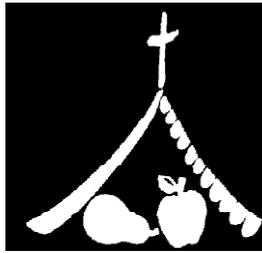


NEWSLETTER

**July/August
2013**



Buxton Methodist Church

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WORSHIP:

Sunday: 10.30 am and 6.00 pm

Tuesday: 10.30 am

CHURCH ADDRESS;

Buxton Methodist Church

Chapel Street

BUXTON SK17 6HX

Tel: 01298 27065

Website: www.buxtonmethodistchurch.org.uk

e-mail: admin@buxtonmethodist.co.uk

bookings@buxtonmethodist.co.uk

MINISTER:

Rev Andrew Parker

1 St James' Terrace

BUXTON SK17 6HS

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No 443
July/August 2013

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Buxton Methodist Church Newsletter

MINISTER'S LETTER

Those who came into the church at the Buxton Spring fair had the treat of seeing a photo display by John Morten. Judging by the number of people who spent time carefully looking at the photos, I was not alone in finding them fascinating.

I guess it would be sometime in the 1840s that a group of Methodists got together and were inspired by a vision to build a Methodist church on the market place and the photos that John put together were a powerful visual reminder of how things have changed over the years: the town has changed, society has changed, the church building has changed and altered over the years and I imagine the style of worship will have changed.

Yet it is the same God we worship and the same gospel we preach. God is as alive and active in an age of internet and twitter as much as when people travelled by horse and carriage and electricity hadn't reached Buxton.

It seems that our task is like that of every generation, to increase our awareness of a God who is always active in the world and, as Charles Wesley put it, for us to 'serve the present age';

serving it with the words and deeds of a gospel that is relevant for the society in which we live.

To serve the present age,
My calling to fulfil;
O may it all my powers engage
To do my masters will!
(Charles Wesley 1707 – 1788)

Andrew.

Congratulations to Andrew and Jenny on their wedding in Ireland on 22nd June. We look forward to sharing a wedding blessing with them on Saturday 3rd August at 2pm.

CHILDREN'S, YOUTH AND FAMILY WORKER

I get questions from one source or another, so I thought that if a few people were asking questions, then maybe others were thinking the same, but had not asked. So I thought I'd widen the audience with my answers.

I will have completed 6 years in the Buxton Methodist Circuit at the end of August 2013 and there is one more year left. I was initially appointed for 2 years, and then during the second year was offered an additional year. During the third year I was offered another year making a total 4 years. During that 4th year I was then was offered a further 3 years and so I start my last year from September 2013.

The Circuit is currently undergoing a review of its resources, not just financial and buildings, but all resources. From that review, it will decide if another layworker is required and for what purpose. After that process is complete, funding will have to be sought if another worker is needed.

The current management set up is that Rev Andrew Parker is my immediate line manager. There is also a management group made up of 6 people, 4 from Buxton and 2 from the Circuit chapels plus Andrew.

The Management group meet regularly, have an overview of my work and will discuss the work and any other issues surrounding work. Any potential new initiatives will be discussed, challenged and worked through before going to the Stewards and or the Church Council or Circuit for approval. Existing work is also reviewed.

A changing world

We live in an environment that is subject to rapid change. Traditional Church as we know it has endured for 200 plus years with little change, but over the last 50 years we have seen numbers decline to just a handful in many places. There is a serious disconnection between the Church and society as a whole. New forms of Church will not last like traditional Church and we will have to reinvent ourselves much more often if we are to remain culturally relevant. The MESSAGE should be constant but how we present and deliver the message will need constant change and new initiatives.

We that are left of traditional Church need to be open to change if we are to have a worshipping community for the future that will bring the urgently needed transformational Gospel to our community in which we live. New ways of being Church is not easy and there isn't a 'one size fits all' solution. It is very complicated and balancing the tensions of traditional and new Church is also difficult. In 2011/2012 I spent one year on the Fresh Expressions Mission Shaped Ministry Course – Fresh Expressions meaning new ways of being Church. This was very helpful and I would recommend it to anyone interested in reaching out into our community.

