



**CHRIST  
CHURCH  
IN  
SEPTEMBER  
& OCTOBER  
2020**

*VOLUME 6 ISSUES 9 & 10  
SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2020  
Registered Charity No. 1152846  
The Parish of Worthing, Christ Church  
Website: [www.christchurchworthing.org.uk](http://www.christchurchworthing.org.uk)*

**Vicar: *The Revd. David Renshaw***

*Our Vicar is currently unwell, please contact the Churchwardens  
at this time if you have any enquiries*

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## **Worship in September and October at Christ Church**

### **September**

**13<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Morning Prayer**

**20<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion**

**27<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Morning Prayer**

### **October**

**4<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion**

**11<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Morning Prayer**

**18<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Holy Communion**

**25<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Morning Prayer**



# Poet's Corner

## Annunciation

Serene she sits on fallen tree,  
    Enfolded hands on lap,  
Her comely posture concern free,  
    Adorned with blue silk wrap,  
    Stillness to entrap.

Sun's vernal rays suffuse the air,  
    Lending a soothing feel,  
Enhanced by gentle birdsong, fair,  
    And distant church-bell peal,  
    Divine himself reveal.

Be not dismayed sweet gentle maid,  
    Hallowed by Love's decree,  
By you salvation shall invade  
    The wide world to set free,  
    Into Eternity.

©Elliott Allison.

## Wonder!

Each breath of air, each fragrant smell,  
    Its wonder do not waste,  
On every sound or touching dwell,  
    Each morsel food we taste,  
    Savour not in hast.

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## For Those Who Suffer...

Alas! Sweet sleep me doth elude,  
Irrational thoughts my mind intrude;  
Vain spectres from the past parade,  
The stillness of the night invade.

Let embers of kind thoughts revive  
The darkling doldrums to survive;  
Let placid seas tempests replace,  
The arms of Care me will embrace.

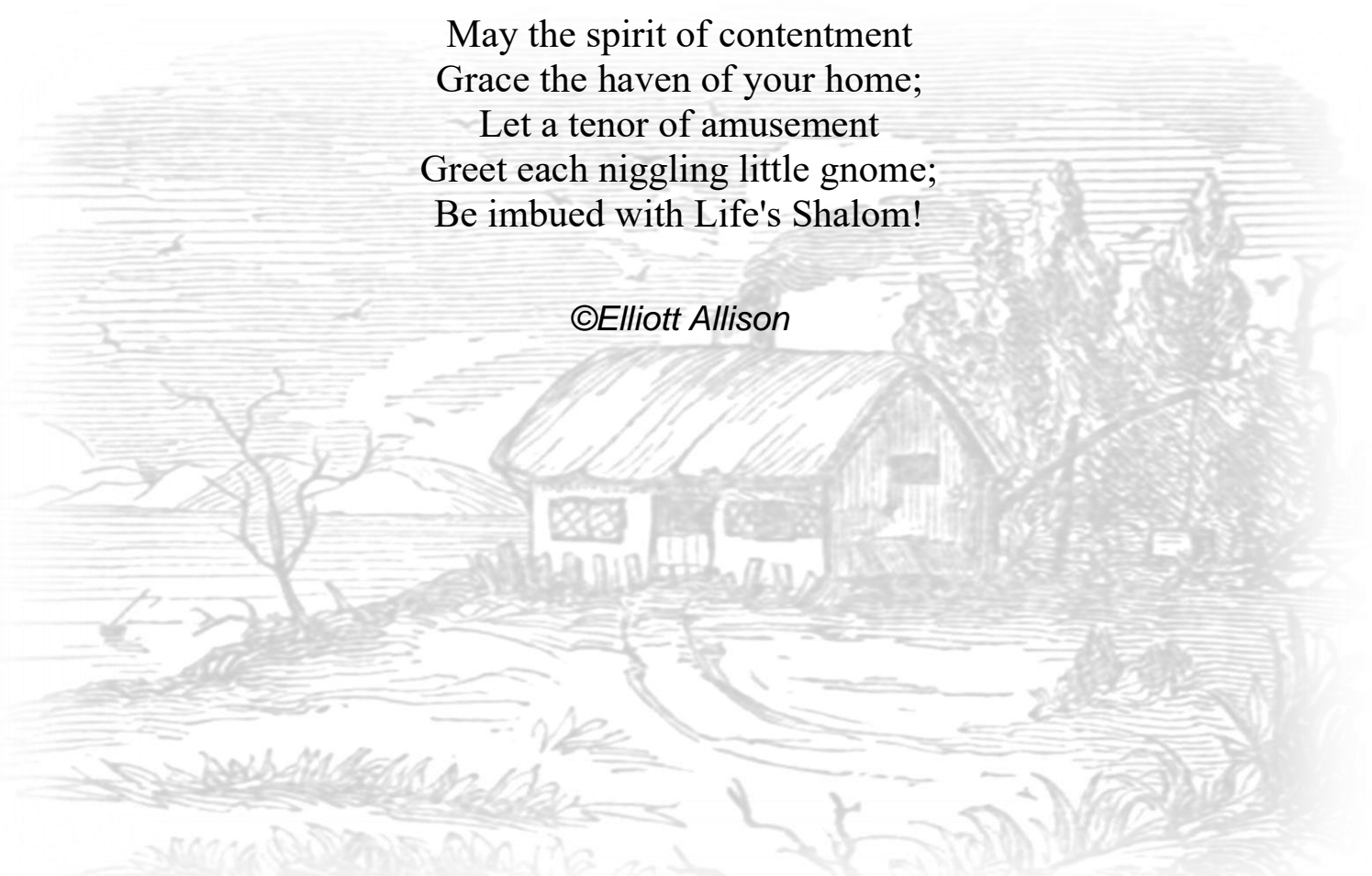
Stardust of sleep on eyes descend,  
Orpheus my deepest need attend!

