

April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2020

Week 5 of Lockdown and currently no sign of things ending. We are very fortunate in that although we are four adults in one living space, it does get a little fraught at times, we do have a garden and with the lovely weather it means we can escape for a little sunshine. I had to laugh though when I saw this tulip practising social distancing, we have no idea where it came from as last year this part of the garden was just rough ground and rubble. Then we levelled and built the raised beds, it is amazing that there was a gap just where it needed one, such is the miracle of creation! We have done a lot of work in the garden over the last two years and it is really feeling like a garden now.



We certainly need some miracles right now but as a quantum theologian then I believe that miracles happen when we participate fully in creation, work as one and use our imagination to the full. Right now there are some amazing people doing just that, even if they are not aware that is what they are doing. Humanity will get through this but the way we live may be changed forever as we begin to realise how interdependent we all are and that there is now conclusive evidence that the way we have been living has been negatively affecting the life of the planet. Without factories and transport pouring pollution into our skies the air is clearer and satellite pictures are showing a brighter earth. Obviously factories must come back to life and transport will increase but perhaps we can learn how to do these things with less harm to the planet on which we rely. I also hope that the resurgence in community spirit which we have witnessed when under such pressure will continue beyond lockdown as we continue to appreciate our neighbours and what we can do for and with each other.



We don't know how long our social distancing may have to last, longer than we would wish I think, but we are learning so much about ourselves. We are discovering that the things we thought were so important we can live without. We are rediscovering skills and interests long forgotten, hidden beneath a layer of electronic living, things which bring satisfaction and a sense of achievement. We all have cameras to hand these days but we have forgotten how to print and build albums which we can look back through to aid our cluttered memories. There is something heartwarming about the way looking through a photograph album reconnects us with people, events and feelings long forgotten. We need to continue building photo albums so now is a good time to get printing those special photographs of special moments and write the story around them. If we don't there will be generations of gaps in family history.

If you have not yet discovered an old skill or interest, it's not too late, and if you want to explore a new skill or interest that's a better time, there are hundreds of free courses online at the moment and even if you are still working, whether from home or in essential roles, making time away from work is still important. This time will go down in history, we can use it wisely and take from it a positive legacy - it really is up to us.