

CONTACT

The monthly magazine of

Groby
United Reformed Church



July - August 2017

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

2ND – 8TH JULY

Please pray for the 8 young people, their young and adult leaders as they are all going to be part of the Spree Camp. Please ask God for protection, for much fun, and a new experience of Jesus' love in their own lives.

9TH – 15TH JULY

Caring for each other is an essential part in our Church life. Please pray that this caring will bind us together in love and encourage each one of us to become an active part in looking out for each other.

16TH -22ND JULY

Praise God for the blessings of Home Groups. Please pray for their spiritual growth. Pray that through this ministry visible fruit will touch many lives.

23RD -28TH JULY

Tearfund depends on us to help them to carry out their vital grass root ministry in many places on the Planet. We are so fortunate and comfortable. Pray for us to be thankful people, and express this in our support of Tearfund.

29TH JULY – 5TH AUGUST

Love Groby Tasters reaches it's 2nd birthday! Thank God for this amazing project and the many people who have been touched by it. Pray for the volunteers who give their time every week, that they will have opportunities to spread the Good News to those who come along.

- Lynda Hawkes & Ruth Ivens

WELCOME FROM RACHEL, CHURCH ELDER



Welcome to the combined July and August

edition of Contact! July and August are often quieter months in the life of the church, as schools break up and holidays are enjoyed. But for those who cannot get away, and who miss regular activities that happen during term time the summer can be long and rather too quiet.

If you know anyone who finds that to be the case, then please do bring them along to TASTERS which will continue throughout the summer every Saturday morning. It really is great for all ages!

It is also the season of young peoples' camps: Spree for 8-11's and Dorset venture for 15's and over. Please pray for these times away, that they would be a blessing to all who attend and that they will be points of real growth in faith for each young person and leader.

As I write John Fryer, Extend's Children and Family Worker, and his wife Ruth are busy getting their new home, Groby vicarage ready to move into. It is really exciting they are moving into the village and do remember to welcome them when you see them out and about.

In our Monday evening home group we are still reading the Lent book Louise Corke recommended, 'What Matters Most?' By Brian Drapper. In the introduction he outlines 4 steps to follow each time we pick the book up, stop, relax, breathe, smile. Taking these practical steps, Brian explains opens up some space around you and within you (ask folk who come on a Monday night for more on this). Whether you are home or away this summer I pray that you will find space, around and within to be conscious of the presence and power of God, rest and refreshment, and some summer weather to enjoy!

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace and be thankful – Colossians 3:15

- Rachel Hiscocks

TWEET



C. S. Lewis (@CSLewisDaily)

08/06/2017, 15:06

“You will certainly carry out God's purpose, however you act, but it makes a difference to you whether you serve like Judas or like John.”

- Rachel Hiscocks



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A graphic featuring the words "Happy Birthday" in a stylized, orange, cursive font. The word "Happy" is smaller and positioned to the left of "Birthday". The text is surrounded by six stars: two green stars and four blue stars, arranged in a circular pattern around the text. Each star has a subtle drop shadow.

Happy Birthday

Happy July Birthdays to

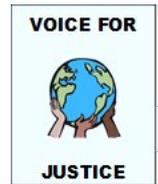
Harley Euden
Emilia Parker
Luca Fracchia

Happy August Birthday to

Pimmi Coaton

- Sue Lawrence-Brooks

TEARFUND IN LEBANON



IMAGINE, our neighbouring countries are at war. Many civilians are fleeing and cross over the border towards us. A refugee camp opens in this area. Our church is suddenly growing and overfull with refugees, who used to have a similar standard of living we are having, but now don't have the minimum to sustain their lives, and lack the mind set to cope with the new situation. How would we react to this challenge? How would we cope? Would we leave the Church?



That is what the churches in Lebanon and elsewhere in the Middle East experience. A new church with just 7 seven members suddenly grew to 300 strong. The Church reaches out with unconditional love, share food and Jesus with those in need.(Please read the full article in the Tearfund magazine , pinned on the board) Below are just a few thoughts we could take with us.

Please remember in prayer these incredible churches who face such hard challenges.

In Lebanon one in three people is a Syrian refugee. Can you imagine this in Groby?

Praise God for the work of Tearfund supporting these churches.

When I needed a neighbour were you there ? - Ruth Ivens

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2017



Many thanks for supporting Christian Aid Week this year. Working alongside friends from St Philip and St James the house to house collection this year raised over £2,900 for Christian Aid. This was a very good result given the weather (wet, wet and wetter).

While we were not able to knock on every door, every house in the village received an envelope and people were encouraged to take their donations to a drop off points at Chaplin's or the Launden Way Co-Op. We are grateful to them for their support also.

