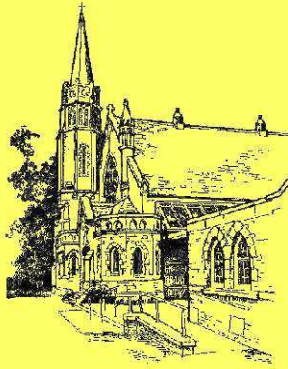


**Fulwood Methodist Church
Crossroads Centre**



HARVEST 2021

Twinned with the Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche,
Recklinghausen, Germany



THE FULWOOD METHODIST

FULWOOD METHODIST CHURCH

Watling Street Road, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 8EA

Tel. Preston (01772) 718741

Registered Charity No. 1133929

MINISTER

Revd Jane Wild - jane.wild@methodist.org.uk

Tel. 01772 715134

YOUTH, CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY WORKER

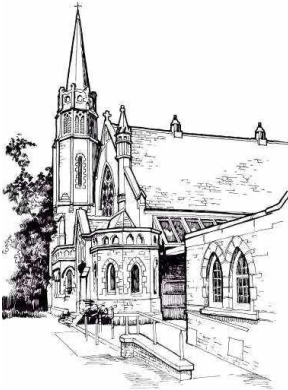
Darren Arnold - darrenarnold.church@gmail.com

Tel. 07811 775825

CIRCUIT PASTORAL WORKER

Denise Johnson - djpastoral@outlook.com

Tel. 07719 200451



NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES

9.45 am SINGING PRACTICE

10.30 am MORNING WORSHIP & SUNDAY CLUB

We offer a welcome to all ages on Sunday mornings, there is a CRÈCHE for babies and toddlers while parents are in worship. The first 15 minutes of worship are for all ages and then on most Sundays the children leave for their own time in SUNDAY CLUB, where there are groups for different ages. Parents can go out with the younger ones to see them settle, and then come back into Church for worship. Sunday Club and worship finish at the same time and an invitation is extended to everyone to stay and share in fellowship in the Willow Grove, where tea, coffee and orange juice are served.

The CHURCH MINIBUS provides free transport to and from Church on Sunday mornings. The timetable and route information are available at Church. Should you wish to make use of it please complete one of the request cards in Willow Grove.

6.30 pm. EVENING WORSHIP. With every 2nd Sunday of the month from 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm - **SPACE** - Multiplex Worship and Discipleship for all, at various circuit churches. (*See weekly notices for details*)

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated monthly (morning and evening) and once a month there is ALL-AGE WORSHIP involving children from the youth groups.

For BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES AND FUNERALS contact Revd Jane Wild

**If you need any help, or have any concerns, please contact
Revd Jane Wild or Mrs. Sue Penrith (862273)**

EDITORIAL

Well, here we are again! Despite personal matters intervening in more than one instance, the team have worked hard to bring this Harvest issue to you – although I can't envisage there being much in the way of traditional Harvest celebrations this year!

There still doesn't seem to be overmuch similarity between pre-Covid and post-Covid life, and there's certainly a deep yearning "for things to get back to normal – the sooner, the better". It's definitely taking longer than ever envisaged to bring that about.

However, we like to think that we're 'doing our bit' to retain a modicum of normality where we can.

Roy Smith (Editor)

For our **Christmas** issue the **copy date will be Sunday, 21st November, 2021**. Any contributions ahead of that date would be especially welcome. (N.B. Articles may be subject to editing.)

STEWARDS

CHURCH

John Ferris	<i>johnferris16@yahoo.co.uk</i> (1st contact Steward)
Cheryl Arnold	<i>cheryl.fulwood68@gmail.com</i>
Hilary Banks	<i>hilarybanks277@gmail.com</i>
Wendy Bennett	<i>wendyben7@gmail.com</i>
Amanda Latham	<i>mandyelizabeth1810@gmail.com</i>
Carly Miller	<i>tcplmiller@gmail.com</i>
Susan Rennie	<i>sue_rennie53@hotmail.co.uk</i>
Sue Salisbury	<i>suesalisbury@outlook.com</i>

COMMUNION

Pauline Kirkham (Senior Steward), Lesley Birkett, John Butterworth,
Jacqueline Clarke, Sue Hogarth, Melba Southwood

Pastoral Secretary: Sue Penrith. email: *suepenrith@virginmedia.com*

* * * * *

EDITORIAL TEAM

EDITOR Roy Smith 7 Southgate, Fulwood Preston PR2 3HX
Assisted by Barbara Hothersall, Libby Stone and Ken Wales
Computer layout John Butterworth
e-mail *fmcmagazine@yahoo.co.uk*

For the time being, this magazine is only available at ***www.fulwoodmethodist.org.uk***. Click the Magazine cover graphic on the front page or the **Online Magazine** tab on the 2nd page. We print a few copies for those without internet access.

Copies going back to Harvest 2001 are available online!

PASTORAL LETTER

from Revd Jane Wild

Hello Friends,

It is lovely to be back with you.

Do you ever pause in the middle of a conversation and talk about something different because it is important. In a sense this is what the writer Leviticus does; he is telling the people how to celebrate the Festival of Weeks (the giving of the law to Moses) when he stops and talks about Harvest.



‘When you reap the Harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your Harvest. Leave them for the poor and for the foreigner residing among you. I am the LORD your God.’

Also -

God is generous with you, be generous to others.

God Gives you what you need, do not be greedy.

God offers love to all, do not exclude people from the table because they are different from you.

These concepts ring true thousands of years after they were written down, as we face significant challenges in our world. In Haiti, the poorest of people need our compassion. Would not harvesting the edges of our fields be a generosity in giving to those in dire circumstances. We need to share our Harvest.

The COP 26 UN Climate Change Conference, hosted by the UK in partnership with Italy, will take place from 31 October to 12 November 2021 in Glasgow.

Human use of resources has led to a crisis in our world. Not being greedy about our Harvest would be part of making the changes necessary to save our world. Over the next few months there will be opportunity to share in the campaigns and challenges to look at how we treat God’s world. It is a fundamental part of Harvest that we nurture the resources we are given.

In Afghanistan we have a situation where conflict has arisen, and differences have brought about great tragedy. Our challenge at Harvest is to find ways to relate to people who are all loved by God and particularly welcome those who are foreigners in our land.

