



The **HIGHLANDER**

Jubilee June 2022

The monthly newsletter of Highlands Methodist Church, Leigh on Sea

11:00 am Sun 5 th	Morning Worship Café Church Pentecost	Pastor Steve Mayo
11:00 am Sun 12 th	Morning Worship Communion	Rev Brenda Gutberlet
11:00 am Sun 19 th	Morning Worship	Worship Leaders
11:00 am Sun 26 th	Morning Worship	Susie King

Services above are all live, but details may be altered.

 Highlands (Leigh) Methodist Church
www.highlandsmethodist.org.uk



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**Highlands Methodist Church
Hospitality in the Midst of our Community**

All telephone numbers are '01702' unless stated

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Church Flowers	Jean Edmonds	525250
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From Your Minister



As I'm sure all of you are aware, this year we will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee; 70 years on the throne. We will be celebrating with street parties, special concerts, community events and even 1 extra bank holiday! Although I wouldn't say I'm a devout royalist, I do have an admiration and respect for the Queen when I think about the events over the past 70 years she has seen our country through. If Queen Elizabeth II lives for another 3 years, she will be the longest reigning monarch in history overtaking Louis XIV of France, who reigned for 72 years and 110 days.

To me, 70 years seems a really long time. This feeling of duration will vary depending on how old or young you are. Many of you will still remember the Queen's ascension to the throne in 1952.

But of course, there is one King who has reigned longer than any earthly king or queen; the King of kings and Lord of lords, the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ.

Earthly rulers come and go, no matter how long their reign, but Jesus reigns from eternity to eternity;

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants for ever; his kingdom will never end. [Luke 1:32-33 NIVUK]

Moreover, any earthly monarch has a geographical domain that is limited by borders, where their authority ends. Jesus, however, rules the whole world and beyond. In the words of Isaac Watts:

*Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does its successive journeys run.
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.*

*To him shall endless prayer be made,
And praises throng to crown his head.
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
With every morning sacrifice.*

*People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on his love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on his name.*

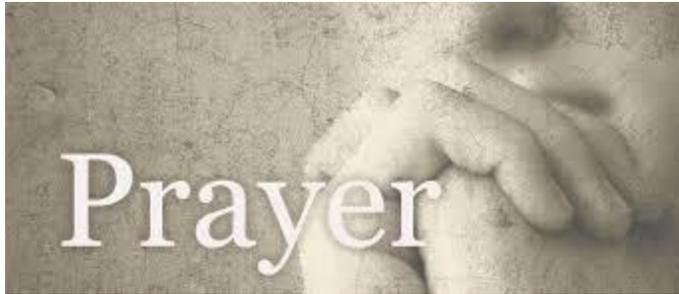
*Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
The prisoners leap to lose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
And all who suffer want are blest.*

*Let every creature rise and bring
The highest honours to our King,
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen.*

[CCL No. 15506]

So, by all means let's celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee. Her reign has been a huge personal achievement. But in our celebrations let's also remember and celebrate the longest reigning sovereign ever - Jesus!

Every blessing,
Pastor Steve, June 2022
01702 48382c7
pastorstevemayo@gmail.com



We pray for our friends who are ill, housebound, or bereaved and for those in residential care: particularly *Doll Edwards in The Cedars*. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families.

In particular **we pray for** the Secretary of the Circuit Meeting, Kathy Burrell who is still in hospital

We send our **condolences** to Julie Peek and family on the loss of her dad Reg...

...**also** to family and friends of Charlie Baynes who died unexpectedly this month. Charlie, an accountant and business adviser, was a keen sailor and fitness enthusiast. His wife Kate will be known to many as a teacher and for 26 years a governor of West Leigh Schools.

Congratulations to Maureen Kelly on the birth of a great grandson Hugo Frederic on 23 May. Hugo's dad is Charlie, son of Maureen's son Peter.

We continue to **pray for peace** in Ukraine – may all parties reach a fair and just conclusion which respects the rights and wishes of the people of that land.



From the Editor

There is little doubt about the dominant theme for this month. It has to be the Jubilee.

