

## Excited about Mission!

June 2014

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### Up and coming events

#### WA : Induction Service of Meryl Griffiths

Sat 14th June 2:30pm @ Bedworth Church, CV12 9DH

#### WRU Conference @ Swanwick - Monday 16th - Wednesday 18th June

Induction of the Union Presidential George Phillips Monday 16th June 8pm

#### Local Preachers Annual Retreat – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October 10am – 3:40pm

At Ebenezer Oldbury. Speaker :- Rev Bill Patterson.

### Martin Ludbrook (YPD worker)

Martin will be involved in running three Holiday Clubs over the Summer - Please pray for his preparation, the activities, those involved in helping out. The children, their families and the ongoing contact the churches have with them.

#### Holiday Clubs

- **Syresham** 28th & 29th July, 10am - 3:30pm
- **Ellistown** 23rd - 25th July 10:00am - 12:30pm
- **Bethel Community Church** 19th - 21st August, 10:00 - 12:30  
Plus Family event Thursday night

#### Richmond - Martin's home church

- **Summer Family Barbecue** on Saturday 12th July.
- **Barbecue, Apple Pie & hopefully no rain**, with evangelistic talk by David Middleton and parallel programme for U12s.
- **Church Family Away Day**, Saturday 23rd August at Mayfield Church.

### Mexborough (Rotherham, Mexborough & Doncaster Circuit)

The local press reported; how Mexborough Church has moved its main service to a business park, because it has out grown the New Oxford Road premises. Praise God with them, and pray for those who have the responsibility of setting the room up each week. Pray that numbers will continue to grow and for Steve Hunt with the ongoing youth work at their Blue Chair Cafe!



# It's all down to God!

## Expanding church forced to move into new premises

A POPULAR church will show that it still means business by moving to bigger premises — on a business park.

The New Oxford Road and Highborn Church moves its meetings and sermons to Mexborough Business Centre, College Road this week.

The rebranded Mexborough Life Church will welcome worshippers at 7pm this Saturday, May 17, with an

energetic evening service called Exalt.

Events currently taking place at the church's small premises on New Oxford Road will be hosted from Saturday in the business park's main hall.

Steve Hunt (51), the church's community project manager, said: "Our congregation has grown so much in the last couple of years that it's outgrown our current building.

Story by:  
**DAVE DOYLE**

"We've seen growth in the last few years and more new people in the last few weeks. We hope it's a trend which will continue.

"Our last Christmas event showed that we can attract 2,000 people from all over Rotherham."

He added: "We've been thinking about moving for the last 12

months.

"We would love to have our own purpose-built centre in future, but that's just a dream at the moment."

Asked why he thought the church was booming, Steve said: "God is blessing the work we are doing and adding to his church. We have to put it down to him.

"We're nothing special, but we do have a good leadership team and we're doing a lot in the community, especially with young people.

"We have the youth café group in the evenings, with 60 or 70 people going along. We also have plans for an adult café group, meals and lots of other things."

The church will hold weekly morning services at its new home every Sunday, beginning this week, starting at 10.30am.

For more information, find the church on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/mexchurch](http://www.facebook.com/mexchurch) or telephone pastor Nick Lagg on 01709 584425.



## A SALE WITHIN A SALE!

BUY... THUR, FRI & SAT 9AM-5PM, SUN 10AM-4PM

## Stoney Middleton (Bakewell Circuit)

**Rob Scothern writes :** We continue to be blessed by Stoney YP held at Stoney Middleton Wesleyan Reformed Chapel each term time Friday between 7:30 and 9pm. Regularly serving 5 lads and 6 young ladies who are all unchurched or dechurched. Latest outings Laserquest and Peak walk/Toll bar fish and chips.



We are partnering with Sharowvale WRC (The Crowded House) for a week of youth mission in the 1st week of the Summer Holidays location in Stoney TBC.

## Praise in the Peak - Saturday 9th Aug - 5pm onwards



See more on YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6TXxn43gux4&sns=tw>

**Speaker this year is Ben Archer from Chessington Evangelical Church.**

Praise in the Peak is a contemporary Christian worship event for teens and twenties in the Derbyshire area. The evening is supported by an informal network of evangelical churches, including Anglican, FIEC, Baptist, Methodist and Wesleyan Reform Churches within Derbyshire. There is availability to camp for the evening with your group of friends.

