

*Sharing the
Good News of Jesus Christ*

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Kidz' Korner

We are arranging a new after-school club on Wednesday evenings for all children between the ages of 5 and 11 to come along on and join in the fun. It is to be held in the Market Overton Village Hall.

For more information contact Peter Rush on 01 572 767383
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New after schools club **DISCOVERERS!**

Are you between the age of 5-11?
Come and join our Discoverers Club!

Fun Activities, bible stories and games.



Every Wednesday 5pm - 6pm
in Market Overton Village Hall

Admission Free
Organised by Market Overton Free

Diary Dates

Morning Worship
MO Village Hall
Every Sunday, 10.30am. Suitable for all.

Evening Worship
Sir John Sedley Centre, Wymondham.
Most Sundays 6.30pm

Midweek meetings - Thursdays, 7.30pm
Sir John Sedley Centre, Wymondham

Coffee Hour - MO Village Hall
Friday, 10.30am, 12 March, 9 April

Easter Sunday - MO Village Hall
10.30am

See website www.mofc.org.uk

Insight

Decisions, decisions.

Election fever will soon be upon us when Gordon Brown eventually announces the date of the general election.

Which way will you be voting, if at all. If you are not a faithful follower of a particular party and are yet to be persuaded by the election campaign, how will you be influenced to vote?

Most of us will probably look at our own situation and vote for the party that promises us the most. But many people are passionate about a given party and do not vote in a selfish way but

vote according to their political principles.

Whichever way you vote and whatever the outcome, we must recognise that the newly elected government will have a very difficult and thankless job to do.

They need to be prayed for as the bible commands us, so "that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness" 2Timothy2:2. In other words, that we may maintain the rights and freedoms which we have for so long come to accept as normal.



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Is there Hope in Death?

The television and newspapers have been full of stories of loving mothers who made the decision to end the life of their terminally ill children. Just the other week, the BBC presenter Ray Gosling told the story of him smothering his friend to death in a bid to end his friend's suffering. Those of us who have watched a loved one suffering at the end of their life will know the pain and agony of sitting by helplessly waiting for the end, wishing that there was something

we could do. But knowing that ultimately there is nothing we can do. Some people have taken the dramatic decision that assisted suicide is the kinder option. But is it really? What does the Bible say about life and death?

God is the giver and sustainer of life. The Bible describes how God formed us in our mother's womb (Psalm 139:13) and he knows all

Insight

- Bi-monthly
- To keep you informed
- To invite you to the events
- To stimulate thought

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about us .. even the number of hairs on our head (Matthew 10:30). God knows what grief is, he sent his only son to the earth and watched him die, even Jesus, at the prospect of his death, asked that the cup (of death) be taken from him (Matthew 26:39), but Jesus went on to

say "Yet not my will but yours". The well known section in Ecclesiastes (3:2) says there is "a time to be born and a time to die". Our days are allotted to us by God and are for him alone to give and take away. To interfere with this is against God's plan and fundamentally no man has the right to take another's life.

Introducing the Christian: Mary Jones



Mary Jones was born in 1784 to a Welsh family. Her father was a weaver and his income was barely enough for the family to live on. Mary was privileged to be able to attend school and learn to read. It was run by Thomas Charles, a preacher from Bala who had a real desire to provide education for children from poor families.

Mary's parents were Methodists and taught her about God but they didn't have a Bible. When Mary learnt to read she began visiting a farm a couple of miles away where there was a Bible. She longed to have one of her own but knew

how difficult it would be.

Welsh Bibles were extremely rare and cost lots of money. But Mary was not someone to be put off. At 9 years old she began saving money. 6 years later she had saved enough to buy a Bible. One morning, the 15 year old girl set out to walk to Bala, 25 miles away, so she could buy a Bible.

Her friend Thomas Charles must have been surprised when he saw Mary standing barefoot outside his door, asking for a Bible. Thomas explained that the few copies he had were already sold and he had none spare. Mary was so upset she began to cry. Thomas couldn't bear to watch. He hurried inside and got her one of the Bibles that had been promised to someone else.

Mary was delighted with her Bible and set off to walk the 25 miles back home again. But what she had done had a big impression on Thomas Charles. He began to think about how to help others like Mary who were longing for a Bible. Soon he had founded a new society with the aim of supplying Wales with Bibles. This was the forerunner of today's Bible Society which is still sending Bibles all over the world. That's why Mary Jones should be remembered.

A topic we'd rather not consider



Pressure is growing to legalise euthanasia in the UK. High profile cases are constantly brought to our attention in the media and the Director of Public Prosecutions is in the process of clarifying the circumstances under which people will be prosecuted for assisting a suicide.

The most common argument in favour of such action is the appeal to self-determination: "It's my life; I have the right to end it when I choose." But is it your life? Did you produce it? No, I think your parents took care of that! Did you purchase it? No, I think you'll find it was God's gift to you. If you are married, you have united your life with that of someone else; the lives of any children and of your

wider family are also bound up with yours; and we haven't begun to talk about our friends and society: Perhaps you're not quite as autonomous as you thought!

As Christians we believe all human life is precious from the womb to the tomb because each human person is made in God's image, making human life sacred. So while it may be kind for a vet to put a suffering pet down, the same cannot be said of a doctor destroying human life. Human life, in whatever condition or state, is to be treasured and cared for.

The fears we have regarding pain, indignity, and dependence at the end of life may all have solutions in the world-leading palliative care and hospice movement in our country.

Please get in touch with me personally if you would like to talk further about these issues.

Peter Rush

INTERESTING FACTS did you know?

Sleepy facts

* Dolphins sleep with one eye open



* Some birds can sleep while in flight



* Horses can sleep standing



* A snail can sleep for three years

