

WIDER HORIZONS



In This Issue

Roberta's Writings

If done right, we can provide food for all

Fairtrade News

The Supermarket Controversy

This Sporting Life

Olympic Hymns

Café Update

A Lot Achieved!

Our Giving

Nominate a Charity



CHRISTCHURCH

October

2017

 office@christchurchilkley.org.uk

 www.christchurchilkley.org.uk

 01943 603209

The Methodist Church / The United Reformed Church
The Grove, Ilkley, LS29 9LW



ROBERTA'S
WRITINGS

Dear reader,

October is a time for fruit harvesting in the UK but it doesn't now make the impact it used to do. Most of us eat only a limited number of the British varieties of apples which exist for example. We expect to enjoy the fruit we like all year round, such as Cox's apples from New

Zealand in the Spring and exotic fruits from abroad any time. The change in varieties of fruit we like to eat is making me contemplate the social politics of food production.

In some parts of Yorkshire I have seen apples rotting on the ground. In July in Madeira it was avocados and in northern Italy at the end of August it was figs and also lemons, dropping and being left to shrivel and waste.

The story behind this attitude to lemons around Lake Garda is a particularly telling one. While on holiday there we visited the small town of Limone which at one point was famed for its production of lemons. The origin of the name though, confusingly, probably comes from the Latin word *limes* which meant a border - this small town has always been on the edge or border of political administrations. It was Austrian until it became part of Italy in 1861. After that, the production of lemons was uneconomical, as they couldn't compete with harvests in Sicily and the south when there was no longer customs duty to pay on those lemons. The production of lemons in that northerly spot was also more costly because it required wooden frames called *limonaie* to be built around the sensitive plants so they were protected on frosty nights. The final blow to lemon production in north Italy came when, during the First World War, the Italian government confiscated all the wooden boards for the frames to use in making army huts and the frosts destroyed the unprotected trees. Today the few remaining lemon trees are exhibits in a museum and the fruit falls like dust on the earth.

Food production has often been a political issue. According to Genesis, it was a political issue in ancient Egypt in the time of Joseph when the surplus from the seven productive years Pharaoh had dreamed of, was stored and sold in the following years of famine. Joseph had stockpiled grain and had a monopoly such that everyone in the region had to come to him to get food. In time he was able to introduce a severe taxation system the people agreed to, because they had become so hungry and dependent.

International developmental studies continue to show that famines often have political roots even when a crisis may be triggered by a natural event such as a drought. In recent years I have heard it said on several occasions that we have the knowledge and capacity to feed everyone on the planet. What is lacking is the (political) motivation.

Bringing an end to hunger is the second of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The UN writes: *If done right, agriculture, forestry and*



fisheries can provide nutritious food for all and generate decent incomes, while supporting people-centred rural development and protecting the environment. Yet currently, globally, one in nine people in the world today (795 million) are undernourished.

The United Nations doesn't get everything right but their aims are often concurrent with core principles at the heart of our faith. In Genesis 1 verse 29 it is written: *And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food."*

At harvest time, when we have given thanks for the great variety of foods we can enjoy, we might also remember those who are in food poverty. Locally, you have the Churches Together Food Bank, and I am sure you already support many other charities working to relieve hunger and poverty. The UN Development goals provide more information and strategies to help us understand what part we can play to make sure everyone gets to have the fruit and food needed and that God has provided.

Wishing you every blessing.

Roberta Topham

Comings and Goings

We are sad to announce the death of Edna Reynard. Our love and prayers go to her family at this time of giving thanks and remembering.

Joan Ince has moved to be near her family. Her new address is 4, Farthing's Court, Kings Loade, Bridgenorth, Shropshire WV16 4DA. Her phone is 07951 038318. We wish her many blessings as she settles into her new home.



COMINGS &
GOINGS

Please continue to pray for people in special circumstances and let the Pastoral Team know of any new concerns.

