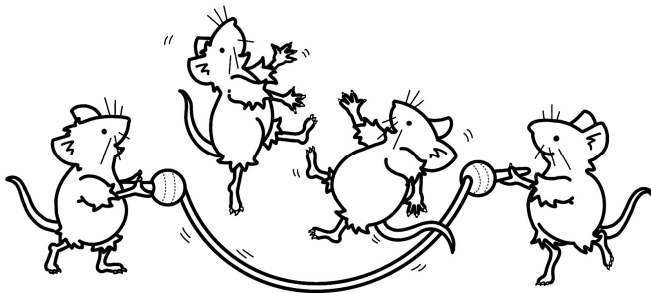




ECHO

1st JULY 2021

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
ECUMENICAL CHURCH OF OCCITANIE
www.ourchurch.fr

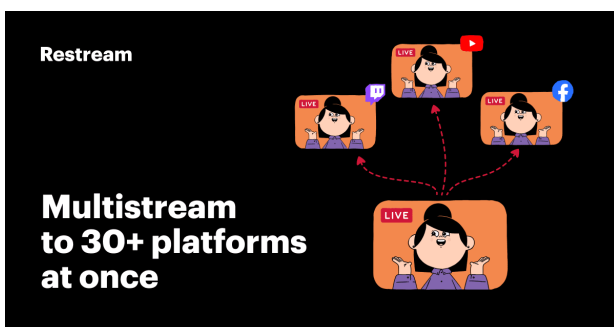


ECO IS NOW BROADCASTING ON YOUTUBE AND FACEBOOK LIVE

ECO has now set up an account with the online streaming service Restream which allows us to broadcast to multiple Social Media Platforms simultaneously. This means that it will now be possible to watch our services live on YouTube and Facebook. We will be adding other social media platforms in the near future to increase the number of places that our online worship can be watched from.

People do not only watch our services on Sundays. Our Sunday service from a fortnight ago has so far been watched by over 90 people and numbers are still rising.

As our mission is to reach out to people who are unwilling or unable to attend worship in a church, we are delighted to see that we are building a good following !



DRIVING LICENCE EXCHANGE AGREEMENT REACHED

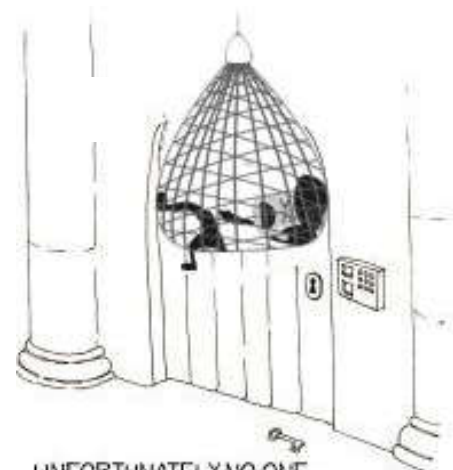


After many months of anxiety, last weekend the French and UK Governments announced that arrangements have now been reached on how UK driving licence-holders can either exchange or continue to drive on their existing licences.

In addition, the French ANTS service is now accepting online applications to replace UK licences which have already expired.

Full details are available online from the UK Government's website at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-in-france#driving-in-france>.

It has also been reported that the French Government have extended the deadline for UK residents in France to apply for a Carte De Sejour until 30 September 2021, but as the time this article was published, the British Embassy were stating that they had not yet been formally notified of this.



UNFORTUNATELY NO ONE REMEMBERED TO WARN HARRY THAT THE SECURITY CODES HAD BEEN CHANGED DURING LOCKDOWN



NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP AT

ECO

We have set out below our programme of worship for next week. For all details of our latest worship, always go to the Home Page of our website:

www.ourchurch.fr

Sunday July 4th - Trinity 5 - Proper 9

10:30 am Online Communion Service

This Sunday we will be holding an online service on both YouTube and Facebook Live which will include a celebration of Communion which you are welcome to take part in online. Please just have some bread and wine (or fruit juice) to hand. As our services are ecumenical, you do not need to be confirmed in any church in order to take part.

Tuesday July 6th

19:00 - An Iona Service of Evening Prayer

This is a short service of prayer and readings from the Bible which is available as a video and also as a Podcast to download and listen to at the close of the day. We also provide the order of service in .PDF for you to download and keep so that you can follow it on your smartphone, tablet or computer if you wish.

Thursday July 8th

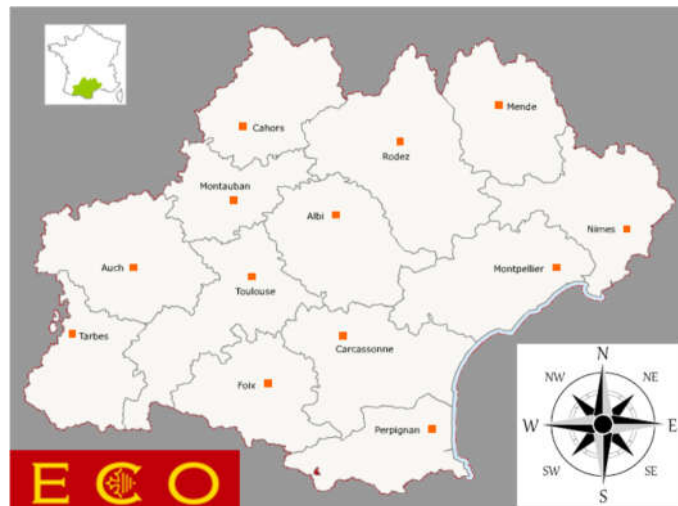
19:00 - A Service of Prayer for Healing

Each week, we come together to pray by name for God's healing touch for those who are in special need at this time. We are happy to include anyone known to you in our prayers (we only refer to people by their first names)

Please send any names of people whom you would like to be included to

healing@ourchurch.fr

by Wednesday evening.



