

Moravian messenger



February
2012

Br. Stuart Brierley (Salem) writes about

Fairtrade Fortnight



February 27th to 11th March 2012 sees the latest Fairtrade Fortnight celebrations (Take a Step for Fairtrade in 2012). This is an annual event where Fairtrade is promoted often by supermarket promotions, new product lines or PR events. Fairtrade is the process by which growers / producers are paid some sort of living wage including a premium element for them to invest in their community, often through the form of a co-operative. The theme this year is "Take a Step", a step can be any action that supports the movement and you can make it as big or small as you like - from trying out some new products to petitioning your MP on trade justice.

There is a view that because growers or producers get a Fairtrade premium over and above the "normal" market price, that it is more expensive than rival products in the UK. Sometimes that is true, but not always. Fairtrade bananas are usually cheaper than non-Fairtrade. Why? The profit margins for "middle-men" are generally lower in Fairtrade transactions, which can more than offset the grower's premium (particularly for large volume sales).

Last Fairtrade Fortnight the Times bought an equivalent basket of goods

from Asda, Tesco and Sainsbury's on an own-brand, Fairtrade and premium brand basis. The average basket price for own-brand was £6.84, Fairtrade £7.69 and premium branded products £9.85, but for Sainsbury's the Fairtrade products were 17p cheaper than own-brand.

The Fairtrade market is still only around 1% of total possible sales in the UK, but they are now the highest in any country in the world, and grew by an impressive 40% in 2010 alone to top £1 billion. Sainsbury's alone sell 2 million Fairtrade bananas each week.

Some companies (e.g. Green and Blacks, Ben and Jerry's) now only have a Fairtrade range of products, and in many supermarkets you have been able to buy only fairly traded bananas for the past five years.

One of the biggest growth areas is direct sales to schools, and increasingly their tuck-shops, staff areas etc only sell or use fairly traded products.

The Fairtrade premium is used in a wide variety of ways - drilling a new well, helping to provide a basic building for a school, or for a set of accurate scales. Non-Fairtrade buyers of (say) coffee in the 3rd world, often insist on goods being weighed on their scales, which are fixed at only 90% of their true weight, so when farmers/growers sell to non-Fairtrade third parties they can get a 25% lower price and another 10% deduction if they have to rely on deliberately in-accurate scales.

The effect of the premium is evident in a country like Mali in Africa, where the number of children in primary schools is 43% of the age related population, but in Fairtrade communities that rises to 95%.

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Fairtrade Fortnight continued



The support of Fairtrade companies does not just finish with the premium, they often support growers / producers by paying them quickly (sometimes in advance) and giving them advice on new product lines, marketing support and what sells well in Western countries. Cafedirect, for example, have advised growers in Sao Tome

and Principe (one of the smallest countries in the world) about how they could turn their wet beans to fermented dried ones, earning growers five times the price.

Organisations with a religious ethos are often involved with the Fair Trade movement, and its leading developments, the biggest of which is Traidcraft PLC. That religious influence is evident in the daily morning prayers available to all staff at its offices and warehouses in Gateshead, to having nearly all of its Christmas Cards having a religious image on the front (unlike many other Christmas card producers), to helping produce the first commercial Easter Eggs with a religious message last year.

Amongst the most recent developments in fair trade and others planned in 2012 are:

- **Fairtrade gold (one church in the UK has even gone so far as having its weather-vane gilded with fair trade gold !!!)**
- **At the Olympics in London this summer all bananas, tea, coffee, sugar and most chocolate will be fairly traded.**
- **Amongst additional product lines due this year is fairly traded seafood**
- **Also the chocolate product - Maltesers is due to become fairly traded this year.**

So in this growing movement, what steps are you going to take this year during Fairtrade Fortnight?

A word from the Editor

Fairtrade Fortnight, as you may have gathered from Br. Stuart Brierley's excellent article, will shortly be upon us. It's 20 years since the Fairtrade Foundation was founded by NGOs Oxfam, Christian Aid, National Federation of Women's Institutes, Cafod, World Development Movement and Traidcraft Exchange. The raison d'être for Fairtrade is to obtain decent working conditions, better prices, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world.

The Fairtrade Foundation has achieved much in this time but there is always more that can be done. For the last few years I have encouraged readers to try new Fairtrade products and I urge you to do so again. During our Christingle service at Brockweir we had a Children's Lovefeast using Fairtrade fruit juice in cartons and individually wrapped Fairtrade biscuits and it was really popular. It was good for us as a congregation to try something different and it also demonstrated that we

are supporting Fairtrade because we believe in the principles underlying it. It's not about political correctness; it is about trying to make a difference to our brothers and sisters in the developing world because we believe in fairness and justice.

The 'Fortnight' highlights the work of the Foundation but there are things we can do all year round and I would also recommend you have a look at the website: www.fairtrade.org.uk to see if your congregation could involve itself in other projects and events. Perhaps someone in the congregation would be willing to sell Fairtrade products, if there is a proven demand? Br. Brierley visits various churches in the Lancashire District with his Traidcraft goods and he does not limit himself to Moravian churches, visiting Anglicans as well as Methodists. He also sells goods to schools and takes his stall to various fairs and Salem Community Theatre shows. All in all, a time-consuming but impressive demonstration of faith in action.

Provincial Committees

The Social Responsibility Committee

The Social Responsibility Committee met at Hall Green on November 19th. Following up on items from the previous meeting, it was noted (a) that Br. Blair Kessler was contacting the local M.P. about reports that government aid to African countries would be cut and (b) that Sr Gillian Taylor will be preparing a paper to send to congregations on the problem of human trafficking.

The Moravian Church had received an invitation to a Consultation being organised by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland for reflection and possible action following the civil disturbances in many areas in August. Two members of the Committee will attend this Consultation.

The members of the Committee did not think that at this meeting they could deal adequately with the many problems arising from the current economic situation but they did receive information about Credit Unions in Birmingham, a very practical way of helping people to handle money responsibly. More information about Credit Unions will be sent to congregations.

