

# Onward



The Newsletter of

**Hallfold** *United Reformed Church*  

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**Whitworth**

February/March 2018 Issue

# Officers of Hallfold URC Church

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**Contributors please note:** The cut-off date for the next edition of this magazine is Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018. Any articles, lists or rotas received after that date may not be included.



The Elders met on the 5<sup>th</sup> January to nominate a new church Secretary to Church Members. The meeting will take place this Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January\*. I was not at the meeting as Brenda and I were enjoying three weeks of Sun, Sand and Sea in Goa, India.

On our return, last weekend, we received the sad news that Auntie Brenda (not a blood relative but Brenda's mum's oldest friend) had had a stroke. We visited after church last Sunday to be informed that pneumonia on top of the stroke meant she would not recover. Her niece and nephew, Barbara and Brian, and Brenda and myself spent long hours at the bedside. Her Minister visited on Monday and offered comfort through the words of God in Psalm 23 and the end of the Book of Revelations, and Prayers. We hoped that Auntie Brenda had heard the words but seemed unresponsive. Sleeping peacefully. Auntie Brenda did become responsive and recognise those around her for a couple of hours or so on Tuesday afternoon.

On Tuesday Brenda's mum, Eveline, slipped off her chair and the paramedics were called. Brenda was bringing her mum to hospital in the ambulance as I was also still there with a car. As Brenda and her mum arrived, at A&E, Auntie Brenda passed away peacefully. As I informed Brenda the paramedics took responsibility for her mum and sent us back to the bedside of Auntie B. We consoled Barbara, Brian and each other, and then returned to Brenda's Mum, Eveline.

The paramedics had seen Eveline through triage and she was now in a queue running at nearly three hours. On speaking to the Sister in charge she told me she had been briefed on the sad events and immediately moved Eveline to the top of the list. A man on a bed in a room, waiting for the doctor, was taken back onto the corridor and replaced with Eveline. We got back to Olive House at 2 in the morning, Eveline arrived by ambulance at 5am.

The day had been long and emotional. A&E was extremely busy with staff rushing about doing their business to help people. And yet with all the business of ambulance and hospital staff they all took time to pass on the details of what was happening elsewhere and the effect on the people concerned. They showed compassion and did what they could to make the situation as tolerable as possible, for us.

As I came to write this report Brenda reminded me of the feeding of the 5000. In Matthew's gospel chapter 14 verses 13 to 21 is the familiar story. But the context is given in verses 1 to 12 with the death and beheading of his cousin John the Baptist. Even in grief and mourning, Jesus showed compassion to the 5000 who had come to see and hear him. Fed them all before taking time by himself to pray.

I thank God, for the compassion showed by those involved in these sad events.

On Wednesday we were at last able to tell Eveline that her best friend had passed away. And comfort each other as a family. We all know that our father has a house with many rooms, one for us when our time comes. I think that brought peace to Auntie B, and comfort to those of us left behind.

RIP Auntie Brenda Mills.

Your **Secret'Arry**

*\*Since this article was written and at the meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2018, Gillian Dawson received the membership nomination for the post of Church Secretary.*

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## CHRISTIAN AID

Will you walk through the wilderness with Christian Aid this Lent?

'Count Your Blessings' is promoted by Christian Aid - its a calendar to guide you through Lent and brings stories from our sisters and brothers who have been forced from their homes into a very real and frightening wilderness.

Please let Brenda know if you wish to have a calendar - more details online at [caid.org.uk/lent](http://caid.org.uk/lent)

Isaiah 49.16 'Yet I will not forget you. See I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands.'

## SPRING FLOWERS

This year, spring in the northern hemisphere officially begins on 21<sup>st</sup> March. This is the month that is described as “coming in like a lion and going out like a lamb” but that does not mean the winter weather is over, particularly in this part of the world. Two years ago we had quite deep snow on the early May Bank Holiday and yet on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017 a temperature of 78F was recorded in Cambridgeshire. Let’s hope 78F will be recorded in Whitworth this year (any time of the year not just in March!!). Even though it is still pretty cold and sometimes quite dismal in February and March signs of spring are visible.

