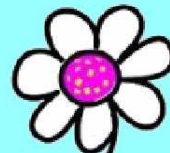
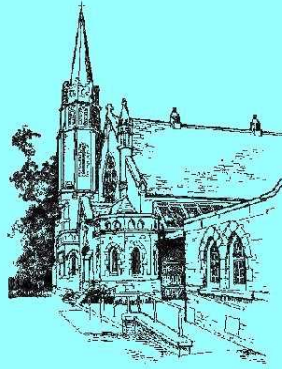


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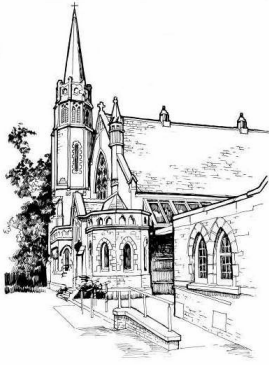
**THE FULWOOD METHODIST**

# FULWOOD METHODIST CHURCH

Watling Street Road, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 8EA

Tel. Preston (01772) 718741

Registered Charity No. 1133929



## MINISTER

**Revd. Malcolm Hickox**

**malcolm.hickox1@gmail.com**

**(note - new address)**

**Tel. 01772 715134**

## SUNDAY SERVICES

- 9.45 am SINGING PRACTICE
- 10.30 am MORNING WORSHIP & SUNDAY CLUB

We offer a welcome to all ages on Sunday mornings, there is a CRÈCHE for babies and toddlers while parents are in worship. The first 15 minutes of worship are for all ages and then on most Sundays the children leave for their own time in SUNDAY CLUB, where there are groups for different ages. Parents can go out with the younger ones to see them settle, and then come back into church for worship. Sunday Club and worship finish at the same time and an invitation is extended to everyone to stay and share in fellowship in the Willow Grove, where tea, coffee and orange juice are served.

The CHURCH MINIBUS provides free transport to and from Church on Sunday mornings. The timetable and route information are available at Church. Should you wish to make use of it please complete one of the request cards in Willow Grove.

6.30 p.m. EVENING WORSHIP, with usually the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at **Ashton MC**, Wellington Road. *(See weekly notices or website for details)*

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated monthly (morning and evening) and once a month there is ALL-AGE WORSHIP involving children from the youth groups.

For BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES AND FUNERALS contact Revd. Malcolm Hickox.

\*\*\*\*\*

**If you need any help, or have any concerns, please contact  
Revd. Malcolm Hickox or Mrs. Sue Penrith.**

or contact ..... Tel.....

# EDITORIAL

Whatever next? Someone (not of our own congregation) has commended the whole production team for the quality of The Fulwood Methodist magazine:- “The best church magazine I’ve ever read.” Thank you, kind sir. That makes all our efforts worthwhile and will certainly help buoy us up during the inevitable trials and tribulations!

Sincere thanks also go to those who’ve provided material for this issue

The **copy date** for our **Harvest issue** will be **Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2017**, and material in advance of that would be most welcome.

Articles may be subject to editing!

*Roy Smith*  
Editor

## FULWOOD STEWARDS CHURCH

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## COMMUNION

Pauline Kirkham (Senior Steward), Arnold Barker, Lesley Birkett,  
John Butterworth, Jacqueline Clarke, Audrey Harrison,  
Graham Johnson, Pam Johnson, Melba Southwood

## Pastoral Secretary:

Sue Penrith (862273) email: *suepenrith@virginmedia.com*

\* \* \* \* \*

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If you need a spare copy, please pick one up from Willow Grove.



This magazine is also available in large print version and on the internet at [\*www.fulwoodmethodist.org.uk\*](http://www.fulwoodmethodist.org.uk) and click the **Online Magazine** tab on the 2nd page. If you have a smartphone, scan the QR-code alongside to access the site. Copies going back to Harvest 2001 are available!

# PASTORAL LETTER

## from Revd. Malcolm Hickox

Dear Friends,

*‘Love is stronger than hate’*

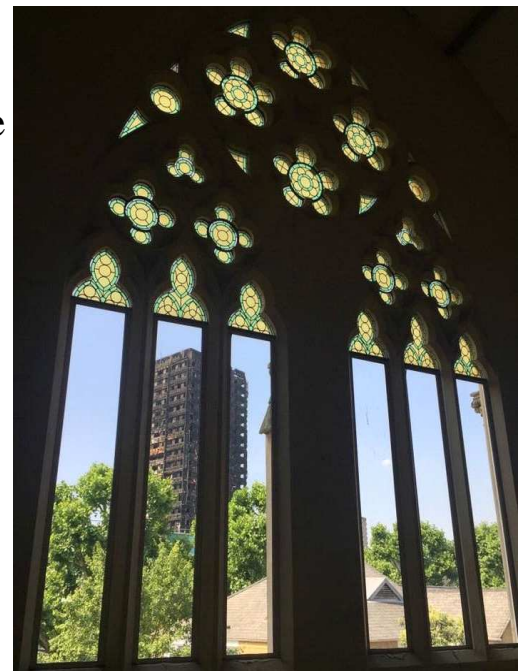
When we moved into the Victoria Road manse five years ago and I stood at the sink (*yes, I do occasionally!*) I thought the view of the garden looked a little boring! From one of the bedroom windows I saw how bright, colourful and vibrant our neighbour’s garden looked and the challenge was set! Having created gardens in our previous manses I had originally vowed to be content with what we found here, but sometimes the urge is too strong and the gardening bug took over.



But what about our windows on the world, what do you see? The recent terrorist attacks and the horrendous Grenfell Tower fire have left many traumatised and most of us feeling shocked and helpless. In a statement, the former President & Vice President of the Methodist Conference, Roger Walton and Rachel Lampard, said, *“The horror of the burning tower in Notting Hill will be imprinted on many people’s minds for a long*

*time. Our shared grief has, however, only intensified as we heard the stories: of the people who are lost, people who have lost everything, and people still searching for the lost. Few of us will have been able to witness these events unfold without weeping. And now comes the anger, at those with power, at past decisions, at powerlessness.”*

The Methodist Church in Notting Hill was the first public building outside the police cordon after the fire, and immediately became a focus for grief and practical help. If you look down the church aisle and through a large window you see the burnt-out tower, a stark reminder of death, destruction and pain. It’s a bit like looking at the cross and contemplating the crucifixion, but we don’t stop at the cross, we are taken forward to resurrection. It’s almost certainly too soon to be talking of new life whilst the emotions are so raw. There is anger as well as grief and with understandable cause - anger at God; anger at those who had the power to act, but didn’t; and anger at a society which values the poorest and most disadvantaged less than others.



