**ACTIVITIES IN CHURCH**

**Sunday 11.00am Family Church Service/Communion monthly**

**Curling after Sunday service (twice monthly)**

**Monday 9.45am U3A Bridge Class**

**10.00am Aspire/craft group**

**1.30pm U3A Scottish Dancing**

**2.00pm Monday Fellowship (twice monthly)**

**6.30pm St John’s Ambulance**

**Tuesday 10.00am Zumba Gold exercise class**

**12.30pm Pulmonary Rehab Clinic**

**12.30pm Pulmonary Fibrosis Support Group**

**(1st in the month)**

**1.45pm Sequence Dance**

**2.00pm HopeafterStroke (2nd in month)**

**7.30pm Huddersfield Miniatures (2nd in month)**

**6.00pm Huddersfield Choral Society (rehearsals)**

**Wednesday 9.00am Tumble Tots**

**10.00am Drop-In Coffee morning**

**10.00am Knit & Natter - Lunch 12noon**

**7.30pm Friendship Club Dance**

**Thursday 10.00am U3A Mahjong**

**12.30pm Pulmonary Rehab Clinic**

**2.00pm U3A Social Bridge**

**Friday 10.30am Living Well with Dementia (weekly)**

**1.30pm Latin Class**

**2.00pm Shared Harmonies**

**7.30pm Collectors Club (2nd in month)**

**Saturday 10.00am-11.30am Coffee Morning**

**9.00am Tumble Tots**

**Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals by arrangement.**

**Contact: Church Office 01484 430556 email - office@moldgreenurc.org.uk**

**Enquiries for room hire – email -** [**bookingsformurc@outlook.com**](mailto:bookingsformurc@outlook.com)

**Activities are weekly unless otherwise stated.**

***UNITED REFORMED CHURCH***

***MOLDGREEN HUDDERSFIELD***

***WORKING FOR CHRIST AND THE COMMUNITY***

***OCTOBER 2024***

***Moldgreen is part of the Huddersfield.***

***Pastorate of United Reformed Churches***

A stained glass window with leaves and acorns

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**Mission Statement**

**“WORKING FOR CHRIST AND**

**THE COMMUNITY”**

**What we believe**

**We believe in God, source, and sustainer of creation.**

**We believe in God, revealed in Jesus Christ, the eternal**

**Word of God made flesh.**

**We believe in God, ever present in the Holy Spirit who**

**Brings the Gospel to fruition.**

**How we achieve our mission**

**We are a fellowship of people who seek to worship God**

**through our lives and witness to other people.**

**We take seriously our responsibility to share our faith and**

**Love with others and are seeking avenues of service and mission in our church, homes, community, and places of work.**

**We seek to prepare ourselves for this mission to others**

**through our prayers and obedience to God’s will.**



**UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

**MOLDGREEN**

[**www.moldgreenurc.org.uk**](http://www.moldgreenurc.org.uk)

**Church office: tel. 01484 430556**

**Email:** [**office@moldgreenurc.org.uk**](mailto:office@moldgreenurc.org.uk)

[**bookingsformurc@outlook.com**](mailto:bookingsformurc@outlook.com)

**Old Wakefield Road, Moldgreen, Huddersfield HD5 8AA**

***“WORKING FOR CHRIST AND THE COMMUNITY”***

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***and Sacrament***  *Helen Snashall*

*Revd Sarah Fitton helensnashall21@gmail.com*

[*revsarahfitton20@yahoo.com*](mailto:revsarahfitton20@yahoo.com)

***Community Worker***

*Sue Cockcroft*

*Sue@s2r.org.uk*

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*Mrs Christine Hall Mrs Jean North*

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*Jean Whitehead*

**page 1**

**October 2024**

**The Good Shepherd -** *by Lester Aman*

Psalm 23 is well loved, and its paraphrased words are often sung in the popular hymn *The Lord’s My Shepherd*.

At the time of Jesus, these labourers were everywhere, as sheep were a common commodity. So, when Jesus described a shepherd, He was referring to someone the people all knew about.

Our Lord’s description of a shepherd helped His hearers to understand Jesus, as they were aware that sheep were valuable. A good shepherd made sure sheep were protected and fed. If they got into danger, they had to be rescued. A hireling would not be so considerate. He would abandon the sheep when faced with dangerous animals or aggressive thieves! Only a good shepherd would risk his life in caring for the flock.