Part of me, however, insists that there is little or no reason to celebrate. After all, our nation, still emerging from the pandemic, must now face a 'cost of living' crisis this year. But that is of little or no account when placed against the problems of a vicious and unjust war, against heart-breaking stories of refugees from almost every corner of the world, and deadly famine in Yemen, Somalia and South Sudan (to name but three). Here in the UK we do not expect crisis to turn into tragedy. Our elected representatives, whatever we think of their various faults, are well aware that their first responsibility is to protect and preserve their people through managing defence, health and the economy.

The word jubilee comes (it seems) from the archaic Hebrew *yobel* meaning 'ram' or by extension – a ram's horn¹ used as a musical instrument. The Old Testament gives us more background:

On the Day of Atonement sound the trumpet throughout your land. Consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you.

[Leviticus 25: 9-10 NIVUK]

So the original 'Jubilee' was fixed as a 50-year celebration. It was Queen Victoria, celebrating 60 years of her reign in 1897, who invented the term 'Diamond Jubilee' for an event that had never happened before. Now we have created the term 'Platinum Jubilee' in similar circumstances.

What Leviticus makes clear, in this and subsequent verses, is that the point of Jubilee is not just to celebrate how lucky we are to live in:

¹ Modern Hebrew uses the unconnected word *shofar*

...a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey
[Exodus 3:8 NIVUK]

Rather we are pressed to share our good fortune, not only by freeing our slaves, but by sharing everything that God has bestowed on us. We should both pray and act to secure liberty and peace and justice, and an end to famine and poverty, not only for our island but across the world. And for everyone, regardless of colour or faith.

That surely must be the theme of Jubilee in 2022.



Humour Corner

Patient:

Doctor, I keep breaking into song for no reason. On the way here, for instance, I sang What's New Pussycat, then Delilah, and finally The Green, Green Grass of Home. What do think it could be?

Doctor:

Hmm, yes. I've seen this before. The medical term for it is 'Tom Jones Syndrome'...

Patient:

Oh, my goodness, that sounds awful. Is it serious? Is it very rare?

Friend:

Well, let's just say It's Not Unusual...

Snippets

Our Hon Treasurer

I'm not sure how many years Dave Watson has served Highlands as Treasurer, but some of his early accounts show balances expressed in groats.

To be fair, it has been Janet and Dave together who have done the work. They have given many years of meticulous and ethical service, but I wouldn't dare make an 'ageist' joke about Janet.

They have however decided that they will cease on 31 August. That will be the time for a proper appreciation. It will also be the time to appoint a successor (or successors). In the meantime, if anyone, after prayerful consideration, believes they could do the job, please contact any of the stewards. By doing so, you will not commit yourself in any way. Probably the starting point would be a chat with Dave and Janet, if they agree, to get a better understanding of what the position entails.

Hobbies

On 2nd June we will be celebrating the Platinum Jubilee in Jean and Frank's garden (66 Woodside) with red, white and blue flowers for arrangement. On 16 June we plan Iris folding (cards and ribbon), and another go at quilling (paper curling).

We meet on Thursdays from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon. All are welcome. Contact Jean on 525250.

Church Flowers...

... on 5 June will have been donated by Meriel Mallet in memory of her dear husband Tony who would have been 100 years old on 31 May.

From the Circuit

The next Circuit Meeting is at 7:30 pm on 13 June at Trinity Methodist Church. Any written reports required should be sent in good time by email to the Circuit Office.

Kathy McCullough



As you will have heard, Kathy will no longer be preaching at Highlands or its sister churches. To mark her departure and to say thanks for all her love and caring at Highlands, we presented this Lemon Tree in the knowledge that it will, like us, flourish in her expert care. We send our best wishes to Kathy and Keith

Property and Equipment News

Concerning our kitchen upgrade, Highlands stewards are very grateful for the cleaning and re-organising of our kitchen and wish to say a very big thank you to Jackie and Dave Carter well assisted by Julie for all their hard work.

We now have a kitchen worthy of our beautiful new cooker, ahead of the planned Community Lunches that start on Tuesday 12 July following Tuesday Chatter.

Further details in the July *Highlander* or sooner from Julie Peek

Serving the Homeless

Thank you for your support for the Afternoon Tea at Chalkwell Park Rooms in May. Everyone had a very enjoyable afternoon and we raised over £600. Thank you again.

