



The
United
Reformed
Church



Halifax Group Magazine

Heath New Hope New Providence



February 2020

Our vision is to know, love, live and
share Jesus, for a better world.

Letter from the New Manse

Dear Friends

Over the years I've been involved in a number of job interviews, sometimes as a candidate exploring whether this was the post for me, and sometimes as part of the interview panel. The experience of being a candidate differs according to what kind of company or organisation it is, and the nature of the post. However, there seems to be a common experience as a member of an interview panel, and that's observing how each member of the panel approaches the task, especially in short-listing meetings and post-interview deliberations.

There's usually someone who persistently stresses the qualities of the candidate, pointing out how they might enhance the company or organisation, and highlighting the skills and personal attributes they bring. There's also usually someone who I call the "Ah but person". "Ah but..." they'll begin; the candidate was either too quiet, or too chatty; too ambitious, or not ambitious enough; under-qualified, or over-qualified. No matter what other panel members have said in favour of that candidate, this one will find a fault.

In one short-listing meeting one of my colleagues said, in a rather exasperated tone, "It's hopeless, don't you think? They're all flawed in some way." I felt like saying something like, "Of course they're all flawed, everybody is. Nobody is perfect: not even us. If you're looking for someone with every quality and no faults, then you'll be disappointed, because such a person doesn't exist."

Letter from the New Manse

I wonder what would have happened if Jesus' first disciples had been interviewed by a panel. Would they have been appointed? I'm sure the "Ah but person" would have been quick to point out their faults. Some were ambitious, and even argued about who would be at Jesus' right hand. Peter seemed too impulsive. One of them couldn't be trusted not to betray his master.

Yet Jesus chose these less than perfect people to be his followers, and to take his message to the world. After Jesus' resurrection Peter discovered, perhaps to his amazement, that Jesus still valued him and still wanted him. His past failures weren't an obstacle. The only question that Jesus asked him was, "Do you love me?"

For those of us who want to serve God but feel that we aren't good enough and that our weaknesses and faults outweigh our strengths, that question is still put to us. "Do you love me?" asks Jesus. If our answer is "Yes" then no matter how inadequate we may feel, however unworthy we may believe ourselves to be, we're accepted and given a place in his team. This is so because God doesn't look for perfection, but only the potential in anyone who can answer that question, "Do you love me?" with the words, "Yes, Lord, in spite of my weakness, you know I love you." Of course, we may never gain a seat on the board, but what does that matter when we have a place in the Kingdom of God?

This brings me to our forthcoming annual meetings. There are many roles and task involved in the running of our

Letter from the New Manse

churches and the pastorate and we need to pray about who might be asked to do them. As you pray about other people's gifts and strengths, I urge you also to prayerfully consider whether *you* have the abilities and qualities to take on one of the jobs, even with your weaknesses. And don't forget: God doesn't look for perfection, only potential!

Love,
Heather.

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### **ELDERLY**

While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, "The tooth fairy will never believe this!"

**February**

- 2 Rev Daphne Hull
- 9 Mrs Dawn Walker
- 16 Mrs Jane Simmons - Communion
- 23 Mr Jim Walker

**Activities in February**

Sunday 9 February – 4.00pm – Messy Church  
Thursday 13 February – 7.30pm – Thursday Club-  
Maralyn Greenwood – Escape from Poland  
Tuesday 18 February – Community Coffee Morning

**Weekly Events**

Regular Activities at Heath

**Sunday**

4.00pm                      Messy Church (monthly Sept-June)

**Monday**

9.15am                      Toddler Club (Term time only)

5.30pm                      Beaver Scouts 6-8yrs

6.30pm                      Cub Scouts 8-10yrs

**Tuesday**

10.30am      Community Coffee Club (3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in month)

**Thursday**

7.30pm      Thursday Club- Social Group (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday  
in month Sept – June)

**Friday**

7.30pm                      Scouts 10-14yrs

7.30pm                      Explorer Scouts 14-18 yrs

**Hello again**, I now have a date for the forthcoming auction, which is Saturday 14th March, 2020. And it will be open to all.

Donations and pledges would be most welcome, to John or Anne Seager, please. We can collect. Mobile 07577 757265. More details nearer the time.

Many thanks,  
John

### **The Joseph Crossley's Almshouses**

I'm sure many of you are already familiar with the Joseph Crossley's Almshouses as it's history is full of support that has been provided in many ways by URC members in Halifax, and indeed, some URC members are mentioned in the scheme dated 1973. The charity existed in a different form before 1973, but I'm sure URC and Congregationalists were involved much earlier too.

