

Histon Methodist Newsletter

August 2021

So, the 2020 Olympic Games are really going to take place in 2021, I wonder what memories the participants and spectators will take away from them. I still have many memories of the 1948 London Games as my father, mother, brother and I had the same four seats in Wembley Stadium from the first race on Monday morning to the end of the Marathon on Friday evening so, by the time we had seen people through heats, semi finals, quarterfinals and finals we felt as if we knew them.

In 2012 I got to two athletic days but my main memories are of the cheerful competence of the "volunteers" who, by some well rehearsed drill filtered us into the trains to take us to the Olympic Park with every carriage filled but nobody harassed and two sunny days in the company of crowds of good humoured, happy, excited people.

I did however manage to cajole my son to take me to stand on some London street to see the men's Marathon go by. First came the group of elite runners their minds, no doubt, full of times and distances and tactics and who and where would someone make a break, then came other groups with spaces between them, the groups growing smaller, the spaces growing longer, then just two men together. My son thought that was the end but I said the pick up car had not come so there must be someone else and at last he came, one sole runner, a tall, slender African.



We all clapped and cheered and a northern voice shouted "keep going lad, you'll catch them up round the next corner"

Then came the car and it was all over.

When he was asked why he didn't give up and ride in the car he said "
My King sent me to London to honour my country by running the
marathon not to give up half way"

He and Saint Paul should get on well together.

Margaret Brierley

Alison's Sabbatical

Please note Alison will be taking the second part of her Sabbatical in July and August, if you need to speak to a minister during that time please contact one of our stewards who will put you in touch with someone who can help.

Message from the Stewards

As restrictions are eased we are following guidance just received from the Circuit

We will continue to ensure good ventilation, and to provide hand sanitiser.

• We ask you to wear a face covering whilst inside church premises.



- We ask you to still book places for services to maintain social distancing.
- · You are invited to sing quietly whilst still wearing a face covering.
- We will still not be serving refreshments after the service.

1st August Service at Church 10.45 am led by Mrs Mary Ratcliffe

Please book your seat by phoning John

15th August at Church 10.45 am led by Mrs Judy Wynn/ Mr Geoff Ling

Please book your seat by phoning Rosemary

Sunday Services on Zoom

We are invited to join the services at 10:45am Please email contact@histonmethodist.org if you'd like the code.

Wednesday Zoom Coffee Shop

Please note there will be no Wednesday Zoom Coffee Shop during August, which will be the first break since we started this during the first lockdown. We will meet again on WEDNESDAY 1st SEPTEMBER at 10.30am. Contact us if you'd like the code to join.



We are pleased to report that the Community Coffee Shop at Church is now running each Wednesday from 09.30-12 noon. We serve hot and cold drinks and homemade cakes. Payment is by cash donation. Each week we have seen more people from the village returning for a chat and a coffee, and everyone is delighted to be back. It is being run by volunteers, all of whom are asked to take a lateral flow test beforehand. If you would like to visit us we will be pleased to see you. If you would like to volunteer to help occasionally please contact Judy Houghton.

Monday Craft Group

The craft group restarted their meetings on 12th July and it was very well attended. They hope to meet fortnightly, the next dates are:

Monday 26th July. Monday 9th August. Monday 23rd August.

Future Diary Dates

Christmas Market Saturday 20th November

Christmas Tree Festival 11th and 12th December

A local community event in our church organised jointly with HI Friends.



A Reflection on Mark 6 30-34 &53-56

Nestling in the shadow of a tall foxglove, another small but pretty wildflower

has established itself in our garden. Like its taller neighbour, whose leaves produce a drug used to treat heart failure, Herb Robert is said to possess medicinal properties.

Previous generations used it as an antiseptic and to staunch bleeding.

It's said by some that the plant takes its curious name from an 11th century monk remembered for his healing skills. St Bartholomew's hospital in London still stands on the site of its founding monastery where care for the poor began in 1123.

Whilst we take free healthcare very much for granted, for many across the globe access to treatment is very limited. Imagine the despair felt by those suffering from injury or disease.

No wonder then that, time and time again, the pages of Mark's gospel are filled with desperate crowds.

Christ feels pity for them and helps alleviate their suffering.

His example has inspired the study and practice of medicine,

and also leads us to a deeper appreciation of those who work in the pharmaceutical industry, developing and making available effective medicines and vaccines.



The need is great. In the UK alone, three million items of medication are prescribed every *day!* BUT ever important, whatever the prescription, is personal support and compassionate care!

Contributions for the September Newsletter would be appreciated.

Please send them in by August 23rd to John Wyborn