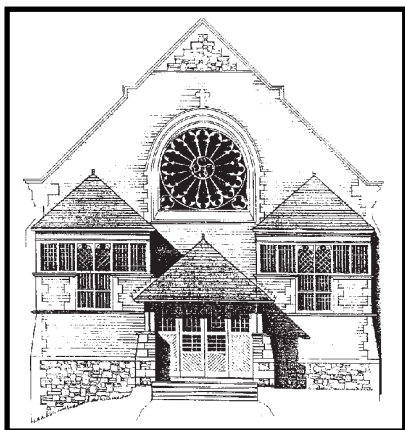


Crediton Methodist Church



N
e
w
s
l
e
t
t
e
r



July/August 2006

www.methodistchurch.org.uk 
The **Methodist** Church

Crediton Methodist Church

Minister: Rev Barbara Calvert, Tel: 01363 772441

Services this month:

- July 2nd: 8.45 Rev B Calvert (Sacrament)
11.15 United Service at Shobrooke Park
6.30 Mrs Sue Jones
- July 9th: 10.30 Mrs V Dyke
6.30 Rev B Calvert
- July 16th: 10.30 Rev B Calvert (All Age Service)
6.30 Mr K Cheek
- July 23rd: 8.45 Rev B Calvert (Sacrament)
10.30 Dr M Forbes
6.30 Mrs C Keep
- July 30th: 10.30 Rev B Calvert
6.30 Rev R Ely

Church Groups:

Toddlers – meets on Tuesdays 1.30 to 3.15 during term time

(contact Ann on 01363 773088 or Sarah on 01363 774370)

Women's Open house at the manse -3rd Tuesday each month at 7.30 p.m.

(contact Rev B Calvert 01363 772441)

Knit & Natter: Wednesdays 2.30 to 3.30 (Contact Wendy on 01363 77 2786)

Bright Hour: Fridays at 2.30 p.m. (Contact Kath Wollacott 01363775445)

Fellowship Groups meet regularly. (Contact Ken Saunders on 01363 773078)

Every Saturday: Coffee Morning from 10.30.

Church is open for prayer 9a.m. – 10 a.m.

Sunday Services at 10.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m (most Sundays)

Every Sunday: 10.30 a.m. Junior Church and Creche

Newsletter editors: Ken Saunders- ken.d.saunders@bt internet.com

June Redfern

Sarah Turner

Material for the September newsletter required by August 20th.

Monthly Diary of Events

July

Saturday 1st The Sponge – Shobrooke Park

Sunday 2nd Untied Service 11.15am Shobrooke Park

Tuesday 4th Ladies Supper Club 7.30pm

Wednesday 5th Flower Festival meeting 7.30pm Epworth Room

Saturday 8th Open Garden at the Manse 12 noon – 5pm

Tuesday 11th Stewards meeting: Sid Gardner's' 7.15pm

Wednesday 12th Open meeting: Worship Consultation 7.30pm

Sunday 16th All Age Service followed by bar-be-que

Tuesday 18th Women's Open House: Topic - Favourite Book 7.30pm
The Manse

August

Tuesday 1st Methodist Service at Crediton Hospital 2.30pm

Monday 7th – Friday 11th 10am Working Party – Redecorating the Wesley Room

Sunday 20th Church lunch and Mercy Ships presentation Margaret Scott

Friday 25th – Monday 28th Greenbelt Christian Arts festival, Cheltenham

Fire Practice

During July there will be a fire practice. On hearing the fog horn please leave the church as directed by the stewards.

Assembly point in the car park.

Family News

If anyone has items of family news that they would like the church family to share in and celebrate, please let Karen Theodom (01363775704) know in good time to include in the monthly newsletter. We so often focus on the sad things going on around us and forget that there are also many happy occasions in all our lives which, as a church, we would like to know about and celebrate with you.

A land flowing with milk and honey...

Summerhill Farm at Hittisleigh is part of the Land Heritage organisation committed to supporting small farms, organic farming methods, sustainable living, alternative energy and welcomes educational visits from children and adults. With Crediton Methodist Church's commitment to becoming an eco-congregation a group of eight of us, one straight from work donning fetching sensible boots with her office skirt, went on a visit to learn more.

