

Buxton United Reformed Church

Hardwick Square East



The rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish. Isaiah 55 v 10

July/August 2022

This last Sunday at church we based the service on the Fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5 and folk shared reflections on their chosen fruit. Joy is one of the Fruit of the Spirit and if I had to sum up the month of June it would be that people expressed their joy, joy in celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

What made an impression on me was watching the TV and seeing so many people expressing joy in the celebrations especially around London. I will remember for a long time the amazing designs and colours of the carnival procession, the continually changing photographic pictures displayed on Buckingham Palace together with the very cleverly manipulated drones making picture outlines in the sky above the palace. People were happy. There was joy expressed on their faces.

I really enjoyed the service of Thanksgiving at St Pauls Cathedral but most of all the address given by Steven Cottrell, Archbishop of York, who took the place of the Archbishop of Canterbury at the last moment. It was great to hear his humour coming through the message he had for the Queen, watching the service at home on her TV!

"For me, the best leaders – like Paul, like Jesus – are those who know how to be led. People who lead for others, not themselves. People whose heart's desire is to serve the common good and build up the common life; who don't try to do it all themselves, or act in their own strength alone; people who take a longer view; and who seek out places of replenishing, even places where they might learn the mind of Christ.

And I say this today, knowing that in Her Majesty the Queen we see an example of this kind of service; a staunch constancy and a steadfast consistency; a faithfulness to God, an obedience to a vocation that is the bedrock of her life. No, bedrock isn't quite the right image. Faith in Jesus Christ is a fountain, and it is a well.

It is the well from which we draw deeply and replenish ourselves through all the challenges, joys, and vicissitudes of life. And it is a fountain, overflowing

with immense joy. Joy, that we can live in the assurance that we are loved; joy, that God has a purpose for our lives; and, joy, that through Christ's dying and rising we have the promise of life eternal."

"Now we all know that Her Majesty likes horse racing and I imagine Your Majesty will be watching this on the television. I don't have any great tips for the Derby tomorrow, but since the scriptures describe life as a race set before us, let me observe that your long reign reflects the distance of Aintree more than the sprints of Epsom. Certainly, less dressage than most people imagine. But with endurance, through times of change and challenge, joy and sorrow, you continue to offer yourself in the service of our country and the commonwealth. Your Majesty, we're sorry you're not with us this morning in person, but we are so glad you are still in the saddle. And we are all glad that there is still more to come."

Our Garden Platinum Jubilee Tea at church was another joyful occasion. We did a wise thing and decided to hold it on a sunny 11th June rather than the Jubilee Weekend when it poured with rain in Buxton. What Cath overheard one father say was "I didn't want to come today but I am glad I did because it is so relaxing and I have enjoyed being here." It was really great to see so many dads with their children as well as mums. Do enjoy the following photos of our celebration.

O yes, I forgot this last weekend was also a joy for thousands of people as they flocked to experience Glastonbury Festival.

Lastly, I have two moments of joy we experienced in our home. The first was sitting up in bed having our early morning tea and looking out of the window to our very tall Himalayan birch tree. On it was a wee ball of grey fluff the size of one of the largest leaves, which I can assure you isn't big. The fluff was a very tiny bird, perhaps a wren or blue tit but it was so young it didn't have its identifying plumage. Now that was a joy to see first thing in the morning.

And the second moment of joy you may have heard if you have come to our home for a meeting. Every evening the blackbird sits on our chimney pot above the open fire place in our lounge and sings. It sounds as though it is right in the room with us. We love to play the Nightingale Serenade by Andre Rieu's orchestra. Initially it starts with the nightingale singing alone and then the orchestra accompanies it. Our blackbird starts emulating the nightingale by singing along with it too. Now that is really joyful to listen to. If you want to share in six minutes of our joy then here is the YouTube connection but you cannot have our blackbird!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YmDNhi07_Ho.

Eileen Blane

Our church with Jubilee bunting and yellow and blue florist bows in support of Ukraine.





Garden Jubilee Celebration Tea

Saturday
11th June 2022



Celebrating the Queen's Platinum



Jubilee and Cath's Birthday



Brownies and Rainbows sing The Platinum Jubilee Song

The Platinum Jubilee Song

by Sue Bleazard & Sing Kids

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEMEQ_d_eh4

Who can you see on every penny?
 Who graces every little stamp?
 Who can you see on every twenty?
 Who has a royal flag?

Who has a crown of gold and rubies?
 Who love to ride upon a horse?
 Who has a soft spot for a corgi?
 Queen Elizabeth of course!

