

IN touch

MAR
2017

the monthly newsletter for Rushden High Street Independent Wesleyan Church

...full steam ahead?

...THOUGHT
FOR THE
MONTH

Last month we had a holiday in Appleby, Cumbria. We have visited there several times before, but it always seems that there is something new to see. This time was no different. On the Tuesday morning we received several messages asking if we had heard that the steam train 'Tornado' was running into Appleby station. We hadn't, but as we were free at the scheduled time of arrival we decided to go and have a look. So did hundreds of others! The station was packed with people. The media were there – press and TV. We were interviewed by the local newspaper and Martyn managed to get on the local TV (well, a brief glimpse in the background!).

What is it about steam trains? This one had added interest as it was the first time in almost 50 years that passengers were able to travel on a regular timetabled UK steam service. It was the same when the 'Flying Scotsman' passed near Rushden recently. Perhaps it brings back memories of the sound and smells of those days, or perhaps people are trying to come close to living their dream of being an engine driver.

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The one word though that I heard was 'passion', as in 'I've got a real passion for steam'. People were willing to do all kind of things to fuel that passion. But I must ask – where is my passion (defined as something arousing great enthusiasm)? As a Christian, it should be as we follow the greatest commandment 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind' (Matthew 22 v37). To do that means knowing Jesus and getting to know Him. To be willing to go out of our way, to follow Him not counting the cost. In Romans 12 we discover that we should offer our bodies as living sacrifices. There is so much we could learn from those rail enthusiasts. Travelling from all over just for a glimpse of a train – I realised we were only playing at it really. May that never be the case with my Christian walk – how about you?



the word for today

'Set your sights on the realities of heaven.'

Colossians 3:1 NLT

Source:

The Word for Today
United Christian
Broadcasters,
Westport Road,
Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 4JF

Free issues of the daily
devotional are available for
the UK & Republic of Ireland.

Heaven...

Five hundred years ago, sailors feared the horizon, believing if you sailed too far you could fall off the edge of the world. Today we smile at such an idea. But back then they were deadly serious; so much so that they erected a monument at the Strait of Gibraltar to commemorate the concept. At its narrowest point Spaniards assembled a huge stone marker bearing the Latin inscription *Ne plus ultra*, which means 'No more beyond'. Then in 1492 Christopher Columbus came along and blew their theory out of the water (no pun intended!). The discovery of new worlds and new horizons changed everybody's mind. Spain even acknowledged this in its coins which came to bear the inscription *Plus ultra* - 'More beyond'.

Have you limited yourself in your thinking? Do you regret wasting seasons of life on foolish notions and pursuits? Do you feel like your best years are gone by? Not so! You'll have eternity to make up for lost time in a glorified celestial body that knows no limitations. Your biggest moments lie ahead, on the other side of the grave. So: 'Set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honour at God's right hand. Think about the things of heaven' (vv. 1-2 NLT). John the Revelator was a prisoner, surrounded by the sea on the tiny island of Patmos. Everywhere he went, the sea was there. It confined him. It hemmed him in and separated him from those he loved. Then God showed him the glories of heaven and he wrote, 'There was no more sea' (Revelation 21:1 KJV). **No more limitations - in heaven you'll be 'free at last'.**



church offerings

SUNDAY 29th	JANUARY	£596.00
SUNDAY 5th	FEBRUARY	£409.00
SUNDAY 12th	FEBRUARY	£296.31
SUNDAY 19th	FEBRUARY	£357.50

In addition, the sum of £450.00 was paid direct to the bank in January 2017. If you would like to give in this way, please see Richard Weekley. Many thanks



missionary report

Kevin Deighton

Missionary
Secretary

Hi everybody, would you believe it, March already! In February I received a sum of £54.31, which was raised from the Christmas Lights Turn On in the High Street last November. So in accordance with your usual wishes I have sent a cheque off to the WRU Home Missions Dept of £60. Also this month £50 has gone to the London City Mission to help replenish their funds as they always take a battering over Christmas. £50 also went to Siloam Christian Ministries - please see their literature in the display stand with details of how they gave/supported work to a total of £171,000+ last year. Open Doors were sent also £50 for their work in the persecuted Church.

