

# CONTACT

*introduces and welcomes*

**YOU**

*to*

**PENWORTHAM**

**UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. 1 Cor. 3:7(NRSVA)



# JULY-AUGUST 2022

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## FELLOWSHIP FOREWORD

Welcome,

I don't know if you share this feeling, but around this time of year the combination of hot weather and sunshine (if we're lucky – or unlucky – enough), talk of holidays, actually going on holiday (again, if we're lucky enough) ... with all of that, I find myself slowing down, my mind drifting, having trouble concentrating, even when I'm trying to be really busy!

So deciding what to write for July/August Contact has not been easy. I've started writing on numerous occasions changing my mind on what I wanted to say.

Should I talk about:

The future when Jen and I relinquish our roles as church secretaries?

The discussion about the changes the Synod wants to discuss?

The South Lancashire Missional Partnership?

If we're ever going to get a minister?

I still hadn't decided until this morning's service led by Junior Church. At the end of the service they introduced us to a new song "My Lighthouse" with actions, although I think the congregation may need to practise the arm movements!!!

Jesus refers to himself in John's Gospel as the "light of the world" (John9:5)....

The purpose of the lighthouse light is to guide ships to safety and save from peril.

The first lighthouses were crude affairs: simply fires lit on prominences on the coast to guide ships to harbour. They evolved over time to become physical towers housing a light. Some mark the entrance to harbours but most have been built to warn ships away from dangerous rocks and reefs.

Even in times of great tumult the lighthouse stands strong and immovable, a refuge, a beacon of light and hope as it kept the ships away from the dangerous rocks.

## FELLOWSHIP FOREWORD continued

Jesus is like the lighthouse, keeping us safe and helping us to feel bright and alive.

Jesus is our lighthouse, warning of danger, guiding us safely home. He is our safe haven, the harbour where we shelter from the storm. He is our anchor holding us firm, though tossed and torn. He is our terra firma the unchanging ground beneath our feet.

John 8:12

“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life”

Jesus the Light of the World, **reveals** God to us, because he is God’s own Son, he can show us what God is like.

Just as a lighthouse saves ships from being shipwrecked on rocks hidden in the darkness, so Jesus **saves** us from all that is wrong and brings us back to God.

Jesus shows us the right path forward, He is our **guiding** light throughout life showing us the way we should live.

So to Junior Church and their leaders, “Thank you for leading us in worship today. Thank you for bringing such joy and happiness to PURC. As your song says,

**“Your (Jesus’) great love will lead me through. You are the peace in my troubled sea”**

Every Blessing,

*Beverley*

Joint Church Secretary



## FAMILY AND FRIENDS

On Saturday 4th June, about 30+ members and friends gathered at church to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee, we began with a short service in church led by Beverley and then enjoyed a picnic in the grounds, the weather was lovely and our thanks go to everyone who contributed to the day in any way.



On Sunday 26th June it was the Junior Church Anniversary, and the children and staff delivered a lovely service based on the parable of the 'Good Samaritan'. The children were amazing, speaking very clearly and the song they did at the end of the service was brilliant.

Well done to all the children who took part and our thanks of course go to Gillian, Viv and Gill for all their hard work and a special 'thank you' to Derek for donating the books for the children.

A few of our members and friends have recently had a spell in hospital, and a few of them are still in, please keep Shirley, Jean, Mary and Marjorie in your thoughts and prayers, and anybody else who might be feeling a bit under the weather.

Our love and best wishes go to anyone who will be celebrating a Birthday or Anniversary in July/August.

And finally..... (and it really is this time) as this will be my last Family & Friends 'bit' I will be doing for a while.

As most of you know by now Bev and I are stepping down as Secretary's at the beginning of September, the last couple of years have taken their toll on our health, so we have made the very tough and sad decision to take at least a year off. I have loved serving you all, as one of your secretaries but without my special friend I don't think I would have lasted this long, Bev has definitely been the driving force behind the partnership and has kept me going through the good and bad times over the past five years and for that I thank her.

