



# The Welcome Times

June 2016



## Well – it's Wool!



Last month the church displayed a colourful selection of some beautiful pictures forming part of Milford's May Day Festival.

A small team of skilled 'dressers' from Milford Baptist Church produced one of four traditional

wells using the theme 'Henry V' to celebrate 400 years of Shakespeare.

The other pictures were not so traditional in their method but had an equally stunning effect.

Derek Palmer put on a display of wool art, which illustrated well-known scenes from London and popular Bible stories.

Derek was 14 years old when he started traditional well dressing and developed his skill for wool art when asked by a company in London to produce a well dressing for a

theatre production.

The problem is that under hot lights flower petals don't last very long.

He suggested that using seeds and wool could achieve a similar effect - and that's when it all began.

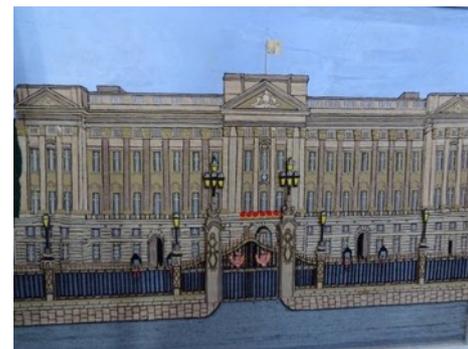
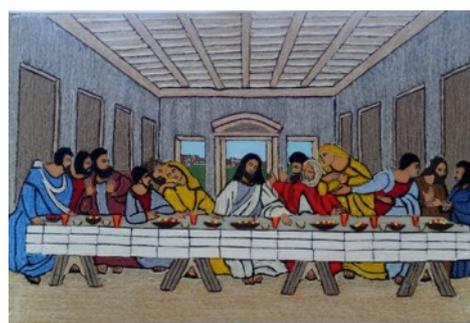
Better known for his recreation of famous buildings in Derby he buys his wool from B&Q, sketches the outline of the picture in pencil, lays out some glue and builds the picture using black wool.

The picture is then filled out using small strands of coloured wool. Rather than a paint and brush, cocktail sticks and scissors are more useful.

Modestly, Derek suggests it's easier than well dressing because you do not have to handle delicate petals.

He worked all his life for Derby City Council as a superintendent for highways and sewers, before becoming responsible for demolishing some of the buildings he now recreates through his pictures.

Many who visited the exhibition enjoyed the display.



### Where to find us



Here for you

### Musicians

We are looking for singers and instrumentalists to start a music group.

Interested?

Contact: Robin 07941 615183 or email: [thefuges53@yahoo.com](mailto:thefuges53@yahoo.com)

Must be in sympathy with the ethos of the church and enjoy Christian music



### **Footsteps in the Sand**

One night I dreamed a dream.

I dreamed I was walking along the beach  
with the Lord.

Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.  
For each scene, I noticed two sets of  
footprints in the sand,  
one belonging to me, and the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of my life flashed before me,  
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.  
I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,  
there was only one set of footprints.  
I also noticed that it happened at the very lowest  
and saddest times in my life

This really bothered me,  
and I questioned the Lord about it:  
"Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you,  
you'd walk with me all the way.  
But I noticed that during the most  
troublesome times in my life,  
there is only one set of footprints.  
I don't understand why  
when I needed you the most you would leave me."

The Lord replied,  
"My precious child, I love you and would  
never leave you.  
During your trial and suffering,  
when you saw only one set of footprints, it was then  
that I carried you."

- by Mary Stevenson



Image by Rebecca Brogan  
John the Baptist Artworks

### **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.

**A warm welcome is always waiting if you come along and  
join us on a Sunday.**

*Go to our website to see details*

### **God will carry you**

When you experience a tragedy through loss,  
diagnosis of illness or for another reason,  
there are no words or answers that can take  
away your grief.

Someone once said at these times God  
doesn't give an explanation, he gives you the  
Incarnation.

Even God didn't protect Himself. Jesus was  
not free from pain and heartache.

We may spend a lifetime grappling to  
understand some things but we're asked to  
lean not on our own understanding and trust  
in a God who loves you as if there were only  
you to love.

A God who uses suffering wisely,  
understands your tears and  
powerfully turns  
something he never wanted  
- for those who love him -  
into something for good

Read *The Gift* on our website if you want to find  
out more about knowing Jesus.

[www.milfordbaptist.org.uk/joy-of-faith/the-gift](http://www.milfordbaptist.org.uk/joy-of-faith/the-gift)



*I will carry you!  
I have made you,  
And I will carry you;  
Be assured I will carry you  
And I will save you.*

Isaiah 46.4

### **Sing Your Heart Out**

**Do you enjoy singing your favourite hymns?**

On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm we will be  
singing the ten most popular hymns  
chosen by people.

The service will last around 45 minutes  
and you can enjoy singing your heart out.

It all takes place in the church.