## Stonedge Church (Bakewell Circuit)

Last year Stonedge church held a Summer event at the Uppertown Community Centre, where they meet for worship once a month. All the hot food, Traditional Fete Games were free and the Community Centre opened the Bar for the evening. They had no idea how it was going to go but over 150 people turned up and had a great time. The evening was rounded off with a local Christian Singer who sang a selection of secular and Christian songs. They are looking to do the same thing this year on Saturday 28th June 6pm onwards. Please pray for good weather and further contacts in the community.



# Sheffield Circuit

## Norfolk Park Festival Sunday 24th - Monday 25th August

Following last years success we are looking to expand the plot we had to three gazebos. We have ordered Bibles, children's material and will have a craft table. People from our churches will man the stall throughout the two days and seek to speak to people about the gospel. We praise God that one lady last year has come to faith and since been baptised.

## Evangelistic Event - Thursday 9th October 7pm

We have invited **Maureen Greaves** to give her testimony. She is the wife of Alan Greaves who was killed while walking to church to play the organ, Christmas Eve 2012. We have booked a neutral venue in the City Centre, and have also asked Paul Hinton to preach on the gospel at the end of the meeting. Please pray for the people in the churches in Sheffield, as they seek to invite friends to this meeting.



## Cake Bake Events

Anne-Marie - inspired by an event she attended near Edinburgh, has encouraged the churches in the circuit to hold their own Cake Bake event. All the church has to do is declare an event they are already holding, as their 'Cake Bake'. The idea then is for people to bring along HOME MADE cakes, and their recipes. So it could be a Coffee Morning, or a Choir Concert, and then everyone gets to enjoy eating wonderful cakes and swap recipes.

**WHY? you may ask.** Well, for one we all love a good cake, but it also gives us a good reason to support each others churches in the circuit, and also provides an opportunity to invite non-church friends to make a cake and join in. We pray that this will lead to further opportunities in the future.

## Mayfield - "Bake Holiday Bun Day!"

held their event on Monday 5th May and a good number of passing walkers, and people from the circuit sampled the cakes.

**Sunday 8th June Whitsun** 10.30am theme "The voice of God" - Followed by a meal.

**Family camp Friday** 15th Sunday 17th August

This is a great opportunity to invite friends / families who don't go to church, to join us for the weekend, and enjoy a really relaxed back time chattingng, walking, eating, singing etc.

## Hampden View Holiday Club "Much a Dough about Muffins"

During Spring Bank Half Term, we held a Holiday Club based around the subject of bread and Jesus saying "I am the Bread of Life". The kids made Dough Balls every morning as they arrived, and then enjoyed eating them at lunch time. A local bakers, blessed us with 19 fresh organic loaves to give out to families on the last day. We made contact with a number of new families and children in the area, with one family joining us on Sunday; their 7 year old boy said "I want to go to everything at that church." The picture here is of lots of different people enjoying picnics, which the kids coloured in while singing songs from "Frozen" Non-Stop! I still haven't fully recovered!



## Philadelphia Church : Thursday 12th June 3pm - 4:30pm - The British Bake Off

**Owlerton :** Our "Strawberry Cream Tea" afternoon on July 17th 2pm to 4pm is an outreach. In the past 2 years we have had many total strangers in to this event and been able to sit and talk with them.

We are of course this year combining it with the "Bake off" so we are not too sure how this will all work out, so prayer is much appreciated.

**Oughtibridge** : Just like Mount Hermon below is on the Tour de France route. As it is the Sunday when the race is going through Oughtibridge, they felt it would be inappropriate to hold a service, but instead serve their village and the many visitors. They are opening up the church as a café and for the use of the toilets. Please prayer for them with opportunity.



**Roger Carswell** has written this excellent tract, to be given out during the Tour de France. You can read and purchase it here for as little as 8p each if you buy 25 and 6p if you buy 100

[www.10ofthose.com/products/15651/Le-Grand-Depart-Tract?](http://www.10ofthose.com/products/15651/Le-Grand-Depart-Tract?)