Finally, we do have to remember to give thanks for the grace of God to us.

God Bless,

Jane

YOUTH, CHILDREN'S & FAMILY WORK

Hi, hope your all having a good summer! I've been trying to keep busy during the summer holidays by being part of 'Son Shine Fun' in six different parks over four weeks around Preston. This was a joint event with Simon and Nicky, the other circuit workers, with the help of volunteers from the various churches. Each week we had a different theme 1) Euro 2020 (football), 2) Scavenger hunt/photo marathon, 3) Olympics, 4) Various games. The weather wasn't always good for us, but we stuck at it and met lots of youngsters and families and had a great time. We are already looking at doing something together next summer after a debrief meeting in September. As workers together, we are looking into other circuit events for the youngsters and families of our communities.

I was also able to meet with our 'Messy Church' families for a walk at Beacon Fell and was able to use the scavenger hunt with them. When completed the parents were very happy with the prizes I handed out to the children!

'OMG' met one night for fellowship, fun, games, pizza, and a design-your-own 'Colin the caterpillar' challenge.

I did try a 'Who Let the Dads Out?' but unfortunately no one turned up! However I was able to taste the bacon butties to see if they still tasted good!

The Parent & Toddler group has met during the holidays for coffee and play before the big restart in September.

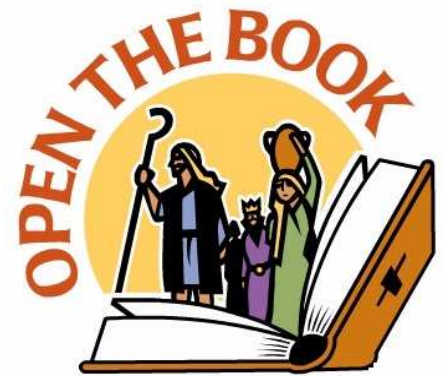
Breakfast church have been taking part in a six-week Olympic Challenge, each week families read about an event, read a piece of scripture relating to the event, then try a craft, sporting challenge, create food and hear some Olympic facts. There has been some brilliant work done by many and lots of pictures have been put on the church Facebook pages, although I will try and display some in the church for you to see.

Can You Help? Fancy having a go!

We are looking at putting a circuit team together to deliver an 'Open the Book' programme. The idea is to go into schools and deliver Bible stories. It's volunteer 'Storytellers' who make 'Open the Book' such a success. They go into primary schools, build relationships with staff, and bring the Bible to life through drama.

Storytellers are part of a team formed from the local church or churches working together. The stories are carefully scripted and directed so they're easy to present and preparation isn't hard. Teams find and fund their own props and costumes, but this can be as simple as just wearing a scarf. No one is too old or young to take part! For more information either talk with me or check out this website www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book

Many thanks, take care and stay safe.



Darren Arnold – Youth, Children's & Family Worker.

TIME FOR SOME JOY



I once heard a very serious preacher at a worship venue. His message was about joy, and although this was his theme, he had the most miserable disposition and never smiled once in his delivery. I decided to ask him about what he said and tackled him in the corridor after the service. His response to my questioning was, “My joy is so deep that you just can’t see it”!!

For me laughter and joy are infectious. Have you ever been in that situation with a friend where an attack of the giggles starts and you just can’t stop? Have you ever laughed so much that it hurts? Have you shared your joy with others? The book of Proverbs in the Old Testament tells us that, “A joyful heart is good medicine”. Ecclesiastes tells us that, “There is a time to laugh”, and in the New Testament joy is listed as one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Joy is a natural and helpful part of life.

Laughter is scientifically proven to have health benefits – laughter can...

- ? Stimulate organs. Laughter enhances your intake of oxygen-rich air, stimulates your heart, lungs and muscles, and increases the endorphins that are released by your brain.
- ? Activate and relieve your stress response. A really hearty laugh fires up and then cools down your stress response, and it can increase and then decrease your heart rate and blood pressure. The result? A good, relaxed feeling.
- ? Soothe tension. Laughter can also stimulate circulation and aid muscle relaxation, both of which can help reduce some of the physical symptoms of stress.

Where have your moments of joy been recently? Who are the people who have brought a smile to your face and made you feel better inside? Joy can even be present at sad times in our lives – I have visited families to prepare for funerals where stories have been told and photographs have been shown which have resulted in smiles and laughter. Joy is part of the rich mixture of life. I urge you to seek out some joyful moments, spend time with those who make you laugh and feel at ease.

It has been a tough couple of years for many and our souls need some joy.

Every blessing,

Denise (Circuit Pastoral worker)

OLIVE ROWLAND
11 December 1932 - 8 July 2021

**IN MEMORY
OF MY MUM
IN HEAVEN**

*If Roses grow in Heaven Lord,
please pick a bunch for me.
Place them in my Mother's arms
and tell her they're from me.*

*Tell her that I love her and miss her,
and when she turns to smile,
Place a kiss upon her cheek
and hold her for awhile.*

*Because remembering her is easy,
I do it every day,
But there's an ache within my heart
that will never go away.*



Pam, Nigel and family would like to thank you for all your prayers, cards, sympathy and support offered to them during Olive's illness.




Quality Painting & Decorating

Mobile - 07811 352990
01772 862863
01772 718560

Stuart Black

A FARRAGO

- With reference to **A Family Legacy of Sorts** in our previous issue, Jean Lether, a member of the congregation at nearby St Cuthbert's Church, also recalls her grandma having a Promise Box. As you will have seen from the accompanying illustration, the promise papers were usually rolled up like small scrolls and stood on end in the box.
- 
- Mention of St Cuthbert's reminds me: did you see in the Lancashire Post of 8th July that the church was to receive a newly-ordained Deacon, Liz Gethin, to work within the parish?
 - Also in the Lancashire Post (of 21st June) was mention of The Old Dog Inn, Church Street, and how it bears a blue plaque indicating it to be the birthplace of Wesleyan Methodism in the town. There are plans afoot for the building to be converted into a restaurant.
 - From some friends of mine, here's another tale to add to the collection of wedding day mishaps. They didn't go away on honeymoon as there was far too much work still to be done on up-dating the nineteenth century cottage they'd bought. On their first morning as man and wife they were awakened bright and early by a workman digging a large hole in the garden for their new septic tank. How romantic!
 - "Well done Barry Crossley," whose short stories have continued to appear in the Lancashire Post throughout the pandemic. There's consistency for you!
 - We're always pleased to receive copies of magazines and newsheets from other churches. Received since the previous issue of the magazine are examples from our neighbouring Fulwood URC; the Methodist churches in the Isles of Scilly and the Churches Together in Kirkbymoorside, North Yorkshire. *We also regularly receive* a copy of the magazine from our twinned Evangelische-methodistische Kirche in Recklinghausen, Germany.

