

# MUSINGS FROM THE MANSE

Tier Four Edition – No.5 – February 7th. 2021



First an apology. Sorry dear reader for the beginning of the last Musings, and thanks for the chastising email. It was in reference to Jill scraping the ice off her car. It sounded like I was a bit harsh and thoughtless. But I did help, in fact I played a key role in the process. To speed up the defrosting process Jill had kept the engine running while she came in to get warmed up. It was my job to look out of the living room window to watch the car to make sure no one stole it. I hope that concludes the episode.

**PPE.** I remember back when we were holding live socially distanced services. It was disconcerting standing at the front looking out on 30 or so masked worshipers. All I could see were the whites of their eyes looking out. Mind you it was easier to spot if someone was asleep though. It was hard to tell if people were smiling at my humorous quips. They probably weren't, they're not very funny (addition from Jill). It's important for us humans to communicate expression. Even the slightest facial movement can convey so much information.

I went to see my doctor last week. No, this is not the beginning of a joke. Like Doctor doctor, I feel like a pair of curtains • then pull yourselves together man. The receptionist led me from the waiting room into his office. I was slightly taken aback by his appearance. He was fully kitted out in a Bio suite and breathing apparatus, he looked just like Dan Dare straight out of an Eagle comic. He apologised for his startling look. I found it difficult to hear him as he had some kind of voice enhancer built into his visor. He sounded a bit like Darth Vader (another Si-Fi reference!). Again, you can tell so much from a person's voice. Slight inflections and inclinations are very telling.



Just showing off here at the breadth of my recall of classic poems. Its Smile: A Poem by Spike Milligan. I don't think it has been used during this pandemic, but it makes a point. Smiling used to be a good thing, but now with mask wearing and for many other reasons a smile may be a rare sight.

☺ **Except on an Amazon delivery box.** ☺

Smiling is infectious, you catch it like the flu. When someone smiled at me today, I started smiling too. I passed around the corner and someone saw my grin. When he smiled, I realized I'd passed it on to him.

I thought about that smile, then I realized its worth. A single smile, just like mine could travel round the earth.

So, if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected. Let's start an epidemic quick and get the world infected!

**No don't do that!!** Sadly, nowadays we have to do everything possible to keep safe. **Hands - Face - Space.** One day smiles will come back in fashion.

Face covering in the Bible - Moses covered his face for a different reason.

## **Exodus 34 The Radiant Face of Moses**

29 When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken with the Lord. 30 When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, his face was radiant, and they were afraid to come near him. 33 When Moses finished speaking to them, he put a veil over his face. 34 But whenever he entered the Lord's presence to speak with him, he removed the veil until he came out.

**Bible study next week the text will be  
John 4:4-26, 39-42.**

## **??? PUZZLE CORNER ???**

**Last week's Answer-** It takes one elf 5 minutes to make one doll. Therefore 100 elves making 100 dolls would, of course, still take 5 minutes!

**This week's question.** This one's a bit ticky... (OK I'll stop...) "If you look at a clock and the time is 3:15, what is the angle between the hour and the minute hands?" Warning the answer is longer than the question.

**Andrew and Jill**

**RIP** Captain Sir Thomas Moore. Captain Tom, he was a British Army officer, philanthropist and centenarian, known for his great achievements raising money for NHS charities in the run-up to his 100th birthday during this COVID-19 pandemic. I think he was the positive face during this present pandemic. A ray of light and inspiration during this dark time. A truly amazing man he will be missed and remembered.