



The
**United
Reformed
Church**

Bamford Chapel & Norden URC



July & August 2021

BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN URC

MISSION/VISION STATEMENT



Loving God, Serving Others,
Building Community

Worship

In our devotion we will come together to express our joy, love and thanks through worship.

We shall share our praise and dedicate it to God.

Ministry

Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit we will show compassion and love by understanding, supporting and meeting the spiritual, the physical and the emotional needs of others.

Evangelism

We are called as Christians to share the good news; living as examples of Christ in our everyday lives we can spread the word and love of Jesus.

Discipleship

We as a church have a responsibility as Christians to encourage people to know God and to enable them to develop their relationship with Him through prayer, discussion, study and learning.

Fellowship

We welcome to our church family those who want to belong. We show our love for others by sharing acts of fellowship in God's name.



Step 4 of Boris Johnson's "Roadmap out of Lockdown" has been extended from 21 June 2021 for up to another 4 weeks, due to an increase in the "Delta" Indian Covid variant.

Covid Vaccine rollout is continuing at pace and over 18s are now being invited. Numbers of positive cases, hospital admissions & deaths are coming down, although there is still concern in some areas about Covid variants, particularly the Indian variant. Further information is available on the Government website and Rochdale Council website.

Step 4 will allow limits on social contact to be removed, nightclubs can reopen and restrictions on large events and performances will be lifted.

At present all church activities are suspended. The **Sunday worship service is still available on YouTube and on the church website (www.bcnchurch.org.uk) and in printed email form.**

Unless infection rates change; or government advice changes, we will continue opening for worship at Bamford Chapel & Norden URC on Sunday mornings at 10.30 am.

We will continue to limit the congregation to 30, for the time being. People wishing to attend can text or phone the church mobile number to book a place.

**People are asked to phone on a Thursday evening between 6 & 8pm ideally.
The number, as before, is 07396 617559.**

Message from the Manse

Over the last 18 months or so we have heard a lot about pulling together in the sense of controlling the pandemic. In the first lockdown in 2020 we were all encouraged not to go out, or to only go out for limited amounts of exercise etc. There was a sense that everything we did, however small or large, was helping to try and control what has been a somewhat turbulent few months, to put it lightly.

It is that sense of all being in it together that got me thinking as I put pen to paper on this article for magazines across the Rochdale, Bury and North Manchester Missional Partnership. Not only do we need this understanding of working together for Missional Partnerships we need this sort of understanding for being disciples of Jesus. For whilst we are all individuals called by God into relationship with Jesus, we are all called into relationship with one another as well.



For the Missional Partnership to be the best it can be **“we need you! Yes, you!”** Whatever gifts, talents or abilities you think you have (or not) the Missional Partnership needs you, your local church needs you. So, friends, as we continue into the summer of 2021 and as we may take some time off work, or take a

holiday, or visit family, may we also rest in God’s presence and continue to pray for the work of the Missional Partnerships across the Synod.

You might be asking what you can do. I want to encourage us all to pray. I want to offer some prayer requests for us as brothers and sisters in Christ and ask that you pray over the summer for...

- Lawrence Moore in his role as the Mission and Discipleship Mentor for the Central Area (which covers three Missional Partnerships)
- Rev'd. Daniel Harris and myself as we seek to discern what gifts/abilities we bring to the partnership to complement and work with yours.

- Kate Hunt as she enters her 4th year of training (her 2nd year in her placement in our Missional Partnership)
- [The 12 churches of the Missional Partnership \(see table on page 5\)](#)
- New opportunities that we have harnessed in lockdown that have enabled people to re-connect or connect with church for the first time.
- [Opportunities to share the good news of Jesus in varying ways.](#)

May we continue to grow together, sharing resources and ideas for how we can work together to further the kingdom of God here on earth.

Have a blessed summer everyone and God Bless, Richard Bradley

Worship



A huge thank you to preachers and musicians and those who edit the videos for worship. The work at present going into the service is more than it has been previously. I am all too conscious of the fact that not everyone can/wants to attend church for in-person worship at present.

[During lockdown scripts have been posted to people, and the weekly service has been made available on YouTube and accessed via the Church website, Church Facebook page or via What's App.](#)

Moving forward I am keen that we don't simply lose that way that people can connect with worship. So, as I write I am indebted to those preachers leading worship. For they not only deliver the service on a Sunday morning in Church, but they are also pre-recording every part of it midweek for me, Addie or Daniel to edit into the full service that is made available online.

The amount of work to do that is quite immense. The hope is that we will get cameras installed in Church so that we can video the service as it happens and make it available online. The technology would allow people to watch the service online as it happens in Church, and also it would then be available to view on YouTube as well, for those who may want to watch it at a different time of the day/week.

