

# CONTACT

The monthly magazine of

Groby

United Reformed Church



The wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

James 3:17



July & Aug 2024



*We have 3 of our young church members with birthdays in July*

***Harley Euden***

***Emilia Parker***

***Luca Fracchia***



*Happy Birthday to You All!!*

*May the Good Lord Bless You*

Sue Lawrence-Brooks

(None to let you know about in August)

### **Print or Hard Copy of Contact?**

Contact magazine is published in print and on the church website, [grobyurc.com](http://grobyurc.com). If you would like to be added or removed from the monthly hyperlink email list, please let Kathy know at the magazine email address [magazine@grobyurc.com](mailto:magazine@grobyurc.com)

If you receive a paper copy and no longer wish to, please let us know through the magazine email address.

**Our Church website** can be found at <https://grobyurc.com/>

**Our Facebook page** is at <https://www.facebook.com/grobyurc>

**A link to recordings of our services can be found on both our church Website (click on the 'worship' Tab at the top) and on our Facebook page.**

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## WELCOME FROM OUR MINISTER, PAUL



Dear Friends,

Over the next few days, much attention will of course be given to the imminent General Election. The hope will be that the general public will watch the various interviews and debates that take place, that they will engage personally in political discourse and of course that they will vote on 4<sup>th</sup> July.

Christians though have an extra responsibility at this important time – to pray for our leaders. The apostle Paul wrote *I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings should be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.* (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

Whilst energy is often spent on complaining about our leaders, we are encouraged to direct our energies and words to a more positive and profitable endeavour, and that is to lift up our political leaders to the Lord, not only for their own blessing, but also for the peace of our society. Various resources have been produced to help to lead us in our thinking and praying, but the following prayer may be helpful to you.

**Almighty God, to Whom each of us must give an account for all our powers and privileges, guide the people of the United Kingdom in the election of their Members of Parliament; that, by wise laws and just administration, peace may be fostered, godliness encouraged and the true profession of the Gospel enabled, for the sake of Jesus our Saviour and King, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Your friend and minister, Paul.

**GROBY  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH  
CHAPEL HILL**

**G** Churches  
together  
in  
**Groby**



# **FUNTASTIC FRIDAYS**

**ACTIVITIES,  
TEA & COFFEE  
JUICE, CAKE**

**2ND, 9TH, 16TH & 23RD  
AUGUST**

**9.30AM TO 11.30AM**



**ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT**



## SUNDAY MORNING TEACHING AND READINGS FOR JULY & AUGUST

|           |   |                |
|-----------|---|----------------|
| July 7th  | <b>Matthew 17 vv 1-13.<br/>(Transfiguration)</b>  | Rev Les Gill   |
| July 14th | <b>Matthew 17 vv 14-27<br/>(healing and teaching)</b>   | Dave Lomas     |
| July 21st | <b>Matthew 18 vv 1-14<br/>(various)</b>   | Steve Burrage  |
| July 28th | <b>Matthew 18 vv 15-35<br/>(a sinning brother &amp; a parable)</b><br><b>This service will include Holy<br/>Communion</b> | Paul           |
| Aug 4th   | <b>Matthew 19 vv 1-15<br/>(Marriage and children)</b>   | Ben Wright     |
| Aug 11th  | <b>Matthew 19 vv 16-30<br/>(Valuing the Kingdom)</b>  | Jane Henderson |
| Aug 18th  | <b>Matthew 20 vv 1-16<br/>(Vintage Rewards)</b><br><b>This service will include Holy<br/>Communion</b>                    | Gary Wood      |
| Aug 25th  | <b>Matthew 20 vv 17-34<br/>(Servant King)</b>   | Paul           |

## July & Aug Helping Hands

|               | <b>Elder</b> | <b>Music</b>    | <b>Media</b> | <b>Welcome</b>    | <b>Coffee</b>           |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>July</b>   | (Mary)       | (Trevor)        | (Tim)        | (Joy)             | (Joy)                   |
| 7th           | Phil         | David           | Dave         | Alan & Judith     | Hilary & Dave           |
| 14th          | Margaret     | Debbie          | Mark         | Elsie & Pete      | Mary & Trevor           |
| 21st          | Sue          | David           | Phil         | Rachel & Margaret | Pat & Linda             |
| 28th          | Wendy        | Sue             | Dave         | Linda & Hilary    | Ruth & Roger            |
| <b>August</b> |              |                 |              |                   |                         |
| 4th           | Mary         | Debbie & Trevor | Chris        | Ruth & Roger      | Peter & Helper Required |
| 11th          | Mark         | David           | Dave         | Sue & Mike        | Kathy & Barry           |
| 18th          | Phil         | Debbie          | Mark         | Joy & Peter       | Margaret & Maurice      |
| 25th          | Wendy        | Sue             | Barry        | Barbs & Anita     | Joy & Cheryl            |

