

The BRIDGE

the Monthly Newsletter of Kimble Free Church

"the Church by the bridge"

May 2008

GOD THE BUILDER



**CAN
HE
FIX IT?**

YES HE CAN!



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A member Church of the
Baptist Union of Great Britain



Dear Friends,

Not a day seems to go past without us reading about Global warming, the need for recycling and the consequences our actions are having on our world.

At the beginning of the Bible, it tells us that God created a beautiful, brand spanking new world. In Genesis 1:31 it says, *'God saw all that he had made, and it was very good'*.

When God created the world He created a thing of beauty! Since then mankind seems to have done a reasonably good job at destroying His works.

You've probably all seen those TV programmes like 'Groundforce' or 'Changing rooms', where they do a makeover on your garden or a room in your house. The programme shows lots of people working against tight deadlines – often in mild chaos – trying to get the job done on time. Their aim is to achieve a nicer room or a better garden and hopefully the unsuspecting owner will like it too. At the end of the programme, we're often shown a 'before' and 'after' picture and we can judge how good the job was.

If we'd been around in the garden of Eden and taken a 'before' picture, we would have been saying "you can't improve on that."

Our world is not the beautiful place it once was but God has a restoration plan for us! At the end of the Bible in Revelation 21:18-27 it has an impressive description of heaven that will take your breath away.

The picture of heaven in the reading from Revelation is truly amazing – a city of pure gold, as pure as glass. Even the foundations of the city walls are decorated with every kind of precious stone and there are twelve gates, each made of a single pearl. It is an incredible picture of heaven and I encourage you to read it for yourself. It's the 'after' picture - the promise from God that He restores things to better than they were before.

Earlier in Revelation 21:4 we also read that in heaven, God *"will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."* In heaven all the things that cause us grief and sadness will be gone.

So how can we reach heaven? In John 14:6 Jesus answers this question by saying, *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."* He promises us a place in heaven if we can believe, trust and follow Him. Gods restoration plan is truly amazing!

God bless,



Val

What's on at Kimble Free Church?

Our Sunday Services are at 11am and we seek to provide something for children and adults alike. We give a very warm welcome to any visitors. A Family (All-Age) service is on the 3rd and 5th Sunday of each month. If you are new to the village or would like more information about us then please contact our pastor, Val Pyper on 01844 346957.

Tuesday mornings 10am-12noon Bobtails Mother and Toddler Group. Contact Stephanie Ridley 01296 625741 & Elizabeth Clarke 01296 624589

Wednesday evenings at 8pm (mostly the 1st and 3rd week of the month) **Informal Bible study**. All are welcome to come and share in our interesting discussions. We don't always meet in the Church so please contact Val on 01844 346957 to check location.

Friday 9th May 6:30pm - KoolKidz (exciting children's club for 5-11 year olds). Please ring Val & Jon on 01844 346957 for details.

Wednesday 14th May 10am - Arts and Crafts morning at the Church. A time to bring along your favourite craft and enjoy a chat over a cuppa.

Thursday 15th April 3pm - Reminiscence Group - a friendly and lively group for the over 60's.

Wednesday 21st May - 3pm - T@3 Supporting 'Baptist Missionary Society (BMS)'. The pie/cake and the bring & buy stalls will be open to raise money for this important charity.

Kimble Free Church has a Traidcraft stall at many of its events to allow you to purchase a number of different fair trade goods.

Church Mice - Karl Zorowski <http://zorowski.com/churchmice/frames.htm>



Restoration by a Master Artist

There is a story told about Sir Edwin Henry Landseer who was an artist of some repute. He was once a guest in a Scottish mansion and one of the rooms there was devoted to sketches made by distinguished artists. While he was there a pitcher of soda water was accidentally spilled on a freshly decorated wall and it left an unsightly stain.

One day the family went out to the moors. Landseer stayed behind and studied the blot on the wall. He got charcoal from his painting equipment and with a few masterful strokes that ugly spot became the outline of a beautiful waterfall, bordered by trees and wildlife. He turned that disfigured wall into one of his most successful depictions of Highland life.

God looks at the mess we make of our own lives and if we give Him the permission, He will restore us and make us into a beautiful work too.

Be careful what you're typing!

A Minneapolis couple decided to go to Florida during a particularly icy winter. They planned to stay at the same hotel where they spent their honeymoon 20 years earlier.

Because of hectic schedules, it was difficult to coordinate their travel so, the husband left Minnesota and flew to Florida on Thursday, with his wife flying down the following day. The husband checked into their hotel and finding a computer in their room, decided to send an email to his wife. However, he accidentally left out one letter in her email address, and without realizing his error, sent the email.

Meanwhile, somewhere in Houston, a widow had just returned home from her husband's funeral. He was a minister who was 'called home to glory' following a heart attack. She decided to check her email

expecting messages of condolence from relatives and friends. After reading the first e-mail message received, she screamed and fainted.

The widow's son rushed into the room, found his mother on the floor, and saw the computer screen which read:

*To: My Loving Wife
Subject: I've Arrived
Date: October 16, 2005*

I know you're surprised to hear from me but they have computers here now. I've just arrived and have been checked in.

It's great to see that they are prepared for your arrival tomorrow. I look forward to seeing you then!

Hope your journey is as uneventful as mine was.

P.S.. It sure is hot down here!