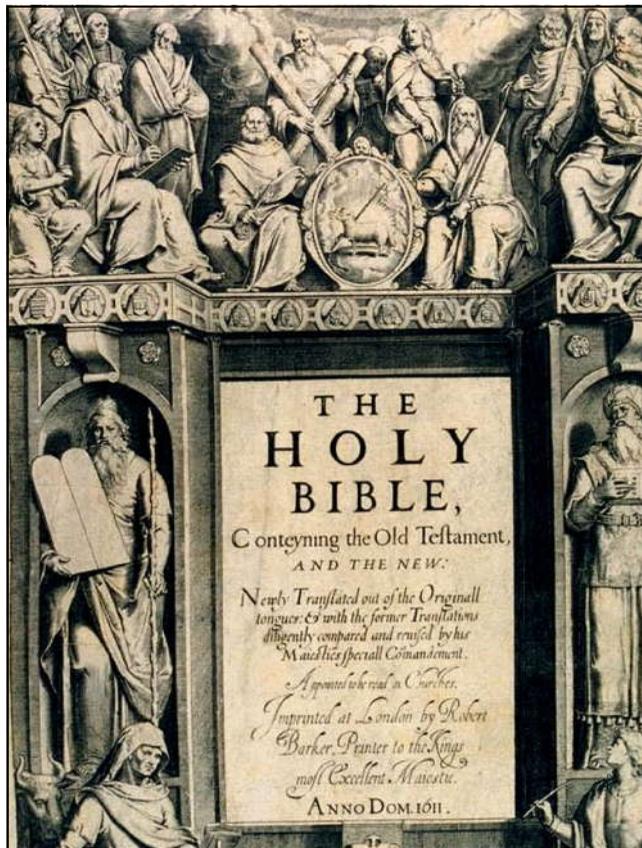


WIDER HORIZONS



In This Issue

Happy Birthday KJV!

400 years of the King James Version Bible

Biblefresh

Translation—reading, training, translation and experience

Mardi Gras Sunday 6th March

- let's really party!!!

Christchurch Stories

- Christian Friends
(Re) United

Narnia Star Comes to Christchurch

- Big Star, Big Saturday

Fairtrade—

A Big Thank You

The Methodist Church / The United Reformed Church
THE GROVE, ILKLEY



office@christchurchilkley.org.uk



www.christchurchilkley.org.uk



01943 603209

February 2011

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

You've probably noticed already that 2011 is the 400th Birthday of the King James Bible. I've recently read Adam Nicolson's book *Power and Glory*. It's an easy read, highly informative, and puts a national treasure in its original context.

When, at our Carol Service in December we used the KJV for all the lessons, and added candles and atmosphere for a traditional feel, there were some appreciative comments by people who don't usually come to church, except at Christmas. Which raises the question for us when Mission must always be on our minds – to what extent must we connect with a residual faith, or do we start completely afresh?

Another name for the KJV is the Authorised Version – under King James' predecessor sovereigns, Mary, Elizabeth, Edward, and Henry, England had oscillated between Catholic and Anglican, Pope and Puritan. The real issue behind his Bible was power. When James authorised his version to be read in churches he outlawed other versions, including the Catholic versions, and the tiny pocket versions that were used illegally! Not only is his translation full of the language of majesty and authority, but our national history is riddled with wars surrounding Kings and parliament, democracy and power.

What role religious power today? Is it shifting? What role the Bishop in the House of Lords compared to the Imam in the community in Bradford or Keighley? How do either of these use their Scriptures compared to the way you and I do so?

The real gift we are asked to celebrate in 2011 is the gift of the Bible in the English language, and I'm very happy to do so, whichever version it is (and I, like you, have my personal favourites!). But let us beware the religious baggage that comes with it. In these days where Mission must be our priority, let us share our scriptures gently and humbly, creatively and carefully; let us claim no power for the Bible at all except the God who reveals himself in Jesus within its pages; and let us listen very carefully to the response of those with whom we share our faith.



I'm off now to read David Crystal's book "Bogat", which is about how the KJV shaped our language and gave it well-known phrases. There should be something there for the Missionary to latch on to!

With every Good Wish,

God bless,

Rob.

Biblefresh Translation.

Biblefresh, happening through 2011, celebrates the 400th anniversary since the publication of the King James Version, and asks churches to agree to increase their level of biblical engagement in four ways: reading, training, translation and experience.



