

# Hilltop

June / July 2016

Newsletter of Bents Green Methodist Church

## FUN DAY AT BENTS GREEN CHURCH

Saturday 11 June 11 am - 4 pm

Coffee, tea, juice & cake - Light lunch served between 12 noon and 2 pm  
" Activities inside if wet "



**Ball Pool**



**Displays &  
Face Painting**



**Bouncy Castle**

*Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June*

*Join us for  
breakfast  
at 10 am and an  
informal service  
from 10.30 am*

<i>Church news</i>	<i>p2</i>
<i>Interview with Claire</i>	<i>p2</i>
<i>The Servant Queen</i>	<i>p3</i>
<i>The truth, the whole truth...</i>	<i>p3</i>
<i>The languages of the Bible</i>	<i>p4</i>
<i>Friendship Club celebrates 40 yrs</i>	<i>p4</i>
<i>Sier Photography</i>	<i>p5</i>
<i>Friday art group</i>	<i>p5</i>
<i>Hidden Gem cafe refurbished</i>	<i>p6</i>
<i>Bible quiz</i>	<i>p6</i>
<i>Regular church activities</i>	<i>p7</i>
<i>Coffee time</i>	<i>p8</i>
<i>Welcome to the church garden</i>	<i>p8</i>



A community church sharing the love of Jesus

## Church News

**On the first Sunday morning of every month**, starting in June, we will rearrange the church seating to enable families and friends to sit together around tables. We will serve breakfast at 10.00am, and drinks will be available throughout the informal worship. There will be some rows of seats near the organ for people who prefer to sit in the traditional way. We hope that this arrangement will encourage more families and friends to worship with us.

**Pat Hutchinson writes:** Many, many thanks to the people who contributed to the Grace Food Bank collection. Bob took many tins and packages last week to the church at Lowedges. They send their heartfelt thanks.

**Jonathan Tresize writes:** Thanks again to everybody who sponsored me in the Sheffield Half Marathon. You generously donated about £250; when added to the sponsorship I received from family and friends on my Justgiving site, nearly £600 was raised to help people in desperate need.

## Louise interviewed Claire Wilson in a recent Sunday service

Louise Claire, you're a teacher...

Claire I'm a secondary school teacher at a lovely school, Lady Manners School in Bakewell. I've worked there for 9 years and think it is a privilege really to work with such wonderful students and staff. For the last year I've been 6<sup>th</sup> form Year Tutor, with responsibility for Y12.

Louise So, quite influential, being alongside those teenagers...

Claire It is such a responsibility to see that we do the job we are supposed to do and do it right for them.

Louise And you have just got a new role, a new post that you went for?

Claire Yes, a lot of my teacher friends think I'm crazy but a few weeks ago the post of SENCO (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) was advertised and my Assistant Head encouraged me to apply for it. I hadn't initially considered it as I enjoy the role I'm doing at the moment and there's lots more I want to do. But the more I thought 'Do you know what? I could do this, I could be really good at it.' I'm really pleased to have got the post. I start in two weeks.

Louise Do you have sense that your Christian faith can help you with this job?

Claire To be honest I'm going to be looking for all the guidance and support along the way because it's going to be a pretty hard task ahead. There are 250 children with special educational needs in the school. We also have a blind girl coming in September – so a lot to take on.

Louise So you will be busy. It feels daunting and exciting at the same time? How many hours will you do?

Claire It will be full time. I am currently part-time but will be going full time.

Louise So a big jump for you and your family.

Claire Yes, but I've got a lot of support.

Louise *(to the congregation)* So are we up for praying for Claire in this big role that she is taking on? We are all called to do God's work and Claire is doing it in a particular way in this post. It is daunting and a wonderful thing to be called into.

Claire It is not just me but a team of up to 25 staff and they have said that they need help to 'gel' and to become the team that they want to be.

Louise Let's commit to praying for Claire and her team and keep asking her how it's going.



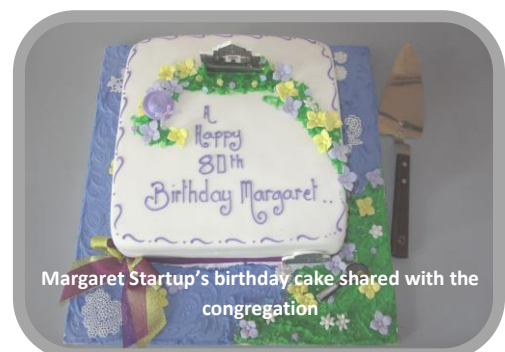
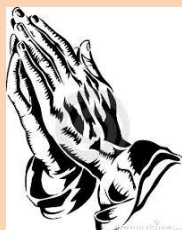
### NEED PRAYER?