Love and blessings

*Jenny.*



## PURC SERVICES TO 4<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022

- 3rd Jul. Holy Communion and Ordination of Elders  
10.30am Rev'd Daleen Ten Cate
- 10th Jul. Family Worship 10.30am Rev'd Rob Hoch
- 17th Jul. Family Worship 10.30am Gill Turner  
*followed by coffee in the worship space, followed  
by a short church meeting.*
- 24th Jul. Family Worship 10.30am Rev'd Nigel Lemon
- 31st Jul. Family Worship 10.30am Alan Edward
- 7th Aug. Holy Communion 10.30am Margery Pitcher
- 14th Aug. Family Worship 10.30am Rev'd Frank Kendall
- 21st Aug. Family Worship and Baptism \*\* 3.00pm \*\*  
Rev'd Martin Whiffen
- 28th Aug. Family Worship 10.30am Carole & Henry Rose
- 4th Sep. To Be Advised

## PURC FLOWER ROTA TO 4<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022

- 3rd Jul. Bill & Celia
- 10th Jul. Jenny
- 17th Jul. Basil & Hylda
- 24th Jul. Jean
- 31st Jul. Rita
- 7th Aug. Betty
- 14th Aug. Hugh
- 21st Aug. Andrew
- 28th Aug. Jenny
- 4th Sep. Marjorie



Jenny O.

## WOMEN'S GROUP BIRTHDAYS

The Women's Group send their best wishes to:

**Brenda & Margaret**  
who have a birthday in July  
*Many Happy Returns*  
Jean Frew



## OTHER PURC NOTICES



### **BUTTERFLIES 2022-23**

From **September** the Butterflies will continue to meet on a once per month basis usually on the 1st Thursday of each month. Pat .

## WOMEN'S GUILD

The Guild stretches back over countless years, and we give thanks for past achievements, and for times of fun and friendship.

But times and circumstances change, and it would seem that the time has come, due to fewer and older members, for us to wind up the Guild.

If you have any comments, please speak to:

Jean or Hylda



Women's Guild

## SUPPORTED CHARITIES NEWS AND INFORMATION



### Pennies for WaterAid

**£75.64 raised by  
our Congregation!**



Thank you very much to everyone who has contributed to our collection of small change for WaterAid. Together we have raised £75.64 and this will be sent to WaterAid.

Please continue to drop your small change into our WaterAid jar on the stage.

Every penny is gratefully received and funds vital work to ensure that people less fortunate than ourselves can access clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene.

We really appreciate your donations.  
Junior Church and the Eco-team.



### UNICEF MITES SCHEME

Thank you for the  
**£31.00 (387 sachets)**  
donated by you all for the  
purchase of Oral Rehydration



Sachets in the period **01 Jan - 30 Jun 2022**

For a child suffering from cholera or malnutrition, five sachets could mean the difference between life and death. Please continue to give.

Donations can be placed in the Green Tubs on the stage.

(Ed.)



## A REFLECTION

### GETTING OLDER, AND BETTER

***'For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the work of their hands.'*** Isaiah 65:22 NIV

In 1968 a scientist discovered a six-hundred- year-old necklace in a Native American grave. It was made up of seeds which had been strung together. He planted one of those seeds, and guess what happened: it sprouted and grew. Although the seed had been dormant for six hundred years, it still had the potential for life.

Maybe you have been a Christian for years and have been spiritually dormant for most of that time, but now you would like to be productive. You desire to be fruitful. The good news is, it's not too late! You can begin right now.

The righteous will flourish like a palm tree...planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God. They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, proclaiming "The Lord is upright; he is my Rock" (Psalm 92:12-15). Did you know that a palm tree produces its greatest harvest of fruit in its later years?

That can be your destiny too. 'For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the work of their hands.' That Scripture means bunions, bifocals, and baldness notwithstanding, your last season of life can be your greatest season of life. It may take you longer to do what you do, but fuelled with the wisdom of God's and the years you have walked with Him, you can still make a mark for God in this world.

