NETWORK

Cullompton Baptist Church

April 2016

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Hello and welcome to our magazine. I hope you find something stimulating in this issue.

About a couple of months ago, a book was published called: "*The Servant Queen and the King She Serves*". It has been published to mark our Queen's 90th birthday in April. It describes how central the Queen's faith has been to her life and reign. The idea of serving God and country has been very strong in her thinking and behaviour. But what kind of King is He that she serves?

I am writing this on the evening before Palm Sunday and no doubt this was the question in many people's minds as Jesus approached Jerusalem. The first clue they would have had would be the animal he rode into the city on. Great leaders who are going to set people free do not ride on donkeys. Donkeys speak of humility, poverty and vulnerability. Then there are the followers who pay him homage. If you were to be a great leader you would not have children as your fan club.

As Holy Week goes on, the behaviour of this King gets even stranger. He agitates the people he ought to be looking to for support and encourages those who will offer him nothing in return. The claims he makes about himself defy belief. His method of deliverance, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. He does not defend himself against his enemies and makes no attempts to be rescued. He encourages his followers to be good tax payers to a state that is oppressing them, and that true religion involves sacrificial service. In short, he is the Servant King whose greatest act of service was to die the kind of death that he did not deserve—but we do. He did it all for love of the world he made. And to cap it all, real kings do not rise from dead.

So this is our King, the one we serve and the one to whom all royalty and those in power will have to give account to one day. He is the one we are called to follow, to love and to serve. So it will be good to see you during this Easter period as we worship our Wonderful King. He wants us to love the world as he does and so he gives us his Spirit to help us. Incidentally copies of "*The Servant Queen*..." book is being made available to the Churches' of the town so that you can give them away to family or friends or simply read them yourselves.

Wishing you and yours a happy and joy filled Easter time. May you know God's blessing surrounding you during this season which is central to our loves and faith.

Yours in Christ.

Glen and Rowan Graham.

Knit for Peace.

We don't meet regularly, but I am at the coffee morning on the 3rd Friday. I have a good amount of wool given to me by my daughter, so do ask if you would like any. I sent a large box of items after Christmas. I received a lovely thank you letter, so of it follows below. So keep knitting!

Freda.

We really appreciate the wonderful quality knitting we get. We want the recipients of Knit for Peace donations to be warm, but it is also important to us that they are proud to wear the items they receive. It lifts their spirits to know that somebody has made their clothes with care and respect for the person who is going to receive them.

We will find a home for anything you enjoy knitting, but we would really like all our knitters to move away from Fish & Chip jumpers, especially if knitted to old patterns with no sleeves. We need socks, mittens, scarves, cardigans and jumpers. Adult clothing and long scarves are also in high demand. Crochet ponchos of all sizes are great as they are very adaptable as to the size of the recipient and they're fashionable!

Flowers in the Church.

You must be aware how lovely they look. Five ladies arrange them every week at no charge to the church. If you would like to give flowers for a birthday, anniversary or any occasion please see me.

Freda.

It's Spring Cleaning Time again. Have you started, or done, yours?

Ministry of Cleaning

Oh dear, that dreaded rota, I've really no much zest. How can the church get grubby With folk in their Sunday best?

I'll have to take my cleaner The church one's past its prime; Must get the job done quickly I'm always fighting time.

But look, a sweet serenity As up the aisle I glide. Am I just the cleaner, Or am I last week's bride?

It's funny when I'm cleaning In the church there's not a squeak. I think of all the people Who come here week by week. And as I dust and polish Each person comes to mind. Out come the little secrets When a Polo-mint I find!

But now the dust is rising Up, up into the air; I think of you and all you do And send up my little prayer.

And all these unused pews, Lord! There's room for many more. Have we really spread the Good News As we've knocked door to door?

Just fill us with your love Lord That others may be led To come & sit down in this seat To taste the Living Bread.

So when it comes to Sunday And you slide into your pew, Remember it wasn't just Mary But Martha was there too.



of month

Church Diary Welcome!

You are welcome to join in any of our activities. Newcomers to the town and holiday visitors are particularly welcome.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Services are at 10.30 on a Sunday morning. Evening communion services are held in the schoolroom at 6.00 pm on the first Sunday of each month.

We have a regular Morning Sunday School. Children take part in the 10.30 service before going to their own activity. Please join us after the service for coffee in the Hall.

Quote from REFORM

Notice in Parish of Collingham and Harewood Magazine: We shall be meeting on Wednesday 11th April when the subject will be "Heaven, How do we get there?" Transport is available at 7.55 p.m. from the bus opposite the Harewood Arms.

House Group

3rd Sat Prayer Meeting

Meeting Point

Coffee Morning

<u>Mondays</u>, 10.30 am - 12 noon, venues will be announced. <u>Tuesdays</u>, 7.00 pm, at 23 Pear Drive Willand.

Saturday 19th April, 9.30 in vestry.

Fridays 10 to 11.30 am in schoolroom. (No coffee morning on Good Friday.) Pastor Glen will be there to listen, advise or discuss any problem privately during coffee time.

12.30 pm Friday 8th Apr.Book with Joan 32443.£ 5 charge to help to purchase a new oven/hob.

Saturday 8th April in schoolroom in the morning.



