

# Hilltop

October / November 2016

Newsletter of The Church at Bents Green

## ***Take time to remember***

An invitation to spend a quiet half hour in memory of a loved one who has died recently or many years ago

Light a candle and name a loved one if you wish

At Bents Green Church at 4.00pm  
on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October



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## ***Join us for breakfast***

*10 am on the first Sunday of each month: 2<sup>nd</sup> October & 6<sup>th</sup> November followed by the morning service*

## ***Remembrance Day Service***

*Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30 am*

## ***Messy Christmas!***

*Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2 – 4 pm*

*Decorating the Christmas Tree*

*Crafts and activities for children ages 3-12 with parents and carers*

A community church sharing the love of Jesus

## Remember, remember...

It's a time of year when we are called to remember. To remember, remember the 5<sup>th</sup> November – gunpowder, treason and plot ....., but also through All Saints Day, and All Souls Day, and through Remembrance Sunday, which this year falls on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

This year at Bents Green we are offering you a way to come and simply remember a loved one who has died, whether that was a long time ago, or fairly recently. (See front page for details) We are doing this through a simple memorial or thanksgiving service, **Take Time to Remember**, on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October at 4pm.

At that short service, people will have the opportunity to remember through lighting a candle. Perhaps reminding themselves what joy and light that person brought to their lives, or simply remembering that those they have loved, are now held in the love of Christ, who comes as light to this world, and to the darkness of mourning.



The bible reminds us to remember, because as we look back at all that God has done, it helps us overcome some of the fear we may feel as we face new situations, some of which may feel overpowering and life draining. (Deuteronomy 7:17-19)

Of course, we remember each time we take the bread and wine in a communion service (1 Corinthians 11:23-26) that Jesus died and rose again, and that helps us to remember that no matter what we face, even in death, Jesus promises to be with us.

So, more than fireworks this year causing us to remember, let us give ourselves permission to remember all those we love, or who we have loved in the past. Let us remember the love of God that, year in, year out, is the same yesterday, today and forever.

God bless, Louise,

## Living Lightly in God's World

*A few weeks ago some members of Bents Green Church went to hear an inspiring talk by Ruth Valerio at Ecclesall Parish Church on the Christian response to climate change.*

Ruth Valerio is the theological adviser for **A Rocha UK** – a Christian charity working for the protection and restoration of the natural world. It is part of a worldwide community of A Rocha organisations (A Rocha means “the rock” in Portuguese) that all share a passion for the planet and have at their heart their biblical faith in the living God who made the world, loves it and has entrusted it to the care of humans.

Ruth challenged us with the message that looking after the world is a core part of being a follower of Jesus because:

- God made the world and he loves it, declaring it “very good” (Genesis 1: 31)
- God created us to take care of the world – humans were given the special mandate to look after all that God has made (Genesis 2:15)
- The world has gone wrong because of us! The sad truth is that many of the problems of our world are caused by human activity (Isaiah 24:3-6)
- God has a purpose for the world – God's plan for salvation involves all that he has made so we need to play our part in what God is doing (Colossians 1: 19-20).



Ruth's personal challenge to us as individuals is to consider 4 things:

1. The food we eat - in particular the need to eat less meat and to buy local /Fairtrade where possible.
2. The way we travel – can we walk /cycle /use public transport more and our cars less?
3. The energy we use – how can we reduce our carbon footprint (and our bills!) and can we use a “green” electricity supplier that uses renewable sources?
4. Things we throw away – can we fix things rather than throw stuff away? If we do need to throw stuff away could we donate /recycle it instead?

One of the ways in which we as a church community could be better stewards of God's creation is by becoming an eco-church – an exciting initiative which will challenge and equip us to care for God's world in all areas of our life together.

