

Keeping in Touch..... Number 71

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. That edition will be the last regular weekly KIT! Thereafter it will be published once a fortnight for as long as articles keep coming. 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.....

Not many folk have seen this!

Here is a photograph of a view which very few people have seen in real life. Take a moment to try and guess where and what it is before reading on.



This photograph was taken in September 2017 whilst steeplejacks carried out restoration work on the spire. As well as working on the outside of the spire, they also inspected and made improvements to the inside of the spire - which of course is hollow. The steeplejacks ladder can be seen on the left giving them access to the inner spire.

Access is via a trapdoor on the upper floor of the square tower where the clock mechanism sits. The photograph is a view looking directly upwards through this trapdoor into the hollow structure of the stone spire. There is natural daylight coming into the spire via the louvred openings which sit directly above the clock faces and can be seen on the exterior. There is light also coming in much higher up and closer to the weather vane through four open apertures - each in the shape of a 'trifoliate', again visible from the outside.

The photograph clearly shows that the octagonal spire is simply constructed of stone only - unlike the majority of the building which is of brick inside and out - apart from the front elevation which has a brick inner core clad in stone on the exterior faces.

In the photograph is clearly seen the metal support spanning between opposite sides of the spire to which is bolted the weather vane. This will have been checked by the steeplejacks to ensure that our beautiful but heavy weather vane is very securely bolted to the top of the spire. ***Stewart***

THE 2020 PARALYMPICS

Every one of us is different
That's the beauty of mankind,
Our flaws are beautiful, unique
Some difficult to find.

Some are hidden deep inside
While others proudly show,
The ignorant may turn away
Reject, don't want to know.

Each person has a special gift
God given to delight,
It may take time to show itself
It may take guts and fight.

It may take years to blossom
And the road be hard and long,
But with a lot of patience
Each gift can sing a song.

The Paras are not heroes,
They are people just like you,
They shine at sport, but get fed up
With hero worship view.

Why must they always follow
The Olympics second best,
Why don't we do them justice
By combining the Contest.

cc. IRENE CARTER

More photos from Sally and Nev.....



Thatched 'double church' at Pakefield, near Lowestoft. Two churches, All Saints and St Margarets, side by side with two naves, two chancels and two altars but only one tower. The first church was on this site around 600-700 AD when Christianity became well established in East Anglia. The church was mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1085. Much has changed over the years of course and, in 1941, incendiary bombs set fire to the thatched roof. After many setbacks over the centuries, and risk of close proximity to the sea, the congregations and residents just knuckle down and rebuild.



Fish sculpture for dry recyclables—Cleethorpes



Recycling cooking oil from Kiosks.....



Porthpean

August 2021

A postcard from Pete Davies and family..... On the “back” it reads.....

“It was a Davies family holiday in Cornwall again this year. The weather wasn't as sunny as in previous years but we still had great a time. We were staying near Porthpean beach which is a bit of a favourite. As well as being a nice sheltered little beach, it also has handy parking, toilets, a good little cafe...and kayak and paddleboard hire. This year they were also hiring out megaSUPs that can take up to eight adults and which were great fun.

The holiday cottage we rented was lovely, Porthpean was as nice as ever and the Kayaking/Paddleboarding was great...but the best thing was the opportunity to spend time together after all these months of separation”.

Starting next week KIT will come out fortnightly..... send articles as soon as you can and no later than noon on the Wednesday of the deadline.

So the next three deadline dates and publications dates are as follows.....

