



FOCUS

www.barnet-urc.org
www.chesterfieldroadurc.org

**You are not only responsible for
what you say, but also for what you
do not say.**

Martin Luther



This is the time of year, well, in our house at least, we start considering clearing and replanting our many garden containers – about 50 in all – with bulbs for the new year.



Last year our display was OK, the year before, however, was excellent, with many neighbours and passers by commenting on our excellent spread of colour and plants!

It's takes planning, money, time and, above all, work to achieve this, but once planted there is not a lot we can do. It's down to agencies of which we have very little, if any, control. We go out and check the soil, remove weeds and other things that may hinder growth and hope, with a prayer and a wish, that our plans will succeed.

The life of the church it is very similar. We need to plan and discuss what we want to achieve. This will then require a commitment on our part to put in place those actions we want and can undertake.

This will cost both commitment and work on our part and, like the bulbs, we nurture them along and our plans are covered with hope and much prayer.

There is only so much we can do to raise either a full beautiful display or grow the church, but without the plans and the commitment nothing would happen.

Let us seek the growth we long for. In our fellowship with the same passion and commitment as we give our gardens.

Editor

Gardens are not made by singing 'Oh, how beautiful,' and sitting in the shade.



AN UPDATE

First of all, a big thank-you to those of you who responded to the invitation to meet together to think generally about Walking the Way and particularly Holy Habits. Unfortunately, although there was a good response, these responses indicated that it would be virtually impossible to fix a date on which a significant majority might meet!

Already a date had been fixed for those who coordinate the evening services to meet together and plan the services for the next few months. Also, some involved with planning the evening services were due to meet and look at ideas for the autumn Bible Studies, So we decided to see what came of those meetings and where to go from there.

At this stage, allow me to re-cap, Walking the Way is is not a new initiative or programme, it is all about a way of being, of living the Christian life as God intended. One of the main ways the URC is helping us do this is to use the Holy Habits materials

So, the various conversations took place and we were all conscious of two things: the promotion of Holy Habits is a good thing but we have a wide range of ministers and lay preachers leading our morning worship week by week for some of whom, "Holy Habits" will be a familiar theme, whilst for others a new concept.

In spite of the difficulties, we are hopeful we have a solution: there are lots of other opportunities to promote, study and practice Holy Habits: evening services, Bible studies and BB/GA Bible Classes. Each activity will follow its own programme but as we work through that programme we will explore the Holy Habits involved. Also, Vic is working on a short note to those leading our morning worship explaining what we are doing and, without asking them to change what they are preparing, inviting them to draw out the Holy Habits that apply to their theme.

Through the autumn, in our **Evening Services**, we will read the first few chapters of Acts, looking for the development of Holy Habits in the early church and how we can apply them to our lives today, both individually and corporately; hence the title: *How it*



October

7th Sue Russell

14th Sue Russell

21st Bob Swinstead

28th Christine Nuckey

November

4th Jenny de Naeyer

11th Sue Russell

18th Sue Russell

25th Fleur White

December

2nd }

9th }

16th } Tree

23rd }

30th }

all began. Our first service was on Sunday 16th of September we remembered together the first two chapters of Acts, ending with Acts 2:42-47, from which ten Holy Habits can be listed, we followed this with refreshments (home-made cakes and drop scones).

For the next series of **Bible Studies** we are studying one chapter of Ephesians each week and, again, drawing out the Holy Habits as we go, ending, of course, with refreshments (more cake and sausage rolls). The letter to the Ephesians is divided into roughly equal parts, chapters 1-3, who God is and what he has done for you and (chapters 4-6) here then is how you are to live, interspersed with Paul's prayers for the people to whom he is writing.

The **BB/GA Bible Class** will follow the national syllabus but the chaplain will use the same strategy of drawing out the Holy Habits from each session.

So far, we are only scratching the surface but we aim to go deeper as we discover more about each Habit and how developing it can enrich our faith-walk.

