

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Venue	Start Time	Finish Time
Nov 1	Communion service	Trinity	10:30 a.m.	
Nov 2	Coffee and Company	Kirkby	9:45 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
Nov 3	Bible Study	Hartington Street	1:30 p.m.	
Nov 5	Coffee morning	Trinity	10:00 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
Nov 5	Autumn fair	Ramsden Street	10:30 a.m.	1:00 p.m.
Nov 5	Bonfire party	Vickerstown	6:00 p.m.	
Nov 6	Barrow Male Voice Choir Concert	Dalton Wellington Street	2:30 p.m.	
Nov 7	Bible Study	Trinity	7:00 p.m.	
Nov 8	Afternoon Communion service	Dalton Market Street	2:30 p.m.	
Nov 9	Midweek service	Kirkby	10:30 a.m.	
Nov 12	Soup & quiz	Bacon Hill	6:00 p.m.	
Nov 16	Midweek service	Askam	10:00 a.m.	
Nov 16	Christian Women's Fellowship	Dalton Market Street	7:30 p.m.	
Nov 17	Bible Study	Hartington Street	1:30 p.m.	
Nov 19	Coffee morning	Vickerstown	10:00 a.m.	11:30 a.m.
Nov 19	Junior disco	Trinity	6:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.
Nov 23	Area Trustees meeting	Dalton Market Street	7:00 p.m.	
Nov 24	Coffee morning	Bacon Hill	10:00 a.m.	11:15 a.m.
Nov 26	Christmas bazaar	Dalton Market Street	9:45 a.m.	11:15 a.m.
Nov 26	Christmas Fayre	Trinity	2:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.
Nov 28	Advent meeting	Bacon Hill	7:30 p.m.	

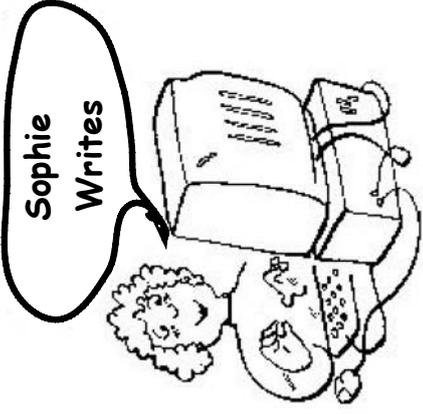


NewsLink

SOUTH WEST CUMBRIA UNITED AREA

Charity Registration Number 1141404

Methodist and United Reformed Churches Working Together



Radical Hospitality

Firstly I want to thank you all for welcoming me into the United Area. I especially want to thank Trinity Church Centre and Hartington Street for the way that they have welcomed me into their church families.

As with all newcomers I have the advantage of being able to view what we do from the perspective of those attending our churches for the first time. All churches think that they are welcoming and friendly and in the United Area I don't think we have too

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much to worry about there. However, we are called to extend a welcome that goes beyond pleasantries and offer radical hospitality to those who step through our doors. It is not enough to just greet people, however genuinely, we also need to make room for them to belong and contribute to the life of the church. When newcomers offer to help we are too often quick to answer, "No thanks. We've got it covered." Offering radical hospitality may mean making space for someone to serve, not just be served.

In order for us to be truly welcoming our hospitality must also extend past Sunday mornings and beyond the walls of the church building. That may involve inviting someone to go out for a coffee with you or asking them round for dinner. It certainly means making time to get to know people and making new friends. If this sounds scary to you perhaps you could practise on someone

who already attends your church but that you don't know very well or don't normally socialise with! This is how I understand the King's commendation in the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats, 'I was a stranger and you invited me in' (Matt 25:35). After all a stranger is just a friend we haven't met yet.

Can I challenge you to ask yourself two difficult questions?: What do we need to do to ensure our churches are places of belonging and hope for the lost and the lonely? And are we prepared to make the sacrifices necessary to bring about that transformation?

