

VINTAGE ADVENTURE

@ HOME

Our Comforter God



Dear Vintage Adventure@Home friends,



As I write this, we are amid a heatwave and summer is most definitely upon us, though the land needs refreshing rain. Some of us in the Southampton area were able to 'go away' for a Taste of Italy as part of our annual Holiday @ Home, when the church was decorated in the Italian colours of red, white and green, and activities, Italian food, and friendship were enjoyed by around 80 guests and helpers. I wonder what friendship means for you?

I am always thrilled to receive a letter, message or phone call which often cheers me up as I realise that there is someone out there who wants to communicate with me. And we must not forget that God wants to communicate with us too.

Our hymn this month 'What a Friend we have in Jesus' was written by Joseph Scriven to remind his mother that, although he was far away in Canada, she could trust in Jesus as her friend, knowing that He would always be there for her, whenever she brought her joys and sorrows to Him.

For August Dave has written our worship and we have summer puzzles as well as interesting articles about Margaret's father's experiences during World War 2, the call to prayer by King George VI and Victory in Japan Day. Some of our readers share their views of what friendship means to them.

As you receive this booklet, our prayer is that you feel valued and loved, by us and by God. Perhaps you will feel inspired to enjoy some quiet time with Jesus, to invite Him to be your Friend and Companion through whatever life holds for you. Or you may feel prompted to contact a friend or to thank God for the kindness they have shown you, and ask Him to bless them. In John 15:12-17 Jesus called His followers to be His friends, which is an amazing privilege!

*With all our love and blessings
Cynthia and your Caraway friends*



What a Friend we have in Jesus

All our sins and griefs to bear;
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer.

O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear;
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged:
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Do thy friends forsake, despise thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In His arms He'll take and shield thee
Thou wilt find a solace there.

Joseph Medlicott Scriven 1819-1886

WORSHIP



Recently, I was reading through a letter Paul wrote to some followers of Jesus, living in Rome.

I found a verse which, to me, was very comforting. Here it is:

For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as children of God, by Whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" Romans 8.15



Rome is a very nice place today, with its fountains, piazzas (pizzas!), art, and architecture.

When Paul wrote to his friends in Rome. there was a bit of friction between Jewish followers of Jesus, and Roman followers of Jesus.

There often is friction between different groups of people isn't there?! Sad.

In A.D. 49 the Roman Emperor Claudius kicked the Jews out of Rome. Five years later, Jewish people began returning to Rome. Three years after that, Paul used papyrus, a quill, and ink to write to his friends in Rome. They were a mix of Jewish and Roman followers of Jesus.

Both groups were trying to work out how to relate to Jesus. And how Jesus related to their lives before they chose to follow Him.



How about you? Do you find it easy to relate to Jesus? What about your life up until now, your habits and traditions, how does Jesus relate to all that?

After seven chapters, Paul gives the Roman Jesus followers this comforting thought: *It doesn't matter where you have come from, or what your heritage is, if you've chosen to follow Jesus, you become part of a new family, a massive family: We are all 'children of God.'*

And Paul uses the word adoption.

In the Roman legal system, in Paul's day, an adult could 'adopt' a child and formally give to the child all the legal rights and privileges that were due to an individual's biological children.

And in Paul's Jewish culture, 'Adoption' was one of the privileges of Israel.

Paul was communicating to Roman and Jewish Christians an amazing thing about God: even though we once rejected God, God now chooses us. God chooses us to be His children. God chooses you to be His child. With all the rights and privileges that come with that choice.

And, even better, in this huge noisy family you are not unnoticed by your parent: Paul writes that the Holy Spirit helps each individual believer experience an intimate relationship with God:

*You have received the Spirit of adoption as children of God,
by Whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"*

The word cry means to croak like a raven, to scream, to call out loudly, to express deep emotion.



Can you remember the last time you released deep emotion like that?

The word Abba translates to something like "Papa," or "Daddy." It was a term of great affection, closeness, and respect. It was often the first word a child would say (that or Imma - mama). Adults also could show respect and affection by using Abba.

