

The Broadsheet

United Reformed Church,
77 High Street, Broadway

March 2014



To know Jesus better,
And to make Him better known

Dear Friends,

There is a saying that March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.

To me March tells us that Spring is just round the corner , for at the end of the month the clocks go forward one hour and brings an end to the dark days of winter. March the 30th is also Mothering Sunday, which gives us an opportunity to give thanks to God for our mums, those still with us and those who have gone before us. Recently we welcomed two mothers into membership in the persons of Kathy and Doreen, both of whom already an active part in our Church life. Kathy in particular has been such an asset with young people we feel that she has been here forever.

'A teacher told a class of boys to write an essay on 'Mother' for their homework. The following day, when correcting the essays, he found two exactly the same written by two brothers in glowing terms about their mothers. The teacher called one of the boys and said, "John how is it that you have written the same essay as your brother wrote?" "Well sir," came the immediate reply, "We have the same mother."

Thinking about the clocks going forward, my thanks must go to Mr Bill Nelson for fixing the Church clock, the one that faces the minister and now leaves no excuse for not knowing the time.

Please remember in your prayers our members who are doing the Training for Learning and Serving (TLS) course and especially as they do the dreaded essays. Also we would value prayers for those of our Church Family that have recently been bereaved and those suffering through illness.

It gives me great joy to welcome Mark as the incoming Outreach Development Worker in response to many months in prayer for this very important post. Pray for Mark, Kath and their family in this big step in Ministry.

The Church will be a lot brighter as the new glass doors are installed, thanks to the generosity of the late Miss Robson. Don't forget to bear in mind that the outside world will now be able to see in through to us!

Coming from Northern Ireland, the 17th March, St Patrick's Day is special for us folk. Patrick was born AD390, who at the age of sixteen was taken as a slave to Ireland and

put to work on a hillside looking after sheep. It was while on the hillside that the Holy Spirit enabled him to believe that Jesus had paid the penalty for his sins and put his trust in Christ as his Saviour. Patrick left very little written work, in fact there are only two, his 'Confession' and 'Letters to Coroticus'. One thing is known is his use of the 'Shamrock' to explain the Trinity, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, and to help us understand Salvation. God out of love sent His Son, Jesus to be our Saviour and the Holy Spirit to be our Comfort and Guide. Such love, undeserved love, it overwhelms me. What is our response to such love?

Every Blessing

Ken.

Fish and Chips Quiz

United Reformed Church Hall

Saturday March 15th

6.30pm prompt

£8 per person



Names to Christine or Frank Waller no later than
Sunday 9th March to book your place!

News from the Philippines

As some of you know, the son of friends of mine is working as a Missionary in the Philippines. In Broadway we were praying recently for the islands after the devastating typhoon, so I thought readers might be interested in part of his latest Prayer Letter.

Susan Nuttall

Typhoon update

When I last wrote Powells' Progress, we had no idea what the damage from typhoon Haiyan would be. It turned out worse than we had feared. The latest official figure from the Philippine Government stands at 6,201 people reported dead, with a further 1,785 reported missing. These numbers are probably significantly lower than the true final figures. Apart from that, hundreds of thousands of people lost most (if not all) of their possessions. OMF has been involved in some of the immediate relief operations. We helped to wrap some Christmas presents for 300 children who had lost all of their toys. I also bought a chainsaw for use in rebuilding temporary classrooms for one school. There has been a lot of money donated to OMF's disaster relief fund, and longer term relief operations are currently in the planning stage, probably involving housing and water supplies to one particular area.

Please pray for wisdom in how we should continue to be involved in bringing God's hope to these devastated areas.

Pilgrim's Progress

Since the last letter, we finished the editing of the recording of Pilgrim's Progress in Cebuano. We have produced about 100 CDs of it so far and have given many of them out.

I was encouraged yesterday when our pastor told us that a lady in a local shop had said 'Pastor I've just finished reading a really good book. It is called Ang Madaugong Panaw (Pilgrim's Progress).'

Pray for more people like her to be touched by these translated materials.

Services for March

Services start at 10.30 followed by refreshments in the hall to which all are warmly invited.

