

LBC *magazine*

March 2020



Loughborough Baptist Church



Loughborough Baptist Church

Church Office: Tel: 01509 215642

e-mail: office@lbcweb.org.uk

Minister:

Family Worker: Bethany Lock Tel: 07756 200382

Pastoral Worker: Victoria Edwards Tel: 07557 023383

General Secretary: Margaret Thirlwell Tel: 01509 232840

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10.45 am with Crèche, Sundiclub & Young People's Group.
Communion on 3rd Sunday of the month.

4.00 pm Sunday@Four

(3rd Sun in the month instead of 6pm)

6.00 pm with Communion on the 1st Sunday of the month.

MID-WEEK Bible Study, House Groups and Discipleship and Christian Meditation courses are run, offering opportunities for Christian learning and fellowship.

There are 2 women's organisations and a "Contact Club" for snooker. (For days and times see inside back cover.)

"Link-Up", a social evening for people with learning difficulties, is held on the 1st Saturday of every month.

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE See inside back cover page for details

LUNCH BREAK Open Tuesday to Friday: you may bring your own food to eat, or buy food and drink for a quiet lunch time. Senior Friends connected with the church may belong to the fortnightly Lunch Club.

TRANSPORT to services and meetings is available on request.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS please contact the Church Office

Open daily 9 am - 12 noon or look on our web site

www.lbcweb.org.uk

Message

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to write these thoughts for the March magazine. When we started our Thursday Bible Studies in January in Acts Chapters 1-12 called the 'Church on the move' we knew that our Church was going to go through change.

As we have journeyed through these chapters, we have seen how the Holy Spirit has worked for the growth of the early Church. From Peter and John preaching to many people in their own tongue's Stephen speaking to the Sanhedrin about their Jewish history also being the first Christian martyr by stoning. Philip going to Samaria and being sent to the Ethiopian eunuch and showing him the meaning of Isaiah and last week the conversion of Saul. The thread is the Church growing.

It must be fantastic to have a conversion like Saul, when you know the day and the time when you gave your life to the Lord. Mine was nothing like that I was very fortunate to have Grandparents and Parents that worked in the Church, so from an early age I came to Church and I always thought of myself as a Christian, but there comes a time when you have to make a decision for Christ and make a public response, this I did on the 18th February 1962 when I went through the waters of Baptism.

We are now a Church on the move, we have a Vision Day on the 14th March when we need to consider where Loughborough Baptist Church is going. I am so aware that our Church has more people between the ages of 60 – 90+ than 25-55 but it is this younger age that need to move our Church forward. In the next 10 years this LBC will look very different, we must embrace this change, let the Holy Spirit blow through our corridors so that work will continue to grow for the town of Loughborough.

My fervent prayer is that the Vision Day will be a time when all ages move together so that when we do call a new Minister the Church will grow by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Christian Blessings
Elaine

Vision Day

Saturday 14th March 10.00am – 3.00pm

Publicity has already been circulated for this important event when our regional minister, Rev Mark Clay, is coming along to help us think about the future of Loughborough Baptist Church. As Baptists we all share the responsibility for what kind of church we would like to be, what our priorities are and what part we, as individuals, must play in the future of the church here in Loughborough. We are called upon to pray, to think, to work and to give of our time and talent, that God's work here in Loughborough may grow and that men, women, children and young people may come to know Jesus and find their lives transformed.

Do please sign up on the notice board in the foyer to indicate that you will be a part of this and spend time on prayer and thought in preparation for it.

Margaret Thirlwell (Secretary)

Quiet reflections

Father God, help us to take time for the things,
the people, the situations that need us most.
Help us to receive fresh insight, renewed faith,
so we can be used effectively for your Kingdom.
Amen

Thank you

Dear All

Can I thank the church and all who gave towards my leaving gift of an iPad and a further monetary gift. Elaine and I also wish to thank everyone who helped with my last service and the lunch afterwards.

Be assured that you all will remain in my prayers as you begin to discern the next step in your journey with God.

Every Blessing for the future

Gert

March 2020

Pastoral Care at Loughborough Baptist Church

Every member of Loughborough Baptist Church has a general responsibility for the physical, mental and spiritual well-being of the other members.

Pastoral care can mean many things, friendship, practical help, spiritual guidance and support, a listening ear as well as short and long term care in particular circumstances.

Within the Church there are people who, because of their individual skills, have particular responsibility for the pastoral care of others.