When we put these pieces together, we see that Paul believes that the Holy Spirit is at work, in the lives of followers-of-Jesus to help us personally and emotionally understand and express the biggest change of our lives:

We are absolutely, completely, deeply God's children.

I find this all hugely encouraging.

Whether we feel it or not, that is what we are.

The old you and me are gone. Shiny new children of God are here instead.



Dear Holy Spirit, whenever You like, and in whatever way You choose, would You kindly keep confirming to me, to us, that we are God's children. Just in case I sometimes forget.

Our Comforter God

As you glance at the words of the hymn, perhaps you are thinking, "Is Jesus *really* interested in comforting me? Does He *really* care deeply about me and what is happening in my life? Can I *really* talk to Him in the same way I confide in my best friend?"



Psalm 139 includes wonderful reassurance that God does indeed, deeply care about each one of us. When David was writing it, life was pretty tough, and things were not going well, as he faced great opposition. But he comforted himself with the thought that God alone knows everything, including the integrity of our hearts. Here are some of the words:

*You have searched me, LORD,
and You know me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise;
You perceive my thoughts from afar.
You discern my going out and my lying down;
You are familiar with all my ways.
Before a word is on my tongue
You, LORD, know it completely.....
How precious to me are Your thoughts, GOD
How vast is the sum of them!
Were I to count them,
They would outnumber the grains of sand –
When I awake I am still with You.*

David tries to sum up the vast number of times God's thoughts turn to us each day, and imagines that if it were possible to count them, there would be more of them than the grains of sand on the seashore!

There are many times when we feel in extra need of comfort. Maybe we have just received some devastating news which we are struggling to process, or we feel particularly alone, or unwell. It is a great blessing to receive comfort from the kind words of a friend, a cosy blanket, or a cuppa. But while these things help us to feel better, our true comfort comes from God. Jesus told us to 'cast all our anxiety' on Him and let Him carry it on our behalf. He also promised never to leave us nor forsake us, and to send His Holy Spirit as our Comforter. He can comfort us where it really hurts as well as in those daily hassles which frustrate us. Why not do as the hymn suggests and 'take **everything** to the LORD in prayer?'





Reflection

Friendship with Jesus

The beautiful words of this month's hymn give us such an assurance of Jesus wanting to be our friend. Jesus had twelve close friends who we know as being



His disciples. Jesus chose and called each one to follow Him. They were all different in character and had many flaws and imperfections. None of that mattered to Jesus. He chose them to be '**His friends**'.

God is our greatest friend!

I was the 2nd oldest child of eight children! four brothers and three sisters. I was thirteen years old when my mum became unwell and could not take care of us anymore. The marriage broke down and my mum left home. All our lives changed from having the love and security of a happy home, to a home without a mother.

From a young age I attended Testwood Baptist Church with a friend. We had been taught in Sunday School how Jesus died on the cross for all of humankind. I loved hearing about this Jesus but could not believe that He could love me as I never thought much of myself even as a child.

One Sunday morning service, the Pastor asked if anyone would like to commit their lives to Jesus and accept Him as their Saviour. I remember my walking up to the front with my friend, kneeling at the altar as we both committed our lives to the Lord Jesus, asked forgiveness for our sins and promised to serve Him for the rest of our lives. I felt a strong sense of love and knew something wonderful had happened.

Jesus wanted me to know that He would always be there as my Saviour and Friend. I am so glad that I answered Jesus' call that day. It was only a few years after that I had to be a mum to my brothers and sisters for four years before my mum was well enough to take care of them.

No matter how many times I have fallen away and chosen the path without Jesus. He has stayed my friend. He will never leave us nor forsake us. Even though we leave Him, we are always on His mind.

If you have not answered God's calling, then answer His call today. Maybe you went away from Him then He is calling you back to Himself. He loves you and wants you to know Him as your friend.

Make Him Your Friend and Saviour Today!

