



# PROBUS News.....

## PROBUS Club of Bradford

Volume 117, Published January 2021



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear PROBUS Members:

Goodbye 2020! Welcome 2021!

2020 was certainly an unprecedented year as we dealt with the Coronavirus. However, there is light at the end of the tunnel as vaccines are being distributed throughout the world. Who knew that being a senior would give us vaccination priority! Apparently, age can have its benefits from time to time. Although, I am not sure about that some mornings.

Now let's look forward to a new year with fresh optimism. It's time for PROBUS FUN!

Our social team, led by Wendy, has ensured that we have many terrific virtual events on our calendar such as:

- ◆ Jan.25-Fireside Chat (on Robbie Burns Day) with Stan Thomson from Banchory, Scotland. This event is quickly filling up.
- ◆ Feb.10-Valentine's Trivia. Guaranteed to be an enjoyable evening with team players guessing simple multiple choice questions.
- ◆ Feb. 17-Cooking with Moose. Sorry this event is now full. However, due to Moose's popularity we will have another class soon.
- ◆ Feb. 24-Bingo. Another wonderful fun night where you get to virtually hang out with your friends.
- ◆ Mar. 17-Fireside Chat. We have a surprise guest on St. Patrick's Day.
- ◆ Mar. 24-Escape Room. More details to follow.
- ◆ Mar. 31-Games Night. Another opportunity to have a fun virtual night with your friends.

We look forward to seeing you at these virtual events and our monthly General Meetings.

Please remember to mail your Membership Renewal form and cheque (\$20) to Patricia. Membership fees are due by February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Until next time,  
Dave

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### 2020 Executive Committee:

President: *Dave McMillan*

Vice President: *Bob Watt*

Secretaries:

*Eleanor Watt and Cheryl Blair*

Treasurer: *Lorna Foti*

Social Chair: *Wendy Van Straten*

Communication Chair:

*Deborah Liukaitis*

Technical Chair: *Pete Liukaitis*

Speakers' Chair: *Philip Junop*

Members Chair: *Patricia Dion*

Major Events:

*Brenda Andrews and  
Peggy Michaud*

Members at Large:

*Dale Tasker and Pat Mohren*

Past President: *Dave Martin*

## JANUARY BRADFORD PROBUS ZOOM MEETING – HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**Nobody claim 2021  
as “your year”.  
We’re all going to  
walk in real slow.  
Be good.  
Be quiet.  
Don’t.  
Touch.  
Anything!**

We meet again! Here are the highlights from the January PROBUS meeting:  
Opened with a song, “Happy New Year”, by ABBA (click [HERE](#) to view again).  
President Dave welcomed 87 attendees, including 2 guests.

Birthday wishes were extended to the 7 members celebrating in January.

**Membership Renewal**—Patricia Dion reminded members that a partial membership fee of \$20.00 per person is due by February 26th. The membership renewal form will be sent out to members by email. The completed form, along with a cheque, are to be mailed to Patricia Dion. Her mailing address is included in the email containing the renewal form. Any questions or if you wish to cancel your membership email

Patricia at [patriciadion@bell.net](mailto:patriciadion@bell.net).

Frank Froude was the person of interest in the “Who Am I?” game and Debbie Jeske guessed his name after 3 hints. Big “virtual” prize was not awarded.

### INTRODUCING...Your Favourite “Whatever” with Lindsay Brooks

Lindsay wants to know “what is your favourite restaurant or take-out place?”

Email Lindsay your favourites (up to 3 names) and Lindsay will present the recommendations at the next meeting and also publish them in the newsletter. Email your favourites by February 3rd to [lindsaybrooks@rogers.com](mailto:lindsaybrooks@rogers.com). Please consider supporting your local business.

Each month Lindsay will introduce a new topic for members to share their suggestions and members can benefit from some good information.



### Guest Speaker...Sally Jo Martin—Sleeping Children Around The World

Sleeping Children Around The World (SCAW) is a non-profit charity founded by Murray and Margaret Dryden, (Ken Dryden's parents) in 1970. Volunteers of SCAW deliver supplies of bedding, clothing, mosquito nets and whatever necessary items are needed to impoverished children throughout Asia and Africa. Sally Jo, as a volunteer for SCAW, has taken part in delivering 54,000 bed kits to needy children.



