

Summer 2018

Magazine of the
United Reformed Churches in Barnet
worshipping at Wood Street and
Chesterfield Road

FOCUS

www.barnet-urc.org
www.chesterfieldroadurc.org



Dear Friends

As Summer breaks upon us and we look forward, maybe!, to hot beautiful weather, barbeques, swimming in the sea or other many other events we experience during a dry warm period, let us remember that God does not slumber nor rest. Our God & Father is still with us and the pain and suffering in our world continues. While we break from work of regular chores let us not stop praying and doing the good things. And an article in this edition of Focus reminds us that we are all disciples and we need to walk the way that Jesus walked. He enjoyed parties and time with His friends, but he never neglected his relationship with His Father nor time in prayer time and the needs of others.

Have a very blessed rest and to try and work towards building intentional relationships.

Every blessing
Editor



As we go to print news of the death of Karen Abbott has circulated.

Karen was a member of our fellowship and leaves husband Mark and children Louis and Nancy plus other family and many friends.

We thank God for Karen's life and witness and pray that her family may know his peace and comfort at this time

Psalm 68:5 Father (or mother) of orphans and protector of widow(er)s is God in his holy habitation.



David Marshall

12th September 1934 to 14th May 2018

David was born in Hackney, in the area around Hackney Downs station, into a London very different to the city we know today.

He never actually lived through the Blitz: he was evacuated and spent at least part of the war years growing up in Edgware. It may be that is where he acquired his love of the countryside that he spent much of his retirement years exploring.

David was a keen walker all his life. But, although he loved mountain scenery he was quite happy to experience it from a train ride line or more recently on his last major holiday a cruise round the west coast of Scotland and the Hebrides.

But it was David's love of the simple English countryside that most shaped the boys' childhood. The most memorable holidays were spent in David's Force Ten Vango tent, camped in Blair Atholl or across the estuary from Barmouth.

On holiday David was always weighed down by his camera and binoculars and map-case. His camera was a thing-to-behold – a Zeiss camera which he bought when doing National Service. It had a fold-out lens attached to the body by “bellows”! The problem was of changing the film, which didn't come in a fully sealed cartridge therefore he had to search for some dark corner where he could change the film without exposing it, ducking into phone boxes or a public loo. These days he would probably be arrested for loitering or snooping!

Another of David's loves was bird-watching. On his last holiday in Yorkshire the boys took him to Bempton Cliffs at breeding season to see the gannets, puffins, guillemots and fulmars. He was tired by the end of the day but, as he was watching from the cliff-top path, he had looked genuinely happy.

David was a keen cricket fan. In his early retirement he had a job at Lords as a steward – so he got to watch quite a few test-matches for free!

David worked all his life in local government, mostly in boroughs that struggled with the burden of cuts, he understood from his own experience, just how difficult this made things for people already struggling with daily life.

Presentation of Awards

At the Presentation of Awards on the 10th June 2018, two members of the Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association received their President's Badge and Certificate. This is the second highest award that the young people can attain and is only presented after many hours of hard, loyal work.



The presentation was made by the Revd Julian Templeton, our Interim Moderator.

Well done, Georgia & Joanna, next objective Queens' Badge

Flower Rota

July	August	September
1st Jenny de Naeyer	5th Lynette de Naeyer	2nd Sue Russell
8th Sue Russell	12th Lynette de Naeyer	9th Alison Atkinson
15th Sue Russell	19th Sue Russell	16th Christine Nuckey
22nd Pamela Lane	26th Lynette de Naeyer	23rd Pamela Lane
29th Sue Russell		20th Fleur White



I should like to thank all those who have commented on the recent announcement of my Lifetime Achievement Award from the London Borough of Barnet. Some have asked how it came about so here goes.

In truth there is little to tell as the first I knew of it was when a letter arrived from the Borough inviting me to the awards presentation. As I often attend civic events I just looked at the date, confirmed I was free, and said to my wife Pamela “we will go”. “You’ve not read it fully have you” she said which was correct and I

should have been alerted as it was on blue ‘Mayor’s Parlour’ paper instead of the usual white. So I this time read it in full “as you are to receive a Lifetime Achievement Award”!

It transpired that, following the introduction of a new system for rewarding local people, late last year a nomination had been submitted in the following terms:

“Stephen Lane is a highly regarded member of the Barnet community and over many, many years has dedicated his life to various causes and organisations in the borough and continues to do so.

...then there is a much too embarrassing long list of roles to include here going back to the 1970’s, including my involvement with our church, finishing with...

It should not go without mention his unfailing support to borough civic events where he would prefer to volunteer to assist rather than be a guest!

