

BRMC NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2022



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Dear Friends,

For many people the name Bognor Regis will ever serve as a reminder of a holiday at Butlins. Indeed, prior to our visiting Bognor to view our possible home for impending retirement, the only time we had been to Bognor was for such a holiday when our girls were small. The hot(!) weather that we have experienced over the last few weeks has certainly brought out the holiday makers. The crowds along the promenade, the deckchairs and the colourful umbrellas on the beach, the bathers, sailboarders and yachts of different sizes in and on the sea have all combined to portray Bognor as the archetypal British summer holiday seaside resort. Why go elsewhere?

For many who have wanted to go elsewhere their holidays have ground to an untimely and frustrating halt in airport lounges or traffic jams at channel ports - all this made harder to endure by the very heat they were hoping to experience abroad. For some who have made it to their destination the holiday has been a disaster because of fire or flood or personal calamity.

As I write this a bank holiday weekend looms large and, if the weather is good, we shall see all the above magnified and compressed into a long weekend. When all has gone well we sometimes hear, especially from children, "Why can't every day be a holiday?"

Well of course it can! 'Holiday' has its origins in 'Holy Day' when folk only had time off to celebrate the festivals and saints days of the Christian calendar and many of our public holidays are still, nominally, for that reason. However, we don't need a formal reason or a special date to keep a day holy. Our hymnody reminds us 'This is the day the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.' and 'Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee.'

As the holiday season draws towards its close, may your days, be they good or bad, always be kept as holy days.

Blessings, John Wren.

SEPTEMBER DIARY DATES

Day	Date	Event	Time
Sat	3rd	Macmillan Coffee morning	10.00-12.00 noon
Mon	5 th 12 th 19 th 26 th	Whist Club	2.00-4.00
Wed	7 th 21 st	Wednesday Church Fellowship	10.00-12.00 noon
Thurs	8 th 22 nd	Thursday Church Fellowship	2.30-4.30

BRMC WORSHIP IN AUGUST

DATE	PREACHER	10.30am
4 th	Rev Richard Tanner	Morning Worship
11 th	Rev Dan Balsdon	Holy Communion Covenant Service
18 th	Mr Bob Boyce	Morning Worship
18th 3.00pm	Rev Dan Balsdon Rev Rosemarie Clarke	Membership Service Felpham MC
25 th	Rev John Wren	Harvest Festival

WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

4th September - Wait on the Lord : Psalm 27:14

David said *"I would have lost heart unless I had believed.....wait on the Lord.....and he shall strengthen your heart"*. The word 'wait' is a Hebrew word that is used in making rope. Every rope starts with a strand and every strand added increases its strength. Every time you wait on the Lord, you are adding another strand to your rope, all the time getting stronger. If you're hanging by a thread, spend some time with God and ask him to add another strand to your rope. ***Every time you spend time with Him, you will see Him turn your thread into a strong rope!***

11th September – God is still King – Psalm 11:4

The Psalmist said *"when the foundations for good collapse, what can good people do?"* When problems come, a loved one becomes ill, we encounter loss or the world news is too much for us, the best thing we can do is remember that ***God is still King and is watching over us! Speak it out loud!*** Nothing escapes God & nothing is too small for him to care about! He works to a plan which will prosper us & bring us hope, not harm us (Jeremiah 29:11). ***When we cry 'where are you God?' He answers 'I am with you and will watch over you....I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you'. Gen 28:15.***

18th September - Go overboard for Jesus - John 21:7

At dawn, Jesus stood on the beach, He called out 'have you caught any fish?' 'No' was the reply, so Jesus told them to throw their nets over to the right. Then John said to Peter 'It's the Lord!' and Peter jumped into the water and went towards Jesus. The nets were full & Peter had to choose between staying with his boat or going to see Jesus. He didn't think twice.

We also have that challenge: stay with our 'catch', our accomplishments, our successes, or go overboard for Jesus.

Paul realised that his true identity didn't lie in his accomplishments, but in his relationship with Jesus. ***Are we ready for a new assignment for Him? Ready to go overboard for Jesus? Whatever we need God has it! Whatever we give up, God repays many times over!***

25th September - A taste for God's word - Psalm 119:103

As we grow up, our tastes change. Foods we hated, we love and we may lose our sweet tooth for a more savoury preference. We begin to enjoy flavours and textures that we rejected in our youth. We all want to eat healthily & might try cooking from scratch rather than the easy processed foods. But cooking from scratch is hard work and it's so much easier to put a pizza in the oven. In cooking & bible reading we need willpower and perseverance to get started *and* to keep going. But God's word is our soul food! We need to feed on scripture. ***Becoming a faithful bible reader... begins as a discipline, continues as a duty and develops into a delight. 'How sweet are your words.....sweeter than honey to my mouth'.***

DON'T WORRY

Man (and woman) has always been beset by worry and the pressures of modern life have aggravated the problem. To men of all time, Jesus said " take therefore no thought for the morrow..... but seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you (Matthew 6:33-34). Many of us are filled with a thousand anxieties. Bring them to Jesus Christ by faith. He will bring peace to your soul and mind.
Taken from Day by Day with Billy Graham