At the same time, we were able to hear from Jackie Bliss, retiring Chief Executive of HARP, of the progress that has been made over the four years that she has been in post. She was effusive in her thanks for the support of Serving the Homeless. Syrie Cox of YMCA was also able to update us on the work that they undertake for the accommodation, education, and encouragement of young people.

Nevertheless, homelessness in our area remains a problem, and for some a crisis. The economic climate and variable weather exacerbate the problems.

Plans for future fundraising events are as follows:

7:00 pm Friday 10 June	Evening of Jazz and fun with the Daisy Bowlers	@ Our Lady of Lourdes at 7.00pm Tickets at £10 now available, bring own drinks and nibbles
20 July	Spring Raffle draw	Tickets at £1 are now available for huge selection of hampers – wine, cheese, gardening, pamper etc.
10 September	A Floral display with Arts and Crafts	@ Our Lady of Lourdes – all day

Thank you all for your prayers and support during these difficult times.

Platinum Jubilee at Highlands



Here now is your unique and indispensable Jubilee Calendar. My apologies for any event that I've missed – if you're the organiser there's time for you to post details on  Highlands (Leigh) Methodist Church

DATE/TIME	WHAT	WHERE	Further details
Thu 2 June 11:00 am –	Jubilee Open Day Celebration	Westerley Care Home, SS0 7QU	Jess 479476
Thu 2 June 10:00 am –	Hobbies - red, white and blue flowers	66 Woodside	Jean 525250.
Sun 5 June 11:00 am –	Pentecost Service led by Pastor Steve followed by Buffet lunch outside (weather permitting)	Highlands	Ros, Marion or Jean 525250.
Thurs 9 June 11:00 am – 3:00 pm	Highlands Platinum Jubilee Community Day Feat. Southend Mencap 'Showstoppers'	Highlands	Julie Peek 479804

<https://platinumjubilee.gov.uk/events> is an excellent online resource for information about what's on locally and nationally. If nothing else, check out the funky interactive map.

Dining In – Date & Raisin Cookies

Following last month's healthier beans, I've tried a cookie recipe without refined sugar. Like the aforementioned beans it uses dates for sweetening rather than refined sugar. The sugar in the fruit is still sugar, but it's digested more slowly because of the fibre content of the fruit and so it's less likely to trigger blood sugar spikes.

Ingredients

160g dates, pitted
50g sultanas
2 eggs
90g porridge oats
5 tbsp olive oil

90g
plain flour
1 tsp cinnamon
Pinch of salt
½ tsp bicarb



Method

- Preheat oven to 180° C. Line 2 baking trays with baking parchment or reusable silicone liners.
- Put pitted dates, oil and eggs into food processor and blitz until combined to a thick paste.
- Add the remaining ingredients and pulse again until everything is fully mixed.
- Place dessert spoonfuls onto the baking trays, well-spaced. The mixture makes about 12 cookies.
- Bake for 15 minutes until risen and golden. Transfer to wire rack when cool enough to handle.

Very tasty eaten warm! Or as a sweet nibble with elevenses.

Puzzle of the Month²

A	C	A	C	W	E	E	E	A
A	N	S	I	S	S	T	P	L
P	L	I	A	M	I	L	E	L
D	L	Y	R	A	E	W	D	I
R	A	L	E	A	S	T	E	U
O	G	A	Z	A	I	E	S	M
N	A	R	C	I	N	R	O	A
N	S	U	S	S	U	T	L	L
O	W	D	R	O	P	E	O	W

This is a Trackword puzzle – rather like a Word Search, but

- all the answers form a track from top left to bottom right, and
- the last letter of each answer is the first letter of the next answer, but all other letters are used once only
- Answers can go round corners – up, down, left or right – but not diagonals

Hidden in the grid above are thirteen flowers. Just to give you a start, the first one, starting top right, is ACACIA.

² Solution page 18



Jobs for the Garden **From our Special Gardening Correspondent**

Some Words about Bees

You all look out for our garden bees, I'm sure. But did you know (I didn't) that May 20 is designated as World Bee Day. Evidently, Slovenia proposed a World Bee Day to the United Nations in 2017 and it's been on 20 May (the birthday of Slovenian bee-keeping pioneer Anton Janša) ever since.



