

WIDER HORIZONS



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A Long Time Coming!

"Singing The Faith" is nearly here

'All Things Are Held Together In Christ'.

A Letter From Liz Smith, Chair of Leeds District

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September **2011**

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

In conversation recently with a Christchurch member we came up with an image that we both rather liked. Can I share it with you for prayerful reflection?

We had been talking about the way Christians often believe slightly different things, and certainly believe and express their faith in different ways. I was playing Devil's advocate (in order to promote an engaging conversation, you understand!) and must have appeared very liberal. In defence of my unwillingness to promote many certainties and a prescriptive approach to faith, we came up with the image of Maypole dancing as a metaphor for Christian faith. Each Christian is an individual, holding on to their faith, a coloured ribbon and weaving in and out, dancing round others, learning from them, and weaving their own path. But together a beautiful and unexpected tapestry of ribbon, the church is created.

The Maypole of course is Jesus Christ. I will happily wear the label liberal, because I believe in the freedom of each believer to find their way in faith under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It can be a joy for each of us to delight in each other's path, and that is what fellowship is about. But, and this was the only thing I was prepared to be quite forthright on, the centre around which we dance is Jesus Christ – in all his wonderful beauty and grace.

I think we can apply this image in many ways - to our housegroups and the way we share fellowship together; we can apply it to our worship – especially with members of the 10.30 congregation seeking a positive way forward (as expressed elsewhere in this edition); and, of course we can apply this image to our new circuit.

From September 2011 Christchurch belongs to the Wharfedale and Aireborough Circuit of the Leeds District of the Methodist Church. We shall be dancing with new people, sharing the dance with people we are only just getting to know, and perhaps making a mess sometimes that those around us will smile at and even laugh at!



But the most important thing is that we enjoy the dance together, for none of us can dance alone; and of course that it's Jesus around whom we dance.

Happy Dancing!

God bless,

Rob

CHRISTCHURCH PRAYER CALENDAR

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

September

4

- Children starting new schools and young people moving on to higher education or first jobs.
- The autumn Synod of the West Yorkshire Methodist district meeting at Silsden Methodist Church on 10th September.

11 Racial Justice Sunday

- New joint Circuit; Alastair and Catherine Rundle – working with InnerCHANGE, a project we are currently supporting, among the Latino poor in Los Angeles.
- For the Housegroup leaders, hosts and members as the new session starts.

18

- Harvest, celebrating the networks and organisations who support farmers through difficult and changing times.
- Outreach through Music Movers to toddlers and their families.

25

- The Worship committee in its focus on the development of worship at Christchurch
- CTI lunch club on Thursdays at Ilkley Baptist Church.

JonaThan's jOttingS

A fresh new academic year and a year that brings lots of new possibilities and the exciting start of new projects.

This September will be the launch of our new TLG (The Lighthouse Group) early years intervention scheme.

We will be launching the first mentoring scheme in Ben Rhydding primary school and will be expanding into other schools in the area over the year.

The scheme will really impact children and their families that are facing various issues in their lives, helping them to overcome them and make the most out of their schooling and education.

This September will also see the launch of our new theme for the Big Saturday events called the J team.

The J team is a play, object lessons, bible stories, activities and crafts based around Luke's gospel.

The J team will travel in their space ship on a great adventure to discover the truths about Big J and all that he has for our lives.

The young people in Scope will also be venturing out into the community and will be looking at getting involved in various community projects.

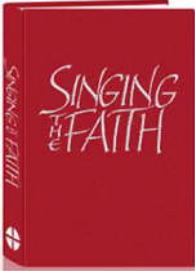
Keep praying for our young people as they look at ways to reach our community through sharing their faith.

Our children will have all moved up in schools some starting primary school for the first time and others starting secondary school and for some leaving us and starting university.

I am both sad but very excited for Lucy Mannall and Emilly Cade who are both leaving to go to university, please continue to pray for them as they are still very much a part of us at Christchurch.

All of these changes bring excitement and growth in all our work with children, young people and their families, and I for one am looking forward to a great season of growth and development.

*Jonathan Logan
Young People and Families worker*



It's been a long time coming!

The publication of the new Methodist hymn book (Singing the Faith) is imminent.