In His parable (John 10:1-18) Jesus goes a step further talking about a good shepherd as He is speaking about Himself. Sheep know their owner and follow him, and Jesus wants us to know and follow Him. Sheep can get lost and end up in trouble. Jesus came to our rescue and is indeed our Saviour. A shepherd knows each sheep by name and Jesus knows *us* individually too. We can trust Him with our lives.

Jesus said that just as a shepherd is willing to die caring for his sheep, He too would die – looking ahead to His crucifixion. This would secure our salvation and provide a Home with Him. Jesus also said that there are other sheep of interest to Him! He speaks of being the shepherd of all nations, not just the Jews. His love extends to everyone.

These words of Jesus are so important. Give thanks that Jesus died for us and now waits for us to be with Him. We belong to Him, we are His people, we are His flock.

SOURCE: THE PARISH PUMP

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**News of the church family**

We hope you are all keeping well, it is lovely to see our regular congregation on a Sunday and those from our pastorate who join us and not forgetting our ‘zoomers’ at home, plus new people who we have welcomed as well. We also welcome our regular groups and new groups who hire space during the week.

We do hope you will continue to pray for all our church fellowship, friends and family, our local community, and the wider world.

Please continue to remember our members and friends. Margaret Pickup, Margaret Hines, Pat Hollier, Audrey Greenwood, those who are in residential homes and those who live at home and are not able to come to church. If you are able, please do keep in touch with

people, a telephone call and a chat are always welcome.

At the time of writing Pat Hollier is very ill and we ask for your prayers for her.

Please remember Alan Atkinson, who at present is in hospital and we send Alan and June our love and prayers.

Please continue to remember many others in our fellowship who are going through serious health problems, and we send our love and prayers to them all. We ask you to remember and pray for all these people mentioned and others known to you who are unwell or experiencing difficulties. As well as those who are caring for their loved ones and those of our fellowship, pastorate, family, and friends who have been bereaved.

**REMEMBER TO PUT YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR**

**ON SUNDAY 27TH OCTOBER**

A black and white clock

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**Church Security**

I wonder how many of us have got so used to the door security system that we almost don’t notice it anymore – or do some of us still think it’s a nuisance and a waste of time and money.

Well, I’ve just had a conversation with Hannah who runs the Tumble Tots group, and it really made me think: if there had been a similar system in use in the community centre in Southport would those little girls have been killed? Would the other people have been so badly wounded? Could their attacker have entered the building?

I imagine few of us considered our church system when we heard the appalling news, but we have a number of groups in church for young children, including Tumble Tots, and if we were in charge of them, we would certainly be more aware. We are all responsible for the safety of those who use our building; for the monitoring of the door entry system which can only be secure if we use it properly; for checking those who want to enter the building, ensuring they are legitimate users.

Hannah was saying that she, her staff, and the parents who use Tumble Tots are all very grateful for the security of the building as it’s just one more way we look after our community. If we use it properly, it’s a way we can look after ourselves too! **JLS**

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN OCTOBER**

Oct 2nd - Wednesday Drop In 10.00am - 12.00noon

Knit & Natter / Lunch at 12noon

Oct 4th - Living Well with Dementia 10.30am-2.30pm

Oct 5th - Saturday Coffee Morning 10.00am-11.30am

Oct 6th - Harvest Thanksgiving Service 11.00am

Curling after the church service

Oct 9th - Wednesday Drop In 10.00am - 12.00noon

Knit & Natter / Lunch at 12noon

Oct 11th - Living Well with Dementia 10.30am-2.30pm

Oct 12th - Saturday Coffee Morning 10.00am-11.30am

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Oct 13th - Family Church Service 11.00am

