

# The Welcome Times

October 2016



## Fun



The smell of the grease paint, the crack of the whip and the roar of the lions! Well not quite, but young and older had such a lot of fun.



## Laughter



We balanced and juggled, spun plates and walked on stilts. Bubbles floated and filled the air, adding to the magic of the moment and to the joy of the jamboree.



## and Food



Afterwards there was a magnificent munch for the bunch who had exhausted themselves becoming circus entertainers.



The quality and selection of sandwiches and cakes made a feast fit for a king (or queen) and would have made Buck House proud.



## The Speeding Ticket

Jack took a long look at his speedometer before slowing down: 73 in a 50 limit! The flashing blue light in his rear view mirror insisted he pull over quickly, but Jack let the car coast.

This was the fourth time in as many months. How could someone get caught so often?

When his car had slowed to 10 miles an hour, Jack pulled over, but only partially. Let the policeman worry about the potential traffic hazard. Maybe some other car will tweak his backside with a mirror.

He slumped into his seat, the collar of his trench coat covering his ears. He tapped the steering wheel, doing his best to look bored, his eyes on the mirror. The policeman was stepping out of his car, a big pad in hand.

Oh no!

It was Bob? Bob from church?

Jack sunk farther into his trench coat. This was worse than the inescapable ticket. A Christian traffic cop catching someone from his own church. Someone who happened to be a little eager to get home after a long day at the office. Someone he was about to play golf with tomorrow.

Jack was tempted to leave the window shut long enough to gain the psychological edge but decided on a different tack. Jumping out of the car, he approached a man he saw every Sunday, a man he'd never seen in uniform.

"Hi, Bob. Fancy meeting you like this."

"Hello, Jack." No smile.

"Guess you caught me red-handed in a rush to see my wife and kids."

"Yeah, I guess." Bob seemed uncertain.

"I've seen some long days at the office lately. I'm afraid I bent the rules a bit-just this once." Jack toed at a pebble on the pavement. "Diane said something about roast beef and potatoes tonight. Know what I mean?"



"I know what you mean. I also know that you have a reputation in this area.

Ouch! This was not going in the right direction. Time to change tactics.

"What'd you clock me at?"

"Seventy-one. Would you sit back in your car,



## Children Come First



The village is delighted with the recent success of Milford Primary School.

Ofsted completed two days of thoroughly combing over every detail of its performance, which ended with praise for the Headteacher, governors, teachers and children.

The report comments on rapid improvement, enthusiastic learners, teachers who have high expectations and who are determined for the children to do well and governors who add real

please?"

"Now wait a minute here, Bob. I checked as soon as I saw you. I was barely nudging 65."

The lie seemed to come easier with every ticket.

"Please, Jack, get back in the car."

Flustered, Jack hunched himself through the still-open door. Slamming it shut, he stared at the dashboard. He was in no rush to open the window.

The minutes ticked by.

Bob scribbled away on the pad. Why hadn't he asked for a driver's licence?

Whatever the reason, it would be a month of Sundays before Jack ever sat near this person again.

A tap on the door and Jack jerked his head to the left. There was Bob, a folded paper in hand. Jack rolled down the window a mere two inches, just enough room for Bob to pass him the slip.



"Thanks."

Jack could not quite keep the sneer out of his voice. Bob returned to his car without a word.

Jack watched his retreat in the mirror, bottom teeth scratching his upper lip. When Bob vanished inside his car, Jack unfolded the sheet of paper. How much was this one going to cost?

Wait a minute. What was this? Is it some kind of joke? This isn't a ticket. Jack began to read:

*Dear Jack,*

*A few years ago I had a daughter. She was six when killed by a car. You guessed it - a speeding driver. A fine and three months in jail and the man was free. Free to hug his daughters -all three of them.*

*I only had one and I'm going to have to wait until heaven before I can ever hug her again.*

*A thousand times I've tried to forgive that man. A thousand times I thought I had, maybe I did, but I need to do it again. Even now. Pray for me and be careful, my son is all I have left.*

*Take care*

*Bob*

Jack shifted uncomfortably in his trench coat. Then he twisted around in time to see Bob's car pull away and head down the road. Jack watched until it disappeared. A full 15 minutes later, he too, pulled away and drove slowly home, praying for forgiveness and hugging his wife and children like never before.

- Author Unknown -

strength to the school.

Attendance is consistently high and children make good progress throughout in a very safe environment.

The report is a tribute to the pace of improvement the school has made in the past two years.

The full report can be seen on the Ofsted website:

<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/112788>

Milford  
Primary School





Brenda was a young woman who wanted to learn to go rock climbing. Although she was scared to death she went with a group and faced this incredible rock face - practically perpendicular!

In spite of her fear, she put on the gear and she took hold of the rope and started up the face of that rock.

Well, as she was hanging on to a ledge where she could take a breather, whoever was holding the rope up at the top of the cliff made a mistake and snapped it against Brenda's eye, knocking out her contact lens.

