

The Good News

Summer 2021



North West Northants Pastorate

I sit at my keyboard looking out of my window and across the garden; I wonder if the rain will ever, ever stop. But, as it says in the last two verses of Psalm 13 "But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord, for he has been good to me." - Psalm 13: 5-6 NIV. Therefore I know the sun will come and shine.



Yes it will, George Harrison told us so; "Here Comes the Sun!". I'm sure we are all looking forward to mowing the grass every week again and will enjoy the endless weeding. Some of us perhaps feeling grateful that we have a garden whilst others perhaps feeling grateful that they don't.

In this Bumper Summer Issue you will find a message from our Minister and an article written by Arianna Freelen selected and contributed by Elizabeth; as well as an assortment of thoughts and reflections from a variety of other sources

Herein also, news from our sister churches and some information regarding the gradual re-introduction of Services and access to facilities across the Pastorate.

Finally, I'm sure we all wish our retiring Minister Elizabeth the very best wishes for the future and say a big thank you for all she has done for us.

"He is like the light of morning at sunrise on a cloudless morning, like the brightness after rain that brings the grass from the earth."

2 Samuel 23: 4 NIV

Inside this Spring Issue

North West Northants Pastorate:

Minister

Rev. Elizabeth Kemp
01788 510838
minister@chezkemp.net

Long Buckby URC

Secretary
Lucy Faulkner
07738 156722

Junior Church
Norman Chandler
01327 84381
Peggy Bond
01327 842234

Creaton URC

Secretary
Carolyn Wilson
01604 505650

Crick URC

Secretary
Brenda Morgan
01788 822564

Kilsby URC

Treasurer
Val Janes
01788 822751

Contents:

Page:

- 3** Reflections From The Manse
- 5** Sometimes Church is Hard
- 8** Long Buckby URC News
- 9** Crick URC News
- 10** Creaton URC News
- 11** Kilsby URC News
- 12** Preaching Diary
- 14** The Story Behind The Hymn—
'Oh for a Thousand Tongues to Sing'
- 15** An Interview with Steve Kirk
- 16** A Thank You Letter
- 19** Lectionary Readings June
- 20** Lectionary Readings July
- 21** Lectionary Readings August
- 22** Humorous Tale; Auntie Rossi
and the daytrip to Skegness
- 24** Dates For Your Diary

Editor Andrew Bodsworth

editor@longbuckbyurc.org.uk

Deadline for contributions to next
issue: 16th May 2021

**Good News welcomes contribu-
tions from readers**, though publi-
cation is not guaranteed.

Reflections from the Manse

I have met so many Saints of God

Shalom: dwelling and being enfolded in the loving peace and harmony of God.

Dear Friends, as I look back over this past year, I feel I am writing an item which should be entitled "The Lost Year". For the past 14 months we have all been captured in an odyssey, which none of us had expected or planned for and enough has been said already about the unexpected discovery of good neighbours and community spirit, and also the mental and spiritual anguish of isolation. Those of us who live alone have become like hermits and those in Care Homes had fewer visitation privileges than prisoners. And yet we have shared and joined in unexpected ways and learned new skills. For some craft work, walking, exercise and for others Skyping, Facetimeing, Whatsapp-ing and Zooming. That technology has been a sharp learning curve for all of us and on the whole I have found it a positive thing, permitting prayers and worship not just in one town, but across miles and oceans to our mutual enrichment.

When I was ordained little did I know what lay ahead and that's surely a good thing. Over these years the highlights that come to mind include: closing a church and selling off the building, tearing down school rooms, negotiating a sheltered housing project and having a sloping roof put on to replace a flat one. Kitchens and toilets have been modernised, exchange trips with African women ministers arranged. I've taken sabbaticals in India and Orkney, introduced new hymns and new hymnbooks, run a subversive women's film group, been involved with Interfaith action groups, and with Churches Together everywhere; preaching in many different places indoors and out ; sat on Pastoral Committees, chaired District Council and latterly led worship by Zoom!

I have met so many Saints of God and been inspired by many, it's always a privilege hearing people's stories and sharing their journeys.

What a weird final year of stipendiary ministry this has turned out to be! Personally it's been tough watching my mother deteriorate physically and mentally and that heightened by the cruelty of Covid 19 which has kept us from visiting.

[Continued over...

