

THE REVIEW

EASTER - APRIL 2017



**WADDINGTON STREET UNITED REFORMED CHURCH,
DURHAM CITY DH1 4BG**

Church Website: www.durhamurc.org.uk

The Study Group



Most churches have study groups of some sort, and our church is no exception. Our present group has been running for a considerable period of time, for at least eight years, and perhaps longer (its origins are lost in the mists of time). We met originally in the home of Elizabeth Williams on a Wednesday evening, but now meet once a fortnight in Ruth Cranfield's home on a Wednesday afternoon.

The number attending over the years has varied, but at a typical meeting, there are usually around eight people. As is usually the case with such groups, there is a very enthusiastic core, which attends most meetings and which has been attending for many years. Over a period of time, the gatherings have been greatly enriched by short term members, often students from other parts of the United Kingdom, Europe, China or South Korea, who have been able to bring a very different and valuable perspective to our discussions.

Our practice is to select a book, which we hope will be interesting and accessible to all and which covers some topic that we consider important. We have enjoyed studying the works of C.S. Lewis, Charles Cranfield, David Cornick, Alister McGrath, John Stott, John Calvin (not "The Institutes of the Christian Religion"), J. I. Packer and others. Only once did we select a book which we decided was unsuitable and we quickly abandoned it. We then decide how many pages we are going to cover in the next session and read those pages at home.

Perhaps it would be informative if I describe a typical meeting. We meet at the ideal venue with the ideal hostess. The room is just the right size, it is warm and comfortable and the convivial tone of the meeting is set immediately by the warmth of Ruth Cranfield's hospitality and the delicious coffee, tea and biscuits.

Different approaches suit different groups. Our approach at the moment (and we have experimented with different approaches) is to read a few paragraphs of the book out aloud and then tease out the meaning and discuss any issues which arise from the text. We then move on to the next few paragraphs. This method has advantages: it gives a structure to the discussions; it helps us to follow the argument of the writer systematically; it means that anyone who hasn't been able to prepare the work beforehand can still follow the proceedings; and together we can bring a shared understanding to any points which individual readers may have found difficult. In short, everyone is kept on board. It also has disadvantages. It is a very slow and rigid way of covering the text and certainly some groups would find a more flexible approach more appealing. So our group moves slowly, but, generally speaking, no-one is left struggling to understand what we are studying.

A further issue is how closely we stick to the text and how far we simply use it as stimulous material for much wider, open-ended discussions (and at times these "ends" have been very "open" indeed!). There is no perfect answer to this question and, at times, I am sure that we have got the balance wrong. If we stuck rigidly to a narrow, humourless, academic text, I think that the group would fold within a few months. On the other hand, there is always the danger that the whole afternoon degenerates into endless anecdotes, irrelevant ramblings and even light gossip. I can't, in honesty, say that we have never been guilty of this (and very entertaining it has been too), but there has usually been someone there who has acted as the conscience of the meeting and brought us back to the task in hand.

Yet a flexible approach can be very rewarding. I remember attending a study group, years ago, at the Manse, led by the Revd. David Roberts, which was studying Bunyan's "The Pilgrim's Progress". Bunyan was considering the subject of music and David, who had a real gift for asking pertinent questions, asked us whether we thought that music, in itself, was morally neutral, or whether some

3.

music was morally uplifting, whilst other music, by its very nature, was corrupting. There was a lady present whose father had been a missionary in the South Seas and as a little girl she remembered her father's dismay when he heard the beginnings in the distance of certain types of drum music which, he claimed, would inevitably whip people up into the worst kind of orgiastic frenzy. Everyone piled in, as you can imagine, and a fascinating discussion followed, which covered a wide range of music from jazz, rock and punk to Wagner and triumphalist hymn tunes. Not even the Last Night of the Proms was spared. We didn't cover much of "The Pilgrim's Progress" that evening, but I think that we all felt that we had had a most interesting and valuable discussion.

