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Buxton United Reformed Church Hardwick Square East



Image: BBC Derby

**Corbar Cross was resurrected
on May 19 2011**

June 2011

Dear Friends,

It may be that by the time you read this the allocation of tickets for the Olympic events has been made. However, at the time of writing I know of several people who have reached the hopping-up-and-down stage in their wait to find out whether they will get the tickets they have applied for. There is something very appealing about the prospect of actually being there in the stadium to witness the fastest and strongest human beings



on the planet take on the ultimate challenge of their sport. For the athletes the Olympics represents four years of complete focus and dedication and countless hours of hard work, not to mention their endless enthusiasm for what they do. They all also have an absolute belief that they CAN fulfil their potential and walk away with the coveted gold medal.

We may need to approach the coming changes in our church life with a similar attitude. As we prepare to say goodbye to Peter and Tracey and then to enter a time of vacancy we will need to be determined and focussed and prepared to put in the effort to continue the work God is doing here. And we need to maintain our enthusiasm, even on days when it all feels a little bit beyond our capabilities! Fortunately we can take comfort from Paul's assurances that 'I can do everything through him who gives me strength.' (Philippians 4:13). If Paul could write that with such conviction even while he was imprisoned and apparently prevented from doing any of the things that he had set out to do, then surely we can trust God to help us achieve the things that we set out to do. It's not that I'm picturing any members of Buxton URC on the start line of an Olympic final in 2012 (unless the IOC are considering the inclusion of a 'splat the rat' event, in which case we'd be right there!),

but I am sure that God will equip us to do all the incredible things that he has planned for us.

Our first task, then, is to find out what it is that God has planned. We can put in all the effort we like but we will not succeed unless we are focussing our efforts in the right places. Some of the most famous success stories in history had early setbacks because they had not yet quite found their niche. Thomas Edison, inventor of the light bulb, was told by his teachers that he was too stupid to learn anything and Walt Disney was sacked from an



editing job early in his career for having a lack of imagination! Creating our Pastorate Profile is an exciting opportunity to celebrate everything that already makes us proud of Buxton URC and then to prayerfully consider which direction God is nudging us in next. Let's take the time to do that in the next few weeks to make sure that when we start a new era in our church we are working in line with God's plans. We can do everything through him who gives us strength!

Love Jennie

P.S. If anyone finds they have spare tickets for the men's 100m final make sure you let me know!

(Jennie Gill is one of Buxton URC Elders)

Please Pray:-

- For Alick Macdonald and Freda Gibson who are both poorly at the moment.
- For Peter, Tracey and all the family in the new phase of their lives.
- For the plans of Roger and Di Horne going to The Maasai Rescue Centre in Kenya in July.



Mike Monaghan presents an eco-congregation plaque to Alison Darby



Visit to The Maasai Rescue Centre, Kenya

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Cream Tea event on 4th June in aid of the building project in Kenya. Here are a few more details:

The little town of Narok is about 70 miles west of Nairobi. It is in Maasai country - the home of a proud people who have remained distinct in their dress, customs and way of life, despite centuries of change around them.



In 2011 and 2012, the Maasai Evangelistic Association will build a home, including four dormitories and a classroom, for young women in Narok with the help of volunteers from Mission Direct in the UK.

We are joining the July trip to Narok this year and will be taking money with us to buy building materials, which will be used by the

team. Anything you would like to contribute will be greatly appreciated by young Kenyans looking for a better life.

Many of these girls have left their families to escape from young forced marriages and female circumcision. Some are disabled and others have been orphaned by aids/HIV or are just street children looking for a home.

Female circumcision is one of the customs that the Maasai adhere to. About 90% of girls undergo this and many suffer from health issues, and even death, as a result. The operation is illegal in Kenya but is still widespread. The Maasai Evangelistic Association is trying to bring some understanding of the dangers of it amongst its own people.



Please help us to get these rooms above the level of the foundations !

This will be a new project for us, a long way from the Middle East, and in a part of the world we have not visited before. We are sad not to be returning to Middle East, but as the “Arab Spring” continues in to summer and as Highway Projects is no more, we thought it was time for a change !

