



Bamford Chapel & Norden URC



May 2017

BAMFORD CHAPEL & NORDEN URC

MISSION/VISION STATEMENT



Worship

In our devotion we will come together to express our joy, love and thanks through worship.

We shall share our praise and dedicate it to God.

Ministry

Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit we will show compassion and love by understanding, supporting and meeting the spiritual, the physical and the emotional needs of others.

Evangelism

We are called as Christians to share the good news; living as examples of Christ in our everyday lives we can spread the word and love of Jesus.

Discipleship

We as a church have a responsibility as Christians to encourage people to know God and to enable them to develop their relationship with Him through prayer, discussion, study and learning.

Fellowship

We welcome to our church family those who want to belong. We show our love for others by sharing acts of fellowship in God's name.



May 2017

Tuesday 2 nd May	7.30 pm	Churches Together Meeting at St James' Ashworth
Thursday 4 th May	7.30 pm	Elders' Meeting
Sunday 7th May Gift Day	10.30 am	Family Worship with Communion Led by Revd Richard Bradley
	6.00 pm	Evening Worship Led by Dot Craig
Tuesday 9 th May	8.00 pm	Home Group at the Manse
Sunday 14th May Morning - Christian Aid Speaker	10.30 am	Family Worship & Christian Aid Co-ordinated by Margaret Ogden
	12 noon	Church Meeting
	6.00 pm	Evening Worship Led by Revd Richard Bradley
Sunday 21st May Morning - Mayoral Service	10.30 am	Family Worship & Mayoral Service Led by Revd Richard Bradley
	6.00 pm	Healing Service with Communion Led by Revd Richard Bradley
Tuesday 23 rd May	8.00 pm	Home Group at the Manse
Sunday 28th May	10.30 am	Family Worship & Baptism Led by Revd Richard Bradley
	Bank Holiday	No Evening Service

Message from the Manse

At the Tuesday night homegroup recently we have been working through some material written by the American Pastor Rick Warren. His name is no doubt familiar to us as he is the man that wrote both the "Purpose Driven Life" and "The Purpose Driven Church". The latter was used by the Elders recently to begin exploring the church's priorities as we move forward.

Part of his 6 week course is listening to Rick Warren speaking on a DVD. I am unashamedly a fan of Rick Warren. I, personally, think he speaks a lot of sense and in a way that enthuses and encourages us on our faith journeys. This week we were thinking about "Ministry" and how each Christian believer is "Shaped to Serve God". We are all created to serve God. He talks about there being no "non-serving Christians" only "serving Christians". Serving is so important. Rick challenged us, as listeners, when he said that we serve God by serving others. Which got me thinking about all that we do as a Church; do we see what we do as serving God when we are serving others?

I recall a conversation at an Elders' Meeting at one of my previous churches. *We had just moved into a new building and we were having*

a conversation about whether to employ cleaners or to ask for volunteers from Church to clean (does that sound familiar?)

One of the Elders, a busy Mum of young children at the time, told how she had been cleaning the sanctuary and after coming from a long day at work, home to make the children's tea and then coming out to clean the church before going home to have her own tea.... sat in a chair in the



Church and prayed. She was frustrated at the busyness of the day and how she then had to come and clean the church. Suddenly an overwhelming sense of what a special role she had come over her. As if God had said to her, "what greater privilege or responsibility" than cleaning the house of God! It may sound a little trivial but the way she retold that story in the meeting with tears in her eyes was moving. She

had a moment when she realised that what she was doing was indeed serving God and what greater privilege is there?

I feel a bit the same when I am moving chairs in Chapel! It is almost an opportunity of saying to God, “may the people who sit in these chairs on Sunday be touched by the gospel and may they know your presence with them.”

There is no greater privilege than serving God whatever capacity that is. If you are a door steward or welcoming at the door.... you can be serving God. If you are a flower arranger.... you can be serving God. If you are sweeping leaves in the grounds of Chapel.... you can be serving God! And that list is endless.



Let us continue to seek ways that we can serve God and glorify God by serving others in whatever way we see fit. Using the God-given talents and gifts we have been blessed with.

And when frailty means you can no longer serve as you did.... please don't think that you cannot serve anymore. There is always something you can do however young or however old we are; however able or frail. We can do all we do to the glory of God!

God Bless us all as we serve Christ by serving others.