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

Thank you to all our friends at Christchurch for cards, flowers, plants, support and prayers whilst John was in Airedale Hospital. He is now settling in at Burley Hall Nursing Home. What a blessing our family and friends are at this distressing time.

With our love,

Dorothy and John Briggs

John and Lis Stanley would like to thank everyone for their cards, messages and prayers following the death of John's mother. We are now content that she is at peace following a long life. We know how much Christchurch meant to her and for that we are very grateful.

Thank you.

Welcome to Roberta

The URC Moderator, the Rev Kevin Watson, was unable to attend the welcome service for Roberta but he sent the following message:

Dear friends at Christchurch

It is my duty, and it would certainly have been my pleasure, to have been with you at the service of welcome for your new minister, Roberta Topham. However, duties as General Assembly Moderator have taken me to London, which is also a meeting between Methodists and URC folk, though I doubt it will be as pleasurable as your gathering. I pray that it is a wonderful service, with a typical Christchurch welcome for Roberta, with a great affirmation by the Holy Spirit that this is a call of God to come and minister with you in Ilkley.

Every time I have visited the church to lead worship, meet for prayer, or see new developments such as Dan's Den, I have always been impressed by your deep relationship in Christ with each other in fellowship, but also with the community around you in loving service and outreach. When family came from Australia, I led them straight to the Christchurch Café! I pray for beautiful fruit to come from this new ministry with Roberta, and I look forward to meeting her soon.

New Arrival!

Jennifer and Richard Rundle are thrilled to announce the arrival, on 8th August 2017, of a new granddaughter, Joy Anne Rundle, to Alastair and Catherine in California; a sister to 13 year old Zoe and 11 year old Peter.

We feel incredibly blessed as this follows complete healing for Alastair following his stem cell replacement therapy of 8 years ago, one of the side effects being the distinct possibility of infertility.



Praise be!!

Thank You

To all those who helped us celebrate our 70th Wedding Anniversary we send so many thanks.

We shall treasure your greetings, spoken and written, for our remaining years.

Love from us both, Joyce and Alan

The Hilton family are very grateful for the kindness and generosity shown by Christchurch friends on their departure. Cards, good wishes, gifts, the Ceilidh and final service, and the collection from the church were all very much appreciated.

When we get round to thinking about it, we're considering putting it towards upgrading our beloved trailer tent.

Many thanks again, Godbless — Rob, Ruth, Sam, Ned and Esther.

If you're ever stuck on the M6 between Sandbach and Stoke on Trent, look us up in Alsager.

St George's Crypt Leeds

We shall be collecting clothing, footwear and household linens (cleaned and repaired please) on Saturday 21st October 2017.

Please bring items to the Lower Hall between 9:30 and 11:00am, or leave them in the Lower Hall Lobby during the previous week, clearly labelled "St George's Crypt".

Your usual generous response will be greatly appreciated.

Avril Benson



St George's Crypt

Manse Matters

You may remember my asking for volunteers to help prepare the Ilkley manse for Roberta and Jon Topham.

Christchurch members signed up to help and I am happy to report the wallpaper stripping, garden tidying and final clean all went amazingly well.

I would like to say 'Thank You' to all those who helped and to all who prayed for the helpers. Although it was hard work, the camaraderie and getting to know one another better helped us to bond with each other in a new way.

The manse looks so much better for the face-lift and we wish Roberta and Jon every happiness in their new home.

Elisabeth Halsall (Manse Steward)



The Fairtrade Supermarket Controversy

I have been working on the Fairtrade stall at Christchurch for a year now and am happy to say we are now in a position to donate £100 to a chosen charity. This is profit from the monthly stall and from bulk orders from the Café, Dan's Den and Ilkley Moor Medical Practice. Pat Fisher and I have decided to donate the money to Shared Interest Foundation, a charity training people in the principles of Fairtrade and helping them set up their own business.



