

The

Welcome Times



June 2017

What a Picture

The talent of local artists was on display at MBC recently as part of the Milford & Makeney May Day celebration.



'Painting with petals' was another skill on display. This beautiful well was also created for the event. You can read more about this by going to our website and clicking on the 'Well' Well! link on the home page



Milford & Makeney celebrated 40 years of well dressing this year. If you'd like to see a gallery of pictures from 2017-2004 go to the website and click on : <http://www.milfordbaptist.org.uk/whats-happening/well-dressing/well-dressing.php>



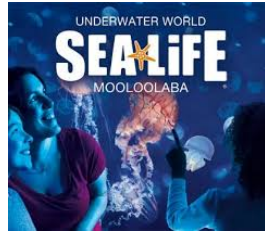
YOU'RE ALWAYS WELCOME AT MBC.

Blown Away In Wonder

Recently, I wandered through the glass encased tunnels and around the glass fronted aquariums of Sea Life, Mooloolaba, Queensland, Australia, gazing in stunned fascination at the thousands of sea creatures moving silently around their underwater world.

Fish (myriad shapes and sizes), jelly fish, star fish, shell fish, sharks, stingrays, sea horses, sea urchins, sea slugs, sea lions, seals, crustaceans, corals, crocodiles, monitors, lobsters, turtles, frogs, all swam, scuttled, floated, crawled, paddled or glided silently by.

The amazing variety of sea life was astounding; ranging from the huge to the tiny, from those with lumpy protuberances to the extremely streamlined; from the outstandingly beautiful to the somewhat ugly, (from the human point of view). The diverse complexity of style was overwhelming from the quite simple shapes of some fish (like a child would draw), the jaunty jerkiness of the stubby sea horses, the



incredibly complicated fragile fronds of the luminescent jellyfish to the robust shells of the crabs, crocodiles and turtles.

The colours were similarly gloriously variegated; from the camouflaged and mundanely dull to the brilliant and iridescently boastful.



I was 'blown away' as I looked once more at the wonder of God's creation. For in all that I observed, I could see the infinite wisdom and surpassing power of almighty God reflected in the incredible design and amazing beauty of the world which is indebted to Him for His design and creation, and dependent on Him for daily life and sustenance.

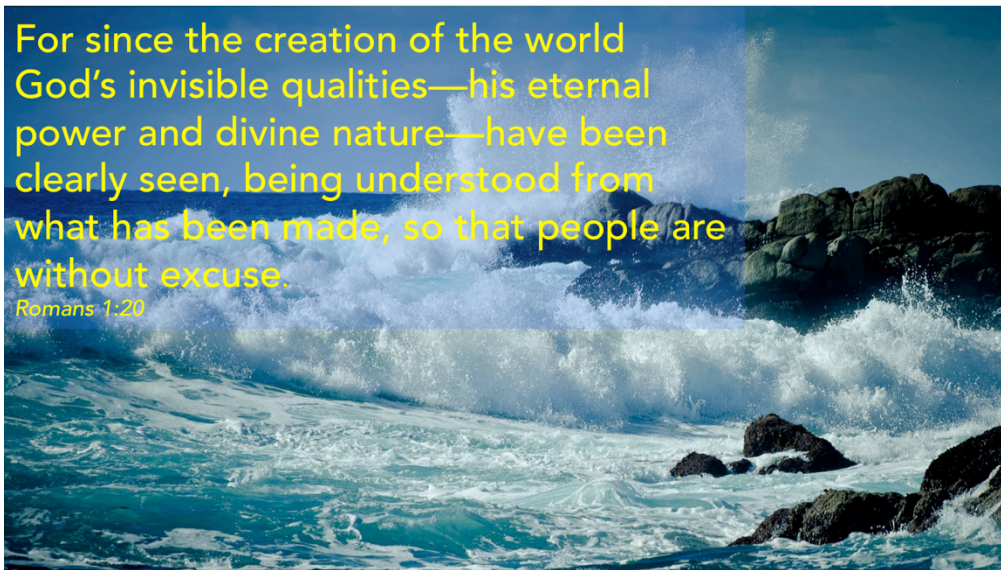
My spirit soared as my heart and soul sang with praise and worship to our loving Heavenly Father. I was reminded of words from the Bible, that on the fifth day "God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, each according to their kinds".