Vicky Edwards is the Pastoral Support Worker, employed by the church to work with the pastoral team in providing pastoral support, as well as focusing on providing a support service specifically for people affected by living with dementia.

Our Pastoral team is led by Lilian Limb and within that we have group leaders who have members of the church assigned to their group.

It is the responsibility of the pastoral group leaders to support, pray and keep in contact with individuals or families and encourage them through fellowship.

In due course you will receive a card informing you of who your pastoral group leader is.

During the period of interregnum if you have any pastoral concerns or wish to speak with somebody about a personal matter you can contact:

- Vicky Edwards (Pastoral Support Worker) Tel: 07557023383
- The Church office between 9a.m. - 12 noon
- Lilian Limb (Pastoral Team Leader) Tel: 01509 215263
- Margaret Thirlwell (Church Secretary) Tel: 0781143286

Where appropriate your matter can then be passed on to the most suitable person to address your concerns.

Although we do not have a Minister presently if you do feel you need the specific support of a Minister there are a number of people we can get you in contact with.

News of the Fellowship

We remember in prayer all those who mourn.

We especially think of some in our fellowship, Edward and Lynne Atkin and their family following the death of Edward's mother, Violet.

Richard and Claire Middlebrook who are mourning the death of Claire's father.

We have heard that Mary Middleton, who moved from Loughborough a few years ago, died recently. We give thanks for all those lives and ask God's comfort and peace for those who mourn.

We remember and pray for those who are unwell or are in hospital.

Kathleen Marsh is in QMC following a fall, she has a blood clot in her ankle and is having treatment to regain mobility.

Hilary Cramer is in LRI and now has an infection and is in isolation.

Anne Addleton is also in LRI for assessment after a fall at home.

Moyra Davies had a fall and is recovering at home.

Sociable Saturday

If you would like to have a pleasant morning meeting new people while helping others why not run a Saturday Coffee Morning here at Church?

Some of us have had heart problems ourselves or in the family so we organised the event on Saturday 8th February in aid of the British Heart Foundation. Cakes, biscuits (heart shaped of course), balloons, banners and people turned up and we had a most enjoyable morning. With one or two later donations we raised £189 to help research into heart disease and to support sufferers.

If you have a special charity, why not have a go?

GMA

Saturday Forget Me Not

Forget Me Not has monthly meetings on a Saturday, respite days giving an opportunity for those caring for people with dementia to have a whole day to themselves. At our February meeting we made cakes and with the help of Jean's expertise we learnt how to model roses out of fondant icing. We were quite pleased with our efforts! We were then able to give our cakes to our loved ones as a belated valentine gift.



Lunch Break

This year marks thirty years of Lunch Break, thirty years of serving lunches to the people of Loughborough and beyond and offering friendship and Christian fellowship to those who come along. It would be hard to say how many people have helped to serve these lunches and impossible to calculate the number of people who have enjoyed a welcome break while in town and an enjoyable lunch before they go on their way. Many, many thanks to Geraldine who has organised, cooked for and served these lunches during the thirty years and also to the many, many people who have given their time and friendship to serve, wash up and chat to the people who come along. Many thanks from us all.

Margaret

BEING A DEACON

Deacons shall, with the minister(s), (if any) be responsible for the leadership of the church, the fulfilment of its purpose, the pastoral care of its members and its day to day management and administration. Each church will have its own rules for appointing deacons. At LBC a deacon will serve for a term of three years and is then eligible for re-election if he/she wishes. Deacons will be appointed by an open selection process usually involving nomination and voting. This ensures that deacons have the support of the church members. Once appointed, deacons usually share responsibility for the day to day management of the church and are therefore, in legal terms, Managing Trustees.

Deacons are servant leaders

The word deacon comes from the Greek *diakonos* meaning servant. Deacons should use their leadership skills to help the church and promote its growth. They should not dominate but they should lead. Deacons are accountable to other deacons and to the church meeting for the way they do their work.

Deacons are expected to make decisions

Deacons, acting together, after prayer and consultation, are expected to give a lead to the church. Whilst not being dictators they would not be fulfilling their responsibilities if they avoided making decisions, although these decisions should be tested by consultation within the church meeting. Good communication and a willingness to listen to others in shaping new ideas is essential.

Deacons need to work well together

Good relations among church leaders are essential. Relationships grow as people spend time together and learn to work as a group. Good communication is easier to achieve if everyone attends meetings regularly.