Reflections from the Manse

The future which lies ahead ...

We have together closed and opened and closed buildings again and it looks as if there may be a return to indoor worship but not as we knew it, before long. I have been cautious about any degree of mixing, always aware of the possible danger which my and our actions might put someone else in.

The future which lies ahead for us all is going to look new and I hope we can take the learning we have- of community and care, of new technologies and of God's steadfast presence and care, with us. My thanks to the Elders and members who have worked to keep church life on-going. May God Bless you all.

Shalom. Elizabeth.



Sometimes Church is Hard

An Article Written by; Arianna Freelen

Church is hard.

Church is hard for the person walking through the doors, afraid of judgement.

Church is hard for the preacher's family, under the microscope of an entire body.

Church is hard for the prodigal soul returning home, broken and battered by the world.

Church is hard for the girl who looks like she has it all together, but doesn't.

Church is hard for the couple who fought the entire ride to service.

Church is hard for the single mom, surrounded by couples holding hands, and seemingly perfect families.

Church is hard for the widow and widower with no invitation to lunch after service.

Church is hard for the deacon with an estranged child.

Church is hard for the person singing worship songs, overwhelmed by the weight of the lyrics.

Church is hard for the man insecure in his role as a leader.

Church is hard for the wife who longs to be led by a righteous man.

Church is hard for the nursery volunteer who desperately longs for a baby to love.

Church is hard for the single woman and single man, praying God brings them a mate.

Church is hard for the teenage girl, wearing a scarlet letter, ashamed of her mistakes.

Church is hard for the sinners.

Church is hard for me.

[Continued Over...

Sometimes Church is Hard

An Article Written by: Arianna Freelen

It's hard because on the outside it all looks shiny and perfect. Sunday best in behaviour and dress.

However, underneath those layers, you find a body of imperfect people, carnal souls, selfish motives.

But, here is the beauty of church — Church isn't a building, mentality, or expectation.

Church is a body.

Church is a group of sinners, saved by grace, living in fellowship as saints.

Church is a body of believers bound as brothers and sisters by an eternal love.

Church is a holy ground where sinners stand as equals before the Throne of Grace.

Church is a refuge for broken hearts and a training ground for mighty warriors.

Church is a converging of confrontation and invitation. Where sin is confronted and hearts are invited to seek restoration.

Church is a lesson in faith and trust.

Church is a bearer of burdens and a giver of hope.

Church is a family. A family coming together, setting aside differences, forgetting past mistakes, rejoicing in the smallest of victories.

Church, the body, and the circle of sinners-turned-saints, is where He resides, and if we ask, He is faithful to come.

Sometimes Church is Hard

An Article Written by; Arianna Freelen

So even on the hard days at church—

The days when I am at odds with a friend, When I've walked in bearing burdens heavier than my heart can handle, yet masking the pain with a smile on my face. When I've worn the pressures of the world, under the microscope. When I've longed for a baby to hold, or fought tears as the lyrics were sung. When I've walked back in, afraid and broken, after walking away.

I'll remember, He has never failed to meet me there.

Article Written and Published by; Arianna Freelen. Selected and contributed by Elizabeth.

(This article was originally published on 'Choosing Freelen'. You can see more of Choosing by Arianna Freelen on Facebook)



Long Buckby News

Services Planned from July

Flower Rota when the church reopens

It is expected that the church will reopen in July.

July 4th	Long Buckby Garden Club
July 11th	Lucy Faulkner
July 18th	Mary Bignell
July 25th	Diana Babb
August 1st	Lucy Faulkner
August 8th	Myra Griffiths
August 15th	Andrew Bodsworth
August 22nd	Lucy Faulkner
August 29th	United Service on Zoom. No Flowers

Birthday Wishes to:

June	Andrew Bodsworth
	Sue Cross
	Alan Ketley
July	Wendy Baker
	Myra Griffiths



Hope Centre

Please remember the collection box for the Hope Centre in Northampton. The need for meals at the day centre never stops!

Please bring something to church from July onwards if you do not have a church key.

For Prayer

This quarter we asked to remember and pray for:

- For those afraid to come out after lockdown
- The Minister and Elders of our churches..
- The suffering in our localities
- Those in countries overseas who cannot easily get a vaccine

Crick News

Possibility of Services from July

Still locked down, alas, but the end is in sight! It's good to see you all at our zoom services, even if it's a very small version of you on the screen. Renewed thanks to Andrew and Richard for their expertise, which enables us to meet, albeit at a distance, every other Sunday.

