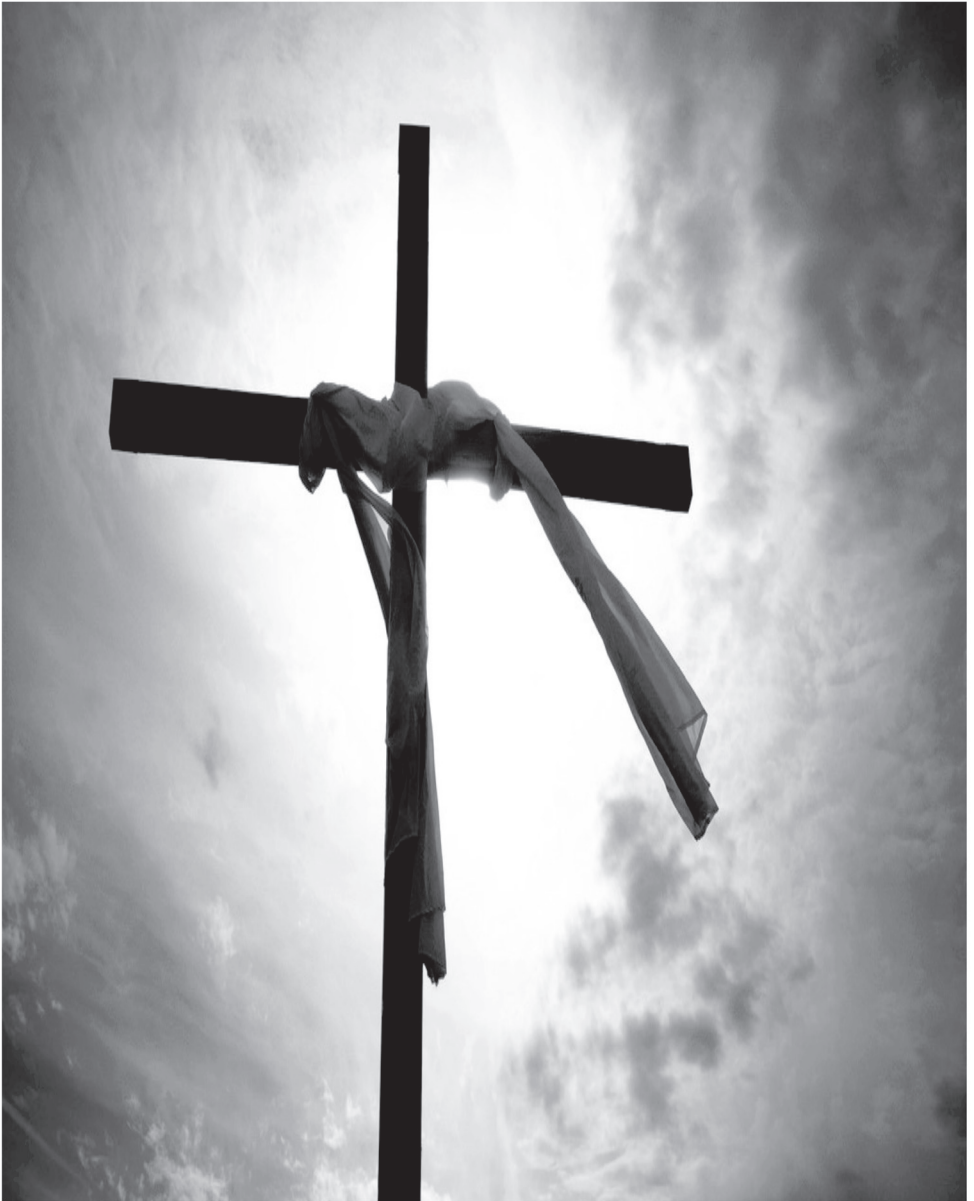


DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH AND CROSS STREET CENTRE ST ALBANS



MAGAZINE

APRIL 2017

Free

Minister: Rev Simon J Carver, MA, BSc, - 01727 854041

Church Secretary: Chris Penn—01727 864116

Finance Deacon: Trevor Oakley—01727 752732

Property: Ray Saunders – 01727 830260

Site Manager and Caretaker: David Hobbs – 01727 760623

Youth and Children's Worker: Tim Napper—07974 149700

Cross Street: 01727 846891

Charity Registration Number: 1127791

APRIL SERVICES

April 2nd	<i>Up from the grave he arose – for now</i> John 11:1-45 Communion	<i>Dem Bones!</i> Ezekiel 37:1-14
April 9th	<i>Pilate's Wife</i> Matthew 27:11-26 Palm Sunday NB 11.00am	<i>The Bad Shepherd</i> Ezekiel 34
April 13th		Maundy Thursday Communion NB 8.00pm
April 14th	Good Friday service NB 10.15am	
April 16th	Easter Sunday Family Service	<i>Three Stories about Resurrection</i> Matthew 27-28 Communion
April 23rd	<i>Thomas:</i> <i>Why always me?</i> John 20:19-31	<i>A Strange Ending</i> Mark 16
April 30th	<i>These are the facts ...</i> Acts 2:14, 22-32	Revd Neil Roberts Chelmsley Wood Marshalswick visit NB 4.00pm

Dear Friends,

It seems that one can't read the news nowadays without there being a story involving Twitter. If it's not Jack Monroe suing Katy Hopkins, it's the latest early morning rant from President Trump. While it is well-known that Margaret Thatcher needed little sleep, it's hard to imagine her sending a tweet at 5.00am saying "Michael Foot: bad (or sick) guy!"



