

Trinity News

Rejoice in the miracle of



EASTER

April 2021

Deacons Muse

Dear Friends

It's Palm Sunday as I sit to write this letter. I've just arrived home having been in Richardson Dees Park putting out an Easter Scavenger Trail for families to follow as they visit the park this week. It'll be great to hear how it has been enjoyed. It's good to be able to offer different things as Churches Together in this Holy Week.

I noticed how much the plants and trees in the park have grown in this last week. Like many of you I love this time of the year when we see new life. But somehow this year I find myself being intentional about noticing God's creation and what this means to me as I journey in this year of the pandemic. I wonder if you have too?

What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus in this Easter season? Jesus offers us new life. This last year our church buildings have been mainly closed but our relationship with Jesus is not dependent on us being in a church building. Yes, it's wonderful to worship together in community it's part of who we are and many of us have really missed being together.

So, on Easter Sunday we are going to be sharing in a zoom breakfast together in our own homes. We do hope you are able to join us. Then we shall say together **Hallelujah Christ is risen. He is risen indeed.** We will hear the story of that very early morning and pause to take this in that Jesus is alive. What does this mean for us today?

A relationship with Jesus is like no other and we can always be assured of his presence with us in the darkest and the most joyous of days. In Jesus we are shown how to live our lives. He said I am the way and the truth and the life.

My prayer is that through prayer and reading/ hearing God's word our relationship with God will continue to transform us.

The period from Easter Sunday to Pentecost is fifty days. We will be using 'Mark The Great 50 days' for our worship on Sundays and I hope you find the daily reflections to be enriching.

Grace and peace to you in this Easter Season

Deacon Gail

Holy Week and Easter

Wallsend Churches Working Together are also putting together some online services for Holy Week. There will be a "Thought for the Day" at 9 a.m. on Monday - Thursday of Holy Week, and a special service to be premiered at 11a.m. on Good Friday. We have contributed to these services, along with other Churches in Wallsend. They will be available to view at

<https://www.wallsendbaptistchurch.org.uk/EasterReflections>

Deadly risk of Bible work in Africa

by Claire Smith, Freelance Writer (Bible Society)

Following the murder of two Bible society workers in Cameroon in 2020, we shine a light on the challenges of Bible work in communities targeted by Islamic extremists. And we explain why we persevere to share the Bible in the toughest, hardest places.

Forty-three year old Joseph cradles his sick child as he huddles in a rocky cave, high in the mountains of Cameroon's northern region. He's with his wife and 7 other children, and many other families from the village. They are crouching silently in the darkness because they've heard that Islamic extremist group Boko Haram, are rampaging throughout the area. The militants raid villages, looting and burning buildings, and kill people in the most horrific ways.

Joseph is a respected church leader and works for Bible Society as a literacy teacher. One of the best, people said. In the cave, Joseph's poorly child starts crying. He doesn't want to put the community at risk by revealing their hiding place so he takes his wife and child back to their home in the village.

That's where Boko Haram attackers find them. Militants smash into the house. Joseph's wife and child manage to escape, but Joseph is brutally murdered. The killing, in September last year, shook the Bible Society family to the core. But tragically, for local Christians, the event was all too common.

Back in 2013 we launched a Bible translation for the Podoko (also called Parkwa) community. Most of these mountain dwellers, who live in the far north of Cameroon, are Christians and they're known for their vibrant, active faith. Alongside translation work, we ran literacy classes to teach local people to read and write. But soon after the project launched, Bok Haram stepped up their campaign of violence- both in Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria and Chad.

In 2019 , one of our Bible translators managed to escape a Boko Haram raid on his home but was lost in the mountains for a week before anyone found him. And last year, just two months before the death of Joseph, there was another murder. Our literacy teacher, Jonas, was shot twice in the head as he stood guard outside his church building.

Luc Gnowa, who leads Bible Society in Cameroon, recently went to the north of the country. His party rode on motorbikes through village after village which had been abandoned due to the abuses of Boko Haram. Health centres, schools, and churches were all standing empty and abandoned.

Luc was greeted warmly by the Podoko community. "They were surprised at our love for them....nobody comes to visit them anymore". But it was late afternoon and many families had already retreated up the mountain to their night-time hiding places.