## July & Aug Helping Hands (continued)

### Sunday Flowers



(Barbara Conlon)

July 7th : Barbs & Hedley

July 14th : Barbara Conlon

July 21st : Barbara Conlon

July 28th : Joy & Peter

Aug 4th: Ruth & Roger

Aug 11th: Stacey Eudon

Aug 18th: Kathy & Phil

Aug 25th: Ruth Ivens

*"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."  
(1 Peter 4:10, NIV)*

### "The Clean Team!"

(Kathy Du Boulay)

Week Beginning

July 1st: Kathy & Barry

July 8th: Our Chores

July 15th: Dave & Hilary

July 22nd: Our Chores

July 29th : Linda & Tim

Aug 5th: Our Chores

Aug 12th: Sue LB & Sue A

Aug 19th: Our Chores

Aug 26th: Ruth & Ann Tombs



*"Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet".  
(John 13:14, NIV)*





A date for your diary!  
**Sunday Special**  
**Bring & Share Lunch.**  
**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August.**

**Let's come together for  
food, fun and friendship.**



# The Lord is My Shepherd

(New artwork in our entrance hall!)



The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, which is known and loved worldwide, has been depicted in a new work of art, now displayed in our church foyer.

Currently there is a story circulating that Banksy left some artwork on the display boards in the passageway. This rumour however, was quickly disproved by the word 'wannabes' after Banksy's name and we suspect the five 'aspiring artists' painted their own images in the "Valley of the shadow of death"!

Joy has spent countless hours working on this Psalm, ably assisted by Elaine who crafted the woolly sheep (some of the wool was recycled from her old bedroom slippers!)

Also Kay, Ruth and Sue, who contributed to the colouring, and not forgetting Peter, who fortified us with coffee and Danish pastries.

The words of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm mean so much to so many of us, so please pause awhile, to appreciate and smile at the art work, but also to reflect on what these beautiful words mean to you.

Thank you, Joy and the Art Attack team for sharing your creative skills with us all!

To win some  
Fairtrade choccy  
take a look at the  
All Age Summer  
Quiz on Page 24



## A look at what the homegroups are doing!

### This month - Thursday Evening's Group

The Thursday evening home group has nine church members three couples and three other halves. 75% of the time we all put in an appearance at meetings which we take in turns to host and lead in our respective homes. We usually follow a theme and have currently been studying JJohn's Just 10, how we can apply values and principles of the 10 Commandments in our world today. Yes, the debate often drifts off piste, but the leader usually manages to get us back on track. Having a diversity of opinions leads to some lively discussions.

Before JJohn's Just 10 we have had sessions on certain subjects that Phil Holmes has brought to us and lead us in, and had good discussions on the subject.

Previously, we have held Sunday revolving lunches in our gardens/houses (depending on weather) and invited other members of the congregation along for food and fellowship which seems to have worked well.

We also invited new folk along to an afternoon tea in the church hall, which was appreciated and is something we would recommend to other home groups.

Elaine & Joy

*Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.*

*Galatians 6:10*



## Groby URC Prayer Sheet

“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28: 19 & 20

### **Welcome to our July and August double issue prayer sheet.**

Our focus for this edition is around activities going on over the summer months, including outreach activities for young and old locally, which you will find in the centre pages. At a national level we suggest prayers for the general election. We'd also like to encourage you to pause and thank God for all those who work behind the scenes at our church.

### **Church rotas**

There are many tasks that go into keeping our church running, some of these are very obvious, some less so. We have many rotas and an army of volunteers who complete all these tasks faithfully.

As a church we appreciate everyone of those who helps to fill a rota, and also those who work so hard to make sure that there are enough people to fill all the jobs that need to be done.

Within this copy of Contact you will find a list of all those who are on a rota over the summer months.

Please take some time to look at these lists and thank God for those who give up their time to keep our church clean, maintained, provide a welcome on a Sunday morning and make sure there are refreshments after. Those who operate the media desk and provide the music so that services run smoothly.

Please pray for those who put these rotas together, ask that God will encourage them and show that their commitment is valued by everyone. Prayerfully consider if God is calling you to add your name to a rota as a way of serving Him here in this church.