Oct 14th - Monday Fellowship 2.00pm

Oct 16th - Wednesday Drop In 10.00am - 12.00noon

Knit & Natter / Lunch at 12noon

Oct 18th - Living Well with Dementia 10.30am-2.30pm

Oct 19th - Saturday Coffee Morning 10.00am-11.30am

Oct 20th - Family Church Service 11.00am

Curling after the church service

Oct 23rd - Wednesday Drop In 10.00am - 12.00noon

Knit & Natter / Lunch at 12noon

Oct 24th – Finance Meeting 11.00am at church

Oct 25th - Living Well with Dementia 10.30am-2.30pm

Oct 26th - Saturday Coffee Morning 10.00am-11.30am

Oct 27th - Family Church Service 11.00am

Oct 28th - Monday Fellowship 2.00pm

Oct 30th - Wednesday Drop In 10.00am - 12.00noon

Knit & Natter / Lunch at 12noon

**SUNDAY SERVICES IN OCTOBER**

All services start at **11.00am** unless otherwise indicated.

Oct 6th – Harvest Thanksgiving Service led by Rev Sarah Fitton

Oct 13th – Family Church Service led by Janet Straughan

with Communion

Oct 20th - Family Church Service led by Mark Binns

Oct 27th – To be Arranged

**DUTY ELDERS IN OCTOBER**

Oct 6th  - Jean Whitehead

Oct 13th – Julie Johnston

Oct 20th - Christine Hall

Oct 27th- Janet Straughan

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**FLOWERS IN CHURCH FOR OCTOBER**

The flowers in church on Sundays are taken out to those who are ill or in need of pastoral care. We are grateful to all in our fellowship who give money for flowers throughout the year. If you are not already on our ‘flower list’ but would like give flowers, please speak to Jean Whitehead, call 01484 430556 or email to

[office@moldgreenurc.org.uk](mailto:office@moldgreenurc.org.uk) to arrange this.

Oct 6th - Jo Mawdsley

Oct 13th -Steve and Sheila Tanner

Oct 20th -George and Marion Binns

Oct 27th -Audrey Greenwood

**Saturday 2nd November - Gift Day, Moldgreen URC**

**Elders meeting in 2024 - 19th November (meetings on zoom)**

**Church meeting in 2024 - 8th December.**

**Check the back of the magazine for more information of what’s happening in the church** **and on the notice** **board.**

**Please make a note of the dates in your diary.**

**SUNDAY CURLING GROUP**

The Sunday Curling Group - October 6th and 20th and November 3rd and 17th. **All welcome**

**Moldgreen Food Cupboard**

Most users of the cupboard adhere to the notice – ‘Give what you Can, Take what you Need’ and many stop to thank us when we are about. One or two might not be quite so fair and friendly but they are in a minority.

So, once again thank you all who give to this project. We appreciate donations twice a week from Tesco down Long Lane for the Food Bank, and also those from the local community who put donations into the cupboard and our members at church who donate regularly.

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**HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE – 6TH OCTOBER**

**We are asking for donations of food for our Community Food Bank at church. Tinned goods, cereals, long life milk,**

**toiletries i.e. toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shower gel, toilet rolls would be much appreciated, plus donations of cash if you prefer. Thank you.**

**SATURDAY COFFEE MORNING**

Saturday Coffee dates in October 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th.

10.00am - 11.30am. **All welcome.**

**Moldgreen Matters - The Big Planter Tidy**

The volunteer gardeners have been busy in Moldgreen in July, August and September, you may have seen lots of people in hi viz vests. This is a project which is being promoted through the local Unite Respect Connect Group. This group is hopefully going to get together once a month to attend the planters in the area and generally tidy up Moldgreen. Volunteers are welcome and no garden experience is necessary. For more details email if you are interested. [sue@s2r.org.uk](mailto:sue@s2r.org.uk)



While strolling along the sidewalk in front of his church, our minister overheard a prayer that almost made his collar wilt. It seemed that his 5-year-old son and his playmates had discovered a dead robin. Deciding that a proper burial was in order, they found a small box, lined it with cotton batting, dug a hole, and prepared to lay the poor bird to rest.

The minister’s son was appointed to say the appropriate prayers. With solemn dignity, he began his version of what he believed his father always recited: “Glory be unto the father and unto the Son, and into the hole he goes.”

