

Bush Hill Park
United
Reformed
Church

July and August
2025



25 Main Avenue, Enfield EN1 1DJ
www.bhpurc.org.uk

Who to contact

Minister

Ruth Dewis 07592 125027 minister@bhpurc.org.uk

Serving Elders

Andrew Caddies	andrew.caddies@bhpurc.org.uk
Lynda Cook (Secretary)	secretary@bhpurc.org.uk
Martin Hamblin (Treasurer)	martin.hamblin@bhpurc.org.uk

Youth activities

Boys Brigade	bb@bhpurc.org.uk
Girls Brigade	gb@bhpurc.org.uk

Other activities

Toddlers	toddlers@bhpurc.org.uk
Book Club	bookclub@bhpurc.org.uk
Weekly news sheet	link@bhpurc.org.uk
Newsletter	newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk
Hall & Room bookings	bookings@bhpurc.org.uk
Prayer requests	prayer@bhpurc.org.uk

Safeguarding Statement

Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church believes that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all those who are vulnerable (children, young people and adults at risk).

We expect all of our leaders, volunteers and those who use our premises to share this commitment and value the support of those who worship here in achieving this. Park United Reformed Church believes that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all those who are vulnerable (children, young people and adults at risk).

Please visit <https://www.bhpurc.org.uk/about-us/safeguarding> for further information.

Hello everyone,

This magazine is a bumper edition to cover July and August. Can I take this opportunity, on behalf of all of us who read the monthly magazines, to say a huge thank you to Lisa, Martin and Tom who put together our magazines from across the 3 churches. It takes a good proportion of their time to put each magazine together, which also involves chasing people to get rotas sent in, etc. to be included each month. Therefore, we wish them our grateful thanks and a well-earned rest!

Recently, we have had a wonderful front garden border of peonies which have been a welcome splash of colour for all who pass by. However, the first downpour of rain and gust of wind has totally spoiled them. Now I know why some gardeners, at the first promise of rain cover and shelter their peonies from damage.



Before



After

It made me think of the hymn,
well known for being sung by
Boys Brigade units,

‘Will your anchor hold in the
storms of life?
When the clouds unfold their
wings of strife’

It then begs the question, how
strong is our faith?

Do we drop our ‘petals’ as
soon as the wind and rain of
trials engulf us?

Who do we really put our trust
in to shelter us from damage
and destruction?

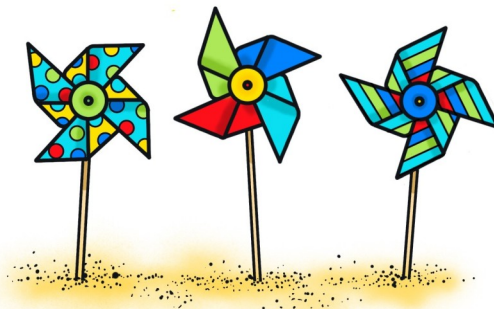
It is so easy to get
disappointed because the
peonies are wrecked.
Similarly, we can get
downhearted with the present

situations some of us find
ourselves in but in the same
way we know these same
peonies will grow back in ever
increasing number next year,
God gives us hope that there
is another opportunity ahead
and a future always with Him.

‘After you have suffered for a
little while, the God of all
grace, who called you to His
eternal glory in Christ, will
Himself perfect, confirm,
strengthen, and establish
you’, (1 Peter 5:10).

May these next two months
allow, at some point, time for
rest and recuperation from all
the business of life.

*God bless,
Ruth*



Smile lines

Could have been worse

A very long train with two engines was making its way across America. While crossing the Western mountains, one of the engines broke down. Slowly, the train chugged on. Farther along, the other engine broke down, and the train shuddered to a halt in the middle of nowhere. Not to be discouraged, the train driver announced: "Ladies and Gentlemen, I have good news and bad news. The bad news is that both engines have failed, and we will be stuck here for a couple of days until the additional engines arrive. The good news is that we are not making this announcement this on a plane."

Grave warning

Road sign outside the gates of a cemetery:

Drive carefully. We don't mind waiting for you.

Fearless in the line of fire

A six-year-old girl was taken by her grannie to a very 'high' Anglican church. Afterwards she tried to explain to her father what it had been like. "They tried to run us out - they brought in a smoke bomb and shook it at all the people in the front row. But grannie wasn't scared one bit. We stayed until the very end."

