

Leeswood & District News

October 2020

www.leeswood-district.news

Issue 398



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LEESWOOD & DISTRICT NEWS



NEXT ISSUE - DECEMBER 2020

**Send your Christmas cards and greetings to be included to
58junelincoln@gmail.com (by 18th Nov 2020)**



Do you have an idea for a great article?

Maybe you have a story to share?

Are you aware of any local events or notices that need to appear within this publication?

DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER 2020 EDITION

Wednesday 18th November 2020

PLEASE EMAIL TO:

June Lincoln,

58junelincoln@gmail.com

Mobile: 07738876302

CYMUNED EGLWYSIG

Bethania

CHURCH COMMUNITY

County Road, Leeswood, Flintshire CH7 4RF
07955 847917

www.bethanialeeswood.org

Coronavirus update Re-opening of Bethania Chapel.

I hope everybody is still keeping safe as the lockdown is further eased. At long last some good news, the Chapel re-opened for Sunday services on Sunday 13th September with Elfed Godding leading the service. Things were a bit different from before as current rules mean we are not allowed to sing, we were able to listen to worship music however.

If you think you would like to come to any subsequent service we have a booking system in place, because we can only fit between 20 and 24 people in the building due to social distancing. The booking instructions are at towards the end of this message.

Some other information.

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), get a test as soon as possible. Stay at home until you get the result.

At the time of writing Face masks are compulsory, so please bring one along. When you arrive you will be met by the deacon in charge and they will inform you of the protocol required. Toilets will be available but we will not be meeting for tea or coffee after the service. The building will be open at 10:00am and the service will start at 10:15.

How to book.

This is the initial system it may change but you will be kept informed. You will not be able to book for a Sunday service until the preceding Monday. Booking will open from

9:00am on Monday and close on the Thursday at 9:00pm.

To book: e mail jacksonrob629@gmail.com
or text to 07907 829503.

Giving your name and how many people will be with you. You will be informed within a few hours if you have been successful.

If you are unsuccessful because we are full, you will be put down on the reserve list, but will be able to come the next week. If you have been successful and find you are unable to come please let us know so we can let somebody else have that place.

We look forward to meeting old friends and new.

Rob Jackson,
Church Secretary

Croeso

Er mai Saesneg ydi prif iaith ein cyfarfodydd, mae sawl un ohonom ni'n siarad Cymraeg ac yn falch iawn o gael byw yng Nghoedllai a'r cyffiniau ac o gael gwasanaethu ein cymuned drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg. Mae croeso mawr iawn i chi ymuno â ni ar y Sul.





Cedron Congregational Church

Cedron is located at the bottom of the Pontybodkin Hill, Leeswood and is nestled near the junction with the Corwen Road by the bridge. No doubt you have driven past it many times on your way to Mold, Wrexham or Chester.

We are a small, friendly, welcoming group of Christians who meet **every Sunday morning at 10:30am**. Our meeting normally lasts an hour. So, instead of driving past we would love to see you and welcome you as we meet to worship God, sing, pray, talk, share and read and study the Bible together in a friendly and informal atmosphere

SPEAKERS for October/November 2020 (subject to the lifting of Government restrictions)

September 27 th	Clive Davies	November 8 th	Alyn Thomas
October 4 th	TBA	November 15 th	Clive Davies
October 11 th	Clive Davies	November 22 nd	TBA
October 25 th	Rev Martin M'Caw	November 29 th	Clive Davies
November 1 st	Chris Byrne	December 6 th	Chris Byrne

Message from Cedron's Minister - Clive Davies writes:

Now is the time to pray! Now is the time to praise! Now is the time to love! Come on you faithful people! Come to Church! Cedron welcomes you with an open book! The Bible! It is the most famous, most read book in the world. Its truths have spanned the centuries! It was written by God Himself! As we look towards the birth of the greatest person who ever walked this earth, Jesus Christ, we are filled with new hope for a better world! Spend the next three months with us at Cedron. Study God's Word, The Bible. A new life of love, faith and hope is there for all who put their faith on Him! For God so loved the world, that whoever believe in Him, will never perish, but receive eternal life. Thank God today. Trust Him tomorrow. God Bless!

Clive. (Minister: Cedron Chapel)

(For anyone wishing to speak with Clive, he can be contacted on: Tel:01244536988, Mob:07811807446.)

Update

The hope that the restrictions would be lifted by the time this issue went to press has now faded, and so we must wait a little longer before life returns to normality. 2020 has been a year to remember, although few will do so with fondness. We will certainly remember the year of Cedrons 150th anniversary somewhat wistfully!

Given the extension of the lockdown, we will have to consider carefully if and how to stage a thanksgiving service this year. If we are able to go ahead then look out for posters advertising the event towards the end of October.

The evening with Professor Steve Taylor planned for October 3rd has also been postponed until at least Spring. Meanwhile we remain hopeful that the Christmas concert might go ahead in some form or other, subject to the C19 restrictions.

