



The  
United  
Reformed  
Church

May 2017



Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church  
25 Main Avenue, Enfield EN1 1DJ  
[www.bhpurc.org.uk](http://www.bhpurc.org.uk)

# Who to contact

## Minister

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## Serving Elders

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Robin Ward (Secretary)	07962 207 256	secretary@bhpurc.org.uk

## Youth activities

Boys Brigade	bb@bhpurc.org.uk
Girls Brigade	gb@bhpurc.org.uk

## Other activities

Baby & Toddlers	toddlers@bhpurc.org.uk
Book Club	bookclub@bhpurc.org.uk
House Group	housegroup@bhpurc.org.uk

Weekly news sheet	link@bhpurc.org.uk
Hall & Room bookings	office@bhpurc.org.uk



*The Bush Hill Park URC Newsletter is published monthly on the last Sunday of the month. Please note that the views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the whole fellowship or representative of church policy.*

## Next Newsletter

The next edition of the newsletter will be published on Sunday 28th May. All material for inclusion should be emailed to **newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk** by **Sunday 14th May**.

# Festivals and Feasts

Recently, someone commented to me that an ever increasing number of things need to be celebrated in society these days. The person in question pondered how the focus of special days now is different from how it was years ago. A little bit apologetic - as she felt it might have something to do with age - she suggested that it can take away the anticipation and joy of special celebrations in the Christian calendar. I fully agree!

Especially since churches seem to follow this trend in society. The number of 'special service' Sundays in a year now almost outweigh the 'normal' Sundays. There is the Harvest service, Remembrance Sunday, Brigades Enrolment service, Back to Church Sunday, Church anniversary, First Sunday of Advent, Toy service, Nativity service, Carol service and Christingle service all to fit in during the autumn. Followed in winter and spring by further anniversary services (of church buildings or church groups), thinking Sundays, vision Sundays, Sundays to renew promises, Sundays to remember commitments, Mothering Sunday, Christian Aid Sunday, Fathers day and so on. Until at last there is a break in the summer, when people are away on holiday.

There is of course a reason for so many special services. They help us remember God's faithfulness and celebrate the blessings we receive

year upon year. But these are also services to which we can easily invite others who may not normally come to church. For them to join us in services that are designed to carry a simple message of God's love. Services that are theologically not too heavy. In the struggle to stay relevant and connected to the world and culture in which we are called to be church, being invitational and welcoming seems to make perfect sense.

The reality, however, is that very few new people ever do come to these services.

As a minister, I see (and hear about) most strangers visiting church on random Sundays; driven by circumstances in their personal life; compelled by a lingering echo of Christendom. The only other times which almost always guarantee visitors through the door are Christmas day and Easter Sunday.

As churches, we run the risk to have too many feasts and festivals for visitors who never attend church. In the meantime, people who are there every week are suffering from 'festival fatigue'. It is a disease that strips people of the joy of worshipping God and leaves them to just go through some motions every week.

God says something about feasts and festivals in Amos 5 (verse 21 and further).

It seems that He is not a great fan of them either, if they take us away from what really matters!

Yours in Christ,  
Henriette

Henriette



*...and the theme of this morning's service is... 'Preaching a Gospel of Simplicity'...*

## Smile Lines

### **What the Bible really means....**

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, 'I finally figured out what the Bible means!' His father smiled and replied, 'What, then?' The son replied, 'It stands for "Basic Information Before Leaving Earth".'

### **Breakable**

There was a very gracious lady who was posting an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country... 'Is there anything breakable in here?' asked the postal clerk.

'Only the Ten Commandments,' answered the lady.

### **Money**

There is the story of a minister who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: 'I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building programme. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets.'

### **Seize the day**

Today is the oldest you've ever been, yet the youngest you'll ever be, so enjoy this day while it lasts.

# Here is the News

## **Christian Aid's East Africa appeal**

Thank you to everyone who gave for Christian Aid's East Africa appeal, we sent £96 at the end of March.

## **JustOne**

As a church we have partnered with J.John and the team putting on the JustOne event at the Emirates Stadium and as part of this have committed to raise £1,000 towards the costs of the event which takes place on Saturday 8th July 2017. We are still just over £500 short, if you can help please make your donation online at [give.net/justonebhpurc](http://give.net/justonebhpurc) or in an envelope marked "JustOne" in the Sunday offertory.