Deacons should ensure that church life is well organised

The diaconate should be like a body with each part playing its part for the good of the whole. The deacons should ensure that the time, effort and money of those in the church are not wasted because of carelessness or inefficiency.

ELECTION of CHURCH SECRETARY, TRUSTEES/DEACONS, and FINANCE TEAM

The Church AGM is on Saturday, April 25th, during which the election of the Church secretary, the trustees/deacons and the finance team will take place.

The number of deacons appointed at LBC at the present time was raised from 9 to 10 at the Church meeting on February 20th. Deacons normally serve for three years and then become eligible for re-election if they are prepared to stand. At present, the deacons are: David Beresford, Shirley Bowler, Rhian Green, Elaine Grimley, Daphne Hall, Samuel Ogunkolade, Sandy Northcote and Margaret Thirlwell. Jill Beresford resigned from the diaconate in June 2019. Elaine Grimley's three-year term has come to an end, and she is prepared to stand for re-election.

Elections for the Church secretary and the finance team take place every year. At present the Church secretary is Margaret Thirlwell. Members of the finance team are Elaine Grimley (chair), David Green and Rhian Green. All of these are prepared to stand for re-election.

Nominations for all these positions should be received by **Sunday, April 5th**. They have to be in writing on special forms, copies of which are available from Rhian Green and Margaret Thirlwell. Each form should contain

1. The name of the candidate proposed.
2. The name of the proposer.
3. The names of two other supporters who are church members.
4. The signatures of the proposer, supporters and the candidate.

Please think about your responsibility as a church member and your role in appointing trustees/deacons to serve the church here in Loughborough.

Christians Together

It's good for Christians to work together and there's quite a lot of that going on in the Loughborough area.

Loughborough Churches Partnership

I have been attending the meeting of the Loughborough Churches Partnership (LCP) over the last few months and have found the meetings interesting, spiritually helpful and encouraging. At least fifteen churches of different denominations are represented and meetings are held every couple of months.

The meetings open with worship, songs and prayer and then we move on to consider what we should be doing as a group of Loughborough Churches. In February Jenny Scott spoke about the Passion Play that the group is intending to prepare for 2022. Leading up to this there will be two shorter performances in 2021 and 2022. This appears to be a very exciting and ambitious project and, if you are interested please find out more about it.

The second part of the meeting was introduced by Joe Mc Sharry from Open Heaven, the church which our Family Worker, Bethany, attends. One representative from each church in attendance was invited to say how people experience Jesus in their church. Out of the fifteen contributions here are a few:

'quite lively and loud. Spirit led, controlled, but with freedom as well.'

'every week is different, experience meeting Jesus together.'

'Sometimes interview members of the congregation if they have just met, this helps to connect people.'

'Have a 'mossy' church in the woodland behind the church twice a month. Forest Church, a quieter reflective service linking God and nature.'

'Use prayer and fasting to connect with God.'

'Three different services on a Sunday, gradually less formal and structured. The liturgy provides a guide and framework like the trellis for the grapevine.'

As you can see, the churches in Loughborough are lively and varied in their approach to worship. It is good to be part of this group.

Soar Valley Gospel Partnership

This group of churches is made up of Baptist Churches along the northern part of the River Soar in Leicestershire of which we are one - there are twelve churches altogether. Elaine and I have been to meetings of representatives of the various churches and have found them helpful as we worship and pray together, get to know our fellow Baptists better and seek to plan what we believe is God's will for the future. Prayers for the individual churches are sent around to the churches in the group and are printed in our N and I.

On Sunday evening, 2nd February a joint service was held at Loughborough Baptist Church. Graham Dunn led the service and Anthony Orr, the relatively new minister of Mountsorrel Baptist delivered the message. We look forward to the President of the Baptist Union coming to speak to the churches of the Soar Valley Gospel Partnership one Sunday evening in May.

Three Churches Planning Group

This is a group of three churches in Loughborough: Trinity Methodist , United Reformed Church and Loughborough Baptist Church who are meeting together to get to know each other better and to work together to enable us all to fulfil our mission to share the gospel with the people of Loughborough. Elaine Grimley, David Gabe and myself are our representatives on this committee; we have had two meetings and are feeling our way as to how best we can support and help each other bearing in mind that we are three individual churches.

We are already familiar with the joint choir services which have been helpful to many, both within the choirs and those who have come to listen and share in worship. We look forward to enjoying mutual support and fellowship.