In these difficult times it is sometimes hard to imagine the dawning of a better day. In many places in the scriptures we read of those who endured great troubles in life yet bore them with courage and humility; Job and his suffering, Joseph in Egypt, Ruth and Naomi, Daniel and friends, Esther in Persia to name a few.

From the New Testament we read accounts of the trials of Paul, Peter and the Apostles, while outside of scripture there are also inspirational examples, for example Polycarp defiant before Nero, Martin Luther before Rome, Gladys Aylward's courage in China.

When the going is particularly tough it is worth noting that God has planned all things for the best. This may mean we have to face some obstacles on the way, and in overcoming them to grow in ways we could not have imagined!

Local community garden.

It wasn't possible to attend to the garden as much as we'd hoped this summer, nevertheless we may still glean one or two potatoes from the ground. Still having started, we can aim to do better next year.

If anyone in the local community would be interested in gardening a plot or helping in any way including giving gardening advice, please get in touch on Cedron.congregational@gmail.com or via the

facebook: **#Cedron Chapel**

www.cedrononline.com

Sunday Mornings @ 11.15 am

The guidelines are complex, the 2m rule must be implemented whether people are seated, standing, or moving about. Singing isn't allowed, nor is organ music, although recorded music can be used. Please be patient, we will continue to open if we can do it safely (depending on Government and local rulings). *We are now taking bookings for Baptisms and Weddings and we are now able to have funeral services in church. Masks must be worn, Social distancing is in place and sanitiser is available.*

One thing that has become obvious is the fact that, even though we are open, not everyone will feel able to return to physically meeting for worship. We will therefore do all we can to provide for those people who need us to maintain contact, and provide worship in other ways.

Keep Well, Stay Safe, and May God give you his Blessing of Peace.
Carole M Poolman – Vicar of Pontblyddyn and Treuddyn.



CONTACT DETAILS: Rev'd Carole Poolman, The Rectory, Llanfynydd, Wrexham. LL11 5HH.
Phone: 01978 762304 **Email:** cc.sm@btinternet.com

Please feel free to contact me at any time to talk – or to ask for prayer. If you would like to receive the weekly readings and reflection let me know. Carole



WANTED

Have you any Jigsaw puzzles to exchange / lend & return / or pass on?

We are interested in 500 piece puzzles.

Please contact Cynthia on: 01352 771245 – Many thanks.

(PS: complete puzzles would be a bonus !!)

Leeswood & District Royal British Legion - Poppy Appeal 2020

Due to the current Covid 19 situation, the house to house collection for the above, will not take place for this year. However, collection boxes will be placed in Leeswood Co-op and Pontblyddyn Garage along with the Bride Inn in Pontblyddyn during October. Other local supermarkets will also be selling poppies. Wreaths have been ordered and will be available for the Organisations that usually purchase them.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Cheryl Francis

Poppy Appeal Organiser – Leeswood & District





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ebost/email posttellig@hwbcymru.net rhif ffôn/telephone 01352 770235

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Bore estynedig/Extended Morning 7.45 - 1 = £16
Bore / Morning 9 - 11.30 = £7 **Sêl Ionawr £5 I blant newydd/January Sale £5 for new starters**
Bore estynedig / Extended Morning 9 - 1 = £12
Diwrnod ysgol/School Day 9 - 3 = £17
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1 Welsey Terrace, Treuddyn, Flintshire CH7 4NY
rowlands.roofing@gmail.com

Leeswood Allotments

The allotment holders are now reaping what they have sown earlier in the season...well to a large degree anyway. We have to take into account losses due to various pests, the wrong sort of weather and some seeds which simply did not germinate at all. This year, in order to minimise the loss due to birds stripping my soft fruit I bought Harriet, a plastic representation of a hawk. She was supposed to scare away the pigeons and blackbirds and I was confident she would do the trick. She looked a fine specimen, a sheen on her plastic feathers and a gleam in her plastic eye! After securing her in a good position to protect the ripening fruit I left her there to carry out her duties. However, when I returned a few days later, I found much of my fruit (red currants and gooseberries) sadly depleted. Judging by the deposits on Harriet's head, the birds she was supposed to scare away had in fact been sitting on her head and using her as a perch!! What an insult!!!

Anyway, despite growers suffering some losses, the plots are now looking full of a very diverse selection of fruit, vegetables and flowers.

Recently there have been allotment holders who have given up their plots but then, almost immediately we have had new members come and pick up the spade and start up the rotavator and join us in this rewarding hobby. If you want to grow your own fruit, vegetables and flowers and feel that your own garden isn't big enough to do this, get in touch with Joseph Caruana on 01352 770187. Full and half plots do become available from time to time and if there isn't one right away then you can put your name on the list.

Allotment meetings are held throughout the year in the community centre but last month, due to Covid 19 restrictions at the time, the meeting was held on the allotment field with people observing the social distance rules. The weather was fine and the meeting, so I was told, went really well. Like so many organisations this year, the Leeswood Allotments group have had to be creative and find a way to carry on business as usual...just different!

