

CTNP

Churches *Together*
in Newport Pagnell

Many Churches One Purpose

The Churches of Newport Pagnell

*St Bede's Catholic Church,
Church of England Parish Church (St Peter & St Paul)
(including St Lukes, Lathbury & Moulsoe)
Newport Pagnell Baptist Church (NPBC),
United Reformed Church (URC),
Methodist Church,*

CTNP President: Vacancy

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www.ctnp.org.uk

IF you need
someone
to talk to,
or pray with



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Why not check
out one of the
local churches
in
Newport Pagnell?

CONTACTS
at
www.ctnp.org.uk



www.ctnp.org.uk

Connections

February 2020

Churches **TOGETHER** in Newport Pagnell

What about 'God first!' before you next unload on social media?

Social media is a good example of a tool with a seriously **double-edged nature**. It can be a communications tool for good, connecting and informing people, and strengthening groups. But it can just as effectively spread false or biased information, and under the cover of anonymity make vicious threats and inflammatory claims. It can cast unwarranted slurs on a person's behaviour and character, and confuse fact, opinion, wishes, wants, needs, plans, imaginings, fantasies, beliefs, rational and emotional arguments.

These might have all happened in past generations of gossip, but now it is massively amplified, and on a world-wide stage. No responsibility or accountability. This happens not only on the scale of Trump tweets, but also in the local area of Milton Keynes/Newport Pagnell.

Before you next unload on social media—what about checking it out with God first, before posting?

Articles of all sorts to the Editor nevillefromnp@gmail.com

Copy Deadline 20th of each Month

Notices for activities at least a month before they will happen

Regularly check for events and activities and find the *Connections* archive at

www.ctnp.org.uk

Minister's Letter

Running, deepening faith and other New Year resolutions

We sometimes have visitors from Germany and they occasionally make interesting observations about life here.

When my nehews came on a visit, they noticed how many joggers there were in Newport Pagnell and Milton Keynes. They run themselves and were surprised by the great number of runners and also the great range of their ability. Whatever their level, they all share a great desire to get or stay fit.

I was reminded of that in recent weeks when I saw people running, especially early on Sunday morning when I'm in the car on my way to church. I admire those runners who are out on cold, dark and sometimes even wet mornings. Many of them have admirably stuck to their decision to start running. A decision they made at some point, whether that was around New Year or at some other time. Perhaps they noticed the positive improvement it made to their lives, physically and mentally, which probably spurred them on to keep going.

In the same way it is always possible to try to improve some area of our lives. We don't have to wait for the New Year. And now is perhaps a good time to look at any resolutions we may have made a few weeks ago and perhaps reaffirm or adjust them.

For Christians it is always a good time to deepen our faith by spending more time in prayer, or reading the bible, ideally on a regular basis and at a certain time of day. In doing this we can find ourselves in a closer walk with God, following his example, and reflecting his love and kindness to others.

*Deacon Klaus Reidel,
St Bede's Catholic Church*



Memory Club—making a mural

The Memory Club is now well into its fifth year of operation. The club meets on the second and fourth Thursday afternoons each month at the Brroklands Centre, now with an extra half hour from 2pm—4pm.



In addition to other activities, some members tackled a new creative project during August and September 2019. The artistic goal was to create a mosaic depicting Newport Pagnell featuring the iron bridge and river heritage.

Hilary Beckett designed the mural, and many of the mosaic tiles were donated by Stephen Reynolds, manager of Tile Giant in Bletchley.



The work is now complete, and a search is on to find a suitable position in the town to showcase the creative talents of Memory Club members.

With this in mind, Men in Sheds were contacted; they have viewed the artwork and decided how best to weatherproof and mount it. They are willing to donate their skills and time to perform these tasks entirely voluntarily; and Newport Pagnell Town Council is willing to fund the necessary materials for the task.

Displaying 'works of art' in a public place requires permission and at



the moment a couple of possible venues are under consideration.

[Extract and pictures from an article by Hazel Reynolds, edited by Olwen Smith]

Winter Night Shelter at Lovat Hall 2019-20

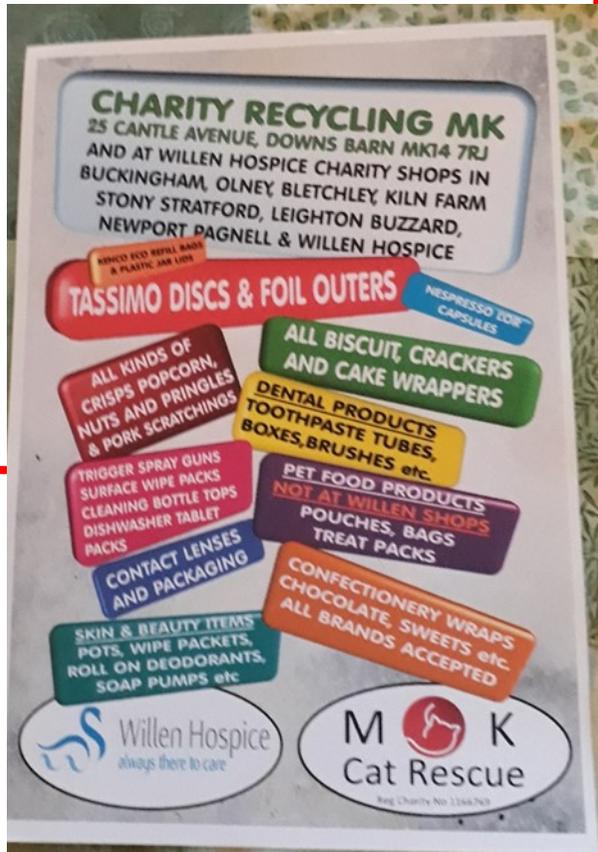
Last year there were 130 folk living on the street in the autumn in Milton Keynes. The Shelter temporarily looked after 120 of these between November and March, and managed to move 66 into longer-term accommodation. No one went on the street at the end of the Shelter and in total 2432 bed-nights were provided.



URGENT CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS register at
www.winternightsheltermk.com

All volunteers must register at this, the website for the Milton Keynes Winter Night Shelter (WNS), to comply with GDPR and to monitor and correspond as necessary;

for more info
contact Jonathan Longhurst
on 07933 598520
or
jon2longhurst@btinternet.com



LENT LUNCHESES

in the United Reformed Church

on Fridays from February 28th to April 3rd

at 12.00 to 1.15 pm

cost £4.00

soup, bread, cheese, with tea or coffee

All Profits will go to Christian Aid

UK charity number 1105851
Company number 5171525

CTNP LENT LUNCHEAS 2020

request for help

Offers of assistance are requested from ALL the churches and from anyone who has two hours to spare on one or more of the following Fridays in the period before Easter.

one or more of the six Fridays

Friday 28th Feb—Friday 3rd April

11.30am—1.45pm

at the United Reformed Church on the High Street

Money raised is for Christian Aid.

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. Working together as a team makes this enjoyable.

Contact: Jennifer Mazzone tel: 01908 613088 if you can offer your time and/or contribute homemade soup.

Pause for Thought

Saturday 29th February 10am—4pm

and

Sunday 1st March 11am—5.30pm

at St Peter & St Paul, the Parish Church,
High Street, Newport Pagnell

Marking the beginning of Lent, there will be prayer stations around the church; the theme: living in greater harmony with God, other people, and nature;

Based on the new Church of England publication
#Live Lent, Care for God's Creation.

Refreshments and activities for children



Newport Pagnell Methodist Church



Teapot and Sing

Meeting on

Monday 10th February 2020

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