



**Rose Hill United Reformed Church, Bradford Road, Bolton.**  
A member of the Vision Pastorate, together with Tonge Moor URC  
and St Andrew & St George URC



**AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2013**

**Minister: Rev Mark Bates**

**Tel: 01204 653477**

## Church Elders

Anne Fitton (Secretary)..... 01204 401273  
John Waith (Treasurer) ..... 01204 391894  
Rita Dunn..... 01204 305339  
Philip Garsden ..... 07854 614245  
Sylvia Hodgkiss ..... 01204 363263  
Anne Taberner ..... 01204 793341  
Janet Waith..... 01204 391894

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### Book of Prayer

If you would like a church member or friend to be remembered in the morning prayers, please write their name in the Book of Prayer located in the porch, prior to the start of the service. Doing this will also serve to keep Elders and members informed of any pastoral concerns



Please hand in items for the next issue of Rose Hill Recorder to Rita Dunn on or before Sunday 22nd September

## Minister's Letter.

*'Courage, Conscience and Conviction'*.

This was the title of the conference which I attended as part of my on-going training. We were asked to recount stories in our lives where courage, conscience or conviction had been shown.

I started to think back to scripture and the stories and events where this was the case. When we read the O/T stories we often hear about people who were fearful and had no courage. Yet God managed to speak into their situation and to them as individuals and in so doing great things were achieved. Jonah springs to mind as he was sent to ask people to change their ways, (In spite of setting off in the opposite direction first.) Elijah even tried to hide from God as he hid in a cleft rock. Yet God spoke to him with the words. 'What are you doing here Elijah?'

Often, when we are at our most fearful then we can encounter courage. When we listen for what God is calling us to do, that is when we can have the courage to look at things differently. Our conscience starts to niggle at us as we look at our task ahead and how we are called to be a Christian presence in Bolton in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Then when we start off on our adventure or task we discover that it isn't as easy as we first imagined. We have to have the resolve and the conviction to see the task through.

As part of our encounter with the wider world do we sometimes try to hide from God? Do we seek comfort within the confines of the church building? Do we sometimes try to hide from difficult situations and seek comfort in the dark?

God still speaks and says to us 'What are **you** doing here'. Can we answer that statement with courage and conviction?

Mark

## Pastoral News

On Sunday June 2nd we enjoyed a service with a difference . The speaker Alan Nuttall gave the children a large variety of hand puppets to mime the songs that he played . They really enjoyed doing this and all had a good sense of rhythm . The theme of the service was Noah' s Ark . The adults in two teams were asked to make animal noises and amid lots of laughter the children had to decide which animals were allowed onto the ark . Alan also surprised us by using his talking bible - a very enjoyable morning for both the children and adults.

Congratulations to Janet Waith for her special birthday on July 7th and her retirement from her position at the Royal Bolton Hospital .

Our thoughts and prayers are with Thelma Bolton whose son, Mark has been in hospital following severe injuries caused by a motor cycle accident in Spain . He is now slowly recovering .

Also Freda Lee whose son in law , Roy , has suffered a heart attack and is now waiting for an operation.

We were all very sorry to hear that Alan Rimmer has been admitted into hospital for the third time and pray that his health will soon start to improve and that he will be fully recovered .

Our church has been awarded a grant of £17,500 from the Synod which has been used to install new windows in our building and the pointing of the front wall . A very major improvement as our church is now 85 years old and was in need of renovation.

Thank you to the Repairs and Maintenance group for all their work in caring for the gardens and any minor repairs that need doing - a very important job .

A Family Fun Night and barbecue was held on Friday 14th June and was enjoyed by everyone who attended. Thank you to all who

helped to organise this event .

July 14th was parade Sunday . We are always pleased to see our scouts, cubs and leaders attending a church service The speaker that day was Mr Barry Bradshaw from Red Lane church .

Many of our members, families and friends have enjoyed summer holidays in England and abroad. We hope that they have returned relaxed and refreshed .

Marjorie Plant

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### **Ladies Circle**

On May 25<sup>th</sup> the Ladies' Circle had a visit from Mr. Les Hardy, his subject being "The History of Tea ". A well travelled and knowledgeable man, he had researched his subject in great detail, from the discovery of the tea plant as a herbal remedy 5,000 years ago, to the present day tea ceremonies of Japan and China.

We were shown pictures of tea pickers working in the fields for a few rupees a day. The leaves were then packed into huge containers to be shipped across the world. He brought along modern day compressed tea packed into small shapes which now greatly reduce the capacity and cost of transportation. Incidentally, the U.K. was the last country to recognise the pleasures of drinking tea.