Love and Blessings,
Susan (Anna Chaplain)



The story of What a Friend we have in Jesus

What a Friend We Have in Jesus was originally written in 1855 by Plymouth Brethren preacher Joseph M. Scriven as a poem to comfort his mother, who was living in Ireland, while he was in Canada. But who was Joseph M Scriven? Born in 1819 in Banbridge, County Down in Northern Ireland, to a wealthy family and eventually educated at Trinity College, Dublin, Joseph, as he grew up, appeared to be enjoying a happy and successful life.



However, at the age of 25, very much in love with his fiancée, and soon to be married, Joseph suffered a major tragedy. On the eve of his intended wedding day, his bride-to-be was tragically drowned in a lake. Heartbroken, Joseph decided to radically change the direction of his life by emigrating to Woodstock, Ontario, Canada, which was still largely an uninhabited frontier. There he devoted his life to tutoring, teaching, and preaching. He gave all his money, time, and even his clothes to help those less fortunate.

Ten years later, when Joseph was 35, he received news that his mother was very ill and possibly near to death. In the 1830s it took weeks to sail across the Atlantic Ocean and the trip was prohibitively expensive. So, he wrote her the hymn, which is our focus for this month. In it Joseph expresses how despite all the ups and downs in our lives, Jesus is a friend who helps us carry our burdens.

While in Canada, Joseph fell in love again with Eliza Roche and became engaged for a second time. However, shortly before the marriage, Eliza became seriously ill with pneumonia and after a brief illness, died that winter, before a wedding could take place.

In spite of loneliness, poverty and his own precarious health, Joseph spent the remainder of his life helping the physically disabled, as well as teaching and ministering among his fellow Christian Brethren in Ontario. Instead of letting circumstances overwhelm him, Joseph looked to Someone beyond himself. His deep faith kept him looking upward and outwards, to a loving Saviour and to a life of service. So he helped others who were also hurting, cutting firewood for widows and giving food to those in need.

Even though Joseph had periods of deep depression, his hope and joy in Jesus never left him. His faith through difficulties affected thousands—not only those with whom he had direct contact, but those who were touched by his sermons, teaching, and hymns.

Eventually he published this hymn anonymously and did not receive full credit for it until the 1880s. When a neighbour asked if was true that Joseph had written the hymn, he answered, “The Lord and I did it between us.”

In 1868, Joseph’s hymn was set to music by an American attorney, Charles Crozat Converse, who also worked as a composer. The hymn went on to be translated into many other languages, and became available in several different versions, even being sung by Bing Crosby in 1952! Although some critics were of the opinion that the hymn was over sentimental, as were many hymns of the Victoria era, it has remained a source of comfort and encouragement to lots of people across the world. And, as with many other hymns, what was originally a private message, still has a profound impact today.



International Friendship Day – 30th July



What does Friendship mean to you?

July 30th was International Friendship Day. What a wonderful opportunity to think about friends you have had during your life. Here's some questions to help you get your memories started.

- Think about the friendships you have formed over the years: in school, college, and beyond.
- Who were your friends? Can you recall their names?
- What sorts of things did you enjoy doing together? Likely, you had common interests?
- Do you have lifelong friends, people with whom you've stayed in contact over a long period of time? How long?

Maybe your friend was your maid of honour or best man at your wedding or you had a friend who was there when you were going through something hard.

Maybe you were that friend who gave encouragement or helped someone close to you through a rough time.

As you think about those things, also think about:

- What makes a good friend? What qualities do they possess?
- What makes you a good friend? What would your friend say about why you are a good friend?

We asked some of our Vintage Adventure at Home community this question and here are some of their replies.

