

Glenorchy

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
EXETER ROAD - EXMOUTH

THE REVIEW

October 2021



10 Years of Glenorchy Work Club



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THE REVIEW

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Editor's note: The next issue of the *Review* will be for November. Please send items for inclusion by 23rd October.

Editor: sheila@sheilabrain.com



Worship in October

Sunday 3rd October:	Revd Martin Nicholls with Holy Communion
Sunday 10th October:	Revd Barbara Bennett
Sunday 17th October:	Mission Sunday
Sunday 24th October:	Revd Michael Diffey
Sunday 31st October :	Revd Sabrina Groeschel

It is good to see increasing numbers coming back to worship and we would encourage everyone to come if they feel able. It is no longer necessary to book your place, but Jenny will continue to make a list of those attending for the purpose of track and trace, if needed. We ask you to continue to use the hand sanitiser at the door, but the wearing of a mask is left to individual choice, although it continues to be requested for singing hymns, just to be on the safe side. We are also now serving tea and coffee again in the Hall after the Service.—although this will only be possible if enough people volunteer to help with serving (see p 8)

Please Note: As from October the weekly printed Reflection will be delivered on a Monday just to those people not able to come to Church on the Sunday. It will continue to be circulated as usual to all those on the e-mail list.

Love and congratulations to all who celebrate an anniversary or birthday in October.

Belated congratulations to Joan Kirvan who celebrated her 95th birthday in September.



Harvest Reflection

Revd Peter Brain



As Christians we took on the Jewish belief in God as Creator. ‘The heavens are yours and the earth also, the world and all that is in it.’ (Psalm 89 v11) Every religious faith has a similar – though not of course identical - belief. Harvest time is one opportunity to pause and give thanks to the Creator. One fundamental cause of any religious faith at all is the sense that the universe is not an accident and that meaning and purpose are somehow built in. Recent advances in understanding the ‘how’ of evolution have not dispelled the mystery of ‘why’ anything is.

Believers do not know ‘how’ any more than unbelievers, but we do remain persuaded that the question ‘why’ is meaningful, that there is a context, a ‘ground of being’ (to use the words of the theologian Paul Tillich), a built-in meaning which somehow gives us the right to call the universe a creation – though without the rather silly details which so-called creationists often add.

This affirmation inevitably leads us to believe that all the other galaxies (previously known as ‘the heavens’) are also the Lord’s. However our concern is not with them, even though there is almost certainly what we call life out there somewhere. We need to consider our little earth - sometimes called the ‘lonely planet’. That description goes back to the Apollo programme in the 1960s when for the first time human beings could look ‘down’ on the earth. It certainly looks lonely, surrounded by all that emptiness. From space you get what might be called, almost blasphemously, God’s view. And, crucially, from the moon the earth looks like a single something.

Despite considerable misunderstanding of the opening of the book Genesis, the duality of homo sapiens, spelt out in chapters 1 & 2, remains key and rings true. We are part of nature ('dust thou art and to dust thou shalt return') and we have power, almost control, over nature ('fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion'). Human beings now have power to determine the destiny of the natural order of which they are part.

If the earth is to be treated as a creation, held on trust by one powerful intelligent species, then logic compels us to some conclusions, among which is the urgent need to look ahead and plan, now that we have the data, the projections and some of the means of avoiding disaster.

There are several people and groups who can argue for the choices and the possibilities but we also need to reflect on the bigger picture, the deeper intellectual and spiritual challenge. This vulnerable planet is our home, our God-given home, and Christians are called to use our minds and our imaginations to honour that trust and accept our responsibility to act.

Last month's 'Harvest scrabble' puzzle answers

With the seven letters HARVEST you can make this message:

We give thanks for the produce of EARTH and SEA. We need to remember that we are among the HAVES of the world. We have enough to EAT while millions cannot STAVE off hunger. We can even SAVE while they STARVE. We do not HATE the poor but we must learn to SHARE. To AVERT disaster we must make HASTE. **God says 'HEAR my word and let my love rule your HEARTS.'**



News of the Church Family

Margaret Cumming is home from Hospital following a fall and is regaining some mobility. Barbara Riley needs our prayers following tests. Please remember Bob & Fran Ellis who have both been in hospital and are still very unwell.

Calling all volunteers!



Now that we are “open for business” again, we urgently need volunteers to help serving tea and coffee after the Service on Sunday. This is a much valued time of fellowship, but it will not be able to continue without more helpers. The same is the case for Saturday mornings, when a number of visitors also join us. Existing helpers will be very happy to help you learn the ropes!