Technology moves quickly and while many people are quick to embrace the next new thing, others are not. Some people have stayed letter writers, others moved on to email, while some will use Facebook to communicate. I can't say that I have fully embraced Twitter or Facebook as ways of communicating. If email was good enough for my father and his father before him, then it's good enough for me!

I do use Twitter, although I tend to be a 'lurker' in that I read tweets but rarely send tweets. Twitter is a good way to follow football when your team is playing away as there are always kind souls who are prepared to report on what is happening. My attempts at sending tweets have been fairly unsuccessful. I have sent tweets to famous people on Twitter, but without exception they have not replied. I was quite put out on one occasion when I tweeted Richard Osman, from the quiz show *Pointless* to ask on an occasion when I had correctly answered all the questions in one round, why he didn't say as he usually does, 'well done if you got all those at home'. I was doubly hurt.

Another chastening Twitter experience was when someone I vaguely knew posted on Easter Sunday a few years ago that the only resurrection he believed in was by *The Stone Roses*, whom I understand are a popular beat combo who released a record called *I am the Resurrection*. Being rather affronted by this I tweeted back

“Well done”. His response was that the burden of proof was on me to prove the resurrection and not him to disprove it. I believe his point was correct and while it was an unnecessarily provocative message to send on Easter Sunday, it was to me a salutary lesson because that seems to be that provocation is what Twitter is all about. While a little embarrassing, this exchange was also helpful in that it was a reminder that Christians do not have the right to expect other people to believe something – the resurrection – just because we say it happened. The first Christians didn’t believe until they saw and until they experienced the risen Jesus Lord. Being told it had happened wasn’t enough.

It is important that Christian people claim the resurrection for themselves, because without it our faith is in vain. However, it is also important that we live as people who have a Saviour who has been raised, so that others may know him too.

Best wishes,

Simon





PROCESSION INFORMATION

This year we are moving away from our recent custom of processing to St Peter's Street or Christopher Place. Instead we have been welcomed to join with the congregation at the Abbey for their procession, which starts from the **Clock Tower** at **9.30am**. Please bring your own branches to wave!

The procession – led by a real donkey! – enters the Abbey via the west doors and continues up the nave. The service, which includes communion, will end at 10.30am. There will be activities for children during the service.

Palm Sunday morning service – NB 11.00am

Our own Palm Sunday service – shorter than usual – will begin later to cater for the procession.

We hope that you will join us for both services and that you will enjoy meeting with other Christians for this special day in the life of the Church.

Easter Service plans

Maundy Thursday
Communion

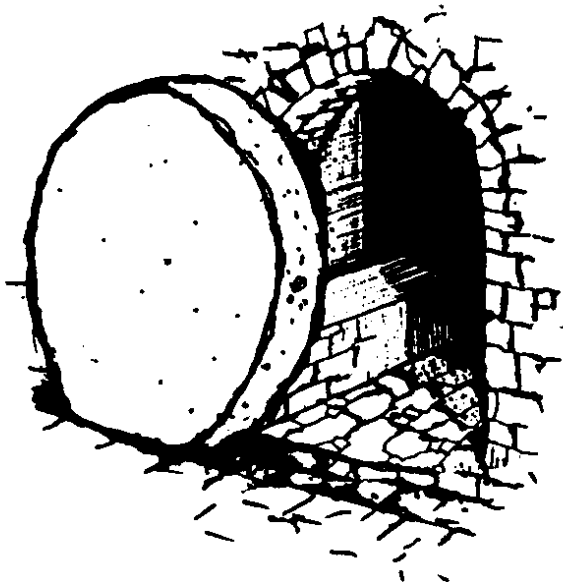
8.00pm

Good Friday

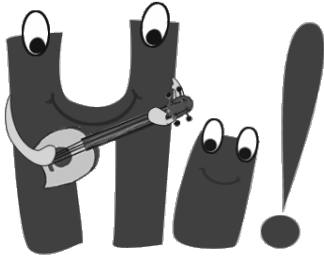
10.15am

Easter Sunday

- Communion 9.00am
(followed by breakfast)
- Family Service 10.30am
- Evening Communion 6.30pm



Just a note to say...



Hi Dagnall Street

I trust that you are all well. Bex, Josh and I are getting very excited about joining you this summer and are looking forward to finding out what God has in store for us all. We hope you are too!

But before we finish at Binley Woods I will have my Ordination service. This service will mark the end of my period of training and the beginning of the life-long learning that is Ordained Ministry through the making of a covenant between myself and the Baptist Union. It is a recognition of the ways in which God has been working throughout my life and a commitment to the call he has placed on my future. A key part of my understanding of Ordination, as a Baptist, is that my calling is conferred by a local church, and so as the Church that has called me it would be great to see some of Dagnall Street there.