A discussion on how to help people, especially young people, to deal with the commercial exploitation of false pictures of "the ideal body" was the final item on the agenda.

Fred Linyard



Summer Camp 2012

Where: Fulneck School, Yorkshire
When: 18-25th August
Who: Any person age 9-17 on 31st August 2012
Cost: £250 includes all food and activities
Discounts: £30 if you book before 31st May

What is it? A chance for young Moravians to get together and spend a week having fun.

The activities will include bible study and worship, games, crafts, outdoor activities, and an outing.

Why come? It is an opportunity to make friends or meet up with friends made in previous years, refresh your faith, try something new,

experience living with other young people from across the province and learn what it means to be a Moravian.

Booking forms and information will be posted out to all previous attendees or can be obtained from your minister or Joy Raynor youth@moravian.org.uk 01753 553549

Theme to be confirmed soon.

Different sort of Nativity play - Little Horton 2011

This year we narrated the story, but as we only have a few children, we made some great models out of the inner tubes of carpets. We cut them into different sizes and dressed them as the characters from the Nativity. We built a stable scene with hay bales, and the children we did have walked around church with the models and put them in the stable. It was great! Everyone was taking photos at the end so must have looked good.

Linda Haggas

Fellowship Weekend

13th April to 15th April 2012

THEME: RUNNING THE RACE

TO BE HELD AT SHALLOWFORD HOUSE, STAFFORDSHIRE

The Conference is organised by the Provincial Renewal Committee. The weekend is a time of great fellowship, inspiration and renewal.

Shallowford House is set in four acres of gardens in the rolling Staffordshire countryside the ideal setting for relaxation or for the more competitively inclined, croquet and other garden games are available. Shallowford House and has been a popular venue for many years. Up to 40 people can be accommodated. Places will be reserved on a first come first served basis.

Cost of the weekend £ 110 per person.

If you would like a place reserving please complete the Booking Form and return to: Paul Greenhough, 150, Hunsworth Lane, Cleckheaton, West Yorkshire BD19 4DR

Tel: 01274 872633 E mail Paul.Greenhough@moravian.org.uk



DON'T MISS IT! BOOK YOUR PLACE TODAY!

BOOKING FORM FELLOWSHIP WEEKEND 13th April to 15th April 2012

Please reserve me places Single Room Twin Room (please specify)

Please specify any special diet

Name:

Address:

Tel:

Congregation:

Signed:

Church Service in Rajpur

I thought this time I would tell you a little about my day at the Institute. I am usually awakened at 6 am by the night watchman merrily striking a piece of metal piping with a metal hammer. This he does relentlessly for about 30 seconds in order to wake not just the boarders but also the inhabitants of Hades themselves. After the 6.30 version, roll call can be heard, voices booming across the football pitch to my little door. A further clanking, at 6.45 announces breakfast then there is absolute silence for the next 15 minutes when I fall totally and deeply asleep.

My alarm goes at 7 am, then 7.03 and again at 7.06 before I can rouse myself, wash, dress and present myself at the breakfast table. As it's winter the morning bucket bath has become the once everyotherday afternoon bucket bath (it's much warmer in the afternoons). Breakfast usually consists of a banana and toast with good stimulating ginger tea to get the system functioning properly.

Morning assembly is called at 8 and all the children gather on the basketball court in class lines, the older classes at either end and the younger children in the middle. Every other day a class leads assembly with the singing of the National Anthem, text for the day from the Daily Watchword, a Bible reading and, often, a couple of hymns which are either unaccompanied or with guitar. The other mornings either the Principal, Rev. T Kundan, or the Headmaster, Mr Gupta, take assembly and give out awards and notices. The music groups often contribute items in the assembly and these are usually enthusiastically received (especially if I can make the Junior Recorders with their soprano instruments stand as far back as is possible - the tone quality is excruciating at present). One of the highlights of assembly, I have to admit, are the school dogs who participate enthusiastically in the singing of the National Anthem (no other music gets them going); it's heartwarming to find such patriotism in one of God's creatures.

Lessons begin at 8.20, or thereabouts, and there are 4 periods of 40 minutes before break with another 4 after, leading to the end of school at 2 pm. I teach mainly music to Classes Kindergarten - Class 8 and have a co-worker, Titus Gengmei who is very intuitive and a gifted musician. I believe we work well together, complementing each other's strengths. Teaching so many children has made it difficult to learn all their names especially as most of them are unfamiliar to me. I can cope with the Monikas, the Tenzins and the Naga Biblical names but find the correct pronunciations of Sianhuai, Gaihaium, Rotichuilu difficult because of the conversion of certain letter sounds and the different stresses on syllables. With constant repetition and the names seen in print I am gradually getting there.

Usually teaching here is very much book-based, a chapter being delivered every week or lesson, so I have tried to

make music very practical with lots of singing, dancing and playing of musical instruments. Music listening has been limited to Indian instruments, Indian Classical ragas, a little Western Classical and LOTS of Handel's "Messiah" as it is approaching Christmas. The keyboard is a good source of musical appreciation as there are about 100 tunes of varying quality and length to be found amongst its electronic circuitry. We are blessed to have been given use of the Dining Room Annex which is an open space large enough for singing games and group work. Occasionally we have an audience in the form of a cluster of monkeys, all peering in at the windows, or geckos transfixed by the beauty of the sounds made within.

I also try to teach science to Class 6 and do whatever cover I can for absent colleagues.

At 2 pm my day does not end for I have weekly practices with different groups: Monday - Junior Choir, Tuesday - Senior Recorders, Wednesday - Junior Recorders (those sopranos again!), Thursday - Senior Recorders (still little improvement) and Friday - Senior Choir. Because we have been preparing for a performance at Woodstock School we have had many other Choir rehearsals during the week. The rehearsals for the production of "Mulan" have also required musical rehearsals during the afternoon and evening.