If I had to highlight the characteristics of the study group which over a long period of time have most impressed me (and inevitably this is simply a personal perspective), they would be the following: its good nature, its humour and its tolerance. As far as the first of these is concerned, the group very often collapses into barely controlled hysterical laughter, which I think would surprise many people who have little first-hand knowledge of Nonconformists and whose view of them is gleaned from a media which delights in stereotypes and tends to portray them as humourless and straight-laced. They would, I think, be pleasantly surprised by the lightness of touch, tolerance, empathy and humour with which the group approaches its task. At times, we have discussed sensitive topics which have created bitter divisions in our church and others, and yet I cannot remember a single occasion when anyone has shown anger, has shouted someone down, made a patronising comment or attempted to humiliate another member of the group. As a collection of people, we hold a range of varied and sincerely held beliefs, but over the years, I have been cheered immensely by the tolerant way in which members of the group have listened to opposing viewpoints and I suspect that this is one of the reasons why we miss the group so much, on those rare occasions, when it isn't able to meet.

Study groups are not everyone's cup of tea, but I can certainly guarantee that anyone who cares to attend this group on a Wednesday afternoon will be made most welcome. There is no need to have made any prior study of the book, there will be no pressure put upon you to participate in the discussions any more than you wish to, or to make any sort of commitment to attend future meetings. If you wish to visit us simply out of curiosity, that is fine by us.

Malcolm Reay.



+++++

Life is God's novel, let him write it. (Isaac Bashevis Singer)

Joy in looking and comprehending is nature's most beautiful gift.
(Albert Einstein)

Find out how much God has given you and from it take what you need;
the remainder is needed by others. (St. Augustine)

One of the secrets of life is -
making stepping stones out of stumbling blocks. (Jack Penn)

From Winnie the Pooh comes a nice philosophy to live by?
"What day is it?" asked Pooh. "It's today." squeaked piglet.
"My **favourite** day." said Pooh.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AND CHURCH NEWS

Ministerial Services – Anyone requiring the services of a Minister should contact the Church Secretary – Donald Mackay: Tel: 0191 – 383 2110

PLEASE NOTE: The Church's website can be viewed at the following slightly altered address: www.durhamurc.org.uk The . between durham and urc has been removed. If anyone has news or dates or photos that they want included they should send the information to Reverend John Durell at www.durhamurc.org.uk

WEEKLY NOTICE SHEETS - Please forward details of items and events for the weekly notice sheets to - Peter Galloway - telephone 0191 386 3652 or email pagalloway@hotmail.com

COPY DATE FOR THE MAY REVIEW IS – SUNDAY 23rd APRIL 2017

Would contributors please use Times New Roman font as the photocopier can only cope with certain fonts and does strange things when faced with an incompatible font request.

Front Cover: CHRIST ON THE CROSS – Chester Cathedral



The fundraising lunch after the service on Sunday 12 March 2017 in aid of CBM raised around £400 and with Gift Aid and the kind donation of someone's Heating Allowance, the wonderful sum of around £800 was realised. Many thanks to everyone who helped on the day and who supported this in any way.



Church Directory

Hello. I am trying to update the Church Directory so everyone has the means to communicate with each other in a number of different ways, such as address, email, landline or mobile number.

If you are happy to have your details included in the Church Directory and have had any changes in the last two years, can you please let me know by email [jansars@gmail.com]. If there are any modes of communication you

would like to add or have kept private and not published, please let me know. I will be using the information contained in the 2014 directory as a starting point.

Thanks, Janet Sarsfield.



VACANCIES ON FLOWER ROTA

If, like me, you really appreciate the floral arrangements in

Church each Sunday, you might like to fill one of the current vacancies on the Flower Rota.

Please speak to Jean Graham or Margaret Munro if you are interested. There is at least one vacancy every month at present. If you do not want to arrange the flowers yourself, you could pay for some to be put in church if you wish. (Editor)

DIARY DATE - VISIT BY KEVIN WATSON, MODERATOR OF URC GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO WADDINGTON STREET URC ON SUNDAY 11TH JUNE 2017.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AND CHURCH NEWS



ADVANCE NOTICE ...



AFTERNOON TEA ...

Sunday 4th June 2017 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
At the home of John and Hillian Durell.
In aid of CBM (Christian Blind Mission).
All welcome to share in food and fellowship.