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**To: All members and adherents of United Reformed Churches and our local Ecumenical Partnerships**

Dear friends,

Firstly, thank you for all your contributions to your local church in 2023. This includes your financial contribution which plays an important part in the life of the whole church through the Ministries and Mission Fund. As officers of the denomination, it is good for us to be rooted in a local URC (or LEP) congregation and to work out our faith in the local context, as well as across the entire URC. On the other hand, it is good for you in local churches to know that those who serve you nationally understand the local church financial issues as well. And there have been some big issues over the last 12-18 months: inflation, a cost-of-living crisis for many, with energy costs rising to unprecedented levels etc. Churches and ministers have had the same challenges as so many others. The M&M Fund of the URC pays ministers’ stipends, training, Assembly costs and all the central support functions for ministry in the URC across three nations. The M&M Fund’s main income is contributions from the churches with some top-up from Synods, together with investment income and grants etc.

In 2023 the churches continued to support the M&M Fund to a wonderful level, but there also was significant and generous Synod support. Overall, the giving to M&M Fund was slightly ahead of budget at £6.3 million. It was also only 2% down on 2022’s result. However, we should note that these figures include the Synod’s extra contributions this year which amounted to £1.9 million, an increased amount compared to 2022.

The full M&M account for 2023 in summary:

Income - £18.2m of which £16.3m was from churches and Synods contributions. Expenditure - £19.3m Deficit - £1.1 m

2024 is not going to be an easy year either and we are again budgeting for a deficit. We have a commitment from Synods to continue their

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support on top of church contributions and a plan for balancing the M&M budget over the next 5-7 years, including budget reductions of central costs of 3% - 5% per annum.

So, thank you to all who continue to contribute to your local church, thank you to all those churches who met their commitment for 2023 in full, and thank you to all those who, in adversity, continued to treat the M&M Fund as the first priority and paid what they could.

Stewardship of our resources, personally, as local churches and as a denomination is rarely easy, but it is one of the challenges we are called to in making our faith real. As the Spirit directs and as our means allow, can the churches once more continue to respond to the call of our gracious, loving and ever generous God? Again, thank you all!

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

Yours in Christ,

Alan Yates (Treasurer)

Vaughan Griffiths (Deputy Treasurer)

**How many church members does it take to change a light bulb?**

What do you mean CHANGE??? That light bulb was given in memory of my grandmother! My father installed it with his bare hands! He donated his time AND the use of his ladder to do it, too! My family's been members of this church for four generations! And if you think you're going to come in here and make a bunch of changes all of a sudden, you’ve got another thing coming!

**Growing up**

Your child has started growing up when he stops asking you where he came from and starts refusing to tell you where he's going.

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**A crossword puzzle with numbers

Description automatically generated**

**ACROSS**

1 He must be ‘the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well’ (1 Timothy 3:12) (6)

4 ‘For we must all — before the judgement seat of Christ’

(2 Corinthians 5:10) (6)

7 ‘They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their — end’ (Psalm 107:27) (4)

8 See 19 Across

9 It concerned who among the disciples would be the greatest

(Luke 9:46) (8)

13 Formed by the Jews in Thessalonica to root out Paul and Silas

(Acts 17:5) (3)

16 ‘He has sent me to bind up the — ’ (Isaiah 61:1) (6-7)

17 Moved rapidly on foot (Matthew 28:8) (3)

19 and 8 ‘ — a great company of the — host appeared with the angel’ (Luke 2:13) (8,8)

24 Hindrance (Romans 14:13) (8) **page 10**

25 Comes between Luke and Acts (4)

26 Empower (Acts 4:29) (6)

27 ‘Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father’s house into

a — !’ (John 2:16) (6)

**DOWN**

1 Sunrise (Psalm 119:147) (4)

2 The part of the day when Cornelius the Caesarean centurion had avision of an angel of God (Acts 10:3) (9)

3 He was one of those who returned with Zerubbabel from exile inBabylon to Jerusalem (Nehemiah 7:7) (5)

4 ‘No one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born — ’(John 3:3) (5)

5 Animal hunted or killed as food (Ezekiel 22:25) (4)

6 ‘He encouraged them — — remain true to the Lord’ (Acts 11:23) (3,2)

10 Ruses (anag.) (5)

11 Jewish priestly vestment (Exodus 28:6) (5)

12 Visible sign of what had been there (Daniel 2:35) (5)

13 This was the trade of Alexander, who did Paul ‘a great deal of harm’ (2 Timothy 4:14) (9)

14 ‘This is my — , which is for you; do this in remembrance of me’

