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# HBC Newsletter

[www.hinckleybaptist.com](http://www.hinckleybaptist.com)

October 2011

Issue 65



## Local Charity Gifts

**D**uring August and September, a total of £1,620 was donated by HBC to three local and very deserving charities. Details of the three charities, each of which received £540, are as follows:



### Next Generation

Next Generation provides, to disaffected young people, a service unique within the Hinckley and Bosworth area. What makes this charity unique to the borough is that they are able to offer a range of services to and for individual young people, delivered from a purpose-designed building in a town centre location.

The work of the project particularly targets young people between the ages of 13 - 25 who are at risk, vulnerable or considered disaffected from mainstream society. Next Generation offers a variety of emotional and practical support that empowers young people to make decisions, enabling them to progress towards independent living and a positive quality of life.

The Next Generation project staff has strong inter-agency links and partnerships with local agencies, both statutory and voluntary. The services offered are:

- Homelessness and re-settlement advice

- Specialist young person's counselling
- Specialist drug and alcohol services (which include assessment, counselling, needle exchange, referral and alternative therapy clinic)
- Employment and training services, including self esteem and anger management workshops
- Free pregnancy testing and sexual health advice

Unfortunately, Government funding to this charity has been cut, so HBC are pleased to donate towards its costs.

### Hinckley Food Bank (The Trussell Trust)

13 million people live below the poverty line in the UK. Every day people in the UK go hungry for reasons ranging from redundancy to receiving an unexpected bill on a low income. Trussell Trust Food Banks provide a minimum of three days emergency food and support to people experiencing crisis in the UK.

Last year the UK food bank network fed over 60,000 people, in partnership with local churches and communities, of which there are currently over 100. Their goal is for every town to have one.

In Hinckley, a number of churches are currently working together to set up a local food bank to serve our town community and HBC are pleased to financially assist with this new venture.

### Diverse and Unique Care

Diverse and Unique Care is a local charity caring for children, many with disabilities, in a loving and homely environment.

Jackie Millerchip, a registered child-minder for 19 years and running a child minding service, decided to include, within her day-care centre, children with a range of disabilities to be cared for alongside her existing non-disabled children. Earlier his



year, she had a sensory cabin built in her back garden for the children to use. The cabin is so popular that Jackie now has 37 children on her books, 22 of whom are disabled, and has a waiting list.

Jackie's idea for the sensory cabin came from her work with disabled children and looking at what they need from a childcare setting. She believes that there is a real need for services like hers, a home-from-home environment where disabled children are cared for alongside non-disabled children.



Jackie (pictured centre with her team in front of the cabin) takes up the story: "There is a desperate need for disabled children to be cared for and accepted in mainstream society. We have a 150ft garden and I loved the idea of making the most of the space with a sensory cabin."

"When I heard about a Capital Grant Fund (available through the National Child Minders' Association) and thought about how much benefit children get from sensory equipment, I decided to go for it. It took almost two years to get it finalised. The grant funded half the building work and the rest was self-funded."

"When the cabin had been built, I realised we'd need a covered walkway to get the children from the house to the cabin. So we got one

built from the back doors with ramps; it is wooden with a Perspex roof and concrete floor, and lit with solar lights in different colours."



The children clearly thrive with the sensory experiences they get in the cabin, and Jackie is motivated by watching them progress and develop.

As well as the benefits of the sensory cabin's enhanced play experience for children, Jackie knows that she gives parents of disabled children a much needed break. She says, "A lot of children come after school, giving the parents a couple of hours to make tea or spend time with siblings. I also offer overnight care. I feel proud that I can offer a service which gives parents the time they need to do other things. It's so difficult to find childcare for working parents, particularly working parents of disabled children."

It was a joy for Jackie Hurst, my wife Gill and me to visit this project and see the joy on the faces of the children sharing the love that is shown by Jackie and all her staff. HBC's donation will be used towards offsetting the cost of planned work to further enhance the facilities in this valuable and very worthwhile cause.

**David Eves**



The hand-made 'Thank You' card from Diverse & Unique Care is displayed in church. Please take time to read it.

Ed.





