



# Parkwood Herald News Flash 1 March 2021



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## Every Second Counts!



At a recent Local Preacher's Meeting on Zoom there was a discussion on how the pandemic and lockdown had changed worship.

One preacher was clearly not impressed with leading a 'Zoom' type service, because they didn't have enough time to preach a 20 minute sermon. They were obviously having problems cutting their sermons down to size for a Zoom type service.

As I listened to the discussion I wondered who would have thought that the pandemic, coupled with social media, could change the ways we think and behave.

How can just 140 characters on Twitter, for example, have a huge influence on such a vast number of people?

So, how long should a sermon be?

A lot of people, understandably, still appreciate the 'traditional' length of sermon in our usual style of worship. Yet, in our social media world there are some who are content to have their sermons delivered, fast food style, like visiting a drive through McDonalds.

I was chatting to Roger from Parkwood about a 'Songs of Praise' he had seen, and

he told me about the Rev Chris Lee. His '60 Second Sermons' have become an internet sensation on Twitter and Instagram. He even has 170,000 social followers – more than the Archbishop of Canterbury!



*Rev Chris Lee*

He mixes humour, inspirational quotes and passages from the bible to reach thousands of people who wouldn't

dream of setting foot inside a church building. Here's a link of an interview with him if you want to know more about him:

<https://www.premierchristianity.com/Past-Issues/2020/August-2020/Rev-Chris-Lee-The-viral-vicar-of-Instagram>

He says in this interview that: 'He believes that the future is hybrid: both physical and digital services will be vital'. As you can imagine, I did put my twopence worth into the Local Preacher's Zoom discussion! I mentioned that we may have to think about different sorts of sermon during and after lockdown.

I told the group discussion about David Harris, who used to be a Lay Pastor at Parkwood a few years ago. David has done religious broadcasting for a number of years in Sheffield and he kindly allowed us to use one of his '60 Second Sermons' from the radio in this issue of the Herald. So, here it is – and many thanks David for sharing it with us:

'60 Second Sermon' by David Harris

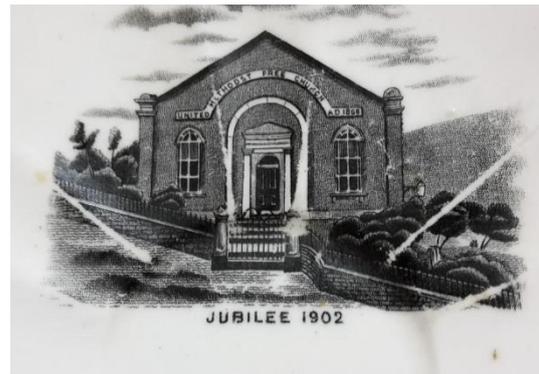
*What am I just to say in just 60 seconds?  
Oh! I've already spent five seconds!  
One of my favourite Radio 4 programmes is 'Just a Minute'. Someone has to speak for 60 seconds without deviation, repetition and um..... Oh yes...hesitation!  
There's a sense that every second we have counts.  
Over last few weeks we've been reminded how precious our time is. In lockdown many of the things we used to do are no longer possible.  
We are spending more of our time inside, and we all know of people who are struggling to make the very most of the time they have got left.  
This doesn't mean that lockdown time is a waste of time. We can still make every second count, even in these difficult circumstances.  
St Paul once wrote: 'Make the most of every opportunity'.  
Oh, I've only got 5 seconds left.  
Have a good day and make every second count.*

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## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

8<sup>th</sup> Ailsa Ritchie  
13<sup>th</sup> Vanessa Ivey  
29<sup>th</sup> Phil McSweeney  
31<sup>st</sup> Andrea Hirst

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## From Australia

I had never heard of Parkwood Methodist Church, until my parents passed away and I inherited my father's collection of souvenirs china. It was a while before I decided to look at all the plates, plaques, cups, saucers and various other oddities.

And I was amazed with what I discovered. This is the story of just one item:

1 small anniversary plate on which is a stencilled picture of a Church.  
Inscribed;  
"United Methodist Free Church AD 1868. Jubilee 1902".

No address, no name, nothing to indicate where it was. I love mysteries and consider myself a bit of a detective, so I set about tracking the place down on the internet. Not too difficult! And with the help of Google Earth and Street View I came up with a place that resembled my plaque. Not much change to the old building facade since the plate was made either. Reverting again to faithful Google,

'Seeking to be the People of Christ at the Heart of the Community'.

I tried researching events in 1902, nothing came up. But I was able to find a current email for Parkwood Church, and in July 2017, I wrote a weird email asking if anyone knew the history of the plate. I sent it not knowing what kind of response I would get, if any! Joe Lloyd replied and the rest is history.

Joe invited my husband and I to Parkwood, but this was not as simple as it appeared because we live in Australia. However, on our annual trip back to the old country in the summer of 2018 we finally made it to Joe's door. We were delighted to be shown around the interior of the magnificent church and appalled to hear that it was to be sold off for development. So much for progress! I was left with an overwhelming sense of completeness. My work was done. The plate had come home and now resides with other memorabilia of Parkwood Church.

Thank You Joe for a wonderful experience, and a kind and witty friendship that we have since developed over the internet on the infamous Facebook site.

Robina & Goff Ellis 2021



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In case you are wondering about the "Jubilee".

Further research has enabled us to "assume" dodgy!

1. It was the 50 year jubilee of the founding of Parkwood Methodist Church.
2. It was also the Jubilee of the founding of the Methodist FREE church .
3. That is why there are two designs of plate in the photo. (Joe)



And of course this is what our friends saw:- enough to impress anyone.

**The Lord's Prayer and Albert Hay Malotte**  
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**Albert Malotte was born in Philadelphia, USA, in 1895. He owned a bookbinding company, but his love of music took over his life. Using keyboard skills (both piano and organ) he began playing for silent pictures and later toured as a soloist in the USA and Europe. But it was his talent as a composer that caught the attention of Walt Disney!**

**During WW2 he toured with the USO and entertained troops in New Guinea, Australia and Europe. He was an amateur pilot, avid golfer and even boxed with Jack Dempsey!**

**He spent most of his career in Hollywood and wrote at least 22 scores to accompany Disney short cartoons. Many of you will recall from your childhood 'Little Hiawatha' and 'Ferdinand the Bull'. Amongst his large repertoire of compositions was an arrangement of the words of the Lord's Prayer. Of all the music he composed this has not only endured to the present day, but it has probably become the most 'popular' version. The melody is simple and clearly appeals to a wide musical taste, but it is the crowning glory of his treatment of the 'Beatitudes' which excites the listener. I hope you enjoy this recording made by the Shenandoah Christian Music Youth Choir at a competition in Virginia, USA (Conductor – Wendell Glick)**

**To access from the 'Net' type – YouTube, The Lord's Prayer, Shenandoah Christian Music**

**Gareth**

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**Spring'll soon be here folks.  
Keep in touch  
My No. 07950640728 text or phone  
or  
[joe@yelho.co.uk](mailto:joe@yelho.co.uk)**



**Happy Birthday  
Ailsa  
(Ed!)**



**Happy Birthday  
Vanessa  
(Ed!)**

**STAY SAFE FOLKS!**

**Won't be long now before  
we can all meet up and start  
a "New Normal".**