**Alison Trezise**

## Church News

**Congratulations to John Wilkins and Daphne Teare** who were married at the church on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August. Following the service everyone enjoyed tea and cakes and speeches as well as the opportunity to catch up with friends

**Summer Holiday Clubs** took place in August and were a great success with over 50 children attending over the week.

**Building work in the church:** Over the summer some parts of the church and other rooms in the building have been re-plastered. This has involved a huge amount of planning, overseeing and moving furniture, but is now successfully accomplished. Lots of people helped to move everything back in, just as lots of people helped to move things out. Thank you to everyone. The church is looking good.

The **Games, Craft and Chat** group has continued through the summer apart from three weeks when the church could not be used. The group is beginning to put together shoeboxes for the **Christmas Shoebox appeal** and would welcome donations of items for the shoeboxes. There is a basket in the church with a list of what they need and where items can be left. Last year they gave 38 shoeboxes to the appeal.

**Sparklers:** A new children's group has been added to the groups which meet on Sunday morning. Ruth Larder now leads Sparklers for 4 and 5 year olds. The crèche continues in the music room as before for the very young.

**Lighthouse after school club** which meets on Wednesdays has started back after the summer. Several of the group have now moved up, but four newcomers have joined. There are more places available - for information contact Sue Tel 0114 2307556

**The funeral service of Annie Aspinall** was held at Bents Green Church on Thursday 15th September.



**Prayer** – If you would like us to pray for you confidentially you can contact us by email [reyarp42@sky.com](mailto:reyarp42@sky.com) or leave a note in the Prayer Box in the church corridor (side entrance) which is emptied daily.

**A service of healing** will be held on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30 pm in Bents Green Church.



## The first great Bible translator - Jerome

So far in this exciting series we've looked at the 3 original languages the Bible was written in (\*can you remember all 3?), and the first great translation of the Old Testament into Greek (\*\*can you remember its name?). Now we move on to the first great Bible translator, and the Patron Saint of all translators: Jerome, whose Saint's Day is 30th September, just as this edition of Hilltop is published (isn't that good planning?)



Jerome was born in the 5th Century in what is now Slovenia, and was brought up speaking Illyrian. He had a wild youth in Rome, but discovered a gift for languages, learning Latin, Greek and Hebrew. He travelled widely in Gaul, Asia Minor and Palestine, and spent the last 30 years of his life working in a cave near Bethlehem, writing and translating with generous finance from a lady called Paula.

Jerome used the original Hebrew to translate the Old Testament into Latin, and revised the New Testament which had previously been translated from Greek into Latin. He excluded writings that had been added to earlier translations but were not in the originals, and called them Apocryphal. His Latin translation of the whole Bible is called the Vulgate, which means "For the common people" who were not necessarily vulgar.

The Vulgate is important because it was the translation upon which much of our famous and greatly loved Authorised (or King James) Version in English was based. However, it has to be said that Jerome's scholarship, although outstanding for its time, is now generally recognised as being below modern academic standards.

Paintings of Jerome often include a lion (although it was Androcles who actually removed the thorn from its paw) or an owl (I'll let you decide if those folk in Sheffield who bear this image are equally wise). I bet you did not know that the Native American chief, Geronimo, is named after St Jerome.

Glenn Evans



(\* = Classical Hebrew, Aramaic and colloquial Greek; \*\* the Septuagint)

## Time for Friendship Club

Time is what we start to think about as the summertime drifts in to autumn and there seems a lot to be done in the run up to Christmas.

Time is what I thought about a lot whilst enjoying my holidays in France this summer. I have been going to this wonderful country since 1959 and love it more and more. However, I thought about what time has done to it since then. They've had the war with Algeria, the massive student strike and reform of 1968, the introduction of the euro etc...but the essence of France has remained the same...that is until the last couple of years when her very soul has been threatened by evil.

In the delightful seaside town we visit there were anti-terrorism notices, soldiers with machine guns and soldiers patrolling the streets in vans. Every person one meets feels threatened and very sad.

Life shouldn't be like this.

My son says to me 'Don't worry, mum, you're safe at Bents Green' ... and somehow he's right. It's like a little haven!

And so time takes over and we are back to the start of another term at Friendship Club. We had a great start listening to our regular musicians, Robin and Hugh.....they are so talented and we all love to listen to them. The atmosphere was lovely and everyone seemed happy to be back.

