



Issue 7 / 20

Trinity's e-mail: [trinity@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:trinity@basingstokecircuit.net)

Sept 20

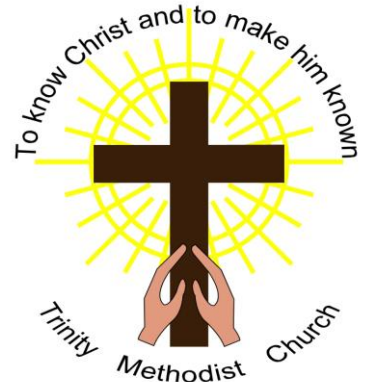


**Our Minister is:**  
**Rev'd Audrey D Browne**

☎: 01256 323103;

email:

[padbrowne@hotmail.com](mailto:padbrowne@hotmail.com)



### 'Circuit Website'

Under 'Worship & Prayer', you will find many **Worship Resources & Services** available along with our **Weekly Circuit Service**.

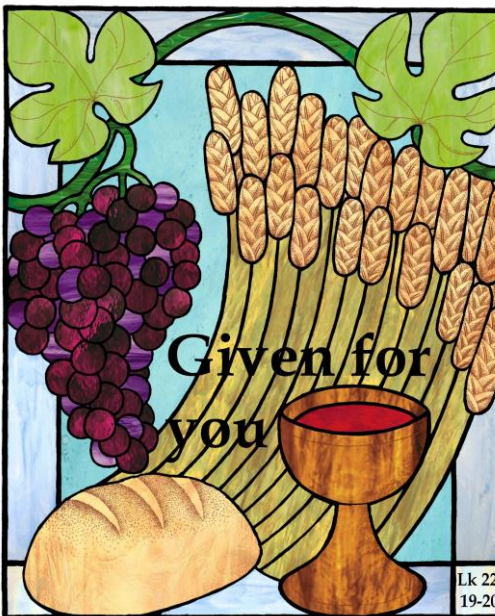
Our grateful thanks go to Alison, Michael, Audrey & the team for our excellent weekly 'Zoomed' Services.

**On page 3 of this Newsletter you will find a list of useful:**

- **Trinity Contacts**
- **Phone numbers**
- **Email addresses**

### Inside This Issue

2 – 3	Letter – Rev'd Audrey D Browne
4	Flight of Locks
5	A man with fish in mind
6 – 7	Re-opening of Trinity
8	Foodbank
9	President & Vice President, Conference
10	Coach Holiday
12 – 13	Circuit Prayer Cards
14 – 15	Church Council
16 – 17	Memorable Holidays
18 – 21	Tributes to Norman
22 – 23	Community Food Link
26 – 27	Zambia, Heather P
28 – 29	Willis Museum Pieces
30 – 33	Puzzles & Solutions
33 – 36	Prayers, Snippets & Articles, Parish Pump



**Trinity E-News – Deadline for the October Issue is: Wednesday 16 September or thereabouts !**

The newsletter is also on our Basingstoke & Reading Circuit website.

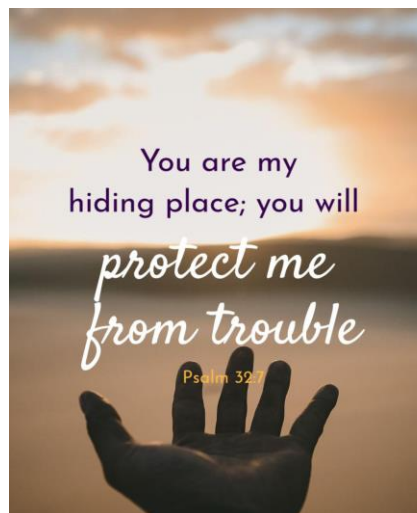
I always look forward to receiving your articles, please keep them coming. They can be sent by email or post.

Thankyou.

**Hazel (Editor)** ☎ 01256-461375  
16B Portacre Rise, Basingstoke, RG21 8YQ

email:

[hazel@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:hazel@basingstokecircuit.net)



God doesn't want our success; He wants us.  
He doesn't demand our achievements;  
He demands our obedience –  
*Charles Colson*

September 2020

Dear Friends at (Oakley, St Andrew's and Trinity),

I do hope that you are all keeping well and finding your rest and peace in the love of God through Christ Jesus. The last time I wrote to you, we thought that we were reopening our church buildings for public worship from September, but unfortunately, we need to do some more work on our 'Risk Assessments', as this is vital for keeping everyone safe, in light of Covid 19. This means that we will now be reopening our church buildings for public worship from October instead. I hope those of you who were looking forward to returning to church in September are not too disappointed. We take seriously our obligation to keep one another safe, and so carrying out careful risk assessments must be given the priority.

Therefore, we will continue to offer a Zoom Worship Service on the Basingstoke end of the Circuit. Everyone is welcomed to join in and be a part of this service until we can safely reopen our church buildings for worship. The Circuit will also continue to produce a service that will be made accessible to everyone in some way. I think that it is important that, as Methodist Christians, we find others with whom we can share in the worship of God. There's a number of Zoom Services being offered around the Circuit, I encourage you to join-in as you feel able to any of them. There is something very special when God's people meet for worship and fellowship — and, each of us being present makes it even more special. But most of all, Jesus promised to be with us whenever we meet in his name.

These last five months, our meeting together for worship and fellowship was far from normal. But, these are not normal times. So we give God thanks that we are able to utilise the Zoom technology, to enable the gathering together of the church, and all our friends and loved ones who have joined us over these past months. It is also a privilege to be able to be part of a Zoom Service Team, in planning and preparing and delivering our Zoom Services. I want to say a special thank you to the Revd Alison

Parker and Michael Parker, who host our Zoom Services each week. They have given us of their time and talents completely and graciously.

Those of you who are not able to join us for worship on Zoom; we do think of you and hope that you are finding the hard-copy of our weekly services helpful. We will continue to provide you with a hard copy of the service each week for the foreseeable future. Please also continue to access other services on your televisions and radios. Wherever God is worshipped in spirit and in truth, God is there in the midst of his people, dwelling in their worship and praise of Him.

It may be a good thing if we begin to pray together about the reopening of our church buildings for public worship. I know we all pray as individuals — but, I wonder whether we can all unite in dedicating five or ten minutes each day, to pray for the local congregation that you are a part of. Among other things, we may want to pray for the following:

- The safety of every person who enters our premises
- That each person will take personal responsibility to keep themselves and others safe
- For property stewards, church stewards and local preachers and worship leaders

I am very much conscious of all of the hard work and effort that is being put in behind the scenes. We are eternally grateful for all those who give their time and talents to ensuring that we return to public worship safely. Each of us must be prepared to adapt to a new normal in the way we relate to one another when we return to church. The old has gone and the new normal is upon us. I encourage us all to adapt quickly for the safety of ourselves and for one another. Let us all do our part and trust God in the things that are beyond our control. To this end, we commit ourselves to God's safe

keeping, as we seek to reopen our church buildings for public worship in October by God's grace. Isaiah 26:3 says, "You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, whose thoughts are fixed on you!" Amen.

Rev'd Audrey D Browne

**Useful Trinity Contacts, phone numbers & emails:**

**Church Office:** ☎: 01256-816173  
 email: [trinity@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:trinity@basingstokecircuit.net)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Church Contact / Senior Steward: Diane Bath –**  
 ☎: 01256 320429 / e-mail: [r\\_bath@sky.com](mailto:r_bath@sky.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Bookings / Car Parking: Contact: Sue Doust –**  
 ☎ 01256 229456 / e-mail at: [rogerdoust@aol.com](mailto:rogerdoust@aol.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Church Treasurer: David Gunton –** ☎: 01256 352342 /  
 e-mail: [david@gunton.org](mailto:david@gunton.org)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Church Property: Tony Pitt –** ☎: 01256 816314 /  
 email: [organista@btinternet.com](mailto:organista@btinternet.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

**Newsletter Editor: Hazel Harris –** ☎ 01256-461375 /  
 email: [hazel@basingstokecircuit.net](mailto:hazel@basingstokecircuit.net)

**Address:** 16B Portacre Rise, Basingstoke, RG21 8YQ

\* \* \* \* \*

**Basingstoke & Reading Circuit Website:**  
[www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk](http://www.basingstokereadingmethodists.uk)

\* \* \* \* \*

**The Basingstoke & Reading Circuit is a Registered  
 Charity, the Charity number is: 1134891**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Wednesday Coffee Mornings**

Sadly due to the COVID pandemic we were unable to meet every week.

The funds raised by the coffee morning prior to the pandemic lock down are to be shared equally between Macmillan, Action for Children and Trinity with £88.00 going to each charity.

Once again our sincere thanks to all who helped make this possible.

Angela S



**Church Meetings:**

- The next Support Services Group Meeting is on Tuesday 29 September 2020 at 4.30pm
- Next Church Council Meeting is on Thursday 8 October 2020

**Children's talks with Revd Dr James Mather and Thwaites the dog:**

James has been making videos of children's talks made with his dog, Thwaite, who takes some of the main parts. These are available via James YouTube channel, "**Children's Talks with Thwaite**". They are free to use for churches, and if you think people might like to use them, please let them know about them.

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeWW5LUcYwcnzJP8M\\_ZP6EA/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeWW5LUcYwcnzJP8M_ZP6EA/)

James is adding more all the time.

(taken from the Circuit Notices 19.08.20)



- Junk is something you throw away about three weeks before you need it.



## This flight of locks

This flight of locks  
remind me of life.

My life is before me,  
stretching far into the distance.

On the way I will

- Have obstacles to tackle,
- Decisions to make,
- Problems to face.

I grow from all of these  
Learn more of myself,  
Learn more of You.

As I journey through life  
I am thankful to

- Have you there beside me
  - You help me onwards,
- Up the hills I have to face.

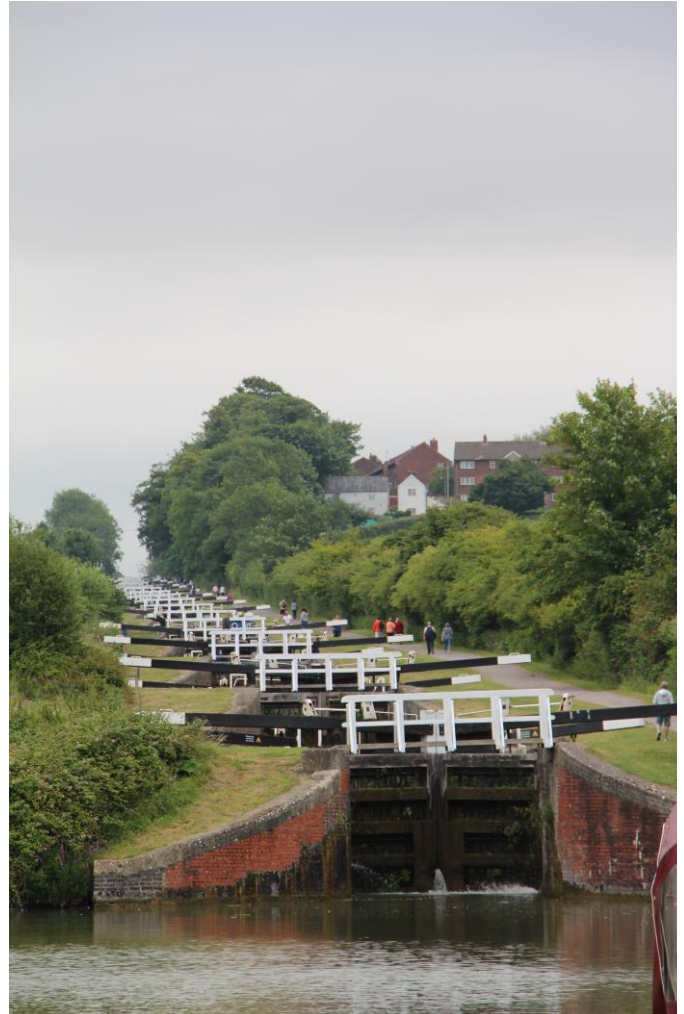
When I have passed  
through the lock

I can look back and can see  
the gate is closed.

That chapter is over and  
it is time to move forward.

*By Jennifer P*

- **Fools rush in where fools have been before.**
- **It's called 'take home' pay because you can't afford to go anywhere else with it.**



*We had the following message from **Barrie Davies**, it was sent in May when he was due to take our service. Unfortunately our computer saw fit to stick it in the spam mail, and we only found it mid-July.  
**Jennifer P***

"Dear All,

I hope this little note finds you safe and well in these difficult times. Covid-19 has a lot to answer for.

I'm minded that I should have been with you the other Sunday – something I always look forward to. It is indeed a shame that we can't meet as usual and worship together at Trinity. So I thought I'd send my greetings to you all, and pass on my very best wishes to you in my absence on Sunday. I will be with you all in Spirit.

