



Newslink

SOUTH WEST CUMBRIA UNITED AREA

Charity Registration Number 1141404

Methodist and United Reformed Churches Working Together

The
Minister Writes



Dear Friends,
Want to share the Gospel with your community? Think it's important for Christians to work together? Those questions were put to us recently by Share Jesus International, and we know that to answer 'YES' to each of them is part of our DNA as members of the South West Cumbria United Area. That's why we decided to take Andy Frost and the people at SJI up on their offer to bring the 'Acts Now' tour to Barrow. We'll look forward to hosting it at Trinity Church Centre on a date which will have

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gone firm by the time you read this issue of 'Newslink' - so do look out for more publicity to follow soon.
It may be that you can't remember hearing of SJI before, but if you were part of one of our United Area churches before the Area was even formed, you might well recall a visit from Rob Frost, and a presentation of 'Breaking Bread', a musical setting of the communion service, parts of which organists in a number of our churches still draw on quite regularly. We were also inspired by Rob's 'Hopes & Dreams' presentation around the turn of the millennium. Real devotees will have read such novels as 'Broken Cross' and 'Gospel End' which build the good news of Jesus into a number of page-turning stories.
Emil Brunner declared that 'the church exists by mission as fire exists by burning'. Daniel Niles said that 'evangelism is just one beggar telling

Area Website www.swcumbriaunitedarea.urch.org.uk

another beggar where to find bread'. In our heart of hearts each of us knows those things to be true. Even so, we often find it incredibly difficult to share our faith with those who haven't yet got one of their own. Rob Frost was committed to speaking out about his faith, and helping other Christians to do the same. 'Like father, like son', they say, and when Andy Frost comes among us a generation after his father, he'll be delivering the teaching element of a programme which "will aim to give practical advice and teaching on how to dynamically share the gospel with others." Other guests will lead us in worship and head up practical, interactive workshops. Opportunities like this one don't come our way very often, so the more diffident you're beginning to feel even as you read this letter, the more warmly I'd encourage you to jump in feet first. Sign up for the 'Acts Now' evening just as soon as you can and get some fresh insights into faith-sharing. After all, I'd hazard a guess that you wouldn't need to look farther away from home than your next door neighbours to find someone to whom Christianity seems rather mysterious, or perhaps even a completely closed book.

Jesus was clear - "the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few". Let's do everything we can to get equipped to play our part out there in the ripe and ready harvest field.

Peace and blessings,

Martin

P.S. If you'd like a sneak preview of Andy Frost in action you could do far worse than take a look at the videos on www.sharejesusinternational.com/signup

Stop Press -- Date for "Acts Now" visit confirmed as Friday 18th October

Network

On Tuesday 8th October at 2pm at Trinity Church Centre there is to be a Celebration of Faith, where the speaker will be Di Wallace, the MWiB District President. It is an ecumenical service to which all are welcome. There will be a time of fellowship afterwards.

Janet Ladds

REGIONAL & NATIONAL WEBSITES

District: www.cumbriamethodists.org.uk

North West Synod: www.nwsynod.org.uk

Connexional: www.methodist.org.uk

National: www.urc.org.uk

October issue No 85 of *Newslink* will be published at the end of September. Please send all material to reach Mrs Hazel Edmondson, 22 Tweed Rise, Barrow, LA14 3LX by Sunday September 8th. Items can also be passed on by ☎ **01229 474601** or ✉ edmo@twtw.freeserve.co.uk

Giving For Life

This is the title of an event to be held at Trinity Church Centre at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday 16th October. We are delighted that - very much in the spirit of the ecumenical county's 'Growing Together' process - Geoffrey Hine of the Diocese of Carlisle has agreed to lead us in some serious thinking about our stewardship of the resources God gives us.

The facts and figures underpinning the work will use the host church as a case study, but the principles we'll be exploring are applicable to small churches as well as relatively large ones and to Methodist Churches, United Reformed Churches and Anglican Churches alike as well as to Local Ecumenical Partnerships.

This is not an evening for Church Treasurers (except in the sense that they are disciples like the rest of us). It is an evening which will certainly make us all think, offer us some moments of laughter (if Geoffrey's presentation at a recent Methodist Synod is anything to go by), and challenge us to change the way we live and give. Please do put the date in your diary and do your very best to get along.