Please watch this space and see how this progresses.

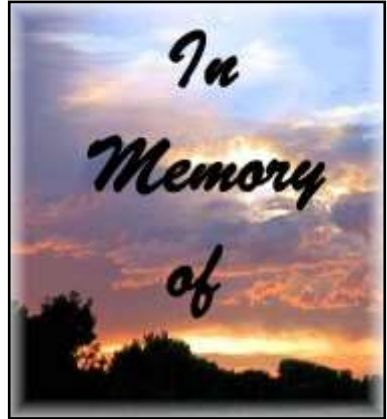
Thanks and God Bless, Richard

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event/Meeting
Sunday 4 th July 10.30am	Communion Service led by Ken Greer
Sunday 11 th July 10.30am	Service led by Andy Platt
Sunday 11 th July 10.30am	Church Meeting (after the service)
Sunday 18 th July 10.30am	Service led by Debbie Wood
Sunday 25 th July 10.30am	Service led by David Watson
Thursday 5 th August 7.30pm	Elders' Meeting (unless they take August off)
Sunday 1 st August 10.30am	Communion Service led by Margaret Ogden
Sunday 8 th August 10.30am	Service led by Andy Platt
Sunday 15 th August 10.30am	Service led by Ken Greer
Sunday 22 nd August 10.30am	Service led by Debbie Wood
Sunday 29 th August 10.30am	Service led by David Watson
Thursday 2 nd September 7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Sunday 5 th September 10.30am	Communion Service led by Rev'd. Richard Bradley

Remembering our Losses during the Pandemic

Thankfully, the news from the Government scientists is that future lockdowns are looking unlikely. But as we come out of lockdown, we will need to pay attention to the human cost in lives lost and marred by the pandemic.



Rev'd Richard Bradley and Rev'd Daniel Harris wish to make it known that we are available for leading COVID Memorial Services in the immediate months after the easing of lockdown. Such services offer opportunities to bring our thoughts, prayers and grief to God, and coming together with our communities. Please get in touch with us for more details.

Other ways of creating acts of remembrance exist. Alkington and Providence have recently planted a memorial tree in their church grounds. This will soon be accompanied by a tasteful plaque.

Please let us know of other ways that you may be offering acts of remembrance in your local communities.

Richard & Daniel

Churches in the Missional Partnership:

Radcliffe & Stand URC	St Andrew's URC/Methodist Church
Littleborough URC	Besses o' th' Barn URC
Bury URC	Trinity CE/URC Church
Alkington & Providence URC	Dundee URC
Blackford Bridge URC	Bamford Chapel & Norden URC
Greenmount URC	Hallfold URC



When we feel shaken

(Lk 10:42)

Faithful Father,
When we feel shaken by the events of the past;
when we don't know quite how to go forward;
when our confidence in what we thought we could control
is undermined;
remind us that one thing is needed -
to sit at your feet and listen to You.

You are our security.
You will never fail those who belong to You
through faith in Your Son, Jesus.

As we take time to listen to You, Lord,
and to meditate on Your Holy Spirit-inspired Word,
may we know Your peace -
and Your good plans for us.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching



Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham considers the need for encouragement.



Olympic Gold

This month should see the start of the Tokyo Olympics, having been postponed from last year due to the Coronavirus pandemic. A number of New Testament letters refer to Olympic sport including Hebrews: ***‘Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith’ (Hebrews 12:1-2).***

The Christian life is compared to a long-distance race, but despite the struggles and obstacles, there is a great crowd of witnesses cheering us on. We have a heavenly Father who loves us and a Saviour who has run the race before us. If we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, He will enable us to finish the race.



During the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, the British athlete Derek Redmond was running in the semi-finals of the 400 metres. About 250 metres from the finish his hamstring tore. He fell to the ground in pain and stretcher bearers came over to him.

However, Redmond was determined to finish the race and so he started hopping toward the finishing line. Suddenly Jim Redmond, Derek's father, ran out of the stands towards him. "You don't have to do this," he told his son. "Yes, I do," said Derek, to which his father said, "We're going to finish this together." They completed the lap with Derek leaning on his father's shoulder. As they crossed the finish line, the spectators rose to give Derek a standing ovation. Although he didn't win an Olympic medal, Derek Redmond finished the race with his father at his side. ***Let's not forget the encouragement we have to finish the race!***



Lupins Galore

Last summer, instead of buying plants from Mike Davies at the annual garden party, he very kindly brought a selection to us and even planted them for us in the garden at the front of our house. We had a magnificent display. Walkers passing the house stopped to admire them and comment. Most of the plants were annuals BUT the lupins have surfaced better than ever this year. Look at them. Thank you so much, Mike.