(1 Corinthians 11:24) (4)

15 One of Noah’s great-great-grandsons (Genesis 10:24) (4)

18 Traditionally the first British Christian martyr (5)

20 Relationship of Ner to Saul (1 Samuel 14:50) (5)

21 Jacob had one at a place he named Bethel while on his way to Haran, fleeing from Esau (Genesis 28:12) (5)

22 Bats (anag.) (4)

23 ‘You strain out a — but swallow a camel’ (Matthew 23:24) (4)

**The Bible version used in our crosswords is the NIV.**

Crosswords reproduced by kind permission of BRF and John Capon, originally published in Three Down, Nine Across, by John Capon (£6.99 BRF).

**ANSWERS TO THE CROSSWORD ON PAGE 21**

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**A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY**

A visit from David Glover during September brought us a fascinating bit of local history telling various stories about the “Ghost”. Whoever was that – now we know that it was a flamboyant Yorkshireman called Marmaduke Langdale, a TrueBlue monarchist who didn’t shy away from a fight and his lifestyle was such that he certainly got into so many scrapes but against all the odds survived into later life to tell the tale.

Two weeks later our friend Stephen Taylor sought and succeeded to bamboozle us with dates from the distant past – I have to say that the answers that we gave to his many questions were often best guesses, but it

is likely that we will certainly remember some of them. The last Fellowship meeting during September only, hopefully, took place on the last day of the month so there is little that I can say about that excepting that the afternoon was to be hosted by Julie.

Two meetings due during October, the first of which is a Yorkshire quiz be Chris horn, if of course he is not on holiday and later in the month George Binns presents a tribute to our past Church member and friend, Ken Greenwood. Many of us knew Ken very well as a thespian of some note particularly locally, something that he did, not for profit but because he loved doing it. When he sadly passed awa y he left behind many documents, one of which his wife Audrey passed on to us and it is that which will form the basis of the afternoon’s story so come along and learn that little bit more about Ken.

In November John and Jean North will gave us a little test, something that

is unusual for them, surprise, surprise, a quiz. This takes us through to our Christmas Fellowship celebration with of course something seasonable to eat and drink. The meeting schedule for the rest of this year, therefore is as follows:-

* 30th Sept. Julie Johnston.
* 14th Oct. Chris Horn – A Yorkshire Quiz.
* 28th “ George Binns. A tribute to Ken Greenwood.
* 11th Nov John and Jean North. A general knowledge quiz.
* 25th “ Fellowship Christmas Celebration.

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At the Christmas celebration George Binns will issue a full schedule

of meetings for 2025, how time flies, doesn’t it?

As ever most meetings take place Monday afternoons at 2pm with coffee

and biscuits to follow – hope to see a few more people joining

us for the New Year. George Binns.

**URC GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2024**

**In the wake of the ongoing violence in the land we call holy, the 2024 General Assembly of the United Reformed Church has asked local congregations actively to reach out in solidarity to both Jewish and Muslim neighbours.**

The International Court of Justice has indicated that Palestinians are plausibly at risk of a genocide. The world court has offered an Advisory

Opinion indicating that the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza is illegal. Israeli civilian hostages are still being held illegally by Hamas. Our news and social media feeds are filled with horrifying images of death and brutality in Gaza. It is tempting to despair.

Nevertheless, General Assembly has made it clear that it is wrong and dangerous to hold Jews or Muslims in the UK responsible for the violence in Israel and in the occupied territory. Rather, we must ensure that every community here is loved, respected, and protected.

Whatever your views, are you able to reach out? Write a note of support? Invite people to a meal, shared activity or upcoming event? We must consciously choose the precious path of peace rather than the snaking highway of hate.

**A Prayer**

We choose a world of justice, where resources are not hoarded, but equally distributed; in which we work for a world made fit for future generations, caring for one another in peace.

**We choose, we choose God, for God is justice.**

We choose a world of peace, in which people no longer destroy one another, and all are respected for their uniqueness.

**We choose, we choose God, for God is peace.**

We choose a world of love, in which God’s love for all is known, where each person is accepted and celebrated, through whom God’s purpose for the world is fully revealed.

