

THE VOICE

MERROW METHODIST CHURCH MAGAZINE



June 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE MANSE – JUNE 2021

Dear friends,

By the time you read this we have returned to in-person worship. We were able to do this safely and successfully on a handful of Sundays in late autumn last year and then the second lockdown came. And then a long wait. Words cannot describe how good it feels and all being well I will see you second Sunday of this month. I am looking forward to see most of you if not all. For months I felt uncertain of taking a worship service before retiring or sitting down. And it is God's grace that he has opened up the opportunity to conduct a couple services at Merrow in June and July before my tenure ends. It is a short period of time and in case I am not able to see all of you, which will be sad, but you will always be in my prayers and close to my heart.

In the past months a few people (not from our church family) asked me, when your church is going to open again and my reply was that the church never closed. Yes, we were not able to worship together on Sunday mornings but we never stopped being the church. We still worshipped, enjoyed fellowship, learned and served; it was just done in new ways. As we negotiated the pandemic, we followed in the footsteps of a long line of God's people who had to adapt their faith and worship to fit changing circumstances. When the Israelites were cast into exile by the Babylonians, they did not just stop worshipping God. They adapted, finding new ways to praise God in a foreign land. When the wise men learned that King Herod was upset with them, they saw the baby Jesus then went home by another way. When the Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 AD, God's people found other ways and places to worship. As followers of Christ, we are in good company with other believers down through the centuries who have adapted their faith, worship and mission in the light of their circumstances.

Now as we have come back together, we do so as fellow travellers on this strange and unpredictable journey. We are not the same people we were last March and I believe we are still figuring out how we have changed and what is next. Who knows? Regardless of what happens we can find solace in the fact that home is not necessarily a place, but it is what we feel when we are safe in God's arms and that can be any place. It is said, "Home is where the heart is". I believe home is wherever God is. And it is so good to be home!

Every blessing in Christ Jesus,
Asif

EDITORIAL NOTE



Olly srmst poelpe can raed this

I clnuon't blveiee taht I cluod aulacly uesdnatnrd what I was rdanieg. Its the phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid. Aocdrnig to rseearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mttair in waht order the ltteers in a wrod are, the olly iprmoatnt thnig is taht the frist and lsat ltteres be in the rghit pclae.

The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe. Amzanig!

And I awlyas tghuhot slpeling was ipmorantt!!

Any items for inclusion in the **JULY** issue of "The Voice" should be sent to me
by: **TUESDAY JUNE 22nd 2021**
via email: gillianbrierley13@gmail.com
or by post: 57, Darfield Rd. Guildford. GU4 7YY

USEFUL ADDRESSES

ACTING SUPERINTENDENT MINISTER:

(during Keith's sabbatical)

REV.DAVID FAULKNER

01483 472524

david.faulkner@methodist.org.uk

MINISTER:

REV.ASIF DAS

01483 575432

asifdas@hotmail.co.uk

CHURCH OFFICE:

Bushy Hill Drive, Guildford, GU1 2SH.

01483 537655

office@merrowmethodistchurch.org.uk

PROPERTY LETTINGS

ADMINISTRATOR:

01483 537655

lettings@merrowmethodistchurch.org.uk

PRAYER SUPPORT GROUP:

This is a small group willing to put time aside for praying each day for special needs within the Church community. Your request will be passed on to other members of the group, where it will remain confidential.

The prayer contact for JUNE will be

ANN CARPENTER

01483 535282

EDITOR – 'The Voice'

GILLIAN BRIERLEY

01483 531191

gillianbrierley13@gmail.com

TRAID CRAFT

GLENYS MAGILL

01483 823587

glenys.magill1@ntlworld.com

Important: It is our practice at Merrow to publish THE VOICE on the website. This is an important source of information about the life of our church and we want to share it with others.

However, we recognise that some contributors may be uncomfortable with a mention on our web page and we will be happy to omit your name and any other personal details in any future issue if requested to do so.

Please advise at the time of submitting the copy.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JUNE

We are delighted to be open once again for Sunday morning worship
You will still need to book a place and observe safety precautions as before.

