

The Salvation Army Hadleigh Temple Songsters.

Pause for Thought Wednesday 17th June 2020

Welcome to our time of reflection on the difficult and anxious time as we continue in lockdown, thankfully now allowing us to move very slowly to more comfortable circumstances.

Thank you to Carl for last week's Pause for Thought.

I know all our personal circumstances vary but we all have ways of coping and I am amazed at the knowledge and skills of those close to us who can communicate in so many ways. In the Songsters we have a wide age range and some of us find the I.T. a 'challenge', no sooner do we learn to cope then updates arrive! I hope this new normal challenges us to listen to the younger members of our family and friends and learn new ways to communicate.

William Booth who was born in Nottingham in 1829 at a time of great change, he knew of good times and bad as he was growing up, through these experiences he was converted and joined the Methodist Church and became a preacher. On his move to London he saw even greater need and feeling restricted, he resigned from the Methodist Church and sought new ways to communicate, he was of course a gifted preacher and used his skill and social conscience to look at society in a very different way to reach out to everyone. There are similarities in our world today, and no doubt William Booth was influenced by his early years in the Methodist Church.

It is still a principle in that Church to acknowledge 'God's longing for a world in which justice and peace are established.

We read in the Book of Proverbs Ch.31: v. 8-9.

'Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly: defend the rights of the poor and needy.'

John Wesley, founder of Methodism sums it in a very clear way

" Do all the good you can.

By all the means you can.

In all the ways you can.

In all the places you can.

At all the times you can.

To all the people you can.

As long as you can."

May this be our challenge in our present circumstances using our knowledge and skills, (some still to be acquired).

As we move forward may we feel the assurance of God's guidance in all we undertake for ourselves and others.

Our Prayer Heavenly Father, Thank you for being part of your world and be able to serve as disciples in your Name.

God Bless, LOUISE