One of the first flowers to show its head is the snowdrop. The common snowdrop we normally see, with one flower per stem, has the name *Galanthus nivalis* which translates as “milk flower of the snow,”. The snowdrop can survive snow and frost as it contains a natural anti-freeze. A substance called galamantine is extracted from snowdrops to be used in a treatment to slow down dementia in Alzheimer’s disease.

Another plant seen in spring is the crocus. They are quite tough little flowers even persisting under a thick blanket of snow. The name comes from the Greek word *krokos* meaning saffron yellow. According to Greek legend, Crocus was the name of Greek noble who fell in love with a beautiful shepherdess. When the gods forbade his marriage Crocus killed himself. The Goddess Flora took pity on him and turned him into a flower, Hellebores are now beginning to flower. The name originates from two Greek words “*helle*” which means to “take away” and “*bora*” which means “food”. This name developed because of the properties of the plant. It was used to induce vomiting. Black hellebore was also used in the treatment of intestinal worms. Just imagine – and from such a pretty flower!

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## Thank You

*Thank You* to all those who visited Abbotsford on 28th January to sample the three different varieties of soup on offer for Sunday Lunch.

We made a profit of £180 for church funds; almost enough to cover the cost of the underlay for the new church carpet.

Thank you very much.

*Dorothy and Clive.*

## CLOCKS

Clocks go cuckoo, clocks go chime,  
Clocks go tick tock all the time.  
Clocks have names like you and me.  
There's a time for dinner, a time for tea.

I know a clock his name is BEN,  
He's very famous when he strikes ten.  
Clocks are big and clocks are small,  
Grandfather clocks are very tall.

Clocks are clever, clocks are bold  
And grandfather clocks are very old.  
Clocks are silver, clocks are gold,  
Clocks are the way that time is told.

Some are square and some are round,  
Some stand ten feet from the ground.

Time goes fast and sometimes slow,  
But without a clock who is to know?  
There's a time for you, a time for me,  
But who knows how much time we'll see.

A clock to me is man's best friend,  
It keeps on ticking to the end.  
But when it stops it's not the end,  
For time sets off a brand new trend.

Andrew Pilling

This poem was written by Hilary and Fred Pilling's son Andrew, whilst at primary school.

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Spring is a beautiful time of the year. Springtime always comes after winter. The hope of warm and sunny days keeps us going during the cold, gloomy days of winter that sometimes in Whitworth seem to go on and on.

For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. – *Song of Solomon 2:11-12*

**Hallfold Quiz Night**

Quiz!

**7.30 pm Saturday, 24th February 2018**

**£4 per team member including light refreshments**

### **KNIT AND NATTER**

In March 2017, we sent to Gambia, three large parcels made up of babies' matinee coats and hats, children's jumpers, cot blankets and other knitted items. A gentleman named Ennsa transported them from London to Gambia. He thanked us for the amazing things and the love we were showing to his countrymen. The people Ennsa goes to help live in two separate villages. One is out in the bush and is called Banjana. There is a school in the village, built by the people who live there. The other village, called Nema Kunka, is where Ennsa's parents and family elders live.

Ennsa says that the babies and children in the whole area will benefit as the people are very good at sharing. It seems that whoever needs things the most, gets them. He thinks it is wonderful and could not be happier. We have told him we will be sending two more parcels to London in March 2018 for him to distribute when he next goes to Gambia.

On hearing this news Ennsa sent another big thank you to the Knit and Natter ladies for their thoughts for the babies and children of his homeland. When the first parcel was despatched to Gambia, we received a large box of chocolates from a well known firm in London in appreciation for our efforts. As you can imagine they went down very well at our meetings on Thursday afternoons.

