



From Bakewell Churches Together. Issue 4 . September 2020.

The Message

Earthenware Pots

The prophet Isaiah has a description of the Lord Almighty being “the potter”. Paul the apostle speaks of “earthenware pots”. Isaiah’s text reads, “*There is no one to invoke your name ... for you have hidden your face from us ... And yet, Lord our God, you are our Father; we the clay and you the potter, all of us the work of your hands.*” [Is. 64: 6-7] The words of St Paul read, “*But we hold this treasure in pots of earthenware, so that the immensity of the power is God’s and not our own.*” [2Cor. 4: 7-8] I think both of these analogies are meant to tell us that we who enjoy the “call” to be God’s People are both strong, because strength is indeed needed and given to us, and we are also fragile because we are the “clay” of humanness.

In a recent *Thought for the Day* the Rev. Lucy Winkett spoke about some of the personal pilgrimages she has made, mentioning Canterbury and the Camino de Santiago. She did the one to Canterbury by bicycle and admits she was much younger then! Many people of different faith communities make a pilgrimage or even several during their lives. I know a person who makes a pilgrimage every year and says, “It’s like my annual retreat”! Personally speaking, I have often felt that this period of the Covid virus has been a long, long pilgrimage but the big difference here is that we haven’t *chosen* to do this one. It was just unleashed on a very unsuspecting world. A brave young Chinese doctor tried to tell the world about it, and he was castigated by the authorities. Some two months later he died a victim to the disease.

A few weeks before the virus hit us in the U.K., we were wishing everybody “Happy Christmas” or “All the best for the new year” and looking forward to emerging from those dark winter months. Then quite suddenly, the unexpected happened and we began to hear of a pandemic, which has wreaked havoc throughout the world. With a pilgrimage there is usually some thirst, tiredness, frustrations, even a hunger for those little treats that we can so easily have, and, on some pilgrimages, there can be a very, very long road ahead. Since March how often have, we heard phrases such as “*Unprecedented times*”, “*The new normal*”, “*A tumultuous year*”? I feel that the prophet Isaiah lived through “unprecedented times” as much as anybody else and hence his little hint at abandonment when he shares the movement of his heart as he

says to Almighty God, *"You are the potter and we are the clay"*. Again, Paul the Apostle shows us the depths of his own trust in God's ways: he knew what it was to be shipwrecked, to be whipped, to be hungry and without shelter and, yet, he could still say, *"But we hold the treasure of God's providence and presence in lives which are akin to earthenware pots."*

All the evening press conferences, all the news bulletins, all the reports and articles we may have read or glanced at or even got to the stage of being "switched off" by them, all of them have left us bewildered and, perhaps, even anxious about going out to that "new normal" even for our shopping. The scientists and our government leaders have held the headlines but have rarely spoken with unanimity on the question of the virus. Many church leaders have tried to be positive and offered messages of hope and encouragement but I think one of the biggest lessons many of us have learnt and witnessed to since last March is a deeper sense of community – local and church community. During our ZOOM sessions the local clergy and many parishioners from our different church families have reacted positively and creatively and this has been hugely encouraging. Nobody should really feel alone but very often some people do feel deeply this 'aloneness'. It looks like that pilgrimage road ahead will be a long one but my prayer is that we might be able to use the coming weeks or months to be moulded into the image that God would like us to be.

Fr Hugh [Hassop & Bakewell Catholic community]



The Lord will be Your Lantern

The Lord will be your Lantern
To lead you through the week,
To show you the way when days are dark
And light the path you take

When the shadows gather
And hover around your door
His light will lift and warm your heart
And give you hope once more.

Marjorie Gregory

Good News

The 'Good News' magazine is a free magazine supported by Bakewell Churches Together. It is funded by grants from the Council Voluntary Service and Bakewell Town Hall. It is run totally by volunteers from the four churches in Bakewell with help from the Medway Centre. We have to apply yearly for our grants.

In the editorial of the first edition (this is number four), I wrote the following:

Do you ever open the newspaper and wish there was some good news just for once.....? We quickly realised that a lot of good things were happening in and around Bakewell that were worth sharing.

This edition, like all the rest, consist of articles, poems, stories from people who live and work in Bakewell and the surrounding area and from visitors to our town. We have also included two pages of useful telephone numbers. We are dependent on the contents coming from the community, as we wish to publish things that are of interest to you, instead of writing about what we think you might want to read about. We would like to receive anything that you think may be of interest to others about your activities, your clubs, your opinions, etc. as well as some ideas about articles you would like to see more of, such as where to get help for loneliness and special needs, both of which we have touched on in previous editions. Please contact me by phone (01629 813619) or email (theresanuttall217@btinternet.com) We cannot produce the magazine without your input. Thank you.

We were just about to go to print with the Easter Good News, when lockdown struck, and we had to shelve the edition. When we were able, we decided to produce a multi-themed edition to mark the beginning of the end of lockdown. (We are being positive about the chance of a 'second wave'). You will find a mixture of articles in this edition as we reflect on Easter, on life during lockdown (the good, a little bad and no ugly) and then some feelings about the future. We want to find the silver lining now that the clouds seem to be clearing. We want to thank everyone who has contributed – we could not have done it without you. I hope you all enjoy this edition.

We start with some articles from the Easter edition that we felt were too good not to share with you...

The Strangest Easter Ever Known

The strangest Easter ever known,
Flowers in bloom, plants have grown
But all around us, sadness claws
We carry on behind closed doors.



My God, where are you in it all?
Hear us dear Lord, as we call
To you, Oh Saviour, Friend, who died
For us, Jesus, crucified.

