

The magazine of the Barnsley Group Pastorate



WINTER 2015



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Dear friends

In this magazine you will read about our Group Pastorate holiday to



Windermere in October. Being in such a beautiful place reinforced my belief in God as Creator.

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

Genesis 1:1

The Greek word for beginning is "Genesis" and the first book in the Bible was called that because of the way it starts "In the beginning..."



From the outset the Bible makes it clear that it's about God and His acts. God created the heavens and the earth. Creation was a

deliberate
conscious act
and not a fluke
or an accident.



Because
creation is a
deliberate act
by God we have
to acknowledge
that there is
somebody
greater than us

in existence. That being is not a product of our imagination but rather has been revealed to us.

Paul makes the point that creation is evidence not only of the Creator but also of God's invisible qualities, God's "eternal power and divine nature". The testimony of the Bible is that the heavens and the earth resulted from a deliberate act God's creative power performed intentionally. We're all part of God's plan.

*Items for the Spring 2016 LINK need to be with me by
Sunday 6th March). Thanks.*

Your friend and minister

Nick

(Cover photo: The 'Magnificent Seven' at Windermere)

Group Pastorate Services 2016

We meet together for worship, fellowship and food three times a year.

The services for 2016 are:

TRINITY - 20th MARCH

CLAYTON WEST - 10th JULY

WEST MELTON - 6th NOVEMBER

These services will start at 11.00am and will, as usual, be followed by a time of fellowship as we eat lunch together.

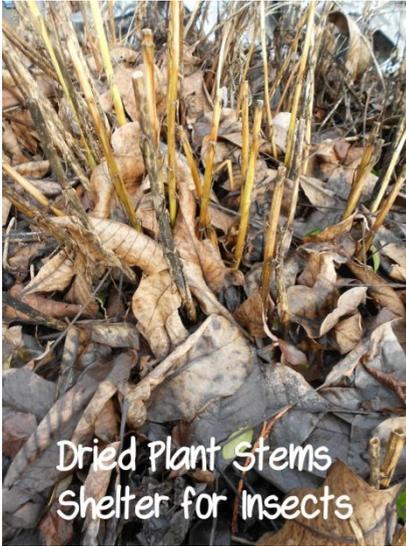
YOU ARE ALL WELCOME.

PLEASE PUT THESE DATES
IN YOUR DIARY NOW

WEST MELTON'S GREEN TIPS CORNER

By Helen Owen

Number 29 - Keep Stems for solitary bees.



If you are doing some garden tidying for the winter, don't be too tidy.



Hollow plant stems and soft rotten wood make a welcome home for solitary bees and other pollinating insects such as lacewings and beetles.



VOLUNTEER STILL REQUIRED

In 2009 I took on the role of editor of the LINK magazine for ONE year. I feel that it is now time to stand down and let someone else do this very worthwhile job.

I will edit the next edition (Spring 2016) and will be happy for the new editor to work with me on this magazine. If no one offers then the next edition will be the last!

It may be that a few of you would like to take it on, in which case you can either work as a team or work on a rota. The choice is yours.

To produce the magazine you will need a computer and access to the internet and email. Persuasive powers to get people to contribute to the magazine would be a great help. You will also need to get an electronic copy of the completed magazine to our printer in Barnsley from where you will need to collect the magazines. They will then need to be distributed to the three churches in our group.

The work involved will not, or should not, take more than about 10 hours per edition! The content of the magazine is entirely up to the editor. You do not have to follow what has gone before. It could be time for your creative juices to flow.

I look forward to receiving all the applications for this very rewarding (alas not financially!) job. Thanks.

Nick

TAEKWONDO MEDALIST by Margaret Marchant (West Melton)

Congratulations to one of our young church members.

I am so proud of my ten year old granddaughter, Katie Clegg, who gained a silver medal in Taekwondo at a competition held in Bradford during October 2015.

Katie has only been attending classes at the local Taekwondo gym in Wath since April 2015. She has taken to it like a duck to water, attending at least four times a week.

She recently attained her yellow belt, and now the silver medal, a future Olympian in the making. Way to go Katie.

Below is a collection of photos of her journey, Katie is in the red protective gear.



