

I N T O U C H

April 2018

Sun 1st - 8.00 am Revd Dr Claire Potter, Holy Communion, Easter Day

Sun 1st - 10.30 am Revd Dr Claire Potter, Holy Communion, Easter Day

Sun 8th - 10.30 am Revd Hulme

Sun 11th - 7.45 pm The Wednesday Group – “Unfolding pictures – the history of the fan” at Marion’s

Sun 15th - 10.30 am Jean Shepherd

Sun 15th - 6.30 pm Revd Dr Claire Potter, Holy Communion

Sun 22nd - 10.30 am Revd Dr Claire Potter incorporating Annual General Church Meeting – followed by lunch

Wed 25th - 7.45 pm The Wednesday Group – “All about the Citizens Advice Bureau” at Wendy’s

Sun 29th - 10.30 am T Roberts

May 2018

Sun 6th - 10.30 Revd P Hills, Holy Communion

Wed 9th - The Wednesday Group, Afternoon visit to Riding for the Disabled, Rowley

Sun 13th - 10.30 Revd Dr Claire Potter

13th-19th - Christian Aid Week Collections

Sun 20th - 10.30 Revd Dr Claire Potter

Sun 20th - from 12.00 midday, Pentecost Picnic Cranleigh Common

Sun 20th - 6.30 Revd A Das, Holy Communion

Wed 23rd – 7.45 pm The Wednesday Group, AGM at Hazel’s

Sun 27th – 10.30 J. O’Leary



March - May 2018

Cranleigh Methodist Church

LETTER FROM CLAIRE

Dear Friends,

Welcome to 'In Touch' for March, April and May 2018. This issue takes us right through from Lent to Easter and Pentecost – a time for us to consider our discipleship, to wonder anew at the glories of the resurrection and to take seriously the ways God is calling us and inspiring us into the future. I pray that these will be fulfilling months for you. If anyone wants to talk through the ways you feel God may be calling you, please do get in touch. I have no doubt that God does call each person, inspiring and equipping us for many different sorts of ministry.

We have said much in various meetings at Cranleigh Methodist Church in recent years about the need to develop partnerships. In the past, the church community could identify a need in the community and would have the resources to respond to that need. However we are now aware that the church is not numerically as strong as it once was, though I would argue that it remains as spiritually strong as it ever was. We are having to learn what it means to be vulnerable. I believe that far from being a negative place to be, this is a positive place. Many in our community are vulnerable, through isolation, fear, debt, poverty, loneliness, uncertainty, bereavement, illness. We can be far more empathetic to these people if we know about being vulnerable from our own experience. At Christmas we remembered how vulnerable and dependent Jesus was when he came into the world. Through Lent we will remember how vulnerable he was in his earthly ministry – there was no security, no place of refuge, no avoidance of issues, for Jesus.

IN TOUCH DIARY

March 2018

Thurs 1st - 10.00am-2.00pm, Fairtrade Fortnight – The Big Brew, Waterland Cottage, Knowl Lane

Sun 4th - 10.30 am Revd Dr Claire Potter, Holy Communion

Mon 5th- 8.00 pm Vespers, St John's Seminary, Womersley

Wed 7th- 7.45 pm The Wednesday Group, "In the Footsteps of Paddington Bear?" at Teresa's

Sun 11th - 10.30 am L McKay, All Age Worship – Mothering Sunday

Sat 17th - CA Events Committee - Lent Lunch

Sat 17th - Photographic Quiz for Cranleigh competition closes

Sun 18th - 10.30 Revd Allan Taylor

Sun 18th - 6.30 pm Revd Dr Claire Potter

Wed 21st - 7.45 pm The Wednesday Group, Murder Mystery evening at Hilary's

Sun 25th - 10.00 am– Ecumenical Procession – Palm Sunday – from The Common

Sun 25th - 10.30 am – Revd Dr Claire Potter, Service

Thur 29th - 7.00 pm Revd Dr Claire Potter, Holy Communion – Maundy Thursday

Fri 30th - 9.45 am Revd Dr Claire Potter, Good Friday

Fri 30th - 11.00 am United Service, Stockland Square, Good Friday

Fri 30th - 2.30 pm Revd Dr Claire Potter, Meditation, Good Friday

MUSICAL NOTES

I was very grateful as always, to our friends who helped at our Christmas concerts, enabling us to give a good donation to AFC. Our small choir continues to sing an anthem every Sunday, and I am



grateful to them and to Peggy for their tremendous support. We were pleased to have help from Margaret Murdin when Peggy was ill. Kathy accompanies the recorders of course – we are lucky to have so much musical talent in our small church! Now the Sunday Club children enjoy accompanying the last hymn with percussion, whenever possible!