*Betty Mason*

<b>Diary of Church Events</b>	
Feb 05 <sup>th</sup>	Service at Masseycroft – 2.00pm
Feb 06 <sup>th</sup>	PMT Planning Meeting 7.30pm at Pam's
Feb 06 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies “ <i>Exercise to Music</i> ” 8:00pm in the schoolroom. All ladies welcome - Admission £3
Feb 09 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Rainbows - No meeting
Feb 09 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Brownies - No meeting
Feb 11 <sup>th</sup>	Family Church at 10:45am <b>Elders</b> Communion
Feb 12 <sup>th</sup>	Service at Masseycroft – 2.00pm
Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies “ <i>Exercise to Music</i> ” 8:00pm in the schoolroom. All ladies welcome - Admission £3
Feb 15 <sup>th</sup>	“Knit & Natter” - 2.00pm at Abbotsford
Feb 16 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Rainbows - 6:00pm - 7:00pm Meet in the schoolroom.
Feb 16 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Brownies - 6:30pm – 7:45pm Meet in the schoolroom
Feb 18 <sup>th</sup>	Family Church at 10:45am <b>Alison Dalton</b>
Feb 19 <sup>th</sup>	Service at Masseycroft – 2.00pm
Feb 20 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies “ <i>Exercise to Music</i> ” 8:00pm in the schoolroom. All ladies welcome - Admission £3
Feb 22 <sup>nd</sup>	“Knit & Natter” - 2.00pm at Abbotsford
Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Rainbows - 6:00pm - 7:00pm Meet in the schoolroom.
Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Brownies - 6:30pm – 7:45pm Meet in the schoolroom
Feb 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>HALLFOLD QUIZ NIGHT</b> 7.30pm £4 per team member – includes light refreshments
Feb 25 <sup>th</sup>	Family Church at 10:45am <b>Rev Darren Holland</b>
Feb 26 <sup>th</sup>	Service at Masseycroft – 2.00pm
Feb 27 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies “ <i>Exercise to Music</i> ” 8:00pm in the schoolroom. All ladies welcome - Admission £3
Mar 01 <sup>st</sup>	“Knit & Natter” - 2.00pm at Abbotsford
Mar 02 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Rainbows - 6:00pm - 7:00pm Meet in the schoolroom.
Mar 02 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Brownies - 6:30pm – 7:45pm Meet in the schoolroom



<b>Diary of Church Events</b>	
Mar 04 <sup>th</sup>	Family Church at 10:45am <b>Rev Jane Gilpin</b>
Mar 05 <sup>th</sup>	Service at Masseycroft – 2.00pm
Mar 06 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies “ <i>Exercise to Music</i> ” 8:00pm in the schoolroom. All ladies welcome - Admission £3
Mar 09 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Rainbows - 6:00pm - 7:00pm Meet in the schoolroom.
Mar 09 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Brownies - 6:30pm – 7:45pm Meet in the schoolroom
Mar 11 <sup>th</sup>	Family Church at 10:45am <b>Elders</b> Communion
Mar 12 <sup>th</sup>	Service at Masseycroft – 2.00pm
Mar 13 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies “ <i>Exercise to Music</i> ” 8:00pm in the schoolroom. All ladies welcome - Admission £3
Mar 15 <sup>th</sup>	“Knit & Natter” - 2.00pm at Abbotsford
Mar 16 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Rainbows - 6:00pm - 7:00pm Meet in the schoolroom.
Mar 16 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Brownies - 6:30pm – 7:45pm Meet in the schoolroom
Mar 18 <sup>th</sup>	Family Church at 10:45am <b>Simon Baker</b>
Mar 19 <sup>th</sup>	Service at Masseycroft – 2.00pm
Mar 20 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies “ <i>Exercise to Music</i> ” 8:00pm in the schoolroom. All ladies welcome - Admission £3
Mar 23 <sup>rd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Rainbows - 6:00pm - 7:00pm Meet in the schoolroom.
Mar 23 <sup>rd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Brownies - 6:30pm – 7:45pm Meet in the schoolroom
Mar 25 <sup>th</sup>	Family Church at 10:45am <b>Brenda Jones</b> <b>AGM after morning service</b>
Mar 26 <sup>th</sup>	Service at Masseycroft – 2.00pm
Mar 27 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies “ <i>Exercise to Music</i> ” 8:00pm in the schoolroom. All ladies welcome - Admission £3
Mar 29 <sup>th</sup>	“Knit & Natter” - 2.00pm at Abbotsford
Mar 30 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Rainbows - No meeting
Mar 30 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Brownies - No meeting
Apl 01 <sup>st</sup>	Family Church at 10:45am <b>Catherine Hilton</b>