The contents' list has been analysed to help us understand how it might be used at Christchurch. The Worship Committee felt a set of words-only books for use in the Sanctuary was unnecessary given our extensive use of printed orders of service and screens, although copies used elsewhere (the Guild, evening worship, funerals, etc) would be useful. Church Council agreed to place a pre-publication order for one music copy (£25) and one words-only copy (£7.50) plus the electronic version (£25). The situation will be reviewed when the musicians, worship leaders, preachers etc have had an opportunity to study "Singing the Faith" in more detail.

We are conscious some folk might like to buy their own copies, however. If you would like to do so, please place your order in writing (with cheque payable to Christchurch) with me by 30th September.

NB Had it occurred to you that "Hymns and Psalms " isn't new any more ? It is now 28 years old!

Margo Atkinson
Secretary, Worship Committee

Noticeboard Bloopers!

The minister will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing, "Break Forth into Joy."

Today's Sermon: HOW MUCH CAN A MAN DRINK? with hymns from a full choir

Eight new choir robes are currently needed, due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones



"DUE TO THE POOR RESPONSE TO THE ROOF REPAIR FUND WE CANNOT AFFORD TO LIFT THE RAFTERS WHEN RETOILING IN SONG."

We are sad to record the death of Mrs. Edna Condon. Our love and prayers go to her family.

For those who have recently moved home we send our best wishes to them in their new homes .

Pauline Mudge.

Michael, Frances, Zachary and Miriam Robinson.
Contact Christchurch Office for full details.



We welcome the arrival of Thomas William Peart, born on 20th July, to Ann and Andy, brother for Alice and grandson for Elisabeth and Geoff Halsall. Much happiness to all.

Our love and congratulations go to two newly married couples: Katie Hutchinson, daughter of Heather, married Leo Carne at Burnsall Church on 25th July; Richard Noble, son of Janice and Michael, married Clare Tinsley at Burnsall Church on 6th August.

Whilst on holiday in Ilkley from Adelaide, Kathryn Amos, daughter of Juliet and Steve, became engaged to be married to Jason Grech. We send our love and congratulations.

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

Please come along and support Ilkley Churches Together:
Christian Aid Coffee afternoon Saturday 10th September from 1:00—4:00pm at Christchurch Coffee Centre.

There will be a cake stall and a second- hand book stall - all donations for these will be gratefully received, either on the day or they can be given to Ruth Hilton beforehand. In a change to previous years, tea/coffee will be paid for at the counter, although a small number of advance tickets will be available from either Ruth Hilton or the office.

Also, on **Saturday 1st October**, there is an event, 'Bearing Witness' in Manchester jointly organised by Christian Aid and various other Christian development charities. It coincides with the Conservative Party conference that weekend, and the idea is to present the church's response to the injustice of climate change.

There will be the chance to hear from inspiring speakers, take part in

Continued

workshops with overseas partners, and attend an ecumenical service in the cathedral.

This is a copy of the itinerary:

12 midday: Manchester's Methodist Central Hall - Christian Aid afternoon of workshops and talks on climate change, tax and other campaign issues. Light refreshments provided.

5pm: Manchester Cathedral - Joint ecumenical service followed by a procession and candlelit vigil outside the Conservative party conference venue.

7.30pm: Finish

The Hilton family are planning to catch the 9.40am train from Ilkley to attend this event - and would welcome as many other people as can to join us! Please do give Ruth a ring or pop a note in the H pigeon hole. It's a great opportunity to (almost) campaign on our doorstep!



So you worship regularly at Christchurch? But is it a rather too familiar setting?

A glance at the visitors' book on the landing will perhaps sharpen your view:

“Very peaceful”

“A nice surprise”

“A lovely place
for peace and

“Inspiring”

“Beautiful”

“A welcome oasis

“Thank you for

Margo Atkinson

King James and all that!

How much do you know about the Bible?