Schools

I still go into schools in Buxton and the villages to take assemblies and some lessons when asked to do so. There are some excellent teachers out there making a huge difference to the lives of the children they teach. Teaching is subject to constant change and it seems rare for anything to be allowed to 'bed' down before the next change is introduced. This is true of many professions and we in the Church cannot be immune to the need to change either. But not only are schools in this constant state of flux, but the amount of 'types' of schools continue to grow. Academies (2 types), Free Schools, Secondary, Faith Schools, Grammar, and the list is endless (nearly). To keep up to date with the latest best practice in schools work as well as the structures of schools and school culture, I have been on a 1 year course through MyCYM (Christian

Youth Ministries) 'Enable Schools Work', which is a professional qualification and this finishes in July 2013. We have to continue to 'up skill' to meet the ever changing needs of the society in which we live.

Good Free Training

In 2011 I went on the Derbyshire Volunteer Passport Training for a couple of reasons.

1. To see what it was like.
2. Because it covered useful topics.
3. Because it was relevant.
4. Because it was free.

I would recommend this to anyone. There are 5 sessions with great trainers that are all friendly.

The sessions cover:

- Getting the opinions of children and young people (how to)
- Keeping children and young people safe
- Health & Safety
- First Aid
- Equality and diversity

If you want to know more, let me know and I'll pass on a leaflet to you and tell you more.

Some activities

11UP continues as it has before. It will be stopping for the summer break. I'm in the process of obtaining more help for this group and for 11 UP+ which I hope will restart in September.

Messy Church continues to be well supported, as do other the Messy Churches in the Circuit.

The Family Film nights so far have been well received and well attended too. Encourage your families to come or if a grandparent, bring the children.

Some of the contemporary worship (Alive@9 – Praise@6) has attracted a younger element (when compared to the average age of traditional church) which is to be celebrated, although with this comes additional issues – we need prayer and patience not just for the young people that come along but, for the older adults too.

Jobs

There are lots of jobs on offer: being an adult present, heating through pizzas, setting up and putting away tables, clearing up, washing up, chatting to adults, chatting to young people or children, befriending and helping, assisting with crafts, giving us your creative ideas, praying for our activities and possibly for individuals (on a confidential basis). There are all sorts of ways in which you can help. If you think you might want to offer you help, but are unsure as to how and in what ways, have a chat (no obligation) to see what is needed.

If you are male, we'd love you to volunteer your help for Who Let the Dads Out which should start in September. If you would like to know more and what it is about, have a chat with me.

Safeguarding

This is important and whilst it may seem over the top at times it is Law and we have to ensure we comply and are the best at it.

Extract 17th June 2013 BBC News

'Stuart Hall, jailed for indecently assaulting 13 girls, was the exuberant host of TV game show It's A Knockout, the voice of lyrical football reports on BBC radio and the face of regional news in the north-west of England for more than 25 years.'

They say what does an abuser look like and the answer is 'look in a mirror'. What we mean by that answer is there are no identifiable marks that set an abuser apart. Abusers are male and female and they come from all parts of society. Churches are open institutions and can be vulnerable and can be taken advantage of. Abuse is more than sexual abuse: there are many forms.

What Safeguarding seeks to do is to create a safe space in which our children, young people and vulnerable adults can enjoy and flourish within the context of our church life and activities. Let's celebrate Safeguarding and ensure that we offer the best we can and provide a safe space for all.

The ultimate responsibility for safeguarding in each church in our circuit rests with the Church Councils.

I think most of us are familiar with the term CRB check which many workers, both paid and volunteers, have when they work with children, young people and adults. The name has changed: they are now DBS checks representing the new

authority 'Disclosure and Barring Service' overseeing safeguarding checks and safeguarding in general at a national level.

Almost the end

Finally, whilst we do need and desire new helpers in our children's and youth work, we must recognise that there are many people already working with children and young people on a Sunday and during the week. They are committed to what they offer, do excellent work and we owe them a big thank you.

Roger can be contacted on 01298 27065 or youthworker@buxtonmethodist.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report for 2013 was welcomed and everyone was thanked for their contribution.

We are a very active church but a common theme was that most of the reports sought more volunteers.

Beryl Blackwell offered to help with the Tuesday morning communion.