Lesley & Peter Sutton

Think about it..

You can complain because roses have thorns,
or you can rejoice because thorns have roses.

You are not wise if you give the right answers;
you are wise if you ask the right questions.

Why isn't the word 'phonetic' spelt the way it sounds?

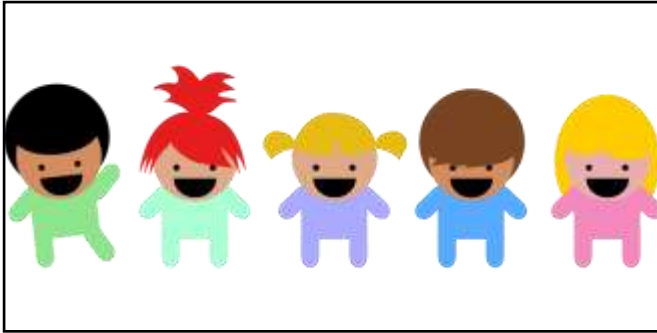
When you give a talk, you can guarantee no-one is listening
until you make a mistake.

It is better in prayer to have a heart without words
than words with a heart (*Mahatma Gandhi*)

Arguments are like fences –
they always have two sides.



Toddlers Group



I am hoping activities will soon be returning to Church, so need to start planning for the future of Toddlers Group.

As you know we meet on Tuesday Mornings at 9am till 11.30am. The Group is for Parent/Carer and their Toddlers up to pre-school age. The Parents/Carers are fully responsible for their Toddlers.

Volunteers are required to support the group on an “as available” basis, i.e. once a month, once a fortnight or weekly basis. The group pre Covid has been a highly successful provision in our community.

Depending on the lifting of all Covid restrictions and Elderships go ahead, I should like to reopen the Group the Tuesday following back to school in September.

If you have been a previous volunteer and wish to continue volunteering, please let me know the times you are available. If you haven't been a past volunteer, please contact me to have a chat about what is involved.

I will plan a meeting of volunteers nearer the planned start date.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

***May God Bless our future happy Tuesday mornings,
Gillian Galloway***



outdoors!

ALL ARE WELCOME

Rochdale, Bury & N Manchester

Missional Partnership



May God's

power!

games

celebration

be with you



On Sunday 4 July 2 – 4 pm

On the field @ Bamford Chapel and Norden URC

Come to

Professor Potty's

Lab





Time for a Change



I have had my walking boots for a few years now, and they have been faithful companions. We have walked many miles together during that time, on my daily walks as well as on holiday. They are partly responsible for my physical recovery after

Covid-19, so they have a place in my heart. They fit me very well, and we have adjusted to one another. But they are very thin now on the soles and heels, and it is reluctantly time for a change.

So, one recent Saturday I bought a new pair. They are clean and smart, and fully waterproof. The soles are strong and new. There are no signs of wear and tear. But I know that change is never easy. They will take some time to wear in. They may rub and I may get a blister or two. Occasionally I will long for my old boots, and wonder, 'Did I make a mistake?' Hopefully, they will become as much a part of me as my old ones as we tread the miles together. But there is always a risk with something new, isn't there?

Change is never easy in whatever form it comes. But change is inevitable because life does not stand still, and we have to keep adjusting and adapting and being open to fresh winds of the Spirit. Never more so than in these present, troublesome days.

Strangely enough as I have been meditating on this, my reading this morning (*Isaiah 9*) contained a reference to '**Every warrior's boot used in battle ... will be destined for burning (v5).**' Oh dear. I'm sure like me, warriors were fond of their boots too and found it hard to part with them.

Garden Gang

Whether you have green fingers or not, you would be made very welcome at BC&NURC on a **Monday morning from 9.00am** to help with keeping the church grounds in order. More people are needed to join this happy bunch of people. Lots of fun and a brew assured. Please contact me if interested. **PLEASE.**



Mike Davies

New recycling opportunity!



You can now recycle your **empty** tablet blister packs. They will be passed on to Heywood Rotary who are doing it to raise funds for



Look out for the recycle box in the kitchen/coffee area

Remembering Robert Gordon

Alasdair's Dad Bob passed away peacefully on 17th June at home. Bob and Alasdair's Mum Hazel moved to Butterworth Grange from Stretford in December 2020. They had visited Bamford Chapel with Alasdair, Karen, Josh, Dan and Charlotte on many occasions over the past 24 years.



When they moved to Bamford they were looking forward to worshipping at Bamford Chapel, but the Covid pandemic prevented that from happening. However, since moving here they have felt welcomed and part of the fellowship, receiving the weekly printed service and monthly magazine from Richard, and the good wishes of Chapel members.