Back in 1962, Donald Soper had a vision for mission in the Notting Hill area and he created the first ever Methodist Team ministry with three energetic and talented ministers, later joined by a Church of Scotland minister. They soon discovered that Notting Hill was an area of extreme social deprivation and that the roots of most of the area's problems were the appalling housing conditions, with rogue landlords like the infamous Peter Rachman. Within a short time the Ministry Team responded by establishing the Notting Hill Housing Trust and gradually grew a stock of quality,



fair-rent properties. In 1966 they helped establish the housing charity Shelter and later persuaded the government to change its housing policy.

It's ironic that fifty years later Notting Hill Methodist Church is at the centre of another housing crisis, where the most vulnerable have suffered again. The world may have moved on in

many ways, but some of the principles of mission remain the same: to stand alongside those in need, to offer care and to remain silent so as to feel the loss, the pain, the fear and the anger of the people; and then, when the time is right, to speak out for justice. During their year as President and Vice-President, Roger Walton and Rachel Lampard, took as their theme the text from Micah: *“What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God”*. That seems so appropriate for the Church's mission in Notting Hill.

Two weeks after the terrorist attack at the Manchester Arena, an array of top musicians and the local community came together for an extraordinary concert with the message that 'Love is stronger than Hate'. One of the performers, Justin Bieber, gave us a window on his faith when he said, *‘God is good in the midst of the evil. God is good in the midst of the darkness. He loves you.’*

In her address to the Methodist Conference, the President, Loraine Mellor, spoke about hospitality and generosity, and the story of Jesus sharing breakfast on the beach with his disciples. They'd been fishing all night, but only had a catch when Jesus told them to throw their nets on the other side of the boat. Notting Hill Methodist Church is offering hospitality and generosity in the midst of an angry, grieving community. Believing that love is stronger than hate is 'other side of the boat theology'! Looking out of the window of our new home in Seaton Sluice to the sea and beach opposite, I shall hold onto that image of Jesus on the beach. I pray that it will also strengthen your faith and enable you to be part of God's mission.

Every blessing,

## FAMILY NEWS

**Baptisms:** 16<sup>th</sup> April Branislav Pavlik  
Dominik Robert Pavlik  
7<sup>th</sup> May Camille Rose Gaunt  
11<sup>th</sup> June Ralphy Norman Sykes  
18<sup>th</sup> June Anashe Tristan Zengeni



**Marriage:** Our best wishes and congratulations to Beth Squire & John Mounsey who were married on 1<sup>st</sup> April



**Deaths:** We send our love and prayers to Alison James, whose brother-in-law, George James (a worshipper at the former Ribbleton Avenue Methodist Church), died on 3<sup>rd</sup> June and to Sue Carter, Eva McLaren and Linda Foy, whose brother, Frank Lambert, died on 5<sup>th</sup> June. We send our sympathy and prayers to other members of the congregation who have lost loved ones in recent weeks.



**Sickness** - In the last few months a number of our church family have been unwell, several have been in hospital and others continue to experience serious illness. We assure them all of our love and prayers.

### **Congratulations to:**

**Lisa Wilson and Neil Fletcher** on the birth of their daughter, Jemimah Rose, on 3<sup>rd</sup> April – a sister for Harriet.

**Martin and Sharon Beck** who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 27<sup>th</sup> June.

**Prayer** - If you have a person for whom you would like us to pray, their name can be circulated around our prayer chain - information to Judith Harvey 787500 or e-mail: [judith.harvey44@sky.com](mailto:judith.harvey44@sky.com)

*There is also a prayer book on the table in the prayer corner of the church for anyone to write in their prayer requests. These prayers are then used in our Communion Service on a Wednesday morning.*



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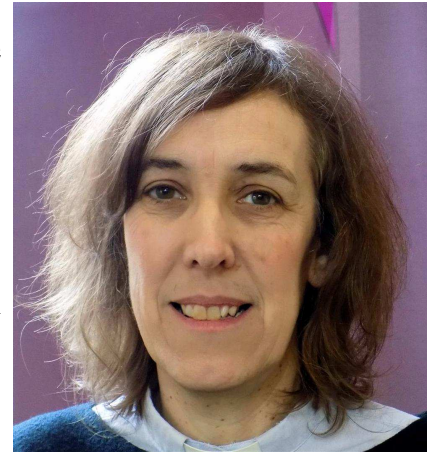
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# INTRODUCING OUR NEW MINISTER

## Revd JANE WILD

I am looking forward to moving to Preston in August, to start working in the Circuit at Fulwood at the beginning of September. I will be moving with my husband Stuart, who is also a Methodist presbyter (but who will be stationed in a different circuit) and our daughters Grace, Verity and Hope.



I come from Northumberland originally and as with all Methodist ministers have moved around; Durham, London, Bristol, Halifax and Manchester, to name but a few.

We will be coming to you from Manchester, where I currently have 3 Churches, which are all very different, with lots of different activities and challenges. I seek to work with them to serve God in the community, to share the gospel and to relate faith to today's world.

It is important to me that in serving God we are relevant and creative but retain our Methodist tradition.

I enjoy all kinds of music, singing and cycling. I often use my bike when visiting and going to meetings and like the opportunity to stop easily to meet people - and not to have to find a parking space!

I am looking forward to getting to know you all, learning about Fulwood Methodist Church and the Preston area and engaging in God's calling with you.

God Bless,  
**Jane**

\* \* \* \* \*

### DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

**Saturday 23rd September**

**Harvest Festival Concert in aid of Christian Aid.**

Celebrating love, hope and life with music from the stage, the screen and life.

As part of our Harvest Celebrations we are delighted to have the services of the very popular Preston Concert Band conducted by Graham Hickey. The concert will be from 7.30 to 9.30 pm with a refreshment interval and will consist of a variety of popular film and show music and other. Please make a note in your diary now and we will issue further details nearer the date. Check the notices and website.





