

The



Broadsheet

United Reformed Church,
77 , High Street, Broadway

February 2017



To know Jesus better,
And to make Him better known

Dear Friends

At the beginning of this new year, I can think of no better way than to share with you a piece taken from 'Hay & Stardust' which is one of a collection of publications from the Iona Community.

'We stand to face the future:

GOD behind us in the past,

CHRIST before us, the way ahead;

CHRIST beside us in this moment;

CHRIST beneath us in our weakness;

CHRIST above us to shield us – beneath the shadow of his wings we are safe;

CHRIST between us to bind us in the unity of His love;

CHRIST in us, equipping us with His all-sufficient grace.

Thus armed, guided and protected we face the new year.

Now we arise & go forth on the journey before us, knowing that, where Christ leads, life is a journey home. Therefore we travel in faith, in hope and in love, in the name of the Father & of the Son & of the Holy Spirit.

May the blessings of Father, Son & Holy Spirit be upon us and upon all this year.'

Joanne

In the community, for the community

The third and final year of our outreach project is drawing to a close.

The main aim of the project was to promote our mission "To know Jesus better, and to make Him better known". It was focused on making our church better known in our neighbourhood, building relationships with local people and organisations, and finding ways to show Christian love for our neighbours by helping to address areas of need (Mt. 22:37-40).

We work hard to discern what the spirit is saying to the church and to involve members of the congregation in outreach work. Our new initiatives are carefully researched, and co-designed with the people whom they are aimed to help. The initiatives are consistently delivered, and to a high standard, with specialist provider-partners whom we have chosen carefully. We ensure that from the outset all the sessions are known to be due to our Christian ethos "to love our neighbour"

We have built strong working relationships with over 25 organisations, including local Groups, Broadway Parish Council, Wychavon District Council, and Worcestershire County Council. Over 200 different people have regularly attended the sessions and over 25 volunteers have helped make the sessions successful. This creates the opportunity to get to know each other and build trust and friendship. Through our "Invite Season" initiative there has been some success in helping people hear about Christ. Some have become adherents and members of Broadway URC which gives encouragement for the future.

Table Games Afternoon, Neighbours on Line, Look After Yourself, Lunch Chats, and Threads have run for over two years. This year we were invited to be involved in videos produced by West Midlands Synod and the URC Nationally. We were honoured to receive the Community Award that included a plaque and £2,500 to support our ongoing outreach work. "Today's Our Day" has been launched for people who are living with memory loss and their family members, companions, and carers. "Table Talk for Blokes" has started up in "The Way" at the Methodist Church.

We are a "welcoming and friendly" church and are developing to become an

"inviting" church too. We have doubled the use of the church hall, established additional regular income streams, and raised funds from events, grants, donations, and awards.

Our outreach project has delivered higher than budgeted income at lower than budgeted costs. When the Mission Fund support ends in March 2017, because the sessions are generating income and are financially sustainable they can continue.

Yours in Christ,

Mark Pickering

Solo On Sunday

Now that our new kitchen is installed with cooking facilities Joanne and Sue will be inviting those members of our Church family who will be on their own for Sunday lunch, to join together for a meal in the Hall, on February 24th, after coffee.

Invitations will be sent out to all those who are on their own, giving more details, and if it is successful we hope it may become a regular event

Messy Christmas at Broadway Pilots

Pilots and their families enjoyed making Christingles for worship, crafts and the Pilots' Got Talent show. Acts included plays, burping, whistling, hoopla-ing, magic, singing, and a keyboard duet.



Services in February

All services start at 10.30am. Everyone is invited to stay for refreshments in the Church Hall after the service

Sunday 5th February Revd. Tim Huc

Sunday 12th February Worship Group

Sunday 19th February Su Bailey

Sunday 26th February Joint Service at Methodist Church

Birthday Celebrations

February 3rd Mark Pickering

February 17th Sue Jones

Tony Taylor

February 19th Margaret Taylor

February 25th James Martin



Due to personal commitments at the end of February can I please ask that any articles for the next Broadsheet be forwarded to me as soon as possible and no later than 12th February.