Hazel and Bob were overwhelmed by the care they received from all the care services, including Edenfield Road Surgery, District Nurses, Rochdale Adult Care and Select 4 Care; all enabling Bob to remain at home.

Hazel would like to thank family and friends, who have helped them settle into their new home; to those who have visited and those who spoke to Hazel at the Sunday service on 20th June, welcoming her and making her feel at home at Bamford and Norden URC, and for the cards, phone calls and messages of sympathy.

**I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race,
I have kept the faith. – 2 Timothy 4:7**



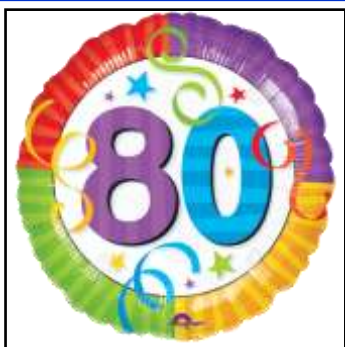
Dear all,

Just wanted to thank you all for your prayers and for the lovely card I received earlier this week (beginning of June). Also thank you again for the flowers and cards I received around the time of my diagnosis.

Your love and prayers have really spurred me on during my chemotherapy. I only have 4 more weekly sessions to go and then I will have a few weeks' wait before my surgery.

Thinking of you all. God bless.

Lesley Ashworth (written on 11th June)



To friends at Bamford Chapel, I was overwhelmed by the lovely cards and good wishes received on the occasion of my 80th Birthday and would like to thank everyone. We had a most enjoyable day with family. Thanks again and hope we will be back to normal soon.

Love and prayers, Angela Hall

Expectations

(belief that something will happen or be the case in the future)

The last year or so has been strange by any standards. Our lives have been lived somehow differently to what we normally expect. Our expectations have had to change. When I was young, and I am not much different today, I was forever looking forward to something I thought would be great. My mother used to say I was wishing my life away; a phrase I have used many times. It was really that whatever it was that I thought about a particular occasion I had a great expectancy for myself.

I don't think we ever recognise how our lives are affected by our expectations. Expectations of how we will be treated by society, by friends or neighbours. What will happen—we don't know. Our expectations may be pleasant and joyful, they may be sad and hurtful. Perhaps we might reflect on the fact that, whilst we have expectations of others, they may well have expectations of us and that can be frightening. *I'm beginning to sermonise; sorry but no apology.*



During this pandemic our expectations have been generally determined by other people. I don't think I have ever heard the word "expectation" used so much. We have expectation of our leaders to do things that will help us as individuals and others. *I think I have washed my hands more in the last year or so than in the rest of my life.* We are expected to use our "common sense" (whatever that means!)

We have been waiting patiently for a relaxation of "lockdown." In a way we have lived our lives according to somebody else's expectations. What I know is that most of us reading this magazine are members of, or someone affiliated to the Christian Church. How do we build up our expectations? Our expectations of God? Might it be worthwhile to think of God's expectations of us? *Not intended as a sermon—just something to think about. Take care.*

Sid Hazlehurst (thank you Sid for penning this article - Lesley Sutton)

COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING



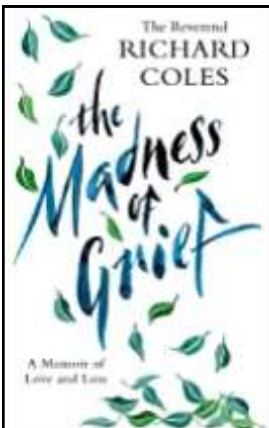
In last month's magazine I was perhaps over-optimistic in stating that the coffee morning would re-open on 1st July. Prime Minister Johnson and his team have advisedly lengthened our waiting time. Will it be August? Will it be September? I don't know. ***As soon as we can definitely set a date I will contact ALL volunteers and others who I think may be interested, and will also attempt to let as many people as possible know WE ARE READY.*** Without a magazine in August, this won't be easy. Word of mouth is the suggestion.

I look forward to welcoming you to our first coffee morning in a very long time. It will be special.

Lesley Sutton

Book Review

'The Madness of Grief by Rev'd Richard Coles'



Death is part of the Rev'd Richard Coles's life and work, but when his partner the Rev'd David Coles died, in 2019, much about death took Coles by surprise and he found himself in need of help. It is an honest and engaging book, written from the heart.

This Sunday Times bestseller has had many good reviews: ***'Immensely moving and disarmingly witty'*** Nigella Lawson; ***'Captures brilliantly, beautifully, bravely the comedy as well as the tragedy of bereavement'*** The Times; ***'Will strike a chord with anyone who has grieved'*** Independent.

