



# Heaton Moor United Church



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Easter/Spring



## Resurrection as Tearing Down the net of Death

One day the reformer Martin Luther was feeling rather down. The Pope was after him. His colleagues were bickering among themselves. He felt the heavy pressure that came with being a professor, pastor, and father and he was in excruciating pain from kidney stones. As he moped around the house muttering underneath his breath, his wife Katherine announced in a solemn voice, “God is dead.” Luther looked at his wife with puzzlement and replied, “God is not dead!” Katherine went on to say, “It sure seems like God is dead by the way you are acting.” Luther thanked his wife and etched a Latin word on his desk: *vivit*. *Vivit* means, “He lives.”

Whenever things weren't going well, and Luther was tempted to complain about them, he looked at that one simple word and was invigorated. Because Jesus was alive Luther had every reason to be upbeat. On this Easter Sunday we have every reason to be upbeat, no matter how outwardly dark your life might be. Easter is an invitation for us to cheer up no matter what our circumstances or our prospects because we are God's children, and because we will soon exchange our cross for a crown.

On this coming Easter day, I would like to share with you four points for our reflection:

- 1 The Route to Jesus' Resurrection  
Tearing from top to bottom
- 2 The Reasons for Jesus' Resurrection  
Tearing down the sting of death
- 3 The Realities of Jesus' Resurrection  
Tearing down the fears of suspicion
- 4 The Relevance of Jesus' Resurrection  
Tearing down structures of sin.

1. The Route to Resurrection: From Mark 15: 37-47, we see that after Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last, the journey between Good Friday and Easter -
  - The curtain was torn in two from top to bottom – tearing down of temple rituals, sin, veils of hindrance – paving way for the direct revelation of God
  - Centurion’s testimony – Jesus Son of God – torn down his heart
  - Accompaniment of Women Disciples – till the burial site – torn down patriarchy
  - Courage of Joseph of Arimathea – Jesus burial – torn down timidity - Pilate’s surprise –
  - Burial of Jesus –tearing linen clothes and wrapping – tearing the rock for the tomb and rolling it down.  
So, the route to resurrection was “Tearing down from Top to Bottom” – an invitation for our Christian discipleship to tear down to two from top to bottom all the veils of our life to face and receive new life.
  
- 2 The Reasons for Resurrection: From I Corinthians 15, we see Paul, who says the risen Jesus has appeared to several people, nearly 500 and the last to the least of the apostle, Paul.
  - To tear down the net of sin and oppression - rebuild a salvific (leading to salvation) relationship
  - To tear down the sting of death – renew the gift of new life towards new creation
  - To tear down the domination of empire- reaffirming in the kingdom of God
  - To tear down the invalidations of secularism – reassuring to validate our faith in Jesus Christ and our proclamation in Jesus (14 v)
  
- 3 The Realities of Resurrection: From Matthew 28: 1-10, we notice several realities that explain the resurrection of Jesus.
  - Tearing down of the tomb – empty tomb
  - Tearing down of the rock – rolling stone
  - Tearing down of the heavens – angels descending and sitting on the rolling stone.

- Tearing out the security guards – shook in fear and as dead men falling
- Tearing away the wrapped linen clothes
- Tearing the fears of the women disciples and later the men disciples
- Tearing down the norms of messengers – women were chosen to be the messengers of resurrection
- Tearing of the earth – a great earthquake happened at the resurrection moment

There is a seismic shift that day on the earth, and it invites us towards a seismic shift from our own perceptions and suspicions. Resurrection is real and those that believe in it will be empowered by its spirit, for Jesus as a first fruit was risen and the rest who follow him will soon have such experience.

4. Conclusion: Dad -kids- car -explaining Easter celebration in Church and said Jesus is no more in the grave. The little kid asked, “So if he is not in the grave, will he be there today in the church?” Is risen Christ present in our churches, are The Relevance of Resurrection: Jesus is crucified and is risen now, so what is it for us now as his disciples:

According to the BBC, we live in a time when 50 % of the UK population are no religion, and a quarter of the Christian population doesn't believe in resurrection. It is important to affirm that Jesus' resurrection is real, for he rose back to life in body.

- a In light of Jesus being risen, what does “risen” mean for us today? Jesus tearing down the dominion of death is an invitation for us to join with Jesus in tearing down the curtains and veils of sin, oppression, injustice and all such forms that obstruct and hinder new life. Tearing down walls of division and building bridges of new life is a mark of Christian discipleship today.
- b Baptism is living out Christ's resurrection – dying ourselves to sin and rising again to new life. Acts 5:27-32 – After Easter – courage.

- c As a church we are called to proclaim and be life-giving agents to several people who are crucified and living situations of death in our times today?
- d Tearing down the I (me, and mine) in SIN, so that Salvation and New life will blossom in our lives.

We risen communities where risen Jesus takes his abode? If he is not in the grave, where is Jesus today? Echoing with the call of prophet Jeremiah, "See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant." 1:10 Resurrection is tearing down structures of sin and evil of our times today and promoting new life to people living in situations of death and lifelessness. Dr.Sarvepalli Radha Krishnan – former President of India – preaching in the US on John 20 said, "O Christians, resurrection is unique to you, so live up to it."



