

Marcham Baptist Church

(Packhorse Lane)

July/August 2008

Sunday

Morning Worship at 10.30 am

(Communion every first and third Sundays)

Our Speakers include

13th July	Rev. Michael Kelsey of Marcham
27th July	Pastor Paul John of Grove
3rd Aug	Rev. Brian John of Wantage
24th Aug	Mr. Paul Revell of Cholsey Baptist Church



The Children's Friend

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven." *Matthew 19:14*

This year it is 203 years since the birth of the great storyteller Hans Christian Andersen. The lessons and encouragement contained in his tales of *The Ugly Duckling*, *The Snow Queen*, *The Little Mermaid*, and (my favourite) *The Emperor's New Clothes* are still considered a great gift to children everywhere – certainly the children in the school where I teach still enjoy them.

During Andersen's lifetime he was fêted by royalty and acclaimed as having brought joy to children across Europe. His fairy tales have been translated into well over 150 languages and continue to be published in "millions of copies all over the world". But not so well known is the fact that he was also a Christian. H. C. Andersen actively supported the Horizon Free Christian schools in Denmark.

I'm reminded however, that Jesus Christ is the greatest friend of children the world has ever known. No one has done more for them than Jesus.

When the disciples of Jesus reprimanded people for bringing their children to Him, the Lord said,

"Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 19:14).

Jesus valued children as people of worth. After His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the Lord accepted the praise of children and reminded those who criticised them that God has ordained praise even "out of the mouths of babes and nursing infants" (Matthew 21:16; Psalm 8:2).

Companionship with the Saviour is the privilege of everyone who trusts Him as Lord and saviour.

(B. Pilgrim)

For further information on church activities:

Contact Mr R Barrett 01865 391356

Mr W Dyer 01235 814986

Marcham Baptist is affiliated to the Baptist Union of Great Britain