



The Methodist Link

APRIL 2018

Linking the Methodist Churches at
Elburton, Oreston, Pomphlett and
Cattedown to the Community

FREE - Donations are gratefully accepted



Oreston Stitch, Knit and Natter group as described in various newspaper articles reproduced on page 26.

A church near you...

ORESTON METHODIST CHURCH

Plymstock Rd, Oreston PL9 7LL

WORSHIP AT 10.30am

Minister: Rev'd Simon Leigh Tel:335773

Secretary: Mrs Ann James Tel: 404971

Treasurer: Mrs Val Hopkin Tel:403425

Senior Steward: Mrs Dorothy Turpitt Tel: 484038

Link rep: Mr Roger Dodd Tel: 406850

POMPHLETT METHODIST CHURCH

Pomphlett Gardens, Plymouth PL9 7BL

www.pomphlettchurch.org.uk

WORSHIP AT 9.30am

Minister: Rev'd Andrew Day, Tel: 342519

Secretary: Bert Symons, Tel: 210820

Treasurer: Mrs M Williams Tel: 493251

Senior Steward: Mrs Mary Symons Tel: 210802

Link rep: Mr Bert Symons Tel: 210820 or

email: pomphlett.church@gmail.com

ELBURTON METHODIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

Springfield Rd, Elburton PL9 8PR

WORSHIP AT 10.30am AND 6.30pm

Minister: Rev'd Simon Leigh Tel: 335773

Secretary: Mrs Tricia Stringer Tel: 482532

Treasurer: Mr Robert Faulkner Tel: 491779

Senior Stewards: Mrs Elizabeth Coleman Tel: 335662

and Mrs Jean Davies Tel: 404239

Lettings Secretary: Mrs Helen Carhart Tel: 480319

Link rep: Tony Raine Tel: 405483

GATEWAY PROJECT, CATTEDOWN

3 Tresillian St, Cattedown

WORSHIP AT 11.00am every 2nd Sunday of each month

Minister: Rev'd David Youngs Tel (880286)

Senior Steward: Mr Roger Dodd Tel 406850

ABOUT YOUR LINK

Editor: Tony Raine.

Advertising Manager: Tony Raine

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NB The Editor may need to amend or omit articles submitted though he will do neither without discussing it with you.

THE MAY ISSUE DEADLINE IS SUNDAY APRIL 15th

The Link is available in printed format or online in colour, at www.elburtonmethodist.org.uk/thelink or your church web site.

Contact Tony Raine on 405483 for details. mobile: 07505 286682

THE LECTIONARY

1st April

Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43

Psalm 118:1-2,14-24

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

8th April

Acts 4:32-35

Psalm 133

1 John 1:1 - 2:2

John 20:19-31

15th April

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

22nd April

Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

29th April

Acts 8:26-40

Psalm 22:25-31

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8

FRONT COVER: A collage of illustrations drawn by Michael Coleman on the stole vestment he created for Rev'd Simon Leigh. **INSIDE COVER:** Oreston Stitch, Knit and Natter. **BACK COVER:** Some of the pebbles returned for chocolate in JaM. **INSIDE COVER:** Events at Easter in Elburton Church.

Letter for Elburton and Oreston



Dear One and All,

At the heart of the Resurrection is a two-fold message; first that death is not the end and secondly that our lives should therefore, be filled with that Resurrection hope. Life and death then are full of possibility as we know ourselves changed 'from glory into glory'.

As individuals this means that no matter what life throws at us there is hope. A hope which is founded not on earthly ephemeral things, but on the promises of God in Christ. Christians are essentially a hopeful people, it's just at times we don't quite behave that way. Ian Drury and The Blockheads (a bit of 1970's retro for you) spoke of "Reasons to be cheerful, 1,2,3." As Christians we certainly have reasons to be cheerful. I'll give you three reasons:

1: That our God reigns and Jesus Christ lives and in him his people find salvation.

2: The Church, though battered, weary, weak and frail has not lost its hope, its reason, its Lord, its purpose.

3: The best is yet to come - but it may not come as you think it will.