We will pray for you confidentially.

You can contact us by email

[reyarp42@sky.com](mailto:reyarp42@sky.com)

Or we have a Prayer Box in the Church corridor (side entrance) which is emptied daily







## ***The Servant Queen***

It is a time for summer picnics, getting the tents out, dusting down the caravans, and getting outside to celebrate summer - in between the showers! Of course this year we have another reason to celebrate nationally, and to some extent internationally, as we celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

As well as all the celebratory occasions that are marking her birthday this year, the Bible Society have brought out a tribute to the Queen on her 90th birthday called *The Servant Queen*. It is a lovely book with some great photographs of the Queen from all around the world, and at work at home, and of course the signature corgi is on the back page.

The book recognises most of all, what is at the foundation of her life and work, and that is her Christian faith, and focuses on the Queen's own words to draw out the central role of her trust in Jesus, in shaping her life and work, offering us an inspiring multi-faceted insight into a life lived well for others.

From her Christmas address in 2002 we find this message: -

*'I know how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good and bad times. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live out my life is to try and do what is right, to take the long view, to give my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God.... I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel.'*

So, enjoy the summer, and perhaps partake in some of the many events put on to celebrate the Queen's birthday. But allow yourself a little time beyond the birthday greetings to consider what is at the foundation of your life and work.

Where do you draw your hope and strength from?

While you are doing that, enjoy the birthday cake....

Every blessing to you this summer, **Louise**



## ***'The truth, the whole truth...'***

**We've heard a lot about truth in Sheffield recently. The Hillsborough Inquest has shown that South Yorkshire Police were guilty of covering-up the truth about the causes of the tragedy. But we have not heard the whole truth about what happened that day, both inside and outside the ground. Nor have we heard the whole truth about what happened at Orgreave in 1984, or child abuse in Rotherham, or about police officers drinking beer on Kos.**

Truth is elusive. Even to tell the *whole truth and nothing but the truth* about what you did yesterday is impossible. What did you say? Can you remember? Are you sure? I have come to the conclusion that human beings will never produce the whole truth about anything. It's just too complicated, too personal, too subjective.

Jesus said 'if you are my disciples, you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.' Free from what? From the baggage of the past, the regrets, disappointments and guilts we carry with us. And from the doubts, fears and insecurities about the future, because we know whose we are, and where we are going. I believe this is true on a personal level, and pray that God's truth may set free all those affected by Hillsborough and other events involving South Yorkshire Police. **John Wilkins**



## ***The Languages of the Bible***

### ***How much of the Bible would Jesus have been able to read?***

Even if he had still been living in Palestine when the 27 books of the New Testament were written Jesus might not have been able to read them. The books were written in everyday Greek, the common language of the Eastern part of the Roman Empire which was very different from classical Greek.

Jesus however probably spoke Aramaic. Aramaic was the official language of the Persian empire in about 500 BC and was still widely spoken at the time of Jesus. Only a very small proportion of the Old Testament was originally written in Aramaic: about 250 verses. The majority of the 39 books in the Old Testament would have been in classical Hebrew, a forerunner of modern Hebrew. So Jesus would have had to learn Hebrew in order to read the parts of the Bible available in his day

The oldest extensive texts of the Old Testament are the Dead Sea Scrolls which go back to the time of Jesus or a little earlier. Although these were only discovered in the mid-20th century, they closely match the versions of the Old Testament previously in use.

You may be surprised that the oldest fragment of original New Testament manuscript (pictured, from John's Gospel chapter 18) was perhaps written as early as 125 AD, only 10-20 years after John is believed to have written his Gospel in Ephesus. You may be even more surprised that this oldest fragment of the New Testament anywhere in the world can be seen just 30 miles from Bents Green at the John Rylands library in Manchester.