And so, we warmly invite any of you who are available on Sunday 13th August to join us from 4pm at Binley Woods Village Hall, Binley Woods, CV3 2AX. There will be a light supper served after the service to which you are all more than welcome.

I hope that we will see many of you over the next few months as we prepare to hit the ground running this September!

God Bless

Jonny, Bex and Josh

P.S. For catering purposes it would be helpful to have an idea of numbers for the Ordination service, so if you could let **Chris Penn** know if you are attending that would be much appreciated.

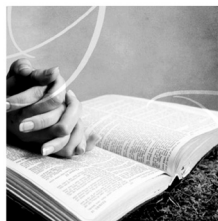


Pastor's News

A brief update on a number of items that might be of interest to the congregation and the wider readership of the magazine.

Bible Studies

There will be no Bible study this month as we come to the end of our weekly study groups during Lent. The next day for the monthly Bible study will be 9th May at 10.30am in Cross Street and 8.00pm at the Manse.



Chelmsley Wood Visit – 30th April

We are planning a visit from Neil Roberts, one of my fellow students at Regents Park College and for the last 24 years minister on a large housing estate outside Birmingham. Neil will be sharing his experiences of this very real 'ministry among the people'. A brief outline of Neil's understanding of mission is included elsewhere in the magazine. This will also be one of our shared services with our friends at Marshalswick.

Radio Verulam and Premier Radio

My regular **Premier Radio** slot to discuss some of the latest films from a faith perspective will be on Thursday 6th April between 8.00am and 9.00am. You can also hear me discussing the latest films at the cinema and on television with Danny Smith every Friday from 6.30pm – 7.00pm on **Radio Verulam 92.6FM**.



The Story of Chelmsley Wood Church

It all began so very long ago.....

At college myself and a group of friends felt a strong call to serve in what would be classed as a deprived area. We looked at the church and saw that the church tends to thrive in more affluent areas and yet the areas that seem to be filled with the people Jesus seemed to be most concerned about, the church is hardly to be found. We wanted to challenge this and show the love of God to people marginalised and often forgotten.

We felt Birmingham was the place and after exploring a few very different settings, were called to Chelmsley Wood.

Chelmsley Wood is an outer ring housing estate, built in the late 60s as part of a slum clearance program and to make way for a new motorway interchange, which would become known as spaghetti junction. Chelmsley is a huge estate, one of the biggest of its time, 40,000 people, few facilities, a lot of social housing, and facing many challenges. Not much has changed, we are still in the top 10% most deprived wards nationally, predominantly white, majority social housing, high crime, low employment, low life expectancy.

We believe in the incarnational approach and have lived here since 1994, Helen was a nurse but now works locally and the kids went to local schools.

Our vision has been about how to grow an indigenous church for this community. The building has a good pedigree of community involvement and was a pioneering design in the 60s being multipurpose and open all day with coffee, nursery and clubs. When we arrived things had deteriorated. The voluntary sector had changed, as had society. The building only had a couple of activities a week and was run down, leaking, cold and generally depressing. I remember sitting in the dark on the stage listening to the rain literally running into the building and

wondering whether the only way to resolve the building issues was to set a fire before I went home.

Anyway, I didn't do that. We spent a long time praying and talking and a vision emerged, not of a building, but of a place. Where people belonged, served and were inspired. The church was, and still is, the driving force behind that vision, although things have developed around how we work.

We see the church as one activity among many within the centre, now renamed Three Trees. The church has 'given away' the building, setting up a non-faith charity to run it and worked to raise just over a £1m in the last 5 years or so to bring the building up to scratch and build an extension. Not bad for a church of 30 members, most of whom are unemployed or retired. This doesn't really get across the place, but I will try.

We want Three Trees to be the community's home, where everyone comes for something, if you look at our website you'll see some of the things going on, community clubs, art, mental health drop in, wellbeing projects, exercise, environmental advice, training and the like. We've also got a social enterprise running a café here (independent of us). We are driven by the community, not funded by the council or public sector, and aim to keep it that way although we do occasionally work in partnership with them.

Theology? We've had no church growth plan or vision, instead we have a vision for the sort of people we should be and the sort of kingdom we should be building. For me, when the café is bustling and different groups are doing their thing in the place, I feel that is what church should be like. Ideally there should be church people involved and/or running spiritual activities as well, but it is the spirit of the place that I feel gives the witness and live the gospel. And to make the point a bit more, it's not the building (although we have

been keen to ensure the building is soulful), it's the people, the hosts, who make it a spiritual place.