## From the Secretary's Desk

I ended the last Newsletter with a 'goodbye for 3 weeks' as we were off on holiday. It all seems a long time ago now that we are back and progressing through the Autumn term. We had a fab time with our daughters and their families (one family in Cornwall and the other in Somerset). We also had the opportunity to call in on Brian Pratt whilst in Somerset. It was good to see him again, although he didn't know us. However, we spent a lovely half an hour with him looking at photographs of his children and grandchildren. Brian was my inspiration and my rock from a very early age (he was my Sunday School Teacher when I was in the Junior Department) and he subsequently lead me on to be a teacher and finally SALT leader and Deacon. When I was elected as Church Secretary I had a very demanding full-time job at the RNIB College in Loughborough: I left very early in the morning and arrived home

around 6.30pm each evening. I certainly 'wobbled' and considered giving up more or less within the first few weeks but . . . who was on the doorstep just after I had arrived home on about week 3? Yes, you guessed - it was Brian with a huge bouquet and just a few words which confirmed for me that I had taken on the right role.

The Summer Season at HBC is always interesting as you never know who will be there and who is enjoying the delights of summer holidays. Nevertheless, God's work goes on.

A Craft Day was organised and, as I thought, it was for small children, I invited our three 'little grandchildren' who all had a great time. I was



surprised, however, at the age range - everyone from really tiny, to almost adult teenagers and above! It was a super day and when we arrived in the afternoon I couldn't believe how many people were there and apparently it was even busier during the morning session.

We are now used to seeing drinks and nibbles prior to the service during the summer pe-



riod - great. I'd just like to say a huge 'Thank You' to all those who organised a Sunday morning refreshment: it is very much appreciated. In fact, I'd like to see it every



Sunday morning but that might be a bit of big commitment!!

It was an enlightening experience for the congregation, on the 7th August, to have all the young people at the front who had been to Soul Survivor. Several told us about their experiences - long may it continue.



We had a service in the Pathways Centre on the morning of 28<sup>th</sup> August led by Clinton. It was great to see the smaller members of the congregation sitting on the floor doing an



activity whilst the service was in progress. It was also very funny to see the young people holding balloons with the memory verse written on and the way they looked when (in tradition form) a balloon was 'removed' by sticking a pin in it! Apparently I'm not the only one who doesn't like a balloon bursting in my face!!

During the summer period we had opportunity to celebrate two Silver Wedding Anniversaries: Chris and Adrian Bradbury and Ros and



Ian Arnold.

Many Congratulations. It was really good to share in their celebrations as a church when both couples were prayed for by Anthony in the morning service.

During September Julie and Jim Partner (our niece and nephew-in-law) finally moved permanently to Hinckley. It has been both a joy and a privilege to be able to spend time with them both and a double joy that they have settled into church life at HBC. (See page 11 to read an entry from them both).

SALT promotion took place in early September and at the same service we announced the news

that Paul Hurst was stepping down as SALT leader. We would like to thank Paul for all he has done during his 'term of office' and pray that God will raise a new leader in the near future. Thanks a bunch Paul.

The following week (11<sup>th</sup> September) the young people took the Parade service. It was a rich service both in content and people contributions - some of whom had no idea they were going to be taking part! Michael made a superb Joseph and literally threw himself into role! Some of the young people looked very different - can you recognise the person who is dressed 'a little differently'? Very well done to everyone for providing a unforgettable service, with a memorable message.



At the same service Sandra Harvey was commissioned as an Officer in the Girls Brigade - see page 12 -. I know that Sandra has been working with the girls for some time now so it was great to see her commissioned.



It was also great to see Ben and Izzie accompanying the songs within the Worship Group.

Megan Clews gave a very interesting talk on Compassion Sunday with the opportunity to sponsor a child. I won't say any more about this as I know that Megan will be writing an article for the next Newsletter (she is in Germany at the moment on an exchange visit so she is excused from an entry in this edition!!) We are looking forward to your entry Megan.

Johnnie and I had a very interesting experience following an invitation from Janet Clews to attend the Over 50's Day at the Atkins Building. Apparently this has been happening for a while but we hadn't been aware of it! Janet asked if we would represent the Computer Aspect of the Day. It was a very interesting day and we met many people who were interested in learning how to use a computer effectively. We had over 20 people who asked for their names to be put on the waiting list! Our waiting list still continues to rise even though we have had over a hundred students since we first started in April 2009. In those halcyon days we only had 3 sessions of one hour

with a total of 15 students. This Autumn sees the largest number of students we ever had with 44 attending over the one and half days. Some people like it so much that they are still coming - we have 6 people who have been with us from day one!