We are considering having face to face services from July, but will wait just a little longer before we make a definite plan.

We are all well in Crick. Most of us have now received both doses of the vaccine, for which we are very grateful.

We are still keeping busy with our various activities, looking forward to some better weather so that we can get back in the garden, or at least sit in the sunshine when it comes. We may even be enjoying (?!) a heat wave by the time you are reading this.

Birthday wishes to:

Margaret Simms

Kathleen Green

Gwyneth Nisbet,

whose birthdays fall in this magazine's timeline.



Looking forward to seeing you all in person before too long.

Stay cheerful, stay safe

Jenny.

Creaton News

Services from July

Like the rest of the country we were locked down because of the Covid 19 virus from March 2020 with a respite in the autumn. So we only had three services, but did enjoy worship together on Christmas Day.

Since then some of us have been able to appreciate the zoom services organised from Long Buckby and taken by our Minister, and we will be following this pattern until the end of June.

We are actively preparing for worship in church from July onwards on, and are very grateful to all who are involved in this work. We have a full pulpit rota, and are looking forward to welcoming Tim Huc and Nigel Adkinson to take our services for the first time.

We expect to be saying good-bye to our Minister Elizabeth at the end of June, sending her on the next stage of her journey with our very best wishes for a quieter and more peaceful life in her new home.

We send our best wishes also to all in the Pastorate as we prepare to be flexible in the months ahead, hoping we can all stay healthy to do God's work.

Margaret.



Kilsby News

Hopefully Services from July

Hello Everyone From Kilsby!

Hopefully we will hopefully be re-opening the chapel in July and everybody will be welcome to return to our church buildings.

We hope to open the cafe in early July and also Sewing will be back and Scrabble will start again.

You can find our list of Services and Preachers in the Preaching Diary.

Regards,

Val.



Preaching Diary June 2021 to August 2021

Date	Long Buckby All services at 11am unless otherwise stated	Creaton All services at 11am unless otherwise stated
13/06/21	Zoom Service followed by Long Buckby AGM	Zoom Service
27/06/21	Zoom Service	Zoom Service
04/07/21		Rev. Geoff Townsend and will include Holy Communion
11/07/21	Andrew Howes	Jon Heard
18/07/21		Rev. Geoff Townsend
25/07/21	Rev. Michael Bond and will include Holy Communion	Vaughan Griffiths
01/08/21		Lindsey Cole
08/08/21	Margaret Hooper	Rev. Geoff Townsend and will include Holy Communion
15/08/21		Rev. Tim Huc
22/08/21	TBA	Rev. Geoff Townsend
29/08/21	United Service on Zoom	United Service on Zoom

Preaching Diary June 2021 to August 2021

Date	Crick All services at 11am unless otherwise stated	Kilsby All services at 11am unless otherwise stated
13/06/21	Zoom Service	Zoom Service
27/06/21	Zoom Service	Zoom Service
04/07/21	TBA	Pat and David Biddle
11/07/21	TBA	Rev. Geoff Townsend and will include Holy Communion
18/07/21	TBA	Mr. Cecil Gill
25/07/21	TBA	Mr. Wally Mular
01/08/21	TBA	Mr. Tony Cervantes
08/08/21	TBA	Mr. John Perkins
15/08/21	TBA	Mr. Cecil Gill
22/08/21	TBA	Rev. Michael Bond and will include Holy Communion
29/08/21	United Service on Zoom	United Service on Zoom

The story behind the hymn

Oh for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

John and Charles Wesley were two of nineteen children born to Rev Samuel and Susannah Wesley so no problems with Sunday school numbers in those days!

Susannah was responsible for the children's upbringing and obviously did a good job as both [John and Charles] went to Christ Church one of Oxford's top colleges. The brothers formed a club at Oxford devoted to study of the bible, prayer, fasting and charitable works, and they were derided as Methodists by fellow students.

In 1735 they sailed to Georgia as missionaries. Neither John nor Charles could find assurance that they were a child of God by grace.

When they returned John wrote "I went to America to convert the Indians; but, oh, who shall convert me?"

