

GROVE VINE

**The Magazine of
Grove Methodist Church
Horsforth, Leeds**

March 2015



**The Grove Methodist Church is called to respond to the
Gospel of love in Jesus Christ and to live out its discipleship in
worship, service and mission**

Minister – Rev Alistair Jones

Phone: 0113 258 2678 or email: alistairjones@live.co.uk

Regular events

Sunday

- 10.20 Creche (0-3yrs) 258 3509
- 10.20 J Team (tots to 12s) 258 8803
- 10.30 Worship
- 6.00 Worship (alternate Sundays at Central Methodist Church)
- 7.30 Studio Dance SNYG 258 9093

Monday

- 9 -12.00 Pre-school (2-under 5s) (Funding 3-4yrs) 239 0335
- 12.00 Luncheon Club 258 3807
- 1.30 Network Women's Fellowship 258 9448
- 6.15 Beavers 216 9006
- 6.15 Cubs 216 9006
- 7.45 Scouts 216 9006
- 7.45 Flower Guild (3rd Monday in the month) 258 4520

Tuesday

- 9.00-9.30 Prayer Group in the Quiet Room 258 8803
- 9 -12.00 Pre-school (2-under 5s) (Funding 3-4yrs) 239 0335
and 12.00 – 3.00 Pre-school as above.
- 10-11.30 Coffee in the Centre Small Hall 258 3568; Quiet Room
available for prayer. Jean Kemp's hand-made greetings cards
are available on the first Tuesday of each month
- 6.00 Rainbows (5th Horsforth) 259 0555
- 6.15 Brownies (5th Horsforth) 258 3670
- 7.45 Guides (5th Horsforth) 202 9010

Wednesday

- 9 -12.00 Pre-school (2-under 5s) (Funding 3-4yrs) 239 0335
and 12.00 – 3.00 Pre-school as above.
- 2.00 Line Dancing 258 7444
- 6.00 Rainbows (14th) 239 0335
- 6.15 Brownies (14th) 250 4907
- 7.30 Wednesday Break (fortnightly) 225 2734
- 8.00 Explorer Scouts 258 0882

(Continued inside back cover)

Looking over the roundabout

I can see a new foal in the field.

New life surrounds us even when we are engaged in other activities. The workers keep on installing traffic lights, the drivers continue to crawl around the roundabout, the minister continues to type on his computer, and there is a new foal in the field.

We head into Lent, the period that builds towards Holy Week and the tragedy that would condemn all humanity if it were not for the wondrous love and forgiveness of God, and there is a new foal in the field.

We mourn friends and family who have passed on, we listen with concern as doctors share diagnoses and prognoses, we give to charities that struggle with the agony of human need and there is a new foal in the field.

There are times when we look at the world, look at our own lives, and want to weep.

On those occasions it is vital to remember new foals. Why?

They speak of hope, of continuity, of life continually blessing the world around us.

We rejoiced in the new child in the manger, in the stable, in Bethlehem, in Palestine.

Let us rejoice in the hope, the continuity, the continual blessing of God that reaches beyond place and moment, to bring life out of death and joy out of sorrow.

A new foal in the field? We have something better!

The Son of God risen to call us into life eternal. Thanks be to God.

Ali (Rev Alistair Jones)

Thought for the month

The voice of the Good Shepherd calls us out of our narrow sheepfolds into the wide open space of God's vast, surprising love. The Sufi poet Rumi wrote: "Out beyond our ideas of right and wrong there's a field. I'll meet you there".

Timothy Radcliffe (Dominican Monk)

From the Registers

Funeral: 28th January Chris Shagouri

Church Family News

Please remember in your prayers: John Ashby, Florence Bonfield, Margaret Bosomworth, Tony Emmott, Mary Hart, Alan Lodge, Nancy Mathers, Stan Ramsden, Margaret Reasbeck, Ros Revell, Kathleen Taylor and Christine Wilson.