1 The Bible (or parts of it) has been translated into how many languages? a) 129; b) 2,479; c) 4,212

2 When were the New Testament and Psalms first published in Welsh Braille? a) 1895; b) 1950; c) 2010

3 How many Bibles and New Testaments have been printed in China since 1987? a) 20,000; b) 3,500,000; c) 50,000,000

4 Which phrase is not derived from the Bible? a) A lean and hungry look; b) A fly in the ointment; c) Can a leopard change his spots

5 How often does the phrase "Do not be afraid" appear in the Bible? a) 38; b) 121; c) 365

6 What did Adam and Eve wear in the Geneva Bible of 1560? a) aprons; b) breeches; c) napkins

7 How many times are angels mentioned in the New Testament? a) 57; b) 165; c) 312

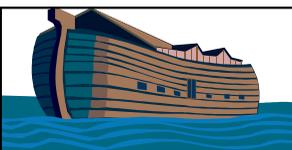
8 Where in Westminster Abbey did the translators of the King James Bible supposedly meet? a) The Chamber of Secrets; b) The Dean's Den; c) The Jerusalem Chamber

Answers inside the back page

50 word Bible

God made, Adam bit, Noah arked, Abraham split, Joseph ruled, Jacob fooled, Bush talked, Moses balked, Pharaoh plagued, People walked, Sea divided, Tablets guided, Promise landed, Saul freaked, David peeked, Prophets warned, Jesus born, God walked, Love talked, Anger crucified, Hope died, Love rose, Spirit flamed, Word spread, God remained.

In the July issue of Wider Horizons there was an article about the replica of Noah's ark that has been built in Dordrecht, not far from Rotterdam.



Would anyone would be interested in going on a trip to see this?

Julia Collington

Churches Together In Ilkley – Churches Together Walk

On Bank Holiday Monday 29th August CTI is holding a walk around the boundaries of the town culminating in a bring your own picnic and (organised) games at the Cow and Calf rocks.

The walk is open to everyone of all ages and is around 5 miles in total. You can do the whole walk or just do a short section.

The idea will be to enjoy God's beautiful creation, have fun and fellowship together and also to pray for the town as we walk. At the end of each short section of the walk a different part of the town will be prayed for.

Walk begins at 11:00am and concludes at approximately 3:00pm

Please reply to Rev Lee Townend to confirm your place(s) - more details will follow. Tel: 01943 430693 or email: leethevicar@gmail.com

Ruth Jones

From Dorothea Jeffrey, Wycliffe Bible Translators

My various trips in July have gone well. At the beginning of the month I spent a couple of days doing the final check of John's Gospel in Kab and also checking two more chapters of Genesis. After that I attended the ordination of my cousin Pauline by the Bishop of London in St Paul's Cathedral – a wonderful experience.

My next trip was to the Wycliffe Headquarters at Horsleys Green near High Wycombe where I was helping to lead a seminar on "Translating for Audio". I had been quite nervous about this, but it went well. After that there was a Team Meeting of the group which focus on the languages of one particular country which I am interested in. I always enjoy these Team Meetings. This year we were blessed and encouraged by a series of messages on the book of Isaiah. The theme of Eagles Wings seemed particularly appropriate in Horsleys Green, where we so often see red kites soaring effortlessly around.

After that I'll go down to Dublin to help with the community testing of some stories from Genesis in Irish Sign Language (12th to 14th August).

On 9th July South Sudan became Africa's newest nation, amid great celebrations. However the new nation faces many challenges. Of particular concern is security on the border between South Sudan and the Republic of the Sudan to the North. According to the BBC,

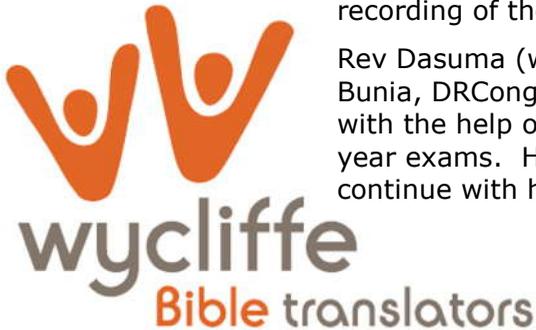
Continued Overleaf

recent clashes in the Republic of the Sudan's South Kordofan region (which borders South Sudan) have resulted in some 70,000 people being displaced from their homes.

In Mundu-land (500+ miles south of where the trouble is) Seme and Dominic are continuing to work on the script of the Jesus film in Mundu. Dominic is also working on the translation of Exodus. Enoka's son, Ngaimoko, is continuing to work on the recording of the songs in Mundu Hymnbook.

Rev Dasuma (who is studying Theology in Bunia, DR Congo) sent me a text to say that with the help of God he got 60% in his first year exams. He is hoping to be able to continue with his studies.