In England they had Moravian friends who bore witness to salvation by grace through faith in Christ and on Whitsunday May 21 1738 Charles wrote that "The Spirit of God chased away the darkness of my unbelief". Later John had a similar experience.

One year after his experience Charles wrote the hymn which we know as "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing".

This line was actually the first line of the seventh verse of a much longer eighteen stanza poem and the line may have been influenced by his Moravian friend Paul Bohler who said "Had I a thousand tongues, I would praise him with them all".

Charles went on to be a most prolific hymn writer producing between six and seven thousand hymns.

He spent eighteen years after 1738 as an itinerant preacher before settling in London to continue the work.

Contributed by Norman Chandler



Thoughts of a Fellow Christian

An Interview with Steve Kirk

Some stories from the Bible seem to be more significant to some people than to others. Perhaps this is based on their life experiences.

In the 1950s as a boy living in a small Cheshire Hamlet, being the Grandson of a Methodist Lay Preacher, Steve Kirk went to Chapel three times on Sundays.

As a young adult Steve says, "I took a walk on the wild side, involved in the music scene. eventually becoming in the mid 1960s a drummer in a rock band."

It is safe to say that Steve is a 'man of the world' and indeed has travelled all over the world for a variety of reasons; wandering as he puts it, "on a very long leash from my Christian roots".

Sometimes it's easy to read a parable, understand the language, understand the story and understand its meaning. Or a least think you do until an experience in life shows you otherwise. For Steve his moment of recognition was in fact a long time growing from a seed planted long ago in Cheshire; and we are reminded of the story of the 'Prodigal Son'.

After suffering the trauma of a life changing road collision and this later being compounded by an unexpected marriage breakdown, Steve was in a desperate place and felt the need of the solace of church once again, Steve was so intensely compelled by this feeling one Sunday that he walked across Long Buckby market square and pushed on the door of the Chapel expecting it to be open.

But the morning Service had finished. With Steve's background of the Chapel being open all day he says, "I was angry at God for not letting my in". But then Steve saw the 'open door' The Ministers telephone number on the notice board and indeed Steve returned to his Christian home that day, after many years away, as a 'Prodigal Son'.

Steve explains, " On reflection, having returned to the church initially, as I saw it, for support and comfort; I now have come to the realisation that you shouldn't follow Jesus and obey the rules because that would get you into Heaven or provides homely comforts. No! You should walk in the footsteps of Jesus because it is the right this to do".

Steve went on, "Did the father recognised this in his Prodigal Son? who had come home not to be rewarded? but because it was the right thing to do!"

A Thank You From The United Reformed Church Finance Committee

To:

All members and adherents of United Reformed Churches and our Local Ecumenical Partnerships.

It would be fair to describe the year-and-a-bit since March 2020 as having been "different", wouldn't it? Lots of us have experienced loss of loved ones, loss of income and perhaps jobs. All have experienced periods of lockdown; periods without 'non-essential' shops; and continuous and extensive disruption to our 'normal' social interactions and relationships. The world we thought we understood and could take for granted has been utterly transformed. How many of us imagined at the start of 2020 that we could go months without a haircut or without people not in our 'bubble' entering our homes?

As members of United Reformed Church congregations ourselves, we understand much of what your church community has experienced since March 2020. The absence of what is now regularly labelled "in-person worship" for much (or all) of this time has compelled us to turn to other ways of being church. Buildings in which we used to praise God regularly have been shut, both to regular worshipers and others who might have sought solace within their walls during these desperate and troubling times. It has been hard to maintain close fellowship with people we only meet over Zoom (or the like) - if we are digitally enabled.

Financially, things have been extremely tough too. Plate offerings have collapsed; some regular givers have had to reduce or entirely stop giving to support God's work; and those churches which hire out their premises have seen income from that source disappear.

At denominational level, we feared that these financial troubles would spell disaster for the URC's Ministry and Mission ('M&M') fund through which the URC has always supported and developed our stipendiary ministers and Church Related Community Workers. It would have been all too easy for congregations to forget that for almost 49 years this fund (under various names) has provided stipends, pension contributions and training for all ministers throughout the three nations in which the URC operates: so that ministry reaches where synods judge it to be most needed and is paid for according to each congregation's ability to contribute (though the ways of determining

A Thank You From The United Reformed Church Finance Committee

that vary from synod to synod). It was all very well to remind ourselves that the M&M fund is meant to be the first call on every congregation's resources if the undertaking to financially support our ministers is to be honoured. We feared that drastically reduced income would make that impossible and that, because the need was less visible than the other calls on your diminished resources, payments to the M&M fund would have stopped first.