*above with permission United Christian Broadcasters, Westport Road, Stoke-on-Trent, ST64JF and taken from UCB 'Word for Today' -free copies are available for the UK at this address or online at [www.ucb.co.uk/read](http://www.ucb.co.uk/read)*

*(Margaret )*



## WORLD PRAYER NEWS

### **Myanmar (Burma) - Gospel Distribution**

Gospel messages are being distributed daily through Facebook Messenger and WhatsApp into Myanmar. One listener wrote, “It is a wonderful opportunity to be part of the group. I was not sure about whether I was born again or not. I tried to change by myself many times in the past, but after listening to the speaker from the Hingna Awl programme, I now understand that being born again is the work of the Holy Spirit. Thank God I am now a new creation in Christ.” Pray for lives to be changed as these messages are spread today. (*Reach Beyond*)

### **Yemen - Emergency Support**

The Yemeni people are experiencing a storm of crises including underdeveloped health systems, water scarcity and political challenges. The ongoing currency crisis, and rising inflation, is putting further pressure on Yemenis, making food, water and fuel unaffordable for many in the country - which imports most of its needs. Please pray for the Medair team responding to these emergencies and providing support to as many people as possible through essential nutrition and health care, and water, hygiene and sanitation services. Pray for the malnourished pregnant mothers and young children visiting Medair supported health facilities in remote and isolated areas. Ask God to enable a way for them to receive treatment, so that they make a strong recovery and live happy lives. (*Medair UK*)

### **Malawi - Support to those living with sight loss.**

*Please pray for Torch Malawi as they produce Christian literature in braille & large print in a variety of African languages & provide fellowship and support to people in Malawi who are living with sight loss. (Torch Trust)*

*above with permission of [globalconnections.org.uk](http://globalconnections.org.uk)*

### **Afghanistan - Earthquake Aid**

Pray for a sensible and sustainable approach by the Afghanistan administration to the acceptance and receipt of aid on behalf of its peoples - particularly those affected by the recent earthquake and aftershocks in Paktika province. Pray that all the aid will be able to be directed solely to those in need and that the government will ensure no hindrances to the aid agencies in the execution of their work.



## URC COMMITMENT FOR LIFE EXTRACT

### ZIMBABWE REFUGEE CRISIS

There are almost 3.4 Zimbabwean refugees, roughly a quarter of the population. Most have gone to South Africa and Australia, with over 400,000 now living in the UK. Zimbabweans leave their homes because of poverty, climate change, and repressive government policies.

South Africa deports many of those who cross the border – over 14,000 every week. Most Zimbabweans crossing at Beit Bridge are turned back. Some attempt to swim across the Limpopo and are attacked or killed by crocodiles and hippos.

Many Zimbabweans seeking refuge in South Africa are children. They are vulnerable to abuse and sex trafficking. The large number of refugees has contributed to xenophobic attacks and harassment from locals.

Much of Zimbabwe is financed by money being sent back by refugees to family members, who use the money to pay for groceries and school fees.

### 'ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!' - THE ROHINGYA REFUGEE CRISIS

To mark World Refugee Day tens of thousands of Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh staged demonstrations (the Bari Cholo' or 'Let's go home' campaign) to demand repatriation back to Myanmar. Most have had to flee a brutal military crackdown in Myanmar. People came out despite a ban on rallies since 2019.

Almost a million Rohingya are confined to bamboo and tarpaulin shacks in thirty-four unsanitary, inadequate camps. They have no work, poor sanitation, and little access to education. "We don't want to stay in the camps. Being refugees is not easy. It's hell. Enough is enough. Let's go home," Rohingya community leader Sayed Ullah said in a speech at one rally.

More than 890,000 Rohingya refugees are sheltering in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar region, the biggest cluster of refugee camps in the world. About 92,000 Rohingya refugees reside in Thailand, 21,000 in India, and 102,000 in Malaysia. The Rohingya also make up a portion of Myanmar's 576,000 internally displaced people.

Please pray for an end to the brutal suppression of the Rohingya people so that a speedy and safe return of refugees might be possible. Thank you for your continued support through Commitment for Life for the work of our partners in the region.



## POETRY PIECE

### GEOGRAPHICAL TRIVIA



Why is Cornish **MOUSEHOLE** said **MOWZLE**,  
Why are several **KIRKBYS** pronounced **KIRBY**,  
And why's **TOWCESTER** said like **TOASTER**?  
Obviously **DERBY** should be **DER BI**.