However, I think there may be some URC members within the group who are not so familiar with it, and so I thought it worth writing a brief article for this newsletter to let people know what it is, and who it is for.

The Joseph Crossley's Almshouses is a charity which provides housing for Protestants over 60 years old, who have lived in the Halifax area for the last two years and who are of limited means. There are 32 flats that are suitable for people on their own, or couples. Currently we have 36 Residents, of which six are URC members. Residents pay a Weekly Maintenance Contribution (currently £69 per week) plus their own gas and electric bills.

## HEATH

The charity is overseen by 12 Trustees. This is made up of two family Trustees (descendants of Joseph Crossley) and ten volunteers taken from local churches. Of these, four are from the URC. There is a chapel on site, and weekly services take place on Thursday afternoons. Volunteer preachers fill the pulpit from a variety of backgrounds, but it is interesting to note that on the current 6 month rota, 12 of the services (out of 26) are to be led by URC members.

There is an on site warden that visits Residents each morning, Monday to Friday. She and the Residents also organise regular social activities such as film shows, quizzes, coffee mornings and short trips away.

More information can be found on the web site – [josephcrossleyhomes.org.uk](http://josephcrossleyhomes.org.uk), or by contacting the current Chair of Trustees, Alan Kendall on 07712 676406.

Alternatively, everyone is welcome to join us on our annual Open Day, which is the second Saturday in July – 11<sup>th</sup> July 2020 between 10am and 2pm. Coffee and biscuits will be available in the chapel meeting room, and there will be Trustees and Residents on hand to meet people and show them round as required.

In addition to all those who are currently involved in JCA, there are also a large number of URC members who have supported it in the past – through Trusteeship, preaching and in other ways. So finally I would just like to say a very big thank you to all those from the URC who have in the past, or currently support JCA in any way. Your hard work is much appreciated.

Alan Kendall (e-mail: [chair@josephcrossleyhomes.org.uk](mailto:chair@josephcrossleyhomes.org.uk))

**Sadly** we have to announce the death of one of our oldest and most loved members Frank Foulds on 21 December just two weeks short of his hundredth birthday. When he retired from his work as a Dental Mechanic about 40 years ago, Frank was introduced to Heath Church, by his friend and neighbour Ralph Pagett and they sang together in the choir for many years. Frank was a very regular attender and did his turn on the Door Duty rota right to the end, welcoming people to church with a cheery smile and often a hug. He kept himself very fit with regular visits to the swimming pool and gym and always joined us on our church walks and latterly played bowls at Stafford Bowling Club. We will all miss you Frank.

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Australian bushfires: Westminster College principal reflects and prays

Since September 2019, the world has watched with shock and horror as bushfires have torn across parts of Australia, leaving a trail of destruction in their wake. More than 2,000 homes have been razed to the ground, and according to reports, at least 25 people and millions of animals have died.

Having recently returned from Australia, the Revd Neil Thorogood, Principal of the United Reformed Church's Westminster College in Cambridge, reflects on his visit and offers a prayer for everyone affected by the tragedy:

“Over Christmas I paid a hastily planned visit to my father in Sydney. Ill health saw him in hospital, and I wanted to be closer than the phone calls were allowing me to be.

“We spent the Christmas season in a room in the Sydney Adventist Hospital. On most of the days I was there, the sky was hazy with smoke from the raging bushfires around New South Wales.

“The sun was often a bloody red ball glowering at us. Some days, as soon as I stepped outdoors, my eyes would sting and I could smell the burning gum trees.

“It was while I was there that two firefighters died. The news was always dominated by reports on where fires had reached and where they might go next.

“We had a gale at one point which fanned the flames and sent embers across highways to start blazes leaping from mile to mile. Most of the state hasn't had real rain for a couple of years so the bush is just awaiting the smallest spark.

“It was heartbreaking to listen as families returned to homes that were piles of darkened wood and twisted metal; everything was being lost.

“Australians are used to bush fires. They are part of the seasons in the way that we get used to rain and frost. But this year's are unprecedented in their scale and ferocity.

“There's a big debate across Australia surrounding climate change and its consequences. But no one can doubt the reality of loss being endured by people and by nature.”

Prayer

Your creation tests us sometimes, Lord of all.
We build and plant, tend and grow, harvest and mine.
We cut roads across the landscape and drill deep into the earth.