Further details about the JustOne Event can be found at [justone.co.uk](http://justone.co.uk). Please do also pray for the event and for each one of us to invite someone - make sure you have booked your tickets!

## **The Breakfast Club**

This is a Bible study and prayer group which meets twice monthly on a Saturday morning between 9:00am and 10:30am in the Elders Vestry at Christ Church URC (accessible through the side door of the church on Christ Church Close). Forthcoming meetings are on Saturdays 13th and 27th May. All are welcome to come and join us as we explore God's Word and enjoy some breakfast together.

## **Holiday at Home**

Holiday at Home is a holiday club for adults which will take place on Friday 5th and Saturday 6th May from 10:30am to 4:00pm each day in the hall at Christ Church URC. The programme will include craft activities, quizzes, Bible talks, musical items and entertainment. A cooked lunch and afternoon tea will be provided and the charge for each day is £6.

For further information and to book a place please contact Rosemary Milns on 020 8363 6571 or [mail@ccurc.org.uk](mailto:mail@ccurc.org.uk). Places are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment!



# **Activity Fun Day**

## **Sunday 21st May**



**Free  
of charge**

**1pm to 5pm**

**For more info  
call:  
07775 697 255**

Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church and Hall,  
Main Avenue, EN1 1DJ

Children from reception to year 9 are welcome.

**Come along and have a great time. There will be activities and food. Everyone is welcome - you don't need to be a member to attend our fun day.**



### **Activities will include:**

Bungee run, bouncy castle, sumo suits, table tennis and craft activities to suit all ages.

Various games and challenges (age appropriate), Lego station and there will be a story time for the younger children attending plus lots, lots more.

**Free Bar-be-cue for children**





## MOVIE MOMENTS

Nick and Carol Pollard  
from [EthosMedia.org](http://EthosMedia.org) share  
thought-provoking reflections  
on the latest films.

### *Is cinema the new church?*

The film director Quentin Tarantino is famously quoted as saying that 'Cinema is the new church.' Certainly, films are the medium by which many people today have the opportunity to encounter the big spiritual themes of redemption and transformation. This is the case with *Beauty and the Beast*, the latest classic Disney film to benefit from a live action re-imagining.

This visually spectacular film retells the story of a prince (played by Dan Stevens) who becomes a beast, because of his self-obsession; and whose only hope is to learn to love and be loved, before the final judgement day. His redemption and transformation is brought



about through Belle (played by Emma Watson) who sees, within him, the person he could become. She helps him to turn away from his anger and pride. Belle is in the beast's castle through another story of redemption, when she willingly substitutes herself to save her imprisoned father, taking his life-sentence for him.

This film is a cinematic feast, with beautiful imagery and captivating songs. But it also provides an opportunity to reflect upon the spiritual themes of redemption and transformation, made possible through a sacrificial substitution.

At a time when many families would rather go to a cinema than be in a church perhaps, through appropriate conversations, we might help them to discover something of the big biblical story that is echoed in the stories on the screen.



EthosMedia.org provides  
free resources to help people  
explore spiritual, moral, social  
and cultural issues through  
the latest feature films.

**ETHOS  
MEDIA**.org

*Beauty and the Beast*  
is in cinemas now,  
certificate PG.  
Find screenings at  
[FindAnyFilm.com](http://FindAnyFilm.com)

**FIND  
ANY  
FILM  
.COM**



All films. All above board.



## A conversation with God

Am I A Christian? Lord, can we talk?  
It's about my faith, my belief  
You see, as a Christian I'm supposed to 'spread the word'  
'tell the good news' 'bring people to Christ'  
To be honest Lord I don't (well at least not very well)  
I'm nervous, scared, embarrassed.  
'What will people think?'  
'I can't tell them, they'll laugh at me'.  
It's quite a problem because for some reason peoples ask, 'Are you a Christian?' 'Yes' I proclaim out loud!

But they ask 'Why?'  
And that finishes me, I'm done for, trapped, a stuttering mass of confusion,  
Lost for words, and unable to answer.

Huh! Some Christian!  
I do know why I believe (honest!)  
It's just explaining it that's the problem.  
Can you give me some help Lord?  
How about a job description, guidelines for nervous Christians, things to do  
And not to do, when confronted by that 'Why?'