**MUCH WENLOCK**, is there **LESS WENLOCK**,  
Was **LOSTWITHIEL** ever found?  
You can't say **MAW CAMBY** for **MORECAMBE**  
There are times to stand your own ground.



Is **SEVENOAKS** still treed by seven?  
Most were lost in the eighties by storm,  
What was it called before planting?  
Was it **BARE**, no, that's much nearer home.



Those **KIRKBY**'s I spoke of are many,  
There's **THORE** and **LONSDALE** and **STEPHEN**,  
Also **MALZEARD** and **MOORSIDE**, five in Cumbria,  
Eleven elsewhere makes it even.



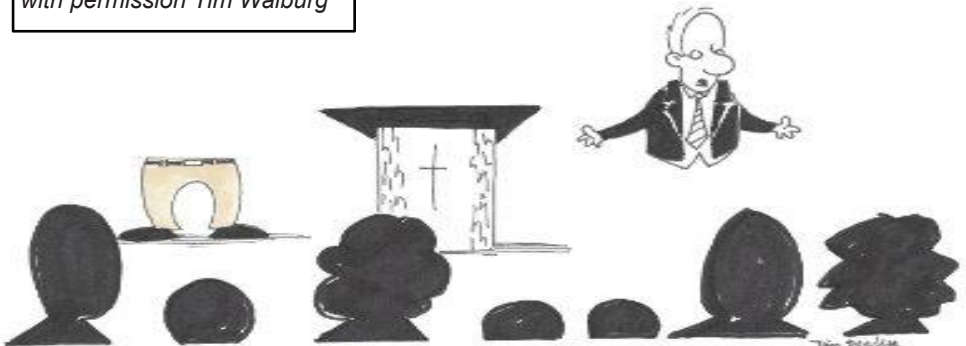
Wherever we go in Great Britain,  
Are place names that are stranger and stranger,  
We love all their eccentricities,  
To forget our land's not in danger.



*Hylða*

## CARTOON

with permission Tim Walburg



"I was a volunteer at a magic show last night."

## WORDSEARCH FOR WHAT'S IN CHURCH

N	A	K	S	N	R	E	T	C	E	L	S	J	R	R	S
S	R	E	L	E	E	N	K	K	G	S	X	E	A	P	K
S	V	M	J	E	L	U	R	Y	A	S	Y	E	E	Q	H
Y	N	A	V	B	F	A	P	L	F	O	R	L	V	B	E
W	S	O	B	U	P	N	G	H	F	A	B	O	R	I	J
J	Q	W	M	R	P	D	M	T	P	A	R	B	L	P	L
O	L	L	A	H	E	M	Y	I	T	J	O	P	M	R	R
U	I	C	N	N	Y	R	H	N	T	U	C	Q	G	Q	E
Y	Y	P	I	S	T	S	O	E	K	Z	P	Q	D	M	D
A	T	A	H	S	R	I	M	O	O	R	D	L	I	U	G
G	T	Z	E	O	N	E	H	C	T	I	K	P	L	Z	S
S	B	V	W	U	A	Q	N	P	A	D	Y	T	U	J	D
K	K	H	M	Q	N	Z	I	N	Z	P	Z	W	O	F	R
I	U	M	Q	N	A	G	R	O	A	M	U	N	F	H	Y
C	O	Y	H	Z	E	G	A	T	S	B	D	G	B	W	V
C	U	I	S	P	S	M	O	O	R	E	D	I	S	L	R

Banners

Hall

SideRooms

CarPark

Kitchen

Stage

CommunionTable

Kneelers

StainedGlass

Foyer

Lecterns

Vestry

GuildRoom

Organ

WorshipArea

*Words may be Horizontal, Diagonal, Vertical or Back to Front  
For solution contact Ed.*

### "CONTACT" MAGAZINE INFORMATION

**Dear Reader**

***The next 'Contact' will be the September 2022 issue***

'Contact' is also published on our Website (minus any personal or pastoral information not for general publication).

See [www.penworthamurc.org.uk](http://www.penworthamurc.org.uk)

**Many thanks to those contributing.**

**Next submission date will be 21 August**

**Next issue date will be 28 August**

*Ed.*

# SUMMER COLOURING PAGE

