



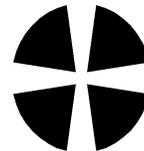
# **WIDER HORIZONS**

**March 2010**



**The Methodist Church / The United Reformed  
Church**

**THE GROVE, ILKLEY  
Telephone: 01943 603209  
[office@christchurchilkley.org.uk](mailto:office@christchurchilkley.org.uk)**



March 2010

**MINISTER'S LETTER**

Dear Friends,

As I write, public debate rages over the visit of the Pope to Britain this autumn and protests already planned by those who disagree with his hard line over some issues such as human sexuality. Columnists are arguing over whether John Terry should be banned from captaining the team because he has had affairs with his team mate's girlfriend! And the general election is haunting us as the parties fight it out for the few votes that could make the difference.

Jesus said at the end of Matthew's gospel "Go into all the world, preach, baptise, and make disciples of all nations, and teach them to obey all I have commanded you".

This is not *carte blanche* for Christians to give their opinions, or sound rather too pious for their own good (*as I know I, like many of us, can easily tend to do!*), nor to engage in lots of criticism and condemnation of what's going on around the world or our own society.

Jesus was a man who included the ones others were excluding, due to illness, social convention or religious conviction. He healed those who were sick, giving them wholeness of life as well as meaning they could visit the places of worship to know the forgiveness from God their place in society denied them. This meant he redressed balances amongst rich and powerful, and it meant he gave the freedom of God's creatures to those bound in illness, torment, or the grip of dark spiritual powers.

These then are the things we are to teach - good things, whole things, just things, loving things. Our mission is one of service to humanity because of God's motivating Love.

The mission of Jesus was to bring the transforming love of God into this world not to condemn it. I know I need to constantly hear this positive message as I strive to live out God's mission today.

Your friend and minister,

*Rob Hilton*



Last Easter, whilst involved in planning the Palm Sunday On-Line service, some of us got talking. So many people who cannot take part in any Holy Week activities move from Jesus' Palm Sunday arrival in Jerusalem straight to Easter Sunday's resurrection celebration, missing out all the important context of the Holy Week story.

Now Lent covers the six weeks up to Easter, seven Sundays in all: a week, a Holy week of Sundays in fact ..... and an idea was born!

A group of people were tasked to get it sorted. Rob was enthusiastic about the idea, and brought along a massive additional idea: to create a display for each week that builds up as the weeks progress to create a complete Holy Week walk-through Experience that we can open to schools, our Coffee Centre customers and the general public during Holy Week. WOW!

By the time you read this, it may actually be underway. If you can, come to all eight Sundays (*we wanted to add in the Emmaus Road story as a useful end-piece*) and have a really thoughtful lead-up to Easter. It will certainly be an Easter to remember.

*steve amos (for the Lent team)*

# FAIRTRADE NEWS

## ACTIVITIES FOR FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

22 February to 7 March



### TALK and TEA PARTY - ILKLEY - Saturday 6 March

- 1 pm            Talk and Question and Answer session in the Sanctuary. Part of the Fairtrade Foundation Producer Tour. A senior representative from the Windward Islands banana industry will talk to us about the huge difference Fairtrade is making to the banana farmers in the Windward Islands
- 2 -4pm        Tea Party in the Coffee Centre with free refreshments, Traidcraft stall 4 pm and Fairtrade cake stall.

Offers of baking for the stall would be appreciated. Please let us know if you can help, or just bring it along on the day. Thank you.

### TRAIDCRAFT "MAKE IT FAIR" CAMPAIGN

We know we are a great tea-drinking nation but only 10% of the tea currently sold in Britain is Fairtrade. The Fairtrade Foundation would like this to increase to 50% by 2012 so the lives of millions of tea farming families can be changed. Booklets of pre-printed postcards to send to the main producers encouraging them to use Fairtrade tea are available both from us and in the foyer.

Completed cards can be placed in the appropriate box in the foyer to be dispatched in bulk if you want to avoid individual postage. Thousands of cards have already been sent by supporters of this campaign but the momentum needs to be maintained. Now is the time for us to do our bit.

*(continued on page 5)*

## "THE BIG SWAP"

This year the Fairtrade Foundation wants the nation to get swapping: non-Fairtrade items for Fairtrade ones - everything from bananas and rice, to socks, beauty products and flowers. They are aiming for a million and one swaps which can be registered at [www.thebigswap.org.uk](http://www.thebigswap.org.uk). Each swap will demonstrate how people want producers in the developing world to get a fairer deal. So start swapping now.

