

SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023

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Local ...  
Lively ...  
Loving

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## Sixty-Four

At band practice this week, Marc spoke about reaching the age of 64 and some of the changes he had seen during his life - reminiscing on the old Beatle's song "When I'm 64". Later that evening, I went home and spent a few minutes on the phone before going to bed, just scanning everything and nothing in particular. One of the 'click-bait' articles that popped onto the screen was a feature published that very day as part of the satirical magazine *The Spectator*, titled "[Now I'm 64: my tips for a happy old age](#)", written by someone I had never heard of. In the strapline that followed the headline, it said "**Ditch friends, find God – and don't bother envying the young**".

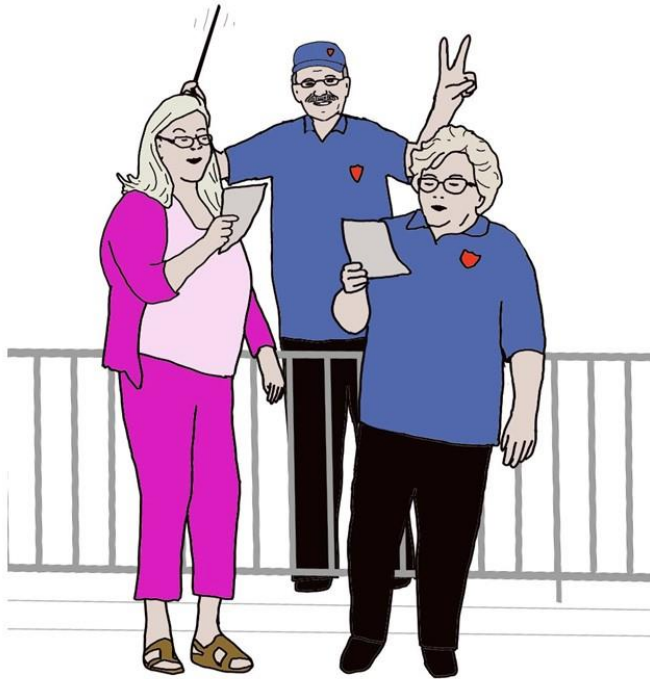
Now *The Spectator* is not a publication I would naturally turn to for spiritual insight, and the article itself only made the briefest mention of the person's faith ... but it was still there - I read it, and probably thousands of others did to. "**Be a believer**" was written within the text in bold and I wonder how many other people picked up on those words and wondered "why?"

Even at the grand old age of 64 (if I get that far), finding God will still be a necessity for a happy old age. Actually, finding God is just as much of a necessity for a happy middle-age, and a happy young-age as well!

*Paul Heath*

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**There's always one!**

## **PEOPLE:**

We were sad to learn that Joan Wallace was promoted to glory at the beginning of the week. Our thoughts are with Steve, Joan's sister Jean, along with Joan's extended family. We also remember Roy's family as they prepare for his funeral at Westerleigh Crematorium at 2pm on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023. Please uphold our friends in prayer at this time, along with those who have recently been bereaved.

As of writing, there are a number of people in our fellowship who are poorly. This includes Olive who is being treated at Southmead, John Wordley who has been taken into hospital, Margaret who has broken her shoulder and Gwen. If you have an opportunity, please drop them a 'line' or text to say that you are thinking of them. If I have missed you, I am sorry. Please remember the prayer network is available for all situations.

## **SUMMER PICNIC:**

On Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August we are planning to have a summer picnic in Page Park (weather permitting). Everyone is welcome to bring some food and a chair/blanket and we will meet at the park after our Sunday morning worship on that day – please put the date in your diary – especially if you're going on holiday between now and then!

## **FLOWERS:**

Pat, Hilary and Hilton have provided the flowers today at the front of the hall, remembering Edna Baker's birthday.

## **DIARY DATES:**

<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August</b>	Page Park Praise
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Divisional Celebration
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Page Park Praise

## **THE BULLETIN:**

As people enjoy their summer holidays, many of the activities going on during the week will be curtailed during August. As a result, there will also be fewer editions of this newsletter.

- Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July edition will also cover the weeks 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> August.
- Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August edition will also cover the 27<sup>th</sup> August
- A normal weekly edition will be resumed from the start of September

## THE WEEK AHEAD:

*All activities now taking place in the alternative venues whilst building work is being carried out in our own hall*

### TODAY Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July:

- 9:20am Time of Prayer *at Page Hall*  
10am All Age Worship *at Page Hall*  
*Christian Characteristics 3: Generous*  
[Romans 12: 3-8, 13](#)  
11.30am-12:15pm Children & Youth Activities *at Page Hall*

### Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July:

- 10am Keep Fit Class *at Downend Baptist Church*  
11am-12noon Extra Slice Group *at Downend Baptist Church*  
- (leader: Kelvin) – *10:30am for coffee*  
7pm YP Band Practice *at Kingswood Salvation Army*  
*No Singing Co Practice this week*  
8pm Songster Practice *at Kingswood Salvation Army*

### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July:

- 9:30am-11am Tots on the Hill *at Staple Hill Methodist Church*  
3:30pm-4:30pm Extra Slice Group online (leader: Gerry)  
7:45pm-9pm Extra Slice Group at Linda's house  
8:15pm-9:15pm Extra Slice Group online (leader: Beth)

### Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July:

- 12.30pm Lunch Club *at Staple Hill Methodist Church*  
- *please do not arrive before 12*  
6:45pm Extra Slice Group at Colin & Nicola's house  
8:15pm-9:15pm Extra Slice Group online (leaders: Ian & Rachel)

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July:

- 9:20am Time of Prayer *at Page Hall*  
10am All Age Worship *at Page Hall*  
*Christian Characteristics 4: Loving*  
[Romans 12: 9-21](#)  
11.30am-12:15pm Children & Youth Activities *at Page Hall*  
3pm-5pm Messy Church *at Staple Hill Methodist Church*