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**We choose, we choose God, for God is love.**

We choose, we choose a world of joy, where the joy of God in all creation is feted, where the goodness within all is gladly known, where we join creation’s song of praise.

**We choose. We choose God.**

**All in the month of October**

250 years ago, on 26th Oct 1774 that the Colony of Massachusetts Bay began building up its militia of ‘minute men’, who could respond to the growing British threat at a moment’s notice. The American Revolutionary War began a few months later.

200 years ago, on 21st Oct 1824 that British mason, bricklayer and cement manufacturer Joseph Aspdin was granted a British patent for Portland cement. His son William went on to develop a stronger version and is regarded as the inventor of modern Portland cement.

175 years ago, on 17th Oct 1849 that Frederic Chopin, Polish composer and piano virtuoso, died.

125 years ago, from 11th Oct 1899 to May 1902 that the Second Boer War in South Africa took place. 22,000 British forces were killed, and nearly 100,000 wounded. More than 6,000 Boers were killed, and more than 46,000 African civilians died in concentration camps.

100 years ago, on 15th Oct 1924 that the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbour was designated a US National Monument.

90 years ago, on 16th Oct 1934 that the Long March took place. Chinese communists led by Mao Zedong began a year-long 8,000-mile march from south-east China to north-west China to evade the armies of the Chinese National Party and establish a new base. It led to the founding of the People’s Republic of China.

Also 90 years ago, on 24th Oct 1934 that the earliest known recording of the song *Santa Claus is Comin’ to Town* was released. Performed by banjo player Harry Reser and his band and sung by Tom Stacks, it has since been recorded by more than 200 other artists.

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80 years ago, on 2nd Oct 1944 that the Warsaw Uprising in Poland was ended. The Germans destroyed the city, killing 200,000 civilians and expelling 700,000.

Also 80 years ago, on 9th Oct 1944 that British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Jospeh Stalin met to discuss the future of post-war Europe.

Also 80 years ago, from 23rd to 26th Oct 1944 that the Battle of Leyte Gulf took place as part of the Pacific Campaign. Allied victory, considered to be the largest naval battle in history. The Japanese Navy was eliminated from the war.

75 years ago, on 1st Oct 1949 that the People’s Republic of China was founded by Mao Zedong.

70 years ago, from 30th Oct to 13th Nov 1954 that the first Rugby World Cup was held in Paris. Great Britain beat France 16-12 in the final.

65 years ago, on 11th Oct 1959 that Britain began introducing postcodes. They began in Norwich, and by 1974 had been rolled out across the whole country.

60 years ago, on 14th Oct 1964 that the American civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for combating racial inequality in the USA without violence.

50 years ago, on 2nd Oct 1974 that US researchers announced that smoking cannabis causes lasting brain damage. More than 50 medical schools and research centres took part in the year-long government-funded study.

Also 50 years ago, on 9th Oct 1974 that Oskar Schindler, Austria-Hungarian-born German businessman, died. He saved more than 1,100 Jews during the Holocaust by employing them in his factories. The story is told in the film *Schindler’s List.*

40 years ago, on 12th Oct 1984 that an IRA bomb exploded during the Conservative Party Conference at the Grand Hotel in Brighton, killing five people. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was apparently the primary target, but she escaped injury.

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Also 40 years ago, on 16th Oct 1984 that South African Anglican bishop Desmond Tutu won the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize for his role in the opposition to apartheid.

30 years ago, on 13th Oct 1994 that the three main loyalist paramilitary groups in Northern Ireland announced a ceasefire following the IRA’s ceasefire announcement on 31st Aug.

Also 30 years ago, on 14th Oct 1994 that Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres jointly

won the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize.

25 years ago, on 12th Oct 1999 that the United Nations announced that the world’s population had reached six billion. It reached seven billion in 2011/12.

Also 25 years ago, on 27th Oct 1999 that the House of Lords voted to end the automatic right of hereditary peers to sit and vote in the upper chamber of Parliament. Of over 700 hereditary peers, only 92 would remain, chosen by election.

20 years ago, on 2nd Oct 2004 that the first Parkrun was held in Bushy Park, London. Park runs are now held every Saturday morning at more than 2,000 locations in 22 countries.

