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Hello, hello, and welcome to our magazine. I hope you find something of interest in this issue.

Over the last week or so, I have noticed a greater number of birds coming into our garden and singing for all they are worth. The song is beautiful and full of life. It is also a reminder to me that Spring will soon be on the way.

Every season has its purpose even Winter. Winter is the time when the ground hardens in preparation to receive new seed. It is also the time when much of nature takes a well-deserved rest.

Spring on the other hand is vibrant and is full of colour, sound and smell to appeal to the senses. Creation wakes up in hopeful anticipation of the growth cycle ahead.

We need both seasons in our time of spiritual fruitfulness. We need out times of Sabbath rest, to switch off or take like at a slower pace because although growth is exciting, it is also tiring. There does however, come a time to wake up and plant. In Galatians 5:22-23, Paul lists the fruit of the spirit from love to self-control. The fruit of the spirit are the characteristics of Jesus that the Lord want to re-produce in our lives. The fruit are on display to show what a Christian is really like. It is God who creates the conditions for growth and he is the one who makes the growth happen. All he requires from us is our willing co-operation in allowing him to do the planting, watering, pruning and harvesting. The spirit does the rest. Over the following 9 months, we will look at each of the fruit in turn in this article and see what they look like and how they reproduce in our lives.

May the God of grace make you fruitful in your own lives, and may he send us all out to be fruitful in this world that he loves.

Yours in Christ.

Glen and Rowan Graham.

Cuban Evening

This will be on Friday March 17th 7 p.m. We have delayed this because of my birthday tea on Saturday February 25th at 3.30 p.m.

Freda

Home Mission Stamps

Thank you for all the stamps you have collected. The total for 2016 is £ 4,594.

Knit for Peace

Although we don't meet to knit on a Friday please keep knitting. I also have wool if anyone would like some.

This was the latest letter from Knit for Peace.



Dear Cullompton Baptist Church,

I am delighted to say that we have received your wonderful and generous knitted donation. We look forward to delivering the items, as they will undoubtedly make a big difference to those in need. Thank you for your support, we truly appreciate it.

Your donations have a great impact on the communities where they are sent, not only do they provide much needed warmth, but the recipients are always so touched by the time and effort that you put into making these items.

Helping Fellow Knitters

As the cold weather creeps in we are glad to be sending out warm blankets and clothing. Thank you Knitters.

As well as collecting and distributing donated knitting to those in need, we fund groups and individuals so that can set up knitting businesses in developing countries. Many are tied to their homes and cannot work full-time. Knitting can fit in with household and child care duties.

Eugenie lives in Rwanda, with our help she has been able to set up a business. She takes her knitted clothes to the nearby market. She estimates she is able to earn about £ 30 a month which helps her look after her 3 children, pay medical insurance and enables her to employ, when necessary, casual labour to help her cultivate her small plot of land.



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. 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.

February

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| 5 th | am | Rev. Glen Graham |
| 12 th | am | Rev. Glen Graham |
| 19 th | am | Rev. Glen Graham |
| 26 th | am | Rev. Glen Graham |

March

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| 5 th | am | Rev. Glen Graham |
| 12 th | am | Rev. Glen Graham |
| 19 th | am | Rev. Glen Graham |
| 26 th | am | Rev. Glen Graham |

House Group

Mondays, 10.30

Tuesday, 19.30

venues to be given on Sunday previous.

Prayer Meeting

Sat. 18th Feb. and 18th Mar.
9.30 am in vestry.

Coffee Morning

Sat. 4th Feb. and 4th Mar. at
Angie and Laurie's, 10.00.

Lunch Club

Friday 10th Feb. and 10th Mar.,
12.30.

Fairtrade

Sat. 11th Feb. and 11th Mar.
a.m., in schoolroom,
with refreshments available.

Afternoon tea

with Freda in schoolroom,
Sat. 25th Feb. 3.30 p.m.

Cuban evening

with Freda and Norman,
Friday 17th March at 7 p.m.

A.G.M.

Tuesday 28th March 7.30 p.m.

3rd Sat
of month

1st Sat
of month

2nd Fri
of month

2nd Sat
of month