I look forward to getting to know you in the coming months.

Sophie

Area Bonfire



There will again be an Area Bonfire party at Vickerstown from 6 p.m. on November 5th, with refreshments (jacket potato, hot dog, tea/coffee and cake), a sensible-sized fire and fireworks - our own and the rest of Barrow's, as the church has a good viewpoint over the town. This can all be enjoyed either in the garden or from the hall for those who prefer to be inside. The cost will be £3 for adults, £1 for children or £7 for a family (with a fairly flexible definition of 'family') and all proceeds will go to the Fund for World Mission.

Please let Karen Edmondson (474601) know if you intend to come, for catering purposes, and also if you can help with letting off fireworks, in the kitchen or by bringing some cake or fireworks.

Karen Edmondson

REGIONAL & NATIONAL WEBSITES

www.cumbriamethodistsdistrict.org.uk

Connexional: www.methodist.org.uk

North West Synod: www.nwsynod.org.uk

National: www.urch.org.uk

Dec/Jan issue No 117 of *NewsLink* will be published at the end of November. Please send all material to reach Lilian Wood, 89 Risedale Road, Barrow, LA13 9QY by Sunday November 6th. Items can also be passed on by ☎ **01229 825986** or ✉ lilian.wood4@gmail.com

Regular Sunday Services

Morning service times are as follows:

Askam	(Duddon Road) 9:30 am (except 5 th Sunday – 11:00 am)
Beacon Hill	(Holyoake Avenue, Barrow) 9:30 am
Dalton Community Church	(alternates between Wellington Street & Market Street) – 9:30am
Hartington Street	Barrow 10:30 am
Kirkby	(Marshside) 10:30 am (except 2 nd Sunday – 6pm 5 th Sunday – 10 am at St Cuthbert's)
Millom	(Queen Street) 11:00 am
Ramsden Street	Barrow 11:00 am (except 1 st Sunday – 10:30am & 5 th Sunday – 11:00 am at Trinity)
Trinity Church Centre	(Warwick Street, Barrow) 11:00 am
Urswick	(Tarn Close) 11:00 am
Vickerstown	(except 1 st & 3 rd Sundays – at Parish church) (Warren Street) 11:00 am

Evening services are held as follows:

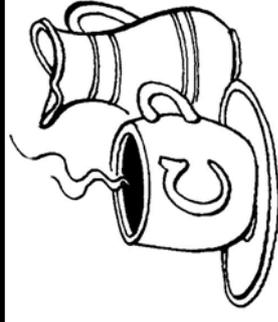
Beacon Hill	6 pm every week (4 pm in winter)
Trinity Church Centre	6:30 pm every week (4 pm in winter)
Kirkby	6 pm on the 2 nd Sunday

United Area joint evening services as arranged. For details, please consult the Plan or the website: www.sweumbriaunitedarea.urch.org.uk

Regular Coffee Mornings

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

Millom -	Fridays from	9:30 till 10:30
Ramsden St. -	Fridays from	10:30 till 12:00



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

Ramsden Street

Our Harvest celebration on Friday October 7th was very enjoyable. A pie and pea supper with dessert was served before a service led by Ron Wilson. The offering of £147.00 was sent to Christian Aid and the gifts of tinned fruit and vegetables have been donated to the Furness Homeless Support Group.

We have offered the use of our Church to the Boxes of Hope group during November as the collection point for the Christmas shoe boxes. Two articles in the Evening Mail did not get any response for a large space and so, even though Ramsden Street is not quite big enough, they were pleased to know that they had somewhere and would be able to work out how to operate in the space we can offer. It will be interesting worshipping among thousands of Christmas shoe boxes on two Sundays!

Please note that our Autumn Fair on November 5th will be from 10:30am to 1pm (a slightly later start than in previous years). Coffee, tea etc will be served from 10:30 and soup, sandwiches and cakes will be available at lunch time as usual. A good variety of goods will be on sale.