News just in...this week a grass snake was found in the compost heap on the allotments. We know that we have resident and visiting wildlife on the site but this is a first for us!!





Last of the blueberries with raspberries and blackberries from the allotment hedgerows should make a tasty crumble.

By: Joseph Caruana

OUR PLANET

Our planet is out of control
The virus is ripping out its soul
We thought that we can control the planet with ease
Nevertheless the elements are doing as they please

How small this virus made us feel
The faith of many people it did seal
We will have to wait and see
How the future is going to be

There are a lot of lessons to be learnt
Whether you are a sinner or a saint
Life will change, and that is for sure
For the virus affected many, both rich and poor.

Cruising in Isolation by Genie

It all started a few days before the dreaded lockdown.

I heard someone say, "everyone over seventy should stay indoors for four months," I was horrified because I like to be up early and out before the streets are aired every day, I live in a pleasant apartment in an extra care facility of seventy-three units and when the powers that be declared "anyone over seventy must stay at home" I realised my way of life must change but I wasn't happy about it, But you can get used to anything if you have to

I received a text message from my daughter saying "stop behaving like a stropky teenager and do as you are told because you are too precious to me and I want you to survive this awful virus" Well I just couldn't refuse such an appeal so I promised I would not go out until we could. Such a rash promise!

Now however thirty-six days later, still safe at home I am beginning to realise just how rash I was! The corridor outside my apartment is broad, carpeted and warm with a pleasant sunny aspect in the afternoons and bears all the appearance of the sun deck on a cruise liner. So, my two next door neighbours and I have devised a plan to keep us amused. We are making believe we are on a world cruise. In the Mediterranean, Off the coast of Cannes. Next stop Greece, I got out my atlas and we planned a route!

We sailed into Piraeus but because of the pandemic we knew we couldn't leave the ship. This took us several afternoons discussing what we might have seen on a Sightseeing trip, the Acropolis. The Parthenon, and the Temple at Delphi and so on. My Readers Digest tome on Places of interest came in very useful. All this time we were having beautiful sunny weather, so it wasn't difficult to extend our imaginations. Over the days we have moved on deciding to aim for Mauritius because Audrey in cabin number 50 knew someone who lived there!

Well of course to reach the Indian Ocean there were two choices but the best would be through the Suez Canal and into the Red Sea and then to the Indian Ocean! All this time at home lovely sunny weather continued! It was the sunniest April since records began! Just the weather you would expect in the tropics, it was. Also, a great learning curve for us when we investigated the actual position of all the wonderful islands, we had heard of in Geography at school Madagascar, Seychelles! Maldives etc we learned a lot about the populations and wealth of these countries from my coffee table book which we had never learnt at school. Travelling on across the Indian Ocean we approached Australia. Fremantle being the main port on the west coast but apparently the port was besieged by actual cruise liners unable to dock due to the pandemic. So, we are sailing on to South Island New Zealand. I hope tomorrow we will find out what this country has to offer the tourists. Oh dear, cruise liners are not allowed to dock so due to now inclement weather we are having a day of rest.

This being day 37 of our incarceration! We now have a relaxing afternoon deciding where to go tomorrow. It's a tossup between heading east towards the Solomon Islands or west towards Cape Horn. I should point out that we are now in charge of the cruise, Whichever way we choose we could end up in the same place! We had a surprise this afternoon because back in the real world all three of us won a prize in the Tenant Club raffle!

As we are all first-time cruisers, we forgot about the International Dateline so we decided we could indulge in a wee drink - but couldn't possibly get dunked in a pool

while saluting Neptune! Having reached New Zealand we have now learned through my internet connection with my computer whiz grandson that P&O cruises do a 44day cruise from Southampton to New Zealand but coming in the opposite route from ours. So perhaps we could sail back that way. Tomorrow we shall consider the route from Wellington to Auckland having been unable to view the delights of Rotorua's Geysers and the beautiful mountain scenery filmed in the Lord of the Rings we are heading for the return itinerary - first to Samoa then on to Hawaii. San Francisco Mexico, Costa Rica and then through the Panama Canal next to Aruba which always confuses me because it sounds like an African country - Arusha! Next to Barbados Madeira Portugal 7th May new info gathered this morning I checked on cruises to see the Northern Lights. We all thought it would be a good idea. But all very well except that the cruising season is from September to April! Oops what a shame we just missed the last sailing. Never mind instead of Southampton in the next few days we have travelled from the Caribbean and are almost in sight of Portugal next stop Gibraltar and back into the Med. So, we are heading for Menorca and if and when lockdown relaxes, we will take a trip to a quiet sandy beach and laze all day in the sun. Now we have changed ships and have hired a luxury yacht and we will end this trip in Cannes from where we started. Truly a world cruise, because lockdown is still in progress, we need to stretch our imaginations once more.