Here is the news

Church offers prayer to Glastonbury revellers

Festivalgoers attending Glastonbury this weekend are being offered a chance to step away from the crowds and connect with God, thanks to the ongoing Christian presence at the event.

The Church at Glastonbury, a temporary worship space, is once again providing festival attendees with a peaceful retreat from the noise and activity. Staffed by volunteers and clergy, the initiative offers daily prayers, quiet reflection, pastoral care, and even baptisms and wedding vow blessings for those who feel led to mark a spiritual moment during the festival.

A seasoned Glastonbury attendee and deacon in the CofE, Lewis Simonds said the festival has always been a spiritually significant space for him.

“The reason I come here is for a chance to be with real people, in a real place, in their real lives,” he explained. “The world is diverse, the festival is diverse, and the Church is part of that diverse world – it mirrors the microcosm of Glastonbury.”

For the full story go to <https://premierchristian.news/en/news/article/church-retreat-for-festivalgoers-at-glastonbury>

Churches Together in England welcomes Tessa Henry-Robinson as President for 2025 – 2028

As her term in office as Moderator of the Free Churches Group begins*, URC minister, the Revd Dr Tessa Henry-Robinson, who also acts as one of the Presidents of Churches Together in England (CTE), spoke to CTE’s Senior Communications Manager, Sarah Ball. Read the conversation at <https://urc.org.uk/churches-together-in-england-welcomes-revd-dr-tessa-free-churches-group-cte-president-for-2025-to-2028/>

Don't Step on a Bee Day – 10th July

Have you ever wanted to step on a bee? Hopefully most of us haven't – but the eye-catching name of this annual event aims to remind people of how important bees are in our ecosystem, and of the need to promote their protection.

Don't Step on a Bee Day highlights the crucial role bees play in pollination, and also that their populations are declining, because of habitat loss, pesticides, and climate change.

If you want to help the bees, here is what you can do:

Plant Bee-Friendly Flowers: Grow a variety of flowers in your garden that attract and support bees, such as lavender, sunflowers, and marigolds.

Avoid Using Pesticides: Reduce or eliminate these in your garden, to create a safer environment for bees.

Support Local Beekeepers: Purchase honey from local beekeepers, to help support sustainable beekeeping practices.

Create a Bee Bath: Place a shallow dish of water with stones in your garden to provide bees with a safe place to drink.

Educate Others: Share information about the importance of bees and how you protect them with friends, family, and on social media.



Bothered by mozzies in the garden? Instead of grabbing a bug spray, try putting a plant that they dislike near to where you sit: rosemary, marigolds, lemongrass, lemon balm, lemon thyme, catnip, garlic, lavender, basil. Not only will you, bees and butterflies enjoy these, but you could avoid being bitten.

Committed to supporting our global partners in Zimbabwe

When the family farm began struggling, Blessings' husband moved to the city to find work.

“Things were hard,” remembers Blessings. “We were living hand to mouth and had to wait for provisions to be sent from my husband. I found life really tough - doing everything on my own, trying to get something out of the land in drought. When I managed to harvest something, I couldn't get decent prices.”

Blessings tells how things changed for herself and the wider community with the coming of BRACKT, a Commitment for Life sponsored project in Zimbabwe. “The project taught us about disaster risk management, and this helped us plan what we need to do in case of droughts and even price fluctuations. The ‘climate smart’ agriculture training made us realise we can use less fertilisers, farm without cattle to help us plough and still get a harvest even when the rainfall is low. We can also grow feed for our livestock in our fields and make hay for the cattle and goats. This was all completely new to us.”

Thank you to you for your wonderful support for BRACKT through Commitment for Life. People all across Zimbabwe, like Blessings and her family, have had their lives transformed.



Using the group oil press

Photo credit: © Christian Aid

‘I started noticing they had something I didn’t’ – students tell how they came to faith

Students have been sharing their experiences of what first drew them to become Christians, and go on to speak about a “noticeable” increase in faith among Generation Z, in a recent national online service.

The students, Tegan and Gus, had began their journey to faith because of a simple invitation from friends to attend a church service.

For Tegan, it was a conversation with a friend at brunch which sparked her curiosity. For Gus, he needed to call into the church to borrow a camera for a university project.

“The first couple of times I came back just because I wanted to chat to the people – like it was a nice place to be,” Gus explains. “And from that community I noticed Jesus in them and that’s what I really wanted at the end of it.”