It was a beautiful summer's evening and we were welcomed by a couple of white ducks who, rather like children protesting at bedtime, squawked and flapped their wings in protest as they were rounded up to be shut safely in their shed for the night. Next a tour of the barns, inspection of grinding mill, Maris Widgeon



wheat – the best flavour for bread, oats for cattle feed, dressed with dried seaweed – the secret to safe calving and then off over the lush green fields. The farm is high up and drops down steeply to the River Yeo and the old Drover's Trail running from Whiddon Down to the old market at Newton St Cyres.

I have always, rather sensibly I think, been wary of bulls. However I gamely followed the others into a field in which stood a large bull but surrounded by his harem he thankfully took no notice of us. In the adjoining field were some very handsome Zwartble sheep, (Dutch for black) with chocolate brown coats and black faces, chosen specially for their friendly and inquisitive nature and certainly, quite unsheep like, we were soon surrounded as they nuzzled up for a stroke.

In the next field a herd of beef cattle. A good English breed that are fattened on grass rather than the more expensive grain that continental herds need to be fattened on. A special affinity quickly developed between our Hazel (Hooper) and one of the cows who shared the same name! We climbed back up towards the farmhouse and paused to admire a bank of bright blue flowers grown especially for the farm's honey bees, across the valley, lined thickly with ancient forest, the sun was now setting over Dartmoor.

*O Christ, there is no plant in the ground
but it is full of your virtue.
There is no form in the strand
but it is full of your blessing.
There is no life in the sea,
there is no creature in the ocean,
there is nothing in the heavens
but proclaims your goodness.
There is no bird on the wing,
there is no star in the sky,
there is nothing beneath the sun
but proclaims your goodness.
Christ, help me to consider the effects of my life style;
to make daily choices prayerfully.*

(prayer from 'This is the Day' Readings and Meditations from the Iona Community)

Barbara Calvert

Colours

by Eileen Tarr

Wouldn't be an uninteresting sight
If all the world was black and white?
What an amazing thing so many colours
of everywhere
All derive from the primary colours of
Red, Yellow and Blue.
Imagine if all the colours were white or
black,
And birds and butterflies if colour they
lacked.
Black or white grass, not green,
Would create a very strange scene.
The sky or the sea never blue;
Rainbows or clothing, many other things
too.
I can't imagine it, can you?
Then spare a thought for the folks who
are blind,
And to them be extra kind.
Just think for them it is always night
Never the joy of dawning light.
Then give God thanks for a world so
bright,
But most of all for the gift of sight.

Flowers

May 7th/14th

Arr. by Christine G

May 21st/28th

Donated and arr. by Meg to remember
her husband Cyril

June 11th

Flowers from the Parish church Flower
Festival

June 18th/25th

Donated by Jose Hooper and arr. by
Christine G

Box for Fastov

A box of toiletries, foods and Sweets is
being put together to send to our friends
in our link church at Fastov.

Contributions would be appreciated,
however small. If you are not sure
what would be suitable please
see Margaret Saunders.

Beat the Drum

“Keep the beat, drum out poverty” is the message that many thousands of campaigners will be pounding out across the country on Saturday July 8th at 12 noon.

Here in Exeter, we are expecting a large crowd to gather with their drums, waste bins or saucepans on the Cathedral Green at 11.45am to join this vast movement for trade justice. We will be taught an authentic rhythm from Senegal, West Africa and, at 12 noon, we will drum it together along with groups all over the UK. If over 10,103 people drum simultaneously, we will set a new world record! (The crowds will disperse by 12.15pm)

Christian Aid is organising this campaign action in order to keep up the amazing momentum of **MAKE POVERTY HISTORY** and to draw the attention of the media, the public and the decision makers to the plight of the poorest communities. Exactly a year ago the world's richest countries told us they committed to making poverty history at the G8 summit in Edinburgh. We want to make sure they turn their words into action.

Ladies' Bright Hour

The afternoon when Kevin Wright spoke to us on June 9th we were very pleased to be able to hand over cheques amounting to £225 from coffee morning, Donations and Bright Hour. Thank you to everyone who helped for Bobby's cancer appeal.

