

the monthly newsletter for Rushden High Street Independent Wesleyan Church

Rio 2016...

...THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

It doesn't seem very long since it was announced that London would host the 2012 Olympics. It was July 2005 – the day before the London bombings. Yet here we are and those Olympics have not only come but are long past and we move on to Rio. From August 5th to August 21st thousands will gather for the XXXI Olympiad. Over 10,000 athletes from 206 National Olympic Committees will run, jump, swim, sail, along with many more disciplines. This time they've added golf to the events. Over 300 gold medals will be given out. It promises to be a great time, although those who do not like sport may not be looking forward to it as they will have already endured weeks of football this summer!

However, there are problems to be overcome. Brazil, the host, is facing political, financial and health problems (caused by the Zika virus). There is the doping controversy involving the Russians. But let's hope these things do not overshadow the games and we have a wonderful couple of weeks.

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As we read this there will be many athletes dreaming of their few minutes of fame and hopefully a medal. Some of them will surely go realising that a medal is unlikely but the thrill of taking part drives them in their final preparations. What is certain is that all those competitors will have been in strict training. They will probably have risen early and been on strict diets. Their eye is fixed on the finish line, final whistle or whatever in their chosen sport.

This begs the question as to what I am prepared to do in my training as a Christian. The Bible has quite a lot regarding athletics and the games that were held. Here are some words from 1 Corinthians chapter 9 (NLT) 'All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. So I run with purpose in every step'. As we watch the games and marvel at the things the human body is able to do, let's consider what has led up to that moment. And may that then spur us on to train hard and live our lives with real purpose – a life lived for God.



'You fool!
This very
night your
life will be
demanded
from you'

(Luke 12: 20)

...what is at the centre of your life?

In this parable of Jesus, where did the businessman's mistake lie, as he piled up this accumulation of wealth? Not in making wise provision for the future, but in getting the centre of his life all wrong. It is not that Christianity presents us with a biblical economic theory. Rather it gives us a viewpoint, a God-centred perspective on life that helps us to cope with money, possessions, planning and disappointments alike.

Get this wrong, and a comment from the second century AD applies to us in the words of Clement of Alexandria – "Wealth is like a viper." Handled aright, it's harmless, but once let it entwine you, Beware!

The warning of Jesus was plain enough. "Life," he said, "does not consist in an abundance of possessions" (verse 15). Generally, people would have called the man in our story 'a success'. God called him 'a fool.'

1. THE WISE FOOL The guy was industrious, frugal, good at saving... and planning. But it was the God factor that was missing - the small matter of eternity! He didn't profess to be an atheist, but he lived the life of an atheist. Wise in so many ways, he was a fool. Indeed, how happy was he in himself?

Back in the Spring of 1873, the American evangelist, D.L. Moody was planning to visit Britain for one of his first great preaching campaigns. His aunt asked him, "Are you going to preach to the miserable poor?" "Yes," replied Moody – "and to the miserable rich too!"

2. THE POOR FOOL In Jesus' story, the words 'I', 'me' and 'mine' dominate the businessman's vocabulary (v.17-18). But nothing was going to remain his! There is a certain burden attaching to the accumulation of wealth. First, there is the burden of obtaining it, secondly the burden of keeping it, and thirdly that of parting with it! The Bible says, 'We brought nothing into the world, and it is certain that we can carry nothing out' (*1 Timothy 6:7*). As far as lasting permanence was concerned, this man actually had nothing.

3. THE UNIVERSAL FOOL This parable of Jesus is only a story. Who was this man who features in it? Why, he's a universal figure. It could be you. The days are passing. Let today be make-up-your-mind time about God, and Christ... and your very soul.

by Richard Bewes



church
offerings

SUNDAY	29th	MAY	£301.90
SUNDAY	5th	JUNE	£284.70
SUNDAY	12th	JUNE	£288.00
SUNDAY	19th	JUNE	£311.65

This is in addition to the £950 paid direct to the bank each month. Many thanks



missionary report

Kevin Deighton

Missionary
Secretary

Hello everybody, it's been ages since I've written in inTouch, due to my sabbatical and recovery (ongoing), so I will bring you up to date with our giving over the last few months.