The Ten Holy Habits

Biblical Teaching

Fellowship

Breaking Bread

Prayer

Sharing Resources

Serving

Eating Together

Gladness & Generosity

Worship

Making More Disciples

Sue Russell

Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association Camp 2018

The boss (Alan) calls it the annual holiday, thinking that perhaps the word "camp" puts our youngsters off. I think he should revert to camp – we only had 15 to look after this year. But that didn't detract from the fun, oh no.

Listen, as residents of Norfolk we, the Ward family, have no compunction extolling the virtues and beauty of our county and this year, in our triumvirate of venues, we found ourselves in the east, a lovely area. You must, on your travels, visit the village of Filby. Not only do the villagers participate in decorating their gardens and lampposts with



gorgeously colourful flowers from one end of the village to the other, they also harbour a beautifully secluded Broad, an animal park where you can get close and personal with tigers, cheetahs and howling monkeys and Broad

Farm, the camp site where we pitched for a week at the end of July. We are familiar with it, having descended several times previously.

The site owner had allocated a field for us the size of an international football pitch, large enough to accommodate more tents than we needed this year, a marquee and plenty of outdoor play space. It's a semi-military operation putting up the tents in, pretty much, a circle round the marquee. I have to say it looks impressive to the observer (and we were applauded by Jo Public) but you don't want to be the one leading a team of older members who have misaligned their tent. Incur the wrath of Alan at your peril!

Camp has morphed into a routine for the leaders. There is a tried and tested pattern and nobody is minded to change what ain't broke. There are no economies of scale in camping. It just means that with fewer campers everything is slightly less; the washing up, the food stores, the

cooking, the driving, the responsibility.

Not so for the campers themselves who are treated to activities morning, afternoon and evening, punctuated only by sumptuous meals, yes I mean it, sumptuous. If you can think of an activity we did it; that is, within the bounds of the strict governance of BB HQ.

God blessed us with the most wonderful weather this year, falling, as camp did, slap bang in the middle of a memorable summer. Unlike last year when we battled the elements, this year the only adverse weather was Friday night when, from inside our tents, we witnessed first a striking lightning storm which hit Hunstanton lighthouse on the west coast of Norfolk, then thunder and rain. We were fortunate enough to strike camp on Saturday in the dry although damp canvas was loaded on to the lorry that morning.

I've mentioned the compliments from other site users. They were plentiful this year. I suppose fewer numbers means less noise but our chaps and chapesses conducted themselves with aplomb. They were a joy to be with. It was a sensible balance of genders too which makes the mix more fun.

We do not forget what the organisation stands for and its affiliation to the church. Morning devotionals are led by Bil after breakfast, members take turns saying "grace" before meals and I take an abbreviated Bible Class mid-week after dinner. You would

be pleased to see how engaged the youngsters are throughout.



Leaders this year were Alan & Bil King, Gill, Helen and Nigel Ward, Rod Bentley, Charlotte Zdibyl and Maureen (Alan's work

colleague). Thanks, as always, go to Alan for the organisation. He in turn is overwhelmed by the voluntary

support of the leaders and bemoans the absence of help from parents. Gill, in particular, deserves mention for her stewardship of the kitchen in the marquee, singlehandedly providing top class cuisine 3 times a day.

Another successful camp. I'm getting too old for this malarkey, but on the flip side, I'm looking forward to next year's already – God willing.

NAW.



Sun, September 1, 1918

FRANK CARTER

L/Cpl – Trench Mortar Batty (20th Bn KRRC)
LA CLYTTE MILITARY CEMETERY

Ewen Hall Soldiers Hospital Report 15 for July – September 1918

At the beginning of July the memorial tablet to W. J. Wells was unveiled. On the July 13th it was announced that in future each extra ration request to be looked at on merit. The price of Gas is now up to 9d (c£10 today) per 1000 feet - so delivery will be reduced. The 1st Barnet Company Band lead members of Barnet Congregational Church Sunday School back from their Sports Day. In the same week 100 wounded were entertained at the Old Court House - 50 from Wandsworth the rest from Barnet War Hospital and our Ewen Hall Hospital. Civilian guests mostly young women but also some American Naval Officers and YMCA officials in addition attend. The Brixton & Clapham Silver Band provided the entertainment. The next week the Barnet Constitutional Club gave a concert and tea for 50 patients. Miss Game sent a letter to "The Barnet Press" detailing the needs of the Ewen Hall Hospital and asking for support. At the end of July members of Alston Works entertain the wounded at the

