



ST JOHN'S NEWS AND VIEWS

Number 15
May 17th, 2021

Worship



We will meet **in church** at 10.30 a.m. on **23rd May** (Pentecost), when our service will be led by Wendy Holt. Please bring a mask

and remember that social distancing is still required. Although the rules are being relaxed, we are still being asked to minimise the amount of time spent together indoors, so please try not to arrive too early or linger for too long after the service. Sadly, we will not be able to sing or serve refreshments after the service.

There will be a service **in church** at 10.30 a.m. on **30th May**. This will either be a live-stream from Cliff College Festival or a live service with Revd. Tim. More details will be available on our Facebook page or by email nearer the time.

For those of you who do not yet feel ready to come to church, online services (morning and evening) will continue on our Facebook page and on YouTube.

Real Love Campaign

The West Yorkshire District of the Methodist Church are encouraging all churches and circuits to find ways of showing real love to people in their communities at this time of Pentecost, rather than retreating into their buildings as they reopen. In Settle we are offering the use of our building as a vaccination hub, with up to 650 people being vaccinated every Saturday.

Volunteers needed!

As we reopen for worship, we need Welcome/Door Stewards and people who are willing to provide flowers for one or more Sundays - perhaps to mark a special anniversary. If you could help in either of these ways, please speak to Eileen Edwards on Sunday 23rd or phone 822669.

We are hoping that we will soon be able to meet for fellowship and to extend a welcome to visitors

and members of the local community at Coffee Pot, but we need to know how many people would be willing and able to help with baking and/or serving. If you think that you could help, please contact Chris Taylor (823975) as soon as possible.



Coffee Pot

Don't forget our 'virtual' Coffee Pot 10.30 - 11.30

a.m. every Tuesday. Full details are posted on our Facebook page.

Yorkshire Preachers: no.13

Thomas Rigg: (1820 - ?): Wesleyan

Thomas Rigg of Elland had two peculiarities as a local preacher; they may well have been connected. First, he always walked to his appointments. Riding on Sunday was probably against his conscience. (Train travel certainly would have been). Secondly, he never preached outside his home circuit, despite many invitations to take services elsewhere.

Thomas started work at the age of nine and had no formal education whatsoever. After his conversion, c.1845, he learned to read in the infants' class at Sunday School. He first spoke in public at an open air meeting at Denholme in 1850 and came on the plan soon afterwards. Conditions were tough for preachers in those distant days. Thomas recalled a winter's night when he had to crawl home from his appointment because the roads were so slippery.

Jane Mansergh

Dear God,

"Raindrops on roses and whiskers on kittens..." That song has been stuck in my head recently and I decided it really is a total load of etc. For starters, why eat schnitzel with noodles when you could have chips! Kittens' whiskers may be cute but their claws and teeth are lethal. My cats have a habit of leaping on the bed at night and nibbling fingers to see if you are awake - not one of my favourite things! It set me thinking as to what new favourite things I've enjoyed during the pandemic. Top of the list has got to be on-line church in my pyjamas while eating bacon butties. I love being able to feel so close to friends and "talk" in the comments box, catching up on news. Being able to do it without wearing my "Sunday best" while having a lazy breakfast makes it even better. A daily wander is another new delight. Throughout our married life my husband and I have regularly worked away from home (and each other) relying on phone calls to keep in touch. The luxury of just being together and sauntering around with no time pressure is wonderful. Observing the slow change of the seasons has created some magical moments when the passage of time was measured by how much the ice had thawed or whether the buds had unfurled on the trees. There have been some frightening and uncertain times, but also some positive ones too. More beautiful than kittens whiskers!

Yours reflectively
Old Lil Nongle



Tip No.9

Never put warm or hot food into the fridge or freezer as this will make the fridge work extra hard to try and keep it cold; always allow food to cool down first.

Borrowed from the Anglican Green Fingers website.

Pentecost or Whit Sunday?

The origins of this festival go back to the Festival of Weeks mentioned in the books of Leviticus and Deuteronomy. This was a time of celebration marking the end of the grain harvest. As it was held 7 weeks (or 50 days) after Passover, it later became known as Pentecost, from the Greek word for 50. As Christians we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the disciples at the feast of Pentecost. In the United Kingdom, Pentecost became known as Whit Sunday. This is probably an abbreviation of White Sunday, referring to the white clothes worn by those who came for baptism on this day or those who had been baptised at Easter. In many Northern towns, Whit walks used to be held as an act of witness.

