

# The Messenger



**Christ Church, Longridge "Living for Christ  
at the heart of the community"**  
[www.christchurchlongridge.org.uk](http://www.christchurchlongridge.org.uk)



**CHRIST  
CHURCH  
LONGRIDGE**

**MUSIC IN THE AFTERNOON**

*(ed 7)*

a welcome return of the

**'SOUTH PENNINE SINGERS'**

(co-directors Geoff Balson & Sue Temperley)

**Sunday May 11<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm**

**Tickets: £5 incl. refreshments**

(or pay at the door)

**All proceeds to Christian Aid**

**Contact: Carol Rose 01772 783680**

# A Poem by Janet I Edwards

O turn again you people of this beloved land  
And walk in paths of righteousness  
The Lord your God has planned  
And leave the empty, futile ways  
Of grasping, greed and gain  
And use your time to minister  
To those in grief and pain.  
Let's find again the joy that comes  
To those who serve and share  
Let's join together, hand in hand  
With all who really care  
To see this land embrace again  
The principles of peace,  
The faith our forebears taught and lived  
And right and love increase.

## **STOP PRESS**

We have been informed by Samaritan's Purse that the shoeboxes that went from Christ Church in November have gone to children in the Ukraine. The situation in Ukraine is very troubling at the moment so we have two good reasons to be praying for them at the moment.

## Friday Coffee Rota

<b>Mar 7<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs E Marven	<b>May 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Mrs E Marven
<b>Mar 14<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs M Cook	<b>May 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs Warren & Miss Hurlstone
<b>Mar 21<sup>st</sup></b>	Mrs B Warren & Miss O Hurlstone	<b>May 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs M Cook
<b>Mar 28<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs L Grange	<b>May 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Mrs L Grange
<b>Apr 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Rev E Hodgkiss	<b>May 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Rev E Hodgkiss
<b>Apr 11<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs S Lawson	<b>Jun 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs S Lawson
<b>Apr 18<sup>th</sup></b>	NO COFFEE	<b>Jun 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs A Barnes
<b>Apr 25<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs A Barnes	<b>Jun 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs E Marven
		<b>Jun 27<sup>th</sup></b>	Mrs Warren & Miss Hurlstone

## Walk For December - The Preston Guild Wheel

The Guild Wheel was a project to commemorate the 2012 Preston Guild and the object of the exercise was to join together a collection of pathways to provide a twenty one mile circular route of a good standard, for walkers and cyclists around Preston.

For our walk, we decided to concentrate on the best part of the route, taking in a length of the River Ribble. We started by catching the 'bus from Longridge to the Crematorium from where we started the walk, along the pretty driveway from which a path led off into Red Scar Woods followed by a steep descent into the river valley. From here, we entered the Lancashire Wildlife Reserve at Brockholes where squirrels were running around and a solitary buzzard soared overhead. The path now wandered through a series of small lakes, popular with fishermen and we later decided to stop to have a look at a new hide. Apparently, the original was soon

demolished by local vandals, so it was replaced by this hefty steel structure that would have survived WW3.

We now arrived at the river and a vote was taken as to whether we lunched at the centre or continue on to Avenham Park. As our performance had been quite brisk up to now, we decided to go straight to the park, along a wide pathway which passed under the M6, the A59 at Brockholes Brow and later crossed the busy A6 via a pedestrian crossing. Along this section, we encountered a small cart, pulled by a Shetland Pony and further along the path, we were passed by a group of cyclists from behind. During the walk, the cyclists were quite courteous, despite recent reports in the local press, but these were a little different, the first one rode a Victorian “Sit up and beg”, closely followed by a Penny-Farthing!

We were now entering Preston, along the Boulevard and were soon in Avenham Park and on to Miller Park for our scenic lunch stop. The Bolton group were genuinely impressed with the parks and two of us recounted our experiences of the park displays during the 1952 Guild.

All we had to do now was to cross the town to the ‘bus station and home, but on the way we gave a history tour to the “Foreigners.”

This was our first experience of the Guild Wheel and we were all quite impressed with it. The paths were in good shape and easy to follow, thanks to good signage. Now, how about doing the whole 21 miles on our bikes!