Deadline 1st Sept Publication 3rd Sept

Deadline 15th Sept Publication 17th Sept

Deadline 29th Sept Publication 1st October

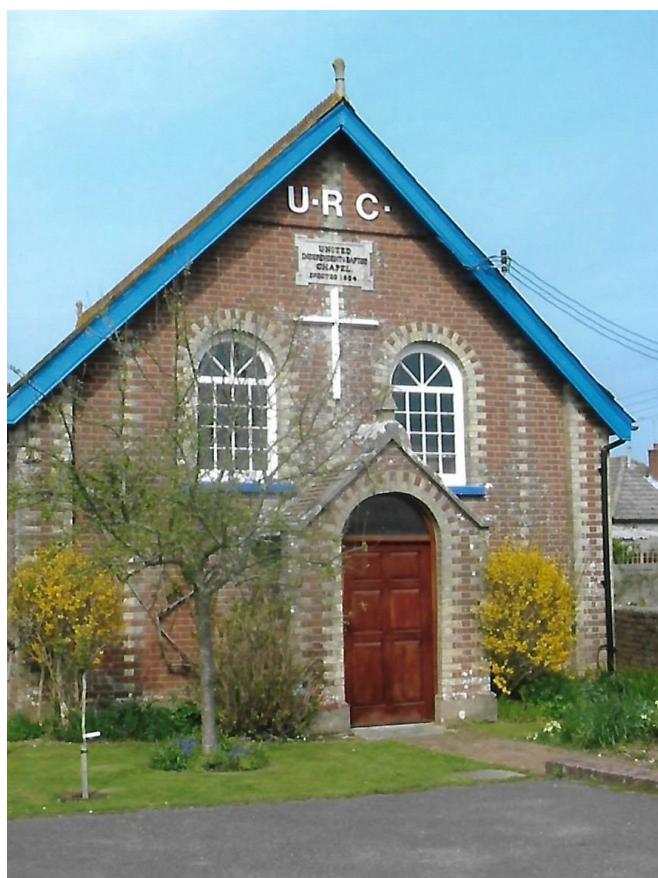
More about Reverend Absalom Curtis.....

Another extract from his son's memoir.....

"If at any time you should in the course of your journeyings pass through the village of Lychett Minster in Dorset, on the main road from Bournemouth to Dorchester, and midway between Poole and Wareham, and if the speed you are adopting permits you to take notice of small apparently small objects, you may notice a small Congregational Chapel, standing unobtrusively back from the road, flanked by the small Manse; and if time permits and interest is sufficiently aroused for you to call on the resident minister he will, I'm sure, be pleased to allow you to look over the small church. As you pass through the classroom or Vestry you will see hanging from the walls, portraits of previous ministers; amongst them you will see the Reverend Absalom Curtis, who ministered to the Church and Congregation for a period of about 20 years somewhere between 1835 and 1860. And if you walk round the tiny graveyard at the back of the church, you will see a stone erected to the memory of, and marking the spot where the same Absalom Curtis was laid to rest, together with his first and second wives.

It is about this Absalom Curtis that I am writing these lines, as a son of his old age, which was spent in retirement and obscurity, and heard much of his early history, perhaps more than any other member of his family. So these lines are written to keep alive the memory of a remarkable personality in danger of being forgotten".

Two things strike me as I retype his writings. One is that they used very long sentences (with random punctuation) and that the whole really is a reflection of the fact he was brought up by a man much older than normal and therefore used some old fashioned linguistic styles (this was written in 1937 remember!)



There is a postscript to this. In 1986 Alan's father (a Methodist Local Preacher, well known in the area) preached at Lychett Monster URC to mark the anniversary of 100 years since his great grandfather's death. A large number of the family were welcomed very warmly by the congregation. Sadly the URC is closed having merged with Broadstone, Poole. I am trying to locate that original portrait!

Char has sent an August garden quiz.....can you identify all of these—and also, which five appear in the Bible? Answers next week.....

1.



2.



3.



Climate Change Service in Glasgow.....



This is a shared online service from Glasgow Cathedral on 5th September 2021 3.30pm: organised by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.

"We're so excited for the Nations' Climate Sunday Service on Sunday 5 September, live from Glasgow Cathedral. It's an opportunity to celebrate everything you have done as part of the Climate Sunday movement, and everything churches across Britain and Ireland have committed to for the climate in the lead up to COP26."

Tickets are available from the online ticket source Eventbrite and are free of charge.

Book your free online ticket here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nations-climate-sunday-service-churches-prepare-for-cop-26-tickets-165258230817>.

I will report back in KIT after the event. I have also sent the link to members of St Ives Eco Faith group and to Helen Dye of St Ives Eco Action.

Sally Runham

Lesson learned from a previous Paralympics.....

It's NOT a good plan to switch the TV on for a room full of people with advanced dementia, and mostly in wheelchairs, and leave them alone watching wheelchair rugby!!

Staff were surprised they were agitated!!! Aaaaah!

The religious humour of modern technology.....

Adam and Eve—the first people who did not read the Apple terms and conditions.....

Prayer is the world's greatest wireless communication.

Technically, Moses was the first person with a tablet downloading data from the cloud.

Tweet others as you would like to be tweeted!

God has no phone but we can still talk to him, No Facebook page, but he is still our friend. He does not have twitter but we can still follow him.

God answers knee-mail.