We tend to assume our dominance over your world; until our vulnerability comes home again, until we see the scale of forces that overwhelm us.

Be with those now facing fire.

Help communities coping with devastating loss and fear.

Give strength and endurance to the firefighters offering all they have to save life and property.

Give to those with leadership the wisdom they need to face the emergency and the much longer journey of rebuilding and recovery.

Help us, so distant, to sustain the bonds of love and care that cross the world.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

Amen.

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Hello Folks

How are you doing?

Snowdrops arrive and Lent starts this month, a good time for repentance, forgiveness and prayerful reflection. Perhaps, on the Lord's creation – Genesis 1-2:1,2,3 and then Revelation 21:4 "He will wipe away every tear". The cycle of life... those we have lost and new life beginning. Spring truly is around the corner on the lead up to Easter... Jesus, His death on the cross, His Resurrection Life... the free gift of salvation for all through Him. "The Holy Spirit and the bride say "Come!" who is thirsty...drink the water of Life without cost" Revelation 22:17.

The NHS website gives 5 ways to wipe out winter tiredness

[https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/sleep-and-tiredness/5-](https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/sleep-and-tiredness/5-ways-to-wipe-out-winter-tiredness)

[ways-to-wipe-out-winter-tiredness](https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/sleep-and-tiredness/5-ways-to-wipe-out-winter-tiredness) I have shortened the article for the magazine. Please see my board on Manor Drive for some further information.

1. Let in some sunlight: As the days become shorter, your sleep and waking cycles may become disrupted. The lack of sunlight means your brain produces more of a hormone called melatonin, which makes you sleepy.

Open your blinds or curtains as soon as you get up to let more sunlight into your home, and get outdoors in natural daylight as much as possible. Try to take even just a brief lunchtime walk, and make sure your work and home environments are as light and airy as possible.

2. Get a good night's sleep: Getting enough undisturbed sleep is vital for fighting off winter tiredness. It's tempting to go into hibernation mode when winter hits, but that sleepy feeling you get doesn't mean you should snooze for longer.

In fact, if you sleep too much, chances are you'll feel even more sluggish during the day. We don't actually require any more sleep in winter than we do in summer – aim for about eight hours of shut-eye a night, and try to go to bed and get up at the same time every day.

Make sure your bedroom helps you feel relaxed and sleepy: clear the clutter, have comfortable and warm bedding, and turn off the TV.

Read more about [how to get a good night's sleep](https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/sleep-and-tiredness/10-tips-to-beat-insomnia) on the NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/sleep-and-tiredness/10-tips-to-beat-insomnia> which includes suggestions of: Keep regular sleep hours. Going to bed and getting up at roughly the same time every day will programme your body to sleep better. Choose a time when you're likely to feel tired and sleepy and create a restful sleeping environment, Make sure your bed is comfortable, Exercise regularly, Cut down on caffeine, Do not over-indulge, Do not smoke, Try to relax before going to bed, Write away your worries, If you cannot sleep, get up.

Make an appointment to see your GP if lack of sleep is persistent and it's affecting your daily life.

3. Get regular exercise: Exercise may be the last thing you want to do when you're feeling tired on dark winter evenings. But you might be surprised by how energetic you feel after getting involved in some kind of physical activity every day.

Exercise in the late afternoon may help to reduce early-evening fatigue and also improve your sleep. Try to reach the recommended goal for your age group as advised by NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/exercise/> for example : Adults aged over 65 are advised by NHS to:

Older adults should do some type of physical activity every day. Any type of activity is good for you. The more you do the better.

- aim to be physically active every day. Any activity is better than none. The more you do the better, even if it's just [light activity](#)
- do activities that improve [strength, balance and flexibility](#) on at least 2 days a week
- do at least 150 minutes of [moderate intensity activity](#) a week or 75 minutes of [vigorous intensity activity](#) if you are already active, or a combination of both
- reduce time spent sitting or lying down and break up long periods of not moving with some activity

If you've fallen or are worried about falling, doing exercises to improve your strength, balance and flexibility will help make you stronger and feel more confident on your feet. Speak to your GP if you have any concerns about exercising. Further information about what these different exercises involve are on my notice board on Manor Drive entrance.

4. Learn to relax: There are some simple things you can do to help to reduce stress. Many people find adding meditation, breathing exercises or [mindfulness techniques](#) into their day helps them to calm down and feel more relaxed.