A general discussion ensued which raised the following points:

- Are we trying to do too much? Should we concentrate our efforts on what we do well? Do we need to target our efforts more precisely?
- Activities should be reviewed to see how they could develop to the next stage. For example, how do we move from a successful Messy Church to nurturing young families into the church?
- If something new is recommended, how do we give our approval or non-approval? What criteria do we use?
- If we take on something new, does something else have to give way?
- How do we assess that something has come to the end of its life? How do we say 'no'?
- Careful line management of proposed activities should take place in that when needs are identified a careful assessment should take place in the church as to whether to proceed in meeting those needs. Prioritisation has to take place, otherwise our efforts are too widely dispersed and extend beyond our capacity to effectively meet those needs. Our human resources are limited.
- Equally we need to look at our church's role in the circuit. Buxton Methodist Church is the dominant church in the circuit, but the commitment we can give to supporting other churches is again limited by our own resources. If the energy of the Buxton church is sapped the circuit as a whole will suffer.
- We need to extend our policy of looking for volunteers outside the current church family.
- Experience shows that these volunteers often become an active part of the church.
- When we ask for volunteers we should be specific about the job we are asking people to do, i.e. it is a small part of the activity, not the full activity itself.
- Lastly, it is important that the Church Council authorises any new activity.

The diary of future dates was considered (see below). An addition was the visit and sustenance of the Methodist Youth Brass Band, Thursday 22nd to Sunday 25th August

which the church was prepared to support. They needed to produce their own publicity for the concert in our church.

A new fire door is to be fitted to the kitchen area outer entrance. Michael Bryant provided details of its use.

There was no further action on the proposed students' rest haven on Wednesday/Thursday nights.

The initial planning application for solar panels had been refused, but the proposal was still moving ahead on appeal.

Thanks were expressed to the Treasurer and Finance Team for their forward planning and projections.

It is important to always communicate to the people in the church what any situation is so they are aware of decisions that may need to be made.

Thanks were expressed for the very effective website run by Russ Baker.

The next Annual Church Meeting is 12.30 pm Sunday 18th May 2014

Future dates

Sunday 21 st July 6.30 pm	Circuit Songs of Praise at Earl Sterndale
Saturday 3 rd August 2 pm	Wedding Blessing service at Buxton for Andrew and Jenny, followed by informal reception
Sunday 11 th August 4.30 pm	Circuit Service at Fairfield for Deacon Margaret Wainwright – 70 years certificate
Wednesday 11 th September 7.30 pm	Reflective Church Council
Saturday 28 th September morning	Families Finding Faith – ecumenical event at Buxton Methodist
Tuesday 1 st October 7.30 pm	Circuit Meeting at Fairfield
Sunday 6 th October	Harvest Festival and Parade Service
Sunday 13 th October	JMA award presentations
Wednesday 16 th October 7.30 pm	Church Council
Mon 28 th Oct – Friday 1 st November	Holiday Club
Sunday 8 th December	Advent Parade Service
Monday 4 th May 2014	Spring Bank Holiday Fair
Saturday 28 th June 2014	Suggested Church Family Coach Trip

SERVICES JULY 2013

Communion and Prayers every Tuesday
in the Quiet Chapel 10.30 am to 11.00 am
Sunday Club every Sunday 10.30 am

7th July

10.30 am	Morning Worship	Rev David Hall
6.00 pm	Praise @ 6	

14th July

10.30 am	Morning Worship & Baptism	Deacon Janet Heys
6.00 pm	Evening Worship	Mr Colin Pearson

