

## St James News: Thought for the day – Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

### A thought about ducks – Rev John Marshall

A few months back, Kit showed a clip featuring geese during his sermon. They were escorting their goslings on a big adventure, helped by police, a patrol car and a motorcyclist. (You can see the clip [here](#))

Ducks are more independent, or the ones in my story were. Once when we were travelling over Dartmoor, while going through a quaint village, the traffic came to a halt. Some ducks and ducklings were crossing the road. As they reached the other side the drake crossed back and waited to help an apparently elderly duck across, who was much slower. When the road was clear we carried on impressed by the level of care shown by the family of ducks. What has been impressive during the lockdown, has been the caring attitudes which have been shown time and time again, in so many places.

And now a poem about a duck.  
F.W. Harvey From “Ducks”

When God had finished the stars and whirl of coloured suns  
He turned his mind from big things to fashion little ones,  
Beautiful tiny things (like daisies) he made, and then  
He made the comical ones in case the minds of men should stiffen and become  
Dull, humourless and glum  
And so forgetful of their Maker be  
As to take even themselves – quite seriously  
Caterpillars and cats are lively and excellent puns  
All God’s jokes are good – even the practical ones!  
And as for the duck, I think God must have smiled a bit  
Seeing those bright eyes blink on the day he fashioned it  
And he’s probably laughing still at the sound that came out of its bill!

- From the Lion book of Christian Poetry.