

## Thought for June 2023

By Revd. Claire Claxton

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Psalm 98:4

There are hundreds of verses in the Bible about music. The Bible mentions the trumpet, lute, harp, strings, cymbals, tambourine, castanets, horn, pipes, flute and lyre, as well as many references to singing and dancing. From the age of six when I started having piano lessons, music has been a big part of my life. The amount of time over the years spent in preparing for lessons, exams and concerts adds up to thousands of hours but I am very grateful that I was encouraged to do so.

A recent study shows that playing an instrument permanently enhances brain development, leading to greater brain function, memory, speech processing, empathy, motor skills, maths and science skills and even mental health. I once read an article by someone who had been very successful in the field of science attributing their success to learning the bassoon when they were a child!

And even if you can't play a musical instrument, you can sing. When people tell me that they can't sing I quote the scripture above. It doesn't say 'make a beautiful sound' it says 'make a joyful noise.' Anyone can do that! Singing is an important part of our worship in church services as we sing our praises to God. We have a small choir who leads the singing and we would love to have more people join. Do let me know if you are interested.

In June and July you can come and enjoy listening to others making music at our mini concert series (see page 4 for more details). What a pleasant way to spend a summer's evening – listening to some talented and entertaining musicians in a beautiful ancient church and then enjoying refreshments together. Do come along!

*CMClaxton*

# STE MARGUERITE DE LA FORÊT



June - 2023

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## Church Flowers in June

*June 4th Nicola Hoyland Birch*

*June 11th Nicola Hoyland Birch*

*June 18th (Margaret Boden-Heaume)*

*June 25th (Margaret Boden-Heaume)*

*July 2nd Vivienne Rees*

## Greeters

**Sunday 4th June Suzie**

**Sunday 11th June Brenda**

**Sunday 18th June Nancy**

**Sunday 25th June Dorothy**

## Playing Cards

Cards for play, like chess are an importation from the East, and were probably invented in India. A pack of Hindustani cards is said to be as old as the 9th c. they probably appeared in Europe about the 14th c. and it is suggested they were used for fortune telling. Tarot cards, said to mean "royal road", bore emblematic figures and were used by gypsies. An early pack of Tarot cards numbered 78.

From Italy cards passed to Germany where at the time of wood engraving this could be applied to their production. Early sets of cards for play as opposed to divination were in packs of 56, similar to today having 4 suits, kings, queens, knights and valets, with pips of ace to ten. In France the number in the pack was reduced to 52 and the four suits we know today were introduced; hearts, diamonds, spades and clubs.

At times in England it was prohibited to import playing cards, it was obviously a popular pastime as servants and apprentices were forbidden to play except at Christmas time, and then only in their master's houses. Card playing became the usual pastime with royalty and the wealthy and many a fortune was lost and gained this way. In 1629 a company was incorporated by letters patent of Charles 1., under the title of 'The Master, Wardens, and Commonality of the Mystery of the Makers of Playing Cards'.

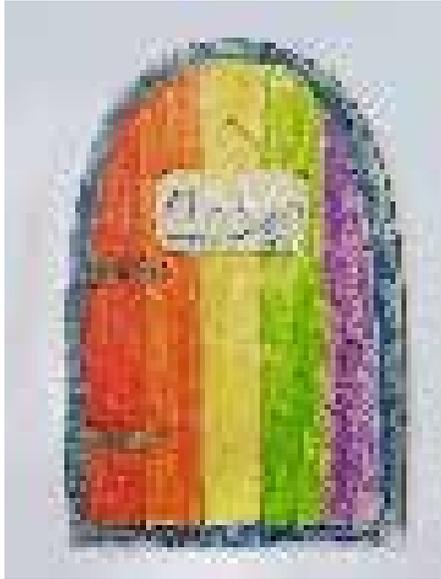
They became a useful source for political and satirical comment, rather like a present day newspaper cartoon. This illustrated one refers to Sir Arthur Hesselrigg, Knight of the coddled brain, an amusing reference to a man embroiled in the upheaval at the time of Cromwell, and who is said to have spent some of his time of exile playing cards in Guernsey.

Artists and politicians have at times tried to change the figures on cards, the Americans wanted Presidents as kings, Venus and Minerva as queens and native American chiefs as knaves. The French tried to substitute Voltaire, Moliere etc. but none of these were successful. Players care only for the game and know it best with it's old familiar objects on the card. .



### Fairies in the Forest

On Sunday May 21st children and parents were seen wandering the lanes in the Forest looking for fairy doors. These were little paintings done by the school children and placed around the parish for the children to find and tick off on their list. What a fun outing and then finishing at the Parish church for refreshments and fairy cakes provided by Forest Floral.



*Why do supermarkets make the sick walk all the way to the back of the store to get to the Pharmacy for their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front?*

*Why do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries, and yet get a diet coke?*

*Why do banks leave vault doors open and then chain the pens on the counter tops?*



### What a busy time the church had in May.

The first two weeks we celebrated the Coronation of the King, closely followed by a Remembrance of Liberation.

The church was decorated throughout in red white and blue , including flags, shields and balloons. People quite often drop in and admire the church and sign the visitors book, some from distant shores especially when the cruise ships are in. It is sad to hear that in many parts of the U.K. churches are not usually open except for services.



## June Dates and News

### Knit and Natter

**Wednesday June 7th, 2pm-4pm.**

Join us in church for a time of tea and chat and bring any knitting or sewing you like to do. Or you can just come for the company!

### Coffee Morning

**Wednesday 14th June** Our next coffee morning will take place from 10.30am to 12 noon in church.

### Solace

**Thursday 1st and 15th and 29th June**

Solace is a support group for bereaved friends. (Regular meetings are at St Martin's Community Centre from 10.30-noon).

## Coming Events

### Concert series

**Friday 23rd June 7.30 p.m.** a fun evening with the popular group GU10 singing sea-shanties.

**Friday 30th June 7.30 p.m.** an organ recital by Andrew Cooper - a chance to hear the beauty of the church organ after its recent renovation by the very person who refurbished it!

**Friday 7th July 7.30 p.m.** State of Harmony Choir entertain everyone with their mix of classical and popular songs.

Each concert will last an hour and be followed by refreshments. There is no cost to enter but retiring collections will be split between local charities and the Forest Church organ refurbishment fund. Parking in the field near the church or in Forest Stores car park.

### Dates for your diary

Flower Festival Thursday 6th July - Sunday 9th July 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day

Forest Church Patronal Festival Sunday 23rd July

11 a.m. Celebration service

3 - 5 p.m. Cream tea in the garden of Dorothy and Mark Freeman

## Welcome to Forest Parish Church Services in June 2023

### Sunday 4th June Trinity Sunday

11am Family Communion

Reader: tba

Prayers: Nicola Hoyland Birch

### Sunday 11th June

11am Parish Communion

Reader: Keith Wallace

Hosea 5 v15, ch6 v6

Romans 4 v13-end

Prayers: Peter Gallienne

### Sunday 18th June

**9am Puppets and Praise**

11am Parish Communion

Reader: Susie Mowbray

Exodus 19 v2-8a

Romans 5 v1-8

Prayers: Vivienne Rees

### Sunday 25th June

11am Parish Communion

Reader: Debbie Dorey

Jeremiah 20 v7-13

Romans 6 v1b-11

Prayers: Keith Bienvenu

### Extra services in church

Saturday 3rd June 1pm

Wedding: Callum McCutcheon & Laura Bygraves

Saturday 10th June 1pm

Wedding Blessing: Matthew Tilley & Natalie Ozanne

Friday 23rd June 1pm

Wedding: Caroline Parrot & Stephen Le Ray