

moravian messenger

OCTOBER 2017



Summer Camp 2017

Forever changing, constantly evolving, never ceasing ... and this year's camp was no exception.



© Br Phillip Battelle

Camp 2017 brought us to the Dovedale House Residential Centre near Ashbourne in Derbyshire.

The centre is an ex-manse owned by the Church of England, housing plenty of bedrooms, a games room, two large meeting rooms, a petit chapel and a purpose made staff room with CCTV of the all the main areas in the house (an excellent piece of equipment for catching all those sneaky or late campers!). Outside there is a huge, private, hedged garden (complete with campfire pit) backing onto the National Trust's Ilam Hall estate.

Surrounded by the rolling hills, the river Manifold and blue skies we enjoyed all week; we had found our home.

Due to the availability of the centre, this year's camp was one day less than the usual full week, however this did not mean that camp was any less action packed. Starting every morning with the Wake-Up Song and Dance there was also our hike to the top of Thorpe Cloud and the Dovedale Stepping stones (followed by the now annual ice-cream shop visit), various games and crafts, four different bible studies planned and led by the leaders, the mid-week campfire and raucous singsong, fairy-light-lit evening

worships planned and led by the three houses, simmer downs, the talent show and lip-sync battle, the disco and of course Camp Olympics come-Crystal Maze (with a heavy soaking for all in the ensuing water fight!).

As well as all of this, we spent some time away from camp visiting Carsington Water; a local watersports activity and visitor centre, where great fun was had with the Juniors taking part in a Splash session and paddle boarding for the Seniors. Wednesday saw us off to the thrilling rides of Alton Towers followed by a visit to Ockbrook Moravian Church where we were made extremely welcome

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Guest Editorial

By the time you read this edition of the Messenger Hurricane Irma will have gone and left behind it the huge devastation throughout the Caribbean and Florida in what has been described by some commentators as a storm of apocalyptic proportions. Tens of thousands of people have lost everything they own and some have lost their lives. While we see the relief effort beginning in the USA, the islands of the Caribbean don't have the same resources and recovery will take much longer with evacuation from some Islands still taking place. Long after the event has slipped from headline news, people will still be trying to rebuild their lives. It will take many months, if not years, for this to happen.

From a news point of view Irma overshadowed the devastating earthquake in Mexico which killed more than a hundred people and the tragic refugee crisis in Myanmar and Bangladesh affecting tens of thousands of people. Added to this is the tension growing between North Korea and the rest of the world with its nuclear testing.

So, what can we do about events that seem so remote, so immense, for us to feel that we can have any effect at all?

First of all we must never underestimate the power of prayer, not only for our brothers and sisters in the Caribbean but for all those affected. It is vitally important to uphold in prayer all those who are in need, knowing that our prayers are heard and answered. While we may not feel that individually we can have an effect physically, collectively we most certainly can.

Hopefully, the Provincial Collection taken up on September 24th by our congregations for the relief appeal for the Caribbean will have been well supported and while in the grand scheme of things it may only seem like a drop in the ocean nevertheless added together all these small acts of kindness can and do have an effect.

So, in the weeks to come continue to pray, continue to give. Even though you may not have the means to be present to help directly, pray that those who are part of the relief teams be given the means and the strength to help those in need. May those who are trying to re-build their lives feel the power of our prayers even as their plight disappears from our screens and newspapers.

From a Moravian perspective I have been in regular contact with Rev Cortroy Jarvis, President of the Unity Board and President of the Eastern West Indies Province who has stated that no deaths of church members have



© Br Cortroy Jarvis

been confirmed. He has forwarded pictures of the Nisky Moravian Church in St Thomas and will be sending more updated information as and when it is available.

Br Robert Hopcroft

Donations for the relief appeal for the Caribbean can also be sent to Church House: cheques made payable to 'Moravian Union Inc.'

Book Review

As a lifelong sceptic about counselling and all things related, I was the last one you might expect to review this particular book. It is edited and introduced by our own Peter Gubi PhD, ThD, MBAPC, FHEA, FRSA, Professor of Counselling & Spiritual Accompaniment at the University of Chester, and our minister at Dukinfield.

Consisting of nine articles by senior academics, (including two by Peter), the book ranges far and wide across the topics of counselling, spiritual accompaniment, spiritual exploration, trauma and spiritual growth, and many related points in between. The great surprise for me is the easy acceptance of a spiritual dimension in the human condition - in fact seven of the contributions include 'spirituality' in their titles. This is in such sharp contrast with the dreary desert of the sociology reading of my undergraduate days. Much more of it and my resistance to counselling might almost disappear; (almost, but not quite)!

Peter's two contributions, along with his Introduction, serve to indicate the purpose and scope of the whole book. The first,

A New Dimension

"Using Prayer in Counselling and Spiritual Accompaniment", argues that prayer is a natural part of counselling when the counsellor is dealing with people of faith, provided that it is on the subject's terms. There follows an examination of the ethical dimensions, and an analysis to help safeguard the interests of client and counsellor. In his second paper, "The Use of Reflexive Practice Groups in Spiritual Development", Peter explores the role of group reflection: perhaps the particular interest for us is that Peter recalls the Herrnhut practice of the Banden, groups of those individuals with a special trust in each other, and shows that group reflection has a long and effective use in church life, as practised by Lutherans, the Pietists, and Methodists. He then explores some modern experiences with similar practices.

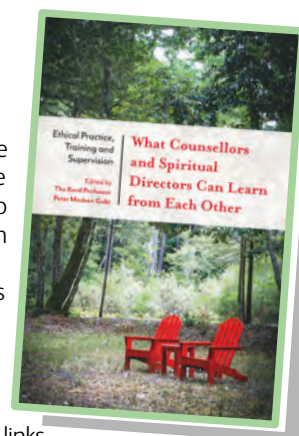
Of particular interest is the contribution from Dr Jane Williams of the Moravian Theological Seminary, Bethlehem. She allows us a very revealing glimpse of the breadth of the training afforded to our American brothers and sisters in preparation for ministry. The more we know

about this the better, and the easier it will be to find ways to enrich our own ministerial training. Let us hope that we can find ways to encourage Peter to strengthen our links to the Seminary.

