

Greetings

*to each other, all our
neighbours - and everybody
whose eye this leaflet meets!*

June 2026

Dear Friends

I always think summer is here when Oldham Wakes comes around. Oldham Wakes was always celebrated at the end of June and saw many families from Oldham catching the train or bus to nearby seaside towns for their summer holiday! Looking back on holidays I spent as a child I don't remember them being cold or wet - just happy days spent on a beach!

Nowadays, one of my favourite pastimes at the end of June is to watch Wimbledon on TV and hopefully this year we won't have too many rain breaks! Wimbledon's All England Lawn Tennis Club began in 1869 as a Croquet Club, at which it stated "Gentlemen are requested not to play in their shirt sleeves when ladies are present." However, with the addition of tennis courts the game of tennis gained more popularity and the first Championships took place in 1877.

Nearly 150 years ago the Rev John Hartley, the British tennis champion, was the world's number one and he won Wimbledon in 1879 and 1880. He was the only clergyman to ever win Wimbledon. Mind you he lost in 37 minutes in the following year's Gentleman's Singles final and that was then the shortest final on record!

In 1879, and 1880 when he won the Gentlemen's Singles on the middle Sunday of each tournament he had to dash back to Yorkshire to deliver his church sermon before returning once again to complete his triumph.

Never again was a clergyman (or woman) to win Wimbledon (though in my dreams I have appeared in the final a number of times).

Did you know that in the 1921 quarter-finals a certain Randolph Lycett was playing Zeno Shimidzu on one of the hottest days in memory? In those days drinks weren't provided for the players during the third set, so he ordered a bottle of champagne to be brought out onto the Centre Court during the final set.

He consumed the last drop of it as the umpire called, "Shimidzu leads by nine games to eight". The spectators hardly knew whether to object or sympathise when Lycett dropped his racket, and then on hands and knees crawled round the court in search of it. To most people's relief, Shimidzu won.

I don't know if he was punished for being drunk on court but these days in tennis as with all sports it is the rules and boundaries that make for an exciting game. Take away the rules and boundaries and you have no game. To play tennis you first need to know the rules and then play by the rules. You can go out on a tennis court and hit the ball all day but unless you know the rules you're just hitting a tennis ball with a tennis racquet. You're not really playing the game of tennis.

Just as there are rules on a tennis court so God has set rules and boundaries for us. He didn't give us them to be a spoil sport but for our own good.

In Colossians Paul tells us

"You must show compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Be tolerant with one another and forgive one another. You must forgive one another just as the Lord has forgiven you. And to all these qualities add love, which binds all things together in perfect unity."

Every Blessing

Liz



We offer a very warm welcome to everyone!

What's on in June

Tuesday	2nd June	7.30pm	Deacons meeting
Friday	5th June	10am-11am	Zumba / Pilates
		2pm-4pm	Table Tennis Social Group
Sunday	7th June	10.45am	Family Worship and Holy Communion led by Peter Butler
Weds	10th June	7pm	All for Jesus Course
Friday	12th June	10am-11am	Zumba / Pilates
		2pm-4pm	Table Tennis Social Group
Saturday	13th June	7.15pm	Murder Mystery Evening
Sunday	14th June	10.30am	Joint Service at Springhead led by Yvonne Campbell.
Friday	19th June	10am-11am	Zumba / Pilates
		2pm-4pm	Table Tennis Social Group
Sunday	21st June	10.45am	Family Worship led by Rev Barbara Bridges
Weds	24th June	7pm	All for Jesus Course
Friday	26th June	10am-11am	Zumba / Pilates
		2pm-4pm	Table Tennis Social Group
		2pm	Book Club.
			The book chosen for June is 'River God' by Wilbur Smith
Sunday	28th June	10.45am	Family Worship led by Rev Liz Dean



Church Flowers

7th June	Sylvia Huttley
14th June	Service at Springhead
21st June	Bev Williams
28th June	Peter and Mary Butler
Flower Steward	Yvonne Biram

Joint Service at Springhead

The joint service on the 14th of June is being led by Yvonne Campbell and it would be good to see as many people as possible attending. Anyone who needs a lift please see Joy



Christian Aid Week
10-16 May 2020

Our thanks to everyone who has supported Christian Aid. Donations for coffee during the year raised £745, envelopes £150 and with £105 from the Benevolent Fund it means we have been able to send £1,000 to Christian Aid.

Someone said "Today is JUNE 1st".
but they MAY be wrong!
My friend said "It's JUNE 31st." I told him "JULY'd"



A Murder Mystery Evening

This is being held on Saturday 13th June at 7.15pm
Tickets are £8 and include a buffet supper.
Proceeds are in aid of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust

Have you bought a ticket? if not and you would like to come please see Malcolm Dean as there are not many tickets left.



GREENACRES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Galland Street, Oldham

Enquiries please contact Joy Dean on 0161 785 0638 or 07971560289

Or on www.greenacrescongregationalchurch.co.uk

Or Facebook Greenacres Congregational Church

If you have any items you wish to include in the next issue of Greetings please let Liz Dean have them
lizdean503@gmail.com or 0161 620 2141 or in person at church