It's great fun but hard work and we are always looking for new tutors. We run all day on a Wednesday (5 one hour teaching sessions with a half an hour break between each lesson) and a morning session on a Thursday (2 one our sessions with a half hour break in the middle). If you are available during the day **PLEASE** speak to Johnnie or myself. If you can only come for one, one-hour, session - it's a help. We try to give as much one-to-one support as possible, especially with those who are completely new to computers. It's not all about computers though. We build relationships with those who come and we are often privy to some of their exciting news and also some of their problems and difficulties. It really is a great place to be and it's not all serious stuff - we have great fun as well! Al-

though we are not 'preaching the gospel' we are representing the face of Christ to all whom we meet and have had the opportunity to offer prayer.

I'd just like to end my contribution by reminding people that there is a Pastoral Email containing about 80 names (I believe) so that we can all be up-to-date with various family problems/illnesses. If you would like to add your name to the list please see Helen Drewery or Lesley Muggleton.

Helen and Lesley do a magnificent job in keeping us all informed of items for prayer. Also, at the end of this newsletter, there is the current calendar of events.

Good communication is one of the most difficult areas to achieve within church life generally (not just HBC) - if you have any ideas of helping to improve it further please get in touch with me or Anthony/any deacon.

**Wendy**

## Puns for Educated Minds

- The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
- I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.
- She was only a whiskey maker, but he loved her still.
- A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.
- No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.

## Pathways Update



September has started with a flurry of activity, although I don't think life really slowed down a great deal over the summer! We trialled a Craft Day for all ages in July as a school holiday filler which was a great success. We are blessed with so many talented artistic people in the church. Harry on calligraphy, Linda on weaving, Maria on glass making and Bev card making meant all ages were really catered for and everyone said how much they enjoyed it. It's certainly something we are looking at repeating next summer.

September 7th saw Captiv8 start to run a course called Essence which is an exploration of contemporary spirituality which looks towards a lifestyle integrating body, mind and spirit based on Christian teaching. The course has about 20 people on it and it's great to be able to share with people the impact faith has on our everyday lives. The meditations have gone down really well and some thought provoking activities and testimonies mean that people generally

share something of their lives and how they are journeying towards/with God. There are church people, fringe people, some who come into Pathways and a couple of people who have no church connection coming along so we have a real mix - which is working well. All the leaders are really enjoying it and look forward to each session by being challenged and blessed as they walk with people on their spiritual journey

fitted in so well on the last programme so we look forward to supporting her. I am due to go on mentoring training in October and Maria Clews and Dave Steer are due to make applications for mentors so we hope by Christmas when Clinton's leaves we will be able to continue supporting the Prince's Trust in their very worthwhile work. Please do speak to me if you feel God calling you to help these young people.



All Age Craft Day - Pathways Centre - 27th July

The Prince's Trust has seen a change of leader with Steve Eliff moving to New Zealand (very exciting for him). We will miss Steve, he has been great to work with and has made such a difference to many young people's lives. Abi Hounsfeld is his replacement who worked on the last Team Programme with Steve. Abi has just qualified as a social worker and was chosen as she

On October 1st Bev will finish as part-time cleaner. I'd like to thank Bev for all her hard work over the last couple of years. It's no easy task cleaning up after you lot!!! We have yet to find a replacement but am hoping we will do soon. If you know of anyone trustworthy who would like a small cleaning job then please do speak to me for more details.

Preparations are underway for our Singing Cafe for those with dementia which is due to start at the beginning of November. I'm really looking forward this and advertising will start at the beginning of October. Singing old favourites by Vera Lynn, Doris Day, the Beatles and Max Bygraves will be top of the list along with a bit of dancing! If you know anyone who is suffering from dementia then please do point them in the direction of this group. It will run on a Tuesday morning in Pathways. More details to follow soon.

Finally news on the Hinckley's new Foodbank. We are cur-

rently setting this up with the Salvation Army, Hope Community Church, The Vine and Living Rock. It's no mean task setting it up and we have

## Preparations are underway for our Singing Cafe for those with dementia

joined 'The Trussel Trust' which is the national organisation which provides you with a fantastic manual on how to set it up - however it's huge!! We also get help from an adviser

who can help us as we work through the process. This is a great opportunity to work with other churches to show our local community how Christians care about those in crisis. Please do talk to me if you are interested in this type of work.

Well that's about it, please continue to pray for all the work of Pathways, we are really beginning to see lives changed through the work we are doing and working alongside people giving them opportunities to be a part of a great church community.