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## A Blessing!

May the spirit of contentment  
Grace the haven of your home;  
Let a tenor of amusement  
Greet each niggling little gnome;  
Be imbued with Life's Shalom!

© *Elliott Allison*



## A Carers life - Connie Apps

I'm a very busy carer, on the go all day.  
Sorting out the problems that always come my way.

Some are very easy, some not so good.  
I try to keep my patience, as every carer should.

I must keep on smiling, no matter what life brings.  
For life is like a fun fair, full of roundabouts and swings.

Some days are very trying, some are full of fun.  
I just take them in my stride, and cope with every one.

The person that I care for, is very dear to me.  
So I have to make his life, as pleasant as can be.



## Awareness – Connie

I am an ordinary person, as everyone can see,  
But I have a problem, a hidden disability.  
If I do not answer, it's not that I don't care,  
It's just that very often, I am not aware.  
I need you to be patient when I am in a queue.  
It takes a little longer to do what I must do.  
To choose what I am buying, then I have to pay,  
It takes up so much time, every single day.  
When I'm in a muddle, please don't stand and stare,  
I really can't help how I am, a smile would show you care.  
I'm a very happy person and need the world to know,  
Life for the disabled is often very slow.  
You could make a difference and try to understand,  
That every now and then, I need a helping hand.



*Why not have a look at our Window on the Pier?  
It sits below the one dedicated to our dear friend  
David Virgo, much loved, never forgotten...*



David Virgo

Lifelong Seagulls fan  
David loved the pier and  
the view of the Isle of Wight

...this isn't a place where I can be me.



...where do I go?

## Having a laugh!



*An invisible man married an invisible woman.  
The kids were nothing to look at either.*

*I didn't think the chiropractor would improve my posture.  
But I stand corrected.*

*I took my new girlfriend out on our first date to the ice rink, and  
entry was half price.  
She called me a cheap skate.*

*Studies show cows produce more milk when the farmer talks to them.  
It's a case of in one ear and out the udder.*

*I used to date a girl with one leg who worked at a brewery.  
She was in charge of the hops.*

*My cross-eyed wife and I just got a divorce.  
I found out she was seeing someone on the side.*

*My wife claims I'm the cheapest person she's ever met.  
I'm not buying it.*

*Did you know that a raven has 17 rigid feathers called pinions,  
while a crow has only 16?  
The difference between a raven and a crow  
is just a matter of a pinion.*

*I told my carpenter I didn't want carpeted steps.  
He gave me a blank stair.*

*What did the surgeon say to the patient  
who insisted on closing up his own incision?  
Suture self.*

*Our thanks to John C for this piece from his friend Milena in Brazil -  
This is a translation courtesy of John....*

