

Hello libel lawyers who are checking this newsheet, how are you? We hope you enjoy the pack of jaffa cakes we sent you. No need to read the rest, it's all fine. Trust me.

Despite the current restrictions, *What Do You Think?* was able to meet safely at The Hayes (along with some on Zoom) earlier this week. We spent three days in fellowship together, discussing papers, sharing meals (including a BBQ!), **practising saying our name and synod at the beginning of our speeches** (*hint hint*) and having well-reasoned, balanced debates about several of the key topics/resolutions. Our thanks to the wonderful CYDO+s and Dr Sam for facilitating the week!

We were so happy to see resolutions 26-33 passed at GA, outlining the need for us to be aware of the Israeli occupation of Palestine and act in ways that will not benefit injustice. At *What Do You Think* (the youth pre-gathering to GA) we read a statement from Suma Kh Qawami, a young person who lives in the Sheikh Jarrah Neighbourhood (presented originally at the World Communion of Reformed Churches Confessing Circle), that was written a few days before the forced evictions that sparked the newest protests around the world. Victoria then led us in a brief (that ended up not being so brief) history of the region. We then had 1 and a ½ hours of discussion. We noticed that a lot of us felt that the knowledge we had about IP had not come from our churches but from other young people, and our own research. Hence, the need from URC Youth to outline the important of education in these motions. This was also echoed in the resolution calling to write to our MP's. Alongside our own independent knowledge of this topic, a few young people attended the URC trip to IP, and we had Kevin Snyman present to us in our last Youth Assembly, so as young people we feel passionate about this issue. We hope to continue to talk and learn about the situation in IP and act collectively for justice.

Banbury Chaplain Conducts Bible Study On Bargain Hunt



GAG was very pleased to see a Bible Study in the style of daytime TV favourite Bargain Hunt, demonstrating a deep understanding of the predominant demographic of General Assembly. In order to make the next one more inter-generational, URC Youth suggest Mr Tumble conducts the next one on Love Island.

- **GenSec snubs Whitty** - Controversy has been caused after John Bradbury was caught **not** saying "Next slide please" in a shocking departure from well-established etiquette. John Piper, however, take a bow...
- **LOST:** Body of large LEGO person. If found, please return to the Secretary for Ministries.
- **URC harks back to Presbyterian roots with V Revs littering Zoom** - GAG was surprised to see that a resolution has, somewhere, slipped through allowing former GA Moderators to style themselves as Very Reverend. We see what you did John Marsh, well played...

101 things to do whilst “paying attention” on Zoom:

1. Accidentally type “point of odour” in the chat;
2. Paint your nails;
3. Create your own Clerk’s cassock;
4. Experiment with your virtual background;
5. Decorate a cake;
6. Record yourself nodding earnestly on loop then go back to bed (heard it from a friend...);
7. Swap out with your identical twin;
8. Write your sermon for Sunday morning (we see you Clare...);
9. Like the URC Youth Facebook page;
10. Pop the kettle on;
11. Ask the tech team how to use the chat functions, in the chat;
12. Watch the Euros;
13. Badly time a bathroom break just before you’re about to speak;
14. Scroll through gallery view to pray over everyone;
15. Hide the fact you’re still wearing pyjamas;
16. Pour your “communion wine”;
17. Ask Reuben Watt if he’s a line judge at Wimbledon;
18. Make orange and blue voting cards with random household objects;
19. Blame a bad internet connection and then nip to the pub;
20. Read the Book of Reports for the very first time;
21. Do Origami with the Book of Reports’ Pension pages;
22. Buy merch from the URC Shop (*paid promotion, thanks Andy*);
23. Re-watch bits of business on YouTube you missed because of a “bad connection”;
24. Wave to say good-bye at the end of each session;
25. Join the wrong synod in the wonder sessions;
26. Judge people based on their bookshelves;
27. Shout out “Read the standing orders, read them and understand them”;
28. Forget to say your name and synod;
29. Say “safe journey home” at the end;
30. Check that the top table are socially distanced;
31. Change your name to a different representative before you speak;
32. Try to claim mileage from your bedroom to the study;
33. Say your church name instead of synod;

SPOTTED ON ZOOM

Of course, we were paying attention to all the business today, but we did spot one or two things...

- Stencilled birdcage;
- Dialling in from a car;
- Computer designed before any of the GAG team were born...;
- Giant decapitated LEGO head;
- Knit without the knatter.



Apparently...

My heartfelt thanks goes out to those fellow northerners representing the region. Notably two appearances of the Angel of the North, and one Synod Clerk styling herself with the adjective “Northern”.

GAG proposes accelerating the Church Life Review to immediately create a ‘Synod of the North’, Andy Burnham will serve as its first Moderator.

by **Generic Northern Person**

In order to aid understanding of the complexities of the Pensions discussions. We thought you would benefit from some helpful training:

1. $3 + 1 =$
2. $7 - 2 =$
3. $3 \div 0 =$

Answers in the next issue!