Margaret

December Magazine - Front Cover

A good image, it said it all at a glance, 'then and now'.
I'm glad you featured the homeless, Christmas isn't happy for everyone.
Another biblical story this week 'then and now', a plague of locusts in Africa.

The years pass but we still have the same problems.

Jesus said there would always be the poor, thank you for showing this on the magazine.

Christian Aid Week

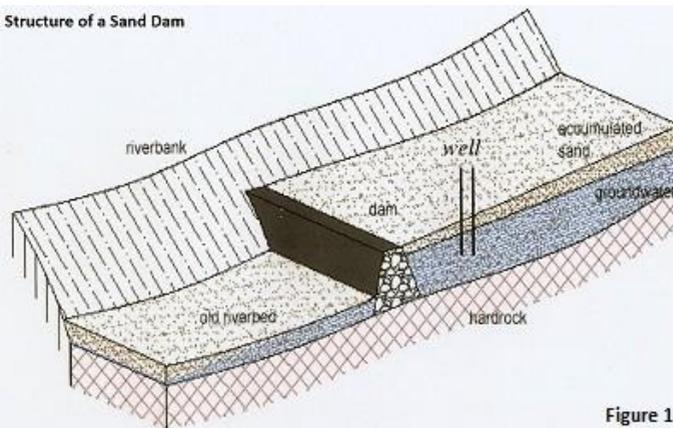
10th - 16th May 2020

This year's theme for Christian Aid Week is focusing on the devastating effects of climate change on the weather in Kenya. Whilst we are experiencing more rain and flooding there it is having the opposite effect. There is less rainfall and more droughts. The shortage of water is causing crops to fail so families struggle to feed themselves and earn a living. Animals have less water to drink so are unable to produce milk for families to drink and sell. Many animals are dying. It is the women and children who go and collect water but as the rivers dry up they have to walk much further to collect it. Some spend up to eight hours a day just collecting water and returning to their families carrying heavy containers. It's a dangerous journey. They can be robbed or worse as people fight over scarce resources. People are hungry and weak and struggling to cope. Lives are at risk.

There is a solution. Sand dams are being built along the rivers. A barrier is built across the river which after a couple of rainfall seasons collects sand in front of it. The sand builds up and absorbs the water preventing it from drying out or being contaminated by animals. Water is extracted by digging a scoop hole or sinking a pipe. A sand dam can provide up to 1,000 people with water. It costs less than £5,000 to design and build. The Christian Aid walk this year is on May 9th and unfortunately will be the last in Loughborough. With dwindling numbers of walkers and less money being raised it is becoming unviable. So, let's make this one the best ever! Please consider walking this year but if that's not possible

please sponsor generously. The coffee morning will be on 16th May. Please come along and support us and see if we can raise enough money to provide water for 1,000 people for a lifetime.

Structure of a Sand Dam



Timetable of events for the week:

Saturday 9th May - Sponsored walk

Sunday 12th May - Christian Aid lunch at United Reform Church. Please bring any photos or other memorabilia of Christian Aid walks in previous years.

During the week there will be house to house collections.

Saturday 16th May - Christian Aid coffee morning at LBC

Thank you
Jean Bates

Aim for Change

Aim for Change is a small charity run from Market Bosworth by Mrs Ruth James and her helpers. The charity runs orphanages and schools in Uganda and Pakistan. The coffee morning on Feb 1st organised by Veronica and Katie was held for this charity.

Mrs James writes:-

Thank you so much for hosting a coffee morning for Aim For Change, the donation of £62 is much appreciated. We are going to put the donation towards one of our student's school fees, she is in her final year and is hoping to study law at university. We pray that she will reach the necessary grades. Her name is Esther and she has been in our care for all of her years in education. She has two brothers also in our care. They are in vocational training and will finish at the end of this year.

God bless you all, Ruth James

Monday Nighters

Our next meeting is on Monday 2nd March when our speaker will be David Green.

Monday 16th March " My Box of Memories " with Wendy Nye.

Monday 6th April will be a Games Evening

We also have a Coffee Morning on Saturday 21st March and offers of help would be appreciated.