Many Thanks

Kath

February

Duty Elder

Joanne Griffin

Sunday 5th February

Welcome

Bev Churchill

Reading

Sheila Payne

Coffee

Pat Aberdein and Laura Holt

Flowers

Pat Aberdein

Sunday 12th February

Welcome and reading

Worship Group

Coffee

Muriel and Bill Nelson

Flowers

Christine Waller

Sunday 19th February

Welcome

Bruce Wallace

Reading

Pat Wallace

Coffee

Judith Gibbons and Wyn Whitten

Flowers

Sheila Payne

Sunday 26th February

Service at Methodist Church

March

Duty Elder

Bill Nelson

Sunday 5th March

Welcome

Joanne Griffin

Reading

Joanne Griffin

Coffee

Pat Aberdein and Christine Kershaw

Flowers

Margaret Rubridge arranged by Val Williams

Sunday 12th March

Welcome

Sue Jones and Audrey Harrison

Reading

Sue Jones

Coffee

Megan Thomas and Kathy Hancock

Flowers

Christine Waller

Sunday 19th March

Welcome

Vicki Packman

Reading

Laura Holt

Coffee

Margaret and Roger Harrington

Flowers

Laura Holt arranged by Christine Waller

Sunday 26th March

Mothering Sunday

Welcome

Margaret Taylor

Reading

Bev Churchill

Coffee

Pat and Bruce Wallace

Flowers

Joanne Griffin

What's On ?



At Broadway URC , 77, High Street, Broadway . WR12 7AL

| What's On | February 2017 | March 2017 | April 2017 |
|---|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sunday Service 10.30—11.30 am | 5th, 12th, 19th, | 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th, | 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th, |
| Tuesday | | | |
| Games Afternoon 2-4pm | 7th | 7th | 4th |
| Wednesday | | | |
| Neighbours on Line 2-4pm | 1, 15th | 1, 15, 29 | 12th, 26th |
| Threads 2-4pm | 15th | 15th | 19th |
| Thursday | | | |
| Look After Yourself 10.30 –12 noon | 2, 9, 16, 23 | 2,9,16,23,30 | 6,13,20,27 |
| Today's Our Day 2-4pm | 2,9,16, 23 | 2,9,16,23 | 6,13,20, 27 |
| Friday | | | |
| PILOTS 6.30-8.00pm | 3, 10, 17 | 3,10,17,24,31 | 7,28 |
| Events | | | |
| PILOTS Games Night | 17th | | |
| Easter activities 9.30-12.30 am | | | 14th |
| PILOTS Got Talent | | | 7th |
| Womens World Day of Prayer | | 3rd | |
| John Darby— Evesham Street Pastors | | | Saturday 22nd 10.30 –12 noon |

More information

www.broadwayurc-worcs.org.uk

Or contact Mark 07949 296 738 markp.broadwayurc@outlook.com

The letter began “I am not expecting to see another Christmas.”

It was signed “Tony”.

Tony is in his early fifties. He is not terminally ill. He is not a soldier, nor has he any other dangerous job or hobby, but since he was in his thirties he has lived in a room no bigger than your bathroom, with a window the size of a front door letter box and been there for never less than 23 hours a day waiting for someone to tell him the date of his death.

Why? **Because he is on Death Row in Texas.** Yes, he murdered at least one young girl. He admitted it but I happen to believe that God claims the right to decide on the time of everyone’s death.

I agree that there could be reasons for not letting him live among the general public, but should he be caged in worse conditions than the animals in the zoo?

He claims he has made his peace with God and indeed, between the time of the murders and his arrest, he joined a church and became a deacon there.

Sadly, when he confessed, those people refused to acknowledge him.

Every year since I discovered his story I have been writing to him and I have asked you to sign a Christmas card for him. To my shame, I have not done it this year, will you help me put this right? Please remember him (and the many others also on Death Row) and pray for them. Also, if you are willing will you please write a message for him – one sentence, acknowledging that you are aware of his plight is enough although more would be most welcome. He *loves* to hear about the weather, gardening, pet antics, anything, but mainly just to know that he is not alone in the world.

If you will do this and put it in my message-box at the back of the church, I will send it with my letters. Do remember, though, that whatever he gets is read by the guards

I will also put a card on the back table, which you may sign if you would rather.

Bless you all and thanks to those who asked why I did not ask before Christmas.

Shirley Caddy.

PS, Tony’s letter ended “I thank and bless you all for the prayers you have prayed for me and for all the letters you have sent which have allowed me to share your life when I have none of my own.”

Traidcraft News

Judith and Pat would like to thank you all for the support you have given to Traidcraft in 2016.