**Wishing you all a very blessed Easter – Because Christ lives, we can face tomorrow.**

**Rev. Dr. Raj Bharat Patta**

Taken from '**The friendship book**'

The following quote was taken from a poster at a village church

***'People with humility do not think less of themselves but think of themselves less'***

*A point to ponder in an age when this quality is not always so commonly found!*

## Dementia

## Friends

By Garry

Evans

Beryl (left),  
Dorothy  
(middle) and  
Roy



The Moor Magazine featured an article in their October/November 2018 issue about the Heaton's Dementia Friendly Group which meets at Heaton Moor United Church on Friday afternoons. The magazine interviewed Beryl Whitehead from the group.

I recently spoke to Beryl who happened to be with a couple of the Committee members, Dorothy Mason and Roy Dudley-Southern. I said I was intending to enter the article into our Church Magazine. Beryl wanted it to be stressed that although the article seems to mainly cover *her* journey, she considers the group a Team and that she is *just a part of*. 'One of the Team'. 'It is the Team that are responsible for the group's success'.

The Article read as follows.....

*Less than 10 years after she and her husband Frank retired early from their demanding jobs in education, Beryl started to realise that Frank's behaviour and personality were slowly but surely changing—the well educated, highly intelligent man she'd loved for more than half her life was gradually losing the ability to hold a conversation, his language skills were deserting him and his memory was failing him fast. He was eventually diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.*

*As Frank's behaviour became more unpredictable (as is common with many sufferers), Beryl and Frank stopped going out and became dependent on their family and close friends for social interaction.*

*Eventually Beryl discovered Age UK and the Ada Kay Centre in Bredbury, where she and Frank enjoyed many happy hours with people in the same situation—but she wondered why there wasn't such a service nearer to home?*

*Sadly Frank died in 2013 but Beryl didn't give up wondering why there was no local service. Through becoming first a 'dementia friend' and then a 'dementia friend's champion', Beryl learned all she could about what any of us could do to make the lives of those living with dementia, and their carers, a little easier.*

*Inspired by a Morecambe cafe that declared, 'This is a dementia – friendly cafe', she began researching the feasibility of such a thing in the Heatons. Finally, with funding from John Lewis, The Rotary, 4HTA, The Coop and many individuals, The Heatons 'Dementia Cafe' was born.*

*Every Friday afternoon for almost 5 years the Heaton Moor United Church has hosted a delightful 'pop up' cafe specifically for those living with Dementia and their carers. A dedicated team of volunteers from all walks of life and age ranges (students, local workers, retired people) make these sessions a fun and friendly experience. Everyone is met with a warm hug from a welcoming volunteer, proving that every life is valued and celebrated.*

*The local Co-op provides tea and biscuits and volunteers make sure that a good time is had by all. There is singing and dancing, live piano music (Beryl reminds us that the appreciation of music is often one of the last things a dementia sufferer loses), hand massage, exercise classes and a birthday cake for anyone celebrating a milestone. In addition, representatives from Age UK, The Meadows community hospital, Alzheimers Society or Signpost for carers are on hand to provide advice if needed. Beryl and the volunteers say they get as much fun from the Cafe as the guests (currently 26 pairs) and are at pains to stress that even though living with dementia, (or caring for someone in that situation) can be challenging, there are still lots of happy times to be had.*

If you want more information check out their website:  
[www.dementiafriendlyheatons](http://www.dementiafriendlyheatons)



## **My Life**

by

**Arnold Jones**

Born and brought up in Chorlton-cum-Hardy Manchester, the second child of Richard Lloyd and Myfanwy Jones, with an elder sister Megan, I enjoyed a loving home upbringing in a long standing Manchester/Welsh family that gave to me a firm foundation for future life.

I always take pride that from early childhood I was taught solid honest working-class values with a loving mother who was strict and an even stricter father who took no nonsense from me or my sister.

My father, an ironmonger, who because he was brought up in Pwllheli, North Wales spoke Welsh (and obviously English!) and exercised his fair but firm discipline over the household, yet always supportive throughout, while my mother always ensured that I learned good manners and politeness at all times. My

education began during the war at Chorlton Park Junior School with teachers who hammered home the three “Rs”, maybe this sounds boring but in common with my class mates I knew my times tables up to “12 times” by the age of seven or eight, good spelling was always important as well.

However despite the efforts of the teachers I still failed my scholarship (11 plus) to Chorlton Grammar School therefore I went to Chorlton Park Secondary Modern School. This though served me well for I later passed the entrance exam for Mill Street School of Building in Ancoats, Manchester, where life suddenly became more tough and more demanding. Despite this I have no regrets about Mill Street because as a Building Technical School I learned the basics of the building trade studying brickwork, plastering, plumbing and carpentry all of which I enjoyed immensely and stood me in good step for my future employment.

Also I had one more advantage which served me well, that being my birth date, which falls at the end of August, as a consequence I was always the youngest in the class, which meant



that the five year apprenticeship course for plumbing was cut down to four years, which in turn meant that I passed my City and Guilds exam at the age of eighteen, not twenty one as was common for apprentices in general.