ADVANCE NOTICE ... WINDERMERE WEEKEND



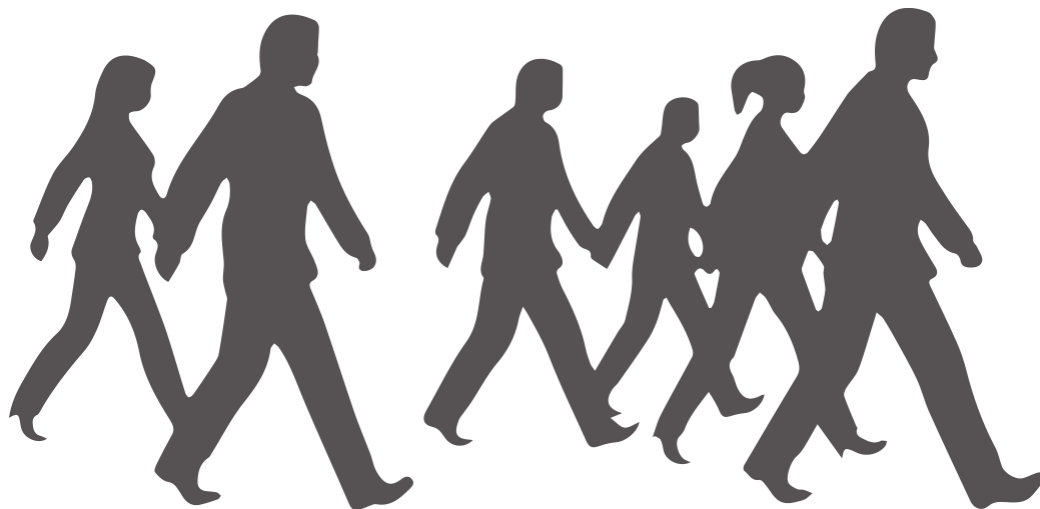
We are planning the next **Windermere Weekend for June 23rd, 24th and 25th** and would be pleased if folk who fancy going would care to sign up to the notice in the hall.

Transport will be available if required.



The cost will be **£145.00** full board. A non-returnable deposit of **£30.00** would be helpful. These weekends have been very enjoyable in the past and a source of good fellowship.

Kath and Sandy Ogilvie



CHURCH WALK ... SATURDAY 17TH JUNE 2017 AT 10.30 a.m.

There is an organised walk around the Cassop, Quarrington Hill and Kelloe area, starting from the small car park on the B6291 (south side) close to Cassop Primary School **at 10.30 a.m. on Saturday 17th June.** Route suitable for dog walkers.

Further details from David Thornborrow **0191 384 3702.**

Map of route and rendezvous will be posted on the notice board at Church in due course.
David Thornborrow

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY AND CHURCH NEWS

Good news for the Woods family.

Colin was awarded a PhD in Condensed Matter Physics on 15th December 2016. We had a wonderful day and his brother Andrew was able to attend as well as his girlfriend Kathryn. Colin is continuing to work as a post doctoral researcher in the Graphene Institute in Manchester. Parents are suitably proud.

Rosemary and David





EDITOR'S LETTER

DEAR READERS,



Above – some of the contestants in “Strictly St. Cuthbert’s” which took place at Rainton Meadows Arena on 18th March. Nine couples competed after 10 weeks of tuition. It was a lot of fun and some of the costumes were very colourful. Winners were Suzanne Brown and her fireman husband, Nick (seen on the left before donning their costumes). This event is a big fundraiser for St. Cuthbert’s Hospice and some new couples signed up on the night to take part in next year’s competition.



Colin Willoughby Beswick MBE (17 February 1928 – 14th February 2017) Les and I attended the funeral of Colin Beswick who was a former member of this Church. As well as having been a Head teacher, he served as a City Councillor and was Mayor of Durham in 1970. He was a Rotarian, a member of Probus and a member of the Royal British Legion amongst many other organisations. Colin served as Durham Town Crier for 7 years. In fact he packed a great deal into his life and served the communities he was part of. The Mayor’s bodyguard formed a guard of honour, the coffin was wrapped in the union flag and the Standard Bearer for The Royal British Legion was in attendance. It was a very dignified service and a fitting send off for Colin. The photograph on the left shows Colin at Buckingham Palace

when he was awarded an MBE for services to the Shakespeare Temperance Trust (he served the Trust for 41 years and was Chairman for 31 years).

