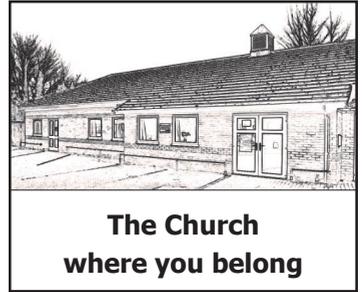




# *The Westgate Chronicle*

**The Magazine of Westgate New Church  
Issue 471: October 2017**

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*United Reformed/Methodist*  
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## Our Mission Statement

We at Westgate New Church are called by God to highlight  
Jesus Christ's love for the people of Peterborough.  
We pass on this good news by worship, fellowship, mission,  
education, personal life and social service.



I'm writing this at the end of a really exciting week. There have been three events I want to write about to share a bit of my sense that God has been at work in Peterborough in amazing ways this week.

The first event was a meeting for church members in Sleaford and it would be easy to feel despondent about it because no members from Westgate New Church went. The meeting, as you will all recall, was to look at deployment of United Reformed Church ministers in the challenging times ahead. With the

Methodist Church, the URC faces declining numbers of ministers and tough decisions about how to deploy them to best effect. We heard about a 'resource model' centring ministry, both lay and ordained, in a resource church, which would then provide services, including worship, practical skills and some pastoral support. This is the model favoured in East Midlands Synod. It would have been good to have members there to support me as I asked, 'What about LEPs in this model?' The model seems to be a good one for the denomination and for smaller churches but requires a lot from larger churches and needs a lot of fleshing out for LEPs. I would welcome discussions about this and will happily share the document that was presented at the meeting. We can no longer rely on either of our denominations to provide ordained ministry at the levels we were once used to. Why is this exciting? Well, it is not a spread-ministers-ever-more-thinly model. The thinner ministers are spread the less effective they become and this model

offers something more.

The next event was the visit from Assembly Moderator, Revd. Kevin Watson. He came having expressed interest after the Synod meeting when I described the things we had been doing at Westgate New. I had expected discussions to range over a multitude of emotions and actions focussing on the sale of our old building and the move to our 'new' premises. That featured in the discussions but I was proud to be minister of this church as the discussion looked at how we move into the future to honour God in our new situation. Very exciting. *(report with picture on p12- Editor)*

Finally on Saturday four of us joined a similar number of Muslim women, all of us members of the Ladies' Inter-faith Coffee Group, to distribute bottles of water in Cathedral Square. It was cold and far from ideal weather for the task but mostly it was dry. We distributed well over 500 bottles of water with a Japanese proverb

stuck on. (We started by sticking the labels on the bottles.) The proverb reads 'Individually we are a drop but together we are an ocean.' We also handed out a leaflet saying who we are and giving a contact email. Many people were positive. We had lots of enquiries about joining the group and even more people excited with us as they saw us working together for good in the wider community. We worked together well. We laughed a lot and we'll definitely be doing more together in future. *(There is a picture of this event on p12. Editor)*

If you're a Sundays only member of our congregation, may I encourage you to get involved in other things like I've described here, which bring us closer together as a community of God's people and demonstrate to the world that Christians are a force for good in our world.

*Lesley*

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## PRAYER SHAWLS

Lesley has shared this email with us:-

Dear Lesley,

I am so grateful to you and your community for making the beautiful Shawls for our patients.

I do apologise for the delay in thanking you. I have been on annual leave and just returned to this wonderful surprise and very generous gift to Thorpe Hall.

I hope you are keeping well and all is going ok.

In friendship and true appreciation of your kindness,

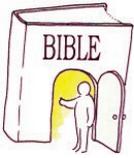
*Elaine*

Elaine Bygrave is a Chaplain at Thorpe Hall Hospice.

It would be good to get a few more people knitting prayer shawls, which are incredibly easy to make. Lesley or Linda can give you advice. You can knit at the Crafty Capers meeting, at home while watching television, or wherever. They are used to comfort patients in the hospice and, as you see from the email, much appreciated.

*Knitting in Progress*





## STORIES WITHIN THE STORY: BLESS THE LORD!

Psalms 103 celebrates the majesty and steadfast love of God, expanding from an account of personal experience of God's loving care to God's care for the nation, for all faithful people, and all creation. The opening words, "Bless the LORD, O my soul. . ." set the theme. Blessing the LORD means pondering the ways in which God's steadfast love supports our lives, the life of our community and the whole world, then expressing our thankfulness.

God's steadfast love – *hesed* in Old Testament Hebrew – is a frequent theme in the psalms. It reflects a God who is totally reliable and changeless in caring love. The psalmist acknowledges God may sometimes be angry, but anger will be tempered by patience and forgiveness.

It would be wonderful to know the full story of this psalm, who wrote it and for what immediate purpose, but the Bible gives us few clues. It does head the psalm "of David" but that does not mean

it was written by David the King. Most likely it was composed by a priest or worship leader for use around the Ark of the Covenant in David's time or in the Temple built by his son Solomon, probably sung as a hymn. We might well use it today – in fact we do, when we sing the well-known hymn "Praise, my soul, the king of heaven. . ." by Henry Francis Lyte (number 83 in our hymn book).

We can easily follow the thought of this unknown Old Testament hymn writer, and find it very close to our own experience of God. Perhaps all that is missing is the Name of Jesus – all the glory, and the caring love, fellowship and constancy of our God is there.

In blessing the LORD the psalmist starts with himself and the people who are singing this hymn. "Bless the LORD, O my soul"; and if the idea of "soul" is not well understood today the psalmist himself explains it to us, "and *all that is within me* bless God's holy Name". In remarkably few words he goes on to describe a lifetime's experience of God's steadfast love – forgiving our wrongdoing, healing diseases, saving us from early death, renewing our youth "like the eagle's". He does not pretend there have been no bad periods in life, but remembers all that has been good, and blesses God the LORD for the love and mercy that has "crowned" his life.

