

Buxton

United Reformed Church

Hardwick Square East



Love never fails. Coronavirus impacts all of us.  
But love unites us all. [Christianaid.org.uk](https://www.Christianaid.org.uk)

May 2020

# News Bulletin from the editors without mentioning coronavirus once!

We thought you might like some news that would make you smile so here goes!



Do you know that shops are running out of egg cups as the nation's eating habits are changing and folk are now eating boiled eggs for breakfast? Even the French firm Le Creuset that charge £45 for a set of six egg cups is running out of stock.



Now people will discover what toasted soldiers are and investigate the best way to remove the tops of eggs. They also need instructions on how to boil eggs. We use an acrylic egg timer sold by a well-known shop that senses the amount of heat taken up by each egg and changes colour to indicate if the egg is soft, medium or hard-boiled. We strongly recommend it.

*April 2020 has been declared the sunniest April since records begun in spite of the fact that it is raining at the moment!*



Spaghetti hoops have replaced toilet paper as the most demanded stock bought item.



*Professor Chris Whitty's image as the Government Chief Medical Advisor has become a new art trend with people painting, modelling in papier-mâché and clay sculptures all in his image as well as his photo transferred on mugs! They recon it is because of his reassuring calm demeanour that he has become very popular and that some of the work may be hung in the National Gallery! There is also a "Chris Whitty Appreciation Society."*

*Photo from Wikipedia*

Some ducks from the Pavilion Gardens in Buxton relocated for a while at the bottom of Temple Road where there is a triangular area of grass. Yolanda, our



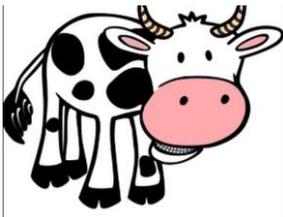
daughter, tells us that the ducks on the river at Bakewell have started to take over the quiet roads in the town as a result of fewer people and cars around.

*Shoppers will have to embrace buying more wonky fruit and vegetables as the folk harvesting the crops are learning on the job as there is a short fall of workers from Eastern Europe.*



Ugly Vegetables Cartoon Behance

London bus stops and the windows of 10 Downing Street are displaying children's art work with messages of positivity. Children get excited passing our home and seeing our big rainbow that we have in our window. The other day a man stood looking at it for a long time with a big smile on his face.



*Have you heard of the Belper Moo? Every evening at 18:30 locals in Belper gather on doorsteps or lean out of windows for a two-minute cattle chorus. Jasper Ward said the bovine bellow was a way to make staying in "a little bit more bearable". "The crazy people of this town have taken to it like cows to grass," he said. Mr Ward believes hundreds of people join in on busy evenings. "It's a pretty grim time, so if we can cast a little bit of silliness into the day, that's great. We love the community spirit in Belper."*

*Taken from BBC Local News*



One of Damien Hurst's paintings with spots on it was sold in America to MSCHF for more than £24,000 and the new owners have cut out the dots to sell individually for £385 each. It is reported that the remaining canvas full of holes is also being sold for more than four times the original purchase price!

*We had a craving for fresh fish last week and so ordered from our local fresh fishmonger hake, trout and kippers. It was delivered to our home by a very cheery man and the fish was just great. We highly recommend the fish and the delivery service.*

Last of all our church services on a Sunday and home group on Wednesdays are taking place on Zoom. It is great to be with everyone and big thanks go to those who have enabled this to take place especially to Mark Houghton.

*Steve Fisher took the service this last Sunday and the theme he preached on was “**Locked down, up, in and out!**” Most appropriate for the current time! At the end of the service we took a screenshot on our computer for the magazine with most of the 25 people visible on it.*



Buxton URC Zoom Church 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Well we guess that is all from the editors for this month. Jesus has promised to be with us always and we are thankful for that promise being true.

Eileen and Peter Blane

# Northumbria

## COMMUNITY Meditation

**If you must be heard,** let it be like the babbling brook, laughing over the rocks.



**If you must be seen,** let it be like sunlight giving warmth and comfort to all.

**If you must be acknowledged,** let it be as the eyes behold the skies in all their glory.

**If you must lead,** let it be like the wind and all its unshackled direction.

**If you must learn,** let it be like breathing, the natural flow of in and out, and done without thinking.

**If you must teach,** let it be like the water, deep and flowing, for your words are like pebbles in a pond, the ripples they cause spread out in all directions, and what you give out eventually returns.