Martin Williams

Another Date For Your Diary

The COG has invited the Christian comedian Tony Vino to come and do a show at Trinity Church Centre at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 2nd 2013. We have agreed that entry will be just £1 so that no-one is prevented from attending by cost; we will invite donations for the Christian Aid Afghanistan project from anyone who can give more. Please make a note of the date now and have a think about who you could invite. Children are welcome as long as they are accompanied by an adult.

David Edmondson

United Area Annual General Meeting

The United Area Annual General Meeting will be on Tuesday, September 17th at 7:00 p.m. at Broughton. (Please note that the new plan incorrectly says that the start time is 7:30 p.m.) Each church has at least two representatives and each United Area committee has at least one representative. Please could all members of the Area meeting (or, for churches, the agreed substitutes if necessary) come to share in the planning of the life and witness of our United Area.

Hazel Edmondson

First Tuesday Ladies

We will be meeting at 7:30pm at 59 Croslands Park on the first Tuesday of each month until Christmas.

Janet Ladds

From The United Area Trustees

Hopefully much of this will not be news, but if you have not had the chance to catch up with your church's representatives to the United Area meeting this brief summary is intended to bring you up to date. From the start of this month, David Edmondson will continue to be in pastoral charge at Hartington Street, having been invited by the congregation there to do another year in addition to the two initially agreed which finished at the end of August. As part of all the changes to how Methodist training is delivered, his post as Regional Training Officer came to an end at the end of August. For 2013-2014, the Methodist Connexion has agreed that he should serve by doing the maternity leave for Rachel Williams, which will be from 7th October 2013 to 7th April 2014. David is currently looking for a new post from September 2014 through the stationing system. Following Martin Williams' request for a curtailment, we need to find a replacement for him from September 2014 in that same stationing process. Thanks to everyone who has been involved in the process of drawing up the United Area profile outlining the vacancy; we are looking for a full time Minister to be the Superintendent and to have pastoral charge of Trinity, Hartington St and Vickerstown. Discussions are still ongoing about pastoral charge of other churches in the United Area.

CAMEO and Reflections

The September meeting of CAMEO will be on Wednesday 4th at Ramsden St at 7:00 p.m. (not Weds 11th as appeared in the last Newslink - apologies). It would be good to see others join us to take a look at contemporary issues through the light of our faith. In September we will be considering whether there should be a National Curriculum and what it should cover.

There will be no "Reflections" in September as this would clash with the United Area service at Millom.

David Edmondson

Leaders Of Worship And Preachers Meeting

This is to be held at Trinity Church Centre at 7:30pm on Wednesday 11th September. It will commence with a communion/rededication service, and be followed by a business meeting. Methodist Local Preachers are expected to attend; Worship Leaders and URC preachers are warmly invited to attend.

Janet Ladds

Correction To Plan

Please note that the September plan has Rachel's phone number incorrect. The number should read 770071

Community Outreach Group

Please try to ensure that your church is represented at the next meeting of the Community Outreach Group, which will be at Dalton Market St at 6:45 for 7:00 p.m. on Thursday September 26th. The agenda for the meeting will be:

Welcome/Devotions/Apologies

Minutes of the last meeting (13-06-13) and Matters arising

Notice of any other business

Treasurer's report

Review: COG Slog 23-06-13

Area Camp 30-08-13 to 01-09-13

Updates: Fairtrade/Churches with Fairtrade status: Barrow Fair Trade Town renewal

Environmental Issues/Recycling

Credit Union/Food Banks - Barrow and Millom

Hartington St: Family worker/Contact Centre possibility

You, Me and Afternoon Tea

Future events: "Acts Now" - Share Jesus International - October 2013

"Encircled in Care: Prayer in pastoral visiting" - Autumn 2013

Tony Vino evening - 02-11-13

Abbot Hall Weekend or substitute

COG coffee morning 2014

Any other ideas

New secretary needed

Any other business (as notified at start of meeting)

Date/venue for next meetings: 1) Wednesday, February 5th 2014 at Dalton URC at 6:45 for 7:00.