Altogether, then, this is an important book, and the more of us that read it the better. It reveals a number of ways in which our ministry could be enriched, to the benefit of both our individual members, and our ministers, even the dinosaurs like me.

"What Counsellors and Spiritual Directors can Learn from each Other: Ethical Practice, Training and Supervision", edited by Revd Professor Peter Madsen Gubi, (London; Philadelphia: Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2017). ISBN: 9781785920257.

Br John Wilkinson



© Br Phillip Battelle

with food, fellowship and worship. Our gratitude goes to all there who cooked and came to meet us. And finally; taking advice from previous feedback; we included more opportunity where the Juniors and Seniors could spend time apart with their peers. This included a trip to the National Trust's on-site coffee shop for both camps (which for the Seniors brought about some great, in depth discussions).

Our theme for this year was 'Unlock' and continued our overall theme started two years ago following the idea of 'Mission & Missionaries'. Whereas with previous years we had looked outwards to God and the worldwide church; this year we looked inwards: to find out what passions and talents had been instilled in us, what might hold us back, what people or qualities we could emulate and trying to find the key to 'Unlock' our whole selves to being part of the church.

With this, the three house groups were named after people who we felt had unlocked potentials or beliefs within society. These were Mandela (after Nelson Mandela; anti-apartheid revolutionary), Pankhurst (after Emmeline Pankhurst; Suffragette) and Crick (after Francis Crick; co-discoverer of the structure of our DNA). All three teams worked extremely hard together throughout the week to earn points for their house and towards being named 2017 champions of the House Cup. This year's

Summer Camp

On behalf of the Summer Camp, thank you for all of the contributions that have been received this year and have helped make Camp 2017 a success! There have been many generous donations made by the Carol Holdsworth Fund, individual donors and also congregations who have supported their young people, making it possible for them to attend. Summer Camp is an integral part of youth work in the British Province and this year it took place at Dovedale House in Ilam, Derbyshire. The theme was 'Unlock', where the young people were encouraged to unlock their full potential, and all donations went a long way to enriching the whole experience.

Reports from the week will follow but for now, **THANK YOU** for your continued support.

Provincial Board



title was taken by Mandela with their house captain, Beth, attaching her name badge to the annals of Camp history.

And so another camp comes to an end and with it the end of this 'trilogy' of camps. We also say goodbye to our two oldest campers; Bethany Anthony and Daniel Newman and look forward to seeing them involved in the wider church life. What will the next year's themes and ideas bring? What adventures and fun filled times will we experience? Who knows? ... Just make sure your name is on the list ...

P.S. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the leaders and organisers for all their energy, ideas and enthusiasm which make camp amazing! To all the people who donate to and support camp in any way (it is truly appreciated!) and finally to all the congregations and parents who encourage and send their young people. Camp is a massively important part in the life of the church and the development of these young people; with new lifelong friendships made and experiences gained.

Br Phill Battelle

Summer Camp Leader
Ockbrook Moravian Church



© Sr Libby Mitchell

Baildon and Horton's new minister

We welcome David Howarth to be the 45th Baildon Minister of our Congregation. He has also been called to Horton Moravian Church and we now become a Unit again - it is very important to

remember this and think of ourselves ONE. Strength in togetherness? David is no stranger to the 'north' ... being a Northerner himself so he should have no difficulty in understanding the 'lingo'! He is pictured here outside the Baildon Manse where he is to live.

Sr Libby Mitchell



© Sr Sue Webb

Chernobyl Children's Lifeline Charity

On the afternoon of Wednesday 5th July Amanda Newbury, Lee Newbury, Alice Webb and myself waited excitedly at Gatwick airport for four children and their interpreter to arrive from Belarus. It took two hours to clear customs and they had been travelling since 5am. The four girls aged nine and ten, had never left Belarus before and spoke very little English. Tamara, a teacher from their village, accompanied them on their journey. She would live with Jackie Pennington from our congregation at Swindon for the month.

We left Gatwick in a minibus loaned to us by Duncan Self Drive (very generous of them as I scratched the one they lent us last time!). The weather was hot, the traffic was stop-start and the children, not used to travelling, began to be sick as we were driving around the M25. Four hours later we dropped Sasha and Nastya at Amanda and Lee's home where they would live with their three children for the next four weeks. Then we took Anya and Katya to our home and showed them the bunk beds where they would be sleeping. Jackie came round after work and picked up Tamara.

The children ate their dinner, pizza and chips, and went to bed. It had been a long day for them. The next day they phoned home to say they had arrived safely - no tears.

Over the next couple of days, we took them to the opticians, two needed glasses which Specsavers supplied for free and to the dentist where Eurodental did their fillings for free. With all the unpleasant things out of the way, we held a welcome pamper party at Swindon Moravian Church hall courtesy of Little Loves. The girls made face masks and lip balms and Belle from Beauty and the Beast made a surprise appearance! The girls chose clothes from the donations we had collected over the previous weeks.

The children arrived with a rucksack and left with huge suitcases (also donated by our kind supporters).

They joined in Sunday School the next day, talking about love and making heart cushions and biscuits. This was followed by a visit to Old Town Festival where Anya won a dog soft toy which slept with her for the rest of her stay and was vacuum packed for the journey home!

Over the next two weeks we went bowling, on The Dragonfly canal boat with the Rainbows, to Cotswold Wildlife Park on a double decker bus with the Beavers, to Legoland (thank you to Merlin's Magic wand for the free tickets), Millets Farm Maize Maze, @ Bristol, Bourton-on-the-water, Avebury, Stonehenge, Bath and several local parks. The children went out every day as so many places gave us free entry.

