

Thought for the week

By Chris Izzard
**Pastor Team Leader
 Tankerton Evangelical
 Church**

AT THE time of writing, I had just finished watching Andy Murray fight his way to the quarter-finals at Wimbledon. Disappointment was narrowly avoided and the sense of relief just engulfed centre court. Disappointment is a part of life and we all will experience it. Disappointment strikes in all areas of life. Politicians disappoint when they fail to live up to the standards we expect. Our partners disappoint when they fail to meet our needs. Children can disappoint when they make bad choices. God is not immune, that is many people are disappointed with him!

As a pastor I sometimes see people in difficult situations. Their struggles can bring them to a place of disappointment. How do we face and overcome it? Firstly we acknowledge the reality we face; we resist the temptation to be in denial. Being real is a great first step. I encourage people to be real with God, express their emotions, and lay it all out before him. The Psalms record the emotions of those in distress, those who are disappointed God. It seems that God is more than big enough to deal with our feelings.

I encourage people to look for the blessings. Then to give thanks to God whose goodness remains even in the darkest of situations. Praise is a great release, the situation may not change but you will. That of course was no guarantee that Andy Murray would win Wimbledon, but he did so we escaped that disappointment.



City policing system has ancient origins

Way we were

**Richard West
 BSc(Hons)(Kent)**
 Founder, The Chaucer
 Education Project,
 www.vle.tcep.org.uk

IN 1448 King Henry VI granted Canterbury a royal charter, decreeing that the city should be "of one mayor and one commonalty, wholly corporate for ever". The charter conferred county powers on the city. "For ever" came at midnight on March 31, 1974, with the implementation of the Local Government Act 1972, abolishing

the County of the City of Canterbury, Bridge-Blean Rural District Council, Herne Bay Urban District Council, and Whitstable Urban District Council, and replacing them by one larger Canterbury District Council and ending 526 years of independence for the County of the City of Canterbury.

County boroughs were the original all-in-one single tier local authority, with both the city council and county council responsibilities integrated.

The Canterbury Education Authority of the County of the City of Canterbury was also the managing agent for the St Augustine's Division of the Kent Education Committee. Counties corporate became county boroughs under the Local Government Act 1888. Kent had only one county borough. Other towns became boroughs but not with county powers.

The last mayor of the old Corporation of Canterbury who took office in 1973 was Henrietta Barber, mother of bandleader and musician Chris Barber.

The County of the City of Canterbury previously had its own county borough police force, until the government compulsorily made an emergency amalgamation of the City of Canterbury Constabulary with Kent County Constabulary on April 1, 1943, under the Defence Regulations 1942. The Police Act 1946 made the amalgamation permanent on April 1, 1947.

The Municipal Corporations Act 1835 required each incorporated borough to appoint a town clerk and a treasurer, together with a watch committee to form a police force.

The County of the City of Canterbury Watch Committee was formed in December 1835. In February 1836 the watch committee appointed a superintendent, two inspectors and 15 constables, for a population which in 1831 was almost 14,000. The first parade of the City of Canterbury Constabulary was held on March 7, 1836 in Crown Alley, for inspection by local dignitaries. The first police station was a disused abattoir in Crown Yard, Stour Street, where it continued in use for 15 years.

In 1850, part of the old City Workhouse of Poor Priests' Hospital in Lamb Lane was



FORCE: City of Canterbury police officers formed up in parade order outside Canterbury East railway station
 Photo credit: Kent Police Museum.

converted to provide six cells, office accommodation and accommodation for the Superintendent's family.

By the end of the 19th century, the total strength of the City of Canterbury Constabulary had risen to 24.

In addition Supernumerary Constables, sworn in as Special Constables, were appointed to work part-time as required and paid for each day's duty.

Powers contained in the Municipal Corporations Act 1835 enabled boroughs to appoint Special Constables annually and to keep lists of them. In addition, the Special Constables Act 1831 enabled Justices of the Peace to swear in as many men as necessary to deal with "tumult, riot and felony".

The "Rules and Regulations for the Government and Instruction of the Police Force of the City and Borough of Canterbury" stated that the main objectives of a police force were: first, the prevention of crime; second, the detection of crime; and third, the apprehension and punishment of offenders.

There were up to 2,000 soldiers stationed in the garrison city.

An attempt by magistrates to form a rural constabulary under the provisions of The Rural Constabulary Act 1839, for the areas in Kent outside boroughs, was defeated. It was not until The County and Borough Police Act of 1836 was enacted, with the mandatory requirement for every county to form a police force, that Kent County Constabulary was created.

On January 14, 1857 Kent County Constabulary was formed. The first headquarters was at Wrens Cross, Stone Street, Maidstone, and was rented for use by the police until November 1860 where the force purchased it for £1,200.

At this time there were police forces in Canterbury, Deal, Dover, Faversham, Folkstone, Gravesend, Hythe, Maidstone, Margate, Rochester, Ramsgate, Sandwich, Tenterden, and Tunbridge Wells.

Under the 1836 Act, the 14 borough police forces became eligible for a government grant to pay one quarter of their costs, providing they were prepared to be inspected by the newly created Inspectorate of Constabulary and were declared to be efficiently run.

Kent County Council would not be created for a further 50 years, following which a Joint Committee with the Watch Committee was formed.

The small police forces of Deal, Faversham, Hythe, Sandwich and Tenterden were compulsorily amalgamated with the county force in 1889, after the Local Government Act 1888 had created Kent County Council. On April 1, 1943, the remaining nine borough police forces were compulsorily amalgamated under Defence Regulations 1942 provisions.

Discover "The best British Wildlife Centre in the UK" **BBC**

Visit Wildwood

AMAZING adventure play area!
 Kent's tallest drop slide • Giant twisting tube slide
 Wild fort • Tree-Top towers • Under 5's area

- Over 200 British animals including: Wolves, bison, lynx, foxes, owls, deer, red squirrels, beavers, wild cats, wild horses and many more!
- FREE animal talks & feeds during weekends & school holidays.

Wildwood Wildlife Park
 Herne Common, Nr Canterbury, CT6 7LQ
 Find us on the A291 between C'bury & Herne Bay
 Open 7 days a week from 10am
 Tel: 01227 712 111
 www.wildwoodtrust.org
 Registered charity no: 1093702

SAVE up to £8
 with this ad - \$2 off
 for up to 4 people
 valid on the website
 until 11/13

IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Find more tales of Canterbury's past on our website
 canterburytimes.co.uk