If you're stressed, whether by your job or something more personal, the first step to feeling better is to identify the cause.

"In life, there's always a solution to a problem," says Professor Cary Cooper, an occupational health expert at the University of Lancaster.

Again the NHS website expands on these suggestions about what you can do to address stress <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/reduce-stress/>

Be active, Take control, Connect with people, Have some 'me time', Challenge yourself – “By continuing to learn, you become more emotionally resilient as a person,” says Professor Cooper, Avoid unhealthy habits, Help other people, Work smarter, not harder, Try to be positive, Accept the things you can't change.

5. Eat the right food: Being overweight or underweight can affect your energy levels and leave you feeling sleepy. So it's important to make sure you eat a healthy, balanced diet. Once the summer ends, there's a temptation to ditch the salads and fill up on starchy foods such as pasta, potatoes and bread. However, you'll have more energy if you include plenty of fruit and vegetables in your comfort meals. (But don't forget Shrove Tuesday, 25th February 2020!)

If your tiredness is stopping you from going about your normal life, or goes on for a long time, you may have a health condition and you should talk to your GP.

And finally for now: 3 John 1:2 “So dear friends, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well”.

With many blessings and please don't hesitate to call me: 07803295002. Please leave a message and I will get back to you. Thank you. Dawn Weald, Parish Nurse, Heath Church.

Pulpit Supply

February

Feb. 2nd Rev Heather Pollard (Communion)

Feb. 9th Mrs. Juliet Foster

Feb. 16th Rev Heather Pollard

Feb. 23rd Alison Dobson

Mar. 1st Peter Fleming (Communion)

February Diary

Mondays Art Group held on Monday afternoons 1.30 until 4.00pm - Anyone wanting to spend a relaxing afternoon is most welcome to join us - Norma Boys Brigade 6-30 p.m. Anchors, Juniors and Seniors (contact 832607)

Tuesdays Walking Group meet bottom of Court Lane 9-30 a.m. contact 357739 if you intend to go.

Wednesdays Friendship Hour 2-15 p.m. (2nd & 4th Wednesdays) 12th February Will be 'Switzerland' With Madeleine Russell 26th February Will be 'Grand Duchess Anastasia' With David Glover.

Every Wednesday Ladies' Keep Fit 7-30 p.m.

Thursdays African Church Worship 5-30 p.m. to 7-30 p.m.

KUMON Educational Classes for Children Wednesdays 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Sundays from 4 p.m.

Saturdays Maths Group 9-30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

LEAP YEAR important for some because it means Alan has a birthday and this is a very special one because it's his 21st! To celebrate he's having "Open house" on Saturday 29th February from 2 p.m. until late. (50 Whitehill Road, HX2 9HD - 244946) All (from any of the churches) are very welcome to pop in, for as long as you like. Refreshments will be available, but please no presents. A charity box will be available should you wish to contribute.

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### **More Ways To Reduce Carbon Foot Prints**

The biggest contribution to global warming is the meat and dairy industry, the Amazon rain forest is being cut back at the rate of three football fields a minute, to make way for cattle to graze, and to grow crops to feed farmed animals for the meat and dairy industry. While parts of the world are turning to desert, it takes 100,000 litres of water to produce one kg of beef but just 1,000 litres to produce one kg of wheat. Rivers and streams are also being polluted by liquid slurry from farm animals which causes acid rain.

What sort of planet are we leaving for future generations? Could you try having one or two meat free days a week? Not only good for the planet, you will be helping yourself to a healthy lifestyle.

To find out more, please go to [www.viva.org.uk](http://www.viva.org.uk)

Cynthia Conroy



## **ECOLOGICAL SIN**

The Pope has mooted the introduction of a new sin into the Roman Catholic liturgy. This will make up for some of the previous sins that have disappeared. The new sin is Ecological sin (Daily Mail)

Back in the 1980s the writer included advice in Pellon Baptist Church Magazine 'include climate change in the sermons, or wither' Its taken 40 years for officialdom to take note.

It looks like there is fear in the various synods that 'ecologicalism' is going to be the new religion and by definition we can overtly 'unsin' by: planting a tree; not flying on holiday; going to America on a sailing boat; watch our food miles; watch our carbon footprint; eat less red meat; catch the bus; take your pension shares out of Shell, BP, and Boeing.

By doing all these things the world economy would collapse causing possibly more destruction than a 3<sup>0</sup> C rise in global temperature (the writer just committed a sin) oops!

