

Dates for Your Diary

April

- 3.4.13 Long Buckby 2.15 pm Ladies' Circle
 4.4.13 Creaton 12.00 Nosh and Natter (men's lunch)
 6.4.13 Long Buckby 10.30-11.30 am Charity Coffee Morning
 6.4.13 Crick 10.30-12.00 noon Coffee Morning
 9.4.13 Kilsby Tuesday Guild - Lunch out
 11.4.13 Long Buckby 10.00 am Ladies' Circle visit to Weedon URC
 12.4.13 Long Buckby 10.00 am Bible Study, 25 Wright Road
 12.4.13 Long Buckby 7.30-10.00 pm 2nd Buskers' Evening
 18.4.13 Creaton 12.30 pm Over 70's Lunch
 23.4.13 Kilsby 2.15 pm Tuesday Guild - Red, white and blue
 25.4.13 Long Buckby 2.30 pm Church Secretaries' Meeting LB URC
 26.4.13 Long Buckby 10.00 am Bible Study, 25 Wright Road

May

- 1.5.13 Long Buckby 2.15 pm Ladies' Circle
 2.5.13 Creaton 12.00 Nosh and Natter (men's lunch)
 4.5.13 Crick 10.30-12.00 noon Coffee Morning
 4.5.13 Long Buckby 10.30-11.30 am Charity Coffee Morning
 7.5.13 Kilsby 2.15 pm Tuesday Guild - Brenda Cuthbert
 10.5.13 Long Buckby 10.00 am Bible Study, 25 Wright Road
 11.5.13 Kilsby 2.00 pm Jumble sale
 16.5.13 Creaton 12.30 pm Over 70's Lunch
 18.5.13 Long Buckby 10.00-12.00 noon Spring Coffee Morning
 21.5.13 Kilsby 2.15 pm Tuesday Guild - Flowers
 31.5.13 Long Buckby 10.00 am Bible Study, 25 Wright Road

June

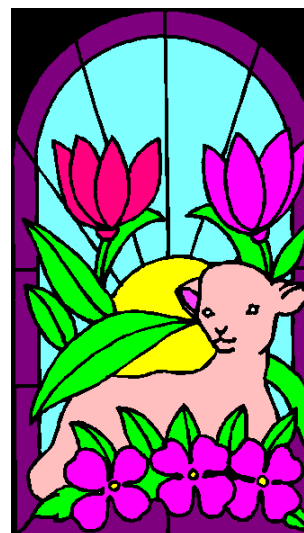
- 1.6.13 Long Buckby 10.30-11.30 am Charity Coffee Morning
 1.6.13 Crick 10.30-12.00 noon Coffee Morning

The Good News

From Long Buckby, Creaton, Crick
 and Kilsby
 (North West Northants. Pastorate)



April & May 2013



Page

Rosemary's Ramblings	2
Ascension Day & Whit Sunday	3
Creaton News	4-5
Kilsby News	6
The Good News Magazine	6
Buskers' Evening	7
Preaching Diary	8-9
Crick News	10
Long Buckby News	11-12
Letter from Gwennie Wilkes	13
Interpreting Bar Codes	14
Pastorate Events	15
Dates for your Diary	16

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Rosemary's Ramblings

Anyone who has ever had anything to do with children, especially young children, will be aware as to just how gifted kids can be at causing you embarrassment. Children seem to arrive with a well-honed talent for saying just the wrong thing, at the wrong time, in a particularly loud voice, leaving those "in charge" of them with very red faces.

This happened at one of my churches just recently. It was during Communion. Here in the URC we use bread rather than wafers. A large slice of bread is broken and placed on the plate (or plates) holding tiny squares of bread and these plates are then taken around the congregation for them to take a piece.

Of course, we who are grown-ups know that etiquette says you take a small piece of bread, which you hold quietly in your hand until you invited to eat it, which is also done in total silence.