Hazel Edmondson

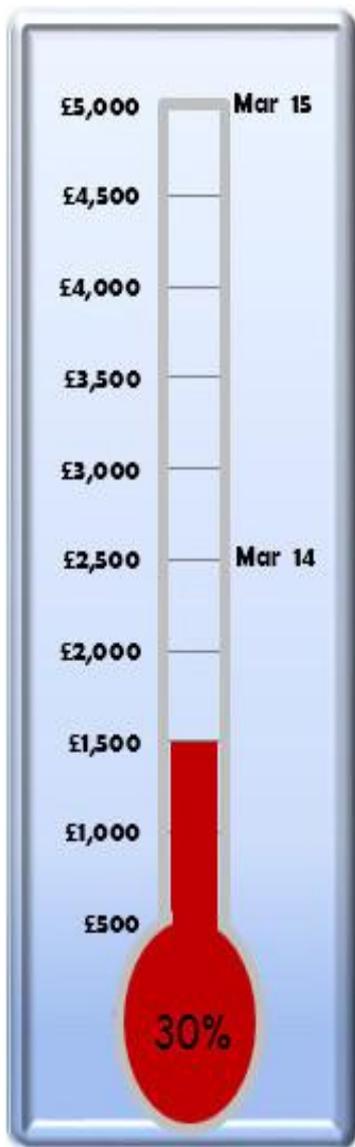
South West Cumbria Praise Group

We start again after our summer break on Monday, September 2nd at 7:30 p.m. We meet as usual at Askam Methodist Church in Duddon Road. This will be an Open Evening to which existing Praise Group members are taking food to share and we warmly invite anyone who would like to consider joining Praise Group and/or who is able to join us then to share in the fellowship we find in singing to God's praise.

There are no auditions for joining Praise Group - you just need to enjoy singing! In the autumn we already have invitations to "Women on Wednesday" at Trinity, to the group that meets at the Hawcoat Community centre and to Askam sisterhood, so we would really welcome some new singers.

Hazel Edmondson

Christian Aid Community Partnership



Thanks for the money collected since the last report: we have now passed £1500 - three tenths of the way there! Belated thanks to the Methodists and Anglican of Roose St Perran's for the £206-50 raised by a table top sale in the spring. Thanks too to my colleagues at Chetwynde School who donated £105 to the project as my leaving gift. The grand total is now £1502-65. Please pass any money for the community partnership through your church accounting system in the usual way, and then send it to Bob Mantle (payable to South West Cumbria United Area but with a clear note saying it is for Christian Aid). Future planned events include Harvest fundraising at Hartington St, a quiz at Beacon Hill on October 18th and donations from the Tony Vino evening. Remember I have a display about the project and how a community partnership works that I will happily lend to anyone holding an event, and a labelled sweet jar which makes an eye-catching collection point. Imaginative ideas still welcomed! I have now received the spring update about the project - two sides of A4 with inspiring stories and pictures - which is now available on the United Area website. If you cannot access the website but would like a copy, either ask someone at your church who can or let me know and I will send you a paper copy.

Hazel Edmondson

Giving Spiritual Help Without Going Out Of The Door

“In today’s world the way people choose to interact is changing - more time is being spent online and less ... face-to-face ... a modern world is seeking instant answers,” wrote Matt Rich the CEO of Groundwire.org.uk in the magazine of the Association of Christian Counsellors (Issue 79) because he needs Christians willing to spend at least 2hrs/week on the Internet, being available for internet chat, answering questions about our faith or offering encouragement in life’s troubles from a Christian perspective. In exchange for your time you would be given a little training and someone to give you tips and keep an eye on your well being - all from the comfort of your own home. You would also help improve relationships with Jesus and encourage people to find a church community. Just as you might be helping someone in Hastings, another spiritual coach in London might be helping someone over the road from your church. Just go over to groundwire.org.uk/coach and explore.

Rosemary Hendley

ACTION 4 CHILDREN

So far we have collected almost £500 in the Home Collecting Boxes, with 2 still to come in.

We have a record for how many £1 and £2 coins you can get in one of our Boxes, one collector managed £200. WELL DONE. You don't need to achieve this as most people put in their coppers and loose change, every little helps especially in today's economic climate when A4C is like us all, trying to keep up their essential work. I have recently been to a Supporter Day at Cockermouth Methodist Church and heard of more remarkable stories of lives being changed due to A4C work. If anyone would like to find out more please give me a ring on 716640 and if I am not up to it, Gill or Alysha from Warrington office will certainly love to come and tell you more. Also if anyone would like a Collecting Box please get in touch also.