Rev'd Richard Coles features in several radio and TV programmes. He is the only Vicar in Britain to have had a No.1 hit single – 'Don't leave me This Way', with the Communards in 1986.

Looking forward to the Relaxation of Covid Restrictions



As we come closer to Covid restrictions being lifted, please remember all those who have been affected by the pandemic during the past 18 months.

Please pray for:

- NHS workers and all those who have looked after the sick and dying
- The bereaved
- Care-workers in care homes and in the community
- Teachers who have provided education for our children both face to face and online
- Children whose education has been disrupted
- Shopworkers who have kept our shops open
- Policemen, firemen, armed forces, postal workers and all workers who have kept our services running
- Those whose mental health has suffered
- Those whose medical treatment has been delayed
- The shielded and all those who have been unable to see their families
- The lonely and those who have no family or friends and have been confined to their homes

Please pray for the government and health experts, that the correct decisions will be made to enable lockdown restrictions to be relaxed carefully, so that life can soon return to some degree of normality.

And finally, please pray for those in our own church who are suffering ill health, facing or recovering from treatment and surgery, the bereaved, as well as those celebrating special occasions.

Linda Peacock

Lockdown Memories



Whilst lockdown has been a great trial for many of us, some people have managed to find a positive side to it.

For us it has been the daily exercise which was recommended more than a year ago now. We had been saying for a while that we should walk more in our local area, and last year we found it was the only thing we could do.

So here are some lockdown walking memories.

- Finding previously unexplored lanes and paths and experiencing at close quarters the beauty of the changing seasons, particularly in the hedgerows and other people's gardens. Since October, Margaret Ogden has become our regular walking companion. Being very nosy, we look carefully at other people's gardens and houses, occasionally with a critical eye. Margaret was only saying this morning that however many times we walk along Bamford Way, we always find something new to comment on.
- Calling at a friend's house and having a socially distanced chat on the drive.

- Meeting strangers on the paths and stopping to chat or to stroke a dog. It has been noticeable how many people now say hello, whether walking, or working in their gardens, as we pass.
- Dogs! How many dogs have we befriended, particularly whilst having coffee, when it was allowed at Bamford Barista. We are especially fond of Thomas and Freddy, two beautiful yellow Labradors who sit patiently whilst their “mum” eats her toast before they can have theirs.
- Aah the Barista! What would we have done without it? When we have been allowed to sit at tables there it has been so good to meet up with friends old and new. Sometimes it has been almost like a Bamford Chapel coffee morning!
- Babies and children! So many of them, and because we have been walking for over a year, they are all much bigger now, walking, rather than being in a pushchair, talking rather than waving. One has changed from being a bump to being a beautiful baby girl.
- Sheep! The little farm on Broadhalgh has been a source of great enjoyment. The sheep and lambs came running when we rattled our bag of bread and even the cows caught on and came lolloping up to the fence to be fed. Sadly the majority of lambs have now gone, but we don’t talk about that.
- And, of course, the weather! Who would have thought that we would even consider sitting or standing outside having coffee in pouring rain, snow, wind or ice? Or even that we would venture out for a walk in such conditions? Thank goodness for thermal underwear: Ken became particularly fond of his men’s thermal walking tights! And we became used to putting a couple of carrier bags in our pocket in case the seat or wall we sat on was wet. We celebrated my birthday in November at the Pod at Birtle, along with Margaret and Pamela in rain, wind and mist. It was certainly memorable.

In spite of everything we have had some very happy times and we hope to continue with our adventures, perhaps a little further afield, once restrictions are lifted.

Angela Smith



Classic Summer Pudding



You will need:

300g raspberry
225g blackberry
100 redcurrant

400g strawberry, hulled and quartered
40g golden caster sugar
400g brioche loaf

Wash the fruit and place it all (except the strawberries) in a large pan with the sugar and 3tbsp water. Gently heat for three minutes until the juice starts to run. Add the strawberries and cook for two minutes.

Slice the brioche into 1cm thick slices and line a pudding basin.

Tip the fruit into the basin and cover with a layer of brioche.

Place a small plate snugly over the basin and weigh down with 2 x 400g of beans or tomatoes. Leave in the fridge for at least a couple of hours.

Flip the pudding over onto a plate to serve with cream or ice cream.



How to Live a Greener Life

We are bombarded with reports and news stories about pollution, wildlife declines, climate change and other environmental concerns, but as individuals we can often feel daunted and helpless about what we can do. Everyone - if they want to - can do their bit in small but meaningful ways and often save money. Here is this month's tip to help you.