Day 47 of our present lockdown is V E Day 75 so still on our luxury yacht we are having a small party! As this is the anniversary of 75years since V E Day the programme is to hold a two-minute silence at 11 on. am Then there will be a tribute to Dame Vera Lynn and at 2.45 pm Churchill's V E night address will be re-played.

Day 53 14th May. The last few days we have been resting, we are after all over seventy so resting seems like a good idea! But today we have been offered a treat in the real world, after eight weeks of lockdown we've all had a hairdo We have been photographed and are now known as "Sundeckers" because we have named our corridor The Sundeck"

Day 59

The weather is now glorious, sunny blue skies - ideal weather for island hopping and lazily viewing others energetically enjoying their holidays. However, on the horizon dark clouds are looming which probably means thunderstorms and lightning so, we shall be heading for Cyprus for a safe haven! Lockdown still applies for many places.

Day 60

More blue skies today but tomorrow may be rough, high winds, rain etc and we have arrived at Paphos. Now after several calm sunny days. We have had another super treat. A few days ago, one of our lovely carers had visited Sundeck and in passing we were discussing what else we could possibly need. Cherrell from cabin 52 suggested cocktails might be acceptable, Audrey in cabin 50 mused on the delights of Champagne but in cabin 51 I thought Asti is nicer because I prefer sweet drinks to dry ones. So today that same lovely carer arrived with nautical bunting (little triangular flags) to hang from the bulkhead, three neat champagne glasses and a bottle

We were so delighted; we had a lovely afternoon and as we are not heavy drinkers, we saved half the bottle for next day's Sunday lunch! Whilst I was reading the Sunday newspaper, I noticed an advertisement regarding European river cruises. I decided that would be my next suggestion!

Day 65 Tuesday. We left Paphos on Bank Holiday and we were aiming for Venice.

Well that was our first thought but then the weather improved, and we had a pleasant afternoon culminating in most of us in our complex clapping for the NHS at 8.00 pm and next week we will discover probably how much longer lockdown will continue.

Back in Real Time as a result of all our adventures we have formed The Sundeck Society. Our three founder members are Audrey in Cabin 50 Cherrell in Cabin 52 and Genie in Cabin 51 and our mission is to sit on the Sundeck and enjoy life every sunny afternoon and rainy ones too! We play corridor bingo every Tuesday, do a little knitting, solve puzzles and complete thought provoking quizzes devised by our extra care officer and our activities organiser! We also discuss events of the day in our real world as opposed to our virtual ongoing adventures!

Just looking back in my own diary, I forgot to include the strangest occurrence on day 62. My world was shaken by my deck chair collapsing with me in it. Causing great hilarity for Cherrell and me because I was tipped up like a tortoise rolled over on to its shell, it was quite a struggle to extricate myself, later I won a cookery book in the monthly raffle!

Day 67. We all had a COVID 19 test staff and residents and tomorrow we expect. Further extension of lockdown.

Day 73 we had the COVID 19 results and all are clear which says a great deal for the organisation the staff have worked so hard to achieve!

On day 90 I went out for the first time, but I must be honest if we have to do it all again, I think we could ...

We three sundeckers are still meeting every afternoon on the sundeck and have decided we will probably continue in the same way after lockdown is completely relaxed. Because we are now fast friends and have strong opinions which make for great discussions and we are all agreed that we have been extremely lucky to have been in this establishment at such a time of upheaval in all our lives!

JDM. 2020

Extra Note!

I know lots of people will know Jean, she lived in Eaton Place and then in Heol-y-gorae; she now lives in sheltered accommodation in Flint.

CF



TRESPASSERS WILL BE PROSECUTED

Oh no they won't.....

The misdemeanour of **TRESPASS** is not a criminal offence. If you find yourself on someone else's property, you can be asked to leave by the landowner or their representative. Only if you resist, or if you are impolite, can the police become involved.

A landowner is allowed to use reasonable force to encourage you to leave their land, though no one can really agree on what this means. You are not required to give your name and address. If asked to leave you do not have to retrace your steps, as it is your right to leave the property by the closest available exit. There is an offence of "aggravated trespass" but let's not go there. It's a lawyers' field day.

If challenged, remain polite and leave.

I'm reading a fascinating book at the moment: "THE BOOK OF TRESPASS, Crossing The Lines That Divide Us" by Nick Hayes. I'd recommend it.

WHO OWNS THE LAND ANYWAY?.....

"All property is theft". Few people now would agree with this statement, the sentiment of the French anarchist Proudhon. Private property, particularly land, is just that, surely. Private. It's the law of the land. I bought it. I inherited it. It's mine.

But how was this land acquired in the first place?

Though now blessed with the rights of law, the transfer of land into private hands has a long and sometimes violent history. Take William the Conqueror. When this invader arrived in 1066, not only did he defeat the Anglo-Saxon King Harold at the Battle of Hastings, he embarked on a massive land grab. He was not entitled to the land – he stole it from the natives. He took over huge chunks of Britain and made them his or gave them away to his mates. Take Mold castle for example – built in 1072, or thereabouts, by Robert de Montalt – a Norman. A pal of William's. So he wasn't a native. About 180 French Barons were rewarded with land, though William kept about one fifth of the earth available for himself.