Why a World Bee Day? The intention is to raise awareness of the importance of bees in maintaining biodiversity. A quick Google led me to 5 interesting facts about bees that I thought I'd share with you. So, did you know:-

1. There are over 16,000 known species of bees in seven recognized biological families?
2. Some species of bees (for example bumblebees, mason bees, and stingless bees) live socially in colonies but most species are solitary?
3. Bees are found on every continent In the world, except Antarctica, wherever there are insect-pollinated flowering plants?

4. Bee pollination is vital both ecologically and commercially, and a decline in wild bees has increased the value of pollination by commercially managed hives of honeybees? (it's only a matter of time before they start to appoint agents).

5. Human beekeeping has been practiced for millennia since at least the times of Ancient Greece and Ancient Egypt.

Wow! Bees are so important so our food production and are still in decline so we all need to do all we can to support them. (And if you're interested, there are many more amazing facts about bees to find out. They're good at predicting storms for example.)

Editor's note

I have a particular fondness of bees – firstly I've managed to avoid cutting the grass for a whole month as we're practicing 'No-Mow-May' to help our bees. Secondly, when Graham Hindle married us nearly 22 years ago, he compared Lesley and me to the airworthiness of a bee. According to the laws of physics, a bee shouldn't be able to fly. But they do, very successfully.

Humour Corner

Traffic Policeman (having pulled over a driver wearing a dog-collar)

Excuse me Reverend, but have you been drinking?

Clergyman:

Only water, officer...

Traffic Policeman:

I'm sorry, but I notice a smell of wine in the car

Clergyman:

Goodness me. He's done it again!

Poem of the Month

This month's poem is selected by Anna Firth MP who succeeded Sir David Amess following the by-election on 3 February. She writes of her choice (*Sea Fever* by John Masefield):



'It reminds me of my late father who loved sailing. He once sailed across the Atlantic from Benfleet Creek on an old 28-foot yacht'

Masefield, born in Herefordshire in 1878, had an unhappy childhood during which he lost both parents. He served on ocean-going sailing ships as a young man before settling to marriage and a career as an accomplished writer of novels, plays and poetry. Such was the respect he gained that in 1930 he was appointed Poet Laureate until his death in 1967.

Sea-Fever John Masefield (1878-1967)

I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by;
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sail's
shaking,
And a grey mist on the sea's face, and a grey dawn breaking.

I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,
And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the sea-gulls
crying.

I must go down to the seas again, to
the vagrant gypsy life,
To the gull's way and the whale's
way where the wind's like a whetted
knife;
And all I ask is a merry yarn from a
laughing fellow-rover,
And quiet sleep and a sweet dream
when the long trick's over.

-oOo-

If you have a favourite poem, send
it in to me. If you can't remember
the name of the poem or its author,
don't worry – give me a well-known
line and I'll track it down. Oh, and tell me why you like it.



Some Jubilee Trivia

This is for us the year 2022. We used to define it as AD (*Anno Domini*, the year of our Lord) but many now use CE (Common Era). This is because the world has at least 30 other calendars in widespread use. The daddy of them all is the Assyrian calendar which dates from 4750 BCE; at least 2 million people would say that this is the year 6772!

At least everyone in the world uses the decimal (base 10) system of counting, with numbers represented by the Hindu–Arabic numeral system. This dates back either to the 1st century CE or the 9th (depending on whether you think it was invented in India or the Middle East