Once it gets dark it's usually MY time. Ramesh, the Principal's cook, prepares dinner which is usually rice or noodle based with vegetables. Meat is only eaten once or twice a week and it is something I do not miss. I am fortunate in never having to prepare a meal nor wash up after it. How will I cope on my return?

I do have some preparation to do and the occasional set of books to mark but nothing as arduous as teaching at home. Unfortunately I have become addicted to computer card games (Free Cell, Hearts, Solitaire) and, now that my laptop has been fixed, I can enjoy the odd movie or two. At the present time I am unable to connect to the Internet in my room and this is a source of disappointment as I cannot find time during the day to Skype or email family and friends as often as I would wish. I do believe some help is coming in the post that will rectify this situation soon.

As night approaches the feeble whistle of the night watchman can be heard as he walks the campus grounds and every hour on the hour his gentle battering of the metal pipe with the metal hammer is resumed. Occasionally the dogs will go demented as a leopard, a deer or a group of monkeys wander into the campus (poor watchman!) By midnight it is usually quiet and all sleeps until the night watchman heralds in the day again.

Maureen Colbert



"Who is my choice for Sports Personality? I suppose it has to be Darren Clarke, the quiet golfer from Northern Ireland....."

That was my opinion in the December Grandstand View as I looked forward to the 2011 BBC TV Sports Review of the Year.

Well, he was my choice, and over 42,000 others agreed with me and voted him into second place. He was beaten to the award by a worthy winner, 26 year old cyclist Mark Cavendish, who took over 49% of the votes cast (he received over 169,000 votes).

World road race champion and Tour de France green jersey winner, Mark Cavendish is only the third cyclist to win after Tommy Simpson in 1965 and Sir Chris Hoy in 2008.

Cavendish won five stages of the 2011 Tour de France - including the final stage in Paris - to clinch for the first time the green jersey awarded to the race's best sprinter. He had 15 stage wins to his name prior to the 2011 Tour, but had never finished the gruelling event at the top of the sprint standings.

However, a dominant performance at the head of his team's HTC-Highroad train in the sprint stages and a stubborn refusal to slip too far off the peloton through the French mountains ensured he wore the prized green jersey from the 11th stage through to the 21st and final stage on the Champs-Elysees.

The Manxman followed that success by confirming Britain's emergence as a major nation in road as well as track cycling by taking gold at the World Championships in Copenhagen in September.

From the BBC Sport website, Cavendish, or "Cav" as he is known, said of the Sports Personality Award: "I am absolutely speechless, some of my team-mates here will say that is a rare thing. I had a group of guys who rode in Copenhagen who brought the rainbow jersey back to Britain after nearly half a century and that is a massive thing. Even to be nominated in the top 10 is an incredible thing. That we can produce champions from such a small place is superb."

When I was in Baildon recently, I was talking with Br Keith Copland about Mark Cavendish and his achievements. Keith was so impressed by the team ethos manifested by Cav's colleagues during the Tour stages that are scheduled to end with a sprint finish. "It strikes me as team effort at its most pure. And although he can be chippy when interviewed, he wears his heart on his sleeve, always respects his team-mates, they for their part love him and will do anything for him, and when it is his turn, boy, can he deliver."

A team effort indeed. After the Tour de France, Cav declared: "I've been incredibly lucky to have a group of team-mates who have been committed to me winning races and it has paid off."

It's worth spending a moment to look at how the HTC-Highroad team works. There are the "diesel men", Lars Back, Danny Pate, and Tejay van Garderen, who get the "train" moving, keeping the team as a whole in touch with everyone else. Then towards the end of the stage, the "tempo-men",

Cav...

Tony Martin and Peter Velits take over the pace, pushing hard. Into the final kilometer the "train driver", Bernhard Eisel, takes over. He's the captain of the team, making the call as to when to push on. Then in the final 800 meters "lead-out 2", Matt Goss, strikes, pulling the "lead-out 1", Mark Renshaw, and Mark Cavendish with him. Renshaw takes over with 400 meters to go, leaving Cav to sprint away in the final 200 meters. It's all planned, nothing is left to chance.

One of the team has said: "Knowing Cav is the best makes everyone two or three per cent better. It gives them confidence." And another: "If you start to lose the wheels, you are in trouble. But the opposition know Cav is fastest, and his train is the best."

There is a real lesson in humility, mutual respect and love here; one that we can take into everyday life, and into church life.

- Individuals working for the good of the whole
- Nobody envious of the abilities of others
- All pleased to be part of the success of others

Need I say more?

Here's hoping for more cycling success for Cav and his team-mates in 2012.

David Newman
david.newman@moravian.org.uk

Answers to the "Another Question of Sport" quiz in the December 2011 Messenger.
How did you get on?

Gospel writers.....

1. Matthew Stevens
2. Mark Schwarzer
3. Luke Wright
4. John Inverdale

For all the saints....

5. Birmingham City
6. St Mirren
7. Gaelic football and hurling
8. St Lawrence Ground, Canterbury

Offices of the Church.....

9. Nick Pope
10. Andrew Bishop
11. Louis or Brett Deacon
12. Mark Priest

Sunday School days.....

13. Queen's Park Rangers
14. Bolton Wanderers
15. Stockport County
16. Barnsley

And from this past year's Grandstand View.....

17. Ivo Bligh
18. Bernard Hinault
19. Middleton
20. 70,000

In Remembrance

Wilfred James Mortimore

25th March 1922 - 18th December 2011

Wilfred first saw the light of day on 25th March 1922; the first child of Alfred and Elizabeth Mortimore, in the picturesque south Devon village of Dunsford. It was not long before three became four, with the birth of his sister Sybil, who still lives in Devon. Wilfred attended the local village school before moving on to Exeter Technical School. At school Sybil became best friends with someone called Doris Vicary. Doris was a frequent visitor to the cottage in Dunsford where the Mortimores lived. At first, Wilfred escaped all this female company by going to see his Uncle Jack and Auntie Ethel at their nearby farm. But as time passed, there was a growing attraction; and it was not long before Doris (or Dee as we all now know her) had stopped calling to visit Sybil; she was calling to see Wilfred. About the same time, Sybil was "walking out" with Bill Ayliffe; and on 23rd March 1944, there was a double wedding at Dunsford Baptist Church, officiated at by Wilfred's father, Alfred, who was the local Baptist preacher.