*The pessimist complains about the wind.*

*The optimist hopes that it will change.*

*The realist adjusts the sails and continues the journey.*



### **Parish Magazine**

Please continue to send items to Ann P – these can be recipes [family recipes, not those taken directly from any published book], clean, funny jokes, items of interest about people or places and poetry, or indeed, anything you think people will enjoy reading. *Janine and Ann P*



### **Men's Group August Meeting – Report**



As it seemed unlikely that we would be able to meet in church in the near future I set up a “Zoom” meeting for the 1<sup>st</sup> August. This meeting was intended as a trial to make sure that there was enough interest and that the technology was suitable. If this worked, we could consider inviting outside speakers to talk to us via this medium. In the event on the day there was only one person joined me (I did have two “apologies”) and that other person lost his internet connection after about ten minutes. Notwithstanding this and in order to give people enough time to plan for this and practice on “Zoom” I am happy to set up another meeting for 3rd October ***subject to there being sufficient interest.*** Please let me know if you are interested via email [johntholden@aol.com](mailto:johntholden@aol.com) or leave a message on 07841 054952.

*John Holden*



## THE LOCKDOWN WOMAN *by Muriel*



I stood at the sitting room window looking out across the road in front of me. The street was deserted – there were no people and barely any passing traffic – it was so quiet. As I sipped my mug of coffee, I was aware once again it was a dull and grey morning. I gave a sigh as I thought of the weeks we had been in lockdown because of the Coronavirus. I knew I had to stay indoors but I found it boring

and I longed to be out again. I tightened the belt around my dressing gown and gazed down at my grubby slippers and thought to myself, I should make an effort to get dressed, but who was going to come?

I know I should have made more of an effort to be nice to my neighbours on either side, but the old gentleman at No. 4 always wanted to have a long conversation and I couldn't be bothered. The young family on the other side of my house usually irritated me because of the children's ball falling into my garden and my constantly having to throw it back. Strange as it may seem, I almost wish I could speak to the old gentleman or throw the ball back to the children.

I am afraid in the past I had only been concerned with what I wanted rather than what they needed. I could only think about my bingo once a week and my visit to the pub on a Friday night. I liked going to these gatherings, but I can't say I had any particular friends at either events. It was just somewhere to go and meet other people. I can't believe that the little shop on the corner has been there for years and I've never taken any notice of it or even been in there. I have always used the bus and gone to a large supermarket. I now realise how useful a little corner shop can be. I have to say the owner has been so kind to me during this lockdown, leaving boxes of food for me on the doorstep. I must remember to give him my custom when we come out of this lockdown.

It would be nice to have some phone calls but I don't call many people myself so what can I expect? I had one the other day asking me about my

motorbike. I tried to tell him I was nearly 80 and that I had never had a motorbike but he didn't listen.

I'm sorry now I haven't been a person who took an interest in other people or tried to have a hobby of some kind. It may seem nice to lead a quiet life until you find you can't go out anymore. Perhaps this will be a lesson to me – the world is not just about me but it's about sharing our life with others. And when the lockdown is over, I will invite the old gentleman to a meal and perhaps I will buy the children a new football seeing as I confiscated their last one! I suppose the lockdown has given me time to reflect on who I am and how I should endeavour to live the rest of my life. I have been to church in the past, it may be the time has come to find a church where there is fellowship and love and where I am valued as a person; and maybe for the first time I can value others and enjoy fellowship with them – and also to remember afresh there is a God who loves me. I think I will settle down now in my armchair – I will be glad when this lockdown is over, but if I am sensible I will have learned many lessons about myself and life; and I hope maybe it just may make a difference to me and others, and perhaps even change how I live out the rest of my life.



### ***Our thanks to Barbara H for the following....***

#### ***September in history***

- 1666** Great Fire of London which started in Pudding Street Bakery
- 1904** Helen Keller who was blind and deaf from the age of two graduated with a Doctor's Degree
- 1951** Britain's first supermarket opens in London
- 1960** Europe's first traveller (moving pavement) opens in Bank underground station, London
- 1972** Bobby Fisher becomes the first American world chess champion.
- 1986** Two years after receiving the Nobel Peace Prize Desmond Tutu becomes Archbishop of Cape Town

**Thoughts on  
Romans Chapter 5 verses 12 – 19  
and  
Matthew Chapter 4 verses 1 – 11**

*Excerpts from a sermon given by the Revd Roger Walker*

We are all very familiar with the temptations of Jesus, but we may feel that they are so extreme that they can have little relevance to us in resisting the temptations that the Devil puts before us. After all none of us is going to attempt to turn stones into bread, or jump from a high place in the expectation that angels will bring us to a soft landing; nor shall we be tempted to rule the world in exchange for worship of the Devil.