That is what life should be like.

We look forward to meeting every Tuesday afternoon for fellowship and fun. You are very welcome to join us.

Pat Hutchinson



"The chief beauty about time is that you cannot waste it in advance.

The next year, the next day, the next hour are lying ready for you,

as perfect, as unspoiled, as if you had never wasted or misapplied a single moment in all your life.

You can turn over a new leaf every hour if you choose."

— Arnold Bennett

## Slimming World at Bents Green

*Continuing the series about businesses and organisations in Bents Green*

In June a new branch of Slimming World opened at Bents Green. It is held in the hall of Bents Green Church every Tuesday evening from 7 pm and it is run by Liz Wilson. I met with Liz Wilson to find out more about it.

Liz is very enthusiastic about the help that Slimming World offers because she herself benefitted hugely from the support and advice she experienced in a Slimming World group. In 2010 she was made redundant from a job she loved, due to the company going into administration. The struggle to find a new job led her to comfort-eat and to put on weight. She also developed other health problems such as high blood pressure.

In the summer of 2010 she found a new job and, encouraged and joined by her sister, she went for the first time to a local Slimming World group. She writes, "I was so nervous but the Slimming World consultant immediately put me at ease and, as soon as she started talking through the plan...I knew I'd found a plan that would work for me." By June of the following year Liz had lost 4 stone and, as she shed weight, her health improved. and, to her joy, she became pregnant. She is now the proud mother of a four year old daughter and a sixteen month old son and expecting her third child in March. Slimming World supported her during her pregnancies with a programme developed with the Royal College of Midwives to help women avoid excess weight gain in pregnancy.

While she was on maternity leave she decided to train and become a Slimming World Consultant, although she still intended to return to her job. She attended courses at the Slimming World head office near Alfreton and studied for the diplomas in nutrition, business and fitness. She then found that she so much enjoyed the groups and liked the fact that much of the work can be fitted around caring for her children that she has not returned to her job. She now runs two Slimming World groups: one at Millhouses Methodist Church which began in January this year and one at Bents Green in June. The Bents Green group started with 10 members and now, four months later, has grown to 70!

From her own experience Liz is aware that it is hard to go along to a group for the first time. At the beginning of each evening she is on the lookout for new people and ready to welcome them and help them to feel at ease. A team of the members help the evening to run smoothly. From 7 to 7.30 pm members arrive to 'pay and weigh'. Some people only come for this time, but Liz feels that they miss out by not staying to the next part of the evening, Image Therapy, when members can talk through their week, share their experiences and their recipes and give each other support. For her this has always been an important part of what Slimming World offers to its members. She is delighted that at the Millhouses group there are some members who started in January and have lost four to four and a half stone!

Running a group well is time-consuming. I met Liz when she arrived at the church hall to set up for the group. Her car boot and seats were full of all the equipment she brings and she allows 2 hours for setting up. During the week she expects to spend 10 – 15 hours in work associated with the group. She has administrative tasks but also takes time to follow up anything that may have emerged during the group, contacting members to encourage them and to answer queries.

She loves the job! She sees lives being changed and it is a good feeling to be part of that.

**Tricia North**

Contact details for Liz: Tel: 07971 522349 Email: [liz.wilson1@sky.com](mailto:liz.wilson1@sky.com)



Liz Wilson now...and then

### Friends of the Porter Valley Open Meeting at Bents Green

**Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> November 7:30 pm**

**At Bents Green Methodist Church Hall**

**Dr Ian Rotherham of Sheffield Hallam University will be guest speaker at the Annual General Meeting. He will talk on "Woodland Heritage and Ancient Trees".**



## Pre-school news

We welcomed our new starters last week, and the older children have helped to make them feel welcome; showing them what to do at snack time. All the children have been enjoying the outdoors; practising their ball skills and using the bikes to negotiate the yard.