Stewards Rota June 2021 Sunday Services at 10.30

Date/Time	Vestry	Door	Worship Leader	P/A & A/V
June 6th 10.30am	Hugh Bradley	Wendy Bradley Ruth McCulloch	Doreen Siame	Jane Vinall
June 13th 6.30pm	Helen Belsham	Suzanne Burnham Joan Wells		John & Julie Wallis
June 20th 10.30am	Joan Wells	Julie Wallis Maggie Woolcock		Jane Vinall
June 27th 10.30am	Suzanne Burnham	Ruth McCulloch Maggie Woolcock	Gillian Brierley	John & Julie Wallis

We continue to open for Silent Prayer each Wednesday from 10-11.00 am
Wednesday Steward's Rota:

Date	Door Steward	P/A
June 2nd	Helen Belsham & Julie Wallis	
June 9th	Hugh Bradley & Helen Belsham	
June 16 th	Helen Belsham & Julie Wallis	
June 23rd	Hugh Bradley & Julie Wallis	
June 30th	Helen Belsham & Glenys Magill	

Fairtrade News from Traidcraft
and (hopefully) the last Zoom Coffee morning
Thursday June 24 10.30 – 12.00

I hope many of you will be able to join me at my Zoom coffee morning for Traidcraft Exchange – the details of how to join are at the end of this article and will also be in the weekly newsletter – there will be a video, breakout rooms for a chat and a quiz with prizes – but you will need to provide you own coffee and cake!

Traidcraft Exchange is a Christian charity run by those who believe that the best way to help our neighbours around the world is by working them to improve their lives through fair trade and by campaigning on global issues of justice in trade. This is an article that they wrote this Easter about why we, as Christians, need to get involved in the climate change which already affects many around the globe.

‘With all that’s gone on in the last year, it’s easy to forget the biggest crisis our world faces – that of the changing climate. Together, we need to take action. Climate change is putting millions of lives in danger, through increased air pollution, rising sea levels, extreme and erratic weather, drought and floods, and the melting of the polar ice caps. 2020 was the hottest year on record. Science tells us that this is overwhelmingly a problem caused by humans – by our use of fossil fuels, our overconsumption of natural resources, and our greed and lack of regard for the planet on which we live. This is deeply at odds with what the bible tells us about God’s plans for the world. Colossians 1:16 tells us that creation was made by Jesus, through Jesus, and for Jesus – that the earth is as important as it gets for Christians. Throughout the bible, we see that God, humans and the world are deeply connected – that we all depend on one another, and those relationships are to be valued, stewarded and looked after. If one aspect of them breaks, it impacts on everything else. Being made in the image of God (Genesis 1:27) means we have a duty to steward and care for the whole of creation – to enable relationships between God, humans and the world to flourish. The climate crisis isn’t just about looking after the resources that God has provided – it’s about justice. We see every day that the climate crisis is hitting the most vulnerable the hardest - affecting access to food, land, and security and safety. From rising sea levels and cyclones in Bangladesh, to flash floods and drought in Tanzania, the climate crisis is a matter of urgency, and as Christians, we are called to ‘Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.’ (Proverbs 31:9). It’s easy to be overwhelmed by the scale of the problem which faces us. It’s easy to look away

from the news, and to ignore the impact our daily habits have on people who live across the world, or on the abstract notion of greenhouse gasses or plastic consumption. But the answer to this fear is given to us by Paul, in his letter to Timothy. He tells us that human fear is not from God. As Christians, we have not been given the spirit of fear, but the spirit of power – power to take action, to love one another, to have compassion for those less fortunate than ourselves, and a sound mind. These are the very tools we need to stand strong in the fight against the climate crisis, and to take the kind of radical actions which will protect the most vulnerable, and the earth gifted to us from God, which we all rely on’.

Traidcraft plc, the trading company which sells fairly produced manufactured goods made and sold by cooperatives in countries, such as India and on the continents of Africa and South America, has had a more profitable year than expected, as whilst churches and shops were not able to open, many people looked at new mail order companies during the first lockdown – you may remember the panic buying of loo rolls and pasta? Their challenge in the future is to keep those new customers interested in buying from them again as the shops are now open.