## INTRODUCING OUR NEW YOUTH LEADER

Hello, my name is Darren Arnold and I'm the newly appointed youth, children and family worker here at Fulwood. I look forward to meeting you all very soon and beginning this new chapter in my life and continuing my journey with God. I will be moving here with my wife Cheryl and two sons Joshua and Jack. I also have a daughter, Elan who lives in Nottingham with her partner Aaron and my two grandchildren, Ava and Demi. We also have two dogs called Poppy and Bailey. A bit about myself, I enjoy cooking, photography and football. I have supported Nottingham Forest since childhood and was lucky enough to be their official photographer for 15 years before starting my career within the church. I'm really excited for this opportunity and can't wait to get started.



\* \* \* \* \*

## A BIBLICAL COMMEMORATION 2017

Just over 200 years ago a 15 year old girl in Wales, Mary Jones, was determined to possess a Bible in her own Welsh language. Having saved up she trekked 26 miles to Bala to purchase one. Her story inspired people such as William Wilberforce and others to campaign for all people of the Kingdom and wider world to have the Bible available in their native tongues. They formed The British & Foreign Bible Society, now called simply The Bible Society.

This year children from schools across Tyne & Wear, encouraged by The Bible Society, have taken part in a special service to celebrate the production of an historic book which they helped to create.

The service was held in St Peter's Church, Monkwearmouth, Jarrow, to launch the book they have written: a collection of Bible stories bound into one book and printed – thanks to The Bible Society, who have given £7,000 to ensure 1,000 copies can be distributed to the schools taking part.

The book has been produced to mark 1,300 years since monks in Monkwearmouth Monastery transcribed and illustrated three Latin Bibles. One was taken to Rome to present to the Pope and there is only one remaining copy. This is now housed in the Laurentian Library in Florence, and acknowledged to be the oldest surviving one-volume Latin Bible in the world.

The Bible Society wanted the children to experience what it was like for the monks writing out Latin Bibles all those years ago.



*Enid Singleton*

## IS PRESTON SPECIAL TO YOU?

Recently, Malcolm Rae and I led a session at the AM Club (the men's fellowship group) to share thinking about our experiences of living in Preston. Malcolm is a Prestonian born and bred whilst I have lived here for 40 years and am just getting used to the idea!

Between us, we calculated that we had just short of a thousand year's experience of living in Preston so we felt we had something to say. It was an enjoyable and productive session and we agreed to share some of our thoughts with the readers of this magazine. Some of you may have read a letter which Malcolm had published a few weeks ago in The Evening Post and recognise here some of the words and phrases he used.

What were the top standout social and environmental features of the City? Well here are five that we identified:

- The warmth, generosity and friendliness of the people and the well-established integration and positive relationships across diverse community groups.
- Accessibility - for attractive areas such as The Lake District, The Ribble Valley, The Trough of Bowland and the coast (and, I would add, Yorkshire!!). Certainly motorway and mainline railway access is a real plus.
- The number of quality parks within easy reach. what a pleasure it is now to come into Preston from the south by rail and to see the much improved Park and the river Ribble and recently the improvements to Winckley Square.
- The University, which with many other attributes helped to gain City status for Preston and is revitalising so much of our community and environment.
- Sport, recreation and leisure opportunities abound with a wide range of community sports clubs and leagues: the fantastic Guild Wheel, the Harris Museum, the variety of religious and spiritual openings for people to explore.



*Harris Museum and Library*

But nothing stands still. We enjoyed remembering what has been and gone and the pleasure we gained from cinemas, theatres and dance halls as well as the many well-known firms which provided employment and enabled people to enjoy a good standard of living. Of course, we regretted the loss of open-air swimming pools (well some did!) and pitch and putt courses along with town centre cinemas. There was nostalgia for Whit Walks, parched peas, anniversary Sunday processions, street games and parties, Curly Helm and his Landau rides (what?), Jack Shaw's milk round in Ashton with his horse Brenda pulling the float and the terrific choice of ice cream available across the town. Brucciani's and the occasional PNE victory (I made the last one up - sorry). We had some messages for those who have the responsibility for the further development of our City - key phrases such as 'build community', accessibility, remember that 'beauty in the environment raises spirits', people have energy and need to be able to channel it constructively.



We discussed all this with only an occasional reference to The Guild!

We felt privileged to live in Preston and we hope the readers of this magazine do too. Each of us, day by day, can help to make it an even better place.

*Ken Wales and Malcolm Rae*

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## VISIT TO MASJID SALAAM MOSQUE

The past few weeks have been momentous times for our country and our communities. Many of us have been feeling unsettled and it has been noticeable once more how many people have taken to the streets to express their emotions. For example, the ribbons on display outside Central Methodist Church in Lune Street have been the focus of reflection, regret and even grief. It is good that at times like these we can express what we truly feel and seek to stand alongside those who are hurting.

In late June, the Church Council at Fulwood Methodist Church decided it wanted to make a gesture of love to our neighbours and friends who attend the Masjid Salaam Mosque on Watling Street Road. We approached the mosque officials to see if it was possible for a small group of us to visit the mosque on Sunday 25 June after our morning service to present them with the flowers we had used in our worship that morning. We wanted them to be regarded as symbols of our respect, friendship and goodwill at a time when many were hurting, not least after the horrific event outside Finsbury Park Mosque. We let them know that we valued their presence, rejoiced in their community and its faithfulness and acknowledged that we are all children of God. Very swiftly we received a beautiful reply from Amjad Yoosuf on behalf of all at Masjid Salaam. He said we would all be welcome and that all had been very much moved by this gesture of friendship, gesture and goodwill.

And so it was that on that Sunday morning 25 June, around 15 of us, young and old, walked the short distance to the Mosque; we didn't know quite what to expect. On the way to Church some of us had seen the large numbers attending the Mosque for prayer at the start of Eid (the choice of date was purely coincidental) but by the time we arrived, the mosque was peace and calm. It is a beautiful building and I would encourage everyone to find an opportunity to visit. We could not have been received more graciously and it was good to present the flowers, to make and hear speeches and to receive gifts.



We were all invited to stay for an Eid celebration which had been arranged for refugees from Syria. Those who had no other commitments (or had not left their ovens on) did so and enjoyed fine food and good conversation.