### And finally .....

We will be offering our **Fairtrade Stall** in the church foyer - both Saturdays 27 February and 6 March - 10 am to 12 noon as well as our usual monthly Fairtrade Stall on Sunday morning 7 March.

We look forward to your support for these events because .....

**BUYING FAIRTRADE REALLY DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO LIVES**

*John and Judith Bray*

**EXPLORERS' CAMP 2010**  
**Saturday 31st July - Saturday 7th August**  
([www.explorerscamp.org.uk](http://www.explorerscamp.org.uk))

Last year, a number of our young people went on Explorers' Camp, a week long Christian camp in a field near Ripon. They had a great time - swimming, canoeing, learning more about God, deepening their faith, playing volleyball, high ropes, worshipping with a cool band and loads more besides! Most of them are already committed to going again this summer!

The camp is for anyone aged between 11 and 18. If you are at all interested in finding out more about it, there is a Launch event in Huddersfield on Saturday 20th March from 4pm. Many of those who went last year are going to catch up with old friends, and some are going to see what on earth it's all about! Go on, give it a try - you've nothing to lose. See Ruth or Rob Hilton for more details about the Launch weekend, or speak to Sam Hilton, Robin Cade, Naomi, Rachel or Anna Burns, Candice, Jessica or Emily Hattingh for insider info.....



Many of you attended the presentation at our Harvest about the work of Caring for Life at Crag House Farm at Cookridge. They care for deeply damaged and hurting people through residential homes, through the Housing Support team currently caring for 139 people in their homes in Leeds, and through the workshops and projects daily at the farm.

From March 1<sup>st</sup> they will no longer be receiving government 'Supporting People' funding which will mean a huge loss of income. However, they are determined to continue to care for those entrusted to them and to share the love of Jesus. They are doing all they can to address this loss, in particular by developing the small farm shop which will soon also be selling fresh as well as frozen meat and their own sausages and burgers.

Do try their Granary Café (open Monday to Saturday 10am to 4pm), and pop into the shop. There is also a beautiful walk down the valley at the back of the farm.

The address is Crag House Farm, Otley Old Road, LS16 7NH ( 0113 2303600). More details and prayer concerns at [www.caringforlife.co.uk](http://www.caringforlife.co.uk)

*Merle Collins*

### **CHRISTCHURCH PRAYER CALENDAR**

***You are invited to include the following suggestions of local and broader concern in your private prayer:***

- 7 March                      3rd Sunday in Lent  
Those who arrange, fund and distribute church flowers;  
Ilkley's firemen, ambulance drivers and police.
- 14 March                    4th in Lent    MOTHERING SUNDAY  
Family life and any going through marriage difficulties; women trying to support family life in danger zones throughout the world.
- 21 March                    5th in Lent  
The work of the church office and those who administer the work of our committees and concerns; Compassion, an organisation working through local churches in the Third World to release children from poverty.
- 28 March                    PALM SUNDAY  
Our programme of prayers and meditation as we move through Holy Week; people suffering for their faith.



## Christchurch Comings and Goings

Welcome to Sophia Elizabeth Whitton, daughter for Margaret and Martin and sister for Callum.

New addresses :

Mrs. Susan Gray	available via the Office
Mr. Ralph Haines	available via the Office
Mrs. Barbara Staveley	available via the Office

We are sad to record the deaths of Mrs. Pam Adams and Mrs. Elsie Fagan.

Please continue to keep your directory up to date  
by noting down these comings and goings. Thank you.

### VISION REVIEW

*“Christ at the centre of the church at the heart of the town”*

In seeking the next steps in fulfilling the Christchurch Vision statement, there has been a general sense of agreement that God is calling Christchurch to examine how (working in partnership with our ecumenical partners where appropriate) we can:

- Offer Christ more effectively;
- Provide a warm and informative welcome to all;
- Offer opportunities for prayer, reflection and the deepening of spirituality;
- Provide space for conversation and for listening;
- Provide worship at differing times and in a variety of contexts;
- Develop new opportunities for service and witness;
- Meet emerging community needs, with a focus on families, children and young people;
- Enhance the witness through the Coffee Centre.