Linda & Eddie Grange

# Lent 2014

In January a Food Bank was opened in Longridge. This is a branch of the Trussell Trust Food Bank based in Clitheroe and is run by Churches Together in Longridge. It is based in St. Paul's Church and opens on Friday mornings. Food is only available to those with vouchers issued by a recognised authority. However the opening of the bank has meant that we have had to make some fairly late changes to our usual Lent arrangements. The Church of England hold the chairmanship of CTL during 2014 which would normally mean that any joint activities will take place in either St. Lawrence's or St. Paul's. The planning meetings and Friday prayers are taking place at St. Lawrence's but the Women's World Day of Prayer service cannot take place at St. Paul's as planned and will be transferred to Christ Church. A further change is that the service will take place at 11.00 am before the Lent lunch. It will also not be possible to hold a Lent lunch at St. Paul's so four lunches will take place at Christ Church but two of them will be prepared and staffed by the Church of England folk.

Much of the food distributed at the food bank comes from collections at supermarkets. Like several other of the Longridge churches, we are continuing to support other organisations helping those in need and in particular the Fox Street Night Shelter in Preston. There is a yellow/orange box in the foyer for any gifts. They are asking for gravy granules during March; cordials in April and UHT or powdered milk in May.

## **URC Vacancy**

We have had a letter from the Lancashire Area Convenor of the North West Synod telling us that Mrs Dianne Knight, the Area Secretary is to step down and therefore they are looking for a successor. There is a letter on the notice board with the job description. As there is no mention of money, we assume that this is a voluntary post and therefore would require someone with a considerable amount of time to offer. The letter also mentions two other voluntary posts on the Area Pastoral Committee which would be more manageable and probably quite interesting. If you are interested perhaps you could mention it to Sue Gaunt before the Synod/ Area Meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

When the Rev Ron Lewis preached recently, he quoted an ancient Jewish writer to the effect that a candle in the dark is of great use if it is in front of you, but of no use whatsoever if it is behind.

## **Pastoral Care Teams**

We are most grateful for all those who have carried out this task for many years. At our last meeting we received the resignation of Olive Hurlstone who has served the church in this capacity for many, many years and we want her to know how much she is appreciated and to wish her improved health in the future.

We are looking to involve more people in the general pastoral care of our community. We would like to find people who would be willing to train as pastoral visitors for the future and others who would be willing to deliver the magazine each quarter. We hope to form small teams with one or two experienced visitors, trainee visitors and supportive magazine distributors. If you would like to help in any way, please see Carol Spencer or the Minister.

# Ladies' Guild

The Guild meetings ended in December when members met at the Corporation Arms for their Annual Christmas Dinner. Fortunately we have a break in January as the weather is often bad --- this year especially. However we hope to meet on February 10<sup>th</sup> if the wind and rain is kind to us. Dot Little will be showing slides of views and buildings around Longridge and well-known buildings in other places.

This summer, it will be 50 years since 'The Young Wives' Fellowship' (which later became the Ladies' Guild) was started by David Jenkins who at the time was training for the ministry. A few of the present members joined shortly afterwards and there are some still around Longridge who are hoping to have a celebration later in the year.

Olive

## Worship And Events March - May

### March 2<sup>nd</sup>

AM Rev Nigel Lemon

PM Rev Ray Borg

### Friday March 7<sup>th</sup> *Womens' World Day of Prayer at Christ Church*

11.00am 'Streams in the Desert'

12noon Lenten Lunch at Christ Church

### March 9<sup>th</sup> *Lent I*

AM Rev Ray Borg (Holy Communion)

PM Sister Janet Edwards (at Park House)

### Friday March 14<sup>th</sup>

12noon Lenten Lunch at St Wilfrid's



**March 16<sup>th</sup>** *Lent 2*

AM Mr Ernest Wrennall

PM Mrs Carol Rose

**Friday March 21<sup>st</sup>**

*12noon* Lenten Lunch at Christ Church

**March 23<sup>rd</sup>** *Lent 3*

AM Rev Malcolm Hickox

PM Prof Alan Gillies

**Friday March 28<sup>th</sup>**

*12noon* Lenten Lunch at Christ Church

**March 30<sup>th</sup>** *Mothering Sunday*

AM Dr Carol Spencer

PM Rev Elizabeth Hodgkiss (Holy Communion)

**Friday April 4<sup>th</sup>**

*12noon* Lenten Lunch at St Wilfrid's

**April 6<sup>th</sup>** *Passion Sunday*

AM Rev Sue Griffiths

PM Mr Eric Bainbridge

**Friday April 11<sup>th</sup>**

*12noon* Lenten Lunch at Christ Church

**April 13<sup>th</sup>** *Palm Sunday*

AM Rev Mark Slaney

PM Dr Carol Spencer (at Park House)