You rose again on Easter morn,
Appeared to Mary on Sabbath's dawn.
This Eastertide, so strange, so odd
Re-united with our God.

Have faith and hope, for hope is all.
And know that He will hear our call.
What ever sorrow comes our way
He lives for us this Easter Day.

Christine Franklin

A Light at Easter

Sometimes life is very dark. We are at loggerheads with someone we care about; we are weighed down with worries about the future; someone dear to us dies suddenly and unexpectedly. It is easy at such times to lose the sense of Christ's presence in our lives.

But just as we know the sun is there, even if we can't see it, so Christ is there, our life and light. "You are having a long Lent," Father Hugh said to me once - a strange thing to say but I knew what he meant. And always Lent leads to Easter, that great feast of the Resurrection, the core of our faith.

Christ is always with us and we recognise him as the source of life and love: in the Word, the Eucharist and in the community around us.

So when we stand in Bakewell and watch the re-enactment of the greatest story ever told, maybe we shall recall the words of Isaiah - "the people who dwell in darkness have seen a great light."

May Christ's love shine on you and light up your life.

Anne Shimwell

The Donkey

I did not know that morning, when I carried Him into town
How soon the loud hosannas would be changed for a thorny crown

I did not know that later, when I followed Him up the hill
They'd nail Him to a cross with suffering greater still

And when I could not bear to watch the strange and cruel attack
I turned and felt His shadow fall softly across my back

And so it is that even now all donkeys bear the sign
A cross that is a testament to show God's love divine

Marjorie Gregory

BAKEWELL ROTARY: WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE -AS A PART OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Rotary was formed over 100 years ago. It is now the largest charitable Foundation in the world, with international influence across the globe. It brings together men and women from all walks of life, who want to use their time and talents for the good of humanity. They have helped towards the eradication of disease. Rotary has played a leadership role with the World Health Organisation, UNICEF, the Bill Gates' Foundations and Governments in bringing the world to the brink of Polio eradication. The Rotary Foundation also provides international and peace scholarships to foster humanitarian causes.

This Rotary organisation of 1.2 million members, in 34,000 Clubs, exercises a massive influence across the globe by Rotary Membership through individual Rotary Clubs formed during the last hundred years.

- with an inspiring Objective of "Service above Self"

Bakewell Rotary Club was formed in 1977; our 30+ members of women and men are from various employment and businesses and many of us contribute to our service from into retirement.

Bakewell Rotary serves Bakewell and the surrounding areas:-

- In Youth Activities** -in schools' students career interviewing, debating competitions, in outward bound weekends and young citizen and youth awards.
- In the Local Community** - in organising outings and events for Senior Citizens and in supporting local traditions through Well Dressing awards, a Brass Band evening and in sailing provision for people who are disabled.
- In international operations** - by raising funds for projects and humanitarian needs and disasters. In. the third world.
- In supporting the Rotary Foundation** - through fundraising locally and sponsorship of International teamwork and Ambassadorial scholarships.

In normal times, Bakewell Rotary Meets socially as a Club on Wednesdays for a lunchtime meal at the Rutland Arms between 12.30-2.00pm. We welcome visiting Rotarians and local people to our meetings when we often have a visiting speaker on a topical subject about a good cause. About once a month, we meet at another venue at 7.00pm. Currently the Club members are meeting over the internet and holding zoom Meetings.

You are very welcome to join us by prior arrangement with anyone of our members or by contacting our Secretary, Carol Clegg, on 01629 57445 Her e-mail is carol_clegg@hotmail.com

During lockdown the churches were closed, and each church considered what they could do to support their people during this time. This was decided individually as each church had different problems, resources, needs and available people. There were also a lot of criteria from the government that had to be adhered to. Each church has written about how they managed in this challenging time.

Bakewell Quakers

Quakers affirm that every person has 'that of God' within them; that every person can directly experience God in their own way; that in our silent worship and in living in community we discover together what truth and love mean for us.

Our Meeting for Worship creates a space of gathered stillness. We come together where we can listen to the promptings of truth and love in our hearts, which we understand as rising from God. The silence may be broken by anyone who feels compelled to speak, pray or read.

While the Meeting House has been closed, Bakewell Quakers have been meeting for Worship by Zoom every Sunday at 10.30 am. At the end of August experimented with a blended Meeting for Worship, using Zoom technology to link up Friends in the Meeting House and Friends in their own homes. We will review this experience at our Local Business Meeting in September and decide how best to proceed.

If you would be interested in joining a Zoom meeting for worship, please use the contact form on our website for further information.

Two months into lockdown, members of Bakewell Quakers were invited to write about their hopes for the future, for inclusion in our June newsletter. Here are three of the responses.

'On a global scale, I hope to see a world where community-based care and support are central to life, where justice is transformative, where people are valued over property, a world free from prisons and free from oppression.

I know this needs to start on a personal level though so I hope that I can educate myself about the history I wasn't taught in school, that I can learn about the experiences of others and stand up to injustice when I see it happening. I hope that I can work for this future in the world immediately around me and that this might be at least a small part of the change in the world at large.'

'I have enjoyed the heightened sense of community in our little corner of the village in recent months: shopping for neighbours; plant and produce exchanges; social engagements at a social distance. I hope the momentum to create support networks and deepen friendships is maintained as we come out of lockdown.

Zoom has broken down barriers and shrunk distances. Friends far away in Mull or housebound in Wirksworth have been able to share Meeting for Worship and Time for Reflection. The inclusivity has been a real bonus. I hope it can continue.'

For further information please contact www.bakewellquakers.org

The Path I Tread

Things are changing day by day.
Sometimes I feel left behind.
The world seems harsh and new.
But nature shows me peace and calm
And helps to get me through.

