

Dates for Your Diary

February

- 2.2.11 Long Buckby 2.15 pm Ladies' Circle
 3.2.11 Creaton 12.00 Nosh and Natter (men's lunch)
 5.2.11 Long Buckby 10.30-11.30 am Charity Coffee Morning
 5.2.11 Crick 10.30-12.00 noon Coffee Morning
 8.2.11 Kilsby 2.15 pm Tuesday Guild - to be arranged
 10.2.11 Long Buckby 6.00 pm Elders' Meeting
 11.2.11 Long Buckby 10.00 am Bible Study, 25 Wright Road
 15.2.11 Kilsby 2.15 pm Bible Study & Prayer at 34 Devon Ox Rd
 18.2.11 Long Buckby 10.00 am Bible Study, 25 Wright Road
 22.2.11 Kilsby 2.15 pm Tuesday Guild - Clive Leakey
 27.2.11 Long Buckby 11.00 pm Dedication of new communion cloths in memory of Doris Vine

March

- 2.3.11 Long Buckby 2.15 pm Ladies' Circle
 3.3.11 Creaton 12.00 Nosh and Natter (men's lunch)
 4.3.11 Long Buckby 10.00 am Bible Study, 25 Wright Road
 4.3.11 Long Buckby 2.00 pm Women's World Day of Prayer Service - Rev. April Richards
 5.3.11 Crick 10.30-12.00 noon Coffee Morning
 5.3.11 Long Buckby 10.30-11.30 am Charity Coffee Morning
 8.3.11 Kilsby 2.15 pm Tuesday Guild - The Minister
 15.3.11 Kilsby 2.15 pm Bible Study & Prayer at 34 Devon Ox Rd
 18.3.11 Long Buckby 10.00 am Bible Study, 25 Wright Road
 22.3.11 Kilsby 2.15 pm Tuesday Guild - Joan Saunders & Isobel Pugh

Contributions for the Newsletter

If you have an article or thoughts you would like in "Good News", please forward it to Gretta Davis, 12 East Street, Long Buckby, NN6 7RA or e-mail her on gretta@longbuckby.com Any items for the next edition are required by 20th March.

The Good News

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



February & March 2011

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So!!!! It's not often I get to talk about underwear and even less frequent that I get to write about it.

Of course, like all mums, my mum encouraged me to wear clean (and respectable) underwear just in case I got run over!!! But by and large underwear is something that we wear, I hope, but don't generally chat about - and rightly so.

I like to look good. I like to be co-ordinated in what I wear and I think quite a lot about matching jewellery and accessories. But even I was quite surprised when someone (who will remain nameless to protect her modesty) told me a while ago that as a younger woman she always matched the colour of her underwear to her outfit. Purple skirt, purple knickers, I guess.

Which made me stop and think, not so much about the colour of underwear but about how we present ourselves to the outside world. In many ways it doesn't matter what is going on beneath the layers, so long as we look pretty clean and presentable on the top.

But God isn't bothered about the outside appearance.

1 Samuel 16:7 - "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.

God's really not fussed whether we're black or white, tall or short, young or old. What God's interested in is the person within. God's interested in the "how". How we feel, how we love, how we treat other people.

I particularly like the words of the communion service that says: God welcomes us, whoever we are and whatever we bring and He will feed us at his table. Old or young, rich or poor, joyful or in sorrow, He invites to eat with Him.

All he asks is that we treat other people in the same way.

Rosemary Pullen

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. (Their bacon sandwiches are legendary.)

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.

Creaton has Poppies Coffee Shop - open from 9.00 am to 12.00 noon Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday (closed Thursday). Everyone is very welcome

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.



Creaton offers Bible Study every Tuesday afternoon (term time only) at 2.00 pm. Contact the Church Secretary (01604 881495) for more details.

FELLOWSHIP

Creaton's Over 70's lunch Club meets at 12.00 noon 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 - Creaton host "Nosh and Natter" (Men's lunch) on the 1st Thursday of every month at 12.00 noon (*please note change*)

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

Long Buckby News

Bus to Rugby



The warden at Greenhill Court would like to draw your attention to the monthly free bus that leaves Greenhill Court at 12.30pm, starting back from Rugby at 3.30pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Transport is free although users are asked to tip the driver.