Richard

*Seize the day
Today is the oldest you've ever
been, yet the youngest you'll ever
be, so enjoy this day while it lasts.*

The Mayoral Service

Sunday 21st May 10.30am in Chapel

As part of my role as the Mayor's Chaplain, Ian Duckworth has asked if his Mayoral Service can be held at Bamford Chapel and Norden URC. At Ian's request the Mayoral Service will take place on Sunday 21st May



at 10.30am. There will be more people attending that day and I ask that we utilise as much space in Chapel as possible. This will mean we need to use the balcony for more people. We will need some extra door stewards to help that day to direct people to seats, as we will be asked to reserve some seats downstairs for some of the invited guests.

This is a great opportunity to welcome people into the church and share with them the love and warmth of this Church and more importantly to share the love of God with them.

Please pray for this service as it is prepared – that God's love will touch those who come in to the Church that day.

God Bless, Richard.

All in the Month of May

90 years ago: on 20th-21st May the American aviator Charles Lindbergh made his historic first non-stop solo transatlantic flight from New York to Paris, aboard the Spirit of St Louis.



80 years ago: on 12th May 1937 the coronation of King George VI took place. This was also the BBC's first official outdoor television broadcast.

15 years ago: on 30th May 2002 a solemn ceremony was held to mark the end of the clean-up operation at Ground Zero in New York City, after the 9/11 attacks.

Weekday Opportunities for Learning & Sharing Fellowship

- Monday:** 9.00 am 'Monday Gang'
(do work on or around the building)
10.00 am Pastoral Meeting
1.30 pm Bridge Club
8.00 pm Focus on Prayer (in the Crèche)
8.00 pm Monday Night Home Group
- Tuesday:** 9.15 am Toddlers' Group
From 6.00 pm Rainbows, Brownies, Guides
7.00 pm Choir Practice
- Wednesday:** 6.45 pm Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association
7.30 pm Home Group 'Exploring the Bible'
- Thursday:** 10.00 am Community Coffee Morning
- Friday:** Scouts
- Sunday:** 7.30 pm God Squad (for Teenagers)

Fortnightly & Monthly Opportunities

- Monday: Joy Group 1st May**
6.30 pm at Dolce Vita (optional) then
7.30 pm 17 Bamford Mews
- Tuesday: Stillness & Sharing 2nd & 16th May**
2.30 pm in the Lounge
Home Group 9th & 23rd May
8.00 pm in the Manse
- Thursday: Ladies' Fellowship 11th May (see p. 23-24)**
7.45 pm at Chapel Entry £3

If you would like further information about any of the groups and where they meet, please check the **weekly notice sheet** or visit the website at www.bcnchurch.org.uk or speak to an Elder.



I ♥
GOD

GODSQUAD

I'm sure many of you know the group of teenagers named GodSquad [formerly Hay Hodos] who meet on a Sunday night. However, I'm aware that many of the church congregation do not know exactly what this group entails.

During the hour that we spend together, we start with sharing any news we have followed by a prayer [this sometimes last half an hour!]. Despite the exciting games and madness planned by our fantastic leaders, Julie and Andy, where I get a chance to relieve the stress of college, news time is one of the best parts of the night, as I get a chance to reflect on my week and also celebrate in my friends' successes, share their excitement or comfort their sadness.



We've had many trips out including our annual Blackpool trip and Christmas party as well as sleepovers, Roller City and many more.

The friends I have made through GodSquad are friends for life and I love every one of them in their own special way. I know that my Sunday evenings whilst at Uni will never be as good and I will be very tempted to Skype them all during a Sunday evening.

Due to "Footloose" we have welcomed many new friends to God Squad who have added to the mix of ages, personalities and opinions which create such a loving environment. So if you are considering coming to GodSquad or know somebody who is wanting to, please don't hesitate to join this amazing group as you will be welcomed with open arms and lots of laughter.

Rebecca Gooding

Flowers in Church



I have recently taken over the responsibility for organising the Church flower rota each Sunday. Firstly I would like to thank Pamela Harrington for all her work co-ordinating the Chapel flowers over the last few years. Secondly I would like to thank the volunteers who are on the flower rota and ensure that flowers are purchased and placed in church each Sunday. In particular I

would like to thank Norma Milnes who has decided to retire and be relieved of her duties after many years of providing beautiful arrangements.

If you feel you would like to help on the Church flower rota it would only involve buying flowers and placing them in church approximately once every 8 weeks using money which is donated to the flower fund. It is always lovely to see the beautiful flower arrangements in Chapel every Sunday. They are often donated by Church Members in memory of a loved one or to celebrate birthdays or anniversaries. If you would like to choose a special or significant Sunday during the year the available dates are shown on a calendar on the Church notice board in the coffee area. Please sign your name on a chosen date and make a donation to myself Elizabeth Hazlehurst or Gillian James and we will ensure that your date is remembered.