We left expressing the determination of the Church and the Mosque to keep in contact and to find new and better ways of serving the community in which we all live. That will not always be easy, we have to acknowledge our differences but also, in the words of Jo Cox MP, to recognise how much more we have in common. God moves in mysterious ways and, as we had sung at Church that morning, 'There is a wideness in God's mercy....'

*Ken Wales*

Have a look at [www.fulwoodmethodist.org.uk/photos/mosque/mosque.htm](http://www.fulwoodmethodist.org.uk/photos/mosque/mosque.htm) to see more photos of the visit.

## NAMES ON A PLANE

Last summer I took my dad, Cyril Leeke, down to Devon to visit his 93 year old sister. On the way we stayed overnight at my cousin's near Kidderminster. Looking at possible routes I discovered that the RAF Museum was very near them at Cosford. Dad was in the RAF during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War serving on a base near Nagpur in India for over three years, so we decided to do a detour and visit it.

Dad thoroughly enjoyed our visit, seeing some very old planes including early prototypes and of course planes from the wartime. He worked on Douglas Dakotas in India. He was an airframe fitter. One of the photos is him standing near one. Entry to the museum is free.

While there I saw a leaflet called "Names on a Plane" and read it. As a fund raiser for the Museum you could pay to have your name, or a loved one's name, painted on one of the Red Arrows planes for the whole of the aerobatic flying season in 2017. I investigated and the minimum donation was £35.



Dad was going to be 95 in November 2016. I'd already decided to have a big party for his 95<sup>th</sup> (why wait till he gets to 100?) so the family decided to do this for his birthday surprise. We chose to go for the £150 option and suggested very small donations from friends and family towards it. We were actually able to send a further £100 to Age Concern in dad's name.

He was so surprised and delighted with his present, which included an Airfix kit of the Red Arrow, certificates, a facsimile letter from WW2 and a lapel badge, which he wears with pride. I just have to find out now where the Red Arrows are performing this summer and get dad to see them and hopefully his name on the plane.

**Veronica Frost**

## BOOK CLUB NEWS

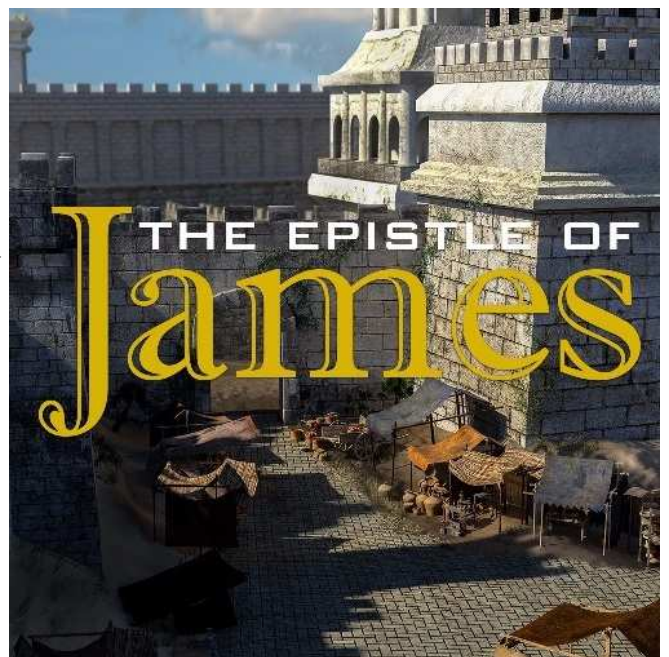
Fulwood Methodist Church Book Group continues to hold regular meetings and is always ready to welcome new members! We would love to see you there, so why not join us?

Over the early summer, we have been reading and discussing some modern fiction. We all greatly enjoyed Helen Dunmore's book 'Exposure', which was set in the Cold War and told a story of a family caught up in a rather low-key spying scandal. The novel helped us to explore several themes including loyalty in families, the effects of family and work stress upon children and the degree to which some jobs require a cold ruthlessness which offers few favours. We subsequently were sorry to read that the author had died recently at a relatively young age: her very human novels, set usually at times of significant social unrest, even war, had been enjoyed by many.

We decided next to read two relatively short American novels: 'My Name is Lucy Barton' by Elizabeth Strout and 'Golden Hill' by Francis Spufford. The almost unanimous opinion was that Spufford's book was an entertaining story beautifully written even if one or two sections were felt to be rather too long. Written in the style appropriate to the date of the action, the late eighteenth century, the story is of a man who arrives in New York with a banker's order for £1000. Why? Is it genuine? Mainly the action is fast, furious and entertaining with many wondrously realised characters. but the novel finishes unexpectedly ...so no spoilers from me!

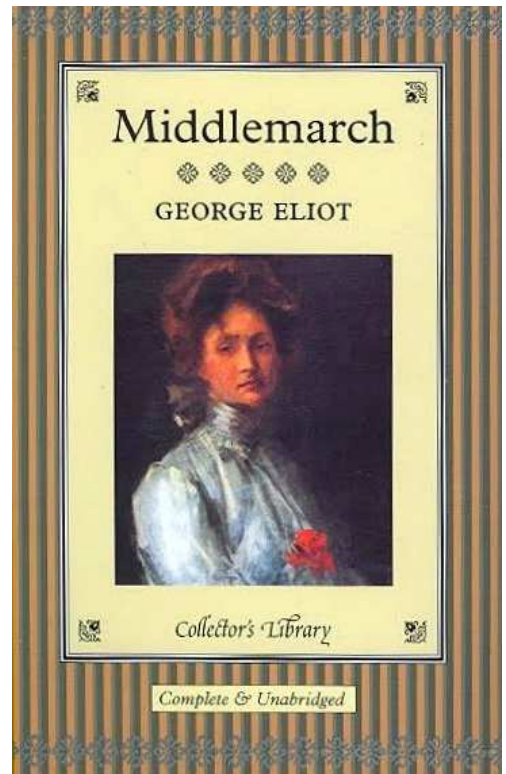
Lucy Barton is set in America too but in the present age. It tells the story of what happens, and what doesn't happen, when an estranged mother and daughter are reunited after many years as the younger one is recovering in hospital from a serious illness. We were divided on this one. Some (including me) thought it to be writing of a very high order - few words, short chapters and deeply insightful in the extent to which each of us is a private and lonely individual. Another theme was what drives the creative instinct in all of us. Others thought it didn't quite hold water and was improbable. Whatever, Elizabeth Strout's writings are very popular at the present time and thought-provoking. I shall be reading more of her works as a result of this experience.