Then he broadens his thought to reflect on the way God has cared for his faithful people, particularly those subject to oppression. As a Jew he first recalls God's salvation in the time of Moses, bringing his people out of slavery in Egypt. We, of course, would think first



of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. The writer goes on to reflect on the way God has dealt with the Israelites throughout history. Though they have been forgetful God has shown incredible patience, "slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love". The writer uses remarkable imagery to show the extent of the LORD's patience: God has separated his people from the effects of their own wrongdoing by the breadth of the world as they knew it – furthest East to furthest West; God has had compassion on their faults like a good parent has compassion for his children; and withal God has allowed for human weakness, remembering we are creatures of earth – we are "dust" (recalling the story of Adam in Genesis chapter 2).

Even when at length God's anger did compel punishment, anger was brief. Even though human life is short, like grass which soon withers, God's steadfast love

is "from everlasting to everlasting", totally dependable.

The writer finally expands his vision to reflect the unseen forces that drive creation, which he thinks of as angels and ministers of God's will. We would think of the discoveries of science – physical forces, astronomical wonders, biological evolution, but just like the psalmist we would want to say, "Bless the LORD, all his works."

*To me, though the psalmist lived a thousand years before Christ, I can recognise a person who might lead our own worship on a Sunday morning. We are closer in our experience of God's ways, of God's majesty and steadfast love, than might have been supposed, and I rejoice to join in the final words of his psalm.*

**"Bless the LORD, O my soul."**

*Ian*



The Joint Public Issues Team, of which both our denominations are members, has published a list of priorities for 2017 – 19.

You can find out more about the work of JPIT on their Website at:

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

They also publish a magazine called Praxis, which can be delivered to your mailbox.

**The priorities are:-**

- 1. Living in a world affected by terrorism**
- 2. Engaging with churches**
- 3. Changing attitudes to poverty**
- 4. JPIT Conference (Spring 18)**
- 5. Resources for young people**

# CHARLOTTE ELLIOTT ( 1789-1871)

Most Christian hymn writers in the 19th and 20th centuries were noted to be men evangelists, but one of the best known evangelical hymns during that period was written by a lady evangelist, i.e. Charlotte Elliott. The hymn in question is Hymn No.556 in our hymn book 'Singing The Faith' under *Covenant, Commitment and Dedication* with the first verse of the hymn as follows:-

'Just as I am without one plea  
but that you died to set me free  
and at your bidding, "Come to me!"  
O Lamb of God, I Come!'

Although Miss Elliott wrote many hymns during and after her evangelistic conversion this hymn is noted to be the best of the lot. It is said that she wrote this hymn out of her own mature experience when a new convert. She was converted in 1822 by Dr Cesar Malan of Geneva and it is said that when Miss Elliott asked him how she should come to Christ, he replied 'Come just as you are' so it is believed that these words inspired her when she wrote this hymn in 1834. The hymn was later translated into many languages. There are stories of how the hymn was used by the Lord to inspire and comfort for example a boy of fifteen who was inspired by the hymn and later became a missionary in Bengal and also the poet Wordsworth sang the hymn repeatedly to comfort his only daughter who was dying.

There are few recorded events of Charlotte Elliott's life. She was born on the 18th of March 17 89 at Clapham, London and became an invalid either at birth or in early life. She became a poet and a hymn writer. Her letters and poems indicate that she loved the beauties of nature and was overall an attractive and



accomplished person. Her illness and seclusion nearly drove her to mental distress until she met a spiritual teacher in Dr Cesar Malan and from the moment that she was converted in 1822 she believed in the Spirit of God, the Bible was her principle study and her poetry was consecrated to spiritual use'

At the time that she wrote this hymn, Charlotte was editor of 'The Christian Remembrancer Pocket Book' for 25 years and also revised the 'Invalid Hymn Book' adding more than a hundred hymns of her own.

Charlotte died on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1871 at Brighton and her hymn is remembered as a hymn for the whole of Christian Life.

*Manny*

*Sources: 1) Elsie Houghton: Christian Hymn Writers, 2) Hymnary.org*

# LOCAL NEWS

## **Sad News for Cathedral**

As many of you will know, our old friend, Canon Jonathan Baker, acting Dean at the Cathedral, will be leaving on October 8th to become vicar of Beverley Minster.

The post of Dean was to have been filled by Canon Tim Sledge, but sadly he has had to withdraw for health reasons.

We understand that a new Dean is now being sought.

Our sympathy and prayers go out to this fellow member church of CTiCP at this difficult time.

## **Hope into Action**

This Peterborough-based Charity, which we have previously supported through our tithe, is celebrating the opening of their 50th House with a special service to which all are invited on Saturday 14th October, 19.00 for 19.30 at Kingsgate Church. This will be followed by a Big Sleep Out for anyone who wishes to experience something of what homelessness is like. More details on the HIA website.

## **Council Action on Fly-tipping**

*Lesley has brought the following to our attention:-*

The council is set to trial free bulky waste collections for residents.

The initiative will begin in the autumn and the start date will be announced in the coming weeks.

During the three-month trial bulky waste collections will be free of charge.

Evidence will be collected to assess the impact the free scheme has on the number of fly-tipping incidents which will then be reviewed by councillors. The total number of collections per day will be limited during the trial and they will take place on specific days for certain areas.

Households will not be able to have more than one collection during the trial period and residents will need to book a

collection slot once the trial dates are announced.

Running alongside the trial will be a series of events where residents can bring their waste to locations in their community to be collected in large freighter lorries. These collections will be advertised locally and start at the end of September.

A new Household Recycling Centre, double the size of the current facility, will also open next summer.

Councillor Gavin Elsey, cabinet member for waste and street scene, said: "Fly-tipping is a stain on the look and feel of the city and our job is to clear it as quickly as possible and ultimately prevent it from happening in the first place. Currently the city council is having to deal with around 800 fly-tips in the city every month.

"Residents have asked us for free bulky waste collections so we're going to run the trial to see if this reduces fly-tipping across the city.

"We will need to evaluate how successful the trial is in reducing fly-tipping in the city before any future decisions are made. The trial will begin in the autumn and we will further publicise the scheme to residents once dates are confirmed."