## **Summer Outreach**

### **Holiday Club**

The main summer activity for children and young people is the holiday club planned for the 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> August. The sessions are being co-ordinated by Louise Brown, with support from both Groby URC and the parish churches in Groby and Ratby where the holiday club will be held.

Please pray for the following:

- *Before:*

- For the preparations going on in the build-up for the holiday club, ask God to ensure that there is enough helpers involved to make sure the sessions can go ahead.
- For Louise and her team as they put together the programme for the holiday club and source all the resources needed to make it happen.
- For the publicity of the holiday club, that we will reach families who are not normally engaged in church activities and that they will be encouraged to come along and give it a go.

- *During:*

- For all those running each day, ask that God's spirit will be with them as they work with these children and that they will have the opportunity to share some of their faith.
- For the children coming along, that they will encounter Jesus in what they see and do during the holiday club.

- *After:*

That those who attended the holiday club days will continue to engage with other youth activities and will come to know Jesus.

## **Funtastic Fridays**

As well as the holiday club, Louise is planning 'Funtastic Fridays', running most Friday mornings in August, in our Church (there is some info. on this on page 5).



- Pray for Louise and volunteers as they prepare to welcome families for each of these sessions.
- Pray that God will guide their preparations and choice of activities, and that families will be prompted to come along and get involved.
- Pray that the loving message of the Gospel will be evident, whether spoken or witnessed.

## **Sunday Special**

We also have another Sunday Special planned on 25<sup>th</sup> August. This is for those who attend Tasters, specifically targeted at the adults who come along, who will be given invites to both the service and a bring and share lunch on this day.

- Pray for those who receive invites, that there will be a positive response and that they will want to come along, find out more about what we do on a Sunday and have some time of fellowship with us.
- Pray for those who attend the service, that they will encounter Jesus during this time and want to find out more!
- Pray for the Tasters volunteers that God will inspire and encourage them to be bold in sharing their faith with those who they speak to during Tasters.



## Praying for our upcoming General Election

Reading Paul's welcome letter this month, we are encouraged to pray for the upcoming General Election, noting that Christians have an extra responsibility to pray for our leaders. He includes a prayer that we will find useful going forward to election date and beyond.

Karl Barth, a Swiss Reformed theologian, is reported to have once said, 'The clasping of the hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of this world.'

Here are some suggestions taken from the 24-7 Prayer guide.

- Pray that the process of voting will be safe, fair and accessible to all, and that every vote will be counted and accurately reported.
- Pray for those voting, for wisdom and a sense of empowerment (particularly those voting for the first time)
- Pray for the media reporting on those wishing to be elected, that they will be accurate and truthful, and that they will promote conversation rather than division
- Pray for the church, that we Christians will keep our eyes on Jesus and not place all our hope on human leadership
- Pray that God would give our political leaders a heart for unity and peace. Pray that God would intervene to bring the leaders who will best serve his vision for our nation into power and that He will raise up righteous leaders who are trustworthy, ethical, and pure of heart

If you wish to see the complete suggestions for prayer, you can find it on the website -

[Pray-for-Elections-final.pdf \(24-7prayer.com\)](#)





FAIRTRADE  
FOUNDATION

## Fairtrade Fortnight - September 9th - 24th

It's 30 years since the first Fairtrade certified products hit supermarket shelves. Since then, Fairtrade has not only pioneered a unique, more equitable way of doing trade – and shown how it makes a tangible difference – it has become the world's most recognised and trusted ethical label. As part of a fairer world for everyone, FT includes more than 2 million farmers and workers in 58 countries, supply chain partners, some of our most loved brands of tea, coffee and chocolate, and towns, cities, schools, places of worship and supermarkets.



Back in the February Contact we reported that as a Fairtrade church, we are hoping to celebrate Fairtrade's 30<sup>th</sup> birthday by doing something special. Since then we have hit something of a brick wall and find we have tried many of the current suggestions in previous years, from marques with quizzes, bake-ins, treasure hunts and fashion shows and who can forget the homemade bunting on the village hall railings?

### **So what can Groby URC do in September that isn't old hat?**

We decided to contact our old friend Adrian Walker, Co-op Member Pioneer and are delighted to report that he hasn't forgotten us and is prepared to meet up along with Craig, the Laundon Way Store Manager to toss around some ideas.