Adele McArthur



In his book "Silence and Honeycakes" Rowan Williams writes:

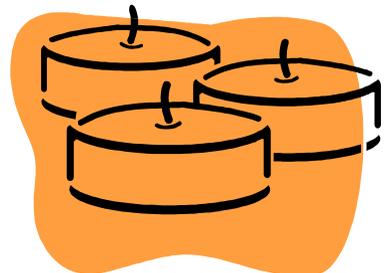
"Meditation is the missing dimension in much Christian life today.

Meditation is a direct pilgrimage to your own centre, to your own heart. To enter the simplicity of it means learning a discipline. With faith and patience Meditation leads to deeper and deeper realms of silence.

It is simple and practical. It is about experience rather than theory, a way of being rather than thinking. Because of the profound effect Meditation has on one's life, a way of living from the deep centre of one's being in every situation".

If you would wish to know more contact:

The World Community of Christian Meditation
International Centre
St Marks
Myddleton Square
London EC1R 1XX
www.wccm.org



Coat tails flying

Written nearly 50 years ago "Lord of the Dance" (words by Sydney Carter, tune borrowed from a Shaker hymn) has been sung at countless baptisms, weddings and funerals.

It was omitted from the 1983 Hymns and Psalms in the mistaken belief the work was transitory! How wrong can you be? The appeal of the song is truly international: it has even been heard in the Solomon Islands sung in pigeon English.

The original Shaker one-verse song "Simple Gifts" was used for dancing. A manuscript titled the work "quick dance". It has become a symbol of American heritage. Opera singers performed it at President Ronald Reagan's second and President Bill Clinton's first inaugurations and the tune played at the inauguration of Barack Obama (pre-recorded: It being too cold for the musicians to do other than mime!). It was also sung at President Richard Nixon's funeral.

So what are Shakers? The United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing, a religious sect thought to be a development of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), were noted for their vigorous worship – singing "Simple Gifts" while turning with coat tails flying! Shakers shared their songs and products with the public, the very survival of their celibate society depending on recruiting new members. Recognised for their creativity, they claim to have invented the common flat broom and apparently were the first to sell garden seeds in packets.

Just for the record: "Simple Gifts" was also borrowed by Aaron Copeland for his ballet suite, "Appalachian Spring", composed in 1944.

Margo Atkinson



The Green Thing

In the line at the supermarket, the cashier told an older woman that she should bring her own grocery bags because plastic bags weren't good for the environment.

The woman apologised and explained, "We didn't have the green thing back in my day."

The cashier responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment."

He was right -- our generation didn't have the green thing in its day.

Back then, we returned milk bottles, pop bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilised and refilled, so they really were recycled.

But we didn't have the green thing back in our day.

We walked up stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the shops and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go half a mile.

But she was right. We didn't have the green thing in our day.

Back then, we washed the baby's nappies because we didn't have the throw-away kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in a machine burning up 220 volts -- wind and solar power really did dry the clothes. Kids got hand-me down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing.

But that old lady is right; we didn't have the green thing back in our day.

Back then, we had one TV, or radio, in the house -- not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief (remember them?), not a screen the size of a house. In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us.

When we packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, we used a wadded up old newspaper to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn petrol just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity.

But she's right; we didn't have the green thing back then.

We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole

razor just because the blade got dull.

But we didn't have the green thing back then.

Back then, people took the train or bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their parents into a 24-hour taxi service.

We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances.

Isn't it sad the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn't have the green thing back then?

The Green Spot

I was asked by a member of Christchurch if I had used Ecoballs in my washing machine. I had not, but decided to try them after hearing her recommendations. You add one or two Ecoballs (depending on how dirty the clothes are) to the laundry in your machine and wash at your normal temperature. The balls work by increasing the alkalinity of the water. This kills bacteria and acts like soap to lift dirt from the fabrics. The Ecoballs are hypo-allergenic and safe for sensitive skin.



The manufacturer claims you can save money as balls last for 150 washes, saving the cost of expensive detergents. If your washing machine has a 'rinse hold' setting you can also reduce water by cutting out the last rinse. You will also reduce water pollution from detergents.

My advice is to use the Ecoballs for normal washes but use liquid or powder detergent for heavily soiled laundry. Washing machine repairmen often advise doing a hot wash with powder every so often to keep your machine clean and trouble free.