* * * * *

WOMENS' FELLOWSHIP & LADIES AFTER 8

Due to present circumstances and the problem of the number of members, the two groups met over the summer for afternoon tea to get to know one another and to consider the way forward, possibly having a joint meeting at a time to be decided. It is hoped that a decision will be made in the next few weeks. Look out for details.

YMCA! YOUNG MAN

There's a place for you to go

We all know the parable very well! A man on a journey falls into the hands of bandits, he is robbed, severely beaten and left for dead on the side of the road. Two members of the establishment come along and on seeing the man, pass by on the other side. A third traveller, an ordinary man and member of a somewhat despised group, stops to help. So it has been down the years; ordinary men and women have seen a need and have helped in whatever way they could. Florence Nightingale, Elizabeth Fry, Henri Dunant, Chad Varah, Thomas Bowman Stephenson and Thomas Barnado are just a few of the folk that were moved to solve some of the problems suffered by the less fortunate in society. Many of them were Christian and we thank God for them.



One such man was George Williams, born in Somerset two hundred years ago on October 11th. He came from farming stock, but made a career as a draper, arriving in London in 1841 to work for the firm of Hitchcock and Rogers, where he eventually rose to the position of department manager. He married Helen the owner's daughter and became a partner and when George Hitchcock died in 1863 he became sole owner of the firm. This was indeed a story of rags to riches!

As a young man he had, by his own admission, been a bit of what, in modern parlance, would have been described as a tearaway! However, he had converted to Congregationalism and had been exposed to the teachings of many of the great social reformist writers such as Dickens and Charles Kingsley. He listened to the great religious orators of the day and he himself visited the slums to recruit children for Sunday Schools. He and eleven of his fellow drapers formed a prayer group to encourage young working men alone in the City to attend church and the denomination was not important. His concern was that there was nothing for these young men to occupy themselves away from the obvious lure of taverns etc. The group took as its name, Young Men's Christian Association, and it is the oldest and largest youth charity in the world. Its aim was to develop healthy living in mind, body and spirit.

Founded in 1844 its growth was truly amazing! Initially spreading across the UK, it went global and its first General Conference was held in Paris in 1855 and by 1878 the International Committee of the World Alliance was established in Geneva to oversee 8,000 separate associations world wide and Geneva is still its headquarters today. Down the years it has catered for the needs of ex servicemen from both world wars, youth work and work with the homeless and it has provided safe accommodation cheaply for many young travellers.

George was knighted by Queen Victoria in 1894. Now a wealthy man he gave most of his wealth away and continued to maintain that his Association belonged to God and by the time of his death in 1905 it was active in 45 countries. He must have felt that his dream of providing a safe and welcoming place for the young had indeed come true. By now the YMCA is truly international and is still ensuring young people, in its own words, have the opportunity to belong, contribute and thrive.

Barbara Hothersall

BOOK CLUB

The final meeting of the Fulwood Methodist Church Book Club for this Methodist year will be held in September, too late to meet the deadline for this edition of the magazine. (The Methodist Church year runs along the lines of the school year in this country). That is a shame because I would like to be able to write about the discussions we held upon two books we are currently reading (one being an old favourite) as well as remarking upon the pleasure we no doubt will have had in meeting in person after such a period of on-line activity.

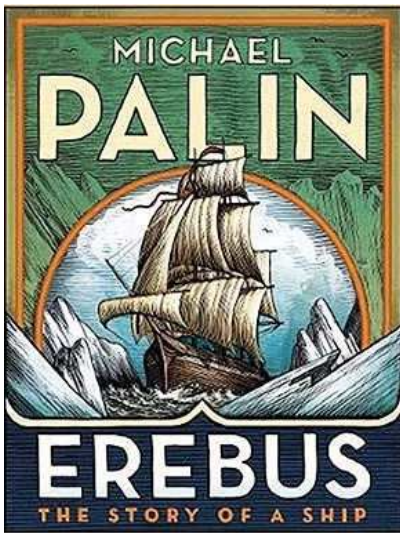
It was via the Zoom platform that we held our last meeting in June. Each year we try to choose one of the 66 books in The Bible, usually following the suggestion of The Methodist Church connexionally (that is nationally) who recommend one book for special study in whatever way local churches and groups may like to do so. This year their suggestion was The Gospel of Mark and we were very fortunate that the Rev'd David Wood agreed to join us from his home near Richmond. David is a distinguished Biblical scholar although he regards the Old Testament as his forte. Together we agreed to think about the whole book and not, as we so often do in church and privately, a chapter or smaller collection of verses. In other words we regarded the book as a 'biography' of Jesus of Nazareth. It was refreshing to think of the book in this way and illuminating to ask questions such as;

- *Why did Mark choose certain stories as he so obviously did in preference to others which were circulating at the same time?*
- *Why does the book place so much emphasis upon the final weeks of Jesus' life?*
- *Why is the ending of the gospel so uncertain and disputed by scholars?*
- *What 'information' was Mark seeking to convey and why?*
- *What do the scholars make of the similarities and differences between this gospel and the three others?*

All in all, the crucial question reading in this way is to ask ourselves what sort of book this is. Is it a biography? Is it polemical, trying to make a particular point? Is it theological or philosophical? Is it history? Of course as we read this book as Christians we look to it to feed the relationship between ourselves and the risen Jesus, but is this its original purpose? We each I suspect had a slightly differently nuanced answer to that question at the end of our discussion.

With David as our sensitive guide, we learnt much but for me the most enduring memory is how much we have lost when we limit our reading of the Bible to short passages. The drama of the full text, its shape and language all convey information which we tend to lose all too readily when we concentrate upon a particular incident.