See How They Run



See How They Run is a ripping yarn of mistaken identity, headlong humour and tense comic situations, written by Philip King, was directed by John Parker and performed by Trinity Players from 14th to 17th October 2015.

If you didn't see the production you missed a gem. These are some photos of the play. One of them has the 'clerical attire advisor' in it!





JACK AND THE BEANSTALK - FEE, FI, FO, FUM!



Friday	15th Jan 2016	7pm
Saturday	16th Jan 2016	2.30pm and 6pm
Sunday	17th Jan 2016	4pm
Friday	22nd Jan 2016	7pm
Saturday	23rd Jan 2016	2.30pm and 6pm



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Christmas Jokes

What do you call an old snowman?
Water!

Who gives puppies Christmas presents?
Santa Paws

Why are Christmas trees like bad knitters?
They both drop needles!

What do snowmen eat for breakfast?
Frosted flakes!

Who hides in the bakery at
Christmas?
A mince spy!

Who delivers presents to baby
sharks at Christmas?
Santa Jaws!

What carol is heard in
the desert?
Camel ye faithful!

How does Good King Wenceslas like his
pizzas?
Deep pan, crisp and even!

What do you get
if you cross an apple
with a Christmas tree?
A pineapple!

What do you call
Santa Claus when he
doesn't move?
Santa Pause!

Why are turkeys
wiser than chickens?
*Ever heard of Kentucky
Fried Turkey?*

What did one snowman say to
the other snowman?
Can you smell carrot?

What do you call people who are
afraid of Santa Claus?
Claustrophobic!

How many presents can Santa fit in
an empty sack?
Only one, after that it's not empty any

What is the best Christmas present
in the world?
A broken drum - you can't beat it!

What do monkeys sing at Christmas?
Jungle bells, jungle bells!



An Update on our Food Ministry in Wath-upon-Dearne

by Helen Owen



The Salvation Army centre in South Yorkshire has been providing a food ministry for low income/income-less people since June 2013. It was set up by the local Churches Together and operates from 12 to 1pm one day a week. The volunteers involved come from the local Salvation Army corps, Roman Catholic Church and United Reformed Church. The Food Ministry does not rely on referrals although does receive them from time to time. The

criteria for assistance is loss of income for any reason and receipt of basic state benefit.

Attendees are given a bag of fresh food (originally from Costco and for the last 6 months from Netto in Sheffield) It is all close to its sell by date and used by the



supermarkets to get rid of their un-saleable stock. Tinned food is provided by members of local Churches, particularly the URC, and used to supplement the fresh food in cases of particular hardship or for crisis

referrals to the Salvation Army at times of the week when the Food Ministry is not in operation.

Free tea and coffee is provided together with support and



onward referral to other agencies where appropriate. There is an average of 20 users each week amongst whom is a

core group of approximately 15 long term attendees.

In the light of recent debate on the value of benefit sanctions in encouraging people to find work it was decided to look at the frequency of sanctions/delayed payments amongst the people coming to the Food Ministry over a period of 17 months from April, 2014 (when the records became more informative) to August, 2015.

There were a total of 129 users over this period 60 or 47% of whom had sanctions or payment delays, lasting from between 1 week (29 people) and 20 weeks (2 people). Most were single people but 5 were families with children. There is no record of any of these people obtaining employment as a result of the sanctions.

GROUP PASTORATE HOLIDAY 12 - 15 October

The Adventures of the Secret Seven Or Five Get Stuck on a Hill and Two Hit a Pot Hole!

Diary of events by John and Norah Paskell

Monday

Arrived at Windermere Centre mid afternoon after journey from home via motorways. Checked in and unpacked - at centre lovely clean en-suite room.



Then walked from centre down to Bowness past shops, viewed lake and walked back up the hill, eating an ice cream on the way – yes the weather was that nice.

Dined with 3 course dinner and spent the night in the centre.