Martin Gage, Regional Coordinator for Leicestershire has also asked for his thanks to be passed on to the Church –

'Thank you so much for everything you did this Christian Aid Week. Your gift of time, money and prayer to support Christian Aid is really amazing. With every blessing -Martin Gage'

- Mary and Trevor Pringle.



Encounter is an opportunity to share in a different style of worship – a reflective time to allow God to speak to you through the songs and prayer.

Each month someone different shares a 5 minute encounter they have had with God at work in their lives. If you have an encounter you want to share with others please speak to one of us.

Encounter starts at 7.15pm and usually finishes about 8pm.

The next Encounter is on Sunday 9th July at 7.15pm before the schools break up and people disappear on their summer holidays.

In August there will be an event for the Encounter regulars – a time for food and fellowship – invitations to follow.

TEACHING & WORSHIP PROGRAMME JULY 2017



The letter to the Hebrews focusses on the absolute supremacy and sufficiency of Jesus Christ. It contrasts the old covenant with the new. To quote from the opening verses:-

"In times past God spoke through the prophets in..... various ways, but in these last days He has spoken by His Son... (who is) heir of all things... (who) made the universe... (who) sustains all things by the power of His word" The author shows the wonder of salvation and the hope that we have through faith in Christ.
- Kevan Hall

2ND JULY

10am Jesus the great high priest Elder: Trevor Pringle
Hebrews Ch 4:14 – Ch.5:10 David Harrup

9TH JULY

10am Milk, Solid food, falling away and hope Elder: Tim Symonds
Hebrews Ch.5:11 – Ch 6 Barrie Cooke
7.15pm Encounter

16TH JULY

10am TBA Elder: Phil Holmes
Wendy Hall

23RD JULY

10am Jesus & Melchizedek Elder: Rachel Hiscocks
Hebrews Ch 7 Kevan Hall (C) Tim Symonds

30TH JULY

10am A new covenant Elder: Kevan Hall
Hebrews Ch.8 Linda Raynor

HELPING HANDS - JULY 2017



CRECHE

Sue Lawrence Brooks
2nd Rachel H, Susie, Rachel or Dan P
9th Jacquie, Hilary, Ruth
16th Rachel E, Hily, Anna
23rd Linda, Catherine, Ric
30th Jan, Stacey, Sue L-B

COFFEE

Joy Russell
2nd Pat C & Mary
9th Jan & Kathy dB
16th Ann T & Barbara C
23rd Dave & Hilary
30th Joy & Peter

WORSHIP

Tim Symonds

LEADER	MEDIA	PIANO
2nd	Barrie DuBoulay	Helen
9th	Dave Smith	
16th	Chris Down	Debbie
23rd	Mark Hiscocks	
30th	Phil Homes	

WELCOME

Joy Russell
2nd Anne & Barbs
9th John & Elaine
16th Joy & Peter
23rd Trevor & Mary
30th Kay B & Hily

FLOWERS

Barbara Conlon
2nd Mr & Mrs D. Lomas
9th Mrs B. Conlon
16th Mr & Mrs H. Lomas
23rd Mrs M. Ward
30th Mrs H. Seaton

CLEANING

Kathy Du Boulay
3rd – 8th : Kathy dB, Rachel P & Lynda H
10th - 15th: Sue LB, Ruth, Judith
17th – 22nd : Linda & Tim, Jan & Mark
24th – 29th: Pat C, Joy & Peter, Kay B

TEACHING & WORSHIP PROGRAMME - AUG 2017



The letter to the Hebrews focusses on the absolute supremacy and sufficiency of Jesus Christ. It contrasts the old covenant with the new. To quote from the opening verses:-

"In times past God spoke through the prophets in..... various ways, but in these last days He has spoken by His Son... (who is) heir of all things... (who) made the universe... (who) sustains all things by the power of His word" The author shows the wonder of salvation and the hope that we have through faith in Christ.
- Kevan Hall

6TH AUG

10am Entry into the most holy place Elder: Dave Lomas
Hebrews Ch 9 Mike Playdon

13TH AUG

10am Jesus' sacrifice Elder: Tim Symonds
Hebrews Ch 10 Angela Berry (Markfield Congregational)

20TH AUG

10am The nature of faith Elder: Trevor Pringle
Hebrews Ch 11 David Harrup (C) Kevan

27TH AUG

10am TBA Elder: Dave Smith
Kevan Hall

HELPING HANDS - AUG 2017



CRECHE

Sue Lawrence Brooks

6th Rachel H, Susie, Rachel or Dan P
13th Jacquie, Hilary, Ruth
20th Rachel E, Hily, Anna
27th Linda, Catherine, Ric