By the time this magazine is produced and being read we will have had two more sessions. We are learning gently how there



are different ways of reading a book, of approaching a text. We are going to explore some of those as we follow the path set by the Methodist Church to study the 'Epistle of James' this summer. The book has been specially chosen as it brings together two themes which have been important to the Methodist Church recently - holiness and justice. Later in July we are having an 'open evening'. Anyone can come along and share a book or piece of writing that is special to them. Or they can sit and listen, eat biscuits and get ideas for their own reading.

Our have plans for the rest of the year are not fully formed. Keep an eye on the website and the church notices for more information, but if you enjoy a really good read, two classics of English literature: 'Middlemarch' and then later 'A Christmas Carol'. May be for you. Do join us!



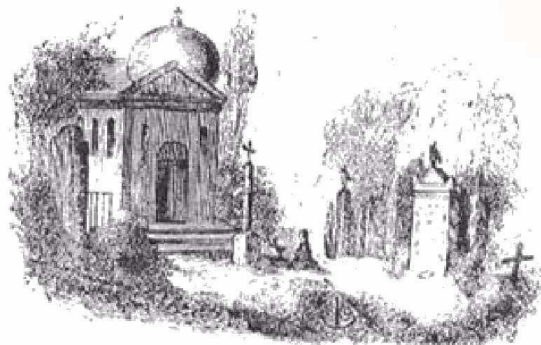
*Ken Wales*

# *Martin's*

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## NEWS FROM THE ASKEWS

We are now approaching 7 years in France after our retirement in 2010 and two years ago we were given the opportunity to take over a well established gift shop in Vouvant, about 10km away, one of the prettiest villages in France. John and Linda Butterworth can vouch for this during their recent caravan holiday. We had popped in to buy a much needed tin of paint and the decision to buy the shop was made! Anything to avoid the gardening - put a paintbrush in Ray's hand and he's happy.

For those of you who remember 'A. Montague and Son' painters and decorators on Garstang Road will understand that Ray has come full circle, selling paint again. After leaving school, he worked in his



grandfather's business which he took over and managed himself successfully for 21 years.



Not for the faint hearted living in France, learning a new language and now running a business. The shop has increased its reputation with customers driving up to five hours to buy Autentico paints (other makes are available) and decorating products.

Ray uses his experience and knowledge (learnt from his grandad and the decorators that worked for Montagues) to make sure that customers use the correct product, giving valuable advice. He runs workshops and does commission work, including painting the solid original French furniture 'les meubles' with chalk paint. We would describe this as 'French chic'. The British are more familiar with this style but the French are coming round to it. In fact he majority of our customers are French! You may say that is no surprise as we are in France? But Vouvant is known as Little Britain. There are a lot of British living there, which was a surprise to Ray and myself when we arrived.



*An ex Fulwood pew in their lounge - but not painted, French style!*



After 5 years retired, we felt we needed a venture. When this opportunity came, we both knew it was what we were looking for. With 29 painted chairs and no outlet for them, what choice did we have? We consider this venture as an expensive hobby. The French system does not encourage businesses to flourish. Make money and they put up your taxes.



Without our pensions we couldn't do this. But life isn't all about making money. We have a lifestyle we enjoy, a focus, and it is certainly a challenge to our French vocabulary.

*Gill and Ray Askew*



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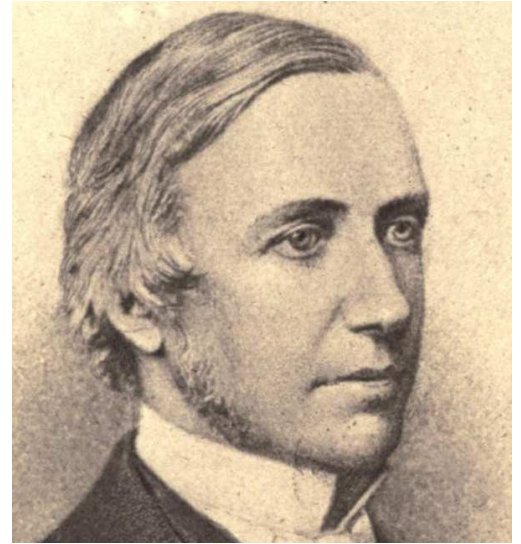
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# Stuart Black

## THE KESWICK CONVENTION

The Cumbrian market town of Keswick is situated in the heart of the Lake District in an idyllic situation on the edge of Derwentwater. It is surrounded by impressive mountains and gentle hills and is popular with walkers, climbers, dinghy sailors, wind surfers, canoeists, to name but a few. Summer or winter, its streets are always busy. For three weeks every summer a different group of visitors come in to the town. These are visitors to the Keswick Convention which is a gathering of evangelical Christians and has been in operation for 140 or more years .

It began on the evening of Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June in 1875 with a prayer meeting held in a tent on the lawn of the vicarage of St John's Church and apart from a few years during the two wars when it was either not held or held in London, it has convened ever since. It was founded by an Anglican, Canon T. D. Harford-Battersby and a Quaker, Robert Wilson. Its mission is to promote Bible teaching and down the years it has had an impressive list of Chairmen and speakers. The first conference lasted four days with 400 folk attending under the banner of "All One in Christ Jesus" and this is still the watchword of the convention. The American term of convention was adopted probably influenced by the Quaker, Robert Pearsall Smith and the New England evangelist, D. Moody. In 1969 a second week was added to the programme. This was a 'Holiday Convention' which gave visitors more time to enjoy the delights of the area and for many families 'The Convention' became their annual holiday. Visitors to the town during Convention Fortnight would see tents teeming with books and people spring up in various places in the town. At the 1975 which was the Centenary Convention , the American evangelist addressed some 15,000 people who gathered in Crow Park on the shores of the lake.



