

IN *touch*

JUN
2016

the monthly newsletter for Rushden High Street Independent Wesleyan Church

here's what your neighbours are talking about...

That's the subject line of an email which I receive every day. It's from the website 'Streetlife' and is an attempt to bring neighbours together. The idea is that you can join in with the conversations with people who live near to you. Over the month or so that I have been a member there have been all sorts of things that people have been 'talking' about. This includes things such as:

Someone needed to dig a pond; which sat-nav would be the best to buy; Rushden Recycling Centre complaints; Church Walks organised by Whitefriars Church; things being sold or given away; the telephone system at Kettering General Hospital!

Quite often it's very useful. But it got me thinking about knowing what neighbours are talking about – how often have you heard a question such as 'What do you know', or 'What's the latest?!' I guess that sometimes we're in danger of looking for a bit of gossip. We need to be careful though if that is the case. I am aware that there's a big difference between wanting to know something because we are genuinely interested and because we want some 'gossip'.

What does the Bible have to say? You may not be surprised that generally it is the book of Proverbs we can turn to in order to find out the answer to this question. There are several things, but let me point out just two verses, both from chapter 26 (*Good News Bible*). Verse 22 says 'Gossip is so tasty! How we love to swallow it!'. Not everything that is tasty is good for us though! With gossip it's something that ought not be part of our diet. Verse 20 'Without wood, a fire goes out; without gossip, quarrelling stops'. Gossip can cause tension and discord, like feeding a fire. You may remember the days when we all had coal fires – I certainly remember my parents making sure that the fire didn't go out by putting on more coal (the equivalent is wood on wood burners today). Let's not stoke the fire, but just let it die down.

So – let's find out what our neighbours are talking about and join in – not with gossip but rather sharing where we can the good news of Jesus. And there's a way we can do it using the books on page 3...

Happy chatting!

...THOUGHT
FOR THE
MONTH

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the word for today

'This day is a day of good news, and we remain silent.'

2 Kings 7:9 NKJV

Source:

The Word for Today
United Christian
Broadcasters,
Westport Road,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 4JF

Free issues of the daily
devotional are available for
the UK & Republic of Ireland.

...if you don't tell them, who will?

THE SYRIAN army had surrounded the city of Samaria and nothing could get in or out. It was a desperate situation. Eventually the inhabitants began starving to death. Four lepers who'd been quarantined and forced to live outside the city walls decided to go into the Syrian camp hoping to find mercy, and maybe food and water.

But when they got there they discovered an army of angels had scattered the Syrians, who fled leaving behind food, water, clothing, and treasure. These four men couldn't believe their good fortune! They ate, drank, exchanged their rags for fine clothing, gathered treasure and hid it where they could find it later. Then they remembered that in Samaria their own people were hungry, thirsty, needy, sick, and dying. And they were faced with the dilemma: Do we keep this all to ourselves, or share it with those who need it as much as we do? Then they said to one another, "We are not doing right. This day is a day of good news, and we remain silent. If we wait until morning light, some punishment will come upon us. Now therefore, come, let us go and tell the king's household."

Today you will meet someone who's spiritually hungry, and what they need is Jesus. So what are you going to do about it? If you don't tell them, who will? If you don't share the good news they may die spiritually. You say, 'But I'm timid'. God used four social outcasts to bring good news of deliverance. ***And if you let Him, today He will use you too.***



church offerings

SUNDAY	1st	MAY	£295.90
SUNDAY	8th	MAY	£199.60
SUNDAY	15th	MAY	£332.17
SUNDAY	22nd	MAY	£400.50

In addition, the amount paid into the bank each month currently stands at £950. If you would like to give in this way, please see Richard Weekley. Many thanks.



...our servant queen

The whole country will this month be celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday. She has splendidly fulfilled the promise made on the day when her father, King George VI, died and she came to the throne at the age of 27. On that day she dedicated 'the rest of my life, whether it be long or short' to the service of the nation and the Commonwealth. She has certainly proved that she meant what she said. Hers is already the longest reign of any British monarch.

Those years have seen huge changes in the world: the end of apartheid in South Africa, the transition of scores of countries to independence within the Commonwealth, the advent of space exploration and men on the moon, the arrival of the computer and the internet, social media, Twitter and so on. Through it all she has remained a calm, reassuring figure, Head of State to 12 different Prime Ministers and leader of a resilient and growing Commonwealth of Nations.

The Queen has quietly moved with the times. Her rather tortured 'royal' accent of the forties and fifties has broadened into a quietly spoken Received English. Uneasy about it at first, she has made herself an effective performer on television. And through it all she has openly acknowledged that her own Christian faith is the bedrock of all that she is and has done. In recent years she has been more willing to talk about that faith, notably in her Christmas messages.