Please sign up on the notice board

Vacancy Update

A good number of people came along to welcome Revd Jayne Taylor to Glenorchy both on Saturday 11th September and for worship on Sunday morning. Sadly, when it came to the vote at the Church Meeting following the Service, the number in favour narrowly failed to meet the 85% target figure and so we were not able to issue a call to her to be our minister. This is a real setback after such a long time without a minister and we are seeking advice from the Synod as to the next step.

At the Church Meeting held the following Sunday, 19th September, it was suggested that we should send a letter to Jayne from the Church Meeting, expressing our regret at the outcome, especially in view of the long period of waiting. There was overwhelming support for this to be done.

Eco Matters

Our church is a holder of an 'A Rocha' Silver Award. 'A Rocha' is Portuguese for 'The Rock'. A Rocha was founded at a field studies centre in the Algarve in 1986. During a visit there a British couple were inspired and founded 'A Rocha UK', in Southall, in 2001. So, this year, A Rocha UK is celebrating 20 years work in the UK. During those 20 years membership has expanded far beyond Southall. 3,400 churches are registered, in which there are 1,100 awards and 15 Gold awards.

A Rocha is keen to involve even more churches. There are estimated to be around 40,000 churches in the UK. The aim is 10% of these registered by 2023, forming an effective national network. A Rocha also manages three nature reserves, Minet Country Park in Hillingdon, Wolf Fields in Ealing and Foxearth Meadows in Essex. They also support initiatives aimed at mitigating the effects of Climate Change.

Two UN COP (Conference of the Parties) conferences should happen soon. The postponed COP 15 Biodiversity Conference in Kunming, China in October and the COP 26 Climate Change Conference in Glasgow in November.

On the day I am writing this, the death of Clive Sinclair has been announced. As the leading pioneer of home computing and electric vehicles his inspiration helped provide the modern world with some tools to fight Climate Change.

Peter Johnstone

Eco Extra: Solar Panels

Bob Austen reports: Revenue from April 2019 when the panels were installed to July 2021 amounts to £1866.21. A further sum of £569.91 is due and should be received shortly.

Mission Committee

The first Saturday coffee morning after lockdown included stalls in aid of Mission Committee funds and raised the splendid sum of just over £200. Our next event will be the concert on **October 9** – see the notice opposite.

On Mission Sunday on **October 17** we have a speaker from Bible Society – **please bring your mission boxes.**

Details of the three good causes being supported in 2021 are on our notice board in the hall. We are especially concerned to raise money for the Rehoboth project ('Mark, Dorcas and the tribe'!) in Bulawayo Zimbabwe where things are going from bad to worse, economically and politically; their faith remains strong and their contribution to their community is vital

Peter Brain

Favourite Readings – Poetry & Prose Afternoon Tuesday 10th November 2.30 pm

We held our first afternoon of readings two years ago, but due to Covid we weren't able to hold one last year. Those who came said how much they had enjoyed it so we are going to hold another this year. The idea is to share a short favourite piece of prose or poetry. Please time your contribution so that it's no more than about three minutes long. You don't have to take part, so if you just want to listen you'll still be welcome. Tickets will be on sale at £4 with the proceeds being for our Mission Funds. The price includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

If you're going to take part please let me know brief details so that some sort of order can be arranged and we know that two different people aren't wanting to read the same piece (even though that's not likely)

David Lee



Come and enjoy a

Concert

*in aid of three good causes**

Mark Hansford (baritone)
accompanied by **Josephine Pickering**
Tim Othen (piano)

Saturday October 9 2.30pm

Tickets £6.00
(including interval refreshments)
in advance or on the door

**in 2021 Glenorchy are supporting
Rehoboth, a family project in Bulawayo Zimbabwe,
Bible Society and Prison Fellowship*

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

After a gap of 18 months due to Covid our Lunchtime Concerts will begin again on Wednesday 6th October at 12.30 in the church for about three-quarters of an hour. There are flyers in the church, so you can help yourself and see who's taking part up to December.

6th October: The first concert will be a piano recital by Joyce Clarke who has played for us in previous seasons. Joyce is also the pianist for the Beacon Piano Trio.

13th October: Jane Anderson-Brown (soprano) Melanie Mehta (mezzo-soprano) and Daphne Murphy (piano) Melanie has sung for us before but the other two are new to Glenorchy.

20th October: The Beacon Piano Trio – Anna Cockroft (violin) Ruth Lass (cello) and Joyce Clarke (piano) The Trio have played for us in previous seasons.

27th October: Jackie Palmer (mezzo-soprano) and Wensleigh Palmer (piano and Organ). They have both performed for us in previous seasons. Wensleigh is the organist at Sidwell Street Methodist Church, Exeter.