Pennyfather Hall. A debate is brewing over if lights should be on or of over night? *The public need to collect fruit stones and nut shells to be used for the war purposes. The children involved in the Arkley Egg collection managed to acquire 4,500 eggs!*

August opened with the Barnet Allotment Holders entertaining the wounded at Pax Hill to a gymkhana, tea and concert. There was a Potatoes relay, egg & spoon, ribbon, obstacle and week-end ["No I don't know either"] races. *This week 15 members from the 1st Barnet Boys' Brigade Company are helping on farms in Kent and 20 others will go down next week. The Barnet Volunteers at camp at Hatfield Park. A "Remembrance Day" was held in Barnet. Flowers, at the suggestion of the Lord Mayor of London were received at the Council Offices and distributed by Barnet Girl Guides and members of the 1st Barnet Boys' Brigade Company to the Barnet War Hospital and the Ewen Hall Hospital. The Barnet Constitutional Club this month entertained 50 wounded at a Whist Drive. Towards the end of the month B Company Herts Volunteer Reserves went to Hatfield for musketry training.*

Jesus Hospital Charity sold the "Royal Oak" at Bethnel Green for £4000 at the start of September it was reported. There is to be a National Police strike but NOT in Barnet. "Red Caps" (Military Police) arrested a deserter at this year's annual Barnet Fair. The Barnet Volunteers held a Field Day at Brickett Wood. Local man Sergeant Major Everett has returned from Egypt and South Africa. It was recorded that 0.93" of rain fell on Wednesday night. The Barnet Constitutional Club entertained again this time for about 50 patients. The price of Gas is now down to 8d per 1000'. Women should be reminded that Regulation 40D under the Defence of the Realm Act 1918 is being enforced.

We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone.

BB/GA Juniors Weekend Camp

This summer, for the first time, our Juniors weekend camp was held inside a theme park. Wicksteed Park in Kettering. This was mainly because a big event was being set up for the following weekend at the BB campsite we normally use.

When we arrived at Wicksteed Park on the Saturday morning a group of parents kindly set up the tents for us so the children were straight off to activities. Canoeing, Laser Extreme, a Tree Top Walk, Dodgems and a playground with more equipment than any of our members had ever seen before.

One of the park's restaurants stayed open late so we could have an evening meal, that is one of the benefits of having a group of over 40 people. Perfect behaviour through the night meant a good nights sleep for everyone.



After breakfast on the Sunday we quickly took down the tents and the children went on whatever they wanted to. Roller coasters, log flume and all sorts of other theme park rides.

At the end of the afternoon we all gathered together and headed back to Barnet. At our debriefing during the next meeting, comments from the children included: "It was good that everything was in one park, no travelling around." "Wicksteed Park is great, we should go there again." The roller coaster was amazing, really fast!" "The rides were really good." When asked if there was anything they didn't like nobody could think of anything, and there was no mention of the longer journey to get there and back. We won't camp in a theme park every year but it's certainly something we will do again.

The term integrity has been defined in various ways.

Some would say it is the quality of being honest and having strong moral principals. Others would say it is doing the right thing all the time simply because it is the right thing—doing the right thing knowing no one will know whether you did it or not.

I want to suggest, based upon Scripture, a life of integrity is what should characterize each Christian.

A life of integrity makes us like Jesus. "...Jesus Christ...went about doing good..." (Acts 10:38).

A life of integrity protects our reputation. "Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us" (Titus 2:7-8).

A life of integrity gives us confidence to face eternity. "Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labour in vain" (Phil. 2:14-16).