Over the summer (rain and shine) we have been reading two books. 'Erebus' by Michael Palin, is an account of the history of the famous ship of exploration, often



much overlooked in favour of the ships of Cook, Scott, Columbus and other explorers. I am still ‘reading’ this book so won’t comment further. The second is ‘Rebecca’ by Daphne du Maurier, which many will have read or will have seen the film or heard the story as a radio play. For me, it is an old favourite – a work of great human emotion and so beautifully conceived in language of great precision. I speak of ‘reading’ because at the moment my ability to read for any length of time is limited as I await some eye treatment. So, I have been listening to these works read through Audible. What a delight and revelation that has been.

Somehow the shape of the narrative and its presentation becomes crystal clear and, in the case of Rebecca, Anna Massie reads with precision and such a wide tonal and vocal range that my encounter with Rebecca this time has been the most memorable yet.

As soon as we have them, dates and books will appear on the Church website. We would be delighted if you joined us and helped to eat the biscuits!

Ken Wales

STOP PRESS - NEXT MEETING - 21 September - ‘The Bridge of San Luis Rey’ by Thornton Wilder and a discussion upon the proposed programme for the remainder of the year. **LATER MEETINGS** see internet. www.fulwoodmethodist.org.uk



Support Fulwood Methodist Church

Shop at smile.amazon.co.uk and we'll donate to your favourite charitable organisation, at **no cost to you.**

[Start shopping](#)

Be part of something bigger

£3.6 million

donated to charity

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases.

Supporting your favourite charity is easy



Search for FULWOOD METHODIST CHURCH



Choose your favourite charity
Thousands of local and national charitable organisations.

Shop at smile.amazon.co.uk
Same products, same prices, same services as the Amazon you know.



Amazon donates to your chosen charity
Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases.

MESSY CHURCH ON BEACON FELL



The forecast wasn't great and it was very wet underfoot, but not to be deterred, about 30 people of varying ages and sizes met on Beacon Fell. It was 'Messy Church on Beacon Fell'. It was a chance to meet up, chat, walk, discover, with no face masks and a good deal of freedom to do what we fancied in the outdoors. It was fine when we started out, we could see Preston in one direction and when we reached the trig point, Parlick was in

view. Darren provided some scavenger hunt sheets which gave us some things to find, there were logs to balance on, paths to walk and news to catch up with.

There were a few spots of rain and walking back through the trees we hardly noticed how much it was raining, but arriving back

for our picnic, Preston had disappeared in the mist. Sandwiches were quickly eaten – for two reasons, it really was wet and you couldn't eat the sweets Darren provided for the scavenger hunt prizes before you had eaten your sandwiches!



Delma Whitman



Happy moments, praise God. Difficult moments, seek God. Quiet moments, worship God. Painful moments, trust God. Every moment, thank God.

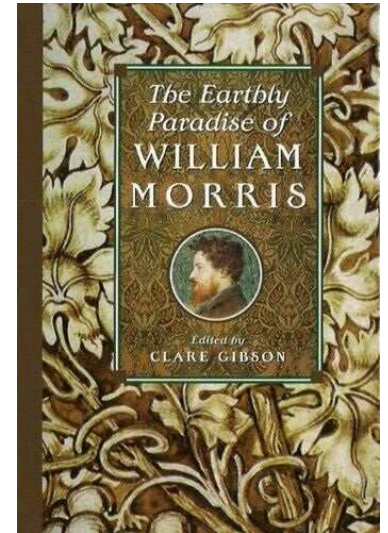
OCTOBER

(extract from *The Earthly Paradise*)

O, love, turn from the unchanging sea and gaze
Down these grey slopes upon the year grown old,
A-dying mid the autumn-scented haze
That hangeth o'er the hollow in the wold,
Where the wind-bitten ancient elms infold
Grey church, long barn, orchard and red-roofed stead,
Wrought in dead days for men a long while dead.

Come down, O love; may not our hands still meet,
Since still we live today, forgetting June,
Forgetting May, deeming October sweet –
O hearken, hearken! Through the afternoon
The grey tower sings a strange old tinkling tune!
Sweet, sweet and sad, the toiling year's last breath,
Too satiate of life to strive with death.

And we too – will it not be soft and kind,
That rest from life, from patience and from pain,
That rest from bliss, we know not when we find,
That rest from Love which ne'er the end can gain?
Hark, how the tune swells, that erewhile did wane!
Look up, love! – ah, cling close and never move!
How can I have enough of life and love?



William Morris (1834- 1896)

better known for his textile and wallpaper designs
as part of the Arts & Crafts Movement

* * * * *

THE LOCK DOWN

Have any of you been able to find anything to smile about during these trying times? If so, I'd be delighted to hear from you. My story relates to the visit to Geoffrey Street Clinic, off New Hall Lane, for my second jab:-

Nurse: (A very cheery) Hello!

Me: (Totally non-plussed) Oh! Hello there.
Silence.

Nurse: It's Pauline!

Me: (Trying to think fast) Oh!
Silence.

Nurse: (Lowering her mask) NOW do you know who it is?

Pauline lives almost directly opposite to me!!

