

Hilltop

August / September 2018

Newsletter of The Church at Bents Green



In this issue:

<i>Church News</i>	<i>p2</i>
<i>League Champions</i>	<i>p2</i>
<i>Changes to recycling in Sheffield</i>	<i>p2</i>
<i>Time to ponder, wonder and wander</i>	<i>p3</i>
<i>Holy Habits</i>	<i>p3</i>
<i>2019 Pantomime, Chitty Bang Bang</i>	<i>p4</i>
<i>Remember '66?</i>	<i>p4</i>
<i>Update from Together we Make</i>	<i>p5</i>
<i>Hezekiah had a problem</i>	<i>p5</i>
<i>Walking with Jesus</i>	<i>p5</i>
<i>All scripture is inspired by God</i>	<i>p6</i>
<i>Friendship Club</i>	<i>p6</i>
<i>Sheffield Faith Action Audit</i>	<i>p6</i>
<i>Regular events at the church</i>	<i>p7</i>
<i>Girls' Brigade 80th anniversary</i>	<i>p8</i>
<i>Fun Day Photos</i>	<i>p8</i>
<i>To make you smile...</i>	<i>p8</i>



Bents Green Holiday Club

6 – 8 August 1.30-3.30

Finding Nemo - children 3 – 4 years
in Pre-school Room

Sand, Toys, Crafts, Refreshments,
Tel 0114 2307556 or 0114 2686507 for more
information and to book, £2.00 a session

Heroes and Villains - children 5-11 years

Tel 07853278612 or 0114 2307556 for more
information and to book, £2.00 a session

A community church sharing the love of Jesus

Church News

Family Friendly Church: Bents Green Church already has Family Friendly Church status and now, to help families with very young children, we are adding baby changing facilities to the toilet in the porch. We also have a baby feeding chair available and have signs to assure mothers that breast feeding is welcome.

Welcome back to Cherry, our Youth Minister who returned from maternity leave at the end of June.

Thank you to Sarah Rose for her work covering Cherry's maternity leave. We wish her well as she starts a new job as Children and Families worker in the Romiley circuit in Stockport.

We also send good wishes to others in the congregation who are moving on to new places and new jobs.

Samuel Read graduates and starts a new job as a patent attorney in London from September.

Thank you to all who helped in any way raising money during **Christian Aid week** this year. The total from the house-to-house collection, the Family Quiz Night and Sunbeam's Big Breakfast was £1648.29. Gift aid increased this to £1871.54, close to last year's total.

A Thanksgiving service for the life of Grace Keeling was held at the church on Thursday 14th June and we send condolences to her family and friends.

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

League Champions – Congratulations!

For over a decade our Lampstand youth club has entered 5-a-side football teams into the Sheffield Christian Youth League (SCYL). Teams from churches all over Sheffield take part. This year's team, BGL (Bents Green Lampstand) has carried all before them, winning the League, the Cup, and the Memorial Trophy. Congratulations! You can see them in the photo, receiving the League Champions Trophy from Dan Magness, the football freestyler world record holder and a committed Christian public speaker. Bobby Wymer also received the individual trophy for Player of the Season.

The team has been managed by Glenn Evans who has now retired. He says, "They have been a lovely set of lads. All I had to do was get them to play like Sheffield United!"



From left: Dan Magness, Ethan Mills, Mark Hesketh, Ed Brown, Joe Egan, Bobby Wymer and Tom Storf. Inset: Jordan Hindmoor

Congratulations also to Joel Vernon who won the Bronze medal in the All-England athletic championships for the 300 metres (the longest sprint event for his age group). 3rd best sprinter in England!

Changes to recycling services in Sheffield are being introduced from August to October.

Sheffield City Council and Veolia will roll out changes to recycling services with a new brown bin to replace the current blue boxes. Black bin collections will not be affected by the changes to recycling bins and will continue to be collected every two weeks. The blue and new brown bins will have their own separate collection days.

When the changes are introduced existing blue bins will be used for card and paper and the new larger brown bins (which are the same size as the black bin) will be used for plastic bottles, cans and glass.

All residents will be notified of how these changes will affect the way they handle their waste and recycling, with leaflets going out to all households and notices being placed on bins.

Taking time to ponder, wonder and wander...

Many years ago, there was a part of every holiday which hung over me like a black cloud: having to write postcards to those back home. In a few words I would try to sum up whether I was having a good time or not. And I would sign off, 'wish you were here' whether that was true or not! Then, finding a stamp and a post box was a challenge, and chances were that I would be home before the card arrived.

