



# Little Lane Church

## Church Community News



**Autumn 2010**



# Little Lane Church

Partnership of Baptist, Methodist & United Reformed

## Little Lane Church

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## Welcome to the Little Lane Newsletter.

*As we move towards Autumn we reflect on some of our summer activities, look at what it means to be an Elder and find out how two of our church members met!*

## **IN THIS EDITION .....**

**Page 3 - A Real Gem:** Revd Lynn Britten reflects on her summer holiday.

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**Page 4 - Remember me?:** Letters from old friends.

**Page 5 - One world week.**

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**Page 10 - Living with the Big 'C':** A cancer sufferer reflects on what it's like to live with Cancer.

**Page 12 - How we met:** A new, hopefully regular feature about how church members met their partners. This edition, Neil & Patricia Parker.

**Page 13 - Bradford Food Bank:** Keith Thomson

**Page 14 - Angel Daze:** A story and wordsearch for the young and old.

Further copies of this magazine can be downloaded from our website:

**<http://www.littlelanechurch.org.uk/>**

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## **LARGE PRINT EDITION AVAILABLE**

Little Lane Church - Church Community News : Summer 2010



# A REAL GEM

Our summer holiday this year was spent in a cottage on the moors near Wildboarclough, Derbyshire. The views from the cottage were wonderful and we regularly drove through Flash, the highest village in England.

One of our days out was spent at Chatsworth House. We explored the house, gardens, farm and wood. It is a spectacular place and well equipped to cater for visitors' needs.

A few miles away is another stately home called Haddon Hall. The difference between the two buildings is striking.

Haddon Hall is easy to miss. The car park is on the roadside and the grounds are entered by crossing the road and walking through a gap in the hedge. Everything at Haddon Hall is on a much smaller scale than Chatsworth. However, the phrase a real gem fits Haddon Hall perfectly. The furnishings are much plainer than at Chatsworth and give the Hall a greater sense of history. There is also an atmosphere of intimacy and tranquillity which is absent at Chatsworth.

This experience led me to reflect on Jesus' ministry. There were times when the multitudes flocked to hear his teaching but there were also times of great intimacy: breakfast on the beach; having a meal at Bethany; healing Jairus' daughter and the woman who touched Jesus' garment.

For many of us, times spent within a crowd worshipping God can be uplifting and encouraging. But it is often the intimate encounters with God that deepen and strengthen our faith. Too often we settle for the experience within the crowd. Sometimes we need to take a risk and spend time alone with God in order to experience something very special.



*Lynn Britten*

# *Called to be an Elder?*

Eldership within Little Lane encompasses the qualities of leadership required within all three denominations.

The role of an Elder involves:

- ***being part of a team;***
- ***sharing with the minister in the pastoral oversight of the local Church;***
- ***being responsible for meeting the spiritual and social needs of the local Church;***
- ***developing a spirit of harmony and fellowship;***
- ***fostering witness and service, evangelism, Christian education and ecumenical action within the community;***
- ***overseeing the work of Church organisations;***
- ***enabling public worship to take place on a regular basis.***

Eldership is a call to develop and grow in faith, through prayer, worship, sacraments and learning. If you are nominated this year for a role within the team of Elders it means that others have recognised your gifts and abilities. Please consider prayerfully whether you can accept this avenue of service; working within a team to develop the life and witness of the Church.

## Remember me?

In the past, this magazine has been posted to a number of former members of Little Lane Church. Since changing the format, Jenny has received some feedback from people wishing to be remembered. Throughout this edition you will find excerpts from letters and emails we have received over the last six months.



“It is 8 ½ years since I left Bradford to return to Somerset. Whilst I miss my Baptist involvement , I am now a member of Glastonbury Methodist Church

ONE WORLD WEEK,  
17 – 24 October



[www.oneworldweek.org](http://www.oneworldweek.org)

This year, the focus is:

**Peacing Together One World.**

A culture of peace can be established at many levels: through inner peace and peace within the family; harmony within the community; justice and nonviolence on a global scale.

What can you do?