William had no rights to the land. Until he made it his own. So there you have it. All the present landowners who have inherited land, inherited it from robbers. The land used to be common land.

Take our neighbourly Duke, the 7th Duke of Westminster. He owns 133,100 acres of land, not only in Chester and Halkyn, but also in Scotland and London, including land in Mayfair and Belgravia.

But how was all this land acquired?

He inherited it all from his father, the 6th Duke, who inherited it from his father the 5th Duke and so on, back through the ages. Originally the land came into the possession of the Grosvenors through marriage, when Mary Davies married Sir Thomas Grosvenor. But of one thing you can be sure. If you go back far enough, you will find land was acquired by seizure, conquest and robbery.

Mike Stevens

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**FOOTPATHS IN
LEESWOOD &
DISTRICT No 15
New Series**

**PIGEON HOUSE
TO
HORSE WALK
Circular**

A short circular walk across fields and along tracks.

Allow ¾ hour

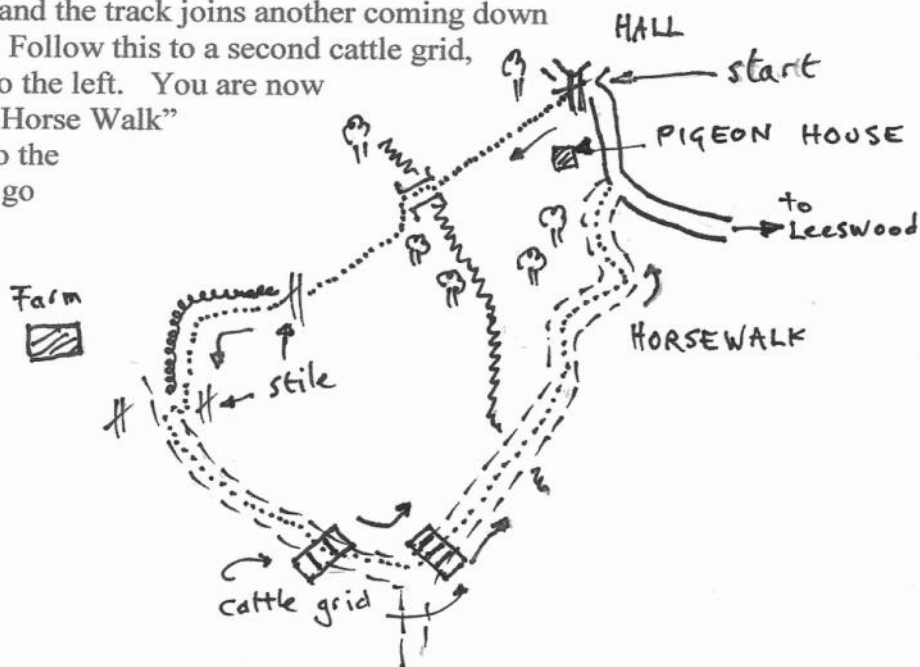
1. The walk begins opposite the current entrance to Leeswood Hall, where there is a stile straddling a field gate. *This is a particularly dangerous corner, with no pavement, so look out for traffic coming down the hill at high speed. Buses stop here, by the way, if you need one.* There is a waymark on a post [*currently decapitated, and over grown*]. Climb over here into the field, with a good few mature oak trees to your right, and an electricity pole to your left. You need to cross the field you are in. There used to be a hedge to follow, when I first came here [*in a previous century*] but that has now been grubbed up. With your back to the road aim for the tree line opposite. It is difficult to see your destination, but set off to find the gateway on the far edge of the field. Cross the stream which is a feeder to the Terrig. Again, there used to be a substantial bridge here, but now you need to cross the stream itself and reach the field beyond.

2. *Once in the next field your route is once again uncertain. A waymark on a post would be useful here, as I noted the first time I came this way in 1995.* Basically you follow the field edge due south, to your left, for a very short distance, before cutting across the field, right and uphill. If you aim for a point where the lefthand treeline seems to end on the brow, you won't be far out. *Masses of scarlet pimpernel flowers in the field this year [September 2020.]* As you climb you will begin to see the edge of the field you are looking for. You may even see the new galvanised stile which is your objective. *Good to see new stiles. This section used to be quite tricky.* Use the stile to cross into the lefthand of the two fields you have reached.

3. Follow the field edge all the way round, keeping the hedge to your right, with its good sprinkling of oak trees of long standing. I say "round", as the field edge follows a semi-circular route to a gateway opposite the entrance to Bryn y Ffynnon Farm where there is another new galvanised stile. *Good to see new stiles.*

4. Cross onto the track. *If you look across the track you will see another stile which takes the footpath on to Nercwys.* However today turn left at this point and follow an easily identifiable route from the farm. *Good to see new hawthorn hedge planting on your right opposite a luscious and spiky run of gorse. "When gorse is not in flower, kissing's out of fashion", so they say.* You come to a cattle grid, with a waymark on the oak tree to your right and the track joins another coming down from Cae Du on your right. Follow this to a second cattle grid, with a new galvanised gate to the left. You are now on the stretch known as The Horse Walk"

and this will take you back to the main road. Turn left here to go down to your starting point, or pick up your car if you left it here.