However, it was always nice to receive such cards. The colourful pictures brightened up the room and you could display them so that you could appreciate where your nearest and dearest were enjoying themselves.

Today many keep in constant touch with those away on Facebook, Twitter, Whatsapp, etc. so you can almost feel that you are there with them, seeing what they are eating, what the weather is like, what is happening.

Some say that our dependence on being in touch, displaying all aspects of our lives, both the exciting and the mundane, on social media is addictive and affects our mental well being. Being constantly available, accessible and exposed to the high octane level of information overload makes an impact on us. Learning how to use communication tools healthily is an ongoing challenge and more and more are looking at ways of de-toxing themselves from their mobile devices, getting away from the constant pings and bleeps which indicate another message has arrived for you to look at.



Holidays, or as they were originally called Holy Days, gave people the chance to reconnect their story with some part of God's story. The pace of life is different from normal, there is more time to ponder, wander and wonder. Maybe it is a time for us not to put our watch on, not to switch the phone on, and to take things more gently. A time to look beyond the screen, and to listen beyond the ear plug, and to notice and appreciate the wider world and the people God gives us. To be connected in a different way. To be open to the surprise and refreshment that comes recommended by God.

Happy holidays! Peace *Tim*



Holy Habits

On 2 September we begin a two year journey at Bents Green. We will be studying and practising ten Holy Habits, spending two or three months on each.

They are **Prayer, Gladness and Generosity, Breaking Bread, Fellowship, Biblical Teaching, Making more Disciples, Eating Together, Sharing Resources, Worship and Serving**. They are found in Acts 2: 42-47.

In September and October we will focus on **Prayer**. The second Habit, **Gladness and Generosity**, will take three months from November to January, to allow us to celebrate Advent and Christmas in the usual way.

There are materials to guide us, a booklet on each Habit, full of ideas for services, house groups, youth activities etc for us to pick and mix from, as seems best for BG. We have an organising team: Daphne, Debs, Glenn, Graham, Martyn and me. We will plan three morning services, one evening and one Wednesday morning on each Habit, and suggest ideas to house and other groups, for them to use or not. At this stage we don't know what will work and what won't, and how well people will participate, but we will pray through the whole process and learn lessons as we go.

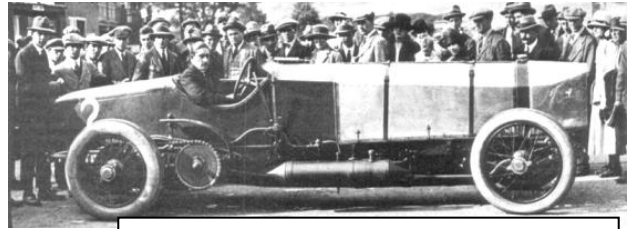
So what's new? In one sense, nothing. We already pray, worship etc. Some of us try to make these practices a life-long habit, but if we are honest most of us aren't very good at them. So in another sense there is something new – focusing on these practices together in a way that that can encourage each other.

And the Habits are not just about church. The aim is that they are relevant to everyday life, at work, with friends, whatever we do, making us more like Jesus as individuals and as a church. At Bents Green our vision is to share the love of Jesus with our community. Learning to live these Holy Habits can enable us to make a real difference day by day.

John Wilkins

Chitty Bang Bang, our 2019 Pantomime

Count Louis Zborowski was a very wealthy English racing driver of American descent who lived from 1895 to 1924 when he was killed in a racing crash. He built his own racing cars and called them Chitty Bang Bang numbers 1 to 4. They were exceedingly powerful, since he gave them aero engines. Number 4 broke the land speed record in 1926 when it reached over 170 mph at Pendine Sands.



Count Louis Zborowski in Chitty Bang Bang 1

Ian Fleming, the author of the original James Bond books, had watched Zborowski race as a boy, and as an adult visited Zborowski's former home in Kent. He used the idea of a car with an aero engine for a children's book, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, published after his death in 1964. The book is based on the first car, which is bought by Mr and Mrs Caractacus and Mimsie Pott and their children Jeremy and Jemima. Mr Pott restores her, and when stuck in a traffic jam on the M20 on the way to the seaside, the family discovers she can fly and float. They end up in France, and cross swords with an English bank robber called Joe the Monster. They blow up his cache of dynamite and weapons, and the children and Chitty help the Paris police capture Joe and his gang when they try to rob a sweet shop.



