

MINISTER'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

A last letter to write for the Link! And the screen / paper looks even more blank than usual.... This doesn't, after all, seem the time or place to sum up the last 5 years, for you or me, or say the things that might be said in another couple of months' time, when we're really about to leave. Someone suggested I should go back to biblical reflection - and some of the endings that are worked out, particularly in the epistles.

However, I've found myself going back to two biblical passages that I keep returning to, in many different situations. One of them took me back to my reflections on return from sabbatical, two summers ago. On my first Sunday back leading worship at Lidgett, I preached on Romans 12:1-8, though it's the first couple of verses of that passage that I find especially important to me:

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect."

In that passage, Paul urges the Corinthians to give themselves, body, mind and spirit, to God – all of themselves. Nothing is held back, because everything – every part of us – is of worth to God. And if the worship and service of God has its proper place in our lives, it takes everything we have and are. That doesn't mean every minute has to be spent in church. It means that what we do in all areas of our lives is offered to God; every way in which we become better, broader, more fulfilled people can be part of God's work with us, shared with others. And all of it – the conversations, the laughter, the chores, the loneliness, the pain, the shopping, the leisure, the work, the exercise – is transformed and renewed in the light of God's love.

None of it can be hidden away from God. We are accountable in all of it. And I find that terrifying and liberating at the same time.

The other passage I come back to is a prayer from the writer of the letter to the Ephesians. (I can't call the writer 'Paul' when I think it's more likely a later Christian writing in the style and tradition of Paul's teaching!) The passage is Ephesians 3:14-21 and the focus point of it for me is verses 16-19:

"I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

Ephesians has many passages where the words seem to run away from the writer, and the sentences aren't properly finished – and this is one of them. There's an exuberance in the writing of some parts of the letter (though major restrictions in other parts?!). This passage has that central hope that the people of Christ will be 'rooted and grounded', or established, in love – that's an image for the gardeners among you. We are to find our foundation and grow up in a love which is so wide, high, and deep that it's beyond our knowledge and experience. And the writer's amazing final hope in this prayer is the impossible possibility that we might be filled with 'all the fullness of God'. This is where human language becomes paradoxical, seemingly contradictory – and runs beyond sense. Yet the note of praise and wonder remains.

These passages are the appeal to me and the prayer for me that I need to hear again and again. They are my prayer and my exhortation for you as well.

Yours in Christ,
Jane

WORSHIP IN JULY

01	10.30	Mission Sunday	
		Rev. Jane Craske	Holy Communion
	6.30	Rev. Graeme Dutton	
08	10.30	Mr. Michael Prince	
	6.30	Rev. Andrew Atkins	United/Circuit Service
15	10.30	Rev. Elizabeth Smith	
	6.30	Rev. Jane Craske	Holy Communion
22	10.30	Rev. Jane Craske	
	6.30	Rev. Andrew Atkins	

29	10.30	Rev. Jane Craske	
	6.30	Rev. Jane Craske	Holy Communion
		Ecumenical Service	

WORSHIP IN AUGUST

05	10.30	Rev. Philip Chilvers	Holy Communion
	6.30	Rev. Graeme Dutton	
12	10.30	Mr. John Clay	
	6.30	Alwoodley	United/Circuit Service
19	10.30	Mrs. Florence Doku	
	6.30	Mrs. Susan Howdle	
26	10.30	Mr. John Summerwill	
	6.30	Rev. Mark Harwood	

THANK YOU

As a family we wish to thank everyone who has supported us spiritually, prayerfully and practically in so many different ways following Molly's death and all those involved in making her memorial and thanksgiving service such a moving and memorable event.

We have been deeply moved, supported and quite overwhelmed by the vast number of cards and letters of condolence. Please accept our gratitude. Unfortunately it is simply not possible for us to acknowledge them all personally.

Amazingly and movingly over a thousand pounds has been donated in tribute to Molly to The Methodist Relief and Development Fund. Thank you all of you for everything from the bottom of our hearts.

George Lovell and Family

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ROY BOUD

Thank you to everyone for the cards, prayers and flowers that have helped us to cope with the suddenness of Roy's death. Thank you too for the many gifts of flowers from Church that we received during Roy's long and difficult illness – they certainly helped to lift our spirits.