A Poem of Pride

When I was 21 years old, my grandma gave to me
A little cross of purest gold for all the world to see
And everyone who came that day to wish me "all the best"
Admired the gift in every way and said that I'd been blest.



Well 50 years or more have passed since I was 21,
But memories will always last, though loved ones may have gone.
And still the golden keepsake lies quite closely to my heart,
Reminding me that, though time flies, my faith remains a part.

But now I hear loud voices say that I am doing wrong,
To put my cross upon display, I might offend the throng.
And, in my astonishment, I'm told that someone has decreed
That my beliefs are far too strong for other folk to heed.

Well now I say "enough's enough", I've lived my lifetime through
By standing tall when things get tough and voicing what is true,
And if my gran could but appear, she'd not be at a loss,
She too, like me, would never fear to proudly wear her cross.

Dorothy M. Rawnsley

Creaton News

Poppies Coffee Shop - At 9.00 am on 29th November the temperature outside was -3 degrees C, and there was a frozen cold water mains pipe into the Church (which thanks to Elder John Love was quickly sorted out with no burst pipes). A large crowd had gathered inside the Church for the opening of the Poppies Coffee Shop. Mr Allen Eaton MBE. (of Hollowell Steam Rally fame) officially opened Poppies. We were also pleased to welcome Councillor Chris Miller, Councillor Barrie Frenchman and members of the Creaton Parish Council. Since its opening, Poppies has attracted a steady flow of customers each day. Thanks to all who made the opening such a successful occasion, also for the hard work of all those who serve in Poppies. We pray that this venture will help to bring folk closer to our fellowship. May all sense the Spirit of the living Christ as they enter the building. Poppies Coffee Shop is open daily from 9.0 am to 12.0noon Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Poppies is Closed on Thursdays. *Everyone is very welcome.*

Christmas Service - The Christmas services in Creaton began with the Gift Service, led by Rosemary, which took the form of a Café Style Service the theme being "How God communicates with us today". Several from the fellowship joined with our friends at the Parish Church for the nine lessons and carols. It was great to see the Church packed on the Sunday afternoon.

Our Candlelight Service was led by Rosemary with a number of our members taking part. Despite a snowy and bitterly cold Monday evening a large number braved the elements to share in a very enjoyable evening of carols and fellowship over coffee and mince pies.

On Christmas morning, as well as our own members, we were pleased to welcome many who were visiting relations and friends in the village. The children, as usual, took an active part in the service showing some of the gifts they had just received. The theme of the service was the fact that the joy of Christmas need not be all over in a few days, when the gift wrapping has been consigned to the re-cycling bin, some of the toys begin to wear out and the batteries run down. God's gift of His son Jesus is a permanent gift to the world and will be with us forever.

*We warmly welcome you to join us at 11.00 am for Sunday Worship and Junior Church.
On the 4th Sunday each month this will start at the earlier time of 9.00 am*

Creaton News

Never give up - Creaton URC has, for the past years, sponsored Simona, one of the girls at BibleLands Cedar Home in Beirut. It is good to receive letters from her from time to time and to know that in some small way our sponsorship has made a difference to Simona's life in a country that has suffered so much strife over the years. Below is an abbreviated article from the BibleLands Magazine:

"The 21 girls living at the Cedar Home in Beirut come from a variety of backgrounds, but life has not been easy for them. The home which BibleLands has supported since 1980, provides a safe, caring environment for girls who have suffered neglect or abuse, or whose parents can no longer look after them. It is like a big family, to which the girls return after each day at the local school, and which supports them as they grow up and move onto university and work.

The newest member of the Cedar Home family is 16 year old Lina. She went to live there in November 2009, having escaped a harsh and traumatic family situation. A couple of weeks after arriving at the home she wrote a very touching poem which she felt portrayed her life. She signed it "**By Nobody**". When Lina showed the poem to the Home's Director, Chadi Melki, she asked him what he thought? Chadi writes he did not know what to say. Lina said "No need to say anything" she said "I already received an answer". Lina asked me to turn over the page and read on. I did, she had written the following on the back of the same piece of paper.