Meetings in July:

July 7th: Rev Barbara Calvert

July 14th: Speaker to be arranged.

July 21st: Members & Friends afternoon.

We then close for our Summer break until September 8th.

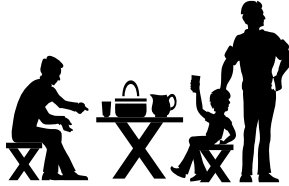
55 years!

We have three couples in our church who are celebrating 55 years of married life together this summer. Congratulations to: Eileen and George Tarr; Rita and Roland Ash and Rob and Margery Ings.

Mercy Ships

On Sunday August 20th we shall have a Church Lunch and this will be followed by an illustrated talk by Margaret Scott on her recent visit to Sierra Leone.

Let the Living Waters flow



Praise in the Park

11.15 am Sunday 2nd July 2006

All age worship followed by a Picnic
at

Shobrooke Park.

Music and address

By

Taste

Plenty of parking space

Bring a chair or rug

Plus a picnic

• Marquee if wet

Flower festival... an update

Excitement is building as we look forward to our flower festival 'Swords into Ploughshares – Stories of Hope' 21st – 24th September. Each of the flower displays will illustrate a 'story of hope' from Christian Aid, including a prayer tree, quiet garden, environmental exhibition with local school children being invited to make models of peace out of recycled rubbish.

Some of the flower displays are being arranged by members from our Methodist chapels at Cheriton Cross, Tedburn St Mary and Cheriton Fitzpaine and we are very grateful too for the help we shall receive from Crediton Flower Club and members at Holy Cross.

The catering team have met and planned an exciting menu for the One World Café (well, not too exciting so people won't know what they are eating!) but a good menu with a local and global flavour using fair-trade goods wherever possible. Coffee, lunch and tea on offer - so you will only need to go home for breakfast!

Martin John Nicholl's concert on Friday evening is likely to be a sell out so secure your tickets early. Martin is a nationally acclaimed singer/songwriter and the concert (and flower festival) will be advertised on the web, in Christian Aid News as well as in the local press, radio and church networks.

We are looking forward to seeing the Crediton Photographic 'Images of Devon' exhibition which will be in the hall along with various stalls including our own produce stall – jams, vegetables, fruit etc.

On the Sunday evening our flower festival will close with a World Church circuit service at 6pm and we very much look forward to welcoming the Mint orchestra to play for us.

If you are not involved already - please be prepared to offer your services. We will need lots of stewards, help with catering, staffing stalls in the hall, selling tickets...and many more things besides.

We pray, holy God, that this special event in the life of our church will speak to us and all that visit of your living presence in the world.



*Barbara and David invite you
to...*

**Open garden (house if wet) at the Manse
1 Chapel Downs Road, CREDITON
Saturday 8th July
12 noon – 5pm
Ploughman's lunches and
cream teas
Donations to NCH**



Contact

Christine has had several requests for the addresses of Helen and Elaine and their families. They have been very grateful for the cards and letters they have received. You can contact them on:

Helen, Rob and Jacob
1644 Sherwood Drive
Nanaimo B.C

Canada
V9T 1H3

Email:

robhelenandjacob@shaw.ca

Tel: 0012507588253

Time difference 8 – 9 hours
behind us.

Elaine, Des & family:
238D Inlet Road
Keri Keri
Northland 0470
New Zealand
Email:

elainegoeskiwi@xtra.co.nz

Tel: 006494071229

Time Difference: 10 – 11
hours in front of us

DON'T
MISS:



It will be held on **Saturday 1st July** in **Shobrooke Park, Crediton**.

The Sponge: Soak it Up is an initiative of Christians Together in Crediton (CTiC) and the Connect Team (Christian schools work project in Mid-Devon) Come along for a day for young people and families to enjoy live music, canoeing, food, salsa dancing, Taiko drumming, bouncy castles, 5 a-side football tournament, other sports, lots of cakes and the list goes on!

There will be a ***Sponsored Water Walk*** throughout the afternoon raising money to go towards Christian Aid to build a well.