FAIRTRADE

One of the frequent questions I am asked is, "Why do I need to buy from your stall when I can buy Fairtrade goods at the supermarket?" The answer is difficult. Most of the goods on the stall come from Traidcraft whose existence is based on fighting poverty through trade.

All of the profit from the stall goes to charity. So there is a double benefit. But supermarkets need to be encouraged to sell Fairtrade goods.

As I write, Sainsbury's is running a pilot scheme replacing some of their Fairtrade marked goods with their own 'fairly traded' logo. You may ask what difference does a label make, but the Fairtrade logo carries responsibilities and strict rules that guarantee it meets internationally agreed criteria. Sainsbury's have said they have devised their own in house certification and standards. As a result there has been a call for a boycott of Sainsbury's but above all a rejection of Sainsbury's proposals by the farmers themselves claiming the new scheme will disempower them. It has been reported that Tesco is also considering leaving the Fairtrade standard.

Please continue to buy Fairtrade goods from the supermarkets but check for the Fairtrade logo.

But also please buy from the monthly stall for the double benefit. I am happy to take separate orders. Please ask to see the catalogue or you can go on line, www.traidcraftshop.co.uk to see what you want, and I can include it in my monthly order.

Think what a double difference we could make if everyone bought one item from the stall!

Polly Hosking



Editorial

This issue of large business groups cutting free from Fairtrade is too important to skim over. There can only be one reason and that is cutting costs. Here is an open letter to Sainsbury's from Fairtrade on 23 May 2017

Fairtrade is owned 50% by the producers it represents and we, Fairtrade tea farmers, workers, producer members of Fairtrade Africa, are unanimous in our decision to reject this unequal partnership with the Sainsbury's Foundation. We believe it will strip us of rights and benefits attained over the years under the Fairtrade system.

Our position is based on the response of our representatives who heard directly about the detail of the model from Sainsbury's who recently visited Kenya and Malawi. Whilst we appreciate Sainsbury's overall aim and ambition to improve their supply chains, we are fundamentally opposed to their plans to take over the control and management of Fairtrade Premium. Sainsbury's informed us that they want to increase funding for their development programmes from donors by using our producer-owned Fairtrade Premium. It is our understanding that the Premium would be ring-fenced and to access these funds producers must apply to an advisory board based in London made up of Sainsbury's representatives and some UK-based NGOs.

Whilst we are open to new ways of working and forging closer relationships with customers including Sainsbury's, certain aspects of Sainsbury's proposal such as the proposed ring-fencing of the Fairtrade Premium is unacceptable and we have outlined this to them as a non-negotiable. As producers we are very aware that when consumers choose Fairtrade purchases, they expect the benefits to go directly to producers. Premium is not donor money but is created through a commitment to purchase Fairtrade products by conscious consumers.

Sainsbury's is fully aware of the Fairtrade Standards governing the use of Fairtrade Premium, including the requirements for reporting on its expenditure, and the rigorous third party audits undertaken by FLO-Cert, an independent certifying body. As Fairtrade certified organisations we continuously reflect, improve and learn on more effective use of Fairtrade Premium. We have Fairtrade Premium projects which are based on community prioritised needs, and for which we are fully accountable through our governance structures especially the General Assembly. We believe that we are more credible, trustworthy and effective partners towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals than any other development agency or NGO. As producers we believe that we have the best understanding of our local context and what is needed to make our businesses and communities thrive. Our destiny must be kept in our hands.



We are particularly concerned that within the proposed model, Sainsbury's approval process means that any project requested by producers in Africa can be rejected by a few decision makers in the UK. This process will jeopardise our existing long term development strategies and further threaten premium-pooled projects from our other committed Fairtrade buyers.

We told Sainsbury's loud and clear: "Your model will bring about disempowerment". We are extremely concerned about the power and control that Sainsbury's seeks to exert over us which actually feels reminiscent of colonial rule. We work for, OWN our product and OWN our premium. We see the proposed approach as an attempt to replace the autonomous role which Fairtrade brings and replace it with a model which no longer balances the power between producers and buyers.