3rd November: Nina Leonard-Savicevic (piano) Nina has also played for us before.

At the time of writing I am not sure if there will be teas/coffees before the concerts. Anyway if you like live music of a more classical nature then do come along and tell your friends about it as you won't find live music of that sort anywhere else in Exmouth! As in previous seasons the concerts will be free with a retiring collection for an as yet un-named church project.

David Lee

Walking Group

Friday October 8th



Parke, Bovey Tracey, Newton Abbot TQ13 9JQ.

Meet in the car park at 10am. Parking is free for National Trust members but £2 for 3 hours for non members. For lunch after the walk there is the Home Farm Cafe on site. If you are coming please contact **Peter Street (266005)** on Thursday afternoon 7th October — also to get confirmation that it will happen as it can get very muddy should there have been a period of wet weather.



Hard to believe it is ten years since the idea developed by Noel Harrower and Pam Diffey for a job club at Glenorchy was brought to fruition, enabled with funding from the sale of Salterton Road land. Two dozen volunteers and supporters had a modest celebration (cake and speeches!) to mark this anniversary. It was good to welcome supporters from the community, including the Mayor, Town Crier and Police Inspector, and to welcome back Robert and Gwen Jennings. Our first Co-ordinator Sarah was present and our current Co-ordinator Simon spoke. *(Picture on p 19)*

We have had almost 2,000 clients through the door since 2011 and, though we hardly ever hear back, most of them will have found a job.

If any Review reader would like to help (either advising clients directly or in support on the door or in the kitchen) we would be delighted to meet and talk with you – call any Thursday morning.

Peter Brain

Bible Society- Exmouth Action Group

See the notice opposite about our special event “Celebrate 200” in Glenorchy Church at 3pm on Bible Sunday 24th October. Please do come and help us support and plan how Exmouth Action Group can continue for another 200 years!! A short booklet about the history of the Action Group - written by Mr Michael Hopper will be available on the day, along with an Exhibition of Bibles. *Jenny Newman*

Allotment Diary

Cabbages, beetroot and runner beans have done well this year. I was able to bring produce to the church on Sundays, unlike last year. Spare produce was free - but thank you to all who gave a donation for the allotment running costs.



The polytunnel has been productive with the usual crops of tomatoes, sweet and hot peppers, cucumbers and aubergines. Ian has been busy making his special tasty aubergine chutney and red pepper jelly. The apple trees have produced well and the damson, too. Sheila and I have made 16 pots of damson jam – about twice as many as last year. We have a couple of giant sunflower heads to keep for the birds to feast on.

The period of harvesting produce is largely finished. I have planted out flowers into the ground where there were potatoes – Stocks, Pansies and Cosmos. Some beds have been planted with leeks and others will be seeded with “green manure” crops, which help to keep the weeds down.

It was possible to hold an Allotment Association AGM at the end of September. The last AGM was in February 2020.

Peter Johnstone

CELEBRATE 200

Bible Sunday Event, 24th October. 3.00 p.m.
Glenorchy Church, Exeter Road, Exmouth EX8 1PL

* GIVE THANKS for 200 years of the BIBLE SOCIETY in Exmouth - one of the oldest UK branches.



* EXHIBITION of Bibles & Scriptures historic & up-to-date - all languages, all races, all ages, all situations.

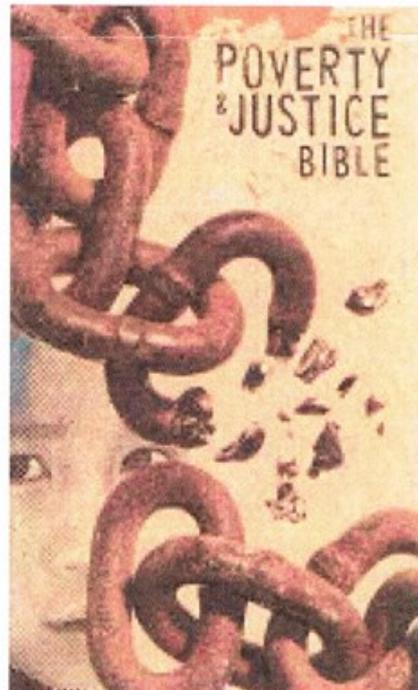
* Engage with ANTI-SLAVERY DAY this October - The Police National Anti-Slavery Unit is based here in Exmouth headed by our Chief Constable.

* BRAINSTORM ways as Christians together in Exmouth we can communicating the GOOD NEWS beyond our individual church walls.

UNCHAINED!