Anne Stevenson

Vickerstown

Our Harvest Festival collected 21kg of goods for the Foodbank and, together with St. Mary's on Walney, raised £180 for Christian Aid. This was from donations made at church - it was lovely to have 11 young people from our uniformed organisations join us for our parade service - and the delicious Harvest Supper and auction held at St. Mary's the following day. Though I couldn't be there myself I am told there was a good turnout for the open-air service at West Shore in the afternoon - the weather couldn't have been any better - with several passers-by also joining in.

£92 raised by the Food & Fellowship group will be donated to the Nicolas Lowe children's home in Argentina, as part of the District appeal to raise £4,000 across the county this year for this project.

Vickerstown's Christmas coffee morning will be held from 10 a.m. on Saturday November 19th - a little early this year, for various reasons. Please join us for the usual stalls plus some seasonal extras, and of course coffee, toasted teacakes and a good chat.

Karen Edmondson

Cumbria's 2016 Christmas Shoebox Campaign Boxes Of Hope

Filling a shoebox is a simple and fun thing to do, doesn't have to cost a lot of money, and it really does make a difference to a child who has none of the basics we take for granted. For these children there is none of the commercialisation we endure for weeks leading up to Christmas. Many of them have never in their lives had a gift. Many have never had a toy.

The campaign runs from November 1st - 12th.

If you would like to get involved with this year's 2016 Christmas Shoebox Appeal by filling a shoebox of gifts then here below are some tips of how to do it:

- Find a medium-sized, empty shoebox (PLEASE NO BOOT BOXES), and cover the lid and box separately with any bright wrapping paper.
- Decide whether you want to make a box for a boy or a girl.
- An ideal box will contain: soap and facecloth, toothbrush and paste, hairbrush or comb, hat, scarf, mittens, socks, educational supplies such as paper, pens, pencils, colouring pencils, ruler, rubber and pencil sharpener, and then some sturdy toys such as ball, doll, toy car, dominoes, skipping rope. Add some treats - sparkly hair accessories or bracelet/necklace for a girl, football stickers for a boy, and some sweets. And a cuddly toy will go down well with all ages. A plastic mug will be useful. You may like to add a photo or a greetings card to make the box gift more personal.

- And please add a donation of at least £2, in an envelope inside your box.

Your shoebox cannot be taken overseas unless we can pay for the transport. I will be collecting Shoeboxes between 1st and the 12th November 2016 so if you would like me to collect your shoebox/shoeboxes I am happy to do so. Alternatively you can drop them off at my house. Many Thanks.

Pam Mills

Tel: 01229 825028 or 07752455093

26 Thorncliffe Road, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria LA14 5PZ



Report From Methodist District Synod - held on 10th September at Cockermouth

As always seems to be the case, our Autumn Methodist Synod took place on a lovely, sunny September day. When Synod consisted of no more than listening to a long series of reports, worthy though they might have been, I might have resented just a little spending the time closeted indoors. Thankfully it's a very different experience now and we enjoyed a stimulating and informative day. In particular, we watched a video of the moving and inspiring address by Rev Gareth Powell, Secretary of the Methodist Conference, to the Conference in July. Gareth argued that 'we are the church of Jesus Christ and therefore we have immense confidence and endless imagination because we are resourced by the love of God, the gospel of Jesus Christ and prompted by the Holy Spirit.' He insisted that we do have as a church plenty of resources but not always in the right place - something we need to address urgently as a Connexion. Taking hold in every aspect of our Connexional structures (and that means within all our churches ...) of our missional responsibility is crucial. That requires us all to discover 'how to articulate the gospel where we are at the precise moment'. He challenged us to ask, for example, amongst all the leaflets and information we make available, what those coming in to our church buildings will learn about the saving love of God revealed in Jesus Christ? And he urged us to find ways of building our confidence to speak of God in every context in which we find ourselves. His address is well worth watching - you can find it under the Conference 2016 resources on the Methodist Church website. As the day proceeded, we heard about some of the exciting ways in which churches across the District are using Connexional grants to fund their mission initiatives and were urged by Richard Teal never to think we cannot do something for lack of money as grants are out there. We were encouraged as a District to help support a child in the Nicolas Lowe children's home in Argentina. The missional emphasis continued in the workshops - more of which below - after which we dealt swiftly with the required business of Synod before the closing worship rounded the day off in an appropriately reflective way.