Don't flush away plastics, wet wipes and phosphates. Trillions of tiny pieces of plastic accumulate in the world's oceans, lakes and estuaries, harming marine life and entering the food chain. **Upto 219,000 tonnes of microplastics enter European waters every year and have been found on sea beds and in Arctic Ice.** Much of this comes from products flushed down plug holes and toilets, such as wet wipes and the microbeads

found in many skincare products. Try to use scrubs and peels with sand, salt or coconut, rather than plastic particles. Washing up liquids and detergents containing phosphates behave like fertilisers in water, encouraging algal blooms (a rapid growth of microscopic algae or cyanobacteria in water, often resulting in a coloured scum on the surface) that suffocate aquatic life.

Eco Church Team

Remembering Princess Diana



Lady Diana Spencer – later Princess of Wales – was born 60 years ago on 1st July 1961 at Sandringham in Norfolk. Twenty years later, on 29th July 1981, she married Prince Charles at St Paul’s Cathedral in London. She died in a car crash in Paris in 1997.

Diana was not an academic child, but concentrated on art, music and sport. She was widely admired for her beauty and style, and during her time as Princess of Wales achieved a great deal in her charity work, particularly in the unexpected areas of AIDS and landmines. Partly because of this she was believed to have strong Christian beliefs, but this is not something she spoke about, though a special episode of *Songs of Praise* on the BBC saw it as the motive for her charity work.

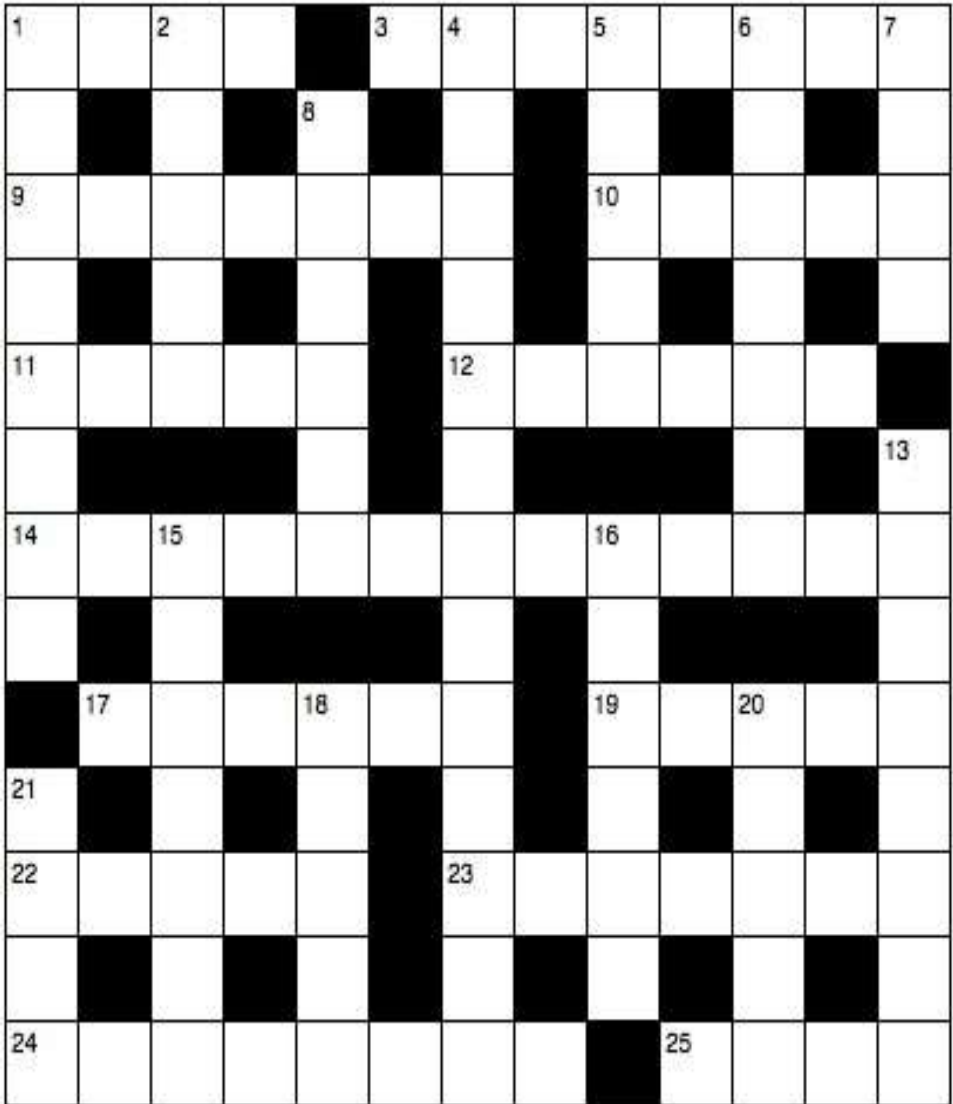
Her marriage to Charles suffered because of their obvious incompatibility and their affairs. They separated in 1992 and divorced in 1996. Their two sons, William and Harry, suffered as a result and have reacted in markedly different ways.