A few hardy souls were encouraged to sample 5 different teas he brewed for us to taste; Green tea, Darjeeling etc. The first four were, well, ok but the fifth - *yuk*. It smelled and tasted of fish and when Mr. Hardy was asked about this he said it was something to do with fish nets - what was that all about?

In the 18<sup>th</sup> Century tea was a great luxury and could only be enjoyed by wealthy people. That being so it was kept on display in a wooden tea caddy secured by a lock and key. These items can be seen on T.V. programmes such as “The Antiques Roadshow” and usually attract a very high price.

Speak Easy, established 30 years ago, is a voluntary organisation of which little is known. This was the subject of our speaker Gill Peach, on 5<sup>th</sup> June. She was accompanied by Liz and Steve, both of whom had benefited from their weekly visits to Ramsbottom where Speak Easy rent a hall for their meetings. Most of those who attend have suffered from strokes which have affected their speech.

What a wonderful organisation Speak Easy is. We were so impressed with the wonderful work they do and the way, through patience and encouragement, they are able to transform the lives of their “clients” to be able to communicate.

There are only a few Speak Easy groups in the country and they depend so much on their volunteers (only the leader of the group is paid). We were only too happy to include them in the charities we support, especially as one of our members has benefited from this organization.

Our last meeting before the short break was entitled “A Lancashire Evening”. What could be more Lancashire than Fish and Chips and this is just what we had, delivered by the Olympus chip shop. We ended the meeting with appropriate, light hearted dialect poems.

One of the highlights of the year was our trip to White Coppice on 17<sup>th</sup> July. Our destination was to visit the “Stones and Roses” property owned by Mr. Smith and family. They had farmed the land for four generations and when Mr. Raymond Smith retired he built the most beautiful house from reclaimed stones etc. He

created a wonderful garden with thousands of rose trees, shrubs and water features in nooks and crannies. It was a beautiful day so we were able to sit outside with our cream teas, admiring the property and beautiful Lancashire countryside.

Mr. Smith is not only a landscape gardener but also a talented organist and he entertained us by giving us a short organ recital which ended with a singalong. He told us that "Lancashire Life" had visited that morning so no doubt we'll be looking forward to seeing pictures in the magazine of this wonderful corner of Lancashire which is on our doorstep.

Our thoughts and prayers have been for Thelma, Marian and Freda Lee who have been, and still are, concerned about the health of family members. As a circle of friends we know they appreciate the love and concern we feel for them.

Freda Cooke

### **Ladies Circle Programme**

Aug	7	Who's Who
	14	Call My Bluff
	21	Margaret Curry (Slide Show) - 'Through the Glass Brightly'
	28	No Meeting
Sep	4	No Meeting
	11	David Tomlinson - 'The History of Bread'
	18	Lewis Walsh - 'Introduction to Transcendental Meditation'
	25	Quick on the Draw

# Vision Pastorate - 'Come and Sing'

Dates August – December 2013

The 'Come and Sing' has proved a good time of sharing together with each other from the different churches within the Pastorate; of learning some new songs in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. Below are the dates for the rest of 2013 – we start at 7.15pm, sing for a while and then share a drink and biscuits and then finish with more singing.

2nd August - Rose Hill URC

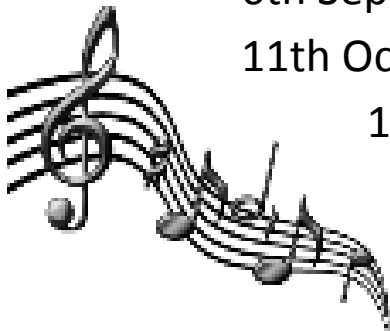
6th September - St Andrew & St George

11th October - Tonge Moor URC

1st November - Rose Hill URC

6th December - St Andrew & St George

January 2014 - Tonge Moor URC



## Appeal For Flower Arrangers

Unfortunately the time has come for all but one of our flower arrangers to put away our secateurs and bow out gracefully. Pat, Dorothy and myself have arranged the flowers every week for many, many years and live in hopes that there is someone out there who will continue this worthwhile and satisfying job. You don't have to be a professional or do them as we have done but if you think you can help in any way just have a word with me – PLEASE.