You know how tiny contact lenses are and almost impossible to find. Well, here she is on a rock ledge, with who knows how many hundreds of feet behind and hundreds of feet above her.

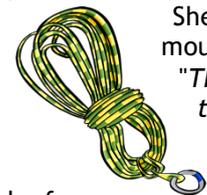
Of course, she searched frantically, hoping that she would be able to find that contact lens.

Here she was, very far from home and very blurry sight. She was upset by the fact that she wouldn't be anywhere near a place where she could get a new contact lens and prayed that the Lord would help her to find it.

Well, her last hope was that perhaps when she got to the top of the cliff, one of the girls up there might be able to find the lens in the corner of her eye.

She got to the top and a friend examined her eye. There was no contact lens to be found. She sat down with the rest of the party, waiting for the others to come up the face of the cliff.

She looked out across range after range of mountains, thinking of that Bible verse that says: *"The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth."*



leaf She thought, "Lord, you can see all these mountains. You know every single stone and that's on those mountains and you know exactly where my contact lens is."

Finally, the time came when it was time to go down. They walked the trail to the bottom. Just as they arrived, a new party of rock climbers were coming along. As one of them started up the face of the cliff, she shouted out, "Hey, you guys! Anybody lost a contact lens?"

Well, that would be startling enough, wouldn't it just finding the lens! But you know why she saw it? An ant was carrying that contact lens so that it was moving slowly across the face of a rock.



Brenda told me that her father is a cartoonist. When she told him this incredible story, he drew a picture of the ant lugging a contact lens with the words:

*"Lord, I don't know why you want me to carry this thing. I can't eat it and it's awfully heavy. But if this is what you want me to do, I'll carry it for you."*

What does that tell you about the God of the universe? Is He in charge of the tiniest things? Do ants matter to Him?

Of course they do. He made them. He designed them. I guess Solomon was right. One could learn a valuable lesson from that ant - trust in God.

Well, that probably all say a little more often, "God, I don't know why you want me to carry this load. I see no good in it and it's awfully heavy. Still, if you want me to, I'll carry it for you."

- Josh and Karen Zarandona -

Here for you

Anyone for tea?

The perfect 'silver' service.



There was entertainment provided by children at Milford Primary and included action songs, rhymes and instrumentalists. The School Band performed tunefully and beautiful voices from the choir filled the hall.

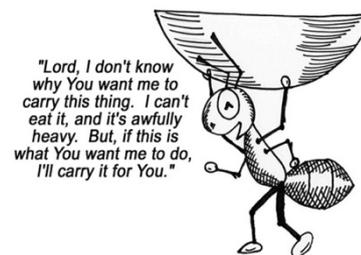


The waiters and waitresses of Year 6 served delicious nibbles and welcome drinks.



*"The children were lovely. What a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon."*

[www.milfordbaptist.org.uk/whats happening/ anyone-for-tea/](http://www.milfordbaptist.org.uk/whats happening/ anyone-for-tea/)



*"Lord, I don't know why You want me to carry this thing. I can't eat it, and it's awfully heavy. But, if this is what You want me to do, I'll carry it for You."*

*I can do all things through him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13*





## It's the Reason

The reason we're here is because of Jesus.  
 There is no other reason  
 No other person because  
 Nothing compares to Him.

The reality for many people nowadays means that Jesus is about as real to them as Jack Frost. Even so the idea of God is nice because it can provide comfort at difficult times and when the crisis is over, He has no importance in their everyday lives.

Yet 2000 years ago God stepped into time  
 And gave us  
 Jesus.

A real person, a real life and because of that nothing can ever be the same again.  
 He makes the best offer you will ever get and in return asks for one thing –  
 that you believe.

We are always here if you want to ask questions or to find out more about how and what it is to experience Him in everyday life.  
 Come along on a Sunday morning or get in touch and have a chat.

## Here for You

We all go through tough times - loneliness, illness or loss.  
 If you would like one of us to visit, even simply to chat, then get in touch.

Contact one of our pastoral team on:  
 01773 822370.



On the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month.  
 Come along, drop in,  
 and enjoy a chat over coffee.



Milford Baptist Church  
 Chevin Road, Milford

## Are You Ready for Christmas?

Journey into Christmas with a reflection for each day of December through our daily reading which will be on our website.

Follow the story of the birth of Jesus through 31 readings related to living the Christian life from day to day.



Starts on 1<sup>st</sup> December



## On the Most Exciting Day of the Year

An exciting new event will begin this Christmas.

It's especially for the children.

On Christmas Eve at 3.30pm in the church, we're having a Crib Service.

It will last for about 30 minutes with well-known children's carols and readings.

It'll be fun, a look at the real meaning of Christmas and a few moments of calm amidst all the excitement.



# Vintage

## AFTERNOON

## TEA & MUSIC

### WEDNESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

2.30pm – 4.30pm

Transport Available





Milford Baptist Church, Chevin Road, DE56 0QH