All products are sourced locally (by Rotarian or Kiwanis volunteers) in the country where the kits are to be donated. This supports the country’s economy and helps determine the necessary items to include in the kits. Each kit’s value is \$35.00 and are distributed to boys and girls aged 6 to 12.



Sally Jo showed many wonderful photos of her travels and the happy children who received these wonderful kits.

www.scaw.org



## Future Guest Speakers...

### **FEBRUARY SPEAKER... David T. Chapman...Wild, Weird and Whacky Weather**

David is a professional photographer and storm chaser from Lincoln, Ontario. David has been pursuing his career since the age of eighteen. In the course of his work David has studied meteorology, ornithology and the Aurora Borealis. David's program will consist of images and video of a wide variety of weather that can be seen all across North America.



### **MARCH SPEAKER... Kevin Donovan, Chief Investigative Reporter-Toronto Star The Murders of Barry and Honey Sherman**

Kevin's focus is on journalism that exposes wrongdoing and affects change.

He is the recipient of many awards, including three National Newspaper Awards and two Governor General's Michener Awards.

Kevin is the lead investigative reporter for the Star on the Sherman murders and will share his insight with us.

Yesterday my daughter emailed me, again, asking why I didn't do something useful with my time.

"Like sitting around the pool, drinking wine isn't a good thing?" I asked.

Talking about my "doing something useful" seems to be her favorite topic of conversation. She is "only thinking of me," she said, and suggested, I go down to the Senior Centre and hang out with the fellas.

So, I did and when I got home, decided to play a prank on her. I sent her an email saying that I had joined the Senior Parachute Club.

She replied, "Are you nuts? You're 86-years-old and now you're going to start jumping out of airplanes?"

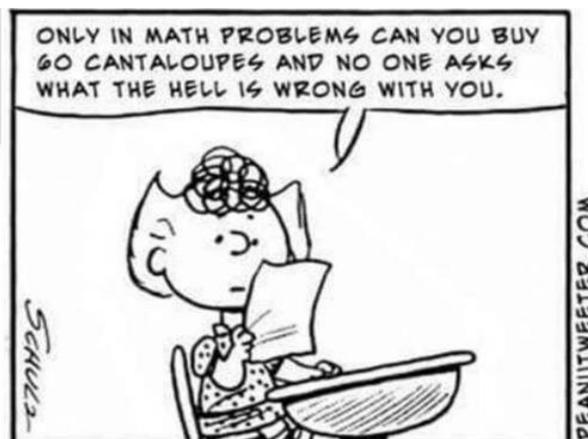
I told her that I even had a Membership Card and e-mailed a copy to her.

Immediately, she telephoned me and yelled, "Good grief, Dad, where are your glasses?! This is a membership to a Prostitute Club, not a Parachute Club."

"Oh man, am I in trouble," I said, "I signed up and prepaid for five jumps a week!"

The line went dead.

Life as a Senior Citizen isn't getting any easier, but sometimes it can be fun.



Her: I bet he's thinking about other women

Him: If she farts like that again I'm gonna press charges



# CLUBS DURING COVID

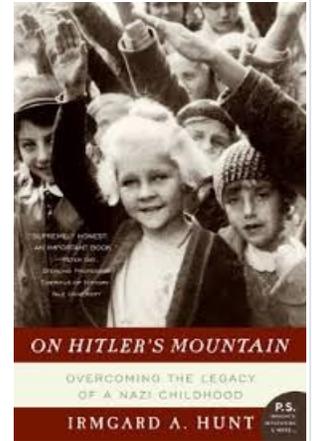
**BOOK CLUB** (Cheryl Blair) : **Currently reading** "On Hitler's Mountain" by Irmgard A. Hunt

This is a portrait of a nation that lost its moral compass. It is a provocative story of a family and a community in a period and location in history that, though it is fast becoming remote to us, has important resonance for our own time.

A new book will be chosen for discussion by the next meeting.

Use this link to access information on all books the club has read or to join any clubs:

[Book Club - The PROBUS Club of Bradford \(weebly.com\)](http://Book Club - The PROBUS Club of Bradford (weebly.com))



The Knitting Club met again on January 5th. Everyone is busy with various projects to start the New Year.

To the left is a cute crochet project for the animal/nature lover or grandkids. New crochet skills and a nature lesson. Note the convenient storage for the smaller pigs! Get the pattern

[HERE](#)

Next zoom meeting is February 2, 2021!