- Be a more peaceful person
- Listen more attentively to others at home
- Cut out an item you don't need and give a bit more away
- Tell a friend what s/ he means to you
- Make a new acquaintance from a different culture

Stand up for someone who is being wrongly treated

***Brenda Thomson***



in the newly formed Somerset Mendip Circuit.....  
...I miss my many dear friends at Little Lane. My 14 years in Bradford were a very special time of my Christian journey. With happy memories and my love, Eileen Stephenson”

“We are very happy here at the foot of Ben Nevis, hobbling round on our sticks. My husband still drives so we can do our own shopping. Everyone is very kind, neighbours and family. I still have a lot of happy memories of Little Lane and going back to the old church at Simes St.

Regards to all my friends at Little Lane, Joan Joyce”



## Community Connections

Bradford Youth Players (BYP) is unique, being the only youth club in West Yorkshire which uses the performing arts as the basis for its youth work.



BYP run performing arts activities for 8-25 year olds from our base at Little Lane Church. BYP welcome all young people who are interested in any aspect of the performing arts. We combine the elements of a theatre school and an amateur dramatic group in a fun, inclusive, relaxed and safe environment. Through BYP, young people develop their performing arts abilities while also building self-confidence and gaining valuable personal and social skills.

BYP perform regular shows at our base at Little Lane and other venues in the district. There are also other regular performance opportunities at events throughout Yorkshire: and all this for only £2.50 per week!

BYP run four Performing Arts Youth Clubs:

<i>Juniors:</i>	<i>(school years 3 to 6)</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>6:30pm – 8.30pm</i>
<i>Inters:</i>	<i>(school years 7 to 11)</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>7:30pm – 9.30pm</i>
<i>Seniors:</i>	<i>(age 16 to 25)</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>7:30pm – 9.30pm</i>
<i>Just Drama :</i>	<i>(age 13 to 21)</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>7:30pm – 9.30pm</i>

BYP are currently looking for volunteers to assist with all aspects of a busy youth club. If you can spare any time to assist with costumes, props, stage management, chaperoning, administration or even if you want to become a trustee of this thriving group, please get in touch.

*If you are interested and would like further information, please come to a session at Little Lane, visit our website [www.bradforyouthplayers.co.uk](http://www.bradforyouthplayers.co.uk) or contact Lee McCormack, BYP General Manager on 07912468458 (email: [lee.byp@o2.co.uk](mailto:lee.byp@o2.co.uk)).*

*BYP is supported by Bradford Metropolitan District Council.*



# THANK YOU

Jessica would like to say a big thank you to everyone who generously gave time and money towards her fundraising efforts. The money raised has paid the full cost of her place on the BMS Action Team (£3,950) and covered the extra expense of inoculations and tablets.

She left Bradford Interchange on Monday 13th September and headed down to Selly Oak for her four weeks training at the IMC (International Mission Centre).

Her flight to Kolkata is booked for 17th October and we look forward to hearing about her trip in the coming months.

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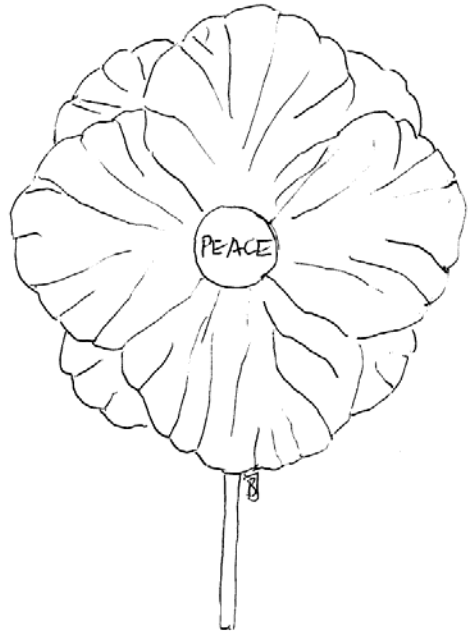
## WORKING FOR PEACE WITHOUT VIOLENCE

*www.whitepoppy.org*

As long as there have been wars, there have been individuals and groups working to prevent them and to create the social conditions in which armed conflict need not arise.

The White Poppy was introduced in 1933 by The Cooperative Women's Guild. In the years following the First World War, concern grew that domestic and international tensions would result in an even worse war. The white poppy was an expression of this concern.