At this point I had to continue my night school studies because if I had not I would have received my call up papers to join the army, which would signify that I had broken my apprenticeship, which would have meant that I would fail to become a plumber in later years. This made me decide I had to continue my night school studies so I enrolled at Whitworth Street Technical College to study Sanitary and Domestic engineering that entailed design work and central heating.

This took me through to twenty-one and I could no longer have any more deferments. My "calling up" papers duly arrived and I went to Julia Street Centre near Strange-Ways prison for my army medical. This though is where life catches up, and fortunately or unfortunately I had sustained a serious knee injury playing rugby and I never actually joined the forces. Also in 1958 the army did

not want any more soldiers and my army days ended at the medical.

All the above reads as though I had mixed youth, but one thing that formed the core of life was my Christian background, From being very young I had attended High Lane Methodist Church on a Sunday and the Youth Club on a Friday night, although I was not truly aware of it at the time, this created for me a future that I could always and have always carried in my life.

The above is simply a very brief potted account of my life as a child and teenager, but like all people one has to grow up, which in my case was when I met Beryl at a dance at Manchester Y.M.C.A. in the June of 1959. At that point in life I could actually dance, not very well, but I could manage to get round the dance floor without treading on my partner's toes. When the dance ended I walked Beryl to Stevenson Square to catch her bus to Droylsden.

We made a date to meet again and so our courtship began. I still can still laugh when I think that both our buses left Manchester at 11 O Clock pm, therefore I walked to Stevenson Square with Beryl, then at three

minutes to 11 and had to run down Lever Street to catch the Wythenshawe bus that dropped me off at Chorlton. Looking back I must have been reasonably fit, or at least the run kept me fit, especially when I had to vault over the safety rail at Piccadilly bus station!!



**Stevenson Square Manchester, some years ago.**

Throughout, from the age of fifteen I played rugby for the Y.M.C.A., needless to say it was inevitable that I took the occasional injury, therefore Beryl and I had an arrangement, that should I have a black eye or some other facial wound we went to the cinema or if I had no visible knocks we would go dancing, however our courtship was a valued period of love that flourished over time. Then, on Beryl's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday we became engaged to be married.

At this point I was in Alsager Training College training to be a teacher, needless to say I did not have a wage

coming in and Beryl gave me wonderful support both financially and lovingly. I found college life difficult in many ways, not the academic studies, but being away from home and friends, both of which meant such a lot to me. But time passes and eventually I graduated as a teacher to start work at Moseley Road Secondary School in Manchester. It was then that, with Beryl, we began to save up for the big day when we would begin our lives together as a married couple. That was the 11<sup>th</sup> August 1962.

We were married at Market Street Methodist Church where Beryl worshipped, a typical Manchester rainy day, but the day still remains a treasured occasion when Beryl became Mrs. Jones.

We had already secured our house in Heaton Chapel where we still live today but like all young married couples we were financially still finding our feet, but with a lot of hard work and determination we established ourselves in the area.

***The final part of Arnold's article will appear in the Summer magazine***

Sunday 31st March 2019



## Mother's Day

*Make this a day to remember  
Your Mother—Whose love is so strong  
Who always believes in you-no matter what  
And helps you see sense-(When you are 'losing the plot')  
Gives you courage and hope to keep plodding on  
'Till your goals you achieve' and battles are won  
Remember it well-and recall all her years  
Of devotion to duty-through laughter and tears.  
This is your 'Mum'-Your tower of strength  
Who will stay close beside you until the last length  
Give her your love and your thanks every day  
Be by her side-and be honoured to say,  
'This is my Mother-and this is her day!'*

*A poem by **Dorothy Mason***



## **Christian Aid Update**

Lent - Manchester Circle the City - Christian Aid week

Rise up against climate change 2019

*There are many things happening in the North West which include Lent Lunches in various churches, sponsored walks across the region and visits to local HSBC still investing in coal-fired stations around the world, despite signing the 2015 Paris Pledge for Action to reduce emissions.*

*Some of you may be familiar with Count Your Blessings. It is a sort of calendar, packed with daily stories, prayers and reflections to help us on our journey through Lent. I'll give a flavour of it and have some available to distribute to adults, there is also a children's version.*

### **Wednesday 6 March Ash Wednesday**

The first day of Lent. It's also an opportunity to fix our eyes on Jesus through prayer, fasting and repentance.

THANK GOD FOR EACH NEW PERSON YOU MEET TODAY  
AND CONSIDER HOW YOU CAN BE THE LIGHT OF JESUS TO  
PEOPLE YOU MEET

### **Thursday 14 March**

When Typhoon Haiyan hit the area (Philippines) the area was devastated. ICODE (Christian Aid partner) provided housing materials and training so that the fisher folk could use sustainable fishing methods.

**GIVE 20p FOR EACH LIGHT BULB IN YOUR HOME**

### **Friday 22 March – World Water Day**

The community is calling for the local coal plant to be closed as it's emitting harmful gases.

GIVE 50p EACH TIME YOU TURN ON THE TAP AND USE CLEAN, SAFE WATER.

### **31 March – Mothering Sunday**

Mary Ann had to wait three days to find out her children were safe after Haiyan. Luckily her children found shelter in another home during this time.