Rosemary and family

TRADITION

(The following was prepared for Oasis 10th May 2012.)

The nervous system is designed to form reflexes. They are short cuts so that routine movements can be made without conscious thought. Imagine trying to walk if you had to consciously order your muscles to perform every single movement – it would be impossible. So reflexes are essential to life and a very important part of our make-up. Habits are a larger scale version of reflexes. Like reflexes they can be very useful. If we need to perform a task which requires repetitive actions, practice will turn these actions from something we have to think through (and consequently do slowly) to something we do automatically (and therefore more quickly) without much conscious thought. But habits can be bad as well as good. We can find ourselves automatically doing things that we would prefer not to do, and we find that habits are difficult to change.

Tradition is a larger scale version of habit. Tradition can be very useful. For instance, if you have to arrange a social function which you know will be repeated in future years, if you note what arrangements you make and what works and what doesn't, you can arrange the same function the following year more easily. Tradition also gives us links to the past which give a feeling of stability and permanence and it can provide the comforting feeling we get from familiarity.

But just as habits can be bad as well as good, so can tradition. If traditions aren't questioned we run the risk of continuing to do something which once may have been valid, but which is no longer relevant. It is easy to become wedded to a tradition and become thoughtless of the effect it may have on people or of how others may view it. Traditions can stop us from thinking and if we ever find ourselves saying "It's always been done like that" – no it hasn't! Nothing has been done forever. Everything was done for the first time once.

Tradition can become a prison, trapping us in actions and thoughts which have become irrelevant over the ages. A fur-lined prison may be comfortable, but it is still a prison.

I am not suggesting that traditions be thrown out willy-nilly, but they do need to be examined periodically to make sure that they are still relevant and that they are not doing more harm than good.

Gillian Clements

PETER AND THE REINDEER



I asked for unusual holiday photos and we certainly have one here.

It was taken in Norway this year and shows Peter Bennett about to go on a sleigh ride. It does seem rather odd – Santa always seems to have his reindeer at the front of the sledge pulling him but Peter obviously uses a different method.

Jackie, who sent the photo, says that at this moment Peter hasn't realised that he is about to be kissed by a reindeer. It's a pity we haven't got a close up of Peter's face a second or two later.

IN APPRECIATION

Once again our catering experts have risen to the occasion and demonstrated their dedication and imagination in providing us with a great meal, this time to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee. We are very grateful to all who contributed in making this so successful – including of course our Master Chef. Also any analysis of our annual project fund-raising shows what a significant proportion is due to catering efforts by the group as well as by others who regularly help, for instance on Saturday coffee mornings. When we try to identify what sorts of mission the church offers we should recognise the significance of the projects in this respect, helping those in need at home or abroad. Many others get involved but I write now particularly in appreciation of the catering.

Fred Langley

While we are appreciating people it is right that we should say a huge thank you to Fred himself who has just retired from the onerous and responsible job of treasurer. We are very grateful to you Fred.

THE SUNNY JUBILEE BARBECUE

We did have to have a last minute change of plan as the inclement weather meant the barbecue became an “inside street party”. But we’re British – we expect rain so we all had a good time anyhow.



KENNETH ELLAM

A few words about Kenneth Ellam, who died at the end of April. Ken was a regular attender at our evening services for a considerable number of years. He was primarily a member of the Anglican congregation at St George’s and a committed Christian worker for many of their projects.

Born in Huddersfield in 1913, he left school at 14 but by parental guidance/decree he continued to study at night school and gained a London University degree with honours, was awarded the Joseph Turner gold medal for scholarship and became a member of the Institution of Chemical Engineers. He was a ‘hands on’ chemist working locally for a dye works, his wife dispaired of keeping handkerchiefs clean even when he became Chief

Chemist. On retirement he qualified again and became a Senior Lecturer at Kitson College.

He was an avid and life long supporter of Huddersfield Town, had run for Huddersfield Harriers and was a keen, competent golfer until he was 90 (by then he'd run out of partners).

Both he and his wife became Christians after attending a Billy Graham meeting when Ken was 54, and from then on his life was one of service and quiet effectiveness in Christian work. He will be missed.

