



## **Beauty of the Month of March Both Winter and Spring**

As winter's cold days and longer nights end, and the last of snow and ice melt away, there is a short window of time, a month that shares itself with winter and spring, March. Although it only has 31 days, so much change happens to the earth, weather, and nature. March makes her presence known, with her high pitch song of whistling winds, the wild gusty breezes, her clouds, and sky become full of white like fleece set in deep blue sky, shorter days, longer nights. March sings out, waking Spring!



## 1st March St David's Day



Who was St. David?

Saint David was a Celtic monk born towards the end of the fifth century and was Archbishop of Wales. He spread the word of Christianity across Wales, founding 11 churches across Wales and Brittany. His influence is shown by the number of churches dedicated to him in Wales.

It is always observed on March 1st, as the tradition is that he died on that day in 589 AD, though the tradition also says that he lived for over a 100 years, which would have been a mightily impressive age to get to in the 6th century.

St David is the patron saint of Wales, and he is celebrated on the 1 March. To mark the day, Welsh people around the world wear one or both of Wales's national emblems - a daffodil and a leek. Lots of towns and villages across Wales host their own parades and concerts. There is also a famous concert held on the day at St David's Hall in Cardiff, with the BBC National Orchestra and Chorus of Wales performing traditional songs.

## 8th March International Women's Day

About International Women's Day...

The earliest Women's Day observance, called 'National Woman's Day', was held on February 28, 1909, in New York City, organized by Socialist Party of America. The following year, on March 19, Woman's Day was celebrated in Austria, Denmark, Germany, and Switzerland.

In 1914, International Women's Day celebrated first time on March 8 in Germany, was dedicated to women's right to vote. In London, the day was celebrated to support women's suffrage.



Today, International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. Significant activity is witnessed worldwide as groups come together to celebrate women's achievements or rally for women's equality.

# CELEBRATE!



## Mother's Day, March 10th



Mother's Day is a celebration honoring the mother of the family, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society. It is celebrated on various days in many parts of the world, most commonly in the months of March or May.

Happy Mother's Day to our wonderful mothers. We thank you for every hug, word of encouragement, and acts of love given to us. Thank you for always being a shining example for us. Thank you for laughing with us in the best of times and sticking with us through the worst of times. What would we do without you...our mothers?

### Wonderful Mother

*God made a wonderful mother,  
A mother who never grows old;  
He made her smile of the sunshine,  
And He molded her heart of pure gold;  
In her eyes He placed bright shining stars,  
In her cheeks fair roses you see;  
God made a wonderful mother,  
And He gave that dear mother to me.  
~ Pat O'Reilly*



## 15<sup>th</sup> Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day is back! It's that time of year when incredible cake-bakers, joke-makers, telly-watchers, t-shirt-wearers, Red Nose-buyers and laugh-til-you-cryers, do something to fight poverty through humour and fun, for communities here in the UK and around the world. At the Willows we're raising funds at our cakes sale stall! If you find yourself at The Willows on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup>, cakes, and refreshments will be available to purchase.

## 17th March St Patrick's Day



## 20th March First Day of Spring!

From history book...

The man who would eventually become St. Patrick was born in Britain as Maewyn Succat in the late 4th century.

At age 16, Maewyn was kidnapped from his home on the west coast of Britain by Irish pirates, who proceeded to carry him off to Ireland and force him to work as a shepherd herding sheep. After six years, he escaped his captors, walking nearly 200 miles through the Irish landscape and convincing a ship to carry him with them back to Britain. Maewyn was convinced it was the God Himself who protected him and delivered him safely home. He spent the next 15 or so years in a monastery in Britain, preparing for his missionary work. When he became a priest, his name was changed to Patricius (Patrick), and he returned to the land of his captors to begin his teachings. Patrick traveled from village to village spreading Christianity and was successful enough to eventually found many churches there. The story of Patrick's life became exaggerated over the centuries. St Patrick's Day observes the death of St Patrick, now, the patron saint of Ireland. The holiday is a celebration of Irish culture with parades, special foods, music, dancing, drinking and a whole lot of green!