GIVE 20p FOR EVERY PICTURE OF YOUR MOTHER IN YOUR HOUSE OR ON YOUR PHONE

### **Friday 12 April**

*During this season we want to visit every branch of HSBC to tell them to make the Big Shift out of fossil fuels and into renewable energy*

VISIT YOUR LOCAL HSBC BRANCH THIS WEEK AND DELIVER YOUR PERSONAL LETTERS (ACTION GUIDE: [caid.org.uk/bankvisit](http://caid.org.uk/bankvisit))

### **Manchester Circle the City 2019**

*This will take place in London, Birmingham and MANCHESTER,*

**Saturday, 27 April 11am - 4pm.** *A sponsored walk in the heart of the city, starting at the Cathedral and visiting many places of worship. Register at: [caid.org.uk/circle-city-Manchester](http://caid.org.uk/circle-city-Manchester)*

### **12 to 18 May — Christian Aid Week**

*“All mums should live” and More about the Big Brekkie*

**Jean James**

## Your Gift Doubled

### *Matching your donations with ‘UK aid’*

**Kumal**, a Leprosy sufferer, was referred to Anandaban hospital in Nepal from a clinic near his home. He had developed a wound on his left hand that would not heal. Because of this his family and school friends feared him. A mobile phone helps him keep in touch with everyone while he is away receiving treatment.

Since 2015 patient numbers at Anandaban hospital have doubled and it is under immense pressure.

However, Great News! Kumal has received care that will enable him to look forward to an independent future.



The UK Government have agreed to match donations to the Leprosy Mission up until 27th April. This means the pressure on the Anandaban hospital can hopefully be eased and more people like Kumal treated successfully.

If you wish, You can post cheques or postal orders to ;

Freepost, RTKU-RRBS-ZEHZ, The Leprosy mission, Goldhay way,

Orton Goldway, Peterborough, PE2 5GZ

(Make cheques payable to ‘The Leprosy mission’ or donate online at [www.healnepal.org.uk](http://www.healnepal.org.uk) )



# Congratulations Jim and Barbara



on your 60th Diamond  
Anniversary

**Jim and Barbara Lowe** celebrated their 60th Diamond Wedding Anniversary at the Alma Lodge Hotel in Stockport on Saturday 2nd February with family and friends. The celebratory cake (right) was enjoyed by Heaton Moor United Church congregation the next day after the Sunday Service



## **Obituary Section**

### **Marjorie Butterworth 1940 - 2018**

**By Carol Swainston**

Marjorie was born on 14 July 1940 to Alma and Tom Hallworth who lived in North Reddish. Her sister, Kay, arrived 4 years later.

They both attended North Reddish Infant and Junior Schools and Fylde Lodge High School for Girls in Heaton Mersey. Marjorie went on to Crewe Teacher Training College after which she returned to Reddish to teach at St Elizabeth's Infant School. She shared a flat with Dorothy Peake, a school friend, whose parents, Olive and Harry Peake, were faithful members of Heaton Moor Methodist Church.

Marjorie married Peter Butterworth on 28 October 1967 and they had two daughters, Susan and Anne. Sadly, Anne died in 2017. While Anne was small Marjorie set up Broadstone Playgroup at Heaton Chapel Community Centre and ran this with help for several years.

Her father had been organist at Grey Mare Lane Methodist Church until it was demolished and the family moved to Aspinall Methodist Church. From a young age Marjorie and Kay sat in the choir with their mother. Marjorie had a beautiful soprano voice and was used to singing solos. In about 1970 she started attending Heaton Moor Methodist Church as it was much nearer to her home at the end of Heaton Moor Road. She came to Young Wives (now Ladies Fellowship) which was where we met. We soon became friends and joined the church choir together.

Sadly, Peter died in 1989. I had been widowed 13 years previously. Our families were growing up and we began to spend more time together, having shared interests. We joined U3A and were both involved in a walking group, country dancing and visits to The Halle. Marjorie was also very involved with Family History. We enjoyed country walks, National Trust visits and holidays both in this country and abroad.

Marjorie was a very quiet, self-effacing person and a good listener who made a very good and faithful pastoral visitor, once persuaded that she had the ability to do the job. She was always ready to sing when asked,



but otherwise kept herself in the background, helping with serving coffee and washing up as required. She was always ready to help and support others.

In 2010 Marjorie was diagnosed with Alzheimers. She moved to a flat but gradually needed more support. We had two last short breaks together in 2012 and 2013 in the South Lake District and Derbyshire. In February 2015 Marjorie went into hospital with pneumonia after which the Alzheimers advanced rapidly. Following a stay in The Meadows she went into permanent care in Marple Dale Care Home and then in Woodlands Methodist Care Home in Poynton where she died peacefully on 31 October 2018. I lost a very dear and much valued friend.

Marjorie is greatly missed, not only by her daughter, Sue, sister, Kay, two grandchildren, James and Beth, and other family members, but by many others who have known and been influenced by her. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with them all.

## **Betty Hickman 13/3/1934 to 21/11/18**

### ***Grandma`s Eulogy by Charlotte Hickman***

*Followed by an Obituary by Gwyneth Mason*

Grandma was born on 13th March 1934 in Levenshulme to her parents, Ernest and Hannah Street. Grandma was the middle of 14 children. Grandma always spoke so highly of her siblings and was especially close to her older sister Dot. They loved meeting up on a Saturday afternoon. They could talk for hours on end together either in person or by telephone (when Grandad would joke about the cost of the phone bill).

