

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 9th November @9:30am – 12:30 - Saving lives with tea

Geoff and I will be holding a coffee morning for RNLI at our house, 66 Lakes Lane, NP, Christmas cards and RNLI merchandise will be on sale. Anyone unable to attend on the day - please contact us and we'll try to arrange a sneak preview. **Linda Morris** 01908 617050 (*Milton Keynes Fundraising Branch, RNLI*)

Saturday 9th November @ 6:45 pm: Eclipse Counselling Service – An evening of Fun & Food, Fish & Chip Supper plus quiz and raffle all for £10 @ The Crypt, St Mary's Church Woburn, MK17 9PG, All proceeds will go to Eclipse Counselling Service and by supporting this event you will be helping to change the lives of people imprisoned in the bondages of addiction. Please ring us on 01908-211288 or e-mail info@eclipse-addiction.org.uk for tickets or more details

Saturday 23rd November @ 7:15pm – Bridgebuilder Annual fundraising barn dance is at **Lovat Hall, Silver Street, Newport Pagnell**. Contact **Gill** to buy your tickets - £10 each (no concessions) - cost includes food in the interval. Choose from fish & chips, chicken & chips, sausage & chips or veggie burger & chips. **Bring your own drinks & glasses. Toucan Crafts & Traidcraft food will be on sale** - bring your money and do some Christmas shopping

Friday, 20th December @ 7:30pm in the URC Church, Newport Pagnell. Come and enjoy a Christmas Concert given by the U3A Choir. Tickets available on Jennifer Mazzone 07762178379 or from members of the Choir at £6 each. Seasonal refreshments will be served. There will also be a raffle.

CTNP President: Vacancy
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



CONNECTIONS NOVEMBER 2013

Proverbs 22:9 - *He who is generous will be blessed, For he gives some of his food to the poor*

NEWPORT PAGNELL NIGHT SHELTER

This project is in its third year and is part of the government's response to accommodating rough sleepers when temperatures are likely to be below freezing (December, January and February). Guests are signposted through various agencies to the Jesus Celebration Centre They receive tea and cake and the welfare officer assesses health needs, and processes a police check.. No alcohol or drugs are permitted. ***We are committed to running 12 Tuesday evenings through to Wednesday mornings*** with the exception of New Years Eve. This does include Christmas Eve. The aim is to organise volunteers in teams to commit to half of the Tuesdays (6) on a mainly every other week basis.

CAN YOU HELP AS A VOLUNTEER

Volunteers will need to book in with the church office at the Baptist Church 01908 618898, email npbcm2@yahoo.co.uk David Wright will track the numbers and place in teams. Training for volunteers occurs on the mornings of 9th Nov, 30th Nov, 7th Dec (venue to be advised). 16 and 17 year olds can volunteer but will not count towards the minimum numbers of adults required. For more info contact Jack Walker – Newport Pagnell Baptist Church

Articles to the Editor, David Huckle
Preferably by e-mail to davidhuckle@me.com Tel. 217429
Copy Deadline - 15th of each month

LETTER FROM A MINISTER

Not many people say that November is their favourite month. Perhaps if your birthday is in November that brightens it up bit, but for most of us it is associated with cold, wet weather and early nights. And Remembrance Day, important as it is to remember all those who have died in wars, doesn't cheer us up either.

But fortunately the Church Year offers plenty of consolation. It begins with All Saints Day, which is a beautiful opportunity to remember the great saints of the church. They can inspire us in our daily lives, because they are such wonderful examples of Christian living. All Saints is followed by All Souls Day, when we think of all the unsung Christians of the past - ordinary people just like us.

And at the end of November the Church Year ends with the Feast of Christ the King, where we recognise Jesus as the king of the universe. For Catholics this year's feast is particularly important, because it brings to an end the Year of Faith. During this period we were asked to make a special effort to renew and strengthen our faith in various ways, such as through prayer, scripture reading and worship. This is, of course, something we should continue to do. And in December the new church year begins Advent, which can help us to continue in this way.

Klaus – St Bedes

CTNP – COVENANT SERVICE – EVERYONE WELCOME

Takes place on **Sunday 17th November at 6pm** at St Peter & Pauls, and will take the form of a Songs of Praise service. Each Church in the Town will provide one Hymn with the person choosing the Hymn to say what it means to them. There is no Sermon but the reading of the Covenant. Music will be provided by Musician's from the Baptist Church.