Sunday Services in March/April

8 th	10.30	Mr T Ingleby
	6.00	Miss J Benfield
15 th	10.30	Mr P Reid – Mothering Sunday
	6.00	United Service at Central
22 nd	10.30	Rev. M Andrews – Holy Communion
	6.00	Rev. A Jones
29 th	10.30	Rev. A Jones – Baptism
	6.00	United Service at Central
Apr. 5th	Easter Sunday:	9.00 Rev. A Jones – Holy Communion
		10.30 Rev. A Jones – Holy Communion
		6.00 Rev. T Boocock

Stewards on Duty in March/April

8 th	David Buckley and Caroline Turner
15 th	Caroline Turner and Carole Abel
22 nd	Margaret Shingler and John Bussey
29 th	Carole Abel and David Buckley
April 5 th	Michael Wallis and John Bussey

Holy Week

Mon 30 th March - Wed 1 st April	7.30 – 8.00 pm Short Holy Week services and meditations at Grove Church
April 2 nd	7.30 pm Maundy Thursday Communion Service
April 3 rd Good Friday	11.30 am Walk of Witness from St. Mary's, Broadgate Lane 12.00 noon Service on the Green followed by soup and hot cross buns at The Grove 7.30 pm Good Friday musical service at The Grove
April 5 th Easter Day	6.25 am Dawn Service in Hall Park. 9.00 am Holy Communion 10.30 am Easter Morning Service of Holy Communion 6.00 pm Café Style Service of Holy Communion

Carboy Charity Appeal – March/April



During March and April your spare change will be much appreciated in support of **CANCER RESEARCH UK**. We have all been touched by this terrible disease both within the church community and in our personal lives. Researchers are constantly seeking ways to counteract the effects of cancer and there is currently a campaign to increase the use of preventative screening. Since the 1970s, when survival rates were only 25%, there has been significant progress. Today about 50% of all cancer patients survive. It is the aim that over the next 20 years this figure will rise to 75%.

It is vital that research continues, so please give generously to this most important work. Grateful thanks. *Pauline Quick*

Living in the Outer Hebrides

I was born and brought up on the Island of North Uist, in the Outer



Hebrides. People visiting there today would find it difficult to comprehend what life was like there during my childhood. No running water, no electricity and no proper roads. Tar Macadam roads were laid around 1940, piped water in 1958 and electricity not until the late 1960s.

Gaelic is the native language and most 5 year olds would start school speaking no English. In my case it was the opposite as my mother came from Glasgow and never learned to speak Gaelic. From age 5 to 12 years children went to the village school, walking there just over a mile. From age 12 to 15 years they went to the secondary school and this meant cycling 5 miles each way. Anyone wanting further education had to go to the schools on the mainland. They would stay in hostels and only came home in the holidays. Most Uist children went to Inverness – way over on the east coast of Scotland.

Life was not easy. Most people eked a living from crafting, keeping cattle and sheep. My dad was a postman covering many miles on a pushbike, collecting and delivering mail from 3 rural post offices. One doctor covered the whole island (he did have a car but was one of the few). To reach some of the remote houses would mean going by horseback. Scottish television recently made a documentary about this doctor!

Today everyone lives in a modern house with all the conveniences that make life easier. Most of the islands are now linked by bridges and causeways, making it easier for islanders and tourists to get around. Caledonian McBrayne operate ferries daily, taking cars, caravans and freight. They are very busy in the summer months and booking is essential. Also there are daily flights from the mainland to the island of Benbecula.

My brother still lives on the island of North Uist. The winters can be very harsh and power cuts are common. He always keeps paraffin lamps and a calor gas cylinder for emergencies. He also has a peat fire for warmth.

During the recent stormy weather there was no power for many hours – no TV or radio for 2 days and no newspapers or mail. Newspapers come by sea and the mail by air and none of these services are able to operate in bad weather. There was much structural damage to houses and outbuildings.