What a mighty God we serve!

Rev. Ron Brickman

For since the creation of the world
God's invisible qualities—his eternal
power and divine nature—have been
clearly seen, being understood from
what has been made, so that people are
without excuse.

Romans 1:20



Kyle

It was my first year in secondary school, I saw a boy from my class walking home from school. His name was Kyle. It looked like he was carrying all of his books. I thought to myself, "Why would anyone bring home all his books on a Friday? He must really be a nerd."

I thought shall I go and say hello, but I had quite a weekend planned with a party and football game, so I shrugged my shoulders and went on.

As I was walking, I saw a bunch of lads running toward him. They ran at him, knocking all his books out of his arms and tripping him so he landed in the dirt. His glasses went flying, and I saw them land in the grass about ten feet from him. He looked up and I saw this terrible sadness in his eyes.

My heart went out to him, so I jogged over to him. He was groping around looking for his glasses and I saw a

tear in his eye. As I handed him his glasses, I said, "Those guys are jerks. They really should get a life."

He looked at me and said, "Hey thanks!" There was a big smile on his face. It was one of those smiles that showed real gratitude.

I helped him pick up his books and asked him where he lived. It turned out, he lived not far from me, so I asked him why I had never seen him before. He said he had gone to private school until this year. I would have never hung out with a private school kid before, but we talked all the way home, and I carried his books.

He turned out to be a pretty cool kid. I asked him if he wanted to play football on Saturday with me and my friends. He said he'd like that.

story continues on next page

We're here...



Open Air Service

Sunday 16th July

2.30pm

Milford Play Park on A6

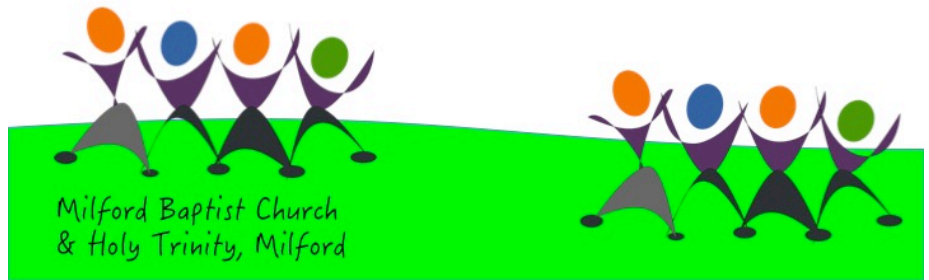
12.30pm Bring and Share lunch
at Milford Baptist Church



Everyone welcome
to this relaxed
45 minute service

Did You Know?

Two icons of a bygone age helped build the Milford Railway Tunnel. George and Robert Stephenson were the engineers for this the first large tunnel on the line to be built in 1840.



Kyle continuation of story from the previous page

We hung out all weekend and the more I got to know Kyle, the more I liked him. My friends liked him too.

Monday morning came, and there was Kyle with the huge stack of books again. I stopped him and said, "Boy, you are going to really build some serious muscles with this pile of books everyday!" He just laughed and handed me half the books and we piled them in his locker.

Over the next four years, Kyle and I became best friends. When we were seniors, we began to think about university. We would go to different cities but I knew that we would always be friends and distance would never be a problem. He was going to be a doctor and I was going for a sports degree.

Kyle was asked to speak at our final assembly. I teased him all the time about being a nerd. I was so glad it wasn't me having to get up there to say something.

On our final school day, I saw Kyle. He looked great. He was one of those guys that really found himself during secondary school. He filled out and actually looked good in glasses. He had more dates than me and all the girls loved him!

Today was a special day. I could see that he was nervous about his speech, so I smacked him on the back and said, "Hey, big guy, you'll be great!"

