

'Glorious June'

Glorious wonderful sunlit June, the cornerstone in the arch of the year. Maybe it is because I was born in June that I feel it is my month of the year. Look around at the gardens, the cottage flowers have reached for the sun and stand astride all opposition. The trees could not be greener, they are richly green. It all seems to have happened at once. One day we were looking for the first green blush of spring and then came the month of May like a bridesmaid preparing this June bride's rich and flowing gown. And here it is. Wow, Sun please keep shining. I am bowled over by summer.

My heart sings because I feel the spirit of life is out and about. I wish it for you! I am probably so excited about it because so often all the expectations of June are washed away with rain but now it is here and the sun is shining. Don't think about the rain. Bit like life really!

I have a friend who doesn't like June or summer. It is too hot, there is too much light and it wakes him up too early. Where I hear the blackbird sing, he hears a noisy racket. Where I see dragonflies he sees wasps. He thinks flowers smell sickly where I embrace the love they exude. We are good friends but we are different. He tolerates my optimism. I tolerate his intolerance of joyfulness. Bit like life really, or is it?

Mostly we like people who like what we like. Many people find it difficult to accept difference and that leads so easily to a polarised world. Don't discuss politics or religion everyone says because it will lead to arguments and falling out.

We in this country have a long tradition of being adversarial and polarised in our opinions. Our political parties and Courts face each other off to win and not to lose. And where I live the Brexit debate is still going on.

The alternative is an inquisitorial system which seeks to find the truth within. It turns over all the facts without taking sides and seeks to find a solution or a way forward that all parties recognise and accept. A bit like life should be really.

But this is June. Flaming so far. I sit on the bench in the garden and just take it all in. Here comes my friend and he joins me. A little murmuration of young birds are using a lot of energy around the tree, taking off and landing, starting to pick at the seeds and taking off and coming back. I can't tell which is the leader or the motivator but something is working them as a group. That's how we all should be I say, working as one. How much more can be achieved working together. Yes but look, says my friend. Look at each individual bird. There is a lot of squabbling going on. They will not have another intruding in their space for all their working together.

Bit like life really.

But they are not killing each other I reply. The positive side of me sees their assertive behaviour as knowing who you are, being self-confident and self-sufficient. When we have that then we can work and live well in the group, and yes, of course you have to hang on to those spiritual values that make you who you are and not be undermined by the naysayers.

That is the ideal life to try to be a bit like.

Enjoy the month of June.