But let's look first at how Jesus resisted the temptations laid before him and then see how we should deal with our own lesser temptations, although perhaps the first thing that we need to recognise is that temptation is not sin. Jesus was tempted and remained sinless because he rejected the temptations – and we shall be tempted but will equally remain without sin if we immediately reject them. The trouble with us is that we may reject a temptation but first of all fantasise about what it would be like to give into it and that is sin.

So to come back to Jesus' temptations – they were very real to him – imagine how hungry he was after a 40 day fast and he would have spent those 40 days preparing for the ministry and preaching that he was about to begin. Also realising from his knowledge of the way the Old Testament prophets had been treated, that he was not going to have an easy time or be readily accepted; and so a piece of dramatic proof that he was God's son, floating down from the pinnacle of the temple, would gain him an attentive audience. But then in his last temptation, the Devil says in effect, why go through with all this? - you want to have power throughout the world, I can give it to you. Each time Jesus' response to temptation is the same, he quotes from the Scriptures to show why he should not do this. But notice how the Devil picks up on this, and in his Second Temptation of Jesus uses words of Scripture to try to make what he is asking more real; the equivalent of this for us is misusing a passage of

Scripture to justify doing something that deep down we know to be wrong. It is a temptation that is all too easy to fall into.

So how do we deal with temptation? The first and most important thing is actually to recognise temptation when it happens. This may sound a ridiculous thing to say but the Devil can be very subtle, and rather like Jesus' Second Temptation interlaced with Scripture, he can present us with a temptation that seems at first sight to be doing something good.

We must also beware of 'build up' – the Devil is very good at starting small with temptations and then gradually increasing them. We might need some paper and take a couple of sheets that do not belong to us – hardly worth calling the sin of stealing – but this can lead on to next time taking a notepad, then a pen and so on.

This build-up of sin can be a real problem where people are working together in offices. I remember many years ago talking to a parishioner who was in prison. He had begun by taking small gifts from suppliers which gradually built up to being bribed to favour the giving of certain contracts. The sin cost him his liberty and his livelihood. So be careful at the temptation to do something small and insignificant – the exact opposite of this is the brazen sin, doing something so serious that, although it does not seem right, nobody can quite believe that it is not ok and that they must be missing the point somewhere.

We can probably also line up some of our temptations with those of Jesus – turning stones into bread can link to being greedy and taking more than our fair share of food.

We are constantly being tempted and we are not going to resist every time but know that when we sin God is a loving and forgiving God. If we come to him after failure, confessing and repenting, he will forgive us and will set us right with him again and guide us back into his way.

## A Few Quiz questions



I am formed where it is dark and wet, but now I shine bright,  
I'm roughly round and I'm many a person's delight.

ANS: Pearl

I have four legs but only one foot.

ANS: Bed

I'm a ball that can be rolled and crossed  
But never thrown and caught

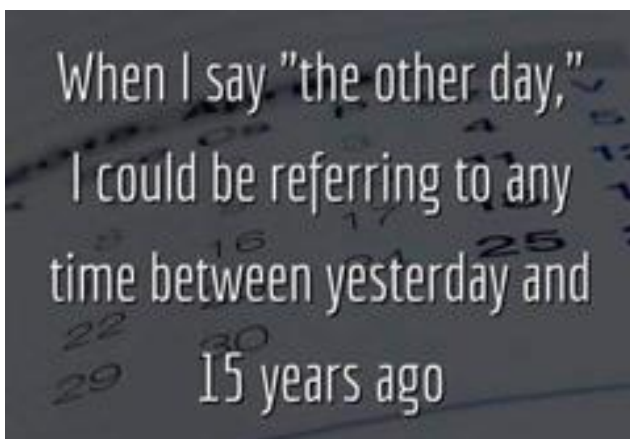
ANS: Eyeball

My first is in lovely but not in horrible - I need human input but never need a  
breath - I'm treasured by leaders across many nations and I thrive where people  
enjoy good vibrations.