You can see that this is a very different story from the film and the show of the same name. The film was written by Roald Dahl and Ken Hughes. They killed off Mimsie, and introduced Truly Scrumptious, as well as lots of other characters. They kept the musical sweets, but changed most of the plot and almost all the names and locations. The show is different again, written by the brothers Richard and Robert Sherman and Jeremy Sams.

What the book, the film and the show have in common is the magical car, Chitty (Chitty) Bang Bang, which can fly, float and do some other tricks as well. We will introduce her to you in our annual pantomime. The London Palladium spent £750,000 on creating her. We will probably spend a little less. We may even introduce you to James Bond as well.

If you were in our last pantomime, you have already had your invitation to take part again. You have to be a young adult or a child to take part, but there are no other restrictions. The show will take place in our church hall in February half term, 2019.

If you were not involved last time, and would like to be involved this time, please contact

Glenn Evans: dglennevans@hotmail.co.uk

Remember '66?

I grew up in north-west London. Sometime in the winter of 65/66 I learnt that England would be playing several football matches at the big stadium down the road. I applied for tickets, and saw four England games, including the final against West Germany. I clearly remember the disputed Geoff Hurst shot that came down off the bar. I was standing at the top of the stand at the opposite end of the ground, but everyone around me was certain that it was a goal, not because of the Russian linesman, but because of another England player, Roger Hunt. He was nearest to the goal, and turned round with his arm in the air. If he had been in any doubt that the ball had crossed the line he would have tried to make sure.

So I witnessed England's greatest football achievement, until, well, I was getting more and more hopeful, I thought maybe this summer they could do it again. They did great, but as we know, not quite good enough.



Back in '66, that same summer I joined a youth club that happened to meet at a Methodist church. This was my first contact with a church, apart from very occasional visits. I was attracted by what I found, and two years later committed my life to Jesus.

I am still on an emotional roller-coaster about football, but the thrill of England's greatest victory is nothing compared to the excitement, joy, interest, discovery, friendships, love, challenge and adventure I have found in following Jesus. Only some get to see England win, but everyone can have what Jesus offers.

John Wilkins

Together We Make update

We were so excited to see our names in the last copy of **Hilltop**, another sign of the ongoing support we have received from everyone at Bents Green Church.

Since the article was written we have expanded our range of items and have recently produced brooches, rings, keyrings and coasters. We have been experimenting with different materials to encase within our resin, including feathers and wood with some beautiful results.



We have also taken the big (and slightly scary, if we are honest) step of investing in a professional website and Facebook page. And, because apparently it is what all serious business people do now, we have started using Instagram, although we are not completely sure we really understand it!!

Because of these changes we wanted to let everyone know our updated contact information. Please look us up on Facebook,

our website and Instagram and say 'Hi'.

(If you would rather say hello in person we can usually be found at Bents Green Church on a Wednesday afternoon, pretending to do some craft but more often than not just drinking tea and eating biscuits.) **Nicky and Jane**



Find out more at:

Website: togetherwemake.co.uk

Email: togetherwemakeuk@gmail.com

Facebook: [togetherwemake](https://www.facebook.com/togetherwemake)

Instagram: [togetherwemakeuk](https://www.instagram.com/togetherwemakeuk)

Hezekiah had a problem

Hezekiah was the King of Judah at a time when the Assyrians had conquered most of the region, known today as the Middle East. Judah was a vassal state, paying tribute to the Assyrian king, Sennacherib. Hezekiah had rebelled and was being threatened by a huge Assyrian army. He received a letter from the Assyrian king warning him of the dire consequences of his actions. Hezekiah took the letter into the Temple in Jerusalem and 'spread it out before the Lord'. Hezekiah prayed to the Lord and the army was stopped! 2 Kings

We are probably not going to be facing an army, but from time to time circumstances arise which make us anxious and undecided about what we should do.

An outline, given to me by a friend, has helped me and I find that writing it out works best. Use the headings in the box to help you think through the dilemma before making a hasty decision. If, like Hezekiah, we spread the issues before the Lord then our heads will be clearer to deal with them.

Writing about it can help you to take a difficult decision:

1. The situation is
2. The pressures are...
3. My natural reaction is...
4. My considered response could be...

James, writing in the New Testament, gives this advice: **"If any of you lacks wisdom, ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given."** *James: 1; 5-6.*

Janet Nowell

Walking with Jesus (Tune: *The streets of Laredo*)

This song was written some 50 years ago by Eric Sinclair when he was working with the Salvation Army. He wrote a few songs, using music from various sources. This particular song was sung to a Country & Western standard called "The Streets of Laredo". Although written so long ago it was, and remains, his testimony.