Grandma first met Grandad, Eddie, in 1955 at Levenshulme Pally where they would dance together. They married on 26th July 1957 and had 3 wonderful sons, Edward, Paul and Mark.

Grandma told me about the unprepared and premature arrival of Edward and Paul. They were in the living room of the house and after Edward had arrived, Grandma was surprised as to why she was still in pain. By this point a midwife was present and gave Grandma the second surprise of the day to say there was another baby in there ! Until that point she had no idea she was having twins ! After Grandad had run down the street to phone the Doctor, the twins were both whisked away to hospital. They weighed no more than a bag of sugar each. Three months later the babies were allowed home. Mark was born 3 years later, less eventful.

Grandma has always loved having a home full of children either through fostering and caring in schools or with grandchildren; Olivia, Charlie, Me, William and Alice. Grandma was a huge animal lover and kept birds, rabbits, hedgehogs and numerous cats and dogs. She even made friends with the local robin at Christmas and would sing to it each day in the garden!

Dancing has been a huge part of Betty and Eddie`s life and indeed mine and Olivia`s too! At their peak they would dance every day. Grandma was keen for Olivia and I to take up dancing and taxied us to lessons. Twice a year Grandma and Grandad would take Olivia, I and Edward to the world famous Blackpool Tower Ballroom where we would dance, have afternoon tea, watch the circus and get fish and chips for the way home.

Grandma loved cooking and baking. She used to work in a biscuit factory and was paid per pack completed. All the family looked forward to her bringing home broken biscuits which she was allowed due to being a good worker. Grandma made the best cakes, biscuits and comfort foods of any one in the world. In the summer she would treat us to pastries filled with damsons, apples and blackberries all sourced from the garden.

Betty and Eddie have literally travelled the world since married, including Europe, Asia and America. Grandma`s retirement present was to go

on the QE2. After that they were hooked on cruises and travelled the Caribbean and Mediterranean making friends with people all around the world, many of whom are still in touch.

Grandma was the most selfless person I knew and I am sure everyone can think of an act of kindness from Betty whether it be from preparing tea and coffee at dancing, helping with church craft and bake stalls, cleaning houses and helping out older friends, giving someone a lift and even just being able to pick up the phone, offer a caring voice ready to listen and give you good and comforting advice.

Grandma truly was an angel whilst on earth. She has taught me how to work hard, believe in myself, be kind to others and first and foremost, to put your family and friends before everything else. Nothing could ever beat the hugs I received from Grandma. I am sure her warm heart and loving smile will live on in all of us forever. No matter if you knew Betty for weeks, months or years, she would have changed you for the better in some way or other.

Thank you for being the incredible lady you were, Grandma. Rest in peace.

## **Obituary**

Mildred, a childhood friend, recalled how her and Betty were members of a small gang of children some of whom were Mildred's brothers who roamed the streets and entries around The Crescent, generally making a nuisance of themselves. They would sit on the steps of Whatlings Ballroom listening to the dance music and it was even better in summer when they left the double doors open and they could watch the dancers. They grew up together through the war years and celebrated VE Day in 1945 around a huge bonfire along with many others.

During those war years Betty attended Alma Park School in

Levenshulme and at age 15, left, and went to work at McVitie and Price.

As you have already heard dancing was important and the dance at Levenshulme Ballroom (the Monday night dances) when forces in uniform got in free. Eddie and Betty finally met, the romance blossomed and in 1957 they were married.

They bought a house in Levenshulme and the three boys, Edward, Paul and Mark grew up there. Betty decided she wanted to work with children with disabilities and took a nursery nursing course and started work at Piper Hill School in Wythenshawe.

The family grew as Betty also fostered three children from Piper Hill during that time. The family attended St Peter's Church. Eddie was working at Fairey Aviation but times were hard especially paying a mortgage of £800! It had taken most of Eddie's Army pay to get the deposit.

Betty went on to work at Piper Hill for 20 years but because of the lifting took her pension and early retirement but she could not stay at home and went to work at Priestnall Old Peoples home.

Betty and Eddie often visited Betty's brother in his house and they liked it so much that when he told them he was leaving they bought it off him and moved into the Heatons in 1970.

Times were easier with holidays in Blackpool but when I say easier there were problems with wheelchair access in those days that today we would not believe. Still, the family carried on. St Peter's church began to change and so Betty said she knew of a Methodist Church up the road. They tried it and stayed for 30 years and of course here we are.

Typically Betty threw herself into everything she could, toddlers groups, coffee mornings, Ladies Fellowship, Cake making. Betty was there!

Once, Betty Allport was in need of hats and scarves so she started

making those for the shoe box appeals and there are still some upstairs.

A very special time in Betty's life was the arrival of grandchildren and the special place with Olivia and Charlotte in their lives. Grandchildren brought a new joy for Betty and she absolutely idolised them and the last conversation I had with her was about a trip to Broadstone Mill with Charlotte.

One of the significant parts of Betty and Eddie's life was Fairey Social Club and the dances. They danced and danced and have never done anything else. Dancing at Sue and Graham's at Handforth on a Tuesday, they absolutely loved it.