Then we packed up our cars and took the children to Cornwall for a week. Belarus is a land locked country so the girls had never seen the sea. We bought them swimsuits and they went in the sea most days. The Cornish people were so generous, giving us all free entry to Land's End, Minack Theatre, where they watched a puppet show about Cornish fairies, Eden Project, St Michael's Mount, Camel Creek, Prideaux Place, where we had a personal guided tour and got to feed carrots to the deer! The girls had a wonderful time.

We returned home on the Saturday with only four days until they travelled back to Belarus. At the farewell party the children sang songs in English and Russian and Alice organised musical games and pass the parcel. On the last evening Swindon Lions took us for a meal at a local fast food restaurant. The last day was taken up trying to pack everything we had bought for them and everything they had been given, including large teddies and blankets knitted by

Woolly Hugs. The children can take 30kg home and we managed to fit everything in, just!

Chernobyl Children's Lifeline charity was established in 1992 to support the children (and their families) from Belarus and Ukraine forever affected by the world's worst nuclear disaster.

Belarus, where most of our work is focused, received over 70% of the radioactive fallout from the Chernobyl nuclear explosion in April 1986 and as a result, thousands are born every year with, or go on to develop thyroid cancer, bone cancer and leukaemia.

The main aims of the charity are:

- To bring child victims of the Chernobyl disaster to the UK for recuperative breaks of four weeks - over 46,000 have been brought over to stay with host families since we started in 1992.
- To provide on-going supplies of multi-vitamins and basic healthcare products to the children on their return (thousands of tonnes in the last 9 years).
- To work with our Belarusian and Ukrainian partners to locate children who will benefit from a recuperative care-break.

We would like to thank all our supporters; we couldn't do this without you. For more information, please check out our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/ccllswindon> link/. Or visit our website at: <https://www.cdll.org.uk/swindon/index.php?ctlPage=home>.

Donations can be sent to Church House: cheques made payable to Moravian Union; or can be made at: [justgiving.com/fundraising/swindonccllweightloss](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/swindonccllweightloss).

Sr Sue Webb

Moravians and Lutherans in Germany - A personal perspective

My upbringing in East Germany was, amongst others, influenced by two churches: the Lutheran Church and the Moravian Church. Whilst the local Lutheran Church in Flöha (Saxony) was our regular church for attending services, youth group etc., the Moravian Church was the 'irregular' one, simply because Dresden or Zwickau was too far away for regular visits. I enjoyed going regularly to one of the equivalents to the 'Summer Camp'. Dual membership was my choice. Under the communist pressure different denominations worked fairly closely with each other anyway. Locally we also had a close relationship to the Catholic Church. Young people talked affectionately about 'Olen' and 'Elen' ('Catholen' and 'Evangelen' - colloquial language).

As my brother became a minister in the Lutheran Church, I, also having been on the path of becoming a minister, thought it was good to keep Ecumenism in the family, and became a minister in the Moravian Church. My first call was serving the Moravian and Lutheran congregations in Neudietendorf. The arrangement in this place was that the minister would be appointed by the Moravian Church, but he or she would also be a 50% Lutheran minister. This suited me well and I enjoyed working within both traditions. I always regarded it as a challenge to encourage the different traditions to see each other as complimentary.

The Moravian Church could offer traditions like 'Christingle', the Daily Watchwords (which in Germany are widely used in most churches), international connections and much more. The Lutheran church offered a strong local network, local traditions like the celebration of St. Martin's Day and a lot more.

The majority of people have seen the closeness of both traditions as of mutual benefit and enrichment. Some people saw it as a threat and they feared they could lose their identity. History and psychology however suggest that clinging to the status quo will lead to loss of freedom. Jesus warned, 'What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self?' (Luke 9:25 NIV). We could ask, 'What good is it to fight for particular expressions of faith and lose the essence of it?'

I am not suggesting merging all the different traditions indiscriminately together, but we cannot ignore either, that possibly the majority of young people who feel drawn towards the Christian faith do not ask primarily the question about a particular tradition, but look for genuine Christian living.

The common ground in the Christian faith has to have priority over denominational differences. We live in a world that is more than ever before interconnected of which especially young people are very much aware.

This year we celebrate 500 years Lutheran Reformation. The

monk, professor of Theology and reformer Martin Luther could see clearly where his church went wrong. His intention was to call the church back to its core beliefs by publishing 95 theses. Here are three (out of the 95) which are quite central:

- When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent' (Mt 4:17), he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance.
- 27. They preach only human doctrines who say that as soon as the money clinks into the money chest, the soul flies out of purgatory.
- 62. The true treasure of the church is the most holy gospel of the glory and grace of God.

Luther had the insight that God's grace cannot be bought but will be experienced by giving oneself in repentance to God and consequently enjoying God's glory and grace. This can be described as a love-relationship with God.

It is interesting that Nicolaus Ludwig of Zinzendorf (who was a member of the Lutheran Church) together with refugees from Bohemia and Moravia also developed church life on the premises of a love-relationship with God ('Theology of the heart').

Why was it necessary? Because 200 years after Luther the protestant church became stale. It almost seems as if this is a historical cycle.

Therefore we can ask the question, 'Is it time for another Reformation?'

My answer is, 'I don't know.' But one thing I do know, that no individual and no church can claim to have the whole truth.

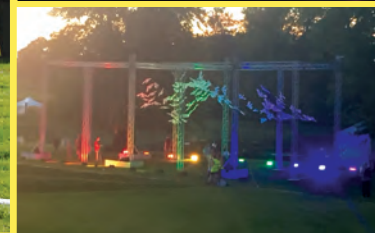
The 'Ground of the Unity' says, 'The Unitas Fratrum takes part in the continual search for sound doctrine. In interpreting Scripture and in the communication of doctrine in the Church, we look to two millennia of ecumenical Christian tradition and the wisdom of our Moravian forebears in the faith to guide us as we pray for fuller understanding and ever clearer proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.'

Having grown up in two traditions, I appreciate the colourfulness of the Christian faith.

To what extent can we in the British Province of the Moravian Church maintain or newly find a love-relationship with God, full of colour and music, softer or louder, gentle or more persuasive, but in any case infectious?