Everyone welcome, our aim is friendship

Forgotten hymns (4)

“I’m going to ask you to get up out of your seat and come forward to give your life to Christ.” The voice of Billy Graham at the climax of his great rallies in Wembley Stadium. And, as the massed choirs sang “Just as I am....I come”, (all 7 verses of it) they came.....first a trickle...then a flow....then a flood, until hundreds, even a thousand or more, many in tears, to confess their need of Jesus, some converted from a life of crime or immorality.

But many more had come with Church groups and were caught up in the emotion of the moment, not necessarily as “poor, wretched, blind” as Charlotte Elliott’s hymn suggests.

There is another similar hymn, now forgotten; it was written by Marianne Farningham Hearn, who had a room built and named after her at College St. B.C. Northampton. Her photo still hung in the room when I became Assistant Minister there in the 60s. A dour, Victorian lady, dressed in black, but the inscription read that over 40 years she “led many young women to faith in Christ”, through the Bible Class she held there. She was also well known as a poet and wrote this alternative hymn,

*“Just as I am, young, Thine own to be,
Friend of the young, who lovest me.....”*
*“Just as I am, young, strong and free,
To be the best that I can be
For truth, and righteousness, and Thee
Lord of my life, I come.”*

Many of the young women worked in domestic service or in factories or shops in town. They were not “poor, wretched, blind” and Miss Hearn’s hymn caught their aspirations and the optimism of youth.

We sang both hymns on average once a year through the 80s, but now Miss Hearn’s has been lost from the hymn books.

Preparing Pam, a student, for baptism at Cheltenham years ago, I remember her saying “There was never a time when I was not a Christian”. Like so many young people brought up in LBC she was a schooled in Christian faith and life, but knew there was a time she had to commit herself to following Jesus, as she did in baptism, and many young people did here. We look for the day when verse 6 is true for others here,

*“In the glad morning of my day,
My life to give, my vows to pay,
With no reserve and no delay,
With all my heart, I come”*

DRB

Messy Church

We started the New Year with a party on 15th January. We had games, made party hats, decorated a place mat, folded a napkin and made a mask. We played pass the parcel, musical statues and some very energetic team games. We shared a buffet tea and thought about how we were going to approach the new year 2020. We had some new people join us and we hoped that they would come along to our next Messy Church.

February saw Daniel in the Lion’s Den. The people who had come along to the party in January joined us again and we were very pleased to welcome them together with other new parents and children. We shared the story together and then made lion masks which were very frightening, coloured pictures, made lions with play dough and reminded ourselves of the story by making finger puppets. As we sang ‘Be bold, be strong’ we reminded ourselves that we need not be afraid in the face of danger – God is always by our side when we stand up for what is right. Our closing prayer helped us to think about this:

Loving God, you care for us when we are awake and when we are asleep.

Be near us when we are afraid and help us not to give in to things that we know are wrong.

Help us to live our lives as Jesus did, caring for other people. Amen.

The Messy Church Team

Fellowship and Outreach Group

We are planning a few events for your enjoyment.

Saturday 9th May we are organising a Fish n Chip evening with games. On Sunday August 9th we hope to have a family Teddy Bear's picnic with games and perhaps a treasure hunt. We hope to round the day off with a short family service. There will be no 6pm service that night.

Tuesday 24th November we will have a Festive Film Night and Carolling Christmas will probably be on Saturday 19th. December.

On January 2nd 2021 our Link Up friends are going to De Montfort Hall to watch the Pantomime "Sleeping Beauty". If you would like to join us, please let Geraldine, Vicky or Sandy know by April as that is when we have to book and pay for the tickets.

Baptist Women's Fellowship

7th January: We started the New Year off with a party. We played games, had a quiz and had plenty to eat.

14th January: David Homes talked to us about the work he used to do at Bradgate Park.

21st January: We enjoyed watching a D.V.D. on Old Loughborough.

28th January: Anne Speight gave us a very interesting talk on the work she did for Christian Aid in Zambia.

4th February: Pam led with a talk on recycling which was very informative. Vanda told us a few Cracker Jokes and Sandy gave us a quiz.

11th February: Steve Cooper talked about the faithful friends that helped the paralytic man to see Jesus. They worked as a team and with determination.

Future events

3rd March A.G.M.