If you have any items of interest to share with readers of The Review please let me know.
Lucille Thomson.

The next issue of The Review will be published on **Sunday 7th May 2017**
Contributions please to Lucille Thomson at church or BY POST or **Tel. 0191-3861052**
or e-mail **lesthompson@talktalk.net** - no later than **NOON on Sunday 23rd April 2017.**



THE LAST SUPPER as depicted in the Coptic Cathedral at Aswan, Egypt. (Photo David Clasper)



(Left – outside view of the Cathedral.)

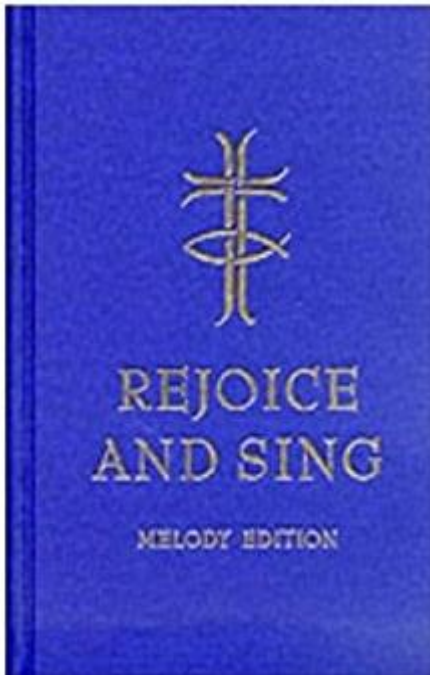
(Coptic = the native Christian church in Egypt.)

“Many Coptic monasteries and churches scattered throughout Egypt are built of mudbrick on the basilica plan inherited from Graeco-Roman architectural styles. They usually have heavy walls and columns, architraves and barrel-vaulted roofs, and end in a tripartite apse, but many variant plans exist.

Domes are small compared to Byzantine churches, and from the 10th-century naves are often roofed with domed cupolas. The dome raised on a circular supporting wall, which is so characteristic of later Byzantine architecture, is rarely used. Massive timber is often used across the nave, sometimes to support a flat roof, and sometimes to give structural strength to the walls. Inside the churches are richly decorated with frescoed murals and reliefs.” (Wikipedia)
(Right - Photo of inside dome by David Clasper)



R&S 435 – Christian people, raise your song



Returning to my theme of hymns in our now-ageing hymn book that remain sadly unknown or overlooked, I've turned up number 435. Again, it's a hymn very much from our own traditions. Colin Thompson is a URC minister who has spent a good part of his ministry in the academic world of Oxford, but who has remained well rooted in the Church even when not serving in pastorates. He was a member of the *Rejoice & Sing* editorial committee, and for some years served as convenor of General Assembly committee that dealt with doctrine and worship.

This is a hymn that fills a gap. It is found in "The Lord's Supper" section of the book, which itself is one of the weaker sections, perhaps in part because many hymns from Anglican and Catholic traditions don't sit comfortably with our own Reformed sensitivities. It seems we may need to write our own, and Colin Thompson did just that, concentrating on a particular moment in the communion service – the offertory.

As a liturgist he has recognised the crucial significance of this act, which is obscured in many of our churches when "the collection" is taken near the beginning of the service. The offertory is something much more than that. It is when we have listened for God's word, through Bible reading and proclamation, that our hearts are ready to make a response, both through prayer and through offering. And we offer not just money, for the Church's work and witness, but on those Sundays when we celebrate communion we also offer bread and wine and ourselves as we focus on God's gifts in creation and his own self-offering in Jesus.

"As we offer bread and wine Christ comes to restore us." This promise of new life is strengthened through the associations of the tune *Ave Virgo Virginum*, usually set to the Easter hymn "Come ye faithful, raise the strain". Probably not the best-known of the Easter repertoire, and a tune liable to trip us up over the skipping rhythm of the sixth line. But when used in this offertory hymn it reminds us that every Sunday service is a celebration of Christ's resurrection, and that in particular, as we commemorate his death through this sacrament we become receivers of his life. And it's a particularly good hymn to sing at Easter communion (at least in the northern hemisphere) as we "Greet him, Christ our risen King.... as with joy we greet the spring out of winter rising."