## Mount Hermon - Addingham (Bradford Circuit)

**Neil Bedford (Pastor) writes** : On Saturday 24th May at Mount Hermon Chapel (12 noon).... there was an unveiling ceremony - for the English Heritage Blue Plaque for historic buildings, which was placed on the front wall of the church facing Main Street. The plaque is the first to be awarded in Addingham, and we were honoured to be chosen. Our thanks go to the Civic Society, and Addingham Parish Council who both bore part of the cost. Representatives of both organisations took part in the ceremony. The chapel, established in 1861 has maintained a faithful testimony in the village ever since. The plaque is dedicated - to the memory of William Kendall Gale, Missionary and former Pastor at Mount Hermon.

Kendall Gale, born 20th June 1873, was the son of an Addingham master stonemason and Methodist preacher. After studying in London as a young man, he returned to Addingham and became Pastor at Mount Hermon. He studied further in the early part of the 20th Century, and later felt called of God - to go out to Madagascar as a pioneering missionary. He, his wife and children, left England for Madagascar in September 1908. His life was not easy as a missionary. A number of local tribes were hostile, and on occasions met him armed with spears and axes. During his time in Madagascar he suffered from a number of debilitating diseases... Malaria, Black Water Fever and Dysentery. Kendall Gale and his family used to return to England every 5 years for a break, and



word of his work quickly spread, gaining him something of a following.

There's much to learn of him on the Internet, and it reveals the dedication and zeal of this faithful man of God.

He was an amazing man, dedicated to introducing the local natives to Christianity. In his missionary work, he managed to teach the local tribes the necessity of trusting Christ for salvation and - established over 250 village churches, plus schools for training teachers. He intended to retire in 1937, hoping to establish 300 churches before doing so.

However, he suffered complications from an operation, and sadly passed away in 1935. His memory lives on at Mount Hermon and the Blue Plaque is an apt reminder of all he managed to accomplish. We hope it will serve to remind the present day residents of Addingham of a small part of their illustrious past, of which they can be justly proud.

It was a great privilege to have with us Kendall Gale's three

Granddaughters : Rosalind Hay, Dr Stella Imong, and Dr Felicity Gibling who gave a short, but personal insight into the Gale family background, and she shared cherished memories of her Grandfather with us. Then together they went on to unveil the plaque. Other members of the Gale family who live locally were also present. Mt. Hermon Chapel provided refreshments following the ceremony. This really was a day to remember, and we give our thanks to God.

I have attached two photo's. I hope you can use all or part of this in your next publication.



## Tour de France

On the 5th & 6th July there is great excitement, as the Tour de France Cycle race is coming through the village on both days. The village will be sealed off during these two days, and none of the churches will hold services. I myself and the Methodist minister will not even be able to access the village. But ACT Addingham Churches Together propose to hold an open air service at the Parish Church on the Sunday at 5 pm, race organisers permitting.... so we hope for a good response.

On Saturday 12th July Addingham Gala will be held... it attracted crowds of people last year, and Mount Hermon will have a stall there. We sell a range of things from Books, Cards, Cakes, Jams and Preserves. We give free sweets out to the kids, and balloons with Scripture texts on them. More importantly, there will be a team of people giving out Christian literature and the Good News newspaper, and talking to people on the Gala site. Our stall carries a range of Christian booklets to point people to Christ. We hope to have a good response, as we did both last year and the year before. Please pray for this event.

## Worsbrough Community Church (Barnsley Circuit)

### *From A very happy Emma*

One of the best Easter-times at Community Church (except the very first Easter of course)!!

Why do I write that? It is due to the fact that I cannot remember having anything special other than Easter Day Celebration! NO doubt someone may contradict me on that!

### Easter Fun

So what happened – First of all we had Easter Fun on the Friday before Holy Week and we were thrilled that 3 children came in off the street after seeing the notice. Everyone was so busy decorating their paper bags ready for the Egg hunt, making photo frames and cards that we never got around to playing games. What's more they came along with our children to the Palm Sunday service when we had Christine Houghton from the Cornerstone Church along with her husband John who also took part in the meeting. On that occasion we took the children into the crèche during the sermon and it was surprising and thrilling to know how much they knew about Palm Sunday and Easter.

**What happened next?** Our regular prayer meeting on Maundy Thursday turned into what the Lord had led Tracey to call a time of 'Reflections' when almost all the church came instead of the usual 6 or 8 who usually come to the prayer meeting. Do you begin to see why I feel it was a WOW" time. (In order to understand you probably need to know that we have a very small membership.

**On Good Friday** we felt it was right for our community to see the doors open so we had a time of 'Remembering'. When again most of the church came.