Your vital edge

**If you must know,** let it be flowing and growing. And above all, **if you must:**





**The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'**

*(Matthew 25: 40)*

Taken from The Downs Benefice Winchester, Hampshire web site but the artist is not mentioned.

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2020



Sadly all Christian Aid house-to-house delivery and collection, together with gatherings such as the Christian Aid service and coffee mornings have been cancelled.

**BUT we will not let that stop us!**

The **CHRISTIAN AID SERVICE** will go ahead **at 6 pm on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May on Zoom.**

Zoom is very easy to join if you are on-line (but it is also possible to phone in to the service): details below.

Please phone Charles Jolly on 01298 22557 if you would like to take an active part (e.g. Scripture reading, C.A. prayer, read a story) or if you have any questions.

**To Join Zoom Meeting control-click this link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83555538359?pwd=R1YrQjNiN2x3aHNhM2t6S2hDZW5sQT09>

Meeting ID: 835 5553 8359

Password: prayer

(To telephone: 0203 051 2874 or 0131 460 1196

Or find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kbV4PB6yva>

Meeting ID: 835 5553 8359 Password: 965770)

We look forward to seeing you.

ALSO **Christian Aid Week** is **live-streaming worship each day**, and hosting a **fun daily quiz** to join and raise funds. Sign up for the week by using the links below (control-click).

**[Daily live-streamed worship](#)**

**[Daily fun quiz](#)**

**FUND-RAISING:** To raise much-needed funds, we invite everyone to turn their usual daily exercise during Christian Aid week (10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May) into a *sponsored event*. For example, if you normally walk the dog 2 miles each day you could ask friends/colleagues/neighbours to sponsor you for 14 miles: use the telephone or social media to contact people. (If you exercise along with ‘the green goddess’ every morning, you could use that!) It is simplest if you ask your sponsors kindly to pay the sponsor money directly to Christian Aid. Go to: <https://caweek.org> or ring: 020 7523 2269. Please make a careful written note of the your ‘event’ and the name and amount for each sponsor and then please let Derek Bodey know your name and total amount sponsored: [derekbodey@hotmail.com](mailto:derekbodey@hotmail.com).

If you simply wish to just give to Christian Aid then send them a cheque in the post or go to: <https://caweek.org> .



We will be organising a **quiz during Christian Aid Week**. Further details to follow.

Charles Jolly for Buxton Christian Aid Week Committee.

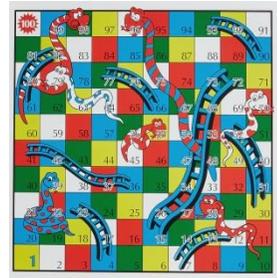
# 5 ways to be eco-friendly during lockdown

## 1. Dig into your cupboards rather than panic-buying new items

Being forced indoors might lead some to panic about how they are going to fill the long hours spent at home, but buying lots of new products online is not the most eco-friendly solution.

Instead, why not rediscover old board games you have had stored in your cupboard for years, and books you have never got round to reading?

Check your storage spaces and wardrobes for a Narnia of opportunities you have had hidden away without even knowing.



## 2. Grow your own veg

If you have got a garden, or even a window ledge where you can keep houseplants, why not invest in seeds for future food?



Lettuce, potatoes, parsnips, carrots, spring onions, herbs and tomatoes are all staple ingredients which can be grown in the UK. And all you need are seeds, soil, sunlight and a little water for your sprouting veg.

## 3. Recycle

With restaurants and cafes closed for the foreseeable future, and no canteen to grab your weekday lunch, it is important to choose your food wisely.

Opting for foods with recyclable packaging and making use of your recycling bin is one easy step to reducing your contribution to landfill.

#### **4. Shop at zero-waste stores**

Even better than recycling packaging is opting for no packaging at all.

As stockpilers target supermarkets, heading for your local zero-waste shop may be the smarter option both for the environment and for your food haul.