The proposed Sainsbury's Standards add a further unwelcome layer of bureaucracy and will create additional burden for producers. The Fairtrade Standards, which are recognised by ISEAL, are developed through consultation with producers and other stakeholders. As such, Sainsbury's, as a Fairtrade licensee has the opportunity to input and improve what they perceive as gaps. The new Sainsbury's Standards were not done with producer consultation.

While, as mentioned, we reject Sainsbury's current proposal, we proposed many other ways in which we could work with them. We believe that there is strength in unity and as a valued and respected customer, we hope that Sainsbury's listen to us and decide to change their approach to ensure that the 200,000 Fairtrade tea farmers and workers that they currently buy from will not be punished as a result of our decision not to partner with Sainsbury's Foundation in their current model.

Endorsed by: Tea producer representatives of East and Central Africa and Southern Africa Networks of Fairtrade Africa.

This was taken from: www.fairtrade.org.uk/Media-Centre/News

Further information can be found at www.fairtrade.org.uk in the FAQs section.

And it's not just Sainsbury's, Tesco, Mars, Costa, Starbucks, McDonalds, Unilever, Cadbury and others are all looking at their own 'ethical' schemes, none of which have the independent credentials of Fairtrade. Consider your consumer power when shopping and seek to buy genuine Fairtrade products.

News coverage can be found by searching online for 'Fairtrade and Sainsbury's' and choosing the links from the Guardian or Independent.



Steve Amos

Holiday Hijinks

Visitors to Christchurch on Bank Holiday Saturday were encouraged to find out more about our building. Many were honest in saying they often visited the Café but had never ventured further. They were intrigued to know how we had adapted a 150 year-old church to meet current needs.



Actually, several of our own members saw our building with new eyes. Questions! Questions!

The original architect's plans and photo albums of past activities attracted lots of attention too, invoking memories of events and dear-departed friends. If you were away and would like to look at them, ask Margo Atkinson as soon as possible as they are scheduled for the West Yorkshire Archives

The financial result was £315 in the church coffers.



Our giving to charities at Christchurch

In the past Christchurch has given annual donations to a number of charities mainly through personal contacts.

It was decided when our last budget was agreed that this policy would be discontinued, partly for financial reasons but also reflecting the view that many members give to charities of their own choosing.

It has been suggested that we periodically nominate a charity for Christchurch to support. This could involve:

- Giving information about the chosen charity in Wider Horizons
- Praying for the charity at prayer fellowship or in worship
- Having a monthly slot in the morning service to introduce the charity
- Donating to the charity at coffee on Sunday mornings
- Fundraising activities

Please nominate charities for Christchurch to support over the coming year. As a guide they should be registered charities that reflect Christian values, be local charities or charities connected to individuals or families known to members.

If you have a charity you would like Christchurch to support, and are prepared to provide information about it, please speak to Christine Henney or Merle Collins.

Christine Henney

Café Update June – September 2017

A lot has been achieved since my last update. The good news is that sales figures are up by £3965 on last year's figures as of 26th August. This is fantastic news. I list some of the things we have done differently to help us achieve these results.

The Specials Board - We have continued to use our Specials Board and regularly change what is on it. Since our last update items included on it have been Eccles cakes, Panettone (sweet Italian bread), two different types of paté, scones with cream, salmon & broccoli quiche, pea & mint soup, home made meringues, strawberries & ice cream, ice cream cornets, sausage sandwiches, bacon sandwiches, three cheese Ploughmans, salted caramel Swiss roll, jam tarts, iced fingers, melon and strawberries.

New Banners - We have designed and put up a new banner on the outside of the church. If you are looking at the church from the Grove it is easy to spot and very simple, giving the days and time it is open. We also put a different one up if we are open on a Bank Holiday Monday.