All We Can (Methodist Relief and Development fund)

Since April 2020, All We Can has supported more than 2 million people to stand firm in the face of the pandemic through its Emergency Coronavirus Appeal and the work of its long-term partners. The Methodist family have also responded to the ongoing pandemic through grants given by the Methodist Church's [World Mission Fund](#) to assist partner churches in their response. As people here in the UK look forward to increasing freedoms, and feel tentatively hopeful about the future, we cannot forget about our global neighbours who are currently facing the virus at its deadliest moment.

The Emergency Coronavirus Appeal is now responding to the devastating situation in India.

Throughout the past year, All We Can's local partner has raised awareness about Covid-19 preventative measures among 21,000 people from 90 villages in Odisha state; provided essential food supplies and hygiene kits to 2000 marginalised rural families and helped more than 214 particularly vulnerable families who were unable to make an income during India's first lockdown. Additionally, they have supported small business enterprises for those who were most at risk and enabled vulnerable families to create kitchen gardens – helping them grow nutritional food such as beans, okra and tomatoes. If you would like to help, please go to www.allwecan.org.uk/Coronavirus

LOCKDOWN TIDY-UP

Lots of us have done some sorting out during our enforced "lockdown" and I have been entertained by recent letters to my newspaper which I would say have been sent from the partners of those doing the clearing out!

These letters describe articles revealed during lockdown clear-outs:

1. Box labelled "USELESS PIECES OF STRING"
2. Large box inscribed "JUNK TOO GOOD TO THROW OUT"
3. Plastic bag containing "HOLEY CARDIGANS"
4. Tins full of "KEYS WHICH DON'T FIT ANYTHING"
5. Neatly tied up bundles of "PHOTOGRAPHS NOT WORTH KEEPING"
6. Box labelled "SHOES I WILL NEVER WEAR AGAIN"

7. A lady living on Mull, clearing her aunt's shed found a bottle labelled "LOTION FOR DONKEYS' EARS (I think)"

Just had a thought - must go out and look at the things I threw out/retained.

Dora Tattersall

JPIT (Joint Public Issues Team) Green Conference 12th June

Climate Change Emergency: Resources for a Green Church.

Between 9.30 am and 3.00 pm, there will be inspiring keynote speakers to stimulate your imagination, develop your understanding of the Bible and reinvigorate your worship life, as well as engaging workshops with pioneers who are already bringing together faith and action for a better world. If you think that the Climate Change Crisis really is an emergency, and that the Church has an important part to play in helping people transition to new ways of living more gently with God's world, then register for the JPIT Yorkshire online conference via sue.cutting1209@gmail.com

9 reasons why God created Eve

- God was worried that Adam would get lost in the garden and would not ask for directions.
- God knew that one day Adam would need someone to help him find the remote.
- God knew Adam would never go out by himself and buy a new fig leaf.
- God knew Adam would never make a doctor's or dentist's appointment on his own.
- God knew Adam would never remember which night to put out the rubbish.
- God knew Adam would never handle the responsibility of childbirth.

- God knew Adam would need help locating his gardening implements.
- God knew Adam would need someone else to blame.
- God finished making Adam, scratched his head and said, “I can do better than that!”
(from *A Bucket of Surprises*, J. John and Mark Stibbe, Monarch Books)

Submitted by Wendy, not Philip.

CAPTION COMPETITION

Maurice decided to take Ascension Day seriously and climbed Pen y Ghent last Thursday. Who was he making his call to, and what did he say?



Suggestions to Philip please

First Prize – A signed copy of his acclaimed book – “Memories from the Pulpit”

Second Prize – Two signed copies of his acclaimed book – “Memories from the Pulpit”

THANK YOU to all those who have contributed to this and previous newsletters. **Do keep them coming.** Please send any items to Wendy or Philip and we’ll see that they are published.

Prayer for Pentecost by Carol Micklem



Spirit of God, powerful and unpredictable as the wind, come upon us as we pray and become the driving force of our lives.

Amen