Each Monday the flowers are distributed and sent with our love, thoughts and prayers to people who the Pastoral Committee feel would appreciate a visit.

If you feel you could help in any way with this important part of our Church Ministry we would be very grateful.

Elizabeth Hazlehurst

April Church Flowers

Donations for flowers in April were received from:



Sid Hazlehurst In memory of Dorothy
Morag Travis to celebrate her Mother's 94th birthday
Elizabeth Hazlehurst in memory of Olive
Gillian and Martyn James - Wedding Anniversary
Ronnie Ford in memory of Dorothy
Anne Fitton in memory of Harry and Dorothy Wilson

Deadline for Cashing in your Old £1 Coins



Dig into the pockets of your coats, rummage down the backs of your chairs and couch, empty your piggy bank, look in your car – do whatever it takes, but FIND all those old £1 coins that may lurk around your house – before it is too late.

For this autumn, the little round £1 we have known since 1983 will become worthless. The Treasury has just brought out a new 12-sided £1 coin. The change to the new silver and gold dodecagon is the largest to affect the UK's currency since 1998, when the old 50p coin was abandoned for a smaller, shiner version.

The face side of the new £1 coin features the Queen, while the tail side features four emblems: the English rose, the leek for Wales, the Scottish thistle and the shamrock for Northern Ireland – all emerging from a single stem within a crown.

Save a life with a bacon buttie!

Come along to the Christian Aid Big Brekkie on

Sunday 14th May at 9am

The event is raising money to help refugees.

£5 per adult and £3 per child

Sign up under the clock!

Tuck in to change lives

Want to change the world over breakfast? Then come and fill up at our Big Brekkie! We'll be serving up a delicious morning meal, and raising money to help refugees.

Where Bamford Chapel and Norden URC

£5 per adult

£3 per child

Date Sunday 14th May 2017

Time 9.00 am

Talk to Margaret Ogden

christian aid week 14-20 MAY

Eng and Wales charity no. 1105851 Scot charity no. SC029150 CRO company no. 5171125
Christian Aid Ireland: NI charity no. NIC101631 Company no. NI059154 and BCI
charity no. 20014162 Company no. 426928. The Christian Aid name and logo are
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Christian Aid January 2017. 4705



Let's see what Charles Dickens had to say to his Children about Palm Sunday

The Feast of the Passover now drawing very near, Jesus Christ, with his disciples, moved forward towards Jerusalem. When they were come near to the city, He pointed to a village and told two of his disciples to go there and they would find an ass, with a colt, tied to a tree which they were to bring to Him. Finding these animals exactly as Jesus had described, they brought them away and

Jesus, riding on the ass, entered Jerusalem. An immense crowd of people collected round him as He went along and throwing their robes on the ground and cutting down green branches from the trees and spreading them in His path, they shouted and cried "Hosanna to the Son of David!" {David had been a great King there}. "He comes in the name of the Lord! This is Jesus, the Prophet of Nazareth!" And when Jesus went into the Temple and cast out the tables of the money-changers who wrongfully sat there, together with people who sold doves, saying "My Father's house is a house of prayer but ye have made it a den of thieves!" and when the people and children cried in the Temple "This is Jesus the Prophet of Nazareth" and would not be silenced and when the blind and lame came flocking there in crowds and were healed by his hand – the chief priests and scribes and Pharisees were filled with fear and hatred of Him. But Jesus continued to heal the sick and to do good and went and lodged at Bethany, a place that was very near the City of Jerusalem but not within the walls."

LESLEY SUTTON [extract from "The Life of Our Lord" by Charles Dickens written expressly for his children]

Life is a journey that no one makes alone. The more people you touch along the way, the more meaningful and rewarding your time.