Jennet McLeod

The workshops were led by members of the REACH team, part of the God for All initiative.

Dalton

The Bible Society coffee morning at Market Street raised £222. Thanks for your continued support. The Action Group will plan Christmas events at their AGM in November. Our church and the Bible Society will have a tree at the Dalton Christmas Tree Festival, and we are preparing boxes for the shoe box appeal.

The Church garden won first prize in the public buildings section of Dalton in Bloom 2016. Thanks to John Coward for all his hard work.

Coming Events:

Sunday 6th November at 2:30 pm at Wellington Street Concert by Barrow Male Voice Choir. Light refreshments will be provided and there will be a retiring collection for the building fund.

Tuesday 8th November at 2:30 pm Afternoon Communion Service at Market Street.
Saturday 26th November 9:45 to 11:15 am Christmas Bazaar at Market Street.

R Millom

Christian Women's Fellowship. The next meeting of the CWF is on Wednesday 16th November at 7:30 pm. The speaker on that evening will be Mr Bob Mantle. All are welcome.

D Lazi

Millom

On 14th October we held our annual Pie and Peas Supper followed by Holy Beetle to raise the money to send the Shoe Box gifts to Transylvania. We raised over £200 which is a really good effort as there were at least two other events in Millom on the same night.

Our Harvest Festival was held on 16th October and as has been our custom over the past few years we asked the congregation to bring items for the Foodbank. Deacon Debbie led the service; this was her first preaching appointment at Queen Street. Debbie and Adrian did a sketch a couple of weeks ago when I was leading worship they made a great couple as Mr and Mrs Noah! (we even had 2 giraffes in Church Millom does things differently to everyone else!). We had a faith lunch after the Harvest service (diet? what diet?) keeping up our tradition of food on every occasion we can think of.

On a sad note I am sorry to report that we have lost two of our oldest members: 86 year old Joan Bennetts, whose funeral was held on Wednesday 12th October, and 91 year old Joyce Johnson. Joyce was a local preacher for a number of years and always encouraged me in my role as a Worship Leader. We offer their families our sympathy and prayers.

Margaret Riley

Trinity

The midweek informal communion service will be held on Tuesday 1st November at 10:30a.m. preceded by a cuppa from 10:00a.m.
The usual monthly Coffee Morning is on Saturday 5th. from 10:00 - 11:30a.m.
On Saturday 19th. there will be a Junior Disco from 6:00p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
The Christmas Fayre takes place on 26th. from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. We hope Father Christmas will pay us a visit. Admission £1.00 (accompanied children free) which includes a cuppa and a mince pie.

Advent Bible Study. There will be 4 joint meetings with members of the Baptist church. These will be held at the Baptist church, beginning on Thursday 1st December at 6:45 pm, preceded by a meal, which is optional.
Early notice. Following the success of the Queen's Birthday lunch we will be having a Family Christmas Dinner on 1st. December following the morning service which is our Parade and Toy Service. Anyone wishing to attend should sign the list which will be on the notice board in the Atrium or contact Norma on 584602 (for catering purposes).
We held our Harvest service on 18th. September after which about a dozen carrier bags of goods were delivered to Furness Shelter for the Homeless, plus there was the opportunity to give to Christian Aid and £91.00 was donated to that. On the following Sunday we welcomed members of Ramsden Street and Abbey Road Baptist churches to our worship, when Rev Andrew Mills, the URC N.W. Synod moderator, led worship then we had a Bring and Share Lunch. An inspiring service!