But Charlie didn't know that - why should he? There are lots of things that a 3(ish) year old doesn't yet know. So, when the plate comes around, Charlie takes the big piece. From where I was standing at the front of the church I could see his mum flush with embarrassment. One of those "I wish the ground would swallow me up" moments. But worse was to come. Having eaten the bread Charlie then exclaimed in a very loud voice "mmm yummy".

Needless to say, mum was full of apologies after the service. But you know, I think Charlie got it right and it is we grown-ups who need to learn. Because as I see it, the whole business of communion, of receiving bread and wine, is to remind ourselves of Jesus' great love for us - a love that involved the giving of his life. Maybe we should be keener to receive a big chunk of that love rather than the tiny piece that we usually take. And just as Charlie clearly made his enjoyment known, so should we.

Jesus calls us to share what we know - go and make disciples of all people - and Jesus also said we should be as children. Now I don't think that means going back to temper tantrums and nappies, but I do think it sometimes means saying it with the innocence of a child. Telling other people just how Jesus makes us feel.

Rosemary Pullen

What's Going on in the Pastorate

COFFEE - If you fancy a coffee, a warm welcome awaits you:-

Kilsby is open for coffee and snacks every Monday and Thursday from 9.00 am until midday.

Long Buckby runs a charity Coffee Morning, the 1st Saturday morning in every month 10.30-11.30 am

Crick also runs a charity Coffee Morning, the 1st Saturday morning in every month 10.30-12.00 noon.

Creton has Poppies Coffee Shop - open from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday (closed Thursday).

BIBLE STUDY

Long Buckby offers Bible Study on alternate Fridays at 25 Wright Road, starting at 10.00 am. Contact Michael Bond (01327 842234) for more details.



Creton offers Bible Study every Tuesday afternoon (term time only) at 2.00 pm. Contact the Church Secretary (01604 843864) for more details.

FELLOWSHIP

Creton's Over 70's lunch Club meets at 12.30 pm on 3rd Thursday of each month

For the Ladies: Kilsby Guild meets on alternate Tuesdays at 2.15 pm. More details from the Church Secretary (01788 823752)

Long Buckby Ladies' Circle meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month in the small hall at 2.15 pm

For the Men - Creton host "Nosh and Natter" (Men's lunch) on the 1st Thursday of every month at 12.00 noon.

Children and Young People - Junior church is offered at Creton and Long Buckby every Sunday.

Buy British - Interpreting Bar Codes

When you have a product scanned at the checkout in shops, do you ever wonder about the bar code and what it is all about?

October 2012 was the 60th anniversary of the barcode patent, filed in the US in 1952. However the distinctive black-and-white stripes did not make their first appearance in a shop until 1974 - because the laser technology used to read them did not exist. The first item to be scanned by a barcode was a packet of chewing gum in an Ohio supermarket in 1974.

Many products no longer show where they were made, only give where the distributor is located. So if you want to track its origin, you need to be able to read the bar code.

If the first 3 digits of the barcode are 690 691 or 692, the product is made in China. If the bar code starts with 471 then the product is made in Taiwan . Nowadays, Chinese businessmen know that consumers may not choose to buy products made in China, so they don't show from which country it is made.

However, you may now refer to the barcode - remember if the first 3 digits are:

690-695	Then it is made in China
000 - 019	Its from USA
300 - 379	Originates in France
400 - 440	Comes from Germany
471	Made in Taiwan
490 - 499	All the way from Japan
500 - 509	This is the one to buy - its made in the UK



Buy 'BRITISH' by watching for "50" at the beginning of the number.

Ascension Day and Whitsun

Ascension Day is one of the earliest Christian festivals dating back to the year 68 CE. According to the New Testament in the Bible, Jesus Christ met with his disciples several times during the 40 days after his resurrection to instruct them on how to carry out his teachings. It is believed that on the 40th day he took them to the Mount of Olives, where they watched as he ascended to heaven.



