



E-NEWS



The General Conference of the New Church **News**

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Let's Keep in Touch!

Gemma McLean writes:

Judith Wilson and I thought it would be a good idea to open up E-News to a wider discussion in the coming months.

As a result of the Covid-19 outbreak, a lot of people may be feeling more isolated and we thought it would be good to use E-News as a way of keeping in touch.

So please send me (gemma.mclean@gcnc.org.uk) your content for E-News. It doesn't have to be "news" or even Church related. Let's keep E-News buzzing with activity during the downtime of the next few months and share our stories and experiences with each other.

What are you doing to pass the time if you're self isolating? How are you keeping in touch with friends and family? Do you have any positive quotes or images you'd like to share with us?

Don't forget you can use our free Home Worship material to worship from home over the coming months. Visit gcnc.org.uk/resources/home-worship to download the latest version.

A few people have already started the ball rolling with E-News content sharing, so please see below.

Greetings and best wishes to all our friends and relations at Easter.

At this trying time, as we contemplate being house-bound until at least the middle of June, we are unable to join members of our family and church as we usually would on Mothering Sunday and at

Easter time. We can, however, still celebrate the resurrection of our Lord in our homes. The Lord has told us "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." (Matthew 18, 20)
(NIV)

We wish everyone all the best in whatever circumstances they find themselves, and look forward to a time, not too far away, I hope, when we shall be able to meet freely as we have done previously.

Susan and David Friend

I am fortunate in that so far, I am without virus symptoms, so I am still able to take my daily dog walk with my 3 dogs. This is an enjoyable breath of fresh air for me as someone that works from home.

However in anticipation of potential self-isolation, I have purchased a new activity toy for the dogs to play with in the garden, to keep them entertained if our dog walks become curtailed.

I recorded a short video of the 2 Dalmatians, Mia and Perdy getting to grips with it:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G7Y3Uo7sZRC>

Gemma McLean

Just to keep you up to date with what is happening in the wilds of Yorkshire as we cope with these unprecedented times in which we find ourselves.

Bradford and Dalton churches have both suspended services and other activities. Leaders United due to be held at Purley Chase from 7th - 9th April has also been cancelled.

But it isn't all bad news. I am taking advantage of the time I am having to spend at home to have a major clear out in my study - something that is long overdue. I now have the opportunity to really tackle it and I am finding it both rewarding and therapeutic. I am sure that we all have similar things we can do that we don't normally have time for in the busy lives we lead.

What is important is to keep in touch with one another and offer help and support whenever we are in a position to do so.

Keep safe and keep well.

Jan Millar



I am at home at a time when I would normally be line dancing with lovely friends! My reaction has been to phone a few people whilst sitting at my dressing table overlooking the front of our house. I'm normally in a hurry to get out so don't delay and look out too much!