Michael Bowers

SATURDAY COFFEE MORNING – CAKE STALL

Unfortunately, Gillian Clements has decided she is no longer able to run the cake stall. We are very grateful for all the work she has done and the money she has helped to raise for the church projects.

We now need someone to take her place. If you feel able to be responsible for the cake stall (not necessarily to attend every month) I would be pleased to hear from you. Please talk to me about what is involved if you think you might be interested.

As you know, Saturday Coffee Mornings have proved very successful on a number of fronts. In the meantime, there is a list for volunteers to sign up to look after the cake stall together with the rota for the other coffee morning volunteers. Your help would be much appreciated.

Howard Clinkard Tel: 267 2986

JUBILEE QUIZZES

Fred Langley came up with two quizzes for the barbecue. Here they are for those of you who missed the joyous occasion.

1. All about ER and one's family

(initial letters of the answers should become a help)

1. He said "At long last I am able to say a few words of my own"
2. ER's family name when younger
3. Task force ship in Falklands conflict with ER's son on board
4. Mrs Tindall
5. She said "I'm not particularly maternal – it's an occupational hazard of being a wife"
6. ER's mother's maiden name
7. Sixth in line of succession to the throne
8. Kenya hotel with ER connection

9. He said "I am very sorry if I caused any offence. It was a poor choice of costume"
10. Maiden name of Countess of Wessex
11. Seventh in line of succession to the throne
12. He said "After I am dead the boy will ruin himself in 6 months"
13. Country visited by ER in May last year.
14. Relationship of Lady Sarah Chatto to ER
15. ER's second name

2. Can you identify these events occurring during ER's reign?

1. 1953 T Norgay. one of two to get to the top.
2. 1958 8 'babes' among air crash fatalities.
3. 1963 'On-line' felony near Leighton Buzzard.
4. 1966 but Geoff didn't think it was all over.
5. 1969 Buzz, one of two to step out.
6. 1971 Bob made redundant.
7. 1979 James out – Margaret in.
8. 1989 As in Joshua 6.20.
9. 1990 Out after 25 years.
10. 1992 New job opportunity for women.
11. 1997 Well hello Dolly!
12. 2005 Back from Australia after 18 years.
13. 2007 Oscar for 'ER'.
14. 2011 Landmark London building temporarily closed.
15. 2012 In London it's high (1.017 feet) and (mostly) it's hard.

LAND'S END TO JOHN O'GROATS

Many of you will know Chris Hatton, Maggie Patchett's son. Below is his account of the epic journey he made to raise money for The Alzheimer's Society.

On 16th April I set off just after 10am from Land's End with the task of walking to John o' Groats by my own chosen route which would be fairly direct but include some canals such as The Grand Western, The Bridgewater and The Lancaster together with highlights like Cheddar Gorge, The West Highland Way and a good section of The Great Glen Way.

Of course I did a section of my own South West Coast Path, also the Saints Way, Offa's Dyke and the Southern Uplands Way. But the majority of my walk was on Roads.

I was fortunate to complete my LEJOG in bright sunshine on Friday 25th May 2012 a few minutes before 2pm. It was a very misty morning here in the North East of Scotland & I first visited Duncansby Head & there the mist was

really still in. Half an hour later; just 2 miles away you could see that the sun was out and I was truly relieved that I'd successfully finished my 909 miles walking from Land's End in the very South West of England to the furthest place away on the British mainland at the North East of Scotland at John o' Groats in a total of 40 days.

It's by far the hardest task I've ever undertaken. The daily schedule whatever the cold or wet weather was so difficult to complete. Physically I've finished in excellent shape; a black big toe nail; a sore left shoulder; a very slight left thigh strain- but I was able to walk my last day at about 4 miles an hour for the 5 hour hike. I've written a brief log of my trip; do let me know if you would like to read it.

What a journey. Seemed like never ending, mile after mile everyday.

To you all so many thanks for your help & support in helping me complete my task. In a few weeks time I will write a final update and let you know the amount raised. Currently this is some £1300 but with your generosity to such an important cause I'm confident we can exceed my £2000 target.

Chris Hatton

Walked 909 miles for Alzheimer's Society - 16th April to 25th May 2012.
Please sponsor me at www.justgiving.com/ChrisJHatton

IN THE GOOD OLD SUMMERTIME



Would you buy a beef burger from these men?