The translation part of the pledge focusses on the African nation of Burkino Faso. Phil Prior, Head of Marketing and Communications for Wycliffe Bible Translators has just arrived back from an investigative trip there for Biblefresh. Here's a taste of his experience:

'Well, this has been a rather hectic week. Last Friday morning I left the UK and flew to Burkina Faso with a journalist and a photographer to visit a couple of language groups in the Bissa region of the country. Two flights and a three hour car journey later, we were meeting pastors and church leaders who, as yet, preach to a congregation from a Bible in a language that most don't understand.

All the heat and passion of an African church service is there, but with only about 10% of the population understanding French it's a real struggle to teach. Even the pastors are saying that they have to use two or three different language versions of the Bible to get even a partial understanding of what the real meaning is.

The highlight of the trip has been visiting local people in their homes and hearing about their lives and how they have come to know God, despite the difficulties.

Read more at www.philprior.co.uk/mylife

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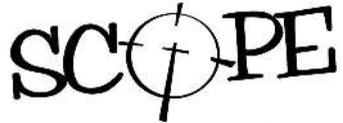
winter is on its way out slowly and not very far away will be spring and Easter, bringing new life, new beginnings and new growth.

Last year saw the launch of the Big Saturday events and for me my number one prayer is for our relationship with children and their families to grow, so that we see a regular attendance from families and that the children really grasp hold of the love of Jesus, and that it impacts their families and friends.

I am hoping that children that come to the Big Saturday events will also come to the holiday club that will run over a four day period.

So please pray for the development and the outworking of both these events, and also if you would like to maybe help at either or both these events then please come talk to me.

You don't have to be an all singing, all dancing kids' worker, but be able to maybe spend some time doing some craft with a small group, or sit and have coffee with some of the parents, or even help with the register when kids come to the door.



Scope this year will also be developing and growing, as we look to encourage our youth and help them to live for Christ.

This year we are running with a rolling programme that will have five different themed nights.

A discipleship night, devotions night, Games night, mission's night and word and worship night.

All these nights will take on various attributes that will challenge our young people emotionally, spiritually, physically and creatively and over all continue to challenge their faith and belief in Christ.

So again please pray for the young people and also if anyone is interested in getting involved in the work with young people come and have a chat with myself or Christine and Roland Henney.

Jonathan Logan

CHRISTCHURCH PRAYER CALENDAR

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

February 2011

6th

Those who visit Christchurch and find peace in the sanctuary and ask for prayer; The Blenheim Project in Bradford – offering support and temporary accommodation to homeless women and their children

13th

The work of the Christchurch Resources Committee, who handle our finances and care for our property; Caring for Life, Cookridge, a project we currently support - sharing the love of Jesus in a practical way with broken, hurting and deeply vulnerable people.

20th Education Sunday

Our work with children, young people and their families; all who work in education here and abroad that they may retain their vision and enthusiasm and for all pupils that they may respond to their opportunities.

27th (28 February - 13 March Fairtrade Fortnight)

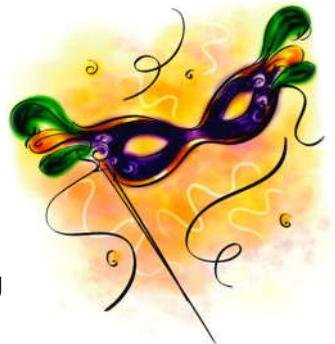
Fairtrade between countries and our regular Traidcraft stall; those who lead our worship week by week;

The Prayer Calendar of our weekly concerns in 2011 has now been prepared and will be used in Wider Horizons and weekly notices throughout the year. However you are welcome to have a copy of your own – please ask at the church office.

Mardi Gras Sunday – 6th March

Mardi Gras is traditionally a carnival lasting for 3 days – Sunday to Shrove Tuesday. So this year, let's celebrate God's abundance with more than just Pancake Tuesday – let's really party!!!

On Sunday 6th March there will be one big festival of worship, fun, friendship and of course food. Look out for details in the noticesheet but note there will be no On-line@9 or 10.30am service, but worship for everyone will start at 10am.



Christchurch Comings and Goings

We record the death of : Mrs. Margaret Kohlmann and give thanks for her life.

We welcome back Ian Cumberland and his wife Natalia with daughters Julia and Alicia.