Br Joachim Kreusel





were fortunate and the weather was dry for the whole festival which made getting around much easier, with over 11,000 people on site that is not a minor consideration. The beautiful setting of Broughton House has lots of challenges - no roads, no toilets, no piped water, and no electricity - which have to be met for the festival to go ahead.

Fortunately as part of the taxi team I just have to go where I'm told and follow instructions; the lack of decision making and responsibility is a refreshing break from my everyday tasks. So what do the taxi team do? If you are thinking comfortable cars you are very wrong. The main mode of transport around the site is golf buggies. No vehicles are allowed on the festival fields but are needed to transport people and baggage from cars to campsite, from bus stop and day parking to the festival entrance, as well as transporting artists and their kit around the backstage areas. In addition to the buggies the team use flatbeds for transporting larger amounts of baggage on the Friday (arrival day) and Monday/Tuesday (leaving day) much to the relief of many festival goers.

So what is it like to drive a golf buggy? They have no suspension, gears, mirrors, indicators or side windows. They are slow and sometimes the brakes are a bit dodgy. Each buggy has its own personality. Everyone thinks it would be great fun to drive one - and it is for about 10 minutes. At the end of a shift you have a numb backside from all the shaking. The best thing about driving them is talking to the festival goers or artists. For many with mobility problems the buggies are essential and the team work closely with the access team. I worked the Sunday morning shift so missed the communion service but I still felt part of it even though I couldn't be there in person, my part in helping others get to it made me feel included.

The challenge of volunteering is trying to fit in getting to talks and worship between your shifts (and sleep - driving a buggy is tiring). This may mean you miss something you would have liked to go to because you are working and this could be frustrating unless you remember that this is about service to others, not about yourself. The rewards of volunteering are immense. The taxi team is great and we all have a 'can do' attitude as well as a fondness for cake (the taxi office had about 30 cakes at one point!). Many of the team have been doing it for years and there are whole families on the team. New people just seem to fit in. I came away from Greenbelt renewed, inspired, and with a whole new set of friends. As for 2018 - look out for me driving a buggy!

Please see the Greenbelt Website to learn more about the festival and to book tickets: www.greenbelt.org.uk



Why I look forward to Greenbelt each year - Laura Wood

Greenbelt describes itself as the place where arts, faith and justice collide. I think this tag line is very apt. Greenbelt has different things on offer for different people: music, theatre, worship, comedy, poetry, talks, circus skills, bars, crafts etc. Unlike a lot of Christian Conferences there seems to be a healthy range of activities for people of all ages and all denominations and faiths. There seems to be not one message that is being pushed or one type of worship that is deemed as ideal. This is perhaps why I love Greenbelt: it isn't attempting to produce Christians who think alike, it is attempting to produce people who think and question for themselves.

I spend a lot of my Greenbelt in the Music Venues, the Playhouse and the large pub at the Festival called the Jesus Arms. Yet, it is the talks at Greenbelt that entice me back each year. It is the talks, at various venues, where I spend a lot of Greenbelt refining my beliefs, inwardly, whilst hearing others speak of their faith outwardly. At Greenbelt no topic is off limits. This year I heard talks about feminism, global poverty, food waste, debt, homosexuality and heterosexuality. All speakers spoke with passion and the view of these topics were shaped by their Christian faith. Often I heard things I didn't entirely agree with, but that is why I love Greenbelt. I don't go to have my viewpoint affirmed, but rather for my viewpoint to be challenged, my questions to be embraced, to be further questioned or refined and for my faith to be grown hugely as a result. I see Greenbelt as truly authentic. It doesn't have an objective like some Christian Conferences do, it simply invites you to come, listen, be part of the conversation of faith. It doesn't do simple answers, nor does it berate or humiliate those who think differently. At Greenbelt you will come across all perspectives both biblically and politically. All are welcome, including those of different faiths, all arrive as equal and all will leave slightly changed. Moravians are known for authenticity, for justice and for questioning. I hope more Moravians consider coming along to Greenbelt Festival next year. I will see you at Jesus Arms!



Festival Goer - Claire Maxwell

Greenbelt's theme this year was: The Common Good ~~Me. You. Us.~~ This is a powerful theme which provided the background to the whole festival in an atmosphere of inclusivity and challenge. The Communion Service was a highlight for many who attended with most of it being led by children and those with disabilities. One reading was given by a young woman who suffers from MS from her bedroom through the wonders of technology. She said that this led to her feeling like a participant in Greenbelt. The sermon was given by a girl called Becky Tyler

who has Quadriplegic Cerebral Palsy. She shared her understanding of 'God being love' through a communication aid which she described as being like Stephen Hawking's but 'much nicer'. Greenbelt front lined and centred inclusivity in a way that challenges me to think more closely about how we are truly being church. <http://www.greenbelt.org.uk/please-bring-body-gb17/>

One challenging talk I went to was led by Duncan Milwain, a trustee of the Real Food Junk Project which ran a café serving food made up of such 'junk food', collected from local supermarkets, all weekend at the festival. He spoke well about how he could no longer 'walk by on the other side' as he learnt about the amount of food waste going on when in fact there is enough food on the earth for all to eat. The Real Food Junk Project has currently 120 cafes throughout the U.K. and is well worth seeing if there is one near you that your church community could support, or whether perhaps you could host such a café or alternative supermarket. <http://therealjunkfoodproject.org/>

This is just one of many topics I learnt about and discussed amidst a rich weekend. Other highlights for me would be talks I attended on Global Poverty, a discussion panel on Economics, a poetry reading on family life and a play on 'Paradise Lost?' What I love most about Greenbelt is the variety on offer, from talks to music to arts. This year we went as a group of seven including one very clear non-Christian and he had a great time learning how to star-gaze, make wooden spoons and make new friends in the Jesus Arms.