As we sing our Easter hymns, as we proceed through Lent,

as we experience Holy Week and finally as we unite on Easter Sunday, let us know that, as Charles Wesley puts it:

And are we yet alive,
And see each other's face?
Glory and Praise to Jesus give
For his redeeming grace.
(Singing the Faith 456 vs. 1)

Peace and Grace to you and yours this Eastertide,
Every Blessing,

Simon.

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Please be aware that any article submitted to the editor for publication must either be written by the person submitting it or with the permission of the author. Some articles are freely available on the web and any found in this magazine may be copied by others, but

the rules have recently changed. We must remember that the Link is also available on the web and some editions have received thousands of hits therefore I have to use caution in what I publish. If I have inadvertently reproduced copyright material, I would ask the copyright owner to accept my apology and to get in touch with me if there is a problem..

THE EDITOR

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Elburton Methodist Community Church



SUNDAY

SERVICES

Morning

10.30 am

Evening

6.30 pm

April 1st
EASTER

Rev'd Simon Leigh
SACRAMENT

Rev'd Simon Leigh
SACRAMENT

April 8th

Mr Michael Cade

Mrs Di Smart

April 15th

Rev'd Jennie Appleby

Miss Sue Bolt
ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP

April 22nd

Mr Paul Whitell

Rev'd Simon Leigh

April 29th

Rev'd Darren Middleton

Mrs Ann Cullum

**SIGN BROKEN
MESSAGE INSIDE
THIS SUNDAY**

For fast,
fast, fast
relief, take
two tablets



Elburton Methodist Community Church

JaM (JESUS AND ME)

- 10.30 a.m.

JaM is the name for our children's and youth ministry. We meet in the Moore Hall for 10.30 am. The first Sunday is a family and parade service which we are also part of, in the church.

SOUNDS ALIVE SINGERS

When we have a presentation to work towards we meet for rehearsals at 11.45 am after church on Sundays to share our love of music.

MONDAY

DANCE FITNESS - 10.30 a.m.

Contact Sarah Danning, 01752 881447 or email:
info@physicallyfabulous.co.uk
www.physicallyfabulous.co.uk

LUNCHEON CLUB - 11 a.m.

On Mondays lunches are provided for those less able to cook for themselves. Contact June Dinner (407418) for 3rd Mondays, Barbara Jeffery (311100) for the other Mondays.

BEAVERS - 5 p.m. - 6.30 p.m.

CUB SCOUTS - 6.00 - 7.30 p.m.

SCOUTS - 7.30 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.

There are a few vacancies for boys and girls and also helpers. Contact Roger Galloway 268803 for more information.

NOTE NEW TIMES FOR SCOUTS

TUESDAY

METHODIST WOMEN

IN BRITAIN - 2.30 p.m

April 10th Rev'd Alison Richardson
Update on India

April 17th Carolyn Lawrence
South Africa

April 24th Members' pm, Flowers

RAINBOWS

BROWNIES - 6.00 p.m.

The Women's Network Fellowship, now called MWiB, meets in the Moore Hall of Elburton Methodist Church. For more information contact Carol Batchelor 491962

Contact Julie Hoskin on 481605.
There is no Guides group at present.

Elburton Methodist Community Church

PLYMSTOCK & RIDGEWAY

MEN'S GROUP 7.30 pm

April 10th at Ridgeway,
Rev'd Darren Middleton
"My life in the Marines"
April 24th at Elburton- Tony Sleep
"Volunteering for St Lukes"

Contact Andrew Gow (341037) for more details. Half the meetings are held at Ridgeway, the others are in the Rank Hall, Elburton Methodist Community Church.

WIVES CLUB - 7.45 pm

April 17th Martin Pope
"Am I a plantaholic"
April 24th Marilyn Bishop
"Beryl Cook."

Ladies are invited to join us on Tuesday evenings at 7.45 pm in the Elburton Moore Hall. For more information contact Sylvia Harris (514818) or Carol Pike (311150).
□

HOME GROUP 1 - 7 p.m.

The Tuesday group is held at Pam Kingsland's house and led by Rev'd Simon Leigh.

