

## ***Keeping in Touch..... Number 59***

***Welcome to this week's KIT. Thank you so much if you sent something in this week. Please keep the articles coming. The deadline for next week's KIT is noon on Wednesday. Please send anything to c.a.curtis@ntlworld.com. Or ring Alan or Chris on 01480 350787 . If you get away for a few days please send a "virtual postcard" of a few photos. Chris is having a "week off" next week and Mary Anthony will be collating KIT. We will forward things you send to her.***

### **Peace Garden by Sally Runham**

St Ives Eco Action Eco Faith Group is considering establishing a peace garden with the help of St Ives in Bloom. There are peace gardens elsewhere in the county, such as in Peterborough, where a 'Quiet Place' has been established close to city centre. "The sounds of the city are all around yet muted and visitors call it an oasis of beauty and calm".

The group is looking at town cemeteries as naturally peaceful places, where there may be a scope for wildflower/ shrub planting in a carefully considered design, with some seating. This could link to other peaceful places in town, and to 'parklet' areas that may be established.



***Editor: Alan had a recollection that around about 1993/4 Kate was instrumental in setting up the area on the corner of the Waits. It had a metal plaque which for a long time sat above the Benton Doors. Can anybody else remember anything about this?***

Beautifully planted and tended area on the corner of The Waits and Ramsey Road.

*Irene calling.....*

### **CUMMINGS THE CAT**

Dominic the cat

Among the pigeons sat,  
As one by one the MPs' questions fired,  
As usual untied,  
He answered and replied,  
But was it 'tit for tat' that he desired?

The hours dragged on by  
The where, the when, the why,  
He named and shamed the people at the top,  
The stories that he told,  
Bad treatment of the old,  
Negligence, he did his best to stop.

Sorry for his mess  
He'd lied he did confess,  
Security and death threats made him go,  
He broke the rules and fled  
With family instead,  
But made a cover story, which we know.

Public up in arms  
Shocked it raised alarm,  
But back he came he said to help the fight,  
He tried to change his tack,  
But eventually got the sack,  
And today he's full of data dynamite!

cc. IRENE CARTER



### **Ulph Bibles**

*David Viles writes, “ in the answers to Philip’s quiz we noticed mention of Mr Ulph. I was given a Bible in the 1940s when I was about six which the Sunday School teacher, Miss Green, called an Ulph Bible. I remember Mr Ulph with his amazing walrus moustache. He presented a number of Bibles to Sunday School children for several years running.*

***Editor: Josie won a Bible Dicing bible—we wonder if Mr Ulph gave his bibles to those who missed out on this unique St Ives tradition?***

### **No Mow May—well, almost! It got cut once at the start of the month as we’d forgotten!**

The square metre quadrant we submitted results from had 32 buttercups and 60 daisies in it and nothing else!!



**Out of the mouths.....**

A young teacher asked, “Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the ark?”

“No” he replied, “How could he , with just two worms?”

## **URC Eastern Synod divests from fossil fuels ahead of G7 and COP26— submitted by Mary Cox**



**The United Reformed Church (URC) Eastern Synod has joined 35 faith institutions from 11 countries in announcing its divestment from fossil fuels.**

The announcement, made on 17 May, comes from institutions in Brazil, Argentina, India, the Philippines, Uganda, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Ireland, the UK and the US, along with the URC, Anglican, Catholic, Methodist, and Baptist churches, among others. These commitments highlight the urgent need to divest from fossil fuels and invest in clean alternatives in response to the growing climate crisis.

Eleven out of 13 URC Synods have now joined the URC in announcing their divestment from fossil fuels, as recommended by Mission Council in May 2019. Jeremy Flack, Green Advocate for URC Eastern Synod, said: "In taking this practical step of divesting from fossil fuels, the Synod is demonstrating its desire to follow through on its commitments to reduce our carbon footprint in response to the growing climate crisis. With many of the world's poorest already experiencing the devastating impacts of climate change, despite having done the least to cause it, it is only right that we act now to do all we can to safeguard creation."