I recall first meeting Colin just three years into my ministry. We were at a new ministers' refresher course at Oxford, probably the first that the URC held; and one afternoon he turned up in full academic dress to go off to his viva for his PhD. His expertise has been in Spanish literature, and this is seen in another "niche" hymn – 548, "Nothing distress you", a translation of Teresa of Avila's "Nada te turbe". I've never known how and where best to use it, but it is well worth singing and reflecting on. And another favourite of mine is at 101, "O matchless beauty of our God", loosely based on a passage from St Augustine's Confessions. I once heard Colin explain that he had written this hymn because he had not found any other that included references to all five senses.

Rejoice & Sing may be getting on in years, but it still has some good material in it, not least good material out of our own stable. We need to make full use of it!

John Durell

60 not out!

As I sit here and ponder my mind wanders back,
To roaring fires, golden toast, coal delivered in a sack.
I remember the cries of the old Muffin man
and buying my bread from a horse drawn van.



The lamp lighter with his big long pole
Brightening the streets for those out for a stroll.
The mangle out in the old back yard,
Turning that handle was very hard.



Going out in the cold to go to the loo,
Not very nice but I remember that too.
Clearing the ashes and black leading the grate
That was a job I always did hate.

Cobbled streets – a bit hard on the feet
And friendly bobbies walking the beat.
Childrens' games like Whip & Top,
Knocking down Ginger, I liked that a lot.



I well remember Easter
and fairs upon the heath,
So why can't I remember
Where I put my bloomin' teeth?!

The wrinkles get deeper and everything sags,
Once laughing eyes are surrounded by bags.
Poor old face could do with a lift
And I walks a bit funny 'cos me legs is stiff.
Once nimble feet that could do a trot
Can now only manage a weak sort of hop.



Front teeth on the move, gone is the grin
And just for good measure, me hair's getting thin.
The reason I'm feeling this way's plain to see
Today I am 60 – I'm an O.A.P.



[This poem was written by Jean, a lady I met on holiday. She was kind enough to send it to me. I hope you enjoy the nostalgic memories it conveys. How many of them do you share? Editor]

11.



NOTES FROM ELDERS' MEETING WEDNESDAY 1st MARCH 2017

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

(a) New website – Yvonne and John have not been able to meet up yet but both have been in contact with Rebecca from the Windermere Centre in relation to 'ichurch', the website model we are using. John said that we

need more photographs for the website.

(b) Hall Bookings – This is being moved forward.

4. District reports were given and Elders' Districts discussed.

5. Correspondence

a) A letter has been received from Synod regarding the proposed clusters.

b) We have received an invitation from Deacon Annette Sharp to select representatives from our church to be part of a focus group from non-conformist faith traditions to be involved with Auckland Castle Trust Consultation - Museum of Faith.

c) An article for the next edition of the church magazine was discussed.

6. Arrangements for Cluster Meeting

Donald read out a letter received from the Moderator giving details of various meetings arranged to discuss the proposed clusters within the Northern Synod. Donald will be attending a Cluster Meeting on Wednesday 29 March 2017, 2 – 4 p.m. at Northgate Road, Darlington.

7. Arrangements for Lent Groups

Arrangements are well under way with numbers of around 12 expected to attend.

It will start as usual with a simple lunch and this year folk will be using the Lent Study Guide 'Moving to the Margins' by the Christian charity Embrace the Middle East.

8. Maundy Thursday Expectations

John is conducting the Maundy Thursday service this year and wanted some clarification about its usual format. It will be a Tenebrae service and will be held in church at 7 p.m. on Thursday 13 April.

9. Sundays in August

Ruth Crofton is liaising with North Road Methodists about sharing Sundays in August. It has been agreed that services will be held in Waddington Street on 6 and 20 August. On 13 and 27 August they will be held at North Road Methodist church.