**HEYWOOD AND
ROCHDALE LOCAL
COMMITTEE**



ROCHDALE YOUTH BRASS BAND

Conductor: Ben Dixon

**DIXIE BAND
FANFARE TEAM**

Conducted by Cathie Brooks

on

Saturday 20th May 2017

7.30pm

at

*Bamford Chapel and Norden United Reformed
Church, Norden Road, ROCHDALE OL11 5PQ*

Raffle [in aid of Cancer Research]

Ticket Price: £7.00 [adult]

£4.00 [children under 12]

Family Ticket: £18.00 [2 adults, 2 children]

Tickets available from: Lesley Sutton [01706 638005]

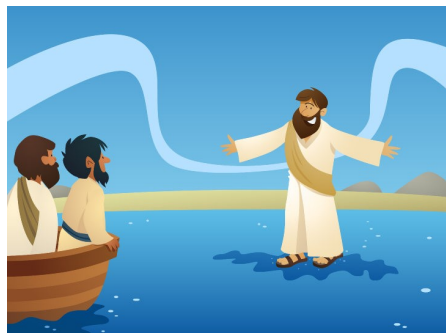
Margaret Ogden [01706 642343]

Rochdale Music Service : 01706 926750

Admission by ticket only

*Proceeds to be split between Cancer Research and
Bamford Chapel and Norden URC*

The I AM

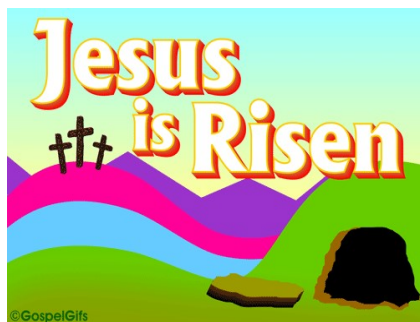


He walked on water,
stilled the storm,
Wherever He went
the blessings came
He touched the leper,
brought sight to the blind,
Whoever He met was
never the same.

His teaching had never been heard before,
He spoke as one with authority,
They listened enrapt to His every word,
He was not like the scribes or the Pharisees.

He healed on the Sabbath; it upset them all
And then He said the unthinkable thing,
They could hardly believe their ears when He said
'I am the I Am and can forgive man's sin'.

Enough was enough,
they plotted His death,
'This blasphemous talk
must end' they said,
'Crucify Him
and that is the end',
But He proved them all
wrong – and
He rose from the dead.



By Megan Carter

Lunchtime Concerts 2016 – 2017



Although we were unable to run a series of concerts while the sanctuary was undergoing its beautiful transformation in 2015-16, our audience returned with enthusiasm to the first concert of our 33rd season last October. The ever popular Mike Manship Jazz Trio set the tempo rising and the feet tapping with a wide range of traditional music, from Take 5 to Tico Tico, playing with their usual verve and virtuosity.



© Can Stock Photo

We wondered how a solo double bass recital in November would be received but we were delighted with the programme Toby Hughes, with his pianist Benjamin Powell, gave us. We were amazed at the lyrical quality of the music Toby provided from the 'grandfather' of the strings and the audience responded enthusiastically.

Claire Lees, a Rochdale soprano, encouraged by the Rochdale Music Service as her musicianship was developing and now a student on the Opera course at the Guildhall School of Music, performed an attractive programme of folk songs and songs from the shows, sympathetically accompanied by Elizabeth Legroux. Unfortunately we only had a small audience for a lovely experience.

In the New Year our concert was provided by a fascinating duo of instrumentalists – Anna Mari on flute and Elinor Nicholson with her harps – both 'distinction' students of the RNCM and both at the start of exciting musical careers. Their programme of mainly French and

Spanish items demonstrated the wide range of sounds their instruments were capable of.

Another unusual combination came in February – the Melia Duo with Hannah Fry (saxophone) and Alex Smith (percussion). Such was the range of percussion instruments that it took Alex an hour to unload them from the van and set them up in church! But the resulting music, individual and combined, was innovative and rewarding to listen to.

Our final concert came from 13 talented brass players from Chetham's, who enthralled our largest audience of 75 music lovers. It was thrilling to see and hear an arc of 9 trombones lifting the roof with an opening fanfare and a concluding American Trad number. How lucky we are to have Chets and the RNCM to send their outstanding students to Bamford!



As usual we sincerely thank the teams of ladies, led by Margaret and Pamela, for preparing and serving delicious lunches at such reasonable prices. In fact profit from refreshments enable us to donate £400 to the Chapel on Gift Day. Thanks also to John Lapworth for taking on the role of Treasurer.

Although overall attendance was slightly down this season it was pleasing to welcome an increased number of our own members supporting these talented young people. Our concerts are great opportunities for them to perform and for our audiences to be delighted and uplifted. We already have three outstanding ensembles booked for next season, which begins on Tuesday 10th October.

Many thanks for your support and please keep coming!

Mike Lucas



During Fairtrade Fortnight we at Bamford Chapel and Norden URC raised £220 which was donated to Traidcraft Exchange. This is the letter we received in response.