As well as being Betty and Eddie's pastoral visitor, I am also their neighbour, just living round the corner from myself and Tony. I used to love the chats I had with Betty, they were so interesting and she had many a tale to tell. I will miss Betty. We shared one or two things in common. My dear late mother also lived in Levenshulme before she was married and also went to the same school as Betty, Alma Park.

Betty and Eddie not only looked after the family, each other, but everyone else. Betty was such a caring, lovely lady. All she thought about was other people and what she could do to help others. There is not enough paper to write down all the good things Betty did and she will be sadly missed. Betty passed away in hospital on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018 surrounded by all her loving family. Betty was a real lady, a gentle lady with a ready smile. We thank God for her life and friendship.

Rest in peace dear Betty

Gwyneth Mason

## Promise, plague and passion

Next year, Oberammergau stages it's 42nd passion play, keeping a 400-year-old promise to God

What started as a bargain with God has become a centuries-old village tradition that brings audiences of hundreds of thousands from across the world. In 1633, Bavaria suffered an



outbreak of plague so bad that the villagers of Oberammergau tried to win God's mercy by vowing to stage a regular re-enactment of Christ's passion. The plague subsided and the first passion play was staged at Pentecost 1634, over the graves of the victims. The plays took place every ten years until 1674, then the pattern shifted in 1680. Extra performances have been staged to mark anniversaries, while others have been cancelled because of difficulties such as war and attempts by the Catholic Church to ban the play. In 1780, the play was purged of graphic violence; in 1990 it was purged of antisemitism after decades of Jewish protests and a withdrawal of the Vatican's endorsement. A number of auditoriums have been built for the play, the present one designed for an audience of 5,200, with an open-air stage.

Oberammergau's passion play is an epic phenomenon – five hours long plus a three-hour break, the first half in daylight and the second (a controversial innovation last time round) by night. The story starts at Jesus' entry to Jerusalem with a crowd scene of 2,000, and is interspersed with tableaux from the Old Testament. There are 124 speaking roles, a 65-piece orchestra and a chorus of 48. At one time, only Catholics were allowed to take part, but participation was extended to all Christians and since 2000 includes Muslims too. Male actors are required to grow out their hair and beards. In 1922 the town rejected an offer from Hollywood of 14bn Deutschmarks to film the play.

*This is an extract from an article published in the February 2019 edition of URC 'Reform' magazine. To subscribe go to [www.reform-magazine.co.uk/subscribe](http://www.reform-magazine.co.uk/subscribe)*



## Chapter & verse: Exodus 16

### Francis Brienen finds God's provision in the wilderness



The book of Exodus has provided rich pickings for film directors through the years. It is easy to see why. There is plenty of material that is full of imagination and drama: the plagues of Egypt, the parting of the Red Sea, the wanderings in the wilderness, and, of course, the giving of the Ten Commandments. But Exodus is much more than a series of dramatic stories. It is first and foremost a story of becoming – of a people becoming the people of God. The book begins with slavery and bondage to Pharaoh and ends with freedom and bonding with God.

That journey of becoming starts here, with the manna and quails. In this story, the people receive a new identity; they are called the 'congregation of Israel' four times – a term that is rare elsewhere in Exodus. From now on they will be in a new relationship and live by a different order.

But that is not how it feels in the second month of being in the desert. They are hungry. How can that be if they are God's people? Soon, the murmurings start. They wish they had stayed in Egypt. At least there was food to eat. It is not easy to feel God near when material needs are not met. Faith in God's leading erodes with the desert sands.

God's response can feel surprising, perhaps even jarring. God decides to test them. Why would a God who has just led his people out of slavery want to put them to the test? The tension between God's leading on the one hand and God's testing on the other is not easy to resolve. The story says that its purpose is to see whether the people will follow God's instructions. **There is a lot to learn for the people of Israel, not least that the same God who led them out of slavery can be trusted to care for them still.....***Francis Brienen is Deputy General Secretary (Mission) for the United Reformed Church.*

*This is an extract from an article published in the February 2019 URC Reform magazine. To subscribe go to [www.reform-magazine.co.uk/subscribe](http://www.reform-magazine.co.uk/subscribe)*





## **Connect @ Tiviot Dale**

### **The Project**

The project aims to plant an entirely new congregation in the existing Methodist building at Tiviot Dale in the centre of Stockport.

In October 2018 the pilot phase was complete and had proved more fruitful than imagined. The worshipping congregation was up to over 60 adults a week with youth and children`s work flourishing. Street evangelism had drawn from the local community of Stockport and social media helping from across South Manchester.

However, the work bringing initial success was at risk due to the poor and unsuitable state of the building.

The vision for the project arose from the work of Rev Luiz Cardozo and his team at East Oldham Methodist Church where he was successful in taking the new bilingual congregation number from scratch to 60 in 18 months, worshipping in English and Portuguese. The open and accessible style of worship that is lively and contemporary for younger adults was the main attraction.

In the Summer of 2017 Rev Luiz was challenging the Methodist Church in Manchester and Stockport to give him the opportunity to plant further Churches. It seemed to both Luiz and Rod Hull (District Mission Enabler for Stockport Circuit) that the building at Tiviot Dale would be a good location for a new Church to gather people from a range of national and linguistic backgrounds from across South Manchester to form a new international Church, worshipping in both English and Portuguese.