When he left school, Wilfred had worked initially as a trainee grocer with Sainsbury's in London, and then as a salesman of agricultural implements with Morris's in Dunsford. But in 1940, he enlisted for the war effort, and joined the Royal Artillery as "Gunner Mortimore". He saw action in the Low Countries and Northern France, and was part of the D-Day landings. He was subsequently commissioned into the Devonshire Regiment, what else, reaching the rank of Captain before the end of the war. He stayed on in the army for a period, and then in the military reserve into the 1950s reaching the rank of Major.

In post-war civilian life, he joined the secretariat of the Y.M.C.A. He undertook a Social Sciences Diploma at the London School of Economics. And then he worked at Y.M.C.A.'s in Lewes, Bath and Tavistock. It was whilst in Bath that he became interested in the Moravian Church; he had heard and been impressed by the local Moravian minister, John Chester, speaking to his youth group at the Y.M.C.A. And as the old saying goes, the rest is history.....

The strength of God's calling to ministry grew in Wilfred, and he was accepted by the Moravian Church and in 1957, Wilfred and Dee moved to Lower Wyke to begin ministry in the church, training part-time at Fairfield College. There must be something about the Yorkshire air, for it was whilst at Lower Wyke that their daughter Ruth was born. In 1962, Wilfred and Dee accepted the call of the Provincial Board to move to Hornsey in North London, where they stayed for 6 years. Wilfred was also minister at Upton Manor and the Stoke Newington Society, where he worked with many Moravian brothers and sisters of the Windrush Generation.

Another call in 1968 took the family to Belfast, where Wilfred was minister of the University Road Congregation. He also had care of the congregation in Dublin, and from

1970 the Kilwarlin Congregation. This period was at the height of the 'troubles'; bombs, Bloody Sunday, cessation of Home Rule from Stormont, army occupation.....For the family, however, this was a very happy time despite all of the violence, due to the warmth of friendship of the members of the congregation.

Another call was received in 1972, which took the family to Fulneck. They were sad to leave Belfast, but they were moving on to equally happy times. In 1982 he represented The Moravian Church at the General Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Vancouver. It was also at this time that Wilfred was invited to be the guest preacher at Home Moravian Church, Winston Salem, for the 250th anniversary of American Independence, which was to be a televised service.

In 1984 Wilfred had a major heart attack whilst on holiday celebrating his Ruby Wedding anniversary with Dee and friends Harold and Joyce Jones. Another call followed. Fulneck would now have been too much for Wilfred given his health, and a move to Baildon took place. As a result, Wilfred was able to continue in full ministry until his retirement. In 1988, they moved back to Fulneck, but very shortly after, Wilfred needed surgery after a severe angina attack, and underwent a triple bypass operation.

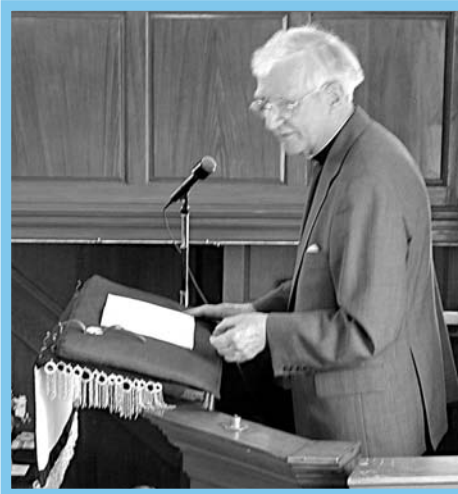
Golden wedding anniversary, 80th birthdays, Diamond wedding anniversary, all came and went, and provided much enjoyment and pleasure for Wilfred, Dee and their family and many friends. But then in 2004, Wilfred was taken seriously ill with kidney problems and an aortic aneurysm. The latter was successfully operated on and he continued to enjoy life for several years before ill health struck again and he was in the Coronary Unit of Leeds General Infirmary for the best part of a month.

In true Mortimer style he bounced back to return home, but he became more and more frail and in November the family made the decision to move Dee and Wilfred back to Baildon to be near Ruth and Gordon. Sadly, Wilfred was not to make this move, becoming gravely ill just days before.

Wilfred always put his heart and soul into whatever he undertook. He was proud to be 'a clerk in holy orders' as he put it and was tireless in his commitment to the ministry. He was meticulous with regard to order - order in liturgy, in administration, in discipline. He was scholarly in his planning of worship and was a succinct preacher.

Most merciful God, we thank you for Wilfred's life and for our memories of him. We thank you that your goodness and mercy followed him all the days of his life, and that he is now at peace with you.

(A much edited version of the eulogy given by Br David Newman at the funeral service at Baildon Moravian Church, 29th December 2011. If anyone wishes to see the full text, please email Br Newman david.newman@moravian.org.uk)



Joyce Isabel Gubi

5th May 1931 - 20th December 2011

Joyce Isabel was born in Barbados on the 5th May 1931, the second of four children born to Daisy and Cuthbert Gibbs. She was educated at Queen's College in Barbados and there she obtained her school certificate and then qualified as a shorthand typist. After leaving school, Joyce was employed as a receptionist and secretary in her father's business.

Joyce was received into the Methodist Church at the age of 14, and took part in its activities as a Sunday School Teacher. Later on, she and her mother established a Sunday School in their own home where Joyce was in charge of music as well as being a teacher. This was the beginning of what later became a new Methodist Church - the Hawthorn congregation in Christ Church, Barbados. Not many people can say they were involved in founding a congregation. In 1957, she and Peter Senior met when both were 'Counsellors for Converts' during a Billy Graham campaign, and in the following year they were married at Calvary Moravian Church in Bridgetown, in a ceremony conducted by a Methodist and a Moravian minister - the latter being Bishop Peter Gubi.

