

# Newsletter

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[adelphicare.org](http://adelphicare.org)

God-centred care  
for everyone



## Care through the Arts

In a previous Newsletter we focused on Care through Music. In this one we broaden the arts scope to include visual arts and poetry. The thrust this time is a little different in that we look at the use of the arts in our own personal development. One of the important aspects of care is that we need to care for ourselves first. Solomon drew attention to the need for us to take personal care when he wrote “Above all else guard your heart for it is the wellspring of life” (Proverbs 4:23). God Himself provided the model of care for us (even though He didn’t need this Himself) when He rested on the seventh day of Creation. This principle can carry over to our caring life in God’s service. Bro Fred Johansen has been a practising artist all his life and attests to the importance of art as an integral part of him in his service to God. Bro Neil Creighton is an internationally published poet who demonstrates the beauty to personal development in the poetry of Scripture. And to conclude, there is a reference to one of our Hymns that draws our attention to the beauties of the Kingdom God has promised, “When shall the voice of singing flow joyfully along?” (305). These words can lift us in our hope. All these things together can lift us personally as we try to help others.

### The visual arts

**Fred concludes...** “God is the greatest ‘artist’ of all time! God’s creation in its sheer unadulterated beauty, its complexity, its diversity, its humour, and its scope, underscores an incredible and staggering degree of understated communication. **God is creativity and art defined.** That essence of absolute awe and delight that we experience each time we see something of God’s creation anew is boundless and breathtaking. We shake our heads, we smile, we stand in silent admiration, we take deep breaths. We fail to understand such a being that is capable of such beauty and love. **And we in all of creation are the pinnacle of that work,** of that effort, the thought, the planning, the discussion; in that He has made us in His image.”

Read all of Fred’s paper here:

<https://www.adelphicare.org/documents/076-visarts.pdf>

### Poetry

Neil writes...

“ ‘I don’t like poetry.’

“I’ve heard that little sentence more than once, including from members of my faith community.

It’s always struck me as strange, not just because I am a published poet but primarily because The Bible is dominated by poetry or poetic language. I’ve thought, ‘How can you love The Bible and not love one of its primary modes of expression?’ And, without a doubt, there is such great comfort in poetry that I’ve been amazed by the pragmatism that denies that comfort. ... Then large parts of the discourses of the Lord Jesus are pure poetry.

**So, The Bible is a poetic book... “**



Read all of Neil’s paper here:

<https://www.adelphicare.org/documents/077-poetry.pdf>

### Music

Listen to a recent recording by the Adelphian Singers of Hymn 305: “When shall the voice of singing flow joyfully along”. A wonderful hope that is vital in our own life and self-care!

<https://youtu.be/B6x-b FN bc>