Luc was able to visit Joseph's grave and pray with his friend and family member before leaving.

Tragically, just a few hours after Luc's visit, Boko Haram attacked the community on the mountain. One man was killed. One of our four Bible translators believes he will be next- and plans are now in place to move the translation team to safety.

The risks of Bible ministry in this volatile region are enormous. So why do the teams persevere in the face of such danger?

Luc says that "Joseph and Jonas were responsible for bringing the Bible to their community- and now, after their murders, our task becomes even more urgent. It is this Bible that will bring hope and heal the wounds of the Parkwa-speaking people. When God sends you on a mission, he doesn't tell you the conditions you will face when you go. He simply says, Go. God sent us to these people and we must accomplish our mission. With God we will achieve it, despite the actions of the enemy."

Luc's commitment to Bible work is reflected among Bible Society leaders across the region. In Niger, Nigeria, Mali and Burkina Faso, - Africa's hardest places- our teams all tell us the same thing; people are suffering, they seek hope and they long for God. We must help them.

So, despite the immense challenges, Bible work continues. We equip church leaders, we share God's word with families, we translate Scripture, we run Bible-based trauma healing and we teach people to read and write- so that the lives of people in the most desperate circumstances can be changed, for good.

From Word in Action, Spring 2021.

Just be careful.....

Just be careful because people are going crazy from being in lockdown!

Actually, I've just been talking about this with the microwave and toaster while drinking coffee and we all agreed that things are getting bad.

I didn't mention anything to the washing machine as she puts a different spin on everything. Certainly not to the fridge as he is acting cold and distant.

In the end the iron straightened me out as she said everything will be fine, no situation is too pressing.

The vacuum was very unsympathetic....told me to just suck it up, but the fan was more optimistic and hoped it would soon blow over !

The toilet looked a bit flushed when I asked its opinion and didn't say anything but the door knob told me to get a grip .

The front door said I was unhinged and so the curtains told me to....yes, you guessed it,pull myself together.

Take safe and stay safe folks.

With thanks to LIVErNEWS, the Liver Patient Support newsletter.

Bible a Month: Costa Rica

“Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him” Psalm 37,7a (ESV)

Costa Rica lies between the countries of Nicaragua and Panama on Isthmus of Panama. To the north is the Caribbean Sea and to the south, the Pacific ocean. It covers an area of 19,690 sq miles, and is about 5 times smaller than the UK. The population is 5 million, with Spanish and English being the main languages. The literacy rate – people who can read and write- is 97%.

When almost everyone in a country believes in God, but only around half the population participate in church life, there’s work to do to engage people in the richness and value of Scripture. That is the situation in Costa Rica, Central America. So, thanks to your support, our team launched a new series of Bible studies through the online Bible tool YouVersion. They prepared daily reading plans on themes like encouragement, humility, purpose and Christian living- and provided them free online.

In the last couple of years, more than 90,000 people completed a reading plan, and an average of 200 new people sign up each day. There are 13 Bible devotionals to choose from, and the most popular include “God in our prayers”, “kindness” and “gratitude” Mayra Ugaldá, who leads our work in Costa Rica said, “We can see God has us in his plans, and that the Bible will continue to be needed in the midst of so much uncertainty” She also thanked people like you who supported our emergency appeal to keep Bible work alive in places like Costa Rica, which was hit hard by the pandemic.

Prayer Pointers

- Give thanks for the success of the YouVersion Bible reading plans.
- Costa Rica’s economy depends on tourism, and the country has been severely impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Pray that our team can share the hope of the Bible in a time of high unemployment, uncertainty and anxiety.
- Praise God for progress on a New Testament translation into the Ngobere language for the indigenous Ngabe people. Please pray that before the rains arrive in April, the team based in the US can travel to the hilly jungle region to check the completed work.

From Bible a Month Newsletter, Feb/Mar 2021.

An Easter Prayer

We thank you God, for this great joy beyond words.

Spend some time in silent thankfulness

As we remember the stories of Easter we pray for our world.:

We remember the women who came while it was still dark to honour your body, and we pray for all those who now tend to the dying and dead, that they may know the worth of what they do....