Blessings,

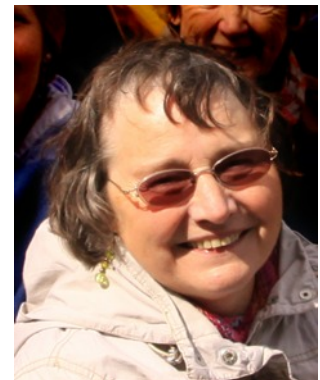
Sue



Creating a design for the Alternativity card was the priority for the first week back.

## Pathway's Art Group

If you are interested in joining, please contact Linda Copeland on 01455 238737



Steph brought along a lot of her paintings for us to help her select a few for framing. She has been very busy and a lot of the floor area in the Holliers room was covered -After sorting the paintings into groups, Steph was going to make her final selection at home.

The membership has grown over recent months, it's a relaxed friendly group and we try different media and subjects. During the next few weeks we are going to look at drawing and painting faces.





## How Well Do You Know: Arthur Wilbur ?

Question : Do you know who is the oldest Church member and regular attender at HBC ?

Answer : Arthur Wilbur, or to give him his proper name Samuel Arthur Wilbur.

Arthur began attending HBC as a young child, going through all the departments of the Sunday School until he was a teenager. He left school at the age of 14 and started work in the Hosiery Trade as did most young men in those days. He turned up for his first day at work only to be sent home after his employer discovered that he was a few days short of his 14<sup>th</sup> birthday. Perhaps that was good fortune as when he did become 14 he got a job at Moore and Osbornes where he worked for many years, as did a good number of the Baptist congregation ! You could go to church on Sunday and then on Monday morning see a lot of the same faces at work in the factory.

Some of the things he and his mates got up to whilst doing his apprenticeship would make

you hair curl. They would drip water through the floor boards onto the head of one of the foremen working in the room below, they would send new boys off to fetch a 'bucket of steam' and much more. The hours were long and included working Saturday mornings. Hinckley was a thriving Hosiery Manufacturing town with many factories and people travelling from the surrounding area to work here. Arthur gradually worked his way up in the hosiery trade from apprentice counterman to Company Director.

As an only child Arthur had most of what he wanted, one day he was passing Fred Smith's Cycle shop when he happened to see the very bike he had chosen for his next birthday on display. He walked into the shop and had a good look at the bike, Mr Smith knew Arthur and his dad and asked what he thought about the bike, this is the one my dad says I can have for my birthday he told Mr Smith, which is in a few weeks time. Mr Smith told him he might as well take it home that day instead of waiting, he felt sure Arthur's dad would be okay with it. It was a bit of a surprise for Mr. Wilbur Snr. as he knew nothing of the promise of a bike, and I'm afraid the words he expressed cannot be published here, however, Arthur was allowed

to keep the bike despite it being a very early present !!

He volunteered to join the RAF as the 2<sup>nd</sup> world war was being fought.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1943 Arthur married his sweetheart Mary, they were both only 19 years old, but the war was on and the future was uncertain. Six months later he was posted to India for 3 years working as a Senior Aircraftsman repairing and rebuilding aircraft used in the war. In October of that same year his son John was born, John was 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  when he first saw his dad.

Life got back to normal working after the war, Mary and Arthur had a daughter Janet, and moved to King Richard Road in the early 1950s.

Frank Cooke became the minister at HBC and Arthur was persuaded to attend church again by Mary. After a time Arthur and Mary were Baptised and became members of the church. Arthur took on the role of a Sunday School teacher, he was a staunch member of the Men's Fellowship and also became a leader of the Thursday night Youth Club.

Arthur wasn't able to attend church services for about 10 years as he gave all his time to caring for Mary when she became ill. He never lost interest in what was happening

within the fellowship and was so grateful for the prayers and support he received during those difficult years.

His main hobby now is his garden, which is big and full of

fruit and veg. he grows enough to feed an army, and gives it all away to family and friends, and receives much pleasure in that giving.

He loves to reminisce and if you're not in a hurry to get home have a chat with him, he can go back a long way !!

**Janet**

## Gifted Life ? - By Liz

Have you ever used that phrase 'I'm losing the will to live.'

You know.... when a child is trying to relate a long complicated story, concerning the day's events. ....or you're sitting 20 minutes into a tedious, dry sermon on a hot sunny, August, Sunday morning (obviously not at HBC!) .....or whilst stuck in a standstill on the M25, caused only by out of date matrix signs telling everyone to get into the inside lane.....or when you reach the 5<sup>th</sup> verse of an incredibly old hymn and realise there are still 3 verses to go.....or when you visit an old relative and they turn the TV off in the middle of a programme, so you can talk.....or...