Ascension Day marks the end of the Easter season and occurs ten days before Pentecost. Depending upon the phases of the moon in a particular year, Ascension Day is usually celebrated on a Thursday. However, some churches may choose to celebrate it on the following Sunday (the Catholic Church in England and Wales celebrates it on the Sunday). Many Eastern Orthodox churches calculate the date of pascha (Easter) according to the Julian calendar, rather than the Gregorian calendar used by many western churches, so their Ascension Day usually occurs after the western observance. For us Ascension Day this year falls on Thursday, 9th May

Pentecost (Whitsun) is the seventh Sunday after Easter and commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples (and the birth of the Christian Church). Whitsun this year falls on 19th May.

Share Your Smallest Problem

We sometimes fail to bring our problems to God because they seem so small but if they're large enough to trouble us and endanger our welfare, they are large enough to touch his heart of love.

Psalms 42:5



MISSION STATEMENT

- Worship God joyfully
- Offer Christ faithfully
- Promote growth hopefully
- Serve others lovingly

Some of you will be familiar with the work of Torch Trust a Christian organisation based in Market Harborough whose main purpose is to enable people with sight loss to discover the Christian faith and lead fulfilling Christian lives. The work involves making available Christian resources and activities for blind and partially sighted people worldwide.



Torch Trust has a strong presence in Malawi particularly in the area of the Shire River.

So it is very fitting that in the spring issue of the Torch Family News magazine that tribute is paid to the great missionary explorer David Livingstone who was born 200 years ago on 19th March 1813. In Malawi, which he named Nyasaland (Land of the Lake) there are plenty of reminders of him including the City of Blantyre, named after his birthplace, and an area in the north called Livingstonia.

David Livingstone's exploration of the Zambezi first brought him up the Shire River, through the very area where much of Torch's work in that country is concentrated.

Largely resulting from his mission there is a strong church in the country today. It is encouraging that more and more of those churches are including blind people in their activities. Let us pray that the church established all those years ago continues to go from strength to strength.

Dear Friends

Three months of this year gone already, although they can be very long if one is confined to the house.

How wonderful that the beautiful spring flowers are all coming into bloom. I am surprised that the flowers are coming out at all in this very cold weather - but they certainly cheer us up if we are feeling a bit low.



"Are you keeping well?" This is a typical question we ask one another when we meet and hopefully we are able to say "yes, thank you."

Some of our friends have suffered with the dreadful winter bug - or virus, which seems to spread very quickly and it's amazing when you think back to where you may have been to catch these bugs - you can't come up with a suitable answer.



I can't remember a winter recently when I have seen so many woolly hats worn, and well done to those who keep their heads warm.

Give a thought for the farmers and the vegetable growers who must be getting worried with the ground being so wet and cold and not being able to sow their crops. Most of us have only a small patch to cultivate, but fields of mud must surely be a headache. Pray to God that the weather will soon improve and enable everyone to get planting.

Best wishes to you all. Keep smiling and be happy.

God bless

Gwennie Wilkes

Long Buckby News

GIFT DAY

Our annual gift day will be held on Saturday, 6th April. Gifts will be gratefully received at the coffee morning, or can be put in the Church collection or handed to Treasurer or one of the Elders of the Church.

Even God Enjoys a Laugh

There were three arguments that Jesus was black:

1. He called everyone brother
2. He liked Gospel
3. He didn't get a fair trial

There were three arguments that Jesus was Jewish:

1. He went into his Father's business
2. He lived at home until he was 33
3. He was sure his Mother was a virgin and his Mother was sure he was God

There were three good arguments that Jesus was Californian:

1. He never cut his hair
2. He walked around barefoot all the time
3. He started a new religion

Then there were three good arguments that Jesus was Irish:

1. He never got married
2. He was always telling stories
3. He loved green pastures

But the most compelling evidence of all that Jesus was a woman:

1. He fed a crowd at a moments notice when there was virtually no food
2. He kept trying to get a message across to a bunch of men who just didn't get it
3. And even when he was dead, he had to get up because there was still work to do!