Black lives matter / racism / trafficking / modern slavery are today's realities. And loneliness and people hungry for meaning. WILBERFORCE simultaneously worked for the Abolition of Slavery, and helped found the Bible Society in 1804 - God loves the whole person, mind, body, spirit. Freedom involves all three. LET MY PEOPLE GO!

I may be a prisoner in chains, wrote St Paul - but the Word of God is not chained!



Info: 01395 275457

Join us to talk, listen, plan, pray for ways chains can be broken here, and the Word of God be unchained too - Help us to plan a special post-lockdown LIBERATION event next year. We need your ideas & visions & encouragement.



During August we fed 271 people. As covid restrictions are lifted, we look to see how this will affect people going forward. Will this mean that people can get back to work? Will the ending of the furlough scheme impact families in a negative way? The government is planning to take away the extra £20.00 that has been given in the universal credits benefit. This will surely be an extra squeeze on already tight incomes. Will we see an increased need for our services? Only time will tell. We wait to see how it unfolds and we would like to reassure you that as a FoodBank we are ready for whatever happens.

With people coming back into the Salvation Army Hall, we can offer more than basic foods. There will be a choice from a selection of fresh produce, such as bananas, oranges, potatoes, carrots and eggs, which will provide a more varied diet. People will be able to help themselves to toiletries and cleaning products and nappies will be available if required. Our volunteers are looking forward to welcoming everyone with open arms and friendly smiles.

We take this opportunity to thank the whole community for your ongoing support. We especially would like to say a huge thank you and well done to Shirley and Ian, who have steered us as a FoodBank throughout all the covid changes. Their dedication is commendable. They have ensured that we have had enough volunteers and drivers and that people continue to be fed.

Elizabeth Reed

www.exmouthfoodbank.org

Church Choir

I hope that it will be possible to hold Choir Practices on Fridays to prepare items for our Christmas celebrations, starting at 2.30 pm on **Friday 19th November** *Peter Johnstone*



Christian Response to Eastern Europe

The Warehouse will be open on Wednesday 6th October 10am -3pm and on Saturday 16th 10am -1pm to receive any donations of clothing, bedding etc in good condition. I can pick up on Tuesday morning 11.30am-12.30pm or on Wednesday morning after 10.30am -11.30am

All that you are able to donate is really appreciated by the families in Moldova. The Charity hopes to send a truck this month and the Christmas Shoe Box truck in early December. If you would like to donate a Shoe box of goodies for children, grandparents or a family, please speak to **Sue Densham**. Shoe boxes can be provided, they will just need to be covered with Christmas wrapping paper. Thank you for your continued support over the last 30 years. **Jenny Newman (275457)**.

An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity.
~ *Martin Luther King, Jr*

October Calendar

Saturday 2nd

10am Shoppers' Coffee Morning

Sunday 3rd

10.30am Family Service
with Holy Communion
Revd Martin Nicholls

Tuesday 5th

2pm Elders Meeting

Wednesday 6th

10am Art Group
12.30 Lunchtime concert

Thursday 7th

9.15am Work Club

Friday 8th

Walking Group (see p13)

Saturday 9th

10am Shoppers' Coffee Morning

Sunday 10th

10.30am Family Service
Revd Barbara Bennett

Wednesday 13th

10am Art Group
12.30 Lunchtime concert

Thursday 14th

9.15am Work Club

Saturday 16th

10am Shoppers' Coffee Morning

Sunday 17th

10.30am Mission Sunday
Revd Peter Brain with speaker
from the Bible Society

Wednesday 20th

10am Art Group
12.30 Lunchtime concert

Thursday 21st

9.15am Work Club

Saturday 23rd

10am Shoppers' Coffee Morning

Sunday 24th

10.30am Family Service
Revd Michael Diffey
3pm Bible Society event (see p17)

Tuesday 26th

2pm Glenorchy crafters

Wednesday 27th

10am Art Group
12.30 Lunchtime concert

Thursday 28th

9.15am Work Club

Saturday 30th

10am Shoppers' Coffee Morning

Sunday 24th

10.30am Family Service
Revd Sabrina Groeschel

Puzzle Corner

And more about climate change:

To help reduce the effects of climate change we need to plant more trees like these:

- Purported to help memory or blood pressure
- Stan with Hardy
- Church leader
- Attracted the king of Spain's daughter
- Married Popeye
- Became Archbishop of Canterbury
- Sheltered a jolly swagman
- Led a rabbit pilgrimage
- Found in churchyards and at Lords



Work Club welcomes Robert Jennings as it celebrates 10 years

A lot of different flowers make a bouquet
Islamic proverb



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