Greenbelt is a yearly festival full of lots of different types of Christians, folk who aren't sure what they believe and non-believers. It is a great place to stretch your faith, meet new people and find a wider family of Christians. It would be great to see more Moravians coming - maybe a date for your diary next year is the last bank holiday weekend in August 2018 - see you there!



Festivalmaker - Joy Raynor

This was my second year as a volunteer taxi driver, part of a team of 45, and one of 1,061 volunteers in 70 teams that make the festival happen. A view of the 'behind the scenes' has made me appreciate just how much goes into organising an event like Greenbelt: every little detail has to be worked out and appear seamless to the festival goers with plans for every eventuality. This year we



© Sr Joy Raynor © Sr Claire Maxwell © Sr Laura Woods

Stone Axes Return to Gracehill



© Sr Edna Cooper

Many years ago Br Hugh Weir found two Neolithic stone axes in the yard behind 29 Church Road, Gracehill. This was for many years the examination hall of the old Boys Academy and later became the Sunday School building until the building of the new Church Hall in 2006. After Br Hugh's death his daughter, Sr Edna Cooper kept them safe. In 2014 she got them verified as Neolithic stone axes by the curator of archeology at the Ulster Museum and has now returned them to Gracehill congregation.



© Stephanie Cooper

The Neolithic or new stone age period in Ireland is usually dated between 4500 and 2500 BC. Polished stone axes are characteristic of this period and are made of porcellanite and probably would come from one of two Neolithic axe factory sites in northern Ireland, at Tievebullagh near Cushendall and on Rathlin Island. The stone axes would be attached to wooden handles and used to clear ground of trees.

But how did two of these axes come to be in Gracehill in the first place? Sr Cooper has done some digging into this fascinating story. Rev Alexander Cossart Hasse was principal of the Gracehill Boys Academy and co minister of the congregation from 1846 - 1862. During his time in Gracehill there were plans for the establishment of a Moravian Historical Society and Museum and appeals were made for donations for the museum. There are three pictures in the Gracehill Manse, two of John Cennick and one of John Swertner that probably come from that appeal.

Alexander's son Leonard Gadow Hasse also became Moravian Minister and in due time served at Gracehill as principal of the Gracehill Boys Academy. Leonard was interested in archaeology and became a member of The Royal Irish Academy in 1886 and a fellow of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland in 1887.

He was a keen collector of antiquarian items and pieces from his personal collection were donated after his death by his son Henry Ronald Hasse to the National Museum of Ireland. It seems most likely that the Gracehill stone axes were donated to the Gracehill museum by him though there is no information about where he originally found or acquired them.

Hugh Weir told his daughter Edna that he understood that there had been a museum of sorts in a cellar in the Boys' Academy examination hall. However, the Boys Academy closed around 1889 and little is known of what happened to the museum and its collection after that so how the two wonderful stone axes found themselves in the back yard is a matter of speculation. Thankfully now they are restored to the Church and will in due course be on loan for display in the Gracehill Visitor Centre.

Henry Ronald Hasse went on to be a Professor of Mathematics at Bristol University and the Hasse prize is still awarded there in his memory.

Sr Sarah Groves

With grateful thanks to Sr Edna Cooper for all her research on this fascinating story and for returning the stone axes to Gracehill.



© Sr Marilyn Greenhough

Volunteers arranging the poppies

Lower Wyke

This year, Lower Wyke is joining in the centenary of the First World War. 2017 is the centenary of the battles of Passchendaele, the four battles of Gaza and the battle of the Messines Ridge so we are commemorating by having a Poppy Wall. For those who know Lower Wyke, it will run up Lower Wyke Lane from the top of Lower Wyke Green, along the avenue and in front of Church. There will also be displays in Church.

The Church will be open from 10am till 3pm on Saturday 11th November with an act of remembrance at 10.45am with two minutes silence at 11am. The Church will also be open from 12.30 to 3pm on Sunday 12th November. There will be memorabilia in the Church and coffee/tea and biscuits will be available on both days.

It was calculated that we would need at least 2,400 poppies and we have exceeded that. We have had several volunteers knitting and crocheting the poppies and also attaching them to plastic coated wire netting. We are extremely grateful for the help we have had and at the time of writing we just have two sections to complete. Any donations received over the weekend will be given to the Royal British Legion.

Sr Marilyn Greenhough

Baildon

During our two year interregnum, small bands of faithful workers have kept the meetings and groups, up-keep of the grounds and fund-raising going. The Church Committee has worked hard to fulfil their many responsibilities, as well as doing general on-going work and repairs. This has applied in particular to the Manse, where required improvements to the kitchen, repairs to the roof, replacing all of the windows with new ones and redecorations have been done. We are very lucky to have inherited our lovely Chapel with the Sunday School and out-buildings but the flip side of this is that they are, in the main 200 years old and need constant work to keep them in good order.

Our most important function, the weekly Worship Services, have been well covered by Br Michael Newman who has overseen us and we are very grateful to him. Our gratitude also goes to local Lay Preachers and retired ministers and some members, who have had to overcome their reluctance and terror at the thought of keeping a service, and stepped in ... (or maybe were pushed in?) ... to fulfil this important job and discovered talents within themselves they had no idea they possessed.

Over the May Day Bank Holiday we held our main fund-raising event, the Beer Festival and this year we made £3,000 profit. Again this was organized by a small band of willing workers and afterwards Sr Maria Hanson wrote this poem to describe the event. It was something she used in her teaching career at the beginning of the School year in September when her new pupils arrived. Only two words: one to tell her something about themselves plus a relevant verb which could be used only once! 'We are

Poster designing, Banner hanging, Volunteer gathering,
Programme printing, Beer sourcing, Quiz compiling,
Racking fixing, Food ordering, Glass washing,
Toilet cleaning, Ticket selling, Raffle hawking,
Wine chilling, Table wiping, Book collecting,
Bread buttering, Cheese cutting,
Onion slicing, Crisp munching, Floor mopping,
Cider sampling, Kitchen tidying, Pie quartering,
Hard working, Fund raising, Faith Supper sharing,
Beer Festival loving, Friends!