*Glenn recently visited Ephesus in Turkey where the gospel of John was probably written. This started him thinking about how the Bible came together. In this first of a series of articles he considers the languages in which the original texts were written. If you want to ask him for more information or to request an article on a specific Bible topic, his contact details are below.*

**Glenn Evans (dglennevans@hotmail.co.uk or 0114 235 1057).**



## ***Friendship Club celebrates 40 years!***

I have been lucky enough to have been involved with the Friendship Club for a number of years now. Every time I either lead a meeting, do the register or just be there, the same thoughts go through my mind

I am always struck by how pleased people are to be at the meeting when they turn up and throughout the afternoon. The combination of a welcoming hymn, prayers and news of Members followed by a talk, music, quiz or some other activity, established by John and Margaret Startup when the Club was set up some 40 years ago this year, has certainly passed the test of time. There is a noticeable conversational buzz before the meeting gets under way, so much so that its a shame to have to bring everyone to order! There is keen interest during the afternoon's activity and continued buzz over tea and biscuits afterwards. Then there is always a willingness to tidy away the cushions and table cloths and wash and wipe up.

Friendship can be an overused word. I am struck when I log on to Facebook for example to see how many so called "friends" some of my younger relations have. I think, "Can they all be friends"? How many of them would ride to the rescue of their FB friends?

Yet when I look around at the lovely people who turn up on Tuesdays I see true friendship. They haven't just come because the afternoon's programme excites them. They haven't just come for a cup of tea and a biscuit. They haven't come to see if they have been picked out to help with the washing and wiping up! They've come for a combination of these (well perhaps not the last one) and knowing that from 2:00 on Tuesday (and before if they get there earlier) they will be in the company of like-minded people wanting to catch up on news, see how everyone is and relax, free from the day to day thoughts that sometimes can get in the way of being comfortable. And somewhere where they can talk to someone about things that may be on their mind.

We are always happy to welcome new members. So, if the thought of a pleasant, informative, lively and relaxing couple of hours appeals, please come along on Tuesdays - just before 2:pm It will be splendid to see you!

**Arthur Blacklock**





## ***Sier Photography***

Matthew and Deborah Sier run a wedding photography business from their home on Knowle Lane. They set up the business eight years ago after being asked by several colleagues and friends to do their wedding photography. They found they enjoyed the whole process and were happy to take on more events.

They approach each wedding with care, looking at where the photographs will work best. After meeting with the wedding couple Deborah and Matthew visit the venues for both the service and the reception and find good places to take the photos. One couple had suggested photographs could be taken on a small path in woods, but, when Matthew went to look, it had just rained and the ground was churned up mud. He explored nearby and found a lane with good parking and an avenue of trees in autumn colours which made an excellent back ground for the couple to pose against. On another occasion they had a day out to explore a village in

North Yorkshire where another wedding was going to take place. They looked in the small church and worked out how to take photos of the service and then walked the route the bride and groom would later take for photos on the moor outside the village.

On the day of a wedding they pack up the car with everything they could possibly need: spare cameras, studio lighting, remote flash, step ladder, sewing kit, towels, first aid kit... They set off, often with some trepidation, not knowing how it will all go. The day may start at the bride's and the groom's homes taking photos of the preparations. Deborah said she enjoys this time as it gives them a chance to get to know the family and to chat and become relaxed with them before the events begin. They may also hear of events planned for later in the day, possibly surprises for the bride and groom, which they will want to be on hand to photograph.

They like to be able to take photographs in the wedding service but never use flash photography here as they feel it is too intrusive. Often Matthew will concentrate on the more formal photos and Deborah will stay in the background and take informal shots of guests. On one unusual occasion an owl was used as ring-bearer to fly in with the wedding rings, landing on the groom's wrist. All the windows were carefully closed to avoid the possibility of the owl flying out and the rings being lost, as was rumoured to have happened elsewhere!

At the reception they prefer to record what is going on rather than to take formal groups. However the family may want some group pictures and it can be like herding cats trying to get family members together for their photo! Matthew will be more directive here, especially when the wedding meal is at risk of being spoiled because of delays.

After the wedding there is a lot of editing to be done. They may come away from a wedding with 6 or 7,000 photos which need to be culled to about 1,000. Then these photos are edited to ensure the colour is true to the conditions on the day. Very occasionally Matthew will 'photoshop' out pylons or fire notices which are visible in the background but he prefers to keep the photos as a true record of the day. He says he is very critical of his own work but finds great satisfaction when a photo really works well. Some of his favourites can be seen on their website



Matthew and Deborah clearly enjoy their photography business and emphasise that they want to offer a service which fits in with each couple's vision for their wedding day. They can be contacted through their website or telephone: <http://www.sierphotography.com>. 0114 2818007, mobile 0750 3031911.