Which kind of brings me nearly to the end of this mercifully brief ramble. I like the monastic model where the religious community were a place of welcome, hospitality and healing, and I think this is kind of where we have found ourselves. Neo-monasticism is still a bit trendy, but there is a way of living that I aspire to for us here, where 'the community' look on the church people as 'holy people' (albeit an open people), who offer prayer, grace and love into their lives. It's not the church model that sells the gospel door to door and demands a particular response, more one that demonstrates and shares community and invites people to be absorbed in. Our growth over the years has almost been accidental as people are drawn closer in to faith. I'm not sure if this is a method or not, probably wouldn't sell anyway. Move in. Stay there. Try and live a life of grace and openness.

It'll never work.

Neil Roberts/November 2016



<http://www.bmsworldmission.org/disaster>



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK SERVICE

6.30pm 14th May 2017

This year's local Christian Aid Week service will be at Dagnall Street. Christian Aid's theme this year is refugees and we have invited *Gill Searl, who is the Regional ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Coordinator for the Syrian Resettlement Programme.* Gill is a member of the congregation of the Kingsgate Church in Peterborough and we are delighted that Gill is able to be with us to bring us news of work amongst Syrian refugees.



Manipur Coffee Morning



23rd April 2017

The next 'coffee morning' to raise funds for the Emmanuel Christian School in Haipi village in the Indian state of Manipur, will take place after church on Sunday 23rd April.

As part of our regular after-church fellowship time, there will be an opportunity to make a contribution to the work of the school as you take your tea or coffee and there will be some of Muriel's delicious flapjacks on offer too. There will also be a number of items to purchase.

Kai's trip to India was shorter than usual this year, but there will be an opportunity to hear the latest news from Emmanuel School.

Simon

Pastoral Prayers



***Father I place into your hands the things I cannot do.
Father I place into your hands the things that I've been
through.***

***Father I place into your hands the way that I should go
For I know I always can trust you.***

Father I place into your hands my friends and family.

Father I place into your hands the things that trouble me

Father I place into your hands the person I would be.

For I know I always can trust you.

The following people need our Prayers:

Geoff, Jo & Alison Ashmore, Diane Graham, Les & Majorie Jones, Kai Kipgen, John Lucks Family, Elspeth Mackenzie, Trevor Oakley, Colin & Sue Owen and Family. Alison Pinder, Julia Plant, Dennis & Marie Rowson, Beryl Russell, Stuart Turnbull, Rosemary Ware, Gaz & Caz Jordon & Family.

***Lord we lift up to you through prayers and our thoughts,
the people who are in need of your loving spirit. Take
each individual and care for them as they become anx-
ious and worried about their health and situation. Be with
the families as they come to terms with the loss of loved
ones. Work through carers and friends that support and
encourage each day.***

***Rejoice with us when news is good and be with us as we
celebrate success.***

Pastoral Team

MISSION NEWS

Gift Day - Easter Sunday 16th April 2017

A reminder that this year, we will be supporting a single appeal, our Christian Aid, (CA), Community Partnership Project **“Healthier Futures for Women and Girls in Ethiopia.”** We have pledged to raise £5,000 by the end of October this year which will be match funded from European Union funds by five times, meaning our £5,000 becomes £30,000 for the project.

Our Mission Focus Sunday afternoon event on February 26th, was a real eye opener as we were able to see and hear a recording of the skype link which took place a few days earlier in the Cross Street Centre, between Simon, Adrian Whalley our local CA co-ordinator, and myself, and Mr. Fisela Kabede, CA programme manager in Ethiopia, Ms. Kalkidan Yimer, CA programme officer in Ethiopia, and Mr. Lemma Tesfaye of Women Support Association, (WSA), in Ethiopia.

We learnt a great deal about Ethiopia, about the project, and also about the determination and commitment of the staff of CA and WSA in Ethiopia, and I'm sure that many of our pre-conceived views were rightly addressed. Ethiopia is a country in the horn of Africa ranked 174 out of 188 in the world Human Development Index, (Norway is No. 1 and UK ranks 28), so an extremely poor country. Landlocked, it is more than twice the land mass of UK, yet has a population of around 100m of whom 44% are younger than 15. One of the earliest Christian nations, over 63% of the population are Christian, of which the largest denomination is Ethiopian Orthodox. Both Kalkidan and Fiseha are part of this church, whose doctrine, they told us, is based on the trinity and includes 250 fasting days each year.

Women Support Association is one of two main agencies which CA works with to deliver this project, and we heard from Lemma that there are currently 3 target areas about 500km south of Addis Ababa where women's groups are active and making a real difference

within their communities. Through education, discussion and empowerment, women are now able to discuss with their husbands the importance of different family planning methods and can teach others in their communities about them.

As well as financial support, we are encouraged to support this project through prayer:

- **Pray for those women who are still pressured by their husbands into having families that their bodies and finances cannot sustain.**
- **Pray that the men whose wives have had earnest, difficult discussions with them have the courage and self-belief to start new traditions based on mutual respect and understanding, and that this leads to a 'new normal', where families talk about and plan their futures together.**
- **Pray that the violence that has affected some parts of the country is brought to a swift end, and that any lingering tensions are resolved through discussion and diplomacy rather than further fighting.**
- **Pray that the Conference of the Parties (COP) 15 agreement on climate change leads to funding for Ethiopian communities struggling to cope, as the country recovers from its worst drought in a decade.**

Collection envelopes will be available in church on Easter Sunday, and for several Sunday's thereafter, to collect your gifts. If you are able to donate via cheque and are registered for gift aid then this will significantly enhance your donation.