Sr Libby Mitchell



© Sr Roberta Gray

Gracehill

Once again Cennick Hall was filled with the sound of children enjoying themselves and having fun, while actively learning how wonderful God is, at our Holiday Club. This year's theme was 'Waste Watchers' and each day, after a starter activity, the children watched as we were invited into the potting shed to hear how God can create something from nothing. We learned from Genesis and the gospel of John how darkness was turned to light, water to wine, death to life and sadness to joy, the focus being 'Looking after God's world'. Each day involved us all in related crafts, song, warm ups and physical activities, Bible stories, quizzes, activity booklets, memory verse, discussions prayer and of course welcome breaks!

Each day began with a welcome 'tea and toast' prepared by the kitchen team for the leaders, followed by a brief planning meeting, reading of texts for the day and prayer and ended with the grace and lunch for the leaders as everyone sat round the table enjoying the rest, the good company, and giving the opportunity to reflect.

Srs Rachel and Carolyn Hamilton spent weeks preparing workbooks, questions, activities and planning meetings and leaders attended five weeks of planning meetings which proved so valuable for the smooth running of the week.

Sr Rachel led the morning service the following Sunday, and the craft murals were displayed as the children led the congregation in the music and taught everyone some fantastic new songs including all the 'moves'!

Sr Roberta Gray

Fulneck

This summer and early autumn events in Fulneck have taken on a musical flavour. On Friday 28th July there was an evening's entertainment with games, a raffle and a splendid buffet in the Boys' Brigade Building. The main attraction was however, a trio of highly talented thirteen year-old boys, who treated us to several classic popular hits from the 1960's, 70's and 80's. Rock 'n roll, the Shadows, major old classics such as 'Whiter Shade of Pale' etc. were played instrumentally with great skill and real entertainment value. The group 'Kalifonix' are Sam (lead guitar), Tom (rhythm guitar) and Ben (keyboard). They required no fee so a collection provided them with some well-earned spending money and a week later they sent a lovely letter of appreciation to the evening's organisers.

On 28th August, the St. Peter's Singers with their conductor, Dr. Simon Lindley, performed two Bach cantatas (nos. 78 and 147) and Handel's 'The Foundling Hospital Anthem' in the church. The quality of the choral singing, soloists and musicians was as high as we have come to expect.

A recital of organ music took place on 7th September, once again in the church, sponsored by Vicky Highet. Dr. Lindley again featured as the organist and the programme included Lang's 'Tuba Tune', Hollin's 'Song of Sunshine', Mayerl's 'Marigold', Walford Davis's 'The R.A.F. March Past', Walton's 'Spitfire Parade (The First of the Few)', Greene's 'Thou Visiteth the Earth (the well-loved Harvest Anthem)', Hymn Improvisation and Mendelssohn's Sonata 1 in F minor, Op. 65.

We look forward to more recitals and concerts such as the Choral Recital on Sunday 15th October at 3pm and the Choral and Orchestral Concert on Saturday 2nd December at 7pm.

Br D J Ingham



© Br Les Machell

Gomersal

As summer draws to a close and whilst we look forward to Harvest Festival and starting the run up to Advent and Christmas, we look back at some of the recent events at Gomersal.

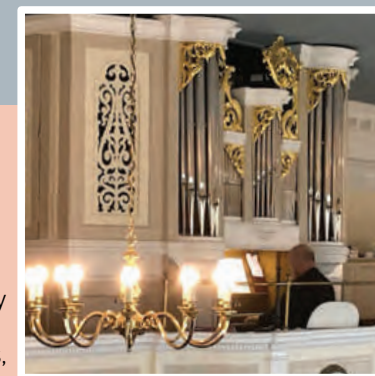
Our annual Safari Supper, held in Church in May, was a successful fundraising event and a wonderful evening of fellowship and good food. It was attended by around 50 people and raised over £700 for Church funds.

In July we welcomed Br Nick Battelle, from Ockbrook, to lead our Church Anniversary and Gift Day Service. He led an interesting service and we had chance afterwards to have a chat with him over lunch.

The burial ground gates have been subject to much needed repair and renovation and now look wonderful. This was funded by a legacy from Sr Betty Pickering.

In August we said our goodbyes to Sr Lorraine Shorten and family as she had completed her ministerial training and was moving to her first Church in Birmingham. We had the chance to give her our love and best wishes when she conducted her last service in the Yorkshire District, at a joint service at Fulneck. We wish her and her family all the best for the future.

Sr Norma Machell



Ballinderry

We have been able to send a donation to Sr Cathy Bucholz, the wife of our former minister Br Eckhard to aid her work on the St Faith's Rural Project in Port Shepstone, South Africa. The current project is to build a market shelter for the local women who collect empty paper crisp packets from schools etc and use them with local grasses to weave together into beautiful table mats and other items. They also produce 'wonder bags' to keep cooked meals warm for workers away from home. Three hand operated sewing machines are used and other items produced are sold in markets around the area to help provide part income for members of the project. Any surplus is retained for future developments. Our donation was raised by a gift from the MWA and money received from a party of ladies who visited us at Ballinderry for a talk on the history and witness of the congregation. We have, thanks to a generous private gift, been able to install a LOOP System in the church. This is part of an on-going programme to improve the church facilities. Major work has also been completed on the Holly Hedging that surrounded God's Acre. It had grown almost out of control but has now been trimmed down and trees were also pruned as some had become overgrown and unsafe. The local Primary School in the village and the church enjoy a close relationship and it was a great pleasure to attend the final assembly of the P7 before they left for the next stage of their education. Sr Groves spoke to the children, parents and friends in a full school hall and presented each child with a Bible on behalf of the congregation. The children of the school always help us with our December services and start the Christmas celebrations with a service which is always very well attended. Br Wilson made a presentation on the congregation's behalf to Mrs Magown, the retiring headmistress who has always fostered the links between church and school. The children themselves put on a great presentation of the things they had enjoyed during their time at Ballinderry Primary. Over the summer our local lay preachers, visiting ministers and friends had looked after our services and we truly thank them for this.