Peace be with you. God Bless, Barrie"



## A man with fish in mind



***“It’s been the best of times; it’s been the worst of times.  
It was the age of wisdom; it was the age of foolishness.  
It was the epoch of belief; it was the epoch of incredulity”***

***A well-known quote from William Shakespeare’s “A tale of two cities.”***

Whatever we think about the lockdown because of Covid 19, we have all been affected one way or another. We have however, had time to do different things, to make new discoveries, about ourselves and other people.

Through technology, many have been able to communicate in a way which has surprised them, and some of us, have read a book, or two. We have renewed our love of books, and found a world beyond our present circumstances.

**Pam Rhodes**, a writer and television presenter, caught my attention, and I found pleasant reading in several of her titles.

The first was, **“With Hymns and Hearts and Voices.”** The title intrigued me, having an interest in Hymnody, as a member of the Hymn Society. It is a story of a village preparing for a broadcast of ‘Songs of Praise.’ There are those in the village who welcome this (intrusion) to their quiet way of life, and those who don’t.

A good read.

I then read four books in a series, **“The Dunbridge Chronicles,”** also written by **Pam Rhodes**. These are novels, expressing all the experiences of life, from birth to death. The first is entitled **“Fisher of Men.”**

This is the story of a young clergyman called Neil Fisher. Feeling himself called to ministry, Neil becomes a curate in a parish church. His three years in this position, are guided along by the Vicar Margaret, as he works towards the priesthood. He meets many personalities both inside and outside the church community. There are, the older seasoned Christians, and also the young ladies, who see him as husband material. He learns how to be a good listener, and gradually overcomes his inexperience and natural shyness.

It is a charming story, and Pam writes with knowledge of church procedures and festivals throughout the year. How each character relates to the other, the faith experience they come to know, and how they enrich the life of the church, is revealing, and holds the story together.

I thoroughly enjoyed meeting, the people of the parish.

**Pam Rhodes** was recently announced as one of this year’s recipients of the ‘*Thomas Cranmer Award*’ which comes in the worship category of the ‘*Lambeth Awards*’ presented by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

This is for her outstanding contribution to the Church and wider society, in hosting “Songs of Praise” on the BBC for over 30 years.

**Margaret Garland**

## Re-opening Trinity Church

It's been a long five months since the last service in Trinity Church – I'm sure you don't need me to tell you that. I would like, however, to explain a few of the things that have been going on, and talk briefly about the future as lockdown eases.

In late March, when lockdown started, the building was closed to all activities except for Basingstoke Foodbank. (Limited cleaning continued as well and has done throughout lockdown, thanks to the staff at Fresh and Clean, our cleaning contractor). Soon after, Basingstoke Foodbank found temporary premises on Houndmills that have been more suitable for the way that food distribution is currently working. For the next couple of months, I was the only person other than the cleaner going into the building. I went in on a weekly basis to check everything was ok.

At the beginning of June, Victoria Pre-School restarted on a limited basis – less children, shorter hours, many restrictions. Initially there were very few children, but the numbers built up to the end of term in mid-July when they broke up for the Summer Holidays. So now we are back to no activities within the building.

On 14<sup>th</sup> August, we had Norman Ashworth's funeral at Trinity. Norman was a leading light in the design and building of Trinity over 50 years ago, and so it is in some way fitting that we were able to hold the service there. There has been a great deal of work to do, carrying out the necessary Risk Assessment, making and posting well over a hundred laminated notices, obtaining supplies, etc. I won't name names, but those who assisted with this know who they are, and I sincerely thank them for what they have done.

The other thing that has happened during lockdown is a certain amount of maintenance. Some time back, Church Council approved the expenditure to replace the skylights in the Lounge and Room 2 and this work was carried out. I'm sure you will join me in being impressed by the improvement when you can finally see the result – it is no longer necessary to have the lights on in the Lounge, for example, during the day time. We have also had to deal with a leak in the roof above the Lounge, and there is a small amount of redecoration to do to the ceiling now that the leak itself has been fixed. A window has been smashed above the Front Door and we are awaiting a replacement, largely funded by our insurance. Finally we are looking at the possibility of replacing the flooring in the vestibule where the tiles have shrunk and lifted – I have been meeting with potential contractors to obtain quotes for this work and will put a proposal to the next Church Council.

So, looking forward, we are working towards restarting Sunday morning services in the foreseeable future, though an exact date has not yet been set. It will be very different. The Government does not allow singing. Face coverings will have to be worn. Social distancing must be maintained, so we have blocked off every other pew and put distance markings on the floor in the others. We have determined that the maximum number of people in the building that can be in the building safely is 40, and the Stewards will have to manage that perhaps by making **everyone** "book" beforehand. Toilet facilities are limited. Everyone who enters the building must sign

*cont'd*

cont'd

in, in order that we can facilitate NHS Track & Trace should that be necessary. It will be very different, but it will be good to get back.

Please look out for news of when services are re-starting, and if you can, then join us for an appropriate celebratory service.

If you have any questions, please contact me,

**Tony P** ([organista@btinternet.com](mailto:organista@btinternet.com))



## Birthdays

Some little time ago I had another birthday which was quite a sober occasion. I only saw two people but the telephone was going all day – many thanks for those who rang.



Several people intimated to me that they expected it was the worst birthday I had, had.

This was by no means the worst, in fact the worst was my 21<sup>st</sup>, unfortunately. I was based in Grimsby at the time and I was in the RAF. I had done my training and two trade courses and had been posted to a Hurricane Squadron at middle Wallop, near Andover. I had only been on the squadron for about 10 days when I was told I was on a draft to go overseas. You must realise that communication was pretty poor with very few people even on the phone. I applied for leave to cover for my birthday and everything was to happen in Grimsby.

Two days before my birthday I went to get my leave pass to be told that it had been cancelled. It was too late to do anything about it and so on the day I went to work and afterwards NOTHING.

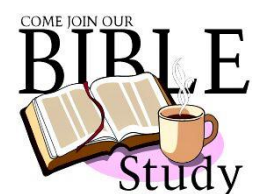
A few days later my posting came through and I was on my way abroad. So it turned out that from before my birthday and for the next 3½ years I did not see anyone. This also included three other birthdays. **Nobby**

\* \* \* \* \*

- My youngest great grandson recently had a tooth out and he said to his father – “I do hope the tooth fairy is not on furlough”.
- A friend was talking about a meal of green peas and treacle. “Is this usual ?” “It’s not usual, but a good idea when eating in polite company”. If the treacle is spread on the blade of the knife, there is no danger of embarrassment with the peas rolling on the floor when the knife is raised to the mouth !
- Does anyone know the formula for Jock’s custard ? Because it is needed as a bonding agent for plywood !

## Bible Studies from Revd David Jenkins:

David has written four Bible Studies “Focusing on Philippians”, which have been forwarded to folk, via email, along with the weekly Circuit Notices. Those without internet access have also received the first three Bible Studies, posted to them along with the newsletters and the final Bible Study will be posted with the September newsletter. Thankyou David.







**COVID 19 UPDATE:**



**BASINGSTOKE FOODBANK CONTINUES TO DELIVER EMERGENCY FOOD FOR LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS.**

**Our foodbank relies on Your Goodwill and Support. Monetary Donations big or small are also gratefully received.**

**Check out Our Website at: <https://basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/> Also on Our Website, you will find the list of locations & times where you can donate food: *These are at:* Tesco Chineham; Annies Charity Shop Winklebury; Sainsburys Tadley; Co-operative Food Old Basing; Londis Sherfield on Loddon; Co-operative Food Rooksdown; Waitrose Basing View; Asda Brighton Hill and Lidl Worting Road.**

**Basingstoke Foodbank update**

VIVID Housing have made available part of their building on Houndmills for six months, so the whole operation has been moved there for the moment. The address is: 63-64 Tempus Business Centre, Kingsclere Road, Houndmills, RG21 6XG (behind Vivid’s Main Basingstoke Office). At this time there is no process in place for the transfer of donations from Trinity to the new site, so please do not leave donations at Trinity. In time we expect to arrange for small donations to be taken to the new site, but not yet.) Thanks,

**Tony P**

\* \* \* \* \*

**At present, (at the time of going to press) the Foodbank is particularly short of: (taken from their website 20.08.20):**

- Savoury Spreads
- Fruit Juice
- Squash
- Tinned Spaghetti
- Rice Pudding
- Desserts
- Custard
- Deodorant – Women’s & Men’s
- Shower Gel – Men’s
- Treats: Chocolate Bars, Crisps, etc
- Dog Food

**Including:**

- Fresh Veg
- Bread
- Eggs

**The Foodbank has plenty of:**

- Baked Beans
- Biscuits
- Rice
- Pasta
- Soup
- Tinned Fish
- Tea, Fruit Teas
- Kidney Beans & Other Tins of Pulses
- Toilet Rolls

\* \* \* \* \*

**Parenting is a marathon, not a sprint – Anon**



## New President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference elected and inducted online

**The Revd Richard Teal** has been elected and inducted as the new President of the Methodist Conference, taking over from the **Revd Dr Barbara Glasson**. The induction took place **on Saturday 27 June at Cliff College in Derbyshire**, as part of the Methodist Conference which did, for the first time, take place online.

**During his lifetime John Wesley chaired the Methodist Conference but after his death the Conference determined to elect a President annually.**

Richard Teal comes from a farming background, having grown up in the Yorkshire Dales. He has spent the majority of his ministry in rural areas, including 11 years as Chair of the Cumbria District. He is now Superintendent of the Driffeld Hornsea Circuit in East Yorkshire.

In his Conference address Richard Teal focused on how the last few months of coronavirus and lockdown had affected the Church:

“Who would ever have thought a few months ago we would have had to close our doors and lock them, even at Easter! Many of our congregations are feeling totally disorientated, fearful and cut off from the fellowship we enjoy with each other.”

Looking ahead at how the world can adapt to the impact of the pandemic, the President said:

“Not a return to the same old same old but a church which has the reputation for transformation, for recreation and for empowerment of what we are living through in the present in response to a faithful God who redeems history and promises the brightest of futures.”

The President chose the final words of John Wesley as his theme for this year, ‘The best of all is, God is with us’.

\* \* \* \* \*

**The Vice-President, Carolyn Lawrence**, was also elected and inducted this afternoon. A teacher by training, Carolyn was an educational mission partner in Guyana and has worked in a voluntary capacity within the Methodist Church as a preacher and leader.

More recently she has worked with the Global Relationships team of the Methodist Church helping to engage people with our worldwide network of Partner Churches. She is also part of the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women.

Carolyn spoke of her passion for the world church in her address to the Conference: “One thing that I find awe inspiring about the church is that you can be anywhere in the country or the world and know that you can find family.”

“I have had the experience of worshipping with Christians in lots of different places in the world, most recently on my visit to the Methodist Church in Brazil. Here the church is growing at an amazing rate and I was blown away by their passion for God’s word, their commitment to prayer, their systematic and strategic approach to evangelism, theological training and pastoral care and the exuberance and joy of their worship. During the year to come I hope to share some of the key principles of church growth that I have learned from the church in Brazil as I believe they can also be applied to our church here in Britain.”

- Experience is a wonderful thing. It enables you to recognise a mistake when you make it again.

## Petersfield Methodist Church and other Churches in Hampshire & further afield Coach Holiday to Lincolnshire

For the past 12 years Gordon Churchill has organized a holiday staying at various hotels run by Christian Guild, welcoming “regulars” back year after year and also new friends. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, the holiday planned for this year was cancelled. Christian Guild have decided not to reopen their hotels in Derbyshire and Devonshire. This means the only Guild hotel left in operation will be Treloyhan Manor in St Ives but it does not have sufficient single rooms for our coach party.