# Sunday 25th April "Life in all its fullness"

## ALL DAY WORSHIP and LEARNING FOR EVERYONE

### 10am Worship

Life in all its fullness—for us

### 11.15-12.30pm First session

Life in all its fullness—for our world

### 12.45-1.45pm Buffet Lunch

Simple food from around the world

### 2.00-3.00pm Second session

Life in all its fullness—for our world

### 3.00-3.30pm Worship

Life in all its fullness—our response

### PRAYER ROOM

All day quiet reflection on issues around the world

Here is a selection of the sessions on offer, more to be confirmed (age guide indicated). We want to spend time together learning about how our church helps people locally and around the world live to 'life in all its fullness'. Sessions are repeated in the afternoon. Organised by the World Mission and Society Committee for World Mission Sunday.

### INDIA

New Life Children's Home and Christian Aid. Find out about India, henna painting and bollywood dancing. Pauline Mudge and Ruth Hilton Age 8+

### BeaCON

Bradford Ecumenical Asylum Concern. Speakers: Rev Joe Batt who will talk about his work with asylum seekers and Neriman Kakabra (an asylum seeker from Iraq) Age 12+

### PHAKAMISA, South Africa

Serves, uplifts and empowers impoverished communities through the provision of educational training, resourcing and support. Speaker: Glenda Howieson Age 12+

### WORLD MUSIC

Enjoy making music from around the world. Age 8+

### ELECTION 2010

Rob Hilton leads a theological reflection about the forthcoming election. How does your vote create life in all its fullness in the UK? Age 15+

### CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Age 0-11  
How Jesus brings life in all its fullness to us, with craft, fun and games.

### YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACTIVITIES

Age 11+  
Challenging us to help bring life in all its fullness to others and enjoy Jesus blessings.

*Sign up for the sessions in advance—there will be a sheet in the next issue of Wider Horizons. We invite you to be involved in children's or young people's activities (even if you don't normally teach at Online). Let Ruth Jones know if you want to help. Also, you could spend time in the prayer room instead of going to a session. Refreshments will be served during the sessions.*

# A great day out at church—come all day or dip into the activities

## Kids' Slot

### 24/7

24/7 is a discipleship group which Jonathan Logan, our lay worker, has put together to help the young people know more about God. We meet on Sundays at 7.30pm. We've played games like scavenger hunts and competitive games. Also we've discussed worldly success and what success really is. We learned that success is not just about being rich and famous but only God can give you proper success by blessing you. We've also discussed how we could raise money to decorate the Middleton Room, where we are based. We thought we might do odd jobs for people. I like going to 24/7 because we do lots of fun things and you get to know other people a lot better and you get to know God a lot better too.

*by Daniel Jones*

### Online@9 singing group

Each Friday we all go to Tony, Bridget and Sophie Pitcairn's house to practice our singing group. There about ten of us in our singing group, with Tony leading on the piano. We always practice the songs that we are going to sing on Sunday at Online@9, and sometimes at the 10.30am service. My favourite song overall is 'Jubilate'. I like quick, fast songs that always get faster. Sometimes we lead the actions. A few weeks ago we did one called 'Amazing' which was great fun and joyful. I really like going to singing group because I like singing, and also, Tony makes us sing louder and that makes me more confident that I'll do good at the service. It makes me feel more like a Christian because I learn about Jesus through music. My best thing about Sunday mornings is that I know what's coming and I really like standing up at the front. I feel a bit scared that I'll mess all the words up when I see all the people in front of me, especially the really fast songs, but as Tony makes us practice so hard normally I don't. We all really enjoy singing at the front and hope some more people will join us.

*by Emma Jones*

If any young person would like to send something to this magazine, just email the church office, [office@christchurchilkley.org.uk](mailto:office@christchurchilkley.org.uk) and George McArthur, [mcarthur59@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:mcarthur59@blueyonder.co.uk)

# JONATHAN'S JOTTINGS

After a long and a very patient wait for crb checks to be done and other things to be in place I am finally here and eager to start work!

The first thing that hit me about Christchurch was the overwhelming love and acceptance from the church family, and the way you have made my family and me so welcome. As a Dad, the qualities Christchurch possesses are very important for me because I want my kids to feel happy and part of things. And it's worked - my kids are feeling loved, making friends quickly and loving coming to church, to the point where Caleb, on finding I'm coming here to work asks if he can come too and won't let me through the door because he wants to be here at church. My prayer is that other families and young people will find that love too, and have a desire to be in the house of God.