Your help and prayers would be most appreciated.

Di & Roger Horne

Dates for your diary

- Saturday 4th June Spring Gardens. Transition Buxton plant swap
- Thursday 9th June (provisionally) early afternoon: Tea with Andrew Bingham MP in London. (Arranged by Christian Aid and Action Aid) (information from Charles Jolly)
- Saturday 11th June Melbourne: Derby Diocesan Environment Day. Arranged by the Ecumenical Derbyshire Environmental Group. A family day. Lots of activities, stalls and a service. Details will be displayed as soon as finalised.
- Sunday 12th June from 12:30pm Picnic in the Pavilion Gardens.
- Sunday 12th June at 6pm Pentecost service at St. John's Church

Come and join in the buffet lunch!

Sunday 10th July after the morning service.

We will be celebrating Peter and Tracey's time at Buxton and Tideswell with a buffet lunch.



Dates To Remember

Lunch Club

Thursday 2nd June & 14th July
at 1pm in the church hall

Special Church Meeting

Sunday 19th June
to discuss Zero Intolerance (ZI)

Church Meeting

Sunday 24th July
both after the morning service (12 noon approx.)

Prayer & Reflection Meetings

Alternate Mondays at 7:30 pm
June 6th & 27th and July 4th at 7 Wyedale Close
June 20th at 31 Temple Road

Home group

Alternate Mondays at 7:30 pm
June 13th at 31 Temple Road
June 27th at 7 Wyedale Close

Elders meetings

Wednesdays 8th June at 7:30 pm

Contributions for the magazine

to be received by
Eileen and Peter Blane by
4th July
for the July/August publication.



We appreciate your contributions so please keep them coming.

To ensure your magazine is as informative as possible please keep us up-to-date with news and events.

Tel: 01298 27591 or email peter@blane.co.uk

Please also remember to send details of meetings and events to Alison Darby to collate in the church diary.

Sunday Services 10:30 a.m.

5th June	Morning Worship – Brian Heeley
12th June	Morning worship – Buxton URC Elders
19th June	Morning worship – Charles Jolly
26th June	Morning Worship – Rev Clive Thrower (retired Anglican, previously the vicar at Ashford-in-the-Water)
3rd July	Communion Service – Peter Meek
10th July	Morning worship – Peter Meek

Our minister's final service

Peter's final service with the Joint Pastorate before he starts his new role as Moderator of the East Midland Synod will be at the **Fountain Square Church in Tideswell on July 17th at 10:30 a.m.**



Thank you to the Guides involved in delivering Christian Aid envelopes to local houses and to members of Buxton URC who collected the envelopes. The magnificent sum of £584 was collected.

Thank you also to those involved in collecting at Morrisons Supermarket where £88 was collected and to those supporting the Saturday morning coffee event which raised £90.

Thank you.....

.....for the cards, messages and flowers sent to us on our house move. It was very hectic at the time, but on the first evening, still surrounded with boxes, we said "This is lovely". We have no regrets and are enjoying sorting things out in the house and garden.

Thank you, also, for the prayers and support you have given us whilst Alick has not been so mobile. We are hoping that his latest treatment will put him back on his feet again. I keep saying that we shall go up Rushup Edge yet!!

Mary and Alick Macdonald



On Sunday 22nd June the theme for the BBC Songs of Praise was school assemblies and the hymns that children learnt over half a century ago. I was interested in one of the hymns "When a knight won his spurs in the stories of old". It was written by a lady

called Joyce Anruther whose pen name was Jan Struther. Are you any the wiser now? Maybe not!

Well maybe if I mentioned the names of some hymns she wrote you might say "I know some of these!"

How about

- ***"High o'er the lonely hills"***
- ***"Round the earth a message runs"***
- ***"Sing, all ye Christian people!"***
- ***"When Stephen, full of power and grace"***
- ***"When Mary brought her treasure"***
- ***"Daisies are our silver"***
- ***"When a knight won his spurs in the stories of old"***
- ***"Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy"***
- ***"We thank you, Lord of Heaven."***

In the prayer meeting on the following Monday night we read out the hymns and considered the themes of each. My Peter made the comment that they were written very much like Celtic prayers in that they appreciated everyday things around the home or things of nature and committed them to the Lord in words of praise.