I want to say thank you to those who have bought products from me over the past year and I hope that I will be able to run my monthly stall after church and at our coffee mornings from September. You will find many of the food and drink items are changing to compostable or recyclable packaging. I can also refill your bottles with Bio-D cleaning products. With your help, they can continue to support their trading partners and show the rest of the cleaning industry how to respect all in the supply chain.

Zoom Coffee Morning Thursday June 24 10.30 – 12.00

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95271144075?pwd=djFqNm1LNmY3YjR5MklsY1pBOE9Vdz09>

Meeting ID: 952 7114 4075

Passcode: 477228

Dial by your location [tel:+0203 9017895](tel:+02039017895)

Please join me and find out about the campaigns that Traidcraft Exchange are working on right now or go to their website and make a donation now at

www.traidcraftexchange.org.uk/donate

Glenys Magill June 2021



from Margriet

On 22 April we had our Virtual Zoom Leprosy Mission coffee morning in aid of the Leprosy work amongst the people of Mozambique. We had a good morning together, although the promised videos could not be shown due to technical problems, and of course there was no coffee, not even the smell of ground coffee, and not even a small crumb of cake. Yet we raised a total of £740, of which £645 was doubled to £1,290 by the UK government.

government. A big "Thank You" for all your donations.

Shortly after the coffee morning I received an email from Chris Stratta, Regional Manager of The Leprosy Mission asking if we could organise another coffee morning or collection, as the situation amongst the Leprosy Care in India seems hopeless. Chris writes:

"We should act as Jesus "hands and feet." [Matt.25:40] The devastation is heart-breaking as thousands are dying every single day. Hospitals are overwhelmed and medical supplies are running out.

As often happens at times like this, it's the most vulnerable who are left behind. People affected by leprosy have already lost so much: too poor to afford medical care, they are forgotten in this crisis. They deserve life-saving treatment as much as anyone else, but without our help this won't be possible. Unless they receive urgent care, many of these precious people won't survive the pandemic. We can't watch and do nothing".

It has never been more important for us to stand together as family in Christ.

Chris continues: **"Please, please will your church stand alongside our brothers and sisters in India? You can help save lives by providing desperately needed Covid equipment for our hospitals and enable us to vaccinate people affected by Leprosy. The gap between rich and poor is larger than ever".**

A gift of £32.50 provides Covid vaccinations and transport for five people

A gift of £90 provides 10 oxygen masks

A gift of £181 provides an oxygen cylinder

To make a difference today, please [visit our website to donate](#), remember to add the name of your church. Together we can save lives in the name of Jesus.

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:40

And two early July notices for your diaries
July coffee morning



for the Alzheimer's Society
Thursday 15th July 10.30 - 12 noon.

Action for Children Sunday 11th July 10.30 am

This year we will be celebrating 152 years of AFC. It goes without saying that the past year has been extremely challenging. In the face of adversity, though, ways have been found to continue to support Action for Children. While lockdowns put a stop to many fundraising activities, Methodist supporters have still managed to raise more than £330,000 which is a remarkable achievement.

The most vulnerable children and their families have been particularly affected by the pandemic. They need our support more than ever.

End Childhood Crisis:

- 12 months since the first lockdown began.
- 12 months of families struggling to cope.
- 12 months with children in poverty at breaking point.

Mr Dave Paterson will be preaching on Sunday 11th July at 10.30 am. There will be envelopes at the service so please give generously for this very worthwhile cause.

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR IN THE GARDEN - June '21

The beginning of this month should have seen the end of frost risk and it should now be safe to plant out all the annual flowers and vegetable plants that we have been gradually hardening off.

Containers and hanging baskets can take their positions to supply colour through the summer months. As well as the flower baskets, I have one filled with Tomato Tumbling Tom. This hangs just outside the back door providing a tasty mouthful in passing!



The tomatoes in the greenhouse will need feeding as soon as the fruits begin to form, which should be about now. A special tomato feed like Tomorite or Big Tom is ideal and can also be used on all plants where you want to promote fruit or flower rather than leaf growth.