Many thanks.

Chris Penn

April 2017



Happy Birthday



April Birthdays

2nd - Denise Tromans

8th - Diane Saunders

26th - Julia Plant

***Good Friday is a time of sadness,
Easter is a time of gladness.
On Good Friday Jesus died
But rose again at Eastertide.
All thanks and praise to God.***

Happy Birthday to everyone born in April.

I have put a BMS Birthday Scheme news bulletin on the information table in the vestibule.

It gives 3 cases of children's lives being saved and helped in Uganda, Chad and Thailand.

It also says how your gifts make a difference.

£14 can support a doctor for 2 days in Chad, saving lives in a community ravaged by poverty and illness.

£21 can employ a manager at Hope Home in Thailand.

The home transforms the lives of children with disabilities.

£32 can support 3 nurses for one day in Guinebor Hospital in Chad, helping young mothers and their new-borns in a country with one of the highest maternal and child mortality rates in the world.

Thank you for all your support for this vital work.

Linda Williams



MISSION SPRING CLEAN

It is that time of year to have a clear out of any unwanted items you no longer require that would be suitable to sell at Car Boot Sale;

In aid of our Christian Aid Appeal 2017

Items required; Books – Vinyl records – Cd's – Glassware – China ornaments – Jewellery - Tools (*Carpentry – Plumbing – Gardening*) - Craft items – Toys – Kitchen items/utensils – Bric-a-Brac

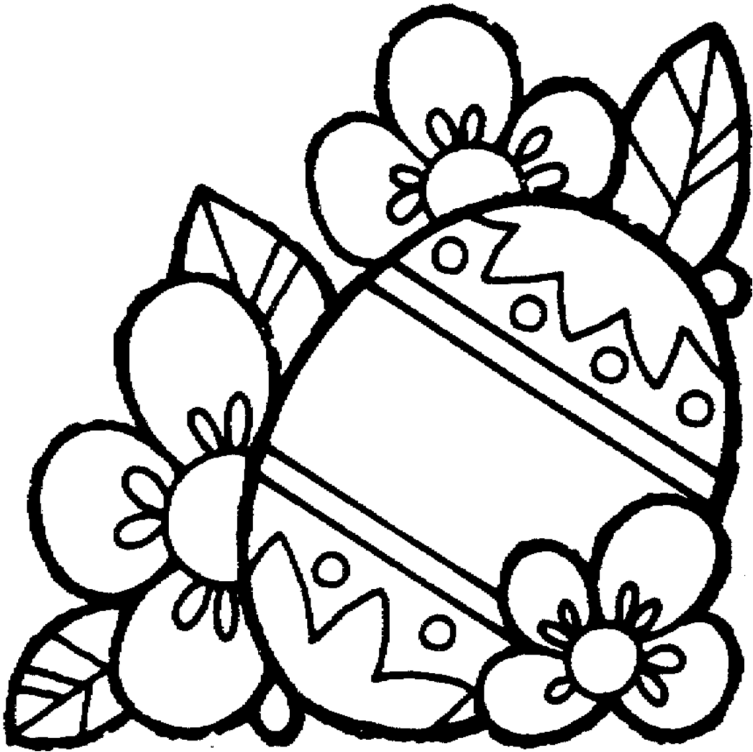
Items can be brought to the church or see me for collection

TREVOR - MISSION TEAM AT DAGNALL ST; BAPTIST CHURCH. ST.ALBANS

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD NEWS

Rosemary Ware would like to share with you her wonderful news about her granddaughter who has achieved a PhD in her musical education. Rosemary's granddaughter is now enjoying and looking forward to her challenge at Oxford University.

Happy Easter



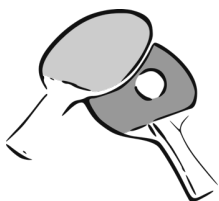
CHURCH & CENTRE ROOM BOOKINGS



To contact Danny Smith regarding Church and Centre room booking enquiries:

Tel: 01727 568162 (new number)

email: bookings@dsbc.org.uk



Monday Table Tennis/ Games Club

Monday 10th April - last before Easter

No Meeting on Monday 14th April, Easter Monday

Resume on Monday 24th April through to Monday 26th June

We Meet every Monday from 10.30am till 1pm in the lower Hall

Table Tennis – Pool – Snooker – Carpet Bowls –

Chess – Draughts

And Other Table Game

Refreshments are available in the Cross St: Centre Café



All are welcomed for a time of fun and fellowship

Trevor Oakley

DAYCARE

Daycare meets every Tuesday during school term time, at the Age Concern Centre, St Peters Street. If you know of anyone who would like to come along for lunch and companionship please contact **Jessie Blair on email: jessieblair37@gmail.com.**

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

The Fellowship Lunch this month will be held on Thursday, 20th April at 12.30pm in the Cross Street Café.

Everyone is welcome.