The list of his involvements is without doubt impressive and I therefore nominate Mr Stephen Lane to be recognised for his long and outstanding voluntary contribution to the borough with a well-deserved Lifetime Achievement Civic Award.”

For 2018 there were to be awards to a young achiever, for business, for outstanding service to the Community and for Lifetime Achievement. Some thirty-six individuals or bodies made the final list. Of these, following passing a selection panel including the Mayor, Representative Deputy Lieutenant, Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive, some received letters of appreciation, others receive a scroll of thanks and seven framed vellums. They were four for outstanding service and just three for Lifetime Achievement.

Prior to attending the presentation at the Town Hall one was invited to take part in a professional photo shoot, mine here at the church, so an up to date likeness appeared in the booklet.

The main recipients and their guests attended the presentations and the buffet which followed.

The seven were also acknowledged at the Annual Council Meeting where the incoming Mayor recited their names for the purpose of including them in the official Borough minutes.

Given there are some 380,000 people in the borough of Barnet it was both a shock and an honour to be selected as one of the first to be so recognised and as I said for one publication

“...it is humbling to be recognised by my fellow Burgesses for just supporting our community.

I've been privileged to see over the years the work done by so many people within various organisations to promote the advancement and well being of our young people and they all deserve our thanks and praise for undertaking this challenging yet rewarding task.”

to which I would include here

“and all who volunteer in many other ways to support the community”.

DAY OF PRAYER – SATURDAY 12TH MAY

After a break of two years, we held again our Day of Prayer. It was held on the first Saturday after Ascension and so fell in the focus period of the Archbishops' Call to Prayer. The Call to Prayer was first made in 2015, aimed mainly at Anglicans in the UK but with the hope that other denominations and Christians across the world might join in. Since then it has become a world-wide ecumenical call to prayer "Thy Kingdom Come", complete with its own website (<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>).

We began the day with the regular monthly CTforCB Prayer Breakfast, which was very well-supported by representatives from about half our member churches and made for an encouraging start to the day.

The day focussed on the Lord's Prayer with eight prayer stations in the centre of the church, each one taking a phrase and encourage participants to think about its application.



We invited member church of Churches

Together for Chipping Barnet to

YOUR WILL BE DONE

participate on the day and to provide some of the prayer stations. There were volunteers from three churches: Sally Anderson from The Stable (Our Father in Heaven); Carole Moeke from the Methodist church (Hallowed be your name) and Revd Adèle Burgess from St Mary the Virgin (Your will be done).

Various members of our own congregation took responsibility for the remaining stations: Pamela Lane (on earth as it is in Heaven); Vic Russell (Give us today our daily bread); Diane de Naeyer (Forgive us our sins as we forgive those that sin against us); Sue Russell (Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil) and Christine Nuckey (For the kingdom, the power and the glory, now & forever).

The side aisles were kept clear for folk to sit and meditate, pray or read—a number of books of prayers, poetry and meditations were available to borrow, also other aids to prayer and contemplations: a variety of crosses, including holding crosses; pictures and stones.

We are very grateful for the help of these folk and a number of others, especially Jill Adams and Fleur White, who looked after the refreshments in the Parlour, ensuring that there was always someone there for anyone who wanted to sit and chat; Alan King, who saw to it that the background music was just that; Stephen Lane, who was always there to welcome people and answer questions.

Every hour, on the hour, various of those already named lead prayers or read appropriate reflective poetry or meditations. This was a delight of a wide-range of thought-provoking and helpful short sessions.

Although we did not have crowds of visitors there was a steady stream throughout the day and numerous appreciative comments. In fact, as I reflected on the day that evening, I realised that crowds would have been counter-productive to the peaceful and reverent atmosphere that was very tangible as one walked into the sanctuary.

A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who worked before and during the day to make it a blessing to many!



Sue

FOR THE KINGDOM, THE POWER & THE GLORY ARE YOURS, NOW & FOREVER
(water lily praises float up to God)



Wed, March 27, 1918
EDWIN HENRY BROWN SR/6095
Pte - 2nd Bn Middlesex Regt
POZIERES MEMORIAL

Sat, April 27, 1918
J. LLEWELLYN CUFFE 235269 - 29
Pte – 7th Middlesex Regt ("A" Coy 1st Bn King's Own (RLR))
LAPUGNOY MILITARY CEMETERY

Ewen Hall Soldiers Hospital - Report 14 for April – June 1918

In the April 6th "Barnet Press" the death of Lt. Col. J. H. S. (Jack) Dimmer V.C., M.C. was sadly reported. On a lighter note the following joke is doing the rounds:

"A subaltern newly arrived in Jerusalem, after its capture by the British in December, enquired of a soldier "Private." "Sir!" "Where is the Mount of Olives?"