Saturdays - Saturdays are consistently competing to be the busiest day of the week with an especially busy day when the quilting Exhibition was held at the church.

Bank Holiday opening - We have opened the Café on three Bank Holiday Mondays this year. All three have been worth opening with August Bank Holiday Monday being a fantastic success. Thank you to all those volunteers who have come in to help on these dates and to all those church members who have supported us by coming in to have a bite to eat or a drink.

Additional events - We took the decision to be open for The Cycle Race. Whilst the start of the evening was a little slow, we persevered (promoting ourselves outside the Café) and ended up having a very successful evening (Kathryn & I did a 13 hour shift that day . . . I think we will do things a little differently next year!). Special thanks to all those volunteers who came in to help and to those church members who called in for a drink and a sausage butty!

In June, we put on an evening buffet for a group of 23 ladies (Wibsey Methodists Ladies Group). This was done after closing time. Kathryn & I prepared the food after we had finished working in the Café, then Kathryn, Alison & Julie served and cleared up afterwards. Once



Christchurch
café

again, Kathryn did a 13 hour shift on this day. Thanks to Alison & Julie for helping us with this.

We have served a buffet lunch for a group of 31 people from a church in Meltham (a church that Rob Hilton had ties with). The lunch was served during opening hours, one Wednesday lunchtime, in the Lower Hall. Thanks again to those volunteers who came in to help & to Carole & Alison for working extra on this day.



Finally we had a group from Peel Street Baptist Church, Accrington, who requested we do a pre-order food lunch for a group of 12 people who had limited time to stop but required a sit down meal one Saturday lunchtime.

Obviously, the increase in sales figures has had an impact on work loads for volunteers and staff alike. It has been extremely busy in the Café and we have had the added challenge of volunteers taking time off for various reasons. During the school holidays we have been fortunate to have students to help us out with shortages on the rota which has been vital during our busiest times. This summer we have three new students on the books: Harry Forde, Matthew Boyle and Joanna Henney. Dan Jones returned to us on both a volunteer and paid basis and Catherine Boyle left, but is now back on the books having taken the decision to take a 'Gap Year' before she goes to university.

We have seen some 'comings and goings' with the volunteers. We have recruited two new members (Philip & Billa) and Lillian Smith has returned after having a hip operation. We have also had to say goodbye to two valued and long standing members of the volunteer team: Jean Slater & Mike Whitehead have both handed in their aprons after many years of volunteering. They will both be missed. It is a constant challenge trying to fill the gaps in the rota; I liken it to a huge jigsaw that never gets finished! We are still looking for new volunteers and have placed adverts on Ilkley Chat, in the office at KIVCA, and on the notice boards in church. If you are interested in helping out or know someone who could be interested, please contact Kathryn or myself.

Liz Frankland

This Sporting Life

Are you keen on sport? I am....., watching, not participating. You might have noticed the (apparent) religious fervor of some contestants, before or after sporting events. I wonder how many really mean it, or is it just a kind-of superstition.

My attention has been drawn to some hymns which speak of faith being like a sporting event. Here are verses from a couple of hymns.

The witnesses are watching

The witnesses are watching,
more athletes join the race.

We cover ground before us,
we run within God's grace.

We persevere with patience,
we lay aside each load
that holding or constraining
might slow us on the road.

Christ ran this race before us,
we heed the words he said.

His faith is our example,
we follow where he led.

Like every saint before us
our strength will come through grace;
Our passion is unending
for Christ has set the pace.

Throughout our lives we'll follow,
we never will regret
the faithfulness and fervour,
the pattern he has set.

No shame could make him falter,
we'll follow to the end
the one who died at Easter
our risen, living friend.