A cabinet member decision notice will need to be approved before the trial begins.

The number of items per household will be limited and certain items such as builders' waste will not qualify for the initiative.



# WALSINGHAM

*As our smaller room is known as Walsingham this item from the URC Synod newsletter will be of especial interest.*

At the end of May I joined friends from Worksop Priory for the National Pilgrimage to Walsingham.

One solitary arch, standing high against the sky, is all that remains of Walsingham Priory. The altar, canopy and dais, used for the service, are erected in front of it, representing, as it does, the east end to which the congregation has looked since its foundation. And it ~was while gazing at it during the service that it took on, for me, a deeper and abiding symbolism. Walsingham Priory was just one of the many such sacred buildings that Henry VIII plundered in the Dissolution. His lack of respect or reverence for Walsingham, however, had a somewhat more personal and subjective dimension. In the early years of his marriage to Catherine of Aragon, Henry was among the many who made pilgrimage to Walsingham – walking the final mile, from the ‘slipper chapel’ barefoot. His devotion to Rome and the doctrines and rites of the Catholic Church were such that in October 1521 Pope Leo X conferred on him the title ‘Fidei Defensor’ (Defender of the Faith) as a reward for the king’s pamphlet *Assertio septem sacramentorum adversus Martinum Lutherum* (“Declaration of the Seven Sacraments Against Martin Luther”), written against Luther. Henry’s devotion to Rome, of course, was relinquished as and when Catherine failed to bear a son as heir and, ultimately, when the Pope refused to grant him a divorce. Despite all his piety and devotion, prayers and pilgrimages, Catherine and Henry did not have the son they longed for. I can’t help thinking, therefore, that



Henry’s plunder of Walsingham was – even if only in some small part – an act of vengeance on a place where his prayers had not been answered as he wished. (Perhaps, too, Walsingham’s Priory and shrine may have remained intact had Catherine borne a son. And Henry’s support for Luther’s Reformation principles might never have been kindled?)

Over time the plundered Walsingham Priory and shrine became ruins and it was not until the 1920s that Fr. Hope Patten, newly-appointed as Vicar of Walsingham, inspired the rebuilding of the ‘Holy House’ and church and, from the 1930s, an ever-increasing number of pilgrims returned to the place where Lady Richeldis claimed to have had her vision back in 1061.

So why did the ruins of the Priory become, for me, a powerful symbol? Because despite the attempts of Henry, almost five centuries ago, to snuff out the faith inspired and practised in Walsingham, I was among those who, across the last eight decades, have gathered there and offered prayer and praise. Where we worshipped that day was the same place that had inspired faith and pilgrimage; how and why we worshipped was in faithful succession to those who went before us. Henry’s attempts had not put an end to faith and worship. But whereas once there was a building recognisable as a church now our

worship is offered amid the ruins. To a large extent we did not need a building in order to worship. The power of kings and their plunder – the present challenges of our own day – do not, ultimately, extinguish the flame of faith or our ability to be the Church of Christ.

In these uncertain times, in which the future of the Church feels very uncertain, perhaps the arch at Walsingham can offer us hope – to persist in faith, worship and service and to entrust the church’s future to God. There is a further challenge too: to remain faithful even when our prayers and policies do not result in the ways we had hoped. I am always inspired by the resolve of Daniel’s “but if not”, when facing the prospect of the fiery furnace: *If*

*our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up.*’ (The New Revised Standard Version [Anglicized Edition], copyright 1989, 1995 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.)

May God enable us to be a people who sustain faith amid the ruins.

*Rev’d Geoffrey Clarke  
Minister, The Crossing, Worksop*

## CHILDREN’S FOOD 365



**Church Action  
on Poverty**

everybody has access to good food and nobody has to go to bed hungry.

Coping with the school holidays pushes many families into food poverty and insecurity. While many children from low-income families are entitled to free school meals during term time, there is currently no such provision during holidays. A recent report by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Hunger found that as many as three million children faced the risk of food insecurity this summer.

In Wales, the Assembly Government

Church Action on Poverty is working alongside other organisations as part of the **End Hunger UK** coalition. Until the end of 2018, we will campaign for a UK where

has launched a national ‘Food and Fun’ programme to address holiday hunger. The Westminster government needs to follow suit, and take responsibility for ensuring that children have access to good food on the 170 days a year when they are not in school.

A ‘Holiday Food Provision Bill’ is being presented to the Houses of Parliament on 5 September. Over 100 MPs have already declared their support, but we need more to do so.

[www.church-poverty.org.uk/endhunger](http://www.church-poverty.org.uk/endhunger) will give you much more information about this and you may still be able to send an email to your MP about this issue.



# CLIMATE CHANGE AND HURRICANES

Our hearts are heavy and our thoughts are with everyone affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. It's nearly impossible to grasp the weight of these natural disasters, which will be felt for years to come.

Just days after one of the most destructive storms in our nation's history dropped more than 50 inches of rain on parts of Texas, another historic storm, Hurricane Irma, has already devastated portions of the Leeward and Virgin Islands and is expected to make landfall in the southeastern US this weekend. Hurricane Irma is the strongest hurricane on record in the Atlantic basin, outside of the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico.

This is why the climate crisis is ultimately a human issue – because our health, our livelihoods, and our homes are directly impacted by the changes happening in our environment.

## **So, what do Hurricanes Harvey and Irma have to do with climate change?**

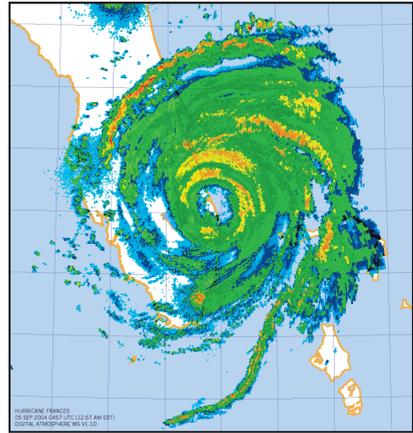
The climate crisis intensifies the impact of hurricanes. Here's how:

### **1. By adding fuel to the fire, climate change makes hurricanes more devastating.**

As sea surface temperatures become warmer because of climate change, hurricanes can become more powerful and cause more damage and loss of life.