I can't go back except in thought
So, I must look ahead
And see the beauty and the joy
Around the path I tread.

Marjory Gregory

Bakewell All Saints in lockdown

When first we heard that the church was going to be out of bounds, we hardly had time to be dismayed. All of the congregation with an email address were offered a daily two-page 'Thought for the Day' which passed its 100th issue in mid-July. If you could access Facebook, there was a half-hour livestreamed reflection and prayer, every Sunday morning, and a bit later on Sunday's online worship at *bakewellchurch.co.uk*. In addition, by the third week of July, a midweek service using telephone conferencing had been set up to operate at 10 am on Thursdays, of particular help if you were not a user of the internet. The telephone was also used by our clergy for weekly chats with each household on the parish lists and they were always available by phone to advise or help with any problem.

The only downside of all this was that you needed to be known to one of the congregations of the Bakewell with Over Haddon, Ashford, Rowsley and Sheldon benefice. Otherwise you would need to be alert to the contents of the fairly small church noticeboards or a diligent searcher of Facebook, to have a chance of knowing what the church was up to during lock-down. This was strikingly illustrated when our favourite *Times* columnist, Ann Treneman, who now lives in Bakewell, wrote of her disappointment at finding the church building locked and thought that the church should have done better.

Although we were glad that the Editor of the *Times* published a letter setting the record straight, we still puzzle how we can better help people not yet on a parish list to engage with us. Thinking of the words of Jesus in Matthew 5:15, having lit the lamp of the Gospel in our community, we need to find the lampstand to give its light to all in the house.

Tony Short



For further information please contact either Rev Tony Kaunhoven (01629 814462) or Rev Brenda Jackson (rev.brendajackson@gmail.com)

All Saints R.C. Church, Hassop

Throughout these difficult times, Father Hugh has offered daily Mass for and on behalf of us all and has been at the end of the phone or email for anyone in need. Cemetery funerals have taken place with limited numbers attending. Parishioners have made contact with each other to offer support where necessary and the church choir meets weekly on Zoom. The social committee and the 100 Club have been 'doing their thing' via email and various parish repairs/building plans are ongoing.

Our parish administrator has valiantly kept parishioners informed of all the plans for the reopening of our church and parishioners have received a weekly newsletter from Father Hugh, keeping us all together in spirit and in the loop re-church developments.

So after a great deal of careful planning and preparation following Diocesan guidelines, it was a happy day on Sunday, August 16th when the first step towards normality was achieved and public Mass was resumed.

Currently, Masses are held on Sundays and Wednesdays at 10.00 a.m. (although times will be reviewed as the weeks and months progress). Attendance is by pre-booking only so that a track and trace system can be put into operation should the need arise. Booking for Masses can be made by following the link-

<https://massbooking.uk> where you will need to create an account.

The link <https://massbooking.uk/parish.php?p=831> will take you directly to All Saints, Hassop's page of the booking website.

Although internet booking is desirable, those without internet access who wish to attend Mass may phone the parish office on 01629 640241

The wearing of masks is mandatory in all places of worship. Sanitising of hands will be necessary as will registering with a steward.

Full guidelines for those attending church can be found on the church website www.allsaintshassop.org It is also worth noting that as things change and develop, the weekly newsletter will provide information on any such changes and is available on the church website.

Christine Franklin

For further information please contact Fr Hugh Davoren (01629 640241)

Bakewell Methodist Church.

During the lockdown Rev Adrian and his team have been in regular contact with all members of the church. The Pastoral visitors have been working with the people under their care to make sure that they are coping with these difficult times. On March 20th the first weekly "Staying Connected" letter was circulated to all church members by the Pastoral Visitors either by email or by hand and has been written every week since then. It contains a written service with hymns, prayers, readings and a focus for the week.

There has also been, and still is, a weekly letter from Rev Adrian containing up-to-date information about resources, ideas and news about worship in Bakewell and also about what was happening elsewhere in the circuit that members could be involved in , including Cliffe College's 'Weekend of Prayer', live streaming from Central Hall Westminster and a planned drive in service. It also contained the joining details for anyone wishing to worship together with other members via zoom or telephone. These have been extremely uplifting.

Also, there have been Peak Circuit worship videos available. There have also been updates from the Circuit Leadership zoom meetings and we have also been focusing on 'our churches in the future'.

In July church members were invited to form groups of up to six people that could meet outside to worship together. Our group of six had the first meeting at the beginning of August and have met every Sunday morning and have focused on and discussed the worship provided in the Staying Connected letter. We have used computers and Alexa to provide the hymns to make it a very enjoyable and meaningful meeting. We are waiting for further information about the services that hopefully will be held in September and October.

Terry Nuttall

For further information please contact either Rev Adrian Perry (01629 812195) or Heather Thomas (01629 813824)

Has Christ walked with you?

In the late eighties, we were in Israel for a week – Peter’s job at that time was to visit all the agents around the world for the Company. When he said he had to go to Israel, I said I was coming too. We swapped his business class ticket for an El Al fly/drive one-week holiday! Needless to say, his agent was horrified that we were driving ourselves around Israel. He insisted we were back in our hotels by 4.30pm and would phone us to check!

One day we drove from Jerusalem down to the Dead Sea (past the Inn of the Good Samaritan and Jericho) and on getting back to Jerusalem we had time and saw a sign to Bethlehem so thought we’d go there, but finished up down a very rural lane and decided to turn back and go to Gethsemane instead!

We found somewhere to park and started walking along the road looking at the various gardens and not finding any signs. So we rang the bell of a convent and a very suspicious nun came to the gate and wouldn’t help us at all and then the police arrived and asked us what we were doing and where our car was, said we’d be lucky if it was still there and left us!