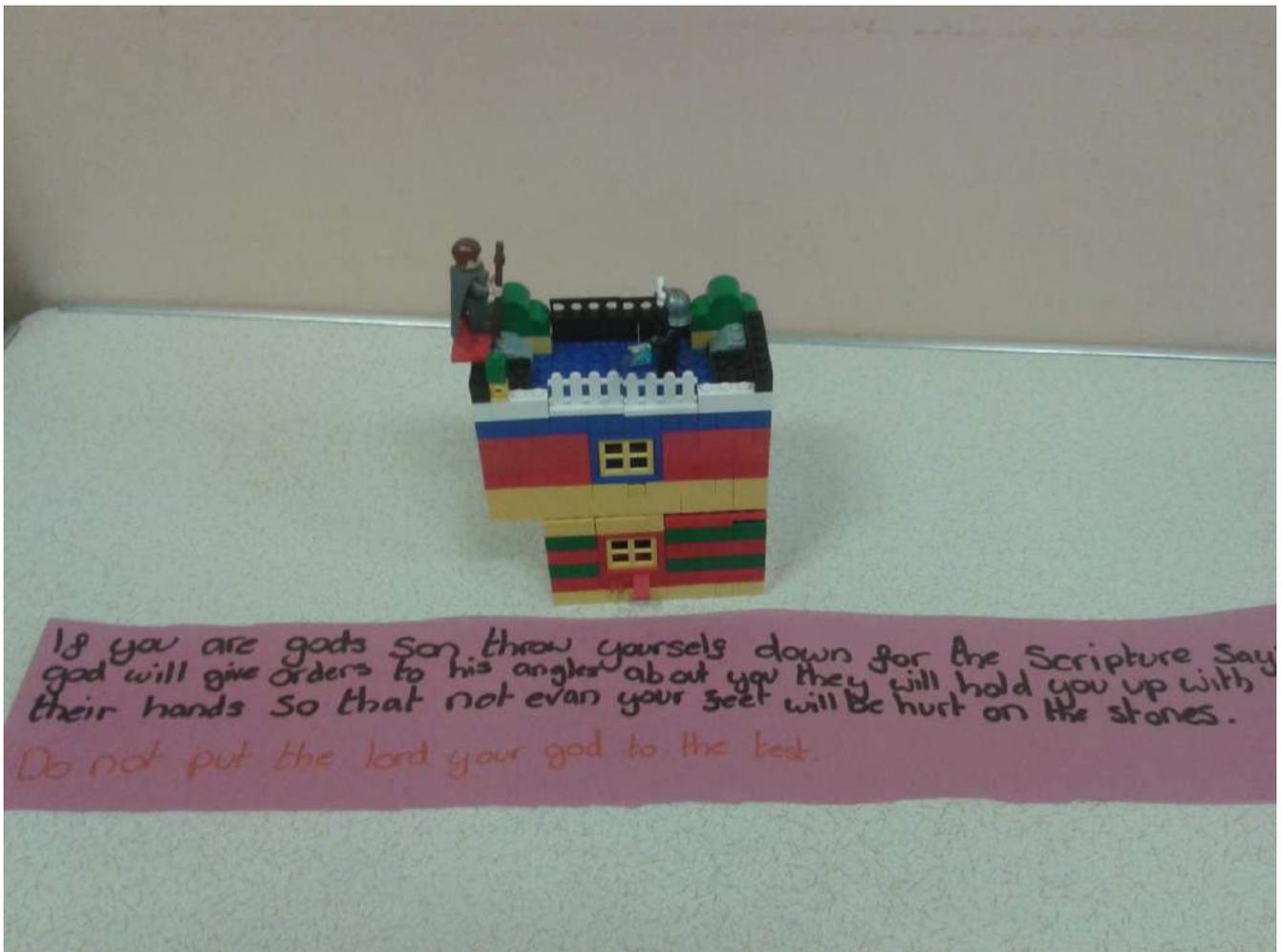
21st July

10.30 am	Morning Worship	Rev Andrew Parker
6.30 pm	Circuit Service at Earl Sterndale	

Please note later time of Circuit Service

28th July

09.00 am	Alive @ 9	
10.30 am	Morning Worship	Mrs Isabel Sinclair
6.00 pm	Local Arrangement	



Lego model made by members of the Youth Group to tell the lesson for that morning



Hollinsclough prepare for their Flower Festival



A trip back a few years!!

SERVICES AUGUST 2013

Communion and Prayers every Tuesday
in the Quiet Chapel 10.30 am to 11.00 am
Sunday Club every Sunday 10.30 am

4th August

10.30 am Holy Communion Rev Andrew Parker

6.00 pm Praise @ 6

11th August

10.30 am Morning Worship Mr Philip Botham

4.30 pm At Fairfield - celebration
Please note earlier time of Fairfield celebration

18th August

10.30 am Morning Worship Rev Andrew Parker

6.00 pm Holy Communion Rev Robert Davies

25th August

10.30 am Morning Worship Rev Steve Fisher

6.00 pm Evening Worship Rev Andrew Parker



We have had some very enjoyable meetings this last year, although during the winter months four meetings had to be cancelled due to snow or very bad conditions underfoot. This had an effect on the amount of money we were able to collect and so at the AGM we had to reduce the amounts given out. The AGM was on 15th May, and the following donations were agreed:

Buxton Methodist Church	200.00
League of Friends, Cavendish	25.00
Stepping Stones	25.00
Women in Kenya	25.00
High Peak Hospice	30.00
Lighthouse	<u>25.00</u>
	<u>330.00</u>

In addition, the amount raised for Mission work was as follows:

Collections & stalls	188.44
Donation	30.00
Boxes	200.91
Easter Offering – Buxton	<u>379.50</u>
	<u>798.85</u>

Officers appointed to serve a further year are:

President	vacancy
Secretary	Ruth Hayter
Network Treasurer	Bob Dewson
Mission Treasurer	Janet Evans
Boxes Treasurer	Betty Cannon

Dorothy Martin decided after much thought that the time had come to step down as President. She has served continuously as either Secretary or President for the last twenty years and, in addition, served a term as District Network Secretary and attended District meetings twice a year until recently. Dorothy will continue to play an active part in Network but will no longer hold office. We thank her sincerely for all she has done locally and at District level.