**On Easter Day** we had a time of 'Rejoicing' in celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. There were around 28 people including 6 children and the children of whom I wrote earlier. They stayed in the meeting for the whole of the service and never made a 'muff' during the sermon as they worked again on crafty things. As I am not well Linda led the meeting and the Lord sustained me as I gave the word – as I looked out on the almost double our usual congregation you may begin to see why I was thrilled with the whole of Easter-time.

Thanks be to God for His guiding and leading throughout this time and as He continues to bring the increase.

## Bierley (Bradford Circuit)

Praise God! Our numbers are growing and space is becoming a problem. What a great problem to have !!! We prayed that between Christmas and Easter we would have 10 new people in church AND WE HAVE. We are just in the process of moving the pulpit on to the stage and putting in another row of chairs. We had over 50 people in church on Sunday and there were still some missing. Praise God for this. The verse that Chris brought to us at the beginning of the year was that God could do abundantly more than we could ask or imagine.....Ephesians 3 verse 20.

Please pray for wisdom as we seek support for our youth work.

## St Just (Cornwall) - An Overseas Mission reports sneaked in !

We, at the Free Church, St. Just, are supporting a small Church founded by the sister of our caretaker, Lucita Bennetts. This Church is in the Philippines, and is bringing many children and adults the Word of God, and the actions and redemption of Jesus Christ. The Free Church are sending £25 per month to

support this Church, which meets once a month in the garden of Lucita's mother's house. In the Philippines, the cost of living is so low and people are so poor that £25 will pay for a pastor to come, preach the Word, and play the guitar to lead the worship, not to mention feeding approximately 30 children and adults. In the time we have been supporting this Church it has grown to roughly 60 in number. Please visit their Facebook page: "Children of God, Philippines"

## Church on the Rock

Would you please ask for prayer for us for our next craft day on 26th July on the theme of mini beasts and flowers.

We are also planning a youth group which will be interactive to help the youngsters find out about God. We are also planning a sew, Knit and natter group. dates to be confirmed.

## Rushden Mission Church (Wellingborough Circuit)

On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July we will again be celebrating our Church Birthday with an open day called "Church Inside Out". The church will be open from 11am to 2pm with exhibitions by our Church Groups, BBQ, Tea & Coffee, Ice Cream, Children's Craft and Face Painting and games. There will also be the opportunity for prayer and ministry. This event will form part of the "Get to Know Rushden" week of events, co-ordinated by Rushden Town Council. Details of all "GTKR" events will be distributed to every house in Rushden. This year we have the added interest of the official opening of our new extension with toilets for the disabled and a ramp for level access. Our town Mayor will be joining us for the occasion. We have been able to undertake this building project with the financial support of Biffa Award, Biffa also intend to send representatives to our event.

On Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> June we will be visiting homes in the vicinity of the Church to give personal invitations to the Birthday Weekend Events.

On Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> we hope to hold our 10:45am Service in the Church Car Park, out where the community can see us.

We visited the residents living in homes around the Church on Easter Saturday, inviting them to our Easter Celebrations and giving an Easter Egg as a gift. We have been making these visits for a number of years now and in doing so building relationships. This year we took the initiative to the next step and asked residents what Easter meant to them, the answers led to some interesting conversations. I'm thrilled to report that as a result of the Easter visits one lady has now become a regular at our evening services and a young man was with us this last Sunday morning having meant to come for a number of weeks.

Please pray for these events, for the Church and team members and for the local community as they respond to invitations made.

## Bozeat (Wellingborough Circuit)

Just to say we had a great time on Sunday with a Big O's service and party afterwards. A lots of our members have had or are having big birthdays this year.

One is 90 and one 80 and two 70 and one 60 also we were joined by Maurice and Carol who are also 70 this year.

Geoffrey took the service and all the hymns began with O.

All those who were having a birthday were presented with a floral arrangement and Carol made the most wonderful cake. I'm afraid I did not take any pictures but Carol did and was going to send me some for you but alas they have not yet arrived. On the 20<sup>th</sup> of this month we will be having our annual Songs of Praise which will be attended by the Mayor of Wellingborough. Everyone who went to Overstrand at Easter had a great time and the weather was kind to them. I did not go this year so do not have any photos. Looking forward to seeing everyone at conference in two weeks .

Best wishes and God's blessings from everyone at Bozeat