10. The 500 Years Anniversary of Luther's Reformation

John said that at the service on Sunday 5 November he and Ruth Crofton would be happy to do something focusing on Luther and they also would be prepared to organise a few evening study sessions in the lead up to this service.

11. Any other business

a) Yvonne has received some booking requests from Foundation; they want to run some cookery classes and also hold another Talent Contest. They have also sent us some up to date literature about Foundation.

b) The meeting held on Monday 27 February with Hava and Bill Fleming to talk about their Liberal Jewish Community was discussed. Everyone seemed to find the evening very interesting. Church members have been invited to a Passover Seder meal on 11 April.

c) Kath reported that the folk she had contacted from Blackhill, Christ Church Stanley and Bethel churches were enthusiastic about meeting on Saturday 4 March, 11 a.m. – 12 noon at Bethel Church, Chester le Street for a Coffee Morning chat and introduction to planning for the future.

12. Next scheduled meeting is Wednesday 5 April 2017 at 7 p.m. which Yvonne Melville will chair. The meeting closed with Elders saying 'The Grace'.

OUT AND ABOUT with URCHIN

Supermarket shelves groan and shopping trolley wheels buckle under the weight of Easter eggs and Easter bunnies and the false prophet of such things, Ova Chocolata, beams down at the sight. We, at Waddington Street are well-aware that Ova Chocolata is the false prophet of Easter and is the antithesis of our Christian beliefs. We are happy in our belief that Jesus was sentenced to death, was crucified, died, was buried and on the third day, rose from the dead. This is an important part of our Christian faith, perhaps the most important. It is a mystery to your scribe that more people do not share that belief, and such people, when asked, invariably say that church is boring. Your scribe can only speak for himself: he has been a member of this congregation since 1st March, 1959, before that he went to the well-attended Sunday School and, over the years, he had developed his own faith which is much the same as the rest of the congregation. So, what did happen to the rest of the unchurched people; those who say that church is boring? Well, church was a thing which was attended by his father and mother, your scribe was brought along, and that is the important thing. (those who were similarly blessed should give grateful thanks.) For if this had not happened, there would not have been the basis of faith. That is the reason that there are so many people who use the church only for weddings and funerals; these people have no basis for any faith for they were let down by their parents.

“Spring is sprung, the grass is ris” this year on 20th March at 6.28 a.m. The vernal equinox occurs when the plane of the earth’s equator passes figuratively through the centre of the sun, which happens twice a year in spring and autumn and which means that the sun crosses the Tropic of Capricorn. At this point, your scribe’s head hurts and the holiday, which is planned, is needed. But the back lane is greening-up cheerfully. One farmer has ploughed and harrowed, the other farmer has ploughed his field, in preparation for a crop to be planted later once the wind and sun has dried the soil. More than likely he has ploughed in preparation for a margarine field. Whether the field will continue to yield a yellow crop when the “leave” process is completed is open to conjecture but, as your scribe trundles his merry way along the lane, it seems that the birds and animals are not interested.

THE BIBLE IN FIFTY WORDS

God made, Adam bit, Noah arked, Abraham split;
Joseph ruled, Jacob fooled, bush talked, Moses balked;
Pharaoh plagued, people walked.
Sea divided, tablets guided, promise landed.
Saul freaked, David peeked, prophets warned, Jesus born.

God walked, love talked, anger crucified, hope died.
Love rose, spirit flamed, word spread,

God remained.

(Anon)



There was a golfing vicar whose parishioners took a stern line on Sabbath observations. One beautiful Sunday morning, he slipped out for a quick round before Church – and scored a hole-in-one.

Up in Heaven, St. Peter asked God, “What on earth did you do that for? Surely you should have punished the man.”

God replied,

‘I did. He got a hole-in-one – and now he can’t tell anyone.’”

(from St. Mark’s URC, Amble, church magazine.)



This is an excerpt from the letter from the Christian Blind Mission which Alan Smith read out at Church on Sunday 19th March:

“As a valued supporter, you are warmly invited to a unique opportunity to meet Mr. Will Sellar, Consultant Ophthalmologist from Cumbria who recently volunteered to train some young Doctors in rural Tanzania. Come and hear Will’s first-hand stories of how grinding poverty affects those living with disability. Come and celebrate the life changing work of CBM in –

The Bede Room, Durham Cathedral, The College, Durham.