- No toxic chemicals
- No harsh detergents
- No petrochemicals
- No animal testing



Elisabeth Halsall

Students have departed – what next?

During the summer months we have been very fortunate to have students helping in the coffee centre, in order for it to run smoothly and continue our outreach to the community. They have now returned to their studies thus leaving us with BIG GAPS on the rota.

Could **YOU** offer us **2 hours** of your time per **week / fortnight / month** to enable the coffee centre to continue our outreach to the community and provide vital funds for the church.

PLEASE PLEASE either call in the Coffee Centre and ask for details or contact Pauline Greenfield or Hilary Williams





situations vacant

We would like to introduce an occasional feature in Wider Horizons. With great originality it seemed appropriate to head it "Situations Vacant"

Anyone who needs volunteers to undertake various tasks in our church, would be welcome to use this feature to reach the maximum number of members of our congregation.

Vacancies exist for the following at the moment:

Health & Safety Officer.

This involves working on all matters pertaining to H & S within the church. We presently have Brian Blowers undertaking this job in the Coffee Centre and Brian has said he will assist whoever takes on this task.

Fire Officer.

Ensure that current fire regulations are adhered to and that all activities within the church are carried out with fire safety in mind. This also involves occasionally liaising with the Fire Service, to ensure that we are abreast of current regulations.

Volunteers for Lifts To & From Church.

We would like to set up a group of volunteers who would be prepared to offer their services as and when required. This would not necessarily be a regular commitment, but just be available, when people are short of transport either for Sunday services or meetings in the week.

If you think you could help with any (or all!) of the above please contact the undersigned or any Church Steward.

In addition we should add that the Coffee Centre is desperate for more volunteers to help throughout the day, so anyone who could give some time in the week to this important duty, please contact Pauline Greenfield or any member of the Coffee Centre Committee.

Thank you

John Stanley

Chair of the District:
Revd. Dr. Elizabeth A. Smith

To the Methodist Churches of the Ilkley Circuit

Dear Friends

As we approach the end of this connexional year I am very aware of the time of change and transition in which you find yourselves, as you prepare to move on from being the Ilkley circuit in the West Yorkshire District, to become part of the new Wharfedale & Aireborough circuit in the Leeds District.

The re-configuring of the circuits involved has taken much time and energy over recent months, especially among members of the Circuit Leadership Teams. I am immensely grateful to them for all of their work. I am also mindful of all of those – lay and ordained - from the Ilkley circuit who have served in district responsibilities in any way over past years. I am sure that all you have shared has been greatly appreciated, and I encourage you to discover fresh avenues of ministry and service in your new circuit and district.

Changing our name and our identity is something that none of us does lightly, and I know there will be some feelings of regret and wistfulness as you prepare to move on. The change of name and becoming part of a different district, however, does not change or eliminate any of the history of the churches in the Ilkley circuit. You can continue to be proud of all the ways in which the Methodist Christian presence in the communities you seek to serve has been distinctive and immensely valuable, over many years. My prayer is that the enlarged circuit with all its challenges and resources will enable that distinctive presence to continue to be expressed in traditional and in fresh ways, that look to the future.

We look forward to giving you a warm welcome in the Leeds district. I especially look forward to the inaugural service in September in Otley, and to all the opportunities in the coming weeks and months of getting to know some of you personally. I end with some words from the passage in Colossians that was the focus of our Bible study at Methodist Conference this year. We are assured that **'all things are held together in Christ'**. The breadth of this phrase is enormous. It speaks

of all things: the heights and the depths and all of creation, but it also speaks a word of hope to the smaller scale things that we seek to 'hold together', whether they be circuits, districts, or a connexional church. We are held together in Christ, and no changes of circuit or district geography can alter that.

I wish the new Wharfedale and Aireborough circuit every blessing in its mission and ministry

With every good wish,

Liz

Liz Smith, Chair of District

Wider Horizons Editor

After many years of service in ensuring Wider Horizons gets published, George McArthur is standing down as sub-editor. We've taken the opportunity to restructure, and so we welcome Rita Armitage to the editing team. Her role, alongside Steve Amos, will be to look at how we can make Wider Horizons more interesting, more informative and easier to use, with regular items in regular places. Mike Fawcett will continue to be our design and production guru, and our teams of proof readers and stapler/folders will continue to work quietly and efficiently in the background.