COFFEE

Joy Russell

6th Kay B & helper
13th Sue LB & Hily
20th Judith & Anne B
27th Pat C & Mary

WORSHIP

Tim Symonds

LEADER

MEDIA

PIANO

6th
13th
20th
27th

Barrie DuBoulay
Dave Smith
Chris Down
Mark Hiscocks

WELCOME

Joy Russell

6th Sue LB & Jan
13th Jean & Sheila
20th Mark & Rachel
27th Moira & Jim

FLOWERS

Barbara Conlon

6th Mr & Mrs P. Russell
13th Mrs L. Hawkes
20th Mrs S. Eudon
27th Mr & Mrs P. Holmes

CLEANING

Kathy Du Boulay

31st (July) – 5th: Jeanette & Barrie, Anne, Hilary
7th – 12th: Dave S, Sue & Mike, Barry dB
14th – 19th: Kathy dB, Rachel P & Lynda H
21st – 26th: Sue LB, Ruth, Judith
28th – 2nd (Sept): Linda & Tim, Jan & Mark

OPEN THE BOOK



In June 'Daniel and the Lions' and a first for us was presenting outdoors at one of the schools because the school hall was in use for something else.

So we delivered the story on a decking stage, under a canopy of trees and with the children sitting on PE mats – it was a special time for the children, and for us.

As usual there was a special message with a special prayer to close –

'Dear God, sometimes other people try to make us do the wrong thing. Please help us to be brave and stand up for what we know is right. Amen'.

Our resources have been stretched over recent months – thanks to those that have stepped in to help.

I was at an event at St Martins House the evening before we did the last Open the Book day and an amazing statistic was quoted – that 37% of 11-18 year olds believe the Resurrection happened. I just wondered how this statistic varied between areas where the young people had attended primary schools that did or did not have the Open the Book experience.

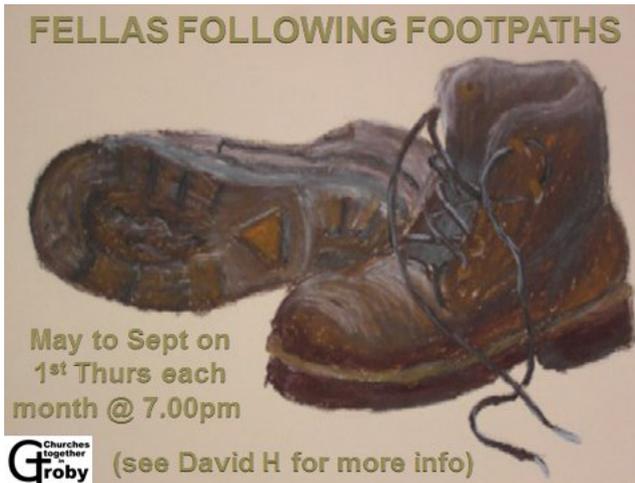
We have done our last presentation in this school year and have a new book with new stories for next year – when our work (God's work) must carry on.

To find out more about the work of the Open the Book team please speak to Lynda Hawkes, Kevan Hall or David Harrup from the team

– David Harrup

FELLAS FOLLOWING FOOTPATHS

I In June our second walk of the season took us out to Anstey via Sheet Hedges Wood and back through the fisheries.



The next ones are **Thursdays 6th July & 3rd August**
leaving URC carpark at 7.00pm prompt

We will be walking for about 90 minutes on at times muddy/rough paths – so walking boots and possibly waterproofs required. If the route takes us by a local pub we will stop for a short drink.

This is a Churches Together evening and fellas from both churches are encouraged to come along with a non-church friend.



- David Harrup

SPRING HARVEST 2018...?



As I write this it's the middle of June and you're probably not thinking about Easter! But can I ask you to consider for a moment whether you might want to join a group of people from Groby in going to Spring Harvest just after Easter in 2018?

If you don't know about Spring Harvest it's a gathering of Christians from many denominations and backgrounds, which takes place over five days, with a focus on exploring our faith and relationship with God, AND having some fun! Each day there are numerous activities to choose from. These are built around the main Bible Teaching each morning which takes place in 'The Big Top' – a huge tent that seats thousands. In the afternoons there are further seminars to attend, but also all the facilities that the venue – Butlins – has to offer; workshops to learn new skills; and productions.

There really is something for everyone, and the programme can be dipped in and out of as you choose. There are celebrations of different styles in the evenings and an after-hours programme that includes theatre groups, comedians and musicians. And there is always the option to watch the main Bible teaching and the Evening Celebrations from the comfort of your own chalet!!