*Canon T.D. Harford-Battersby*

With its growth it was felt that there ought to be a permanent centre and a building which became the Keswick Convention Centre was opened in Skiddaw Street on 12<sup>th</sup> July 1987. The tent, however, did not disappear being attached to the rear of the roof. The following year a storm destroyed the tent on the Monday night but two days later a replacement was erected and the Convention was able to resume. With the need to extend its range of activities, Rawsley Hall (formerly part of the Keswick School) was purchased by the Convention Trust and it is now the focal point for youth work. In 2001 a third week was added to the Convention due to the demand for family activities.

2003 was the year the Convention Trust became Keswick Ministries. Its aim is to take the Bible teaching ministry to a wider audience both nationally and internationally. The work goes on throughout the year and uses the media to promote its work. It operates as a charity with its trustees drawn from a number of Christian organisations and denominations. A full-time operations manager and a small number of permanent staff are employed but during Convention week the workforce is swelled by a considerable number of volunteers. It still functions in the tent, the Rawnsley Centre and local churches and meeting halls. Each week has its own speakers, musicians, presenters all operating to a common theme beginning with an opening meeting on Saturday evening and concluding with communion and a celebration service the following Friday evening. The morning Bible readings consist of a series of expositions, usually from one book of the Bible, given by the principal speaker for the week. All the main tent meetings are recorded on video and audio formats and talks from the Convention are broadcast weekly on a Christian radio station, Trans World Radio hosted by Trevor Newman. A yearbook is published along with other books featuring the Convention's speakers and BBC Radio 4 has broadcast from Keswick as part of the Sunday Worship programme. There is a parallel programme Keswick Youth which offers Bible teaching and activities for young people between the ages of 11 and 18 years and two shorter events 'Bible Weeks' in spring and autumn are organised along with other events throughout the year.

The Convention has come a long way from the tent in the vicarage garden and in May 2015 it set its sights on Keswick's former pencil factory and the Derwent Project was launched at the 2015 convention. Five million pounds was to be raised to acquire and develop the site ready for this year's Convention. The plans include a 400 seat auditorium in the main building, accommodation, rooms, dining facilities etc. I am assuming that it has now been completed and I imagine that it will be quite an impressive building. The people of Keswick know how to build buildings that are quietly impressive and blend into the landscape, the Theatre by the Lake being a fine example of one such edifice. For any fans of the Pencil Museum I am happy to report that the intention was for it to remain on the site!

If Canon Harford-Battersby were to return to Keswick I think he would be highly delighted and quite overwhelmed by the success of his enterprise and it is very good to know that evangelism is flourishing in, and spreading from, the little grey town by the lake.



*Barbara Hothersall*

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# RECKLINGHAUSEN

Recklinghausen Evangelisch Methodist Church in Recklinghausen, Germany has been twinned with our church since 1987. Like us, they produce a magazine at about the same times in the year as ours.

We send a copy of ours to their Pastor and also to other members of their congregation. We, likewise, receive copies of theirs. They are, as you will realise, written in German, but if anyone would like to see a copy, then please ask Anne Garsed or Jacqueline Clarke. We have just received a copy of their Summer edition.



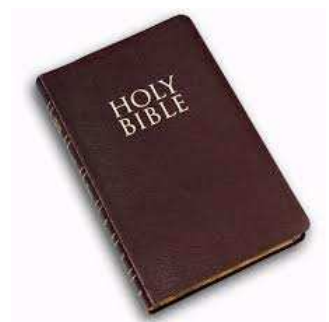
Below, Libby Stone, has translated an item from their Summer issue.

*Jacqueline Clarke*

\* \* \* \* \*

## WHAT DOES A BIBLE COST?

- 1300 years ago a precious manuscript bible was worth the same as a country estate.
- In the 14th century a manuscript bible cost as much as a Mercedes does today.
- In 1454 the price of a printed Gutenberg bible was equal to the cost of about seven television sets.
- In 1534 a complete Luther bible was worth as much as a motor bike.
- And what does a bible cost today?
- About the same as a cinema ticket!



\* \* \* \* \*


## LEGS

Why are seats in cinemas, buses and 'planes?  
Designed by short, stubby men with no brains?  
Do they not think, when we sit at our ease,  
There's always a risk of getting segs on our knees?  
The Lord gave some of us long, spindly legs,  
But He made no provision for having those segs.  
Because their legs are really quite short  
Designers don't consider others' comfort.  
Take my word, it's really a pain  
To sit in a cinema, a bus or a 'plane.



*Brian Sumner*

## A FARRAGO

- When/if you visit Blackpool Illuminations in the autumn, keep an eye open for the new tableau which carries the message, “I Am The Resurrection And The Life”. This ecumenical initiative is supported by Churches Together in Bispham (the northern end of Blackpool) and by other ecumenical Fylde churches, as well as the wider Churches Together in Lancashire. The expectation is that it will be viewed by about 3.5 million visitors and have a lifespan of at least fifteen years.
  - A charitable loan has helped to get the new project off the ground, but there is a major fundraising effort under way to pay for it with contributions welcome. The total cost of the project is £25,000, with about one third of this target raised so far. For more information see the Blackburn diocesan website (Information adapted from the Methodist Recorder of 14<sup>th</sup> April.)
  - The Book People’s Bedtime Story competition challenged children aged 5 – 11 to create an animal-themed picture book. ‘The Moon Man’ (now on sale) by Isabel Harris (9 years old) of Putney, SW London, was chosen as the winner from more than 1,000 entries. Isabel, now one of the country’s youngest published authors, donated her cash prize to the charity ‘Action for Children’ so.....each time I reach up to put coins into my ‘lantern’ collecting box I shall think of the generosity of that little lass!
- 
- A photograph of a young girl with dark hair, wearing a white top with a dark blue bow, holding a book titled 'THE MOON MAN'. The book cover features a night sky with a full moon, stars, and several animals (a fox, a rabbit, and a bear) on a snowy ground. The background of the photo is a dark blue wall with a yellow star and a purple cloud.
- Congratulations again to Barry Crossley: yet another of his short stories appeared in the Lancashire Post on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June.
  - Other folks’ church magazines, newsletters and weekly sheets have arrived from the following:- Christ Church, Fulwood; Church Road Methodist Church, St Annes; the Churches of St Mary, Redlynch, and St Birinus, Morgans Vale (Salisbury area); Fulwood URC; Isles of Scilly Methodist Circuit; Oakworth Methodist Church; Scone & St Martin’s Parish, Perth (Church of Scotland); St Annes-on-Sea Parish Church; The Parishes of St James & St Peter, Birkdale; St Leonard’s, Penwortham; Salisbury Cathedral; the United Benefice of Lorton & Loweswater with Buttermere, Warton St Paul’s. We also have had a copy of The Binsey Link which serves Allhallows, Bassenthwaite, Boltons, Embleton, Ireby, Plumbland, Setmurthy, Torpenhow, Uldale & Wythrop; The Borrowdale News; The Way – the free newspaper of the Church in Cumbria and copies of In Focus, the community magazine which covers the area of the Fylde immediately to the north west of Preston. We also regularly receive a copy of the magazine from our twinned Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche in Recklinghausen, Germany.