Jubilees, we've had a few,
 Silver, Gold and diamond too!
 This one's special You will see
 Platinum Jubilee!

Who's been a true and loyal servant?
 Who do we see on Christmas Day?
 Who loves the church and her family?
 Who gives the best royal wave?

Who Troops the Colour every birthday?
 Who travels all around the globe?
 Who is the longest reigning monarch?
 Who wears a crown and royal robe?

Jubilees, we've had a few,
 Silver, Gold and diamond too!
 This one's special You will see
 Platinum Jubilee!

Happy Platinum Jubilee Queen Elizabeth



Thankyou so much
to all the helpers



Dates to Remember

Fellowship Evenings: Wednesdays.

Join us at 7:30 to 9:00 pm:

**Next Elders and Leaders Meeting:-
23rd August 2pm at the church**

Contributions for the magazine

We really do appreciate your contributions so please keep them coming.

Contributions please for the next magazine to

Eileen and Peter Blane by 22nd August 2022.

To ensure your magazine is as informative as possible please keep us up-to-date with news and events.



Please be aware that we are producing only a limited number of printed magazines. An electronic version is available to read on the church's website:

www.buxtonurc.org.uk

Buxton URC Sunday services (normally at 10:30am)

Proposed services for July & August (these may be revised)

3 rd July	10:30am	Songs of praise
10 th July	10:30am	Mark & Sam Houghton
17 th July	10:30am	Sunday Night Live
24 th July	10:30am	Eileen and Peter Blane
3 ^{1st} July	10:30am	National URC Service
7 th August	10:30am	Fellowship Service
14 th August	10:30am	Join Rose Hill on U-tube
21 st August	10:30am	Caroline Andrews
28 th August	10:30am	Eileen Blane
4 th September	10:30am	Faith Sharing Service



Please pray for members of our church family and friends, but also, for the many needy across the world

For the next **Waste Not Want Not Saturday Coffee, Cake and Company** mornings at church on **Saturday dates 2nd July and 6th August**

For members of our own church family:-

A number of our fellowship are waiting for hospital appointments. Please continue to pray for them and for members of Lesley Caddy's family

For the ongoing war in Ukraine.

President Zelenskyy says he wants the war over by winter.
G7 nations pledged to support Ukraine.
Let's pray that these both happen.

For the people of Afghanistan affected by the recent earthquake. This is on top of the poverty already existing in the country. Pray that aid will be allowed to reach the people who need it.

The war in Ukraine and other events means that food shortages in many countries across the world are getting worse. Pray that the work of the **World Food Program and other agencies** will be able to act effectively in reducing worldwide starvation and food shortages.

Spring Harvest and Big Church Day Out – 2022



I decided last year that as soon as lockdowns were over, my campervan and I would re-visit some Christian festivals but, of course, they were postponed again until this year.

So, with my **Toilet Twinning** T-shirts on, I helped out at their stalls at **Spring Harvest** and **Big Church Day**

Out 2022. Our teams twinned lots of toilets around the world and quite a few wheelie bins as well and raised the best part of £10,000 at the two shows. All in all, a pleasing result. But what of the shows themselves?



In terms of size, Big Church is about ten times bigger than Spring Harvest. The former is in the open air on a six-thousand-acre estate in Sussex, the latter is at Butlins holiday site in Skegness. Big Church had about 35,000 people but it never felt overcrowded and I only saw four masks being worn the whole weekend. Big Church is the Christian version of Glastonbury (which is itself about eight times

bigger than Big Church) and Big Church is the largest annual single-site Christian event in the UK.



Spring Harvest was held earlier in the year than Big Church and, at Skegness, we were glad to be in their big exhibition centre and sheltered from the east wind blowing in from the North Sea. Bracing walks along the seafront are available and one can enjoy the miles of empty space along the Lincolnshire Coast, watch the birds and count the dozens of offshore wind turbines.



Both festivals have exhibition centres where charities (like Toilet Twinning – which is part of Tear Fund) and others can explain to the public what they do. Also, there are worship areas and services, prayer places, quiet areas, Christian bookshops, art exhibitions, commercial sales outlets, theological colleges, volunteering opportunities and study spaces. Spring Harvest also runs a number of talks and discussion groups.

There is also music – in Big Church’s case, lots of it. It is fair to say that the majority of the current leading UK Contemporary Christian musicians were there (and some American ones).

Some musicians were also at Spring Harvest but there is less emphasis on music at that event and greater opportunities for discussion and study.