Tuesday

Up and ready for breakfast at 8.30am sharp. After breakfast set off for Coniston calling at Tarn Hows – a lovely Tarn with splendid views and scenery, a 2 hour walk around the Tarn. On way back from Tarn car park on a narrow one way lane hit a pot hole, loud explosion, resulting in a burst tyre, unable to park (narrow lane) so continued to main road, parked up in front of another parked car who it turns out had hit the same pot hole an burst his tyre. He was from Bolton (Lancashire) on a day out because of the lovely weather. After spare wheel fitted (temporary one, 50 mile an hour limit) we carried on to Coniston, had

lunch and walked down to Coniston Lake, walking back with splendid view of Coniston Old Man (mountain) returned to car and carried on to



Hawkshead village, pot of tea for 2 and bun at café sat outside in the sunshine, walk around Hawkshead village, called in shop then returned to Windermere centre, 3 course dinner and evening spent at centre.

Wednesday

8.30am breakfast, walk down to Bowness, meet with rest of party who

came down via bus. We all then took a boat excursion to Lakeside the southern end of the lake, pleasant weather again with wonderful views of lake Windermere, at Lakeside boarded a steam train with old fashioned railway carriages, which brought back memories of rail travel long ago, we arrived at



Haverthwaite had lunch at the old railway station café, egg and bacon sandwich, for John it was that big and good had to eat it with a knife and fork, this followed by a superb freshly made scone. Returned via steam train and boat back to Bowness, after coffee, walked

back up the hill and carried on to shops at top of Windermere, more coffee and returned to centre, 3 course dinner after which visit to local pub.

Thursday

8.30am breakfast, pack case, settle bill, say farewell to our hosts Brenda and John and our party, due to temporary spare wheel returned non motorway way taking lunch at Skipton.

Summary – a very enjoyable few days with good company, excellent weather, a lovely clean centre with very pleasant staff and hosts – looking forward to our next outing.

Fiona Weighton-Smith writes:



Wast Water

The journey to Windermere was via Skipton over the Dales towards the Lakes. Glorious autumn leaves and tints; on hill and in dale. Arriving in Windermere

at the centre to meet with my companions. A discussion that evening we decided what we wished to do the next few days. Nick asked if anyone would like to join him and Lorraine in a visit to Buttermere and

Wast Water. The journey was to be approx 50 miles. Nick put in the coordinates for the Sat Nav to guide us. We set off through Grasmere, Keswick towards Buttermere and Wast Water the scenery was beautiful. We travelled on and came across 'ROAD CLOSED' so diverted. That upset the Sat Nav, which managed to redirect us. However, another 'ROAD CLOSED' meant that we were no longer on the correct road.



Wast Water

However, we found our way to Wast Water by driving along some very narrow roads, praying that nothing would come the other way. Wast Water a beautiful peaceful piece of water well worth the journey.

On our journey back to the centre we ended up one of the steepest roads in the Lake district, the Hardknot Pass. Many hairpin bends were negotiated. We were approaching the final, and steepest one (1 in 3 or steeper). The car travelling downhill didn't stop to give way, so we had to! (Perhaps his breaks were not very good) Having been forced to stop Nick couldn't get any purchase on the road to continue up until all passengers were out and walking up. We met Nick at the top where

we all got back in for the journey back to Windermere via Ambleside; Instead of the estimated 50 miles we had covered 120.

The whole trip was wonderful and the few days holiday really enjoyable.

Betty James writes:

We had nice weather, good company, good food and very nice staff. A lovely place to visit. If we go again, please come.

Lorraine Percival writes:

Nick and I had a leisurely drive to Windermere, at least as much as going by motorway will allow, arriving to find that Fiona had already arrived.



Windermere has, over the years, become a home from home for us so settling in didn't take long. Norah, John, Betty and Lucie arrived soon after. We all had drinks and were

welcomed by our hosts for the holiday, Brenda and John.

The evening meal was enjoyed by everyone, in fact all the meals were far better than I remember from previous visits. After dinner we gathered together in the lounge to discuss our plans for the next two days.

On Tuesday, as you will have already read, John and Norah decided to do their own exploring. Nick and I took the others with us on a 50 mile trip which Nick had studiously planned (It turned out to be 120 miles!)

We started off and made our way through Ambleside in the direction of Buttermere. It was a very picturesque start, stopping to take photos where we could. On arriving at Buttermere we found we could not stop so enjoyed then views through the windows.