We think of the women whose stories and testimony of resurrection were not believed and we pray for those who have very little power in this world. May their voices be heard at last and their truth made plain.....

We remember the disciples on the Emmaus road who discovered that you were with them as they broke the bread, and we pray for all who do not yet see or know your loving presence with them.....

We think of Thomas who doubted and who needed the evidence of his eyes, and we pray for all who are seeking or questioning faith. May they find those who will truly listen to them and hear their cry.....

We remember Peter, consumed by guilt and shame after betraying you, and we pray for new beginnings for all who struggle to know that they are forgiven and free.....

May we all find those who will lead us back to life.....

We think of the disciples who caught a miraculous catch, so huge that the nets burst- and we pray for the mission of the Church. May our faith be so renewed that it is visible, credible and attractive to those who meet us.....

We remember Saul of Tarsus, who met the risen Christ on the road to Damascus and who was transformed. We pray for a world that needs your light to transform every place where suffering is deep and oppression strong.

We think of the hundreds of people who were added to their number in the earliest days of the Church, and we pray for the crowds of people in our world who are crying in pain or suffering and who long for peace.

We remember the great story of Easter, the good news of life, and the hope of redemption. May we treasure it, live it and proclaim it; with our words and our lives, today, and every day. Amen

May the God who has conquered death bless you with life and joy this Easter and always.

Rev'd Dr Susan Durber, URC minister



1st Wallsend Girls' Brigade has not met face to face for a year now like many other groups ordered to stay at home as coronavirus ravages the country.

We have had to adapt to a new way of keeping in touch with our members. We have still had lots of fun during these sad times. We joined in with painting or chalking rainbows on walls and

families stuck them in windows and clapped for front line workers. Took part in a Camp at Home where families made a camp in their living room as though they were camping outdoors. Joined with our Girls Brigade friends from Manorhamilton in Ireland and walked, cycled, ran or scooted to the The Kisiju Mission in Tanzania, we have had competitions for crafts, cooking pancakes and baking cakes. We have sent cards just to let people know they are being thought about and not forgotten. Plus, so much more that I cannot remember it all. We have used Facebook, text messages and letters to keep in touch. Regular Activity Packs have been delivered to the girls. We watched and were inspired by Captain Sir Tom and others fundraising. We have had to fundraise for ourselves as we have had no income for



Easter Packs to go to girls



Pancake Competition

a year and our insurance still had to be paid. We have kept up with our training via 'Zoom'. All a gesture of defiance against an invisible enemy, and a symbol of solidarity in these strange times.

A year on many of us have been vaccinated against Covid 19 praying this time Covid 19 will be controlled. We are listening to the experts and advice and once it is safe, we will meet face to face once again. It won't be the same. We still have restrictions. Our Risk Assessments have been completed in readiness. We must join our 2 younger groups together and our 2 older groups together to keep numbers within the limits. If we can meet face to face each group will meet every other week.

From 12 April 2021 at the earliest – GB will move to the Amber Readiness Level and this means that GB groups may resume face-to-face activities indoors and

outdoors in groups of 15 young people plus leaders. Day trips and visits will also be allowed. GB's COVID-19 guidance for creating a COVID-19-secure environment will need to be adhered to for both on-site and off-site activities.

Additional restrictions may also apply at other venues, e.g. theatres and museums, but we should check these out before planning any trips or visits. We cannot make any bookings until guidelines are in place and the move to the Amber Readiness Level is confirmed. From 17 May 2021 at the earliest – GB will move to the Yellow Readiness Level. Fixed group sizes will be confirmed by the NYA one week in advance to moving to the Yellow Readiness Level.

From 21 June 2021 at the earliest – GB will move to the Green Readiness Level and this will mean that residential events may take place but will be subject to specific guidance. Fixed group sizes, social distancing measures or health and hygiene measures are unknown at this stage and will be advised one week in advance of moving to the Green Readiness Level. It is likely that measures will need to be put in place to ensure that residential events are undertaken in as safe a manner as possible as we move forward. At this point neither GB nor the NYA know what the measures will be, and it will require legislative changes for residential events to be able to take place. We are not to make any bookings until guidelines are in place and GB confirms that residential events can take place.



Our camp we booked last year to Bowley Scout Activity Centre was transferred to this year but following the advice we might not be able to go.