Well I think you know what I mean. It may not be a phrase you are in the habit of using. But it was one of my 'stock-in-trade'. Until recently, that is.

On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2011, I found myself in George Elliot hospital. Waiting for a Doctor to come and inform me that I had damaged my heart and liver beyond repair and was

going to die a slow and painful death. The Doctor didn't say that. But he did say, I was very 'lucky' to be alive. (I knew it wasn't 'luck'.)

As I lay in the hospital bed, I couldn't believe how badly I'd messed things up. Everything had been going along steadily improving. I'd had some long, low months, but finally I was getting back on track. I'd gone back to work, taken on old responsibilities. How could this have possibly happened? What on earth possessed me to think that ending it all was an acceptable solution to how I had been feeling?

But it had happened. In the space of 30 minutes I'd made some very poor decisions and taken steps that potentially could end my life. It was no cry for help. It was for real. I'd finally taken action to express my deepest pain and anguish. I'd been coping, but I'd reached the limit of my ability to 'grit my teeth'. I'd lost touch with, 'making good choices'. There wasn't a sticky plaster big enough to cover the wounds, any more. I had indeed 'lost the will to live'. And I discovered that there

is in fact very little humour in the truth of those words.

As I faced the dreadful reality that I had very nearly succeeded, I realised beyond a shadow of a doubt, I didn't actually want to die. I really didn't want to let go of life. I knew how much my family meant to me. I wanted to be there for my sons and daughter.



My grand children were too precious to leave with that sort of legacy. And what of my yet un-born grandson? - to have never seen him or held him in my arms. Friends, who had supported me through dark times, didn't deserve this. Then there was God. My faith. None of it made any sense. Two days later, my fa-

ther drove me back to my 'safe haven' (which I'd moved on from, only weeks before). As we drove along he uttered the most amazing words I have ever heard from his lips. 'If I believed in God, I would say He isn't finished with you yet!'

If he believed in God! He's a passionate Atheist! My father doesn't just not believe in God. He holds that non-existent God responsible for all that is wrong in the world!

But there began the slow realisation that if I was to move on from this disaster it was going to involve 'healing'. Not coping, or masking, or determination, or support, or acts of will. My hands were empty, I'd played all my cards and lost.

But God had gifted my life back to me. It was time for a new approach to facing my future. I needed His healing work in my life. But how, does that happen?

One of the reasons I had become a, 'coper' - 'teeth gritter' - 'mask wearer' - 'dig a bit deeper' - 'bury my head in the sand' sort of person, was because I found the whole, relationship with God in my heart thing, very difficult. On the other hand I could do the relationship with God in my head thing, quite well. The trouble was, knowing in my head that God loved me, had created me, was actively interested in me, had redeemed me and made

me heir to His kingdom; wasn't actually translating into making any sense of my life. Head knowledge of God makes very little sense, without heart knowledge of Him.

Reluctantly, I acknowledged to myself that I would need to move beyond my 'safety zone'. I never wanted to be exposed to the reality of losing the will to live ever again. God had gifted my life back to me and I knew the answers lay with Him. I had to move beyond my known solutions and into a place where He could reach me.

So three weeks later I found myself at Mill Green House, Cambridgeshire. And because I've already used 850 words, I'll not go into all the details concerning that retreat. Maybe I can save it for the next newsletter? )

Other than to say it involved moving out of my comfort zone and into trusting God. In making that somewhat reluctant, apprehensive step I began the incredible journey of involving my heart in my relationship with God and the healing began. For me, Heaven met Earth - and in that meeting came much understanding.

Why have I decided to write this account, of an act that seems so contrary to what any decent Christian should admit to? Because I don't think I'm alone. I know most people don't go to the extreme of attempting suicide. But I know

a lot of Christians who attempt, Survival on a long term basis. Suicide or Survival, that's not what God wants for any of us. God wants, Life - Living. He has gifted us all our lives. We have to actively seek out the healing we need to 'live' not just survive. If you're surviving maybe it's time you sought out a new approach to facing the future. I'm not trying to say I have all the answers, but I do know I have finally begun the journey. In losing the will to Survive, I have gained the will to Live!

PS: If you would like a copy of a book that records my thoughts from my retreat at Mill Green House, go to

[www.Lulu.com/browse](http://www.Lulu.com/browse)

then search for When heaven met earth or Liz Adcock (Sorry it's not cheap!)