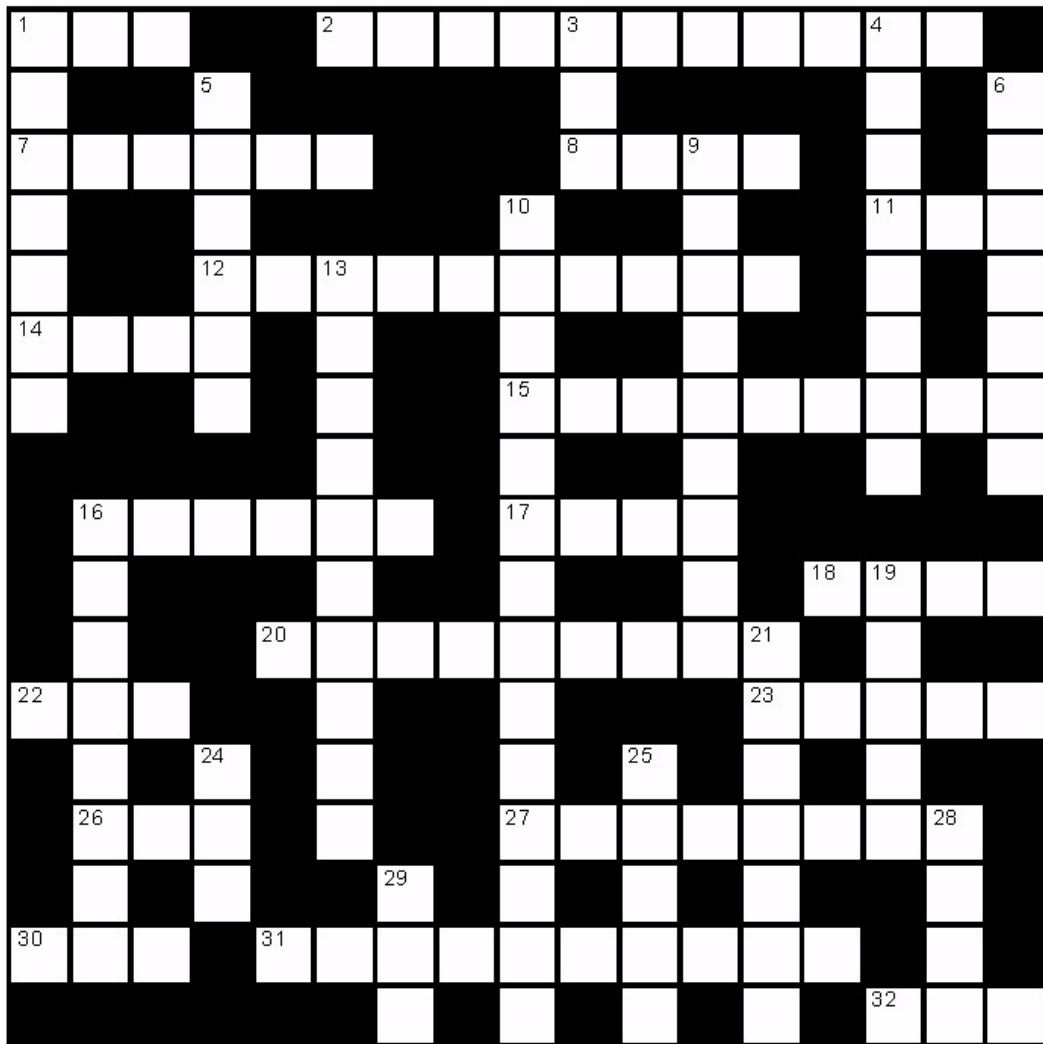
Roy Smith

CROSSWORD

Possibly a rather easier crossword/word puzzle this time! Hopefully our long-term return to being able to meet at Church is proving to be permanent and it might be a good time to remind ourselves of some of our Methodist practices. In this puzzle, many of the questions/answers are focused upon just that, and especially upon our calendar.

The Methodist year (like that of schools) starts in September and ends in August. In this puzzle there are twelve clues where a number appears in brackets - that number refers to the order of the season, festival or event during that twelve month cycle. A few other clues have Methodist connections and some have none! Enjoy!

Ken Wales



Across

- 1 Backwards fish seeks short medicine man (3)
- 2 (3) - The Sunday when the country stops briefly to think upon those who have lost their lives in conflict. (11)
- 7 (4) - A time of waiting and hoping. The candles are rich symbols. (6)
- 8 Friar, push in a loose end (4)
- 11 Needed to listen! Don't start 'wear' or 'tear'!! (3)

- 12 A book or listing of the Bible readings to be heard in Church on each Sunday of the year. (10)
- 14 Might be ABCDF or G, sing it. (4)
- 15 (2) - This day is followed immediately by All Souls day - we think about those who have journeyed in the faith before us. (3,6)
- 16 (10) -The central festival of the Christian Church (6)
- 17 (9) -The Sunday before Easter Day marks Jesus' passage into Jerusalem. (4)
- 18 "O....who camest from above". (4)
- 20 (11) - A day of rejoicing - some see it as the birthday of the Church (9)
- 22 Sounds like the local shop is the place to relax (3)
- 23 Such remains are in abundance at Ribchester. (5)
- 26 (8) - The first day of Lent (always a Wednesday) - a time of prayer and fasting (3)
- 27 How the Pope is addressed. Wesley felt we should all aspire to this condition (8)
- 30 An extra at cricket leads to half a farewell (3)
- 31 A special Sunday when we remember that John Wesley experienced his heart being 'strangely warmed'. Named after the street in London where this occurred. (10)
- 32 Which came first? Chicken or ...? (3)

Down

- 1 Methodist ministers are either Presbyters or
- 3 Did he go up for the annual inspection? (3)
- 4 (7) - At Fulwood we usually hold this service early in the calendar year. A Methodist tradition committing ourselves to our discipleship (8)
- 5 John and Charles bore this surname. Their childhood home was at Epworth (6)
- 6 (1) - "All is safely gathered in"! (7)
- 9 (5) - The manger, the babe, the star, our family and feasting and more are all in our minds at this time. (9)
- 10 The majority of services in Methodist Churches are led by these men and women (5,9)
- 13 An event where delegates from the whole of the Methodist connexion meet to make decisions. (10)
- 16 (6) - When we celebrate the story of the Wise Men (8)
- 19 It is said Methodism was born in song - singing these. (5)
- 21 (12) - The Sunday when we think about the Three in One. (7)
- 24 Character in The Merchant of Venice cut his hair and became timid. (3)
- 25 Traditional wooden footwear offered by chic log shoes! (5)
- 28 "My is love unknown" (4)
- 29 Not even and no Doctor of Divinity (3)

APOLOGIES - The solution to the Summer crossword will be in the Christmas issue. We ran out of space. It is on the web version.

DESCENDED FROM HERETICS

Follow the A59 to Tarleton, then take the A565, and as you reach the outskirts of Southport you'll come to a 5-way roundabout (the Plough Inn used to stand on the left). Turn left and you're into Crossens. That is one of the oldest parts of the town and ancestors of mine – the Watkinsons - lived there.

Jane Bunker, writing for the *Southport Visiter* in October 1980, described how Crossens Methodist Church was the result of a stormy struggle by a breakaway band of reformers, who were branded as 'heretics' by both the Church of England and the Wesleyan Methodist Church.



Crossens Methodist Church

It was about 1851 when these 'heretics' first made their appearance in the village – at that time, a collection of cottages, mainly thatched and occupied by handloom weavers, farm labourers and fishermen. These visitors were members of the Wesley Reform Church, possibly at Preston. They arrived one Sunday evening and began an outdoor mission service at Land Lane end. Suddenly a violent thunderstorm erupted and they were invited into a nearby cottage. This enabled them to finish their meeting indoors, dry and warm.