As I write this, in mid May, the garden is very wet, but in June we should have seen a bit more sun and it is important to keep all the new plants well watered especially when newly planted.

The clematis should also be in bloom and they relish their heads in the sun and a moist cool root run. The dahlias make fast growth during this month can have the leading shoot pinched out to encourage more blooms.

Also keep an eye out for blackfly, it's probably easier to rub them off with your fingers in the early stages, putting off the need to spray. It is, however, the right time to spray the roses with both insecticide and fungicide to defeat aphids and blackspot. The finger treatment can be a bit painful with roses!

In the vegetable patch my first sowings of carrots, beetroot, radish and parsnips have germinated nicely and my task this month is to thin them out to encourage bigger and better! I will also make 'follow-on' sowings to keep the supply going. I'm hoping to extend the runner bean season this year, by planting out some that I raised in the greenhouse and then sowing seeds at fortnightly intervals outside.

My fruit trees had lots of bloom in May and hopefully this has resulted in a good crop of fruit. Now is the time to inspect the result and thin out the clusters where necessary.

The lawn now needs its weekly trim, let's just hope we have the weather to sit in the sun and admire it.

Enjoy your garden!

F W Gardener

Thought for the month

Now our church has re-opened and our “Thoughts for the week” are no longer being sent out I have decided to print one I had already written, inspired by Morriss’s gardening article in the May issue of “The Voice.”

It’s pruning time

‘The spring flowering shrubs have bloomed well and early this year and can be pruned back as soon as the flowers fade, to keep them compact and healthy.’

So wrote Morriss Kemp in his gardening article in the May issue of “The Voice”. I wish I’d read that before I cut back my hydrangea last November! Will I ever make a gardener?

But this set me thinking about the words of Jesus in the gospel of John Ch.15:

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

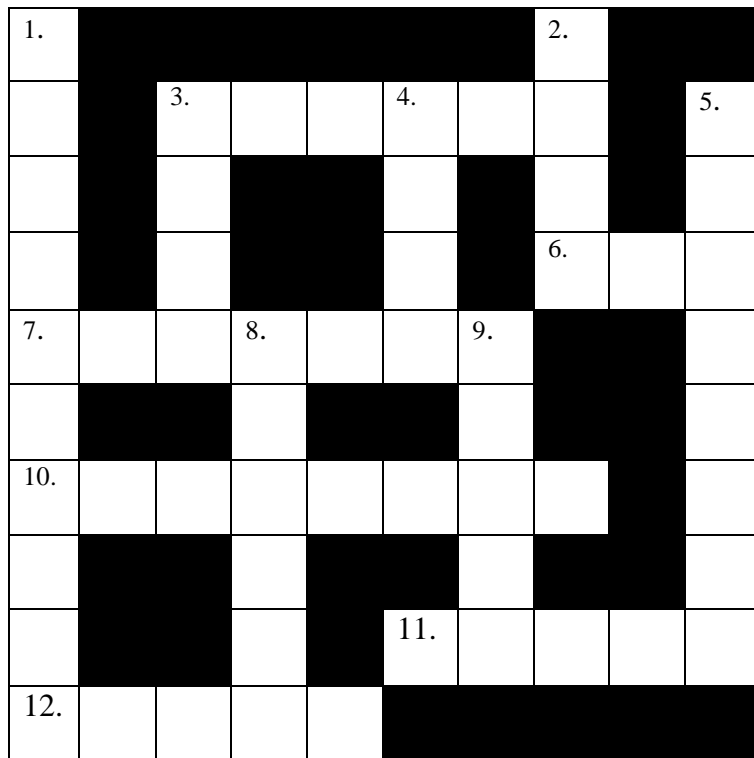
When I have heard sermons on this passage it has been the first part of that second verse which has always seemed to speak to my conscience. Could I be the branch which is severed from the vine for not bearing fruit? Only now have I really thought about the rest of the verse. Every branch which does bear fruit is also cut back – or pruned, but this is not to remove worthless branches of the vine, rather it is that after a branch has borne fruit it needs to be cut back in order to be revitalised for future growth.