We are sorry if we ever doubted you.

It quickly became apparent that, although some congregations had to reduce their pledged giving to the M&M fund, many more of you were continuing to meet the 2020 commitments you had made during better times, despite the struggles that required. At the start of that year we had been expecting churches and synods to contribute around £18.5 million to the fund. By the year end, all but half-a- million pounds of that had been received. Since Church House staff and committees managed to reduce their budgeted expenditure by almost £1 million, your money enabled us to meet the full costs of our Ministries, Education & Learning, Children's and Youth Work and Mission departments in 2020 as well as covering amounts spent on safeguarding, denominational governance and communications. What is perhaps even more amazing is that, collectively, you have pledged to give £17.3 million during 2021 despite the financial problems caused by the pandemic being fully apparent well before your offers for this year were made.

We are always grateful for the financial support given each year to the M&M fund by all of you; but this past year has been phenomenal.

Thank you to those of you who have been able to maintain or increase financial support for your church congregation through this difficult time. That has enabled those responsible for your congregation's finances to keep more money flowing to the M&M fund than we expected.

Thank you for all your previous financial support to those of you who, after prayerful consideration, have had to reduce or stop giving in response to your changed financial circumstances.

[Continued over...]

A Thank You From The United Reformed Church Finance Committee

Thank you for the pledges your congregation has made about contributing to the M&M fund during 2021 even though you were by then aware of the impact the pandemic was having on your local congregation's finances.

Thank you in anticipation for what you agree to offer to the M&M fund during 2022 to enable the denomination to deliver ministry, education and learning, children's work and mission activity on God's (and your) behalf.

We are aware that synods have played a significant part in encouraging and supporting many congregations with their contributions to the M&M fund. We have separately written to Synod Treasurers to express our thanks to them and their colleagues too. Of course, our giving for God's work is in response to the amazing generosity and love of God which we see in Jesus. Nonetheless, it is important for us to thank every one of you for what you do for God, your congregation and its and our denominational finances.

Thank you!

If you have any questions or comments arising from this letter, please speak to your church treasurer who has been provided with more detailed information. If they are not able to help directly then they can get in touch with the finance team at Church House.

Yours in Christ,

Ian Hardie (Treasurer) and John Piper (Deputy Treasurer)

- On behalf of the whole United Reformed Church Finance Committee

Lectionary Readings

June 2021

Second Sunday After Pentecost - June 6, 2021

1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15)

Psalm 138

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Mark 3:20-35

Third Sunday After Pentecost - June 13, 2021

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

Psalm 20

2 Corinthians 5:6-10,[11-13],14-17

Mark 4:26-34

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost - June 20, 2021

1 Samuel 17: (1a, 4-11, 19-23), 32-49

Psalm 9:9-20 or

1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 10-16

Psalm 133

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Mark 4:35-41

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost - June 27, 2021

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27

Psalm 130

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Mark 5:21-43

Lectionary Readings

July 2021

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost - July 4, 2021

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

Psalms 48

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-13

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost - July 11, 2021

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

Psalms 24

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:14-29

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost - July 18, 2021

2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Psalms 89:20-37

Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost - July 25, 2021

2 Samuel 11:1-15

Psalms 14

Ephesians 3:14-21

John 6:1-21

Lectionary Readings

August 2021

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost - August 1, 2021

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

Psalm 51:1-13

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:24-35

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost - August 8, 2021

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

Psalm 130

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

John 6:35, 41-51

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost - August 15 2021

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14

Psalm 111

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost - August 22, 2021

1 Kings 8:[1, 6, 10-11], 22-30, 41-43

Psalm 84

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost - August 29, 2021

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10

James 1:17-27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Auntie Rossi and the Daytrip to Skegness

An Impressive Aunt — The Penultimate Tale

You might remember that I mentioned a certain 'mad' auntie Rossi in my last *Granny Townsend Tale* (she was the one that answered the door to Reverend Thomason).