We turned to walk back to the car and found ourselves accompanied by a donkey and this donkey walked us back to our car and left as unobtrusively as it had arrived. Jesus was with us and looking after us.

We were late back to the hotel and an irate agent was on the phone!!!

Juliet Peel



Anyone for Croquet?

Unlike Alice, we don't play with hedgehogs or flamingos. Croquet is a game of hitting composite and plastic balls with wooden, metal or resin headed mallets, through hoops embedded in a grass playing lawn. It can be played by most people at most ages. If you would like to do that or find out more, come to Bakewell Croquet Club.

The Bakewell Croquet Club is now in its sixteenth year of play at the Recreation Ground, in Bakewell. We have two full size lawns located in front of the Pavilion and you will find us there on Monday and Thursday afternoons from 2pm until dusk and on Saturday mornings from 10am to 12 noon. Depending on the weather, we aim to play from late March through to October and even November, sometimes.

Our emphasis is on having an enjoyable social time playing croquet with others. Croquet however also provides a challenge as it is a game of skill, artistry, cunning, subtlety, accuracy and even psychology.

There are two main forms of the game – Golf Croquet and Association Croquet. Our Club members most often play Golf Croquet, enjoying both the social aspects as well as practicing the skill of the game. We play Golf Croquet as this is more interactive than Association Croquet and is easy and quick to pick up as a beginner. In Golf Croquet, players follow a defined route around the lawn, contesting each of the six hoops in turn. As soon as a hoop is scored, all players move on to the next hoop. The game can be played as singles or doubles, with two pairs of players competing.

In a normal year during the playing season, we hold our Club sessions as above, we play friendly matches with other clubs and we play matches in the East Midlands League. We also hold two internal Club competitions usually in May and September.

Believe it or not, play is not limited to the summer months. In the winter we play a simplified game at a local gym, the focus being on the social get together rather than the croquet skill. One of our members also organizes two short walks in the Peak District which end with lunch at a local hostelry

If you would like to come along and find out what the game is all about and have a go at playing it yourself, we would love to see you and we have all the equipment. We have two qualified coaches, one for Golf Croquet and one for Association Croquet. All you have to do is email 'info@bakewellcroquet.org.uk' and our Club Secretary will contact you. We also have a website 'bakewellcroquet.org.uk' where you will find more information about the Club and what we get up to.

Jean Peters, Chair, Bakewell Croquet Club

The Path I Tread

Things are changing day by day.
Sometimes I feel left behind.
The world seems harsh and new.
But nature shows me peace and calm
And helps to get me through

I can't go back except in thought
So, I must look ahead
And see the beauty and the joy
Around the path I tread

Marjorie Gregory



COULD YOU BE A DIGITAL BUDDY?

For many people, being able to chat online, find information and shop has been a lifeline recently. But the last few months have been very lonely for many people who haven't had those opportunities, particularly in our rural areas.

At New Connections, their Digital Connections project is supporting individuals and groups in your community to connect and become less isolated but they need your help! If you are friendly and have a basic understanding of the internet to shop, find information or chat to friends, then you have the skills to help others to do the same.

Debbie, from New Connections said, 'We're looking for volunteers to give others the confidence to get online. At the moment, that might be through support over the phone from the volunteer's home, or face-to-face when people are happy to. We're also looking to work with community organisations who would like to make better use of social media or video calling to connect with their members and encourage new members'.

Volunteer will be supported by Debbie and Harriet, the New Connections Development Workers. They're looking for people with a little patience who can spare a couple of hours a week and are happy to attend initial volunteer training and support sessions.

If you are interested in becoming a Digital Buddy, please contact New Connections at Derbyshire Dales CVS on 01629 812154 or email enquiries@ddcvs.org.uk for more information

Oh, where did I put it?

I seem to be forgetting things. They simply slip my mind.

And sometimes when out shopping, I leave my list behind.

I have a friend who does the same, forgetting times or dates.

I didn't think it would be like this but recently things disappear.

No matter what I do, things I safely put away just vanish from my view.

So now it's resolution time. I promise to do better.....

I'm going to be more organised. Oh, where did I put that letter?

Marjorie Gregory

The people of Bakewell have been spectacular in helping others during lockdown. Many people have helped neighbours by providing cooked meals, keeping in touch with phone calls, doing shopping, etc. I have also been told about shops and pubs that have opened specially just to cook meals and delivered them piping hot if wanted. Praise has also been given about friendly and helpful delivery people.

So, I would like to say a huge THANK YOU on behalf all those people who have been helping in whatever way during lockdown. It just goes to prove that that the Bakewell community is incredibly special.

This is one thank you note I already have received:

I went into lockdown with a cupboard that was almost empty of essentials. I wondered what I was going to do. Help came from various places:

Paul appeared every Thursday, rain or shine, with a friendly smile, a happy word and my frozen meals from Oakhouse foods. He put my food away in the freezer and checked that I was alright.

The Top Shop in Moor Hall and the Co-op in town were life savers and came to my rescue with everything else that I needed. They checked that I was alright and managing too.

Some friends phoned me regularly to make sure I was okay. A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped me get through the lockdown weeks.

Anne Gilliver.

Smile

Try to smile when you are down in the dumps
And the world seems dreary each day.
If you laugh at the clouds that cover the sky
You might brighten the raindrops away.
Remember a rainbow will follow the rain
And the world will smile again.