Thanks are due to those who continue to hold office and carry out their duties from week to week. Thanks are also due to all who help in any way at Network meetings, those who put the programme together, and to all who give generously to either Network or Mission funds. We also thank our two musicians – Margaret and John.

Network will resume in mid-September – the date will be publicised in the notice sheet and programmes will be given out when speakers have been finalised. Meetings are held on Wednesday afternoons starting at 2.30 pm in the Lower Room at the Church, and both men and women are very welcome.

Ruth Hayter

TEA AND BISCUITS AT PEAK DALE!

Tea and biscuits will now be served from 2pm to 4pm the 1st Thursday in each month.
All welcome!



Sunday Club and Youth Group News

Has the Great British Bake-Off been visiting Buxton? If not, I think it should! Last week in our groups we were talking about John the Baptist and his strange eating habits... we decided to have a go at 'Honey and Grasshopper' recipes. We thought you might like to share in this so we're sending in a recipe for you to try. Our verdict is 'mmmm'. This week we looked at Jesus in the desert. The photo shows a model we made of Jesus temptation to throw himself off a high building and be caught by angels. The younger children made sand pictures and learned an action rhyme: 'I will do what God's words say. I will choose to go God's way'. And then we ate Honey and Grasshopper biscuits.

From us all at Sunday Groups.

Honey and Grasshopper Snacks

What you need:

250g(9oz) self-raising flour

110g(4oz) margarine

75g(3oz) brown sugar

75g(3oz) sultanas

1 egg

2 tablespoons of clear honey

What you do:

1. Wash your hands.
2. Set oven at 180C/350F/gas 4.
3. Grease a baking tray.
4. Cream butter and sugar together until soft.
5. Add egg, honey, then beat in raisins.
6. Sift flour and add to mixture to make firm dough.
7. Spoon out rounded teaspoons of mixture and roll into balls.
8. Slightly flatten each with your fingers into biscuit shapes.
9. Place biscuits on the tray about 2cm apart.
10. Bake in centre of oven for about 15mins until brown.
11. Remove the biscuits from the oven and put to cool.
12. ENJOY!!

Sunday Youth Group

Earl Sterndale Methodist Chapel

Sat/Sun July 20th and 21st
12noon- 5pm

Celebrating the Arts

A small exhibition of painting, crafts and flowers by friends of the Methodist Chapel.

Refreshments available.

Sunday July 21st 6.30pm

Service of celebration

led by Rev Andrew Parker



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GENERAL INFORMATION

WORSHIP TIMES

Sunday 10.30 am and 6.00 pm

Tuesday 10.30 am

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday morning and the third Sunday evening of each month and every Tuesday morning.

PEOPLE MEET PEOPLE CAFÉ is open on market days, Tuesday and Saturday mornings, when the church is accessible for viewing and prayer. You are invited to borrow books from THE CHURCH LIBRARY to be returned within one month.

NETWORK, which is a fellowship group for men and women, meets on Wednesdays at 2.30 pm. Other groups for study, prayer and fellowship are often arranged.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES include: Sunday Club and Youth Group as part of Sunday morning worship, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Stepping Stones, 11 Up, Messy Church, Talk FX and Parents and Toddlers.

As a community church with the community at heart we regularly host numerous organisations in the town including: Junior Strings, Buxton Field Club, Weight Watchers, Yoga, University of the Third Age, Buxton Musical Society and numerous other groups on an occasional basis.

If you require further information, a list of precise times when groups meet and contact numbers, please write to Buxton Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Buxton, SK17 6HX or ring the office number on 01298 27065.

The deadline for the September/October edition of the Newsletter is
Sunday 4th August

Material in writing, can be given to Anna direct or e-mail Anna Quick on
annabrownwl31@gmail.com