Still.....I remember a happy childhood, running barefoot through the fields and gathering many wild flowers, looking for birds nests and paddling in rock pools. Maybe I now see that childhood through rose-tinted spectacles.

Margaret Allan

Happy Christmas!

On December 22nd 2014 Pope Francis addressed the Roman Curia (those who work for the Roman Catholic Church in the Vatican). He listed 15 “Probable diseases that weaken our service to the Lord.”

1. Feeling oneself to be ‘immortal, immune or even indispensable’. It reflects the foolish rich man (Luke 12 v13...) who thought he could live for ever. This disease guards your own image and fails to see the image of God in others.
2. The disease of ‘doing’. (e.g. Martha in Luke 10 v38...) and ignoring the need to rest awhile with Jesus.
3. The disease of mental and spiritual ‘petrification’. People who are machines of paperwork and not men of God. Such people have hearts of stone.
4. The disease of excessive planning and functionalism. It is always easier and more comfortable to fall into one’s own static and unchanged positions. Such people fail to acknowledge the Holy Spirit’s greater directing power.
5. The disease of bad co-ordination. When the body (of Christ) loses its functional harmony, unease and scandal result.
6. The disease of spiritual Alzheimer’s. Such people have lost memory of their encounter with the Lord. Their ‘present’ is all that matters and they become slaves of idols they have sculpted with their own hands.
7. The disease of rivalry and vainglory. Position, status and job titles become more important than Godly humility.

8. The disease of existential schizophrenia. People who live a double life, abandoning pastoral service and limiting themselves to bureaucratic doings. Conversion is urgent for those living in their 'parallel world' removed from the concrete world the rest of us live in.
9. The disease of backbiting, murmuring and gossip. It is easy to go from a couple of gossips to being a sower of lies and then a murderer of others with our words. We must guard against the 'terrorism of gossip'.
10. The disease of deifying the chiefs. Honouring people, not God.
11. The disease of indifference to others. Selfishness is at the root.
12. The disease of funeral faces. Theatrical severity and sterile pessimism reflect insecurity within oneself. 'A heart full of God is a happy heart that irradiates contagious joy'.
13. The disease of accumulating. The burial shroud has no pockets; materialism must be avoided.
14. The disease of closed circles. When belonging to a small group becomes a stronger bond than to the Body of Christ.
15. The disease of worldly gain, of exhibitionism. The trend for service to become taken over by power (and the multiplication of power). Power then becomes a means to promote self at all costs.

Pope Francis concludes "these diseases and these temptations are naturally a danger for every Christian, congregation, parish and ecclesiastical movement. They strike at the individual and community level. It is necessary to clarify that it is only the Holy Spirit that can heal every infirmity and sustain every sincere effort at purification".

That's some Christmas card message!

Whilst written primarily with his priests in mind ("priests are like airplanes, they make news when they fall but there are many that fly") he is clear that this spiritual health check is valid for every Christian.

We are unlikely to meet the Pope or John Sentamu or Desmond Tutu... big names in spiritual leadership on the national or world scale. We read about them in the media as they offer spiritual guidance.

Let us pray for our local church leaders (who we do meet regularly) but, more importantly, undertake our own spiritual health check and ask for the help of the Holy Spirit for those times when we can be used for spiritual guidance in the body of Christ, Horsforth Grove Methodist Branch.

May I wish you a happy (and healthy) 2015).

Phil Maud

Previous Booking Essential!

“There’s a Grayson Perry Exhibition on at Temple Newsam, do you fancy going?” said a friend at my art class.

I have long been a fan of Grayson Perry so said “yes” straight away. Despite being a happily married man, Grayson Perry is often known more as a cross dresser than for anything else. But he is also a great wit and is a highly intelligent and talented artist so I really looked forward to the visit.