Marjorie Gregory

Usually, on a Friday morning, twenty-four over-70-year-old youngsters gather in a room in Medway and they call themselves The Friday Group. Some walk, some come in the Community bus, some come on scooters and some come in cars but they all come for a day of fun and a two course, freshly cooked-on-the-premises delicious meal plus teas, coffees and biscuits. They play dominoes and, on every day, have either a speaker, or sing or someone to sing to them, a quiz, or a game of bingo to name a few. The club is run by a team of superb volunteers – some work in the kitchen, some are in the room with the members and two are on the community bus. We all miss our Friday mornings together and hope that it won't be too long before we can all meet together again but meet again, we will. During lockdown the team have kept in contact with all the members by phone to make sure they are keeping positive and cheerful. All the members were asked to contribute to the magazine by identifying somethings that they did or had discovered during lockdown. Thank you to all who contributed, especially Marjory Gregory and Margery Critchlow.

Two things happened to Albert Keir because of lockdown.

On the beginning of lockdown, I went over to the Co-op to fetch some groceries and the manager saw me and told me that I didn't have to come in for my food as they would bring it to me. I had to phone up and tell them what I wanted and they brought it to me. They were very good and if I forgot something I would ring up and they brought it over. Later on, on VE Day, I went into the shop and the delivery man and the deputy manageress were there and he gave me a bottle of whiskey and she gave me a cake to say thank you for what I did in the war. It was a very nice surprise.



Before lockdown I had been to Grindleford School to tell them about the war and about the landings. One day the headmistress and her father came, and they had about 30 people and British Legion members with them and they were all standing outside my house. There was a bugler there and she had a cake that she had made specially for me. The bugler played as she presented the cake to me and it made me feel proud as I never expected anything like that to happen.

Some comments from the Friday Group members.....

Weeded out books. Tidied shed. Gardened a lot!!

I thoroughly enjoyed quiet streets and roads during lockdown and because everywhere was so silent I could hear birds singing gaily.

I gave and received a lot of lovely phone calls with friends old and new and had offers of help from total strangers.

The Co-op (garage) and Deed (Rowsley P.O.) so very kind in making sure I had all I needed. They were really supportive.

Raided my freezer and found loads of fruit and veg so made jams, chutneys, marmalades, etc. Now my shelves are in danger of collapse from the weight!

My family came to see me, and we had a picnic outside my flat. A bee was buzzing around the flowers.

Showed grandson how to cook which was lovely. I felt useful to him.

Used internet a lot playing scrabble and listening to Sunday services on Zoom. Didn't like the virtual coffee mornings.

Didn't miss making endless cups of tea and washing up, etc. for all my visitors. Determined to use paper cups in future or direct them to make their own.

All in all the time was mostly spent productively (sometimes wastefully especially when I had time with a bar of chocolate). Time went very quickly and happily.

I did a lot of sitting in the garden and watching birds. I watch a lot more documentaries and travel programme, especially if Michael Portillo was in them.

When it was quiet, I let my mind wander where it wanted to. It was very emotional as well as happy. I thought about my late husband a lot, but remembered a lot of happy times with our children and grandchildren.

Sorted out my books and read all the happy ones and put them on the shelf. Put the sad ones in a box and put it at the back of a cupboard. Sometimes I read all day.

Organised my photos. Lovely, but cried a bit

DYING IN VAIN

Over the weekend of August 15th/16th, 200 asylum seekers crossed the British Channel and reached the Kent coast, part of over 5000 who have so far undertaken the hazardous journey this year. However, what hit the news was the fact that on Wednesday, August 19th, the body of a young male asylum seeker attempting with his friend to reach the UK was washed up on Sangatte beach near Calais. His friend was rescued. They had purchased in an inflatable dinghy from a local supermarket and set off during the night using two shovels as oars. Even the *Daily Mail*, which for years has been openly vindictive towards migrants, carried the headline: 'Now will we wake up to this tragedy?' Abdulfatah Hamdallah who died was from war-torn Sudan. With three brothers, he had left his home in 2015 to escape his government's genocide of the non-Arab population in which many ten of thousands had died. He sought 'a life' elsewhere. After two years in Tripoli earning a living washing cars, he risked crossing the Mediterranean, arrived in France and eventually got to Calais.

Three factors pushed him to try and get to the UK. One was the refusal of the French authorities to offer him refugee status. Another was the continuing conflict in Sudan and the ongoing economic crisis there. The third was the policy of the British Government of not allowing asylum seekers to seek to apply for refugee status until they are physically present in the UK, a policy which has meant many asylum seekers taking desperate measures to get onto British soil.

The attitude of the British Government to asylum seekers has been antagonistic for a decade or more. The *Church Times* (21/8/20) notes a UNHCR statement that 'After a decade that included the Arab Spring, the Syrian war, and the European refugee crisis, the UK... has slipped from being the tenth largest refugee host to being the twenty-sixth.' In 2019, Germany considered over 165,000 asylum claims, France over 151,000 and Spain over 117,000. In the same year, the UK considered just over 36,000 claims, of which some 20,000 were granted. In the same years 677,000 migrants (other than asylum seekers) came to work or live in the UK.

It seems that asylum seekers are the tip of an iceberg typifying the cold climate, or hostile environment, that the Government has fostered towards those seeking to find refuge in the UK over the past decade. This attitude has been strengthened by much of the press which has persuaded the British public that, although it is politically correct to mourn Alan Kurdi, the child washed up on the shores of Turkey five years ago, and now Abdulfatah Hamdallah, this shouldn't be allowed to carry over to empathy for asylum seekers on a wider scale. Consequently we fall for the myth that the UK is 'a put-upon small island', a misconception which resulted in a recent YouGov poll showing that 49% of British people have no sympathy for asylum seekers striving to cross the Channel.