For information to join, contact Linda A. (lindacvano@gmail.com)

**WALKS ON THE TAME SIDE**—Due to the COVID lock down, Amy's walks have been put on hold but, when it is safe to experience the great outdoors in groups again, an email will be issued.

Contact Amy at amywright@hotmail.com



**TODAY'S WORK FROM HOME TIP:  
BLOWING ON THE WINE IN THE MUG WILL HELP CONVINCING YOUR ZOOM MEETING THAT YOUR TEA IS HOT**

Are you drinking more alcohol than usual during quarantine?

Yes

No



# ZOOM WINTER EVENTS



Played on January 13th

Another fun night of ZOOM bingo with 35 players (including guests from other clubs).

Congratulations to the winners of the draws for gift cards: Gwen Green, Susanne Artichuk and Patricia Dion

To participate in the next bingo event, contact Wendy at [wcvanstraten@yahoo.ca](mailto:wcvanstraten@yahoo.ca)



## Fireside Chat, Scottish theme, Robbie Burns Day

Monday, January 25th at 2:00 pm on ZOOM

To join, contact Dale Tasker at [dale.tasker@rogers.com](mailto:dale.tasker@rogers.com)

Pour a wee dram of scotch and break out the shortbread and haggis for a fireside chat with guest, Stan Thompson (a member of the Bancory Men's Social Club) as he talks about his life in Scotland.

This is his bio: "I was rather hoping to talk about my life during my presentation.

I haven't really done anything that would set the heather on fire or impress anyone during an introduction. I come from a poor background, (I did a talk to our Probus members last year which I entitled 'From Rags to Rags!'). You could mention that I have been a banker, soldier, Tank engineer, policeman and latterly *worked in 'Management', and I can elaborate on whatever you decide to say.*"

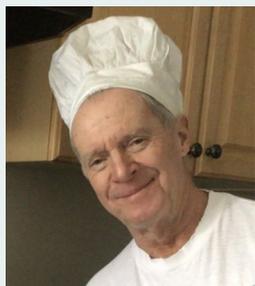


## WINTER WEDNESDAY—VALENTINES TRIVIA FUN

Wednesday, February 10 at 7:00 pm on ZOOM

To participate contact Wendy by Feb 3rd— [wcvanstraten@yahoo.ca](mailto:wcvanstraten@yahoo.ca)

Randomly selected teams will socialize and collaborate to answer Valentines trivia questions



## COOKING WITH MOOSE!

Wednesday, February 17th at 5:00 pm on ZOOM **THIS EVENT IS FULL!**

Questions, contact Wendy by Feb 3rd —[wcvanstraten@yahoo.ca](mailto:wcvanstraten@yahoo.ca)

Attendees will receive the recipe in advance so you can cook along with Moose or just relax and watch with a bevy.



## February 24th at 7:00 pm on ZOOM

To participate contact Wendy at [wcvanstraten@yahoo.ca](mailto:wcvanstraten@yahoo.ca)

Join your fellow PROBUS friends for another crack at winning BINGO and prizes!

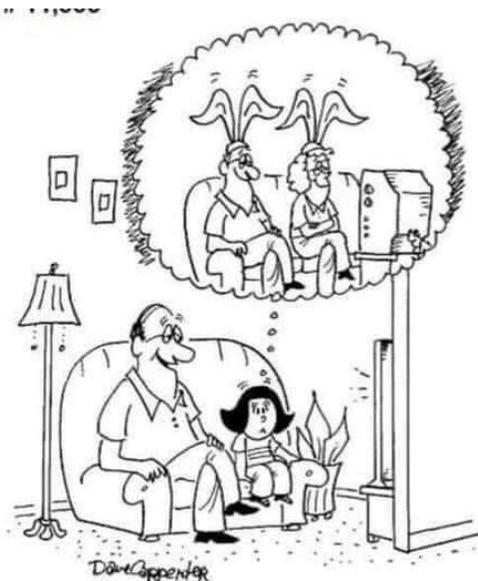


# FUTURE ZOOM EVENTS

<p><b>March 17</b></p> 	<p><b>Fireside Chat</b>  <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>  <i>More info to come</i>  <b>2:00 pm</b></p>	<p>To participate contact Dale at <a href="mailto:dale.tasker@rogers.com">dale.tasker@rogers.com</a></p>
<p><b>March 24</b></p>	<p><b>Escape Room</b></p>	<p>Wendy is working on more information</p>
<p><b>March 31</b></p>	<p><b>Games Night</b>  <b>7:00 pm</b></p>	<p>To participate contact Wendy at <a href="mailto:wcvanstraten@yahoo.ca">wcvanstraten@yahoo.ca</a></p>

## Canadian Curling 2021

Should be interesting competition this year....click [HERE](#)



"In the old days, your Grandma and I watched TV with rabbit ears."