WEDNESDAY

EXERCISE CLASS 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Contact Denise Avent (402818)

HOME GROUP 2 7.30 pm

Held at the home of Trisha Stringer and led by Maureen Richardson (407137)

HOME GROUP 4 8 p.m.

A group meets at a different home each week (helpful for the young families who attend). Contact Jon Carhart (480319).

THURSDAY

WORKING PARTY from 9,30 am
FIRST Thursdays of the month only.

Come and help us keep our church in a good state of repair. Contact Tony Sleep (403247) for details.

It is easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one.

Elburton Methodist Community Church

MEET AND EAT

THIRD Thursdays from 10 a.m.

A good meal, tea/coffee, and good company for everyone, led by Rosemary Lee, Barbara Jeffery (311100) and Jennifer Tomlinson (403896).

TABLE TENNIS 3.15 - 5.15 p.m.

Contact David Finemore (406372)

HOME GROUP 3 7.30 p.m.

David and Brenda Youngs (880286) lead this group on Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm at Ruth Sweetland's home.

FRIDAY

LUNCHEON CLUB

11 a.m. (in term time)

A lovely lunch provided for those less able to provide for themselves. Good food, good company. Contact Trisha Stringer (482532).

SATURDAY

COFFEE MORNING

Last Saturday of the month
10 a.m. - noon

Held in the Moore Hall, Arranged by Margaret Passmore (404929), run by various groups. Funds go to church projects, term time only.

MESSY CHURCH

First Saturday of month 10.30 a.m.

An informal kind of worship tailored to the needs of the whole family with lots of fun, food, activities and a Christian message.

	
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MESSY CHURCH

SATURDAY 7th APRIL

The theme this month is

EASTER

Bring your family and enjoy craft, fun, food and fellowship. Don't worry about the **MESS!**



The Knitwits

Last year, following a request from the Lions Club of Plymouth for knitters to be involved in a charity “knitting day”, four ladies from MWiB volunteered to join with folk from other organisations making squares to be made into blankets for needy folk in various countries. We must have behaved ourselves, because we have been invited back. So far I have received names of 10 ladies who will be involved this year. On 14th April at Emmanuel church we shall be knitting in two sessions, from 10.30 until 12.30 then 1.30 to 3.30pm. Refreshments during the sessions will be served, as will a Pasty lunch. Wool is provided, but we need to bring size 8 (4mm) needles. If anyone, ladies or gentlemen would like to join us, please let me know. To be in our team you only have to be able to knit and chat at the same time!! We would also be grateful to be sponsored for this event, but, instead of attending as individuals, we shall work as a team, foregoing our opportunity of winning individual prizes for the most squares per person... not that there is much chance of that, there are some formidably fast knitters there who have been successful in winning for several years. The charities which have been chosen by the Lions to receive the sponsorship money this year are Diabetes UK, Bereavement Counselling and other local charities. If you wish to help by sponsoring us, there is an opportunity to do so on a form on the noticeboard in the crush hall. Thank you, in advance, for your always generous support.

Jean

ELBURTON METHODIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

Planning a party? Need a venue? Looking for a hall?

All our facilities are available for letting.

Come and see! We have large halls, meeting rooms, a stage, a well equipped kitchen, our own car park, toilets suitable for those who are less able, and all the facilities necessary for children's parties, meetings, exhibitions and indoor sports such as table tennis.

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*Three satisfied readers
recommended this, this month.*



WAYSIDE PULPIT NOTICES

***Prevent truth decay. Brush up on your bible
It's hard to stumble when you're down on your knees
What part of THOU SHALT NOT don't you
understand?
A clear conscience makes a soft pillow***

Meet and Eat



The next one is
Thursday 19th April

Come and join us for good
food, good company, games
and happy conversation.

Refresh your Wardrobe

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Prayer Page

PALM SUNDAY

Jesus, you rode into your city on this day, receiving the shouts and the welcome of many. Come into our church today. Receive our welcome and our acclaim. Come to rule in the hearts and minds of all who lead our worship and then help us all to go out and to proclaim you as King over all the world and every life. Dear Master, we remember that many who claimed you as King on Sunday shouted 'Crucify' on Friday. So confirm our faith today that our love for you will never falter or turn to hatred but will remain constant now and for ever. We offer our worship to you, Lord, with all our love. Amen.