### **2. Climate change is linked to extreme rainfall (and therefore, flooding).**

As the world becomes warmer, more water evaporates from oceans (and other water bodies) into the



air. Hurricanes tap into this moisture-enriched atmosphere and are capable of producing heavier precipitation, and this can result in more flooding when the hurricane approaches land.

### **3. Sea-level rise caused by climate change can greatly increase the storm surge from hurricanes.**

With higher sea levels, storm surges are able to move further inland and can lead to more widespread and greater damage than they otherwise might.

Devastating storms like Harvey and Irma remind us how critical it is to solve the climate crisis and do our part to help mitigate increasing future disasters. If you'd like to learn more about how the climate crisis affects hurricanes and what you can do to take action, visit our recent blog post, "Hurricane Harvey and Climate Change: Here Are the Facts."

*Part of an email from  
the Climate Reality Project*

<https://www.climaterealityproject.org/>

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## HAPPY MARRIAGE?

Wife: You're shirtless.

Me: Yes.

Wife: And covered in. . . oil?

Me: Well, you know you always say I never glisten?

*Found by Editor's Grandson!*

# A VISIT TO BUCKINGHAM PALACE



As part of our Christmas presents from our family we decided to go on a trip to London which included a going into the state rooms of Buckingham Palace, something that we had always wanted to do. On August 30th we were picked up just along the road from Westgate New Church at 8am for a good run to London arriving at about 11.30 in time to grab a bite to eat before our entry into the Palace. After a small hold up waiting for a passenger the bus picked us up and dropped us at the entrance for our 1pm time for going in. We had expected that we would be allowed to go in bypassing those who did not have timed entrance tickets, but no we had to queue with all the rest to go through the airport style

security system. This did not take much time so on to the rooms.

The state rooms were set up to display many of the items that the Queen and the Duke had been given on their travels. These were in open cabinets with descriptions of each. However as there were so many people wanting to read them, it was impossible to read each one, so you had to read as and when you could. We felt that this rather spoilt the visit but none the less it was interesting if nothing else to see the rooms themselves, which both of us thought were not like they seem on the TV – they need a wash and brush up.

After doing all we could we came out and had a cup of tea in the Garden Café, still with a bit of time before being picked up at 5.15pm. A trip into the gift shop beckoned and as it was raining went back to the café and sat watching the world go by. As you can only see the world go by for a certain amount of time we decided to brave the rain and go out of the grounds to look at the area around the palace and had another cup of tea and this time a cake as well. The bus was picking us up at 5.15 but when we got there the bus was not, so we waited until it came round only to find that several passengers had not yet arrived so round the bus had to go for the fourth time as stopping time was limited. We all finally got on the bus at 5.30 for an uneventful ride home arriving at the drop off point at 8.30. Even with the problems of seeing things, we felt it was a successful day.

*June and Trevor*

# CHURCH NEWS

## Changing the Chairs

On September 7th a working day was held to transform our faded, old red chairs into smart grey ones by fitting the new cushions we had bought. Work was also done on the rather shabby garden area behind our building. People unable to join in the work were also invited to come along for the fellowship and lunch was provided.



*Photo of Work in Progress by Trevor*



## Meet the Moderator

On September 14th, we were all invited to meet Rev'd Kevin Watson, Moderator of the URC General Assembly and the Yorkshire Synod Moderator, who had visited our sister church, Queen Street, Whittlesey, in the morning.

Kevin was particularly interested to learn about our experience of moving from our old church building to the new one and we told him about the efforts made to include everyone in the moving service and how we had processed from one church to the other, each person bringing across something we valued and wished to keep.

Later the group was joined by friends from St. Andrew's URC.

*Kevin is in the centre of the picture between Monica and Megan.*

## Inter-Faith Action

Members of the Ladies' Inter-faith Coffee Group, distribute bottles of water in Cathedral Square. There is more about this in Lesley's letter (p3). The picture, by Lesley, shows Alison, Sarah and Megan with two of their Muslim friends.



# CHRISTIAN AID LUNCHEES 2017



The total for the lunches this year from mid May until the end of August (26<sup>th</sup>) was £3909.96. The target was £5000, so we are short and we are asking for donations. We have also asked all the Churches involved to ask for donations from those who have not been able to attend a lunch and would like to donate. Vi and I would like to thank all those who have already supported this cause. If you were not able to be a part of this activity this year and would like to give, Vi and Des Kellard will only be too pleased to receive any donations.

Westgate New Church's contributions this year over the two weeks we served was £349.50, but the takings gradually increased, and on the last one we had about 60 people attend and £257.50 was taken. As ever, with their donations, Sacred Heart and St Oswald's Catholic Churches did well and got £467.65 on their two weeks.

We are very grateful for the help provided in putting out all the tables, chairs, tablecloths, cutlery, bunting and notices.

Ewan Cappitt, Trevor Caunt, Terry Pritchett and Paul Riddler will be organising things in 2018 as Vi and I are bowing out as age catches us up. Vi is 85 now and I am 89. We are both finding the concentration necessary difficult.

Thanks for all your help.

*Des*



*Photo of the last lunch taken by Trevor*

## WONDERS OF CREATION – LIGHT

I have always been fascinated by the effects of light or the lack of it. This view of sunlit trees against the dark clouds shows a wonderful contrast and I was lucky enough to have my camera with me at the time.

*Editor*



# CELEBRATIONS!

August 27th saw a double celebration after the morning service at Westgate New Church. Kitty was celebrating her 93rd birthday on the actual day and Ian and Linda were belatedly celebrating their golden wedding anniversary, which was actually earlier in the summer, but not celebrated at the time because of Ian's operation. Kitty is pictured with a few of the



cakes she provided and Ian had made two larger cakes for all to share, so plenty of cake was enjoyed by everyone.

Congratulations to all three.