**Sometimes you have to admit**



**that it's time to retire**

## THE MILLION DOLLAR IDEA

This is the rags to riches story of Richard Montanez. A migrant worker who grew up in a slum neighbourhood sharing a one-room-cinderblock hut with 14 family members. He dreaded school, (dropped out in 4th grade) barely spoke English and at the age of 18 was working as a janitor for \$4.00/hr at the Frito-Lay plant near his home.

Richard had an excellent work ethic—just no hope for much of a future where he came from.

In the mid-1980s business was a struggle for Frito-Lay. The CEO announced a new initiative to their employees to empower them to work more creatively and efficiently, “Act like an owner.”

Richard took this to heart and in his off time started learning as much as he could about the company’s products, manufacturing and marketing and even asked to tag along with salesmen to watch them sell.

On these trips Richard discovered that the Latino market was a huge opportunity to introduce a spicy variety of chip.

He went as far as to create his own mix of spiced snacks using Cheetos from the factory and even hand designed bags to package the product.

Then the big day came when he nervously walked into the CEO’s office, introduced himself as the janitor and made his pitch, “So I had an idea...”

“Flamin’ Hot Cheetos” became one of the most successful launches in Frito-Lay history. They went on to become a viral, pop-culture sensation and brought the company out of its slump.

Richard became a VP and amassed a @20M fortune (no more cleaning floors for him).

So, have heart, the next time you see your grand kid running around with the potty on his head yelling he is going to save the world...maybe he will be another Richard Montanez.



## ***“Elephant Rock”, Iceland—A Natural Wonder***

One of nature’s remarkable sculptures, “Elephant Rock” in Iceland, viewed from sea level or air, is a basalt rock found on the Westman Islands (Vestmannaeyjar).

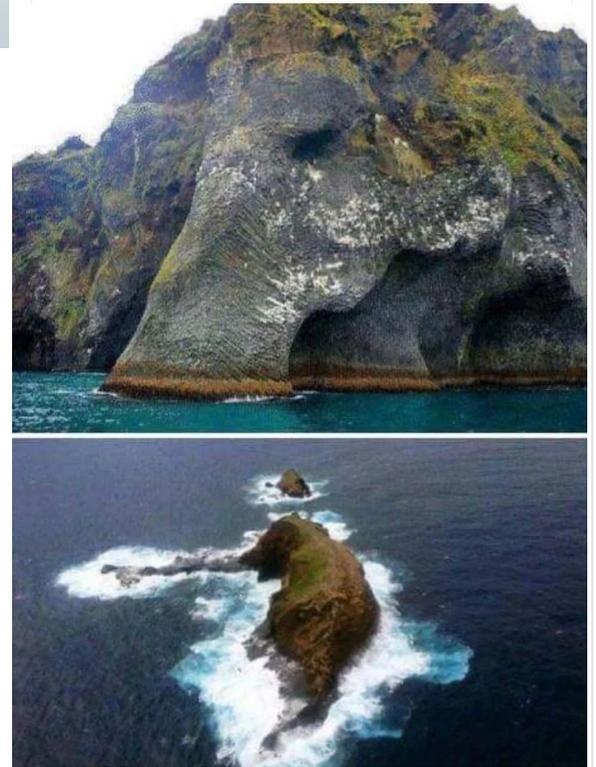
Icelanders (“call us crazy”) believe the rock formation to be a petrified mythical sea elephant. Though scientists say that the rock is a result of a volcanic eruption.

Westman Island is located 7.4 km off the south coast of Iceland where you can rent a car to tour the rock or take a ferry tour from Landeyjahöfn out on the island.

Maybe in 2022.



The “Elephant Rock” in Iceland.



## ***The Barrel House— A Man-Made Wonder***

Near High Park, located at 72 Abbott Ave., this narrow, tall house has been the subject of many mixed opinions among the neighbours since it was built.