I did say in the last bulletin that the need had not gone and unfortunately that has proved to be true as we will, I'm sure, be receiving various requests for help towards the famine in Africa. I will, of course, keep you posted.



the minister's school assemblies

(for your prayers please)

- WEDNESDAY 1st** – Risdene Academy
- WEDNESDAY 8th** – Denfield Park Primary School
- WEDNESDAY 22nd** – Tennyson Road Infant School
- WEDNESDAY 22nd** – Alfred Street Junior School
- WEDNESDAY 29th** – South End Infant School
- WEDNESDAY 29th** – Risdene Academy



lent lunches

As in previous years the Council of Churches will be holding these at St Mary's Church Hall, Rushden. The first will be on Wednesday 8th March then every Wednesday through Lent with the final one being on Wednesday 12th April.

Home-made soup will be served with bread. There is no charge but there is an offering box for Christian Aid. Lunches will be served from 12.00 noon until around 12.45pm. At 1.00pm there will be a short time of prayer in the church. All are very welcome.



Easter Day Services **ADVANCED NOTICE!**

- 9.00pm – Communion Service
- 9.45am – 10.30 am Breakfast for all - see Jeanette for details
- 10.30am – Easter Celebration (Informal)



march 2017

weekday diary dates

WEDS	1st	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	2nd	2.00pm	Women's Auxiliary – Beetle Drive
		6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
SAT	4th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
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TUES	7th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	8th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		2.00pm	Kilburn Place Service
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	9th	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
SAT	11th	9.00am	Leaders Morning at the Mission
		10.00am	Coffee Morning
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TUES	14th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	15th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	16th	2.00pm	Women's Auxiliary – Pat Munro
		6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
SAT	18th	10.00am	Coffee Morning
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TUES	21st	10.00am	Prayer Meeting
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	22nd	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		2.30pm	Council of Churches Meeting
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	23rd	6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
SAT	25th	10.00am	Church Members Meeting in the Vestry
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		10.00am	Coffee Morning
TUES	28th	10.00am	Prayer Meeting
		2.00pm	Short Mat Bowls
WEDS	29th	9.15am	Jellybabes Toddler Group
		7.30pm	Home Group – 7 Lodge Road
THURS	30th	2.00pm	Women's Auxiliary – Annual Rally – Sandra Fall
		6.00pm	Allsorts Children's Club
FRI	31st	7.15pm	Preachers Meeting at the Mission Church (all welcome)



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sunday diary dates

SUNDAY **5th** 10.45am Rev. Phil Hearson
(incl. Communion)

6.00pm Home Meeting
21 Palm Road - All welcome!

SUNDAY **12th** 10.45am Church Leaders

4.00pm **2nd Sunday!**

SUNDAY **19th** 10.45am Rev. Phil Hearson

6.00pm Communion Service

SUNDAY **26th** 10.45am Rev. Phil Hearson

5.30pm Service at the
Mission Church (Rev. Ian Fall)

A reminder

Should you ever find it difficult to join us for any service you wish to attend please don't hesitate to speak to either the minister or a church leader about arranging a lift, we are always happy to sort something out - don't miss out!



Women's World Day of Prayer Friday 3rd March Philippines

On Friday 3rd March over 5,000 services will be held in the British Isles on the theme of 'Am I Being Unfair to You?' The Christian women of the Philippines wrote the service and it has been translated into 1,000 different languages and dialects, to be used throughout the whole world on that day, starting at sunrise over the island of Samoa and continuing until sunset off the coast of American Samoa.

In 2013, Typhoon Haiyan – named locally as 'Yolanda' – struck the Philippine islands in the western Pacific Ocean. This is mentioned in the service but you will also hear the stories of a girl, a mother and an older woman, recounting their situations and their hopes and fears.

The service focusses on the Bible story of the workers in the vineyard: Matthew 20 v 1-16. There is a reflection on the artwork designed by Rowena 'Apol' Laxamana-Sta.Rosa. It is very thought provoking and illustrates contrasting scenes. Why not find out more about the theme, the Philippines and the service? The Day of Prayer is not just for women. Everyone is welcome to attend the service.