Pruning is not a ‘one size fits all’ action. The gardener needs to know his plants; the right season for pruning and whether a hard prune is necessary or a gentler cut back, but the gardener also recognises where in the branch to be pruned there is the promise of new growth. He or she will prune so that that promise is not destroyed, but only the part of the branch which has already flowered and fruited is cut back to just above the node which will, after a period of healing and recuperation, swell and burst forth into new and fruitful life.

Has the Covid pandemic been our time of pruning? Were we that fruitful branch which the gardener has ‘pruned’ to allow us a time of recovery and restoration? As our branches begin to grow again, stronger and healthier, are we ready to bear new fruit in a new season?

JUNIOR PAGE – for the young and young at heart

Summer Crossword: At the seaside



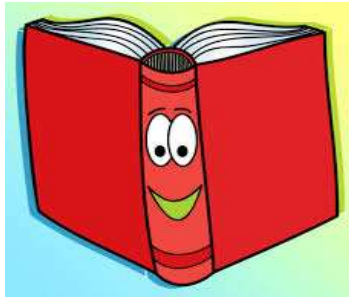
Across:

- 3. On the beach you might build a sand - '-----'
- 6. Lie in the sun to get a sun – '---'
- 7. You might collect these.
- 10. Something to eat to cool you down.
- 11. A favourite place at the seaside.
- 12. The sea tastes '-----'

Down:

- 1. You leave these behind as you walk on wet sand.
- 2. Put up an umbrella to escape the '----' of the sun.
- 3. You might see one in a rock pool
- 4. This comes in and out.
- 5. Something to eat on a picnic
- 8 & 9. You may take these down to the beach

(Answers on last page)



Story time

The lonely Elephant

An elephant wandered the forest looking for friends. She came across a monkey and asked, “Will you be my friend, monkey?” “You are too big and cannot swing on trees as I do. So I cannot be your friend”, said the monkey.

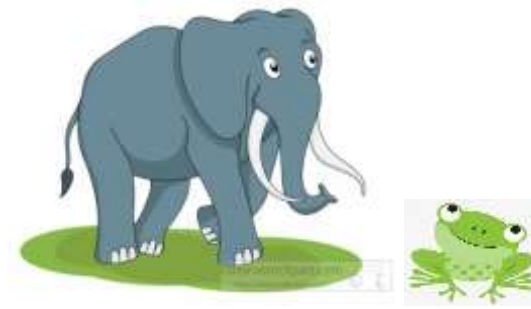
The elephant then came across a rabbit and asked him if she could be his friend. “You are too big to fit inside my burrow. You cannot be my friend”, replied the rabbit.

Then the elephant met a frog and asked if she could be her friend. The frog said “You are too big and heavy. You cannot jump like me. I am sorry, but you cannot be my friend”.

The elephant asked a fox, and he got the same reply, that he was too big.

The next day, all the animals in the forest were running in fear. The elephant stopped a bear and asked what was happening and was told that a tiger has been attacking all the animals. The elephant wanted to save the other weak animals and went to the tiger and said “Please sir, leave my friends alone. Do not eat them”. The tiger didn’t listen and asked the elephant to mind her own business. Seeing no other way to solve the problem, the elephant kicked the tiger and scared it away. She then went back to the others and told them what happened. On hearing how the elephant saved their lives, the animals agreed in unison, “You are just the right size to be our friend”.

Moral : *Friends come in all shapes and sizes!*



Gill's trills



A June Medley

*January, February, March and April
Do you remember the tune?
May, the month which follows April,
Then we come to June.
30 days has September,
Also April, and November,
So has June, when days are sunny,
Bees are buzzing and making honey,
Trees in leaf,
A month of roses,
A feast for our eyes,
A scent for our noses.
These delights as summer starts
Raise our spirits
Lift our hearts.
I could meander on all day,
But I've run out of things to say,
So here's a song from Carousel
Which most of you will know quite well,
So sing along, but please don't shout!
Remember? "June is bustin' out."*

Seen on a birthday card:

*Forget about the past,
You can't change it.
Forget about the future,
You can't predict it.
Forget about the present,
I didn't buy you one.*

Ken's pen

In H.L.Gee's book "500 tales to tell again" he tells this story:-

I was duly rebuked this morning. As I went home to lunch my neighbour's, wee bairn, Andrea, hugged me and said "I'se glad you've come."