Margaret Maxwell

Trinity Prayer - We meet in the lower meeting room at Trinity each Thursday morning between 8:50 and 9:30 am to pray; each week we give time to one of the United Area churches, and a set of streets, as well as other prayer concerns. If you have any prayer concerns or things you wish to be prayed for, please contact Janet/Alan Ladds (833882) so we can add them to the prayer book.

Week commencing	6/11	Vickerstown	Q
	13/11	Hartington St	R
	20/11	Beacon Hill	S
	27/11	Ramsden St	T

Janet Ladds

Hartington Street

All are welcome to join our Care and Share fellowship/Knit and Natter. We meet weekly on Tuesdays at 10:00 - 11:30 am. Fellowship, Prayer, a cuppa & bring your knitting.

Our Bible studies will be held on Thursday 3rd November and 17th November at 1:30 pm.

Ellen Powell

Creative Thinking

This was described as 'taking a sideways look at what you do, in order to more effectively engage people'. It was led by Richard Passmore, who is the Fresh Expressions Enabler on the God for All Reach Team. Fresh Expressions is about helping people explore and develop new forms of Church that can help them connect with the people around them. I had heard about some examples of Fresh Expressions which led to my interest in this workshop.

Richard started by making us think about how conditioned we are to expecting certain 'things' when we attend a service and asked us, in groups, to look at the '10 Mental Locks' which can often prevent us from doing things differently.

- 1) Not having the right answer
- 2) It's not logical
- 3) Like to follow the rules
- 4) Like to be practical
- 5) Play is frivolous
- 6) That's not my area
- 7) Want to avoid ambiguity
- 8) Don't want to be foolish
- 9) To err is wrong
- 10) I'm not creative

He asked us to discuss which one most relates to us. He then gave each group a bowl of coloured balls. Each group was asked to come up with ideas for either a Sunday Service or Outreach Event but the difference was that we would be given a random word (produced by a random word generator app) which we had to tie in somehow. We used the coloured balls to look at different stages of planning.

Our group's word was 'Charge'. Firstly we focused on the green ball which related to creativity - getting down as many ideas as possible without negativity or judgement, just letting the creativity flow. We then focused on the yellow ball which related to benefits. Analysing the original ideas and looking for positives and plus points. We then focused on the red ball which related to feelings - our intuition, hunches and gut instincts.

Only then did we focus on the blue ball which related to processes and the black ball which related to cautions. It was only when we had brainstormed and come up with some crazy ideas - relating to offering a mobile phone charging service with energy drinks with slogans printed on the cans - that we began to think about the practicalities. The workshop wasn't really what I'd been expecting but I was stunned by how much we could achieve just by being given a random word and allowing our imagination to work overtime.

Richard recommended a book entitled 'A Whack on the Side of the Head' by Roger von Oech which isn't specifically Christian but is about creative thinking.

This workshop strengthened my view that, as a Church, we need to be creative in the way we reach out to our communities and I realised that, often, the only thing holding us back is our own fears and insecurities.

Lynne Pearce

Foundational Questions

This workshop was led by Emma Richardson, who is a Youth, Children and Families Evangelism Enabler. It focussed on the importance of asking ourselves 'why' and 'how' we want to do something new, as a church, before deciding 'what' to do. Firstly we were all asked to contribute to a list of possible ways of reaching out, things we might like to do as mission in an ideal world where there were no limitations. Then everyone was asked to draw a 'life map' showing where they spent their time - work, home, church, leisure activities - and the key people involved there (mine ended up looking rather crowded!). This was to be used to see if any of the mission activities suggested fitted naturally into any of the existing aspects of our lives or with any of the people we knew. This is important because effective mission work has to fit the context and be realistic: it can be dispiriting if an initiative does not reach the people it is aimed at, so we need to give it the best possible chance of reaching them. An idea that has been successful for one church or fellowship will not necessarily work in another and we need to consider this, not just join in with the latest trend. It was also emphasised that people are unlikely to be ready to speak of faith until their basic needs such as food and shelter are met, and they feel they know the person they are speaking to - so some mission may not have obvious evangelism in it but it will be preparing the ground and developing relationships and a sense of 'belonging' that may lead people to an understanding of God later on. The time passed quickly and we were given much to think about.