We welcome Mrs. Edna Reynard to Ilkley. She has moved here from Huddersfield to be nearer John and Lis.

Please continue to keep your directory up to date by noting down the comings and goings.

Thank you.



Churches Together Holiday Club

Last year, at the Churches Together Holiday Club over 60 children engaged with the theme of Monsters Stink! through fun, games, teaching, singing and drama. The date for this year's Churches Together in Ilkley Holiday Club will be Monday 8th August until Friday 12th August, 10am until 12noon every day with an extra celebration on Friday 12th August.

Our hosts this year are the Baptist Church on Kings Road, which is a great venue with three large spaces to use in various ways. Thank you Baptists! It is wonderful working with people from different churches on this project, which impacts our community and many children who don't attend our formal church services. Please consider if you would like to be involved in some way – with the children, drama, refreshments, craft, games, music – there's something for everyone.

Our first meeting will be: Wednesday 9th February at 8pm at Ruth Jones' house. This meeting will be to review last year's holiday club and to think about a theme for this year's. Bring along Holiday Club material you have done in the past to offer for discussion.

thanks

Ruth Jones





Christchurch stories

Christian Friends (Re)-United

Ann lives on her own in a flat at Silsden. For a number of years she has suffered from a chronic condition that has rendered her virtually housebound. A woman of deep Christian faith, Ann attended her local Methodist church until her illness made this impossible and she now relies on occasional visits from members of that church family.

Around four years ago Ann was introduced to the Christchurch Tape Ministry through Lynda and Philip Smith who themselves were comparatively new to Christchurch at that time. On starting to receive the tapes, Ann became able to listen to God's word and share in the weekly worship. This quickly became a blessing to the point where she was starting to recognise the voices of the various readers and preachers.

Listening to the tape one day, Ann thought that the reader's voice struck a particular chord from many years past. When the reading was completed she heard the preacher say, "Thank you, Norman." Ann then wondered if this could be the Norman Davis that she had known some thirty years previously when they had worked together at a school for handicapped children at Hawksworth, Guiseley.

Some weeks ago I visited Ann for the first time and was able to confirm her recollection of that 'distinctive voice.' Subsequent to this, I took Norman to visit Ann and was able to sit back and witness the joyful re-union of two people who had not seen one another since the early 1980's. There was much updating of the intervening years including the whereabouts and circumstances of old colleagues following the closure of the Hawksworth School some while ago.

There was no hesitation on anybody's part that the appropriate ending for such a visit was to have a time of prayer where God was given the glory for friends being re-united.

Trevor Buckroyd

Christchurch in the News

20/12/2010

Ilkley Gazette

A church in Ilkley has been transformed into the magical land of Narnia for advent.

Wintry landscapes reminiscent of the icy scenes from popular children's book and film *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe* have taken over at the family-friendly Methodist and URC church.

Minister Rob Hilton says the theme will be the cold and dark of a winter without Christmas, thawed by God's love and the arrival of Jesus.



www.urc.org.uk

The Revd Rob Hilton, minister of Christchurch, says: "Our longing for mission, and desire to connect with the people of Ilkley, was the driving force behind building Narnia in Christchurch. We wanted to take the opportunities of Advent to draw people into church and towards Jesus this Christmas, and decided to link with the Christian themes of Narnia, and the current release of *Voyage of the Dawn Treader*. We've been really pleased with the effect it's had – lots of people have been stopping by to take a look and it's certainly got people talking!"

Narnia Star Comes to Big Saturday

Children at December's Big Saturday were delighted when they were visited by the Narnia movie star Georgina Henley. Georgina took time out from her hectic schedule promoting the latest Chronicles of Narnia movie "Voyage of the Dawn Treader"

Jonathan Logan contacted Georgina to tell her about the Narnia theme adopted for advent and how C.S. Lewis's story of sacrifice and resurrection would be used as a way of de-mystifying Christ's crucifixion and resurrection.

"We are very grateful that Georgina, who lives in Ilkley, found the time to talk with the children, pose for photos and sign autographs. Her visit really made our Narnia theme come to life and had a big impact on the children at Big Saturday."



The next Big Saturday
5th February 10am to 12pm



Maternity Worldwide (a charity we are currently supporting at Christchurch)

Maternity Worldwide is working to save lives in childbirth in developing countries - particularly in Ethiopia. Each year approximately 529,000 women die during pregnancy and childbirth - over 99% of deaths occur in the developing world - and 11 million women suffer injury, infection or illness as a result of childbirth.