Many of you will know of **Angela Holidays**, a family run coach company based near Southampton. Following a request from Gordon, their Groups Manager has planned a holiday based at The Old Barn Hotel, Grantham, from **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2021** on a dinner, bed & breakfast basis for £615 pp sharing a double or twin bedroom. **This includes** daily coach excursions and guided tours, except for the visit to Waltham Windmill. Unfortunately the allocation of single rooms has already been taken but there are plenty of double and twin rooms. The coach will pick up at:

**Fareham, Petersfield, Liss, Alton and Basingstoke station.**

### The daily visits include the following:

- Sunday morning free in Lincoln
- Then a Sunday afternoon guided visit of the Cathedral
- During the week we visit the Lincolnshire Aviation Museum
- Barnsdale Gardens
- A Cruise on Rutland Water
- Guided tour of Doddington Hall & Gardens
- Through The Fens to Stamford & Burghley House
- And finally Waltham Windmill



**For further information please contact:**

**Gordon on ☎: 01730 260454**

**or by email at: [gordonachurchill@gmail.com](mailto:gordonachurchill@gmail.com)**



**Live Streamed Services, resources, and information:** Please click on the link to its live streamed services and useful links and resources: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/worship/singing-the-faith-plus/seasons-and-themes/worship-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

**Wesley Church (Reading) Online Services – Video’s and Texts:** If anyone would like to access past Services from Wesley, please click on the following link:

<https://www.wesleychurchreading.org>

**Coronavirus Guidance & Updates:** <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/coronavirus/>

- Success is relative – the greater the success, the more relatives.
- If parents haven’t learned something from experience, they can always learn it from their children – *Anon*

## Traidcraft Goods Delivered to your Door – [www.traidcraftshop.co.uk](http://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk)

In years gone by, for many years, we were very fortunate to have a Fairtrade stall once a month after morning service at Trinity and a big display of Fairtrade goods at our annual Church Bazaar, *Hazel Ed*

Janet Waldock (*St Mary's Eastrop*) is a Traidcraft Representative and has been selling Fairtrade goods for thirty years, but during Lockdown, Janet has hardly sold any Traidcraft goods. This spells disaster for those who depend on these sales.

In difficult times those who are underprivileged and powerless always suffer the most. The Covid 19 situation is no different. People in the Third World have been hardest hit. The Fairtrade movement works to bring hope to these communities by restoring justice in the way we trade with workers and farmers. The Fairtrade sector is particularly aware of the importance of healthy soil, without which, our food supplies will be severely damaged. So organic farming methods are promoted and you will find that the Traidcraft foods are not only fairly traded but also environmentally sustainable.

As a Traidcraft Representative, Janet would be happy to receive orders from you by email. Janet can supply you with individual items at case prices and deliver to your home, as far out as Hook on one side of Basingstoke and the equivalent on the other side. When Janet receives an order from you she will reply with a delivery date. Payment can be made by bank transfer or by card on delivery. You can see the very wide range of products available at: [www.traidcraftshop.co.uk](http://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk) Janet is happy to answer any questions you may have, so please get in touch. Janet's email address is: [janet.waldock@ntlworld.com](mailto:janet.waldock@ntlworld.com)

Thank you for choosing Fairtrade, either when you are in the supermarket, buying direct from Traidcraft or from me.

### **Janet Waldock**

#### **Examples of items available:**

1K White Rice £3.38  
 400ml Coconut Milk £1.75  
 250ml Olive Oil £7.80  
 275g Eswatini Medium Curry Sauce £3.20



\* \* \* \* \*

*Pasteurisation has saved many millions of lives...*

### **Louis Pasteur – ‘father’ of microbiology**

A tiny invisible thing that brings disease and death .... where have we heard that before?! But Louis Pasteur, who died 125 years ago this month, on 28 September 1895, was not interested in a virus from China, but in tiny living organisms that brought disease and death in other ways. Pasteur made some outstanding breakthroughs. He discovered the principles of vaccination, and then created the first vaccines for anthrax and rabies. His medical discoveries provided support for the germ theory of disease and nullified the theory of spontaneous generation. But Louis Pasteur is best known for his invention of the technique of treating milk and wine to stop bacterial contamination, a process that was named after him: pasteurisation. In doing so, he saved the French beer, wine and silk industries. All in all, this gifted French biologist, microbiologist, and chemist well deserves his title as the ‘father of microbiology,’ and to be seen as one of the three main founders of bacteriology. *Parish Pump*



## Circuit Prayer for 2019-2020

We thank you that each church in our Circuit has its own distinctive life. May we draw on each other's strengths as we seek to overcome areas where we feel most vulnerable.

Help us to see opportunities in front of us and to grasp hold of them.

Through our worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism, inspire us in reaching out to make more disciples of Jesus.

Through your Spirit

Guide us, encourage us, feed and nourish us, extend our imagination, so that, in our working together with each other and with you, we fulfil your loving, creative, life-changing purposes for your world.

Through Jesus Christ, our Living Lord, Amen.



Following Our Calling, from September to November 2020 we consider;

**Service** "The church exists to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice".

### "Nourished & Fed, Ready to Share" – A prayer for SERVICE

Jesus, our Brother, you said, "Follow me; go where I go; do what I do." We want to follow you, but where are you going?

You go to where people are in need – of healing, of acceptance, of forgiveness, and of hope.

You walk amongst those on the margins, not necessarily the respectable, the important and the powerful.

You spoke out for the voiceless, the forgotten, the abused, for minorities. Help us to walk in your footsteps; take our feet out of the safety of our sacred buildings into the workplace, the shopping centre, the schools and care homes.

Summon us to challenge injustice wherever we find it.

Jesus, our Brother, you said, "Follow me; go where I go; do what I do." We want to follow you, but what are you doing?

You knelt in front of your friends and washed their dirty, calloused feet. Help us to love as you love us, to offer hospitality to strangers, however different from us they are; and to share what we have with others.

Summon us to be neighbour to those in need.

Jesus, our Brother, you said, "Follow me; go where I go; do what I do." But your feet were nailed to a cross.

The path to glory lay in suffering and sacrifice.

In these days, we have learned a new understanding of the value of sacrificial service.

Bless those who live lives of service to our community.

Help us to be patient in suffering.

*cont'd....*

Jesus, our Brother, you said, "Follow me; go where I go; do what I do."

We want to follow you, but we are in a strange new reality.

The old certainties have gone and the future is more unclear.

But you are the same yesterday, today, forever.

May we be joyful in hope and faithful in prayer as we seek to place our feet in your footmarks.

### **Dwelling in the Word**

The purpose of Dwelling in the Word, is to allow God's Spirit to speak to the church through scripture and each other. It is an exercise in listening to the Holy Spirit, to scripture, and to one another.

We do the same passage many times, so that as we dwell in the Word, the Word begins to dwell in us. The practice should be used any time groups come together – for example, meetings of church council, committees, planning groups, house groups etc.

### **We can also Dwell in the Word regularly when not meeting together, as individuals or households**

Pray the Dwelling in the Word prayer aloud (see below). Read the passage below aloud.

Meanwhile notice where your attention is drawn – a word, a phrase, a sentence.

It may be something new, something puzzling, something affirming.

Have a few minutes silent reflection.

You or another member of your household reads the passage aloud again.

Write down the significant word or phrase or share it with another.

When this activity is repeated at another time you may be surprised that God's spirit gives you a very different message.

Reflect on any new thoughts or that of another person.

### **A prayer as we Dwell in the Word**

Loving God, Although our destination is not yet clear, May we trust in your graceful promises;

Though we are uncertain of ourselves, May we be rooted in your loving regard;

Though our attention is inclined to wander, May we hear the things you are saying;

Though we often neglect your influence,

May we be convicted of your power to change, In Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

### **From Sept to Nov 20 the text we have chosen for Dwelling in the Word is Romans 12: 9-21 (NRSV)**

<sup>9</sup> Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;

<sup>10</sup> love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour.

<sup>11</sup> Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.

<sup>12</sup> Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

<sup>13</sup> Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

<sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

<sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

<sup>17</sup> Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

<sup>18</sup> If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

<sup>19</sup> Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

<sup>20</sup> No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads."

<sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

## Church Council Meeting on 9 July 2020

In view of the fact that the church building is not being used during the Coronavirus outbreak, we held a Church Council meeting online using Zoom, and 14 people were able to join. Tony P chaired the meeting, in accordance with the arrangement made at the previous CC meeting.

In normal times, we would at this meeting have been confirming appointments that had been agreed at a Church General Meeting, but it had not been possible to hold that General Meeting this year. Tony P has contacted all people who are office holders, and all have agreed to continue – with the exception of Pauline A who is standing down as a steward. Thanks were expressed to Pauline for all her work for the church. Pauline has agreed to remain on Church Council, and this was approved.

### Financial report

David G gave his report. Generally, income from collections is received by bank transfer, and so we should be able to pay the Connexion Levy. David has been investigating our gas and electricity supply contracts and provided cost comparisons. Any new contracts would run for three years, probably from November / December. It was agreed that David can proceed with making new arrangements where he has identified potential savings.

### Support Services Group report

Angela S and Janet G are both standing down from the Wednesday coffee morning, and new people will be needed to run this when it re-starts.

Tony P worked hard with risk assessments and arrangements for the Pre-School to resume operating, and the meeting agreed retrospectively all that had been organised. In view of the constraints on how we are able to work together at this time, it was decided that for the time being Tony P, Michael P, Sue D and David G be authorised to carry out any further work required in regard to new lettings, use of premises, etc. We were very fortunate that Pre-School was the only user of the premises wishing to return at present. They will finish the term on Thursday 16 July.

In regard to re-starting worship services, Tony P has spoken to Diane B who reported that some people do not want to get together in services at present, so there is still a great deal to be looked at. The Circuit is hoping to put a plan together from September. Audrey B said that she feels we should follow Circuit guidelines about re-starting.

Small meetings could happen so long as we are careful about cleaning, etc. This would probably be a good way to get back to using our premises. The meeting agreed this as a way of moving forward.

Some repair work is required on the roof above the kitchenette in the lounge: the meeting decided to carry out the small repair which had been quoted, which will be acceptable. The meeting agreed that this work be carried out in the next couple of weeks.

There is a problem with unauthorised parking at Trinity. Tony P has investigated using a parking management company, which would cost of the order of £700 for the first year. However, a decision was taken that we do not go ahead with this at the moment, but that we must ensure that clear signage be put up stating that parking is private, and for permit holders only.

### Dates for diaries

Harvest Festival 20 September. The stewards agreed that we will support the Farming Community Network at this service. We may be able to get some bookmarks for this day.

The Remembrance service will be held on 8 November.

*cont'd.....*



### Church Council Meeting (cont'd)

The Foodbank have moved out at present, but are still paying a partial rental amount. This was questioned because they are a charity. In fact, it was the Food Bank themselves who requested this arrangement; some of their racking is still in place, and they are yet to make a final decision regarding location.

Thanks were expressed to Michael P for all of his Zoom organising, and to Audrey B for her devotions at the start of the meeting.

The next Church Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday 8 October 2020.

The meeting concluded at 20.40.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Methodist Women in Britain

*(some excerpts from their Annual Review)*



### Open Hand and Space to Grow:

This is the umbrella theme adopted by Hilary Evans for her term as MWiB President 2019 – 2021. Inspired by the hymn 'Let love be real' (Singing the Faith 615), Hilary spoke at her commissioning service about the symbolism of giving and receiving with open hands; having openness of mind, heart and spirit; having nurturing environments. It is an image that calls for sharing generously. Alerting a wider audience to the work and ethos of MWiB, linking with other Methodist organisations, and raising awareness of migrancy and human trafficking issues will be priorities during her term.

### COGS:

In 2018 MWiB commissioned the COGS Creative Writing Group in Knaresborough to produce a series of Advent Reflections for the Methodist Recorder. The group produced poetry on themes around the Advent and Christmas story, and included the lighting of Advent candles. Across the Connexion, and around the world, Methodist women continue to support the annual World Day of Prayer, and once again this year MWiB has offered bursaries to enable younger women to attend the WDP's 'Y-Pray' Conference.

*A Prayer for the Week*, the World Federation President's monthly *Call to Pray*, and the MWiB *Quarterly Prayer Diary* can all be downloaded from our website: [www.mwib.org.uk](http://www.mwib.org.uk)

### Encountering Rome: then and now:

In March 2019 Sandra Goodwin & Hilary Evans took part in a six-day pilgrimage exploring what it means to be a Protestant in Rome today, in light of the importance of Rome to the spreading of the Christian Gospel. The pilgrimage was led by former MWiB President Jill Baker and Mission Partner in Rome, Revd Tim Macquiban. Pilgrimage was also a feature of events and activities celebrating **Susanna Wesley 350** – the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of '**the Mother of Methodism**' – and Sandra joined a London pilgrimage, offering hymns and prayers at significant locations including Susanna's birthplace in Spital Yard, Wesley's Chapel, and her grave in Bunhill Fields.

### Train, Equip and Finance:

Established in 1858, the first women's movement in the Methodist Church aimed '*to train, equip and finance*' the sending of women missionaries overseas'. This aim remains central to MWiB, supporting Mission Partners with prayer and practical support, working with Global Relationships to share news and identify projects for fundraising, gifts and grants, and visiting partner churches overseas on behalf of the Church.

## Another Memorable Holiday

Another holiday that I had many years ago to the island of Mauritius was a wonderful experience. We stayed in the hotel where Fergie and Andrew honeymooned.



It was an experience when you were on your allocated bed on the beach outside your room, waiters came to ask if you wanted drinks, they cleaned your sunglasses and gave you a cold flannel to wipe your face. The waters were so clear you could see all the small fish in the lagoon, the buffet in the restaurant served amazing fresh fish, meats, salads and fruit.