Creaton News

We would value your prayers for:

- John and Dawn Horrocks, John is at home, but is often in pain, please pray for release from pain for John and that Dawn will be given strength both physically and spiritually to care for John.
- Lorna that she will experience God's peace and presence and that she will be able to get out again when the weather improves.
- Alan & Carolyn that they will be given strength and patience each day particularly in those difficult moments.

Reg Thomas

Poppies Coffee Shop is open daily from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Poppies is closed on Thursdays. *Everyone is very welcome.*

You are warmly welcome to join us for Sunday Worship & Junior Church. For more information on the activities at Creaton United Reformed Church, please visit the Creaton website www.creaton.org.uk Click on Churches and then click on United Reformed Church

A Missionary deep in the jungle came across a Witch Doctor who was pounding his drum furiously. "What's the matter?" asked the Missionary with some trepidation.

"We have no water" replied the Witch Doctor.

"Oh, I see", said the Missionary. "You're praying for rain?"

"No I'm not" replied the Witch Doctor, "I'm sending for the plumber".



Kilsby News

*Tuesday Guild at 2.15 pm unless stated otherwise***

April 9**	Lunch Out
April 23	Red, white and Blue
May 7	Brenda Cuthbert
May 21	Flowers

Forthcoming Events

- ◆ Our Annual Quiz sheets will be available during April - £1 donation
- ◆ Jumble Sale on May 11 at 2.00 pm
- ◆ Church Anniversary with Rev Malcolm Deacon - June 5 at 7.00 pm
- ◆ Concert by the Nene Consort Woodwind Group - July 3 at 7.30pm

Beryl Lees

The Good News Magazine

First of all, huge thanks to Gretta for taking care of the pastorate magazine for such a long time. Your efforts and expertise have been much appreciated, Gretta. Thank you very much.

Unfortunately, no one else has come forward to take on the role of Editor, so this will be the final edition of The Good News magazine.

Rosemary

What a shame this is the last one! Creating this publication has been fun and kept me busy for a few evenings every couple of months as well as honing my skills using Publisher. Getting items in from a variety of people and searching for "fillers" and clipart has been a joy. If anyone has the time and energy (and a computer!) - it's a most rewarding pastime that you can do in the comfort of your own home and benefit all four churches.

Gretta (Editor)

Long Buckby News

Flower Rota

1 April	Grace Mawby
8 April	Eva Brownlie
15 April	Moira Hodgkinson
22 April	Kath Packer
29 April	Group Service
6 May	Shirley Bruce
13 May	Rita Stowe
20 May	Sian Ellison
27 May	Wendy Baker



Please contact Eva Brownlie (01327 844056) for any enquiries regarding your Flower Sunday.

Birthdays

April

8 th April	Janet Wastnage
17 th April	Alan Wastnage
18 th April	Moira Hodgkinson
25 th April	Don Bird

May

6 th May	Diana Babb
13 th May	Richard Bignell
23 rd May	Mark Ellison

Wanted ...



A small hand bell for domestic use - can you help? Please phone Tony on 01604 770806.

Hope Centre

We will continue to collect soup and packets of dried pasta over the next two months.

Gifts of food can be left in the Church and they will be transferred to the appropriate box.

Website

If you need to find out anything about Long Buckby URC (including its history, events, baptisms and burial records) just log on to our website www.longbuckbyurc.org.uk

Coffee Morning Donations - So far this year, we have sent £100 each to Children Today and CLIC Sargent (both charities for children with cancer) and to Comic Relief.

Our next coffee morning is on 4th April. Please note, there will be *no coffee morning in July* as we have a wedding on 6th July. Join us instead on 13th July - see below.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

◆ **19th June 7.00 pm 192nd Anniversary**
Our speaker will be Geoff Townsend. The service will be followed by refreshments.