A life of integrity strengthens the message we share with others. "Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honourable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation" (1 Peter 2:11-12).

Doing the right thing—doing what Jesus Christ would do—will have a huge impact on our own lives and on the lives of others. Are we known as people of integrity?

Action on Climate Change

... behind the headlines



Protecting Nature
Caring For God's Earth



On the 8th September 2018 a meeting was held at St. John's URC, Somerset road to look at the issue of climate change

The meeting took the form of a workshop with tables from many organisation, both Christian and other, who are seeking to tackle the issue of climate control.

There were also presentations by speakers from these organisation explaining their focus and what they would encourage, both individuals and organisation, to do to help limit the effect of our use, or misuse, of the Earth and its resources.

In attendance were clergy; Cllr Lisa Rutland, past mayor of Barnet, and Theresa Villiers MP.

They supported the basic aims of those presenting plus explaining the way the council and government are seeking way to control the effects of climate change.

The three points that I took away with me were:

- We need to do more to move away from the use of fossil fuels and their erosion of our planet.
- Our government needs to do more to



help those developing countries to try and build their economies not on fossil fuels.

- As individuals, we need to be more aware of the harm we are doing and try to improve our use of the valuable resources that God has given us.



There are a selection of leaflets from the day at the back of church.



Revd Julian Templeton, Philip Nalpanis, Hilary George, Tony Shepherd, Fred George, Teresa Villiers MP

Written by a teenager in the USA

Now I sit me down in school
Where praying is against the rule
For this great nation under God
Finds mention of Him very odd.
If scripture now the class recites,
It violates the Bill of Rights.
And anytime my head I bow
Becomes a Federal matter now.
Our hair can be purple, orange or green,
That's no offense; it's a freedom scene..
The law is specific, the law is precise.
Prayers spoken aloud are a serious vice.
For praying in a public hall
Might offend someone with no faith at all..
In silence alone we must meditate,
God's name is prohibited by the State..
We're allowed to cuss and dress like freaks,
And pierce our noses, tongues and cheeks...
They've outlawed guns, but FIRST the Bible.
To quote the Good Book makes me liable.
We can elect a pregnant Senior Queen,
And the 'unwed daddy,' our Senior King.
It's 'inappropriate' to teach right from wrong,
We're taught that such 'judgments' do not belong..
We can get our condoms and birth controls,
Study witchcraft, vampires and totem poles...
But the Ten Commandments are not allowed,
No word of God must reach this crowd.
It's scary here I must confess,
When chaos reigns the school's a mess.
So, Lord, this silent plea I make:
Should I be shot; My soul please take!

Amen

Can You Follow Directions?

Three minute test:

1. Read everything before you do anything.
 2. Put your name in the upper right-hand corner of this page.
 3. Circle the word 'name' in sentence two.
 4. Draw five small squares in the top right-hand corner.
 5. Put an X in each square you have just drawn.
 6. Put a circle around each square.
 7. Sign your name under the title of this page.
 8. After the title write 'yes yes yes'.
 9. Underline sentences number seven and eight.
 10. Put an X in the lower left-hand corner of this page.
 11. Draw a triangle around the X you have just made.
 12. Draw a circle around the word 'top' on sentence four.
 13. Count out in your normal speaking voice from one to ten.
 14. Punch three small holes in these page with your pencil here ...
 15. Now that you have finished reading carefully, do only sentences one and two.
-



Church Contacts

Wood Street

Church Secretary
Vic Russell
07853 621 001

Sunday Club
Alison Atkinson
020 8441 1196

Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association
Alan King
020 8440 7537

Brownies
Pamela Lane
020 8441 5339

10 O'Clock Club
Stacey Cronin
07528 448 275

Chesterfield Road

Church Secretary
Bernie Cleal
020 8449 1868

Articles for the next edition should be with
the editor by

Sunday, 9th December 2018

focus@urc-barnet.org

Magazine of the
United Reformed Churches in Barnet
worshipping at Wood Street and
Chesterfield Road.