Dear Friends

We can't thank you enough for holding a Traidcraft Big Brew [Community Coffee Morning 9th March and Fundraising after Morning Worship 12th March] this year at Bamford Chapel and Norden URC and for your amazing gift of £220. You are part of a community dedicated to making the world a fairer and more just place. Your generosity will help change the future for families like Patrick's in some of the world's poorest communities. He told Traidcraft "Before, life was tough, straining. Four of my children had to drop out of secondary education. The time was dark back then."

Since receiving training on soil conservation from Traidcraft's **FIVE project Patrick has been able to increase his crop yields significantly enabling him to feed his family every day, pay his children's school fees and access healthcare. After participating in the **FIVE project, Patrick said, "Now our days are bright. The kids have a much more balanced diet. I'm so happy now they are in school. We'll never go back to what it was like before."

On behalf of everyone at Traidcraft and those with whom we work, please extend our thanks to everyone involved in your Big Brew. We hope you all had a fantastic time! The money you raised means together we can help more families like Patrick to break the cycle of poverty for good. Thank you again.

Yours sincerely

Kate Dixon, Fundraising Co-ordinator.

****FLOURISHING IN VULNERABLE ENVIRONMENTS [FIVE]**

Back in 2012, Traidcraft used funds from the [Catalyst Programme](#)* to research drought-prone areas of Kenya and see how they could help smallholder farmers there. They saw there was a great need and used research to win significant Big Lottery funding to carry out the proposed work.

Now almost 30,000 people are benefiting from the Flourishing in Vulnerable Environments (FIVE) project!

Traidcraft is helping smallholder farmers learn new farming techniques, get organised and work together to counter the effects of climate change on their farming. In doing this they are increasing incomes, building skills and improving quality of life for all involved.

*Before Traidcraft can launch large-scale projects it's important that they research thoroughly and focus on the detail. That's what Catalyst is all about.



*Mike and I would like to say a big
Thank You for all the cards, flowers
and good wishes from all family
and friends at Bamford Chapel and*

Thank You! *Norden URC on the occasion of our
Golden Wedding Anniversary.*

*We really enjoyed the celebrations with family and
friends. It is hard to believe that the 50 years have
gone by so quickly and we thank God for all the
Blessings that we have shared in those 50 years.*

With love Diane Davies

Bernard and Pauline Thompson have supported Bamford Chapel and Norden URC for some time.

Some of you may be familiar with their work as Pauline spoke at Ladies Fellowship recently.

They are raising money to help children in Swaziland and we would like to help.

It has been agreed to hold a Fundraising Dinner at

Bury College Three Seasons Restaurant

on Monday 5th June

at 6.45pm for a 7.00pm start

We are limited to around 60 diners, so first come, first served.

The meal will cost £20 per head and includes a glass of wine or orange juice on arrival.

Details of menu to be confirmed.

Reserve your place in the usual way by putting your name on the list under the clock.



Further details of Bernard and Pauline's work will be published in next month's edition of the magazine.

Editor: Canon David Winter considers the appeal of this unlikely drama series...

THE WAY I SEE IT: Why 'Call the Midwife'?



For months – indeed for years, apart from the 'Bake off' phenomenon - Britain's most popular television programme by some distance has been the Sunday night 'Call the Midwife'. The competition for top spot encompasses the whole range of human

obsessions: comedy, drama, murder, rape, quizzes, food, fashion and sport – something for every taste. Yet a homely drama about some midwives working with an Anglican order of nuns in London's East End 60 years ago beats them all. The BBC clearly recognises its value – several more series have been commissioned. I think it's worth wondering why.

The first two series of 'Call the Midwife' closely followed the best-selling books by Jennifer Worth about her experiences as a young midwife in precisely those circumstances. Someone recommended the first book to me and I found it compelling reading, and said so in print. To my surprise, I got a letter from the author, answering a question I had posed. She told me that the example of the sisters in the Order and their unquenchable faith amidst the squalor and poverty of the area in those post-War years eventually led to her embracing the Christian faith herself.

Sadly, Jennifer Worth died just as the first series was being aired, and I feared the story line might lose its authenticity. But it hasn't. These are stories of some nuns and midwives struggling to help people in need. Without ever being preachy, it faithfully depicts a very mixed group of people putting faith into practice. I think the nine million viewers, most of whom are probably not regular church-goers, appreciate seeing prayer, faith, hope and love at work, even if not every practitioner is saintly, not every sick baby saved, nor every human problem solved.