"Dun 'no Sir" replied the soldier "I don't know where any of the pubs is".

Food registration was extended at the end of April and so now everyone must have a nominated retailer. "Saint Paul" was performed by Barnet Congregational Church Choir and raised £100 for the Lady Jericho's Sailors Fund. Riding Master Ernest Henry White aged 35 classified C3 from the High Street had to remove several fever cases from Barnet War Hospital and the Ewen Hall Hospital last week. A Food meeting is to be held at the Barnet Cinema Tuesday next.

May opened with the news that Watson instrument makers are to be entitled to extra rations. Men classified D and Women B however will not receive the extra bacon and offal. Over at Finchley Cottage Hospital, last Friday Mr Cope proposed and Mr Woodrow seconded that, a new ward should be created as a War Memorial. Correction – It is now reported that actually "Saint Paul" raised £103:13s. The Meat ration has been halved however "GOOD NEWS" it has been decreed that Tea is not a food. "BAD NEWS" it is still to be rationed to 2oz per person per week.



The 1st Barnet Boys' Brigade Company Demonstration took place on Thursday 9th May where Mr. H. S. Shipton took the chair and Sir James MacKenzie Davidson (left) inspected. Sir James made what was probably the first X-ray, has an interest in photography and is a consultant to all the military hospitals in London. The Boy Reserves [Junior Section] also took part in the Demonstration. On Whit Monday the company paraded to The White House, Bentley Heath, home of Lieutenant Walter Wood Birrell & Mrs. Agnes Birrell, and enjoyed refreshments.

There has been a request for females to enrol in the Women's Land Army at the same time it is stated that thirty men from the Barnet Workhouse are now in the services.

At the beginning of June Alston Works Entertainment Company entertained over 80 wounded at the Pennyfather Hall. During the concert cigarettes and cooling drinks were handed round.

The Queen Mary's Auxiliary Army Corps require 5000 cooks and 2000 waitresses so as to release men for other duties. Will you join their circle?

Since 1914 over 60 Police Specials based in Barnet have been presented with 2 Silver Stars - one for their tunic and one for their overcoat. Grocers have requested as Jam is in short supply - please take back your old jars!



On June 15th confirmation of Barnet fire Brigade Air Raid Warnings was published:

FIRE CALLS - One long signal only during times of light should be expected.

TAKE COVER - The signals of 20 seconds 15 seconds apart.

TEST - One short at 13.00 on Saturdays.

A part time classification committee is to be formed on the orders of the National Service Ministry. Gas now costs 4d per 1000 square foot. Mr & Mrs Gee have received the "Baghdad Times" from their son in Mesopotamia.

Captain Gooding, Lieutenants Cuff & Green along with 33 Boys from the 1st Barnet Boys' Brigade Company attended the Hyde Park review before General Sir Robert Scallon. In total 1500 Boys were formed into 12 Companies. A Nurse Lane is reported to be serving at Victoria Cottage Hospital [*no relative as far as I know*]. Elliott's & Sons entertained 70-80 patients at the Pennyfather Hall at the end of June. The Food Committee inspected W. Watson's & Sons to see if the extra rations given were in fact due. *Two say "Yes" one says "No"!*

The Ewen Hall Hospital benefited from the fine displays made for the Barnet Congregational Church Flower Service.



Miss Game has been awarded Membership of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire Civil Division [left] and all send her congratulations.

As the month of June came to a close it was announced that the Ewen Hall Hospital has grown again and now has 50 beds.

We pray we will not need them all for long.

Chesterfield Road URC re-development.

At last after 14 years of battles with Barnet council over a number of issues, our re-development can finally go ahead.

Our last services will be over the weekend of the 14th 15th of July. With a celebratory service for 83 years of Christian witness on Saturday 14th at 6pm for 6.30pm and a Family Service on Sunday morning the 15th of July at 11am

Chesterfield Road was first built and started by the Deacons of Barnet Congregational Church at Wood Street, with a committee, comprising of 10 members from Wood Street and 2 from Chesterfield Road. Having oversight. Until the committee comprised of just only one member from Wood Street.

In 1974 we became a United Reformed Church in our own right with our own elders.

Over the years the present buildings have become 'Not fit for purpose' and needed to be updated. Plans were submitted and finally approved. There will be a the new church and community hall and a terrace of five houses built on the present church site.

It is anticipated that the build will take between 15 to 18 months during which time we have been granted permission to hold our meetings in St.Stephen's C of E Church, Bells Hill. With our morning service starting at 10am before St Stephen's hold their own and services at 11.15am

A very exciting but challenging time for the members of Chesterfield Road. All will be welcome to join in our celebration and to share some memories.