**1st October - Anthony Ashley-Cooper, Poor Man’s Earl**

Think of Piccadilly Circus, and that small statue of the angel poised with bow and arrow. Most people think it stands for Eros. It does not. It stands for Anteros, his brother, the god of selfless love. It is a memorial to the greatest Christian Victorian philanthropist, politician and social reformer of his generation – Lord Shaftesbury.

Anthony Ashley Cooper, the 7th Earl of Shaftesbury (1801 – 1885) was a devout Christian who spent his life fighting to help ease the plight of lunatics, chimney sweeps, children in factories, women and children in the mines, opium addicts, and children without any education.

His own early life was loveless and bleak – his parents formal and frightening, his early schooldays a “horror” of “cruelty and starvation”. The only love came from the family’s housekeeper, Maria Millis. A biographer

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wrote: ‘She provided for Ashley a model of Christian love that would form the basis for much of his later social activism and philanthropic work.’ The reality and homely practicality of her Christian love were a beacon for the young Ashley. She told him Bible stories and she taught him a prayer.

After Christ Church Oxford, where he proved an outstanding scholar, Ashley turned to politics. In 1826, aged 25, he was elected as Tory MP for Woodstock. He was eager to serve on parliamentary committees that got things done; his great life’s work had begun.

Lunatics: In 1827 lunatics were kept chained naked in straw, forced to sleep in their excrement. They were washed in freezing cold water, with one towel for 160 people and no soap. There was gross over-crowding and inedible food: asylums were places to die in.

Shaftesbury’s maiden speech in Parliament was in support of a Bill to improve their conditions. He wrote: ‘By God's blessing, my first effort has been for the advance of human happiness.’

It took years: from 1827 to 1884 he fought for a succession of Lunacy Acts, writing later of “the years of toil and care that, under God, I have bestowed on this melancholy and awful question.”

Child Labour and Factory Reform. Again, reform took years, with Shaftesbury fighting for the Ten Hours Act from 1833, 1842, 1844, 1846 and 1847 – when it finally got through Parliament. No child under the age of nine should work in the cotton or woollen industries, and no one under 18 must work more than ten hours a day.

Miners. In 1842 he fought to outlaw the employment of women and children in coal mines.

Climbing boys. Thousands of young boys were dying in terrible pain – scorched, blinded and suffocated by soot, or with cancer of the scrotum. Ashley fought for Bills in 1840, 1851, 1853, 1855, and 1864 until finally the Chimney Sweepers Act 1875 closed the practise down.

Education reform: 1844 Ashley became president of the Ragged School Union that promoted education for poor children. He wrote that if it were to fail, ‘I should die of a broken heart’.

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Religion. Lord Shaftesbury was a devout Christian who became a leading figure in 19th century evangelical Anglicanism. He was President of British and Foreign Bible Society for nearly 30 years. He was very sympathetic to the Jews and advocated their return to the Holy Land.

Lord Shaftesbury’s funeral service at Westminster Abbey on the morning of 8th October 1885 drew thousands of people. The streets along the route were thronged with the poor: costermongers, flower-girls, bootblacks, crossing sweepers, factory hands and many more. They waited for hours just to

see his coffin go by. He was dearly loved by them as the ‘Poor Man’s Earl’.

One biographer wrote: ‘No man has in fact ever done more to lessen the extent of human misery, or to add to the sum total of human happiness.’

The great preacher Charles Spurgeon called him ‘the best man of the age’. He ‘lived for the oppressed’, he was a ‘moral anchor in a drifting generation’, ‘friend of every living thing’, ‘he had a ‘fervent love to God, and hearty love to man.’

SOURCE: THE PARISH PUMP

**Lend:** If you lend someone £20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.

**Truth:** If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.

**Bug:** Some days you are the bug; some days you are the windscreen.

**Judge:** Good judgement comes from bad experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgement.

**Quick:** The quickest way to double your money is to fold it in half and put it back in your pocket.

**Lips:** Generally speaking, you aren't learning much when your lips are moving.

**Experience:** Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

**Retirement:** The trouble with retirement is that you never get a day off.

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**RECYCLING**

There is a basket in the church entrance where you may deposit any old Christmas cards/Birthday cards etc. Plus, a box to put used postage stamps in. Also, there is a bin in the kitchen where you can recycle plastic bags which have a green label on indicating recycle at supermarkets.