A safe and loving person who is as much concerned for my welfare as I am for theirs, supporting each other. *Janet*

Friendship is knowing you can say anything, and you'll still be loved. *Erica*

When my mother was living with us and was very ill, a friend kept dropping off delicious home cooked meals. When our son died, a friend spent the whole afternoon weeping with me. *Jill*

Good friendships encourage me to put others first, as we share mutual encouragement and support. The value of friendships comes from growing trust and dependence through life's ups and downs. *Richard*

Friendship means being able to talk to someone about anything and everything, knowing that they will never judge or criticise but will always be there for you through good times and bad. *Margaret*

A Bible verse

*Dear friends, since God loved us that much,
we surely ought to love each other. 1 John 4:11*

and a prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for welcoming me as Your friend. Please teach me to love others the way You first loved me. As I build relationships with others, let them see You in the extent of my generosity, the authenticity of my kindness and the depth of my love. All these things are only possible through You, the God Who has promised to abide with me and calls me friend. Amen.

If you have any stories to tell about your friendships that you would like to share, we'd love to hear from you. Send them to us by email or post (details on back cover) and we will print them in later editions.





Beatitudes for Friends of the Aged

Esther Walker

Blessed are they who understand
My faltering step and shaky hand.

Blessed are they who know that today
my ears must strain to catch the things they say.

Blessed are they who seem to know
that my eyes are dim and my wits are slow.

Blessed are they who looked away
when my coffee spilled at the table today.

Blessed are they with a cheery smile
who stopped to chat for a little while.

Blessed are they who never say
"you've told that story twice today."

Blessed are they who know the way
to bring back memories of yesterday.

Blessed are they who make it known
that I am loved, respected and not alone.

Blessed are they who ease the days
on my journey home in loving ways.

The Good Samaritan



This month we remember V-J Day (Victory over Japan) on 15th August 1945. While war had ended in Europe there was still conflict in the Far East until Japan surrendered. As we remember this anniversary we recall when the King, George VI, called for a National Day of Prayer on 24 May 1940.



In May 1940 when France had fallen and the British Army was trapped at Dunkirk with the real threat of annihilation, King George VI called for a National Day of Prayer on 24 May 1940 to plead for divine intervention. So widespread and so deep was faith in God at that time that literally millions of people flocked into

churches to pray. The special service held in London's Westminster Abbey was so inundated that a famous photograph captured the queue a quarter of a mile long. Local churches were also packed. People knew God was real and they knew He could be petitioned through heartfelt prayer.



There followed two remarkable acts of providence. First a storm arose over Dunkirk, so rough that it grounded the Luftwaffe who were bombing Allied soldiers on the beaches. This was followed by a great calm which settled on the Channel allowing all the little boats to rescue the soldiers. The result of that National Day of Prayer was, of course, the miracle of Dunkirk where thousands of small sea vessels evacuated 335,000 soldiers. On 9 June there was a Day of Thanksgiving for the deliverance.

A second day of National Prayer was called on 11 August 1940 when the Battle of Britain began and there were further calls for prayer in 1941 and two more in September 1942. The final call was in the spring of 1944 immediately before the D-Day landings, when again, the rough sea became calm.

When the war in Europe ended in May 1945 with the surrender of Germany, Field Marshal Montgomery, Commander in Chief of the 21st Army Group, sent a personal message to all the troops under his command.

“On this day of victory in Europe I feel I would like to speak to all who have served and fought with me during the last few years....We all have a feeling of great joy and thankfulness that we have been preserved to see this day. We must remember to give praise and thankfulness where it is due. ‘This is the Lord’s doing and it is marvellous in our eyes’.” (Psalm 118:23).

Our God still answers prayer today. Perhaps we should be challenged to pray for our nation and our world? - Margaret

Our family war-time story by Margaret

My Dad, Reg Saffin, had an incredible war time story, which remained with him for the rest of his life. At the age of 14 he left school and after an unsuccessful attempt at delivering fish for a local fishmonger, his father found him an apprenticeship as a sheet-metal worker at the Supermarine works in Woolston. Reg worked in the machine shop and specifically on the prototype Spitfire. He remembers using rivets in the fuselage section of the Spitfire, which was very noisy as they had to climb inside the fuselage to work.