Karen Sanderson

Intentionally Church

Sarah Hulme is also a Youth, Children and Families Evangelism Enabler, and she led this workshop on how we can develop outreach from activities that already go on in many churches, such as Toddler groups. She began by explaining the Revised Engel Scale, a series of negative and positive numbers. The negative numbers range from -10 (God definitely isn't real) to -1 (Becoming a Christian is the best thing I can do with my life). In the centre of the scale is the statement "I want to follow Jesus." The positive numbers then range from +1 (Finding out all I can. Trying my best) to +7 (Involved in leadership. Want to see others discover and grow in faith). We then had to consider an activity already going on in our own church or one that is being planned and decide where that would come on the scale. Many of us found this difficult to do, but in the end most of the activities were around the -5 mark, where people have some belief but don't want to change their lifestyle. The big question is how to move people on from this point - this is where being "intentionally" church comes in. Some members of the group felt that churches could feel 'stuck' in doing what is essentially social work; Sarah recommended the website www.wordonthestreets.net for ideas on how to move on from this.

Lillian Wood

Individual Churches

Askam

Sisterhood welcomes Mrs. Sylvia Hall on Wednesday 2nd November at 2:30 p.m. If anyone would like to hear her talk on work with Methodist Women in Britain, you would be very welcome to come along to Duddon Road Church. On 16th November Sisterhood will welcome Envoy Renee Palmer from the Salvation Army at Millom, to talk to us - always a joy to listen to - and we have our Christmas party on Wednesday 30th November at 2:30 p.m. when we are looking forward to being entertained by the children from Askam Village School. They are delightful to listen to, and we will share a party tea with them afterwards. Anyone who would like to be included in this afternoon event please come along, and let me know for catering purposes.

Askam has just lost a very special lady. Mrs. Iris Braithwaite died on Thursday 13th October after a very long battle against cancer. She was an exceptional person, raising 5 children and being involved in so many activities in the village. She will be remembered as the doctor's receptionist for many years, who always had a kind and caring word for every patient. She had a flair for baking and her shortbread would melt in your mouth. Always generous with her time, she would fit in a baking session whenever needed. For many years, she was a keen golfer, and was ladies Captain. Her catering abilities were used extensively down at the Golf Club at special functions. Another talent she developed over the years, when helping her friend Betty Blamire, was flower arranging, and she loved fresh flowers, and was delighted to have them in her home. To Iris's children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, we send our deepest sympathy. Iris, you will be greatly missed by all your many friends, far and wide, but especially by your family, who you loved and cherished all their lives.

Dorothy Gleaves

Beacon Hill

Join us if you can on Saturday 12th November for a quiz evening in aid of the Nicolas Lowe children's home in Argentina. We will begin at 6pm with soup and bread, followed by the quiz. For catering purposes please let me know if you wish to attend (email lillian.wood4@gmail.com or tel 825986).

Our usual monthly coffee morning will be held on Thursday 24th November, 10 am-11:15 am, with stalls selling cakes, handmade cards, books and Fairtrade items.

Our Advent meetings will begin on Monday 28th November at 7:30 pm. The theme this year will be "Telling the Story" and the 4 meetings will involve Bible-based discussion, hymns, prayers, poetry, activities and food. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Lillian Wood

Education & Youth:

Trinity: Bible Exhibition now being planned. 27 schools have been invited and 6 so far have responded.
Hartington St: Discovery Church is now to be Messy Church due to loss of older children to Secondary School.

Beacon Hill: now planning for their Carol Service.

Duddon Road: have invited Askam Children to Christingle Service and Sisterhood Christmas party again.

