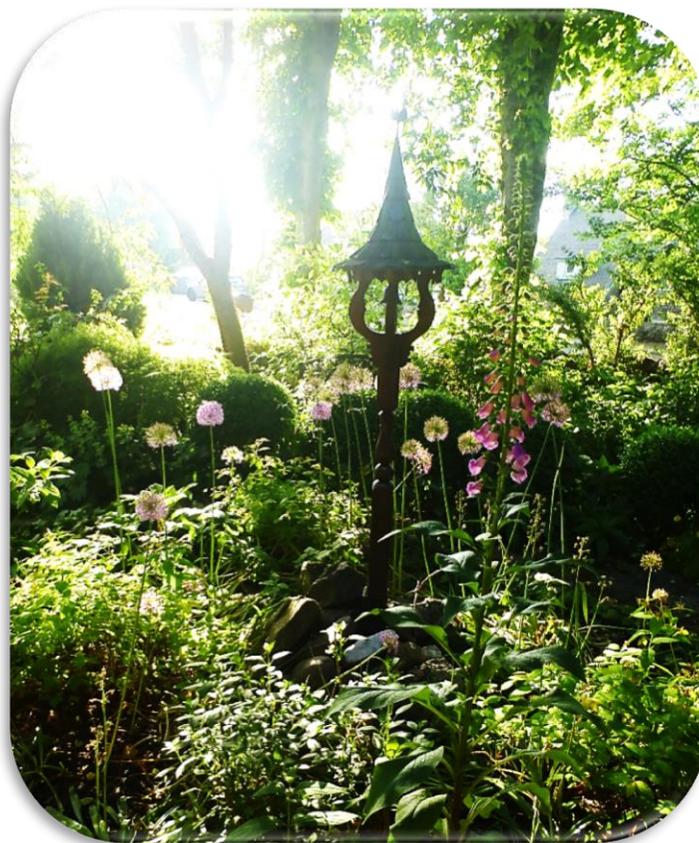


Buxton

United Reformed Church

Hardwick Square East



July/August 2021

Thank you to everyone who has helped to keep our church functioning during this last eighteen months of the Covid-19 pandemic.

As well as Zoom services and meetings, all the administration and finances have had to be kept going. The care of the church building and handling of potential bookings have had to be maintained. The Waste Not Want Not service to the community would not have been able to exist without the support of the Bingham Trust and our church.

We recognise that the extent of the Covid restrictions has made it difficult for everybody and some are feeling particularly overloaded with the responsibilities they have.

Think about and pray for all the members of our church family and continue to give them as much support as you are able to.

A Big Thank You To Everyone!

What is the latest nature news around the globe this last month to keep you smiling?

I know that we are a long way from London but if you did venture that way and end up in Green Park, near Buckingham Palace you would come across a life size herd of elephant sculptures made by indigenous communities in a region of South India.

And more about an escaped herd of elephants that have caused more than £1 million of destruction in a South West Province of China. Fifteen elephants travelled more than 311 miles getting inebriated after gaining access to alcohol at a villager's home, stomping on fields and destroying barns. Experts say that it is the longest migration of elephants ever recorded in China.



The relocation of the endangered Tasmanian Devils to the 44 square mile Australian Island of Maria to ensure their survival from a contagious facial cancer has backfired as they have wipe out the 3,000

breeding pairs of little penguins and also short tailed shearwaters have been eliminated since the introduction of the devils.

Getting nearer to home, marine conservationists have found 16 spiny seahorses near Studland Bay in Dorset. This is the highest number of seahorses found in a single dive since 2008. They think that the seahorses have return to the area because of



the coronavirus lockdown resulting in fewer people and boats in the area.



We have a significant number of squirrels visiting our garden and one in particular is not liked by us as it digs up all our Early Harvest Tulips in the autumn, tops and tails them and digs them into the soil. As a result, over the last two years we have not had any flowering tulips in the garden in early spring. The squirrel doesn't seem to like narcissi. We think the tulips must give off an aroma that identifies where they are for the squirrel. So, we were flabbergasted to read that Wildlife Conservation Society (in America!) has analysed data over 38 years into the impact people have on the natural world by coming too close to wildlife, either on foot or in vehicles. As a result of their findings, they conclude that humans should stay at least 50 metres away from squirrels to avoid them being negatively influenced by us. What about us and our garden, I ask myself!

A fishmonger in Edinburgh has recently bought a giant 12 stone halibut caught in the North Sea. It took four men to carry it into the shop. I wonder how many portions it was cut into.

Now to end with news about dogs.

A family who lost their puppy years ago has been reunited with it 11 years later. Their Jack Russel went missing in 2010 but recently the family received a phone call to say that their microchipped dog had been found more than 30 miles away. It has since been returned to the joyful owners.