From prayers before worship

GOOD FRIDAY

O Lord who for our sake did endure the bitterness of death and despise the shame and in your cross and passion did draw all men unto yourself: kindle in our hearts the vision of your love and shed abroad the light of your victory in the darkness of the world; who now lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit and are loved, worshipped and adored, world without end. AMEN.

Frederick Macnutt (1873 – 1949)

O Lord as we face the cross today, we wonder at your love for us. We can never deserve what you did for us on this day. Looking at the people who brought about your death we can see so many of the same faults in ourselves and we are sorry for them. By faith we gladly take the forgiveness you offer us from your cross and through the door you pushed open then, we come back into God's family where we really belong.

Leslie Earnshaw

Today he who hung the earth upon the waters is hung upon the cross. He who is King of the angels is arrayed in a crown of thorns. He who wraps the heavens in clouds is wrapped in the purple of

mockery. The bridegroom of the Church is transfixed with nails. The Son of the Virgin is pierced with a spear. We venerate your Passion, O Christ, show us also your glorious Resurrection.

Eastern Orthodox Church hymn for Good Friday

EASTER DAY

O God who by thine only-begotten Son hast overcome death and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life; grant us we beseech thee, that those who have been redeemed by his passion may rejoice in his resurrection, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

From the Gelasian Sacramentary

Be present, O risen Lord, in this your church's Easter praise; that its anthems of joy and its proclamation of your victory may worthily celebrate both the mystery of your redeeming love and the majesty of your eternal glory. Amen.

C.N.R. Wallwork

Jesus our Lord, we praise you that nothing could keep you dead in the grave. You are stronger than death and evil. Help us to remember that there is nothing to be afraid of, because you are alive and by our side.

Mary Bachelor

When we know that the Lord is with us, we can be strong and courageous. - The same hands that hold the whole world can rest on you and me. - His hand is there to hold you, to guide you and to empower you today. - Take courage, be strengthened from within, for the Lord Himself is with you!

PRAYER: Lord Jesus, thank You that I am safe and secure in Your hands and no one can pluck me out of Your hands. May Your hands rest upon me and may my walk be strengthened with this knowledge. Amen.

Bishop Silas Tayebwa

MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING

Every month except in the holiday periods, on the last Saturday there is a coffee morning held in the Moore Hall in aid of church funds. It is a happy social event with many regular attendees.



NEXT: Saturday 28th April

MWiB/NETWORK SPRING DISTRICT DAY 2018

The MWiB Spring District Day will be held on Wednesday 2nd May at Fremington Methodist Church, Barnstaple EX31 3AZ. We are aiming to have as little 'business' as possible on this day, and much of the information will be available in the form of a written report. The Speaker will be Revd Audrey Standhaft, who will be talking about Cuba. There will also be an update from Phil Pugsley on our District overseas charity, Amigos. We are still raising money for Amigos, which will be replaced at the beginning of September for 2 years by our new 'home' charity, Air Ambulance. All are very welcome. For further information, a map or to arrange transport if necessary, please contact Carol Batchelor on 491962.



Plymouth and Exeter District
Methodist Women in Britain



SPRING DISTRICT DAY
Wed 2nd May 2018
11am - 3.30pm
(coffee from 10am: and tea afterwards)
Fremington Methodist Church
2 Old School Lane, Fremington,
Barnstaple, EX31 3AZ
Speaker: Rev Audrey Standhaft
ALL VERY WELCOME!



STEPPING DOWN AFTER TWENTY THREE YEARS...

Spring Market 2018 was attended by a good number of people and luckily finished before the bad weather came. The stalls were nicely busy and a lot of socialising was done over cups of tea/coffee by people sitting on the benches in the middle of the hall. Many people stayed for a delicious lunch and there was a great atmosphere of fellowship. The income from the morning was £969.87 with £153 previously banked from jams and books sold at the weekly Monday lunch club. Thanks to everyone for helping to make the markets a success.