Map not to scale.

Mike Stevens

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THE LDN BIBLE BLOG : Oct. 2020

CAN WE REALLY TRUST THE BIBLE?

"What about all the mistakes and contradictions?"

And it was the third hour, and they crucified him. Mark 15:25 KJV

And it was the preparation of the Passover, and about the sixth hour: and he saith unto the Jews,
Behold your King! John 19:14 KJV

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God,
why hast thou forsaken me? Matthew 27:46 KJV

I don't know about you, but I have never been an avid newspaper reader. I haven't read a national paper for over 30 years but I do sometimes look through a local one. I often feel that the national newspaper industry is 'twisted'. By that I mean that content is usually twisted to suite the backer's or owners agenda, the editor's agenda or whether the office coffee machine is broken again and caffeine is in short supply! 'Twisting' can use political bias, dodgy methods to get hold of information, the presentation of that information and even the requirements of advertisers have an influence. 'Twisting' skews the news. As my wife can tell you, if I do watch the news on the telly I usually limit myself to the headlines only, once or twice a week or I scan the front pages as I go past the newsstand in Tesco's Mold while heading for the café.

So why have I become such a 'grumpy old man'? Well, I just can't be bothered nowadays, to look for what is really being said. Which bits are unbiased? What is the headline hiding or what is the headline trying to make me think? What is deliberately sensationalist? What is the truth behind the story and is that truth being truthfully reported.? Are the facts correct, are figures being topped-up or reduced or rounded to ridiculous levels to help make the point the reporter wants to make?

Ok, that's the bad news about the news! Here is some Good News! You can trust the Bible because it's not 'twisted' or skewed, it is 'legal, decent, honest and truthful', it is The Truth. Let me explain why.

The first four books of the New Testament are called Gospels. The word gospel means 'good news'. They were written by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John and they all do the same thing. They tell the story of Jesus. His family history, birth, ministry, death, resurrection and return to heaven. For the purposes of this illustration only, you could think of the 4 Gospels as four different newspapers all covering 'The Jesus Story' in the 1st century Roman occupied territory known as Palestine/Judea. But each Gospel was written for a different group of people with different interests, religions and cultures and they look at the events from different angles and have different purposes.

The highest form of ignorance is when you reject something you don't know anything about.

Wayne Dyer

Christians and scholars tell that the Bible has come to us today from God via about 40 writers. The sceptics' argument (and many peoples assumptions) go along the lines of: if God is the ultimate author then there won't be any mistakes or inaccuracies. We do believe this to be true but only of the original documents. But when you compare the four Gospels there are differences which have caused many people big problems. Differences include events left out that are included in others. There are differences in the order of events. The times of similar events sometimes differ too. But surely (if God is the originator) shouldn't they be exactly the same as each other and agree on every fact and figure? By this logic, yes, but in reality they don't, and anyway, what would be the purpose of four identical Gospels?

Example Mistake 1 : There are two family histories of Jesus in the Gospels, but they are different! "Aha!" you may shout, "*The Bible is full of mistakes*". Whoa, hold on, slow down. You need to know that one includes maternal line detail, the other is a paternal line – so there are bound to be differences.

Example Mistake 2 : The timings of the crucifixion differ! Well maybe—see the references at the start of the article. There are two problems with this 'mistake'. Firstly the 3 quotes don't reference the EXACT same event (and sun dials were not small enough to strap to your wrist back then!!). Secondly, the Romans and the Jews used a different time referencing point. So which writer was using which system? The Jewish day always began at sunrise and was therefore different every day. The Roman system began the day at midnight, every night. The verse from Mark is so general it is almost impossible to pin-down.

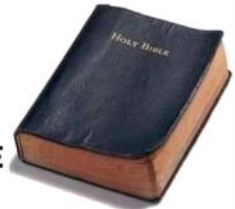
There are a number of factors you have to dial-in before you can 1. decide about apparent contradictions, discrepancies and mistakes and for 2. whether you will decide you can or can't trust the Bible. The examples above are specifics. I would like to highlight some general thoughts and principles that may help you think

again about how you read and interpret the Bible or any piece of literature.