17th March Social Afternoon

24th March John Todd

31st March Social Afternoon

Rotas for March

CHURCH FLOWERS

March 1 st	Rhian Green
March 8 th	Creations
March 15 th	Diana Grant
March 22 nd	Richard O'Connor
March 29 th	Sheena Samuel



SATURDAY STEWARDS

Feb 29 th	David Warren
Mar 7 th	Michael Tebbatt
Mar 14 th	Gareth Ferrin
Mar 21 st	Brenda & John Newton
Mar 29 th	Richard O'Connor



COFFEE MORNINGS

Brownies
Admiral Nurses/Dementia
Rainbows
Monday Nighters
Yarn Angels



CHURCH STEWARDS

Mornings

March 1 st	Shade Ojo, Harry Plumptre
March 8 th	Margot Gabe, Victoria Edwards
March 15 th	Katie & Michael Tebbatt
March 22 nd	Anne Lockley, Peter Taylor
March 29 th	David & Valerie Green



Evenings

Pam Willett & Marcene Crocker

Items for the April magazine should be handed into the office or sent to edward-atkin@hotmail.co.uk by NOON on Sunday 22nd March 2020

Calendar for March

Sun 1st 10.45 Family Worship: Revd Andy Thompson
6.00 Evening Communion Service:
Revd Simon Payne-Mivsuk

Tues 3rd 10.00 Yarn Angels

Wed 4th 3.30-6.00 Messy Church

Thurs 5th 11.00 Forget me nots

Fri 8th 12.45 Luncheon Club

Sat 7th 6.30 Link Up

Sun 8th 10.45 Family Worship: David Statham
6.00 Evening Service: David Millington

Sat 14th 10.00 – Vision Day with
3.00 Revd Mark Clay, Regional Minister

Sun 15th 10.45 Family Worship with Communion:
led by International House Group
4.00 Sunday @ Four: Revd Paul Stevens

Tues 17th 0.00 Yarn Angels

 12.45 Lunchtime Concert: 'A Song Recital'
 Sandra Roberts & Alan Speight.

Thurs 19th 11.00 Forget me nots

Fri 20th 12.45 Luncheon Club

Sun 22nd 10.45 Family Worship: Revd David Butcher
6.00 Evening Service: Mr Alistair Gibb

Sun 29th 10.45 Family Worship: Revd Philip Webb
6.00 Evening Service:
Revd Wendy Dalrymple

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY	10.45	Family Worship (Crèche, Sundiclub & Young People's Group)
WORSHIP	4.00	Sunday@Four (Third Sunday of the month)
	6.00	Evening Worship
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY	12.00 - 2.00	Lunch Break
MONDAYS	1.00	*Little Stars* (for babies, toddlers and their Carers)
	5.15	Rainbows (girls aged 5-6)
	6.15	Brownies (girls aged 7-11)
	6.45	Guides (girls aged 11+)
	7.00	Rangers and Young Leaders (girls aged 14+)
	6.30	Contact Club (snooker for all)
	7.30	Monday Nighters, first & third in the month (friendship for all)
TUESDAYS	10.00	Yarn Angels (knitting and crocheting for charities)
	12.45	Lunchtime Concert (Third Tuesday in the month)
	2.30	Baptist Women's Fellowship (devotional meeting)
	6.30	Film Club, 1 st & 3 rd Tues (young people 10 to 16)
	7.30	Creations (hand crafts, first and third Tuesday in month)
WEDNESDAYS	1.45	Badminton Club
	3.30	Messy Church – for families, first Wednesday every month
	7.30	Ladies Choir
THURSDAYS	11.00	“Forget Me Not” – Fortnightly (for those living with dementia)
	7.30	Church Meeting – Third Thursday most months
FRIDAYS	12.45	Luncheon Club (Senior Friends, alternate weeks)
	5.00	*Superstars* and SSEExtra (boys and girls aged 5 - 11)
	6.30	Music Group (preparation for worship)
	7.15	Church Choir practice (as required)
SATURDAYS	10.00	- 12 noon : Coffee Morning
	6.30	Link-Up (First Saturday of the month)
WEEKDAY EVENINGS		House Groups, Bible Study, Christian Meditation Group, Discussion and Prayer Groups (Enquire at the office for days and times)

A poem for Mothering Sunday

Mothers

What is a mother when you're growing old?
A friend and a mentor more precious than gold;
A woman with wisdom she's gained through the years,
Who's learned to survive all the troubles and tears;
Who knits endless woollies to keep us all warm,
And when there's a crisis is gentle and calm.
Someone to watch over, care for each day;
The first one we think of each time we pray;
What is a mother when we have to part?
A sweet loving memory deep in our heart.

*by Glenice Crossland,
sent in by Anna Pratt*