Freda Cooke



## **RICE MAGIC**

### **EAT SOMEONE OUT OF POVERTY!**

Would you buy a 1kg bag of Fairly Traded rice for £3 if you knew it was enabling some of the poorest farmers in the world to send their children to school and so have the chance of earning their way out of poverty ?

Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world. Education is one of the most effective ways to escape poverty, but only one in three children go to secondary school there because parents have to pay for their children to attend school.



One of the crops grown in Malawi is rice.

Unless the farmers get a good price for their rice they cannot earn their way out of poverty, improve the standards of their

communities, or raise the educational standards of the country so that it can gain greater economic independence in a very competitive world.

One farmer told how he farmed 4 acres: 1 acre for maize, half an acre for cassava and two and a half acres for rice. He harvested 2.4 tonnes of rice from his fields. It's hard to imagine the work involved. The rice is sown in nurseries, then planted out by hand, weeded by hand (ideally 3 times in the growing season for best yields) and then harvested and threshed and dried by hand. Try to imagine 2 acres and planting it with all those tiny plants! It's an heroic kind of achievement.

If a farmer in Malawi can sell 90kg of rice at a fair price, he can afford to send one of his children to Secondary School for a year. Entering into a Fairtrade contract makes that possible for him.

So this coming harvest time each of the churches in our pastorate is being challenged to sell 90 bags of rice to its members. Will you buy one?

***Watch and listen out for more information.***

## Sunday School.

We have welcomed two new children into our Sunday School, Nathan and baby Henry. We hope that they continue to attend church and enjoy Sunday School. Henry will be baptised on Sunday 28th July.

Over the past six weeks, both the infant and junior classes have adopted the ROOTs structured Christian teaching resource to assist in their Sunday School teaching. This has enabled both classes to follow the same theme that is being covered in the church sermon, with a related lesson in Sunday School. This is going very well and has been well received so far.

The latest theme covered in ROOTs related to how the experience of Christ could transform us and recognition that, in Christ, we can be ourselves, no matter how we identify ourselves. To illustrate how Jesus could transform them, the children in the infant class watched how dirty coins could transform into bright shiny new ones, with a little help from some vinegar! The older children enjoyed getting creative, transforming grubby, old potatoes into new potato people covered in glitter and feathers, symbolising Saul's transformation into Paul while travelling to Damascus.

Some of our older children have indeed experienced change themselves as they make the transition from junior school to senior school pupils in September, and we will be thinking of them.

Recently, the younger class enjoyed a parachute game to demonstrate how different, yet how similar we are, in that we are all God's children. Similarly, the older children considered what defines or identifies us (e.g.family, ethnic origin, our school or club uniform) and how important it is to accept people for what they are. Regardless of our identities, we are united in Christ.

Kay Hurst

On Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August, coffee will be served upstairs in Sunday School, as well as downstairs in the minor hall. The Sunday School leaders hope that as many of the congregation as possible can come upstairs, have a drink, see the refurbished rooms, and look at all the wonderful work that the children have produced in Sunday School.



### **Happy Camping with the Cubs and Scouts of the 12<sup>th</sup> Bolton Scout Group**

The last time I went camping was when I was 13 years old with the school. So not that long ago Ha!! Ha! *"Who am I kidding"*. Yes, you are correct, it was a long time ago and I have to say it was not a great experience. I recall lots of rain, unhappy sheep and a poorly erected tent which had a river running through it when we awoke the next morning. *"I obviously needed some Cub and Scout training back then"*

My Daughter Hannah has been a member of Rose Hill Cub group for a few years and loves every minute. She is a keen camper and loves outdoor activities.

I have recently been nominated as the new chairperson of the

Cubs and Scout group, so when Akala (Hilary) asked me to help on camp I thought it would be a great way of getting to know the kids and educate myself on what the Cubs and Scout movement is all about. I also thought it was time to challenge and re educate myself on the wonders of camping putting my bad experience behind me.

The weekend arrived and surprisingly the weather was glorious. We all met at Rose Hill, two mini buses were waiting and soon we were on our way to Waddecarr District Camp in Preston. The camp was situated in a beautiful part of Lancashire near a little village of Inglewhite.



Clive and Roy (Leaders) had been in the morning and pitched our tents apart from the Scouts who had to put up their own. I was impressed with their skills and soon they had their tents erected and I must say much more competent than my skills were at their age.