Tegan agrees: “I started noticing that they had something that I didn’t and it’s why I started going to the Alpha course and learned all about Jesus and who He was and what it meant for me.”

Both also speak about their own sense of growing interest in faith in their generation.

“I have noticed since being in a church myself lots more people joining that have never even heard the name of Jesus or don’t know much about Him and seeing other people come to Him is just so exciting,” says Tegan.

Gus adds: “The amount of people each year has definitely been increasing. It’s noticeable each time the new year comes up it’s ‘oh we’ve got even more people now’ it’s just so encouraging.”

He gave us eyes to see them: John Martin's 'Manfred on the Jungfrau'

In July we start looking with eager longing to holidays, a chance to get away from it all – to rest and recharge the batteries of life. Holidays are also a time to explore and visit new places. It might be the wild splendour of the Northumberland coast or the serenity of the Italian lakes, the vastness of the Grand Canyon or the magnificence of the Lake District.

This month's artist had a gift for creating paintings that expressed this epic quality of landscapes. John Martin was born in 1789, and as an artist was drawn to religious and historical scenes on the grand scale. He illustrated the Bible and Milton, and his final works were on the theme of the Last Judgement. These are in the Tate Gallery in London, but for this July we visit the Art Gallery in Birmingham with its amazing collection of over half a million items, including many Pre-Raphaelite treasures. The entrance to this Victorian building is beneath the clock tower known as Old Brum.

The Art Gallery is home to John Martin's watercolour of 1837, 'Manfred on the Jungfrau.' It is a large work, almost 5 feet by 3 feet, capturing the rugged, imposing glory of the Jungfrau. Now a railway takes tourists to the summit in the Bernese Alps in Switzerland. In the 19th century climbers had to navigate glaciers, high passes and steep precipices. John Martin captures the grandeur of all this in his painting of snow and sky, crags and torrents, mountains and pine trees. Against that immensity we see two characters: Manfred, tortured by guilt and about to throw himself off the edge, and the mysterious hunter who leads him to safety.

Byron's poem 'Manfred' inspired the music of Tchaikovsky and Schumann, as it inspired John Martin. They were each attracted



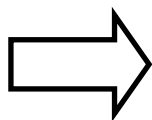
by the romanticism of man and nature in the poem. Like Manfred and the hunter in the watercolour, we look at this grace and nobility and feel humble and insignificant. Byron wrote:

*'How beautiful is all this visible world!
How glorious in its action and itself!'*

Manfred seeks redemption, but, sadly, finds only the solace of death. As we look at this painting, we see reflections of the landscapes we shall visit on our holidays. Such beauty, such glory, evoke for us those feelings of wonder and awe that inspired John Martin.

Manfred sees life in its true perspective as he gazes on the majestic scenery of the Bernese Alps. Holidays help us to put life into perspective. Away from the pressure of responsibility and duty, we often realise what is essential in our lives and with those around. We behold the majesty and glory of creation; we see this world as the handiwork of God; and we ask ourselves how we might make our way through it and be always alert to its mystery and its beauty.

Diary for July and August



See back cover for regular activities

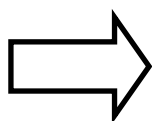
The full diary with regular activities is also online at www.bhpurc.org.uk/whats-on

July

Sun 6th	10.30am	Communion with Grant Owens
Mon 7th	10.30am	Book club at Dunelm, see page 20
Sun 13th	10.30am	Parade with Laura Marlow
Wed 16th	6.30pm	Last GB session before the summer
Sun 20th	10.30am	Worship with Rev Ruth Dewis
Fri 25th	6.00pm	Last Anchor Boys session before the summer break
Sun 27th	10.30am	Worship with Evodian Fonyonga
Mon 28th	6.15pm	Last Junior, Senior and Company Boys session before the summer break

August

Sun 3rd	10.30am	Communion with Terry Silvey
Sun 10th	10.30am	Parade with Lisa Hamblin
Sun 17th	10.30am	Worship with Rev Ruth Dewis
Sun 24th	10.30am	Worship with Martin Wells
Sun 31st	10.30am	Worship with Rev Ruth Dewis



**Next newsletter deadline:
Sunday 17th August**

All material for inclusion should be emailed to newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk

Prayer diary for July

but those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

Isaiah 40:31

Tuesday 1st

Leadership and Congregation
of Enfield Evangelical Free
Church

Wednesday 2nd

Burleigh Road

Thursday 3rd

Surgeons

Friday 4th

Children and staff at Al-
Shurooq School in Bethlehem
who we support as a church

Saturday 5th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 6th

Give thanks for our young
people and all children who
visit our church and its build-
ings

Monday 7th

Evelyn

Tuesday 8th

Leadership and Congregation
of St Andrews Parish Church

Wednesday 9th

Bury Street West

Thursday 10th

General Practice Doctors

Friday 11th

The work of North Enfield
Foodbank (we support them)

Saturday 12th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 13th

Thanks for our service men
and women

Monday 14th

Geraldine

Tuesday 15th

Leadership and Congregation
of Enfield Baptist Church

Wednesday 16th

Bycullah Avenue

Thursday 17th

Nurses

Friday 18th

Children in Zambia, particularly those who are helped by
Beyond Ourselves who we
support as a church

Saturday 19th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 20th

Thanks for water, whether rain
or from the turn of a tap

Monday 21st

Gertrude

Tuesday 22nd

Leadership and Congregation
of St Marks Parish Church

Wednesday 23rd

Cecil Avenue

Thursday 24th

Specialist Doctors

Friday 25th

Those without clean drinking
water and the charities that
seek to bring clean water and
sanitation to everyone

Saturday 26th

Sunday's Worship Leader and
the service tomorrow

Sunday 27th

Thanks for holidays and the
chance of meeting new
people

Monday 28th

Gwyneth

Tuesday 29th

Leadership and Congregation
of Christ Church United Re-
formed Church

Wednesday 30th

Clive Road

Thursday 31st

Resident Doctors



Prayer diary for August

And this is my prayer:
that your love may abound more and more
in knowledge and depth of insight,
so that you may be able to discern what is best
and may be pure and blameless
for the day of Christ

Philippians 1:9-10

Friday 1st

The work of The Leprosy Mission (we support them)

Saturday 2nd

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 3rd

Give thanks for our Elders

Monday 4th

Jane

Tuesday 5th

That the gospel would go forth in power to every nation and people

Wednesday 6th

Charles Street

Thursday 7th

For a more eco attitude to buy Fairtrade

Friday 8th

Children in Zambia, particularly those who are helped by Beyond Ourselves who we support as a church

Saturday 9th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 10th

Give thanks for answered prayers

Monday 11st

Joseph

Tuesday 12th

That God would save our leaders, give them wisdom and cause them to promote righteousness and life

Wednesday 13th

Chatsworth Drive

Thursday 14th

For a more eco attitude to reduce, re-use and recycle

Friday 15th

Those suffering from cancer and the charities who seek to find a cure

Saturday 16th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 17th

Give thanks for the hard won freedoms we enjoy in the UK

Monday 18th

Julia

Tuesday 19th

That the gospel would spread and that we might worship God in peace and freedom

Wednesday 20th

Cross Road

Thursday 21st

For a more eco attitude to my carbon footprint

Friday 22nd

Children and staff at Al-Shurooq School in Bethlehem who we support as a church

Saturday 23rd

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 24th

Give thanks for good health

Monday 25th

Kath

Tuesday 26th

That the people around us will see God and God's love within us and want to know more

Wednesday 27th

Delhi Road

Thursday 28th

For a more eco attitude to eat less meat

Friday 29th

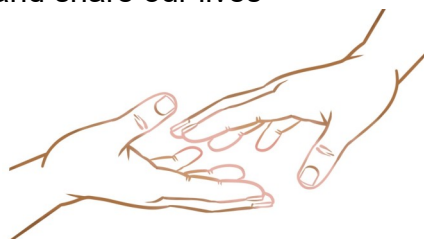
Children who care for a family member

Saturday 30th

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

Sunday 31st

Thanks for those who love us and share our lives



Fairtrade Foundation calls for tea-drinkers to ‘brew it fair’

Tea-drinkers in the UK are being asked to help change the “woefully inadequate” wages and working conditions of the estate workers on tea plantations around the world.

The Fairtrade Foundation’s new ‘Brew It Fair’ campaign is based on the findings of a report which sets out just how many workers on tea plantations live in “chronic poverty”.