Sunday 2nd March Communion Rev. Ken Martin
Sunday 9th March United Service at Methodist Church
Sunday 16th March Rev. Ken Martin
Sunday 23rd March Rev. J. Marsh , Emmanuel Church, Redditch
 General Assembly Moderator 2008-2010
Sunday 30th March Rev. K. Martin Mothering Sunday

Elders meeting 13th March

Church Meeting Sunday 20th March

Birthday Celebrations

4th March Nancy Rogers
13th March Madeline Pennington
14th March Sheila Payne
18th March Rev. Stanley Hodges
 Laura Holt



I would like to thank all my friends for the many cards and offers of help I have received during this time. It is also comforting to know that you are all keeping me in your thoughts and prayers.

Very much appreciated.

Dorothy

Duty Elder	Megan Thomas
Sunday 2nd March	
Welcome	Joanne and Les Griffin
Reading	Joanne Griffin
Coffee	Judy Aiton and Pat Aberdein
Flowers	Margaret Rubridge
Sunday 9th March	
Welcome	Pat Aberdein
Reading	Doreen Martin
Coffee	Bill and Muriel Nelson
Flowers	Dorothy Valentine
Sunday 16th March	
Welcome	Frank Waller
Reading	Frank Waller
Coffee	Sheila Payne and Margaret Strange
Flowers	
Sunday 23rd March	
Welcome	Sue and Robin Jones
Reading	Sue Jones
Coffee	Margaret and Roger Harrington
Flowers	Laura Holt
Sunday 30th March	Mothering Sunday
Welcome	Margaret and Roger Harrington
Reading	Margaret Harrington
Coffee	Joanne and Les Griffin
Flowers	Kathy Hancock

Duty Elder	Ann Walters
Sunday 6th April	
Welcome	Mark Pickering
Reading	Mark Pickering
Coffee	Moirra Battersby and Pat Wallace
Flowers	Shirley Caddy
Sunday 13th April	
Welcome	Michael Eden
Reading	Michael Eden
Coffee	Sue and Robin Jones
Flowers	Joanne Griffin
Sunday 20th April	
Welcome	Julie Stickler
Reading	Julie Stickler
Coffee	Christine and Frank Waller
Flowers	The Flower Guild
Sunday 27th April	
Welcome	Judy Aiton
Reading	Judy Aiton
Coffee	Ann Walters and Christine Kershaw
Flowers	

Moving Stories—Commitment for Life Hebron !

Yesterday I watched a man run for his life

I returned to Hebron a few days ago , to begin a four-week stint with the Christian Peacemaker team here. It's been a busy week. Everyday there have been clashes between mainly young, Palestinian men (shebab) and the Israeli Defence Force. There have been many injuries, most from tear gas inhalation and rubber bullets, and the tragic death of an Israeli soldier.

This weekend is particularly tense. It's now 13 years since the start of the second Intifada (uprising) which has brought heartache and misery to countless individuals and families, both Palestinian and Israeli. The second Intifada probably ended some years' ago but the frustration and anger of the Palestinian people who have lived under the weight of occupation for, now, 46 years , still explodes from time to time into violence. It is important to say that most Palestinian resistance to occupation is non violent, but I think I can understand ,if not condone the actions we have seen here the last few days. The heaviness of the occupation, with it's restrictions on movement; often arbitrary arrests, even of children; demolition of homes; a fragile economy; high unemployment, especially the young; checkpoints , and a highly visible and ever present army is a recipe for disaster. Yesterday's clashes lasted for at least 8 hours. They follow a predictable course: the shebab gather and taunt IDF by throwing stones. The military respond with a few percussion grenades. The action shifts from street to street and usually ends up at a major intersection where the area under complete Israeli control H1 and H2 which is under nominal Palestinian control. Sometimes the Palestinian security forces take over but a handful of police were no match for 2 to 3 hundred men on the rampage yesterday. So the IDF took over. Some young men , Israeli and Palestinian were wounded. And a new generation of young Palestinians were introduced to the ritual of stone throwing and dodging tear gas and rubber bullets—if they were lucky. But then there was a man running for his life.....

It all happened so quickly. We saw a man—a Palestinian—running towards the Israeli military, chased by a mass of Palestinian youth. He was being hit by a hail of stones as he ran. The word was that he had been identified as an informer. I feared the worst. I learned later that he had been surrounded by Palestinian police and

protected. I'm glad of the outcome , but it is a salutary reminder that with occupation comes collaboration, informers, and the agent provocateur. It is very difficult to know who orchestrates these protests; I do know that they can be extremely violent, damaging to the economy , and achieve absolutely nothing at all.