I really wish I could hold my ground, answer their every question, speak  
Your truth, proclaim your word.  
Aren't I good enough? Am I a bad design? A faulty product?  
What am I doing wrong?

Lord (are you still there?)  
Could you give me a hand please?  
I do find it hard to speak out.  
So help me when someone asks 'Are you a Christian?'  
Because maybe if they're asking, their reason for doing so might be my life  
And the way I live it with you.  
So who knows Lord, maybe I'm getting there after all!

# Sparklers Relaunch

Bush Hill Park United Reform Church

**Sunday 7th May 2017**

**10:30-11:30**

**25 Main Avenue, Enfield EN1 1DJ**

Sparklers is the name of our Sunday school for 3-7 year olds and we would love to see you there.

**Come along, have some fun and make new friends!**

**Stories**

**Prayers**

**Art**

**Reading**

**Kindness**

**Listening**

**Enjoyment**

**Respect**

**Songs**



# Diary

## May

See also Prayer pages and back cover for regular activities

The diary is also online at [www.bhpurc.org.uk/calendar](http://www.bhpurc.org.uk/calendar)

Fri 5th	7:00pm	Boys Brigade Awards Evening
Sun 7th	10:00am 10:30am	<b>Sparklers Relaunch</b> Prayers in the church Communion with Revd Henriette Wentink
Sun 14th	10:30am 6:00pm	Parade with Michaela Lawrance Sunday Evening Reflection
Sun 21th	10:30am 1:00pm	Worship with Terry Silvey Activity fun day (see page 7)
Sun 22nd	10:30am	Worship with Paul Ashitey

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Next newsletter deadline  
Sunday 14th May

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MAY 2017

Have I not commanded you?  
Be strong and courageous.  
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged,  
for the Lord your God will be with you  
wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

**Monday 1st**

Margaret Trevallion

**Tuesday 2nd**

Enfield charity – N:Flame, Christian outreach to youth in secondary schools

**Wednesday 3rd**

Third Avenue

**Thursday 4th**

Bin & recycling men

**Friday 5th**

Karam, our sponsored child in Bethlehem

**Saturday 6th**

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

**Sunday 7th**

Thanks for those who entertain us, make us smile and show us other worlds

**Monday 8th**

Stuart, Mason & Kai Trevallion

**Tuesday 9th**

Enfield charity – Beyond Ourselves, working with children in Zambia

**Wednesday 10th**

Trinity Avenue

**Thursday 11th**

Our libraries & those who work in them

**Friday 12th**

Opportunities to share our faith

**Saturday 13th**

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

**Sunday 14th**

Thanks for our ambulance, medical services and the air ambulance helping to save lives

**Monday 15th**

Valerie & Martin Vant

**Tuesday 16th**

Enfield charity – Enfield Street Pastors, out on a Friday and Saturday night to care for, listen to and help people