### ***Friday Evening Art Group***

**The Art group that meets in the Music Room at Bents Green Church every Friday evening 7.30 – 9.30 is looking for new members.**

**It is a very welcoming, friendly and helpful group. Just turn up on a Friday or ring Anne Jackson if you want to know more. Tel 0114 3276881**





## Hidden Gem Cafe refurbished

Last year was an amazing year for the Hidden Gem Cafe at WORK Ltd. They were chosen as Sainsbury's charity of the year 2015/16 and this started a chain of events which Glynis, Di & Sarah Jayne, Centre Managers at WORK Ltd describe as seeing God at work.

Sainsbury's fundraising aimed to raise £10,000 to upgrade and expand the cafe. However, at a fundraising day in September, a chance conversation with a Sainsbury's customer, Tracy Haigh opened up even more possibilities. Tracy and her partner Lee from Cortworth Millhouses Design and

Construction were very supportive of all that WORK Ltd does and enthusiastic about the plans to refurbish the cafe. Lee and his team generously offered to take on the building work at the Hidden Gem at no cost to WORK Ltd, a gift of about £18,000. Further funds were raised at a very successful ball at Baldwins Omega in September 2015 organised by a customer of the cafe, Louise Alford.

The extension and refurbishment provides a brighter, more spacious cafe with a calm, uncluttered atmosphere. The decor uses natural surfaces with bare brick and natural wood and leaves the copper and steel pipes exposed. The attractive wooden tables were made in the workshop at WORK Ltd.

The kitchen has been refurbished too providing the chefs Scott, Connor and Charlie with much improved facilities as they continue to develop the menus which are attracting customers from all over the country. In 2014 they created a menu from fresh locally sourced ingredients which won them the Trip Advisor

certificate of excellence (awarded for being in first place for ten weeks). After re-opening in March they are now back at first place again. The cafe is bringing in new people who learn about WORK Ltd and then return to support the work of the charity offering placements to over 75 students who need the support that WORK Ltd offers.



Students from WORK Ltd continue to help in the cafe in the mornings and afternoons and are helped by Helen, front of house manager, to develop skills in hospitality and customer service. There is a board in the cafe where the students write their names: 'Today's students are...' The Cafe also has a dedicated display area for the quality crafts made at WORK Ltd and, since having this area, the goods are selling really well.

**Comments from Trip Advisor:** *"Superb!"* Was in the area and did a trip advisor search. This came up as top rated so thought we'd pay a visit. Not disappointed at all. What a lovely place as the name suggests!

*"10/10"* Lovely staff and food was delicious. would definitely recommend the hidden gem to all! Great handcrafted gifts and very reasonable prices!

The cafe is open from 9 to 4 on Monday to Saturday with lunches served until 2.30 and coffee and cakes till 4.

### Spring Fair at WORK Ltd on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June from 10 am – 4 pm

#### 5 Scriptures: Choose a word from the list below to complete these Bible verses (or check the verses in the Bible):

Jesus answered, "I am the \_\_\_ and the \_\_\_ and the \_\_\_. No one comes to the Father except through me (John 14:6)

Jesus Christ is the same \_\_\_ and \_\_\_ and \_\_\_ ( Hebrews 13:8)

Your word is a \_\_\_ for my feet, a \_\_\_ on my path ( Psalm 119:105)

Everyone who \_\_\_ on the name of the Lord will be \_\_\_ (Romans 10:13)

Be joyful in \_\_\_, patient in \_\_\_, faithful in \_\_\_ ( Romans 12:12)

Prayer – way - affliction – hope - forever - life - calls - saved - lamp - today - yesterday - light - truth

## Regular church activities and contact details

### Services at Bents Green Methodist Church

All are welcome at these services

#### Sunday mornings at 10.30 am

During morning services there is a crèche for little ones, Sparks Club for younger children and Sunday Club for older children. On **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June** Breakfast at 10 am followed by the morning service at 10.30 with some seating round tables with some rows

**Sunday evenings at 6.30 pm** - An informal service often including tea, coffee and time to chat about the Christian faith

**Wednesdays at 10 am: Midweek service**

### Activities for Children and Young People

New members are welcome at these activities at the church.  
Contact the named person for more details.