<b>Diary of Church Events</b>	
Apl 02 <sup>nd</sup>	Service at Masseycroft - Easter no service
Apl 03 <sup>rd</sup>	Ladies "Exercise to Music" 8:00pm in the schoolroom. All ladies welcome - Admission £3
Apl 06 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Rainbows - No meeting
Apl 06 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Whitworth URC Brownies - No meeting
Apl 08 <sup>th</sup>	Family Church at 10:45am <b>Elders</b> Communion
Apl 09 <sup>th</sup>	Service at Masseycroft – 2.00pm
Apl 10 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies "Exercise to Music" 8:00pm in the schoolroom. All ladies welcome - Admission £3
Apl 12 <sup>th</sup>	"Knit & Natter" - 2.00pm at Abbotsford

## Secondhand Books

As many of you will already know, Margaret and I have decided that the time has come for us to stop running the weekly second hand book stall. The main reason is that with the advancing years it has seemed harder and, bearing in mind my disability, more dangerous to handle the larger boxes of books.

There has also been a definite drop in purchases during the last year; on one or two Sunday's we have not had a single sale. Since taking over the stall around 2005/6 we have made about £250 per year, all of which went directly into church funds. We believe book sales have contributed over £2750 in that time. Sadly, last year, sales barely exceeded £75.

If anyone would like to take over the running of the bookstall please let us know and we will help in any way we can. Otherwise, we will see what we can do to dispose of the remaining book stock.

We have enjoyed running the stall and would like to thank all those who have helped in any way – putting up and taking away the tables, bringing in books to sell and helping to take out and return the stock each week. Most important of all, thanks go to those who have regularly bought books from us and, by doing so, made a direct contribution to church funds.

*Brian & Margaret*

In the lengthening of days,  
Snowdrops emerging,  
from winter's frozen ground.  
We see the Creator's hand.

In the sight of a tiny lamb  
joyfully bounding  
across hillside farm  
We see the Creator's hand.

Creator God, forgive our moments of ingratitude,  
the spiritual blindness that prevents us  
from appreciating the wonder that is this world,  
the endless cycle of nature,  
of life and death and rebirth.  
Forgive us for taking without giving,  
reaping without sowing.  
Open our eyes to see,  
our lips to praise,  
our hands to share,  
and may our feet tread lightly  
on the road that, together, we travel.

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**Men in Sheds  
Whitworth**

## **Men In Sheds**

A proposed new project for Whitworth is aimed at the men in the valley who may wish to become part of an activity based group to pursue basic woodworking, metalworking or perhaps basic computing. Often, men do not have space at home for hobbies of this type and this project offers a workshop environment equipped with benching and hand tools. Centrally located, workshop premises have already been identified and it is hoped that the project may be able to commence as early as the beginning of April 2008. More details will be given as the project progresses. If you, or a friend or relative, are interested, please contact Brian on 01706 344894 or mobile 07434 703972. Alternatively, you can speak to Jackie Flynn, Community Projects & Partnership Officer at Rossendale BC on 01706 252532.

The sky is blue, the air is clear.  
Has spring arrived?  
Not yet, I fear.  
Rain is forecast for the west.  
Don't discard your Damart vest.  
Still, the days are getting longer  
And the sun feels so much stronger.  
Plants and bushes wake to life.  
Nature knows when time is right  
For all to take its turn to bloom,  
Lifting shrouds of winter's gloom.  
Now the heart begins to beat,  
And for those with itchy feet  
Thoughts of walking o'er the hills,  
Shaking off those winter ills.  
Gardeners, too, begin their toil,  
Digging, mulching of the soil.  
And in due time we all will see  
What glorious colours soon will grace  
The barren earth, its void efface.  
So with Easter very near,  
Let its message ring out clear;  
New life, eternal life is given to those  
With faith in Christ, the man who rose.  
He conquered sin and death for all.  
Come join the faithful, celebrate!!  
Now's your chance; don't hesitate.