Beryl Hollowell

The BIG SING

What a great day a few of us had at Keswick. It was Radio Cumbria's 40th Birthday Celebration and we raised the roof. I have never been to Keswick Convention before but I will certainly try and go along next year. Afterwards we were kindly invited to go along to Charlie and Chris Mills' holiday cottage for tea and cakes, both of which were very much appreciated. THANK YOU Chris I know you made the cakes.

Beryl Hollowell

Lebone Village

We have just transferred £3000 to Lebone from the Area. Thanks to you all for your continued amazing support for this venture

Elaine Pears



Green Tip

Those of you in the Barrow area may be interested to know of a company that has recently been set up and which offers free collection of unwanted household appliances. They aim to reuse as many appliances as possible then recycle the rest. They offer a huge selection of affordable used and refurbished household appliances. For further details, please see their website www.barrowdomesticappliances.co.uk or ring 01229 837774.

Hazel Edmondson

Thursday Club

**A varied programme of events
designed for older people**

2pm - 4pm at the Methodist Church, Wellington Street, Dalton

Programme

Each week will include a short chair-based exercise session, opportunity to play different table games along with the activities shown below, and refreshments.

September 5th

Life in bygone days: Shopping

September 12th

Family Fortunes

September 19th

Table games, Knit and natter

September 26th

Slides: The Cumbrian Way

October 3rd

Entertainment by Dowdales

October 10

Table games, craft session

October 17th

New York, New York!

October 24th

The New Abbey Singers

October 31st

Film at the Newton Pub

(£1 for refreshments)

Come and enjoy an afternoon out



Need transport to get there?

tel Kate on 463885

Organised by Dalton Methodist and United Reformed Churches

One Big Afternoon

**Saturday 5th October
Beacon Hill Methodist Church
From 2pm to 4pm**

For all kids in the Furness region

**Come and have loads of fun with crafts,
model making, games and much more**

**This really will be the biggest
afternoon of the year!**

Contact 01229 770071



Individual Churches

Trinity

Fri 6th September at 7:30 p.m.

Blossom Time, Flower Demonstration
by Ros from Dodds of Ulverston

Sat 7th September at 10:00 a.m.

Monthly Coffee Morning- sponsored by Indoor
Bowling Group

Our Harvest Services will take place on Sunday 22nd September. The morning Service will be a Family Service at which food will be accepted for Furness Shelter for the Homeless. There will also be the opportunity to give donations to Christian Aid on that day. In the Evening friends from the Baptist Church will join us to create a united choir for Harvest Praise at 6:30 p.m.

Family News: Once again, it is with great sadness we report the deaths of Margaret Timms and Nancy Clampton. Margaret was a faithful member and loved coming to church and being involved in all the activities. She served the Guide Organisation faithfully and was a member of the Trefoil Guild. She also did much in the community, going into schools to help with reading and knitting as well as sharing her memories of life during the war. She missed coming to church that often she pushed herself to be present- sometimes to a degree that she suffered for it. Latterly she was cared for at home by her daughter Janet, but then last year she had to go into Ostley House where she settled and made friends.

Nancy was also a faithful member- a talented lady and a proficient recorder player and a keen gardener who was proud of her garden and loved showing it to people. She often invited folks for a lunch and always there was a walk round the garden. When Nancy had to wear two hearing aids she found it difficult to be among a crowd of people - she was much happier on a person to person basis, so didn't always get to church but she was always interested in what was happening.

Our thoughts and prayers go to Margaret's daughters and extended family and to Nancy's husband Dennis, who looked after her and cared for her so well.

Margaret Manuell

The prayer group continues to meet on Friday mornings in the Lower meeting room @ 9:00am. Churches and Streets for prayer focus/Week beginning:

- 01/09/2013 Askam 'A'
- 08/09/2013 Kirkby 'B'
- 15/09/2013 Broughton 'C'
- 22/09/2013 Millom 'D'
- 29/09/2013 CTiB 'E'

Anyone who would like specific prayer can get in touch by email or phone:

janladds@btinternet.com or 833882.