Well, that was charming; so I said, "And what's the meaning of all this,eh?" For, though I apologise for the thought, I fancied she might be hoping I had something in my pocket for her.

With grave eyes she looked at me and said, "Oh, noffing - I'se just glad, that's all!"

To be loved for no ulterior reason, THAT is to be loved indeed.

There have probably been times in all our lives when we have thought "God can't possibly love me after what I have done or said". But God DOES love us just as we are, and hopes that we will become what He knows we can be.

.....

An elderly driver had a safe phone put in his car. He soon had a message from his wife saying that she has just heard a radio report that a car had been seen driving down the local motorway in the wrong direction. "Only one car?" Her husband replied, "there are hundreds of them."

.....

A rambler in a small village saw an old chap staring intently at a piece of old rope he was holding. "Excuse me, sir, but what is that piece of rope for?" he asked. "I use it to tell the weather," was the reply. "But how do you do that?" "Well, when the rope moves from side to side I know it's windy. And if it feels wet, I know it's raining."

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and happy news from Ken and Rosemary....

Rosemary Mills' 90th birthday celebration - May 2nd 2021



Congratulations Rosemary, from all your Merrow Methodist Church friends

Pete's tweet

Gillian, Methodism & Prince Charles

An extract in the latest URC *Reform* magazine dealt with ancient buildings. The essence was how to keep them efficiently and safely functioning rather than removed. Historic buildings do not have to cause problems especially with good advice and more sympathetic regulations. This philosophy came too late to preserve the iconic Wesleyan chapel that Gillian depicted in her 'Thought for the Day' -Jan 30th.



It was an era when many fine structures fell to the axe and got replaced with buildings whose sense of positive proportion existed solely in the minds of architects and designers with heads in ivory towers. Another prominent example was the razing of the façade to Euston Station. It caused uproar not helped by the tasteless effigy which replaced it.

Prince Charles exited Cambridge with a creditable fine arts degree. The syllabus included, and stimulated a love for, design and archaeology. His eighties comments about plans for a new City of London became famous for bluntly stating what most rank and file believed but without power to enforce. Reference to the Luftwaffe failing to achieve what modernistic designers planned to inflict gained acclaim. One specific project he officially described as “a boil on the face of a good friend”. His stance returned common sense to the drawing board.

The Prince aired a TV programme during the late eighties where he journeyed around Britain studying a variety of buildings historic and modern. His two principal themes were:

- i) good design should reflect something of the nature and purpose for which the construction is intended
- ii) development should invite rather than demand attention

A camera surveyed the new library at Birmingham University. Charles inquired what was portrayed in this edifice that reflected a warehouse for storing books. His reflection was that it might just as well be a place for incinerating them! Tall towers purposelessly reaching skywards were another target for criticism.

Return to Gillian's presentation.

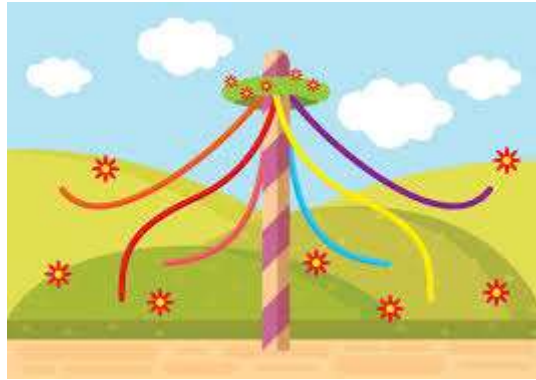
At least the chapel was replaced by a development aesthetically pleasing, as shown in the script. And yes, one can envisage a spiritual presence in its new layout. Sunday 7th March in its sermonette asked a rhetorical question in context of the pandemic affecting our society:

*Many will miss the architecture and atmosphere of their building, or the fellowship, bustle and chatter before and after services. ... **This causes us to ask what makes a church.***

Perhaps some of the above can help to answer that question. Maybe too, that proposed trip to Oxford later this year might provide more subjective input.