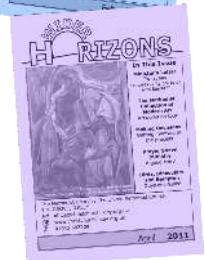
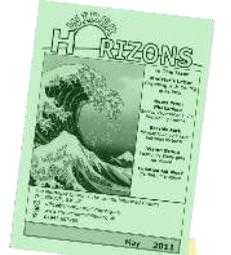
So please note that items for publication now need to be sent to Mike Fawcett (office@christchurchilkley.org.uk) and Steve Amos (steve.amos@blueyonder.co.uk).

Why both? It's so we have a check, just in case an item goes astray!

If you don't have email, and post hard copy direct to the Office, then it would help if a copy was sent to Steve as well (or at least a note saying what the item is about) just so that we can also keep a check on these articles. We all know how busy the Office can get and bits of paper can get filed away . . .

So thanks again to George for his stalwart support over the years.

And don't forget, the deadline for the October 2011 edition of Wider Horizons is 01 September.



Steve Amos.

Book Review: **Why God Won't Go Away** - Engaging with the New Atheism

Alister McGrath :: published by SPCK :: £7.99
ISBN 978-0-281-06387-1
99 pages of text and 19 pages of notes

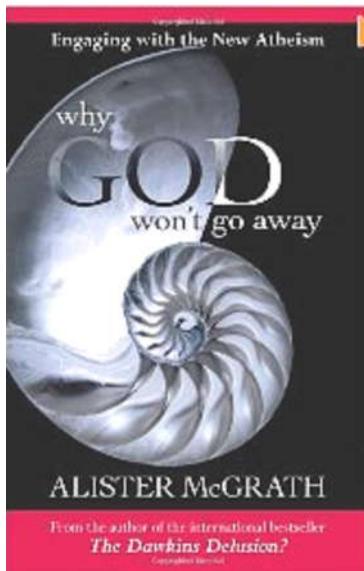
McGrath, a former atheist, is Director of the King's College London Centre for Theology, Religion & Culture as well as Professor of Theology, Religion and Education and is well qualified to tackle the subject.

I've not read any of the books from the new atheists (e.g. Dawkins' *The God Delusion*) or previous responses by McGrath (*The Dawkins Delusion*) and hoped I could jump in on this new book to pick up on all the arguments.

He starts by defining 'new atheism' and gives a thorough background to its four main proponents (Harris, Dawkins, Hitchens and Dennett) who he, rather disingenuously in my opinion, calls the four horsemen. He then engages the three core themes of religion and violence, rationality and belief, and science and proof. He concludes with a brief look to the future for new atheism concluding that it will run its course.

I found it an interesting and fairly quick read with easy to follow but cogent arguments and enough detail for the book to stand on its own. It contained itself to McGrath's views as to the main criticisms that new atheism has about faith, and he knocked them down pretty conclusively, although I would have liked some more detail about the (evil?) impact of religion on society (the Inquisition, holy war, Northern Ireland, . . .) but perhaps that has been dealt with elsewhere?

This book confirmed my view that atheism is as much about faith as any theology and I would recommend it - I'm happy to lend out my copy.



Steve Amos.

Well read

I never like reading books others (particularly "critics") recommend. How embarrassing to tell a friend, teacher or relation you didn't share their enthusiasm. In any case, experience makes me wonder what planet some of the critics are on!

But I am happy to comment on books I have read and enjoyed. The rest is up to you!

I decided some time ago to patronise charity shops and stalls then re-cycle. Having exhausted PD James and David Baldacci, I was lured into wading through the "The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo" trilogy. It was not an enjoyable experience; I only saw it through because I was curious to find out what became of Salander.

What next?

A visitor found my copy of Daphne du Maurier's "My Cousin Rachel" (1951) which spurred me into reading again both it and "Jamaica Inn". What a writing style: not a word wasted but the characters and pictures drawn so clearly. "Frenchman's Creek" next maybe.

I acquired "The Secret Scripture" (Sebastian Barry 2008). Maybe it was the word "scripture" that drew me in but it isn't Biblical at all. It tells the vivid, moving, beautiful and occasionally disturbing story locked away in the secret journal of an old lady committed to a mental hospital as a young woman.

"Every Light In The House Burnin'" , a promising debut novel by Andrea Leavy (1994), was an interesting and touching story. Humorous too, it tells of a Jamaican family on a council estate in Highbury. I couldn't put it down.