Glenda

CHRISTIAN AID

We are fortunate that Peter Allin has agreed to take over the organisation of our main fundraising



week this year. We hope as many people as possible will join us as we go door-to-door with our red bags and envelopes! It isn't an easy job but it is rewarding. The dates are May 13th – 19th. Our small CA Events Committee are organising a Lent Lunch on Saturday March 17th in our church and we hope as many people as possible will support this as they did last year. Please help us with more fundraising ideas. We shall book the charity stall in the market later on, so please make us some jam or marmalade or search your attics for items you no longer have a use for (good condition, of course!).

As a vulnerable community, we know we cannot do everything in our own strength, but we need to work with others. That is a challenge but one that can bear marvellous fruit. The Refugee Welcome Group is the most recent form of partnership we have developed. I hope this model of partnership might be one we can explore with other issues. There are people in this village who want to work together and who have enormous goodwill. As more and more people move into Cranleigh, it will be important that we continue to develop these partnerships.

So, if there is something you feel passionate about, let us explore how we might respond to it and who we can call on to respond to it with us. God is at work in our midst. Let us catch up and cooperate in his work with him.

With all good wishes

Claire



Next issue will cover June, July & August so the cut off date for submissions for articles and adverts etc., will be around 30th April at the latest please.

Our contact details are as follows:

**Jane O'Leary - Cranleigh Methodist Church,
c/o The Old Forge, Smithbrook Barns, Cranleigh, GU6 8LH
joleary@oaktax.com and telephone 01483 276100.**



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CRANLEIGH

Since the last publication of 'In Touch' the congregations have joined together for the usual Christmas Village Carol Service, and people from each of the churches helped at a Christmas Day lunch.

In January the united service during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was held at the Catholic church, with the clergy from the churches coming together to lead the act of worship taking the theme 'One Faith, One Lord, One Baptism'. This was a very moving service which focused on those things that we have in common, and was appreciated by a large congregation of members from each tradition.

We look forward to continuing to work and worship together. All are welcome at the forthcoming events and services:

- Wednesdays in Lent (21st, 28th Feb, 7th, 14th, 21st March) 7.30, St Nicolas Church 'The Power of Prayer'
- Monday 5th March, 8pm, St John's Seminary, Womersley, Vespers
- Thursday 22nd March, morning, Village Way, distribution of Easter leaflets – volunteers needed
- Sunday 25th March, 10am Cranleigh Common, Palm Sunday Procession of Witness, starting together and attending own service as that church is passed.
- Friday 30th March, 10.45 Stocklund Square, United Service for Good Friday
- Sunday 20th May, from mid-day, Cranleigh Common, Pentecost Picnic (Baptist Church if wet)

Pamela Newman Horwell

ALTERATIONS UPDATE

In November we received the news that our application for a grant from the Connexional property fund has been unsuccessful. We subsequently have been working to reduce the scale of the project so that it is affordable within the funds we have already raised. We have developed a design with the architect that still achieves everything we were aiming for, but reduces some of the expensive items such as a large lobby and creating an additional entrance to the church. We are currently waiting for the architect to cost the new design and to see if we will need to submit a new planning permission application. Once we can answer those questions then we will be able to reassess the date for the work to start. Recent good news though is that Methodist Insurance have awarded us a sizable grant, as have the Norwood and Newton settlement, and Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes. If anyone wants further information please speak to Claire, Stella or George – or any member of the Project Group.

CRANLEIGH METHODIST CHURCH

188 High Street Cranleigh GU6 8RL

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Minister; | Reverend Claire Potter 01483 575667 |
| Church Council Secretary; | Pam Newman-Horwell 01483 274148 |
| Senior Steward; | Glenda Sewell 01483 273037 |
| Lettings Secretary; | David Lipman 01483 278346 |
| Key Holder and Property Chair; | Jane O'Leary 01483 276100 |



TRAIDCRAFT
Fighting poverty through trade

THE BIG BREW in FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

This year on THURSDAY MARCH 1st I shall be holding a Big Brew at Waterland, Cottage Knowle Lane from 10am to 2pm. There will be coffee, tea and cakes available to eat and takeaway and soup and bread from 12-1.30pm. There will also be the full range of Traidcraft goods to buy.

I would like to thank everyone for their support of the Musical supper in October following this I was able to send £1,250 to lutengo . Edward Lewaisi was amazed and delighted by this result and as I write this the money is being spent on work on the teachers accommodation. As soon as I get photographs I will put them in the magazine.