FAIRTRADE
FOUNDATION

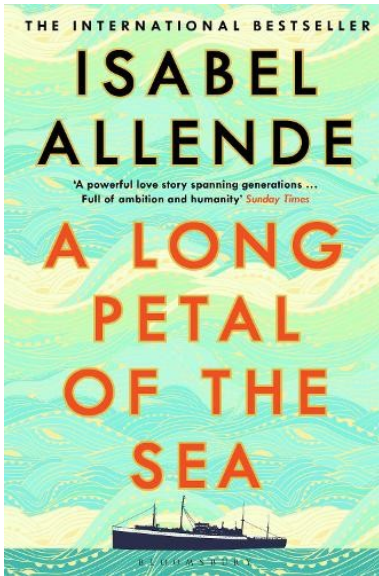
Much of the world’s tea is auctioned, which means that a few very large buyers end up able to dictate the prices of how much they will pay for it. This has a brutal impact on the workers: a recent survey of 260 tea-growers and pickers in Kenya found that only one in five earn enough to feed and support their families and then also send their children to school.

The report says: “As tea drinkers, we are now used to paying very little for, and putting little value on, our cup of tea.” But for the growers and pickers of tea, the “high levels of unstable work, low incomes and wages, gender discrimination and unsafe working conditions” continue.

Fairtrade calls on the UK Government to introduce a new law on human rights and environmental due diligence (HREDD). This should be “centred on the needs of farmers and workers, with a focus on supporting living incomes and living wages...”

The report also urges UK tea-drinkers to buy Fairtrade tea, highlighting the Co-op, Marks & Spencer, Sainsbury’s, and Waitrose as key supporters. The UK accounts for 61 per cent of all the Fairtrade tea sold in the world.

Book club



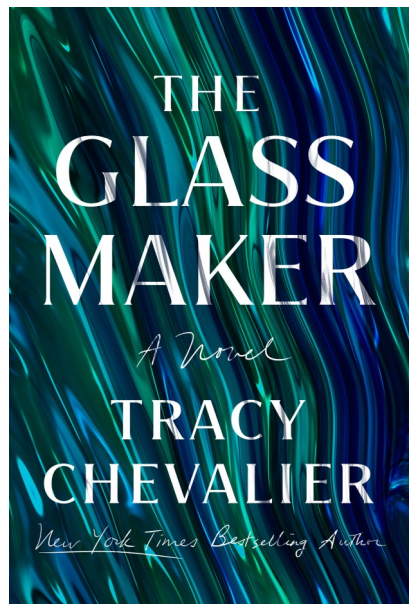
A long petal of the Sea by Isobel Allende

This is set from the most awful Spanish Civil War to modern times (1991). From Spain to Chile via France. It is really a novel based on fact, the life stories of Victor and Roser. A long at times not very exciting read. OK, we did learn about the politics of both countries, if you could understand it! Names you recall from the News - General Franco; Pablo Neruda (The Poet); Allende; Pinochet leaders of Chile.

Victor Dalmau, a medical student could not complete his studies to his qualification because of the War but did so much to help others in whatever situation he found himself. Roser is the girlfriend of his brother but ... I won't spoil it.

"We've started from nothing several times ... We can do it again!" This sums it up.

Next month we meet on Monday 7th July at Dunelm cafe to chat about 'The Glassmaker' by Tracy Chevalier.



Sylvia

'Christ is my logic': Scientist with world's highest IQ declares Christian faith

The man officially recognised as having the world's highest IQ at 276, has publicly professed his Christian faith.

YoungHoon Kim declared on social media: "Jesus Christ is God, the way and the truth and the life."

Known for his groundbreaking work in neuroscience and artificial intelligence, Kim emphasised that his belief is grounded not only in faith but in reason.

He wrote: "Christ is my logic", and expressed a desire to use his platform to lead others to God.

Kim, who holds a theology degree from Yonsei University in Seoul, describes theology as "the ultimate discipline of all fields of study."

In earlier reflections, he has argued that belief in life after death aligns with science, referencing quantum physics and consciousness theory.

He said: "If reality is part of something bigger, then death is not the end, but a transition."

Despite his status among the world's scientific elite, Kim says science and faith work together in the pursuit of truth: "Our death is not destruction, but change and shift. Humanity will keep searching for the truth about what comes after."