D S Nuttall

# Church Flowers

		Remembering
03 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Clifford Tasker	Wife Elsie
10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	John Harris	Brother Tom and sister Joan Baker
17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Mr & Mrs Myers	Family and friends
27 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Colin & David Garside-Trickett	David's mum Nancy and Colin's mum Bella
31 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Service at St Andrews	
07 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Bill & Betty Greenwood	Both Betty and Bill's parents
14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	John Kettleton & Ann Jackson	Mother Sybil and Ann's husband Derek
21 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Dorothy Crowther	Father Mr Coates
04 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Brian & Margaret Thomas	Margaret's mother

## 3rd Whitworth U.R.C Brownies & Rainbows

Our last Brownie & Rainbow meeting of 2017 was an excellent Christingle service led again by Wendy Smith, who dressed a Brownie up as a Christingle !! The 1<sup>st</sup> Whitworth Brownies Rainbows and Guides also joined us. We had a special guest, the Deputy Mayor of Whitworth, Madeline De Sousa, who commented how nice it was to see so many children enjoying the service.

We had a lot of comments about how lovely the new church carpet looked. To avoid getting wax on it, we lit our Christingles in the Hall, whilst Colin played "Silent Night" over the speaker system.

The Brownies & Rainbows were invited to sing some Christmas songs at Hallfold's Christmas Tree Festival and also at Whitworth Museum's Christmas coffee morning. We entertained another special guest at both these events, Whitworth Mayor Alan Neal, who said it was lovely seeing children having fun singing.

We've been asked to sing again at both places at Christmas this year.

*Pam*

Brownie & Rainbow Guider

## Counting Rota

4th Feb	C Crowther	K Grayson
11th Feb	L Mark-Bell	I Mason
18th Feb	G Myers	E Garbutt
25th Feb	E Dyson	M Cawley
4th Mar	J Garside	J Whitworth
11th Mar	C Crowther	K Grayson
18th Mar	L Mark-Bell	I Mason
25th Mar	G Myers	E Garbutt
1st April	E Dyson	M Cawley



## Refreshments Team

4th Feb	M Booth	E Dyson
11th Feb	P Matthews	K Hill
18th Feb	B Garside	C Marshall
25th Feb	H Pilling	E Garbutt
4th Mar	M Booth	E Dyson
11th Mar	P Matthews	K Hill
18th Mar	B Garside	C Marshall
25th Mar	H Pilling	E Garbutt
1st April	M Booth	E Dyson



## Bible Reading

4th Feb	Mary Cawley	01706 356109
11th Feb	Janet Myers	07583 875654
18th Feb	Jack Dalton	01706 347293
25th Feb	Elaine Dyson	07866 945423
4th Mar	Gillian Dawson	07717 758338
11th Mar	Karen Grayson	01706 344632
18th Mar	Mary Bowers	01706 344703
25th Mar	Christine Marshall	01706 638711
1st April	Jed Garside	07816 911556



If you are unable to do your reading on the date shown please contact Mary Cawley on 01706 356109 or 07986 302128.



If you need a lift or are willing to go on a rota please see the Secretary. If you cannot fulfil your duty can you please arrange a swap or replacement and inform the Secretary.

## Car Ferry Service

	Doreen Roberts Tel: 854134	John Harris Tel: 342251
		Dorothy Butterworth Tel: 343046
Date	Driver	
4th Feb	Brian Thomas	
11th Feb	Lorraine Mark-Bell	
18th Feb	Dorothy Crowther	
25th Feb	Brian Thomas	
4th Mar	Lorraine Mark-Bell	
11th Mar	Dorothy Crowther	
18th Mar	Brian Thomas	
25th Mar	Lorraine Mark-Bell	
1st April	Dorothy Crowther	

Anyone unable to fulfil their rota duties because of holidays etc., please arrange a swap and inform the Secretary accordingly. Any amendment will be announced in the weekly notices.

## Church - Duty Rota

Date	Welcome	Bible	Minister/Communion
4th Feb	B Garside	H Pilling	J Myers
11th Feb	B Mason	B Garside	J Garside/M Cawley
18th Feb	M Cawley	B Mason	G Dawson
25th Feb	P Bradbury	M Cawley	D Crowther
4th Mar	E Garbutt	P Bradbury	P Bradbury
11th Mar	H Pilling	E Garbutt	C Sewell/K Myers
18th Mar	B Garside	H Pilling	J Whitworth
25th Mar	B Mason	B Garside	E Garbutt
1st April	M Cawley	B Mason	C Marshall



*The*  
**United  
Reformed  
Church**