Over the last month I have taken on board lots of information and gained a real taste of the life of Christchurch to find out where I can best fit in and support the on-going mission of the church. I have appreciated people's hospitality— eaten some delicious cake and drunk lots of great coffee. Straight away I have re-launched Scope (a group aimed at teenagers) and, together with the teenagers and other leaders, we are going to take a closer look at discipleship and living for God.

I have also started to make contacts in the community and have assemblies booked in at local schools which I plan to visit on a regular basis.

I am both excited and encouraged about what God has planned for the youth and children's work, here at Christchurch, and I am very much looking forward to building new initiatives and projects, hopefully welcoming new young people and families to the Christchurch family.

So I just want to thank you for your ongoing support and prayers for the continuing and growing youth and children's work at Christchurch.

*Jonathan*

## **Matugga - the final amount**

The final total that we at Christchurch have raised for the boys' dormitory at Matugga is £12,300 (*£10,800 in gifts and £1,500 in tax back*). This will cover the expected build cost of £12,000 so that is great news and a big thank you to everyone.

*The World Mission and Society Committee.*

## FROM DOROTHEA JEFFREY

We completed the final checking of Kab Acts, which had been checked before and tested and is now ready for publication - probably as an audio file on a website. The next step will be to record it. I also checked two more chapters of Zam Luke. The next checking session will be in Glasgow in February.

Bakata's Mundu Youth Seminar (The Roles of Youths in the Church) seems to have gone very well. It included the following:

1. Sunday school teaching.
2. Praise and worship.
3. Bible studies.
4. Helping the needy e.g. the widowers, widows, elderly persons, etc.
5. Role model.
6. How to develop the church, etc.

Also included were lessons on the Mundu alphabet and learning new songs in the Mundu hymn book. Many youths enjoyed the seminar. We plan to have another one next year in January.

The church established for the Mundus in Yei is growing very fast and every Sunday they meet there to pray together in the Mundu language. There is also another Mundu congregation in Lasu [at DRC border - probably Congolese refugees from LRA - DJ] and they want to buy the Mundu Bible plus the hymns to be used there. We therefore ask you to keep on praying that Mundu people will embrace the things of God.

Enoka (another of the old Mundu Team) is planning a seminar for pastors and church leaders from 26<sup>th</sup> January to 6<sup>th</sup> February. He hopes to get two of the other team members from DR Congo to come and help him, and they will have sessions on "Things which cause fear in the people of God" – e.g. witchcraft, oracles and sorcery, reading Mundu and AIDS awareness. Please pray about this as communication between Sudan and DR Congo is not easy and sometimes has to be done via Belfast!

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Here below, to live is to change  
and to be perfect is to have changed often.

*Cardinal Newman*

If you would like to suggest a quote (*topical, classical, theological, literary, amusing*) please submit it to the Editors for their consideration.

## PAIN AND SUFFERING

( a response to Mike Dixon's invitation to express an opinion on Lewis' views on suffering, as portrayed in *Shadowlands*)

To dispute Lewis's theory on the meaning of suffering is to risk being thought of as presumptuous—as if I were to challenge Andy Murray to a tennis match. In either case the result would not be a win but I would hope to score a point or two.

To see suffering as God's gift to penetrate our selfishness so as to make us more lovable is to overlook a salutary purpose in physical pain. It can serve as a timely warning of an injury or the onset of a disease which, if not dealt with, might threaten our well being. The self sufficient as well as the selfless souls can be equally grateful for this early warning mechanism.

As far as concerns spiritual suffering, much of this arises from grieving: for lost loved ones, or over a sense of not belonging or over failing faculties. The loss of something that was precious is painful whether it is a relationship, a community or a healthy body. Having known the sunshine joy of these blessings of life, a shadow is cast by their loss.

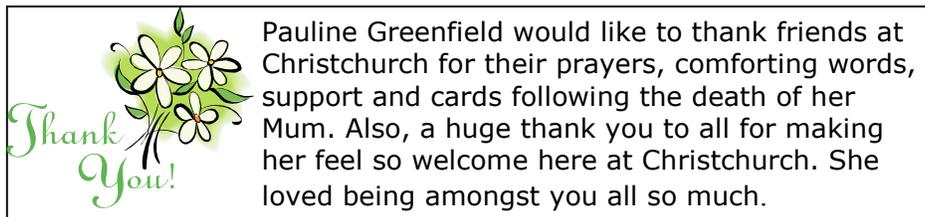
If Lewis' theory were true, surely in the cases described, the more self-sufficient a person was the greater would be his/her suffering. However, the converse seems to be the case.