Soon after, the cottager, Mr Thomas Watkinson, was informed that he and his family had done great wrong in entertaining these 'heretics', who would bring dissension to the village and there was also a warning that if they were to play hosts again, they would have to leave the village.

Mr Watkinson, it turned out, was not one to be easily frightened: he invited the reformers back! They returned gladly, week after week, building up such a following that the congregation outgrew the Watkinson home. The venue was then changed to a barn at the north end of the village and the Watkinsons moved too, converting a stable next to the barn into a cottage for themselves. They cared for the chapel for the next 28 years – free of charge for much of that time.

In early 1852, the reformers became part of the United Methodist Free Churches. In 1853 a Sunday School was formed. Preachers came from Preston – most of them on foot – to minister at this somewhat spartan, candle-lit little chapel with its backless wooden forms, a box pulpit and a coal-fired stove. A small choir was accompanied by a flute, piccolo and fiddle. Around 1870 paraffin lamps were introduced to improve the lighting and a second-hand harmonium made its appearance, although nobody could play it at first! However, one of the caretaker's sons was encouraged to practise and to master the instrument.

By 1879 the barn was in a parlous state and it was decided to build a new chapel. The site chosen was close to where those very early meetings had been held

and the memorial stones were laid on Shrove Tuesday 1880. Banks Brass Band led a procession through the village; tea was served at a shilling per head in the National School, which had been loaned to them for the occasion (so, obviously, much local animosity had gone out of the situation) and the West Lancs. Railway put on a special train leaving Crossens at 9:30pm to take visitors back into Southport.

Thanks to the enthusiasm for the new building, such as local farmers carting bricks and other materials to help keep costs down, the chapel was opened just a few months later on 3rd October, with collections on the day totalling £30 – a considerable amount for the time (Hopefully, someone will be able to inform us as to what its equivalent value would be in today’s money.)

Roy Smith

* * * * *

“It’s impossible,” said pride.
 “It’s risky,” said experience.
 “It’s pointless,” said reason.
 “Give it a try,” whispered the heart.

Unknown

Found by *Mavis Fletcher*

Building and Pointing Preston
 Preventative, Corrective
 Property Maintenance

- BRICKWORK
- ROOFING
- PLASTERING
- POINTING
- RENDERING
- GUTTERING

PROMPT, FRIENDLY SERVICE
DAMP PROBLEMS SOLVED
 8 Squires Gate Road, Ashton, Preston

Tel BRIAN 01772 875381
Or 07774 244046
 email: brian@buildingandpointingpreston.com
 References available

Cow Hill
 Kennels and Cattery

Jennifer Holland

Londonderry Cottage, Cow Hill,
 Haighton, Preston, PR2 5SH

- ♦ All dogs walked daily
- ♦ Heated kennels & cattery
- ♦ Dog grooming available
- ♦ Small animals & birds accommodated

Tel: 01772 701336
 Mob: 07958 262133
www.cowhillkennels.com
jenniferholland99@btinternet.com

DO YOU NEED A VENUE?

**PARTY MEETING CONFERENCE CLUB
COMPUTER CLASS CONCERT KEEP FIT SEMINAR**

We have a variety of rooms available - visit the website for details
www.fulwoodmethodist.org.uk/rooms/rooms.htm
or email Barry Crossley - fulwoodmethodist@yahoo.co.uk

Home Insurance that gives a gift to your church

Choose Methodist
Insurance for your
home insurance
and you can
give a gift to
your church

Choose Methodist Insurance for your
home insurance and we'll give you back
20% of your first year's premium for the church
or charity of your choice. On average, that's around £40*.

Talk to our team today for a free quote. Call us now on

0845 60 61 331**

and quote reference ME12

8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday. **Local rate call

*** Minimum premiums apply and home insurance
is subject to Terms and Conditions.**

Methodist Insurance PLC, St Ann's House,
St Ann's Place, Manchester M2 7LP.

Tel: 0845 608 1331. Fax: 0845 604 8302

www.methodistinsurance.co.uk Methodist Insurance PLC

For details - contact Allan Clarke at church

METHODIST CHURCHES IN EUROPE AND BEYOND

Hopefully Covid will go away soon so that we can go on holiday abroad again! Did you know that there are Methodist churches in many European cities and towns? Next time you go away, check if there are any in the area.

Many of you may have gone to Rome. St. Peter's in the Vatican is easy to find, but did you know that the main Methodist Church in Rome is very near; at the other end of the bridge opposite Castel St Angelo (see map). A previous minister there is the son-in-law of a former member at Fulwood, Liz Huddleston.



Main Methodist church near the Vatican

If you go to Porto in Portugal, there are three Methodist churches. One, on the right, is a rather ornate example, the Igreja Metodista do Mirante. There are two more in Lisbon.



Above - another in Rome - Iglesia Evangélica Metodista.



Others can be found in Spain, Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, particularly our twin church in Recklinghausen, and more.

The largest Methodist church in the world is the Kumnan Methodist Church in Seoul, Korea with 140,000 members!

John Butterworth

RIBBLETON AVENUE METHODIST JUNIOR SCHOOL

Each edition of the magazine recently has provided information from Ribbleton Avenue Methodist Junior School. Writing in August and publishing in September is of course a challenge when the subject is a school! Do we look backwards or forwards? Well, we have decided this time to do neither but to introduce our readers to the school website and, in particular, to a new feature on the website.

We have decided to include in this magazine a new feature that the school hopes to include on a regular basis. That is, a blog written by the school's Headteacher, Fran Nickson. We have her permission to print it here and we hope it interests you.

A WEEKEND OF ADVENTURE AND RACISM IN SPORT

Another weekend of adventure awaited Mr Nickson and me as we took ourselves off to watch the F1 Grand Prix at Silverstone. Like Downton Abbey, Sharks and Christmas, I am an avid watcher of Formula 1. I was planning on saving this information until a later date, but the outcome of this monumental race and the negative, upsetting, and downright disgraceful response from certain fans prompted me to get on the RAMJS Blog.

Like many sporting events, in F1 there are different teams and therefore different fans. As with most sports, fans choose their teams, wear their colours and share the highs and lows of their team, which in Mr N's and my case, happens to be Mercedes. They employ 2 drivers, Lewis Hamilton and Valtteri Bottas and as has been the case for as long as we have followed this sport, number 44 aka Lewis, is our boy...I cheered him on with such vigour that I have currently, and for the first time in my life, lost my voice!