The camp site was a large district camp site so there were approximately 200 plus Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers on site. The atmosphere was great and we soon were tucking into our hot supper which had been made for us by the district organisers and we all settled down to enjoy the summer evening. Roy had set up a gazebo with chairs, a stove, we had a kettle to make hot drinks and we all sat round chatting while watching the sun set in the distance *"What a great start to the weekend I thought"*

My first challenge of the evening was to try and round up the troop and get them settled into their sleeping bags and off to sleep. *"Well I have to say this was not an easy task. I have only one child at home but tonight I had a football team, I needed help"* Luckily I had Akala who used her magic powers of persuasion or may be on reflection the threat of having her in their tent did the trick. *"Who needs Super Nanny when you have Akala"*

It did not seem like we had been asleep long before we were awoken by the birds tweeting, cockerel crowing and cows mooing around 5.30am and a strange animal sound coming from one of the tents “ *To the amazement of the Kids it was one of the leaders who was snoring very loudly*”

This is what country life is all about I told myself, fresh country air and clean living. “*I was trying not to think about my comfortable bed at home but I told myself if the kids can do it so can I*”

Saturday morning was soon here and we had a packed agenda for the young ones. We had to be up and having breakfast at 8am which again was all prepared “*All Inclusive camping, I was impressed.*”

My role was to help with the Scouts, so another leader and I had to be responsible for 8 Scouts from a variety of districts clubs guiding them through various stations with tasks to complete. The day was packed with different activities from raft making, shooting, pioneering, making a fire, cooking spaghetti and tying it into three knots (try that one at home) and making shelters in the woods “*Bear Grylles eat your heart out*”

By the end of the day I was soon thoroughly inducted into the Scout movement and felt totally at home with the kids and Leaders.

The young people I got to know were all different personalities and they were great company and fun to be around. I had gained total respect for all the leaders and volunteers who give up their time to help and give these young people a great experience on camp. Some young people I met had never been on camp or on many holidays in their family life and it was a pleasure to see them have a good time and hopefully learn skills and install some discipline into their lives.





On the Saturday evening we finished off by sitting round a large camp fire singing songs and being entertained by various groups. Some of the young ones were slowing down at this point and a few of our Cubs were just unable to carry on, heading off to bed without being told. As you can imagine getting them to bed on this evening was a lot easier.

Sunday morning we got up at 8am, had breakfast and started to take the tents down. Roy and the Leaders got all the kids involved showing them how to clean them and tidy up thoroughly. They all got stuck in, some needing a bit more encouragement than others but it was soon completed in a timely manner and they still had time for a few more activities before heading off home.

My weekend on camp was a great experience and I came home with lots to talk about and some new experiences. I now have a new outlook on camping and won't always insist on a hotel in the future. *Although I wonder whether I would be so enthusiastic if the weather had not been so fabulous! Well, let's leave that for another camp adventure.*

The Cubs and Scout movement is fantastic for our young people to be involved with. It provides discipline and embeds Christian type values which will hopefully help them through their lives. It gives them confidence and skills contributing to their education and enables them to mix with lots of people from all walks of life forming friendships and acceptance.

The Scouts and Cubs are always looking for Parents/ Adults to help and train to be leaders and if you are looking to give a little bit back to your community and contribute to helping young people grow and develop then the Cubs and Scouts is an organisation to consider.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Hilary, Roy, Clive, Pritesh and all the helpers at Rose Hill for all their hard work and dedication they provide for the Cubs and Scouts.



If more leaders can be recruited then we are looking at setting up a Beaver group (6- 8 years) in the next coming year. If you or anyone you know is interested in helping Hilary and her team please contact Hilary Marston on 01204 389843.

**HAPPY CAMPING FOLKS!!!!!!**

Joy Gibbon

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## Morecambe Bay Walk Completed

### Thank you for your support

On a sunny, windy 1st June, Mark and Gill joined friends at Hest Bank to walk across Morecambe Bay. We left Hest Bank about 11.30am. In total about 250 people took part in the walk. We set out across the watery sand, crossing mud, streams and quick sand with our guides, including quad bikes and tractors. With shoes on...

...and shoes off!



*You have helped us raise a total of  
**£772**  
A very big thank you from Mark,  
Gill and all the children and staff  
of the Bethany Family.*

# WOODSMOKE

*12<sup>th</sup> Bolton (Rose Hill) Scout Group*

*Newsletter No 23 - July 2013*

June and July proved to be a busy time for the Cubs and Scouts as it was the slightly later than usual start to our outdoor season.

## Moses Gate Country Park Evening Walk

Most of the current Cubs and Scouts are quite inexperienced in the outdoors so we thought we'd start them off on something relatively easy. As the Church Halls were unavailable on 14 June due to the Family Evening we went on a 2-mile long evening walk exploring Moses Gate Country Park.