Janet Ladds

Beacon Hill

At our last quinquennial inspection the hall roof was found to be in a very poor state so we set ourselves a target of £16000 in order to re roof. By means of grants, donations and fund raising we have now reached our goal and work began on August 1st. We are hoping for a continuation of the good weather so that the hall will be ready to fulfil its role as a community venue (particularly for the young people in the area) following the summer holidays. A bi-product of all the fund raising has been all the fun we have had and how the church congregation has grown together as the “church family”. We are always happy to use our hall for Area events so next time you’re there lift your eyes heavenward and hopefully see a brand new roof!

Elaine Pears

Hartington Street

The next meeting of the Bible Study group which meets at our home, 16 Hornbeam Crescent, will be at 8:00 on Friday, September 6th. This will be the third in our new series looking at David Day’s book “Christ our Life” which examines Paul’s letter to the Colossians. We would like the group to grow - if anybody would like to join us you would be welcome. Please contact me on 822285 or hayleylisa@hotmail.com for further details.

Hayley Edmondson

Hartington Street Methodist Church invites you to Care & Share Fellowship & Knit & Natter. We meet weekly on Tuesdays at 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. at Hartington Street. Fellowship, Prayer, a cuppa & bring your knitting.

Ellen Powell

“The Hub” opened as planned on the 30th June, when we were thrilled to see both the Hub and the main Church packed with people. The soft play area was given a thorough testing, there was plenty of entertainment happening in the Church with “Jester for Jesus”, face painting, and puppets along with other activities (some provided by friends from other churches - their support was very much appreciated.) The number of people present was proof of the interest that our project has aroused within Hindpool and beyond. Parent and toddler sessions have been well attended throughout the summer, and we are looking forward to other groups beginning in September. Please continue to pray for the Hub and for Mike as he leads the project.

Mark Mills and David Edmondson

Dalton

“Autumn Serenade” at Wellington Street, Dalton: Afternoon tea concert at 2:30pm on 21st September, background organ music and light refreshments between 2:00 and 4:00pm on 22nd September. Tickets for the Afternoon tea concert are available by phoning 01229 466069 or calling at The Full Octave 152 Market St, Dalton. Booking tickets in advance would be much appreciated to help with catering. Thank you.

Margaret Harrison

A coffee morning held on the 29th June raised £210 for the Thursday Club. Market Street Church coffee morning on the 5th July raised £294.61 for church funds. A sincere thank you to everyone who helped and supported both events.

R Willock

Christian Women’s Fellowship: The CWF will meet on Wednesday 18th September at 7:30 pm. The theme for our first meeting is ‘Summer Reflections’ All Welcome.

D Zazi

Dates: 7th Sept. Coffee morning at Market Street. 9:45 - 11:15 am.

Kirkby

On Sunday 8th September we will celebrate the Festival of Harvest with an informal service at 6pm, led by Rachel Williams. Before that at 5pm we are holding a Bring-and-Share meal and we invite you to join us and bring a contribution to the meal which is either locally produced, organically grown, animal friendly or a fairly-traded product. Hopefully we will be made more aware of how the food we eat is produced by sharing in this “L-O-A-F” meal. We will provide tea and coffee which will be served during our time of celebration. Ring Janet (889459) if you need to know any further details.

We have decided to change the day of our Coffee and Company as an experiment as the first Wednesday in the month did not seem to suit a lot of people. From September it will be held on the last Tuesday of each month at the usual time of 9:45 to 11:30am. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 24th September. We shall continue to collect for the Barrow Food Bank and would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the wonderful response we have had for this project this year.

Rachel will be on Maternity leave from the beginning of October for 6 months and we were pleased to learn that Rev David Edmondson will have pastoral charge of our church during that time.

Janet Sheldon

Askam

What a glorious day Saturday 6th July turned out to be. We awoke to the birds singing and the sun blazing down early in the morning, and it continued throughout the day. Askam was getting ready for their annual Garden Party, and at last we could guarantee we would actually be able to use the garden - no need for a 'wet day' plan as previous years, and having to decide in the morning where to set up the tables and chairs, we could get everything ready for a day outside.

Thank you so much for everyone who helped in any way, carrying furniture, with donations, or helping behind the stalls, and in the kitchen (very important). Thank you too for all you kind folk who came to visit us that afternoon, from around the village, or further afield around the United Area, and spending so generously, you made the day such a success. We raised well over £350.00 which will be used for some needy repairs to the Church, but most of all we had a very happy afternoon, lots of people enjoying the peaceful garden and good company of friends. Thanks to Lorraine Tyson - with goods from her friends from Spring Mount in Barrow she ran a great stall which raised £80.00 for her orphanage in Kakamega in Kenya. With further donations Lorraine was able to send £150.00 to the Orphanage, and the Hospice Shop benefited from the goods unsold. Debra charity shop also benefited by receiving all the unsold books and bric a brac from the Church stall. Well done everyone, a day with lots of happy memories.