At the Big Brew the profit from the Traidcraft sales will of course go to the School but the rest will go to Traidcraft Exchange which is the Charitable organisation run by Traidcraft, which supports their pioneering work in helping the Poorest farmers to be able to support themselves better. I look forward to welcoming as many people as possible to Waterland on 1st March when I hope the daffodils will be out for St David's day.

Sue Knight

**REFUGEES WELCOME GROUP / CONVERSATION
GROUP 'FRIENDLY VOICES'**

Following the group's work during the autumn and early winter in helping Waverley Borough Council to furnish and set up a house, a large family moved in in mid-December. The family had been living in Lebanon, having had to leave Syria. The extended family is made up of two grandparents, their two grown-up sons and their wives, with each having three young children – a total of six adults and six children (age range 2 -7).

Over the Christmas period when the Waverley staff team were on holiday members of the group provided much needed help and support with transport, medical appointments and shopping trips.

Now the three oldest children have started school and the younger ones are registered for nursery. The adults are beginning to take part in some of the local activities, and have registered at the job centre.

They are very hospitable, and are making every effort to communicate.....'google translate' is pretty good most of the time but occasionally has some interesting variations which cause much amusement all round!

The Waverley team includes an arabic-speaking key-worker who has been spending a lot of time with the family. Waverley continue to have responsibility for the family's welfare, but are now working closely with our support group. One of the aspects that we are helping to organise is transport to, and companionship at, various activities. Volunteers need to have the Waverley DBS certificate, and if offering transport need to check that their insurance is valid for this type of voluntary work. If anyone can help with this, please see Claire or Pamela.

One question that we are sometimes asked is in respect of funding for such a family. This comes under the government's Syrian

Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme, and the housing is from a private landlord, not the Local Authority.

The 'Friendly Voices' conversation group started in the Spring of last year, and has enjoyed a small but appreciative number of 'guests'. A particular encouragement is that one lady, who at first seemed very shy, will now chat happily and initiate conversation with us, and says that she feels confident enough to talk to us, though still struggles to chat with other mothers in the school playground. She and the other longer-standing guests have taken a real interest in our new family and are offering ideas and suggestions to help them – and themselves – in developing conversation skills, to enhance the more formal language tuition that is provided by other bodies.

Pamela Newman Horwell

SUNDAY CLUB

Four children attended the Christmas party, which was enjoyed by all, and two more joined us afterwards at the Christingle service.

They continue to enjoy participation in the services, helping with the artefacts for the liturgies, or assisting with the offertory. Helping to prepare and serve the after-service refreshments is also popular, as long as there are plenty of biscuits.....!

Within our sessions their questions sometimes take us by surprise, which is always a good thing as it means we cannot become complacent. Sometimes when we have a prayer-time they will say, “and can I say a prayer?” which they will then lead simply, reverently and beautifully – and although it might not seem to be anything to do with what we've been discussing, it's clearly important to them.

What more could a Sunday Club leader want?

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE KNITIVITY?

On a visit to Merrow recently, I picked up their February Magazine and read a very interesting article about something that goes on in Gloucester.

The Knitivity as it is known was started two years ago through a Rural Communities Council's In Touch programme. This supported the setting up of creative groups from people all over the county providing learning opportunities and showing creativity, making and crafting are fun and effective ways to support mental wellbeing and alleviate social isolation. Over 200 people have been involved in creating the Knitivity, but I have not yet explained what it is.

You will know that the Nativity is usually a set of figures on a table depicting Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus in a stable with animals, Kings and Shepherds. Well the Knitivity is the same, except it is a full-sized version with all the participants having been knitted!

In Gloucester, people have been involved in creating their Knitivity from experienced knitters who had the challenge of scaling up patterns from miniature figures to life-size, to those who had never cast on a stitch before. Some people built frames to support the large animal figures and each year new figures are added. Now Gloucester has a wide variety of livestock, rats, mice, spiders, hedgehogs, doves, owls, an ox, horses, sheep, lambs etc. and even an octopus!

So my germ of an idea is whether we could have a bash at creating a Knitivity, and perhaps just start with Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus, or even just Baby Jesus, so if any of you think this is a good idea and you would like to help me organise it, that doesn't mean you have to knit it, but it does mean that you have to help me with it, then please do get in touch and we will see what we can do. This could have very good repercussions for our Church, Cranleigh and even Churches Together!