Br H Wilson and Sr M Marshall



© Br Paul Mundy

Swindon

Last Saturday we had our congregation summer outing to Brean sands. A fantastic time was had by all, fun, fellowship and sunshine made for a perfect day. We met at our hosts' caravan for a BBQ and lovely spread for lunch, followed by a stroll around the market, a swim, then games on the beach, ending with a medal ceremony. Medals and cups were presented for such well-known sports as 'who can hold their breath under the water the longest', sack race, and egg and spoon race. The skipping race called for a photo finish between Coronation Avenue and Swindon!

We finished the games with rounders (men v. women): the ladies being victorious. Our wonderful host presented the awards before we headed home and already looking forward to next year's outing.

Thanks must go to Glenice once again for her hospitality and generosity.

Sr Sandy Mundy

Royton

Looking back through the year, it is good to see how many times we have shared services with our brothers and sisters from Salem. We celebrated the 560th Anniversary of the Founding of the Moravian Church with a joint Service of Lovefeast and Holy Communion. Sr Jane took us through the beginning and history of the Church, the Lovefeast was highlighted with four Sisters serving tea and biscuits in traditional Moravian dress. The Communion service on Maundy Thursday is always a joint service. On Sunday 18th June we shared a farewell service for Sr Dixon at Salem and on Sunday 13th August, because of painting taking place at Salem, a joint service was held at Royton.

We also were able again, to meet the other churches, for the District Gathering at Fairfield, and a number of members went other the Pennines for 'My Heart Strangely Warmed' at Fulneck, both of which were very much enjoyed.

Two of our sisters represent Royton on 'Royton Churches Together'. We took part in the annual Walk of Witness on Whit Sunday and we met with other churches for an open air service on Good Friday.

The M.W.A. have been able to meet with other sisters during the



© Sr Jane Dixon

year, we met at Harlesden for the M.W.A. Rally, which was so well organised, also we met with Dukinfield and Salem for a joint meeting at Dukinfield and two of our sisters went to the M.W.A. Retreat held in Whitby.

Space for Social Events is limited at Royton, so it is not always an easy task to come up with good ideas. One event that went very well was a Musical Quiz 40's 50's and 60's plus potato pie, this was enjoyed and well attended, a Mini Fair and Strawberry Tea held on a lovely sunny day in June was a success too.

Donations for a local Foodbank are collected and each Wednesday we hold a coffee morning. A volunteer from 'Cornerstones' a Day Centre which provides services for adults facing a wide range of social issues including homelessness, poverty, poor mental health, and drug and alcohol addictions gave a very interesting talk on Sisters Sunday in May and a donation was given to this charity.

Sadly, we lost a very dear Sister in June: Sr Evelyn Hipwell died aged 91. Evelyn was very talented and she used her talents in so many ways for the church she loved. We at Royton are thankful for that love. She will be very much missed.

In July we said farewell to Jane, Mark and Yvie. Royton and Salem were Sr Dixon's first ordained ministry, we have seen her grow in confidence and leadership and we are grateful for all her fellowship and love. We shall miss her, but we look forward to welcoming Br Martin Smith in September.

Sr Annie Geary

New Minister at Royton and Salem



The weather may have been wet and windy on Thursday 7th September but the District Welcome Service at Salem church was a typical Lancashire welcome, warm friendly, with as always, hymns rousingly sung. Brn Philip Cooper and Peter Gubi were there to lead the service and to introduce Br Martin Smith, who has accepted a call to cover Royton and Salem for two years.

introduced Martin in quite an unorthodox way: 'By interview with Br Peter Gubi'. Br Smith answered by giving us a potted history of his life (property stewards of each congregation must have listened with great interest!!). He has been a minister in the United Reform Church for many years, and his

wife Kirsty is also a minister in Wilmslow. He has had a varied career before being ordained, and as a qualified plumber could be very useful.

It was good to meet Kirsty, Martin's wife, and also a number from her congregation who had travelled with her from Wilmslow. With representatives from the Lancashire District, the congregations of Royton and Salem, and also local communities in the area of each church, who were introduced to Br Smith, it was fitting to have a large congregation for a change.

We are delighted to have a new minister - we wish him well and look forward to the future of both congregations, who have got to know each other much better in the last three months.

We are grateful to everyone who has led Services in the past few months; we appreciate all the help we have received. Br Smith in the dismissal told us to go out in peace, love, and joy which we did by giving to everyone the right hand of friendship.

Sr Anne Broadbent and Sr Anne Geary

Fairfield

Let's get walking ...
4th June was Whit Sunday and we here at Fairfield have always walked on this day, however it is noticeable that numbers reduce each year and so this year we decided to try something different; on the 2nd Sunday of the month we hold a very well attended Cafe Church so we had a shortened service and then had our walk, we did seem to have more children walking as a result so no doubt that will be discussed again before next year's walk.

... and talking
Let's be honest about this, we Moravians can chat! On Sunday 25th June Fairfield played host to the Lancashire District Gathering. The service started at 11am led by St Mary's puppet ministry, we then had lunch and then communion finishing our gathering at about 2pm. It was lovely to see some old friends and have a little catch up; the problem I've noticed is that as I get older there are more people I want to speak to and never enough time to get to them all.

... and eating
Brethren's breakfast was celebrated with a full cooked breakfast at 9am, the morning service at 11am and then Lovefeast and Communion at 3.15pm.

... and yet more talking and eating
On 8th July, we had a successful Afternoon Tea in the college and on Tuesday 13th August Sr Joyce James held a Coffee Afternoon and a Bring and Buy; both events were for church funds.

... and rest
Most of our child focused activities stop during the school holidays as so many go away on holiday - of course so do many of the adults, and in a busy congregation everyone is ready for a well-earned holiday or even just a little 'me-time'.

... and back to it
No sooner are we back from holiday and the congregation is now busy getting ready for 'Heritage Weekend'.