As we were celebrating an anniversary we booked a chauffeur driven limo for a day out to see the island. The hotel did up a huge hamper of food which we shared with the driver. He asked if we wanted to see the real Mauritius or the tourist sights, we chose the real. He took us to Tamil Temple to see monkeys stealing the fruit that people put on pillars in the lake. Then a tea plantation where we tasted different brews and then a sugar plantation. Finally a village where different beliefs lived side by side with their houses and gardens decorated according to their religion. We loved that day and that chauffeur made our stay memorable.

We did do one touristy bit. On our own we went on a semi-submersible to see sea life. A memorable holiday on a beautiful island.

**Jenny Leighton**

## Our Memorable Washington DC Holiday

We went to Washington towards the end of July 2001. Whilst waiting to board our flight, we noticed a very large number of British soldiers flying out to Washington on our flight. They were given priority to board and disembark the other end which meant Rosemary, our sister-in-law, waited a long time for us to appear out of the airport! When going through customs on our way out, we placed lots of items on the rolling counter, picking them up once through. Some ¾ hour later I asked Peter where his camera was. The look of shock and horror on his face as he realised he hadn't collected it from the counter. He hurried back and found it had been removed to a different area close by and was just sat there. We were both amazed and thankful that he'd found it. Rosemary loves history so became our permanent guide all around Washington, taking us everywhere of interest and giving us all the information as well. Here is a snapshot of our visit:



- ◆ *Richard and Rosemary lived in a very large six bedroom house on three floors. To get into the garden you had to go down to the basement level at the back. At night you could watch 'fireflies' flying around. They were like little lights shining in the darkness.*
- ◆ *We went to Mount Vernon, George Washington's home, a lovely place, which is on the bank of the Potomac River. We also visited a memorial to President Roosevelt. We should also have been able to have a privileged tour of the White House, because of Richard's position in the RAF, but just before we went over, these visits were stopped.*

*cont'd.....*

- ◆ *There were many other monuments that we visited but one that made a deep impression on us was the Vietnam Wall where all the names of those who lost their lives in that war are inscribed. The wall goes down a slope and as you go down so the wall increases in height and the number of names grows. The wall is in the shape of a 'V'.*
- ◆ *Union Station in Washington was amazing – on several different levels and like a massive shopping precinct with restaurants, shops and everything. One particular stand had a huge display of typewriters of all descriptions. I learnt on a manual typewriter so was very interested in the display. Something we thought was a great idea – when the platforms were busy or if they didn't want people going down onto the platforms, they switched all the escalators to go up and changed them to go down when they were ready.*
- ◆ *We visited Washington Cathedral – construction began on 29 September 1907, when the foundation stone was laid in the presence of President Theodore Roosevelt and a crowd of more than 20,000, and ended 83 years later when the "final finial" was placed in the presence of President George H W Bush in 1990. Decorative work, such as carvings and statuary was still ongoing as of 2011 !*
- ◆ *The Natural History Museum in Washington is just like walking into the Natural History Museum in London ! It is a copy.*
- ◆ *We visited the large Arlington Cemetery near Washington where President Kennedy is buried and other important people. This is also where the grave of the 'Unknown Soldier' is and soldiers are on duty at this grave 24/7. One British soldier is buried there also, which is unusual, and a great honour. He was extremely highly thought of and there's a monument of him riding a horse.*
- ◆ *We visited Harpers Ferry where the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers meet and where over the years there have been many floods with some nearly 35 feet in depth! It is also famous for John Brown's raid in 1859.*
- ◆ *Rosemary took us to the big Navy Base near Washington in Annapolis. There was absolutely no security whatsoever and we just sailed in, no checks made. This was just prior to 9/11 – I should imagine security changed dramatically after 9/11.*
- ◆ *We travelled by train to New York from Washington, spending several days in New York. It was a long journey and when you reach New York, you have to walk all the way down the very, very long train to enable you to disembark onto a platform that is high enough for you to step onto ! We visited Central Park for a Concert. As we entered the park we were given a bag for any rubbish and on leaving they collected the bag from us. No rubbish left behind. Perhaps we should try that in our country !*
- ◆ *One of the saddest places we visited was the Holocaust Museum in New York. Everyone went round in silence. There were displays of all the shoes and other personal items that had been taken from Jewish people when they arrived at the concentration camps. There were actual carriages of a train that had transported people to the camps.*
- ◆ *We visited the square that the Twin Towers were in (it was just weeks before 9/11). Macey's, a very large department store was very impressive. I was particularly delighted to find a whole floor of pianos !*
- ◆ *Almost the whole time we were in both Washington and New York we kept bumping into a large number of Scouts who were travelling from all over the States for a large Jamboree which was being held at Fort Hill, Virginia.*

**It was a wonderful and truly memorable holiday.**

**Hazel and Peter Harris**

\* \* \* \* \*



## Eulogy for Norman Ashworth

Dad was born in 1928 in Pendlebury, Manchester and was the third child of a family of six to his mother Nellie and father Alexander Rowland, affectionately known as Roly. Sadly his mum died in childbirth when he was only nine which undoubtedly had a big impact on his life. His father went on to remarry Lilly and they had two more children, James and Margaret who we hope are listening in today from their homes in Manchester.



Religion was always very important to Dad and it was on one of his visits to The Albert Hall in Manchester with his good friend Colin that he met Elsie and Marjorie, our mum, and both couples married in 1954 and remained friends ever since and Elsie his friend for over 70 years is also watching from her home.

It was our mum who encouraged Dad to try for a career in teaching and he passed the necessary exams and embarked on his career working in various Technical Colleges around the Country before applying for what was to be his final teaching position as lecturer of Engineering Sciences at Basingstoke Technical College in 1963. This was a job that Dad absolutely loved and he really had a knack of communicating on a level that worked with his students (including me) and it has been great to see some of the recent comments from past students who said that he had a positive impact in their lives. He often went the extra mile for students who needed more help getting through their exams and regularly gave them extra tuition in his own time. The apprentices really felt at ease in his company and that extra help got them through their exams and gave him tremendous pleasure when the results were released to the students.

That sort of selfless commitment was present throughout his life and was demonstrated one day a few years ago when in a car park someone was driving off and had dropped some personal papers by their car. Spotting these, Dad picked them up and tapped on the car window to give them back to the man. The man smiled and promptly said “thank you, you’re a diamond geezer”.....well you can imagine what Dad’s reaction was, he smiled, waved them off and next time he spoke to Lyn he recounted the story asking “what is a **Diamond geezer?**”.....So Lyn, wanting to get it right, looked it up and told him it was “**a top man, .....a real Gentleman** who would go out of his way to ensure everyone around him experiences the best possible life” which made him smile.

Upon moving to Basingstoke Mum and Dad became part of the congregation at Sarum Hill Methodist Church where they made many long-lasting friendships over the years. They were both instrumental in the transition in the late 60s / early 70s from the original Methodist Church situated on what is now the office block on the top car park to what the Trinity Church looks like today. This was a project that Mum & Dad were really proud to be associated with and they put their heart and soul into creating such a wonderful new building for the congregation to worship in and for local groups to meet.

Mum and Dad used to be very involved with the integration of new ministers that came to Trinity and I’m probably not wrong if I say that Dad has welcomed as many new ministers here as the Queen has seen new Prime ministers in her reign, such was his involvement at Trinity over the past 57 years! In their time at Trinity Mum and Dad took on many roles within the Church, Mum was bookings secretary for all the groups that used to hire the various rooms. Dad was a Circuit Steward and one of the last roles he undertook was that of “pastoral carer” which involved him visiting members of the Church in their homes. This was something that gave him great pleasure until he was forced to give up the role after 20 years when he stopped driving in his late 80s.

Lyn and I moved down to Basingstoke when we were aged three and six and grew up here enjoying a happy childhood. With Mum and Dad being teachers it meant we had lots of holidays

*cont’d....*

which were always at the enormous Methodist Holiday homes around the Country where we spent some fantastic times in places such as Paignton, Swanage, Willersley Castle in the Peak District, Sidholme in Devon and many more. This was where I learnt how to play snooker and Dad taught me the art of the defensive backhand in Table tennis which still serves me well to this day !

From an early age Dad himself was always a mad keen sportsman, playing Football in goal for Oldham reserves, then becoming a solid medium pace bowler at Cricket where he could put the ball on a sixpence, ball after ball, over after over but unfortunately his batting wasn't up to much. Dad made lots of good friends through his cricketing times and I'm sure he managed to get various jobs along the way when he dropped in to the interviews how he liked cricket and was often employed and then asked to play cricket for the local team by one of the interviewing panel. Here in Basingstoke he joined the Golf Club and was a member for 50 years with a single figure handicap and this was where I played many rounds with him until he had to hang up his clubs well into his 80s.

Dad was something of a technology expert, and moving into his 80s we were having concerns about contacting him when he was out and we were also having thoughts about trying to help him keep in touch with people as the writing of letters (which he really loved to do) was going out of fashion. This was when Lyn managed to persuade Dad to take on a mobile phone which he did after resisting at first. He soon became an expert at texting, not just texting but predicative texting which he mastered with ease. I can remember him standing in my hallway one day with a few other people when a phone text sound went off, we all looked around.....it's not me, is it you? Is it you? Until Dad put his hand in his pocket to proudly produce his phone and say "ah yes a text just come in for me!"

Lyn also provided Dad with an iPad .....yes, so we now have Dad with a mobile phone and an iPad so he was able to keep in touch with people by email all over the World at the click of a few buttons which I must say he coped admirably with, creating shortcuts to YouTube Church Service broadcasts which became really useful during the last 5 months whilst in lockdown. He never ceased to amaze me by the way he could access his emails every day, open them all up no problem, click on a Google or YouTube link or look at attached photos, save them to his iPad and then forward them all to Lyn who would get inundated with all the photos he had received from the family and friends that day.

More recently though, with the advent of Lockdown, Dad found more uses for his iPad and became a regular on "Facetime" which he used to great effect. Even at the hospital in his final few days he was able to see and speak to people which made him very happy. Dad was always at the front of the queue for taking a "selfie" and Lyn and Steve have got some lovely photos of him on his visits to the seaside in Poole.

Probably one of the best uses for his iPad though was when we managed to link him up with my "Sky Go" account with which he could access as much Sport as he liked from all round the World and he would often retire early to bed to watch a US Golf Tournament especially if his local favourite Justin Rose was playing or a live Football match somewhere.....but with the sound always on "mute" of course.

With all the new technology at his fingertips he was still quite a traditionalist in using the normal landline telephone and I for one will miss those catch up calls he would make to our house. I always knew it was Dad ringing in the evening as no-one else uses the landline these days. On the odd occasions I missed the call or was having dinner, calling him back was a long process as invariably his call to me was followed by calls to other family members and friends so I often got the answerphone message that he was on the phone which went on for hours!

Dad was always very supportive to Lyn and me in whatever we were involved with, for Lyn it was

*cont'd....*

in raising her family and then in her marriage to Steve, and for me it was encouraging me to take the big step to go over to France to pursue my cycling which was another sport that he became very knowledgeable about. One of my fondest memories of dad will be when I took him back to Alencon in France for a holiday which he did at the age of 88 and once again took it all in his stride.

It was wonderful that Dad and his many grand and great grandchildren were able to celebrate his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday together two years ago at Hillstead, where he lived, and we were blessed with a beautiful day where he was surrounded by his family and friends which made him very proud.

In his late 80s he wasn't in the best of health as he had stopped driving so wasn't getting around as much as he would have liked. However, once again he was transformed with the arrival of the next piece of technology which was his "mobility scooter". This meant he was able to get to Church, down into town and round the local Memorial park on his way home where he would sit and watch the World go by. This definitely gave him a new lease of life and fittingly he was still using it until just a few weeks ago where he was one of the first on the list at the barbers when they reopened. Dad took himself down there and back to get a much-needed haircut so he would look the part in all the selfies that Lyn and Lauren used to take with him! That new lease of life was a real bonus for us all and meant in his last years he was with us to celebrate two big events which was the wedding of his grandson Alex to Bernice and then the birth of his 2<sup>nd</sup> Great granddaughter Eliza, born to Lauren and Nick who were incidentally, the last people that Dad took on his Memorial park tour on his scooter just a couple of weeks before he died.

The whole pandemic issue has been difficult for everyone and just after lockdown was eased we think that Dad's morale suffered a big blow with the announcement that his favourite Italian restaurant chain Zizzi's was going into administration as he could regularly be found there whenever his grandchildren were in town!

The passing of Dad will see the end of an Era as he was the last member of his direct family and this only leaves Harry able to carry on the Ashworth name now..... so no pressure there Harry.

We should all give thanks for the life that Dad was able to live and that he touched so many people in such a positive way which is how he will always be fondly remembered. Maybe we should all just remember Dad or Norman as being just what he was.....a true gentleman, a real "diamond geezer".