Come to

Afternoon Tea at 4.30pm

or

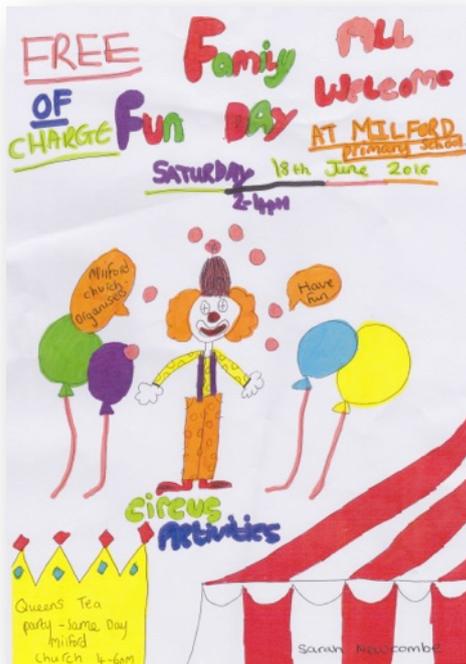
Songs of Praise at 6.30pm or

**join us for both**

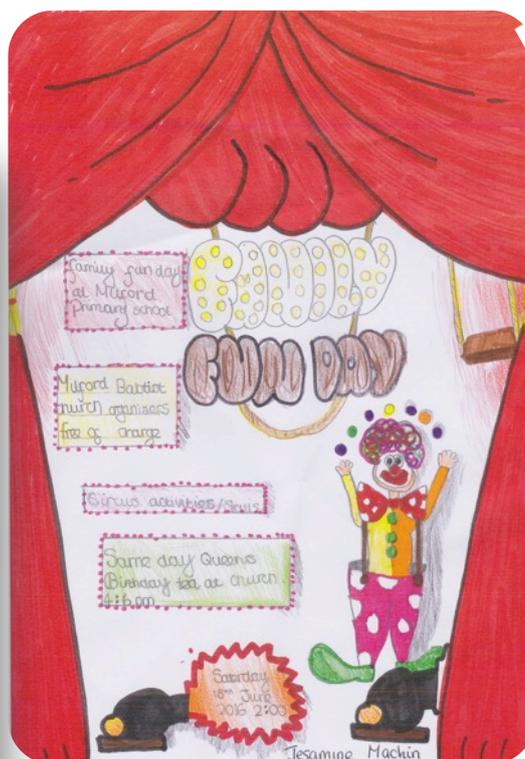


The three winning designs by pupils at Milford Primary School. Drawn to publicise the Family Fun Event in June.

Milford Primary School  
Winning Poster Designs



Sarah Newcombe  
age 10yrs



Jesamine Machin  
age 9yrs



Mae Jones  
age 9yrs



## Angel on the highway

I was driving home from a meeting this evening about 5pm, stuck in traffic and my car started to choke and sputter and died.

I barely managed to get to a petrol station, glad to have a warm spot to wait for the breakdown truck. The car was dead - it wouldn't even turn over.

Before I could call the recovery firm, I saw a woman walking out of the forecourt supermarket and it looked like she slipped on some ice and fell into a petrol pump! So I got out to see if she was okay. When I got there, she was overcome by sobs.

She was a young woman who looked really haggard with dark circles under her eyes. She dropped something as I helped her up, and I picked it up to give it to her. It was a 5p coin.

At that moment, everything came into focus for me: the crying woman, the ageing car crammed full of stuff with 3 children in the back (1 in a car seat), and the petrol pump reading £5.00.

I asked her if she was okay and if she needed help, and she just kept saying, "I don't want my kids to see me crying," so we stood on the other side of the pump from her car. She said she had a long journey ahead of her and that things were very hard for her right now.

So, I asked, "And you were praying?" That made her back away from me a little, but I assured her I was not a crazy person and said, "He heard you and He sent me."

I took out my card and swiped it through the card reader on the pump so she could fill up her car completely. I walked to the next-door McDonald's and bought 2 big bags of food, some gift certificates for more and a big cup of coffee. She gave the food to the kids in the car who attacked it like wolves and we stood by the pump eating fries and talking a little.

She told me her name, and where she lived. Her partner left two months ago and she had not been able to make ends meet.

She knew she wouldn't have money to pay the rent and finally, in desperation, had called her parents with whom she had not spoken in about 5 years. They lived in the West Country and said she could come live with them and try to get back on her feet.

So she packed up everything she owned in the car. She told the children where they were going to go, but not that they were going to live there.

I gave her my gloves, a little hug and said a quick prayer with her for safety on the road.



As I was walking over to my car, she said,  
"So, are you like an angel or something?"  
I said, " Sometimes God uses ordinary people."  
It was so incredible to be a part of someone else's  
miracle. And of course, you guessed it, when I got  
in my car it started right away and got me home  
with no problem. I'll put it in the shop tomorrow  
for a check, but I suspect the mechanic won't find  
anything wrong.  
Sometimes the angels fly close enough to you that  
you can hear the flutter of their wings.  
Author Unknown

## Family Fun Day

It was great fun last year and enjoyed by the families who came.  
If you go to the link below on our website you'll see some of the things we got up to:  
[www.milfordbaptist.org.uk/welcome-times](http://www.milfordbaptist.org.uk/welcome-times)  
This year we've added something special - the Queen's Birthday Tea.  
So after becoming a circus performer, come along to the church on the other side of the road (see map on front page) enjoy a sit down, some delicious cakes and a cup of your favourite brew.



**Family Fun Day**  
Admission Free Refreshments  
Roll up! Roll up!  
Learn skills of the circus  
with  
**Jugalubs**  
Milford Primary School  
Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June  
2pm-5pm

**and**  
**Queen's Birthday Tea**  
Milford Baptist Church  
(opposite the school)  
4pm-6pm

Sing your heart out

Enjoy some of the most loved hymns

# Songs of Praise

A Festival of Favourite Hymns in the church at 6.30pm

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July**  
Afternoon Tea from 4.30-6.30pm  
Songs of Praise starts 6.30-7.15pm

**Milford Baptist Church**

**10am - noon**  
**Friday**

**Coffee Morning**

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