On 24th September 1940 aged 20, he was working on the night shift. The siren went off and everyone fled the shop floor for the shelter across the road. As he reached the shelter, Reg realised he had forgotten his jacket (they used to hang their jackets on the end of the machine), so he went back for it – an action, which probably saved his life. As he got back outside, German planes were overhead dropping bombs, so he dived into the nearest ditch next to the railway line, seeing bombs hit the factory. He stayed there for about 15

minutes until all the planes had gone. That night the shelter suffered a direct hit and many of his work colleagues were killed or seriously injured. In shock he started to walk home – his bike too damaged to ride. He got as far as Pear Tree Green, when he heard planes coming over again. Fortunately, he was invited along with others into the air raid shelter of a local lady nearby, where they stayed twenty minutes. Then he continued his walk home. Meanwhile, hearing that the factory had suffered a hit, my Nan sent my Grandad walking to Woolston to find their son. When they arrived home, my Nan was waiting at the door, so relieved to see him. Undoubtedly, their prayers had been answered. However, no sooner home, the whole family had to spend the same night in a tiny air raid shelter in their garden. The next day an appeal was put out for volunteers to help dig into the rubble to find the bodies of those killed. Dad started to help but found it too distressing.




The factories had been camouflaged to look like residential areas and Dad said the Germans knew they were there and where to strike, because they had worked with them before the war.

After that Reg went to work at the Itchen factory, but just 48 hours later that was hit by German bombs too, so the workers were then dispersed throughout the country, so that the production of Spitfires could continue. One site was the Hendy Ford Garage near Edwin Jones. Reg recalled how he was startled one day to see lots of bodies and limbs scattered across Hoglands Park, only to realise they were shop mannequins scattered from the Edwin Jones store, which had suffered damage! He was sent to work for the rest of the war at the Wessex Garage in Salisbury. He joined the Home Guard at Old Sarum and recounts attending drill practice using brooms as rifles, as they had no equipment!

One thing difficult to deal with was the fact that, because the Woolston workers were dispersed to a variety of places, it took a long time to find out which friends had died that night in the shelter. Whilst so grateful to be alive, he recalled that it was hard to lose so many friends. In his retirement Dad volunteered as the local Spitfire Society Secretary. He was proud of the part he played in building the Spitfire and honoured to receive a certificate of appreciation along with others, from the Mayors of Southampton and Eastleigh. He lived a full life and was Promoted to Glory a few months before his 91st birthday.

A Southampton charity, The Supermariners, is gradually locating the sites of the dispersal factories and placing a blue commemorative plaque on the site, where Spitfires continued to be made. In May 2024, I was so honoured and proud to be asked, along with Tony Jordan from Lord's Hill Church, whose Father worked in the same factory, and the descendants of Hendy Ford, whose factory was taken over, to unveil a plaque commemorating one of the dispersal factories. The site is now student accommodation. If you are in Southampton, do keep a look out for these blue commemorative plaques!



An open notebook with lined pages is the central focus. It is surrounded by vibrant pink flowers, including a large peony in the top right corner, and several pink petals are scattered across the notebook pages and the surrounding surface. The text is written in a dark red, serif font, centered on the notebook pages.

Cast all your
anxiety on
Him because
He cares
for you.

1 Peter 5:7

Down Memory Lane



Our senses are so important and we've all experienced that whiff of something that takes us back to a memory of a time or place. Here are some questions for you to ponder on and see where your memories take you, and some pictures to start you thinking!

1. What's a **smell** that reminds you of your childhood?



2. Is there a **taste** that takes you back to when you were young?



3. What **sound** brings back childhood memories for you?



4. Can you think of a **texture** or touch that reminds you of childhood?



Word Search

SUMMER NIGHTS



J P M K V C A M P F I R E F
O K O A J H F S M O R E S F
Y R U C R I C K E T S B N R
H O N H S S W E A T E R E I
O O T T T R H T K P O B O E
T T A I A P Q M Z C U T S N
D B I W R R B L A N K E T D
O E N F S I N G A L O N G S
G E P T U F I R E F L I E S
S R I O N A U K B F L O P U
N N E L A U G H T E R R W H
E K S K O O L A I D E X U S
T G O M O O N Q J T Y R D V
D J G H O S T S T O R Y P C