Diana was the first Englishwoman for more than 300 years to marry the heir to the throne. She was also the first royal bride to have a paying job before her engagement.



by *Tim Lenton*

Bible Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Sent out three times on a reconnaissance mission from Noah's ark (Genesis 8:8–12) (4)
- 3 'The vilest — who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives' (8)
- 9 Described by the 19th-century MP Sir Wilfred Lawson as 'the Devil in solution' (7)
- 10 'Whoever — his life for my sake will find it' (Matthew 10:39) (5)
- 11 King of Gezer (Joshua 10:33) (5)
- 12 Gideon's home town (Judges 6:11) (6)
- 14 The area under the jurisdiction of a primate, for example, Canterbury, York (13)
- 17 To him God promised that David would be king (1 Chronicles 11:3) (6)
- 19 A descendant of Aaron who was not allowed to offer food to God (Leviticus 21:20) (5)
- 22 'If any of you — wisdom, he should ask God' (James 1:5) (5)
- 23 I gain me (anag.) (7)
- 24 Relating to the armed forces (1 Chronicles 5:18) (8)
- 25 Title given to 2 Down (abbrev.) (4)

DOWN

- 1 Greek coins (Acts 19:19) (8)
- 2 Church of England incumbent (5)
- 4 What Epaphroditus was to Paul (Philippians 2:25) (6-7)
- 5 Mother of David's sixth son (2 Samuel 3:5) (5)
- 6 'We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in —' (2 Corinthians 4:8) (7)
- 7 It destroys treasures on earth (Matthew 6:19) (4)
- 8 It threatened Paul in Jerusalem (Acts 21:35) (3,3)
- 13 Well-known Reference Bible that espoused dispensationalism (8)
- 15 Where the choir sits in a parish church (7)
- 16 Real do (anag.) (6)
- 18 'Martha, Martha... you are worried and — about many things' (Luke 10:41) (5)
- 20 'One man considers one day more sacred than another; another man considers every day —' (Romans 14:5) (5)
- 21 A place with twelve springs and 70 palm trees where the Israelites camped (Exodus 15:27) (4)

Donkeys recruited to help save Wildflowers

Many of you will know of my love of donkeys. I sponsor one every year in the name of my eldest granddaughter. Tiny Tim is our donkey this year and he lives at a sanctuary in Manchester. We hope to be able to visit him very soon! This newspaper article caught my eye recently and I would like to share it with you.

Rescue donkeys are joining the fight to save one of the UK's rarest farmland wildflowers. The small flowered catchfly, found in field margins has disappeared from 70% of its range with the rise of intensive farming and increased use of herbicides. In an effort to revive the population of the plant, 20,000 catchfly seeds have been sown on plots at the headquarters of The Donkey Sanctuary near Sidmouth. Next spring the donkeys will be walked over the seeded plots in a process known as "treading in". The weight from the donkey's hooves help to embed the seed into the ground which should boost the wildflower's chance of germination.



Lesley Sutton

RHS Garden Bridgewater



In last month's magazine I said I would tell you a little more about this Royal Horticultural Garden. What I really want to tell you is how you can gain admission. You will need to book. This can be achieved on-line or by telephone.

RHS Garden Bridgewater, Occupation Road, off Leigh Road, Worsley, Salford, Greater Manchester. M28 2LJ. Telephone: 0161-503-6100. Website: www.rhs.org.uk

Next year I am hoping to arrange a coach visit to the garden. Bear this in mind if you are uncertain about driving there.

Lesley Sutton

Observations on our Christian faith and life...



Sympathy is two hearts tugging at the same load. – Anon

It is what you do when you have nothing to do that reveals what you are. – Anon

Security is not the absence of danger, but the presence of God, no matter what the danger. – Anon

Prayer is the rope up in the belfry;
we pull it, and it rings the bell up in heaven. – C Evans

God-like character is both the fruit of the Spirit as He works within us and the result of our personal efforts.