Not only is he an amazing driver, a seven times world champion in fact, he is also a wonderful role model (in my opinion) to those who follow the sport. He is a passionate sports person who is working to make racing eco-friendlier and more diverse by looking at ways to support people from other backgrounds, race and gender to enter the sport.

Whether you agree or disagree on the outcome of the race (Lewis unfortunately made contact with Max Verstappen resulting in a catastrophic crash), the enjoyment for many sporting fans is the hearty debates with those who do not support the same team. Whilst at the racetrack, we see the most amazing displays of friendly competition between all the varying fans; at no point did we see anything other than respect for a sport that is highly charged and potentially dangerous.

To observe the heated debate on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram continued to bring about more discussion, "Max was in the wrong place!", "Lewis should know better than to overtake on Copse Corner!" but at no point did the colour of Lewis' skin get called into question by any of the fans who, like Mr N and me, LOVE this sport.



As news came in regarding the racism and hate that Lewis Hamilton has received since his victory, I feel despair for the world in which we live. I spoke last week about my LOVE with our school; one of the biggest reasons I LOVE RAMJS so much is because of it's diversity. We have over 18 languages spoken, we celebrate a variety of faiths and beliefs, we educate each other on our cultural differences, and we challenge racism with a vengeance.

The children at RAMJS were made aware of the continued use of racial slurs as we watched our England squad face hatred and racial abuse following their missed penalties in the Euro 2020 final. Our children talked in their classes about how we are living in a culture where we make our sports people 'Heroes' when they are winning and 'Villains' when they are not. Despite Marcus Rashford being a hero for so many children and their families throughout this pandemic, the life changing impact he has had was forgotten by so many, simply because he missed a goal... how truly heartbreaking!

As always, I see my glimmers of hope in our RAMJS children, who were appalled by the total lack of 'Love' being displayed by so called fans, who instead found 'Hate' and 'Racism' appropriate; we ask what model are these people setting to their children, their grandchildren and the future generations of our world.

Many of you will not know that Mr N and I are from very different backgrounds; I identify as White British as my family heritage is entirely from the British Isles whereas my wonderful husband considers himself Anglo Mauritian, a badge he wears with immense pride. In our house, colour is not, nor ever will be a consideration because our relationship is built on love. We had the wonderful experience of meeting our Mauritian family, who welcomed us into their homes and shared their culture and traditions with us; an experience that not only strengthened our love of diversity but also increased the love we felt for each other and our families. My Mauritian family are Muslim, whilst I am a Christian; we shared a mutual understanding of our differences and welcomed our similarities. Colour, faith, or gender was not a factor and nor will it ever be.

The future of our society depends entirely on the strong messages we share with our children so that they can share these same principles with their children; this is how we make positive changes. At RAMJS we will not tolerate these negative attitudes to infiltrate our world of culture and diversity. We will continue to work together to make our world a better place. As Martin Luther King said, "I look to a day when people will not be judged by the colour of their skins, but by the content of their character!" That day has already arrived, and the children at RAMJS are the carrier of that message, we show LOVE not HATE and we will continue to stand up for what is right as is moral purpose!

***Mrs F Nickson
Headteacher***

School websites are now a requirement for all schools and must communicate to parents and others certain information as determined by the government. But there is plenty of scope for each school to present a unique picture of itself and RAMJS is doing just that - telling the community which we serve what the schools stands for. You might want to take a look for yourself. www.ramjs.lancs.sch.uk

Ken Wales

THE DOVE

It seems that the dove is a symbol adopted by many cultures to represent a range of positive feelings, emotions and aspirations. It is the first image you see when you enter into Janet's and my home - a simple acrylic by Julia Hemingway. Christianity and both Testaments of the Bible feature the dove at key points in their narratives. The story of the Great Flood and Jesus's baptism come instantly to mind and there are other occasions too. Perhaps in a future edition of this magazine we will explore these in more detail.

Now, for several years Janet and I have spent a week in a cottage on the shore of the estuary flowing into the Irish sea at Kirkcudbright in south-west Scotland. It is a beautiful, peaceful place which I visit even more frequently in my imagination. Imagine my delight then this summer when this view developed late one June morning. For an hour or so, the cloud formation offered to me a dove with all the promise that that image contains. One of those mystical moments which can enrich our lives.



For an hour or so, the cloud formation offered to me a dove with all the promise that that image contains. One of those mystical moments which can enrich our lives.

Ken Wales

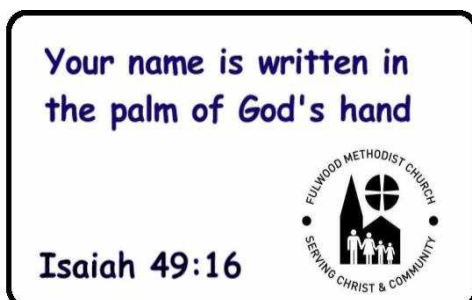
TAGS FOR SCHOOL BAGS, BRIEFCASES, WORK BAGS AND DIARIES.

For the last 3 years in September, we have distributed tags (like luggage labels) to all the members of the congregation as we return to school, college, work, church etc. after the summer break. The idea was taken from an American project called the 'Blessing of the back packs' and there are special prayers and a liturgy for the service. We have developed the idea for all ages so that people can use the tag as a bookmark in their diary or keep in their wallet or



illustratedministry.com

bag. We try to ensure that that the images are modern and attractive and the 'message' not one that youngsters especially, would be reluctant to have with them. If you were unable to collect yours, please get in touch with Darren Arnold or Janet Wales and they will make sure you receive one.



Janet Wales

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS



Anyone can save with Methodist Chapel Aid

Our core purpose is to help churches and circuits to complete their building schemes. We do this by offering loans at the lowest practicable rates of interest - at present only 4.4% on a term loan.

You can help us by depositing savings with the Company - because the more deposits we have the more loans we can make - and your money is safe with us.

For up to date Interest Rates
please check with the website
www.methodistchapel.co.uk

The Company has a targeted ethical investment policy.