Liz Adcock

## Welcome Julie, Jim and Ron

As some of you will know, Julie and I bought a house in Hinckley one year ago. Although we still had a property and a business back in Norfolk, we spent as much time here in Hinckley as was possible, in preparation for moving here permanently. For Julie, it was a sort of "coming home" as she originally lived here in Hinckley, moving to Norfolk over 25 years ago, where we met and married several years later. For me, it was the start of numerous two to three hour journeys to and from Norfolk



each week, to keep our business running. For us both, it was the start of a new chapter in our lives - along with running two houses in two counties, and the costs associated in doing so!

At the beginning of September, we finally finished moving all our possessions in to the house in Hinckley (having sold our Norfolk property), and moved in permanently.

With all the travelling and running two houses, I'll be the first to say that the last year has not been an easy one - financially, mentally, or otherwise. Thankfully, we had the

love and support of Wendy and Johnnie (Julie's aunt and uncle, if anyone didn't know!), who gave ears to listen, shoulders to lean on, two chairs to sit on (ask us the story of that sometime!), and a place around their table with them on many a Sunday lunch-time!

Equally as important was the welcome and friendship offered to us by so many other people at the church. From the moment that we arrived at HBC, the welcome and friendship we received was simply astounding. Since our arrival, both Julie and I have received

such a warm welcome, and have made so many friends, for which we thank you all.

Now that the dust is finally starting to settle (although there are still a few boxes that have yet to be unpacked!), we are starting an exciting new chapter in our lives. My father, Ron, has moved up here with us as well, and so many people have made him welcome also.

So at the risk of repeating myself, and along with Julie and Ron, thank you again!

**Jim, Julie & Ron Partner**



## Thank You

We would like to thank Margaret Longdon for all the years she has served in the Sunbeams.

The staff and children will miss her very much.

**Anne Gee**

## Congratulations and Celebrations



### We have a Grandson

God's precious gift of a baby boy. Isaac Elliot James was given on July 28<sup>th</sup>, 6lb 9oz at 2.25pm. Mum and baby are fine, dads beaming.

Grandma 'n' Grandad Dexter XX

Matt's Email: [matt.dexter@mac.com](mailto:matt.dexter@mac.com)

## GB Go To Water World



For a little treat after attending lots of Parade's Jackie and Vicky Hurst took us to Water World in Stoke-on-Trent. It actually turned out that I was the only senior and the rest were Brigaders. The journey took an hour and everyone talked to each other along the way. Once we arrived, and the minibus was parked, we went through to the changing area.

After Jackie and Vicky had found seats in the cafe we sped off to the rapids. They

were slow and not much fun, so we decided to try out the slides. The slides were great, one open slide and two covered slides. We went on them a few more times before trying something else. Some girls went on Space Bowl however it is not one I wanted to try so stuck to the slides. After chilling out (or warming out) in the Jacuzzi we had an early lunch. Between us we ate chicken nuggets, chicken burgers, cheese burgers and a load of chips. Yummy!

After lunch we went on a few more slides and had a couple of goes on the lily pads, which are floating lily pads that are in a line and you have to try and cross them.

Once we had had enough, we got changed again and went out into reception. Some of us bought sweets and even Subway sandwiches for the bus ride home. It was great fun!

Abigail



### New Officer for Girls Brigade



September Parade saw Sandra Harvey commissioned as an officer in GB....she was nearly an Oadby officer, after a slip up by Anthony but he recovered quickly and she was duly assigned to us as originally planned.

Jackie

## Jenny's Page



Welcome back to your newsletter - Where did the summer go!? It seems to go quicker every year.

I said I would let you know how the race for life went - Well it was a nice day and not too hot. Thankfully, after the first lap I was feeling fantastic, but as

the laps went by I was tiring and I was so glad when we finally reached the last lap. Izzy completed the last lap running, and it was great to pass the line and get our medals. I was very proud of the both of us and the money raised went to cancer research. It was emotional to

walk for Sidonie, who I met through church and who as become a very good friend for life, and who is going to walk with us next year. I will let you all know the date it would be great to have a lot of friends with us.

**Jenny**



## Gavin and Stacey tour.

One of the highlight's of the summer was going to Barry Island, it's a beautiful place and we stayed on a farm, where we spent the nights watching the combine harvester in the fields, and talking to

the cattle and the bulls which were a bit scary, and making friends with the farm dog Ben.

But the best thing of all was going on the Gavin and Stacey tour, for those of you who know the programme you will understand, unfortunately Dave didn't watch the show and spent most of the tour bewildered but happy as we stopped off at a pub.