Cynics have wrongly suggested that Charles was mollycoddled at university given his high profile. All exam scripts were given a number not a name and an independent marker was allocated. The university subsequently indicated that the prince would probably have gained a higher mark if his increasing royal responsibilities had not absorbed chunks of his time.

POETRY CORNER



The maypole article in the May magazine evoked a song we learned at junior school in south-east London, write Pete. Our school actually had a maypole so perhaps it was not surprising the rendering was so popular. Sadly, in our modern time most schools probably don't have a piano let alone a resident music teacher. The language too would now be deemed old fashioned to the point of derelict. Shame really. This type of music defined our playful innocence.

1. Come, lasses and lads, take leave of your dads,
and away to the may-pole hie;
For every he has got him a she, and the minstrel's standing by;
For Willie has gotten his Jill, and Johnny has got his Joan,
To jig it, jig it, jig it, jig it up and down.

2. 'Strike up,' says Wat; 'Agreed,' says Kate,
'And I prithee, fiddler, play;'
'Content,' says Hodge, and so says Madge, for this is a holiday.
Then every man did put his hat off to his lass,
And every girl did curtsy, curtsy, curtsy on the grass.

3. 'Begin,' says Hall; 'Aye, aye,' says Mall,
'We'll lead up Packington's Pound;'
'No, no,' says Noll, and so says Doll, 'We'll first have Sellenger's Round.'
Then every man began to foot it round about;
And every girl did jet it, jet it, jet it, in and out.

4. 'You're out,' says Dick; 'Tis a lie,' says Nick,
'The fiddler played it false;'
'Tis true,' says Hugh, and so says Sue,

And so says nimble Alice.
The fiddler then began to play the tune again;
And every girl did trip it, trip it, trip it to the men.

5. 'Let's kiss,' says Jane, 'Content,' says Nan,
And so says every she;
'How many?' says Batt; 'Why three,' says Matt,
'For that's a maiden's fee.'
But they, instead of three, did give them half a score,
And they in kindness gave 'em, gave 'em, gave 'em as many more.

6. Then after an hour, they went to a bower,
And played for ale and cakes;
And kisses, too; until they were due,
The lasses kept the stakes:
The girls did then begin to quarrel with the men;
And bid 'em take their kisses back, and give them their own again.

7. Yet there they sate, until it was late,
And tired the fiddler quite,
With singing and playing, without any paying,
From morning unto night:
They told the fiddler then, they'd pay him for his play;
And each a two-pence, two-pence, gave him, and went away.

8. 'Good night,' says Harry; 'Good night,' says Mary;
'Good night,' says Dolly to John;
'Good night,' says Sue; 'Good night,' says Hugh;
'Good night,' says every one.
Some walked, and some did run, some loitered on the way;
And bound themselves with love-knots, love-knots, to meet the next holiday.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

All organisations in the UK have to comply with these regulations which came into force back in 2018, covering how personal information about ourselves is held and used by others, including the Methodist Church, right down to the local level including groups within our church.

Our data can be held by the church for several reasons such as employment and safeguarding but for many of us as members, our personal data is held so that the church can function by all of us working together and we can decide if we want to be contacted by post, telephone or email.

Our managing Trustees, the church council, are obliged to know what personal information is held, how it is used and to check that it is securely stored. This data is checked every year to ensure that it is still relevant, and that consent has been obtained where needed. The trustees must appoint a person within the church to coordinate this and I have agreed to do this for the trustees here at Merrow. I am not a 'data champion' or a data protection officer but they have been appointed to each district and are there to help if required. For those of you who do not know me, I am the safeguarding officer for the church and a member of the church council.