With Jesus, my Saviour, I walk through the valley
I walk in the darkness with Jesus, my Lord.
In all my temptations He's right there beside me,
And when I am low, I just lean on His Word.

My life had no purpose before I met Jesus,
And many's the time I was beaten by sin.
But then I discovered the secret of living.
I opened my heart, and invited Him in.

My Lord had been waiting for that invitation;
He'd been at my heart's door for many long years
Just patiently knocking; but I would not listen.
I looked for the world's joy, and found only tears.

But now, Hallelujah! I walk with my Saviour,
And in His blessed presence I mean to abide.
And when I arrive at the end of life's journey,
Straight on into glory we'll walk side by side!

Chorus (optional)

I walk with the King -
Hallelujah!
I walk with the King,
Praise His name
No longer I'll roam,
My soul faces home.
I walk and I talk
With the King

Eric Sinclair 15 June 1961

All scripture is inspired by God

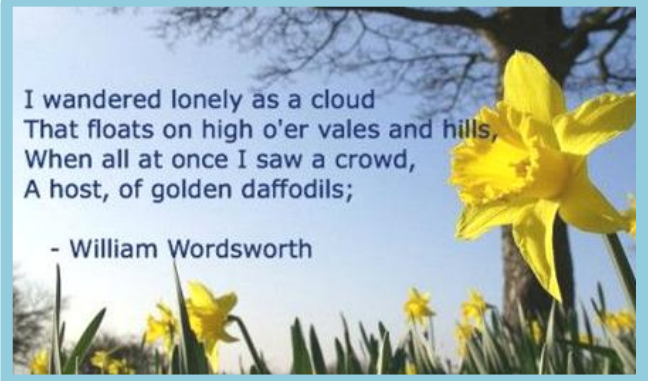
Translating the Bible – 14

I was walking lonely like a cloud which floats on the high valleys and hills, when suddenly I saw a crowd, a host, golden daffodils.

I am sure you will be familiar with these opening lines of William Wordsworth's famous poem. They are quoted above, exactly as he wrote them, but with just one small but crucial difference. Each of the 4 lines has been translated into French by "Google Translate", and then back into English. It is a completely accurate literal translation.

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;

- William Wordsworth



I lonely wandering like a cloud, it floats on valleys and hills, when all at once I saw a crowd, a variety of yellow daffodils. This is a completely accurate literal translation of the same lines, this time into Vietnamese and back into English. The more foreign the language, the harder it generally is to do a good literal translation.



When we read the Bible in English, we are reading a translation from ancient Hebrew or Aramaic for the Old Testament, or from colloquial Greek for the New Testament: completely foreign languages from thousands of years ago. It is not only the languages that are completely foreign. The culture, the customs and the concepts are equally foreign. How difficult it is to get a good translation.

And yet we are blest with a wide range of excellent translations, thanks to the expertise and endeavours of generations of scholars, and to the on-going inspiration of the same Holy Spirit who guided the original writers. I believe we can have absolute confidence in the modern Bible that we read, whichever version we prefer. As St Paul wrote to Timothy, *All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instruction for right living, so that the person who serves God may be fully qualified and equipped to do every kind of good deed* (2 Timothy 3 verses 16-17 GNB).

I have tried in this series of articles to look at the history of Bible translation, and point out the pros and cons of the various approaches to translating. I am a linguist by training, with my speciality being the history of languages. So where do I stand on which is the best translation? I might tell you next time! **Glenn Evans**

Friendship Club ...variety is the spice of life!!!



Well, we've had talks about Derbyshire, talks about Sheffield, different sorts of music, talks about people's lives but we've never had a talk by someone who goes out late on a Friday night and stays out until maybe 3 o'clock in the morning! "Street pastors are trained volunteers from local churches who care about their community. They patrol in teams of men and women, usually from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. on a Friday and Saturday night, to care for, listen to and help people who are out on the streets."

And this is what John Wilkins does. He gave us a fascinating talk about his work as a street pastor, telling us about the voluntary work done by him and others to help people often in distress who come out of the clubs very late at night. He showed us the things he is obliged to carry....flip flops for bare feet on streets which are

sometimes covered in glass, water for rehydration, silver lightweight capes to keep people warm, hand warmers, portable telephone charger, antiseptic wipes etc...The illustrated talk was extremely interesting as well as inspirational. Well done to people like John who are doing an amazing job.