We travelled on the original Dave's Coaches singing Islands in the stream as we went. Hap-

py Days. We visited the church, and Stacey's house among others and the house used for filming Stacey's home has been turned into a shrine by the lady that lives there, we stopped off at Marco's Café and the amusement arcade that Nessa worked in.

It was a fantastic day and as the sunset over Barry we were planning on going back to audition for extra's if they film there again, well 3 of us were, and Izzy and Aaron are perfecting there welsh accents.



## Costa Conversations

Numbers started at 25, rose to a crowded 40 and settled at 30-35. Comments from those attending included:

- Brilliant idea, would like more of it.
- Format seems excellent because it gives us a chance to share and learn from each other as well as you folk .
- Content a nice mix. Have found it gentle, thought provoking, even a bit challenging. God bless you all.
- Very good. I thought I would give it a try & just come to one. I will be at all now as found it very thought provoking. Well done all. We should do it again
- A brilliant idea and one I will endeavour to get the churches in Nuneaton to copy! I work locally so it's been lovely to join in, albeit only for two sessions—one of my work colleagues gave me the invitation. I would love to join in any similar events. Monday night was a

real moment of revelation for me!!

COSTA the place where  
Christians  
Often  
Seem  
To  
Agree

Watch this space as there are plans afoot for a December return to Costa, perhaps with the theme of inviting friends and family to explore liberating Christmas from commercialism and finding true meaning and life instead. Watch this space for Costa Conversations II.

Costa Coffee in Hinckley provided a setting for Christians from over ten churches in Hinckley to meet and study scripture together in a public forum. This act of witness and shared life was rooted in our celebrations of 400 years since the bible was first translated into English.

The four Bible Studies, amidst the lattes and cappuccinos, were led by four ministers of different Hinckley churches and generally aimed to open a new dimension of the bible in the same way that the translation into English opened up the bible to be read and understood far more widely than the existing Latin versions.



Rev'd John Whittaker  
Vicar, St Mary's



## The Vine Book Shop

At The Vine Bookshop we have just had our 10th birthday, on the 1st of September, thank you for all who have supported us.

We will be having some extra things going on during the year that I hope will interest you. Have you thought of becoming a friend of The Vine Book and coffee shop?

If so there are some forms on the book stall or you can see me. Those joining this year will get a goody bag as well as tokens for free coffee or tea and a news letter each month.

If you use the shop we will still be here for the next 10 years, use us or lose us.

Barbara Pitt

## Gill's Cookery Columns - Millionaire's Shortbread

### Ingredients

- 125g Butter, room temperature
- 50g Caster sugar
- 175g Plain flour
- 400g Condensed milk
- 50g Butter
- 150g of your favourite chocolate



### Method

Mix the butter, sugar and flour to form a dough. Press this into a greased 23cm square cake tin and bake at 190c/gas 5 for 20 mins. Leave to cool.

Meanwhile, make the topping. Pour the milk into a heavy-bottomed pan and add the butter and sugar. Bring to the boil and then boil gently for 5 mins, stirring continuously so the mixture doesn't stick. Pour the topping over the shortbread and place in the fridge to set. Once the topping has set, melt the chocolate in a bowl over a pan of simmering water and pour it over the topping.

Leave to set again and then cut into pieces.

Variation 1 Add a little coconut to the base.

Variation 2 Add peanuts to the caramel sauce, unless you are concerned about allergies.



### On Growing Older

(A Mother Superior's Prayer)

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older, and will some day be old.

Keep me from getting talkative, and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to try to straighten out everybody's affairs.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details - give me wings to get to the point.

I ask for grace enough to listen to the tales of other's pains. Help me to endure them with patience.

But seal my lips on my own aches and pains - they are increasing, and my love of rehearsing them becomes sweeter as the years go by.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint - some of them are so hard to live with - but a sour old woman is one of the crowing works of the devil.

Make me thoughtful, but not moody; helpful, but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Len Taylor



## Kosova and Albania

So what happened on the mission to Kosova and Albania back in May?

Well the following is a brief account of what happened and also our future plans for Kosova and Albania, God willing.; Overall the mission was a success, though like any mission it brought it's challenges to all of us. First of all we must give thanks to God for answered prayer and no mission will succeed without prayer.

Amongst the five of us on the team there was a good sense of unity and we were blessed in our relationships with the Christians and Muslims we met in both countries, God had certainly gone before us and prepared the way.