Maternity Worldwide works with local partners to improve the obstetrics services they offer by training local staff and providing essential equipment in hospitals and health centres. They also run projects to enable women to access guidance, advice and help. In particular, they help women to plan ahead for a possible 3 day journey to the hospital for the birth. Maternity Worldwide also provides women with small business training and loans. This not only helps to reduce poverty at household level but improves women's status and their ability to get better health care. The loans are repaid into community accounts so they can be lent out again to other women. (Adrian Brown - son of Stan - and some of his hospital colleagues offer their personal medical expertise and training skills to help develop maternity services for Western Ethiopia) More information on www.maternityworldwide.org

Out of the Mouths of Babes!

A nursery teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work.

As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."



**Listening to Your body— Friday 28th January 2011
10am – 3pm**

Would you like to be **Healthy, Whole** and **Energetic**? When you stop and listen to your body it will tell you what it needs to maintain your **Health** and bring **Healing**. This day will give you a chance to relax and rest, stretch and meditate, reconnect your mind, body and soul. Learn how to maximise the energy in your body through awareness.

The day will include opportunities for quiet time, massage, use of essential oils, meditation, exercise and wholesome food.

The cost for the day is £10 and spaces are limited.

**Women breaking free - Listening to Survivors
Sunday 13th March 2011. 9am-5pm**

This is a day retreat for women survivors of childhood sexual abuse. The retreat, for anyone prepared to explore their journey further, offers confidential and safe space for personal reflection, conversation and spiritual growth. A time to nurture the vulnerable parts of yourself. There will be opportunities for creativity, exploration and relaxation.

Led by Penny Johnson MBACP (accred.), Rev Dr Barbara Glasson and Julia Klaus MIGHT (massage).

The cost for the day is £25.

To book places on either of these events, please contact Ruth Hilton on 01274 721626 or email:

ruth@touchstone-bradford.org.uk

***Coming Soon at Touchstone: Thursday 24th March – Study Day.
May 2011 Mental Health First Aid course. More details to follow.***

The Green Spot—



Soon the dreaded energy bills will be arriving and we will find out how much we have spent on keeping warm in the very cold weather before Christmas. Perhaps this is a good time to find out how we can save some energy in the kitchen and be really 'green' in our coping with waste.

Turn off the oven 10 minutes before the food is due to be cooked, leaving the residual heat in the oven to finish cooking the food.

Use a lid every time you boil vegetables and only use enough water to cover them.

Never put anything hot in the fridge.

Don't throw away leftovers – be creative and invent ways of using them in the next meal.

Compost your vegetable waste.

Add shredded paper and cardboard to your compost heap.

Using a microwave cooker can save electricity when cooking vegetables compared to on the hob. Pressure cookers also save energy as the food cooks more quickly.

Elisabeth Halsall



*"Do you have any idea how much it costs
to heat this place?"*

A BIG THANK YOU

To all those who ordered from the Christmas catalogue. The total value of orders placed reached over £1000 - Terrific!

Please continue to support our stall in the Coffee Centre on the first Sunday of each month. We are always set up by 9.50am and would be pleased to see you either between the morning services or after the 10.30 service.



Fairtrade fortnight in 2011 is from 28 February to 13 March. To raise awareness, our stall will be set up in the foyer on two Saturday mornings, 5 and 12 March. This year the Fairtrade Foundation is encouraging people to increase the range of fair-trade goods they buy and encourage other people to do the same by talking about the benefits of fair-trade. The focus is on fair-trade cotton, honey and tea.

Ilkley Fairtrade Group will be organising a special event on Saturday 5 March, hopefully incorporating a bunting-decorating session, using fairly-traded cotton fabric of course. Look out for more information on posters and in the Ilkley Gazette.

We look forward to your support for these events because

BUYING FAIRTRADE REALLY DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO LIVES

John and Judith Bray

A Good Use For a Spare Diary?...