We thank all concerned for taking the trouble to keep us supplied. There are always things to be learnt from them.



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## THE WAR TO END ALL WARS

- On 6<sup>th</sup> July, 1917, Arabs led by T. E. Lawrence (Lawrence of Arabia) captured Aqaba on the Red Sea. The following day King George V changed his surname to Windsor.
- On 25<sup>th</sup> of that same month, Dutch dancer Mata Hari was sentenced to death for espionage and on the last day of July the third Battle of Ypres (usually referred to as Passchendaele) began and continued until November. It is forever associated with the liquid mud that drowned an unknown number of soldiers. Total casualties were estimated at 325,000 Allied troops and 260,000 German troops.
- The National Eisteddfod of Wales is traditionally held during the first week in August every year. In 1917 one of the most dramatic and sorrowful events in Eisteddfod history was the Award of the Chair to the poet Ellis Humphrey Evans (bardic name 'Hedd Wyn') for the poem 'Yr Arwr' (The Hero). When announced, the crowd waited for the winner to stand up, but no one did. It was then announced that Hedd Wyn had been killed the previous month on the battlefield in Belgium. That Eisteddfod was, and still is, referred to as the Eisteddfod of the Black Chair – the chair having been mantled in black.



*Hedd Wyn*

### YR ARWR

Woe that I live in bitter days,  
As God is setting like a sun  
And in his place, as lord and slave,  
Man raises forth his heinous throne.

When he thought God was gone at last  
He put his brother to the sword.  
Now death is roaring in our ears,  
Shadowing the shanties of the poor.

The old and silenced harps are hung  
On yonder willow trees again.  
The bawl of boys is on the wind.  
Their blood is blended in the rain.

*By Hedd Wyn (Ellis Humphrey Evans)*  
Translated by A. Z. Foreman



## A CHILD'S VIEW OF THUNDERSTORMS

A little girl walked to and from school daily.

Though the weather that morning was questionable and clouds were forming, she made her daily trek to the primary school.

As the afternoon progressed, the winds whipped up, along with lightening.

The mother of the little girl felt concerned that her daughter would be frightened as she walked home from school and she feared the electrical storm might harm the child,

Full of concern, the mother quickly got into her car and drove along the route to her child's school.

As she did, she saw her little girl walking along and at each flash of lightening, the child would stop, look up, and smile.

Another flash of lightening followed quickly and with each, the little girl would look at the streak of light and smile.

When mother's car drew up beside the child, she lowered the window and called to her.

"What are you doing?"

The child answered, "I am trying to look pretty because God keeps taking my picture."



From *Alison Stevens*

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## CELL PHONE vs. BIBLE

I wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phones.

- What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?
- What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot?
- What if we flipped through it several times a day?
- What if we used it to receive messages from the text?
- What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?
- What if we gave it to the kids as gifts?
- What if we used it as we travel?
- What if we used it in case of an emergency?
- What if we upgraded it to get the latest version?



Is this something to make you go ....hmm.... Where is my Bible?

\* \* \* \* \*

### REVERIE

At home they see on Skiddaw  
His royal purple lie.  
And autumn up in Newlands  
Arrayed in russet die.  
Or under burning woodland  
The still lake's gramarye.  
And far off and grim and sable  
The menace of the Gable  
Lifts up his stark aloofness  
Against the western sky.

At vesper-time in Durham  
The level evening falls  
Upon the shadowy river  
That slides by ancient walls.  
Where out of crannied turrets  
The mellow belfry calls.  
And there sleep brings forgetting  
And morning no regretting.  
And love is laughter wedded  
To health in happy halls.



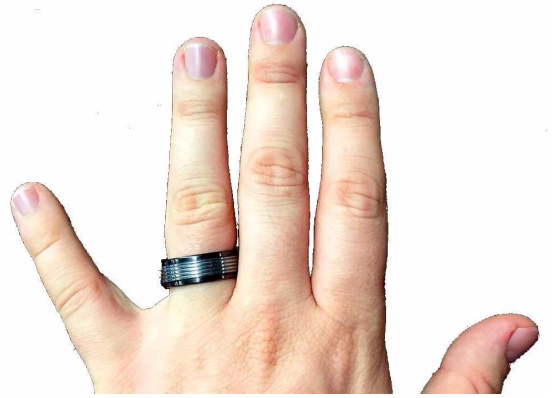
*William Noel Hodgson MC*

*William Noel Hodgson 1893-1916*  
(A lieutenant in the Devonshire Regiment)

William Noel Hodgson MC was an English poet of the First World War. He also published stories and poems under the pen name Edward Melbourne.

## THE FIVE FINGERS PRAYER

1. Your thumb is nearest to you and without it you are helpless. So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you, without whom you too would be lost. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C. S. Lewis once said, a “sweet duty.”
2. The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.
3. The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the next President of the USA, The UK Prime Minister, the national leaders in Europe, the leaders in business and industry and administrators. These people shape our nations and guide public opinion. They need God’s guidance.
4. The fourth finger is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger, as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.
5. And lastly comes our little finger, the smallest finger of all, which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, “the least shall be the greatest among you.” ‘Your ‘pinkie’ (as the Americans call it) should remind you to pray for yourself.



By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

\* \* \* \* \*



## ISN'T IT STRANGE.....

Isn't it strange how a ten pound note seems so much when you donate it to Church, but such a small amount when you go shopping?



Isn't it strange how one hour seems so long when you're at Church, while two hours seem short when watching a film?

Isn't it strange that you can't find a word to say when you pray, but you have no trouble thinking what to talk about with a friend?