He looked at me with one of those looks (the really grateful one) and smiled. "Cheers," he said.

As he started his speech, he cleared his throat and began. "This is a momentous day and a time to thank those who helped you make it through the tough years, your parents, your teachers, but mostly your friends. I am here to tell all of you that being a friend to someone is the best gift you can give. I want to tell you a story."

I just looked at my friend with disbelief as he told the story of the first day we met. Most astonishing of all he went

on to say to everyone that on that particular day he'd decided that over the weekend he was going to take his own life. He talked of how he had cleaned out his locker so his mum wouldn't have to do it and he was carrying it all home.

He looked over to me and gave me that smile. "Thankfully, I was saved. My friend saved me from doing something unspeakable."

I heard the gasp go through the hall as this handsome, popular boy told us all about his loneliness becoming too much. I saw his mum and dad looking at me and smiling that same grateful smile. Not until that moment did I realise how easy it would have been to pass by on that day we first met.

Never underestimate the power of your actions. With one small gesture, you can change a person's life.

- Author Anonymous



I Haven't Forgotten Our Promise

From the very beginning, the girl's family objected strongly to her dating this boy. It was all to do with family background, and, they said, she would suffer for the rest of her life in choosing to be with him.

Due to family pressure, the couple often quarrelled. Though the girl loved the boy deeply, she always asked him: "How deep is your love for me?"

Language problems on the boy's part caused the girl to be very upset with his responses. She would often be angry with him. He endured it all in silence.

After graduation he made the decision to study further in his home country. Before leaving, he proposed to the girl: "I'm not very good with words. But all I know is that I love you. If you allow me, I will take care of you for the rest of my life. As for your family, I'll try my best to talk them round. Will you marry me?"

The girl agreed and the family, too, eventually agreed to let them get married. So before he left, they got engaged. They exchanged their love through e-mails and phone calls. Though the separation was hard, neither ever thought of giving up on the other.

One day, while the girl was on her way to work, a car knocked her down. The driver had hit the accelerator not the brake.

She regained consciousness in hospital and saw her parents beside her bed. She knew something was wrong. Her mum was crying. She wanted to comfort her but could not because she could no longer speak. The impact of the injury on her brain had caused her to lose her voice. Upon learning this she sobbed for days. It was probably

permanent.

After many weeks she was allowed home. She was adjusting to a life of silence, but could not tell her fiancé. After a while, not wanting to be a burden, she wrote him a letter saying that the relationship must end.

From all those miles away the boy tried desperately to contact her. Texts, telephone, emails, but never a reply. All that the poor girl could do was weep as she retreated into a world of heartbreak.

Slowly she learnt to communicate through 'sign language' and started life anew, telling herself everyday that she must forget her true love and let him be free of the burden she would bring.

One day, she got the news that her fiancé was back. She took all the necessary steps to avoid meeting him. A year passed when one day an envelope arrived. In it was a wedding invitation from her boyfriend. The girl was distraught - he had found someone else!

Imagine her great surprise when she opened the envelope and saw her name as the bride! And as she stood there baffled, who knocked on her door but the boy she had tried her level best to avoid!

Using his hands he said, "I've spent the last year learning sign language, just to let you know that I've not forgotten our promise! Let me have the chance to be your voice. I love you so much!"

With that, he slipped the ring he had bought onto her finger. The girl burst into tears of joy.

Author Unknown



Milford Baptist Church
FLOWER FESTIVAL
Saturday 10th June 10am-5pm Sunday 11th June 1pm-4pm
SHOWTIME TEA
The Dalesmen MVC
Saturday at 4pm
MUSICALS Refreshments



A warm welcome is always waiting if you want to come along one Sunday.
See our website for service details



Fabulous 50's Vintage
Afternoon Tea & Music
Wednesday 4th October 2017
2.30pm - 4.30pm

Here for You

If you're going through a tough time – loneliness, illness, loss or any problem at all and you would like someone to chat to, or visit, then get in touch because we're here for you.

Contact one of our pastoral team on 01773 822370