Max has always been crazy; "if this were to happen with any cat, it would be him", she said. Still in California (what is it with all these Californian cats?), a scrawny little kitten covered in paint and dirt turned up at a couple's home. They already had a dog and three cats but decided to foster "Cru". In the meantime, their renegade, six year old cat "Ollie", who had always been most difficult (it had taken four years for him to settle down, they said), decided to take the kitten under his wing and showed such gentleness that the couple never knew he had in him. Cru and Ollie ate together, snuggled up together at nap-time, and romped together when the kitten felt active – which was often! Cru had found his big brother and Ollie had found his soul-mate. Meanwhile, in North Carolina, the "world's worst cat" has found a new home. According to the animal rescue centre where she has resided for several months, Perdita "stares into your soul until you feel as if you may never be cheerful again". Apparently, she likes to lurk in dark corners and pretends to be sick. She has lots of quirks (so she fits in perfectly here); she dislikes "kittens, children, the colour pink, Disney movies, Christmas and even hugs". Adopted by a couple in Tennessee who adore her (silly, unsuspecting fools), she merely tolerates them. She has her own bedroom until she is ready to transition into the rest of the house, spending most of her time under the bed. Her new owners have changed her name to Noel (in the hope that she'll get to like Christmas?) and, as her former rescue home staff have posted online: "Happy tails, Perdy, may the catnip be plentiful, the music classical, the bed always fluffy and the journey smooth".

Meghan as Meghan? Given all the conjecture recently about Meghan Markle, some commentators have been speculating as to whether she would be written out of the script of "The Crown" when it gets more up-to-date. An alternative scenario might be, given her newly won professional status, that she could be hired to play herself! Another scenario is that Meghan translates her interest in politics into a run for the Presidency, gets elected, with Harry becoming "First Husband", thus bringing America back under British rule!

Quite a Feat! Diego, a 100-year old giant tortoise living in the Galapagos Islands has saved his entire species from the brink of extinction. Singlehandedly (if that's the right word) he has fathered 800 babies. Apparently he has mated with hundreds of partners, but has six girlfriends who he is rather partial to. Hats off to Diego!

Things NOT to say when asking for a pay-rise:

"I've been here for over a year".

"My rent has gone up".

"I want a raise of £10,000".

"Give me a raise or I'll hand in my notice".

"Sorry, but I need more money".

"I've spoken with my colleague and he/she is earning more than me". (It might be OK to say this if you work for the BBC).

"I can't believe we lost such a huge client/messed up that pitch/have seen sales plummet/ failed to secure that contract. Anyway I need a pay raise".

Can you Bear it? Amidst the terrible bush-fires in Australia, there have been thousands of acts of bravery and heroism, but one dog's courage stands out. Rejected by his owners for being too active and boisterous, Bear, a border-collie mix, was retrained to sniff out injured koalas and has been doing sterling work over recent months, saving many lives and earning lavish praise from the Australian authorities.

Faux Pas. At a recent dinner party, the host greeted an old friend at the front door and was introduced to his friend's new girlfriend. When general introductions were made, the host said "and this is Gludenfrieda", not realizing that her name was actually Rachel and, that during the garbled introductions, in her anxiety, she was merely trying to explain her dietary needs.

Up the Pole. In 1982 two telephone engineers arrived in a village in County Tipperary to replace a telegraph pole, which had become decayed. There was a postbox attached to the pole by two bands, but the engineers did not have the special key to loosen the bands. However the pole was tapered, and they managed to slide the postbox up to the top of the old pole, and slide it down onto the new one.

The new pole was slightly thicker than the old one, so the postbox came to rest some 20 feet from the ground. When the engineers came back a few days later with the key to adjust the bands, they were surprised to find several letters had been posted.
(from Peter Stokes)



Papworth Team Ministry (C of E)

The Papworth Team Ministry Team Office:

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Ermine Street North
Papworth Everard
CB23 3UY

Email: papworthteamministryoffice@gmail.com

Web: www.papworthteamchurches.org

Our Team Administrator, Chris Westgarth, works in the office normally on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings; serving the parishes of Bourn, Boxworth, Caxton, Conington, Croxton, Elsworth, Eltisley, Graveley with Papworth St Agnes, Kingston, Knapwell, Lolworth, Longstowe, Papworth Everard, Toseland and Yelling.

For enquiries about weddings, baptisms, funerals and general parish matters, please contact Chris (as above), visit the website or speak to one of our clergy...

> The Revd Nigel di Castiglione, Team Rector – 07770 697240 - 01954 267241

> The Revd Stephen Day, Team Vicar - 01954 264226

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PUB NIGHTS 2020 – NEW DATES

We know it's called Pub Night, but attendance indicates that the Easys' pizzas are the big attraction. The Village Hall Committee are very grateful for the Easy family's hard work in making such delicious pizzas, we're lucky to have such skills in the village to call on. They are a very important part of Pub Night and add to its enjoyment.