**Lyn and Hugh**

The video of Norman's funeral is now on YouTube for anyone who would like to view it:

<https://youtu.be/YYWLP1ixc-w>

\* \* \* \* \*

***A piece written by Hazel Parsons in memory of Norman Ashworth:***

I first met Norman and Marjorie when we moved to Camrose Way in 1981. They lived not far from us and we walked with them to church for a number of years. Norman and I shared many a tale of ministers, of our various occupations and we normally talked most of the way, my children, John and Helen, engaging with Marjorie. Over the years Norman would come and share stories of cricket with Colin, my husband, and football too. When Norman and Marjorie moved to Oakley we would go over for tea. Norman would drop in for a cup of tea in later years when he was back in Basingstoke.

However, when we moved I had letters from him quite regularly with all sorts of interesting snippets inside. He had a love of poetry and art which he enjoyed sharing. His beautiful handwriting was so distinctive! When Colin died he began to ring me to make sure I was fine and

*cont'd.....*



I found this endearing. He was aware that it could be harder after a while than at the beginning.

My memories are of a deeply passionate Christian, a Methodist, with a deep concern for others. His training for the Lay Pastoral role was a key part of the care and dedication he felt towards leadership roles. Many will recall those roles but for me he was a friend who reminded me much of my own father and the way in which I had shared similar theological discussions with him. I shall miss the occasional surprising card and letter and the phone call simply as he said, 'to hear your voice'. Now with Marjorie, whom he supported so lovingly and caringly for so long. I feel truly blessed by all the times we shared

\* \* \* \* \*

***A slightly abridged piece by Ian Harrison written for the Methodist Recorder:***

Mr Norman Ashworth, a significant figure in the recent development of Methodism in Basingstoke died on 28 July 2020 a few days after his 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday. As for so many others, a church that in normal circumstances would have been packed for the funeral was "socially distanced" but the service was live-streamed to friends and family in Britain and around the world. Born on 23 July 1928, Norman grew up in a Methodist family in Pendlebury, Manchester.

Attending Albert Hall Methodist Church, Manchester introduced him to the powerful preaching of Revd Bill Gowland which impacted on the rest of his life. He also met Marjorie Jones whom he married in 1954. Having worked in engineering, Norman was encouraged to take up teaching – ideally suited to his character which was always to help and do his best for anyone. After several short term jobs, Norman and Marjorie – also a teacher – moved to Basingstoke in 1963 with their young children Lyn and Hugh. At that time the town was undergoing massive re-development to accommodate "London over-spill". With numerous engineering firms in and around the town the local technical college was an important centre for technical education and Norman joined the Engineering Science Department – staying there for the rest of his working career.

The central Basingstoke Methodist Churches were caught up in the redevelopment and the ex-Wesleyan building was demolished to make way for the new shopping malls. A brand new building, Trinity, was built. Both he and Marjorie played key roles in the new church, seeing it grow to over 300 members. Norman was persuaded to take up the role of Pastoral Worker. He was a brilliant "people person" who would ring people up just to see how they were and have a chat. A proud Lancastrian, he also did his best to humour those of us from the other place. He had an encyclopaedic knowledge of Methodism. He regarded everyone as part of his family. He will be greatly missed not just by his family but by all who knew him as the compassionate face of the Methodist Church in this town.

\* \* \* \* \*

***Finally this piece is parts of a piece written by Norman:***

*(Norman and Colin were friends from a young age, having met in Sunday School).*

*"Our Sunday School teacher Mr Norman Beswick spoke to us about the journeys of St Paul. He had prepared quite large maps and pictures illustrating the places St Paul visited. These lessons must have had an impact on us, for years later Colin and I often talked of them".*

*"One Saturday night in 1948 while walking home from the pictures eating our chips, we decided that we would go to the Albert Hall for the evening service. The Albert Hall was part of the Manchester and Salford Methodist Mission. We were not really prepared for what happened that evening – there were over 1000 people in the hall and the service something we had not previously experienced. Although then, we didn't know that it was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Ministry of the Reverend William Gowland. The title of his sermon was "**The gap between the pavement and the pew**" sounds topical even now !! We were soon spotted and welcomed to the Youth Club the following Wednesday. We decided to go and so began our association with the Albert Hall for the next four or five years".*

**The following is taken from our Circuit Weekly Notices dated 22 July**

**Yvonne Hunt, Our Outreach Worker, is currently supporting the following Charity, The Community Foodlink, in her role as Our Outreach Worker.**

“Put into context, at the beginning of lockdown we were feeding 380 people, now we are up to around over 700 people”. The details below, about this scheme / Charity have been taken from The Community Food Link Summer Newsletter.

## **Community Food Link News Update Summer 20**

Contact us: [www.bcfid.org.uk](http://www.bcfid.org.uk)

CFL is a volunteer led project based in Basingstoke & Deane. We collect fresh food that cannot be sold from our partner supermarkets and sort, repack and deliver it to our distribution partners, charities, schools and playgroups to help the most vulnerable in our society.

### **New Delivery Van & Freezer –**

Since our last newsletter we have welcomed the arrival of a new refrigerated delivery van. The van purchase was funded jointly by VIVID, and by HIWCF through NET coronavirus appeal. It arrived just in time as we are now collecting even more food from our partner stores. A huge thank you to all who were involved. We have also recently picked up a new partner supermarket to collect from three days a week and we have added to our fridge and freezer capacity and now have four freezers and two fridges available to us.

### **On the Road with CFL –**

Our volunteers currently collect food donations seven mornings & four evenings a week, as well as ad hoc collections, all thanks to FareShare and Neighbourly. The food from the evening collections is stored overnight in available fridges and freezers and delivered to the URC hub together with the morning collections. A separate team meet the van and while the drivers wait, the team sort and order the food. It is then sent back out with the drivers who then deliver to the allocated partners. At the moment we send food to seven schools, three churches as well as The Link Community Centre in Tadley and Basingstoke Food Bank three times a week. In addition to the above, food and / or flowers are placed daily outside the URC hub and are available to anyone and once a week individual food boxes are sent out to families in need.

### **A Partner we deliver to –**

One of the partners that we deliver to is Costello Community School which along with other donations from school families provide a “shop” for those in need. A report on BBC South Today in early July showed the great work they are doing and Community Food Link got a mention too.

### **New Awning on London Street –**

We recently purchased an awning to protect the food that is placed outside the URC hub. This food is for the benefit of those who cannot currently eat at the URC Community cafe (closed due to Covid) and for the residents of nearby May Place (May Place offers 20 rooms with 24 hour support for those in need). Within a few hours of it being in place we received a donation from a passer-by which covered the majority of the cost! And the next day we received a second donation to cover the remainder.

### **What is next for Community Food Link? Summer plans**

Many of the schools that we have been delivering to have been open throughout lockdown including during the Easter break and half term holidays. Many of these schools need to take a well-earned break. We have been asked to continue to supply food to their families in need. We have hence been working with five churches around Basingstoke and Deane to create hubs which can then distribute the food during the summer break. The creation of these hubs is ongoing.

*cont'd.....*

**Future needs**

- Additional supermarket partners & donation sources are always being sought.
- Our work would not be possible without our many volunteers including our volunteer drivers. We are constantly looking to strengthen our team, including creating a bank team to cover holidays etc.

**Following on from the above, the summer holiday Food table's at Basingstoke Hub have requested for more places to get involved, if possible.**

**If you can help, please contact Yvonne: [outreach@basingstokereadingmethodists.uk](mailto:outreach@basingstokereadingmethodists.uk)**

**Days and areas covered so far are:**

- Tuesday at The Good Shepherd, Winklebury from 11 am;
- Wednesday at the Baptist Church, Gershwin Road, Brighton Hill from 11 am;
- Thursday at St Andrews Church, South Ham – Yvonne will be there 1 pm to 3 pm, first come, first served.



Community Food Link is proud to be registered with Fareshare and Neighbourly. Details can be found at: [www.fareshare.org.uk](http://www.fareshare.org.uk) [www.neighbourly.com](http://www.neighbourly.com)

The Community Food Link Project is run by a group of volunteers based at Basingstoke URC Church and is part of Starfish Enterprise Trust Ltd, Basingstoke.

Community Food Link, c/o URC Church, London St, Basingstoke RG21 7NU

\* \* \* \* \*

**Selection of Crosswords from Michael Penny:**

**Christian Crosswords: A selection of crosswords for the family.**

**Some easy ... some not so easy.**

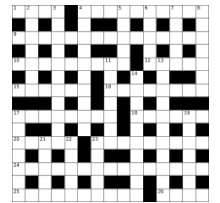
**Go to [www.obt.org.uk](http://www.obt.org.uk) and click on 'Free Downloads'**

**Then click on 'Unpublished Booklets'. Scroll down; it is about the 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> item.**

**Please feel free to forward or share this email with others.**

**Note: Also on that page you will notice there are five free 'Christian Quizzes'.**

**And on page 2 'Word Searches and Bible Puzzles'; there are nearly 100 of them.**



**Tumbling Sky –**

**Psalm Devotions for Weary Souls by Matt Searles, 10Publishing, £3.99**

Gentle and wise, this devotional is balm for bruised souls. It will comfort and enable you to see the love of God afresh. Honest and wholly Christ-centred, these Psalm devotions shine the light of God's truth and grace into some of the darkest corners of our emotions. They help us to see the joy we can have even in the midst of pain, giving rich comfort, refreshment and hope to the suffering believer.



***In the July / August issue of Trinity E-News, pages 22 – 27, there was an 'Open Letter' to the Methodist Church that was also printed in the Methodist Recorder on the 12 June. Ian Harrison wrote a letter to the Methodist Recorder in response which is printed below.***

“Dear Editor

I am struggling to know what to make of the centre page spread in the **Recorder** of 12 June, an open letter from “The Network of Methodist Activists”. When I was helping to run the country I was taught to ignore any communication that was unsigned. The “open letter” has no attribution, neither am I any the wiser after perusing the relevant website. If the “70 presbyters, deacons and lay members” don’t wish to identify themselves, why should I take notice of their views?

That being said there is some merit in the general thrust of the letter which is basically that the church has to stand up and be seen to be acting for the good of all. But the original Methodist doctrine was – and I hope still is – one of scriptural holiness and personal salvation. That in turn may lead to developing ideas of social justice – as indeed has been the flavour of Methodism since its inception, but let us not put carts before horses.

The vast majority of people in the Western world are content to accept “the *status quo*” in terms of their day to day existence. We have come to terms with the demise of the “corner shop” and the dominance of big business on all aspects of our way of life – from the goods we buy; to the places we go and how we get there; and our expectations of value in commodities in general. I’m not sure that “the Church” – however defined – has the clout to be able to convince people at large that our previous expectations were / are wrong.

The danger is that in trying too hard we are seen as “do-gooders” and thereby lose public sympathy. Greta Thunberg was on the cusp of exactly that when the epidemic struck and the world changed overnight. But history suggests that things will return to their previous state in due course. There are too many vested interests for it to be otherwise.

So what can the church do? Basically it has to operate well at local level. Not necessarily waving placards etc but being where we are needed and showing that we care – because that is the nature of the Gospel we proclaim.

**Ian Harrison”**

## **Free national Phonenumber bringing Worship and Prayer**

Government figures show that 2.5 million people aged 75 and above have never used the internet. And so, to help them, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, recently launched a free national phonenumber to bring worship and prayer into the homes of those without access to the internet.



Daily Hope, which is available 24 hours a day on ☎: 0800 804 8044 – offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England. [Click to find out more.](#)

- **If at first you succeed, try to hide your astonishment.**
- **You must have learned from others' mistakes. You haven't had time to think all those up yourself.**

## Book Review

### The Mecca Mystery by Peter Townsend



'The Mecca Mystery, Probing the Black Hole at the Heart of Muslim History' is Peter Townsend's latest book published in 2019. Townsend is a well-known author and researcher into Islamic history. In this latest book he takes a scholarly in-depth look at the birth of Islam during the 7<sup>th</sup> century AD. There has been much debate on this subject in recent years from many different perspectives. Townsend now brings this all together and unravels each strand of an otherwise tangled history. He reviews contemporary documentation from a wide variety of sources, as well as studying geographical, archeological, historical and political evidence from the period. In all he cites nearly 900 authoritative published references.

He makes a point of asking the reader to draw his own unbiased conclusions as to the origins of Islam based on this evidence. He also then presents his own conclusions based on the evidence presented. In a nutshell he concludes that Mohammed, Mecca and Islam were a political necessity born at the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> century AD by the Omayyad Caliphate based in Damascus. The Islamic Conquest was in fact an Arab Conquest resulting from the collapse of both the Eastern Roman and Persian Sassanian Empires after centuries of costly warfare. The Arabs were established mercenary tribes previously recruited by both the Roman and Persian protagonists, who seized the opportunity of the power vacuum to take control. A political religious solution was necessary to unite the Arab tribes and prevent further ongoing factional conflict between them, and the solution was Islam with a prophet (Mohammed), a power base (Mecca) and its own divine Book (Quran).