Future Events:

COG SLOG: 25th June 2017. Vickerstown suggested as hosts. Jennet to discuss at next staff meeting.

Area Camp: July, 2017. To be discussed at next staff meeting. Also to check if site has been booked.

“Simeon’s Watch” will be performed at St. Mark’s Church, Barrow, on 29th October. Jennet will contact Riding Lights to check on future productions.

Believe in Barrow: All Age Celebration at Abbey Rd. Baptist Church on Saturday 15th October, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Bring and Share Tea.

‘Loved Ones’ Service at 4:00 p.m. on 6th November at Trinity. Recently bereaved are to be invited to attend.

Date of next meeting: Thursday, 2nd February, 2017 at Dalton Market Street.

Dorothy Gleaves

Green Tip

The following comes from www.recyclenow.com

“Plastic films are not usually accepted as part of your household recycling scheme or at your local recycling centre. However, some types of plastic films can be recycled in the carrier bag collection points at the larger stores of most major supermarkets including Tesco, Asda, Morrisons, Sainsbury’s, The Co-op and Waitrose.
Look for this label on the packaging:



Types of plastic film accepted:

plastic carrier bags, plastic bread bags, plastic bags from breakfast cereals, plastic wrappers from multipacks of cans and plastic bottles, plastic wrappers from toilet roll and kitchen towel, plastic freezer bags, plastic magazine (home delivery) and newspaper wrap.”

Lillian Wood

Lebone

This is the third and final part of the summary by Dorothy Gleaves of the **Lebone Village Annual Report**. Thank you to Dorothy for providing this information for us.

“Section 5 Lebone Counselling: Counselling and Social Support

This section continues to provide help in the lives of many people and mostly because of the dedication and efforts of our Administrator, ME Luki Ngcobo. We are confronted more often than we like to be by people who face the challenges of not having legal documentation for themselves or their children, sometimes even for their parents, resulting in them not being able to access social support offered by the government. This is not only the case with adults but also with the numerous children we have in our different programmes/sections. It is definitely not an easy task to help them through this long process but we know that all the sacrifices and months of hard work in the end is more than worth the results.

In a needy community which faces numerous social challenges every day counselling will always be a necessity. We are aware that it is not the counselling alone which helps people through difficult times but that it forms a vital part of the process and the positive results experienced in so many people is heart warming and the knowledge that what happens in this section steers many lives from the road of self destruction to the road of recovery and hope. One of the biggest needs for many years of having our own Social worker was realised in 2014 through the generosity of Kevin Grant and Geoff Lockwood from FNT Logistics in London, continues to empower us in providing quality holistic care to our beneficiaries.

The number of children and families we were able to support and feed grew yet again this past year due to the continued and generous support from Add Hope. Our Ambulatory Therapeutic Feeding Clinic continues to meet the ever increasing demand of malnourished babies and children. When confronted with the massive need of saving lives in our community we praise God for His continued abundant supply through all the many people supporting us. The dedicated and committed role played by Dr Sarah Jane Smith and Nicolien Wydeman, Nutritionist, from Pelonomi Hospital in our ATF Clinic contributes greatly to our success rate of saving the lives of children on a daily basis and it is literally a case of hungry, dying children being given a second chance in life. To see these children being transformed from thin, sick (sometimes dying) babies into chubby, healthy, happy children is just one of the privileges we are able to witness on a daily basis here.

With so much hardship in this world it is easy to believe that we are without hope but through our experiences of generosity and kindness, we have seen that goodness is actually the norm on this planet. There are ‘lights’ shining and doing amazing things despite the darkness.

Success is the fruit of personal effort plus support and encouragement from people like you.

With God's Grace, His provision through His people, the support of all our friends, we will continue to make a difference in the lives of all those we care for!"