Going forward if we cannot meet face to face, we will continue to keep in touch if the girls want us. We are learning how to have Zoom meetings. A Zoom Meeting refers to a video conferencing meeting that is hosted using the Zoom app joining these meetings via a webcam or phone. We will see the girls and their family on a screen rather than face to face, but it means we can do crafts together, cook together, play games together and tell bible stories together and have the fun and laughter once again.

Stay safe everyone.

Pamela



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2021: GROWING CHANGE ON FLOWER FARMS

This International Women's Day, we shone a spotlight on the rights won, and the challenges still faced, by women working on a Kenyan Fairtrade flower farm.

47-year-old Anne Abuke vividly remembers the day she joined Shalimar Flowers back in June 1994, fresh from high school, eager to start life on her own. At the time, the flower industry was still fairly young, with far fewer producers compared to today. She watched the flower farm evolve from growing carnations to vegetables, before setting up its rose arm in 1998.

In her 27 years, she has transformed as much as her employer. She has been a general worker, a greenhouse recorder, a childcare worker at the farm's creche facility and today she's in charge of hygiene in certain areas of the sprawling flower farm, based in Naivasha.

The mother of six has welcomed the arrival of three of her children while working at the farm. She starkly recalls the difficult circumstances expectant mothers faced at the time.

Back then (late 1990's and early 2000's), women returned to work in a week or less after delivery. We did not have maternity leave and were not paid for the time off to conceive and recover. We had no choice. We had to come back to work as quickly as we could, because staying home meant no money to take care of our families.

Anne Abuke

In 2003, change was imminent. There was a strong mobilisation at her farm that led to the unionisation of workers and the establishment of worker friendly policies. In the same year, Anne was elected to the union as a worker representative.

Having gone through two pregnancies at the farm with no policies to cushion her, Anne was vocal about issues affecting nursing female workers. This led to the introduction of a 'green card' which nursing mothers can use for nine months. 'They would show it at the gate, allowing them an extra hour in addition to the lunch break to breastfeed their children.'

When Anne had her last child in 2008, she saw her efforts to advocate for better conditions for expectant and nursing mothers truly begin to bear fruit. For the first time in her career, she was allowed to take three months of maternity leave before resuming work.

'Today, things are right. Even male workers get a 15-day paternity leave. Now I tell young mothers, tales of how far we have come.'

Fairtrade has played a huge part in this change. Anne says, 'Working conditions for women have progressively become better because of Fairtrade. For this reason, it is now standard practice for breastfeeding mothers to work for six hours and return home to look after their young ones.'

Anne believes that on a global scale, women have come a long way, however, numerous hurdles still remain in the path to realising their full potential.

'In leadership, women can be perceived differently, based on their social status. Single mothers for example are regarded questionably. This needs to stop, regardless of a woman's social status, she has an intelligent mind and can think independently which is all that counts in leadership.'

'In other cases, women have been denied a fair chance to access opportunities on merit, some being harassed sexually in return. This too needs to stop. Our dignity and capacity to lead should not be determined on the basis of our social status and gender.'

From the Fairtrade blog, 8 March 2021.

Local quiz

Test your local knowledge – *Answers near the back.*

Have a go at these local quiz questions, to keep those brain cells going. . No peeking at the answers till you've had a go!

1. Catherine Cookson books are widely read all over the world. How many books did she write?
2. What were Cookson's other pen names?
3. a) The Likely Lads was a comedy set in the north east. When was it first broadcast
b) Who were the Likely Lads?
4. Greggs (the bakery) has more outlets than McDonalds. When did their first shop in Gosforth open ? 1951, 1961 or 1971 ?
5. Can you name the two bridges over the Tyne which move- and when were they opened?
6. Which TV personality and quiz host was born in Rothbury in 1970 ?
7. Northumberland is home to the largest number of castles in the UK. How many?
8. Where were Jackie and Bobby Charlton and Jackie Milburn born?
9. How many bridges are there over the Tyne in the *Tyneside area*?
10. When did the redeveloped Alnwick Gardens reopen to the public?