**April 17<sup>th</sup>** *Maundy Thursday*

*7.30pm* Rev Nigel Lemon (Holy Communion)

**April 18<sup>th</sup>** *Good Friday*

10.45am Mr Henry Rose

12noon CTL gather at the Cross

**April 20<sup>th</sup>** *Easter Day*

Easter Sunrise on Beacon Fell

AM Rev Ray Borg (Holy Communion)

PM Miss Ruth Dowson

**April 27<sup>th</sup>** *Easter 2*

AM Mrs Zoe Ainsworth

PM Rev Ray Borg (Holy Communion)

**May 4<sup>th</sup>** *Easter 3*

AM Rev Ray Borg (Holy Communion)

followed by Christ Church Annual Meeting at 12.30pm

**May 11<sup>th</sup>** *Easter 4 / Christian Aid Week*

AM Henry and Carol Rose Christian Aid Week

2.30pm Music in the Afternoon with the South Pennine Singers

PM Rev Elizabeth Hodgkiss at Park House

**May 18<sup>th</sup>** *Easter 5*

AM Mr Steven Gregory

PM Rev Ray Borg (Holy Communion)

**May 25<sup>th</sup>** *Sunday before Ascension*

AM Mr Harry Duckett

PM Circuit Service at Kingsfold Methodist Church

# Walk For January - Condor Green Round

Finding a suitable walk this month proved to be a bit of a challenge because the endless heavy rain meant that the countryside was totally waterlogged and any walk that involved crossing a field was out of the question. Therefore, we decided to revisit an old favourite that would give us a circuit of good dry paths, or so we thought!

We started the walk from the car park at Condor Green and headed north on the old rail-bed of the Glasson branch line. This is a good pathway used by walkers and cyclists which takes you into Lancaster. However, we covered the first two miles, enjoying excellent views over the Lune estuary and the Lakeland hills and thankful for the excellent weather that the day provided.

We now left the coastal path and started the steep climb up to the village of Adcliffe, with its collection of large, smart modern houses, followed by a short section of main road walking down to the Lancaster Canal. From here we followed the tow-path south until we came to a bridge with a couple of seats and our leisurely lunch stop.

On our way again, the paved path came to an end and it became very wet. In places, the water drained off the adjoining fields directly over the path and into the canal. Later, looking to the fields on our right, we noticed three Heron, whilst over on the opposite bank, a Wagtail gave us a sprightly flying display. Later, we were passed by two narrow boats, both with weather protection in place at the rear, something rarely seen whilst on the move.

Eventually, we arrived at Galgate and were met by three beautiful Swans just before the junction of the Glasson Link. The pathway down to Glasson Dock was just as bad as the previous one, but improved as we passed the locks. Eventually, we left the canal at

Thurnham mill and returned to Condor Green by road, finally stopping for a coffee at the Cafe'd Lune.

It appears that the next few walks will be somewhat "Urban" as we search for good dry solid pathways and more and more of our traditional haunts disappear under water. However, we will always come up with something worthwhile as the North West has such a wide variety of opportunities.

Linda & Eddie Grange

# **CHRIST CHURCH LONGRIDGE**

## **LUNCHTIME CONCERT**

**Friday Feb 28th 12.30pm**

**Chloe Knibbs Piano/Voice  
Jason McMahon Clarinet/Voice**

### **'MOMENTS OF MEDITATION'**

*Chloe and Jason are 3rd year Music students from the University of Manchester. They perform a varied program including two new works written by the performers themselves, as well as works from more familiar composers such as Brahms and Vaughan Williams.*

**free admission - freewill donations to  
Macmillan Cancer Support and  
Cystic Fibrosis Trust**

**Contact: Carol Rose 783680**

# Dates for your diary

## **Monday March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Worship Leaders and Preachers' Meeting at Trinity Church, Gregson Lane

## **Tuesday March 4<sup>th</sup>**      (*Shrove Tuesday*)

7.30pm    CTL meeting at St Lawrence's

## **Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup>**    (*Ash Wednesday*)

7.30pm    Circuit Service (see notices for venue)

## **Friday March 7<sup>th</sup>**      (*Women's World Day of Prayer at Christ Church*)

10.00am    Rehearsal

11.00am    Service written by the Christian women of Egypt

12-1pm    First Lenten Lunch in the Hall

(prepared by St Lawrence's with St Paul's)

## **Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup>**

9am-4pm    Inspire Day at Runshaw College

(see leaflets in foyer or ask John Spencer for details)