Joyce was received as an Acolyte in the Moravian Church in the Eastern West Indies Province on the 13th August 1959, at the same time that Peter Senior was consecrated as a Presbyter. In 1960, while on a year's sabbatical, Joyce entered Selly Oak College in Birmingham where she qualified in Sunday School teaching and organisation. On returning to the West Indies in 1961, Joyce and Peter Senior were called to work in St. Kitts where her Sunday School skills and musical ability were put to good use. In 1962, their first child, Anne, was born and the following year Peter Junior was born in Barbados where Joyce had gone to receive more assistance from her family than was available in St. Kitts. In 1964, the family moved to Tobago, where rebuilding of five churches and a manse needed to be undertaken following destruction caused by hurricane Flora.

In 1966, the family moved again back to Barbados - first to Mount Tabor

in St. John, and a year later to Calvary in Bridgetown. In 1969, their third child, Lisa Mary, was born but died in infancy.

In 1975, the family moved to Britain and were stationed in Yorkshire at the Lower Wyke congregation and later at Wellhouse in Mirfield. In 1980, the family were moved yet again to Swindon, where Peter Senior served as minister for Swindon and Tytherton, and later also Malmesbury.

Joyce assisted throughout these moves by leading and working in Sunday School organisation as well as contributing with her musical skills in both piano and organ. She was also skilled in flower-arranging. Joyce did, however, from 1969 onwards suffer from severe bouts of depression which incapacitated her from time to time.

After retirement in Tytherton, Joyce continued to play the organ and look after the flowers on occasion until a slow deterioration in her health disabled her. In February 2010, Joyce entered Cepen Lodge Care home, where she appreciated the care and attention given to her in her last days. The family are grateful for all that they have done.

Throughout her life, Joyce carried the values that her early Christian faith taught her. Her ability to engage total strangers in conversation was admirable and enviable. She was a devoted wife and mother, travelling around the globe supporting Peter Senior's ministry and looking after her family in not-the-easiest of conditions at times. And Joyce could not have had a more devoted and dedicated husband than she had in Peter Senior. Joyce was very proud of both Anne and Peter Junior but was also instrumental in both their life-paths. The warmth and vivaciousness of Joyce's youth is a gift passed on to her daughter Anne that is useful in her work and the importance of prayer for Joyce throughout her life became a focus for Peter Junior's research work. Joyce's warmth, love and caring shines forth in both Anne and Peter Junior.

(An edited version of the address given by Thom Stapleton at the funeral service at Tytherton Moravian Church, 28th December 2011)

The Closure of the Moss Side Society

I was privileged to attend the final service of the Moss Side Society in Manchester on Sunday, 27th November.

The service was led by Sr Kath Tait and started with the lighting of the Advent candle and Advent prayers, later followed by the singing of the Hosanna Anthem. It was good to sing this as recommended with male and female voices. I know that many congregations, including Dukinfield, have to split the singing into two halves down the centre of the church!

Br Richard Ingham was invited to give the address and he used as his text the passage from Luke 12, verse 32: "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom". He recalled the start of the Moss Side Society which, according to records, took place as a house meeting on 23rd November 1961 - just over 50 years ago. By 1974, twice-monthly services were held and Br McOwat wrote at the time that during that year, there had been two confirmations, one wedding and a loyal congregation of approximately 20 people.

A report in 1983 noted the transfer of services to the Whalley Range Methodist Church, and this is where the Moss Side Society has continued to meet until November 2011.

Br Ingham concluded his address with this comment: "It would have been nice to report that the Moss Side Society had grown into a congregation of several hundred, with its own building and even its own resident minister. But success cannot always be counted in numbers. Quality is far better than quantity. We mustn't fail to remember the individuals who have been helped and encouraged over the years, and the fellowship which has always persisted. We mustn't fail to notice that during its time here the Moss Side Society has maintained half a century of work and witness. 50 years of worship and service which must never be forgotten and will not go unnoticed in the Kingdom of God."

The service concluded with Holy Communion and refreshments were served. All in all, an afternoon of fellowship and love and I for one was grateful to have been there.

Sue Selby

Around the District Conferences

YORKSHIRE DISTRICT

The meeting was held at Baildon on October 4th, with 18 brethren and sisters present. Br. Kenneth Evans chaired the meeting and he appealed for ideas to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012. As well as the Queen's diamond celebrations, May 2012, marks 270 years since the settling of the first Yorkshire Moravian Church. It is hoped that this milestone will be marked by holding a relay run involving two or more of the congregations. Such an event would follow on the heels of last year's District Relay Run, which was a good success and raised more than £1,000.

In his role as District Renewal Secretary, Br. Evans reported on the Fellowship Day held at Pride Park, Derby. As well as being addressed by Sr. Torkington, attendees joined workshops covering sport, medicine, the media, finance and education.

In his report from the West Yorkshire Ecumenical Council, Br. Evans said church leaders had met on several occasions and significant steps in working together had been made. The latest meeting of the Ecumenical Council had discussed cutbacks in the health service, young people and work and the forthcoming boundary changes that will affect Anglican and Methodist churches.

Individual reports were then given from the churches in the District. For Baildon, Br. Derrick Purnell said the church had 42 members and 9 adherents. An informal discussion group, the 'Together Group' met monthly at member's homes. The membership at Horton was 43 with an average of 30 at Communion. The manse at Horton was still up for sale.

Br. Peter Gubi gave the reports for Lower Wyke and Wellhouse. Lower Wyke membership stood at 42, and the church had been opened in June and August for quiet reflection during the morning and this had attracted several people who would not normally have attended. Cafe Church continues to be successful and a new family-friendly service had been introduced on the last Sunday of every month. Many events with a social focus had been organised, including table tennis, snooker, children's activities, art exhibitions and proms. For Wellhouse, Br. Gubi said there was a membership of 25, with 15 regularly attending. The church also contributed in many ways, including financially, to a youth project and a paid worker had been recruited to develop youth work in the church.

