

## ***The Link Magazine***

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**Web Links:** Lidgett Park: <https://lpmc.uk>

Shadwell: <https://lpmc.uk/Shadwell/index.php>

## ***May 2024***

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### **MINISTER'S LETTER**

Dear friends,

On the 19th May we will arrive at Pentecost, the time when the Church celebrates God's gift of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost was a wonderful event, a time when God came to people in a whole new way, something to really celebrate. The difficulty with Pentecost is that it is all a bit supernatural and kind of tricky to explain and - let's be honest - makes some of us a bit nervous.

It seems to me that we need to remember that it is Jesus who sent the Holy Spirit. It was Jesus who breathed on his disciples after the resurrection and said "Receive the Holy Spirit." If we trust Jesus then we can trust the Holy Spirit.

Jesus also promised that when he left, he would send someone just like him, in very essence the same as Jesus and Father God – that's what the word "another" means in the original language, someone exactly the same! The point is that He is the continuing presence of God with us. Jesus handed over to the Holy Spirit to continue the work of God here on earth.

Pentecost is particularly about celebrating his coming, and when the Holy Spirit comes, he does unexpected things; wonderful things; sometimes too wonderful for words! powerful things. Jesus said when the Holy Spirit comes, we should expect the unexpected!! (John 3: 8)

But we should expect the unexpected knowing that God is good and gives good gifts of all kinds, including miracles, all sorts of healings, hearts and lives touched and changed for good.

The Spirit will always act in accord with the love of God and with Scripture, for building up and encouraging the church and to bring glory to God the Father. All these are good things, aren't they?! God is at work by his Holy Spirit all through his Church today. We can celebrate the Spirit whenever we see something good happening, and I believe there is much more that God has to give us in his Spirit. We need to be willing to be open to receive and allow Him to do the unexpected, even wonderful signs and especially adding to our number new people coming to faith.

How I long for the Holy Spirit to come again upon his Church as he did at the first Pentecost; to see the church taking the lead in supernatural things, in order for the message of Jesus' death and resurrection to be heard and our heavenly Jesus glorified as he adds to those 'being saved'.

So, I encourage you as we move toward Pentecost to pray more, to seek more of the working of the Holy Spirit, to be open to receive and to go with whatever the Holy Spirit is doing...

Yours in Christ,  
***Tanya***

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We need people to either knit or crochet red poppies to decorate the outside of the Church in time for Remembrance Sunday this coming November. Patterns are available. Also, does anyone have any red wool (double knitting) they can donate.

***Doreen Aldrige.***

**WORSHIP IN MAY****Lidgett Park (also on zoom):**

5 May	10.30 Mrs Janice Green	
12 May	10.30 Revd Tanya Short	<i>General Church Meeting</i>
19 May	10.30 Mr John Summerwill	<i>Pentecost</i>
26 May	10.30 Revd Tanya Short	<i>Holy Communion</i>

**Shadwell:**

5 May	9.30 Dr Stanley Pearson	
	16.00 Circuit Service	<i>Easter Offering</i>
12 May	9.30 Mrs Janice Green	
19 May	9.30 Revd Tanya Short	<i>Pentecost</i>
26 May	9.30 Revd Phil Chilvers	<i>Holy Communion</i>

**Messy Church:**     **29th May 2.00 - 4.00 pm at Shadwell**  
**30th May 10.00 - 11.30 at Lidgett Park**

**Teddy Praise:**     **Lidgett Park Thurs 16th May at 11.30 am**  
**Circuit Service:**   **Shadwell 5th May 4.00 pm (Easter Offering)**





## SHADWELL METHODIST CHURCH

An early Easter saw our Flower Cross this year fall victim to the weather quite quickly – hope you managed to see its message of New Life before it was blown away! But that didn't stop a dozen children and their families enjoying a Messy Church exploring the story and the meaning of Easter, and its links with Spring. Messy Church seems to be growing in popularity, look out for the next school holiday event.



We had a wedding too – Debbie and Jon were married on Easter Saturday, in a church filled with family and well-wishers who all enjoyed tea and cake in the garden before moving on to a Reception later.

Our recent concert by the Wendell Singers was a well-attended evening with an amazing variety of music, ranging from Mozart to My Fair Lady, toe-tapping tunes to ethereal harmonies. We all left smiling – and raised funds for the Meeting Point Café, supporting people with difficulties in Harehills.