Also URC Spring Synod    please see Sue Gaunt for more information

## **Sunday March 9<sup>th</sup>**

3.00pm    Connexion Zone

## **Wednesday March 12<sup>th</sup>**

7.30pm    URC Preachers' Meeting (provisionally at Poulton)

## **Friday March 14<sup>th</sup>**

12.00    Lenten Lunch at St Wilfrid's

## **Monday March 17<sup>th</sup>**

7.30pm    Circuit Meeting at Kingsfold Methodist Church

## **Friday March 21<sup>st</sup>**

12.00    Lenten Lunch at Christ Church

## **Saturday March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

9.30am    Safeguarding Secretaries at Ingol

**Wednesday March 26<sup>th</sup>**

10.00am (probably) Connexion Zone with Barnacre Road School and 2toSchool

**Friday March 28<sup>th</sup>**

12.00 Prepared by St Lawrence's with St Paul's and served in Christ Church Hall

**Sunday March 30<sup>th</sup> (Mothering Sunday)**

**Friday April 4<sup>th</sup>**

12.00 Lenten Lunch at St. Wilfrid's for Alston Lane

**Friday April 11<sup>th</sup>**

12.00 Lenten Lunch at Christ Church

**Sunday April 13<sup>th</sup>**

3.00pm Connexion Zone

**Thursday April 17<sup>th</sup> (MAUNDY THURSDAY)**

for details of all Easter Weekend Services see separate article

**Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup>**

12.30pm The Annual General Meeting will take place after the morning service. This may take a while so bring your sandwiches. There will be closing devotions at the end of the service and therefore there will not be an evening service.

**May 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>** will be Christian Aid week. Following the pattern of the last two years there will be a Civic Hall Coffee Day; a Quiz and a Concert to raise money for Christian Aid.

The concert will take place on **Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup>** – see elsewhere in the magazine for details.

Other times have to be confirmed but the Coffee Day will probably be on **Thursday May 8<sup>th</sup>** and the Quiz on **Friday May 9<sup>th</sup>** in advance of the official week. Full details will be in the notices nearer the time. If you would like to do a door to door collection please see Pam Cliff.

**Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup>**

9.00am Methodist District Synod

**Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup>**

3.00pm Connexion Zone

**ADVANCE NOTICES**

**Tuesday June 3<sup>rd</sup>**

7.30pm The Local Preachers' Meeting will be at Christ Church  
(help with brewing up would be appreciated)

**Thursday June 5<sup>th</sup>**

Coffee Day at the Civic Hall (Volunteers are required for all coffee days – there are a variety of tasks – we need gifts of food especially desserts for the meals; home made cakes and home made jams and marmalades for sale; items for the bric-a-brac stall; people to look after the stalls and above all kitchen staff to serve food and wash-up. For full details please see Pam Cliff)

**Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup>** 3.00 pm Connexion Zone

**Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup>** LONGRIDGE FIELD DAY

**Sunday June 15<sup>th</sup>** Christ Church Anniversary with John Ellis the Lay Moderator of the URC followed by a Jacob's Join lunch. We are contemplating a 'back to church' evening service so watch out for more information.

**June 29<sup>th</sup>** CIVIC SUNDAY 11.00am at St Paul's

**Just to Finish the Messenger** (some thoughts from Margaret Mohyla)

'When you can't sleep, don't count sheep, talk to the Shepherd'

'The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time.'  
Abraham Lincoln

# Services

# Events

# Activities

# Adverts

## SUNDAY

- 9.00am** Prayer Breakfast\*  
\*Normally 1st Sunday of month
- 10.45am** Morning Worship &  
Junior Church
- 3.00pm** Connexion Zone\*  
\*Normally 2nd Sunday of month
- 6.30pm** Evening Worship\*  
\*2nd Sunday at Park House

## MONDAY

- 10.00am** Craft Club
- 7.45pm** Ladies Guild\*  
\*2nd and 4th Monday each month

## FRIDAY

- 7.45am** CTL Morning Prayers\*  
\*At St Paul's in 2014
- 10.00am** Coffee Morning

## SATURDAY

- 9.30am** Christ Church Ramblers\*  
\*2nd Saturday each month

**MINISTER:** Rev Ray Borg      01772 768112  
15 Millersgate, Cottam. PR4 0AZ

(Church Secretary) Mrs Mel Watson      01772 783581 or  
(Senior Steward) Geoff Balson      01772 655129 or  
(Pastoral Secretary) Dr Carol Spencer      01772 782829

**EDITOR:** Robin Spencer  
20 Market Place, Longridge  
robspencer@o2.co.uk