

AN INVITATION TO TEA AND A TALK AT HONITON EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

On **Saturday July 2nd** we are holding a meeting from **4.30 – 7.00pm** when **Keith Plant (Stony Stratford)** will be speaking on the subject of:

‘AUGUSTUS MONTAGUE TOPLADY: HIS LIFE AND HYMNS’

Since the end of 2021 our church has been celebrating the 250th Anniversary of it being founded in 1771. It is always interesting to know what was going on nationally, internationally and locally at the same time. Augustus Montague Toplady (1740 – 78) was Vicar at Broadhembury from 1768 – 78 although his poor health meant his ministry effectively ended in 1775.

Today Toplady is chiefly known as a hymnwriter with his best known hymns being ‘Rock of Ages’, ‘A Debtor to Mercy Alone’, ‘A Sovereign Protector I have’, and ‘Object of My First Desire, Jesus Crucified for Me’. ‘Rock of Ages’ has been a beloved hymn, often chosen for funerals but with a wider relevance and helpfulness:

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

We will start with refreshments at 4.30pm in the Schoolroom and the talk will begin at about 5.45pm in the Church.

ALL ARE WELCOME