We have held two Markets every year since 1995 (except Spring 2009 when we were having building work done) and have raised over £50,000 for church funds as well as providing access on a social basis for the community.

This is the last Market I will have organised as I am stepping down after 23 years and 45 markets but hope the church will go on to bigger and better things.

Ruth Sweetland



Ruth, the Stewards and indeed everyone in the church, recognise the enormous amount of work it takes to run the Spring and Autumn markets, and are profoundly grateful for all you have done over such a long time. Thank you.

Oreston Methodist Church



SUNDAY SERVICES ARE AT 10.30 AM

Our Sunday Services in April at 10.30 am are :-

1 April (Easter Day) Di Smart.

15 April Rev'd Simon Leigh.

YOU DID IT TO ME

As I got closer to my church on a cold winter's day, I saw a man leaned up against the wall outside the church. He was almost lying down as if he was asleep. He had on a long trench coat that was almost in shreds and a hat topped his head, pulled down so you couldn't see his face. He wore shoes that looked 30 years old and too small for his feet. With holes all over them, his toes stuck out. I assumed this man was homeless and asleep, so I walked on by through the doors of the Church. A few moments later, church began. We all waited for the preacher to take his place and preach to us when the doors to the church opened. In came the homeless man, walking down the aisle with his head down. People gasped and whispered and made faces. He made his way down the aisle and up into the pulpit. When he took off his hat and coat, my heart sank. There stood our preacher. He was the "homeless man". No one said a word. The room was silent and still. The preacher took his Bible and laid it on the stand.

"Folks, I don't think I have to tell you what I'm preaching about today. Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" He proceeded to preach a sermon about treating others with dignity and kindness even if they seem to be the "least".



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EASTER OFFERING

As has been traditional since 1883, money is raised for World Mission of the Methodist Church in Britain through the Easter Offering.

It all started back in 1883 when women in Manchester raised £32 for missionary work overseas. The following year the London District issued envelopes and raised £100, and so the tradition was born. In 2017 £340,641 were raised through the Easter Offering all of which goes to World Mission and is used through the Church's 65 partner organisations worldwide.

We are very fortunate and grateful to Methodist Women in Britain, supported by the Methodist World Church Relationship Team, who provide resources for the dedication of this offering.

This year's Circuit service is at Oreston Methodist Church on Sunday, 13th May at 3p.m. when there is an opportunity to hear how some of this money has been spent to make a difference to people's lives in various parts of the world. This year we hear from Sri Lanka, Japan, and Israel/Palestine. It is titled: "Seek Peace and Pursue it".

It's a service about World Mission, a time of fellowship (there will be refreshments) and despite what The Plan says Simon is not preaching – no one is! The stories speak for themselves. Hope to see you there.

Di Smart



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ORESTON EVENTS...

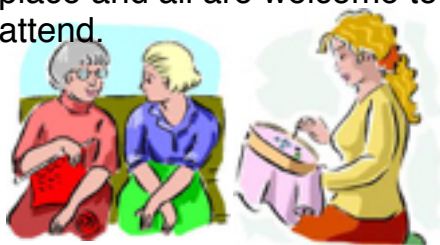
Oreston Parents and Toddlers

The Group meets every Friday in term time, in the Church Hall



Oreston Stitch, Knit & Natter

The group meets every Monday from 2.00 – 4.00 pm in the Church Hall. Craft activities of many types take place and all are welcome to attend.



All Age Table Tennis



2 pm to 4 pm each Tuesday (excluding School Holidays) Used to Play? Want to Learn? or just want to have some fun & exercise at the same time? Drop in any Tuesday and expect A WARM WELCOME!

THE INTERCHURCH BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Twice monthly from 1 pm. 2nd Tuesday at Pomphlett with Revd. Andy Day (342519) and 4th Tuesday at Oreston.



SINGING FOR FUN

Thursday 12th April

Light lunch and Singing for Fun with Brian Gerry At Oreston Methodist Church. Lunch at 1 pm £5

Please book with Ann on Plymouth 404971.

WHO IS THIS GIRL?