Br. Michael Newman reported that membership at Gomersal stood at 33 and he noted that there had been a rise in the number attending Lovefeast and Holy Communion. The church had hosted a St George's Day parade that had attracted more than 100 scouts. Several fundraising events had been held, including a garden party and concert. The Gardening Girls were as busy as ever. For Fulneck, Br. Newman reported a membership of 89, with three new members. In August there had been a morning Communion and he said that this may be repeated. Conference also heard that although Fulneck Music Society had closed after 30 years, Fulneck's Simon Dunn had now been appointed music director for the Moravian Singers and had made an excellent start.

Dick Porter

Open Book

FIRST BOOK OF KINGS

The Bible is a library of 66 books and letters between two covers. 1 Kings is found in the section 'Old Testament History.' In the English Bible this includes, twelve books from Joshua to Esther. In the second century BC, the Old Testament was translated from Hebrew into Greek. 1 and 2 Samuel and 1 and 2 Kings, which were originally two books, were divided into four books and named "Books of Kingdoms." When Jerome translated the Old Testament into Latin in the 4th century AD, he changed the title to "Books of the Kings." (A combination of 1 and 2 Samuel and 1 and 2 Kings into a series of four books) in which 1 Kings became the third. The English Bible retained the Hebrew titles for 1 and 2 Samuel.

1 Kings records the history of Israel from the last days of king David, followed by the division of the nation into two kingdoms and to the death of king Aham, succeeded by his son Ahaziah as king of the northern kingdom.

We do not know for certain who was the author of 1Kings or if it is the work of a single writer. A long held Jewish tradition names Jeremiah. The verses at the end of 2 Kings are the same as the end of the book of Jeremiah 52 vv 31 - 34. The author (editor) gleaned his material from many sources. Reference is made to " the Book of the Acts of Solomon," (1 Kings 11 v 41), "Chronicles of the Kings of Judah" (1 Kings 14 v 29 and 15 v 7) and Israel (1 Kings 15 v 31). These books are not the same as the Old Testament "Chronicles, which come later in the post- exilic period from 425 - 400 BC. It is not possible in a short article to include a detailed examination of the many people and events recorded in 1 Kings. Here is a selected overview of this open book:

Chapter One: David, once a shepherd boy, musician, king of the united kingdom of Israel is now elderly, weak and approaching death. Adonijah, one of David's sons, makes claims to the throne. Bathsheba, David's wife and Nathan the prophet inform David of Adonijah's ambition. David is able to confirm Solomon is to be the next king of Israel and his anointing is arranged.

Chapter Two: David, near the end of his life, gives Solomon a final word

of advice, v 12 "So Solomon sat on the throne of David and his rule was firmly established."

Chapter Three: verses 1and 2 record Solomon made a treaty with Pharoah, king of Egypt and married Pharoah's daughter. This was not unknown between royal families when international treaties were signed, but it was an unwise move where Solomon was concerned. It gives an ironic start to the rest of the chapter, and a hint of things to come.

Chapter Four: Solomon appoints his court officials. Chapters Five to Nine: The building and Dedication of the Temple. Chapter Ten: the visit of the Queen of Sheba.

1 KINGS IS A BOOK SET IN A VERY DIFFERENT CULTURE TO OUR OWN. THE RELEVANCE IS IN THE FACT THAT IT IS HISTORY WRITTEN WITH GOD IN IT.

Chapter Eleven: Solomon allows his wealth and desires to entice him away from God, His Covenant and Law (read Deuteronomy 17 vv 16-17). "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Psalm 111 v 10). It is not surprising the wisdom of Solomon began to evaporate, and he did some very unwise acts in later years. (11 vv 1 to 11)

Chapter Twelve: Rehoboam, Solomon's son is now king. Jeroboam, a radical leader, leads the people, at their request, to ask the king to ease the burden of heavy labour imposed on them in the building of the Temple and the king's palace. Rehoboam tells them to come back in three days for his answer. In the meantime Rehoboam consults first the elders of the city. They advise him to accede to the people's request "and they will always be your servants." (v7) Rehoboam asks the young men who had grown up with him. They give him the opposite advice,

which he accepts. His reply to the people was to promise them even harder labour. He spoke to them aggressively and the result was rebellion. It was the end of the united kingdom. Ten tribes moved north, made Jeroboam their king, and Damascus their capital city. It was another major, life-changing event in the history of Israel, on a par with the exodus from Egypt years before, and the exile which was to follow later. Two tribes remained in the south with their capital city Jerusalem and Rehoboam their king. The northern kingdom is now known as Israel and the southern kingdom as Judah.

The remaining Chapters thirteen to twenty-two: record the history of the two kingdoms, with their parallel lines of kings. We are introduced to the first in line of major prophets, who would influence an influential ministry in the life of both kingdoms. " the word of the Lord came to Elijah." (chapter 17 v 1 and 18 v 1)

1 Kings is a book set in a very different culture to our own. The relevance is in the fact that it is history written with God in it. Kings are introduced and judged not by their military and social achievements alone, but by the recurring dominant sentence " and he did that which is right (or that which is evil) in the sight of the Lord." it was the deciding factor in the success or failure of his reign.

It is a story of human nature with with its strengths and weaknesses. David was a man after God's own heart (Acts 13 v 22), yet he was human and yielded to temptation: notably in the story of Bathsheba and her husband Uriah, out of which came Psalm 51.

Solomon " lost the plot" and his wisdom as the years passed. It is often in our prosperity, we forget God. Elijah suffered depression yet God did not forsake him (1 Kings 19 v 4). Out of the tragedy of the divided kingdoms, with Judah a remnant of two tribes. God's promise and plan were maintained. We sing, "To you in David's town this day is born of David's line, a Saviour who is Christ the Lord."

Given time, God can redeem situations, as well as souls.