Do join us on Tuesdays at 2 o'clock. You will be most welcome. **Pat Hutchinson**

Sheffield Faith Action Audit 2018 Our church took part in an audit carried out by the Cinnamon Network.

The results showed that local churches and other faith groups work with a vast cross section of beneficiaries. Rather than being focused on one particular age group or gender, faith driven volunteers and paid staff are actively working with people of all ages and with men and women in almost equal measure. This confounds the stereotypical image of a church ... and gives an insight into the true breadth, value and impact on all sections of the community that local churches and faith groups offer. "We believe faith is a force for good and can transform Sheffield." Pastor Jon Watts

Regular church activities and contact details

Services at the Church at Bents Green

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 Fireworks and Sunday Club for older children and young people.

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

Wednesdays at 10 am: Midweek service.

Contact Details:

Lay Assistant Minister: John Wilkins
Tel 0114 2361306 (First contact)
Email: johnwilkins73@googlemail.com

Minister: Rev Tim Crome
Tel. 0114 4389012
Email: Tim47Crome@msn.com

For Room Bookings contact:
Peter Larder Tel. 0114 2686507

Church website:
www.bentsgreenmethodist.org.uk
Church office answerphone:
0114 2361912

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	07464 824462

For children and young people

Sparks	5-11	Sun 10.30	John	2307556
Fireworks	12-14	Sun 10.30	Emma	07707 500226
Sunday Club	15-18	Sun 10.30	Sue	2307556
Girls' Brigade	5-18	Thurs evening	Marian	2361316
Lighthouse	5-11	Wed 3.45	Cherry	07853278612
Lampstand	12-18	Fri 8-10	Cherry	07853278612
Craft Services	3-12	Festivals	Sue	2307556
Drama group	All ages	Various	Glenn	2351057
Pantomime	All ages	Annually	Glenn	2351057
Musical	All ages	Special events	Christèle	07912207661
Holiday Club	4-11	August 6 th -10 th	Lesley	2686461

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 60.

Tues 4th Sept	IAN & JANICE ENTERTAIN
Tues 11th Sept	THE SINGERS AND THE SONGS: ANNE FEATHERSTONE
Tues 18th Sept	YORKSHIRE TEABAGS
Tues 25th Sept	NATURE: STEVE DRINKALL

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

Regular church activities

Games, chat, crafts

Wednesdays 12.30 to 3 pm in the church.
Indoor bowling, scrabble, chess, dominoes, jigsaws and cards, knitting and crafts.
Contact Ruth: 0114 2686507

Coffee Mornings in the Church:

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

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

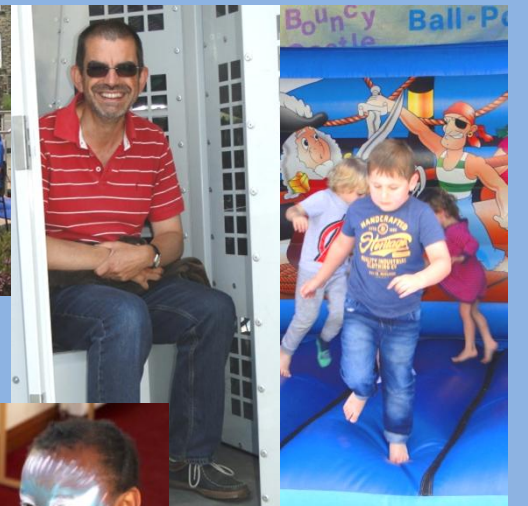
Hilltop Editor:

Tricia North Email: tn-bg@live.co.uk
Please send material for the next issue to the editor by Sunday 9th Sept 2018.

If you would like to receive **Hilltop** by email please email the editor.

Bents Green Girls Brigade celebrate 80 years

We had a lovely afternoon on Saturday 30th June with lots of wonderful and memorable occasions to talk about. What was really nice as well was the fact the some of the girls managed to come and help us. Enid Cartwright cut the cake with our newest and youngest member, Florence. Here are few photos taken at the celebration. **Annie Russell**



Fun Day photos

To make you smile...



"If telemarketers call, invite them to church."

After explaining the commandment to honour your father and mother, a Sunday School teacher asked her class if there was a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters.

One boy, the oldest in his family, immediately answered, "Thou shalt not kill."

A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt."

His son asked, "What happened to the flea?"

A kindergarten teacher was walking around observing her classroom of children while they were drawing pictures. As she got to one girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."