We are both totally dependent upon His working within us and totally responsible for our own character development.
– Jerry Bridges

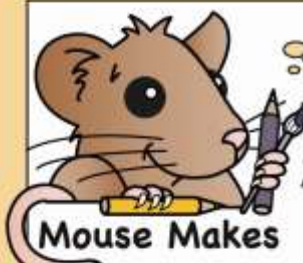
Humility is to make a right estimate of one's self.
– Charles Haddon Spurgeon

Crossword Answers


ACROSS: 1, Dove. 3, Offender. 9, Alcohol. 10, Loses. 11, Horam. 12, Ophrah. 14, Archbishopric. 17, Samuel. 19, Dwarf. 22, Lacks. 23, Imagine. 24, Military. 25, Revd.

DOWN: 1, Drachmas. 2, Vicar. 4, Fellow-soldier. 5, Eglah. 6, Despair. 7, Rust. 8, The mob. 13, Scofield. 15, Chancel. 16, Ordeal. 18, Upset. 20, Alike. 21, Elim.

Children's Page



Mouse Makes




Read the full story in
Luke 10:25-37

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

A man asked Jesus "Who is my neighbour?" and Jesus replied with this parable:

A man was attacked by robbers, they tore his clothes, beat him and left him almost dead. A priest saw him but walked by on the other side. A Levite saw him but walked by on the other side. A Samaritan saw him and took pity on him, he poured oil and wine on his wounds and then bandaged them. He lifted the man onto his donkey, took him to an inn and cared for him. The next day he gave the innkeeper two denarii to look after the man until he returned.

Which of the three travellers do you think was the neighbour to the man who was attacked?



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

JESUS • PARABLE • JERUSALEM • JERICO • JOURNEY • MAN • ROBBERS • SAW
CLOTHES • DOWN • ROAD • PRIEST • PASSED • PLACE • SIDE • LEVITE • CARE
GOOD • SAMARITAN • COMPASSION • BOUND • WOUNDS • POURED • OIL
WINE • MERCY • INN • TWO • DENARII • REPAY • BACK • NEIGHBOUR • GO DO

The Doctor and the Sick



THE PEOPLE JESUS CHOSE TO BE HIS CLOSE FOLLOWERS WERE OFTEN QUITE UNUSUAL.



ONCE JESUS STOPPED BY A TAX-COLLECTOR'S OFFICE AND SPOKE TO A MAN CALLED LEVI.



LEVI'S LIFE WAS CHANGED BY MEETING JESUS.



LEVI WANTED ALL HIS FRIENDS TO MEET JESUS TOO, SO HE CALLED A BIG PARTY FOR HIS TAX COLLECTOR FRIENDS



IN JESUS' DAY TAX COLLECTORS WERE VERY UNPOPULAR. THE PEOPLE THOUGHT JESUS WAS MIXING WITH A BAD BUNCH!

...BUT I AM HERE TO HELP PEOPLE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR WAY!



SURELY IT IS THE UNWELL PERSON WHO NEEDS THE DOCTOR - NOT THE WELL?!



see Luke 5:27-32

Weekday Opportunities for Learning & Sharing Fellowship

(all suspended until further notice)

- Monday:** 9.00 am Monday Maintenance Gang
(who do work in or around the building)
10.00 am Pastoral Meeting
1.30 pm Bridge Club
7.30 pm Focus on Prayer (God Squad Room)
8.00 pm Monday Night Home Group
- Tuesday:** 9.00 – 11.00 am Toddlers' Group
1.30 – 4.00 pm Indoor Bowls (Upstairs Hall)
From 6.00 pm Rainbows, Brownies, Guides
- Wednesday:** 12 noon Luncheon Club
6.30 pm Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association
7.30 pm Home Group 'Exploring the Bible'
- Thursday:** 10.00 am Community Coffee Morning
- Friday:** 6.00 pm onwards Beavers, Cubs and Scouts
- Sunday:** 7.30 pm God Squad (for Teenagers)

Fortnightly & Monthly Opportunities

- Tuesday:** **Stillness & Sharing** 1st Tuesday in the month
1.45 pm in lounge for Coffee: Meeting 2 - 3 pm
Home Group (Fortnightly)
8.15 pm In Crèche Room
- Thursday:** **Ladies Fellowship** (2nd Thursday in the month)
7.30 pm
Heritage Group (3rd Thursday in the month)
7.00 pm
- Friday** **Dementia Friendly Café** (1st Friday in the month)
1.30—3.30 pm
- Saturday:** **Ian Newman Community Film Club**
6.30 pm for 7.00 pm film (3rd Saturday in month)

Further information on the **weekly notice sheet** or visit the website at www.bcnchurch.org.uk or speak to an Elder.

BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN URC MAGAZINE



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DATES FOR THE SEPTEMBER MAGAZINE

Articles to be handed in by: Sunday 15th August

Magazine to be completed by: Thursday 26th August

Magazine distributed: Sunday 29th August

BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN

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