To have been a very tiny part of Lebone this year, I feel very honoured to have had the opportunity to be part of this wonderful Village. I would like to add my thanks to Avril's for anyone who reads this report and has been kind enough to contribute in any way. I pray that we are able to continue to make a difference. May God bless you all.

Dorothy Gleaves

Youth Spot Cub Camp

2016 is the 100th anniversary of the launch of Cub Scouts (for boys, and now also girls, aged 8-10½) so the South-West Lakes District, which covers most of the United Area and also Ulverston, decided to see if we could get 100 Cubs and their leaders together on a weekend camp in September. We did! The campsite in Urswick was full to capacity and extra toilet facilities were needed ('Have you got enough rope to tie the Portaloo to the trailer?' isn't a question I'd heard asked before) but everything went remarkably smoothly for a gathering of that size and a great time was had by all. The weather stayed fine, the Cubs were well-behaved and there were no accidents, despite a range of adventurous activities on offer: with the help of the Keppleway centre there was cave exploring, ghyll scrambling, kayaking, abseiling, rock climbing, archery, fencing, raft-building and more to try, and back at the campsite there was orienteering, wide games, '100 challenges' and a camp fire with traditional campfire songs. The Cubs were so tired by Saturday evening they went to their tents early and the leaders got a whole 7 hours in bed - unheard-of on camp! The night hike on the Friday evening was most memorable for the large slurry patch that had to be negotiated, but most of the experiences the Cubs had were wholly positive and at the 'Cubs Own' more reflective session on Sunday we talked about the importance of adventure and the outdoors in a healthy, character-building childhood. As well as the Walney pack there were connections to the Area's churches at Beacon Hill, Askam and possibly Dalton - there were so many people there I didn't know I never quite got them all sorted out! With balloons, bunting and a themed cake (three cakes, actually, to make sure everyone got some) it was a birthday to remember and a celebration of a great movement that I hope the Cubs will never forget.

Karen Edmundson

First Tuesday Ladies

There will be no meeting in November; our next meeting will be on Tuesday 6th December at 7:30 pm at 59 Croslands Park.

Elaine Pearce

Community Outreach Group

Report from the COG meeting held on 6th October.

Review:

COG SLOG, June 2016 - very wet but good service and tea.
Area Camp - went well, despite torrential rain, good weekend.
Lecture at Keswick Convention: no car went this year, due to change of timing of lecture.

Updates:

Methodist Homes Secretary: Daphne has volunteered to do this task.
Women's World Day of Prayer: Secretary still needed for Askam, Dalton and Kirkby Churches. We have not had anyone volunteer to do this - and the next meeting about this will be the last Friday in November. If no one volunteers by then this Service will sadly have to cease.
Winter Night Shelters: Deadline for premises or helpers to volunteer was July - not enough offers. Green Pastures - are looking to buy premises for homeless.
Managed locally - investors needed - high interest rate - 30th November meeting to encourage people to get involved.
Lebone Village: Elaine reported £2,470.00 has been sent.
Treasurer's Report: £570.32 prior to Coffee Morning, now £772.37.
Suggested donation be given to Believe in Barrow - next event September 2017 - £200.00.
Methodist Synod is encouraging churches to become Eco Churches - we need to take environmental issues very seriously.
Fairtrade: FT fortnight 27th February - 12th March 2017. In March 2007 Ulverston and Barrow were formed so 10th anniversary next year. Dalton FT town November 2014. FT signs need Highway authorities' permission to be erected.
Food Banks: Jennet is now a Trustee of Barrow Food Bank. Barrow FB now has facilities to advise on energy bill problems.
Flashbacks: to be held at Dalton Community Church on 31st October - 3rd November. Details in Newslink. Helpers needed.
There is to be a Church seeding in Roose and Holbeck starting with a meeting on 23rd October, with fun and food at Yarlside Academy. Our prayers are needed to support this venture.
Argentinian Project: Nicolas Lowe Orphanage, Argentina is in financial difficulties. £4,000.00 would support one child for a year. Leaflet to be included in next Newslink.