***God talking;** Lina, you're my daughter. You told me you wanted to be remade, you told me that I'm the only one who cares about you.*

You prayed every day but you thought no one hears you. But you're wrong - I do hear you every day, and I do care what you pray, but I ask you to be straight with me, to listen to my voice in your heart. Try, don't give up - I'll always be by your side. I will always hold you in my arms. I will not disappoint you, because you're my dear daughter, you're special and you are strong enough to pass by every pain and every problem - you'll do that.

Don't give up, keep on praying, and don't forget to listen to the voice in your heart that will lead to heaven's way."

Long Buckby News

Flower Rota

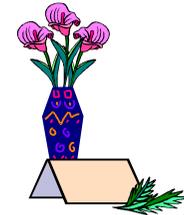
6th February Beryl Chapman
13th February Freda Collins
20th February Rita Stowe
27th February Dawn & Norman Chandler
6th March Gretta Davis
13th March Elizabeth Osborne
20th March Janet Wastnage
27th March Gill Best

Please contact Wendy Baker (01604 759758) for any enquiries regarding your Flower Sunday

Birthdays

21st February - Kath Packer
25th February - Tony Hodgkinson
28th February - Mary Davies

No known birthdays in March!



New Website

Long Buckby URC now has it's own website. For computer users, just go to <http://longbuckbyurc.org.uk> or put longbuckbyurc into a search and you will come up with the interesting and informative new website.



This has all the details about the church and its activities, its location, has a selection of photo shots of recent events and even the past two copies of this newsletter. It's well worth while having a look. Contributions or ideas for the web site are always welcome.

Many thanks to Richard Bignell for all his work in getting the website up and running.

Monthly Coffee Mornings

Our usual coffee mornings start again on Saturday, 5th February between 10.30—11.30 pm. We will be raising funds towards the reroofing the Gunjur village school. A display giving further details of the project will be available at the coffee mornings.

Northampton Hope Centre

During the months of February and March we will be collecting tea and coffee. Please leave any donations at the back of the Church.

Gwennie

Long Buckby News

Dear Friends,

One year passed and another beginning and I wish all of you "a happy new year".

All of you, I am sure, are hoping for a pleasant springtime and warm summer, when we can enjoy our gardens and the countryside around us. The very cold winter we have experienced so far is one that we won't want to repeat too often - although, like myself, many of you will remember such winters years ago when the snow lay thick and heavy and the windows froze on the inside, with wonderful leafy patterns on the panes.

Now we all have double glazing and central heating, we should be warmer. There have been some wonderful pictures in the newspapers etc. whilst the hoar frost was covering the trees and hedges, when some enthusiastic photographers were out bright and early with their cameras.

It's a funny old world when you think about the weather systems. Because of these changes, there have been a lot of disasters, earthquakes, mudslides and tremendous flooding in Australia. All the people in these countries in whatever situation need our help and prayers including the people of Haiti, who are still suffering a whole year after that earthquake - they must think that the whole world has forgotten them.

We must remember those of our flock who are nearer to home and have not been well recently. We hope that all of you will soon be greatly improved in health.



Just before I close I must tell you that already the snowdrops are showing their lovely little white bells in my garden. Maybe you also have some in your gardens - the first signs of spring, like a ray of sunshine.

Best wishes to you all. Keep smiling and be happy and healthy. God bless you all.

Gwenie Wilkes

Creaton News

It would be good if from time to time you could remember in your prayers the work of Cedar Home, Beirut and the girls who live in there, that they will have the strength and perseverance to continue the journey forward.

Reg Thomas

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

Gift Aid Scheme

This is a reminder that your offerings to your Church can be Gift Aided. This means that the Church can claim tax from the Inland Revenue on your offering. Basic rate tax is 20%, which means that if you give £10 using Gift Aid, it's worth £12.50 to the Church. For donations between 6 April 2008 and 5 April 2011 the Church or charity will also get a separate government supplement of 3p on every pound you give.