Words: © Andrew Pratt 2004

Metre: 76.76.D. Suggested tune: Crüger (StF 228)

A prize that won't perish (with Olympic torch references)

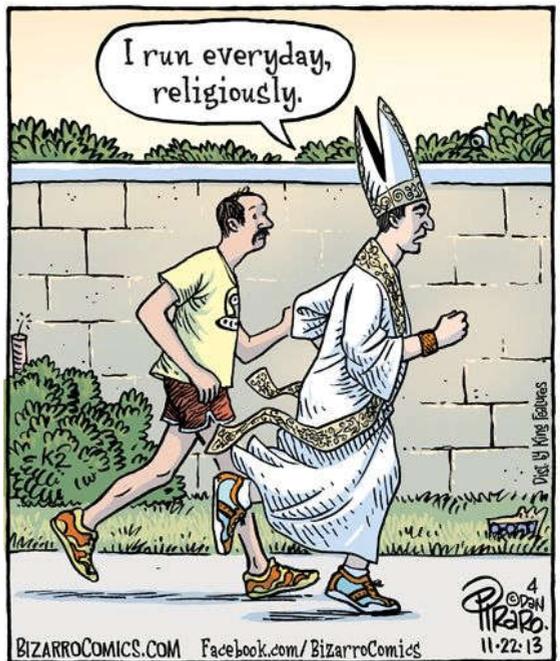
A prize that won't perish,
a race to be run:
our service wholehearted
till victory is won.

We shall not keep silent,
nor flee from God's call:
the torch of salvation
we'll carry to all.

The Games of the ancients
caused battles to cease,
as messengers summoned
each city in peace.
Now as the world gathers,
may God's peace be known:
in Christ reconciling
and claiming his own.

Committed to service
in word and in deed,
our lives an inscription
that runners may read.
As towns upon hillsides
no shadow obscures,
Lord, make of our witness
a light that endures.

Words: © Dominic Grant © July
2012 Suggested Tune: theme
from "Chariots of Fire" by
Vangelis



Contributed by Margo Atkinson

Used By Permission. CCL Licence No. 5560

Sunday Lunch with Christchurch friends – Everyone is welcome

One of the abiding messages we took away from our time living with the Iona community for a week during the Listening Year, was that serving one another and sharing a meal in fellowship with others was a wonderful part of our worship. So the idea of our shared Sunday lunch was born.

Would you like to join some of your Christchurch friends for Sunday lunch at a local restaurant on the first Sunday of each month during the winter? Several venues have already been suggested and the first one has been planned for:

Sunday 5th November 2017 at 1:00pm. at Steeton Hall.

The price is £12.99 each for two courses. There will always be a vegetarian option. A sign-up sheet will be provided on Sunday 1st October in the church foyer for you to register your interest.

We have to book by the 21st October for the November lunch.

We hope you will join us in this simple venture, aimed at strengthening the spirit of Christian love at Christchurch, as we pursue our vision within the wider community. For further information, please contact Lynnda Smith on 01535 958375 or Diana Feather on 01535 538338

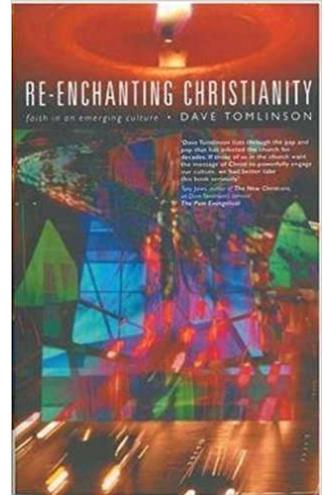
Diana Feather

Book Review: Re-Enchanting Christianity **– faith in an emerging culture**

Dave Tomlinson

2008 :: Canterbury Press :: £9.99

ISBN 978-1-85311-857-9 :: 148 pages



Dave Tomlinson was an influential leader in the house church movement until he found he could no longer accept its approach to theology and spirituality. He founded Holy Joes, a meeting place in a pub for all who found regular church boring or unfulfilling. He is now the vicar of St Luke's Church, Holloway, North London and a regular speaker at Greenbelt and elsewhere.