This hardening of hearts has not been softened by the Prime Minister's comments that recent Channel crossings are 'dangerous and criminal'.



the mercy of 'criminal gangs and people smugglers' but purchasing their own flimsy vessels. In any event, a recent All-Party Parliamentary Group on Refugees has pointed out that it is perfectly legal in international law for people to seek asylum wherever they wish.

The reality is that the world is facing a global phenomenon which will not disappear anytime soon, and a problem which COVID-19 is simply exacerbating. People from many nations, for the sake of survival or to seek 'a life' as human beings for themselves or their families, are on the move from countries wherever there is war, violence or economic depression. Who can blame them?

The answer is not to seek to make crossing the Dover Strait 'unviable', as Priti Patel, the Home Secretary, has vowed to do by bringing in the RAF to assist an overstretched Border Force. It is to co-operate with other nations to find a safe and legal way in which asylum seekers, in whichever country they may arrive, have their claims to settle in the UK fairly considered. It is a tragedy that the divisions that Brexit has inevitably brought is making such co-operation with the EU far more difficult to achieve than it was before the vote to leave.

A second positive response is to recognize that until we live in a world where wealth is more fairly distributed people will always be on the move to seek a better life. The solution to the problem of migration lies not only with withdrawing from any action which would further war and violence, such as exporting arms to war zones, but in seeking to ensure that poorer countries have a fairer and sounder economic future. The Government's decision, last June, to attach the Department for International Development to the Foreign Office has been criticized by three previous Prime Ministers, Labour and Tory, as yet again a watering down of Britain's once world renowned commitment to assist poorer nations.

A third essential response to a world on the move is to bring compassion to the fore. Despite the genuine challenges that opening our doors to those from countries far worse off than our own presents, our responsibility as human beings is to seek out ways of enabling the warmth of welcome that many people agree lies at the heart of British culture to extinguish the urrent possessiveness and self-centredness of attitude that is unworthy of our nation. If humankind is to survive and flourish, we cannot avoid the imperative of building a world that is a genuine global community.

These are large issues which can often seem to be way beyond our power to address, not least when we live or work in a National Park which remains in many respects a 'white highlands'. Our Bakewell Area Asylum Seekers and Refugees Programme is seeking to do its bit, though many initiatives are on hold because of COVID-19. Nevertheless, we can still write to our MP and local Councillors to make our concerns heard and, in a host of other small ways, work to create a more compassionate nation and world. Too many people are dying in vain for us to do nothing.

Please feel free to comment on this article or to send any suggestions as to ways in which the Bakewell Programme might play its part in creating a more compassionate culture towards asylum seekers in the UK.

Autumn 2020

David Clark Programme Co-ordinator davidclark588z@gmail.com or 01629 810172

News from Bakewell Town Hall

Bakewell Town Council was established back in 1974 as part of the Local Government reorganisation, it is a successor council to the former Bakewell Urban District Council.



Elections for its nine members are held every four years with the next due in 2023 the Town Council is traditionally not party political. The Mayor is elected annually from amongst the members. The present incumbent is Cllr Paul Morgans who, as well as chairing our meetings, represents the Council at civic events in the town and the wider community.

The role of a councillor is a varied and interesting one with the desire to effect positive change for the community often cited as a major motivator for joining. It often surprises people that the role of Town Councillor is unpaid. However, a Mayor's Allowance has been established to help defray the additional costs of the office of Mayor.

The Council employs a Town Clerk who is also its Responsible Financial Officer.

The Clerk makes recommendations to and carries out the instructions of Council and ensures it meets its legal duties. Often the first point of contact with the public, the Clerk's job is never dull; recent enquiries have included the correct method for cleaning memorial plaques, the legality of summer bonfires and much more besides.

To manage its assets, fund projects and meet its statutory duties the Council sets a precept which appears on the annual Council Tax Demand; for 2020-21 this £105,000. The budget allows small grants to be made to organisations benefiting the local community.

Meetings are currently held remotely on the first Monday of the month. In more normal times they are held in the Council Chamber at Town Hall on the first and third Mondays. Dates, agendas, supporting documents and minutes

are published on the Town Council's website. Meetings are open to the public (other than for rare occasions when confidential business is discussed) and representations can be made or questions asked in "Public Speaking".

The Town Council is a statutory consultee on planning issues and welcomes public comments supporting or opposing applications. This shouldn't take the place of sending comments to PDNPA however, as they, being the local planning authority, are ultimately responsible for planning decisions.

The Town Council works in partnership with many organisations including Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council and the Peak District National Park Authority as well as voluntary bodies, charities and individuals. A good example of this is a project with Haddon Estate to address riverbank erosion at Scot's Garden and to improve the area immediately downstream of Bakewell Bridge as part of a community scheme with some funding from DDDC.

The Council continues to co-ordinate the Bakewell Neighbourhood Plan through the Bakewell Partnership. It has established a Flood Warden Scheme and is involved with Fairtrade.

We look after important parts of Bakewell's setting and are working on woodland management and planning the long term environmental stewardship of Scot's Garden and Parsonage Field in order that they can be enjoyed by today's, tomorrow's and future generations.

For more information about the Council see www.bakewelltowncouncil.gov.uk
email townclerk@bakewelltowncouncil.gov.uk or write to us at The Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Bakewell DE45 1BT Telephone 01629 813 525

Finding inspiration in our places of worship

Spring is a time when many of us feel inspired: longer days, warmth returning, the landscape brimming with fresh growth. We might be inspired to a spot of DIY or a new hobby, say, Russian Cossack dancing? But in a more spiritual sense, the beauty of nature can inspire a strong awareness of the presence of God. Take a walk through a morning woodland with the sound of birdsong and scents of pine and wildflowers, and it's hard not to feel the touch of the divine. Christian leaders, after all, chose springtime for Easter celebrations to evoke the theme of Resurrection. Yet even with all this inspiration from nature, Easter is a time when many people - even those who are not usually church goers - find themselves drawn to visit a place of worship.