Sr Margery Sutcliffe

University Road Belfast



University Road had a busy few months in the run up to the relative calm of the summer holiday period.

In May, as part of our ongoing support for the work of Christian Aid, and in preparation for Christian Aid Week, a group of our, ever sociable, congregation members enjoyed an evening out at a glittering Gala Dinner at Belfast City Hall. Br Derick and Sr Marian Woods were then invited to take afternoon tea with the Lord Mayor of Belfast in recognition of the many years in which they have organised house to house collections during Christian Aid Week.

On 14th May our Church Anniversary and Recommitment Service was led by Br Joachim Kreusel. This was a very special occasion at which members recommitted to the vows made at their Confirmation. It was followed by an enjoyable lunch and fellowship in the church hall.

Children's Day was celebrated on 18th June, and our thriving Sunday School, supported by their dedicated and inspirational teachers, Srs Sandra Biggart, Tanya McCartney and Helen McVeigh, treated us to a lively and enthusiastic service, during which YPMA awards were presented.

On a more sombre note, we were saddened by the death of Br Eric Ferguson on 14th May. Br Eric was a hard working and faithful member of our University Road congregation for many years. He will be remembered in particular for his commitment and efforts to ensure that the church was always open for visitors and for mid-day prayer on Thursday each week. We will miss his cheerful presence.

Sr Carol Ackah

Notice

CALLING EVERYONE INTERESTED IN YOUTH LEADERSHIP

We need to know who is interested in helping at Summer Camp and youth weekends. The work is hard but rewarding and contributes to the mission and ministry of the church.

Qualities that we look for:
Passion for young people and for God, regular church attendance (ideally a Moravian Church but we recognise that for many people there isn't one near where they live), adaptability, team working, empathy with young people, energetic and enthusiastic, creative (this doesn't mean just the arts), willing to attend training and have a DBS/AccessNI. Experience of working with young people is desirable.

Summer Camp 2018 is August 4th-11th but if you are not available then we may want you to join a weekend camp staff.

To apply contact Joy Raynor via Facebook messenger, email joy.raynor@btconnect.com or by phone **01753 553549** or **07713853184** (leave a message if I don't answer)

Applications welcome from everyone who has the energy required. Please let me know if you have been a leader at camp in the past and would like to be considered.

Congregational Register

Baptisms		
27th August 2017	Evie Alexandra Haggerty	Fairfield
Marriages		
25th August 2017	Samuel John McDonald & Rebecca Jade Platt	Fairfield
Deaths		
29th July 2017	Jack Royle Capstick	Fulneck
10th August 2017	Grace Wilson	Fulneck
15th August 2017	Mona Fallows	Royton
21st August 2017	Marjorie Hill	Royton
21st August 2017	Margaret Geddes	Fairfield

From Church House

Change of Address
Sr Lorraine Shorten's new address and telephone number are: 45 Southam Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, B28 8DQ. Tel: 0121 572 7078.
Br David Howarth's new address and telephone number are: Moravian House, Browgate, Baildon, Shipley, BD17 6BP. Tel: 01274 593570.

Provincial Diary for October

3	Church Service Committee	Church House	PEC
5	PEC, BMB and Estates Property	Fairfield	PEC
7	Yorkshire District Conference	Baildon	Br Hopcroft
	Midlands District Conference	Leicester	Sr Z Taylor
	PYCC	Leicester	
14	Lancashire District Conference	Salem	Br Hopcroft
	Irish District Conference	Cliftonville	Sr Hoey
16-20	Retired Ministers Retreat		
21	Eastern District Conference	Hornsey	Sr Hoey
25	Settlement Meeting with local agents		Wellhouse
26	Faith and Order	Fulneck	

8 14 Sukkot - Jewish **5 11**

15 Prisons Week (www.prisonsworld.org)
Good Money Week, previously National Ethical Investment Week (<http://goodmoneyweek.com>)

16 22 Freedom Sunday (www.stopthetraffic.org/campaign/freedomsunday)
Week of Prayer for World Peace (www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.com)

18 Anti-Slavery Day (www.antislavery.com)
Diwali-Deepavali - Sikh/Hindu **19**

23 29 One World Week (www.oneworldweek.org)
United Nations Day (www.un.org/en/events/unday) **24**

29 Summer Time ends

31 Reformation 500th Anniversary Halloween

Dates to remember!

From the Sanctuary

I was recently reminded of the profundity of thinking about my life as a tapestry which is made up of vibrant, pastel and dark threads. The pastel colours (e.g. quiet yellows, oranges and pale greens) represent the ordinary, day-to-day aspects of life; the vibrant colours (e.g. strong reds, turquoises and purples) represent the times of enhancement, blessing and richness, such as times of passion, joy and celebration; the dark threads (e.g. the blacks, greys, browns and dark blues) represent the times of pain, suffering and angst which seems to be a necessary part of living.

All too often, we pay more attention to, celebrate and share with others, the quieter and vibrant colours (and those times in our lives - times of certainty and settlement, movement and growth); but the darker colours are also important in our tapestries, and in our lives. It is often

the times of suffering and darkness that we try to avoid, shutting them out from our psyche and saying, 'I don't want to think about that!' We willingly turn away from, and keep private, those areas of shame and vulnerability, rather than shine the light of encounter onto them.

However, these dark threads are also an important part of our tapestry, offering contrast and form to an otherwise pale and featureless picture. So let us embrace those opportunities to 'admire' and 'reflect on' the dark threads in our tapestry, and learn to embrace them with gratitude; and when we are ready, can we be brave enough and allow others to shine their lights of unconditional acceptance and love, through encounter with us, onto those threads that we have yet to accept and love within ourselves?

Br Peter Gubi, Dukinfield



British Mission Board (BMB) News



© Br Ezekiel Yona

New Motorbikes purchased by the YPMA for evangelists in Tanzania are already proving very useful.



© Br Ezekiel Yona

The work to upgrade the hospital in Tabora with the support from the BMB is now well under way.

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