The white poppy is a symbol of our inability to settle conflicts without resorting to killing. While the red poppy raises funds for the British Legion, the white poppy represents a commitment to work for a world where conflicts will be resolved without violence. The white poppy promotes a culture of peace.



***Brenda Thomson***

# The Big Lunch @ Little Lane

On the 18th July in Little Lane we had a street party. The idea took shape when we heard about the 'Big Lunch', an initiative of the Eden Project in Cornwall. The belief behind it is that when people come together and have fun we become more positive. We are able to build new friendships that can be enjoyed throughout the year. It is the start of a journey to rebuild our



communities which the Eden Project call 'heart warming'. Little



Lane Church, Bradford Youth Players and Community Development workers came together to organise the day. Local businesses supported the event by giving food & plates, carpet and other accessories. Local residents and members of the church helped with the food preparation and served on the day. Manningham Healthy Living Project gave out fresh fruit and 'Playspace' provided entertainment for the children. There were also games with a parachute. The church worship band entertained us with music





and members of Bradford Youth Players sang pieces from musicals. Altogether approx. 200 people attended the event from Little Lane, Duckworth Grove and Duckworth Terrace.

This was an opportunity to meet our neighbours and to celebrate living in Girlington. It was also an opportunity for the diversity of faith and culture to come together in an environment of acceptance. The

weather stayed fine and everyone was able to have a good time. In fact, the street party went so well we have already



had requests that it happen again next year. I hope this is an indication of the 'heart warming' that took place in Little Lane on the 18th July 2010.

My thanks go to CNET, Bradford West Area Toller/City Ward Coordinator, and local Police for supporting the event.

**Lynn Britten**



# Living with the *Big 'C'*

Many of us are affected, directly or indirectly, by the Big C: cancer. It is often difficult to know how to help those who suffer from this dreadful disease. Having personal experience of the ups and downs of dealing with cancer, I have been asked to share some of my observations.

*A smile, a hug  
or a hand on the  
shoulder is worth a  
thousand words.*

A smile, a hug or a hand on the shoulder is worth a thousand words.

Asking a direct question about treatment is not always helpful. A general question such as, "Is everything ok?" leaves it open for a detailed reply or just a nod of thanks.

Asking what you have done differently with your hair is a very difficult question to answer in the early stages of hair loss. It is better to look beyond a person's immediate appearance. Someone made me feel a million dollars by saying how good I looked and that he always thought I made the best of everything. Bless that man for not being specific!



At each stage of the treatment, it was important to talk things over with my nearest and dearest. Only then could I begin to accept what was happening and discover the lighter side of my situation. This acceptance made it possible to share my experiences with a wider circle of friends. After all, nobody really wants to hear you moan about how badly you are feeling; you need to have a positive attitude.

Knowing so many kind folk were praying for me gave me a tremendous feeling of support and comfort. I felt sure that,

*"With God, all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well".*

*Julian of Norwich*

*Rather than praying for a return to health, the most helpful prayer for me is that I have the strength to face what comes; God's Spirit gives me the "peace of mind and stillness of soul we need for His healing".*

*Kevin Watson (Moderator of Yorkshire Synod of the URC)*

So, even though I am in remission and living with the little 'c' of cancer, I am, more importantly, living with the big 'C' of Christ, secure in the comfort, reassurance and support His presence brings.

Anne Horton

## More - Remember me?

*"Thank you very much for the lovely new format for the news magazine! Very bright and cheerful! We like to keep in touch with what's happening, even though it's 20 years since Tony left the pastorate of Girlington Baptist. 20 years, oh my! Love and best wishes to all, Alison (& Tony) Peck"*

*"I can't believe it's nearly 10 years since I moved over here. The church I attend has only a small congregation.*

*They are trying to get a directory off the ground but not quite sure how to. There is a couple who came 2 or 3 years ago from a U.R.C. in Lancashire. I showed them the Little Lane directory which they thought was wonderful. I do hope it is alright using your layout.*

*I came home from Church with 2 sheets of names, spending the afternoon to try and plan on the lines of Little Lane. I took it back to the drop in coffee morning. I had put phone numbers in where I could find them,*



*which they hadn't thought of.*

*We have started a lunch every 4 weeks which is nice when living alone. The Church of England nearby join us after their service, when there are 5 Sundays in the month. The C of E do not have a hall and eating a meal in the pews is not easy. We mix a lot and get on well.*