£200 to the Leprosy Mission, of which £112 was donated in response to the Sunday service that Phil led, £50 to the NAYC (Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs) for their annual summer appeal, £100 to Open Doors towards their work for the persecuted Church. Incidentally, Phil, Dick Weekley and myself attended a mind-blowing fact meeting by Open Doors in Ibstock - ask us about it. And finally £100 to Christian Aid for their appeal week in May.

Plus, the Sunday School and Allsorts are having a joint venture of sponsoring a child through an organisation called PCDC at a cost of £10/month, the first contribution has gone through in June.

That about sums it up, hopefully I will be back to 'normal' now. Many thanks for everyone's prayers, offers of help, lifts, cards etc. too many to mention by name it has been much appreciated and overwhelming at times. THANK YOU!



the minister's school assemblies

(for your prayers please)

TUESDAY 5th – Risdene Academy (Newton Road)



church picnic

Our annual Church Picnic will be held on Sunday 3rd July from 1.30pm in Hall Park. Bring a picnic and enjoy relaxing or playing games (hopefully) in the sun. Ideal for all ages – do come and join us!



coffee evening

All are invited to a Coffee Evening at the Manse on Wednesday 27th July from 7.00pm onwards.

Drinks and cakes will be served, and hopefully there will be an opportunity to play some games in the garden. It would help if you would let Phil or Anne know if you plan to be there, but it's not essential.

first sunday home meetings

On the first Sunday evening of each month we hold a short meeting in someone's home. It's very informal, and we're looking for more hosts! If you'd be willing to invite us, all we ask for is a few chairs, and if you'd like to (although it's optional) a cup of tea at the end. If this is something you might consider, please see the Minister. Thank you



july//august 2016

sundays at high street

SUNDAY	3rd	10.45am	Rev. Phil Hearson (<i>incl. Communion</i>)
		1.30pm	Church Picnic in Hall Park
SUNDAY	10th	10.45am	Rev. Phil Hearson
		4.00pm	2nd Sunday!
SUNDAY	17th	10.45am	Rev. Phil Hearson
		6.00pm	Communion Service in the Hall
SUNDAY	24th	10.45am	Rev. Phil Hearson
		6.00pm	Service at Wymington
SUNDAY	31st	10.45am	Rev. Bill Lynwold
		6.00pm	Prayer Fellowship in the Hall

august

SUNDAY	7th	10.45am	Mr. Richard Keech (<i>incl. Communion</i>)
		6.00pm	Home Meeting
SUNDAY	14th	10.45am	Rev. Phil Hearson
SUNDAY	21st	10.45am	Rev. Phil Hearson
		6.00pm	Communion Service in the Hall
SUNDAY	28th	10.45am	Rev. Phil Hearson
		6.00pm	Service at the Mission



july 2016

weekday diary dates

SAT	2nd	10.00am	Coffee Morning
TUES	5th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 15 Fern Road
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
		7.30pm	Officer & Trustees Meeting in the Vestry
WEDS	6th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group at the Manse
THURS	7th	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
SAT	9th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
TUES	12th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 50 Boundary Avenue
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
		7.30pm	Leaders Meeting at the Manse
WEDS	13th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		2.00pm	Service at Kilburn Place – All welcome
		7.30pm	Home Group at the Manse
THURS	14th	2.00pm	Women's Auxiliary – Strawberry Tea
		6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
		7.30pm	Y-Not Youth Club
FRI	15th	6.00pm	Family Cinema Night
SAT	16th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
TUES	19th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 11 Kilburn Place
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	20th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group at 7 Lodge Road
SAT	23rd	10.00am	Coffee Morning
TUES	26th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 15 Fern Road
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	27th	7.30pm	Coffee Evening at the Manse – All welcome
SAT	30th	10.00am	Coffee Morning



august 2016

weekday diary dates

TUES	2nd	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 50 Boundary Avenue
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
SAT	6th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
TUES	9th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 11 Kilburn Place
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	10th	2.00pm	Service at Kilburn Place
SAT	13th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
TUES	16th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 15 Fern Road
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
SAT	20th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
TUES	23rd	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 50 Boundary Avenue
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
SAT	27th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
TUES	30th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting – 11 Kilburn Place
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
		7.00pm	Officers & Trustees Meeting in the Vestry
WEDS	31st	7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road



Christian Art Exhibition

From Monday 4th July – Friday 8th July we are hosting, in partnership with Park Road Baptist Church, an art exhibition by the renowned Christian artist Anne House which will be held in the church building.