"These hymns were written following a request by Canon Percy Dearmer of Westminster Abbey, who in 1931 was commissioned by Oxford University Press to compile a collection of hymns. Ironically, Jan herself was an agnostic, although she did go to church." Roger Horne made the comment that if you consider the words to the hymns it is difficult to believe that she said she was an agnostic!

"In 1923 Joyce married Anthony Maxtone Graham, a broker at Lloyd's, by whom she had three children. In the 1930s she started to write for Punch magazine, and this brought her to the attention of The Times newspaper, where Peter Fleming asked her to write a series of

columns for the paper, about "an ordinary sort of woman who leads an ordinary sort of life - rather like yourself". The character she created, Mrs Miniver, proved a huge success, and the columns were subsequently collected into book form in 1939.

Upon the outbreak of war, this book was used as the basis for a patriotic and sentimental film about Mrs Miniver, released in 1942, which won six Academy Awards, including Best Picture." I have got the DVD of Mrs Miniver if you would like to borrow it!

"By this time, Struther had herself gone to America as a lecturer. In the 1940s she was a frequent guest panelist on the popular American radio quiz show Information Please, where she provided a warm and witty presence. She was one of the few women panelists to appear repeatedly on the program. In a possibly apocryphal story by fellow panelist Oscar Levant, her appearances on the show stopped abruptly after she answered a question by referring to Agatha Christie's book Ten Little Niggers, which was the original British title of the book Ten Little Indians (later retitled And Then There Were None). She was supposedly so hurt and surprised by the backlash to her reference that she refused to appear on the show again.

Her long marriage to Anthony Maxtone Graham eventually failed, and she started an affair with Adolf Placzek, a Viennese art historian 12 years her junior. She married him as her second husband, 5 years before her death.

Her final years were marked by severe depression, leading to a five-month stay in a psychiatric hospital. Following a mastectomy for breast cancer, she died of cancer in New York in 1953 at the age of 52. Her ashes are buried beside her father in the family grave at St. John The Evangelist Church, in Whitchurch, Buckinghamshire.

She is the great-aunt of Ian Maxtone Graham, former co-executive producer of The Simpsons."

I found the background information to Jan's life very interesting and I hope you may have found it interesting too.

Quotations taken from Wikipedia / Eileen Blane

COMMITMENT FOR LIFE PRAYER FOR JUNE

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

As we look at all we possess,

We see your words in the lives of the poor

'Do justly

Love mercy,

Walk humbly with your God'

May we never be found wanting.

As we pass by on the other side,

We see your words in the lives of the poor

'Do justly

Love mercy,

Walk humbly with your God'

May we never be found wanting

As we live by the faith we inherit

We hear your words in the lives of the poor

'Do justly

Love mercy,

Walk humbly with your God'

May we never be found wanting

Amen.

Sunday Worship
Family Service 10.30 a.m.

Communion Service (1st Sunday of each month)

*We offer a sincere, loving welcome to all in
Christian Worship*

Minister: Revd. Peter J Meek BSc. BD
(Tel: 01298 27638)

Secretary: Alison Darby
(Tel: 01298 26260)

Web site: www.buxtonurc.org.uk

Weekly Activities for Children and Young People

- **Rainbows:** Tues. 5 - 6pm
Leader: Stephanie Sterndale
(Mobile Tel No: 07967205209)
- **Brownies:** Tues. 6 – 7:15pm
Leader: Tracy Ryde
(Tel: 01298 79714)
- **Guides:** Tues. 6pm
Leader: Stephanie Sterndale
(Mobile Tel No: 07967205209)
- **Pilots:** Thurs. 6:30 - 8pm
Leader: Di Horne
(Tel: 01298 83328)

Other Activities

- **Home Group and Prayer & Reflection – alternate Mondays**
- **Lunch Club – 1st Thursday**