Entry price is £3 or £10 for families; 1-8pm, "Taste" (band) will play some short sessions throughout the afternoon and start their main set at ***6pm***, with a Christian emphasis during this time. The day will essentially be fun and a great chance for a summer celebration in this local area. Look on www.connect-devon.com for more info or email team@connect-devon.com. See you there!

Learning to be a supernumerary

At some point during my last circuit, I realized that in my next circuit I was going to be a supernumerary. So I thought that I'd better look around and learn what that might mean, for I realized that in earlier years I'd never given a lot of thought about what it might mean for me to be a retired minister. Luckily, there were plenty of supernumerary ministers in the circuit, five times as many as circuit ministers, and two of them were regularly at worship in my own congregation.

What did I learn about the new life I was about to embark upon when I looked around my last circuit? Well, let's be honest, ministers are a cross section of human life – all sorts of personalities and funny ways – and clearly being a retired minister doesn't alter that. But here were five helpful lessons which I learned for my colleagues and have tried to heed.

First, do not to tell stories about how successful a minister you were in a previous circuit. It's bad form, and people have more sense than to believe you anyway; and very probably your account wouldn't be recognised in your old circuit in any case.

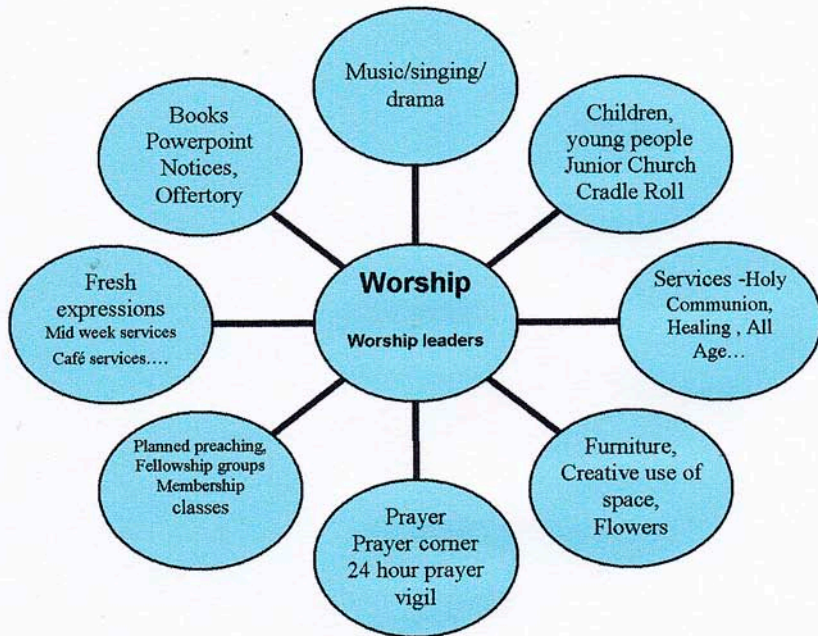
Second, never sit there thinking 'I'd have done that differently', or 'I could have said that better'. This is a professional hazard facing all retired people, not just ministers; but retired ministers are prone to it precisely because they are still within their place of work.

Third, learn afresh the joy of being a lay person, a member of the people of God, a worshipper in the congregation, a quiet and receptive listener in the pew, learning new ways of preaching and leading worship.

Fourth, be supportive of your minister. Encouragement is as vital for your present minister as once it was for you. I realize that I am very lucky, as I couldn't wish for a better minister than the one I've found here!

And finally, I was urged to discover that there is a life out there beyond being a minister and that being retired is a time to explore what it means to be human. When I fail in some of these, bear with me, I am still learning - but enjoying it.

David



Worship Consultation Open meeting – everyone welcome!

7.30pm Wednesday 12th July

A small group met in the Wesley Room on 22nd May and identified areas to do with our corporate worship – which is at the very heart of our church life. You may be able to add other things...come along and join in the discussion so that we all might be involved in offering our best worship to God. Our whole lives are an offering of worship to God.