- Remember that if you look hard enough for what you want you will often find it—even if it is not really there.
- We forget that the Bible is both divine and human in its origins.
- The Bible was originated by God but was written down by people in their own language and style. The writers did not become God's writing robots though. God DID NOT DICTATE the Bible! The Bible is an "inspired" document, but this "inspired" is not the same as simply feeling inspired to do or write something, it is much more than that.
- We might wrongly assume that the unexplained is unexplainable.
- We forget or don't know the context of a Bible book, chapter or verse. Knowing the context is vital to correctly interpreting what is said in any literature. The Bible is not set in 21st century Wales.
- We must avoid thinking a summary report (compared to another of the same event in the Bible) is a false or inadequate account.
- A different account is not automatically a wrong account.
- Rounded numbers/figures are not necessarily wrong nor errors. Everybody "rounds".
- The Bible is not a scientific treatise. It was written in a pre-scientific age and therefore makes no attempt to match up with current knowledge neither should we expect it to—but sometimes it does match up.
- We should not assume that everything in the Bible must be understood literally! No writing of length is wholly literal. Jesus Himself was not always literal. He often illustrated points using *parables*. These are "earthy stories" and not actual events. *Metaphors* are used, so too is *hyperbole*, as are *similes*, *allegory*, *poetry*, *song lyrics (psalms)*, *sayings (or proverbs)*, *satire* and *figures of speech*. Is God really a bird or is this an *idiom*? See Psalm 36 verse 7. So, if we read non-literal writing as if it were literal we will indeed get into a right old mess because we will wrongly interpret a verse while also wrongly believing we are right – and some folk do!
- Finally, genuine copyist mistakes e.g. spelling, punctuation and/or transposition and also translation errors have been found in some versions of the Bible. But the assumption that Christians believe ALL Bible versions are free from mistakes and errors is a nonsense. Infallibility (being incapable of making a mistake) and inerrancy (not containing any mistakes) are qualities belonging to the original documents as given to the original authors through the Holy Spirit only.

WHAT IF WE TREATED OUR BIBLES IN THE SAME WAY WE DO OUR MOBILE'S AND ...

- TAKE IT WITH US, EVERYWHERE?



- TURN BACK WHEN WE FORGET IT?

- USE IT IN EMERGENCIES?

- SPEND AT LEAST AN HOUR ON IT EVERY DAY?



- CHECK IT FOR MESSAGES UMPTEN TIMES A DAY?

REMEMBER: Both are comms devices, but the Bible doesn't need to be plugged-in every night. It only needs to be read to work!

That's it for this particular series ... next month I will return to the more traditional devotional style which will be far, far less academic and technical. But I hope folk have seen that we really should read the Bible for ourselves, preferably in a more modern version that will be up-to-date and using a language style that we use today and which we understand. We can then make up our own minds to reject or accept it. Following the opinion of 'the crowd' and rejecting anything without looking into it yourself is a foolish, unwise and dangerous thing to do.

Every blessing

Simon

TheLDNBibleBlog+Oct2020@gmail.com

Committee	When	Where	Contact
Allotment Association	4th Monday of the Month	Community Centre	Joseph Caruana: 01352 770187
Carnival Group	2nd Tuesday of the Month	Community Centre	Leah Thomas Coleman: 07798 665392
Community Centre	Last Tuesday of the Month	Community Centre	Gayle Brand: 01352 779068
Community Council	1st Tuesday of the Month	Community Centre	Marie Reynolds: 07912 146517
Activity / Group	When	Where	Contact
Book Swap	Every Thursday 09:00 - 12:00	Sunshine Café	Shereen Devine: 07469 851886
Bowling	Various	Bowling Club	Mike Jackson: 01352 771607
Bright Sparks	Friday: 09:30 -11:00 (Term Time Only)	Bethania Church	Ann Jackson: 01352 771607
Brownies	Tuesday: 17:15- 18:45	Community Centre	Cheryl Francis: 01352 218704
Community Theatre	Various	Community Centre	Mike Stevens: mike38stevens@gmail.com
Craft	Alternate Mondays:13:30 - 16:00	Community Centre	Cynthia Flintcroft: 01352 771 245
Cricket	Various	Pontblydyn Cricket Club	01352 771629: chairman@pontblydyncc.org.uk
Guides	Tuesday: 17:15 - 18:45	Community Centre	Cheryl Francis:01352 218704
High Fives	Wednesday: 17:45- 18:45 (Term Time Only)	Bethania Church	Joyce M'Caw: 07713 439716
Ladies Guild	Every 2nd & 4th Thursday 19:00-21:00	Community Centre	
Lasers	Wednesday: 19:15- 21:00 (Term Time only)	Bethania Church	Joyce M'Caw: 07713 439716
Mother's Union		Christ Church Pontblyddn	
Over 60s	Alternate Wednesdays: 14:00 - 16:00	Community Centre	Valmai Burton: 07594079377
Patch Work & Quilting	Tuesday: 10:00 - 15:00	Community Centre	Not currently accepting new members
Pigeon Racing	Friday Night	The Prince	Ray Hughes: 07794 208550
Play Group	Monday - Thursday : 09:15 11:45 (Term Time Only)	Ysgol Derwenfa	Claire Coleman: 07851 975198
Rainbows	Thursday: 17:45: 18:45	Community Centre	Cheryl Francis: 01352 218704
Safe Haven	Tuesday: 14:00 16:00 (Term Time only)	Bethania Church	Dorothy: 07549 606145
Sunshine Café	Thursday 09:00 - 12:00	Community Centre	Shereen Devine: 07469 851886
Suit Case Theatre	Various	Community Centre	Mike Stevens: mike38stevens@gmail.com
Youth Club	Tuesday & Thursday 06:30 -	Ysgol Derwenfa	Blue Richard: 07960 989580
Zumba	Monday: 18:30- 19:15	Community Centre	Holly Dugan: 07947 575028
Walks Around Leeswood & Surrounding District	Various	Leeswood & Surrounding area	Mike Stevens: mike38stevens@gmail.com

Reflections Hair Salon

THANK YOU !!