**Bamford Chapel
and Norden United Reformed Church**

Walks around Rochdale Valley 1889

(A few of the walks—Transposed by Gillian Galloway from a Photocopy of an original document handed in on Heritage Weekend 2016 by an unidentified visitor.)

1. Roch Mill - Half Acre – Hill house – by the Riverside to Porritt’s Mill – Crimble Mill - Crimble Hall and the Bamford Road to the town. **6 miles**
2. Tram or rail to Heywood – walk through the park - Hooley Clough - Simpsons Clough – Ashworth valley – Ashworth Hall and Ashworth Chapel – see the view from Ashworth Chapel – along the far side of the Clay Lane reservoir by Bagslate and Spotland Bridge to Rochdale. **6 miles**
3. Omnibus to Norden – walk along the Edenfield Road to Ashworth Moor – turn to the right by a wallside to Knowl Hill – return by a footpath on the western side of Heywood Waterworks and Green Booth to Norden. **5 miles**
4. Rail to Broadley – Prickshaw – western side of Springhill Waterworks – cross a trolley tramway on Rooley Moor – alongside a wall and stream – across the moor in a slanting direction to the left until the Turnpike is reached – then onto the Moorcock – after a rest, a walk to the Ding and up to the ridge until Waterfoot and a large portion of Rossendale is seen – return by the same route to a footpath commencing a little way on the Rochdale side of the Moorcock (right hand) and down the Moor with the Waterworks (Heywood) on the right to Smallshore – then by Shawclough to Rochdale. **7 miles**



5. Cronkeyshore – along the waterworks drain to Bro..... – Wardle Hill over the eastern shoulder to Shawforth Moor, to see the new Golf ground and the Cown **6 miles**
6. Rail to Littleboro' and back – Gale – Handle Hall – Dearden's Pasture – across Shore Moor – and down past Clegg's Mill and Caldermoor to the station. **5 miles**
7. Rail to Littleboro' – by turnpike to White House on Blackstone Edge – along the canal companies drain to Warland Reservoirs – down a path which leaves the embankment and goes down to the left to Calf Lee Farm and Warland Wood – then walk by the towing path to the Summit Inn **8 miles**
8. Rail to Littleboro' - up the Turnpike past Pike House and the Roman Road to the Robin Hoods Bed – alongside the drain to the Cupstone – across the Moor leaving Whittaker on the left to Lydgate and down the old Turnpike past *Hindy?* Back to the station. **6 miles**
9. To Hollingworth Lake – Littleboro' by rail – Lydgate and Hollingworth Village – Littleboro' past Whittaker – Littleboro' by road from Station – Kings Road, Moss Lane, Canal side over the Turn Bridge a little way on the further side of the canal, by a footpath past Herring Knowe Farm , cross the Milnrow Road to Uncatch Bridge by Birchingly Farm and Bib Knowl to the Boat House – by Clegg Hall and Branch Road – Milnrow and Far Bib Knowl – by rail to Newhey – Bradley Carr's Lane over Dick Hill down to Dickey Steps and on to the Pavillion. There are many ways of returning with a great variety of scenery. **3 – 7 miles**





Community Cinema At Bamford Chapel & Norden URC

On Friday, 31st March five of us attended a screening of "Amelie" at Monton Unitarian Church in Eccles.

Members of the church started a film club last Christmas and this was their first screening of 2017. My daughter, Kate [who lives in Eccles] had heard of this film club so it was decided a few of us ought to visit to find out how they set up this club. Kate joined us too.

First of all I must tell you about Rev Anna Jarvis who welcomed us on arrival as she cleared twigs from the front step of the church. When I told her we were from Bamford Chapel and Norden URC she asked me if I knew the late Nan and Wilfred Dutson? Of course I did. She was their granddaughter!!!! I felt this film club of BC&N really had to happen after such a God-incidence!! We were made so welcome by members of a small gathering of film enthusiasts. Admission was by donation and free refreshments, including delicious cake, were available before, during and after the film.

We gained much useful information from those running the film club and were able to progress even further with the plans for Bamford Chapel and Norden URC's club at the next meeting of "the team."

Lesley Sutton



What the Bible really means....

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, 'I finally figured out what the Bible means!' His father smiled and replied, 'What, then?' The son replied, 'It stands for "Basic Information Before Leaving Earth".'



Poetry Evening Thursday 20th April



Poor Addie. I had invited him to our meeting on 20th April to read chosen poems as I knew he would entertain us with monologues, silly verses, fun rhymes and even a poem written by one of our members. During the Easter Weekend he practised only to develop a cough and a croak the day before the readings were due!