In 1988 an elderly couple in Colorado gave us "The Shepherd Of The Hills" (Harold Bell Wright 1907, updated 1988). Maybe because they were elderly, somehow it seemed a book for reading by the elderly (no comment!) so it remained untouched. But 30 years on I spotted it in an attic sort-out and was captivated. It is a compelling story as the identity and purpose of a stranger-turned-shepherd is gradually unveiled.

And finally "The Mayor Of Rheinhagen" (Michael Fawcett 2011). Although aimed at a much younger audience, I found it a well-researched and fascinating tale. Curiously, parts of the story-line under-pinned a recent conversation with the author.

Margo Atkinson

What does 10.30am worship mean to you?

A recent Consultation heard points of view on our 10.30am worship. We were not looking for revolutionary ideas or the destruction of the familiar but for ways to make our worship accessible and meaningful for a broad spectrum of people.

Many of the comments anticipated our role in the new Wharfedale and Aireborough Methodist Circuit from September which would introduce us to several new preachers.

Many thanks to Chris Mannall for keeping track of the conversation and making the notes on which the following summary is based.

How best to describe our worship at 10.30am? There was agreement we should not use the word "traditional". Ordained ministers, local preachers and worship leaders could, therefore, offer worship in appropriate and imaginative ways, appreciating how things have been done in the past whilst being aware of the new resources.

Our perception of what 10.30am worship should included:

- Surrounded with Prayer
- Reflective, thoughtful, lesser paced but with more depth
- Honesty and integrity in presentation of the scriptures
- Variety of music, singing, drama
- Joy and positivity (welling up)
- Teaching
- Deep
- Corporate prayer and responsive prayer

NB Our "publicity" on 10.30am worship needs an explanatory phrase or "strap-line" (after the style of Online@9 which uses "all-age interactive"). Geoff Halsall agreed to compile suitable ideas.

Inevitably, music was a major focus with particular attention to the new Methodist hymn book (*Singing the Faith*) – see separate article. The value of older hymns and songs alongside much new material was acknowledged. Those who lead worship should be encouraged to plan further ahead, allowing more time for preparing musical content. It was agreed a small team be pulled together to take forward the development of music and singing.

The use of more drama would be appreciated, given the range of resources available through "Roots", the lectionary-based resource. Liaison between the relevant Online team and preacher appointed for 10.30am would be mutually beneficial.

Worship Leaders are not often used at 10.30am but their value should not be under-estimated. A call to serve in this way would be encouraged by Rob.

We needed to be aware we sometimes "miss the mark" with visitors or those who have not been to church for some time. Our support should include having the words of the Lord's Prayer, Creed, etc on screen or printed. There was a preference for sharing the page numbers for Bible readings in the service sheet (specifically noting Old or New Testament) as announcing the details was considered intrusive.

Whilst the Worship committee has overall responsibility for pulling together the shape of the year, our festivals and joint services, in the light of the discussions maybe a steering group for the 10.30 service would be useful. Rob Hilton agreed to draw a team together to think more about this.

In summary, it was felt we come to Christchurch and also go out from Christchurch having worshipped and been challenged.

The open meeting on Worship on 13th July discussed many aspects of Sunday worship, particularly the 10.30 am service. It was generally agreed that many of us are perhaps unconsciously guilty of down-grading 10.30 worship when we describe our Sundays along these lines; " On-line@9 is a modern, lively service mainly for young people, families and some of the older generation, and at 10.30 we have a more traditional service". This could be taken to imply that at 10.30 we suffer the "hymn, prayer, lesson sandwich" of yesteryear. The truth is very different. There is excellent preaching/teaching, music including modern hymns, thoughtful prayers, lay participation in music, readings and drama -- and all in an atmosphere which encourages contemplation and challenge..

It was thought that we should make a conscious effort to improve the 10.30 image by;

Never implying that it is "just a traditional service",

Consider a new name to replace "the 10.30 service".

Suggestions for a new title to me please, for onward transmission to the Worship Committee.

What about "Mid-morning Worship" ?

Geoff Halsall

World Mission and Society Committee

The June Church Council agreed the following proposals for donations during 2011-2012.