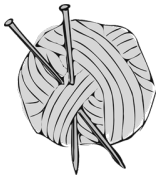
Diane Graham



WHO LET THE DAD'S OUT!!

Who Let the Dad's Out will be held on Saturday, 8th April 10—12pm in the Lower Hall.

Come along and have some fun! Dads, Granddads, Uncles, all welcome.



KNITTING GROUP

The knitting group will meet on Tuesday, 18th April in Cross Street from 11am—12.30pm and welcomes anyone who would like to join with us. Some bring their own knitting or crochet projects whilst other knit and crochet for the charity 'Knit for Peace'.

Judy Pental



SCRABBLE CLUB

Scrabble Club will be held on Tuesday 11th and Tuesday 25th April at 2.30pm in the Cross Street Centre.

Good Friday Walk



Our walk this year will be around Harpenden and Rothamsted Park.

This will be preceded by a picnic lunch in the small garden in Harpenden Park where there are several benches. This is opposite the entrance to the sports centre inside which there are public toilets.

There will be walks of various lengths and difficulties available: a 5 mile walk or a shorter ~1.5 mile walk.

Alternatively, just join us for a picnic lunch and fellowship. We will meet in the small garden at 12:15 for lunch and at 13:00 for anyone just walking. Parking is in the car park at the junction of Amenbury Lane and Hay Lane.

For further information, speak to Colin or Sue Owen.

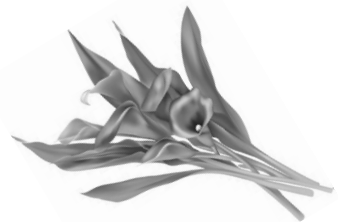
P.S. If you want to know all about Pimlico Place, come and join us for the walk on Good Friday!

OUR FRIEND JOHN LUCK

Our friend John Luck –passed away on Tuesday 21 February – just 2 days after Lennie’s birthday. John together with Lennie had been a member of Dagnall Street since 1997, although they had been married at the Church in 1955. John had been a very active volunteer in Cross Street for many years, and worked on the till, in the kitchen and as part of the welcome team. He had retired from this several years ago, as Lennie became increasingly unwell. He devoted his whole time to caring for her, at the neglect of his own failing health. Lennie passed away in July 2016, and John did feel her loss very keenly. He continued with life doing the activities ‘Lennie would want me to do’ He often provided car transport to hospital appointments for friends in need.

John and Lennie had been keen railway enthusiasts enjoying many train holidays on the continent. He also had a wonderful train layout in his roof. John had been in Church on the Sunday before he died, and friends had felt that his health was starting to improve. It was, therefore, with great sadness we learnt of his death. However we do know that he will be delighted to now be re-united with his beloved Lennie.

Sandra and John Carpenter



BRIAN YOUNG

For those who remember Brian, he passed away peacefully on the 19th February 2017, at Watford Peace Hospice after suffering from Alzheimers for the past three years.

Brian and Jean were members of Dagnall Street for over 20 years. He was Secretary of Young Church for many years and helped at various Church activities.

They moved to Croxley Green in 2005 to be near their Daughter Karen, and have been members of Croxley Green Baptist Church for 12 years.

Our love and prayers are with Jean and the Family at this difficult time.

Brian and Olly Branch



PASTORAL CARE MATTERS



The Minister, Simon and members of the Pastoral Team are always happy to make appointments to visit, talk or pray with you. This can take place in your home, at Cross Street or at our homes at your convenience and at mutually convenient times.

Our Minister, Simon (01727 854041) can be contacted direct.

Brian Branch (01727 852738), Marjorie and Leslie Jones (01727 841845) Jessie Blair (01727 768887) and Ray Saunders (01727 830260) are also active members of the Pastoral Team.

Simon and the team hope you will notify them of anybody who you think may be ill, lonely or who needs help.

Pastoral Team



PARKING NOTICE

As from **1st February, 2017**, we are trialling a parking initiative. Cones will be placed across the entrance to the side parking spaces. You are free to park there, just remove the cone and replace it when you have parked.

The Property Team



Chris and Debbie Drew

Prayer letter, March 2017

bmsworldmission.org/cddrew



Dear Friends

Recently at work the office cook was desperately looking for people to donate blood. Her father was in a critical condition, was losing a lot of blood, and needed a transfusion fast. Here in Kathmandu the blood banks are often empty and so it falls to the family of the patient to find the blood. Chris and one other (they needed 5 in total) went down to the blood donation clinic where they waited a while, filled in a form, answered lots of questions only to be told finally that they couldn't give blood – Chris hadn't been back in Nepal more than 6 months (!) and his colleague had high blood pressure. So, the family was left frantically phoning round looking for other people who could help whilst also trying to care for their sick father. It was hard to see them going through this and not to be able to help.

We often have these reminders of how fragile and stressful life is here, and this is only the capital city... The International Nepal Fellowship (INF), where Chris is working, has just conducted a survey to start work in Kalikot, the third poorest district in Nepal (73/75). The area they looked at was a two day walk from the district centre which is then a two or three day drive from Kathmandu. Imagine trying to arrange a blood transfusion from there. By working in areas like this, INF is reaching out to some of the poorest and most marginalised people in the country.