This half term we will be concentrating on listening games and singing rhyming songs. We have a song of the week and share

the lyrics with our parents, encouraging them to sing at home to help with the child's recall.

We harvested one of our potato bags last Thursday; we were excited to see how many we got this year - Kath cooked them and we had some for snack today.

We haven't been as successful with our carrots; we managed to pull up 3 that hadn't been nibbled.

We still have some spaces so we need to do a lot of fundraising this year, starting with a cake stall on the 12th October; photographs on the 3rd and 4th (and family groups on 8th October) and of course our Christmas fair- it's on the 19th November from 10.00 - 1.00 pm.

Until next time.....

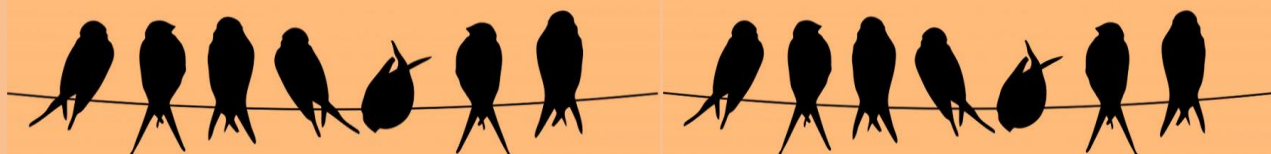
Alison

### At Summer's End.

Old season to new season,  
Fresh students hover at registration,  
Eager faces to sit at the tables of learning.  
Heads bent, not in study,  
Talking to their hands,  
Talking into i-phones.  
Nightowls to sleeping voles as morning breaks,  
Oblivious to nature's rich sights,  
Theirs for the taking.  
Waving spears of purpled lavender,  
Marauding bees hover to dance a maypole ritual,  
Settling then retreating from scented petal to petal.  
Warmed by a September sun,  
Outgrown its allotted space,  
Nestling against weathered red brick wall,  
Scarred with limewash.  
Ripening orange peaches compete  
Against scarlet, artery red plums  
Oozing sugared nectar.

Marauding bees hover to dance a maypole ritual,  
Settling then retreating from scented petal to petal.  
Swallows cease their screeching midsummer flight  
To rest,  
To wait on lines,  
Hearing the call in the wires,  
Winging across the oceans picking out stars,  
Diamonds in the heavens.  
Cattle sense seasons end,  
No more to whisk away flies as air chills.  
Opalesque dragonflies skim gardens,  
Stretching their fragile lifespan  
To die before sun up.  
Moths dip and rise polka fashion worshipping  
lightbulbs.  
Harvest approaches mellowing all in its wake.  
Days wend their course,  
Dawn to sparkling sunlight,  
Fading half light to blackness.  
Streetlight filters through writhing, colouring leaves  
At Summer's end.

**Ken Windle**





## Regular church activities and contact details

### Services at Bents Green Methodist Church

All are welcome at these services

#### Sunday mornings at 10.30 am

During morning services there is a crèche for little ones, Sparklers and Sparks Clubs for younger children and Sunday Club for older children.

**Sunday evenings at 6.30 pm** - An informal service often including tea, coffee and time to chat about the Christian faith

**Healing Service: Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October 6.30 pm**

**Wednesdays at 10 am: Midweek service**

### Activities for Children and Young People

New members are welcome at these activities at the church.

Contact the named person for more details.

#### For younger children

Crèche	0-3	Sun 10.30	Ruth	2686507
Sparklers	4-5	Sun 10.30	Ruth	2686507
Sunbeams	0-4	Wed 9.15-12	Katie	07833086480

#### For children and young people

Girls' Brigade	5-18	Thurs evening	Marian	2361316
Football	11-18	Fri 5-7	Glenn	2351057
Holiday Club	5-11	Summer	Cherry	07853278612
Lighthouse	5-11	Wed 3.45	Cherry	07853278612
Messy Services	3-12	Festivals	Sue	2307556
Sparks	5-11	Sun 10.30	John	2307556
Sunday Club	12-18	Sun 10.30	Sue	2307556
Torch	Teens	Tues 6.30	Cherry	07853278612
Lampstand	12-18	Fri 8-10	Cherry	07853278612
Drama group	All ages	Various	Glenn	2351057
Pantomime	All ages	Annually	Glenn	2351057
Musical	All ages	Annually	Christèle	07912207661