We stopped for a very enjoyable lunch at The Barn, New House Farm Tea Rooms.

After lunch we headed towards West Water but the journey was made more difficult with detours caused by road closures. We were, though, getting to see more of the Lake District than we had expected to. Eventually, via Sellafield, we eventually arrived at West Water after negotiating some very narrow roads. We parked the car in a very spectacular setting and numerous photos were taken by us all. After leaving West Water we stopped at the first tea shop we saw for a cream tea.



Taking a breather on the Hardknot Pass

Feeling refreshed we set off back to Windermere. Why Nick wanted to go over the Hardknot Pass I do not know!

It was scary, treacherous, and we were forced to stop on the steepest hairpin, about half way along the pass, so everyone, except Nick, had to get out of the car to lighten it so it could do perform a very steep hill start. Eventually Betty and I got up the hill, Lucie and Fiona finding it a bit easier.

The second half was no less scary – this pass is not for the feint-hearted!

We all, finally, got back to Windermere to share stories of the day's events with each other. Part of the evening was spent sharing in the completing of the crossword in Reform magazine.

Fiona decided to do her own thing on Wednesday whilst the rest of us



went on a boat from Bowness to Lakeside. A lovely clear day afforded great views of (Lake)

Windermere. We all went on the steam train to Haverthwaite having lunch in the station cafe there. This was a lovely nostalgic trip.

Nick and I had a lovely chat with a representative from the local owl sanctuary who was showing his owls on the station platform.

On our return to Bowness, some went shopping while others returned by bus to spend the afternoon quietly at the Windermere Centre.

After dinner Nick and I, Norah and John went over the road to the Brookside pub to enjoy a drink (or two). Fiona joined us later but was a little put out because they didn't have either Green Ginger wine or Sherry! Lucie and Betty stayed at the centre doing some more of the jigsaw they had started.



After breakfast on Thursday we all made our way back home after what was a really enjoyable and eventful holiday.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES IN OUR CHURCHES

Clayton West

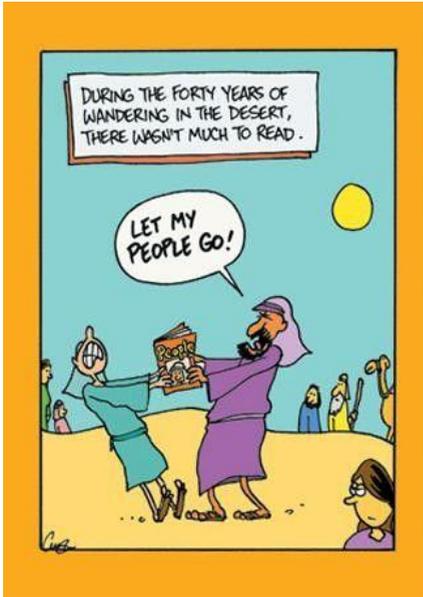
Sunday	Worship every week at 3.00 pm. Communion is included in the service on the 1 st first Sunday of each month
Friday	Baby and Toddler Group 1.00pm - 3.00pm (<i>in term time</i>)
Saturday	Coffee Morning on the 4 th Saturday each month 10.00am

Trinity (Barnsley)

Sunday	Worship every week at 10.30 am. Communion is included in the service on the 3 rd third Sunday of each month
Tuesday	Bible Study at 7.30 pm
Wednesday	Age-Well (<i>over 50s club</i>) every week 10.30am-1.00pm Trinity Players every week at 7.30pm

West Melton

Sunday	Worship on the 1 st (<i>inc. WHIZZ KIDS</i>) and 4 th Sundays at 10.30am and on the 2 nd & 3 rd Sundays at 3.00pm. Communion is included in the service on the 3 rd Sunday of each month
Tuesday	Fellowship evening (<i>varied programme</i>) 7.30pm on the 4 th Tuesday of each month
Wednesday	Little Stars 9.30am every week (<i>in term time</i>)
Saturday	Men's Breakfast at 8.00am on the 3rd Saturday each month



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WEST MELTON:

Mr. John Paskell. *(As above)*

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