Offertory

Giving is a key part of our spiritual lives as Christians. For many of us, it has been a long time since we've been able to get to church - yet there are still bills to pay - the Circuit contributions which pay for ministers and organisation- church utility bills and all the other regular outgoings that our churches have.

So many of us have continued to give sacrificially through the last year knowing that it takes more than a pandemic to diminish our spiritual lives. And so we give thanks.

*Loving God,
we thank you for the gifts you give us,
and for the ability to return some of these gifts to you.
Bless those who tend to our church's money;
renew us during this time of trial,
that as we emerge, like the risen grain,
we may attend more completely
to worship and witness, evangelism and service,
that your Kingdom may come.
Amen*

Say what you see.



I like to watch quiz shows and puzzles on television. There is one at the moment called 'Catchphrase' where you have to try and guess what saying is represented by the picture that is unfolding. The presenter often says 'Just say what you see'. Ha!, but that's not always so easy. Sometimes contestants seem to say just about anything other than the correct answer, all the time of course we are shouting the answer at the television. I also have a number of books

called 'Dingbats' that are the same idea of guessing what saying is represented by the picture. This only works of course if you have heard of the sayings otherwise you could be guessing for a long time without getting the right answer.

Then there are the puzzles that seem to be two different things depending on how you look at it. In this picture on the right do you see some columns or six people? There are many of this type of picture. Some years ago there were computer generated pictures where if you looked in a particular way you could see a 3D image emerging from what seemed to be just a chaotic scene. What you see is not always apparent immediately. Sometimes you need to take a long hard look.



I once saw all the letters of a sentence written altogether - GODISNOWHERE. That could be interpreted in two ways depending on where you place the spaces between the words. You could say GOD IS NOWHERE or GOD IS NOW HERE. You've probably seen that before. The point is that not everything is at it seems and people often see things differently. Jesus was curious as to how people saw Him and so asked his disciples 'Who do men say that I am?' There were various answers but Peter saw the truth when he recognised Jesus as the Son of God.

I was reminded recently at Easter of one of my favourite Godfrey Birtill songs:

When I look at the blood all I see is love, love, love
When I stop at the cross I can see the love of God.

But I can't see competition, I can't see hierarchy.
I can't see pride or prejudice or the abuse of authority.
I can't see lust for power, I can't see manipulation,
I can't see rage or anger or selfish ambition.

But I can't see unforgiveness, I can't see hate or envy,
I can't see stupid fighting or bitterness or jealousy.
I can't see empire building, I can't see self-importance,
I can't see back stabbing or vanity or arrogance.

I see surrender, sacrifice, salvation, humility, righteousness, faithfulness, grace, forgiveness.

How often do people seem to be one thing but turn out to be quite different when you get a closer look. Or as a friend of mine says 'the outside and the inside don't match'. It's not just about appearances of 'going to church' or abstaining from certain things/places/language. Those things aren't the same as showing the love of God in our actions of daily living. Reading again those words of the above song, as a Jesus follower I need to ask myself 'When people look at me, what do they see?'

From the blog of Mavis Andradez

Something we should all remember

A 92 year old, petite, well poised and proud man, who is fully dressed each morning by 8 o'clock, with his hair fashionably combed and shaved perfectly even though he is legally blind, moved to a nursing home today. His wife of 70 years recently passed away, making the move necessary. After many hours of waiting patiently in the lobby of the nursing home, he smiled sweetly when told his room was ready. As he manoeuvred his walker to the lift, I provided a visual description of his tiny room, including the curtains that had been hung at the window.

"I love it!" he stated with the enthusiasm of an 8 year old having just been presented with a new puppy.

"Mr Jones, you haven't seen the room: just wait"

"That doesn't have anything to do with it" he replied.

"Happiness is something you decide on ahead of time. Whether I like my room or not doesn't depend on how the furniture is arranged....it's how I arrange my mind. I already decided to love it. It's a decision I make every morning when I wake up. I have a choice; I can spend the day in bed recounting the difficulty I have with the parts of my body that no longer work, or get out of bed and be thankful for the ones that do.

Each day is a gift and as long as my eyes open, I'll focus on the new day and all the happy memories I've stored away just for this time in my life.

Old age is like a bank account. You withdraw from what you've put in. So my advice to you would be to deposit a lot of happiness in the bank account of memories!"