I believe God wants all his people to be happy but inevitably in a world which is transitory and with human bodies which age and decay, perpetual joy is unattainable. Equally, there is an enormous disparity in the world in standards of health, wealth and geological stability all of which contribute to much more suffering.

The hymn writer caught the transient nature of this world's delights when he wrote:

*We thank thee too, that sometimes joy is touched with pain;  
That shadows fall on brightest hours; that thorns remain,  
so that Earth's joys may be our guide and not our chain.*

Brian Armitage





I hope you are all considering trying to save 10% of your carbon footprint in 2010. You need to consider where to begin.

Have you insulated your loft to modern standards (12 inch/300mm thickness)? Could you have cavity wall insulation? Is your hot water cylinder lagged? If you need to buy any new electrical appliances, choose one with a good energy rating:- A or AA.

I was delighted to receive the recommendation recently for a website that supplies eco-friendly items to help - [www.greenstamp.co.uk](http://www.greenstamp.co.uk). I have been looking for reflective panels to put behind central heating radiators on outside walls. I could not find them anywhere locally. However the website has them.

*Elisabeth Halsall*



**"Let everything that has breath praise God"**

**WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER  
Friday 5th March at 2pm  
will be held at Christchurch**

**A service prepared by Christian women of Cameroon**

**Speaker: Mrs Nicky Jenkins (Ilkley Baptist Church)**



Has anyone a working redundant FAX machine they are willing to donate to assist in Christchurch Payroll administration?  
If you can help, please contact Brian Carr, Tony Pitcairn or Mike Whitehead via the Office.

## GENTLE REMINDER

Please remember to refer all requests to use rooms at Christchurch to Val Worrall :

“We are having problems because people assume they can use any room that’s empty when they arrive. But it might have been booked for a slightly later time and, therefore, is not actually available to use. Result? Lots of apologies and manoeuvring around. If you are planning a meeting, avoid disappointment or difficulty by booking the room in good time.

The caretakers and I would appreciate your help. “

*Thank you*

*Val Worrall (Booking Secretary)*

### DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

#### Walk Through the Bible Seminar— Old Testament

Saturday 16th October at Christchurch 10am—4pm

A fun day for all ages— including activities for younger children  
Details later.

**Sophia Elizabeth Whitton** was born on 25th January.

As was the case for her big brother, Callum, there has been an overflowing of generosity and love shown towards her and all our family by the members of Christchurch. It would be impossible to thank all of you individually for all your acts of kindness; please be assured that we feel blessed by them.



Please join us in giving thanks to God for her life at her dedication during the 10:30 service on Sunday 18th April.

### Churches Together in Ilkley LENT ECUMENICAL SEMINARS

"Hope in God's Future" (*Christian discipleship in the context of climate change*).

A five week course with morning and evening sessions on Tuesdays 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd March with the fifth session incorporated into the Walk of Witness on Good Friday.  
Further details in due course.

**WORSHIP AT CHRISTCHURCH  
March 2010**

	<b>7th Lent 3</b>	<b>14th Lent 4</b>	<b>21st</b>	<b>28th Palm Sunday</b>
<b>9:00am</b>	On-Line@9	On-Line@9	On-Line@9	On-Line@9
<b>10:30am</b>	Rev Rob Hilton HC	Rev Rob Hilton	Lynda Duttine	Michael Noble
<b>6:30pm</b>	Rev Rob Hilton	2nd Sunday	3rd Sunday Rev Arnold Clay	Taize

**SHOPPERS' SERVICE EACH FRIDAY at 10:30am**  
5th—Rev Arnold Clay; 12th - Michael Noble;  
19th—Rev Dr John Morgan-Wynne; 26th - Fr Philip Gray

**CHRISTCHURCH GUILD**

Meetings are held on Wednesday afternoons at 2.30pm in the Lower Hall.  
There is always a warm welcome to both men and women.

March 2010

10th Musical afternoon (*Blanche & Gerald Woollin*)  
17<sup>th</sup> Life on the Inland Waterways (*Geoff Spurr*)  
24th Guild ecumenical anniversary:  
Special speaker— Deacon Marian Sharp (A Sacred Garden)



**The deadline for the April 2010 edition  
of Wider Horizons is 1st March.**

Items (maximum 300 words please) preferably by email, please, as a Word attachment to both George McArthur (mcarthur59@blueyonder.co.uk) and Christchurch Office (Office@christchurchilkley.org.uk)