... and now down to the serious business.

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CHURCH PROJECT UPDATE

Our major event in June was the Jubilee Garden Party and Barbecue. Because of the rain this became an indoor street party – but we still managed the barbecuing. It was a very happy and lively occasion and, even though it was not primarily a fundraising event, we raised another £464 for the Sylvia Wright Trust. Many thanks to anyone who helped in any way. You will find photos of it spread throughout the magazine.

By the time you read this the Jubilee Concert will have happened; I'm sure it will be a very enjoyable evening. I just hope that the miserable weather we are forecast won't have cut the numbers attending.

We have recently received a cheque for £400 from The Ladies Group. This was the profit from their popular and successful coffee evening. We have also received a very welcome donation from the Monday House Group. I and the Fund Raising Committee are grateful for all the support we have received from the various groups within the Church.

The total we have now raised stands at a magnificent £9675. The project has another two months to go so please keep up your good work and we should well exceed our target.

Barbara Dodman

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Gillian Clements questioned whether Christianity wants to promote the "Love of God" or the "Fear of God".

This made me think of the painting by Holman Hunt "The Light of the World" where Christ knocks on the door, with the handle on the inside, so that then we only have the choice to let him in, with no question of force or fear.

Then Fanny Crosby's hymn came to mind to answer Gillian's questions far better than I ever could:-

1) Behold me standing at the door
And hear me pleading ever more
With gentle voice : O heart of sin
May I come in? May I come in?

4) I bring thee joy from Heaven above
I bring thee pardon, peace and love
Say weary heart, oppressed with sin

May I come in? May I come in? Fanny Crosby (1820-1915) who was blind almost from birth, was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. She wrote more than 6,000 hymns even though she didn't begin writing in earnest until she was turned 40 years of age.

Gillian asked a very good question. As we think of love of God shown in Jesus the Son how can we help but love him? All fear gone, overcome by Jesus' love and sacrifice we give all glory, honour and power to our God.

JOYCE WOOD

JULY QUIZ by Gillian Clements

Each clue provides two words which differ by one, two or three letters (eg ant, aunt [1], ant, plant [2], ant, antler [3]). The differing letters, when rearranged, make two Christian names to be found in the Church Directory.

1. Don't bob for this fruit in beer. (5, 3) [2]
2. I have a preference for a piece of that. (7, 4) [3]
3. This social class is pure. (5, 6) [1]
4. If you wait on someone, you don't have to do it in this ignominious way. (5, 7) [2]
5. Do I see knickers covering the roof! (7, 8) [1]
6. The Conservative had an idea. (4, 6) [2]
7. I weary of everything. (4, 6) [2]

AUGUST QUIZ also by Gillian

Each clue provides two words which differ by one, two or three letters (eg ant, aunt [1], ant, plant [2], ant, antler [3]). The differing letters, when rearranged, make two Christian names to be found in the Church Directory.

1. Father has a big cuddly bear. (2, 5) [3]
2. He scarpersed down the airstrip. (7, 6) [1]
3. The ex-US-president was involved in a surprise attack. (4, 6) [2]
4. Toxophily took place under the curved structure. (7, 4) [3]
5. The wagon carried a map amongst other things. (4, 5) [1]
6. A piece of earth in the sea. (4, 6) [2]
7. The cat's fur. (3, 4) [1]

PRAYER FOR CHANGE



This prayer appears in the magazines of Lidgett Park, St Andrew's and St Edmund's.

Going for Gold

We set our sights and strengthen our resolve
We model ourselves on the patterns of our heroes
We are disciplined in our approach
We practice and practice
We strive to improve.

We still ourselves and listen, for God
We offer ourselves to become God's perfect creation
We walk with God in our lives
We dwell in the heart of God
We live as Christ in the world.

We pray for change.

Amen

A JULY TO REMEMBER?

Irene Rajah has informed me that this year, July has 5 Fridays, 5 Saturdays and 5 Sundays. This apparently only happens once in every 823 years. It is supposed to be lucky but I think we will just be grateful if it doesn't rain on every one of those Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

WHAT A PITY

Here's another splendid picture of the BBQ. The pictures are all courtesy of Mary Patchett and Mair Pinnell. We had some lovely ones of the kiddies but, as you know, can't publish them.