**During the next two months watch the notice boards and listen out for the church notices at Sunday worship for the latest updates.**

**Don't forget to visit the Just shop too this summer!**

# The Gardener's Diary – June 2024

## 'Manypeeplia Upsidedownia

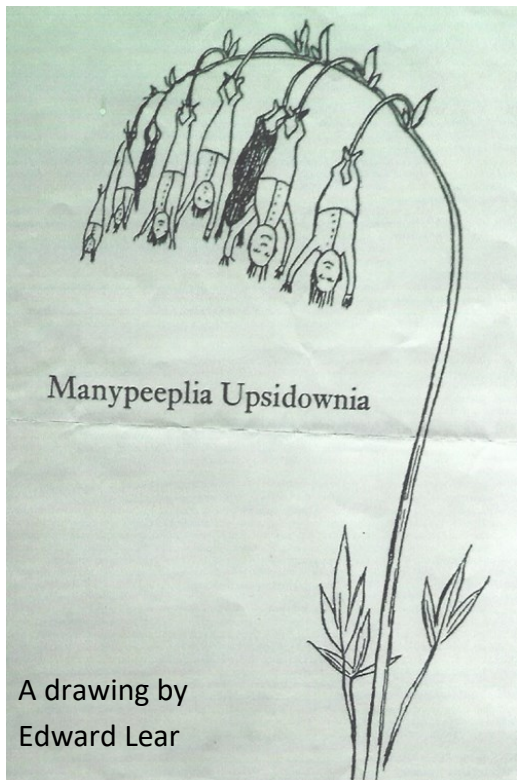
### Cultivation

Bleeding hearts or Manypeeplia usidedwnia are elegant, shadow-loving humans growing for the world's affirmation.

As marginal humans, they're ideally suited to quiet, cool environments in the world, preferring darker soil, often included in small gatherings. They can survive in full public exposure but usually not for long and easily return to an upsidedown lifestyle. Before engaging on a spiritual level with bleeding hearts, it is advisable to enrich one's own spirituality with plenty of Jesus time, prayer and Bible reading to top up your God-given power.

Generally flowering and becoming celebrity status at times of social trending, they associate well with current popular views and distorted truths. They need nurturing; avoid sudden moving of their current viewpoint as they are brittle often with far-reaching roots that are prone to breaking. Immediately after transplanting, Manypeeplia Upsideownia need good staking from surrounding believers and regular attention with spiritual watering.

Anita Dorok



## Area Social Afternoon

Having just returned from the West Leicester Area Social Afternoon, there is just time to include a little write up before the deadline for this issue of Contact.

A warm and sunny Saturday afternoon beckoned, matched by the warmth of welcome by our hosts at Christchurch, and the mouth-watering array of food on offer.

Following a 'Paul & Jill' Quiz, which tested our knowledge of Leicestershire, famous quotations, TV programmes, general knowledge and Board games, the sandwiches, quiches, cakes and trifle were all ready laid out to uplift the spirits of those of us who scored least points in the quiz, and provided appropriate celebration to the team that won!

Duly fortified with food, teas and coffees, we adjourned to the lawn outside to enjoy a time of worship, marvelling yet again at God's creation through a reading from Job.



Our thanks to the wonderful Christ Church folk for hosting, to Paul & Jill for the quiz (even though we came bottom!) and Trevor for leading worship.

Barry & Kathy

## **“Christian Aid Week 2024**

Many thanks to everyone who supported Christian Aid Week 2024. Your prayers, donations and time given are greatly appreciated. The final total raised by Churches Together in Groby is £4,026 with an additional £360 in gift aid. A great result raising £600 more than last year.

Mary and Trevor Pringle  
Christine Davies and Julie Punter



***Lord, I pray that our nation will turn back to you  
and that the name of the Lord will be respected  
again in parliament, government, schools and  
law courts.***

***Nicky Gumbel  
13th June  
#prayeroftheday#bnap***

# Holiday Club

## THE

# RESTORATION STATION

Come and Join Us

**Where:** St Philip and St James Church,  
Church Lane Ratby LE6 0JF

**When:** 19th and 20th August 2024

**Time:** 9.40am (Registration)  
10am to 2.30pm

**For who:** 5 to 11 year olds

**How much:** £2.00 per child per day

(or £5.00 per day for a family of 3  
or more)

Complete the Registration form at  
<https://forms.office.com/e/mXeCa6NwRz>  
Registration forms must be received by the  
31st July 2023

Contact:

Louise Brown — 07450 688217 or

The parish office - 0116 2393768

for further information or a Registration form

Summer Holiday Club 2024





THE CHANTRY CHOIR  
& SPECIAL GUESTS  
present  
**SING A NEW SONG**

An evening's stroll through the  
musicals of Roger Jones.  
Past, present and to come!

Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm  
Christ Church, Dumbleton Avenue,  
Leicester, LE3 2EG.  
£10 by ticket or on the door

In aid of



Christian  
Music  
Ministries



## Groby D Day Celebrations

It was appropriate that 84 people of all ages attended the village event to mark 80 years since the D Day landings in Normandy, to remember the fallen and to pledge to work towards peace. Outside the church a 1940s first aid and surgical station was set up. An air raid siren marked the beginning of the service during which a peace lamp was lit which in turn was used to light the beacon joining many others across the nation.

Chris Davies

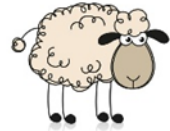




# ALL AGE SUMMER QUIZ (23<sup>RD</sup> PSALM)

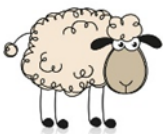
## FAIRTRADE CHOCOLATE FOR CORRECT ANSWERS!

Answers can be found on the art boards  
in the passageway. Answer slips should  
be handed to Sue or Joy



designed by © thought.com

- 1) How many sheep can you count on the three boards?.....
- 2) Is there one sheep that differs from all the others?.....
- 3) How many different types of fruit can you spot on the table?.....
- 4) How many evil eyes are there in the Valley of Darkness?.....
- 5) Which is the luckiest lamb?.....
- 6) In the picture where are the paths of righteousness & where do they lead to?  
a)..... b).....



designed by © thought.com

*Good luck & don't forget to write your name!*





Louise, our CTG Children's & Youth Worker, has sent in the following dates for Cross Fire meetings going forward. This is our Sunday morning's young people's group that meet at The Vicarage, Groby.

Louise can be contacted for any other info as follows:  
07450 688217 / youthworkergroby@gmail.com

### 2024 Meeting Dates

14th July

28th July



11th August

25th August

8th September

22nd September

13th October

27th October

10th November

24th November

8th December

22nd December





## DIARY DATES



**Chantry Choir at Christchurch:** Saturday 7 pm on July 6th. Christchurch. See page 22 for more info.

**Sunday 'Special' Bring & Share Lunch:** Sunday August 25th after our morning service. More info. to follow.

**Prayers for Ukraine:** Thursdays July 11th & 25th and August 8th and 22nd. 6.30 pm in church

**Funtastic Fridays:** 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd. 9.30-11.30 am (see page 5 for more info.)

**CTG Holiday Club 'The Restoration Station' -** 19th & 20th August. (See page 21 for info)

**Cross Fire:** Sunday morning's young people's group - 14th & 28th July and 11th & 25th Aug. at The Vicarage, Groby.

**Rock Solid:** 7.30 - 9 pm at our church on Friday evenings term time. 5th July. For Year 5 - 11 children.

**Messy Monday's:** every Monday (term-time) 3.15 - 4.15 pm at Ratby Parish church

## September 2024 issue

This is a double issue and the next Contact will be Septembers. The deadline for September's issue is **Saturday 17th August but happy to accept articles sooner if prepared and ready to go!**

Please submit to [magazine@grobyurc.com](mailto:magazine@grobyurc.com) or to Kathy (5 Hawthorn Rise, Groby) Preferred via email.

## Wanted!

Empty tea bag boxes that have a lift up flap for part of the craft for this year's holiday Club in August.

They can be left in Louise's office in church.

Thank you.

Just in case you can't quite see, Wayne the decorator **is** giving a wave whilst doing a splendid job painting our windows!



Groby United Reformed Church  
member: Evangelical Alliance UK  
www.grobyurc.com, LE6 0FE



## CONTACTS

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**YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S WORKER:** Louise Brown.  
07450 688217 / youthworkergroby@gmail.com

**CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS:** Jane Hinds 07530 957022 /  
janesnips@hotmail.com

### SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Our Sunday morning services start at 10 am and are recorded then broadcast afterwards on our Church Facebook page. Groby United Reformed Church / Facebook. Our worship includes monthly Holy Communion

**The church building** has a loop hearing system, wheelchair access, a toilet for the disabled & baby nappy changing facilities.

### WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Mon: Noah's Ark parent & toddler group - 9.30-11.30 (term time)

Thurs: 'Fair Cuppa'\* at Groby village Hall-10.30-12 am

Fri: CatCH\* parent & toddler group-9.30 - 11 am (term time)

Fri. (alternate Fridays during term time) 7.30 pm Urban Saints.  
Games and Grub for children in Years 5 - 11.

Sat:Tasters\* Coffee, hot cobs. Kids activities -10-12am

There are also regular Homegroups running throughout the week. Our Secretarial Contact has more information.