After a few telephone calls and personal approaches volunteers were on hand to read to us. Poems written by Philip Larkin, Thomas Hardy, W.B. Yeats, Ogden Nash, Ted Hughes, Mary Wilson [wife of labour prime minister Harold], Charles Causley and a few lesser known poets were recited during the course of the evening.



Linda Kerford read all seventeen verses of "The Highwayman" by Alfred Noyes as well as "In Defence of Hedgehogs" and "Oh, I wish I'd Looked After Me Teeth" both by Pam Ayres. Angela Smith read "Roundabouts and Swings" by Patrick Chalmers and "A Subaltern's Love Song" by John Betjeman. Angela made a very poignant comment at this stage saying how much Patricia Lapworth would have enjoyed the evening and would have read

to us in her wonderful mellifluous style. I read a few silly verses from The Puffin Book of Funny Verse as well as one by John Snow ["From a Window"], one of England's greatest and most ruthless and formidable fast bowlers who produced two books of poems, "Contrasts" and "Moments and Thought" in the 1970s. Margaret Frain read a couple of amusing rhymes from her "folder," Margaret Ogden also brought two poems along as did Pat Anderson, Margaret Riley and Roz Butner who ended the evening with "Warning" by Jenny Joseph ["When I am an old woman I shall wear purple ..."]

Everyone said how much they had really enjoyed the evening with a difference. There was lots of laughter and interaction between members. A successful occasion. Well done and thank you to all who performed and to those who listened intently.

Linda announced the arrangements for the evening meal on June 8th at Madisons Restaurant, Rochdale and handed out menus, to be returned at the AGM. Angela outlined the 17th August outing arrangements – first stop at

York Designer Outlet, then on to York ending the day at Millstones Restaurant, Skipton Road, Harrogate. At this stage the cost would probably be £35 for coach and evening meal. More information will be given at the AGM.

The next meeting is the Annual General Meeting on Thursday 11th May which will be a Pot Luck Supper with entertainment from More than Melody. I will warn you in advance that I am resigning from the committee this year both as Co-ordinator and member. If you feel you could be the Co-ordinator, working alongside an enthusiastic group, please have a word with myself or Linda Kerford.

LESLEY SUTTON

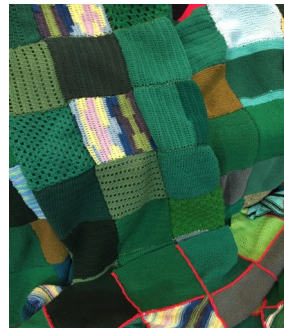
Do You Remember the Knitted Christmas Tree?



A few weeks ago Gillian and I, along with some helpers, spent an afternoon sorting out all the knitted and crocheted squares. We bagged them up then gave them to other willing volunteers to make them into blankets.

On March 26th they were displayed in

chapel and they are now on their way to the homeless of Manchester.



Rebecca Baines works with a charity who help the homeless and these blankets will be used in the hostel.

A big thank you to all knitters and crocheters !!

Pamela and Gillian

QUIZ : PEOPLE AND THE BIBLE

There is a theme running through the quiz, with cryptic or general knowledge clues leading you directly or indirectly to the answers. All of them are either a book or a character in The Bible. *Answers next month*

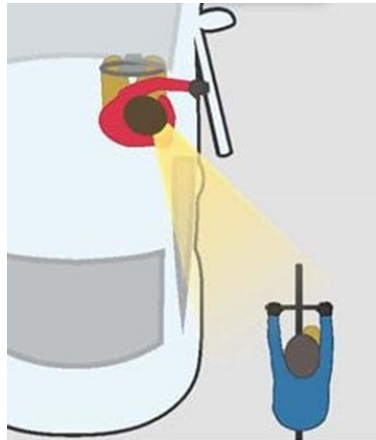


QUESTION	ANSWER
Item for Auction	
Scouts charged one shilling for this	
There's confusion	
Jeans	
Meaty, bad actor	
French tennis player	
Private Goldie	
Change a shoe	
Not far off the truth	
Hey! He was an obscure fictional character	
Old musical cat	
Sleepy snake	
Did you see him sitting on the seesaw	
Miss Everdene	
They preside in court	
Canute, Harold, John etc.	
Jumble sails	
My, my, my	
Double magnum	
"Sorry" character on TV	

The Dutch Reach

Oliver's father-in law wrote this after his daughter, Helen, was knocked off her bike in London by someone opening their off-side door without looking properly. Fortunately she is only severely bruised but it is taking a long time to get better.

