

The Memory cafe at Westbury Grange is now closed.

Thank you to all the volunteers and people who have made the Memory Cafe possible.



B. Grace



Duke of Edinburgh Award Recruitment

Do you know a young person (Male or Female) who might want to achieve a DofE award?

Do you know that DofE awards can be undertaken from the 1st Newport Pagnell Boys' Brigade and that you don't need to be a member of the Brigade?

Newport Pagnell Boys' Brigade organises DofE awards from Bronze through to Gold which are open to all young people. With expedition training starting in January, why not contact :

David Wright: 01908 618898, to find out more?

CTNP President: Vacancy

Secretary: Chris Row, chris.row@which.net Tel. 01908 611542

Treasurer: Paul Tolley, PTMERCEDES@aol.com Tel. 01908 615729

CTNP website: - www.ctnp.org.uk



Connections

January 2018

Churches **TOGETHER** in Newport Pagnell



Articles to the Editor, Robert Hayward
rghayward@btinternet.com

Copy Deadline 20th of each Month

Notices for activities at least a month before they will happen

For up-to-date information on events and activities check our website regularly at

www.ctnp.org.uk



Ministers Letter

The end of another year...

It's that time when minds start to turn to the beginning of another year and we start to wonder what 2018 may have in store for us, our families and our world. Some of you may have been glad to leave the old year behind us and be keen to move on while others will be more hesitant knowing that you are leaving the familiar behind to step out into the challenge of the unknown.

I wonder how you will spend the first few hours and days of 2018 and whether traditions are important to you. Do you like to see in the New Year with the Scottish practice of 'first footing' or perhaps you may be one of many who will be visiting MK Theatre over the holiday season to see this year's pantomime, 'Cinderella'. That was certainly one of the traditions of my childhood; I can remember being taken as a child to the Little Theatre in Southport where I always longed to be one of those invited on to the stage to help to sing the song!

Pantomimes have a long history in this country dating back to 1717 when the first pantomime, 'Harlequin Executed' was premiered on Boxing Day. There is something very British about a show where men dress as dames, women dress as the principal boy, everyone wears over the top costumes, a well known story is performed and there are silly songs to join in with as well as the catch phrases we all shout out! And no doubt the tradition will continue for years to come with children shouting "Oh yes it is!" as loudly as ever, and, when the actor in the white sheet waves his arms behind our hero and goes "Whoo" Whooo!", children of all ages will still cry out "Its-behind-you!"

You may know that we have our own tradition in Newport Pagnell of welcoming in the New Year with a walk around the churches in our town on New Year's Day beginning at 10 am at St Luke's church. As we pause briefly in each church to offer our prayers together we are reminded again that each of these places is special to those who worship God in them week by week throughout the year. There is something wonderfully tangible about the atmosphere of our churches, created over years, where week by week prayers are offered for all those in need whether they be guests in the night shelter



This is Etive Eelbeck, she received her DOE Gold award at St James's Palace on 14th December. Well done Etive. For more details of the DOE award scheme and how to achieve one see the back page.

Make a Date:

Newport Pagnell
METHODIST Church



On the Morning of
10th February
2018

held in Lovatt Hall, those in need of healing who visit St Luke's, the older people meeting for a cup of tea and a place to chat in the Brooklands Centre and the Methodist Church or the young families making their homes in new developments around our town. Along with offering prayer, each one of our congregations contains many who seek to live out their faith by helping those around them in many different ways.

So whether you are glad to leave the old behind or apprehensive about what the new may have in store for you, it is my prayer that you may discover that 2018 is the year that you will return to church or maybe come and find out for the first time what it is all about. And whichever church you visit in Newport Pagnell we can assure you of the warmest of welcomes.

Happy New Year and every blessing!

Revd Nicola Martyn-Beck

REQUEST FOR HELP

LENT LUNCHESES 2018

Lent Lunches 2018 to raise money for Christian Aid will take place at the URC Hall for six weeks from Friday Feb. 16th – Friday 23rd March. Offers of assistance for this CTNP annual event are requested from ALL the churches in Newport Pagnell and from anyone in our community who has 2 hours to spare on a Friday, even if it is only for one Friday during the 6 weeks.

Time involved would be from 11.30am – 1.45pm. Tasks include, setting up and laying tables, stirring soup, making tea/coffee, serving tables, washing up, tidying the hall at the end of the session. This may sound like hard work, but working together as a team is enjoyable, and for such a good cause!

Please contact Jennifer Mazzone 01908613088 if/when you are able to give your time, and/or contribute homemade soup, one or more Friday lunchtime.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Jennifer Mazzone

Newport Pagnell Methodist Church



Teapot & Sing

Next meeting

**Monday 8th January 2018
2.00 to 3.00pm**

Come and join us to sing a few well known favourite hymns whilst enjoying a cup of tea or coffee

A Dementia friendly time where everyone can relax

Newport Pagnell Methodist Church



Teapot & Sing

Also meeting:

**Monday 12th February 2018
2.00 to 3.00pm**

Come and join us to sing a few well known favourite hymns whilst enjoying a cup of tea or coffee

A Dementia friendly time where everyone can relax



Parentalk
THE PRIMARY YEARS

Being a parent is one of life's greatest joys, but it is also one of its biggest challenges. There's hardly a mum or dad on the face of the earth who, at times, is not overwhelmed by the task of parenting. Parentalk is for parents of children aged up to the early teenage years, giving you the opportunity to talk about the day-to-day challenges you face, as well as sharing the things that are going well. The sessions are presented on a DVD by Rob Parsons and Katharine Hill, with guest contributions from Diane Louise Jordan, Mark Chester from *Who Let the Dads Out?*, author Sarah Abell, and Paediatrician Dr. Kunle Ayonrinde.

The course is free and covers 6 sessions either morning or evening:

Wednesday Morning Sessions (6 for the Course):

Wednesday 17 January 09.15 to 11.15 at NPBC Lovat Hall Chapel then the following dates: 24 January, 31 January, 7 February, 21 February, 28 February

Monday Evening Sessions (6 for the Course):

Monday 22 January 19.30 to 21.30 at NPBC Lovat Hall Chapel and then the following dates: 29 January, 5 February, 19 February, 26 February, 5 March.

The course includes a free booklet.

Book now by sending an e-mail expressing your interest to:

npbc.parentalk@gmail.com

You will then receive, a detailed booking form.