

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MONDAY, 10th to FRIDAY 14th AUGUST, 10am – 12.30pm:

CTNP Children's Holiday Club at Lovat Hall

SATURDAY 22nd AUGUST 2015 at the Well at Willen: Reaching Out Workshop at the Well :

Forgiveness –What is it? Why, how and when do we give and receive it?

Contact bookings@thewellatwillen.org.uk or (01908) 242190 for more information.

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

www.ctnp.org.uk

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CONNECTIONS AUGUST 2015

Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.'

Matthew 19, v 14 (NRSV)

HOLIDAY CLUB 2015

10th to 14th August, 10am -12.30 at Lovat Hall



Holiday Club is nearly here, excited and praying! Exciting news - we have more than 130 children booked in and more than 40 volunteers. The materials from another church who have done this before are fantastic. For example, 12 double sheets with scenes on, giant parrots, trees... The place will look great!

We need lots of help setting up on Sunday evening, 9th August, 6pm-9pm. A great chance to meet folk too. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered. **YOU ARE APPRECIATED!**

Remember too that volunteers can stay for a simple lunch. (£1 a day) The lunch is a great chance to mix and get to know folk, all part of the fun.

Finally, a plea to everyone who reads this, please pray for all the children, families and volunteers involved in the Holiday Club this summer.

Articles to the Editor, Beth MacKay
Preferably by e-mail to beth.mackay@yahoo.co.uk Tel.01908 612475
Copy Deadline - 15th of each month

LETTER FROM A MINISTER

Do you still get letters?

I now only receive personal letters at Christmas and most of my written communication arrives by email. For many people even email is a bit dated, as there are now a number of other ways to send messages by mobile phone or computer. One person who still writes letters is the Pope. On important issues he sends letters to all the Catholic bishops in the world and they are known as *encyclicals*.

Pope Francis recently wrote an encyclical about how we treat our world. While this is an important contribution to green issues, the Pope goes a lot further. He asks the crucial question "What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us?" This makes it clear that the encyclical is not just about the environment, but about the whole purpose of our life on earth as individuals and as communities.

It is against this background that Pope Francis lays out his vision for our planet. He stresses in particular the vulnerability of the poor in the third world to climate change, because they feel its worst effects. Floods, for example, can have a devastating effect on whole communities and in many cases people who are affected lose all their possessions and their livelihoods. As Christians, for such reasons alone, we should do all we can to protect the environment. But it is not just the constant threat to such vulnerable communities that should motivate us to act but also what kind of world we want to leave to our children.

Deacon Klaus Reidel
St. Bede's Catholic Church

SUMMER FUN!

A reminder that Giant games (jenga etc) are available from CTNP.

- For church events - free!
- For birthdays etc. you may like to offer a small donation to CTNP.

Contact Linda or Geoff Morris on **01908 617050**.

NEWPORT PAGNELL METHODIST CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL: 'NEWPORT PAGNELL 1815 – 2015'

Many thanks to the three churches: St Luke's; Newport Pagnell URC and Queensway Methodist (Bletchley) for supporting our bi-centenary year Flower Festival. Also a big thank-you to members of the Emberton and District Flower Club and other friends from Newport Pagnell and Filgrave who willingly gave money and time (as did members of the above named churches) to make a variety of beautiful displays. Our gratitude must also go to the various sponsors in the town; the companies, societies and individuals who loaned artefacts, photographs etc. and to everyone who worked so hard, in various ways, before, during and after the very successful weekend.

It was a delight to welcome back the Rev Jean Hughes who was our Methodist Minister from 1986-1989. Jean visited the Flower Festival on Saturday, then preached and conducted Morning Worship to a packed church on Sunday. During the weekend we were delighted to receive nearly 200 visitors who generously contributed over £650 to our chosen charities: Willen Hospice and Karibuni Trust.

So, once again, thank-you to everyone who helped in any way!
Pearl Teasdale (Flower Festival Organiser)

EDUCATION GRANTS FROM THE JANE GOODMAN CHARITY

The charity has an income of approximately £250 per annum, from which small grants are available for students undertaking further education and apprentices. Applicants must be aged under 25 and residents of Newport Pagnell. Those wishing to be considered for grants to be made later this year can obtain an application form by writing to
The Secretary, Jane Goodman Charity, 19 Nene Close, Newport Pagnell MK16 9DE

CAN YOU HELP?

Additional helpers are needed to help organise CTNP activities relating to Christmas/Lent/Easter. If you can spare some time to help with any of these events, please contact Hazel Reynolds (hazel_reynolds@hotmail.co.uk). We are also looking for a team of volunteers to do some leaflet dropping in mid-December. If you can spare a couple of hours (or more) in December, please contact Neville Watson (nevillefromnp@gmail.com) now to register your willingness to help with this.