### Friendship Club Programme:

**Tuesdays at 2 pm in the Church Hall (enter by side door opposite the shops). A warm welcome awaits any who would like to come along – especially men and women over 50**

Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	GRANDMA ABSON'S TRADITIONAL BAKING
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	THE WHITE PEAK
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	HARVEST
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I'M A LONDONER
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	THE MAKING OF THE BOOK 'BLACK DIAMONDS'
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	SONGS OF THE 40'S
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	GERRY KERSEY TALKS
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	CORNWALL PART 2: STEPHEN GAY
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	THE FARMING YEAR

**For more information contact: Pat Hutchinson: 0114 2497280  
and Jackie Smith: 0114 3483069**

**Minister: Rev Louise Grosberg**

**Tel. 0114 2363157**

Email:

[Louise.Grosberg@btinternet.com](mailto:Louise.Grosberg@btinternet.com)

**Church website:**

[www.bentsgreenmethodist.org.uk](http://www.bentsgreenmethodist.org.uk)

Church office answerphone:

0114 2361912

**For Room Bookings contact:**

**Peter Larder Tel. 0114 2686507**

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If you would like to receive Hilltop by email (and in colour) please email the editor. Please send material for the next issue to the editor by Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

### Coffee Mornings in the Church:

On the first Saturday of every month from 10.30 am – 12

### Games, chat and crafts group

Wednesdays 12.30 to 3 pm in the church. Indoor bowling, scrabble, chess, dominoes, jigsaws and cards, knitting and crafts.

Contact Ruth: 0114 2686507

### Harbour Coffee

On Wednesdays in term-time from 3.30 – 5.45 pm in the Music Room

### Tea, Toast & Time 4 Thinking:

Thursdays @ 10.30 am each week. Upstairs in the Church Lounge.

A time to reflect on what following Jesus is all about. A place for all those seeking answers.

Carers of young children especially welcome.

Contact Sue: Tel 0114 2307556

### House groups

Many people in the church belong to a house group and meet regularly to pray together, read the bible and talk about the Christian faith. If you are interested in joining a house group contact Sue: Tel 0114 2307556

## Bents Green Church – PokéStop!

In the new game **Pokémon Go** Bents Green Church has been designated a PokéStop. On Sundays in September Cherry, youth minister at Bents Green Church, and a team of helpers have invited Pokémon players into church for Pokémon Go Lure Parties. During the afternoon there are crafts and Pokémon hunts, films, opportunities to make headgear, design Pokémon cards or to colour team logos. Up to 20 children and young people have come, some with their parents, some on their own. Both parents and children are very enthusiastic about the activities. It has also been an opportunity to let families know about other activities for children in the church and to get to know some new people.



## Quiet Lane

Almost every Sunday on my way to church at Bents Green I drive pass the road called "Quiet Lane" which cuts across the valley between Fulwood and Bents Green. Somehow this road always reminds me of the importance of entering God's rest.

To enter God's rest is such an important thing to me. It is to do with knowing Jesus personally: knowing that He is my peace, my joy, my strength, and my hope. The more I know Him the more I love Him. The more I talk to Him or pray the more I see His beauty and holiness. I believe this can only be experienced as we walk with Him.



I believe we are created to depend on God. He puts the desire in our heart to do His will. However if we rely on our own strength we will be burdened, weary or lose peace. In Christ Jesus we lack nothing and the fullness of God cannot be measured by our own ability or other people's opinion.

We may see or hear all the negative things that are currently going on in the world (or maybe in our personal lives) Let us be positive and not feel discouraged. Let us come to Jesus to receive His strength and peace that surpasses all human understanding.

**Nini Brady**

**"The peace of God, which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus"**

Philippians 4:7