The other way of looking at all this is, how else do you get the world off oil and gas before it runs out. For climate emergency read oil running out. The former is easier to believe and it will result in an orderly transitiion from fossil fuels to nuclear and renewable energy. So the developing nations stand a chance of becoming developed.

Its just a conspiracy theory but it makes more sense than the 'end times' gloomers.

Just as an asside you, yes you, have to plant 680 trees every year to cancel your carbon footprint in the years to come (not at once). So let's start by having services in a smaller, more economical to heat room, instead of in an empty barn.

Mike Riley

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Pastor's Business Card

A new pastor was visiting in the homes of his parishioners. At one house it seemed obvious that someone was at home, but no answer came to his knocks at the door. Therefore, he took out a business card that he had printed "Revelation 3:20" on the back of it for just such an occasion, and stuck it in the door. When the offering was processed the following Sunday, he found that his card had been returned.

Added to it was this cryptic message, "Genesis 3:10." Reaching for his Bible to check out the citation, he broke up in gales of laughter. Revelation 3:20 begins "Behold, I stand at the door and knock." Genesis 3:10 reads, "I heard your voice in the garden and I was afraid for I was naked."

A Cheerful heart is good medicine (Prov. 17:22)

Pulpit Supply

FEBRUARY

2nd ... Mrs. Juliet Foster

9th ... Rev. Heather Pollard (Communion)

16th ... Mr. Ken Lees-Wolfenden (Parade)

23rd ... Rev. Heather Pollard

New Providence Diary

FEBRUARY

Wednesday's – 1.00pm I'm Fine Depression Group

Friday's – 6.45pm Boy's Brigade / Girl's Association at the Carlton Centre

Wednesday 5th – 7.30pm Elders Meeting

Sunday 9th - Church AGM & Meeting

Monday 24th – 7.30pm New Provi Circle

St Valentine

St Valentine's Day was declared to be on February 14th in 496 by Pope Gelasius 1. There are several St Valentines commemorated in churches of different traditions. The main contenders in Roman and Western Churches are either, a Roman priest martyred on the Flaminian Way, supposedly under Claudius; or, a bishop of Terni who was martyred in Rome, but whose relics were translated to Terni. Some Jesuit scholars state that they are one and the same. Neither of them seems to have any clear connection with lovers or courting couples. The reason for this famous patronage is that birds are supposed to pair on February 14th, a belief at least as old as Chaucer (14th C); just as the custom of choosing and calling oneself a Valentine is as old as the Paston Letters (15th C) On the other hand; some authorities see the custom of choosing a partner on St Valentine's Day as a survival of elements of the Roman Lupercalia festival, which took place in the middle of February

Whatever the reason; the connection of lovers with St Valentine, with all its consequences for the printing and retailing industries; is one of the less likely results of the cult of the Roman martyrs

No churches in England seem to be dedicated to Valentine, but from 1835 his relics are claimed by the Carmelite church in Dublin. Painting shown St Valentine Heals the Epileptics and rebukes the Worshipers of False Gods

Arist: Bartholomaus Zeitblom
c. 1450-c_1519



LENT!

An Irishman moves into a tiny hamlet in County Kerry, walks into the pub and promptly orders three beers. The bartender raises his eyebrows, but serves the man three beers, which he drinks quietly at a table, alone. An hour later, the man has finished the three beers and orders three more. This happens yet again. The next evening the man again orders and drinks three beers at a time, several times. Soon the entire town is whispering about the Man Who Orders Three Beers. Finally, a week later, the bartender broaches the subject on behalf of the town. "I don't mean to pry, but folks around here are wondering why you always order three beers?"

'Tis odd, isn't it?" the man replies, "You see, I have two brothers, and one went to America, and the other to Australia. We promised each other that we would always order an extra two beers whenever we drank as a way of keeping up the family bond."

The bartender and the whole town was pleased with this answer, and soon the Man Who Orders Three Beers became a local celebrity and source of pride to the hamlet, even to the extent that out-of-towners would come to watch him drink.

Then, one day, the man comes in and orders only two beers. The bartender pours them with a heavy heart. This continues for the rest of the evening - he orders only two beers. The word flies around town. Prayers are offered for the soul of one of the brothers.

The next day, the bartender says to the man, "Folks around here, me first of all, want to offer condolences to

you for the death of your brother. You know-the two beers and all..."

The man ponders this for a moment, then replies, "You'll be happy to hear that my two brothers are alive and well... It's just that I, myself, have decided to give up drinking for Lent."