Dennis Monger

Notice Board

2012 Moravian Textbook

Please note that there is an error in the Almanac. In the list of Lay Preachers the address given for Br. J. Spencer is incorrect. The correct address is 3 Yorkshire Way, Bradford, West Yorkshire. BD7 3LG tel. 01274 573 578

Thank You to the Province

At the Board meeting in November it was reported that the arrears in the ministry assessment had decreased by 36% since 1st January, 2011. Not only had there been this decrease, but all the congregations who were and are still having financial problems, also managed to reduce their arrears.

We would like to thank all the congregations for the efforts they have made, in this increasingly difficult financial climate, to achieve this result. It is not easy to give when we have so many other constraints on our time and money but I think this is an indication of how much you value your Church.

Our thanks, as a Board does not just go to the Treasurers and Committees but to all the members. It is your generous giving which has enabled the treasurers to pay the assessments.

Thank you again and continue to pray for each other during the next year.

Gillian Taylor, Provincial Treasurer

5 Wellhouse, Mirfield

A Mid-Terraced stone built and slated house Accommodation comprises:-

Ground Floor	First Floor
Small entrance hall	Landing
Living Room with gas fire	One Double Bedroom
Kitchen with fitted units	One Medium sized Bedroom
	One Small Bedroom
	Bathroom

General

The property has gas central heating throughout Garden area to the front and rear of the property

Rent

£1,400.00 (One thousand four hundred pounds) per quarter.

Viewing to be arranged with the local agent:

Mr M. Hyndman, 10 Wellhouse, Mirfield, West Yorkshire WF14 0AN Tel: 01924 494449

Applications forms are available from the property agent: John Forrester, First Floor, 19/21 Chapel Brow, Leyland, Preston PR25 3NH Tel: 01772 421566 e-mail: info@johnforrester.co.uk

Applications forms to be returned to Mr Forrester by 5.00pm on 10th February, 2012

Congregation News



MWA Ladies

University Road

University Road has been blessed with a baby boom and this year six baptisms have taken place! Charlotte James, daughter of Claire and Andy, and little sister to Darcey, was born in February and christened on Palm Sunday. Evie Mickle came into the world while our 2010 Christingle service was in full swing, and her baptism took place in May. Also in May, we had a double celebration with the christenings of cousins Molly Mewha, daughter of Jock and Stephanie, and little sister of Lily, and Lucy Mewha, daughter of Ramsey and Jeni. July saw the christening of Ruth Biggart, daughter of Sandra and John, and granddaughter of Marian and Derick Woods. You might have noticed that all our new arrivals were girls, but in September, Nicola and Craig Goodall were blessed with a son and we celebrated the baptism of Jack Goodall in November.

As well as the baptisms, there have been a number of

other special services: Harvest; a joint service with our Lutheran brothers and sisters, and the Moravian Women's Association annual service. The MWA sisters can be seen in the photo.

The congregation's social life included a day out at Carnfunnock Country Park in June, and a party night in the church hall in aid of Comic Relief.

On a sadder note, the congregation has recently lost two of its members. We lost Br Derek Smith on 13th October and our thoughts and prayers are with his widow Margaret, daughter Alison and son Adam. On 30th October, Sr Sadie Kernohan was called home. Our thoughts are with her widower Davy, daughter Mandy and the rest of the family circle.

Helen McVeigh

Harold Road

It was with great sadness that the entire congregation turned out to support Sr. Mary Ann Edwards at the funeral of her beloved daughter Roma. The funeral took place on 25th November, 2011. Roma was just 49 years old. The offering of tributes and thanksgiving were led by Br. Robert Hopcroft. Family, friends, and a large contingent of her workmates left us in no doubt that someone very special has departed from amongst us.

We pray that Roma has indeed entered into the presence of her Saviour. We will keep her family in our prayers.

Sr. Mary Ann Edwards 90th birthday was to have been celebrated with a service of Thanksgiving followed by dinner at a restaurant for well over a hundred guests. Plans were in place for singing and reminiscing of all things Moravian but when God called her daughter home shortly before the big day, all these plans were postponed indefinitely. Sr. Edwards we wish you many happy returns for your 90th year and we look forward to other times of celebration and thanksgiving.

Rosita Burton

CONGREGATION REGISTERS

DEATH

24th Nov. ☐ **Phyllis Lucy Lloyd** ☐ *Fulneck*
 18th Dec. ☐ **Wilfred James Mortimore** ☐ *Baildon*

Cliftonville

New hymn and liturgy books have been donated in memory of the late Sr. Sadie Stringer; we are glad that her daughter Marie was visiting from South Africa in September and joined with her father and the congregation in using them.



Treasurer John Cooper and Br. Derick Woods at Anniversary lunch.

Br. Derick Woods was the preacher at the 102nd Anniversary service which was followed by a light lunch on 4th September. The Heritage Week-end display on 10th and 11th September featured the 400th Anniversary of The King James Bible and the older Czech Kralice Bible, which was published in six volumes between 1579 and 1593; the first translation into the Czech language from the

original tongues (Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek) by the Bohemian Brethren (early Moravians). We also displayed the Moravian Time Line and a collection of British Moravian hymn and tune books from the 19th century to the latest version, and illustrations from the 1541 and other 16th century hymn books. Our interested visitors stayed to drink tea and chat.

Br. Desmond Quaiter was the preacher at the Harvest service and lunch on 2nd October. During the interval at the enjoyable Table Quiz on 14th October, five of the Sunday school children entertained with Scottish and Irish dancing. The children and adults enjoyed a Jungle Book Singalong on a later occasion. The Council meeting was held after the service on Sunday 16th October.



Demi, Leah, Hollie and twins Cara and Abby entertained with Scottish and Irish dancing at Cliftonville Table Quiz.

During Advent the church was beautifully decorated and each Sunday the children lighted the candles on the Advent wreath and once again packed shoe boxes with Christmas gifts for Romanian orphans. On the 11th December the choir was responsible for the service of readings and Christmas music and in the evening some members

took part in a United Community Advent Service in Joanmount Methodist Church. On the 18th, again under the leadership of the choir, there was a service of Lessons and Carols; then at 4p.m. the children presented the story of Christmas with puppets, followed by a Nativity Play before the Christingles were distributed. Christmas morning service was conducted by Br. Holdsworth.