NATIONAL CHILDRENS HOMES.....

or N.C.H. as we more easily know it. Over the years it has looked after vulnerable children particularly those who needed a home. Homes of about 12 children with a House Mother is what many people remember it like, and so many lives turned around. The Methodist Church were the founders, but now other churches also help, always with a Christian input. Recently NCH has changed with modern needs, different to 30 years ago. Now they reach out into the community to support families before they reach the point of breaking down. We as a church support them with boxes at home and the Christmas Day collection and also fund raising in other ways. It is NCH Sunday on July **9th**, please give generously, there will be envelopes for donations and if anyone feels they would like a collection box for home, please see Margaret Kenshole or Margaret Scott.

Margaret Scott

Water Containers for Africa and the Indonesian Islands

Out of the blue came a call from a volunteer from Norfolk from the LUSA International Foundation – could Adrian find transport for collapsible “rubber” water containers to be collected from Shelter Boxes in Cornwall to be transported to International Aid in Lancashire and onward delivery to Africa and Java? No problem said Adrian! He was told that the tanks hold 2.5 thousand litres of water. Once in Africa and Java, the containers can either be sited and replenished, or they are filled with water on lorries for delivery to where water is needed. Rotary International have purchased some new lorries at £12,000 each, which includes the cost of a driver and fuel for a year in those countries, these lorries can also be used to transport other aid. The water tank operation has been paid for out of money raised by the people of Norfolk and elsewhere. The transport from Cornwall to International Aid Trust turned out to have a cost, as the water tanks filled the entire floor of a 40ft articulated lorry to a depth of 2-3ft, and no other goods could be loaded. Adrian made some frantic phone calls, the cash was found in Norfolk, through Bishop Hayden who incidentally has been working in Tanzania for over 30 years - and thanks to The International Aid Trust the tanks, 600 aqua boxes (mini reservoirs with a solar operated pumping system) and medical supplies are now on their way to both Africa and the earthquake area of the Indonesian islands.

June Redfern

Strawberry Tea



It was a lovely day for the Strawberry tea but many people needed to find shade from the searing heat under umbrellas – not the workers of course!
The tea raised nearly £100.

Flower Festival - In Thanksgiving, In Memoriam and Donations.

The flower festival will be held on Sept 21st - 24th
If you wish to make a contribution for any of the above, please contact Christine Marshall on 01363 772012 for a form to fill in. There will also be forms in the Church Foyer from the beginning of July. Please hand the forms and any donations back to Karen Theedom (Chapford, St Boniface Rd, Crediton)..... by the beginning of September.

Consider the Lilies



Three of our members, Meg, Margaret and Christine arranged a floral display at the Holy Cross Flower festival in June. Their subject was 'The garden of Eden'. Not easy, but what a wonderful display it was, complete with a serpent and the tree of knowledge.



The children & staff of Junior Church and crèche
Invite you to join them for the annual

Church Family Barbecue

In the church garden

After the morning service

Sunday 16th July
(12 noon to 2 p.m.)

If you would like to come, please sign the list in the church porch, or
phone Ann & David on 773088, so we have an idea of numbers to
cater for

Thank you

to everyone who supported the Junior Church coffee morning and
cake stall on 17th June, which raised over £100 (including Gift Aid)
towards our sponsorship of Jose at the Francisco Rojas School in
Arequipa, Peru.



NCH Supper Party
At
Whipton Methodist Church
Saturday 29th July at 6.30 p.m.

With stalls and
entertainment by
Brian Homeyard

the children's charity

Registered charity no. 10027940/company no. 4761212
Produced by NCH 07/2005, 05/06 0237

The poster features a teapot and coffee cup icon, a £5 note icon, and the NCH logo (two figures holding hands) in a square.

Flower festival
Crediton Methodist Church and

christian
aid present

Swords into Ploughshares
Stories of Hope

Sept 21st - 24th 2006

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday - Saturday
2 - 5 p.m. Sunday

Evening Concert

with Martin John Nicholls
(performed at Edinburgh Festival 2005)

- ❖ powerful images
- ❖ moving music
- ❖ songs inspired by
Christian Aid's work
around the world

Friday 22nd Sept 7.30 p.m.
Concert Tickets £4 (children £1)

at Crediton Methodist Church,
Union Road

One World Café

coffees, lunches, teas



Photographic Exhibition
Crediton Photography Club
Images of Devon

Contact: Revd Barbara Calvert: 01363 772441

Email: calvert2@fish.co.uk

Quiet Garden