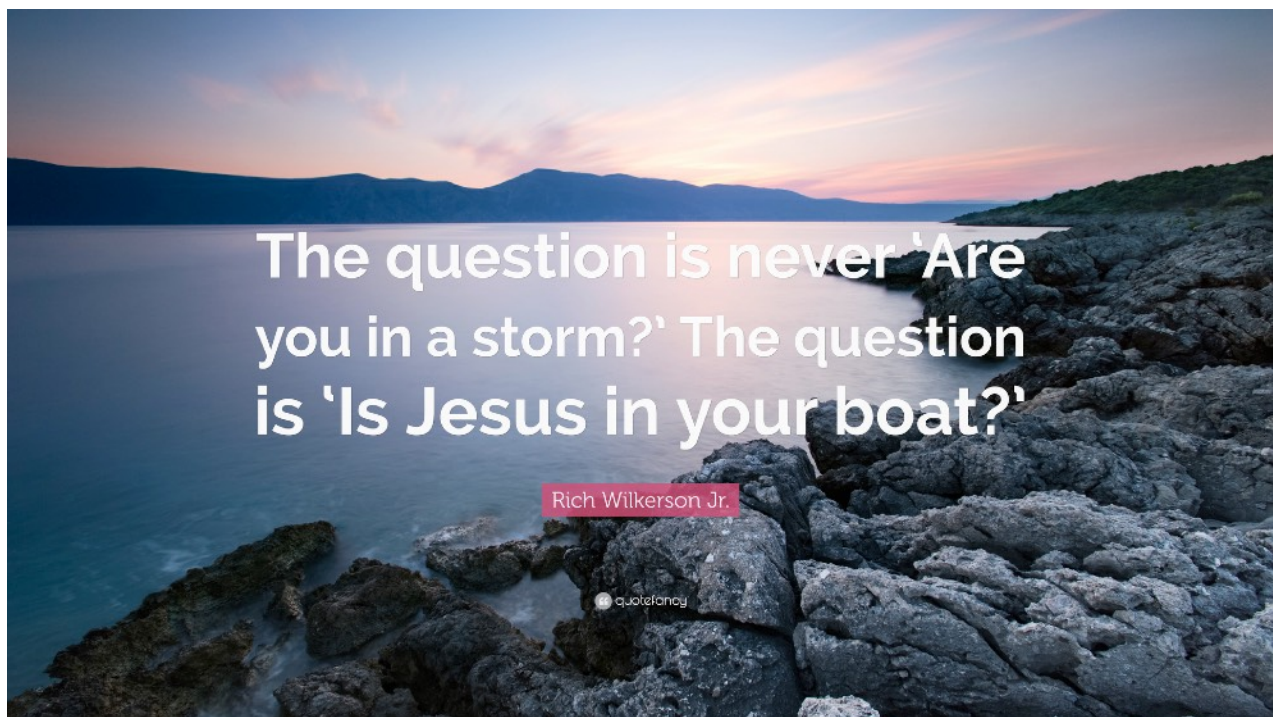
It has been such a joy though. I discovered a nest high in a tree opposite, with a magpie going rapidly in and out. From its movements I can see that it is obviously feeding young and upon looking closer I can see the young moving about through a thin part of the nest.

I Googled and found that both parents feed the young - hence the speed of return and, after breakfast, they brought twigs to add to the large and well-constructed nest.



My eyes have opened by this situation I have been forced into and it has brought me joy and a lasting memory. I am going to try to slow down and look around me more carefully, with gratitude that I am alive and well.

Thank you Lord.
Judith Wilson



What's happening on the Council? March 2020 Report

Shannon Fitzgerald reports:

The council met on the Friday afternoon for a quick lunch before getting to our meeting. To begin, Reverend Christine Bank read a poem called 'The Difference', I urge anyone to read it as it was a lovely thought to keep in mind during our discussions and beyond.

What follows is a concise outline of our meeting, the full version can be found here: <https://www.generalconference.org.uk/resources/council-minutes/>

Our Santander Accounts are now set up and RBS will automatically transfer anything received in our name for the next three years to create a smooth transition. So far Santander have been very helpful, and we hope this continues as it should make our Accounts easier to manage.

Lara Nichols is continuing to update us regarding the Conference Programme which can hopefully be finalised after the coming Ministers' Committee.

The March meeting is when we review all our policies. Richard Cunningham proposed amendments to our Health and Safety Policy with regards to First Aid Kits in all buildings open to the public. A large amount of work also went into updating our Safeguarding Policy in addition to a regional Safeguarding training session being held at Purley Chase.

Gemma McLean prepared an excellent update on our IT management and investigated some of our less used websites which we considered closing with materials potentially being moved to our central Conference website.

We also discussed the potential for church newsletters to be circulated on our Conference website enabling people from other areas to access them if desired.

After a long meeting we were ready for a wonderful dinner provided by Rachel and the team at Purley. During this time the rest of the 18 plus group started arriving for our weekend and after an introductory session we joined the council for an evening of drinks and chat.

Local Newsletters

Gemma McLean reports:

Our web site now has a dedicated page for local Church newsletters. So far we only have a couple, but I will be contacting the other Churches this week to ask them if they'd like to share their newsletter online so stay tuned to the page. Please visit: gcnc.org.uk/resources/newsletters

A Bit of Fun - Logo Quiz

Answers in the next issue.