Our Cafes are as busy as ever (particularly when you all arrive at once!) and your generosity continues to support a variety of charities. In May, we are raising funds for Christian Aid and their work with disadvantaged people worldwide. Do come to our cafes on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May, with Bacon Butties, and on Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup>, the Bank Holiday weekend, with Quiches. And always a wide variety of delicious (and interesting!) cakes, scones etc

# Teddy Praise



Join us with your under 5's in sharing songs and active stories about Jesus in the church at Lidgett Park.

All are welcome, for fun and laughter with a simple activity to take home.

Bring your teddy along too!

Thursdays 11.30am for 15 minutes  
on: May 16<sup>th</sup>, June 20<sup>th</sup>, July 11<sup>th</sup>





# MESSY CHURCH

AT SHADWELL METHODIST CHURCH  
WEDNESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> May starting at 2-4pm

AND AT

LIDGETT PARK METHODIST CHURCH THURSDAY  
30<sup>th</sup> May starting at 10-11.30am



You're invited to join us for crafts, songs and stories,  
friends & fun

For children aged 4- 11 years old (younger siblings  
are welcome!)

Messy Church is a family event so please bring  
an adult with you to church! A donation of £1.00 per  
child would be great!

## THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

We celebrate the Feast of the Ascension this year on Thursday 9 May. It's always on a Thursday because it is the fortieth day after Easter by the traditional method of inclusive counting, although its actual date varies because of the changing date of Easter.

The fact that we celebrate Jesus' ascension into heaven forty days after Easter depends on the account of the Ascension in chapter 1 of the Acts of the Apostles where, in verse 3, we learn that Jesus appeared to his followers after the Resurrection for a period of forty days before ascending. There is only one other account of the Ascension, and that is in the Gospel of Luke, written by the same person who wrote Acts. But in the Gospel, which was written first, the impression is given that Christ ascended to heaven on the evening of the Day of Resurrection, although this is not stated directly (Luke chapter 24, verses 50-53). In addition to these two narratives, there are several other references to the Ascension — some explicit and some implicit — in the New Testament, but none of these indicates how soon after the Resurrection this event occurred. As to where it occurred, Luke's Gospel states that it was at Bethany, which is on the slopes of the Mount of Olives, just to the east of Jerusalem. The account in Acts does not name a particular place, but clearly implies that it was in Jerusalem or very nearby. Unsurprisingly, then, there was a strong tradition from earliest times that the Ascension occurred on the Mount of Olives. In the fourth century a church was built on what was thought to be the holy spot.

So, given the uncertainty of how soon after the Resurrection the Ascension took place, with the Luke's Gospel implying that it was on the same day and Acts that it was after forty days of resurrection appearances, how, why and when did the church come to follow the timeline in Acts? We need to start at the very beginning, when there was no developed annual liturgical cycle as we know it, and when the practice of Christianity, as it gradually spread within the Roman Empire, had to be conducted

in private for fear of persecution. In these very early centuries, when there were no public churches, believers focussed on celebrating the Resurrection, and so they had a special annual celebration of it (on its variable date), and a weekly commemoration of it every Sunday. To the extent that the Ascension was remembered explicitly, it was caught up in the annual Resurrection feast. But in the fourth century, thanks to the Emperor Constantine's decision to make Christianity a legally permissible religion, Christianity came into the open and began to develop a structured annual liturgical cycle for public ritual and commemoration. There was, at the time, an increased interest in the nature of Christ's life on earth, prompted by ongoing theological debates about how Christ was both fully human and fully divine. This led to the liturgy being devised in such a way that the first half of the year was shaped around the major events in his life. Within this sequence of commemorations, the Ascension clearly merited a feast-day of its own. Yet there was also great value in reflecting on the gospel accounts of the resurrection appearances, so it made practical sense to allow for this by adopting the extended time-line given in Acts, which is why we celebrate Ascension Day on the fortieth day after Easter.

### ***Joyce Hill***

#### **LETTER FROM JENNIFER DALTON**

Thank you for sending the magazine it is so nice to read the news from Lidgett even if there is sad news that Margaret has died she was a bundle of energy and will be much missed.

The Methodist church here has a small congregation but manage 2 coffee mornings per month. They are much supported by the local community. The church is in the high street but there is a large car park just close by.