Comments range from “love the house, wish I was an architect” to “looks like a subway entrance”.

The interesting style of the building known as the “Barrel House” (1,475 Sq. Ft. with 3 bedrooms and two baths) is a popular part of the West Bend Community Association walking tour. It’s also on the list of one of “Toronto’s Quirky Homes”.

Described as an example of post modernist design, the barrel roof or vault building dates back to ancient times when some building materials, like timber, were scarce. Now this style is lauded for expanding space and allowing light to filter in.

Maybe another walking tour in Toronto in the future.



## ROYAL PROPERTY OWNERS IN ONTARIO—

### THE EARL OF MUSKOKA

Even though Harry and Meghan have left Canada for warmer climates Ontario still has bragging rights to a royal presence. The Earl Charles Spencer and his wife Lady Karen Spencer have purchased an untouched forested property in Muskoka cottage country.

They will be vacationing among some famous cottage owners in the Port Carling area such as Cindy Crawford, Kurt Russell and Goldie, Tom Hanks, Steven Spielberg and NHL hockey players.

Silver Lake is a small lake, just east of Port Carling, with a few modest cottages and is fully enclosed by private property with no public access. The Earl now owns much of Silver Lake's southern waterfront and the large untouched forest behind with permission to build.

Cottage owners are concerned about what type of structure will be placed in their midst now that the area has the gloss of royalty.

Rest assured The Earl Charles Spencer, who is an author, journalist and lover of nature and Lady Spencer, (Edmonton born) are looking forward to renewing their fond memories of past vacations in the Muskoka.



Will this be a new cottage design in the Muskokas??

Maybe a boat cruise on Silver Lake soon?

I am not sure of the year exactly, and I don't know who everyone is. But I am 99% sure that I am the one in the back on the right!



Julia has two passions in life: cannabis and horses



**ALL THESE MEN BITCHING  
ABOUT WEARING A FACE  
MASK...**



**TRY WEARING A BRA FOR  
A WEEK IN AUGUST!**

**Science fact: It is impossible for a man  
to use a stud finder without first scan-  
ning himself with it and stating to the  
room "found one!"**



## **THE PUZZLE THAT TOOK 100 YEARS TO DECODE**

### **BEAN PUZZLE TOMBSTONE—Rushes Cemetery, Wellesley, ON**

This unique grave marker, found in the Rural Rushes Cemetery, honoring the two beloved wives of Dr. Samuel Bean is etched with a crossword code that has taken over 100 years to solve. The message at the bottom of the stone urges, "Reader meet us in heaven."

Dr. Samuel Bean had two wives. The first wife, Henrietta, died seven months after marrying and his second wife, Susanna, also died suddenly after being married to Dr. Bean for a few months. As a tribute to his love for both his wives Bean buried them side by side and erected this mysterious tombstone withholding the code to what it meant. Dr. Bean took the secret to his grave when he was lost overboard from a boat heading to Cuba.

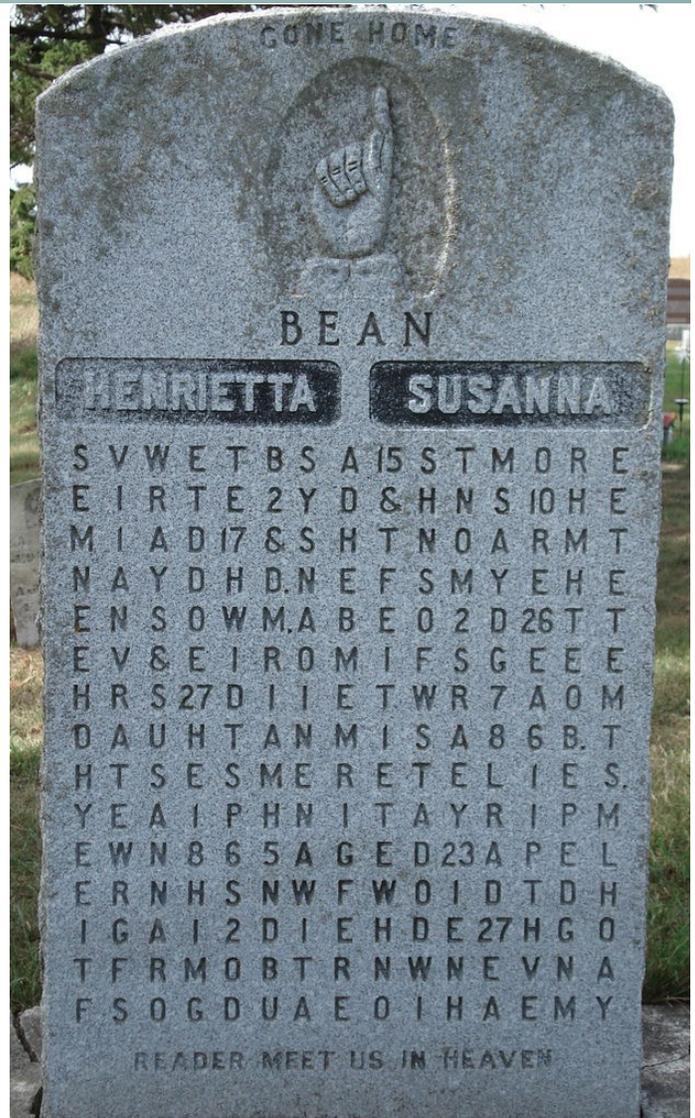
This marker has drawn many curious visitors to the cemetery in Wellesley for over a century. So many people made rubbings of the stone to take with them that by the 1980s the letters were illegible and the stone had to be replaced.