The easiest way to do this is by the Churches' Weekly Offering envelopes provided by the Church. If you are a tax payer, then the Church can reclaim the tax back from the Inland Revenue.

There is no further cost to you or indeed any forms to complete and your Church will benefit. You will also have the satisfaction of knowing that your offerings will be increased. Please speak to your Church Treasurer who will be delighted to answer any queries you might have.

What a wonderful way of increasing your gifts to your Church - courtesy of the Inland Revenue!!

Alan Wastnage



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of this church is to provide a warm, welcoming place for people of all ages to worship God and to grow in faith

COFFEE MORNINGS

These will continue as usual on the first Saturday of the month from 10:30 til noon.



Our last 3 donations of the year were £100 each to Starlight Children's Foundation, Royal British Legion (Help for Heroes) and Royal National Lifeboat Institution. This brings our 2010 total donated to **£800.05** and a splendid **£9,814.35** since 1999.

Thank you to all 'the regulars' and helpers for your generosity.

John Cawker

We were all saddened by the death of John Cawker in December. John was a regular worshipper at Crick URC for many years and we will all miss him and his thoughtful contributions to our worship. The church was full to overflowing for his funeral service - a fitting tribute to a real gentleman. Our thoughts and prayers are with Joy and all John's family.

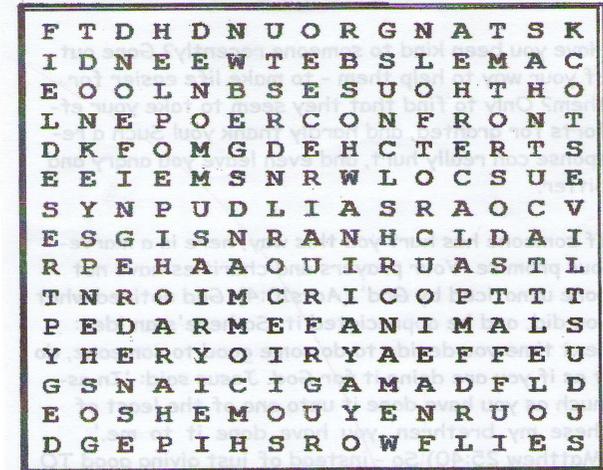
FEBRUARY/MARCH BIRTHDAYS

February	5	Steve Wilkin
March	5	Monica Bevin
	7	Joan Saunders



Jenny Goodger

Words in the list can go forward, backward, up down or diagonally, but always in a straight line.



- | | | |
|----------|------------|-----------|
| Aaron | Finger | Morning |
| Animals | Flies | Officials |
| Between | Gnats | Palace |
| Camels | Goshen | People |
| Cattle | Ground | Pharaoh |
| Commands | Hardened | Pray |
| Confront | Hebrews | Remained |
| Dense | Houses | Ruined |
| Desert | Journey | Sacrifice |
| Donkeys | Livestock | Staff |
| Dust | Magicians | Stretched |
| Egypt | Men | Summoned |
| Field | Miraculous | Worship |

Lent 2011

Why is it called Lent?

Lent is an old English word meaning 'lengthen'. Lent is observed in spring, when the days begin to get longer. Lent is the period of six weeks 40 days (not including Sundays) leading up to Easter, the most important festival in the Christian calendar. Lent starts on Ash Wednesday (9th March) in western Christian Churches. and climaxes during **Easter Week**. The last week of Lent is called Holy Week.

During the 40 days of Lent, Christians remember the time when Jesus went into the desert to fast and pray before beginning his work for God. During this time Jesus was tempted several times by Satan, but was able to resist.

Fasting

Lent is a time of giving things up. For Christians, it is one way of remembering the time Jesus' fasted in the desert and is a test of self-discipline. There are many foods that some Christians do not eat in Lent, such as meat and fish, fats, eggs, and milky foods. Some Christians just give up something they really enjoy such as cakes, chocolate or alcohol.

Shrove Tuesday

In western Christian churches, the day before Lent starts is Shrove Tuesday. This is also known as Pancake Day. This day was traditionally the last chance to use up the foods Christians would not be eating during Lent.