I believe that every free thinking Muslim looking for finality and closure on this subject should review Townsend's book for himself, and draw his own conclusion.

We Christians have successfully withstood centuries of scrutiny of our Book, the Holy Bible and know with certainty the Truth of Salvation through the Blood of Christ. We have our own personal relationship with our Lord with the Holy Spirit as confirmation of the Truth. We pray that all mankind will be able to both hear and receive this Truth without fear of condemnation or persecution.

***"If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32***

***Martin Frost (St Andrews), August 2020***

## Use your old clothes to help others in poverty

Lockdown drove many of us to do a Spring clear-out of our wardrobes. But what do you do now with the old clothes you no longer want?



Charity shops may be closed for the time being, but there's still a way to donate your old items and support your favourite charities. Just go online and visit **Thrift+**.

It is an online store where you can buy and donate great quality second-hand clothes. And you get to choose which cause to support when you make a donation.

While lockdown measures are in place, they've introduced a doorstep collection service, so you don't need to leave your home to support life-transforming charities.

**Parish Pump**

- It is not the possession of extraordinary gifts that makes extraordinary usefulness, but the dedication of what we have to the service of God – *F W Robertson*

## News from Zambia (a piece by Heather P)



You may have been following how schools in the UK have been adapting to all the changes the Covid-19 pandemic have brought us but have you wondered how schools in poorer countries have been affected? Here is some news from the school in Kabwe supported by Future Pillars Zambia.

**Headteacher, Rev Moses Kopa writes:** “Hi everyone, I am highly delighted to share with you some of the happenings that have taken place at Family Future Community School prior to the school reopening on 1<sup>st</sup> June and from then to now. As you are all aware, the Coronavirus pandemic has ravaged every society in the world, and we are equally affected as a school community and my narrative will hover around the same.

When schools closed abruptly on the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 by order of the Zambian Government due to Covid-19, we quickly met to plan for take-home assignments for the learners in all the grades. The learners were all sent home with some work to help them stay tuned to their academic work whilst at home. The other issue we had to deal with was the feeding of our learners as most of them rely on the meals from the school. The puzzle was solved with a lot of dedication by notably two teachers Ephraim, the Guidance and Counselling teacher and Flare, the Feed Five Focus person. Let me also mention our young G8 girl by the name of Margaret a member of the school senate, who played a very significant role in guiding the two teachers to the homes where the children stay. This was very tiring, and I was so touched by the willingness of this small group to help feed the children even risking their own health. Join me in thanking these gallant soldiers.

I wish to further inform you that the feeding of the children who are not in school has continued but we have a new arrangement where the parents / guardians with their respective children are asked to come to collect their monthly food rations and this is working out very well.

Coming to the reopening of the school amidst Covid-19 challenge on 1<sup>st</sup> June, I can say so far so good. The teachers and the parents teamed up to clean the school surroundings and classrooms to make the place conducive for our children before they reported back. This gesture, especially from the parents was so encouraging. We held sensitization meetings for both the teachers and parents on Covid-19 to ensure collective responsibility in tackling the safety guidelines. Thereafter, the teachers set to prepare the schemes of work, lesson plans and all the necessary teaching and learning materials in readiness for teaching.

Let me mention that we were among the few schools that had all the basic requirements needed for prevention against the Coronavirus, so great thanks to FPZ for promptly approving the budget we had sent. The return of the children into school gave us a lot of anxiety but our readiness to receive them eased our nerves. Immediately the children came into school, we ensured every learner received a face mask and the guidelines were read and explained to them. Issues of social distancing in class were adequately addressed.

The school is currently conducting two sessions; the grade 9s are reporting in the morning from 7 am to 12 pm and the grade 7s are starting their lessons at 12:30 pm to 5 pm; the grade 7s have their meal before they get to class and the grade 9s after the lessons.

Working in the new normal has brought some positives, some challenges and some innovations. For example, the size of the classes is enabling lesson delivery to be very manageable. There is tranquility generally in the entire school compared to when all the children were in school. On innovations, I am happy to mention that we have made our lessons still enjoyable through learner interactive groups. To achieve this, we have set up an outdoor teaching station where teachers can conduct group work activities without

*cont'd.....*



compromising on Covid-19 guidelines. This is making our teachers and learners continually deliver desirable lessons.

Management of suspected Covid-19 cases has also been addressed. The school has set up a temporary isolation bay which is being headed by Frank Shula, the Clinic Officer and members of the School Health and Nutrition Committee. (*Frank is a former student who was sponsored through medical training by a UK supporter, has recently qualified and is awaiting placement by the government*). Those suspected are examined and observed for some time and then we call the Ministry of Health officials if the symptoms become eminent.

With the acquisition of the Infra-Red thermometer, learners' temperatures are being checked every day and so far no Covid-19 case has been recorded.

In conclusion, the teaching staff and learners have now acclimatized to the new normal and doing their best to go by it. We cannot say we are so happy, we are not because we are missing our young learners and concerned they might forget the gains made when they were in school and so we foresee much more work when the time comes for their return.

Nevertheless, we are so thankful for all the love and support we continue to receive from FPZ and all the well-wishers even during this world crisis. **I thank you."**

Despite trying to run a charity in these challenging times, FPZ continue to look to the future and are keen to expand the school beyond grade 9 so that the learners can complete their educational journey to the end of grade 12. Detailed architect drawings have been commissioned to provide a 2-storey classroom block with the following accommodation:

- 2 science laboratories, to comply with Zambian Government requirements for G10 - 12
- 1 computer studies suite, 1 technology / art classroom, 5 general classrooms
- 1 staffroom, 1 science preparation room, further offices

***The benefits will be:***

- G5 to G12 will have whole-day learning
- the school will have senior as well as junior secondary learners
- specialist accommodation for Science, Computer Studies, Technology / Art, and the School Hall used for dance, drama, and music
- teachers will occupy their own classrooms, rather than moving at the change of lessons, with more opportunity for curriculum enrichment
- more effective safeguarding of vulnerable children as many will be on-site for the whole day

They have been out to tender and their Zambian colleagues have 'checked out' the preferred contractor. A detailed bill of quantity has been prepared with a total cost of £109,000 at today's prices and exchange rate. This figure comes with a couple of health warnings – the continuing rise in the cost of materials, impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the regular fluctuations in the exchange rate.

***To help our UK understanding of what our £ can do for this exciting project:***

- Concrete building block (we need 5000) @ £0.50
- 50kg bag of cement (we need 2500) @ £5
- Door frame (we need 14) @£25
- Door @£40
- 20 ton lorry-load of sand (we need 11) @ £120

If they are to be ready to take G10 from January 2022, construction of the building will need to take place during 2021. Can you help? [www.futurepillarszambia.org.uk](http://www.futurepillarszambia.org.uk)

**Heather P**

## The Willis Museum, Basingstoke

*(a couple of articles from the 'Friends Together' of the Willis Museum, Basingstoke, Newsletter)*



### ***Firstly A Piece by the Venue Manager, Jenny Stevens***

The Willis Museum & Sainsbury Gallery partially re-opened as planned on Wednesday 15 July and we had a steady trickle of visitors throughout the week, both booked and people who saw we were open and walked up to see if they could come in. Currently only the Sainsbury Gallery is open, showing our Wonderful World of the Ladybird Artists exhibition. As someone who learnt to read with the Ladybird books, it's been a real nostalgia trip.

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor galleries are currently closed, to protect both visitors and the objects on open display. As we get used to the new way of working, we will work towards re-opening these galleries in some form but this is unlikely to happen in the short term. We are providing a very limited café service and our toilets are open.

We have shorter opening hours, Wednesday – Saturday 10 am – 4 pm. Please note we do not open the doors until 10 am. There is a maximum capacity of 15 visitors for the building and this is why we are urging people to pre-book visits to avoid disappointment. Whilst it is quiet at the moment, we hope things will pick up and we can only guarantee entry if you have already booked your visit by visiting the website:

<https://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/willis-museum-and-sainsbury-gallery>

You can turn up any time in your two-hour slot, but preferably not 10 minutes before it ends! As with all booking systems it can have the occasional glitch but if you sit down and do it in one go it should work OK. Please be aware we have to take contact details for anyone visiting the museum as we are part of the track and trace system, like cafés, pubs etc so we have to take this information by law. This includes visitors who turn up without booking. **Please note that face masks do now have to be worn by museum visitors.** If you have a medical exemption please let us know on arrival.

Best wishes to all, it remains a strange time for everyone but please continue to stay safe.

Regards, Jenny

\* \* \* \* \*

### ***And Secondly 'A visit to Artists of the Ladybird Books', by John Hollands***

It was our first visit to the Willis Museum in almost four months, regular volunteers though we are, and for that matter, our first visit to the town centre in all that time, too. As recommended Briony and I had booked on-line to see “**The Artists of the Ladybird Books**”, choosing the 12 pm – 2 pm time slot on the second day of opening and taking with us the printed off bar-coded “ticket” that had been emailed to us. Having read the advice printed on the ticket, we wondered if we might be asked to wait before entering so as to maintain social distancing, but we were able to walk in straight away to be greeted by a face-masked Mandy sitting at the reception desk in its usual place but now with tall Perspex screens on three sides. It was good to see her again, and Jenny and Rosie who were also around. Mandy took our ticket, noted down our contact details and reminded us to make use of the hand sanitiser, and then we were free to tour the exhibition, following the one-way route clearly marked out on the floor, and what a splendid exhibition it is!

To me many Ladybird Books are very familiar, mainly from purchasing copies for a school library  
*cont'd.....*

in a former life, and probably many of them will be familiar to you, too, from your childhood perhaps, or maybe from buying them for your children, but I knew relatively little of their history or just how many there were, how wide a range of subjects and ages they covered, a point dramatically illustrated by a great wall of Ladybird front covers to the fore. I discovered that the series originated in 1940 when, rather like our present national emergency, the war was stimulating a huge demand for reading matter, and that the very first title was *Bunnikin's Picnic Party* written and illustrated by Augustine MacGregor. An early copy of this book is on view along with a short profile of the artist and one of her preparatory sketches; there is comparable material on all the other artists.

Next, I learned about the economical way in which the books were produced, all 40 pages being printed in one operation on a single sheet of paper. An uncut sheet was displayed, and next to it a reminder of what was for a long time the core business of Wills and Hepworth, the books' publishers, namely producing brochures for the Midlands Motor trade; there were brochures on display for the Austin Somerset and the Austin Omnivan. The exhibition then took us through how the series developed under the dynamic direction of commissioning editor Douglas Keen. From stories for the very young he expanded the range to include non-fiction titles for older children that adults could also learn from covering such topics as figures from British history, nature study, and how machines work, as well as into classic fairy tales and a reading scheme for infant and primary schools. Every book was in the same basic format and always both texts and illustrations could be relied on for scrupulous accuracy. You will probably be surprised at just how many well-known artists produced illustrations for the company and how many established writers wrote the texts, for example some fine natural history titles stemmed from a collaboration between the naturalist Brian Vesey-Fitzgerald and the artist CF Tunnicliffe, the celebrated painter of British birds.

And did you know that the artist of the *Thomas the Tank Engine* books was simultaneously working on a *Tootles the Taxi* series for Ladybird, or that the artist of some of the Ladybird classic fairy tales stories (text by Vera Southgate) also wrote and produced the graphics for the tales of "Dan Dare" in the Eagle Comic? Other surprising associations, too, are waiting for you to discover them.

Briony and I spent a most enjoyable hour touring this exhibition and could easily have taken a great deal longer. There was no problem with social distancing as we were the only visitors during the whole time we were there – relaxing, but of course the Willis needs more visitors to this very deserving exhibition. As we followed the one-way route out of the Sainsbury Gallery towards the shop and café, we saw a new device that I suspect will soon be a familiar sight in many museums, one that invites you to make a donation of £3 by holding your contactless card in front of it. (There is also a box for cash donations, voluntary of course.)

Retail sales are available and so are light refreshments, all for pre-booked visitors only, (contactless payments preferred), with limited seating or to take away, and the toilets are open upstairs, though nothing else is open there yet. You are asked to check that no one else is on the stairs before going up or down. Exit from the building has to be down the steps to the side entrance. Please, please, help the Willis to get up and running again, by visiting this wonderful exhibition when you safely can, and, most importantly encouraging others to do the same.