At 2pm we made our way to the Elizabethan house of Temple Newsam. The man at the reception desk gave us a booklet about the exhibition of tapestries created by Grayson. There was a guide talking about him and his work – so we tagged on the end of the small group.



The huge wall hangings (of which there were 6) were amazingly vivid, detailed and with a wonderful use of colours and materials. We learned from our guide, who seemed very knowledgeable, that the tapestries were based on Hogarth’s sketches “The Rake’s Progress”. We learned a lot about those sketches and therefore could appreciate more fully the storyline of the

work before us and the meaning behind it. We never would have got that appreciation had we wandered around by ourselves. We decided to return to the café but at that point the guide announced “When you have finished here, if you would follow me down to the Dining Hall you will find afternoon tea has been laid on for you there”.

How nice we thought! How kind! So we followed the group.

In the old Hall long tables were set out with white damask cloths, china plates full of cakes and tea and coffee. It was delightful. We chatted with those around us and discussed Grayson Perry and this amazing work and also discussed the new film about J M W Turner. What a delightful, artistic, intellectual afternoon we said to ourselves as we left. How good the guide was and how nice to talk to like minded people.

At home later, having learned so much, I looked again at the booklet with its pictures and explanations about the tapestries and that the guided tour was just starting. At the end of this, in small print, was a list of events at Temple Newsam through the year. My eyes opened wide when I saw “A prepaid guided tour of the Grayson Perry Exhibition, by the Curator of the Hall, followed by afternoon tea in the Dining Hall is available on 13th November – **previous booking is essential!**”

Judi Swales

The Hymn Society of Great Britain & Ireland

There's a society for everything, isn't there? I only discovered this one a few years ago, and it's perfect for anyone who loves hymns and wants to know more about them. It was founded in 1936 and sets out to:

- encourage study and research in hymnody,
- promote good standards of hymn-singing,
- encourage the discerning use of hymns in worship,
- sponsor relevant publications.

Members come from all church denominations, and the society maintains close contact with similar groups in North America and Europe.

There's an Annual Conference of course, which incorporates at least one church service (Festival of Hymns), for which plenty of stamina is needed to cope with all the hymn-singing. Many of the conference speakers are hymn writers, church musicians or ministers, and the themes are naturally connected with the aims of the association. All the presentations are subsequently published in the society's Bulletin, which appears four times a year. There are also Occasional Papers which are published separately.

The focus on the stated aims is clear from most of the articles. Recently, Martin Ellis has compared the two new hymn books, *Singing the Faith* and *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, and comments that neither book will be totally effective if accompaniments are restricted to the organ, and that the use of instruments other than keyboard should not be restricted to all-age worship. On the other hand, Gillian Warson tells us about ChOPiN (Church Organ Project in Nigeria). There, churches are huge and full to overflowing, singing is loud and largely consists of choruses and gospel songs, worship is often flamboyant or boisterous, and accompaniment is by drums and guitars. It is hoped that appropriate use of an organ will encourage more hymns to be used - and maybe calm things down?

Michael Houghton expresses several concerns about modern-day hymn-singing, such as that the pitch of hymns is often being lowered so that we don't have to struggle with high notes, so instead we finish up struggling to reach down low enough. He cites the children who sang the National Anthem at the Olympic Games opening ceremony, when the pitch was so low that it was almost a growl at times. His first plea (of several) is for hymns to be sung in the key in which they were first written. [I have my own pleas too - but they aren't appropriate here!]

The most ambitious recent project of the society has been the production of the 'Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology', which is only accessible to members, via the society's website. It contains information on the authors, composers, background and development of thousands of hymns. Another recent project has been the compilation of a book of prayers to accompany hymns, particularly those hymns which are not already prayers. Other prayers in the book are more general, such as the one by Edward Darling included here:

Eternal Lord, we praise you for the gift of music,
for the glorious treasury of psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
for the inspiration given to those who compose them,
for the devotion of those who sing them,
and for the faculties which enable us to enjoy them.
Grant that, when we come together, we may do all in our power to
use our hymnody as a worthy vehicle of worship within the life
of today's church, and a sincere offering of praise and thanksgiving
to your honour and transcending glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Tony Orton

Imagine my surprise.....