From <https://premierchristian.news/en/news/article/scientist-with-world-highest-iq-declares-faith>

Wonder and Worship: Reflections in a Scottish Rainforest

It can be easier to notice things away from home, when we are relaxed and surrounded by unfamiliar sights in an exotic location. But sometimes the same wonders are there in our own back yard. GK Chesterton was a great advocate of intensive observation, and he invited his readers to take a fresh look at things that might be taken for granted. The rewards for this mental adjustment are great, and can feed into our worship in new ways.

I first learned to appreciate old growth forests on the West coast of Canada: the centuries-old tangle of logs and underbrush, and thick layers of moss and lichen, that provide rich resources for countless organisms. Several years later, in Scotland, I stumbled over a few acres of birch and hazel, lush with moss and ferns, and humming with insect and bird life. Fallen logs lay everywhere, vegetation grew up the trees, creepers hung down, and sunlight slanted through clearings.



Credit: Ruth Bancewicz

I later discovered that this patch of woodland is one of the few remaining areas of old growth Atlantic rainforest, so I visited one sunny morning when I had more time to linger. The wood is home to 140 species of lichen and 100 of moss, so I found myself looking very closely at tree trunks and boulders. Each lichen is a unique relationship between a fungus and a particular collection of single-celled algae – an example of the collaboration that is so essential to every ecosystem.

Places like this are worth preserving, respecting, and appreciating as much as a work of art or a historic city. I'm so grateful to the community that chose to preserve it, and the Creator who used such intricate and patient processes to create it. As the animals and plants around me did what comes to them naturally, I did what I was made for – thanking God for everything I saw. I found myself praising God alongside all those species of lichen, moss and trees. "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord" (Psalm 150).

There is a growing call to take both our personal devotions and our church services outside from time to time, and there are a growing number of resources to help us do this. As you go through your week, can you find one new way to appreciate your surroundings, and praise God alongside the rest of Creation?

Dr Ruth Barcewicz



A colorful pirate-themed illustration serves as the background. It features a pirate ship with a skull and crossbones on its sail, a pirate in a red hat looking through a telescope, a boy in a striped shirt standing on the ship's edge, and a seagull wearing a pirate hat. The scene is set against a blue sky with clouds and a blue sea.

Lancaster Rd United Reformed Church

**Psalm Tree Island
Holiday Club**

Monday 28th July to Friday 1st August

9.30am to 12.30pm

**Registration forms available from
holidayclub@lancaster-road-urc.org.uk**

or call 020 8367 0289

Boys' Brigade news

As we head into summer we have an abundance of activities, trips and competitions coming up before we head off to Camp 2025!

June began with a challenge evening at the hall, testing teamwork, communication and skill. A game where a grid had to be completed by describing patterns and flags hidden around the room, but where only one person could see the grid. A Second Enfield themed spot the difference, where each team was split in half and stationed at opposite ends of the room - one half of the team had to describe what they could see to the other half as they worked to try to find a total of 35 differences across five images. Other challenges included, in pairs, completing an obstacle course whilst balancing a football on two pool cues, walking a slack line and trying to perfectly time the bounce of a tennis ball in order to hit some challenging targets.

Week two saw us set off to quasar laser quest, which reminds me, I went to a laser show the other Saturday, it was illuminating.

On to week three and we headed over to Whitewebbs for an extravaganza of team games and challenges, including a daring river cross!

The next Monday the boys will be going kayaking and paddle boarding. On the subject of boats, a ship carrying red paint crashed into a ship carrying blue paint, the crew were marooned!

The last Monday of June is possibly the most anticipated Monday night of the BB Calendar; it's the night of pirates and the camp meeting. Tents will be revealed; activities will be revealed and the theme of camp 2025 will be revealed!

In the Mondays leading up to camp there will be a football, cricket and frisbee games tri-tournament, a trip to a multi-levelled high ropes course, with three levels, six courses and over 70 aerial obstacles, finishing with a 40m zip line - I'm sure fun will be had by all, this feels like it would be a good place for a rope pun, but unfortunately I do not know any.

The next week we'll be off to top golf, I haven't been there since last winter, I asked for a tea and they gave me a small peg with a concave head which could be placed in the ground.