Just a reminder of events starting again this month:

Sisterhood will hold their annual meeting Wednesday, 4th September at 2:30 p.m. led by Rev. Ron Wilson. The armchair exercise class will start again (after a break in August) on Friday, 6th September at 1:00 p.m. Both these are fortnightly meetings, and we welcome anyone who would like to join us. Sunday, 29th September, will be our Harvest Thanksgiving Service, at 9:30 a.m. which will be led by Rev. Keith Rushton, with Heather on the organ. All food donations will be given to the Barrow Food Bank.

Dorothy Gleaves

Broughton

Not much to report in fundraising during September due to Holidays but next month a report on our ROYAL TEA PARTY - I hope some of you came. Tues. 10th Sept. Church Anniversary Coffee Morning: Travelling through SONG and MEMORIES. Come and join us and bring your memories and hear your favourite songs. No charge but Donations very welcome. More planned for October: Harvest Lunch on Friday 11th Oct. and my 70th Birthday Ceilidh on Sat 26th Oct.

Beryl Hollowell

Ramsden Street

Our Tea & Chat afternoon on June 26th was a very enjoyable (and busy) time. Tea was served to approx 60 people and £334 was raised for Church funds. The URC 'Big Day Out' at the Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool was a wonderful occasion with approx 1000 people taking part in the various workshops and sharing in worship.

Our next church lunch will be on Wednesday Sept 4th at 12:00. The Midweek meetings begin again on Wednesday September 11th at 2:15. Our Harvest Service will be held on Sunday September 15th at 2:30pm followed by refreshments. The Prayer Shawl Group meets on Wednesday September 18th at 1:00pm - just before the Midweek Meeting - and anyone who likes to knit is very welcome to join us.

Anne Stevenson

Millom

The afternoon tea at Jack and Sue's house raised £350-50 for the New Zealand earthquake fund on Friday 2nd August. It was well attended and the weather was lovely and sunny (the forecast said RAIN?). This was the third event held over the last three years in aid of the New Zealand appeal and in excess of £1,000 has now been sent from the Millom church.

The barbeque after the morning service on 11th August raised just over £100 for Canaan Heights School in Jamaica. 26 people enjoyed a good selection of food and again we were blessed with some sunshine until the end when there was a shower of rain as we were preparing to put the chairs away in the garage. We were pleased to have friends from the Salvation Army join us also a lady from St. James's church and Beryl from Broughton. It is nice to have a time of fellowship together and we had a birthday boy—Stephen Williams so we sang Happy Birthday out in the church garden. We thank all who contributed to the feast and especially Robert for cooking. The Friday coffee mornings continue during the summer so please drop in if you are in Millom between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.

We are looking forward to hosting the United Area service at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, 15th September when Steve Williams will be admitted as an accredited local preacher.

Margaret Riley and Jack Giles

Vickerstown

The Good News Library visit on Monday September 2nd will start earlier than usual as we will share in a faith lunch from 1:00 before browsing the books and audio materials. Our monthly coffee morning, with the usual range of stalls and opportunity to stock up on Fairtrade goods, will be on Saturday, September 21st from 10:00 a.m. We are looking forward to hosting “You, Me and Afternoon Tea” at Vickerstown from 2 - 4 on Thursdays, on the 10th, 17th and 24th October - further details next month.

Hazel Edmondson

Regular Coffee Mornings

Please note that coffee mornings are held every week as follows:

Askam -	Saturdays from	10:00 till 11:30
Broughton -	Tuesdays from	10:00 till 11:30
Roose -	Thursdays from	9:30 till 10:45
Millom -	Fridays from	9:30 till 10:30
Ramsden St. -	Fridays from	10:30 till 12:00



Dalton - Tea and Chat every Monday at Wellington Street from 10:00 to 11:30
Hartington St - Care & Share Fellowship & Knit & Natter every Tuesday from 10:00 to 11:30

On the last Tuesday of each month Kirkby have “Coffee and Company” from 9:45 till 11:30.