## SHAKESPEARE AT TOLETHORPE

Ian and Linda enjoyed all three productions of the Stamford Shakespeare Company at Tolethorpe Hall.

*A Midsummer Night's Dream* (top), put on every three years, is each time a completely different production. We thought this the most hilarious yet.

*Much Ado About Nothing* (centre) worked well, unusually set when the heroes are returning from the First World War. There are two couples, one with a wedding almost called off after intervention by a trouble-maker and the other pair starting out mocking each other but eventually finding they are ideally suited. This again was very, very funny.

After the two Shakespeare plays, there was, as has been the custom for the last few years, a play by a different writer, *Hobson's Choice*, by Harold



Brighouse (L). A

tyrannical father and shopkeeper in 1880s Salford provokes rebellion by his three daughters. The eldest marries a talented, but inferior (according to father) workman. They set up a rival shop and do so well that an ailing father is left with no choice but to let them take over his establishment.

No photos are allowed during the performance, so these shots of the sets were taken in the interval.

# Inspirational Colouring Verse



And he was saying to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the Harvest to send out labourers into His harvest."

Luke 10 verse 2

# CTiCP FORUM

At St Mary's Church, at 7.30pm on Tuesday 5th September 2017

Representatives were present from All Souls RC, Park Road Baptists, St Mark's, St Mary's, the Cathedral, St John's and Westgate New Church.

John Bedford, Chair, welcomed everyone and Revd Michael Moore led in prayer.

**Chaplaincy in Peterborough:** the Chaplaincy service for Cambridgeshire has closed. Peterborough has a new Chaplaincy Forum with its first meeting on 10th October. Churches Together (CTiCP) wrote to the Council to say that it welcomed the Council's work to establish a university in Peterborough; CTiCP was willing to help in any way it could. A reply thanked CTiCP and looked forward to working together. A meeting will be arranged with the University.

Dr Paul Ballard has arranged for the City Centre Chaplains to meet over lunch for mutual support.

The City Centre Chaplaincy team work out of Argos Arms, Draper's Arms and in Cathedral Square and make person-to-person contact with anyone needing support.

**All Saints:** Revd Greg Roberts wrote that he would like to keep in touch with CTiCP but the church was not able to be a full member of CTiCP at present. We replied saying we would like him to continue with all his CTiCP activities as he is doing now.

**Fairtrade:** PCC ask all the churches in the city to help make Peterborough a Fairtrade city by using Fairtrade goods in our kitchens, to advertise this in our kitchens, and also let the Council know we are doing this and join with their aims.

**Winter Night Shelter:** Steve Pettican gave an update. This year it runs 11th December – 11th March 2018 to provide evening meal, bed and breakfast at seven



churches across the city. Last year, 44 individual guests went through the project. It may take two months for someone to gain from the project, but it is good to recognise that 23 went into accommodation. 248 volunteers have signed up with 40 new volunteers this year. Last year 80% were Christian, 20% non-Christian. There are different ways to be involved and Steve welcomes enquiries from prospective volunteers. They plan to pilot mentoring training for community support for guests. The cost of running the Winter Night Shelter is between £20 – £25,000. There will be a Pop-Up Day on Homelessness on 25th September in Cathedral Square, with an opportunity to speak to the public about the challenges and affordable housing. The local authority has set up a strategic group on homelessness.

**Christmas Starts with Christ** will be in its fourth year in 2017. 30 churches work together and last year 60 adverts on Heart FM publicised the message. Many churches now have a banner to display at Christmas. A banner costs £42. We were asked to look prayerfully and think about ownership of the this project, to relieve the load on Steve Pettican, and about donations towards advertising.

## **Treasurer's Report**

There are still a few subscriptions owing, which still stand at £450 p.a.

The Public Liability Insurance is due for renewal.

## **Group Reports:**

**Chaplaincy group:** has begun to meet with City Chaplains and the next meeting is on 16th October. Ian Cornall mentioned

that this group ought to have a page on the CTiCP website like the other groups.

**Working City Group and People at Work:**

the official launch of What? will be on 24th September at 4pm at the St Andrews Street Baptist Church, Cambridge. Clive Morton and Paul Ballard will represent CTiCP.

The **Theological Society** starts again on Wednesday 27th September at The Friends' Meeting House.

**Worship Group:** This group no longer meets as such, but dates for 2018 and Prayer Breakfasts will be circulated soon.

**CTiCP Group Membership:** Pat Bedford told the meeting that since CTiCP began in 2009 there has been a complete change of clerical representation and the lay representatives have also changed. The Prayer and Worship group has folded and other groups have evolved. Members were asked to take away these facts and think about how to involve others in our churches in the work of CTiCP, which goes on largely behind the scenes.

**Homelessness and Rough Sleepers:**

Jonathan Greenwood spoke about the homeless situation in Peterborough and told us of the work the city council is doing. At the moment, homeless numbers

are rising by one-third year on year. He then gave an alarming report about the number of gangs active in Peterborough, especially in the Orton Centre.

**Christmas Alive Update:** Jonathan would like to know of the events of each church after 9th December so they can be put into an Events calendar to hand out at the Christmas event in Cathedral Square on the 9th December (just one main event at each church – no space for more). The puppets will be there again together with "Messy Church" materials which are user friendly. Jonathan asked for volunteers to buy chocolate coins and write on each one so they can be given out at this event (words like "Love", "Peace", etc.) He asked for one church to take this on.

**Any Other Business:** The **joint CTiCP service** took place on Sunday 10th September at 6.30pm at Park Road Baptist Church. **Website:** Ian Cornall reminded the Forum that he would be handing over at the end of this year to someone else.

The meeting closed with the Grace.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 16th January 2018, venue to be confirmed.

*Monica*

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## GOOD NEWS FROM NEPAL

The floods and landslides in Nepal have left thousands of people displaced, homes destroyed and livelihoods lost. We are proud to report that our partners, including the Feminist Dalit Organisation (FEDO) have been leading in the delivery of immediate disaster relief across districts to families, providing food, tents, clothes, hygiene and dignity kits, and helping to construct toilets in homes and schools. *(Dalits are the lowest of the Indian castes, sometimes called untouchables. Editor)*



After the earthquake in 2015, Dalit communities struggled to access aid because of their caste status. FEDO was there to provide immediate, lifesaving support to over 7,900 people. We hope that Dalit women's advocacy over the past four years and recent presence in local government will help Dalit communities to have equal access to aid.