They have coffee after the service but it is handed out to you in your seat immediately after the service so it took us a while to get



to know people.

Haydn has joined the village choral group and they are very popular not only in the village but in the outer villages, so we have got to know the surrounding area.

Living here is very different to living in a large town and there are unusual differences. How many times have you had to stop the car to allow an army tank to cross the road? The village being very close to Salisbury Plain it is not unusual.

We have joined the theatre group which goes every 2 months to a theatre in either Oxford or Windsor. It's all done for you. The seats are booked, a bus takes you there and back, and it is usually a matinee performance so there is time for lunch. It's all very well organised.

I do miss Leeds though as Pewsey is very small, so no big shops to wander around. The centre of the universe here is the Co-op. I was told very early "Get to know where the Co-op is."

The family like visiting here especially Reuben, our eldest grandson. He wants to be a pilot and there is so much opportunity here for that, both military and civilian. Indeed they are arriving this weekend.

One big plus is everybody you pass either smiles or says good morning to you. There is no hurry here people take time to speak to you.

Give my regards to everyone

***Jennifer***

Jennifer's email address is <mailto:jddalton13@outlook.com>

She is happy to share this with people Ed.

## LOVE REMOVES BARRIERS

If thy heart is right, as my heart is with thy heart, give me thy hand. I do not mean be of my opinion. You need not. I do not expect it nor desire it. Neither do I mean, ' I will be of your opinion.' I cannot. It does not depend on my choice. I can no more think, than I can see or hear, as I will. Keep you your opinion and I mine as steadily as ever. You need not even endeavour to come over to me or bring me over to you. I do not desire you to dispute those points or to hear or speak one word concerning them. Let all opinion alone on one side and the other. Only give me your hand.....

Though we cannot think alike may we not love alike? May we not be of one heart though we are not of one opinion? Without all doubt we may. Herein all the children of God may unite notwithstanding these smaller differences. These remaining as they are, we may forward one another in love and good works.

***John Wesley ( Wesley's Sermons-The Catholic Spirit )***

With thanks to Gerry Leake for this Ed.

## A TIME OF WAITING

The mummified remains of Tutankhamun, king of ancient Egypt, were placed in a tomb crammed with furniture, statuary, clothes, chariots and other objects needed in the Afterlife. It was important in their religion for the body to be preserved as lifelike as possible. A spirit double of the person remained in the tomb, another was free to fly out of the tomb and return, and a third had to travel through the Underworld to the Final Judgement and the entrance to the Afterlife. Academics and others are gripped by the study of this period. Today atheists may arrange for their body to be burnt, living on only in the memories of those who knew them or know of them, the ashes perhaps scattered on unmarked land or water.

For the Christian death holds no fear, only certainty, the funeral a time of remembrance and the ceremonial laying away of the mortal remains but with the certainty of resurrection.

In the Holy Bible the Christian can find in the four Gospels an account of the death of Jesus by crucifixion and his resurrection, and in the letters there can be found understanding. The following verses in the Holy Bible can illuminate, inform and comfort.

Jesus said..., "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even though they die; and all those who live and believe in me will never die." (John 11:25-26) (GNB)

Jesus was crucified along with two criminals, one on a cross on his right and the other on his left. One of the criminals hurled insults at Jesus and was rebuked by the other. "We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise." (Luke 23: 41-43) (NIV)

Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last. (Luke 23: 46) (NIV)

When it was evening, a rich man from Arimathea arrived; his name was Joseph, and he was also a disciple of Jesus. He went into the presence of Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate gave orders for the body to be given to Joseph. So Joseph took it, wrapped it in a new linen sheet, and placed it in his own tomb, which he had recently dug out of solid rock. Then he rolled a large stone across the entrance to the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there, facing the tomb. (Matthew 27:57-61)(GNB)

After the Sabbath, as Sunday morning was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb...an angel of the Lord came down from Heaven, rolled the stone

away, and sat on it. ...The angel spoke to the women. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has been raised. Come here see the place where he was lying. Go quickly now, and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from death....'" (Matthew 28:1-2, 5-7)

'On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" (John 20:19) (NIV)