June 2013 Grove Vine carried a feature "The Gardener and the Farmer" - tributes compiled by Frank Pagden in respect of the first 2 Local Preachers at the Grove, in the 19th Century. The Farmer was Mr Joseph Rathmell.

Now fast forward to an afternoon in late November and a phone call out of the blue: "Hello, my name is David Rathmell and I am part of the Rathmell family and I have read the article in Grove Vine....."

(me): "Really! Can I ask how you came across this copy?....."

(DR): "I have heard from the wife of a direct descendant of another Rathmell. She is doing the Family Tree. Her name is Lorraine Hughes and she too has read Grove Vine. She has phoned me from Australia".

(me) "AUSTRALIA?!"

There was quite a lot more chat, as you can imagine. So now fast forward again to my hearing direct from Lorraine. Her email is written in such a friendly and warm hearted way that it's best you read it for yourself:

From JK and LG Hughes
Subject: Rathmell info. from Australia

29th January 2015 11.08

Hello Gordon,

Pleased to make your acquaintance! I have compiled a bit of background information for you to use in your magazine as requested. It has been quite an incredible set of circumstances surrounding the whole expedition into the family of Joseph Rathmell. It all started because of my doggedness in righting some information that I thought wrong. (there is then reference to her 'finding' David). I am so thrilled to have someone to speak with that actually lives so close to the area. I live on the other side of the planet! Hence I cannot obtain records so easily, also I live in rural New South Wales, 300km from Sydney – not exactly close!

We are fortunate to have the technology available to us now to be able to communicate with folk across the other side of the world at the tap of a keyboard. I cannot believe how easy it is to obtain information as I proved by finding Grove Magazine on line via Google! Anyway, Gordon, I will send you my story.

(a second part of the Rathmell story and other elements will appear in a future edition of Grove Vine....)

Initially, the Rathmell family asked if we had further information on them and there was reference to Rathmell spinster sisters (Joseph Rathmell's granddaughters) who had lived in Horsforth until the 1970s.

Asking around, Christine Mathers said that she could recall the sisters sitting in the transept of the church and Elaine Hudson recalled that the sisters were 'strict' Sunday School teachers. John and Kath Bussey say "Amazing. We remember the Rathmells very well. They seemed quite old to us in Sunday School in the 1950s. We remember Edith the best. She taught in the Junior Dept. (7-11). I think it was Jenny who ran the Beginners and Primary Depts. From memory, they retired just before I started teaching in 1961. I seem to think they lived on Brownberrie Lane in the last cottage on the left past West End Lane, going towards Rawdon. Rumour has it that their father had been very strict and that's why none of them married, but the truth was probably that they were First World War spinsters. Sorry this is not very definite – I was a bit young to be certain."

Meanwhile, Grove Vine readers, you have others sharing our monthly output in Australia and the global phenomenon that is Google! *Gordon Mellor*

Chris Shagouri – a Tribute



Grove Church was full to overflowing on Wednesday 28th January 2015 for the Service of Remembrance for Chris Shagouri who had died on 16th January after a long and very brave battle with cancer. The fact that the church was so full was surely a testament to the love and affection of so many people and a recognition of the huge contribution made by Chris to the lives of so many.

Paul has kindly allowed us to use his words from within the eulogy, so touchingly given by our Minister, Rev. Ali Jones.

For the purposes of this tribute we are concentrating on Chris's life in Horsforth. She was born in Kirkstall on 1st January 1943 and she and Paul moved to Horsforth in 1971 with their children Simon and Katie.

Chris started straight away to build up a social circle of friends and was a founder member of the National Housewives Register (for lively minded young mothers – so lively that they broke away to form their own group).