**Note: When you book a "ticket" on-line, it should come to your in-box right away. If it doesn't appear, look in your Junk box; that's where ours went! If you are unable to print your ticket, take a note of its number with you.**

\* \* \* \* \*

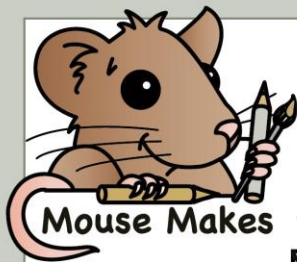
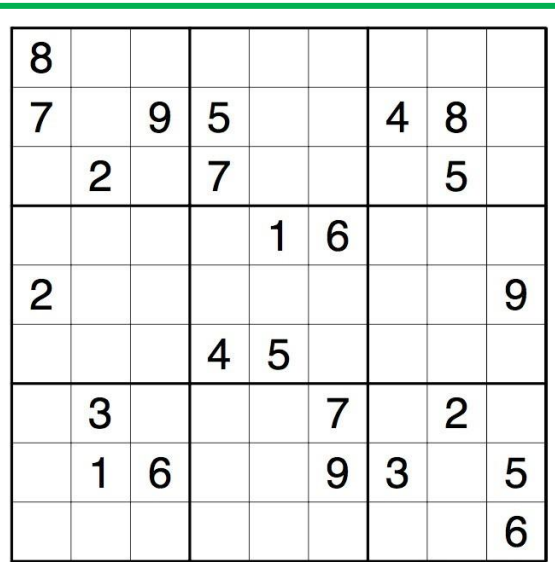
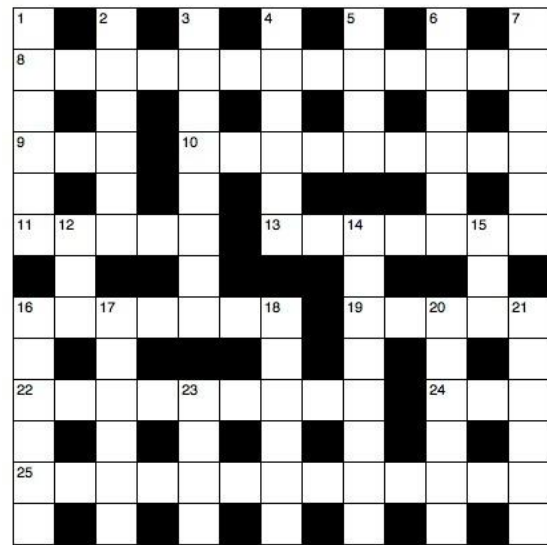
*The above articles were printed with permission.*

Two quick ways to disaster are to take nobody's advice and to take everybody's advice – Anon

For the Young and not so Young

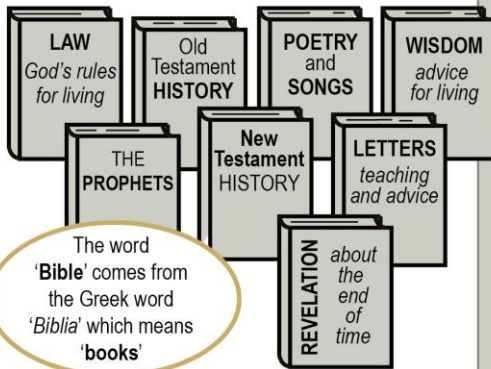
PUZZLES

Crossword



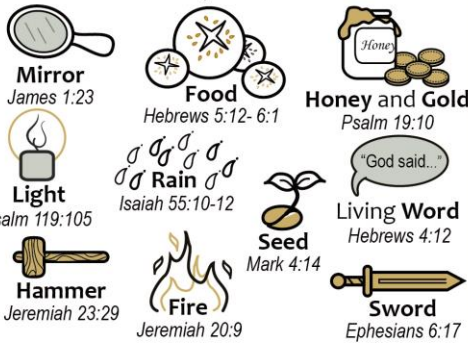
The Bible is a collection of **books** that took over 2,000 years to write! The books were written by many different people, all helped and inspired by God. The Bible has books about:

There are **66** books in the Bible. How many can you name?



The word 'Bible' comes from the Greek word 'Biblia' which means 'books'

God speaks to us today as we read the Bible. The Bible encourages us, corrects us and shows us how to live, it also describes itself as:



...but most of all The Bible teaches us about **God** and how we can be friends with Him.

BIBLE WORDS

The Bible words in **BOLD** type on this page are also hidden in the word search, can you find them?

P L B O W I K  
R I O S I L G  
O G O N S W O  
P H K E D O L  
H T S W O R D  
E R L T M D O  
T E A E G O D  
S V W S E E D  
L E T T E R S  
T L W A N L O  
H A M M E R N  
O T I E H I G  
N I R N I R S  
E O R T S A B  
Y N O R T I I  
F I R E O N B  
P O E T R Y L  
F O O D Y O E

Sept20 © Deborah Noble - parishpump.co.uk

© 2013 KrazyDad.com

Crossword Clues Across:

- 8 Where the Ark of the Covenant was kept for 20 years (1 Samuel 7:1) (7,6)
- 9 One of the parts of the body on which blood and oil were put in the ritual cleansing from infectious skin diseases (Leviticus 14:14-17) (3)
- 10 Uncomfortable (3,2,4) 11 'Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have — ' (Malachi 1:3) (5)
- 13 Where Paul said farewell to the elders of the church in Ephesus (Acts 20:17) (7)
- 16 'Jesus bent down and — to write on the ground with his finger' (John 8:6) (7)
- 19 Prophet from Moresheth (Jeremiah 26:18) (5)
- 22 Comes between Exodus and Numbers (9)
- 24 and 2 Down 'Then Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the boy ministered before the Lord under — the — ' (1 Samuel 2:11) (3,6)
- 25 There was no room for them in the inn (Luke 2:7) (4,3,6)

Essays

A second year student explaining to a first year student how to write essays: "When you take stuff from one writer, it's plagiarism, but when you take it from many writers, it's called research."



# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Matthew 12:1-14, Luke 6:1-11

The Pharisees watched Jesus to see if he broke any of God's laws, or the rules they had made up to stop the laws being broken.

Jesus' disciples were hungry so they picked some wheat from a field as they walked.



This was allowed (Deut 23:25), but it was the Sabbath.

The Pharisees said to Jesus



Why are your disciples harvesting on the Sabbath? That is against the rules!

But King David broke the rules when he ate the bread that was only for the priests\*



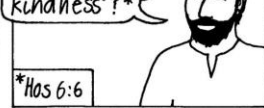
\*1 Sam 21:6

And priests are allowed to work in the temple on the Sabbath\*



\*Num 28:9

Don't you understand when God says 'keeping rules' doesn't make up for not having kindness'?\*



\*Isa 6:6

If you understood, you would know my disciples did nothing wrong.



The Pharisees followed Jesus to the meeting place



There was a man with a crippled hand.

The Pharisees wanted to accuse Jesus of breaking rules, so they asked him a trick question.



Is it right to heal someone on the Sabbath?

If your sheep fell into a ditch on the Sabbath you would lift it out!



People are worth far more than sheep, so it is right to do good on the Sabbath



Hold out your hand.



.. and it was healed!

The Pharisees left and made plans.



We will kill him.

## Words for Wordsearch below

- |         |            |            |
|---------|------------|------------|
| Thanks  | All        | Intervene  |
| Angels  | Genesis    | Garden     |
| Church  | Messengers | Eden       |
| Feast   | God        | Lot        |
| Michael | Sent       | Gideon     |
| Balaam  | Gabriel    | Archangel  |
| Mouths  | Mary       | Revelation |
| Lion    | Mother     | Danger     |
| Daniel  | Teaming    |            |

## Crossword Clues Down:

- Rough drawing (2 Kings 16:10) (6)
- See 24 Across
- Underground literature (including Christian books) circulated in the Soviet Union (8)
- Lo, mash (anag.) (6)
- The Bible's shortest verse: 'Jesus —' (John 11:35) (4)
- 'Can a mother forget the baby at her — and have no compassion on the child she has borne?' (Isaiah 49:15) (6)
- Can be seen in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (6)
- 'Send me, therefore, a man... experienced in the — of engraving, to work in Judah and Jerusalem' (2 Chronicles 2:7) (3)
- Second city of Cyprus (8)
- United Nations Association (1,1,1)
- One of the women who first heard that Jesus had risen from the dead (Mark 16:1) (6)
- Braved (anag.) (6)
- of Evangelism, outreach initiative in the 1990s (6)
- 'Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and — in their own sight' (Isaiah 5:21) (6)
- 'Neither — nor depth... will be able to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (6)
- What Jesus shed in 5 Down (4)

150 years ago, on 4 August 1870 the British Red Cross Society was founded.

125 years ago, on 10 August 1895 the Proms (Promenade Concerts) began in London.

A E E A E G N M M E D R D  
 O L N E D R A G O A D O A  
 L R F N R G H B A T R O N  
 S R E E S C H U R C H Y G  
 H I A V L E A H C I M E E  
 T D S R E G N E S S E M R  
 U A T E G L S T A D E L R  
 O N L T N B A L A A M G A  
 M I I N A E L T H A N K S  
 O E O I H A G N I M A E T  
 L L N V C G I D E O N T K  
 I O S G R M I C N D N E R  
 S H T N A R O G H N E I T

i	s	v	p	g	z	k	u	s	c	j	q	g
l	d	p	w	a	c	l	r	q	c	e	a	h
m	p	i	o	h	r	z	u	s	s	l	a	
c	l	c	r	i	p	p	l	e	d	u	l	r
v	a	k	t	p	r	i	e	s	t	s	o	v
s	n	e	h	m	a	s	s	t	a	w	w	e
x	s	d	q	d	i	s	c	i	p	l	e	s
h	h	s	b	r	e	a	k	o	m	p	d	t
t	e	w	a	n	b	b	y	n	n	e	a	i
r	e	h	d	i	r	b	u	h	l	o	v	n
i	p	n	w	h	e	a	t	a	a	p	i	g
c	i	f	m	k	a	t	e	n	w	l	d	o
k	x	o	o	b	d	h	b	d	s	e	t	q

allowed	disciples	crippled
healed	Sabbath	bread
harvesting	break	Pharisees
sheep	people	David
kindness	rules	picked
plans	trick	hand
question	Jesus	worth
wheat	priests	laws

**Puzzle Pages Solutions**

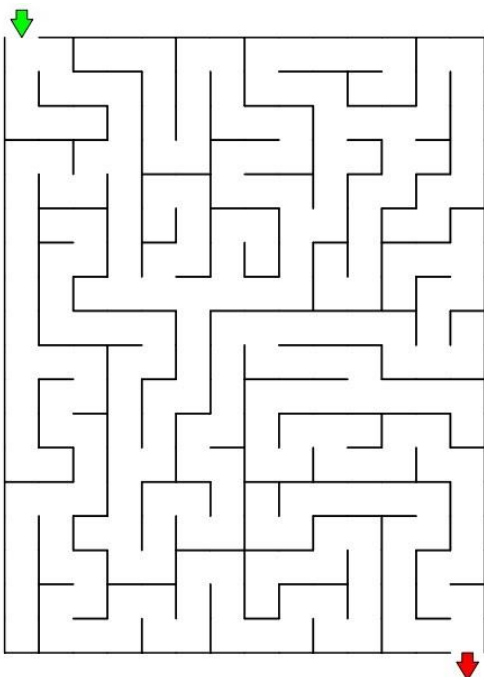
**Sudoku Solution**

8	5	3	6	2	4	7	9	1
7	6	9	5	3	1	4	8	2
1	2	4	7	9	8	6	5	3
3	8	5	9	1	6	2	4	7
2	4	1	8	7	3	5	6	9
6	9	7	4	5	2	1	3	8
5	3	8	1	6	7	9	2	4
4	1	6	2	8	9	3	7	5
9	7	2	3	4	5	8	1	6

**Crossword Answers:**

**DOWN:** 1, Sketch. 2, Priest. 3, Samizdat. 4, Shalom. 5, Wept. 6, Breast. 7, Embers. 12, Art. 14, Limassol. 15, UNA. 16, Salome. 17, Adverb. 18, Decade. 20, Clever. 21, Height. 23, Tear.

**ACROSS:** 8, Kiriath Jearim. 9, Toe. 10, Ill at ease. 11, Hated. 13, Miletus. 16, Started. 19, Micah. 22, Leviticus. 24, Eli. 25, Mary and Joseph.



**Good news about potholes**

One good thing about lockdown has been quieter roads. Quieter roads are good because councils can then repair the potholes more quickly.

This has included: Shropshire, where pothole gangs filled in more than 2000 during lockdown; Derbyshire, where more than 28,000 were filled; Suffolk, where 6,300 were filled, and Bury, where more than 1700 potholes were filled. And Manchester laid more than 100,000 square metres of new road surface.