"He's given up for Lent"

Pancake Day

In the UK, pancake races form an important part of the Shrove Tuesday celebrations – an opportunity for large numbers of people, often in fancy dress, to race down streets tossing pancakes. The object of the race is to get to the finishing line first, carrying a frying pan with a cooked pancake in it and flipping the pancake as you run.

The most famous pancake race takes place at Olney in Buckinghamshire. According to tradition, in 1445 a woman of Olney heard the shriving bell while she was making pancakes and ran to the church in her apron, still clutching her frying pan. The Olney pancake race is now world famous. Competitors have to be local housewives and they must wear an apron and a hat or scarf.

Each contestant has a frying pan containing a hot pancake. She must toss it three times during the race. The first woman to complete the course and arrive at the church, serve her pancake to the bellringer and be kissed by him, is the winner.

At Westminster School in London, the annual Pancake Grease is held. A verger from Westminster Abbey leads a procession of boys into the playground where the school cook tosses a huge pancake over a five-metre high bar. The boys then race to grab a portion of the pancake and the one who ends up with the largest piece receives a cash bonus from the Dean.

In Scarborough, Yorkshire, on Shrove Tuesday, everyone assembles on the promenade to skip. Long ropes are stretched across the road and there maybe be ten or more people skipping on one rope. The origins of this custom is not known but skipping was once a magical game, associated with the sowing and spouting of seeds which may have been played on barrows (burial mounds) during the Middle Ages.

Many towns throughout England used to hold traditional Shrove Tuesday football ('Mob Football') games dating back as far back as the 12th century. The practice mostly died out with the passing of the 1835 Highways Act which banned the playing of football on public highways, but a number of towns have managed to maintain the tradition to the present day including Alnwick in Northumberland, Ashbourne in Derbyshire (called the Royal Shrovetide Football Match), Atherstone in Warwickshire, Sedgfield (called the Ball Game) in County Durham, and St Columb Major (called Hurling the Silver Ball) in Cornwall.



Thas! Got to Laugh

Elderly Man Thinks Fast

An elderly farmer in Florida had a large pond down by his fruit orchard. One evening he decided to go down to the pond and took a five-gallon bucket to pick some fruit. As he neared the pond, he heard female voices shouting and laughing with glee. As he came closer, he saw a bunch of young women skinny-dipping in the pond. He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end. One of the women shouted to him, 'We're not coming out Until you leave!'

The old man thought for a second and said, 'I didn't come down here to watch you ladies swim, or to make you get out of the pond naked.' Holding the bucket Up he said, 'I'm here to feed the alligator!'

Moral: Old men can still think fast.

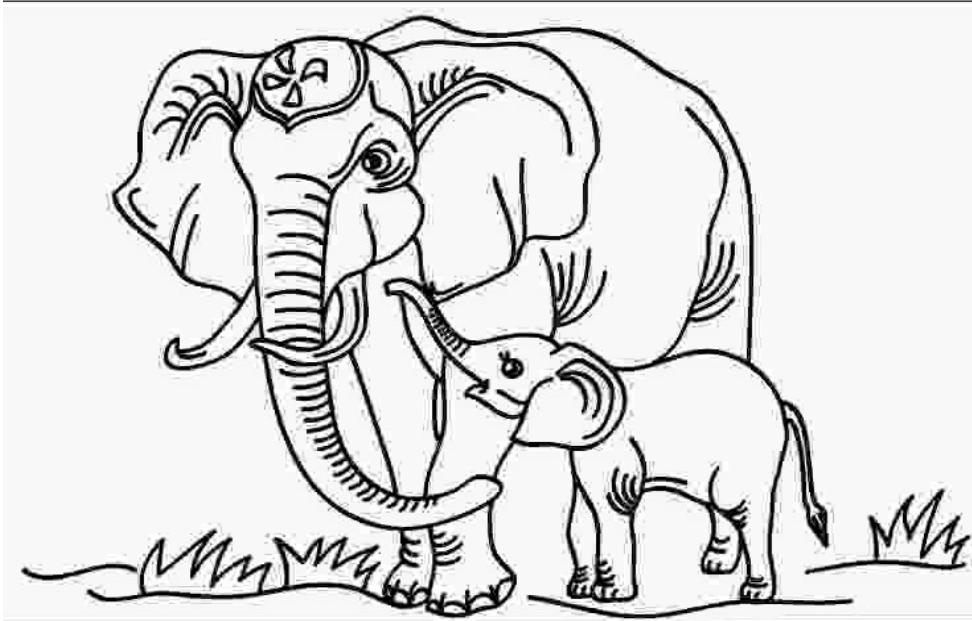
An elderly woman had just returned to her home from an evening of religious service when she was startled by an intruder. As she caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables, she yelled, ' Stop -Acts 2:38!' (..turn from your sin...). The burglar stopped dead in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar, ' Why did you just stand there? All she did was yell a scripture to you. ' Scripture?' the burglar, replied 'She said she had an AXE and two 38's!'