Isn't it strange how difficult and boring it is to read one chapter of the Bible, but how easy it is to read a hundred pages of a popular novel?

Isn't it strange how everyone wants front-row tickets for the theatre or a match, yet chooses to sit at the back in a Church?

Isn't it strange how we need to know about an event for Church two or three weeks before the day so we can include it in our diary, but we can adjust it for other events at the last minute?



Isn't it strange how difficult it is to learn the truth about God and share it with others, but how easy it is to understand and repeat gossip?

Isn't it strange how we believe what magazines and newspapers say, but we question the words in the Bible?

Isn't it strange how everyone wants a place in Heaven, but they don't want to believe, do, or say anything to get there?

*It's strange isn't it?*

*submitted by Simon Yap*

\*\*\*\*\*



## **THEATRE VISITS 2017**

Wednesday 16 August

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\* \* \* \* \*

Wednesday 20th September

### **HAIRSPRAY**

The Winter Gardens, Blackpool

Price - TBC

Expressions of interest being taken for this trip – prices to be confirmed.

\* \* \* \* \*

Monday 2nd October 2017

Full Day Visit to **CHATSWORTH HOUSE**

Details and Prices TBC

Expressions of interest being taken for this trip

\* \* \* \* \*

Friday 20 October

### **AS YOU LIKE IT**

Theatre by the Lake Keswick.

Full day visit and matinee performance.

£50 plus £5 insurance (optional)

\* \* \* \* \*

Saturday 28th October 2017

### **THE THREEPENNY OPERA**

The Octagon Theatre, Bolton

Details and Prices TBC

Expressions of interest being taken for this trip.

\* \* \* \* \*

Wednesday 1 November

### **HEDDA GABLER**

Lowry Theatre, Salford

£53 plus additional £5 insurance (optional)

\* \* \* \* \*

Saturday 13th January 2018

### **A CHRISTMAS CAROL**

The Octagon, Bolton

Details and Prices TBC

**For further information please contact Sharon Beck (Administrator) at Fulwood Methodist Church Tel No: 01772 718741. Mobile: 07592 167700. Office hours:- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10am to 1.00pm.**

**Email :- *theatrevisits@fulwoodmethodist.org.uk***

**Web :- *www.fulwoodmethodist.org.uk/events/theatrevisits.htm***

## DIARY DATES

### July

Friday 7th	5.30/6.00 - 9.00 pm	Farewell Social for Malcolm & Christine
Sunday 16th	10.30 am & 5.00 pm	Farewell Services for Malcolm & Christine
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30 - 1 pm	Farmers Market

### August

Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 - 12.30 pm	Table Top Sale
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### September

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	7.30 pm	Circuit Welcome Service
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Circuit Meeting
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30 - 1 pm	Farmers Market
	7.30 pm	Harvest Concert - Preston Concert Band
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Harvest Festival & Parade Service
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	5 - 7.00 pm	Messy Church

### October

Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	6.30 pm	Black History Group Celebration
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Church Outreach Group
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Church Life Group
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 - 3 pm	Craft Fair

### November

Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 - 1 pm	Farmers Market
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	Circuit Meeting

### December

Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10 - 2.00 pm	Christmas Fair
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## CHURCH ACTIVITIES

### Sunday

9.45 am Singing Practice (Cedar Room)

### Tuesday

10.00 am	Men's AM Club (fortnightly)	Allan Clarke (718547)
2.15 pm	Women's Fellowship (weekly)	Muriel Crossley (716973)
5-7.00 pm	Messy Church (half-termly) for families	Delma Whitman (709181)
7.00 pm	Alphabites (monthly fellowship)	Margaret Holmes (726964)
7.00 pm	Book Club (monthly)	Ken Wales (863791)

### Wednesday

10 till 1.30	Welcome Wednesday - food, activities, games and New2U stall	
10.30 am	Midweek Communion with prayers	
7.30/8.00	WoW (monthly Women's Group)	Wendy Gaskell (07719843543)

### Thursday

7.00 pm	Knitting Group (Copper/Beech Room)	Veronica Frost (717415)
7.15 pm	Table Tennis matches	Alan Smith (07943406021)
8.01 pm	Ladies After 8 group (fortnightly)	Sue Whiteford (864478)

### Friday

9.30 am Toddlers' Club (under 5s & parents/carers) Janet Porter (462808)

## FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

### Monday

6.00 pm	Beavers (6 - 8 yr)	Fiona Jackson (700487)
7.00 pm	Cubs (8 - 10½ yr)	Karen Smalley (735087)

### Tuesday

7.00 pm	Scouts (10½ - 14 yr)	Chris Thomas (07545869326)
7.00 pm	Explorer Scouts (14 - 18 yr)	Operated by Scout District (#)
7.00 pm	Scout Network (18 - 25 yr)	Operated by Scout County (#)
	(#) Contact Nick Penrith - Group Scout Leader (07826442936)	

### Thursday

5.45 pm	Rainbows (5 - 7 yr)	Jayne Myatt (718217)
6.15 pm	Brownies (7 - 10 yr)	Claire Richardson (728853)
7.30 pm	Guides (10 - 14 yr)	Contact Nick Penrith (07826442936)

### Friday

6.30 pm	Escape (7- 11 yr)	c/o Church Administrator (718741)
8.00 pm	Youth Club (Secondary School age)	“ “ “

### Sunday

10.30 am	Sunday Club	Janet Wales (863791)
4.00 pm	OMG (monthly for years 5 to 8/9)	Wendy Bennett (860965)

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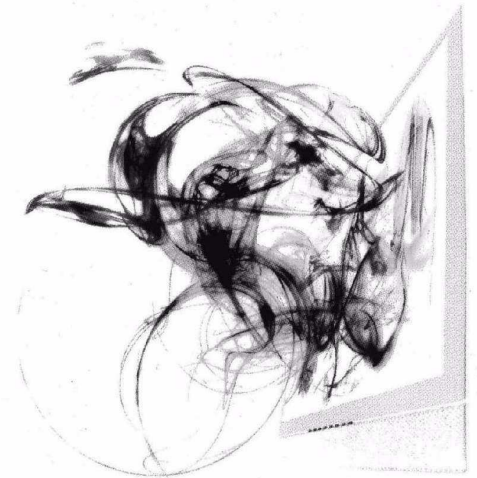
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