She was *Granny's* youngest daughter and as such, being that day and age, she stayed at home to look after *Granny Townsend* and do all the housework cleaning and cooking (remember *Granny Townsend* reminded me of Her Majesty, The Queen, The Queen Mother).

Although I thought of her as 'Mad Auntie Rossi', of course she wasn't really mad at all, she was just a little eccentric; or as we would call it these days quite forward looking and progressive.

Needless to say at that age, she was my favourite Aunt; I admired her, she smoked (without filters) Woodbines and had a flip-top Zippo lighter! Not only that she drank bottles of Barley Wine! As a little boy I was so impressed.

However, Rossi was a responsible adult; and so one day gave me a Woodbine to smoke, I did; well some of it. She is the lady that is responsible for ensuring that from that day to this, I never smoked a cigarette again; thank you Auntie Rossi.

Now as you might imagine, as a strict Chapel going Christian, *Granny Townsend* didn't approve of the smoking or drinking habits. So Rossi would secretly smoke her woodbines in the garden (*Granny* knew about this).

Not only that, she would also secretly hide her bottles of Barley Wine in the kitchen cupboards. *Granny* also knew about this on account of the fact that all of the kitchen cupboards had bottles of Barley Wine in (even I noticed this).

Needless to say, there was as a result, a little tension in the house.

In former years a Village Chapel was one of the hubs of the community and as such would hold social and cultural 'improving' events as well as 'outing's'. These would have provided a release and relief for many people.

But by the 1970's these things were falling away and as such people became isolated, such as Auntie Rossi.

My Mother and Father came up with a (partial) solution, much to the relief of Auntie Rossi, "and me!" snorts *Granny Townsend*.

Auntie Rossi and the Daytrip to Skegness

The frustrations of not being allowed to grow up

Once a year mum and dad would take Auntie Rosie for a day trip to the far distant and exotic sounding Skegness.

So we would get up VERY early and go to Harpole to collect Rossi; this had to be on a Bank Holiday Monday. Granny Townsend stated firmly, "Sundays would not do!".

Mum and dad would sit in the front (dad necessarily) and I would sit in the back with Auntie Rossi. We would take a packed lunch which would of course consist of grated cheese and marrow chutney sandwiches. And a flask of tea.

Now in those days the roads to Skegness weren't that good, although the traffic was impressive. Thus, lunchtime came about when we were halfway there.

It was always in the same layby where there was a public convenience and plenty of room to park, let the steam out of the engine and top up the water.

Also of course to eat the by then melted cheese and marrow chutney sandwiches. It was also compulsory to take a bar of chocolate in the glove compartment which also turned to liquid. However, the tea was nice and cold.

Eventually we'd arrive at Skegness where mum and Auntie Rosie would spend about an hour in the souvenir shops and dad and I would walk on the wind swept beach for about an hour including a 10 minute ride on an alleged donkey. In my mind I was Lawrence of Arabia battling through a sand storm in the dessert on a camel.

Then it was time to go home again and we didn't get back until very, very late. But that was the thing I was looking forward to most, because it was too late for mum to cook dinner at that time of the day so it's one of those very rare occasions where we had fish and chips from a fish and chip shop and that's all I remember about day trips to Skegness.

I now realise that Auntie Rossi at the age of 50 was deliberately filling the kitchen cupboards with Bottles of Barley Wine; she didn't want to drink them, but was tired of being told that she shouldn't. Just as I, many years later, did similar things to my mum (sorry mum, but I already knew I had to shut the door after me when I went through it! I was 50 years old!).

As Mad Auntie Rossi cured the nagging by stuffing the cupboards with Barley Wine, I went around my house and opened every door and window! - It worked.

Dates for Your Diary

Moving Forward...

As we move forward re-opening events and activities will once again be listed on this page.

- 29/08/21 Combined Zoom Service



Many Thanks to all Good News contributors and a special thanks to those that enable and facilitate our Zoom Services and meetings.

Footnote:

Aunt Rossi was one of the most impressive women that I have ever met, she passed away at the age of 72, ten years ago a few months after my mother.

Although Aunt Rossi rarely as an adult attended Chapel, without her efforts nor would have Granny Townsend.

Up until her death Aunt Rossi, she never forgot or omitted to buy me a Christmas present. I very much miss her and her wise words of counsel. The little boy choking on the Woodbine in the cabbage patch remembers and thanks you.