For further information, please contact:

1 TELFORD TERRACE, YORK YO24 1DQ

Tel. 01904 622150 • Fax. 01904 672727

E-mail mcaa@methodistchapel.co.uk

Website www.methodistchapel.co.uk

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority

CONGREGATIONAL CRUMBLE A RECIPE FOR HARVEST-TIME

Ingredients

2 lb. prepared fruit
8 oz. brown sugar
4 oz. butter

8 oz. flour
4 oz. porridge oats
2 tsp. cinnamon

Method

- Put harder fruits into a pan and add half of the sugar; cook over a low heat until barely tender, then add softer fruits.
- Turn into a greased two-quart dish.
- Rub butter into flour, add remaining sugar, oats and cinnamon. Mix until crumbly.
- Spoon mixture over fruit and press down lightly.
- Bake in 375 – 400F oven for about 30 minutes
- Serve hot or cold, with pouring cream.



(Made from offerings of seasonal fruits supplied by the Congregation)

Martin's

THE FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Prepaid Funeral Plans. Dedicated and Blessed Chapels of Rest

A private, family run firm

**186-188 Tulketh Brow, Ashton-on-Ribble, Preston, PR2 2JJ. 01772 733007
1 Stonebridge Parade, Preston Road, Longridge, Preston, PR3 3AP, 01772 782121**

www.martinsthefuneraldirectors.co.uk

THE MANX FISHERMEN'S EVENING HYMN

Tune: Peel Castle

Hear us, O Lord, from Heaven, Thy dwelling place;
Like them of old, in vain we toil all night,
Unless with us thou go, who art the Light;
Come then, O Lord, that we may see Thy face.

Thou, Lord, dost rule the raging of the sea;
When loud the storm, and furious is the gale,
Strong is thine arm; our little barks are frail;
Send us Thy help; remember Galilee.



Our wives and children we commend to Thee;
For them we plough the land and plough the deep;
For them by day the golden corn we reap;
By night the silver harvest of the sea.

We thank Thee, Lord, for sunshine, dew and rain,
Broadcast from heaven by thine almighty hand
Source of all life, unnumbered as the sand –
Bird, beast and fish, herb, fruit and golden grain.

O Bread of Life, Thou in Thy word hast said:
“Who feeds in faith on me shall never die.”
In mercy hear Thy hungry children’s cry:
“Father, give us this day our daily bread!”

Sow in our hearts the seeds of thy dear love,
That we may reap contentment, joy and peace;
Then, when at last our earthly labours cease,
Grant us to join Thy harvest home above.

William H. Gill (1839 – 1923)

Gill also wrote the Isle of Man anthem
and many national songs.

The tune was adapted from

Eaisht oo as Clashtyn (Listen and Hear), a traditional air.

Life is filled with meaning as soon as Jesus Christ enters into it.

Bishop Stephen Charles Neill

It’s hard to stumble when you’re down on your knees.

POEMS

DON'T GIVE UP

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will;
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill;
When the funds are low and the debts are high
And you want to smile but you have to sigh;
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest, if you must, but don't you quit.



Life is queer with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns,
And many a failure turns about
When he might have won had he stuck it out.
Don't give up, though the pace seems slow,
You may succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than
It seems to a faint and faltering man,
Often the struggler has given up,
When he might have captured the victor's cup,
And he learned too late when the night slipped down,
How close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out,
The silver tint of the cloud of doubt,
And you never can tell how close you are –
It may be near when it seems so far.
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit:
It's when things seem worst you must not quit.



Edgar A Guest (another offering from Dorothy Smith's Bequest)

GOD'S ALBUM

We may write our names in albums,
We may trace them in the sand,
Or chisel them in marble
With a firm and skilful hand,
But soon each page is sullied,
Soon each name will fade away,
And a monument will crumble
As all earthly hopes decay

But there is another album,
Full of leaves of snowy white,
Where no name is ever tarnished,
But for ever pure and bright.
In the Book of Life, God's album,
May our names be penned with care,
And may all who have here written
Write their names forever there.

Anon

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

(Under normal circumstances)

Sunday

9.45 am Singing Practice (Cedar Room)

Tuesday

10.00 am	Men's AM Club (fortnightly)	Graham Johnson
2.15 pm	Women's Fellowship (weekly) (see page 8)	Muriel Crossley
5-7.00 pm	Messy Church (half-termly) for families	Delma Whitman
7.00 pm	Alphabites (monthly fellowship)	Margaret Holmes
7.00 pm	Book Club (monthly)	Ken Wales

Wednesday

10 till 1.30	Welcome Wednesday - food, activities, games and New2U stall
10.30 am	Midweek Communion with prayers
7.30/8.00	WoW (monthly Women's Group) Wendy Gaskell

Thursday

7.00 pm	Knitting Group (Copper Beech Room)	Veronica Frost
8.01 pm	Ladies After 8 group (fortnightly) (see page 8)	Barbara Hothersall

Friday

9.30 am Toddlers' Club (under 5s & parents/carers) Janet Porter

FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Monday

6.00 pm	Beavers (6 - 8 yr)	Fiona Jackson
7.00 pm	Cubs (8 - 10½ yr)	Karen Smalley

Tuesday

7.00 pm	Scouts (10½ - 14 yr)	Chris Thomas
7.00 pm	Explorer Scouts (14 - 18 yr)	Operated by Scout District
7.00 pm	Scout Network (18 - 25 yr)	Operated by Scout County

Thursday

5.45 pm	Rainbows (5 - 7 yr)	Jayne Myatt
6.15 pm	Brownies (7 - 10 yr)	Diane Bird
7.30 pm	Guides (10 - 14 yr)	Hannah Jones

Friday

6.30 pm	Escape (7- 11 yr)	Darren Arnold
8.00 pm	Youth Club (Secondary School age)	“ “

Sunday

10.30 am	Sunday Club	Janet Wales
12.30 pm	OMG (2nd Sun of month for years 5 to 8/9)	Wendy Bennett

Let us transform the quality of your lawn!

Treatments
start from
£15

Rated as **Excellent** by our customers  4.8 out of 5  Trustpilot

- ✓ Greens up and thickens the lawn
- ✓ Removes weeds and minimises moss
- ✓ Completely safe for children and pets
- ✓ Locally owned and operated business
- ✓ Regular personalised treatments
- ✓ No contract - Direct Debit available



FREE Lawn Analysis: 01772 769055

www.greensleeves-uk.com • Email: preston@greensleeves-uk.com