An elderly deaf sheepdog was given to the RSPCA because its lack of hearing meant it could no longer work on the farm with sheep. An animal welfare manager adopted it and has taught it



to recognise commands with hand signals, body language and positive and repetitive reinforcements. It is now able to herd and work with a shepherd without relying on voice commands.

A labradoodle “therapy dog” named Digby helped save a woman’s life on the M5 near Exeter. The fire service used the dog to encourage the lady to agree to step back into safety. Aren’t dogs wonderful.



Lastly, news about Noah’s Ark, a wonderful rare toy probably made in the East German Mountain range in about 1820. The hand-painted pitched roof still opens to reveal storage for more than 150 carved animals. From tigers to wombats and rhinos to robins, the animals are paired and highly detailed. The toy also comes with human figures including Noah and his wife. The item is being sold by a Jersey owner, but how it ended up in the Channel Islands is a bit of a mystery. Now that really is some toy!



"Our Small Shells"

A Lesson from the Simple Crab

If not for God's Word the human race may have been forced to learn their virtues from God's other creations. For instance, we may have learned faithfulness from a dog, perseverance from an ant, and creativity from the spider.

Thankfully, we have God's Word, but we can still learn from His creations, even the simple crab. A crab does not grow like other animals. Although their body grows throughout their lifespan, their outer shell stops growing when it reaches a certain size. As the crab continues to grow, it is forced to find a bigger and better home

Why is it so natural for the crab to move on to something new and so difficult for humans? To continue growing, we must often step out of whatever is keeping us from continuing our growth.



An excellent example of how difficult it is to leave our small shells is when the Children of Israel, though living in captivity and misery, were at first hesitant to leave the land of Egypt.

Even after departing many of them wanted to go back. The Israelites were afraid of the unknown and apprehensive about how these changes would affect their future.

Growth in following Christ often requires us to leave something very dear and meaningful behind, (Matt 19:29 Everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.). The Israelites were required to have enough faith and determination to follow God regardless of the consequences.

If not careful, we may find ourselves clinging to a stressful situation, such as a job, or personal relationship that is no longer working; and for the same reason as the Israelites, the fear of the unknown.

Perhaps we can learn to bravely climb out of our small shells and into the hands of the Holy Spirit and allow Him to guide, comfort and lead us in the path of His choosing.

The One who knows the number of hairs on your head and every sparrow that falls has a progressive and often changing plan for your life. Those who bravely step out in faith will find that His paths are always the most rewarding.

Regardless of your age or position in life, with Christ, it is always just the beginning. By letting go of the old and following His guidance you can discover a fresh new life filled with unique experiences, and no restraints.

Samuel Mills
From trusting-in-Jesus.com

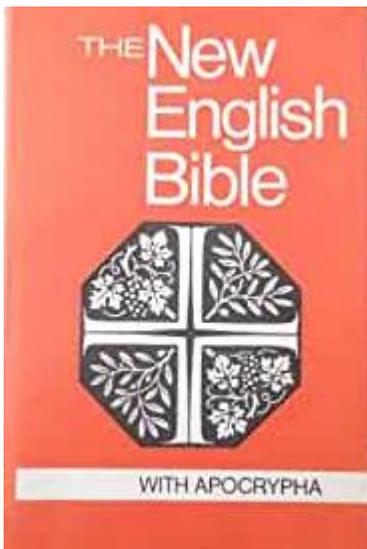
Christian Aid

In view of the Government's decision to extend the period of covid restrictions, the Christian Aid Goyt Valley sponsored walk is being rescheduled from 3rd July to 4th September.

Kate MacLean Tel: 01298 78276



(Kate would be very pleased to hear from anyone who feels able to help with the event, perhaps as a walk leader, a first aider, a writer of risk assessments, a provider of refreshments or in any other way.)



Celebrations for the 60th Anniversary of the publication of the New English Bible

Forest Parish Church in Guernsey decided to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the publication of the New English Bible by having a 12-hour continuous sponsored Bible read.

It was decided to read from the start of the New Testament as trying to read the whole Bible would take approximately 70 hours. The readings were arranged in 15-minute slots, so there were 48 slots in total, and around 30 people were taking part.

What a thing to celebrate. We wonder how many of you have got the version – we have!



Please pray for members of our church family and friends, especially:

“Waste Not Want Not” has now been wound up. In total over 7,500 food parcels have been given out. Cath wishes to thank the Bingham Trust and our church for the support they have given. Pray for ongoing plans for the distribution of food.

Update for prayer for Richard Bower.

Richard enjoyed a week’s holiday in Scotland and was able to go on a trip on a Scottish Loch in an Open Canadian canoe. This was a goal he had been working towards for some time at home and with the help of friends and family he managed 2 hrs paddling with a lunch break as well. It was very painful for him at times, he was exhausted and he had to rest on occasions but it was a brilliant achievement and highlight to his and our holiday.