*Please remember me to anyone who knew me.*

*Best wishes, Annie Smith"*

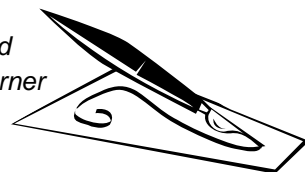
*"To put you in the picture - I am the daughter of Ida and George Stevenson and we all attended the Presbyterian Church originally. By the time that closed down I was living away from Bradford and so I have not really been a member of Little Lane although I always attended with Mum and Dad when I visited. Dad died in 1994 and in 1998, when she was 90, Mum decided to move nearer to Geoff and I in Essex. She lived independently in an Alms cottage in our village until her death in August 2004, just a month off her 96th birthday.*

*The following year we moved here. To move to this area had been a long-time dream which had to be put on the back burner when Mum needed us.*

*I like to keep up to date with the folk I knew from all that time ago but, unfortunately, there seems to be only one or two left.*

*Once again, congratulations on the excellent newsletter.*

*Regards, Jan Jones (nee Janet Stevenson!)"*



## Patricia & Neil Parker – How we met.

It is a truth, universally acknowledged, that a man, in possession of a guitar, must be in want of a band.  
*(with apologies to Jane Austen)*



In the 1960's, every aspiring musician wanted to be a Beatle. My friend Joyce's husband, David, was fortunate enough to be in a four piece band. In October, 1968, I was invited to their first public performance in Shipley. It was there that I first saw Neil. He was dark haired and good looking and seemed fairly quiet. I was really attracted to him. He says he didn't notice me at the time.

After the gig, some of us went back to Joyce & David's home for supper and I plucked up courage to invite Neil to my 21st birthday party. He asked me where it would be and when I said, "Shipley Musical Union," he replied that he would be there anyway. I told him that he wouldn't as it was a private booking; but he assured me that he would because his friend's dad was the club steward and whenever there were private bookings for parties he and his friend looked after the bar.

The weeks leading up to the party were very busy. I invited people from where I worked and told all my friends that there were plenty of boys to go round; but the dark haired one behind the bar was definitely out of bounds. Neil's friend Chris was out on the floor dancing with several girls and I had some dances with Neil, but most of the night Neil worked behind the bar.

*After the party I invited some friends back home; making sure I included Neil.*

After the party I invited some friends back home; making sure I included Neil. By the end of the night my friend Helen and I had wangled a double date with Neil and a friend.

The rest, as they say, is history. We really hit it off and, after only 8 weeks, Neil proposed. Those who know Neil are well aware that he is a man who thinks long and hard about everything: he is not exactly impulsive. To this day that proposal is the most impulsive thing he has ever done. We became engaged in the first week of March 1969 and married in September 1970.

Just before we became engaged I had to confess to Neil that I had warned all my girlfriends off him at the party. Rather than being angry he was quite relieved because he thought that he had lost his "pulling power."

By the time you read this article we will be celebrating our Ruby Wedding.

# Bradford Food Bank



Bradford Metropolitan District Food Bank is a registered charity (and company limited by guarantee) which began six years ago. It has a small management committee and a larger group of volunteers who make up the food parcels.

The Food Bank collects non-perishable items from many different sources: schools and churches; local hospitals; offices and work places; food manufacturers and retailers. Occasionally we receive donations of money which are used to improve the selection of food available.

Some of the bulk supplies we receive are close to, or just past, the best by date and would be sent to landfill. However, they are still edible and safe. The best by date is solely a recommendation; a fact which we explain in a leaflet in our food bags.

We are dependent on the good will and support of the Bradford community and we store our food, rent free, in a disused church in the centre of town.

We do not deal directly with those who receive our food parcels. Instead, we work with over thirty agencies and services that have a statutory or voluntary sector role. If they require a certain number of food bags at any time they can collect them from us.

Some examples of the groups we support are: CAB, Connexions, contact centres, housing associations, drug rehabilitation centres, asylum support groups, youth cafes, Nightstop and children's centres.

In the first two weeks of August, 2010, the Food Bank provided 65 food parcels to local agencies.