Answer on page 27

The Wrong Way

As a senior citizen was driving down the motorway, his car phone rang. Answering, he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, "Harry, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on the M6.

Please be careful!"

"Gladys" said Harry, "It's not just one car. It's hundreds of them!"



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STITCH KNIT AND NATTER reprint from the media

In September 2017 a Stitch, Knit & Natter group was formed at Oreston Methodist Church in Plymstock and has been meeting regularly on Monday afternoons with an average of 18 ladies busily working away and nattering!

They have been extremely productive with their needles and hooks of one sort or another to make some lovely items either for their personal use or for various charities. So far the following charity items have been made with more in progress according to need.

TWIDDLE MUFFS To calm and warm restless hands for people with memory loss. These have been donated to various care homes in Plymstock and also to the Alzheimers Society in Plymouth.

ROMANIAN ORPHANAGE Knitted blankets, children's jumpers, bobble hats and gloves will be going to their orphanage via the Plymouth Rainbow Project.

TEDDIES FOR TEARS OR TRAUMA This has been a very popular project producing a number of teddies in an array of colours and stripes. The Red Cross Society in Plymouth will receive the teddies before donating them to the fire brigade and ambulance services to give to children in stressful situations.

BABY BOBBLE HATS In October 2017, Bath Royal United Hospital sent out an appeal for five thousand white baby bobble hats with either a red, amber or green pom-pom on top. A new "traffic light" system of care was being introduced in their maternity unit. Each newborn baby will wear a hat with the appropriate coloured pom-pom to ensure that they would receive the right level of individual care. So far 37 hats have been sent to Bath with more to follow.

Grateful thanks are given to the ladies for their generosity and time in making such lovely gifts.

New members to the group are always welcome, which meets at Oreston Methodist Church on Mondays from 2-4pm in the church hall during term time. ***(See also inside the front cover).***



April 1st
EASTER SUNDAY

April 8th

April 15th

April 22nd

April 29th

Mrs Gillian Higgins

I said, "Well, there's so much to live for!" He said, "Like what?"

"Me too! Are you Christian or Jewish?" He said, "Christian."

"Me too! Are you Catholic or Protestant?" He said, "Protestant."

"Me too! Are you *Episcopalian* or *Baptist*?" He said, "*Baptist*."

"Wow! Me too! Are you Baptist Church of God or Baptist Church of the Lord?" He said, "Baptist Church of God."

"Me too! Are you Original Baptist Church of God, or are you Reformed Baptist Church of God?" Reformed Baptist Church of God.

"Me too! Are you Reformed Baptist Church of God, reformation of 1879, or Reformed Baptist Church of God, reformation of 1915?"

"Reformed Baptist Church of God, reformation of 1915!"

To which I said, "Die, heretic scum!" and pushed him off.

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Welcome to Family Worship

Sundays @ 9.30 am

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**Please pop in for a cuppa
After the service at about 10.30 am**



Our Mothering Sunday service was a service with a difference. The congregation were asked a few weeks before for their choice of hymns for the service. During the service we heard from Gracie Phillips who will be walking 300 miles from Plymouth to Blackpool raising money for Street Kids in Uganda.

Our Betty read us a Mothers Day poem, Bill and Margaret read our readings and Marion read us a hymn from Complete Mission praise (806) which reflected our feelings for the world today.

We heard the story of Moses in the bulrushes and how he had three Motherly ladies around him. We even sang a song to the tune of "If you're Happy and You Know it", with words which highlighted the importance of Mum.

And amongst all of this tea, coffee, popcorn, crisps and biscuits during the service. A super happy celebration of Mothering Sunday.



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We start our meeting with a cuppa and a chat and then we move into our prayer time which is led by our Minister Rev'd Andrew Day.



Alternate Wednesdays
at 2 pm.
All are welcome



Friday April 6th
Buffet
@ 12.15 pm
Movie @ 1pm



This movie was made in 2017 and tells a true and faithful story of the events of that time

Gwen McArthur

It is with much sadness we report that our Gwen, seen here in purple, after she had moved up North, passed away last month following a short illness.