Over the next 5 years the congregation anticipates growing by about 20 members a year and after 5 years the Church expects to be self financing and self led. Further, around year 3, the aim will be to plant another new Church in another part of Manchester and Stockport district.

As mentioned earlier, the Connect@Tiviot Dale Methodist Church building is in need of restoration and repair, and if not actioned, will endanger the successful work already achieved with regard the Rev Luiz Cardoza`s project.

An open meeting took place a few months ago at Heaton Moor United Church where Luiz outlined the situation to the attendees. Subsequently, it has been agreed that we, at Heaton Moor United Church, should try and help. Talks are on going with regard how finance can be arranged but it is hoped the situation will be resolved soon.

*At Connect there are courses people can enrol on to learn more about Jesus. Every Wednesday at 7 pm people meet to eat together and talk about Jesus. There is also a Bridge project group which aims to help people especially who maybe not in a good place, discussing help, hope, salvation, healing, forgiveness, food and Jesus, with the hope people can reshape their lives.*

I like the opening message on the 'Connect Church@Tiviot Dale`s' website:

***'It`s OK to not be OK. God meets you wherever you are!'***

**Garry**



Thoughts from **Valerie Evans**

**Rosa Parks was an American activist in the Civil Rights movement who refused to give her seat up to a white passenger when ordered to by the bus driver. This led to the Montgomery bus boycott in Alabama.**

**Below are some quotes Rosa Parks made in relation to her thoughts, action and determination in her cause ;**

**‘All I was doing was trying to get home from work’**

**‘Someone had to take the first step. I made up my mind not to move’**

**‘No, the only tired I was, was tired of giving in’.**

***‘I have learned over the years that when one’s mind is made up, this diminishes fear; knowing what must be done, does away with fear’.***

### **Kitchen Items**

S	R	E	H	S	A	W	H	S	I	D	C	E	F
H	P	B	L	E	N	D	E	R	M	F	S	A	N
O	C	O	F	F	E	E	M	A	K	E	R	E	W
A	F	C	N	D	A	S	C	U	T	L	E	R	Y
V	G	H	H	G	G	E	E	U	K	E	B	D	E
E	S	T	O	V	E	T	E	O	D	E	R	N	C
M	I	C	R	O	W	A	V	E	R	G	E	A	N
W	R	F	K	E	T	L	R	E	T	S	A	O	T
M	H	S	N	P	R	P	K	N	Y	R	D	D	R
H	E	H	I	R	F	R	I	D	G	E	M	I	A
I	S	G	S	P	I	M	N	T	U	O	A	L	D
T	E	U	M	P	A	E	E	E	K	R	K	L	I
A	E	T	R	O	R	E	V	H	R	A	E	V	O
D	O	D	U	B	P	G	O	S	O	E	R	R	G

- MICROWAVE
- CUTLERY
- SPONGE
- BRUSH
- FRIDGE
- MOP
- BREADMAKER
- TOASTER
- BLENDER
- COFFEE MAKER
- PLATES
- DISHWASHER
- RADIO
- OVEN
- STOVE
- SINK

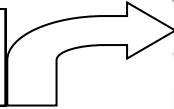
**Fun**

**Section**

**Children`s**

Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/34/>

Do you have a taste  
for religion ?



Muslim, Jew, Christian, Hindu,  
atheist... they all taste like chicken.



## ***Eating in the 50's***

*Healthy food consisted of anything edible*

*People who didn't peel potatoes were regarded as lazy*

*Indian restaurants were only found in India*

*Cooking outside was called camping*

*Seaweed was not a recognised food*

*'Kebab' was not even a word never mind a food*

*Sugar enjoyed a good press in those days and was regarded as being white gold*

*Prunes were medicinal*

*Surprisingly, muesli was available, it was called cattle feed, came in chunks in a tin, we had only seen a picture of a real one*

*Water came out of a tap. If someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than petrol for it, they would have become a laughing stock*

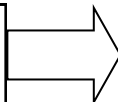
*The one thing we never had on our table in the fifties .....was elbows!*

**(Eating in the 50's was  
provided by Jean James)**

from  
[www.freetimeourstories.org](http://www.freetimeourstories.org)

re-

From the book 'Incredibly Silly Signs'.  
This sign was seen in an office kitchen  
in London



**After tea break  
staff should  
empty the teapot  
and stand upside down  
on the draining  
board**

## Fancy giving to charity as you spend but won't add to your bill?

### Extract from Rev L Kemp article

For those who use the *internet*, there are many ways to help you can help just by some small tweaks to how you shop on line can benefit more than just you!

Use **Everyclick.co.uk** as your search engine . Every search you make raises money for charity and if you make an online purchase through either **Everyclick** or **Give as you live**, many companies will donate a percentage to your chosen charity, as long as you use the website with the 'shopping trolley' in a sort of blue 'heart shape', on the left hand side of the website. The default charity is Christian aid but you can change it to any registered charity. I have mine set to '**All we can**'. Over several years of searching I have raised over **£470** So it really is worth doing !