◆ **13th July 3.00-5.00 pm Strawberry Teas**
This year, we have changed the date of our popular fund raiser to coincide with ...



◆ **Crick Scarecrow Weekend 13th - 14th July**
So come and walk round the village, admire the scarecrows, and work up a healthy appetite for your tea. We will also serve tea and cakes all weekend apart from our Sunday service time.



Birthdays

26th April Beth Stanley
27th April Joy Cawker No birthdays in May



Sabbatical - We wish Rosemary a productive time during her sabbatical, and look forward to seeing her Ramblings in print.

Finally - Thank you, Gretta, for so many editions of Good News.

Jenny Goodger

2nd Great Buskers' Evening

Friday, 12th April

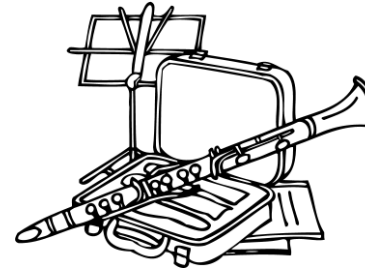
7.30 - 10.00 pm

Long Buckby United Reformed Church Hall

Can you play an instrument? Solo or a group?

Music, comedy, theatre - all welcome

Come along and share your enthusiasm with others



Light refreshments available

**Bring Your Own alcoholic drinks
- we can provide glasses**

**For more information please contact Richard
(01327 844979)**

or e-mail: info@longbuckbyurc.org.uk

Sponsored by Verdes of Long Buckby

01327 843161

PREACHING DIARY - APRIL AND MAY 2013

Date	Long Buckby (All services at 11.00 am. except 9.00 am on 2 nd Sunday in month)	Crick (All services at 11.00 am. except 9.00 am on 3 rd Sunday in month)	Creaton (All services at 11.00 am. except 9.00 am on 4 th Sunday in month)	Kilsby (All services at 11.00 am. except 9.00 am on 1 st Sunday in month)
Sunday 7 th April	Ian Harrison	Rev. Conrad Husk with Holy Communion	Rev. Geoff Townsend	9.00 am Rev Geoffrey Townsend with Holy Communion
Sunday 14 th April	9.00 am Rev. Michael Bond	Alan Fox	Marion Heard Pilots Parade Service	Mike Hoyer
Sunday 21 st April	Kathleen Paxton	9.00 am Rev. Michael Bond	Vaughan Griffiths	Martin Buckby
Sunday 28 th April	Rev. Geoffrey Townsend with Holy Communion	Tony Cervantes	9.00 am Jon Heard with Holy Communion	Trevor Boyes
Sunday 5 th May	Rev. Conrad Husk	Kath Paxton	Jon Heard with Holy Communion	9.00 am Rev Michael Heighton with Holy Communion
Sunday 12 th May	9.00 am Rev. Geoffrey Townsend	Beth Stanley	Martin Buckby	Clive Leakey
Sunday 19 th May	Margaret Hooper	9.00 am Louise Wilkin	Mary Barrett	Tony Cervantes
Sunday 26 th May	Rev. Michael Bond with Holy Communion	Alan Fox	9.00 am Rev. Geoff Townsend with Holy Communion	Rev. Conrad Husk

Rev. Rosemary Pullen's Sabbatical

Our Minister is away on a 3 months sabbatical between 1st April and 30th June. Any queries during this time should be directed to the Secretary of each individual church.

We wish Rosemary well in her writings and pray that she finds spiritual renewal and refreshment during her time away from her four churches.

Christian Aid Week, 12-18 May 2013

Today around 870 million people are desperate for food. One in eight people go to bed hungry each night. **This is a scandal.** But IF we **bite back at hunger** this Christian Aid Week we can help communities find ways to not only survive but to thrive, with enough food to eat not just today but tomorrow.