Gwen had been a member at Pomphlett Church for well over 25 years and served in a number of posts, most latterly Gwen was our Communion Steward. Gwen was well known for being outspoken and forthright in her approach, but none the less a very caring and loving person and she made great cakes. Our most endearing memory of Gwen, was her need to turn off lights. As soon as Sunday Worship was over, Gwen turned out the lights, we certainly knew it was time to go.

Not known by many is Gwen's artistic side. Gwen crocheted our Communion Table tablecloths and though they are used regularly they have stood the test of time. A testament to Gwen's hard work.

So now we say night night Gwen thanks for the Friendship and caring you showed all of us and strangers too. You are greatly missed. Oh, and yes we do turn the lights off for you when we leave church and mention your name too. Gone but not forgotten Sleep tight. Our thoughts and prayers are with Gwen's remaining family.



Line Dancing
TUESDAYS @ 10 AM
Diana is happy to announce that
her successful Line Dance Group
has room for new members
YEEE HAAA !!!
For full joining details
Contact Diana
on 01752 482380
Come along, join,
and learn with fun



**Thanks Ken
and Gordon**

After what seems like a lifetime our keyboard player Ken and his drummer Gordon have decided to call time on providing our live music, mainly due to bad health. We just want to offer our sincere thanks to both Ken and Gordon for entertaining our Tea Dancers for around 15 years.

Ken was very helpful in finding us a replacement musician to continue with our live music. We welcome Paul Dee who is an ex Army bandsman with a wide repertoire and gets very involved with the Tea Dancers. So, Thank you Ken and Gordon for such sterling service and all the best for the future and welcome Paul Dee to the Pomphlett Family.

For more information please call 519168 - Or Just Pop in and Dance !!!



2018 Coffee Cakes Chat

Saturday April 21st

**Teas Coffees
from 9 am**

Bacon Butties from 9.30 am

Raffle

Gateway

The Church in a House



My dear friends at Gateway, we are fast approaching one of the most important seasons of the Christian calendar, namely Easter. It begins in what is known as Holy Week with the washing of the disciples' feet (Jesus taking the role of a servant) on what we now call Maundy Thursday and then Jesus instigating the very first Holy Communion as He takes the bread at a Passover meal and gives it to His friends. He tells them that the bread represents His body. After the disciples had eaten, He then takes a cup of wine and tells them that it represents His blood. When all had drunk He tells them to continue to do this ritual in remembrance of Him.

He then goes out into the Garden of Gethsemane where He is met by Judas (one of the disciples) together with a group of soldiers. He kisses Jesus on the cheek (a predesignated sign to the soldiers as to whom they should arrest. They march Him to the house of Caiaphas the chief priest who has hastily convened a court there. Although the chief priest and the Council tried to find some false evidence to put before Jesus, they found none even though many told false lies. Eventually two men came forward claiming they heard Jesus say that He would pull down the Temple and rebuild it three days' later.

At this the High Priest challenged Jesus but He said nothing. Then he puts Jesus on oath to say whether He is the Messiah, the Son of God. To which Jesus answers "if you say so" and goes on to say that they will see the Son of Man sitting on the right of God and coming on the clouds of heaven. This really gets the High Priest in a temper and he shouts out "Blasphemy! We don't need any more witnesses!" So he puts the charge against Jesus to the court and they condemn Jesus saying He must die.

This was illegal because the court was held at night, the jury should have slept on it and made their judgement in the morning. Hence a common phrase these days: 'I'll sleep on it and let you

know in the morning'. Because Israel is under Roman rule the Jews have to take Jesus to the Roman governor named Pilate. After questioning Jesus, he tells the accusers that he cannot find anything against Jesus. Well that really made them annoyed and they challenged Pilate with an ultimatum that at Passover time he usually lets one prisoner free and asks the crowd who it should be, The priests encourage the crowd to demand that Barabbas, a notorious prisoner, be released; so Pilate demands what should he do with Jesus and the answer comes back: 'Crucify Him!'.

