

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Thursday 26th January 2023

By Revd Kit Gunasekera

Barn Dances

Have you been to a barn dance? Did you enjoy it? I have been to a couple and they were great fun, but quite energetic.

Did you know that barn dances are in the bible and they are good things? That amazing things can happen in barn dances.

For Jesus said in John 10:10 "Behold, I have cometh to bring life and life in a-bun-dance"

Oh dear, groan. I know. I got that from a lovely man called Gurnham, who I knew when I lived in Hounslow.

I was once at a Churches Together in Hounslow service for Christian unity, when Gurnham stood up and told us something that had happened to him earlier that day. He was taking a walk in his local park with a family, when they came across a bird lying on the ground, apparently dead. A child with them asked if they could say a prayer for the bird and then bury it. So Gurnham picked up the bird, placed it on his palm and with his other hand gently laid it on the bird, and so did the child and they said a short prayer. When they took the hand off the bird, it got up on its feet, and flew away.

God may indeed have raised that bird to life, equally, it might have been unconscious or stunned and the warmth of their hands revived it. Either way, it ended up in a far better position after being prayed for than before!

Extraordinary things can occasionally happen in our lives that are difficult to explain or understand. They don't happen that often and its not the same for everyone, however, I would encourage us to hold on to them. May they be there in the back ground, as a sign, to point us to something or someone greater than our selves or our circumstances. Remember the feelings of wonder, love, peace and joy they invoked in us. The bible describes this as love, and that love is God. May these occasional signs be a constant reminder to us, that we are loved by God, seen by God and needed by God. And may they sustain us through the everyday life, specially when things are hard or monotonous.

Thank God for a-bun-dances!