Would you like to be kept informed about our future services and events ?

If you go to our website

www.ourchurch.fr

You can find details of all our forthcoming services, copies of the orders of service which we will be using (where the words of the service will not be appearing on screen) and the readings

You can also subscribe to this newsletter, which will be sent to you via e-mail. You can, of course, unsubscribe at any time that you wish. Just follow the link on the front page of our website to subscribe, or send an e-mail to

echo@ourchurch.fr



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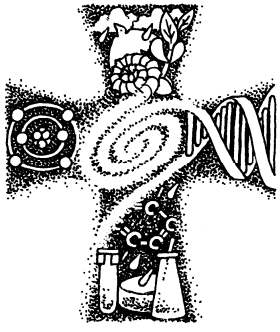
Watch us on Facebook Live next Sunday

Many thanks to everyone who is supporting us!

When you watch on Facebook, you remain completely anonymous and we are not given any of your details.



Do the Bible and Science contradict each other?



Dr Ruth M Bancewicz is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

For the Christian, the Bible is God's word to us; it tells us about His character and creative purposes, how He has related to people in the past, and His promises for the future. Science is a specific way of studying the world, exploring the physical properties of things – a wonderful way to explore God's creation. So, the question to ask if the Bible and Science seem to be contradicting each other is, have we made a mistake in interpreting one or the other?

Science is very good at answering certain types of questions: 'What size is it?', 'How fast does it travel?', 'What is it made of?', and so on. Questions like 'What's it for?', 'What should I do with it?', and 'What's it worth?' can't be answered using scientific methods. Some of the misunderstanding in discussions of science and religion come from not recognising the limits of science.

It's also important to recognise what the Bible is, and what sorts of questions it can answer. The Bible was written well before people began to investigate the world in ways we would recognise as scientific. Of course, people in the Ancient Near East were studying the world around them, observing the movements of the stars, the processes of life and death that happened all around them, the seasons, the behaviour of physical objects, and so on. But they did not study the mechanisms underlying these things systematically using the tools of science, and they did not see or describe the world in scientific terms – not because they weren't intelligent, but because science as we know it wasn't happening at that time.

Instead, the biblical writers used words that were commonly used in their own cultures to record events, share truth and wisdom, and tell stories that convey deep truth about God's character. If we want to understand God's intention in inspiring these words, we need to do some careful work to connect with those ancient writers and find out what they meant, before we can discover what those words mean to us today.

These principles can help us have far more fruitful conversations about science and Christian faith. If we allow any apparent conflict between Science and the Bible to fuel our search for understanding, not only will we learn as individuals, but we will be able to draw others into a conversation that is relevant to wider society today.



ALL IN THE MONTH OF JULY

It was 100 years ago, on 1st July 1921 that the Chinese Communist Party was founded.

Also 100 years ago, on 10th July 1921 that Belfast's Bloody Sunday took place. Protestant loyalists attacked Catholic enclaves and set fire to homes and businesses, sparking rioting and gun battles. At least 17 people were killed and more than 70 injured. 2,000 people were left homeless.

Also 100 years ago, on 30th July 1921 that the hormone insulin was discovered by Frederick Banting and Charles Best at the University of Toronto.

80 years ago, on 19th July 1941 that British Prime Minister Winston Churchill launched his 'V for Victory' campaign.

75 years ago, on 22nd July 1946 that the King David Hotel bombing took place in Jerusalem. The Irgun (a militant group) bombed the hotel which housed the British administrative headquarters for Palestine. 91 people were killed.

60 years ago, on 1st July 1961 that Diana, Princess of Wales, was born.

Also 60 years ago, on 2nd July 1961, that Ernest Hemingway, American novelist and short story writer died. Winner of the 1954 Nobel Prize in Literature. Best known for For Whom the Bell Tolls, A Farewell to Arms, and The Old Man and the Sea.

40 years ago, on 4th July 1981, that the Toxteth riots broke out in Liverpool.

Also 40 years ago, on 17th July 1981 that the Humber Bridge, linking Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, was officially opened. It was the world's longest single-span suspension bridge at that time.

Also 40 years ago, on 29th July 1981 that the marriage of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer took place at St Paul's Cathedral in London.

25 years ago, on 5th July 1996 that the first cloned mammal was born. Dolly the sheep was born at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh. (Died 2003)

15 years ago, on 15th July 2006 that Twitter, the micro-blogging social network, was launched.

10 years ago, on 23rd July 2011 that Amy Winehouse, British soul/R&B/jazz singer and songwriter died.