

Tony Thinking Aloud cxxxvii

The year is moving on, the second month already. We have put the Christmas cards away, then we realise this month has its own greetings cards. Valentine's Day is upon us on the February 14th the sale for greetings cards for that day I understand is really high.

...but who is this Valentine and what has he to do with love? It seems we have to go back to the Roman period. It is said to relate to two very different men of the same name who were martyrs basically in consequence to their love and faith in Jesus. They would not give up their allegiance to Him. True martyrdom, real love. There are various accounts of them. They were seen as the essence of love! There are other varying tales about their background.

The sale of Valentine Cards is really high if it falls at the weekend! So, have you bought your Valentine gifts, Valentine card? The custom is you keep it to yourself. Cards and gifts are given anonymously.

Cards are sometimes given within the family, showing another kind of love, affection. My Grandmother always gave me one when I was a young boy. (She was not the person you would think would naturally do this so obviously I meant something to her, which I find now rather nice – on reflection).

I may have told you this before in a previous musing I bought a Valentine card some years ago, not in a shop in Barton, but where the assistant knew me or spotted my Dog Collar! You know that is not a Birthday Card, she said kindly. Clearly she thought a vicar would not buy a Valentine Card....Alison would have been upset without one!

So let us reflect on the love, the card, the affection and realise it is good to take the opportunity of showing love to our dear ones....and not forget it is not by card and flowers necessarily we appreciate their love and support to us ...as we trust they appreciate us in their lives.