We are delighted to tell you that we took:

£1052.30 on the monthly collections and Fete

£1003.58 on the Christmas catalogue sales

A grand total of : £2055.88

(Take note we are hoping to beat this in 2017!)

A date for your diary

John Darby from Evesham Street Pastors is to give a talk at the United Reformed Church Hall on Saturday 22 April at 11am about the work of the Street Pastors.

Coffee will be served from 10.30am

Letter from Margaret Coles

Margaret Coles was an Elder of our church, much loved and very active. When Terry, her husband retired they moved to Worcester where Margaret taught and they have a second home in Mirepoix, S. France. Daughter Sally is now married, lives in Leeds and has a daughter Abigail.

Audrey Harrison

Worcester, Christmas 2016

Dear Friends,

2016 - the year of politics for 10 year-old Abby! She stood for Child Mayor of Leeds; her manifesto proposed a greater voice for the children of Leeds and, with this, she reached the last 12. She was keen to stress that all citizens would benefit from her policies and, in front of an audience in Leeds Civic Hall which included the (adult) Mayor, Abby read out her manifesto. Leeds children voted for somebody else, so Abby moved on, and got a distinction in her grade 3 cornet exam!

In Worcester, our lives improved after February, when Margaret went into hospital for her second successful knee replacement. It took a while for her to adjust to having 2 equal length straight legs, but she is now walking well again.

While she was regaining her strength, a welcome invitation arrived in May - to share a house in Dorset with Caryl and Bev, colleagues from Terry's Vyners days, to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. This was a delightful break, with good weather; Margaret was in Dorset for the first time, so Terry took her to Durdle Door - a childhood memory. After this short trip, we ventured further, to Mirepoix, and were joined in July by Margaret and Paul, friends from Worcester. Together, we saw the Tour de France riding through Mirepoix, too fast for us to identify any of the riders apart from Chris Froome, in yellow again, so we could cheer him on!

We are fortunate with our neighbours on both sides of the Channel; they keep a close eye on our property when we are not there. In August, on our last evening in France, our neighbours invited us in for aperos - a very pleasant evening during which we consumed some interesting drinks, and our French seemed to flow more and more easily! Back in May, we had also been looked after very well in northern France, on a Twinning visit to Vernon, where we sold Worcester produce in the centre of town. At the end of this trip, the friendly French really did not want us to leave, so their lorry drivers set up road blocks all around our departure port; Margaret did some incredible map reading to get us around lorries and burning barricades, only to find that the port itself was strikebound and closed! So, we had to spend an extra day, evading lorries and exploring a bit more of our EU neighbour!

As the year progresses, Margaret's desperate need for a new shoulder joint becomes clearer and clearer. Despite this, in June, we were in the middle of planning a trip to Canada, when a German friend asked a favour. Could her daughter come and stay with us, at the very time we were planning to cross the pond! So, we postponed Canada, and spent September getting to know Alicia, from Leipzig, while she learned about our education system, on teaching practice at a local school.

To replace Canada, we flew to Mallorca in October, and enjoyed an extended summer there, enjoying spectacular scenery accompanied by delicious seafood. Then we welcomed back our Lithuanian friends for Worcester's Christmas Fayre.

This year, our Christmas will be in Leeds, organised by Abby!

Our very best wishes for 2017,

Margaret

Broadway United Reformed Church
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www.broadwayurc-worcs.org.uk

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Articles for the next Broadsheet can be sent to broadsheet.editor@hotmail.co.uk
or can be placed in the folder at the back of the Church

Closing date for articles is 12th February 2017

REGULAR MEETINGS

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|-----------|---|
| Monday | Broadway and Towerview Playschool 9am -12noon |
| Tuesday | Games Afternoon 1st Tuesday each month 2-4pm Tai Chi 6.30 -8pm |
| Wednesday | Broadway and Towerview Playschool 9am -12noon Neighbours on Line 2- 4pm every other week Beaver Scouts 6- 7.15pm Music Makers 7.30 - 9.00pm |
| Thursday | Look After Yourself 10.30am—12noon Today's Our Day 2-4pm Cub Scouts 6- 7.15pm Elders' Meeting 7.30pm URC Vestry (1st Thursday in month) |
| Friday | PILOTS 6.30pm -8pm Fun and activities in a Christian environment during term time for everyone aged 4-18 |