To mark her 90th birthday, the Bible Society has published an attractive illustrated book *The Servant Queen*, setting out largely in her own words the essential heart of that faith. The Queen herself has written a Foreword. The aim of the publishers is that the book should be widely distributed, so that people up and down her kingdom can share her evident enjoyment of a committed Christian faith. Its subtitle is 'And the King she serves'. As advertisers say, 'every home should have one'.

By Rev. Canon David Winter

Note: We have some copies of the book available, enough to give one away to a family member or friend. Please see Dick Weekley if you would like one.



the minister's school assemblies

(for your prayers please)

- WEDNESDAY 8th** – Denfield Park Primary School
- TUESDAY 21st** – Whitefriars Infant School
- WEDNESDAY 22nd** – Tennyson Road Infant School
- WEDNESDAY 22nd** – Alfred Street Junior School
- WEDNESDAY 29th** – South End Infant School



June 2016

weekday diary dates

WEDS	1st	7.30pm	Home Group at the Manse
THURS	2nd	2.00pm	Women's Auxiliary – Rev. Shirley Baker
FRI	3rd	7.15pm	Circuit Meeting – Isham
SAT	4th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
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TUES	7th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 11 Kilburn Place
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
		7.30pm	Church Members Meeting in the vestry
WEDS	8th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		2.00pm	Service at Kilburn Place
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	9th	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
SAT	11th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
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TUES	14th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 15 Fern Road
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	15th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	16th	2.00pm	Women's Auxiliary – Honey Pots
		6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
SAT	18th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
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TUES	21st	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 50 Boundary Avenue
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	22nd	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	23rd	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
SAT	25th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
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TUES	28th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 11 Kilburn Place
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	29th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	30th	2.00pm	Women's Auxiliary – Members Afternoon
		6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club



the coming european football championships

The 2016 European Football Championships which will take place in France (10 June to 10 July) will have more British interest than usual with England, Northern Ireland and Wales having qualified – along with the Republic of Ireland.

Spain are the defending champions. Before 2008 Spain had not won an international tournament since 1964 and this was to be the start of a sequence of dominating world football, winning the 2008 and 2012 European Championships and the 2010 World Cup.

The 2008 Spain-Italy quarter-final was a really significant game. Marcos Senna who played in it recalls: "We really celebrated the victory over Italy in the quarter final as much as, if not more than, the final because Spain had this barrier or jinx of not getting past the quarter finals in big tournaments. And, of course, Italy were the reigning 2006 World Cup winners".

The game finished 0-0 with Spain winning 4-2 on penalties. Senna took and scored the third penalty for Spain. He recalls: "We had practised penalties the day before. But remember that on that day we had played 90 minutes plus 30 minutes extra time. I was exhausted and had cramp everywhere. I knew that would be one of the penalty-takers. I was calm and felt God's Spirit coming on me and giving me peace and clarity and I was able to shoot well, score and do the business for Spain. It was all down to God".

Spain beat Germany in the 2008 final 1-0 with Fernando Torres scoring. Senna recalls: "It was a great day especially as all of Spain could share in the celebrations. From then on it was a time of great joy for all the players who were part of the team that won the trophy for Spain. Their lives changed because of being part of winning the Championship".

Senna referred to God's help. His faith is an important part of his life: "If you are worried about anything I do not think that money is the answer. God has made me very happy and changed my life in every way. It is the best decision that anyone can make in their lives. The difference that Jesus made in my life is everything. Quite simply He makes all the difference. There is nothing I can do without Jesus in my life. Jesus is everything to me. And when I die I will go to be with Jesus in heaven, in the place He has prepared for us".



puzzle page

Thanks to Margaret O'Dell who passed on this puzzle. All the cryptic clues below have answers which are places in Northamptonshire. Hand your answers in by 24th June and you may win a small prize.

1. *Working hard beneath the trees*
2. *The lava's still liquid here*
3. *Gilbert would have said this was mineral*
4. *Place of worship*
5. *Congratulations!*
6. *No complaints about the construction of this*
7. *Once every seven days*
8. *A heavy beverage*
9. *An illustrious university scholar*
10. *Hasten to the lion's lair*
11. *This lady will do it!*
12. *What's left after ten fall?*
13. *A polluted water course*
14. *Puts the babies to sleep*
15. *Bait your line to catch a mackerel*
16. *This special agent met a watery end*
17. *Ancient*
18. *Heavy metal*
19. *These two nuts stand side by side*
20. *Ancient crustacean*

Answers to last month:

Mark, Titus, Job, Kings, Esther, Peter, Jude, Haggai, Acts, Psalms, Amos, Malachi, Matthew, James, Daniel, Hosea, Ecclesiastes, Ezra, Joel, Jonah, Luke, Romans, Micah, Ruth, Revelation, Nahum

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High Street Independent Wesleyan Church