*Part email from Womankind Worldwide*  
<https://www.womankind.org.uk/>

# SINGERS OF WESTGATE NEW CHURCH

## Phil at the Cathedral

Hereward Harmony, the barbershop group that Phil belongs to, sang as part of the 'Drop in the Ocean' event at Peterborough Cathedral. Phil writes:

We started standing at the north end of the Choir Stalls. We had to wait about fifteen minutes from our start time, then the organiser, holding up a blue umbrella, walked in with a group of people. A woman with a guitar sang something in a high pitched voice and we could not understand a word. Then we sang two songs – a Barbershop song called *Let your Songbird Fly* followed by *Lean on Me*. The group then moved to the north end of the Cathedral where a Gospel Choir sang a couple of songs we couldn't hear as we were moving down to near the entrance. There we waited until the umbrella man and the group reached us. Then we sang *Wonderful World* after which the group moved to the north end of the choir stalls and we followed, while a poem was being read to the group (again we couldn't hear it). We stood in the choir stalls and sang the *Irish Blessing*. The whole thing took over an hour and we still don't know exactly what we took part in. It seems that our efforts were much appreciated but it left us rather puzzled as to what we had been part of.



Phil

## Trevor and June in Yaxley

On Friday September 8th Yaxley Singers went to perform at the opening of St Mary's Church Farcet Patronal Festival weekend. With 20 members of the choir and over 50 people in the audience, signs were good for a successful concert, which started at 7pm. One of the St Mary's

Stewards welcomed everyone to the evenings entertainment and stated that the proceeds were for the Motor Neurone Disease Association, as one of their members had recently been diagnosed with this illness.



We started with *We've Got a Handful of Songs to Sing You* by Lionel Bart. Our choir compère gave the audience some more details of the group and what we were to present to them during the concert. We started with Rogers and Hammerstein's *It's a Grand Night for Singing, I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing* by Cook and Greenaway, followed by *Play a Simple Melody* with men and ladies singing separate parts. We continued with a group based on the cosmos followed by the Gardeners' Hymn (based on All Things Bright and Beautiful). The next group came from some of the shows and included two from *Mary Poppins*. As it was getting into Autumn we then had a group about the seasons ending with the signature tune to *Last of the Summer Wine*. We thank Claude Schoenberg for the next two, starting with *Bring Him Home* followed by *Do You Hear The People Sing*. The *Sky Boat Song* was our next item, then into a group with Love as the theme including another by Rodgers and Hammerstein, then John Denver and Andrew Lloyd Webber. At all of our

concerts we end with *Let There be Peace on Earth* which, with what is happening in the world today, is something that we all hope will occur.

The Steward thanked the choir for a wonderful evening's entertainment, which ended with a light supper provided by the church.

*June and Trevor*

### **Not Walking Alone**

Some six weeks ago members of the British Association of Barbershop Singers (BABS) located within 90 miles of Huntingdon were invited to attend a one day workshop. We were each required to learn the appropriate part of the four-part barbershop harmony arrangement of *You'll Never Walk Alone*. The instructions to attendees were that no sheet music would be allowed on the day, not unusual as singing barbershop style requires the singer to learn the "words and notes" by heart so that the singers can properly "perform" the song to an audience. That means singing and presenting in a meaningful way.

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September I and eight of my companions from Hereward

Harmony arrived at the College of Animal Welfare in Godmachester to register for the day and to join some 73 other like-minded people. After our first run through of the song our coaches for the day remarked that we all knew the song so there was not much for them to do. I don't think they were being serious as we worked from 9 o'clock in the morning to 4 in the afternoon with a couple of tea breaks and a break for lunch.

We didn't need to do any learning of words and notes, but did learn a number of things to improve our performance and that means not just singing the song but making it believable to the audience. Hopefully we can take the lessons back to our individual choruses so that all of us involved in this genre of choral singing can improve. If you are interested and have internet access try the following link to Youtube ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jMcHy\\_UvSmo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jMcHy_UvSmo)) where you will find a video of our final performance. Quality is not too good as it was recorded using a mobile phone but it will give you a good impression.

*Phil*

*Do listen to the song if you can. Editor.*

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## **ADVICE FROM POLICE**

### **Handbags etc – Increased Thefts in Peterborough**

Keep valuables out of sight to prevent making it easy for thieves.

Watch who is around you and call 101 if you think you are being followed.

Consider carrying a personal alarm.

If someone bumps into you, check you still have valuables, purse, phone etc.

Keep handbags shut, secure and in sight at all times. Carry them close to you with clasp facing forwards and with strap across your body. Don't put everything in

your bag, keep keys and mobile in an inside coat pocket. Attach a purse bungee and/or bells and secure inside your handbag.

Wheelchair users, keep belongings beside you, not hanging on the back of the chair.

When using a shopping trolley or pushchair, keep handbags on your person, not hanging off the trolley.

*Summarised from an email from police*



Creating a safer  
Cambridgeshire

# WESTGATE PUZZLE PAGES

The puzzles this month are based on readings from Exodus and continue with Moses leading the Israelites from Egypt to the Promised Land.

## Puzzle 1: Exodus 17: 1-7

Part of the Israelites journey involved wandering through the desert and so people were thirsty. They began to grumble and complain to Moses that they hadn't any water. So Moses prayed to God and asked him what to do. God answered Moses and told him that He would meet him by the rock at Mount Sinai. When Moses arrived at the rock God told him to strike it with his staff. When he did this water flowed from the rock and so everyone had plenty to drink.

This shows the importance of asking God for help when faced with an impossible situation. Sometimes we may not understand the way God is leading, but we just have to trust him. After all, who would have thought you could get water from a rock?