So this year, we are going to try and move Pub Night to keep Easy Pizzas, rather than stick to the 1st Saturday but make do with frozen pizzas when the Easys can't be there.

So the revised Pub Night dates for 2020 are

Mar 7th

Mar 28th

May 2nd

May 30th

Jul 4th (Independence Day Special)

Jul 25th

Sep 5th

Oct 3rd

Oct 31st (Halloween Special)

Dec 5th

Do give Rachel (rachelhooper@hotmail.com) and/or Sarah (sarawwright@hotmail.com) any feedback you have on Pub Night, as the year progresses.

Cambridge Science Festival 9 - 22 March

Predictive policing, mini organs, growing food underground, global mega-fires and the limits of human endurance. These are a few of the topics explored during the 26th Cambridge Science Festival, which is set to host 390 events between 9 – 22 March at venues across the city. The theme this year is 'vision'.

The weekends have hundreds of events for families, including talks on the fastest animals on earth, and weird, mind-fizzingly awesome and funny science facts; hands-on demos with Microsoft HoloLens; robotic workshops; and a virtual reality cycle ride. Further events explore what animals see, the science of snot and magical maths tricks and there is a new trail at The Botanic Garden, Plants inspiring technological innovation, how plants have already solved many of the problems we are currently facing.

Find out about the many different events, a full programme and booking at

<https://www.sciencefestival.cam.ac.uk/>

Book of the Month

“Helter Skelter” by Vincent Bugliosi (Penguin)

Having just watched the new movie “Once Upon a Time in Hollywood” and its references to the Manson murders of the late ‘60s, I thought I’d follow up by re-reading “Helter Skelter”, the definitive book on the murderous rampage. Written by Vincent Bugliosi, the chief prosecutor in the trial, it’s virtually a day-by-day account of the murders, the investigation and the ensuing trial and its aftermath. Fascinating in its detail, several points emerge that are worthy of note.

In terms of the investigation, what jumps out of the pages is the sheer incompetence of the police forces involved. There were actually two sets of murders on successive nights (August 9 and 10, 1969), 5 on the first night (referred to as the Tate murders as one of the victims was a young and aspiring actress, Sharon Tate, who was married to the movie director Roman Polanski and who was eight-months pregnant at the time) and 2 on the next night. What initially happened was that two teams of homicide investigators were created (each focusing on one of the nights) and, because of old rivalries and petty jealousies, no one was motivated to try and link the crimes. Even when suspicions were raised concerning Manson and his entourage and their possible involvement in both sets of murders, these signals were ignored, partly because the Tate team already thought they had their man (he was later exonerated) and partly because the two teams were ploughing their own furrows. This dysfunctionism among the investigators was to last for months and weeks were lost when the actual perpetrators could have been behind bars (actually some already were in custody for other offences). Incredibly, the gun used in the Tate murders was already in the possession of the police (it had been handed in by the person who found it) but because of inter-departmental lack of communication, none of the investigators were made aware of this. It was left to a TV crew to find the discarded blood-spattered clothes used on the first night; the knives used were never found. And once all those involved reached the right conclusion about the Manson group (various members had started making confessions) and Bugliosi, Deputy District Attorney, was appointed to lead the prosecution, the various detectives were more than happy to rest on their oars and let the prosecutor do the grunt work of following up all the various leads that were emerging. The LA police force and its various departments do not come out of all this with much distinction. Moreover, when it came to the motivation for the murders, it was left to Bugliosi to unravel all the complexities of Manson’s thinking. On one level he felt thwarted in his musical ambitions and had a grudge against the likes of Dennis Wilson (the Beach Boys’ drummer) and Terry Melcher (Doris Day’s son and producer of the Byrds’

records), both of whom had befriended Manson but failed to follow through with promises of help in furthering his musical career. On a deeper level, there was Manson's philosophy of Helter Skelter, a potent mix of beliefs taken from the Bible (the book of Revelation), Scientology, and lyrics from Beatles songs, especially those on the so-called White Album which had just been released. Taken together, these ideas created the expectation that the Day of Judgement was nigh and that Charles Manson and his followers were the elite who would survive the holocaust. This deeper level of motivation was considered by many involved in the investigation to be too far-fetched, but Bugliosi stuck to his guns. The trial itself was pure theatre, with Manson's defence counsel using obstructionist tactics which meant that the proceedings lasted much longer than was necessary. Manson spent most of his time staring down the judge, the prosecutor and the various witnesses called to give testimony against him. In the meantime, the various young women from the Manson cult (known as the "Family"), some of whom were being tried alongside Manson while others were just attending the proceedings, indulged in various antics orchestrated by their leader, illustrating the dominance he held over them.