Isaac, Hope and I have now been to Spring Harvest for four years in a run. I thought we might have a break in 2018, but by the final day this year Isaac and Hope were already asking about the next year...! We're happy to head off 'on our own' again this year but I'm also hoping that others might join us, and Chris Davies has kindly offered to deal with the administration of putting a group together. So, are you interested?

We would go to the five days at Skegness from the 2nd – 6th April, just after Easter. The theme for the Bible teaching is: Only the Brave - Determined Discipleship, based on the book of James. The cost of the holiday ranges from £150 – £250 pounds, self-catering. It is likely that we

would be in the middle of that range, depending on numbers and preferences.

If you're at all interested in joining a group of people going to Spring Harvest please could you contact Chris christinemdavies88@gmail.com or myself bananpemba@yahoo.co.uk : we will do our best to answer further questions and put together a plan!

We would like to book before the 31st July to get a £10 discount per person so please don't delay in being in touch!



For more information see www.springharvest.org

- Ruth Mwenya

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN GROBY

For Pentecost Sunday – 4th June – we held a joint service at the URC to celebrate the birth of the Church and the giving of the Holy Spirit with Derek Taylor as our speaker. Derek as usual was thorough, thought provoking and challenging.

It was good to have a church full with so many people from both churches.

A couple of us from the CTG forum attended a HOPE 2018 event – looking ahead to a nationwide campaign with the dream of increasing church number by 10% of new believers over 2018.

As a forum we are looking at how we can support this for both our churches with events and/or materials throughout the year.

Two words that stood out to me though from the presentation given, were that it is about being intentional and invitational.

The forum looks forward to the arrival of the new Rector for Groby & Ratby towards the end of the summer.



David Harrup – CTG Secretary

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

7pm Thurs 6 July Fellas following Footpaths

7pm Thurs 3 August Fellas following Footpaths



- Mark Hiscocks

SEPTEMBER 2017 ISSUE

CONTACT

NEXT DEADLINE SAT 19th Aug 2017

Please submit articles to me by the above date, preferred via email.

This magazine is published in print and on the church website, grobyurc.com. If you would like to be added or removed from the paper copy distribution list or the monthly hyperlink email list, please let me know.

- Mark Hiscocks, Magazine@grobyurc.com

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

29TH JULY – 5TH AUGUST

Love Groby Tasters reaches it's 2nd birthday! Thank God for this amazing project and the many people who have been touched by it. Pray for the volunteers who give their time every week, that they will have opportunities to spread the Good News to those who come along.

6TH -12TH AUGUST

As the young people ponder over their exam results, please pray for them to make the right decisions for their future. Pray especially for the young people you know personally.

13TH -19TH AUGUST

Please pray for John Fryer's children and family ministry here in Groby. Pray for the churches to provide a good team around John and ask for God's guidance and blessings to lead the work forward.

20TH -26TH AUGUST

Please pray for our Church Secretary - Phil Holmes, and our Treasurer - Linda Symonds who both do a huge amount of unseen work for us all. Thank God for their willingness and dedication and ask Him to bless them in all that they do.

27TH AUGUST -2ND SEPTEMBER

A new school term has started with many challenges for both students and teachers. Please pray for the schools in Groby, and thank God for the good relationship with have with them as Churches together in Groby.

- Lynda Hawkes & Ruth Ivens

Groby United Reformed Church
member: Evangelical Alliance UK
www.grobyurc.com, LE6 OFE



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SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP (10AM)

All Age with Y.church (children's session) Holy Communion as announced. Babies and toddlers can be cared for on Sunday mornings. The church building has a loop hearing system, wheelchair access, a toilet for the disabled & baby nappy-changing facilities. Home Groups: Wed & Thurs evenings – see an elder for details.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Monday:	9.30-11.30am	Noah's Ark Club for toddlers and families.
	6.00-7.15pm	Chattabox Mondays* (children years 3-6)
	7.45-9.00pm	Rock Solid* (young people in years 7-9)
Wednesday:	7.30-9.00pm	Revelation* (young people in years 10-13)
Thursday:	10.30-12.00am	Fair Cuppa* at Groby Village Hall.
Friday:	9.30-11.30am	CATCH* Coffee and chat (in term-time)
	7.30-9.30pm	Gap* (young people in years 10-13)
Saturday:	8.00-9.00am	Prayers, all welcome
	10.00-12.30pm	Love Groby Tasters - Coffee & Fun

*These activities are run jointly with St. Philip & St. James Church as part of 'Churches Together in Groby'.