Fireflies

Sweater

Corn

Kool-aid

Ghost Story

Campfire

Friends

Moon

Root Beer

Singalong

Stars

Crickets

Marshmallows

Hotdogs

Laughter

Smores

Mountain Pies

Beer

Blanket

Joy

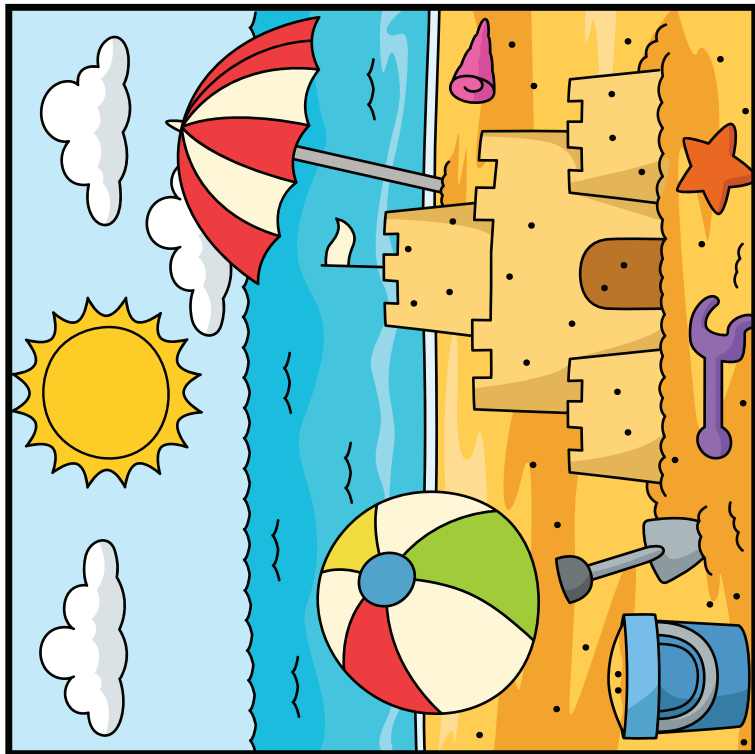
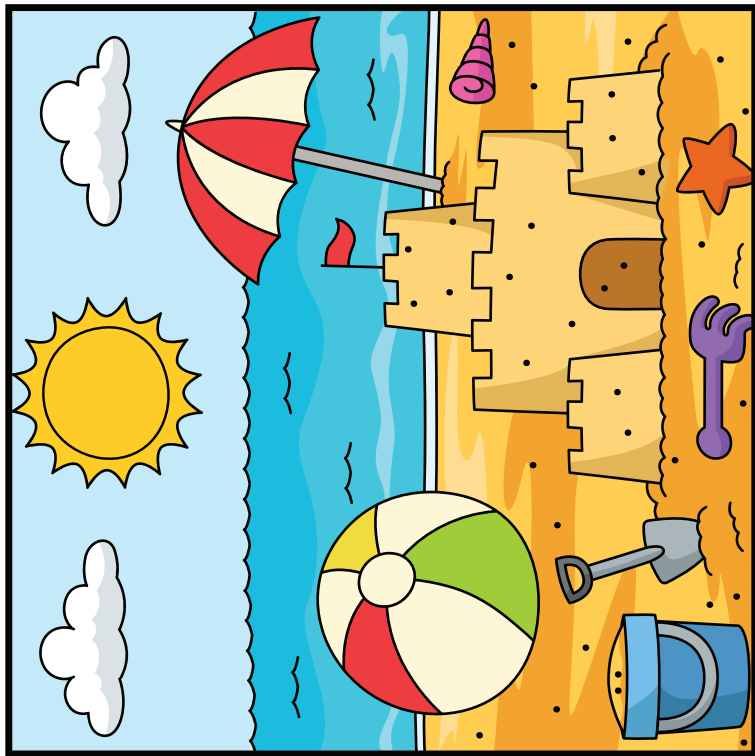
Summer Quiz