**Wednesday 17th**

Tweedy Close

**Thursday 18th**

For our parks & those who maintain them

**Friday 19th**

Elijah, our sponsored child in Zambia

**Saturday 20th**

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

**Sunday 21st**

Give thanks for our Elders

**Monday 22nd**

John & Marlene Vyse

**Tuesday 23rd**

Enfield charity – Mind in Enfield, mental health organisation

**Wednesday 24th**

Wellington Road

**Thursday 25th**

Social workers

**Friday 26th**

JustOne J.John event at Emirates Stadium

**Saturday 27th**

Sunday's Worship Leader and the service tomorrow

**Sunday 28th**

Thanks for our Brigades as they help local girls and boys to learn useful skills

**Monday 29th**

Robin, Frances, Cerys & Erin Ward

**Tuesday 30th**

Enfield charity – Pathway, providing Christian education for children

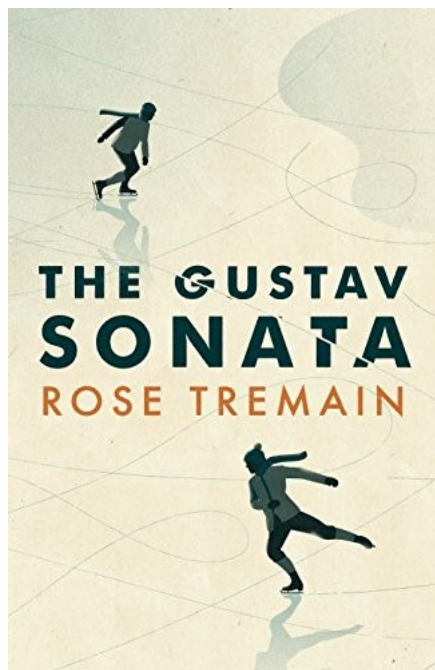
**Wednesday 31st**

Alberta Road

## Book Club



There was no book club in April, we next meet on 8th May having read two books! The Keeper of Lost Things by Ruth Hogan and The Gustav Sonata by Rose Tremain. Full details to follow.



## Guess Who's Calling

Try locating the bible verses where people responded to a job invitation by saying:

I can't. I've just got married.

I'm too young.

I've got a speech impediment.

Nobody will take any notice of me.

I'm not qualified.

There's a lion outside, I'll be killed.

I'm not good enough.

Answers. (A) Luke, Chapter 14, verse 20. (B) Jeremiah 1.6. (C, D, E) Exodus 3.11, 4.1; 4.10. (F) Proverbs 22.13. (G) Isaiah 6. 5 & Luke 5.8. But the ultimate award for evasion goes to Jonah. He was called to be a missionary to foreigners whom he detested, so he took off in the opposite direction.

What does God's voice sound like? It sounds exactly like that of a friend or family member, who sees things in you that you can't see yourself. When they ask you if you have considered full-time teaching, or volunteering to be a Street Pastor, or becoming a Vicar, or applying for promotion, or anything else which might be God's will for you, that may be God's voice.

Often it will confirm a thought which you have had yourself. Don't say, "Oh no, I couldn't", because, as we've seen, that's what everyone says and it won't wash. At least we ought to try it out. St Paul wrote, "The one who calls you is faithful", because we won't be abandoned along the way.

7th May is Vocations Sunday in most churches. Here's how the Church of England explains vocation:

"The young are called; the elderly are called. There is no retirement from the Christian pilgrimage. ....Women are called and men are called.....God 'has no favourites' ....We are all called no matter what our occupations may be. There's no special status in the Kingdom for those in 'top jobs' or 'important responsibilities'"

Ven John Barton



## Rotas

	Door welcome	Reader	Tea & Coffee	Flowers	Sound room
7th	Evelyn	Sue	Jill	Alison	Tony
14th	Kath	Brigades	Ivy & Jane	Judith	Robin H
21st	Alison	Judith	Valerie	Sylvia	Robin H
28th	Judith	Sue	Yvonne & Jill	Jill	

If you can fill in the gaps above please put your name in the sheet on the wall in the lounge.

If you would like to do any of the above but feel you'd need a little guidance first please talk to Lisa, she'll make sure you find the right person. The sound room is easier than you think - go on, volunteer!

## Asking God

The shortest distance between a problem and a solution is the distance between your knees and the floor. The one who kneels to the Lord can stand up to anything. Anon

Genuine prayers will be looking out for answers. W Plumer

All my discoveries have been made in answer to prayer. Isaac Newton

We should believe that nothing is too small to be named before God. What should we think of the patient who told his doctor he was ill, but never went into particulars? Anon

If your troubles are deep-seated or long-standing, try kneeling. Anon

# Thy Kingdom Come

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York are calling Christians of every denomination to join in with Thy Kingdom Come, a prayer initiative between Ascension and Pentecost (25th May to 4th June), to pray for the nation to know Jesus Christ. It is a time to seek the empowering of the Holy Spirit, that we may be effective witnesses to Jesus Christ.

Praying for others to know Jesus is one of the most powerful things we can do. Persistent prayer for others brings transformation to their lives. As Paul writes: 'Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.' (Colossians 4: 2-4).

As Paul says, consistent praying for others involves discipline ('be devoted') and responding to what God is already doing in people's lives ('being watchful and thankful'). We can pray for 'open doors' to point people to Jesus and what He can mean in their lives. We all have opportunities to do this, as even Paul prayed as a prisoner in chains!!

The Archbishops are encouraging us to choose five people who we can pray for regularly. Why not ask God to guide you, as you settle on five names and commit to praying for them daily, perhaps by using the following prayer:

Loving Father, in the face of Jesus Christ your light  
and glory have blazed forth.