I'd also love to put in pictures of the beautiful Union Jack cakes we enjoyed. But in black and white they just look like cakes with black topping! (And yes, I do know that actually it is the Union Flag, not the Union Jack).



ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S QUIZZES

1. Would you find this parasite in South Korea. (5)
LOUSE, SEOUL. **OUSEL**
2. The radicals went to rest for the night. (5)
ROOTS, ROOST. **TORSO**
3. The employer was certain (4).
USER, SURE. **RUSE**

4. You'd walk quite easily after eating this. (5)

AMBLE, MELBA. **BLAME**

5. Cut the harvest (4).

PARE, REAP. **RAPE**

6. I consumed and drank it. (3)

ATE, TEA. **EAT**

ROBERT

1. Zero, zero (3, 1) **NIL, O = LION**

2. She might breathe heavily after exercise. (3, 4)

HER, PANT = PANTHER

3. These particles of stone sound a musical note. (4, 1) **GRIT, E = TIGER**

4. On one occasion he did this sort of turn. (4, 1) **ONCE, U = OUNCE**

5. Behold a curtain! (2, 5) **LO, DRAPE = LEOPARD**

6. He placed a digit in the mountain pass. (3, 3) **TOE, COL = OCELOT**

7. She talks wildly about the twelfth. (5, 1) **RAVES, L = SERVAL**

They are all cats

SEARCH THE GARDENS - DO YOU KNOW THE CHURCH?

We had another quiz ready for the barbecue but the rain stopped anyone going out. So after Church service if you need exercise before coffee you can do this – it only involves about 30 paces. We can't guarantee that the flowers will still be out or that the ball will still be up the tree!

You do NOT need to go outside the garden or go into the car park to complete this search.

Start at the front steps of the Church, looking towards the gate. Turn left and walk 6 paces.

1. What is the strip going up the side of the tower?

Now continue on for 5 paces.

2. How many notice boards are there outside the Church?

Continue for 6 more paces.

3. There are 5 different varieties of which plant at the front of the border?

4. How many windows at the side of the Church have protective mesh?

Now walk to the end of the border.

5. Here there is a plant with large leaves. Its proper name is bergenia. What is its common name?

6. How many ventilation bricks are there down this side of the Church?

7. Draw the symbol on one of the stones on the buttress. What does it mean?

8. Who has his own private side door into the Church?

9. What is the tree with the wonderful perfume at the corner of the Church?

Walk to the back door.

10. Who is the Circuit Administrator?

Retrace your steps to the corner.

11. Most of the trees on the left are sycamores. Three are not — what sort of tree are they?

Head back towards the front corner of the Church.

12. Where were Dyson and Son Ltd. Situated?

Now go past the front of the Church into the main garden.

13. Name the plant with the bright red flowers on your right.

14. Which tree on the left has a ball stuck up in its branches?

15. Which famous thespian has a house directly opposite the Church garden?

16. In what year was the extension to the Church hall built?

17. How many trunks has the multi-stemmed flowering cherry tree in the garden corner?

18. There are yellow poppies in the garden. Which country are they supposed to come from?

19. Why are the drainpipes multicoloured?

20. What are missing from the Church roof that the Church Council wants to see up there?

CAPTIONS PLEASE

The following two photos surely are crying out for suitable captions.

Send in your best shots and we'll publish them.





Any entries which mention three wise monkeys in association with this picture will be automatically disqualified on the grounds of impertinence

LAST THINGS



Mother and Child 1

I've just read a Church magazine where they ran out of things to put and left the last page blank. We are in a similar situation so I thought you'd like this picture, taken in the Kruger National Park, South Africa, rather than a page of ramblings from me. Everyone loves elephants.



Mother and Child 2

Here's another picture taken at the same place. I hope you like it but I'm not one hundred percent sure that everyone likes monkeys.

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER.

By the time you read this the sun will be shining every day, England will have become European football champions and a squadron of pigs will be wheeling over the roof at Lidgett.

“God loves and cares for you.
Please don't forget that.”

Richard Penniman