Also, very recently Richard has been fitted with a Turbomed. A device made of poly carbon that clips onto any shoe and is basically a preloaded spring. It provides stability and freedom of movement with a little bit of propulsion from the spring allowing a much more normal walking pattern. Right from the start Richard was delighted with it and it will enable him to progress his walking onto uneven ground and slopes. His ultimate goal is to climb White Nancy a local folly in Bollington which is on the top of a hill. Watch this space.....



On a reality note, his progress is not all positive. He battles many days with pain and fatigue from long Covid and the after effects of being in

intensive care for such a long period of time. He has low periods and setbacks, has fallen over when he least expects it and at times feels so terribly frustrated and that life just isn't fair and asks why me?

Please pray he keeps looking forward, keeping as positive as possible, rising to his daily challenges, making progress with friends and family standing with him to support and encourage and seeing that God loves him no matter what he can or cannot do and that God is there with him on this journey.

*Thanks for your prayers so far and after reading this,
Debbie and Phil Delight xx*

Polio has been eradicated across the world except for Afghanistan and neighbouring Pakistan. At least five polio vaccination workers were killed in June and others were injured in Afghanistan by the Taliban who are suspicious of the door-to-door polio vaccination campaigns. This means that children are not being protected against such a devastating disease.

Dates to Remember

Fellowship Evenings: Wednesdays.

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81496046535?pwd=T1Rxa2c4ZWJmb0oyWi95QXZsSjJaZz09>

Elders and Leaders Meeting via Zoom 2nd August 2021

Contributions for the magazine

We appreciate your contributions so please keep them coming.

Contributions please for the next magazine to

Eileen and Peter Blane by

Monday 23rd August 2021

for the September publication.

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

Tel: 01298 27591 or email peter@blane.co.uk.

Please be aware that we are not producing a printed magazine, only an electronic version that is available to read on the church's website:

www.buxtonurc.org.uk



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

We'll be back in the church building and on-line!

It has been decided that from **Sunday 4th July** our morning services will be held in the church building.

Those attending at church will be required to comply with current **government guidelines; masks and distancing must be observed.**

As some people do not want to come into the building at the moment, we will also try to broadcast the service on Zoom. However, both sound and vision may be poor but if you would rather join us by Zoom then we hope to provide you with that option.

The usual Zoom link will be used.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87556790029?pwd=VVBmOVZ3VVdqVUJPa1NvSFNSbkllUT09>

The service on 4th July at 10.30 am will be led by Mark Houghton.

On the following **Sunday, 11th July, the URC National Assembly worship will be livestreamed from 11.00 am both in church and on-line.** The service will be led by the national moderators.

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

4 th July	10:30am	Mark Houghton
11th July	11:00am	URC National Assembly worship
18 th July	10:30am	Charles Jolly
25 th July	10:30am	Fellowship Service (maybe)
1 st August	10.30am	Mark Houghton
8 th August	10:30am	Fellowship Service
15 th August		Join a link to a N. Derbyshire area church
22 nd August		Join a link to a N. Derbyshire area church
29 th August	10:30am	Fellowship Service

Services will be monitored and changes made if it is felt appropriate.

Garden Party



Plans are being made for the church to have an informal time together on **Saturday 7th August in Phil and Debbie Delight's Garden from 5pm onwards.**

Food will be supplied and served between 5.30 – 6.00pm.
but please bring your own choice of drinks.

All church folk and their immediate families are welcome to come. It will be an opportunity to meet and talk after such a long time not seeing each other face to face.

Please contact Debbie if you would like to come or want more details. **We do need to know numbers for catering.**

Master of the wind

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YbFhCd1YPtg>

My boat of life
Sails on a troubled sea
Whenever there's a wind in my sail
But I have a friend
Who watches over me
When the breeze turns into a gale

I know the master of the wind
I know the maker of the rain
He can calm the storm
And make the sun shine again
I know the master of the wind

Sometimes I soar
like an Eagle to the sky
Among the peaks my soul
can be found
But an unexpected storm
May drive me from the highs
It may bring me low
But it cannot bring me down



I know the master of the wind
I know the maker of the rain
He can calm the storm
And make the sun shine again
I know the master of the wind

Let Jesus calm your storm
make the sun shine again
He is the Master of the wind



Buxton United Reformed Church

We would be very happy to warmly welcome everyone who wishes to join us for Sunday worship

From 4th July we hope to start holding Sunday services in the church building once again.

But we know that some people do not yet want to attend services in the church building so **we are also planning to also broadcast them using Zoom.** If you have internet access you are welcome to join us using the link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87556790029?pwd=VVBmOVZ3VVdqVUJPa1NySFNSbkllUT09>

Details of services, including times, can be found inside the magazine

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