Thank you for your part in filling my memory bank. I am still depositing. Remember the five rules to be happy:-

1. Free your heart from hatred.
2. Free your mind from worries.
3. Live simply.
4. Give more.
5. Expect less.

Have a nice day unless you already have other plans.

Author unknown. Seen on the Internet.

Points to Ponder

- Pray not only when you need something, but because you have a lot to be thankful for.
Positive Thoughts
- Build someone up. Put their insecurities at rest. Remind them they're worthy. Tell them they are beautiful. Be a light in this dark world. *GoodMentalHealth*
- I do not understand the mystery of grace- only that it meets us where we are and does not leave us where it found us. *Clergy Coaching network*
- My family is my greatest treasure. We aren't perfect, but I love them with all my heart. *GoodMentalHealth*
- Good things can still happen in the midst of chaos.
- If you don't leave your past in the past, it will destroy your future. Live for what today has to offer, not what yesterday has taken away.
- Sometimes all you need is for someone just to be there, even if they can't solve your problems. Just knowing there is someone who cares can make all the difference.
- Remember, you don't need a certain number of friends, just a number of friends you can be certain of. *Clergy Coaching Network*
- It's not what we have in life but who we have in our lives that matters.
Power of Positivity
- The mark of a great church is not how many people come, but how many people live differently for having been there. *Clergy Coaching Network*
- There is a powerful shift when you choose to let go of what is holding you back and you embrace the moments, the opportunities, and the people in front of you now.
- Many people are hanging by the very thinnest of threads. If you treat them well without knowing, you may very well be that thread.
- When we lose someone we love, we must learn not to live without them, but to live with the LOVE they left behind.
- You might feel worthless to 1 person but you are priceless to another. Please don't EVER forget your value. *Good Mental Health*
- Act in such a manner that you are living proof of a loving God.

All the above are freely available on the internet.

The spread of fear

Surviving COVID-19 should be a cause for celebration. But across the world, families have experienced first-hand that the response of others can be less than positive.

In the UK, we've all been doing our best to help stop the spread of coronavirus to the elderly and vulnerable. Yet, in rural Swaziland it was 84-year-old grandmother Ncenekile who sparked a spread of the virus that infected her entire family.

A week after Ncenekile returned home from attending a funeral, she felt weak. Initially she thought she had a cold. It was only when she collapsed that she realised it was something more serious.

“I was rushed to the hospital. While still waiting for the results, my son, Patrick, also fell sick and was also admitted to the same hospital. After we tested positive, the medical team came home to test everyone only to discover that 13 more members were positive.”
Grandmother Ncenekile

To the spread of faith

The family thankfully recovered, but their return home didn't see the rejoicing they'd expected. Their community were afraid, and face masks fuelled the misconception that they were still infectious.

In neighbouring Zambia, Willbroad's family had a similar experience. When his son, a driver became infected the neighbours stopped buying goods from their family. Then local children stayed away from playing with the younger siblings, long beyond the quarantine period.

During difficult times like these families found comfort in the support of each other and also their faith.

“I would like to urge everyone else in this world, if you find yourself in this situation like this COVID-19, put your faith and prayers in God. For He is the only one who can give us strength,” Willbroad said.

Thank you for your support and prayers. Alongside faith leaders around the world we're tackling the largest global emergency in our 70-year history; providing communities with correct information about COVID-19, water, hygiene and sanitation kits to prevent spread of the virus and support for the global vaccine roll-out too.

“But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream.”

Jeremiah 17: 7-8 (NIV)

We've come this far together, but we must go further. Bringing hope, no matter what.

From World Vision

“I saw a bargain today”

A Reflection from “Grain of Sand”- a collection of thoughts on life, the universe and everything but with no easy answers.

As a child, I thought shops made the things they sold. The idea that toys were made the other side of the world seemed outlandish. With online shopping it seems almost like magic. But, as Fairtrade tells us, everything we buy is made and put together by real people, living real lives, every step of the way.

I saw a bargain today.

A fabulous dress; a pair of shoes;
much cheaper online- how could I refuse ?
Arriving tomorrow, at no extra cost.
I hurried to “click” before it was lost.
But just as I hovered, I heard someone say
“Let me show you who paid for your bargain today”.