**WEEKLY ENVELOPE SCHEME**

The weekly envelope scheme offers an envelope for each Sunday in the year for you to put your collection in on a regular basis, cash, or cheques. If you are interested in doing this, please have a word with Jean North. Alternatively, if you wish to pay your collection through bank transfer, perhaps monthly, that can be arranged. Bank Sort Code 30-94-43 Account Number 00260324 Ref: Moldgreen URC.

If you need assistance with this, please speak to Ian Whitehead.

**BOOKING ENQUIRIES FOR CHURCH**

**A new email has been created for people enquiring about booking rooms in the church rather than going through the church office email.**

**The new email is -** [**bookingsformurc@outlook.com**](mailto:bookingsformurc@outlook.com)

**If you know anybody who wants to make an enquiry, please direct them to this new email. Plus, anyone from the fellowship who needs to book a room for a church event also need to go through this new email as well.**

**If you have any material or news of the church family you would like including in the NOVEMBER magazine, please give material to Jean Whitehead by hand, post or email to** [**office@moldgreenurc.org.uk**](mailto:office@moldgreenurc.org.uk) **on or before SUNDAY 20TH OCTOBER for the magazine deadline.**

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**Signs of our times? Pew-sheet notices that didn’t come out quite right…**

Would the person who took the church step ladder last week please bring it back, or further steps will be taken.

After Sunday morning coffee, please empty the teapot and stand upside down on the draining board.

Our visiting monster today is the Revd Jack Bains.

Church toilet out of order. Please use floor below.

Worshippers are asked to wail, until the choir has been served Holy Communion.

Pray for continual growth for our teens, that a food foundation will be laid in their lives.

We are always happy to have you sue our facility.

The activity will take place on the church barking lot.

**Which comes first, the jam or the cream?**

Which do you prefer, when it comes to eating scones? Of course, Cornwall and Devon have long been in rivalry over it, with Cornwall preferring the jam first, while Devon opts for the cream.

Now a recent YouGov survey has found the Cornish method is currently winning the debate. 62 per cent of us, and every British county (except Devon and Somerset) favour the jam-first Cornish approach.   
Even the Queen also favoured the Cornish method. But the King is more pragmatic, once admitting that “I go with whichever is closest to me to start off.”

But now YouGov has discovered that when it comes to people under 30, the preference is beginning to swing the other way. While 80 per cent of people who are over-70s choose jam before cream on their scone, the figure falls to 48 per cent among the under-30s.

YouGov calls it a “glimmer of hope” for the Devon method and reckons that “on current trends we could start to see some crossover in coming generations”.

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*Nigel Beeton writes: 90 years ago, on 3rd April 1934, a very clever man named Percy Shaw patented a device that he’d invented called a ‘cat’s eye’ – a pair of reflectors mounted on a well between the white lines in the centre of a road or between lanes on a dual carriageway (which were few and far between in 1934!* SOURCE: THE PARISH PUMP

**Cat’s eyes**

When you drive on a road late at night

And the dark is affecting your sight;

At that time of day

It’s easy to stray

Too far with your car to the right!

But we’ve been protected from tears

For most of the past ninety years,

Since a man who was wise

Invented cat’s eyes

So, the edge of your lane now appears!

Now drivers, protected from frights

By mirrors reflecting our lights,

May shout ‘hip-hooray!’

At all times of day,

And drive with no fear of the nights!

**ANSWERS TO THE CROSSWORD**

**ACROSS**:

1, Deacon. 4, Appear. 7, Wits. 8, Heavenly. 9, Argument. 13, Mob.

16, Broken-hearted. 17, Ran. 19, Suddenly. 24, Obstacle. 25, John.

26, Enable. 27, Market.

**DOWN**:

1, Dawn. 2, Afternoon. 3, Nehum. 4, Again. 5, Prey. 6, All to. 10, Users. 11, Ephod. 12, Trace. 13, Metalwork. 14, Body. 15, Eber. 18, Alban.

20, Uncle. 21, Dream. 22, Stab. 23, Gnat.

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