Some may be returning after years. Others might be visiting for the first time in their lives, hoping to connect with something beyond their everyday earthly concerns. Or they could be in need, feeling overwhelmed by problems or fears and searching for some peace. But all must have a sense of God, and hope that by visiting a place of worship, they will feel nearer to His presence.

Our places of worship certainly do inspire an awareness of God's presence, and not only in that sensory way we get from nature. Visitors hopefully find the people inside the buildings inspiring: the congregation's display of faith, even through difficult times, and the support faith communities offer to people in difficulty can be a huge comfort, a living example of the Christian message to love our neighbours as ourselves. It is among this community that people can draw closer to God by listening to His Word proclaimed each week.

In that context you could argue that the buildings themselves - the bricks and mortar - are not that important. Yet places of worship draw people to them because they act as powerful symbols for what is important: the

expressions of faith and as evidence of a community working together stirred by that faith.

My own parish church of All Saints in Hassop is just such an inspiration. True, the interior is inspiring just to behold. We Catholics have a fondness for décor - to put it mildly - and All Saints is resplendent with paintings and sculpture. The artworks are supposed to inspire a sense of God's presence and they do. But along with that, it is the knowledge that so many people worked to create it that is inspiring. The building's existence and its beauty are examples of what people can do working together, stirred by faith.

For me, there's no better place to be on Easter Sunday. To look at the remarkable painting of the Crucifixion behind the altar reminds me always of the sacrifice of Good Friday and to look around at the packed benches, at those listening to the Word, filled with hope, celebrating Christ's Resurrection, is truly inspiring.

Patrick Coleman



DERBYSHIRE DALES Council for Voluntary Services
The Five Ways to Wellbeing – Small Grants Scheme



Derbyshire Dales CVS (Council for Voluntary Service) continues to administer a small grants scheme on behalf of Derbyshire County Council - Public Health called the Five Ways to Well-being.

The next closing date is Wednesday 30th September 2020.

The aim of the scheme is to increase the understanding of the 'Five Ways to Wellbeing' by people in the Derbyshire Dales. Broadly speaking, the Five Ways are a way of coping with demands and challenges, particularly relevant at this time.

There are guidelines to the small grants scheme which explain each of the Five Ways to Wellbeing more fully and how a community project might include or address them, as well as an application form. If you would like a copy please contact Derbyshire Dales CVS on 01629 812154 or email enquiries@ddcvs.org.uk

Applications are welcomed from any voluntary or community group in the Dales including registered charities and community interest companies, which might offer something such as activities or support, be they in person or via Zoom, or even a one-off presentation about the Five Ways to Wellbeing. Groups can apply for a grant of up to £1,000.

Hopes for the Future

'I find my hopes and fears for the future have changed little of late, despite COVID 19. I wish I could hope that the last few months had provided a damascene moment for us all, especially our leaders; that we had tasted the promise of clear skies, less pollution, pedestrianisation of our roads, decarbonisation of the economy, deindustrialisation of our food production, etc., etc., and could see a greener, fairer, future for our planet but I fear that humankind has limited capacity for change, even when prompted by an anthropomorphised and deadly little virus.

And yet, I am not pessimistic. My one great hope, before lockdown and now, was that the green agenda was gaining momentum. Maybe the globalisation of Covid 19, and the speculation as to how our misuse of the natural environment has contributed to its unleashing, has given a nudge to that momentum...in the right direction?'

Do these hopes resonate for you? What are your own hopes and fears for the future?

In the midst of uncertainty this comment by Wolf Mendle, from Quaker Faith and Practice offers helpful guidance:

'We must literally not take too much thought for the morrow but throw ourselves whole-heartedly into the present. That is the beauty of the way of love: it cannot be planned and its end cannot be foretold.'

Bakewell Quakers



Age Concern	Office	01629
Agricultural and Horticultural Society	anne.tipple@bakewellshow.org	01629
Asylum Seekers and Refugees	David and Sue Clark	01629
Bakewell Cricket Club	Matthew Baker-Pearce	07969
Bakewell Croquet Club	info@bakewellcroquet.org.uk	
Bakewell & District Civic Society	Pat Lunn	01629
Bakewell & District Community Choir	https://badcc99.wixsite.com/	01629
Bakewell & District Historical Society	Anita Spencer	01629
Bakewell Gardening Association (BGA)	Janet Smith	01629
Bakewell in Bloom	Polly Stevenson	01629
Bakewell Pre-School Playgroup	Nicola Channer	07586
Bakewell Town Hall (events/bookings)	https://www.bakewelltownhall.co.uk	01629
Bakewell Townswomen's Guild	Glenys Weldon	01629
Bakewell WI	Rachelle Maltz-Jones	01629
Bakewell Silver Band	Paul Cartwright	07530
BASH (Bakewell & Ashford) Film Society	http://www.bashfilms.org.uk/	01629
Beating the Bounds	Jeff Marsh	01629
Beavers (Thursday)	Alison Bentley	07808
Beavers (Friday)	Jane Griffiths	01629
Bellringing (Bakewell Parish Church)	Dr Pauline Boyle	01629
Bird Study Group	Jenny Flint	01629
Bridge Club	Barbara Rogers	01246
British Red Cross	Elisabeth Wilbur	01629
Brownies (1 st Bakewell – Tuesday)	Heidi Gray	01629
Cancer Research UK	https://www.cancerresearchuk.org	01629
Chatsworth Players	Lindsey	07425
Carnival Committee	David Rawson	01629
Children's Society	Mary Buchan	01629
Choral Society	Katy McGlynn	01629
Christian Aid	Pat Bascombe	01629
Citizen's Advice Bureau	Derbyshire Districts Advice Line	0300 452
Community Education Council	Bakewell Centre	01629
CVS (Derbyshire Dales)	https://ddcv.org.uk/	01629
Cubs (Monday Pack)	Mike Horrod	01629
Derbyshire Alert		03332