'This is how it will be when the dead are raised to life. When the body is buried, it is mortal; when raised it will be immortal. When buried, it is ugly and weak; when raised, it will be beautiful and strong. When buried, it is a physical body; when raised, it will be a spiritual body.' (1 Corinthians 15:42-44) (GNB)

Christians have a living, eternal faith founded on Jesus Christ, the incarnate, crucified God, the risen and ascended Son, the Three in One, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

***Tom Alexander***

## **LIDGETT PARK LADIES GROUP**

The Ladies Group meeting on Friday 17th May will be our Annual Review which will be chaired by Rev Tanya Short. Ladies, please do your best to attend as this is your opportunity to let us have your suggestions for the successful running of the Group next year, together with a look back at our activities over the past year. We shall meet for coffee at 10.30am as usual. The business part of the meeting should not take up too much time, and will be followed by a talk.

We hope to see you there.

***Anne Millett***

## COULD YOU BE A PASTORAL VISITOR?

LPMC would love to grow their pastoral visitors team.

Being a pastoral visitor involves...

- Visiting and actively offering opportunity for discussions about life events, current issues and concerns and keep contact with the church community.
- Supporting someone with a particular task but not personal care or personal affairs (e.g. talking through a particular situation that is worrying someone, signposting them to appropriate services and/or requesting spiritual support from the Minister)
- Supporting others – family members not on pastoral lists – if required
- Offering prayer if required.
- Working as part of a pastoral team

Pastoral visiting is ministry in action, showing God's love and care and bringing the church community to people's home, it is a very valued ministry. If you feel that maybe you could be part of the Pastoral team and would like a conversation, please see either ***Rev Tanya, Val Faint or Daphne Barton.***

He bids us build each other up;  
And gathered into one,  
To our high calling's glorious hope  
We hand in hand go on.

Charles Wesley 1707 - 88 (Hymns and Psalms 753 verse 2)

## ANIMAL TRIVIA QUIZ (Answers on page 21)

1. Which mammal is the heaviest in the world?
2. What is a Tasselled Wobbegong?
3. What is a group of crows called?
4. What animal is responsible for the most human deaths in the world?
5. What is the most venomous animal in the world?
6. Which animal's name is also one of the seven deadly sins?
7. What animal is the most harmless to humans worldwide?
8. What is the most trafficked mammal in the world?
9. A Puggle is a mixture of what two dog breeds?
10. From what distance can a shark detect a small drop of blood in the water?
11. Which of the following is not one of the twelve Chinese zodiac signs? -Tiger, pig, bat or rooster?
12. Which animal never stops smiling?

## PROJECT NEWS. MAY 2024.

Our Saturday Coffee Morning in April raised over £360 from the sale of refreshments, cakes and bacon butties. This is a marvellous amount especially considering that the number of visitors was lower than usual (Easter holidays and no children's drama group). Our thanks as always to those who work so hard to make these mornings such a success.

We are hoping to offer one or more Open Gardens again this year and will advertise these when dates have been decided. Apart from the regular Coffee Mornings, these will be our last fund-raising events for PAPYRUS so we do hope you will give us your usual generous support.

As the Annual Church Meeting approaches, do please think about any charity you know about, or that is close to your heart, that you may wish to put forward for next year's Project. Thank you.

***Margaret Farrar On behalf of the Project Group.***

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Reproduced with the permission of the BBC. (I thought this article is of interest because it outlines the sometimes forgotten values of a good university. Ed.)*

Last night saw the final of the fifty-third series of University Challenge, hosted by Today's very own Amol Rajan. Imperial College romped away from UCL, 285 points to 120. After a quiet twenty years, Imperial leapt to the forefront of the competition in 2020 under the influence of Brandon Blackwell. Blackwell, an African American from New York, raised on the wrong side of the tracks, genned up on thirty thousand flash cards before coming to Imperial and transforming its quiz team.

The story is a parable of the modern university. Blackwell stormed a culture complacent in its scarves and mascots and disdainful of the riches to be acquired by making quizzing a career. He brought international energy, disruptive diversity, electric competitiveness, methodical strategy ... and startling success.

But crucially he identified what it takes to be a successful team. The existing method was to choose the four biggest megabrain available. Blackwell realised that you didn't need four quarterbacks. You needed three specialists and a generalist. In doing so he recognised what truly makes a university.