To **June** (my Nan) and my Grandad > I wish June all the best in her new adventures. She will still be available privately for mobile, weddings and proms. June would like to say thank you for all the cards and flowers she received. Thank you Nan, from me (Sarah) for all your help and support over the years xx.

To **Naomi Parry** who is my Saturday girl: and to say good luck back in school.



WELCOME

Welcome to Reflections to my new stylist **Jordan Pumford**. Jordan will initially be in on Fridays 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

OPENING HOURS FOR OCTOBER to DECEMBER

Unfortunately due to extended travelling hours, due to Covid-19, to and from Liverpool I have had to change my hours to fit in. If I have no more appointments for that day I will go earlier. Appointments made in advance, however, can be made: Contact me to ask.

Tuesday: 10.20 am to 2.30 - 4.30 pm (depending on appointments)

Wednesday: Closed all day

Thursday: 10.20 am to 5.45 - 7.50 pm

Friday: 9.00 am to 5.45 - 7.50 pm

Saturday: 8.30 am to 2.30 - 4.30 pm



sarah@reflectionshairmakeup.com



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I would like to extend a special thank you to customers, old and new, for your patience during

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Technical Corner

Joseph Caruana

When a manufacturer stops developing new products, it is as good as saying that the manufacturer in question is not preparing for the future. Some would argue that as soon as a product has been put on the market, it would start to incrementally become obsolete. At this stage, I am not going to analyse when a product becomes obsolete, but what is for certain is that at some time or another every product on the market reaches the end of its life and will be replaced by something new. Competing manufacturers will continuously put new products on the market which will supersede existing products. It goes without saying that manufacturers study each other's products to try to develop better once, in order to retain or establish a market leadership in their sector. There are two kinds of product development, one is incremental development, and the other one is total new development from scratch. There is a limited amount of incremental development that one can do on an existing product, and at some stage it will need to be replaced a completely new version. Those companies which fall asleep and do not further develop their product line will lose the competitive edge. There comes a time in a product's life where incremental development and new product development run parallel to one another. However, as time progresses, every thing to do with incremental development will slow down, while new product development will get more intense until a new product is finally introduced on the market. After a product is introduced on the market the whole process will repeat itself in a continuous perpetual cycle.

Obviously, new products are expensive to research and develop, therefore, it is wise that underneath and where things are not seen, a manufacturer may use as many parts as possible from previous models. This will reduce the cost of tooling, and will ensure reliability due to the fact that that parts has already been proven in previous models. It is therefore imperative that at the conceptual stages of developing a prototype, all engineers involved in the project, must make a careful analysis of what parts they can somehow use while creating a totally innovative appearance. Working in a

research and development department of a company requires some intelligence, and it is not the home for those who does not have a vision for the future, or those who are not willing to venture into the unknown. We cannot rely on others to provide jobs, wealth and prosperity for us, because as a nation we could collectively offer an input into how to create a prosperous industrial future. I have recently come across a piece of old agricultural machinery which was originally made in this country. The original manufacturer has decided to stop manufacturing, and sold the manufacturing rights to an overseas competitor. As years went by, the new manufacturer has redesigned some parts of the machine and put it back on the market. In this scenario we have a manufacturer who decided to sell the manufacturing rights of a product which obviously had potential for further development, while on the other side we have a manufacturer that identifies the business potential of the product and invest in redeveloping certain aspects of the machine to bring it up to scratch to compete in today's market. Cases like this might cause a ripple effect on the well being of certain people, because the workforce of the company who sells the manufacturing rights might end up losing their job and security. It can also have an effect on wealth creation within the area where the machine was previously manufactured, changing the standard of living within that area, if employment opportunities only exist in sectors that pays less money.

At this point some people might ask why the original manufacturer did not develop the machine further and reaped the profits. The answer to such a question can only be provided the original manufacturer, however, we do not have to look very far back in history to find an example of such a case. Most of us do remember the original Mini, and the glory and pride that people around my age felt when this little car won race after race representing the manufacturing capabilities of this country. Then, all of a sudden the company was sold off to another manufacturer. The new manufacturer has redeveloped the product while maintaining certain important characteristics which relate to the original Mini. Regardless of the criticism the new Mini received it went on to become a success. The question once again is, if the present manufacturer made a success of it, why couldn't the original one do it. There is a lot to learn from the past, and there is a lot of work to be done.

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