Listed below are examples of websites you can access through the **Everyclick** search engine. You can use '*single clicks*' with these to benefit earthly causes;

**Landcareniagara:** *A single click for a project planting trees in Canada. The annual results are given at the end of the year.*

**Naturavet.se:** *A single click on the tree icon to preserve ancient forest in Sweden. I usually keep clicking on the brown icon until the total goes up.*

**Click for the earth, brother earth:** *A single click each day for one of a number of projects in different parts of the world.*

*Totals change instantly.*

# THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

LENTEN STUDY WITH REV PATTA

ASH WEDNESDAY

6TH MARCH SOUP & ROLL @ 6.00PM

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN FILM @ 6.30PM

SUNDAY 10TH MARCH 12.15 SOUP & ROLL

STUDY TO FOLLOW

SUNDAY 17TH MARCH 12.15 SOUP & ROLL

STUDY TO FOLLOW

SUNDAY 24TH MARCH 12.15 SOUP & ROLL

STUDY TO FOLLOW

SUNDAY 7TH APRIL 12.15 SOUP & ROLL

STUDY TO FOLLOW

SUNDAY 14TH APRIL 12.15 SOUP & ROLL

STUDY TO FOLLOW

IF YOU CAN WISH TO ATTEND PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME  
DOWN ON THE LIST IN HALL

## **Dates for the Diary**

**@ Heaton Moor United Church**

**Messy Church : Thursdays .**

*March 21st    April 11th    May 16th*  
*June 20th                  July 18th*

**Heaton Moor United Church :**

**Spring Fair**

**Sunday 28th April**

*after Sunday Service*

*1 pm to 3 pm*

**Lenten Study with Rev Patta**

Sundays.....at 12.15 pm

*Includes soup and a roll*

March    10th 17th 24th

April     7th 14th

For a detailed view of **Diary dates** please view the  
**calendar @** [www.heatonmmorunitedchurch.org.uk](http://www.heatonmmorunitedchurch.org.uk) click  
on the calendar tab

# Heaton Moor United Church

## Sunday Service Plan

Correct at time of print. (Maybe subject to change)

March 3rd	10.45 am	Patta	Cafe
March 10th	10.45 am	Martin	Lent 1
March 17th	Local Arrangement		
March 24th	09.30 am	Patta	Communion
	10.45 am	Patta	Communion
March 31st	Local arrangement		Mothering Sunday
April 7th	10.00 am	Adams	Super Sunday
	10.45 am	Adams	Super Sunday
April 14th	09.30 am	Patta	Communion
	10.45 am	Patta	Palm Sunday
April 21st	10.45 am	Adams	Communion Easter
April 28th	10.45 am	Jack	(Spring fair at 1 pm)
May 5th	10.45 am	Patta	Cafe
May 12th	Christian Aid Service Trinity Church at 11 am		
May 19th	10.45 am	Adams	Communion
May 26th	10.45 am	Palmer	



*We are handing out coffee during Easter Week.*

*If you can help, please let Linda Fleming know.*

*The coffee is handed out on Heaton Moor Road mainly to commuters on their way to work.*

*We meet at 7 am and finish at 9 am from Monday 17th to Wednesday 19th April, during Holy Week.*

*You don't need to be there for the whole session.*

*Any help is gratefully received as will the coffee by the commuters !*

## **Woodbank Community Food Hub**



supported by the Kindling Trust

A varied programme of activities is open to local residents and the general public, including community gardening sessions, open to all, every Monday 11am - 2pm. Details of all events can be found [on the hub website](#).

**Veg Box People**—Part of the family of enterprises supported and incubated by Kindling, Veg Box People are Greater Manchester's fastest growing veg box scheme. The hub at Woodbank is a Veg Box People collection point, which means local, organic veg can be ordered online and collected from the hub.



# An Easter Prayer



**From The Methodist Church Website**

This prayer has been written by the Revd Michaela Youngson.

When everything was dark  
and it seemed that the sun would never shine again,  
your love broke through.

Your love was too strong,  
too wide,  
too deep  
for death to hold.

The sparks cast by your love  
dance and spread  
and burst forth  
with resurrection light.

Gracious God,  
We praise you for the light of new life  
made possible through Jesus.  
We praise you for the light of new life  
that shone on the first witnesses of resurrection.  
We praise you for the light of new life  
that continues to shine in our hearts today.

We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy,  
will live in us each day;  
and that we will be bearers of that light  
into the lives of others.

Amen.



# The Magazine Team

**Garry Evans**—Editor and contributor

**Bob Docherty**—Proof reader

**Margaret Field**—Assembly Manager

**Beryl Swann** —Distribution

**A big thank you** to all those who have contributed! The quality of the articles is fantastic and I hope you all enjoy reading this as we did putting it together. We could not do it without your input and support.

## Contributions to the next magazine

- Team updates (leadership, worship, fundraising, children and young people, circuit, etc.)
- Poems
- Stories
- Biographies
- Photography
- Drawings
- Humour
- Travel
- Announcements
- And anything else you can think of!

*We will need dates for the calendar, notices, pastoral news, ads for charity coffee mornings, etc. by* **15th May 2019**

***Contributions accepted on final day, 15th May, but can be provided at any time and always appreciated well in advance, making it easier for the editor***

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