Kathmandu scene

Keeping this in perspective is helpful as Chris works at a central level to enable project work to continue. You'll know that he has spent a lot of time in the last year negotiating with the government agreements for INF's work. Some progress in the autumn meant we received our visas, but negotiations with the government are ongoing for INF's health work in particular. Although INF's hospitals are able to function during this time, it will be a big relief once things are finalised. This will enable some more expatriate advisers to return – it has not been easy for them to wait since last year. Despite the challenges of the last year, it has been encouraging to see the progress that has been made. The work is increasingly in the hands of the Nepali Christian leaders.



Kalikot

We returned to Nepal at the end of last year and are thankful for how quickly we settled back and how much the children enjoy their life and school here. At the same time as coming back we had to move house, which was a lot of work, but we now feel settled in our new home. Debbie is continuing with her masters studies and we have had a wonderful time with her parents who visited during February. We even sent her Dad paragliding to celebrate his forthcoming 70th birthday; Nepal apparently has the third-best thermals for paragliding in the world. Answers on a postcard if you know where the first and second-best places are.

We would appreciate prayers for the children's school, the Kathmandu International Study Centre (KISC). It is

Sudoku #1

Tough Sudoku by KrazyDad, Volume 1, Book 11

6						5		3
				5	9	4		
		3		8			2	
2			1			9		
				3				
		9			4			5
	5			4		1		
		4	7					
9		1						8

© 2013 KrazyDad.com

"When I told my doctor I couldn't afford an operation, he offered to touch-up my X-rays."

— Henry J. Mangum

scratch area

krazydad
free puzzles and mazes

ON THIS DAY

PINKY'S PENALTY

It was the deciding game of the British home international football championship between Scotland and England at Celtic Park April 4th, 1896. Injury to a key player led England to bizarrely call up an amateur: Cuthbert 'Pinky' Burnup of Cambridge University and Old Malvernians. Hopelessly out of his league, Pinky's performance cost England the match and the championship. Happily, though, it stopped the FA relying on the old chaps network and encouraged them to pick people who could actually play the game.

AN EXPLOSION OF CREATIVITY

The colossal eruption of Mount Tambora, in Indonesia, which started today, 5th April 1815, was the most powerful in history—the huge amount of ash it released made 1816 'the year without a summer'. All that ash did, however, make for spectacular sunsets as painted by Turner, and the 'incessant rainfall' forced some holidaymakers to stay inside their Swiss chalet for weeks. Bored, they competed to write the scariest story. Lord Byron wrote a poem, 'Darkness'; John Polidori wrote, 'The Vampyre'; and Mary Shelley knocked out 'Frankenstein'.

SLIP SLIDIN' AWAY

Roy Plunkett was nervous. On the 6th April 1938, he checked the container he was using to cook up a new chloroflourocarbon for refridgerant production and found that the valve was frozen shut and the gas had disappeared. Fearing a massive explosion, he took it outside, built a shield and cut the cylinder open. To his relief, there was no toxic boom—just a white powder that didn't stick to the container. Plunkett's snafu had created polytetrafluoroethylene—better known as Teflon.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I
shall not want.

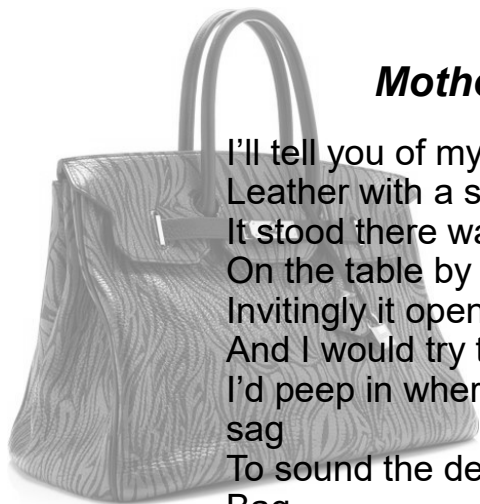
He maketh me to lie down
in green pastures: he
leadeth me beside the still
waters.

He restoreth my soul: he
leadeth me in the paths of
righteousness for his name's
sake.

Yea, though I walk through
the valley of the shadow of
death, I will fear no evil: for
thou art with me; thy rod
and thy staff they comfort
me.

Thou preparest a table
before me in the presence of
mine enemies: thou
anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow me all the days
of my life: and I will dwell in
the house of the Lord for
ever.