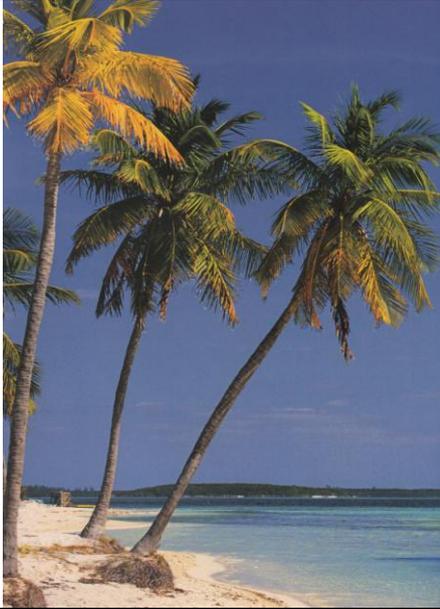
There then came the acceptance of an invitation to help her friend, Brenda Tomlinson with 14th Horsforth Guides – a defining moment for Chris who had not been involved with Guides since she had been a girl. They had great fun, especially camping and eventually Chris took over the unit until 1994. Chris was to get involved with other aspects of Guiding and was on a working party, as County Young Leader, to produce a new resource pack.

Along the way, Chris met Rosemarie Temple and they organised 3 trips over a number of years to the International Guide House in India, with parties of guides working on community service projects. The days were hot and uncomfortable but she found it a most uplifting experience helping the poor but dignified women learn new skills. Chris had also been to Mexico with Guides and met others from around the world. On 'retirement' from Guiding, she then provided help with Brownies!

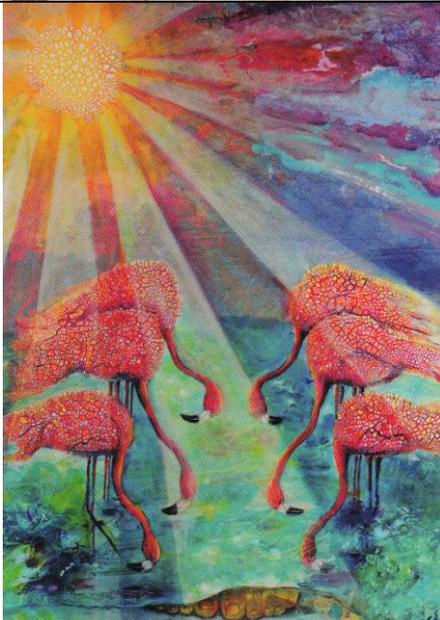
Chris's involvement at the Grove also included service as a Steward and as a member of the Property Committee. Serving on the Finance Committee, Chris could be relied upon to make a telling comment and ask pertinent questions on money matters – especially when we didn't have much! She was delighted when we succeeded in our fundraising for the Vision Project. She was the Flower Fund Secretary for the Women's Fellowship and helped to organise trips. Chris particularly loved this activity in support of a group of older ladies.

Chris, you were an inspiration to all of us.

Womens' World Day of Prayer Service
6th March at 2.00pm at
Central Methodist Church
(all welcome including men)



Women from The Bahamas
have written the service



This picture, "Blessed",
celebrates the Bahamas through
the National Bird, the Flamingo.
It also celebrates the blessings
shared with the world across the
ocean. The flamingos bow at the
feet of Christ, for there is
Forgiveness, Peace and Love in
this act of Submission.

The theme

**JESUS SAID TO THEM: "DO YOU KNOW WHAT I
HAVE DONE TO YOU?"**

Indifference

When Jesus came to Golgotha they hanged Him on a tree,
They drove great nails through hands and feet, and made a Calvary;
They crowned Him with a crown of thorns, red were His wounds
and deep,
For those were crude and cruel days, the human flesh was cheap.

