

# Cause for a Cuppa



*April, here we are! Oh can you believe it?*

The flowers are reaching out towards the sun. Leaves are stretching after a long kip. Next to Autumn, Spring is my favourite time of year. What is your favourite time of year and why?

I'll start. I've already said that Spring is my 2nd favourite time of year but since we are here, let's focus on that. 'Eric ... why?' It's just that the extended daylight hours, periods of sunshine and warmth (brief though they may be) are so nice! The daffodils and lilies make their appearance. And it just seems that life has found a way! [For any film buffs out there, I'm not trying to pinch a line from Jurassic Park.]

For any that may remember, Lisa and I hosted a couple of young ladies from Ukraine towards the beginning of the war (2022). One continued on to the States after a month here as she works for a friend. The other stopped with us for nearly 7 months. We travelled to Ukraine in 2023 as I performed her wedding.

What a state the world is in now! Will there be peace negotiations by the time you read this? The meeting between Trump and Zelenskyy happened just recently. Wow! I didn't see that coming. Sparks were flying. Maybe I should have seen it.

I just spoke with Liana (the young lady I mentioned). She said the people of Ukraine are confused and unsure. There was hope that a cease fire might be in the pipeline. Two weeks ago, her father in law was 'taken' (using her words) into the army. Since the beginning, she had been worried that her fiancé ... husband to be, would be taken as well.

But it doesn't stop there. What about the situation in Israel? Look at the innocents whose lives were taken

by either side. Look at the hostages held captive and undoubtedly experienced all sorts of horrific things. 'Eric, that doesn't bother me because that's far away.' But is it really? How many times did Putin 'rattle his sabre' saying that he could strike the UK with missiles any time he wanted. And I didn't even want to count the number of times I heard the phrase 'World War 3'.

But even right here on British soil we are dealing with the cost of living, trying to keep the NHS going, mental health issues going rampant among young people to just name a few.

That's enough to drive you crazy. I agree! If the inside of the tin is anything at all like what the outside says, then despair seems the only option. Or is it?

You see, one of the main reasons I like Spring is that it is the time we celebrate Easter. As crazy as it sounds, I'm not much of a chocolate fan. Give me a piece of carrot cake any day of the week! But I'm not against chocolate, eggs or any of the other bits in the shops at Easter. However, if that's all that there is, then we could be in deep trouble.

But as a Christian, I have a reason NOT to despair. I realise people often look at the resurrection of Jesus as a fairy tale ... something to give Christians a holiday from one Christmas to the next.

The resurrection of Christ is the lynch pin of this whole Christianity thing. I personally battled over this as a young person. If it was just a fable, the whole thing is a farce. If it really happened then it's a game changer. I could not get past the reality of it. As I sat doing my engineering job, making quite a nice salary thank you very much, it was the thing that motivated me to come to England. I thought everyone should have a chance to see what it meant.

That's one of the main reasons why our church exists. We would love to welcome you this Easter. No presumptions. No expectations. No question is too dumb. Check it out. Why not? What could you lose?

**As always, if you wanted to call in to chat, the door is open and the kettle is on.**



**ERIC SIMPSON, PASTOR**  
Holmesarr Centre  
eric@communitybaptist.co.uk  
07828 141472 Facebook

**Sunday Service**  
Every Sunday 10:30  
Everyone invited!

Join us on

YouTube

Instagram

Holmesarr Centre - DN110LP - Grange Lane nr. ASDA  
Eric Simpson ... 07828141472    eric@communitybaptist.co.uk