Pilate caves in and Jesus is led around the city walls carrying his cross. With the strain and stress of the past twenty four hours, Jesus stumbles and the soldiers force Simon from Cyrene to carry the cross. On reaching the allotted place they crucify Jesus together with two criminals. Imagine the exquisite agony as the whole of your weight is taken on your wrists nailed to the cross. In the afternoon around three o'clock Jesus dies. The disciples seek the permission of Pilate to take His body down from the cross and place it in an unused tomb. Cutting the story short Jesus appears first to Mary on the third day which we call Easter Day and then eventually to over 500 people. He is alive and lives with God in heaven. The previous Friday is known as Good Friday because Jesus, an innocent man, died that we might be forgiven.

May you know the joy of Easter in your hearts and invite Jesus to be your Saviour.

Your brother in Christ.

David

We send best wishes to Margaret Radmore and Kay Carney who have a birthday this month. Our Sunday Celebration on 8th April at 11 am will be led by Tony and Pauline Raine.

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SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

What's that you've got there then? Mike asked Bert.

"It's a cross. init," was the embarrassed reply.

It's a bit small. So what you carrying it for?

I'm a Christian, aren't I. I wanted to see what it felt like to be Jesus," Bert answered sheepishly.

Not part of a bet or anything then?" Mike suggested but didn't force an answer. Instead he continued, "So what does it feel like? It's heavier than it looks and it rubs my shoulder. That's why I ..."

That's why you've tied a cushion to it," Mike finished for him. "Tell me, are you going to nail yourself to it or anything, 'cos I don't see it taking your weight."

"I'm not daft. I was going to stop before the nailing bit."

"You know, I think you're just playing at this Christian business. I mean, for a start, when did you last talk to God?" Mike began to count his points on his fingers.

"Last night."

That's good," conceded Mike, a little taken surprised.

"Yeh, it was just before the lottery results. I asked for my numbers to come up like I always do, but he never listens."

"And you, do you listen to him?" Mike persisted.

"He doesn't talk, does he? Anyway what would he want to talk to me for?"

"He uses your thoughts, mate. For a start he might have wanted to talk about this barmy idea with a flimsy wooden cross."

"Hey!" Bert protested.

"You aren't serious about worship either, are you?" Mike reached for his second finger.

"I worship." said Bert, sounding rather beleaguered.

"You weren't there last Sunday, or the one before."

"I was on the moors, meditating. I don't always want to go to church."

:"A coal taken from a burning fire goes out, you know." Mike answered using his favourite metaphor.

"What does that mean in English?"

"It means you need your church friends and they need you. After that the third one is giving." Mike clutched the third finger of his hand.

"I give."

"How much?" Mike insisted.

"Two pounds every week whether I go or not." Bert stated boastfully.

"And you're paid about £400 a week so you give a half of one percent back to God."

"I've got expenses. I have a wife and kids."

"So has God got expenses and you're not helping him to meet them."

"Well don't blame me! He should have made enough for everybody," Bert responded angrily.

"He did only people don't all live where the food is and some folks are very greedy about keeping stuff. And then there's the fourth one. When did you last open your Bible?"

"You're really going for the jugular aren't you? Well this time I'm ok. I used it last night - when I eventually found it. The wife was using it to keep the cupboard door closed. I was looking up a quiz question from the telly. Are you finished tearing me apart yet?"

"One more. The fifth one: 'Spreading the word'. Telling people the good news."

"No way! I can't preach. Hell will freeze over before I do that. It's not my style. People would just laugh at me. Guys can be very hurtful."

"More or less hurtful than having nails through your hands."

"Not fair." Bert exclaimed.

"Actually its exactly the point. Anyway, there's a lot of Hell in people's lives. If they know you're a Christian they might come to you when trouble strikes. You know there are five things every Christian should do, they're the pillars of Christianity: Pray, Worship, Give, Read the Bible, and Spread the Word. Don't you think doing those is better than carrying a pathetically light, cushioned cross half a mile through empty streets?"

TR

EASTER SERVICES AT ELBURTON METHODIST

Hot Cross Buns 10am followed by
Maundy Thursday service.

29th March 12.15pm

Good Friday worship

30th March 10am

Easter Day Celebration

1st April 10.30am

Evening worship

1st April 6.30pm

