

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June:** Watoto Children's Choir from Uganda are giving a free concert in Newport Pagnell Baptist Church Lovat Hall at 6:30pm all welcome

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June:** The Parish of Newport Pagnell will be celebrating **Father's Day with special services** at the Parish Church at 9.30 am and St Luke's, Wolverton Road at 11.00 am. Come to church as a family for Father's Day

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June:** CTNP Forum at 7:45pm in the Methodist Hall, The Forum is open to everyone and is an opportunity to hear about the many activities the different church denominations are working on together. It's also a chance for you to have your say, so do come along if you can

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June,** MHA The Limes and Westbury Grange are holding a "Songs of Praise" at 3pm. This will feature Bedford Salvation Army Band and The Limes Singers. All are welcome.

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June:** Annual Summer Fete at the Parish Church from 10-2pm, home baking, books, bric-a-brac and lots more

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July:** The Annual "Celebration of Hymns" at 7:30pm in the Methodist Church.

### Flower Festival and Civic Service for 100 years of Aston Martin

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> August to Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August** there will be a flower festival and exhibition in Newport Pagnell's Parish Church in celebration of 100 years of Aston Martin motors. The exhibition will be open from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm on Friday and Saturday and from 11.00 am to 4.00 pm on Sunday. **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August: 4:30pm** A special Civic Service celebrating the town's historic links with Aston Martin and indicating the way ahead for the town

**CTNP President:** Chris Row, chris.row@which.net Tel. 611542  
**Secretary:** Beth MacKay, beth.mackay@yahoo.co.uk Tel. 612475  
**Treasurer:** Paul Tolley, PTMERCEDES@aol.com Tel. 210048  
**CTNP web-site:** - [www.ctnp.org.uk](http://www.ctnp.org.uk)



## CONNECTIONS JUNE 2013

### Philippians 4:6

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*

## \*\*\*WANTED\*\*\*

### COULD YOU BE THE NEXT CTNP PRESIDENT

As Chris Row is coming to the end of his second term of office, a new President will have to be elected at the next Forum on 20 June. Supported by the other officers, members of the Executive and working groups, the President provides a general leadership role for CTNP and acts as Chair to the Forum which meets twice a year (January and June) and to the quarterly Executive meetings. Please think prayerfully about whether this is a role you might consider taking on for the next two years or whether there is someone else in your congregation who you think might be interested.

For more information please contact Chris Row, Paul Tolley or Beth MacKay (see contact details at end of *Connections*), or ask the CTNP representative in your church.

**Next CTNP Forum is on Thursday June 20<sup>th</sup> –  
Please note the revised start time of 7:45pm in the  
Methodist Hall**

**Articles to the Editor, David Huckle**  
Preferably by e-mail to [davidhuckle@me.com](mailto:davidhuckle@me.com) Tel. 217429  
**Copy Deadline - 15th of each month**

## LETTER FROM A MINISTER

God sent into the world a unique person – nether a philosopher not a general, although important through they are, but a saviour, with the power to forgive. Forgiveness lies at the heart of Christian faith. It can heal broken families, it can restore friendships and it can reconcile divided communities. It is in forgiveness that we feel the power of God's love.

I came across that quotation in a new book by the Bishop of Oxford called 'Living Faithfully' which is about how we live out from Monday to Saturday what we hear and experience in Church on Sundays. You may be surprised to hear that it does not come from a religious book, but a broadcast by Her Majesty the Queen.

This month includes the sixtieth anniversary of the Queen's coronation and there had been a lot of programmes and newspaper articles about her. One thing that strikes me, and obviously impressed other, is her deep Christian Faith. The anointing for her was an essential part of the Coronation, confirming her sense of vocation, of being called by God to her particular ministry.

Vocation is a word which has weighty overtones, and ministry has too often been taken as referring only to ordained or licensed ministers. But we are all called by God to be His people, and to play, and to play our different parts in His Kingdom. Ministry is not just about leading worship, or being in charge of a Church, or chairing the Church council meeting (!) its about our dealings with people as we go about our daily lives. Whatever we do from Monday to Saturday, we can always do it in a way that shows God's love to those around us.

To return to the point the Queen was making. The world seems full of situations where revenge and retribution are at the forefront of people's minds. Often these situations escalate because each side appears to put reprisals above reconciliation. If those with power and influence can learn to forgive and to accept forgiveness, our own lives, on every day of the week, would be made immensely richer and more like the lives God intends us all to have.

Rev Glynis Bell

## EMERGENCY HELP SCHEME- UPDATE

### 4 NEW DRIVERS - THANK YOU

The EHS are pleased to welcome four new drivers to their team. Chris Row, Phil Mountford, Donald Jayne and Paul Tolley have offered their services. We are most grateful to them as our numbers have been falling recently. We are also experiencing a rise in requests for help, due in part to cut-backs and restructuring of Health and Social Care Services.