## Water from a Rock Based on Exodus 17: 1-7



V	J	F	J	F	K	C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N	N
L	E	A	M	G	M	V	S	J	D	V	D	T	C	F
V	N	J	E	R	R	U	M	T	H	E	G	L	M	R
R	P	G	K	U	D	H	U	Y	A	F	S	H	M	O
L	O	F	U	M	R	G	A	A	G	F	Z	E	U	C
I	U	D	Q	B	T	W	A	T	E	R	F	Y	R	K
V	R	Q	T	L	W	Y	F	T	M	O	S	E	S	T
E	R	C	K	E	C	A	S	Q	U	E	M	K	X	S
S	M	F	O	N	N	R	L	V	J	U	C	S	L	S
T	O	V	H	M	I	I	H	K	U	P	R	C	Y	S
O	D	C	Z	H	P	K	L	F	J	E	E	E	K	N
C	R	R	T	A	W	L	O	E	D	T	N	Q	T	Y
K	V	Z	I	X	A	X	A	L	Z	H	S	R	T	J
U	Q	J	D	N	R	T	E	I	V	N	W	P	J	B
Y	L	U	Z	R	K	C	R	G	N	K	N	T	C	S

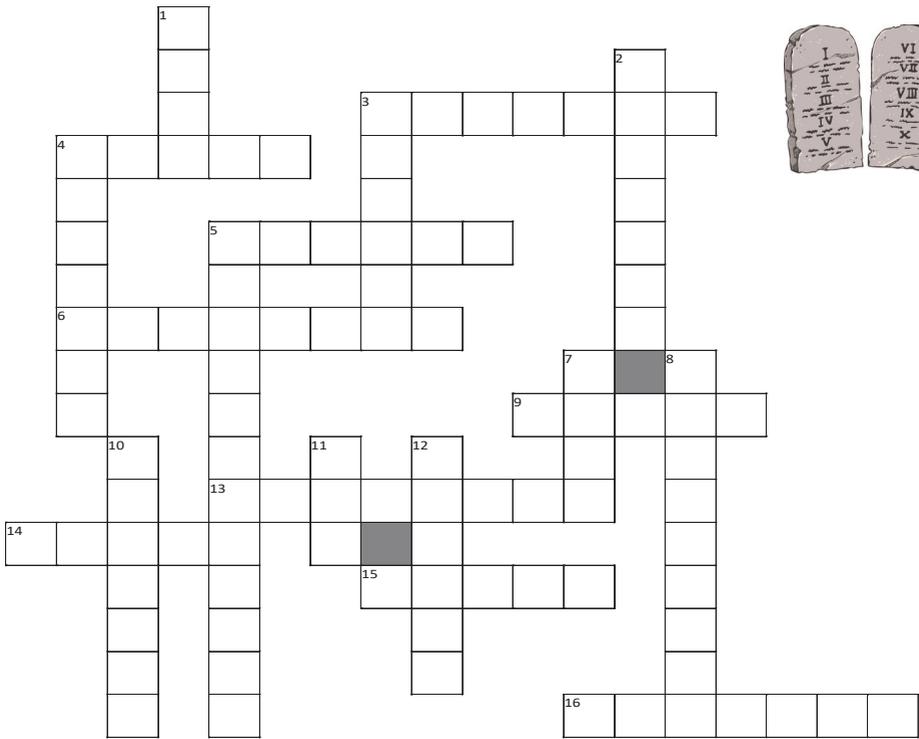
Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.' So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel.  
Exodus 17: 6

COMPLAIN	ROCK	DRINK	POUR	DESERT
ELDERS	GRUMBLE	LIVESTOCK	CHILDREN	THIRST
WALK	WATER	STAFF	NILE	MOSES

## Puzzle 2: Exodus 20: 1-17

God wanted to help prepare His people for living in their new land. He wanted them to understand the difference between right and wrong. So He gave the Israelites His law, the Ten Commandments, which were given to Moses on two tablets of stone.

Using the New Revised Standard Version, complete the crossword on the next page.



**ACROSS**

- 3 The Third Commandment says the Lord will not acquit anyone who does this with His name.
- 4 The Eighth Commandment says you should not do this.
- 5 A male parent
- 6 The Seventh Commandment says you should not commit this.
- 9 God gave the Ten Commandments to \_\_\_\_\_ on Mount Sinai.
- 13 The Third Commandment threatens to punish children for their parent's \_\_\_\_\_.
- 14 The Tenth Commandment forbids you to do this with the possessions of others.
- 15 The First Commandment forbids you to make this.
- 16 The Second Commandment says you must not do this to idols.



**DOWN**

- 1 The Third Commandment says you shall not make wrong use of this.
- 2 The Second Commandment says God is this if you bow down to an idol.
- 3 A female parent
- 4 The Fourth Commandment says this day should be kept holy.
- 5 The Ninth Commandment says you should not give this (2 words).
- 7 The Fourth Commandment says the Sabbath should be kept this.
- 8 The Tenth Commandment forbids you to want anything belonging to this person.
- 10 The Fourth Commandment says you should not do any work on this day because this is when the Lord rested.
- 11 The number of days it took the Lord to make heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them.
- 12 The Sixth Commandment says you should not commit this.

# NATIONAL FOOD DAY – 24TH OCTOBER

National Food Day started back in 2011 and is aimed at getting everyone to 'Eat Real'. It is a worldwide campaign to educate us all to eat smart and well.

The day is highlighting the need to cut back on processed foods and drinks, overly salted packaged foods and fatty factory-farmed meats in favour of fresh fruits, grains, vegetables and sustainably raised protein.

We all have busy lives, which include home, work and looking after family and we are in a world where there is so much convenience food available and people have forgotten how easily and quickly you can cook some basic foods.

We need to re-educate ourselves how to use the basic foods, such as rice, pasta and vegetables instead of just taking a tin out of the cupboard or frozen chips out of the freezer; pasta can be cooked in minutes, vegetables only take a few minutes to prepare. Tinned food does have its uses but make sure low salt and sugar varieties are purchased.