Monday to Friday 10.00am – 5.00pm

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday also at 7.00pm – 9.00pm.

Please come along and look at it, bring your friends and if you are able to spend some time helping please see the Minister. This is part of Rushden Party Week.

‘The Servant Queen’ Books

We still have a number of these left. If you would like to take one for yourself, or to give away to someone else, please see Richard Weekley.



church birthdays

JULY

- 7th** - MARTYN HEARSON
- 10th** - MARGARET O'DELL
- 23rd** - RICHARD KEECH
- 26th** - AMELIE BARNES
- 30th** - KEVIN TAYLOR

AUGUST

- 8th** - BRIAN LACK
- 12th** - FINLEY BARNES
- 13th** - TERRY RICE
- 13th** - MAURICE MORBY
- 17th** - MARGARET RANDALL



flowers

Many thanks as always to Madge and Jill who arrange the rota and distribute the flowers.

JULY

- 3rd** - Jill Waller (for mum)
- 10th** - Margaret O'Dell (80th birthday)
- 17th** - Ann Bryant (for dad)
- 24th** - Wendy Munday
- 31st** - Brian Lack

AUGUST

- 7th** - Wendy Newman
- 14th** - Sheila Dunkley (for Terry)
- 21st** - Pam Barnes (Martyn's birthday)
- 28th** - Sue Manton (Wedding Anniversary)



Family Cinema Night

Our next film night, organised by 'PTC' will be on **Friday 15th July – 6.00pm for 6.15pm.**
Free sweets, drinks and popcorn. All are very welcome.

Easy Fundraising

Do you buy goods on-line? If so, it is probable that the church could receive a small amount from 'Easy Fundraising' at no cost to yourself!

If you are interested, please either register at www.easyfundraising.org.uk – then choose 'Rushden Independent Wesleyan Church' as your cause, or if you are not sure about anything then please speak to Richard Weekley. To date, the church has benefited by over £200!

dates for your diary - september 2016

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| FRIDAY 2nd | - Preachers Meeting at the Mission (7.15pm) |
| SATURDAY 3rd | - Visit of the President, Wesleyan Reform Union – Mr. David Rooksby
Fish & Chip Supper with Quiz and epilogue at High Street (6.00pm)
<i>Bookings needed</i> |
| SUNDAY 4th | - Presidential Visit Circuit United Service at the Mission Church (6.00pm) |
| TUESDAY 13th | - Church Members Meeting (7.30pm) |
| SUNDAY 18th | - Harvest Festival with preacher Rev. Peter Norton |



puzzle page

For this month it is a test of your geography knowledge. Below are twenty places, with the counties they are situated in. However, they've got mixed up – can you pair them correctly? Hand your answers to the Minister by 21st August and you may win a small prize.

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Witney | – Durham |
| 2. Chippenham | – Somerset |
| 3. Buxton | – Nottinghamshire |
| 4. Coalville | – Lancashire |
| 5. Newark | – Hampshire |
| 6. Glastonbury | – Wiltshire |
| 7. Bridgnorth | – Oxfordshire |
| 8. Brighouse | – West Yorkshire |
| 9. Hexham | – North Yorkshire |
| 10. Penrith | – Northumberland |
| 11. Aldeburgh | – Shropshire |
| 12. Boscastle | – Suffolk |
| 13. Bishop Auckland | – Gloucestershire |
| 14. Pickering | – Derbyshire |
| 15. Clitheroe | – Cumbria |
| 16. Bishop's Cleeve | – Cheshire |
| 17. Petersfield | – Cornwall |
| 18. Newton Abbott | – Lincolnshire |
| 19. Congleton | – Leicestershire |
| 20. Louth | – Devon |

Answers to last month:

1. Grafton Underwood; 2. Moulton; 3. Hardystone; 4. Achurch; 5. Weldon; 6. Maidwell; 7. Weekly; 8. Teeton; 9. Finedon; 10. Rushden; 11. Pattishall; 12. Nobottle; 13. Bugbrooke; 14. Rockingham; 15. Spratton; 16. Barton Seagrave; 17. Old; 18. Silverstone; 19. Haselbech; 20. Aldwincle

Contacts:

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High Street Independent Wesleyan Church 

www.weschurchrushden.org.uk