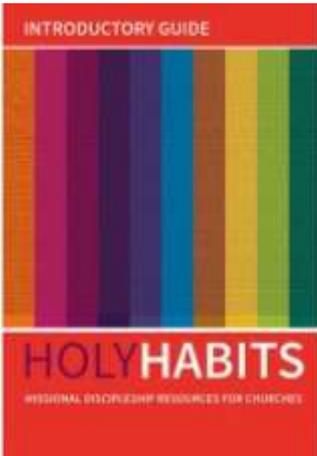


From this



To This

WORDS, WORDS, WORDS!



Walking the way, Missional Discipleship, Holy Habits, Re-Imagine Church, Intentional Discipleship: they are all phrases that keep coming up around the URC at the moment. Most of us think, with a sinking heart, “Oh, not another new initiative/programme/project.” And no, they are not, but they are all connected to looking at how we do what we do already.

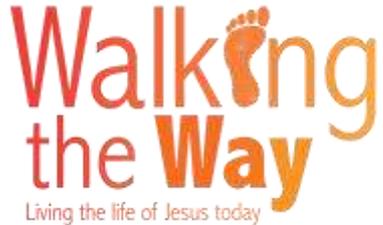
Across the UK many are bemoaning the fall in church membership and attendance. Yet the Christian Church began with just 12 disciples on the Day of Pentecost and by the evening there were about 3000 more! What happened and what are we doing wrong is the question in many minds. What we do know is there is a difference and it seems to be working against the Christian Church!

On the other hand there is a growing desire across the denominations to see God at work in the world. Over and over the answers seem to have a lot to do with all Christians walking more closely to Jesus, of being “intentionally” his disciples 24/7.

One of the ways the URC is doing this is by encouraging us all in ***Walking the Way, Living the Life of Jesus today*** (<https://urc.org.uk/our-work/walking-the-way.html>). Holy Habits are a helpful way into doing just that: developing personal habits of holiness. The habits are based on Acts 2:42-47: Bible teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, prayer, sharing resources, serving, eating together, gladness and generosity, worship and **making more disciples!**

The Bible Study group are thinking about studying these ‘holy habits’ in the near future but it would be really good to involve the whole fellowship (not

necessarily at the Bible Study but across all the church activities). For those interested in looking more closely at this we hope to arrange a social event (with food) during August when as many as are able and wish can get together to think and discuss possible ways forward. If you are interested, please speak with Jill, Pamela, Sue or Vic and watch out for details of the social event!



To encourage you, a number of churches have worked with the Holy Habits material already and there is much helpful advice to be gleaned from their accounts of “what worked best”!

Sue Russell

From this



To this



We will re-open as
St. Andrew's Chesterfield Road
URC

Join Us to Celebrate

The Closing Service
of the present Church Building

on

Saturday 14th July 2018

6pm for 6.30pm

United Reformed Church
Chesterfield Road
Barnet
EN5 2RE



Evening Services at Wood Street.

Most Sunday evenings there is a time of worship, 6:30pm—7:15pm, in the Church Parlour.

This can take many forms from a typical ‘hymn and sermon sandwich’ to more informal time or looking at a Bible event or character or other relevant issues.

We always finish with tea/coffee and cakes.

The other Sunday we had a ‘choose your song service’ where we sung some well known and not so well songs. Some were shown as a video clip with others singing. (*Numbers are as in our current edition of Mission Praise*)

- 346 It is a thing most wonderful
- 1173 God of grace, amazing wonder
irresistible and free;
oh, the miracle of mercy,
Jesus reaches down to me.
- 567 Prayer is the soul’s sincere desire
- 995 Jesus Christ, I think upon Your sacrifice;
You became nothing, poured out to death.
Many times I’ve wondered as Your gift of life,
And I’m in that place once again,
And I’m in that place once again.
- 50 Be still, for the presence of the Lord
- 1361 This is how we know,
this is how we know what love is:
just one look at Your cross.
And this is where we see,
this is where we are how love works,
for You surrendered Your all.

Church Contacts

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Sunday Club
Alison Atkinson
020 8441 1196

*Boys' Brigade & Girls'
Association*
Alan King
020 8440 7537

Brownies
Pamela Lane
020 8441 5339

10 O'Clock Club
Stacey Cronin
07528 448 275

Chesterfield Road

Church Secretary
Bernie Cleal
020 8449 1868

Articles for the next edition need to be
with the editor by

Sunday, 9th September 2018

focus@urc-barnet.org

You do not need a parachute to skydive.

You only need a parachute to skydive twice.