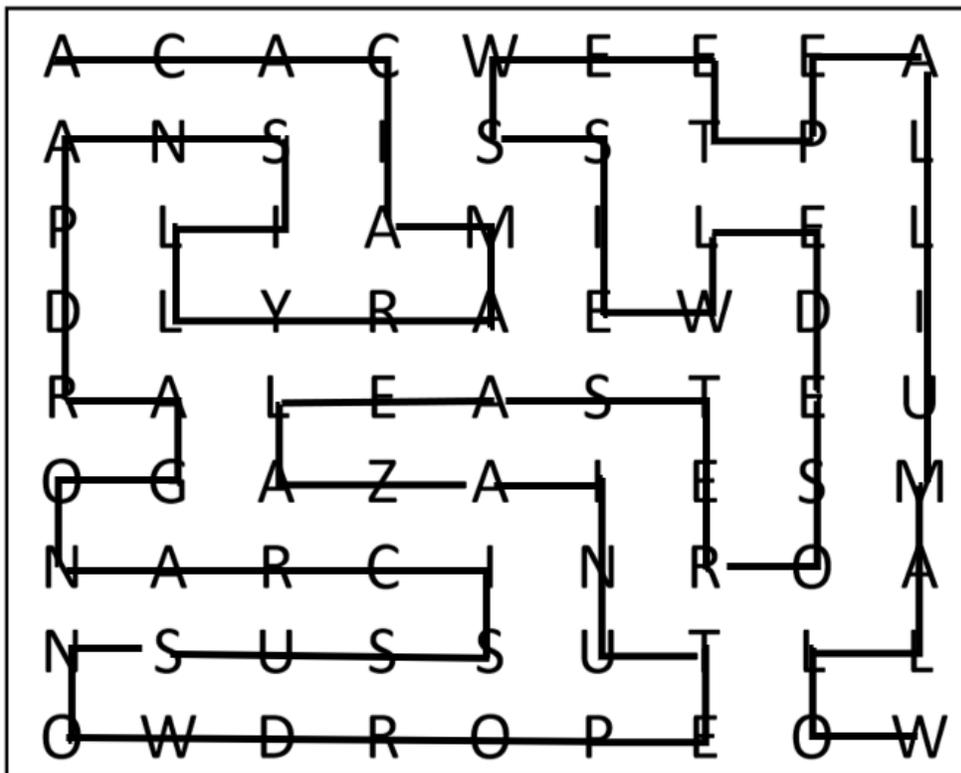
Or do they? Certain tribal languages in Papua New Guinea, DR Congo and Nepal (to name but three) use number systems based on different numbers. Some Nigerians use a base-12 (duodecimal)

system. Base 12 is in many ways a more useful system. The number twelve is divisible, of course, by 2, 3 and 4. The main reason for the dominance of base-10 is that a large majority of humans are blessed with 8 fingers plus 2 thumbs.

There is of course a major area in which base-10 does not prevail. Your computer, telephone, car and possibly your watch operating systems are all based on binary – base-2. This system has the merit of only two numbers (1 and 0) which can be represented in a machine as 'on' and 'off'. Your computer now looks forward to celebrating the Queen's 1000110 years of reign since the year 11110100000!

Puzzle of the Month Solution

You should have identified (in order):
 Acacia; Amaryllis; Snapdragon; Narcissus; Snowdrop; Petunia;
 Azalea; Aster; Rose; Edelweiss; Sweet Pea; Allium; Mallow.



SERVING the COMMUNITY 7 Days a Week

Children and Young People

Group	Time	Contact
Scouts	Thu 7:30 to 9:00 pm	Carl Mason 07814 226133
Cubs	Thu 5:45 to 7:15 pm	Lesley Bacon 07947 116891
Rainbows	Wed 4:00 to 5:00 pm	Julie Griffiths 07834 321724
Brownies	Wed 5:30 to 7:00 pm	Dilys Haddow 710207
Guides	Fri 7:00 to 9:00 pm	Jacqui Hendle 07961 545037
Rangers	Thu ³ 7:00 to 9:00 pm	Jacqui Hendle 07961 545037
Toddlers	Mon 9:30 am to 11:30	Ros: 478631 Margaret: 557512

Fellowship Groups

Group	Time	Contact
Prayer ⁴	Tue 9:00 to 10:00 am	Andrew Hyde 473111
Chatter	Tue 10:00 am to 12:00 noon	Jean Edmonds 525250

Services to the Community

Group	Time	Contact
Lunch Club	TBA	TBA
Staying Steady	Wed 1:00 pm	TBA

Social and Recreational

Group	Time	Contact
Hobbies	1 st /3 rd Thu 10:00 am to noon	Jean 525250

³ Every fortnight

⁴ on Zoom

For updated news keep following
www.highlandsmethodist.org.uk

or  Highlands (Leigh) Methodist Church
also www.methodist.org.uk is an excellent source of information
and inspiration.

Items for the July 2022 issue should be emailed to
andrewghyde@aol.com before the **deadline of Sunday 26** June,
and earlier if possible. No email? Don't despair; just telephone
473111 to arrange an alternative.

Note from the Editor

Next month's expedition is illustrated below. Maximum respect to
anyone who can identify it. See you next month.