Many local shops and independent zero-waste stores are better stocked than the supermarkets at the moment, where people are queuing at the doors.

#### **5. Opt for reusable toiletries**

Next time you look to replace your toothbrush, why not go for a bamboo option to help save on plastic waste?

**So have the Delight family** been more eco-friendly during lock down ?

Well the honest answer is ... we are trying ...little by little ...

I am growing more vegetables this year as we are blessed to have the space in our garden to do this.

We are also using the Day Zero shop in Buxton more and more for a larger variety of items such as re-filling our spice jars, re-filling olive oil and rapeseed oil bottles, buying our breakfast cereals such as oats, granola, nuts and seeds, buying lentils and rice, refilling our plastic containers with clothes washing liquid instead of buying new plastic containers, buying loose leaf tea (both caffeinated and decaf) and hopefully many more as we try our best to reduce packaging.

So have you any ways in which you are helping the environment?

Please share and encourage!

Keep reducing, reusing and recycling,

Debbie Delight



*Congratulations to*

***St John's Marsh Green in Kent*** for achieving their Eco Gold Award. ***St John's are the first URC church to gain this award and the ninth church to achieve Gold since our Eco Church scheme started back in January 2016. Marsh Green Gold Eco Church***

“Members of St John's URC Marsh Green have long been concerned with issues of justice and peace, and being good stewards of the planet is a natural extension of this. One of St John's strongest motivations for its eco activities is the children (Marsh Green is a 'Child Friendly Church'). Every time we baptise a new baby we are reminded of the state of the planet on which they (and children the world over) must live; they are the ones who are going to 'inherit the earth' however damaged it is.

So in 2013 the church became an Eco-congregation. In 2016 it became involved in the new scheme of Eco Church which allows you to apply for different levels. In October 2019 the church was given the Gold Award – gained in each of the 5 sections:

- **Worship and teaching**
- **Buildings**
- **Land**
- **Community and global engagement**
- **Lifestyle**

The most visible signs of their eco-credentials are such things as  
the rows of photovoltaic panels high up on the slate roof  
the rainwater tanks that flush the toilets and water the plants  
the church nature reserve with its wild flower meadow

Less obvious but equally important are  
ethical banking and using green energy suppliers.

*Here at Buxton URC we are at the Bronze level and working towards Silver.*

Submitted by Debbie Delight

**LINK TO JOIN THE LIVE STREAMING OF  
THE REVD GEOFFREY CLARKE'S INDUCTION  
AS MODERATOR TO THE EAST MIDLANDS SYNOD**

ON FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2020 AT 11:00AM

PLEASE CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW:

<https://stream.lifesizecloud.com/extension/2422297/7c2181f2-df7e-4e2c-ad01-29866dca5c73>



## Waste Not Want Not

Is the name of the new food hub based at the URC church Buxton . As you can see in the photo the food is collected from local supermarkets such as Tesco's of Whaley and Buxton, Waitrose and Morrison's and sorted in the coffee room of church. Then Cath, Steph and Daniel Sterndale bag it up and hand it out or get it to anyone who needs it.



*Since March 27th  
over 685 parcels  
have been given to  
people from the  
food hub at church.*



Cath Sterndale and her wonderful family of Steph and Daniel have spearheaded this amazing response to the current situation in which many families, many people are struggling to feed themselves.

Since March 27th they have provided over 685 parcels to people in need by giving them out at the food hub at church or driving and delivering to anyone in need or in isolation at the local villages such as Peak Dale , Peak Forest and Litton. *(Numbers of food parcels provided are up to 28<sup>th</sup> April – and the work still continues.)*

Let's thank God for the wonderful work they are doing and pray for their safety too. Let's get a bit extra food when we shop and donate to Waste Not Want Not, offer to help if we have time or hold them all up in prayer.



The current difficult circumstances did not prevent the Easter banner going up at our church for Easter .

Phil Delight bravely used his tool box and with only a few expletives managed to drill the required holes in the stonework to fit the banner in place, whilst keeping to the 2m social distancing rules too.

So if you have not passed the URC in a while, enjoy the Easter message .