Following this, I have been drawn to information about the Dutch Reach. Originating some 50 years ago in the Netherlands, the Dutch Reach is a method of opening a car door with the hand furthest from the handle, so in the UK, the left hand of the driver, or right hand of the passenger. This means motorists are forced to turn their body towards the door, allowing them the opportunity to look over their shoulder to see whether a cyclist - or motorcyclist - is coming.



The Dutch Reach ensures drivers can check for oncoming traffic

In the Netherlands it is taught to children both in school and from their parents, as well as being a required section of the driving test.

The method has become a central pillar to groups campaigning to put an end to "dooring", the rather literal name that describes when a cyclist is knocked off their bike by an opening car door.

How to do the Dutch Reach

An instructional video by [Outside magazine](#) has become one of the most popular blueprints for how to learn the method, with [a YouTube video](#) watched more than one million times.

- ◆ In the simplest terms, the Dutch Reach is opening the car door using your 'far hand', allowing your body to pivot to look behind.
- ◆ [The Dutch Reach Project](#) says: "Look out, at mirror and easily back for bikes and traffic. All clear? Then open slowly, remaining vigilant."

"Rule 239 of the Highway Code states that motorists:
'must ensure you do not hit anyone when you open your door. Check

for cyclists or other traffic'," writes Yolanda Law, from solicitors Bolt Burdon Kemp, for the [Cyclists Defence Fund](#).

"The Highway Code serves as guidance only, and non compliance with a rule of the Highway Code is not an offence. However, s.42 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 makes it an offence to open "any door of a vehicle on a road so as to injure or endanger any person." "It is worth noting that it is an offence to simply endanger a person (for example if they have to swerve to avoid a crash). There does not have to be a collision. The offence is not limited to drivers, so a passenger who injures or endangers a cyclist by opening a car door also commits the offence.

"This offence is only punishable by a fine of up to £1,000 and no penalty points can be imposed on the offender's license."

Whilst I know we should always observe before making any move in a car I think this is a very useful additional tool for everyone's safety.

Addie & Barbara

Christian Aid Lent Collection

Thank you to all those who collected and donated 20p coins (and others) during Lent. We are delighted to announce that our collection raised an amazing **£367.75**. The challenge was to make a line which would stretch right round the inside of the church and we almost made it! Fantastic.

Christian Aid Week 14-20 May 2017



We now look forward to Christian Aid Week which we will launch on 14th May with a Big Brekkie (see page 10) followed by a special service with a representative from CA, Laura Jones, coming to speak to us. I still need volunteers to help with the House

to House collection and hope that someone will respond to this appeal. This is a great witness to our neighbours that we care for others less fortunate than ourselves because that is what Jesus did.

Margaret Ogden

Children's Page

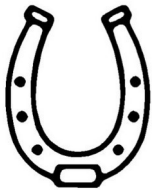


St DUNSTAN

Dunstan (909 - 988) was the most popular saint in England for nearly two centuries, being famous for many stories about defeating the devil.

A story tells how as a monk Dunstan nailed a horseshoe to the Devil's hoof when he was asked to re-shoe the Devil's horse. This caused such pain, and Dunstan only agreed to remove the shoe and release the Devil after he promised never to enter a place where a horseshoe is over the door.

They say that is why people still hang horse shoes over doorways.



St Dunstan is the patron saint of blacksmiths and bell ringers as well as goldsmiths and silversmiths. His Feast Day is 19 May, which is why the date year on the hallmarks on gold and silver runs from 19 to 18 May, not the calendar year.

NOT JUST ON YOUR FEET....

The answers to these are all something you could wear on your feet, but the word also means...

1. A sure-footed pack animal
2. A thin sharp knife
3. A wobbly dessert
4. A poisonous snake
5. Isn't safe on ice
6. A gymnastic move
7. Equipment used to move water
8. An Irish accent
9. Part of a car used for storage
10. A sports coach



What do you call a shoe that looks like a banana?

A slipper.

Who always goes to bed with his shoes on?

A horse.



Answers: 1 Mule 2 Stiletto 3 Jelly
4 Moccasin 5 Slipper 6 Flip flop
7 Pump 8 Brogue 9 Boot 10 Trainer

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Times of Services:

Family Worship : 10.30 am : Holy Communion 1st Sunday in month

Evening Worship : 6.00 pm : Holy Communion 3rd Sunday in month