The new church at Barjam Currii, Northern Albania.  
A former Billiard Hall

Further to this all our travel arrangements went well and God kept us well and safe everywhere we went. Travelling over the border into Albania on the Saturday to the church at Barjam Curri we visited the new church, a former billiards hall, that clearly needs some attention to it. Despite this they love it and both they and the church back in Gjakova continue to grow. There would be more if they was a cheap effective public transport system in Gjakova, which is one reason the church needs to look for new and larger premises.



Inside one of the Gypsy's homes.

I hope to be able to fix Perspex over the missing windows in November

Whilst in Kosova one of the things we did was visit the Roma gypsy colony and the new

homes being built there. The; first stage is well under way needing to be completed by the end of October before winter starts to set in. We still need to pray for a fair distribution of these new homes, particularly for Suzanna and her family. Suzanna herself is in Serbia undergoing surgery for breast cancer. We still await news of the operation. Whilst there, there was not much opportunity for any of us to do any teaching or preaching as the mission was mainly of a practical nature. That which Ray did; do in Barjam Curri was however blessed and we had the opportunity to pray with a few people at the end of the service. John, our helper as I called him, a friend from Earl Shilton was very helpful particularly with the various DIY jobs we did particularly at a widows house where we spent two days refurbishing a room for her in her tiny two-room home. It was John's first time with us and he along with the other Richard and his wife Pam were a real blessing to the mission.

Possibly the highlight of the mission for John was a visit to the local market to purchase three small pigs for a widow called Rosa and her family. Shirley Davey is now the proud owner of one half of a pig in Kosova. How long it will last remains to be seen as they will be fattened up for slaughter .



Three little Pigs.  
Shirley Davey is the proud owner of one half of one of these.

Another day out saw us travel to the village of Mullich to visit another widow called Juda who keeps bees for honey and makes candles from the wax. Juda has decided to let Victory Church meet in her house in a large upper room for both outreach and work amongst the local widows. Her village saw 28 men and boys killed in one day during the war in 1999 so it is still a very sensitive area as the Serbs carrying out the killing claimed to be Christians. Also her house is just across the road from the village mosque and had to be rebuilt after the war. One reason for our visit was to examine the plumbing we had paid for to be installed in her house to take water up to where the church will be meeting. Unfortunately we did not have time to lag the pipes. This brings me to the subject of what happens next.



War cemetery at Korenice, Kosova.  
About 400 men and boys from two nearby villages were rounded up and shot here on the 27th April 1999..

I am in the process of making plans to go back to Kosova and Albania in November. One reason being to get these pipes lagged before winter really sets in or we will have burst pipes and have wasted our money. Another thing God has really put on my heart is to go back to Barjam Curri as we met about six families, Gypsies living in terrible conditions in these small shacks that pass for houses out there. A number of them have missing windows with only plastic bags over them. I want to take some Perspex with me to put over the missing windows to try and make it a little more warmer for them during the winter. Temperature can drop to minus 20 degrees or more in a bad winter; and while Perspex is not ideal, it is better than a plastic bag. Finally of course there are many others out there who would benefit from some help so I could be in for a busy time. Thank you for taking the time to read this.



View of a house where I shall be doing some pipe insulation when I return in November

May God bless you.

Yours in Christ,  
Richard.

# Ken and Shirley's Puzzles of the Month



## Summer Holiday - Word Search

SUNSHINE  
UMBRELLA  
ROUNDAABOUT  
DECK CHAIR  
BUCKET  
PADDLING  
PICNIC

SHOWERS  
SANDCASTLES  
TRAMPOLINE  
ICECREAM  
SPADE  
SWIMMING  
WALKING

Just to test you..... One of these is missing!

A	S	B	U	C	K	E	T	T	U	P	R
S	D	U	W	I	R	U	U	R	S	H	E
R	U	M	N	P	U	F	O	S	E	I	N
E	O	B	O	S	O	E	B	U	L	C	E
W	P	R	E	W	H	P	A	C	T	E	L
O	A	E	T	I	D	I	D	A	S	C	O
H	D	L	R	M	H	C	N	T	A	R	P
S	D	L	K	M	E	N	U	E	C	E	M
R	L	A	G	I	K	I	O	L	D	A	A
D	I	F	O	N	N	C	R	N	N	M	R
S	N	G	I	G	T	G	F	U	A	R	T
E	G	S	C	N	E	D	A	P	S	O	M

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[www.hinckleybaptist.com](http://www.hinckleybaptist.com)