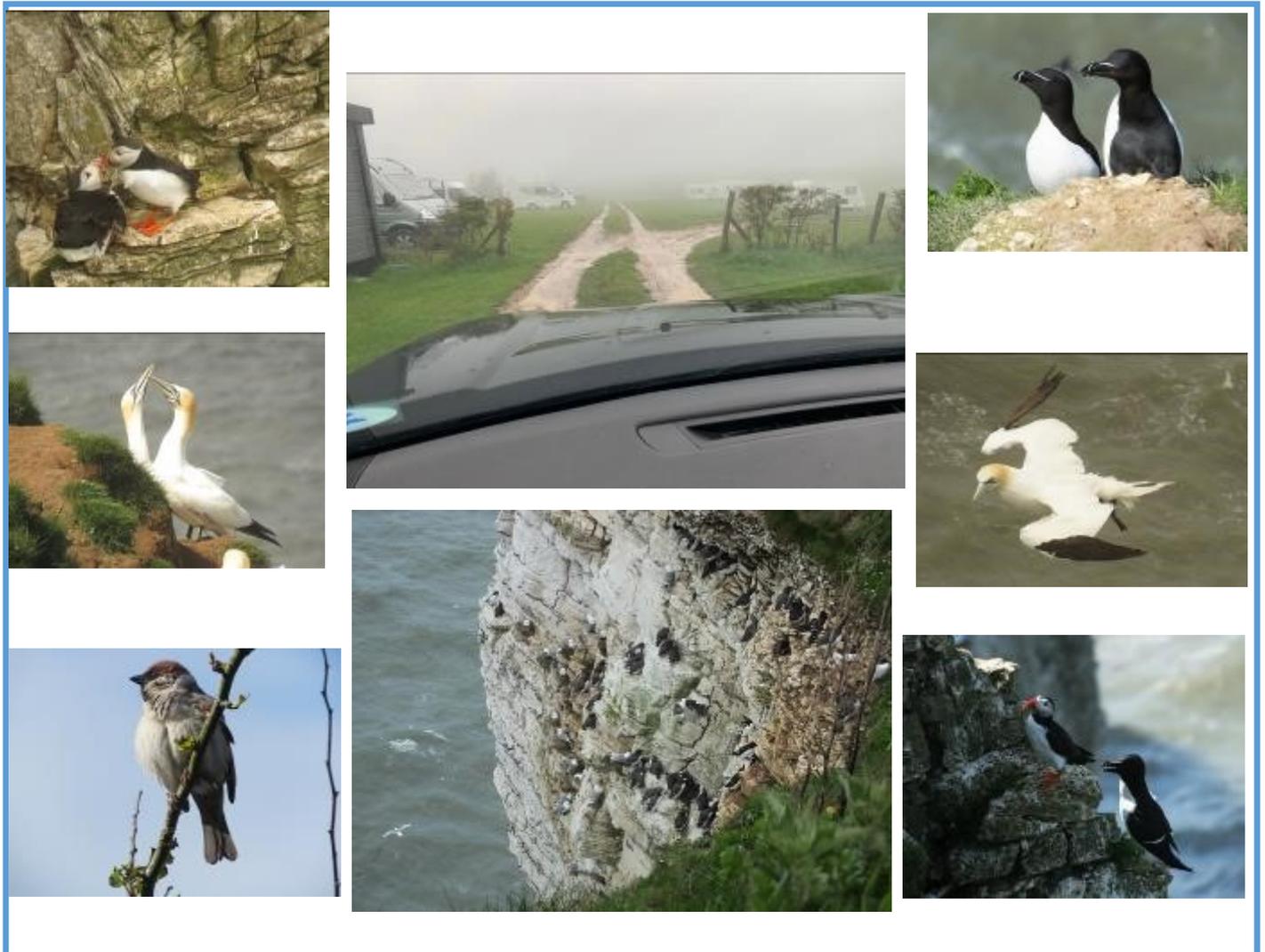
The global divestment announcement takes place as the UK prepares to host the G7 Summit in June and the UN climate summit (COP26) in Glasgow in November.

### **Other news from the URC**

The URC's General Assembly Moderators have joined a coalition of faith groups and leaders in writing to Priti Patel, the Home Secretary, to urge her to rethink the government's proposed New Plan for Immigration. The coalition says the plan "lacks humanity and respect for human dignity" and it would be "wrong to create a system in which the way people enter the UK will impact how their asylum claim is processed and the status they might receive."

**A “postcard “from Bempton Cliffs from Babs and John.**

*They spent the weekend before last (yes, the cold wet one!) at Bempton Cliffs in their caravan. Luckily the day of their photography course was at least dry, if cold and windy. The resulting photos are superb! Bempton Cliffs rise up to about 500ft and are sheer, providing ideal habitat for nesting seabirds especially puffins, gannets and razorbills.*



*The Sunday morning service had finished and the pastor was greeting people as they left.. Everyone was friendly enough as they left but no one said anything about the sermon which concerned him.*

*Eventually someone commented “ Pastor, your sermon this morning reminded me of God’s Peace because it passed all understanding. And it reminded me of his love because it endured forever”.*

What was the name of Jesus’ mother?, asked the Sunday School teacher. “Mary”, said one of the children.

The teacher then asked “And who knows the name of Jesus’ father?”

“Verge” said another child. Puzzled the teacher asked “and why do you think that?”.

“Well” replied the child, “they’re always talking about the Verge’n Mary”.