ANS: Violin

Which country contains all the vowels, once, in its name?

ANS: Mozambique



**A LARGE GROUP  
OF PEOPLE IS  
CALLED A  
"NO THANKS"**

**I had my patience tested.  
I'm negative.**

Don't bother walking a  
mile in my shoes, that  
would be boring.  
Spend 30 seconds in  
my head, that'll  
freak you right out.

They're Back!

Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences apparently appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

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The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.'  
'The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus'

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Ladies - don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house.

Bring your husbands.

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Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

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Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

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For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

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Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

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Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on 24<sup>th</sup> October in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

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At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

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Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

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Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

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Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered..

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The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

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Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

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The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

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This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

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The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

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Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

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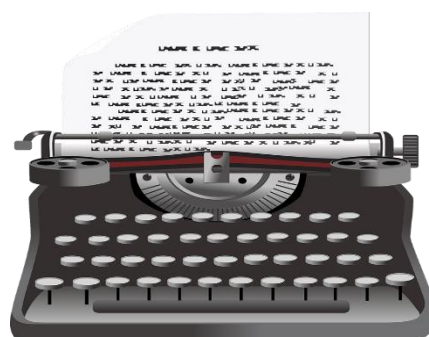
The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM ..

The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

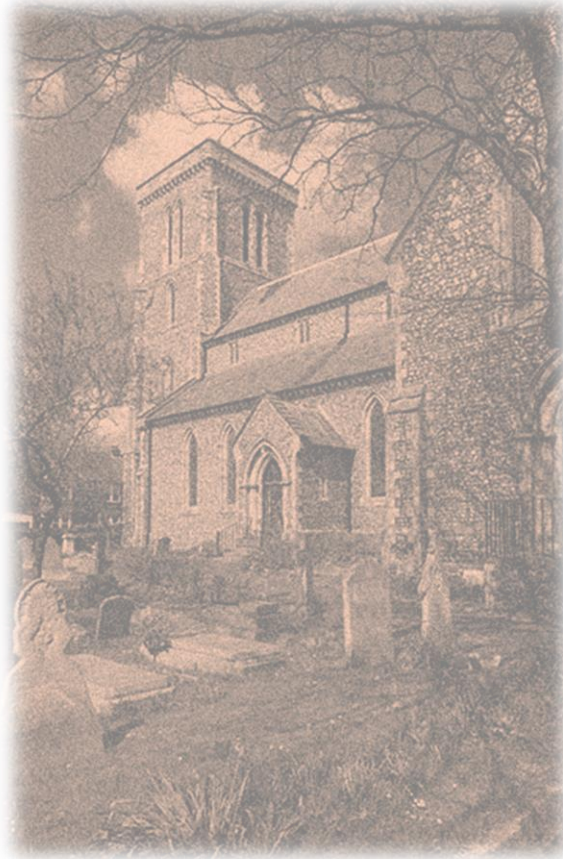
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Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

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*Fascinating excerpt from a journal of its time, recently re-told by the Worthing Journal... [thanks to John B for passing this on]....*



*“1873 - Part of the footpath leading from the South Gate of Christ Church graveyard to the western door suddenly gave way, revealing a 20ft deep well!”*

*This by Gabriel Castro, from a translation by John C...*

I have already heard wise silences,  
I have already heard empty advice,  
I have already seen kisses without the lips being used  
And a touch without using the hand.

And from this calm observation,  
One line I leave from the lesson:  
"Happy is the one who touches with the soul  
And sees with the heart".