Mother's Bag

I'll tell you of my Mother's Bag
Leather with a smart zigzag
It stood there waiting in the hall
On the table by the wall
Invitingly it opened wide
And I would try to look inside
I'd peep in where the sides would sag
To sound the depths of Mother's Bag

The bag was half the height of me
When I was small I couldn't see
But hidden deep within the gloom
There was always lots of room
For bus fare, tissues, bits of string
Several parcels she would bring
Letters, cards an old gift tag
Could all be found in Mother's Bag

And on our outings we would find
That nothing had been left behind
Crisps, our sandwiches, a flask
Anything for which we'd ask
Blister plasters in a tin
A bandage or a safety pin
Lint and several yards of rag
They all were there in Mother's Bag

She took it with her down the lane
Rather like a ball and chain
The bag was always at her heels
It really should have been on wheels
And if we planned to travel far
It had its own seat in the car
So she didn't have to drag
The heavy load of Mother's Bag

If we were ever ill or sad
Mum would give us what she had
A quarter of a pound of sweets
Or perhaps some other tasty treats
And if the dog began to tire
He'd curl up listless by the fire
But then his tail would start to wag
For biscuits from my Mother's Bag

Time has passed and flown away
And I don't need a bag today
For I live life quite differently
It all runs electronically
My smart phones go at quite a pace
My laptop packs up in its case
With all my gadgets –there's one snag
The weight is more than Mother's Bag!

Megan Thompson 2017





***COPY DATE FOR THE MAY ISSUE OF THE
MAGAZINE THURSDAY APRIL***

I HAVE A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!

***PLEASE USE THIS ADDRESS FOR ALL
CORRESPONDENCE:***

glynis.griffiths1@gmail.com

As you can see I have changed my surname. I have reverted to my maiden name. I have had to do it officially by Deed Poll. I now have the long slog of informing all of the official agencies, banks, pensions, passport, driving licence, etc., etc.! Along with the original Deed Poll they recommend that you have 25 certified copies made! I think it will probably take me a year and over a thousand pounds to complete the task. Everyone needs an admin fee!! I am going to do my passport and pensions first. I will have to leave the changing of the name on my house deeds until last because I have to do that through a solicitor—loads of money! Everything else will be done gradually. I've been meaning to start this process for over a year now. I am quite relieved that I have started it.

I am looking forward to the arrival of my Australian family on the 8th April. I will only see my daughter-in-law and grandson briefly at the airport as they are going straight to Basingstoke to stay with Flo's mum and dad. Tom, my son, is coming straight home with me and then I will be taking him to Basingstoke sometime in the following week and then at some stage they will all come and stay with me. The dates are still "loose" at this present time. I am sure they will let me know more definite dates nearer the time.

I had a bit of an adventure this week. On Wednesday I was down in St Albans to do Cross Street and after my shift I went out to lunch with Jill and Christine. We had a lovely lunch and I returned to the Church carpark for my car and it wouldn't start. Fortunately I registered with Green Flag and phoned them and within the hour someone was with me and charged up my battery. The service from Green Flag was excellent they messaged me every ten minutes as to the whereabouts of the technician. Even letting me know that he had got stuck in a bit of traffic on the M25 and might be five or ten minutes later. He duly turned up on time and under instruction from the lady who took my call I had to ask him his name (she had given it to me) and she had given me the registration number of his van. I can only say that they were faultless and he was even a very nice technician. I have now managed to sort out on my own a broken windscreen, a puncture and a breakdown without too much drama!! Although the windscreen was a bit of a drama, but that's another story! I don't know why I worried about these things!!

I hope everyone has a lovely Easter and the weather is like it was this week, beautifully sunny. The Morse's are planning a garden project so I hope it is sunny so that we can have maximum time in their garden.

Keep sending those interesting articles in. I have had lots of good feedback from the customers in Cross Street.

Happy Easter!

Glynis

07709 618571

01462 733665

glynis.griffiths1@gmail.com

What, When and Where April 2017

Saturday	1	Prayer Hour 10.00am - Cross Street Room 5
Tuesday	4	Lent Study Group 7.00pm - 8.00pm - Cross Street Centre Room 3
Wednesday	5	Free Church Service in the Abbey 11.00am The Rev'd Meryl Court, Minister of the United formed Church. Thames North Synod
Saturday	8	Who Let the Dads Out? 10.00am - 12.00pm - Lower Hall
Tuesday	11	Scrabble Club 2.30pm - Cross Street Centre
Thursday	13	Maundy Thursday Communion 8.00pm - Church
Friday	14	Good Friday Service 10.15am - Church
Sunday	16	Early Easter Morning Communion & Breakfast 9.00am - Cross Street Centre
Tuesday	18	Knitting Group 11.00am - 12.30pm - Cross Street Centre
Thursday	20	Baptist Fellowship Lunch 12.30pm - Cross Street Centre
Thursday	20	Deacons' Meeting 7.45pm - Room 5 Cross Street Centre
Tuesday	25	Scrabble Club 2.30pm - Cross Street Centre

Regular Events

Mondays: Table tennis & Games Club 10.30am - 1.30pm Lower Hall
Tuesdays: (term time) Daycare 10am - 2pm Age Concern St Peters Street
Wednesdays: (term time) Toddlers 9.45am - 11.15am Lower Hall
Fridays: (term time) TFN 6.30pm - 8.30pm Lower Hall
Fridays: (term time) TFN Seniors 7.00pm - 8.30pm Cross Street Centre

Sunday Services

10.30am and 6.30pm, with groups for children at the 10.30am service