Today so far has been quiet..... Knight Errant September 2013

Prayer

Spirit of the Living God, come afresh on your Holy Land. Help your people to restore broken relationships. Give them patience to break down barriers of suspicion and mistrust; ability to discern personal prejudice and the courage to overcome fear.

Teach them to respect each other's integrity and rights so that your kingdom may be established on earth.

For Jesus' sake.

Women's World Day of Prayers

7th March 2014

2pm at St. Michaels Church

Everyone Welcome

"Streams in the Desert"

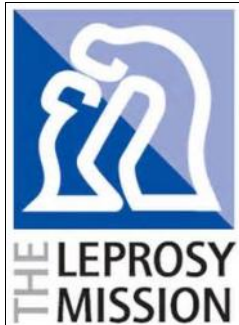
Prepared by Christian Women of Egypt

Help also needed to make button holes

Contact Margaret Harrington if you can assist

Threads

The next three sessions of Threads are March 19th, April 16th, May 21st. All welcome to come along to the Jubilee Room at 2pm .



THE LEPROSY MISSION

Message from Peter Walker, National Director of The Leprosy Mission:

'I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and all our kind and faithful supporters a joyful and blessed 2014.

The generosity of you all, combined with the hard work and talents of our staff and volunteers, means that our commitment to overseas projects will rise from £3.6m in 2013 to at least £4.25m in 2014. This is the second consecutive year we have reported a significant increase in our overseas commitment despite a reduction in paid staff.

Each one of us working for TLM looks forward to the day when Leprosy is defeated, lives transformed'

- 1 Keep up to date with the work of TLM by taking home a copy of NEW DAY which is always available in the TLM mail slot box.
- 2 Our collecting boxes will be received and blessed at our Easter morning service. NEW BOXES ARE AVAILABLE if you feel moved to support in that way.
3. Allister du Plessis (our TLM regional rep) will conduct worship for us on Sunday 6th July – a real opportunity to learn more and hopefully get involved.

Joanne

First Neighbour Gets On Line !

From out of the ether came a message :

“Mission accomplished ! First target reached—to send e-mails.

Many thanks to all the Neighbours on Line team

Chris Kershaw “



Sign post –Latest News

We will be hosting 2 hour drop in sessions from specialist groups 6 weekly on a Thursday. The date of the first session will be on 6th March when Crossroads will be at the Signpost office between 11 and 1 to answer any questions and give advice. The second session will be on 24th April and this time the Carers association will be available. We will publicise these and future dates in the window of the Signpost Office and around the village . So watch this space!

M4C

Men for Coffee

Meets at Tisanes Coffee Shop at 10am

We simply share coffee and chat

Next dates are 10th March, 24th March, 7th April

LUNCHTIME CONCERT

12.00 NOON ON SATURDAY 22ND MARCH

United Reformed Church, 77 High Street

Ann Walters and Elliott Rooney

present a

Musical Pot Pourri

THE VARIED, 50-MINUTE PROGRAMME WILL CONTAIN SONGS FOR ALL TASTES, INCLUDING CLASSICAL, FOLK AND SHOW SONGS.

DO PLEASE BRING FRIENDS!

Donations to The Emergency Fund and Britain-Nepal Medical Trust

TO RESERVE SEATS PLEASE SPEAK TO ANN OR CHRIS

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Booking Secretaries Margaret and Roger Harrington
E-mail www.broadwayurc@outlook.com
Articles for next Broadsheet can be sent to broadsheet.editor@hotmail.co.uk
or can be placed in the red folder at the back of the Church

REGULAR MEETINGS

Monday Girl Guides every week during term time
 7pm—8.30.pm
 (except the last Monday of the month when held at the Methodist Hall)
 Gardening Club (Last Monday of month)

Tuesday Games Afternoon 1st Tuesday each month 2-4pm
 Healing Service 2nd Tuesday each month 11am in URC Vestry
 Tai Chi 6-8pm

Wednesday Beaver Scouts 6- 7.15pm
 Music Makers 7.30 - 9.00pm

Thursday Cub Scouts 6- 7.15pm
 Elders' Meeting 7.30pm URC Vestry
 (2nd Thursday in month)

Friday PILOTS 6.30pm -8pm
 Fun and activities in a Christian environment during term time for everyone aged 4 - 18.
 All welcome whether or not they go to any church.

Sunday PILOTS *extra!* 10.30am -11.30am
 For everyone aged 4 - 18.
 Starts in the Church then in the hall for games, stories , pop and biscuits.