Festivities take place in many cities all over the world, including Mardi Gras in New Orleans (USA), Carnivals in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) and Venice (Italy). People dress up, wear masks, parade and dance in the streets.

Ash Wednesday

On Ash Wednesday many western Christian churches hold services during which Christians are marked on the forehead with a cross of ashes. This is a sign of saying sorry to God for any wrong doing (penitence) and mortality. The ashes come from burning the palm crosses from Palm Sunday of the previous year.

Kilsby News

Your Prayers are asked for Val Hanes who suffered a slight stroke mid January. She does not appear to have any serious problems, but still needs our prayers.

We are delighted that at the beginning of the year Val Janes was ordained as an elder and Frank Janes, Dorothy Whitehead, Pauline Charles, Beryl Pouncey and Carole Davis were all accepted into membership.

Bible Study - this will take place on Tuesday afternoons 15th February and 15th March at 2.15 pm at 34 Devon Ox Road.

Date for your Diary - Joint Pastorate Social evening - Friday April 8th PIES & POETRY at 7.00 pm - tickets £3.50 each Details from Beryl Lees (01788 823752)

Beryl Lees

Tuesday Guild at 2.15 pm

8 th February	To be arranged
22 nd February	Clive Leakey
8 th March	Rosemary Pullen
22 nd March	Joan Saunders and Isobel Pugh

Drop-in-Centre

Monday & Thursdays 9.00 am until 12 noon
Breakfasts are still available between 9.00 and 12.00 noon

Street Pastors Cut Crime

The contribution of Street Pastors in Kingston-upon-Thames has been acknowledged, with violent crime dropping by almost half in the nightspots. Kingston, one of London's most popular night-clubbing destinations, hosts over 20,000 people every weekend, yet in the 5 years that Street Pastors have been working in the town, violence has nearly halved and crime as a whole has fallen by 25%.

Over 5,000 Street Pastors now patrol town centres across the UK, including Daventry.

Source: Youthwork magazine and the Bible Society newsletter

PREACHING DIARY - FEBRUARY & MARCH 2011

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 6th February	Kathleen Paxton	The Minister with Holy Communion	John Horrocks	9.00 am The Minister with Holy Communion
Sunday 13th February	9.00am The Minister Family Service	Jack. Laundon	The Minister Parade Service	Dorn Margetts
Sunday 20th February	Margaret Hooper	9.00 am The Minister	Jon Heard	The Minister
Sunday 27th February	The Minister with Holy Communion	Rev. Michael Bond	9.00 am The Minister with Holy Communion	John Perkins
Sunday 6th March	Rev. Conrad Husk	The Minister with Holy Communion	Rev. Bob Parker	9.00 am The Minister with Holy Communion
Sunday 13th March	9.00 am John Heard	Alastair Bruce	The Minister with Holy Communion	John Horrocks
Sunday 20th March	David Carter	9.00 am The Minister	John Horrocks	The Minister
Sunday 27th March	The Minister with Holy Communion	Mr. I. Mackintosh	9.00 am The Minister with Holy Communion	Mary Barrett

Shrove Tuesday (this year on 8th March) was once known as a 'half-holiday' in England. It started at 11:00 am with the signalling of a church bell. On Shrove Tuesday (commonly known as Pancake Day in the UK) pancake races are held in villages and towns. The tradition is said to have originated when a housewife from Olney was so busy making pancakes that she forgot the time until she heard the church bells ringing for the service. She raced out of the house to church while still carrying her frying pan and pancake. Pancake races still remains a festive tradition in the UK, whereby participants run through the streets whilst tossing pancakes into the air, catching them in the pan.



Gambia Project

The four Pastorate churches have agreed to provide funding to re-roof part of the Upper Basic School in Gunjur village in The Gambia. The school provides education for 1,700 children, aged between 8 and 13. The roof to one block of the school was damaged during storms in 2009, destroying many desks and rendering the classrooms unusable. The re-roofing will cost £2,000. Each of the four churches is committed to the project and will be raising their portion of the funds in different ways. Please look out for fund raising events and do your best to support them.

Rosemary