Send your Holy Spirit that I may share with my  
friends the life of your Son and your love for all.

Strengthen me as a witness to that love as I pledge  
to pray for them, for your name's sake.

Amen.

Rev Paul Hardingham

## How can we best help children with little hope?

There is an ongoing debate among many Christian relief workers as to whether impoverished and orphaned children in developing countries are best helped in their development by (a) staying with their grandparents or other relatives (all usually equally impoverished), (b) staying in purpose built Children's Homes looking after perhaps 40 to 60 children, or (c) being in smaller family-size units of say 10 or more children where there are at least two adult supervisors, perhaps a married couple, who can act as proxy-parents. The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) would say the ideal is (c).

The first of these, (a), is frequently of no advantage to the child because s/he becomes yet an extra mouth to be fed in a home often without adequate nourishment already.

The problem with (c) is finding couples willing to look after so many children and who also have adequate space for them to sleep and live. If there are, say, up to 20 children in such a home, this is a considerable expense in terms of food, clothing and accommodation. Many countries find they are unable to provide sufficient proxy-parents able and willing to take on this role, largely because of inadequate financial support structures.

In such circumstances (b) becomes an opportunity, although the funding issue is equally relevant. While children in such Homes may not get as much individual adult attention as in (a) or (c), they usually do get the opportunity to make friends who have gone through similar experiences of losing their parents. Where else would one hear such conversations as in a Home for orphaned children in one of the Southern World countries:

"How old were you when your mother died?" "Did she take long to die?" "Was she in much pain?" They then realise they are not the only ones to have experienced such traumatic events.

Part of our Christian calling is loving and helping others, whether these be children overseas in institutional homes or the needy youngsters in our own back streets. Rhena Taylor, founder of Outlook, once said to a couple, "When you are surrounded by an ocean of need, the Lord does not expect you to drain the ocean single-handedly but to take out your bucketful." The Lord smiles over every child loved and cared for – a very precious bucketful.

Dr Peter Brierley

# Prayer

## Why stay looking at the sky?

‘Why are you staying there looking up at the sky?’

Today, dear God,  
focus our minds not  
on absence and loss  
but on opportunities which present -

help us to find illumination  
where otherwise we anticipate darkness,

help us to broadcast real hope  
where others flounder in confusion,

help us to notice and relish blessings  
which sparkle in mundane places,

help us to realise and use well  
the power you invest - even in us -  
to change, build, heal and  
make your kingdom come.

Ian Foster

From the URC prayer handbook 2016 for 5th May (Ascension Day) looking at Acts 1:1-11

Ed: If you have a prayer you would like put in the newsletter instead (or indeed as well as...) do email it to [newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk). If you want it in a particular month make sure you meet the deadline for that month, usually the second Sunday of the month. Thanks.

## Boys' Brigade News

Since we returned after Easter, we have been preparing for our Awards Night, which will be held on Friday 5th May. The awards night is the time of year when the entire company comes together and gives the parents a glimpse of the things that we have been doing for the past year. There are a few display items, which involve the boys actually doing activities and displays.

This is followed by the presentation of the badges and certificates that they boys have gained throughout the year. Everyone is welcome to come along and support the evening, which starts at 7pm.

Our Junior section will be going on a trip to Chessington World of Adventures, which is a theme park & a zoo.

Chessington Zoo has over 1,000 animals, including western lowland gorillas, sea lions, and Sumatran tigers. It is split up into several areas: Trail of the Kings, Creepy Caves, Sea Lion Bay, Children's Zoo, Amazu, Penguin Bay and the Wanyama Village & Reserve as well as a Sea Life Centre.

Chessington World of Adventures theme park consists of themed areas styled on a range of world cultures. It currently has 10 areas including the Adventure Point, Mystic East, Mexicana, Pirates Cove, Wild Woods, and Forbidden Kingdom. Land of the Dragons includes the intense spinning coaster Dragon's Fury. Another land is called Wild Asia. Major attractions include: Dragon Falls, Vampire, The Gruffalo River Ride Adventure, Rameses Revenge, Dragon's Fury, KOBRA and Scorpion Express.

I am sure they will really enjoy themselves and I will report back in the next newsletter.