*Happy St. Patrick's Day!*



From snowdrops nosing through the frosty ground to flowers bursting into blossom, spring is finally on its way. But when does the season officially start in the UK? Spring can start at different times, depending on who you ask," the Met Office say. "Looking at the astronomical calendar the first day of spring is 20th March. For meteorologists, spring starts on 1st March and runs until 31st May."



**Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> March,  
British Summertime  
begins (clocks go  
forward one hour)**

As part of daylight-saving time, the clocks will go forward at the end of March, meaning we lose an hour in bed and wake up feeling a little sleepier than usual. On the plus side, we'll relish the longer daylight hours and have no excuse for arriving late all day!



# St. Patrick's Day Wordsearch

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

|           |            |         |            |
|-----------|------------|---------|------------|
| Blarney   | Emerald    | Lucky   | Rainbow    |
| Celebrate | Green      | March   | Saint      |
| Charm     | Gold       | Parade  | Shamrock   |
| Clover    | Ireland    | Patrick | Shillelagh |
| Coins     | Leprechaun | Pinch   | Wishes     |



# Easter Day, 31<sup>st</sup> March

Easter traditions and symbols have evolved over time, though some have been around for centuries. While to Christians, Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of Christ, many Easter traditions are not found in the Bible.

The modern-day celebration of Easter in the UK is a mixture of pagan and Christian traditions with a sprinkling of commercialism.

Easter was originally a pagan celebration and was named after the Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring, Eostre. Later, it was adopted by the Christians to mark the crucifixion and rebirth of Jesus.

The holiday's mixed origins have resulted in some interesting traditions in the UK, including gobbling chocolate shaped like eggs.

This tradition can be traced back to the early 1800s when artificial eggs were made as gifts for Easter throughout Europe. Solid chocolate eggs also became fashionable in France and Germany around this time.

The first hollow Easter eggs that most closely resemble what we enjoy today were invented and made in Bristol, by chocolatier J.S Fry & Son, in 1873.

The company eventually merged with Cadbury's, who launched their first Easter egg in 1875 and went on to design the iconic Cadbury's Creme Egg.

Playing silly games such as the egg and spoon race is something we love to do and the aim of the game is to run a race while balancing a hard-boiled egg on a spoon. The first person to finish the race, without dropping the egg, is the winner.

Other traditions include the obligatory Easter egg hunt whereby someone (acting as the legendary Easter bunny, one of the symbols of Easter) hides chocolate eggs around the house or garden and contestants' race around to find as many as possible.

You will also notice buns in the shops called hot cross buns, which are eaten to celebrate Easter. These small, lightly sweetened, and spiced bread-like buns contain raisins or currants and are eaten toasted with butter smothered on them and a nice cup of tea!







# Easter

## TRIVIA

© MEEBILY

- Q.1. In which country did Easter Bunny originated?
- Q.2. Which celebration immediately precedes Easter?
- Q.3. What is an Australian alternative to the Easter Bunny?
- Q.4. Which plant has come to symbolize Jesus' resurrection?
- Q.5. What is the Friday before Easter usually called?
- Q.6 What was written above Jesus' head on the cross?
- Q.7. What kind of cloth was used to wrap the body of Jesus?
- Q.8. Which U.S. President held the first Easter Egg Roll?
- Q.9. Who did Pilate release instead of Jesus?
- Q.10. What kind of crown did the Romans give Jesus?
- Q.11. Which country boasts the largest Easter egg collection?
- Q.12. Which bread product is associated with Easter?
- Q.13. What is the traditional Easter bread in Russia?
- Q.14. What pagan goddess is often associated with Easter?
- Q.15. What does tradition of Easter egg symbolizes?

- 6). King of the Jews    11). Poland    4). Lily    10). Crown of Thorns  
8). Rutherford B. Hayes    3). Easter Bilby    14). Ostara    12). Pretzel  
15). Rebirth    1). Germany    5). Good Friday    9). Barabbas    2). Lent  
13). Kulich    7). Linen

# OUR PHOTOS