When Jesus came to Birmingham, they simply passed Him by,
They never hurt a hair of Him, they only let him die;
For men had grown more tender, and they would not give Him pain,
They only just passed down the street, and left Him in the rain.

Still Jesus cried, 'Forgive them, for they know not what they do',
And still it rained the winter rain that drenched Him through and through;
The crowds went home and left the streets without a soul to see,
And Jesus crouched against a wall and cried for Calvary.

G A Studdert-Kennedy

(a Padre in the first World War also known as Woodbine Willie)

Love in Everything

We call it mercy – it is God's forgiving love.

We call it providence – it is God's caring love.

We call it kindness – it is God's understanding love.

We call it Christ's passion and death – it is God's proven love.

We call it happiness – it is God's encouraging love.

We call it the will of God – it is God's unerring love.

We call it heaven – it is God's rewarding love.

We call it eternity – it is God's unending love.

The Grove Church Council, 9th February 2015

Twenty four members were present. Nine members sent apologies.

In Matters Arising from the previous meeting, note was taken that Keith Whitham has agreed to take over the responsibility of **data base secretary** following the retirement of Barbara Collis. The Minister reported on the **proposed Circuit merger**, highlighting that a decision has been made that the merger will go ahead from September 2015. He felt that initially there would be difference, but less difference in the first year, for Leeds Wesley Circuit. He pointed out that after the first year there may be church closures and other alterations. In the interim period he noted that there would be differences for Local Preachers, fewer appointments for himself in Leeds Wesley and pressures on the Plan for timings of Holy Communion.

Items raised by committees included:

Membership standing at 170 and adherents at 122 with two membership transfers in the near future. (Pastoral)

Updating noticeboards at the bottom of the church drive. (Church Life)
Following a health and safety inspection, the Centre's main **kitchen** having received a 5 star rating and The Grove to organise **Lent Groups**.
(Church & Society)

The presentation of notes for the four months to 31st December 2014 indicating £71,925 in church **accounts**. (Finance)

Available finances enabling the church to undertake **necessary work** including boiler replacement, white lining car parking spaces, pew alterations for disabled access and repair of tower roof leaks. (Property)

The **Annual Report** for the year ending 31st August 2015 was accepted and may now be submitted to the Charity Commissioners.

Looking at the broader work of God, Council agreed several **charity donations**:

- Support for Duncan Stow – **Horsforth Community Development** and Outreach Worker,
- A donation of £300 to the church neighbours, **Cancer Research**,
- A gift of £500 for **Shirley Crawford's** work in Uganda, for the purchase of child-sized cannulas and other hospital equipment needed for the care of young cancer sufferers.

Attention was drawn to the availability of copies of a new, free magazine, '**Connexion**', aimed at keeping all Methodists up-to-date with news and developments across the country. Anyone interested is encouraged to borrow a copy from the Narthex and return it after reading for use by other readers.

Finally, the time and date of the **General Church Meeting** was confirmed as 7.30pm on Wednesday 22nd April 2015 in the Main Hall.

Peter Mawson, Church Council Secretary

Watoto, Akiba and a better holiday destination than Spain!

In these cold, wintry months thoughts turn to a relaxing summer holiday in the sun? Last November, Yoweri Museveni, President of Uganda, promoted his country as “a good place on the globe where you go and have a nice life”. He railed against Uganda's Tourist Board for doing little to boost its popularity other than saying it has “some chimpanzees and so on.” He saw it as a better holiday destination than Spain. There might be a point in this, after all Uganda sits on the Equator, but because of its high altitude has snow capped mountains and a more temperate climate than surrounding areas.

Unfortunately, this is only one side of the story. A quarter of the population (9.2 million) have no access to safe water. Two-thirds of people (24 million) don't benefit from adequate sanitation. 12,000 children die every year from diarrhoea caused by unsafe water and poor sanitation. Without access to safe water, Uganda's farmers struggle to grow crops and earn a living. Nomadic communities remain trapped in poverty. Urban areas are blighted by unhygienic slums where waste matter gathers in and around people's homes.