On Monday 6th of May we will be taking the Junior & Company section boys to the battalion run football academy. There, they will have training by Enfield Rangers professional players and trainers. Following this there will be a football tournament.

On Monday 8th May we will be starting our summer session with a trip to Mega Bounce. Once again we will be jumping on 180

trampolines. The following weeks will see us have a massive game of Danish Rounders over the park, followed by a wacky game of Wolly Ball in the hall. We have loads planned for the summer session including trips to quasar, Football Golf, Stand up paddle boarding, as well as a session over in Whitewebbs doing a range of challenges, a football tournament, a foot rally, games in the hall and of course the Camp meeting.

Yes that's right; the long awaited 11 week countdown to camp has begun! (More on camp next month).

Some important dates for your diary - On Sunday 21st May we will be holding an activity afternoon for the young people and their families to attend. We are also hoping our members bring along their friends, so that they may join.

The afternoon will consist of a large BBQ, a bouncy castle & inflatable bungee run plus inflatable sumo suits. There will be age appropriate craft stalls, face painting, table tennis and there will also be organised games in the hall during the day.

If you want more information please see the flyer or speak to a member of staff.

Andrew Caddies



The treasurer still had a trick up his sleeve

# Wordsearch

## King George VI

The coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth took place at Westminster Abbey 80 years ago this month, on 12th May 1937. It should have been for Edward, of course, but he abdicated. That occasion marked the BBC's first official TV outdoor broadcast. It was the first coronation to be filmed: the 40-strong camera crew inside the Abbey had to wear evening dress. As in the film *The King's Speech*, there was concern about the King's stutter, but he delivered his speech without a problem. He later wrote to the Archbishop: "I felt I was being helped all the time by Someone Else, as you said I would."

Coronation	King	George	Queen	Elizabeth
Westminster	Abbey	Eighty	Edward	Abdicated

BBC  
Outdoor  
Broadcast  
Filmed  
Camera

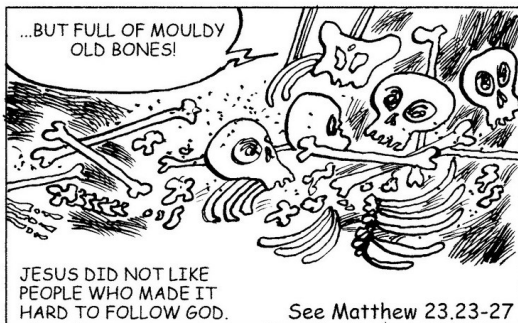
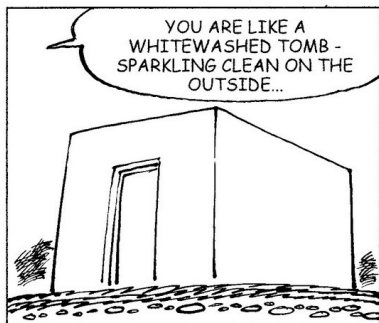
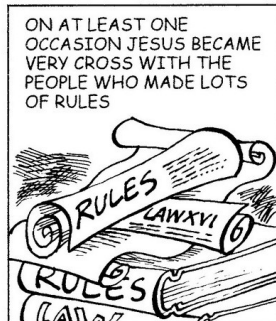
Crew  
Evening  
Dress  
Speech  
Stutter

Delivered  
Problem  
Helped  
Someone  
else





# "Some tough talking"



# Weekly Activities

<b>Monday</b>	6.15pm	Boys' Brigade Junior Section
	7.30pm	Boys' Brigade (Company Section)
	8.00pm	Book Club (Once a month, see inside for date)
<b>Tuesday</b>	8.00pm	House group (2nd & 4th Tuesday)
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.30am	Baby & Toddler Group
	6.15pm	Girls' Brigade
<b>Thursday</b>	7.30pm	Boys' Brigade Company Section circuit training (when advised)
<b>Friday</b>	9.15am	Prayers in the Hall, open from 9 for a chat first
	9.30am	Baby & Toddler Group
	6.00pm	Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys
<b>Saturday</b>	8.30am	Prayer Breakfast (2nd Saturday)
<b>Sunday</b>	10.00am	Prayers (1st Sunday)
	10.30am	Worship with groups for children and young people (Communion 1st Sunday)
	6.00pm	Sunday Evening Reflection (2nd Sunday)