*The Food Bank can be contacted by phone on 01274 542672*

***Keith Thomson, Treasurer***



# Angel Daze



Gabriel had his Jesus face on: all solemn and serious. Whenever he had something important to tell us, Gabriel always put his Jesus face on. I thought it looked like he needed to go to the toilet.

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like this,” Gabriel said. “A man died and was sent to heaven. When he stood before St Peter he thought of something he wanted to do. He wanted to peep into hell for a moment, just to have an idea of what it was like. ‘Right you are,’ said St Peter. So the man peeped in at the door of hell and saw an enormous banquet hall. In the hall were a number of long tables with bowls of rice and lots of fine tasting food. The guests were sitting at the tables, opposite one another, each with a plate of food. The guests all had chopsticks but the chopsticks were so long that, however hard they tried, the guests couldn’t get the food into their mouths. And this was their torment; this was hell. ‘I’ve seen enough,’ the man said and went back to heaven. Inside heaven, he saw the same banquet hall, the same tables, the same food, and the same long chopsticks; but the guests were cheerful, all of them smiling and laughing. Each guest, having put the food onto his chopsticks, held it out for his companion to eat and so everyone managed to eat their fill.”

Gabriel sat back and looked around the class.

“Now what does that tell us about the Kingdom of Heaven?” he asked.

I looked along the row of other trainee angels. Derek was picking his nose: he’d only just found out that angels didn’t have bogies and refused to believe it. Andrea was combing her wings and Bob was making a paper plane out of a copy of the Ten Commandments.

“Don’t order Chinese food,” I said. “If you have pizza, there’s no need for chopsticks.”

Gabriel’s Jesus face looked like it really did need to go to the toilet. You could see the strain.

“No,” he said. “That’s not what I meant. What does this story tell us about what it means to be part of the Kingdom of Heaven?”

“That you need to bring a fork,” Derek said, his finger now so far up his nose it looked as if it was going to pop out of his head.

“I don’t like Chinese food anyway,” Andrea said. “Couldn’t I have a green salad

with a light vinaigrette dressing?”

“I’d prefer a cheeseburger,” Bob said.

Gabriel stood up. The Jesus face had definitely gone now.

“What I meant,” he said again, “is how are we to understand the Kingdom of Heaven when we think about our relationship with other people?”

I thought about this; really hard.

“Maybe there should be a buffet; then people could eat what they want,” I said.

Gabriel muttered something under his breath and left the room. Maybe he did want to go to the toilet after all.

**(c) Adam Britten**

## Crossword

### Across

1. See 6d
6. This political party has 1 MP in the new government.
10. There is a whalebone one of these in Whitby
11. Record label
13. Cassius Clays new surname
14. Child’s name for a horse
15. Can be Civil, Holy or Cold
16. Tear Apart
17. Leave
18. Black Furry Spy
19. One of the Continents
21. Her
23. See 6 down
24. Beatles Film and Song Title
25. Christmas Vegetable
27. Holiday Resort in Florida
29. Interested in
30. Greek Letter Used in Maths
31. Large Chemical Company
32. Rainy Tropical Weather
35. Chocolate, Coffee or Sponge
37. Promissory Note
38. U.S. Politician
39. German Wartime Organisation.

1	2	3	4		5		6		7	8	9
10					11	12			13		
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		29							30		
	31				32	33		34			
	35			36				37			
38										39	

### Down

1. To Bargain
2. Therefore
3. Type of Electric Current
4. St Paul Wrote to this Nation
5. U.S. Film Star Paul ...
6. also 1a & 23a Local Ecumenical Council
7. Organ of Hearing
8. O.T. Prophet
9. Pinch
10. Chinese Chairman
11. Citizen of the USA
12. Contribution to a Discussion or Plan
13. Soap for the Hair
14. Jane Austin Novel
15. Spanish “Yes”
16. Male Cat
17. Devout
18. Frozen Water
19. Yours and Mine
20. Drink Delicately
21. Film Alien

# The BIG WELCOME

Join us for a Traditional  
Harvest Service,  
followed by Lunch.

Sunday  
26th September  
10:30am

Little Lane Church  
Little Lane  
Bradford  
BD9 5HD



## EVERYBODY WELCOME

Don't Miss Our Winter Edition - Available December