The dynamism of a university lies in three chemical reactions: the research reaction, when scholars tackle the coal face of knowledge; the teaching reaction, when the new wine of fresh minds is poured into the old wineskins of current learning; and the interdisciplinary reaction, when specialists in different fields spark and fuse and create new configurations. The skill of university leadership is to make these reactions evenly dynamic and equally important.

As Amol points out in reflecting on his first series, universities don't find it difficult to recruit talented young people. But I see a real threat to universities in the commodification of knowledge

and its reduction into data, as a source of superficial competition or no more than fuel for the voracious appetite of artificial intelligence.

A university will always partly involve the accumulation and dissemination of knowledge. But the true goal of the university goes beyond knowledge. The ninetieth psalm includes the prayer, 'So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.' The dynamism of a university is the conviction that in the interaction of the different specialists and the odd generalist is found a result none could achieve alone.

The book of Proverbs tells us, 'I, wisdom, live with prudence, and I attain knowledge and discretion.' That sounds like a healthy University Challenge team to me. Because the real university challenge is not winning a quiz, but transforming knowledge into wisdom.

***Rev Dr Sam Wells – 09/04/2024***

## **LIVING WITH DOUBT**

### ***What is doubt?***

To question some aspects of Christianity – like the Virgin Birth for example – and to call that doubt is only just dipping your foot in the water. The wave that knocks us off our feet is that wracking, agonising worry that a whole lifetime of dedicated service as a Christian may have been totally misguided and wasted. After all, there are few confirmations of the rightness of what we're doing. Not many inner voices, few blinding visions. So when the dark night of rejection, anxiety, frustrated hope, loneliness or disillusion comes, it can easily be accompanied by the gnawing feeling that we've wasted our lives and chased an illusion. That's doubt.

It's what David Watson, experienced spiritual giant, minister of St Michael le Belfry, outstanding preacher, evangelist, writer, described. A routine visit to the doctor to have his asthma checked – a word in passing as he left – a consultant's



appointment in two days – diagnosis of cancer – prognosis?  
Maybe only a year to live.

In hospital he found the worst moments of doubt came at 2-3 in the morning. Having preached the Gospel to others with ringing conviction, now the fundamental questions nagged away in his mind. Is there a heaven? Is it anything more than a beautiful idea? Does God really exist after all? How can you be sure? He literally sweated over those questions. He identified with the experience of Jesus on the cross – “My God, my God...?” Jesus feeling abandoned by the One who gave his life meaning. That is doubt.

The doubts didn’t scupper David Watson’s faith. He eventually came through his doubts with faith strengthened. In his moving book “Fear no Evil” he wrote – “In the middle of those nightmare storms with waves of doubt and fear lashing around me, I found that my faith was secure on that immovable rock of Christ.”

### ***The loneliness of doubt***

When Roy Williamson was Vicar of a Midlands parish his phone rang early one evening. The call was from one of his leading members. A man who was a tower of strength both in the Church and the community. Could he come round and see Roy. His voice, normally cheerful and bright, was flat and anxious – so Roy agreed to his request and said, “Come straight away”. What could be the problem? Redundancy, family problems, illness? No. Before Roy could even make a cup of tea, nervously and tearfully the man said, “Vicar, I think I’ve lost my faith”.

What had happened was that for years he’d hidden the fact that he’d had genuine doubts about certain aspects of the Christian Faith. Because everyone else in Church, including the Vicar, had seemed doubt-free, he’d kept his firmly under wraps. The loneliness of doubt. An unwise visiting preacher had brought things to a head by saying faith and doubt were mutually exclusive! As the man said – “All I want to do is to believe, but with integrity. I just didn’t want to rock the boat.”

I think there are a lot of people in the Church living with the loneliness of doubt. And they keep on living with it, rather than sharing it, because they think no-one has doubts but them, and that if they voice them they'll be judged harshly. The problem is that when we have doubts everyone else seems so sure of themselves. It looks that way on a Sunday morning. But I know differently! I know we're a fellowship of strugglers. Many question and doubt. Many are still searching.

If all of us would be open and honest about our doubts other strugglers would be encouraged and know they're not alone and we ourselves would be helped to grow in faith.

### ***Have the courage to be open and honest***

As we saw in the last point – doubts can be dealt with only when we're open and honest about them.