That then brings us to our last Monday night of the year before camp, the annual Danish rounders and BBQ before we load up and travel to camp. Camping is something that Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson were once fans of. Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson go on a camping trip together. After eating their dinner around the campfire, they retire to the tent to go to sleep. A few hours later Sherlock wakes up. "Watson, are you awake?" He asks. "Yes sir. What is it?" Answers Watson. "Look up and tell me what you see." Asks Holmes. "I see billions of stars," says Watson. "And what does that tell you Watson," asks Holmes. "Well," says Dr Watson, "Astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, I observe that Saturn is in Leo. Horologically, I deduce that the time is approximately a quarter past three. Theologically, I can see that God is all powerful and that we are small and

insignificant. Meteorologically, I suspect that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow." "Why? - What does it tell you, Holmes?" Holmes is quiet for a moment then says: "It tells me that someone has stolen our tent."

There are two competitions before the end of the BB year, for which we will be going for gold. First up is the hare and hounds' competition followed by the athletics. Stay tuned to see how we did, where we finished in the Victory cup competition, and to find out what we got up to at camp.

Joseph

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT **BIBLE GATEWAY**



06-26-2015

**NOAH KNEW THERE WOULDN'T BE ANOTHER
FLOOD, YET HIS ARK REFLEX REMAINED
HEIGHTENED FOR YEARS TO COME**

Wordsearch

If you ever struggle with doubt, take heart: so did one of the apostles, whose Feast Day is this month. St Thomas just could NOT believe that the Jesus he had seen crucified and dead on the cross could ever come back to life. But Thomas was an honest sceptic, because he really wanted to know the truth. Jesus could help such a man. And so He appeared to him and the other disciples. Instead of scolding him, Jesus simply showed him the wounds. Thomas's response was immediate: "My Lord and my God" (John 20.26ff). Ancient legends tell how Thomas went on to India as a missionary. There are rumours that Thomas even built a palace for a king's daughter in India, and thus he is the patron saint of architects. It is believed that he was martyred by a spear on 3rd July, 72 AD in Mylapore, near Madras. 46 ancient churches in England are dedicated to him.

thomas	doubt	apostle	cross	dead
truth	sceptic	wounds	lord	god
appeared	india	patron	martyred	spear
mylapore	missionary	showed	saint	madras

T	N	I	A	S	I	N	D	I	A	D
D	M	I	S	S	I	O	N	A	R	Y
D	A	O	M	Y	L	A	P	O	R	E
O	R	E	T	R	A	P	W	E	O	I
C	T	O	D	R	E	O	D	C	T	S
N	Y	D	L	A	U	S	I	P	B	R
A	R	T	R	N	A	T	S	A	U	A
R	E	E	D	M	P	L	H	T	O	E
O	D	S	O	E	D	E	G	R	D	P
R	E	H	C	P	D	E	W	O	H	S
W	T	S	A	R	D	A	M	N	D	O

Prayer

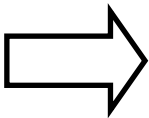
Lord, in this month, we, your church, remember Thomas.

Thomas, who asked questions and doubted when he didn't see You with his own eyes. And Lord, You walked through those locked doors of his questions and doubts specifically to meet his needs.

Help us to come to you, honestly, with our questions and doubts, knowing that You understand and will meet our needs too. Help us to recognize You with eyes of faith – the only One who can help us.

May we declare, with Thomas, in humility, devotion and thankfulness, 'My Lord and my God!'. We pray in your powerful name, Lord Jesus. Amen.

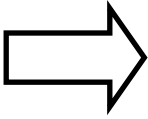
Daphne Kitching



If you have a prayer you would like put in the newsletter instead (or indeed as well as...) do email it to newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk.

If you would like prayer for yourself or family and friends please email prayer@bhpurc.org.uk

Weekly activities



Please check the church website to confirm if the activity you want to go to is going ahead.
www.bhpurc.org.uk/whats-on

Monday

- 6.15pm Boys' Brigade Junior Section
- 7.30pm Boys' Brigade Company Section
- 10.30am Book Club (once a month, date inside)

Wednesday

- 10:00am Toddler Group
- 6.30pm Girls' Brigade

Thursday

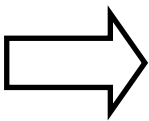
- 10.30am Friends Group (2nd & 4th Thursday)

Friday

- 6.00pm Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys

Sunday

- 10.30am Worship with groups for children and young people (Communion 1st Sunday)



The Bush Hill Park URC Newsletter is published monthly. To receive email notifications please email newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk

Please note that the views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the whole fellowship or representative of church policy.