“THE WELL” @ WILLEN

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

(QUIET DAYS) - 30th November - 'The Road Less Travelled' In search of a personal God. Are you yearning for freshness, vitality and deeper meaning? With Marcus Armstrong and Margaret Moakes On the 7th December 'Waiting, Waiting' An exploration of the images of Christmas with local sculptor and priest Rev. Sarah Burrow
(RETREATS) -15th - 17th November 'Embroidery Retreat' with Janet Knox. An opportunity for stitchers of all abilities to spend time with an expert and sympathetic needlewoman.**(INDIVIDUAL RETREATS)** – We offer both personal and individually guided retreats (IGR) on a day or residential basis. Day Retreat - £25 Residential Retreat - £40 per day full board. IGR Fee, £10 per day (Bursaries available) To book your places Contact: The Well at Willen, Newport Road, Willen, Milton Keynes MK15 9AA. Tel 01908 242190 or e mail bookings@thewellatwillen.org.uk or www.thewellatwillen.org.uk

CHRISTMAS FAIR AT THE PARISH CHURCH

The Christmas Lights day (**November 30th**) is approaching and Newport Parish is again planning for its Christmas Fair in the Parish Church. We'll be there all day with our usual stalls and some new ideas as well. It will be once again a warm welcoming place to come and enjoy some part of your trip to the Christmas Lights.

As usual we will be offering our large selection of refreshments as well as our well stocked home-baked cake stall. Browse the book pews or choose a Jigsaw Puzzle for Christmas. Our craft and card stall have lots to offer and it's always worth buying a ticket or two for the raffle. Children are included with a toy stall, the bric-a-brac will be full of bargains and we'll have a stall overflowing with scarves to keep you warm and elegant.

When the lights are switched on, join us in the church for some carol singing. It's a lovely way to end the day.



The 1st Newport Pagnell Girls' Brigade Company meets every Thursday night from 6.30pm till 9.30pm at Lovat Hall. We provide opportunities for girls and young women of all ages to gain relevant skills and have a place to go that is fun and lively. We look at lots of things and issues such as: Working Together, Disabilities, Relationships, God, Sports, Charities, and Fundraising.

EXPLORERS (School Years 1–3) meet from **6.30pm till 7.30pm** and cost £1.30 each night. They do a range of activities from games to crafts and cooking, devotions to learning new skills. All our girls have a lot of fun and enjoy every part of the night, including tuck! Explorers are planning a party at the moment to invite their friends to. They've made invites and their own party hats.

JUNIORS (School Years 4-6) meet **6.30pm till 7.45pm** and do similar things to the Explorers. Currently they are studying Noah and have been making boats and building marshmallow and spaghetti towers. They play lots of games and learn new things as well as having time to study God.

SENIORS (School Years 7-9) & **BRIGADERS** (School Years 10-13) meet from **8pm till 9.30pm**. Again, we have games and devotions as well as our badge work. Our project at the moment is redesigning a large board that is to be displayed permanently in Lovat Hall, and we are creating our own t shirts. Oh, and we also always have yummy food to munch on while we meet. We even have One Direction themed devotions and Sumo Suits!

Our GB Company has been getting involved with a lot of different activities, both nationally and internationally. We will be taking part in a national GB competition called Team Challenge where we will be doing activities as teams in our own companies then submitting the scores to Head Office.

We have also recently had a Tea Party to celebrate GB's 120th anniversary. We had lots of photos, memorabilia and scrummy homemade cakes. I have been chosen to be one of 7 to represent GB England & Wales in Cape Town, South Africa in December at The Gathering. The Gathering is a conference with 111 young women from GB companies around the world meeting up to discuss current issues that young women face and how we, Girls' Brigade, can help them. Another thing that our company is getting involved in is the No More Page 3 Campaign. This is the first time that The Girls' Brigade has ever got involved with anything like this. A few of us have been involved in writing a letter to David Dinsmore and providing alternative Page 3 articles.

As well as all these exciting chances, you have the opportunity to do Young Leader and Officer Training as well as work towards your Queen's Award and Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

If you would like to know more information then please contact myself, Sarah Dillon, Captain of 1st Newport Pagnell Girls' Brigade on semily89@live.co.uk or 01908 618898.

SEARCH FOR NEW CTNP PRESIDENT CONTINUES

The search for a new President continues as no nominations were received at the Forum on 20 June. Please think prayerfully about whether this is a role you might consider taking on for the next two years or, if there is someone in your congregation you think would make a good President, why not talk to them about it and encourage them to think about it. In the meantime, it will be business as usual for CTNP as the Executive and working groups continue with ongoing and planned activities. – *Beth Mackay*