Jane O'Leary

OPEN THE BOOK : JOIN THE TEAM

The Open the Book team acts out bible stories during assemblies at Cuthbert Maine, Park Mead and Cranleigh CofE school.

Whether you can help once a month, or every week, we always welcome new actors for our Open the Book team! While Pam looks great in a beard, we especially need more men on our team! We go into schools on Monday mornings (8:15-9:15am), Monday afternoons (1-2pm) and Thursday mornings (8:30-9:20am). All participants will need a DBS check.

Contact Gabrielle Clarke at gabrielle@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk, or call 01483 616296 for more information.

PHOTOGRAPHIC QUIZ FOR CRANLEIGH

Have you entered yet? The quiz (proceeds towards Cranleigh Methodist Church Development Fund) asks you to identify 40 photographs taken on or close to Cranleigh High Street. The perfect answer to 'What shall we do?' on a Saturday morning! Copies of the photographs, together with an answer sheet, cost £2 and are available from Jane O'Leary, Brian Treharne, Theresa Golden or John Potter at the Church. Please advertise this widely and persuade your neighbours/grandchildren/children/aunts and uncles/nieces and nephews to have a go.

There is a prize for the most accurate set of answers and the competition closes on 17th March. Completed answer sheets should be posted through the letterbox of the Church and be marked 'Quiz Answers'. Enjoy the challenge!!

PERSONAL TRIBUTE TO PETER DAWSON

I first met Peter when he, his wife Mary and two boys, Andrew and Michael, arrived in Cranleigh in 1971. They quickly settled and Peter was soon much in demand to read the lesson as his excellent delivery and expression were appreciated by everyone. He was an experienced, though not professional, actor and joined the Herald Players and soon played principal roles. Later, of course, he took part in the open-air plays at Wintershall. He once said he was rather daunted by having to ride a horse!

Peter was fond of children and not long after his arrival in Cranleigh, began to help in the Sunday School, which in those days, had quite a few pupils. He quite soon became Superintendent and taught the older children. Our own children were still little so weren't taught by him. I believe however, that at Sunday School Anniversaries, older children 'performed' under Peter's direction. When another talented and experienced theatre director arrived in Cranleigh, Bob Nicholson, he worked with Peter and many of the Sunday School children, including ours, in Christmas shows in the Village Hall which were very successful. Both our children and their visiting grandparents very much enjoyed these shows!

Peter took on a Steward's role in the church and eventually became a Circuit Steward in the former Guildford Circuit, when Nicola Vidamour was Cranleigh Minister. He fulfilled this role conscientiously as he did with everything else he undertook. He continued working in the various committees in our own church and also in the Sunday School, though sadly, numbers were diminishing.

More recently, Peter helped run our Children's Summer Holiday Club, where his talents were once more in evidence, helping those of less experience (!!) to play their parts in the drama in five acts (one per day!). We were very sad when failing memory and other afflictions lessened his activities.

However, there is no doubt in my mind that his was a life well lived, and many came to pay respects at his funeral.

Glenda Sewell

CAT BUSINESS

This was developed as an intelligence test by a research and development department at Harvard University. Take your time and see if you can read each line aloud without a mistake. The average person over 40 years of age can't do it!

1. This is this cat
2. This is is cat
3. This is how cat
4. This is to cat
5. This is keep cat
6. This is an cat
7. This is old cat
8. This is person cat
9. This is busy cat
10. This is for cat
1. This is forty cat
12. This is seconds cat



Now go back and read aloud the third word in each line from the top down to determine your intelligence.

SUMMER EVENT

The Lion's Fair will be on Saturday 30th June. This year it has been decided that instead of our church selling books which we have done for the past few years, we will have a craft and Bric-a-brac stall instead. This is an advance notice so you have plenty of time to save good quality bric-a-brac and to get out your knitting and sewing needles and start crafting.

GENERAL CHURCH MEETING

The 22nd April 2018 10.30am will be a morning service with a difference. We will be worshipping God in 'café' style to enable us to discuss together. Please do not be put off by this. No one will be made to feel uncomfortable but all will be included as much as they wish to be. It is the first step in our church review, and the Church Council felt it was important that we do this in the context of worship. The service may be a little longer than usual (perhaps 1.5 hours) to make sure we have real time to seek God's will together. It is really important that as many of the church community are there as possible so that all views are heard. So please do try to come. We'll share refreshments during the service and there will be lunch afterwards for everyone who can stay. Please let Pam Newman-Horwell (01483 274148) or Stella Halloran (01483 272542) know if you can be there for lunch. Lunch is free but donations are always welcome!.