1. Another name for an umbrella.
2. From which language does the word 'picnic' come from?
3. Can you sing the first two lines of Summer Rain (Johnny Rivers)?
4. Which American singer was the 'Queen of Disco'?
5. What does the term SPF on sunscreen products stand for?
6. Where were the 2020 Summer Olympics to be held?
7. The summer solstice occurs every year, true or false?
8. Which British Band had a debut hit single in 1970 with 'In the Summertime'?
9. Which city held the 2024 Summer Olympics?
10. What is a Brazilian BBQ known as?
11. Where is the world's longest continuous peninsula beach located in the US?
12. "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?" is the opening line of a sonnet by whom?
13. Name two insects prevalent in summer.
14. What is another name for the "wet season" in Eastern Asia?
15. What year of the 1960s is referred to as 'The Summer of Love'?
16. Which musical features the song 'Summertime'?
17. Before the advent of vegetable dyes what was used to make pink lemonade?
18. Which couple had a massive hit in 1978 with the song Summer Nights?
19. Which country held the Winter Olympics in 2021?



Find 10 differences





It happened in August



1. Charlotte Brontë sent the manuscript for this book to a publisher in London in August 1847.
2. This popular soft drink first arrived in the UK in August 1900.
3. Which famous explorer set sail from Spain with three ships seeking a westerly route to the Far East in August 1492?
4. Which famous Jazz Trumpeter was born on August 4, 1901?
5. This award-winning film starring Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron premiered in August 1951.
6. Which Beatles song was released in August 1968 becoming one of the biggest billboard songs of all time?
7. The highest mountain in Western Europe was climbed for the first time in August 1786 - what is it called?
8. This famous breakfast cereal was invented by William Kellogg in August 1898.
9. This song about a girl wearing a bikini reached number one in the billboard charts in August 1960.
10. In August 1961, construction began on this wall that would divide Germany's capital in two.
11. Which famous German-born theoretical physicist wrote a letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt concerning the possibility of atomic weapons in August 1939?
12. The first African-American President of the U.S. was born on August 4 1961. Who is he?
13. This famous film star and blonde bombshell died in August 5 aged 36.
14. This British film director, famous for suspenseful classics such as Rear Window and The Birds, was born in August 1899.
15. In August 1969, this famous three-day concert was held in a dairy farm in Bethel, New York. It attracted an audience of more than 400,000.

A few jokes to make you smile!



- Why couldn't the bike stand on its own?
Because it was two tired.
- What do you get when you make humorous soup?
Laughing stock.
- I know a bunch of good jokes about umbrellas, but they usually go over people's heads.
- What do you call a lazy kangaroo? Pouch Potato.
- We may not be socks, but I know we'd make a great pair.

Answers to Summer Quiz

1. Parasol
2. French (pique-nique)
3. Summer rain taps at my window West wind soft
as sweet dream
4. Donna Summer
5. Sun Protection Factor
6. Tokyo
7. True
8. Mungo Jerry
9. Paris
10. Churrasco
11. Long Beach Washington - it is 28 miles long
(45kms)
12. William Shakespeare (Sonnet 18)
13. It depends where you are: mosquitos, ticks,
millipedes, cicadas, flies, wasps hornets, ants etc
14. Monsoon - a seasonal shift in wind direction
15. 1967
16. Porgy & Bess
17. A few drops of beet juice
18. John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John
19. Japan

Answers to It happened in August

1. Jane Eyre
2. Coca Cola
3. Christopher Columbus
4. Louis Armstrong
5. An American In Paris
6. Hey Jude
7. Mont Blanc
8. Corn Flakes
9. Itsy Bitsy Teenie Weenie Yellow Polkadot Bikini
10. Berlin Wall
11. Albert Einstein
12. Barack Obama
13. Marilyn Monroe
14. Alfred Hitchcock
15. Woodstock



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