Generic Victim Services Victims of Anti-Social Behaviour Support and Services for Young People	See also support@derbyshirecore.org	0800 612 6505
Domestic Abuse Support (County) Domestic Abuse Support (City)		0800 0198 668 0800 085
Support with Sexual Violence		01773
Child Sexual Exploitation Services		01773
Child Sexual Exploitation Services		01332
Support regarding Restorative Justice		0300 122
Deaf & Hearing Support	Mrs A Button	01629
Derbyshire Carers Association	info@derbyshirecarers.co.uk	01733
Derbyshire Child Protection Team		01773
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk	01773
	Continued	
Derwent Rural Counselling Service	https://dracs.org.uk/	01629
Disabled Club (Bakewell & District)	Margaret Godbehere	01629
Family History Group (Bakewell & Distr)	Olga Truscott	01629
Friday Group	Sandra Bramhall	01629
Gideons International (Peak District)	Richard Tomlinson	01629
Golf Club	secretary@bakewellgolfclub.co.uk	
Golf Club House		01629
Guide Dogs for the Blind	Judith Clay	01629
Guides – 1 st Bakewell Parish Church	Catherine Burn (evenings)	01246
Historical Society (Old House Museum)	Anita Spencer	01629
Home Help & Social Services	Duty Officer	01629
Hospitals of Bakewell Supporters	Sandra Bramhall	01629
Masonic Lodge (Dorothy Vernon)	James Hubbard	01629
Medway Centre	Margie Stuckey	01629
Mothers' Union	Carol Wicksteed	01629
Old Mannerians RUFC	Denzil Bowyer (Vice-Chairman)	01629
Oxfam (Bakewell Group)	Glenys Moore	01629
Peak Chamber Orchestra	Keith Barstow	07954
Peak District Mines Historical Society	https://pdmhs.co.uk/	01629

Peak Lapidary Mineral Society (Rock Exchange)	Don Edwards	01433 620304
Peak Lapidary Mineral Society	Andy Elliot	01663 733678
Peak Music Society	secretary@peakmusicalsociety.org.uk	01629 640470 01629 640482
Peak Performance Theatre School	bakewelldance@gmail.com	07721 995050
Peak Rail Society	peakrail@peakrail.co.uk	01629 580381
Photographic Circle (now Bakewell Photo Club)	Keith Jeffreys https://www.bakewellphotographic.co.uk/	01629 813376
Photographic Club for Beginners	John Hargreaves	07922 004930
Poppy Appeal Organiser	Mark Wakeman	07970 326971
Probus Club (Bakewell & District)	bakewellprobussecretary@gmail.com	01629 640132
Ramblers Derbyshire	https://www.derbyshireramblers.org.uk www.derbyshiredalesramblers.org.uk	01629 822372
Relate (Marriage Guidance)	admin@relatechesterfield.org.uk	01246 31010
Relate (Marriage Guidance)	info@relatederby.org.uk	01332 349177
Rotary Club of Bakewell	Carol Clegg	01629 57445
Royal British Legion	Andy Howard	07718 374951
Royal British Legion (Welfare)	Gary Morewood	07710 171300
Royal British Legion (Women's Section)	Angela Swift	01629 813925
Royal National Lifeboat Institution	Rod Shiers	01629 650522
St John's Ambulance (Bakewell Quad)		01629 813257
Samaritans	If you need someone to talk to, we listen. We won't judge or tell you what to do. Call 116123 on any phone or email jo@samaritans.org	01246 27000 or 01142 767277
Scouts	Gary Hodgkisson	07974 197663
SVB (All Saints Visiting Group)	Mickey Etchells	01629 81400
Tools for Self-Reliance	Mrs M Pope	01629 733944
Unversity of the Third Age (U3A)	https://u3asites.org.uk/bakewell	
Victim Support Services	See also Derbyshire Alert above	0800 612 6505
Village Aid	info@villageaid.org	07432 053964
Wells Dressings	Christine Barks	01629 815827
Working Men's Club	bakewellworkingmensclub@yahoo.co.uk	01629 812826
Young Farmers' Club	www.derbyshireyfc.org.uk	01773 853821
Youth Theatre	Sue Stones	01629 B14630

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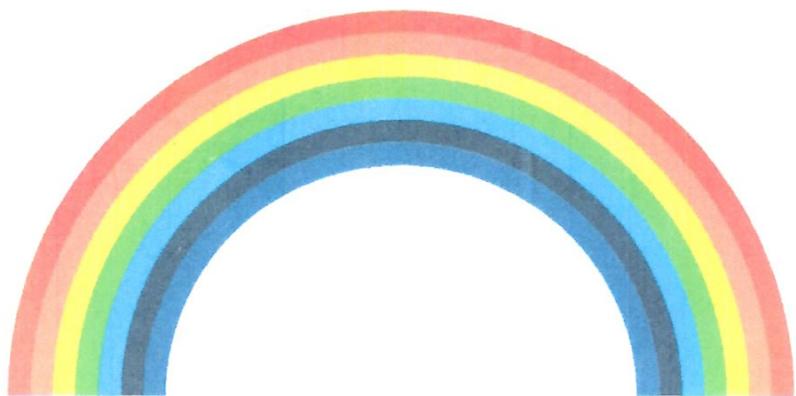


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