Thursday 27 April 2017 at 10.45 a.m. – 12.15 p.m.

Please bring your friends to meet Will and listen to his stories about how CBM transforms some of the lives of the world’s poorest people.

Tea and coffee will be served from **10.30 a.m.** The room is on the ground floor with a hearing loop, wheelchair access and accessible toilets. There is no parking at the Cathedral, but there is an accessible shuttle bus from the railway station and the bus station. A timetable will be sent on request. There is an optional **discounted guided Cathedral tour at 1.30 p.m. costing £5.**

I very much hope that you can attend.

David Rootham, Senior Officer.” Direct line 01223 484713 Email davidr@cbmuk.org.uk
(Perhaps anyone wishing to attend will inform David Rootham by telephone or email.)

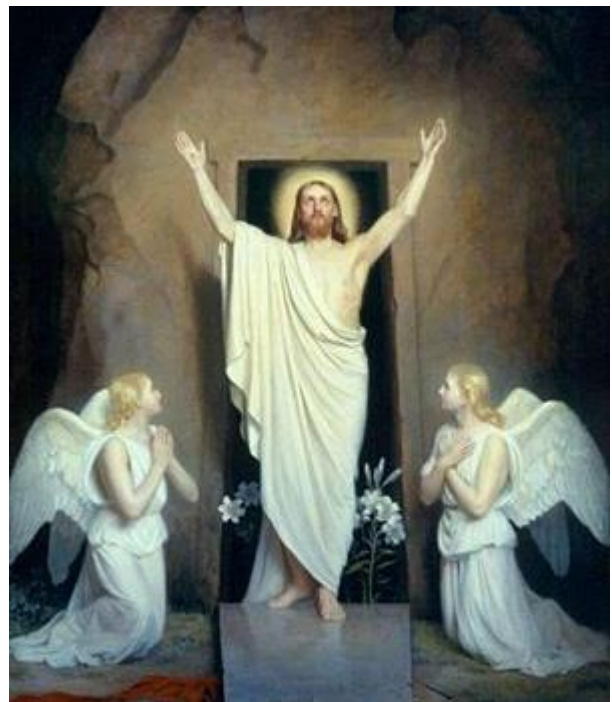
AFTER THE WINTER – GOD SENDS THE SPRING

Easter is a Season of Hope and Joy and Cheer, there’s beauty all around us, to see and touch and hear. So, no matter how downhearted and discouraged we may be, new hope is born when we behold leaves budding on the tree. Or when we see a timid flower push through the frozen sod and open wide in glad surprise its petalled eyes to God – for this is just God saying “Lift up your eyes to me, and the bleakness of your spirit, like the budding springtime tree, will lose its wintry darkness and your heavy heart will sing – for God never sends the winter without the JOY OF SPRING.
(From St. Bede & Grindon newsletter)

Oh love of God, so freely, freely given

Oh love of God, so freely, freely given,
We cannot measure what this love must be,
If we should plumb the depths, or rise to
highest heaven,
Or count each flower, each mountain, lake or tree,
We just don’t realise how our Lord must love us,
We cannot fully understand, or take it in,
But ah, we see a glimpse of it in Jesus,
The sinless One who bore our every sin.

Oh love of God, revealed to us so clearly,
In Jesus Christ, the Father’s only Son,
Prepared to show He loved so very dearly,
When hanging on the Cross, that blessed One,
And then the third day surely love did triumph,
When Christ arose and left the fearful tomb,
And opened up a way of free forgiveness,
Dispelling fear and sin, and death and gloom.



[From *Rainbows Through the Rain* by Dorothy Anderson. Used with the author’s kind permission.]