In the 1940s the groundskeeper claimed to have cracked the code but never revealed the answer.

In the 1970s a 94 year-old woman solved the code and revealed what Dr. Bean had written for his two wives.

So, want to take a stab at it??

I have posted the answer on the last page of the newsletter.  
Good Luck!





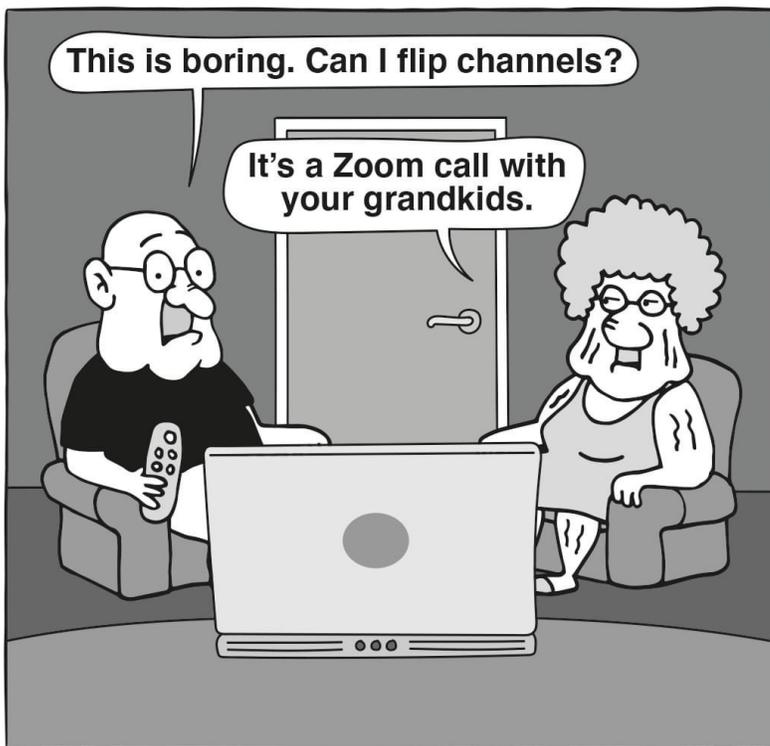
**Eggs, bread,  
milk...eggs,  
bread, milk...**

**Crap!  
Forgot my  
mask!!!!**

**Salt, beer,  
pepper...salt,  
beer, pepper**



***Don't Forget!  
See you at the  
next meeting...  
February 9th  
10:00 am***



DAN BACKLAND FOR GRUMPY OLD GITs | ©LITTLE CHURCH MOUSE LTD MMXXI

**Answer to the BEAN PUZZLE TOMBSTONE**

Beginning on the seventh character of the seventh row down and reading in a spiral fashion, the inscription reads:

“In memoriam Henrietta, 1st wife of S. Bean, M.D. who died 27th Sep. 1865, aged 23 years, 2 months and 17 days and Susanna his 2nd wife who died 27th April, 1867, aged 26 years, 10 months and 15 days, 2 better wives 1 man never had, they were gifts from God but are now in Heaven. May God help me, S.B., to meet them there.”