

KINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH
NEW-STYLE MESSENGER/LETTER
JUNE 2020



Hi everyone,

Another month has flown by, can you believe it? Here we are at the beginning of June already - the weather has been so kind to us and we must be grateful for that. They predict rain later this week (the farmers and the gardeners among us will be pleased about that) but, with us now being allowed to meet up with five other people, in our gardens, rain is not such good news. Hopefully the rain will come during the night and the sun shine during the day!! I do hope this finds you all in good health and spirits. This month I have been busy making scrub-bags for Hereford hospital and a few for The Garth - they seem to have plenty now so I'm off on my next project of making red, white and blue bunting for our village hall - we hope to have a big celebration when this pandemic is over and bunting is required.

*Richard's thoughts.....*These weeks are giving us plenty of time 'home alone'. Maybe too much! It's easy to find our thoughts turning inwards. That's not always a bad thing. It allows time to think – sometimes about ourselves. The problem is we may find things in our lives we wish weren't there. We may feel we've slipped in our Christian lives from where we wish we were; or that we aren't the people we once were, our walk with God not as close as once it was. Then we get discouraged and disappointed with ourselves.

I have a wall-clock with a fault. The second-hand only moves through 10 seconds. It begins at the 6 o'clock position and moves to the 8 o'clock position. Then it falls back to the 6 o'clock position. It does this all day long. It's quite sad to see. All day long the second-hand keeps falling back and makes no progress. Sometimes I feel like that! Then I remember Jesus tells us to forgive seventy-times seven. We're to put no limit on the times in a day we're to forgive. Because Jesus puts no limit on the times he will forgive!

It also reminded me of something I heard a long time ago. The Christian life is like climbing a mountain roped together. If we slip, and we do, we don't fall back to the foot of the mountain. We slip only a few feet. We then get up and set off again – to the summit! We have the promise of his forgiveness; we have a Guide who travels with us, protects us and promises to bring us safely home. Thank you Lord for your mercy and your patience.

With my Christian love *Richard*

Reminder - Richard is still producing the "Thought for the Day" and it's very reassuring for these difficult times we find ourselves in. Richard intends to continue with this for the whole of June and then he will re-assess the situation. I'd like to extend a very big thank you to Richard for his efforts in producing this very thought provoking message each day. Thanks also to Joe for his technical support – it's very much appreciated. (Please visit our website <https://www.kingtonbaptistchurch.org/>)

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Sadly, Leslie Powell had a fall in the house a few weeks ago and was taken to hospital with concussion - he cut his head quite nastily. He was in hospital for a little while but, thankfully, he is recovering at home now. I have spoken to him and Frances on the 'phone and he is doing well - plenty of TLC from Frances. They have been able to sit in the garage with the door open, out of the hot sun, and a few folks have stopped to talk - so that has been good. Keep on improving Les - we're thinking of you and sending our love.

I've been in touch with Janet and she is coping well - having shopping delivered from Asda. She says that Marie has to be very careful but she is doing fine. Janet rang Violet Evans at the nursing home and had a lovely chat to her. Violet's daughter is able to wave to her through the window and then she goes home and rings her Mother every evening - she says she's very happy and sends everyone at Church her love.

Bronwen is well and still doing plenty of cooking and pottering in her garden.

STOP PRESS.....

I hear that the Countryside Market is opening again this Friday 5th June – but it will be operating from the Church vestibule and pavement not in the Lower Hall.

A

Snippet from The Friendship Book

The Rev Gilbert White was a “parson-naturalist.” In his walks about the parish in the late 18th Century he observed and noted a wealth of detail concerning the wildlife that lived there. Such was his concern and interest in the birds and animals of his district that, after his death, his admirers created Britain's first bird sanctuary in his memory. Reading through his journals, I was, in turn, educated and amazed by his observations and his understanding. But I looked particularly for entries concerning a certain hedgehog. After a parishioner died the Reverend was considerate enough to take her hibernating hedgehog to his own house and take care of it. Which tells you all you need to know about the man.

But the hedgehog entries among the detailed notes and accurate records told me something more. All the knowledge in the world is worth nothing if it is not, eventually, put towards the care of some person or some little creature.

Just a thought...

It doesn't cost a penny, it doesn't cost a dime,
Yet, on show, there is no doubt, it's stood the test of time.
It doesn't cost a rouble, a euro or a yen,
Yet it has been with us since I don't know when,
The dividend's enormous, yet the cost of it is nil,
And all it takes to use it is what is called goodwill.
So, when next you see a stranger, simply pause a while,
And with no hesitation, give them a great big smile...

(Brian H. Gent)

*As I'm writing this I hear on the news all the dreadful things that are happening in America as a result of the atrocious killing of George Floyd and the repercussions this is causing over here. Please pray for a peaceful solution to this; that the leaders and politicians will listen to the people and a real change will be brought about. Pray that regardless of your creed or the colour of your skin we can all live peacefully, side by side, as equals.
Lovely to chat to you all - keep safe and keep positive.
With Christian Love - Angie*