The overall impression of the book is that the population of LA was in fear and thrall of Manson and his murderous entourage. He did not commit the murders but, through his influence over his followers, he master-minded the killings. Some twenty-five years ago, when I was living in Louisville, Kentucky, I was invited to a dinner party in the home of a former FBI agent who was one of the agents appointed to watch over Manson during his trial and thereafter. This experience had affected my new acquaintance so much that his home reflected his post-traumatic stress. Everything in the home (walls, ceilings, floor coverings, furniture, bed covers, kitchen cupboards and surfaces, etc, was coloured white and those pieces that were not white were made of stainless steel (window treatments, kitchen appliances, etc). In the garage (which was also painted white including the spotless floor) his cars were parked on special ramps so the dirty tyres were kept off the clean surface. According to his wife, following his brush with the evil ways of Charles Manson, her husband was desperate to live the cleanest life possible.

As Bugliosi contends, it was a unique case for several reasons, including the prominence of the victims, the months of speculation, conjecture, and pure fright before the killers were identified, the incredibly strong motive for the murders (Helter Skelter and its aim to ignite racial Armageddon), the use of Beatles lyrics to justify their actions, and the role played by Charles Manson, the "Mephistophelean guru" as Bugliosi calls him, who persuaded others to murder for him, most of the perpetrators being young women who savagely murdered total strangers at his command, with relish and gusto and with no evident signs of guilt or remorse.

After a trial lasting several months, Bugliosi succeeded in obtaining several guilty verdicts which carried the death penalty. This however was commuted in 1972 to life imprisonment when the death penalty was abolished in California. The killing didn't necessarily end there, as some 35 murders were thought to be somehow related to Manson and his Family – even one of the defence attorneys went missing until his body was found after the trial ended. Manson himself spent the rest of his life incarcerated, dying in 2017.

Peter Holly

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Record Corner

Once Upon a Time in Hollywood is a classic movie, one of Quentin Tarantino's best. More importantly, it has a great soundtrack which Tarantino himself supervised. Like all the great soundtracks, the music is integral to the movie. As opposed to being purely background noise, the music here is very much part of the action.

Over the opening credits, we hear the garage sound of Roy Head's "Treat Her Right", a hit from 1965. As this is one of my favourite tracks of the 1960s that's a great start. Most of the other tracks, however, fall within the period 1968/1969 when the movie is set. As the movie pays homage to Hollywood and its Los Angeles environs, a lot of the action takes place in cars and on streets like the Sunset Strip and Burbank Boulevard – with the windows turned down and the radio turned up. This is exactly how the music becomes part of the action. And the music is spot on, authentically charting how psychedelia was morphing into heavy rock. Bands like Deep Purple ("Hush" and "Kentucky Woman"), The Bob Seger System ("Ramblin' Gamblin' Man"), Mitch Ryder and the Detroit Wheels ("Jenny Take a Ride") and Los Bravos ("Bring a Little Lovin'") are used to raise the volume and add to the general atmosphere on the streets. Best of all, however, is the pumped up, pulsating version of the Supremes' "You Keep Me Hangin' On" by the inestimable Vanilla Fudge.

Imagine one of the scenes from the movie when the stunt-double played by Brad Pitt leaves the movie lot under endless blue skies in his pale lemon Cadillac, one hand on the steering wheel and the other hand hooked out of the window – with, of course, the radio blasting out. It's an iconic scene. Unfortunately, however, he stops to give a young hippie girl a lift and she asks to be taken home to Spahn's Ranch – which sparks his interest as that's where he used to make Western movies in the late '50s, early '60s. What he finds there is Charles Manson's "Family" (see the "Book of the Month" in this issue) and from then on the forces of darkness take over. In true Tarantino-style, the movie gets darker and darker, ending in a blood-bath with Vanilla Fudge pounding out the accompaniment. In a simple twist of fate the Sharon Tate crew who live next door are the survivors; the same can't be said for the Mansonites.

The movie (and, therefore, the soundtrack) utilizes the device first used by the Who in the '60s – radio tracks interspersed with topical ads, thus adding to the authenticity of the proceedings. Other tracks incorporated in the movie include Jose Feliciano's wonderful version of "California Dreamin'" (a perfect fit), the Box Tops' "Choo Choo Train", Buffy Sainte-Marie's "The Circle Game", and Simon and Garfunkel's "Mrs Robinson". Even Dee Clark's "Hey Little Girl" (which by 1969 was already a golden oldie) fits perfectly in the script. The only negative is the over-use

of tracks by Paul Revere and the Raiders (one of the central characters even plays their LP "Spirit of '67" at a crucial point in the plot); this band was never one of my favourites but, I have to admit, they were very popular at the time and were a mainstay of what radio had to offer.

So rent the movie, sit back and imagine you're driving through LA, enjoy the music (most of which is majestic), but don't go anywhere near those hippy chicks!

Peter Holly

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