Amount budgeted for disbursement during 2011-2012 £12,000

Denominational funds

Methodist Relief and Development Fund	250
Methodist Homes	250
Touchstone – Bradford	300

Others

URC 'Commitment for Life' programme in Occupied Palestinian Territories	2,000
BEACON (Bradford Ecumenical Asylum CONCern)	2,000
St.George's Crypt	1,000
Phakamisa – South Africa	750
Caring for Life – Leeds	750
Mysmall help - Peru	750
InnerCHANGE - Los Angeles	750
Maternity Worldwide - Ethiopia	750
The Beamsley Project	250
The Bible Society	100
C.T.I. Link - Matugga – Uganda	250
Starfish Riverside (formerly Beauty4Ashes) – China	250
Leeds Faith in Schools	250

To be allocated by Young People of Christchurch 500

Total 11,150

Balance outstanding £850

This amount is available for emergency appeals or to be disbursed closer to the end of the financial year (31st March 2012)

Rita Armitage – Chair of Committee

Men's Night Out - first Tuesday of the month that isn't a housegroup week.

Meet in the Bar t'at at 8pm. All welcome.

See Martin Whitton or Mark Cade for further details.

For the diary, the dates this year are - 6th Sept, 11th Oct, 8th Nov, 6th Dec.

"I would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts and good wishes since my fall. Pleased to say I am now making progress albeit slowly"

- Phyllis Tonks"

Friday Free and Easy

The activity will restart on Friday 16th September at 7.30pm to 9.30pm in the Coffee Centre. Activities include table games, table tennis, carpet bowls, jigsaws. The Prayer shawl knitting group are also part of the fellowship. All are welcome. Enquiries to Stan Loach or Brian Armitage.

Last month's caption competition was won by Val Appleton with:

"Really Rob, I think you should have a shave before the 10.30 service!!!!"

Fabulous prize on it's way to you Val!



Quiet Room

Following a successful trial in Lent, the Quiet Room will be open during the online services in September and October. This is situated in the Green Room, through the door at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs.

It is laid out with a few chairs and a focal point (a lit candle on a small table). There are copies of the online discussion notes available, and also Bibles, but the room is silent and available purely for folk to sit and pray and worship as they wish. The door is opened to show when to return to the sanctuary for the final corporate prayers and songs, but there is no obligation to leave at that point.

The room is available for all - stressed mums who want some peace and quiet, people who prefer silence to discussion, anyone who feels the need to be alone with God; young and old, onliners or ten-thirtys are all invited to use the space.

If you wish to know more, please talk to Margaret Whitton.

Biblical Quiz Answers

1b, 2c, 3c, 4a, 5c, 6b, 7b, 8c

(with thanks to Church Music Quarterly – June 2011)



	4th	11th	18th	25th
09:00am	On-line@9	On-line@9	On-line@9	On-line@9
10:30am	Rev Rob Hilton Inc. HC	Rev Julian Pursehouse	Rev Rob Hilton	Jill Pullan
06:30pm	Rev Arnold Clay Inc. HC	Rev Rob Hilton	3rd Sunday @ All Saints	Taizé

SHOPPERS' SERVICE EACH FRIDAY at 10:30am

A 20 minute time of reflection

2nd Dr Morgan-Wynne, 9th Rev Rob Hilton,
16th Pat Reid, 23rd Peter Willox, 30th Rev Arnold Clay

The deadline for the October 2011 edition of Wider Horizons is 1st September .

Items (maximum 300 words please) preferably by email, please, as a Word attachment to both:
Mike Fawcett (office@christchurchilkley.org.uk)
and Steve Amos (steve.amos@blueyonder.co.uk).



New Circuit Celebrations! - On Tuesday 6th September at 7pm in Otley, the new circuit will be celebrated. Please contact Keith Potter if you wish to attend and need transport, or if you have spare seats.

Christchurch Guild News

You are all invited
To the opening meeting of
CHRISTCHURCH GUILD
On 7th September at 2.30pm
In the lower hall; To hear the
REV CHRIS HEYWOOD'S TALK
SUDAN; A DIVIDED NATION.
The Post Cards donated at
Christchurch are passed on to
Rev Heywood to raise money
for the work in Sudan.

Programme for September

7th Rev Chris Heywood:
Sudan; a Divided Nation

14th Susan Ross: Art

21st John Sayers: Walking
with Rhinos

28th Rev Rob Hilton