People are often put off cooking fresh foods due to the number of ingredients required for recipes, but a cupboard with basic herbs and spices helps lift even pasta and tomato into a tasty meal. Another excuse is the time; batch cooking is good and if you live on your own, cook a basic recipe and then when re-heating add a different spice each time to create a different meal. One pot cooking is easy,

put everything in a casserole, all the goodness retains in the sauce, cook rice and meal done.

One idea given was at special events where people will attend, or even at Foodbanks or at Harvest Festival, give out easy tasty recipes where only limited ingredients are needed.

Governments are trying to get us to eat healthy meals by advertising and apps but it needs to be continued out into the High Street, maybe again with the recipe leaflets and the foods together. Some chains do have recipes, but again most have expensive products.

The aim is to get us into the kitchen to cook healthy food and get us back into the habit of cooking. If you have children, get them to help and make cooking fun. National Curry week starts on the 9<sup>th</sup> October; instead of getting that take away or prepared supermarket dish, why not make your own?

**6<sup>th</sup> October: World Smile Day** In memory of Harvey Ball who created the Smiley Face. A smile costs nothing but brighten up people's days.

**10<sup>th</sup> October: Mental Health Day** Raising awareness of all forms of mental health and highlighting the need to improve services and allow people to live with dignity.

*Compiled by Brenda*

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## DOUBLE MEANING

### **Machismo, Misogyny or Anti-bigamy?**

The Spanish word 'esposa' translates as wife. 'Esposas' translates both as wives and handcuffs. Could this be thought to throw some light on what some Spanish men may

think about having too many women around?

*Ewan*

*Or how Spanish women would like to restrict Spanish men?*

*Editor*

## 1st–8th October

Churches: All Souls (RC); Westgate New Church (URC and Methodist)  
Events: Spring Harvest Event (5th)\*  
People: everyone suffering from the effects of hurricanes\*; recipients of our Prayer Shawls\*  
Organisations: Peterborough Christian Bookshop\*; Peterborough City Council\*; Thorpe Hall Hospice\*  
Give thanks: For dedicated staff working in hospices



## 9th–15th October

Churches: Peterborough Cathedral (CofE)\*; Queen St. Whittlesey (URC and Methodist)  
Events: Hope into Action Service and Sleep Out (14th)\*  
People: URC General Assembly Moderator\*  
Organisations: Ladies' Interfaith Coffee Group\*; Church Action on Poverty\*



# OCTOBER PRAYER PROMPTS



## 16th–22nd October

Churches: Park Road (Baptist); Yarwell (CofE and Methodist)  
People: Police at work in Peterborough\*; everyone suffering as a result of terrorism  
Organisations: Joint Public Issues Team\*; End Hunger UK\*; Christian Aid\*  
Give thanks: For warm, safe homes and those who share them with us

## 23rd–31st October

Churches: St. Mark's (CofE), Yaxley (Methodist)  
Events: National Food Day (24th); Our Anniversary Service (29th)\*\*; Zozulenka (31st)\*  
People: Everyone who goes hungry\*  
Organisations: Hope into Action\*; CTiCP\*; Womankind\*  
Give thanks: For the food and drink we enjoy and can easily obtain

The Churches mentioned are taken from the Methodist Circuit and from a list of Churches in CTiCP and other churches with whom we have a close association. \*Further information elsewhere in the magazine \*\* See Diary on next page

# OCTOBER DIARY

*Tuesdays, 10.30: Pause for Prayer in Walsingham*  
*First Tuesday in the month, 2.30: at Park Road Baptist Church:*  
*Tuesday Fellowship*  
*Wednesdays, 10.30: Circuit Intercessions Service in Lindisfarne*  
*Wednesdays, 1pm at the Cathedral: Wednesday at 1 (W@1) temporarily suspended*  
*Saturdays, 10.00-12.00: Morning coffee*  
*Saturdays, 12.30-2.30 : Foodbank open*

\* \* \*

Sun.	1	10:30	Morning worship, led by Revd. Joe Goodrich
		4:30	In Walsingham: Evening Communion Service and Café Worship, led by Revd. Lesley Moseley
Sat.	7	8.00	CTiCP Prayer Breakfast at Westgate New Church
Sun.	8	10:30	Morning worship, led by Revd. Graham Tooth
		3:30	At St Andrews, Joint URC Service
Tue.	10	2:00	In Walsingham: Crafty Capers
Sun.	15	10:30	Morning worship with Holy Communion Service, led by Revd. Doug Stevens
		18:30	At Southside, Methodist Circuit Healing Service
Sun.	22	10:30	Morning worship, led by Mr. Des Kellard
Tue.	24	2:00	In Walsingham: Crafty Capers
Wed.	25	7:30	At The Friends Meeting House: Peterborough Theological Society; Speaker: Rt. Revd. Rupert Hoare, former Bishop of Dudley, <i>Faith and society in England at the dawn of modernity: from Hooker to Locke via Milton and Hobbs.</i>
Sun.	29	10:30	Morning worship with Holy Communion, led by Revd. Lesley Moseley. Westgate New Church Anniversary
<b>November</b>	Sat.	4	8.00 CTiCP Prayer Breakfast at St. John's, Cathedral Square
	Sun.	5	10:30 Morning worship , led by Mrs. Bridget Spencer
		4:30	In Walsingham: Evening Communion Service and Café Worship, led by Revd. Lesley Moseley

## EVENTS ELSEWHERE

### Spring Harvest Local Event

Emmanuel Church, Twelvetree Avenue,  
 Werrington, Peterborough PE4 5DT  
 Thursday 5th October 2017  
 7.30 pm

#### ONLY THE BRAVE

exploring the theme of determined  
 discipleship

Tickets £7 adults, £5 for concessions

To book visit

[springharvest.org/local](http://springharvest.org/local)

### Zozulenka

A Ukrainian Ensemble performing  
 on behalf of Hope Now  
 7pm, Tuesday 31st October  
 Park Road Baptist Church

Experience the culture and excitement of  
 Ukraine through the singing and dancing  
 of this brand new group  
 from the School of Arts.

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