



# ST JOHN'S NEWS AND VIEWS

Number 20  
October 2021

## Worship



Online services (morning and evening) continue via our Facebook page and on YouTube.

Our preachers in church at 10.30 a.m. for the next few weeks will be:

3<sup>rd</sup> October Jane Mansergh

10<sup>th</sup> October Revd. Tim Broughton  
(with Holy Communion)

17<sup>th</sup> October Revd. Tim Broughton

24<sup>th</sup> October Wendy Holt

31<sup>st</sup> October Revd. Tim Broughton  
For the 1<sup>st</sup> 4 weeks of October, all the churches in our Circuit, including St. John's, will be looking at the book of Ruth.

## All Saints Day (1<sup>st</sup> November)

Revd. Tim Broughton will lead a service at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 1<sup>st</sup>



November to remember all those whom we love but see no longer.

## Coffee Pot



We hope to be able to reopen Coffee Pot on a regular basis in the near future. Please look out for

announcements in the Church notices and on our Facebook page.

## Hymns you have probably never sung: No. 3

This hymn is no. 97 in "Hoyle's Hymns and songs for Temperance Societies and Bands of Hope" 1874 edition.

Bright water is the drink for me,  
'Tis pure and cannot harm me.  
I'm marching with the brave and free,  
In the happy temp'rance army.

When Adam dwelt in Paradise,  
He drank from sparkling fountains;  
Then why not I, while streams arise,  
From cloud-capped hills and mountains?

Lo, in the barren wilderness  
God sent His people water;  
It flowed the aged sire to bless  
And cheer each son and daughter.

Bold Samson was the strongest man  
That ever lived in story;  
He firmly kept the temperance plan,  
And gained renown and glory.

Brave Daniel won a lasting fame,  
The monarch's wine refusing;  
And holy John the Baptist came  
No wine or strong drink using.

The great Apostle Paul denied  
Himself to save another;  
Then let me still in truth abide,  
And help each fallen brother.

W. Hoyle

*Jane Mansergh*

## Church Hall

Some of our regular users are not returning, so the hall is now available on more occasions (including Mondays and Fridays). If you know of any groups which might be interested in hiring the hall (or one of the other rooms), please encourage them to get in touch with Anne Martin (01729 824661).



## An Update

Some of you will remember supporting Stephen and

Philippa Normanton's idea of creating peer support groups for people living with depression at the very beginning. PeerTalk currently hosts twelve support groups located from Guildford to Newcastle and has plans to start more groups this year including re-opening the Settle group. The groups were permitted to meet from August 2020 within the government regulations for providing social support and all except 2 groups have restarted in Covid19 secure premises.

The groups are facilitated by trained volunteers and during the year 45 new facilitators have been trained, complying with Covid regulations current at the time. However, new volunteers are always needed to train as facilitators.

In October last year PeerTalk also held a series of 3 public meetings at St John's, with speakers addressing how social issues affect mental health.

Funding the work of the charity is a major concern and October has been designated as a fundraising month. The charity has representation in the Great North Run this year and someone else is completing a long-distance cycle ride. A text donation has also been set up.

To find out more about the charity's work, please visit the website [www.peertalk.org.uk](http://www.peertalk.org.uk). If you wish to make a donation, you can do this via the website or by bank transfer. In the way of all the well-known charities, you can even donate £10 by texting **Peertalk to 70450**. I have cards with details of how you can donate. Please ask me if you would like one.

*Liz Brown*



Thanks for the great response to signing up to our Eco Pledge. It will soon be on permanent display in the hall, next to Judith's wonderful display of eco information.

Do keep those ECOMmit slips coming. Try to make it a part of your weekly (better still, daily) routine.

Are you looking for ideas for your ECOMmit slips? Check back over previous newsletters for ways to reduce your adverse impact on the planet. Just look under the ECO CHURCH logo. Remember the three R's - REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE - in that order!

## Things children say

A little boy opened the big old family Bible with fascination, peering at the ancient pages as he turned them.

Then something fell out of the Bible. He picked it up and looked closely. It was an old leaf from a tree that had been pressed in between pages.

"Mum, look what I found!" the boy called out.

"What have you got there, dear?" his mother asked.

With astonishment in his voice the young boy answered: "I think it's Adam's suit!"

*(From A Bucket of Surprises, J. John and Mark Stibbe, Monarch Books)*

## Newsletter

Thank you to all those who have contributed to this newsletter. Please send any material for inclusion to Philip or Wendy by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. Wendy is also providing weekly notice sheets as and when necessary; please let her have any items for this by the previous Friday.

Dear God,  
Darker nights are drawing in.  
Mince pies are in the shops.  
Suddenly it's October. Where did  
the year go? It seems no time since  
there were daffodils bursting forth -  
now we're looking out Winter  
woollies. As I age time seems to move  
far more quickly, a year seems to  
fly by. No wonder the hymn claims  
"A thousand ages in Thy sight are  
like an evening gone". By your  
advanced age, time must certainly  
speed by. As a child my favourite  
TV programme was Dr Who (it still  
is really!). Fascinated by time and  
space, I loved the idea of being able  
to manipulate time. Now as I look  
back, I consider all the things  
which have come and gone in my  
own lifetime. Men have walked on  
the moon - I had a huge row with  
my Grandad who said that was all  
faked. I learned my tables and used  
a slide rule and log-tables to do  
calculations - now I just press  
buttons on a calculator. In shops  
we handed over pounds and pence  
(pre decimal, too, when you had to  
be able to work out 12 pennies to a  
shilling and 20 shillings to a  
pound!) whereas now we just flash a  
bit of plastic - or even a watch or  
phone- over a terminal. What about  
the time before mobile phones? I  
had an early mobile phone the size  
of a house brick! Sometimes it's good  
that things move on! Psalm 23 talks  
about walking by still waters, but if  
water remains still then it will  
eventually stagnate., which is why

it is good to have the challenge of  
change to bring about movement.  
Perhaps that's why I prefer the sea  
to mill-ponds.

Yours

Old Lil Nongle.

## One World Week (17<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> October)

Each year, thousands of people take part in One World Week events across the country.

The week always includes United Nations Day (24th October) although events can and do happen all year round.

Events are organised by volunteers with the common purpose:

*To share understanding about some of the global issues that affect us all and to recognise we can all make a difference.*

This year's theme is '**Act now for our children's world**'.

The following prayer, taken from the Methodist Prayer Handbook, was written by Jessica, a pupil from Nutgrove Methodist Aided Primary School in St Helen's:

**Prayer:** Lord God, help us to learn to



love the earth as you do and give us the courage to say 'enough' to the things that hurt it. Amen.