## Noreen Blackwell



*Jennie with her grandparents Noreen and Peter*

As reported in the April magazine Jennie Gill's granddad, Peter, died at the end of March this year. Her grandma, Noreen, has now also died.

Noreen and Peter were married in 1951. They had known one another since their mid-teens at St Augustine's church in Derby.

They became part of our church family when they moved to Buxton.



**Please pray for members of our church family, especially:**

**Cath Sterndale** whose brother, John, was transferred from hospital care to Thomas Field's care in Buxton. He has found the isolation very difficult to cope with.

***Jennie Gill** whose Grandmother Noreen's funeral will take place on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May with only a few members present because of government restrictions.*

**Ken Phillips** who is confined to The Branksome Care Home but is reportedly fine and speaks to John his son regularly on the phone.

***Lesley Caddy's daughter Adelle and her husband Steve** celebrating the birth of Seth who received birth trauma to his head. Pray that it will dissipate and that mum will catch up on sleep. Lesley has as yet been unable to physically see the family.*

**Simon and Fiona's daughter Hannah and husband Eamon** awaiting the birth of their first child in May.

***Debbie and Phil Delight's friend Richard and his family** as he is making glimmers of progress and hope having been critically ill with coronavirus for so long.*

**Fiona Bingham's mum** who fell at her home on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> in the evening and fractured a femur. She is in Poole hospital being operated on now. She's very healthy and recovery should be good.

# Our Confidence Is In The Lord

Songs Of Hope

Our confidence is in the Lord  
The source of our salvation  
Rest is found in Him alone  
The Author of creation

We will not fear the evil day  
Because we have a refuge  
In every circumstance we say  
Our hope is built on Jesus

He is our fortress  
We will never be shaken  
He is our fortress  
We will never be shaken

We will put our trust in God  
We will put our trust in God

**STAY CONNECTED**



Source: [Musixmatch](#)

Songwriters: Noel Richards / Tricia Richards

# Coronavirus - Where is God in all this?

I have no theological, medical or scientific qualifications so I am eminently unqualified to comment on this topic!

My feeling is that God *is* in all this. We are currently in a World set-back, but with a purpose.

Our problem is that we live on this earth for such a short time that we do not see God's perspective. He sees back fourteen billion years, and more, to beyond the Big Bang. We see life through a tiny window.



The Morning Glory flower lives for only one day – I wonder if those flowers which come out on the morning of a hailstorm and are immediately torn to pieces ask “where is God in this?” The broken flowers will not see the splendid colours of their cousins who live a full life on the next day.

From the Big Bang, God created swirls of gas, dust, suns, planets and then the Earth, his greatest achievement (as far as we know), with its occupants.

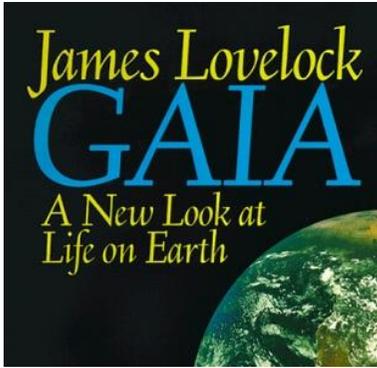
Since the first slimy life commenced on our planet there have been major disasters. Even in just the last 500 million years (a blink of an eye in God's time) there have been five major extinctions, and we have to thank the asteroid which wiped out the dinosaurs enabling mammals (and us) to develop. I see God's hand in this.

Previous extinctions have each had a role to play in creating what we see on Earth today. Each one adding a little to the development, to the progress of life, on Earth.

Bringing things up to date, in the past 2500 years the ancient Greeks lost two thirds of their population (and ultimately their empire) due to plague (Sophocles called it the swooping-down of the fever god); the Roman world collapsed into anarchy twice because of pandemics, and then failed completely. The Black Death, The Great Plague, Spanish Flu and SARS, and now coronavirus is part of a pattern. Scientists had predicted it.

I do not see that the development of God's people has gone permanently backwards, or even put on hold, because of any of the old plagues; if anything, taken overall, things have got better and continue to do so after

temporary setbacks. I know that hundreds of millions have suffered and died in the process, but so also did Jesus.