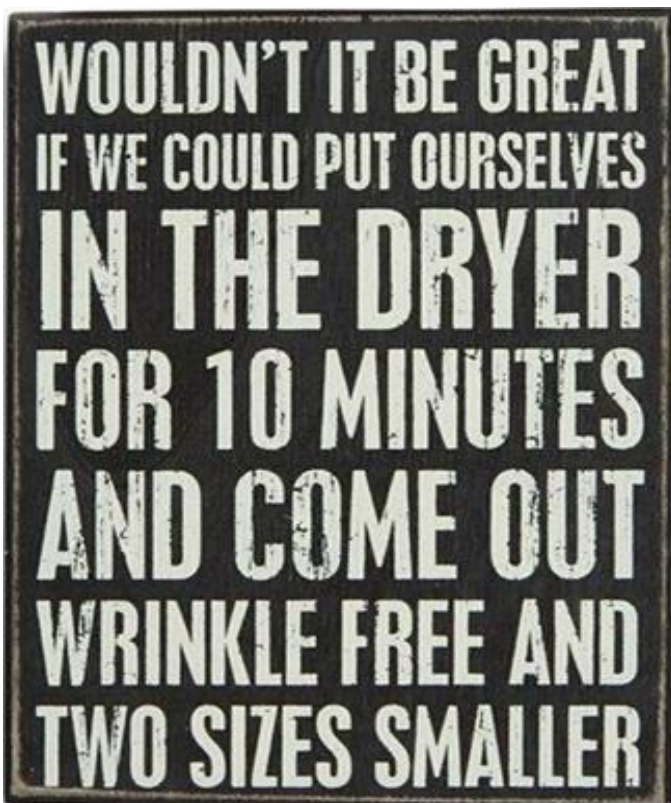
## *Reflections from Richard....*

I did a lot of work for the Middle East Association years ago running trade missions around the Middle and Far East with regards to Health Care. There were three of us in the team, one of which was a wonderful scientific character rather like that guy in the Bond films coming up with his new inventions / get my drift?

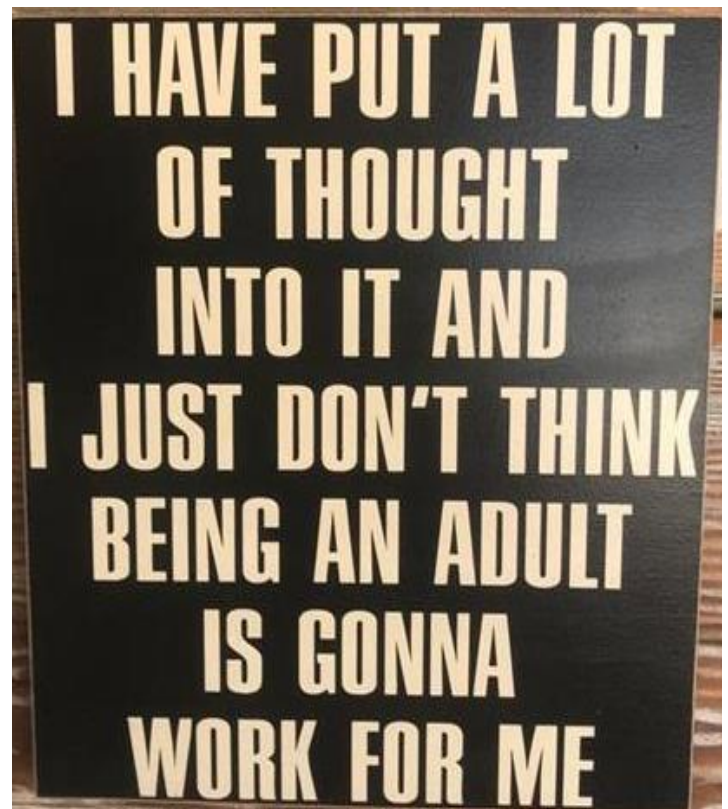
His name was Ali (who was then in his early 80s) and was from Jordan.

After travelling around the Middle East for some weeks I happened to notice that on arrival at our Hotel in Doha they had once again placed Ali's room on the top floor.

So, at reception I merely said to Ali “Why is it everywhere we go they always put you on the top floor?” upon which he replied, “One look at me Richard, they then kindly put me closer to God”!!



WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT  
IF WE COULD PUT OURSELVES  
IN THE DRYER  
FOR 10 MINUTES  
AND COME OUT  
WRINKLE FREE AND  
TWO SIZES SMALLER



I HAVE PUT A LOT  
OF THOUGHT  
INTO IT AND  
I JUST DON'T THINK  
BEING AN ADULT  
IS GONNA  
WORK FOR ME

God's beautiful, amazing and sometimes funny world!





*Those we love don't go away,  
they walk beside us every day.*

*Unseen, unheard,  
but always near,  
so loved,  
so missed,  
so very dear.*

*And remember....*

*Nothing changes if you walk away from it-  
if you want change,  
you have to make it happen..*

*Contentment is not the fulfilment of what you want,  
but the realization of how much you already have.*

*Remember... there is always new life!*



*and a peaceful haven in God's presence.*