Thomas – doubting Thomas – is the classic case. He didn't keep quiet about his doubts. He didn't pretend they didn't exist. Out they all came – “Unless I see the marks of the nails.... I will not believe.”

And it wasn't only Thomas. There's an encouraging little detail towards the end of Matthew's Gospel 28 v16-17 “When they saw Him they worshipped Him even though some of them doubted.” So others must have shared their doubts as well, for that to be included. And there follows the Great Commission – “Go....” The doubters were also given the Great Commission . Jesus neither reasoned with them nor told them that because of their doubts they couldn't be part of his mission. The doubters were given a job to do and assured of Christ's presence. So have the courage to be open and honest about your doubts.

### ***Cultivating the healing of silence***

One of the interesting examples of doubt in the Old Testament is the prophet Elijah – on the run from Queen Jezebel after winning a “Who's the best god” contest on Carmel Mountain. He's told to

go and stand on a mountain because God was passing by. A strong wind swept across the mountain and God wasn't in the wind. An earthquake shook the mountain and God wasn't in the earthquake. A forest fire swept the side of the mountain and God wasn't in the fire. But He ought to have been. In the early narratives of the Old Testament wind, earthquake and fire are the recurring symbols of God's presence. God had been in the wind that turned the Red Sea into dry land at the Exodus. He'd been in the earthquake that shook Sinai and in the fire of the Burning Bush with Moses. But now the Lord was not in the wind, earthquake and fire. But he ought to have been. It was as if the traditional symbols and images that conveyed the reality of God's presence were meaningless. Sound familiar? What do you do when you no longer find God in the places where you've traditionally experienced him? You've gone through the motions of prayer – Bible reading – fellowship – worship – and God has not seemed to be there.

I'm not persuaded that God is absent. It probably means He wants to be with us in a new way. For Elijah it was in "a still small voice". Or as one translation puts it – "a silence so deep that it was almost like a sound itself."

Maybe in living with doubt some of us need to discover God as the "still small voice." In the silence.

A woman who'd prayed for 14 years without ever sensing the presence of God went to see her priest. He gave her wise advice and later she told him of her first experience. She'd gone into her room and made herself comfortable. She relaxed and noticed what a nice shape the room was with its view of the garden. Gradually she became aware that the silence wasn't simply the absence of sound. She said – "The silence around began to come and meet the silence in me. All of a sudden I perceived that the silence was a presence. At the heart of the silence was God." In living with doubt – if we will give ourselves space, be it at home or in the hills, space to be quiet, to be open and receptive – we too may experience the still small voice.

### ***Belonging can lead to believing***

If we've to live with doubt in a creative way, then a sense of belonging is vital. It's fashionable to describe religion in Britain as "Believing without belonging". And certainly when doubts come many do leave the Church. When life deals you a rotten hand and you're plagued with anger and doubt – you've got to take it out on something. The Church is a ready target.

But I believe "Belonging comes before believing". A sense of belonging is the fertile soil in which faith can blossom and grow. I could not live with doubt were it not for the group of sinners and strugglers that is the Church. Their concern and kindness pulls at my heartstrings. Their laughter prevents me taking myself too seriously. Their compassion helps me to share at depth. Their worship keeps me rooted in God's love.

### ***Stretch out the hand of faith***

By faith we can go beyond our doubts to a real experience of the living Christ. In the story of Jesus walking on the water, Peter – impetuous Peter – says "Lord, if it's you tell me to come to you over the water." And Jesus says – not "Get back into the boat you fool" – but "Come". And he starts to walk towards Jesus. But when he sees the strength of the gale he begins to sink. The doubts. Peter cries out – as we might – "Save me Lord". And we're told "Jesus at once reached out and caught hold of him." There will be times when the strength of the gale – the storms of doubt and fear – overwhelm us and then we've to remember that there is One who reaches out for us, holds us and never lets us go.

***John Gilyead, who died recently, was once our minister at Lidgett Park. This is an abbreviated version of a talk he gave to our Ladies' Group during his time with us. Ed.***

## QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Blue Whale - 190 tonnes
2. A type of Shark
3. A Murder
4. Mosquitoes
5. Box Jellyfish
6. Sloth
7. Sheep
8. Pangolin
9. Pug and Beagle
10. Quarter of a mile
11. Bat
12. Quokka

**With thanks to Messy Church  
at Shadwell**



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