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



Faithfulness
 Goodness
 Kindness
 Patience

Gentleness
 Joy
 Love
 Peace
 Self control



Crossword Clues

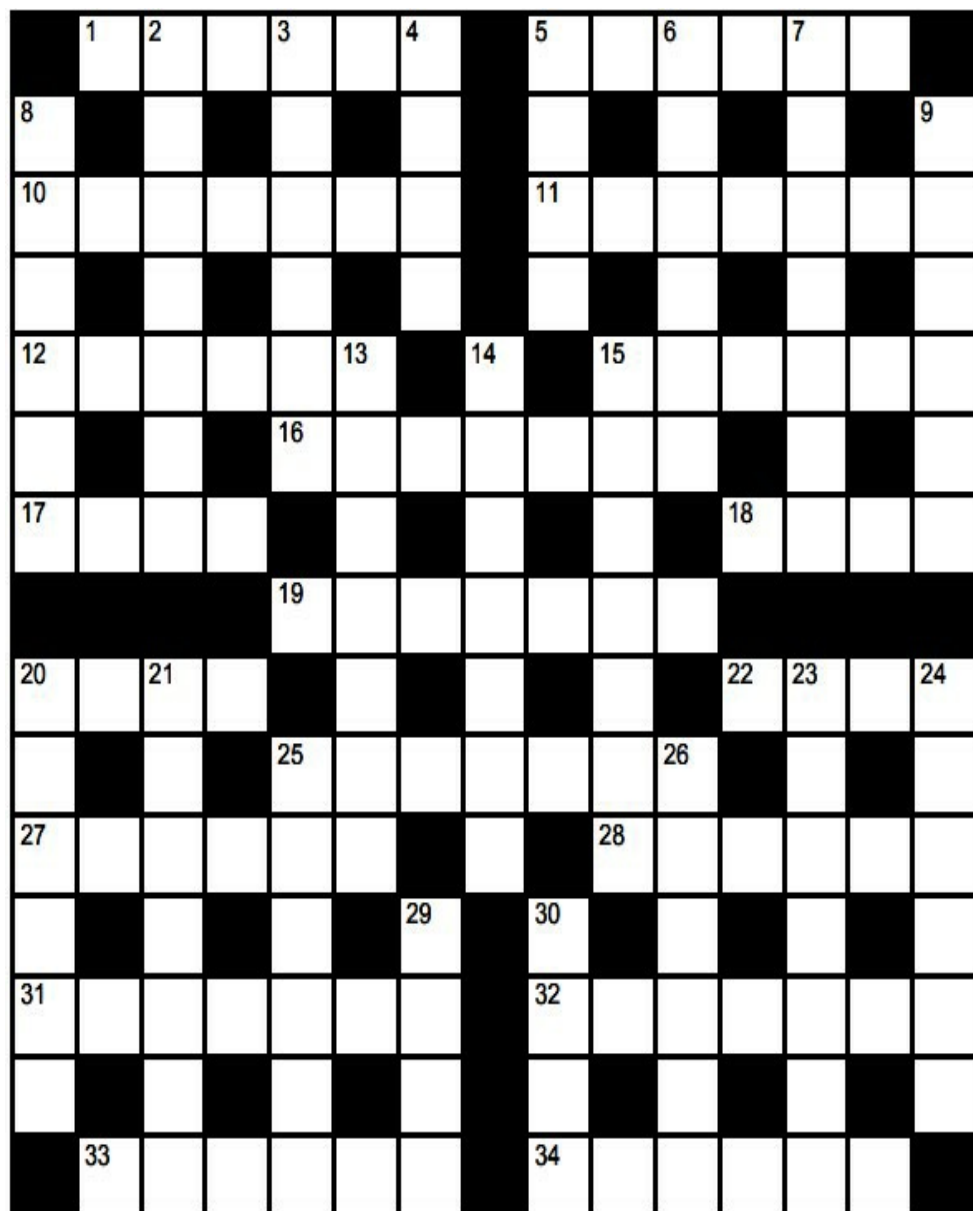
Across

- 1 A nation referred to in the O.T. and the N.T. (6)
- 5 Teacher; leader (6)
- 10 Letter (7)
- 11 Blood was painted on these (7)
- 12 "Out of the _____ came something sweet" (6)
- 15 Where was Jacob? (6)
- 16 Made unholy (7)
- 17 Ezekiel lay on this for three years (4)
- 18 Very old (4)
- 19 Sure (7)
- 20 Ethiopia (4)
- 22 Remaining (4)
- 25 Naaman's maid, for example (7)
- 27 Seraiah's father (6)
- 28 Land (6)
- 31 Hold inside (7)
- 32 The teaching place of the Ethiopian eunuch (7)
- 33 Jews are renowned for celebrating these (6)
- 34 A child of Caleb & Maachah (6)

Down

- 2 The lame man was too slow to reach this type of water (7)
- 3 To wait on, or be present (6)
- 4 Untruths (4)
- 5 The Promised Land was said to be flowing with this (4)
- 6 We have all done this (6)
- 7 Late in the day (7)
- 8 Animals (6)
- 9 A Philistine city (6)
- 13 Sisera, for example (7)
- 14 A nation in the O.T. neighbouring Israel (7)
- 15 Anyone who comes to God must do this (7)
- 20 Together with 'time' this happens to all (6)
- 21 Did Nadab and Abihu have a match for this? (7)
- 23 Self scrutiny before communion (7)
- 24 Half the time of Jesus' fasting (6)
- 25 Lebanese trees (6)
- 26 Provided by God when we are tempted (6)
- 29 Far extremes of the earth (4)
- 30 Luke Part II ? (4)

CROSSWORD



GROUP CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>What's on</u>
February			
Wed. 5 th	7.30pm	New Providence	Elders Meeting
Sun. 9 th	after morning service	New Providence	Church AGM
Sun. 9 th	4.00pm	Heath	Messy Church