God has the practice of putting a brake on things that are going wrong. James Lovelock called this the Gaia Theory which is defined as living organisms interacting to form a self-regulating, complex system that helps to maintain and perpetuate the conditions for life on the planet.

Climate change is the big issue these days caused by excess production by some of us of CO<sub>2</sub>. Since the onset of

the coronavirus lockdowns across the world CO<sub>2</sub> levels have dropped.

Urban people have suffered from atmospheric pollution due to industry and traffic, for many years. Now we hear that city air is clearing.

Our planet is home to many older people (I am one of them) and this current plague will remove some of them into God's care and away from using the limited resources of Earth.

Constant economic growth is at the expense of wildlife everywhere. Already, in just a few weeks since lockdown, wildlife is recovering in places.

We, as God's people, have to learn from all of this and act accordingly.

In answer to the question "are these the end-times?" – I think the end-times *are* coming, one day, because, we know that in four billion years the Sun will become a red giant and wipe out all life on the planet. The description in Revelation is not far out. That final extinction event is why God has given us the ability to investigate space travel and live and develop elsewhere in the Galaxy. In the meantime, my view is no, we are not in any kind of end-time – just in one of those setbacks with a purpose.

I realise that my views will not find favour with many and I also appreciate that neither I, nor anyone else, has all the answers. That is the way it is meant to be.

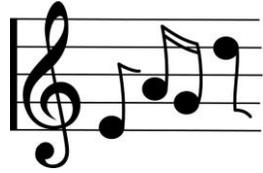
All we can do is to pray for solutions, understanding and for learning from the current circumstances.

Roger Horne 7<sup>th</sup> April 202

## HOW GREAT YOU ARE

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hand has made.  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder.  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, my saviour God to Thee.  
How great Thou art. How great Thou art.



When through the woods and forest glades I wander.  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.  
When I look down from lofty mountains grandeur.  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.

Then sings my soul. How great Thou art.

## THANK YOU LORD

How great You are Lord.

*To be seeing flowers and trees bursting forth. Daffodils have been amazing all round Buxton. Ashborne Rd, Ashwood Dale, Pavilion Gardens and The Palace hotel especially. It's so lovely to have the birds around again and singing. They never seem to tire!*

*The trees are so amazing with lots of green leaves coming and cherry blossom on our road so spectacular. The grass is becoming such a rich green and certainly growing ready for people to cut!*

*Children are so enjoying playing out and lots of lambs arriving. Along with a new baby in our family. All of this is Your creation and Your 'new life'.*

*It's so lovely to have the lighter evenings and mornings.*

*Sunrises and sunsets show Your glory as only You can.*

*With all that's going on around us in the country please help us to be grateful for the beauty we have in Buxton and The Peak District. To also appreciate who our creator is and realise this spring that all this beauty can never be produced by ourselves or anyone else. May we enjoy it and take time with it.*

## YOU ARE MAGNIFICENT

God saw all that he had made and it was very good. Gen 1 v31.

Fiona Bingham

# Dates to Remember – or not!



## Lunch Club

Cancelled until further notice

Early Morning Prayers: Fridays between  
7 & 8 am at church

Cancelled at church until further notice

Fellowship Evenings: Wednesdays. Join us at 7:30 on Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/94937088029>

Next Church Meeting

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June This will be very much dependant on the advice  
from the government about public meetings.

Elders and Leaders Meeting via Zoom – To be arranged

## 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 25th May 2020**

**for the June 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](mailto:peter@blane.co.uk).*

**Please be aware that, in addition to the printed magazine, an electronic  
version is available to read on the church's website:**

**[www.buxtonurc.org.uk](http://www.buxtonurc.org.uk)**

# Buxton United Reformed Church



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

**But**

because of the current restrictions all church services and all other activities in the church building have been cancelled until further notice.

**Instead**

we are arranging virtual services on Sundays at 10.30 am using Zoom. If you have internet access you are welcome to join us using the link

<https://zoom.us/j/700523189>

*Once things are back to normal we will again offer a sincere, loving welcome to all in Christian Worship in our church building.*