Have you thought of keeping a Bible journal through 2011? This is simply a personal notebook in which you record those bible readings, texts, stories that have touched you or challenged you each day, with your reflections. It's just for you, unless you choose to share it at some point, and it's a way of engaging with the scripture at a deeper level. If you got more than one diary or calendar for Christmas, then why not turn one into a journal?



www.biblefresh.com

Gracias



Dear friends,

We are a couple of weeks into Advent now, the season of waiting for Immanuel, 'God with us.' Over Thanksgiving we shared a beautiful event with our neighbours and we all had the privilege of seeing God with us.

The plans were made ahead of time, a potluck, each neighbour agreeing to bring at least one dish, the children working to make table decorations. The day came and it was a feast fit for a king!

Plenty of delicious autumnal veggies, and Gerardo, our friend who works at the local butcher, furnished us with an entire leg of pork, and desserts to die for. As we sat, we took time to reflect on the past year, sharing stories of what we're grateful for.

Later as our InnerCHANGE team reflected on the event we became aware of the presence of Christ with us on a deeper level. Two neighbours who shared animosity throughout the year had become reconciled. Many of the people who came were poor; many had had physical afflictions; some have experienced loss of family members, broken homes, abuse...yet the spirit around the table was one of innocent delight in sharing this banquet. A sincere spirit of gratitude and celebration infused the entire afternoon. Beautiful.

"Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame." 'Sir,' the servant said, 'what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.' Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full.'" - Luke 14: 16-24

We had the privilege of dining at the banquet of the Master that day.

That same Master is the one we're now waiting for in Advent, his invitation is to all. Will you come?

With anticipation,

Alastair Rundle—Team Leader at InnerChange, Los Angeles

God's Own County?

A southerner was on holiday in Lancashire when he noticed a golden telephone mounted on the wall of a church. Next to it was a sign that read '£1,000 per call'. The priest told him it was a direct line to heaven and that for £1,000 the visitor could talk to God. The traveller saw the same phone and call charge in several places as he toured the Red Rose County.

Travelling down the Calder Valley into Hebden Bridge he saw the same golden telephone in the local church. This time the sign under it read '50 pence per call'.

He was surprised so he asked the minister about the sign.

"I've travelled all over Lancashire and I've seen this same golden telephone in many churches. I'm told that it is a direct line to Heaven, but in Lancashire the price was £1,000 per call. Why is it so cheap here?"

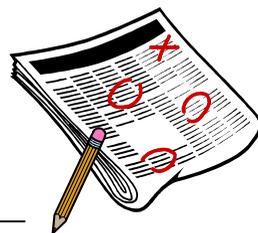
The minister smiled and answered, "You're in Yorkshire now, lad ... it's a local call."

Churches Together in Ilkley seeks to fill two key roles

CTI is looking for a Deputy Lay Moderator to work alongside Revd Peter Willox, the current Moderator, and take over from him at the AGM in May 2011.

At this time we shall also be looking for a new secretary to take over from Mavis Currie.

If you are interested in either of these two roles and would like more information, or if you can suggest someone whom we might approach, please contact either Peter Willox or Mavis Currie .



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

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)



WORSHIP AT CHRISTCHURCH February 2011



	6th	13th	20th	27th
09:00am	On-line@9	On-line@9	On-line@9	On-line@9
10:30am	Rev Rob Hilton HC	Rev Rob Hilton	Eagle/ Buckroyd	Rev Rob Hilton
06:30pm	Rev Arnold Clay	Rev Rob Hilton	3rd Sunday @ All Saints	No Preacher

SHOPPERS' SERVICE EACH FRIDAY at 10:30am

A 20 minute time of reflection
4th Rev Rob Hilton , 11th Margaret Cook,
18th Rev Arnold Clay, 25th Rev Dick Watson

Circuit Quiz

The famous annual circuit quiz will be held on Saturday 5th February, 7:15pm start at Ben Rhydding Methodist Church. Open to everyone. Not too serious! Supper, prizes and fun.

Tickets cost £4 each and need to be bought *in advance* from Geoff Halsall .



Dates for your diary

Church Meeting: Tues 08 February, Wed 19 May, Thurs 08 September, Mon 07 November

Church Council: Tues 08 March, Wed 15 June, Thurs 29 September, Mon 05 December

Christchurch Guild

February 2nd Member's Afternoon

February 9th Rev Rob Hilton

February 16th Ian Hutchinson—"Gideon's Throughout the World"

February 23rd Chris & Enid Eagle — "Sailing East to the Pyramids"

For information about meetings during periods of extreme weather, please call Adele McArthur or Maureen Adams