The weather had been unpredictable all week and needless to say the Friday was expected to have heavy rain all day but at the last minute a dry spell was forecast between 6pm and 9pm, so off we went. Starting from Crompton Lodges we walked as far as the new 'Meccano' bridge and then turned back along the canal towards Hall Lane. During this stretch we caused a bit of a stir by warning the kids to be on the lookout for tigers - yes there really are tigers there, Scouts honour! What we didn't tell them was that they were full size models lurking in the grass on the opposite side of the canal together with a few monkeys and other 'wildlife'. We eventually arrived back in time to spend 15 minutes in the adventure playground while Roy & Clive disappeared to cook the hot dogs which were duly devoured. Daniel broke the record by eating 4 hot dogs one after the other without being sick!

## Ramsbottom to Bury Hike

Saturday 22 June saw us on a longer 5 mile hike with a difference. Everybody met up at the East Lancs Railway station in Bury to catch the 10.20am steam train to Ramsbottom from where we hiked along the Irwell Valley Way Sculpture Trail back to Bury. Once again the forecast was wet but in the end it turned out to be a



fine warm day. We often ask parents if they want us to lose their kids for a day or two but we are only joking, really! However, when Akela started to usher the Cubs & Scouts onto the train in



*Those taking part on the Ramsbottom to Bury hike, minus Roy taking the photo.*

the photo some of us got a bit worried as it was going to Heywood and we were supposed to be going to Ramsbottom. After a quick embarrassed U-turn we boarded the right train when it arrived on the other side of the platform.

The Cubs and Scouts helped to navigate along the route using map & compass and also find a number of items which were identified

*Can you find the 2-headed Troll in this photo taken along the Sculpture Trail near Burrs, Bury?*



from a sheet of photographs. For the most part they did pretty well putting into practice what they had learned over the previous

weeks. Despite Roy & Hilary previously walking the route to check the timings we still managed to arrive back in Bury a bit late but we were delayed by a slight mishap while making use of the toilets at Burrs Activity Centre. One of the taps malfunctioned and wouldn't turn off resulting in it flooding the toilets area and it took a while to raise the alarm and get the water turned off – the only time any of us got wet during the hike! The result of this was that we had to push on over the last half mile and the kids were pretty tired by the end but it was a good walk which combined with the novelty of travelling on the steam hauled train made it a very successful day.

The weekend of 5-7 July then saw us on a blisteringly hot 250 strong final Bolton South District Camp at Waddecar but more of that in Joy's article and the next Woodsmoke.

By the time this is read we will be on our summer break but we'll return on Friday 6 September for our first meeting of the autumn term.

We can currently offer places for boys and girls in Cubs aged 8 to 10½ and Scouts aged 10½ to 14½. Both Cubs & Scouts meet in Rose Hill Church Halls on most Friday evenings 6.45pm to 8.45pm. Weekly subs of £3 per person, payable each Friday.

We are also trying to recruit more adults to volunteer as Leaders and helpers to bolster the current leadership team and to open a brand new Beaver Scout section for boys and girls aged 6 to 8 years.

For further information contact Hilary on 01204 389843.

## Services

Aug 4th		Gillian Dawson
11th		Mr L Edge
18th		Pat Rea
25th	COMMUNION	Rev. Mark Bates
Sept 1st		Alan Nuttall
8th	PARADE	Sammy Spaine
15th	JOINT SERVICE	Joint Service at Rose Hill
22nd		Ian Huddlestone
29th	COMMUNION	Rev. J Hollyman

## Rotas

	FLOWERS	COFFEE
Aug 4th	Barbara Rushton and Family	Sylvia Gibbon & Eleanor Magor
11th	Marjorie and Keith Plant	Janet Waith & Anne Fitton
18th	Joan Lord	Sunday School
25th	Eleanor Magor	Freda Lee & Tracy Garsden
Sept 1st	Eunice Lavin and Peter	Joy Gibbon & Dave Redwood
8th	Freda Cooke and Family	Pat Longworth & Heather Smith
15th	Anne Taberner and Family	Pat Howard & Judith Fraser
22nd	Betty and Ted Holden	Stella Moss & Barbara Rushton
29th	Barbara and Barry Howard and Family	Barbara Howard & Hazel Henry



The flowers in church are very gratefully received, and give much comfort to the sick and troubled members of our congregation and families.