She showed me the fields where the cotton was grown;
And the pitiful payment the farmers took home.
She showed me the rivers where pesticides flow;
And the fields alongside them, where crops barely grow.

I covered my ears but I still heard her say:
“There are others who paid for your bargain today”

She showed me the factories away in the East,
Where shifts are the longest and wages the least.
She showed me the workers too scared to protest,
As the contracts must follow the cheapest, not best.

I told her “Enough!” but I still heard her say:
“Yet others will pay for your bargain today”

The packers from warehouses, too tired to stand;
The child breathing fumes from the couriers round;
The fish eating fibres washed down to the deep;
The families who live near the burning trash heap.

Then my children looked up and I heard them say:
“how long ‘til we pay for your bargain today?”

I saw a bargain today.

Catherine M. *From the Fairtrade website.*

More Exam Paper Bloopers (Business studies - true answers)

- Q. Give an example of a media product aimed at a niche audience
A. The Antiques Road show
- Q. What does “self-regulation” mean in the context of media industries?
A. Deciding not to watch a whole series in one go on Netflix.
- Q. Explain how a media star can promote themselves using the Internet.
A. Putting a naked selfie on Instagram is a good way.
- Q. Give an example of “invasion of privacy” in the context of media industries.
A. Big Brother
- Q. How do television companies conduct research into their audiences?
A. With cameras inside TV’s.
- Q. What is an ISA ?
A. She’s a cute girl in my class.
- Q. What does APR mean?
A. It’s a short way of writing April.
- Q. What is a Standing Order ?
A. “Stand up now !”
- Q. What is the security code on a credit card?
Q. 621.
- Q. What are the vital ingredients for a successful action film?
A. Bruce Willis; Explosions; Car chases.
- Q. Give a two-sentence pitch for your action film idea
A. The lead actor is Bruce Willis. There are explosions and car chases.
- Q. What does Fair Trade mean?
A. When you swap your best comic for a really rare Action figure.
- Q. How does Fair Trade benefit others?
A. It stops people getting beaten up in the playground.
- Q. Name one piece of important equipment needed to set up a wireless network.
A. A rooster

Local quiz Answers

1. 103 titles in her own name or her 2 other pen names.
2. Catherine Marchant and Katie McMullen
- 3a) 16th Dec 1964
- 3b) Bob Ferris (Rodney Bewes) and Terry Collier (James Bolam.)
4. 1951
5. Swing bridge 1876; Millennium Bridge 2001.
6. Alexander Armstrong.
7. 70, (though some are in ruins)
8. Ashington.
9. 12. (Millennium, Tyne Bridge, Swing bridge, High level, Metro, King Edward, Redheugh, Scotswood, Scotswood rail bridge, Blydon, Lemington, and Newburn).
10. October 2001.

Smile !

- I'm in the black books again. I got my wife some lorry oil for her birthday. Apparently she said L'Oreal.
- Many, many years ago I was in a spot of trouble when this good fairy came along and helped me out and I always said I'd pay her back. A long time later I received a windfall and set off to find that fairy. I travelled through Europe and the Middle East, and finally in the middle of Africa I found her and gave her some money. It was a long way to tip a fairy.....
- I was arrested yesterday. My neighbours have been trying to get an ASBO on me for playing Englebert Humperdinck records all night. Police released me, let me go.....
- To the doctor performing your Sigmoidoscopy: "Thank you from the heart of my bottom"
- I've just been successful in my application to be a Quicksand Rescue Officer. I don't think it's sunk in yet.....
- My feet were run over by a train today- it's my own fault really. I was wearing platforms.
- Whoever stole my beetroot, I hope you get caught red handed!
- I remember the first time I saw a universal remote control. I thought well, that changes everything.
- Everyone ridicules me because I get phrases wrong, but they're just pushing my leg.....
- Never in my life would I have imagined that my hands would consume more alcohol than my mouth.
- A large hole has opened up in the high street; police said they are looking into it.
- With all this rain we need an ark. Fear not. (Wait for it) . We Noah guy !
- Why is it that I can remember my childhood phone number but can't remember the password I created yesterday?
- The biggest lie I tell myself is "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it"