ROTAS - SUNDAYS - PREACHERS - APRIL AND MAY 2017

APRIL	2nd Helen Cooper	9th Pauline James	16th Revd John Durell EASTER	23rd Revd Dr. Matthew Prevett	30th Mrs. Mary Tribe
MAY	7th Revd Alan Middleton	14th Christian Aid	21st Mrs. Frances Proud	28th Mrs. Chris Eddowes	

ELDERS AND DOOR DUTIES - APRIL AND MAY 2017**ELDERS****DOOR DUTIES**

APRIL	2nd	Mrs. J. Sarsfield	Mrs. J. Goodall
	9th	Mr. D. Shirer	Mrs. M. Eve
	16th	Mrs. Y. Melville	Dr. M. Munro
	23rd	Mr. R. Todd	Mrs. H. Todd
	30th	Mrs. K. Ogilvie	Mr. & Mrs. L. Thomson
MAY	7th	Mrs. J. Thornborrow	Mrs. C. Mitchell
	14th	Mrs. K. Clasper	Mr. S. Ogilvie
	21st	Mrs. H. Cockburn	Mr. S. Ogilvie
	28th	Mrs. D. Jackson	Mrs. H. Cockburn

If in doubt about your duties any Sunday, please check the list on the Vestibule notice board.

Please remember – You are responsible for arranging your own replacement.

ELDERS' MEETINGS (1st Wednesday of month) at 7 p.m.
MEET ON WEDNESDAY 5th April and WEDNESDAY 3rd May 2017

PROPERTY COMMITTEE (usually 3rd MONDAY of month) at 2 p.m.
But meet as arranged between the Committee Members

An ounce of help is better than a pound of preaching. (Edward Bulwer-Lytton)

One filled with joy preaches without preaching. (Mother Teresa)

One of the hardest decisions you'll ever face in life is choosing whether to walk away or try harder.



FLOWER ROTA – APRIL AND MAY 2017

APRIL - Supervisor - Mrs. J. Graham

2nd Mr. D. Mackay
 9th VACANCY
 16th Mrs. D. Jackson
 23rd Mrs. F. Waller
 30th VACANCY

MAY – Supervisor – Mrs. J. Graham

7th Mr. Ian Graham
 14th Mr. Jack Storey
 21st Mrs. Ruth Cranfield
 28th VACANCY

To provide flowers where there is a Vacancy or join the Flower Rota or donate to the Flower Fund,
 Please contact Mrs. Jean Graham or Dr. Margaret Munro.



COFFEE ROTA – APRIL AND MAY 2017

APRIL

2nd Fiona Bowater, Malcolm Reay
 9th Janet Thornborrow, Judy Banister
 16th Heather Todd, Christiane Mitchell
 23rd Melanie Eve, Margaret Munro
 30th Yvonne Melville, Jean Graham

MAY

7th Kathleen Clasper, Barbara Tinsley
 14th Win Surtees, Joyce Duthie
 21st Helen Cockburn, Lucille Thomson
 28th Sue/Fred Robinson, Helen Cooper

Please decide and agree on who is responsible for bringing the milk.
 You are responsible for arranging your own replacement.

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA – APRIL AND MAY 2017



1st April - Yvonne Melville and Stuart Melville
 29th April - Melanie Eve and Fiona Bowater
 27th May - Kathleen Clasper and Kath Ogilvie





Alive

Lord,

It comes around every year, nothing new?

We seem to speculate more about it being early or late, than the true meaning.

Your Son: hidden behind eggs, hunts and bunnies, waiting to emerge,
but do we let him?

Yet despite our occasional ignorance, he's here, alive, waiting for us to
open up our hearts and welcome him in once again.

Laying down his life for change and his passion for justice.

Lord, help us to channel our passion for justice into action, mirroring Christ's ways.

For we were born to do this, born to raise roofs with praise,
born to dig wells from which all are called to drink.

3 days is all it took for Christ to change the world.

Risen on the third day, seeping into the hearts of all who listened, all who followed.

Ever loving God, remind us this Easter to be open and proactive, never forgetting
the model life led by your Son, using it as our source, guide and goal.

In order to make a difference, strive for justice and live out your gospel
in the world today.

In your name we pray, Amen.

Dan Morrell is the FURY (Fellowship of United Reformed Youth) Online Publications Coordinator. He's into football; music; social justice; peace.

Prayers for Easter, compiled by the Windermere Centre <http://windermere.urc.org.uk> ____10