There are two main areas I will be looking at. Firstly, I will shortly be sending out a new consent form to all members and adherents to ask you to update or check the personal information we hold on you. I will also be asking those of you who run an organisation for the church to let me know what information you hold on your members and where it is held etc.

Secondly, I need to check that we do not hold or use data for which we do not have consent. If you are no longer a member and do not wish to stay in contact, you can ask for your data to be removed. If you have been given documents or data in the past which you no longer need, please could you contact me, and we can discuss whether they need to be archived or if you can now destroy them.

If you have any concerns about how your personal data is held or being used in the church, please let me know and I will do my best to sort it out with you.

Glenys Magill tel 01483 823587 glenys.magill1@ntlworld.com

And please watch out for SCAMS. They never stop! Don't share Data!

Just for fun

Quotes:

The suspense is terrible. I hope it will last. *Oscar Wilde*

Taste is the feminine of genius. *Edward Fitzgerald*

Saint Peter

Outside “The Pearly Gates” there were two queues. One was headed “Hen Pecked Husbands” and the second simply “Others”. On this particular morning St Peter came down early to process the applications. He immediately noticed a long, long line in the HPH but only a lone, forlorn looking male in the alternate queue. Since it was easier to process the shorter one first Peter asked the individual why he was standing there? His reply was:

“I dunno. My wife told me to stand here

.....

Although the Greek Easter, which came later than our own, is past, I thought the Easter notice sent out to all English clients of a Cretan Accountancy firm was worth sharing:

Greek Easter wishes

(our office is close from Friday and will open on Wednesday 5/5/2021)

*To remember, any feeling we take care of, will flourish.
So, let us take care of hope, joy, love, optimism and offering to fellow man,
and let the anxiety, heartache and fear of the coronavirus wither.
Very soon everything will be overcome, and it will be a memory.*

*We wish you, and your family
A Good Resurrection,
Happy Easter,
Happy years
with Peace, Security, Family Peace,
Progress and
Social Contribution for the Common Good.*

(This may have lost something in translation, but the message of goodwill is clear)

WANTED – a Zoom ‘host’ for Zooming our Church Services

The church council have decided that, as there will be some special services coming up when we may not be able to accommodate all who would wish to attend, we will stream them by Zoom. We are looking for someone who is familiar with using Zoom for meetings and could ‘host’ the service and work with the A/V team to stream the services. It may be possible to do this from home if you have your own computer. There are two services coming up, July 18, which is Asif’s last service in our church before he retires and Thursday Sep 2 at 7.30pm when Rev George Qwarm will be inducted as our minister. If you can help at either or both those services, please contact Glenys Magill on 01483 823587 or glenys.magill1@ntlworld.com

and let’s not forget our advertisers who still face challenging times.

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Prayers worth sharing



THE GAZA STRIP.

We must all be horrified at the outbreak, yet again, of fighting between Israelis and Palestinians, the violence on both sides and particularly the devastating bombing of the Gaza Strip.

Viewing it on our television screens can desensitise us to its effect on individual families at whom the bombs and missiles are being hurled.

Some of us will recall a moving evening with Yara Eid back in August 2018. Yara was born and brought up in the Gaza Strip and then won a scholarship to study International Relations at Edinburgh University.

She is now in her 3rd year funded by a host of generous supporters including some from our Together in Christ fellowship.

The effect on her of the hostilities is heart breaking.

Not having been able to see her family and friends for years she now dreads watching her homeland being destroyed, not knowing if her family has been killed or has survived for another 24 hours.

Please, if you can, watch her 15th May post on Youtube (just search Yara Eid) and her Instagram post

(www.instagram.com/tv/CO6iw7PAa1R/?igshid=t1o1lodbnqze2v).

Then please pray for her and her family; for all in Gaza and in Israel affected by the bombs and missiles; for the leaders of the factions involved and for World leaders trying to bring about an immediate ceasefire as a base for a just and lasting solution.

(from Robert Avis – St. Johns)



(Crossword Clues from P.11 - Across: Castle; Pebbles; Ice cream; Beach; Salty; Tan
Down: Footprints; Crab; Bucket; Tide; Spade; Sandwich)