Our local event is on Friday March 3rd at Highfield Community Baptist Church (2.00pm)

For more details, visit www.wwdp.org.uk

How many words does it take?

- Pythagorean Theorem: 24 words
- The Lord's Prayer: 66 words
- Archimedes' Principle: 67 words
- Ten Commandments: 179 words
- Gettysburg address: 286 words
- US Declaration of Independence : 1,300 words
- US Constitution with all 27 Amendments: 7,818 words
- EU regulations on the sale of cabbage: 26,911 words

Puts things into proper perspective, doesn't it?

To make you smile...

Looking over the log-book kept by the computer support staff at my office, I noticed several entries stating the problem was PICNIC. I asked one of the technicians what PICNIC meant.

He laughed as he told me it meant "Problem In Chair, Not In Computer."



church birthdays this month

If you would like to be included please let Jeanette know and we'll endeavour to get a card to you on the Sunday nearest the date, it would be nice for us all to have the chance to wish one another all the best on our birthdays.

5th - ANTHEA HOLDAWAY
10th - AMELIA PORTER
15th - PAM BARNES
15th - CHARLIE RAWLINGS

16th - DEBBIE REEVE
18th - WENDY NEWMAN
20th - BELLA LAMBERT



flowers this month

Thanks to those who provide the flowers and also to Jill and Madge who arrange the rota. Don't forget please that if you are able to distribute the flowers you have brought, that will be most helpful

5th - Ann Bryant (*Wedding anniversary*)
12th - Anthea Holdaway

19th - Pam Barnes (*Birthday*)
26th - Brian Lack (*for Beryl*)



paraclesis

Sometimes we need someone to come alongside us and be there for us. It is not always the easiest thing to ask for help, or to offer help. Bozeat Chapel are running six weekly sessions on Sunday afternoons called 'Paraclesis' to investigate ways in which we can care for others, or come alongside.

They invite anyone interested to join them, starting on 5th March through to 9th April. Each session will start at 2.30pm and last just over an hour. Light refreshments and a cup of tea will be served during a time of discussion. Rev. Peter Norton will be leading.

More details – Mrs. Sue Partridge-Underwood 01933 665167

Email: p.u52@uwclub.net



dates for your diary - april 2017

WEDNESDAY	12th	– Informal Communion at the Manse (7.30pm)
FRIDAY	14th	– Good Friday Council of Churches Service (10.30am)
FRIDAY	14th	– Family Craft Afternoon (2.00pm)
SUNDAY	16th	– Easter Day Services
MONDAY	17th	– Easter Monday Walk & Social
TUESDAY	18th	– Leaders Meeting at the Manse (7.30pm)
FRIDAY	21st	– Circuit Prayer Meeting (7.30pm – 9.00pm)



puzzle page

Below are cryptic clues to the names of flowers. Hand your answers to the Minister before 26th March and you may win a small prize. Thank you to Margaret O'Dell for most of these.

1. Heard in a famous cathedral.
2. An ambitious mother wishes this for her daughter.
3. Sugary Bill.
4. A very proper maiden.
5. Remembrance is all I ask.
6. Metropolitan vanity.
7. St. George showed no fear for this.
8. Might be a Tudor one.
9. Part of the eye.
10. A spectrum colour.
11. A Queen has many tasks.
12. Frozen rain.
13. Cupid in a fog.
14. A bovine accident.
15. She sat out in a Victorian ballroom.
16. Has this been bought on-line?
17. Milk which is nice on fruit.
18. Used in cooking (but not this sort!)
19. Looks good on a tandem.
20. There are lots about in November.

Answers to last time:

Across – 1. Ambush; 4. School; 8. Tired; 9. Famines; 10. Citadel; 11. Endor; 12. Atonement; 17. Avert; 19. Oracles; 21. Married; 22. Lance; 23. Rhythm; 24. Hyssop

Down – 1. Attach; 2. Biretta; 3. Sided; 5. Compete; 6. Owned; 7. Lustre; 9. Falsehood; 13. Ostrich; 14. Talents; 15. Farmer; 16. Asleep; 18. Early; 20. Alley.

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High Street Independent Wesleyan Church