#### For younger children

Crèche	0-3	Sun 10.30am	Ruth	2686507
Sunbeams	0-4	Wed 9.15-12	Katie	07833086480

#### For children and young people

Girls' Brigade	5-18	Thurs evening	Marian	2361316
Football	11-18	Fri 5-7pm	Glenn	2351057
Holiday Club	5-11	Summer	Cherry	07853278612
Lighthouse	5-11	Wed 3.45	Cherry	07853278612
Messy Services	3-12	Festivals	Sue	2307556
Sparks	4-11	Sun 10.30	John	2307556
Sunday Club	12-18	Sun 10.30	Sue	2307556
Torch	Teens	Tues 6.30	Cherry	07853278612
Lampstand	12-18	Fri 8-10	Cherry	07853278612
Drama group	All ages	Various	Glenn	2351057
Pantomime	All ages	Annually	Glenn	2351057
Musical	All ages	Annually	Christèle	07912207661

### Friendship Club Programme:

**Tuesdays at 2 pm in the Church Hall (enter by side door opposite the shops). A warm welcome awaits any who would like to come along – especially men and women over 50**

Tues 7 JUNE	TOFFEE MUSIC
Tues 14 JUNE	MEERSBROOK ORCHESTRA
Tues 21 JUNE	ANNE FOTHERINGHAM
Tues 28 JUNE	AFRICA CALLING
Tues 5 JULY	FRIENDS IN HARMONY
Tues 12 JULY	PALM COURT
Tues 19 JULY	SUZANNE BINGHAM

**For more information contact: Pat Hutchinson: 0114 2497280  
and Jackie Smith: 0114 3483069**

**Minister: Rev Louise Grosberg**

**Tel. 0114 2363157**

Email:

[Louise.Grosberg@btinternet.com](mailto:Louise.Grosberg@btinternet.com)

**Church website:**

[www.bentsgreenmethodist.org.uk](http://www.bentsgreenmethodist.org.uk)

Church office answerphone:

0114 2361912

**For Room Bookings contact:**

**Peter Larder** Tel. 0114 2686507

**Hilltop Editor: Tricia North**

Email: [tn-bg@live.co.uk](mailto:tn-bg@live.co.uk)

If you would like to receive Hilltop by email (and in colour) please email the editor. Please send material for the next issue to the editor by Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

### Coffee Mornings in the Church:

On the first Saturday of every month from 10.30 am – 12

### Games, chat and crafts group

Wednesdays 12.30 to 3 pm in the church. Indoor bowling, scrabble, chess, dominoes, jigsaws and cards, knitting and crafts.

Contact Ruth: 0114 2686507

### Harbour Coffee

On Wednesdays in term-time from 3.30 – 5.45 pm in the Music Room

### Tea, Toast & Time 4 Thinking:

Thursdays @ 10.30 am each week. Upstairs in the Church Lounge. A time to reflect on what following Jesus is all about. A place for all those seeking answers.

Carers of young children especially welcome.

Contact Sue: Tel 0114 2307556

### House groups

Many people in the church belong to a house group and meet regularly to pray together, read the bible and talk about the Christian faith. If you are interested in joining a house group contact Sue: Tel 0114



## Coffee Time



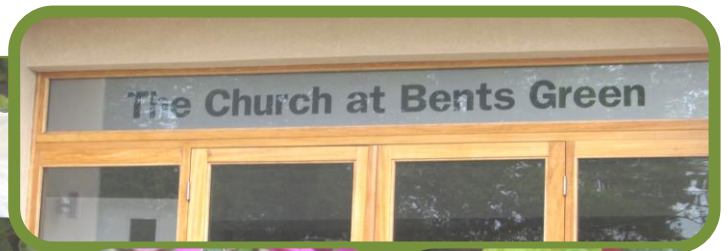
For at least twelve years Bents Green Church has hosted a coffee morning on the first Saturday of the month from 10.30 – 12.00. It's open to everyone.

It all began when Nancy Rust responded to the request for ideas to encourage people who are not necessarily churchgoers to enjoy time with others who are. Over the years Nancy has had help from other members of the church to make this a pleasant time together.

Until fairly recently the coffee morning was held in a room at the back of the building. Now it gathers in the church itself where there is more space and access to a neat little kitchen. This is more convenient and comfortable in every way.

The time spent together with friends from both the church and elsewhere has been appreciated and proved a worthwhile venture. Nancy has found the experience a blessing and is delighted with its continued success.

If you haven't tried it yet, please come. You can be sure of a warm welcome. Thank you, Nancy. **Janet Nowell**



### Welcome to the church garden

The newly re-designed garden in front of the church comes into its own now as the spring flowers bloom. Everyone is welcome to come into the garden and pause a while: sit on the new benches and enjoy the flowers .