Wed 12 th	2.15pm	New Hope	Friendship Hour
Thu. 13 th	7.30pm	Heath	Thursday Club
Tue. 18 th	10.30am	Heath	community coffee morn
Mon. 24 th	7.30pm	New Providence	New Provi Circle
Wed 26 th	2.15pm	New Hope	Friendship Hour

Crossword Answers

Across: 1 Israel, 5 Master, 10 Epistle, 11 Lintels, 12 Strong, 15 Behind, 16 Defiled, 17 Side, 18 Aged, 19 Certain, 20 Cush, 22 Left, 25 Captive, 27 Azriel, 28 Estate, 31 Contain, 32 Chariot, 33 Feasts, 34 Sheber.

Down: 2 Stirred, 3 Attend, 4 Lies, 5 Milk, 6 Sinned, 7 Evening, 8 Beasts, 9 Ashdod, 13 General, 14 Hittite, 15 Believe, 20 Chance, 21 Strange, 23 Examine, 24 Twenty, 25 Cedars, 26 Escape, 29 Ends, 30 Acts.

PREACHER PLAN

HEATH URC, MANOR DRIVE, 10.30 AM

Feb. 2nd Rev. Daphne Hull
Feb. 9th Mrs. Dawn Walker
Feb. 16th Mrs Jane Simmons
Feb. 23rd Mr. Jim Walker

NEW HOPE URC, WARLEY ROAD 10.30 AM

Feb. 2nd Rev Heather Pollard
Feb. 9th Mrs. Juliet Foster
Feb. 16th Rev Heather Pollard
Feb. 23rd Alison Dobson

NEW PROVIDENCE URC, KEIGHLEY ROAD 11.00 AM

Feb. 2nd Mrs. Juliet Foster
Feb. 9th Rev Heather Pollard
Feb. 16th Mr. Ken Lees-Wolfenden
Feb. 23rd Rev Heather Pollard





Useful Numbers

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Mr D Truswell (New Hope) 883908

Mrs S Wolfenden (New Providence) 244402

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URC web site: www.urc.org.uk

Yorkshire Synod www.urcyorkshire.org.uk

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■■■■■■■■■■ March/April Deadline ■■■■■■■■■■

All contribution need to be in by **FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7TH Please.** These can be either handed in to your church reps or stop press direct to the editor at: robertbrook@sky.com

Thank you.