Sounds as if something should be done! But how is it possible to make a difference to the lives of millions in a country that is well over 4,000 miles away? Part of the answer might lie in acting personally or, where that is not possible, by encouraging those who can. Uganda is the country where Shirley Crawford has chosen to be. Last month's edition of Grove Vine kept us up to date with developments in Gulu and northern Uganda where she is based and recorded general thanks to everyone who is supporting her work.

On her recent visit to Horsforth, Shirley particularly thanked The Grove Church for its backing – that's you! Alongside individual members who are contributing, you may not have realised that as someone interested in The Grove you have helped support her work in Uganda.

In June of last year Shirley had links to the charity 'Watoto', (Swahili for 'children'). She told listeners to her talk that over recent months the village in which she was staying had completed work on a building and so now possessed a school room for its 50 or so children. However, there was a problem. Children were eager to learn but there were no teachers for schooling to begin. Shirley thanked The Grove who, through the Church Council, donated sufficient funds to employ two Ugandan trained teachers, currently out of work, on five year contracts. This November she said that this act of generosity had enabled organisation of the school to significantly move forward.

Shirley's work continues to develop as more and more needs become apparent. Through Akiba (Swahili for 'treasure') Home Shirley has come into contact with young children and babies who are suffering from cancer. The Home is the place where families can stay whilst their children receive

treatment at nearby hospitals. Having retired, Shirley talked about her having to retrain for nursing work and how this took her to what is regarded as the best hospital in the area. Despite its high reputation, conditions, she said, are not so good and equipment is in short supply. This became all too apparent when she described watching in horror as three adult members of staff struggled to place an adult-sized cannula in the arm of a very small baby. She explained that the thin, flexible tubes inserted into the hand were needed if the child was to receive life saving fluids, but that lack of baby-sized cannulas made the procedure very difficult and painful. Once again, thanks to you, for through the Church Council sufficient funds are being made available to purchase several hundred cannulas of suitable sizes.

Making a difference matters! Problems seem so huge, but as Mother Teresa once said, “We feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of the missing drop.” Shirley continues to be grateful for the support that individuals and groups make to her work. If anyone else wishes to make a difference in this way or just find out more, then Shirley may be contacted by writing to: Fiona Crawford, 68 Victoria Mount, Horsforth, LS18 4PX. Long may we be able to make a difference!

Peter Mawson

Solutions to the February Puzzle

1. I know that my Redeemer lives; 2. Silent night; 3. My song is love unknown; 4. For the beauty of the earth; 5. Ride on, ride on in majesty; 6. Come down, O love divine; 7. Away in a manger; 8. Unto us a boy is born; 9. O sacred Head sore wounded; 10. O come, O come, Immanuel.

What's on

**Saturday 21st March: Leeds (Wesleyan) Circuit Missions Banquet
7pm at St Andrew's Church. Tickets £6.50 (including meal)
Speaker: Judith Armitage “Rumanian Mission”.**

Regular events (contd)

Thursday

9.30 – 11.30 Tots & Tykes (0-4yrs) 293 8458
11.00 Bible Fellowship 258 3239
6.00 Cubs 216 9006
6.15 Beavers 216 9006
7.45 Scouts 216 9006
7.45 Grove Ladies Group (1st and 3rd Thursdays) 258 2520

Friday

7.45 Choir Rehearsal 258 9093

Walking Groups: **Thursday** 258 6579

Saturday 258 4520

From the Editorial Group

Note that the Editorial Teams alternate..... n.b. the April issue will be prepared by Paul and Jenny Redfearn and you should send items to them no later than 5pm on Wednesday 25th March. Please include dates up to Sunday 3rd May 2015. Email would be appreciated.

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“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail”
Ralph Waldo Emerson

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