In the preface he states that 'a disconnect has occurred between religion and spirituality; many wish to connect with the sacred mystery of life but don't see Church or religion as a way of achieving this. This book is written for people both within and beyond the Church who would discover a re-enchantment with Christianity.'

In fifteen readable chapters he initially sets out his definition of Progressive Orthodoxy, where he seeks to balance his evangelical background and tradition with modern spirituality, placing himself squarely in the middle of the literalist conservative and the radical progressive.

At its core is a recognition that the Bible needs to be read critically and receptively, and not literally (what he calls critical realism). He then moves on to tackle a number of the big questions including atonement, resurrection, the illogic of hell, and prayer, before finishing with a vision for his re-enchantment of Christianity.

This is a very personal account of his own faith journey and how he answered questions for himself. His compromises might suit those who feel they want to move away from the absurdity of literalism and the chains of religious tradition but do not feel able to fully embrace non-theistic progressive spiritualism – a reasonable half-way house, perhaps.

Tomlinson wants to retain his traditional heritage but at the same time wishes to move forward with modern thinking, with a particular emphasis on engaging with our contemporary culture. He wants a realistic faith that reconciles heart and head, that offers a positive, engaging spirituality and that is unafraid of grappling honestly with even the most difficult questions.

My copy is available to be borrowed.

Steve Amos

Please pray for:

- ✧ hearts to be turned from hate to love
- ✧ God's peace to replace violence
- ✧ us to be instruments of God's peace, bringing an end to tension and fear
- ✧ everyone to be more careful stewards of the planet, restoring peace and harmony to God's creation
- ✧ for each housegroup, that through fellowship, Bible study and prayer each member may grow deeper in faith
- ✧ for those on the margins, that their quiet faith may bring warmth to their souls
- ✧ that new believers may continue to be nurtured and grow in faith and love of Jesus
- ✧ for the countries of South America



PRAYER
CALENDAR

Text your prayer concerns to the Christchurch Prayer
Team on:

07562 343622

Please contact the **Prayer Chain** for urgent or
special prayer needs:



Need a Room?

If you would like to book one of our rooms please contact Val Worrall, our booking secretary. Val is in the Office on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings (01943 831779) or contactable via email on **office@christchurchilkley.org.uk**

The deadline for the November 2017 edition of Wider Horizons is the first Sunday in October.

Items (please try to keep to about 350 words which is one page) preferably by email, please, as a Word attachment to **both**

Mike Fawcett - **office@christchurchilkley.org.uk**
Steve Amos

Sunday	1st	8th	15th	22nd	29th
Leader:	Michael Noble	Lynda Duttine	Jeannie Buckroyd	Rita Armitage	Phillip Gibson
Preacher:	Rev Robert Way	Rev Roberta Topham <i>inc Holy Communion</i>	Mr Michael Noble	Rev Dr Roger Walton – Chair of	Rev Roberta Topham
	-	6:00pm at Christchurch	-	-	-

Friday's Pause For Thought - a 20 minute time of reflection

06 October - Mgr Kieran Heskin / 13th October — Margaret Cook*

20th — Rev Dr John Morgan-Wynn / 27th — Rev Jan Copsey

**Communion available after the service*

Wednesday Fellowship

Meeting most Wednesdays at 2:00pm

4th - Haute Route Walking In Switzerland

Andrew Walbank

18th — Time For Tea

Margaret Sowerby

11th - Snapshots From An Inspectors Album

Michael Hardstaff

25th — Invitation To The Baptist Church

(2.30pm)

No meeting in October - some good alternatives at the Ilkley Literature Festival.



19th November—Helen Singleton — What About The Women?



Photocopying

An honesty box has been placed near the office photocopier

2p per black and white copy, 10p per colour

Our copy paper is from



FSC
Mixed Sources
Product group from well-managed
forests and other controlled sources