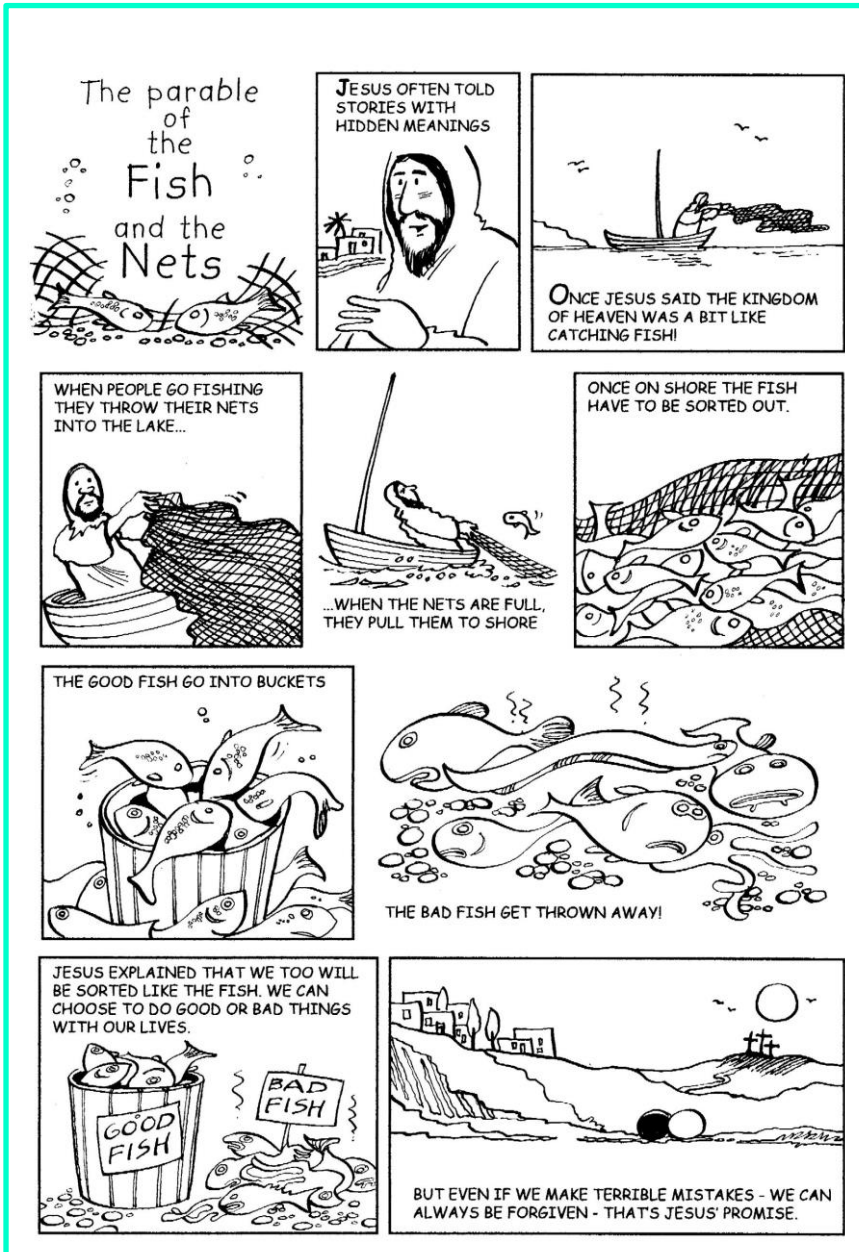
*Parish Pump*

**Borrowed – Teacher:** We borrowed our numerals from the Arabs, our calendar from the Romans, and our banking from the Italians. Can anyone think of other examples?

**Student:** Well, we borrowed our lawnmower from the Smiths, our ladder from the Browns, our hose from the Jones....

Opportunities always look bigger going than coming.





**Please, please, stop buying compost with peat in it**

So says the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB).

The large-scale removal of peat from bog “is destroying one of our most precious wildlife habitats.

It takes centuries for a peat bog to form with its special wildlife – modern machinery destroys it in days.”

*Parish Pump*

Those who have found God in digital church may want to keep God there rather than discover transforming participation in the Body of Christ....

We need to find creative new ways of combining physical gathering with the virtual.

**Canon Mark Collinson,  
Principal of the School of  
Mission Winchester Diocese**

**God doesn't mind if you are messy – says online service**

A Vicar who has nearly 170,000 followers on Instagram and who regularly broadcasts on YouTube, says that God welcomes us all, however ‘messy’ we may believe our lives to be. The Revd Chris Lee, Vicar of St Saviour’s in Wendell Park, warned against any of us being ‘embarrassed’ about the state of our lives when considering whether to ‘open our hearts’ to God or not.

“God is not going to stand at the door of your heart, knock and look in and think to Himself ‘you know what, I am not going to come in, it is a little bit messy there’,” he said. Chris Lee was leading a recent weekly online service for the Church of England. He said that Christians are not called to be ‘bouncers’ who police whether people are leading ‘good enough’ lives to come to church.

“No, as the Gospel of Matthew records Jesus saying, whomever welcomes one of you, welcomes Me. Anyone is welcome, God’s grace is sufficient for all of our needs.” He added: “God’s welcome is wide, His love is deep, He is generous to all who come to Him. As Christians we should be welcoming. We are not called to be bouncers at the doors of our churches seeing if people are good enough, clean enough, moral enough, to come in, we should be welcoming to all people.” *Parish Pump*

## HYMN: The story behind ... JUST AS I AM

The hymn 'Just As I Am' must be one of the most famous in the world. It has been sung by tens of millions of Christians at Billy Graham Crusades the world over, just for starters! Yet it was not written by a professional who was 'aiming' at a specific market, as many songs seem to be written today. Instead, it was written by an artist in Victorian times.

Her name was Charlotte Elliott, and she was born in Clapham in 1789. She grew up in a well to do home, and became a portrait artist and also a writer of humorous verse. All was well until Charlotte fell ill in her early 30s, and slid into a black depression. A minister, Dr Caesar Malan of Switzerland, came to visit her. Instead of sympathising, he asked her an unexpected question: did she have peace with God? Charlotte deeply resented the question and told him to mind his own business.

But after he left, his question haunted her. *Did* she have peace with God? She knew that she did not, that she had done some very wrong things. So, she invited Dr Malan to return. She told him that she would like to become a Christian, but would have to sort out her life first.

Dr Malan again said the unexpected: "Come just as you are." The words were a revelation to Charlotte. She had assumed that she would have to put her life in order before she could hope to be accepted by God. Instead, she realised that Jesus wanted her just as she was – and He would take care of the sin. Charlotte became a Christian that day.

14 years later, in 1836, Charlotte wrote some verses that summed up how it had been between her and Jesus that day. They ran:

*Just as I am, without one plea,  
But that thy blood was shed for me,  
And that thou bids't me come to Thee  
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!*

*Just as I am, tho tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a doubt  
Fightings within, and fears without,  
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!*

Charlotte could not have dreamed that 150 years into the future, her verses would be sung by millions of people all over the world, as they responded to the Gospel presented at many great Billy Graham crusades, and made their way forward to do just as the hymn describes – to come to Jesus Christ, despite sin and fear and doubts, to come 'just as I am.'

*Parish Pump*

## A cup of joy!

A tea shop is a wondrous place  
Where I for one just love to be!  
A place to rest from life's harsh pace  
And sit and drink a cup of tea!

Indeed, it's time to take a rest!  
From all life's pressures, take a break!  
And just today it might be best  
To have a slice of home-made cake!

**Nigel Beeton, Parish Pump**



## When tourists get lost



Have you ever got into trouble while abroad? The true story is told of a group of tourists who went to Israel some years ago and arrived in Jerusalem very eager to see the sites of the old city. Four members of the group were so engrossed in taking pictures of each other by the Wailing Wall that they ignored the summons from the tour group leader to go back to the bus. A little while later, they realised that they were all on their own in Jerusalem. That's when their problems started. The four tourists decided to head back to their hotel. But no one could remember the exact name of the hotel. So, they hailed a taxi, and asked it to drive around Jerusalem looking for the hotel. An hour or so later, the driver gave up and demanded payment. That's when they discovered that they did not have enough money to pay the driver. So the driver took them to the police, who demanded some identification. That's when the four tourists remembered that they had left their passports in the hotel safe...

Some hours later, the tour guide tracked down the missing tourists. They greeted her with tears of relief as she provided the police with their passports, paid their debt, and prepared to lead them safely back to their hotel. The police gave some parting advice to the tourists: "From now on, you stay close to your friend!" Stay close to your friend. It's good advice for all of us. If your life is going in the wrong direction, if you have run up debts of wrong-doing, if you feel lost and alone, you need to take action. You need to stop going on like this. Turn around and go in another direction. The Bible calls this action of 'stopping and turning around' repentance. Repentance is when you stop one direction, and you *turn* to God. For the good news is that there *is* a heavenly tour guide on whom we can all call. Only God can save us from the mess we are in. He sent us His Son to forgive us our sins, to provide us with an identity, and, if we walk with Him, He will lead us safely through life. As the Bible says: "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

*Parish Pump*

## Who's right for which job?

Does your company struggle with properly fitting people to jobs? Here is a handy way to decide.... Take prospective employees and put them in a room with only a table and two chairs. Leave them for two hours, without instruction. At the end of that time, go back and see what they are doing.

If they have taken the table apart in that time, put them in Engineering.

If they are counting the cracks in the floor, assign them to Finance.

If they are screaming and waving their arms, send them to Manufacturing.

If they are talking to the chairs, Personnel is a good place for them.

If they are sleeping, they are Management material.

If they are writing up the experience, send them to Technical Publications.

If they don't even look up when you enter the room, assign them to Security.

If they try to tell you it's not as bad as it looks, send them to Marketing.

And if they've left early, put them in Sales.

*Parish Pump*

*Canon David Winter is feeling very solitary just now...*

### **THE WAY I SEE IT: What have you missed most during lockdown?**

It's a good question, because it is about the things that make us tick. When I examined my list, I found obvious things – going to church, live sport on TV, meeting up with friends for a coffee or a beer. But as I thought more deeply about it, I realised that what I missed most was TOUCH. For nearly four months I have not touched another human being! That is an astonishing deprivation. When a baby is born, its first experiences are all of touch. The strong hands of the midwife, mother's excited and loving embrace, tiny hands reaching out to feel mummy's face. We touch our way into life. And then it goes on. Holding hands with friends, being hugged by grandma, your first serious kiss, and perhaps a last tearful one at the end of a much-loved life. We greet each other with a holy kiss, the Bible says. And why not? Sight, smell, hearing and touch. Four senses. And I think lockdown has taught me that the greatest of these is touch!

### **The Chief Purpose of Man**

How clever man is, he has conquered the skies,  
Reached for the stars and stepped onto the moon,  
But he still does not know why he is here  
Or what is the purpose, or why he was born.

And did it all start with one big bang  
As stars and galaxies burst into space?

Or was it the hand of a mighty Creator  
Who lovingly fashioned this wondrous place?

Into this world God planted a garden

And placed man there to enjoy its delights,  
But he soon disobeyed, and sin entered in,  
And so, man was banished and thrust from God's sight.

How gracious God is, He has reached out again

To reconcile man and bring him back home,  
Sin's debt has been paid by the death of His Son,  
To know God as Father is why man was born.

*by Megan Carter, Parish Pump*

### **Feel the tug**

Have you ever wondered how you can be certain about who and what God really is? One Christian put it this way: "I'm reminded of the story of the little boy who was out flying a kite". The wind was brisk and large billowing clouds were blowing across the sky. The kite went up and up until it was entirely hidden by the clouds. Then a man came by and asked the little boy what he was doing, staring up at an empty sky. "I'm flying my kite," he replied. The man replied: "What kite? How can you be sure it is still there? You can't see a thing." The little boy agreed that he could see nothing, "but every little while I feel a tug, so I know for sure that it is still up there and is connected to me!" When it comes to God, you don't need to take anyone else's word for it. You can find Him for yourself by inviting Jesus Christ into your life. Then you too will know by the warm wonderful tug on your heartstrings that though you can't see Him, **He is up there, and that He lives in you. You are connected!**

### **The Lockdown Lifts**

There's life in the town!  
No longer 'locked down'!  
The people stroll out in  
the sun

The majestic trees  
Sway in the light breeze  
Like they wanted to join in  
the fun!

Like light after dark!  
We can walk in the park!  
Buy our tea, and sit out on  
the grass!

We can chat to our friends  
As our loneliness ends  
And we smile at the  
strangers we pass!

Yes there are still queues  
Which cease to amuse  
But things are no longer  
so black!

As they sing in that song -  
You miss what is gone,  
But it's great when at last  
it comes back!

*by Nigel Beeton Parish Pump*

*Parish Pump*

