

St James News: Thought for the day – Tuesday 11th August 2020

The Jesus Nut – Revd John Marshall

I have taken the time to read more carefully some of the literature that comes through my door. Recently we received the CMS Prayerlines August to September and I was struck by this from Anna and Chris Hembury who are sharing life with those on the margins in Hull.

They write “We have been used to being givers and bringers of hope, the hope we have in Jesus. We have at times been innovative and ingenious in the ways we have gone about sharing our faith. That said we have at times struggled to help people to connect.

We are on a journey into the great unknown, but known by Jesus. We are discovering how to engage; on the flip side one of the hardest tasks over the past few months has been discovering that it may be difficult to engage and being ok with that.

Like most people across the world we have had to deconstruct the way we live our lives. These are uncertain, unsettling times. Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see (Hebrews 11.1). Faith is required.

During the Vietnam War, with so many helicopters in action, the nut which holds the rotor-blades in place gained the nickname “the Jesus nut”. There are no accounts of this nut ever failing. In recent years the term has become more generically applied throughout engineering (and many other occupations, from rock climbing to skyscraper window cleaning!) to include any single component whose failure would cause catastrophic failure of the entire system. These components, having the most important role to play, have regular and rigorous checks.

It is time to check our Jesus nut is on tight.”

We are asked to pray for Anna and Chris as they deconstruct, examine, and encourage others to do the same.

More information can be found at churchmissionsociety.org