Big Church has a traditional Main Stage – It looks like the Glastonbury one and is just as loud. I was camped half a mile away and I could listen perfectly well in my van (and stay out of the rain). There are also several smaller stages for lesser known and more specialised performers.

The Big Church weekend was the Queens’ Platinum anniversary weekend, so many vans were suitably decorated (including mine) and the whole event finished with a massive firework display.

I came away from both events with the same optimistic feeling – predominately that the church, as a whole, is alive and well, with many people of all ages and abilities, and it is such a pleasure to see



so many young people and families.

Behaviour is excellent - I cannot imagine going to many large weekend events and not hearing bad language, people falling out, arguments and negative thinking. None of these I heard

at either of the two events – not once. And Christians use the litter bins as well!

I spoke with many members of the public on our stands at the shows. They were friendly, interested and generous. One of them said to me “I have lost count of the number of toilets I have twinned but here is a £100 donation anyway” Children of a certain early age have a great interest in toilets and can often encourage their parents to twin their

home toilet (providing it doesn't come out of their pocket money, of course)

I still find it almost unbelievable when I explain that one quarter of the World's population does not have access to a toilet.

I ask myself: "Are Christian events like these the future of the church?" Is it about young people immersing themselves in a joyful Christian atmosphere or is it about older people in old buildings wondering where all the young people are? One middle aged couple I spoke with at Spring Harvest said the event was their annual booster – their church at home slowly depressed them during the year and they went to Spring Harvest to spiritually cheer themselves up !

I hope, and pray, that many of the young people and families I saw at both events will ultimately gravitate out to churches in their hometowns and that the many seeds that were planted there will produce long lasting growth.

My final event this year will be Greenbelt at the end of August where (for a change) I am not twinning toilets but washing up in the URC café – anyone care to join me?!

Roger Horne



Thoughts for your day:-
More quotes from
“A Few Minutes with Andy Rooney “

I've learned...

I've learned ...

That under everyone's hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved.

I've learned ...

That to ignore the facts does not change the facts.

I've learned ...

That when you plan to get even with someone, you are only letting that person continue to hurt you.

I've learned ...

That love, not time, heals all wounds.

I've learned ...

That the easiest way for me to grow as a person is to surround myself with people smarter than I am.

I've learned ...

That everyone you meet deserves to be greeted with a smile.

I've learned

That no one is perfect until you fall in love with them.

I've learned...

That life is tough, but I'm tougher.

I've learned ...

That opportunities are never lost; someone will take the ones you miss.

I've learned ..

That I wish I could have told my Mum that I love her one more time before she passed away

I've learned ...

That one should keep his words both soft and tender, because tomorrow he may have to eat them.

I've learned...

That a smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.

I've learned ...

That when your newly born grandchild holds your little finger in his little fist, you're hooked for life.

I've learned ...

That everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you're climbing it.

I've learned ...

That the less time I have to work with, the more things I get done.

The above was written by Andy Rooney, a man who had the gift of saying so much with so few words. Rooney, who used to be on CBS's 60 Minutes TV show, died in 2011, but his words spoken then are more important now than ever!

The Grocer.co.uk



Waste Not Want Not
At
Buxton United Reformed Church.

***You are invited to join with us for
free coffee, cake and company***

Saturday dates
2nd July and 6th August

Between

10am and 12midday in the church

Love in the community



I am writing to share some sad news – Brian Heeley who will be known to many in your churches as a lay preacher and Interim Moderator in the past, sadly and unexpectedly died on 24th May. It has come as a great shock to his family and to his church family in Wirksworth.

Please hold Brian's family in your prayers at this sad and difficult time.

God bless,
Camilla Veitch



Buxton United Reformed Church

Website: www.buxtonurc.org.uk

Minister for the North Derbyshire Resource Area
(which includes Buxton URC): **Rev. Caroline Andrews**

We warmly welcome everyone who wishes to join us for
Sunday worship

Details of services, including times, can be found inside this
magazine and on our website.

*We offer a sincere, loving welcome to all in
Christian Worship.*

Activities for young people

- **Rainbows:** for girls aged 5-7 Tues. 5 - 6pm
Leader: Stephanie Sterndale (Tel. 07967205209)
- **Brownies:** for girls aged 7-10 Tues. 6 – 7:30pm
Leader: Cath Sterndale (Tel. 07973670595)
- **Guides:** for girls aged 10 to 14 Tues. 6pm
Leader: Stephanie Sterndale (Tel. 07967205209)