### \*\*\*WANTED - TELEPHONE VOLUNTEER\*\*\*

To help us meet this need we are looking for a fourth telephone coordinator to take the calls and match with available volunteers from their own home. All expenses will be paid. This is a rewarding post, offering the opportunity of connecting with people from Newport Pagnell and the surrounding area with the support of the other coordinators and the committee.

If you are interested in learning more about this role or would like to volunteer for driving please contact Nita Tolley on 01908 615729 or email [nitagt53@aol.com](mailto:nitagt53@aol.com).

## HAVE YOU HAD A LOOK AT THE NEW LOOK CHURCHES TOGETHER NEWPORT PAGNELL WEBSITE – [www.ctnp.org](http://www.ctnp.org)



A big thank you to Mervyn Evans who has set up the website, but has also trained a number of Church Representatives on how to update pages within the website

## NINTY NOT OUT

This summer the Rector of the Newport Pagnell Benefice, Michael Godfrey and Fr. Edmund Wheat, SSM, now a retired priest will be celebrating landmark anniversaries. Michael will have been ordained priest for forty years and Fr Edmund for fifty years.

There will be a joint celebration for the anniversaries of the two priests on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July at special service of Holy Communion at 10.30 am for the whole Benefice. The preacher at the service will be the Rector's son, Rev John Godfrey who was ordained priest last September and is now a curate in the church of Ireland as St Nicholas church, Galway. After the service there will be a lunch for parishioners and guests in the Brooklands Community Centre.

**Michael** was ordained priest in 1973 in Durham cathedral by Right Reverend John Hapgood, who later became Archbishop of York. He later became Team Leader of the Black Country Industrial Mission team and a team vicar in the Central Parish of Wolverhampton. In 1988 he was made a Prebendary of Lichfield cathedral. Before becoming Rector of the Newport Pagnell Benefice in 2008, Michael had been Director of CORD, the Christian international development charity, specialising in helping communities recover from violent conflicts. Michael also spent a number of years helping people with disabilities prepare for work. He has always had a concern that the Christian faith speaks to real situations and responds to issues of social justice and inclusion.

**Fr Edmund Wheat** Born & brought up in the South Yorkshire & joined a church choir when he was eleven years old. He was prepared for confirmation by a Kelham trained priest, and aged 16 went to Kelham Theological College as a potential ordinand. After two years National Service in the RAF he returned to Kelham and was ordained deacon in 1962 Four years later he returned to the Society of the Sacred Mission (SSM), was eventually professed, taking the monastic vows of poverty, celibacy and obedience Since moving to Willen for retirement, he has been ministering in the parish of Newport Pagnell, where the congregations enjoy his sermons full of anecdotes from his interesting life.

## UNITED REFORM CHURCH EVENTS

**OLD TIME MUSIC HALL: Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm** -Come along and be amazed, astounded and aghast at the cacophony of creative crooners; gasp at the sensational skill of the singers and be excited at the exceptional, exhilarating entertainment. £3.50 per ticket including refreshments. Dress up and join in with community singing-prize for the best! ALL profits go to the Vipingo School, Kenya to help the 120 orphans have fresh fruit EVERY day for a year. For tickets or come along to the URC on a Thursday morning between 9.30 and 11.30am to buy some.

### **EARLY BIRD worship. 9-9.30am on 9<sup>th</sup> June.**

All age family friendly, interactive, cafe style worship.

This month our theme is **NOAH**. This is followed by breakfast in the hall shared with our Young Church.

**PILOTS after school club for 4-11 year olds. 3.30-5pm on Thursdays** during term time. £1 per session. Bible stories, songs, activities and crafts.

**Toddler Praise LITE starts on June 4<sup>th</sup>.** Babies & pre-school children with carers. All welcome!

**Tuesdays from 2pm** - Singing, stories and activities, friendship and fellowship in a relaxed atmosphere. (This is the 'younger sister' to our main Toddler Praise session on a Thursday from 9.30am)

**HOLIDAY CLUB - 10am – 12:30pm everyday from 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> August 2013**

Calling all 5 to 11 year olds the Space Academy **NEEDS YOU**. If you want to join in on the fun at the Space Academy you need to fill in a registration form in. The forms are available from 3<sup>rd</sup> June in Cambourne Travel. Places are on a first come first served basis/ For more information call Jenny on 07703485017 or email [revdjmill@btinternet.com](mailto:revdjmill@btinternet.com) / website [www.urcnewportpagnell.org](http://www.urcnewportpagnell.org)