We thank the retired ministers and all the lay preachers whose willing help enabled us to maintain the Sunday services during 2011.

Edna Cooper

Brockweir

The dedication of new hymn and liturgy books on All Saints Sunday was an excellent choice by Br. Stapleton; for some of the books had been bought in memory of past members and relations. It gave us a chance to remember their contribution to the life and work of our congregation and how much we still miss their presence.

In November, we also lost two of our long standing members, Sr. Joan Morris and Br. Norman Scriven. Sr. Joan had been suffering ill health for some time but in previous years had played the organ in church. In his eulogy, Br. Dennis Monger summed up Norman's life in 4 words "A life of service." Service to the community, to the church and his family. His life was an example to all, as was his courtesy. They will both be sadly missed.

The BBC Food and Farming Awards were also announced in November 2011, and Brockweir Village Shop won the 'Best Local Food Retailer' category, when the awards were presented at the NEC in Birmingham. Some of the volunteers in the shop are also members of the church and it was with a great deal of interest that we awaited the results and subsequent celebrations!

Christmas, is one of the times when a small congregation really comes into its own, as each member contributes to the planning and execution of services and events. We all have roles to play - quite literally when it comes to the Nativity Walk - and it's a case of 'all hands to the pump.' Our Christmas services began with Advent Communion on December 4th, which was presided over by Br. Thom Stapleton and as usual we attempted

the Hosanna Anthem. It was a passable attempt but we really could do with some more men! Our Festival of Carols and Lessons was led by Sr. Carol Ostler and various members of the congregation read the lessons.

The Nativity Walk remains popular within the village and despite a dreadful downpour just before we were due to set off, we attracted approximately 50 people to follow the events of Jesus' birth. We listened to Bible stories and sang carols as we journeyed to Bethlehem and this year travelled onwards to Egypt finally ending up in church. Even the donkey joined us to sing a few more carols and hot drinks and mince pies were served afterwards.



Our Christingle service was slightly different from usual in that we had a Children's Lovefeast. Whilst we were enjoying our Fairtrade products Br. Stapleton read "Jesus' Birthday Party" by Nicholas Allan. Sr. Mary Harris had arranged for the illustrations to be projected during the service and the children - young and old - loved following the various commands. The highlight as always though was when the children processed around the church with their lighted Christingles.

On Christmas Day, Sr. Sue Groves led the service and we enjoyed reading from the new Christmas liturgy. We were surprised to have nearly 60 people attending the 9:00 a.m. service but it was a delightful surprise and one we wouldn't mind most weeks. Special thanks must go to our organist Sr. Caroline Buffrey for providing the music over this busy period and Srs. Harris and Drewell for making the church so attractive.

Judith Ashton

CHURCH HOUSE NEWS

Unity Prayer Day 2012 is designated for Nicaragua to assist the orphans and children affected by Hurricane Felix. As yet we have not received any further information but hopefully something will be coming soon and will forward it straight on to everyone.

PRAYER NOTES

2nd February - Candlemas or Presentation of Christ at the Temple (*Christian*)

2nd February - Triodon (*Orthodox Christian*)

3rd February - Maha Shavartri (*Hindu*)

8th February - Tu BiShvat (*Judaism*)

14th February - St. Valentine's Day (*Christian*)

15th February - Nirvana Day (*Buddhism*)

19th February - Transfiguration (*Christian*)

21st February - Shrove Tuesday (*Christian*)

22nd February - Ash Wednesday, beginning of Lent (*Christian*)

Song for Candlemas (The Presentation of Jesus)

(Meter: 11, 11, 11, 11)

When Jesus was born he was in great danger,
Who could his family trust, not friend or stranger.
The Lord sent a messenger to protect them,
When they left Jesus' birthplace in Bethlehem.

The tiny little baby, in Mary's arms,
He was free from Herod and safe from all harm.
He's brought to the Temple, given to the Lord,
God's one and only son, the true living Word.

Simeon and Anna met Jesus with joy,
They both knew that he was not only a boy.
So Jesus was blessed by His Father above,
A gift to His people of passion and love.

A Prayer for Ash Wednesday

Father in Heaven, the light of your truth bestows sight to the darkness of sinful eyes. May this season of repentance bring us the blessing of Your forgiveness and the gift of Your light. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Father, through our observance of Lent, help us to understand the meaning of Your Son's death and resurrection, and teach us to reflect it in our lives. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. International Committee on English in the Liturgy (ICEL)

Provincial Diary for February

□□ Renewal Committee, Lower Wyke 10.30am□	Sr Groves□
6□ Ockbrook School Governors□	Br Hopcroft□
7□ PEC meeting□	The PEC□
13/14□ PEC, BMB, Unitas Estates Meetings□	The PEC□
15□ Provincial Youth Meeting, University Road□	Sr Taylor□
22□ Faith and order Meeting including an afternoon meeting□	Sr Groves
□ With the Bishops and PEC members at Church House□	
23□ Finance Committee, Church House□	The PEC□
29□ Church Service Advisory Board, Church House□	The PEC□
March	
2□ Women's World Day of Prayer□	
3□ Midlands District Conference, Leominster□	
Lancashire District Conference, Dukinfield□	
4□ Unity Prayer Day 2012 □	
7/8□ PEC, BMB, Unitas Estates Meetings□	The PEC

A Prayer for St. Valentine's Day

Most Gracious Heavenly Father, You gave Saint Valentine the courage to witness to the gospel of Christ, even to the point of giving his life for it. Help us to endure all suffering for love of you, and to seek you with all our hearts; for you alone are the source of life and love. Grant that we may have the courage and love to be strong witnesses of your truth to our friends and family and to the whole world. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Meditation for Transfiguration

Let's go up the mountain, let's go up to the place where the land meets the sky where the earth touches the heavens, to the place of meeting, to the place of mists, to the place of voices and conversations, to the place of listening. O God, We open our eyes and we see Jesus, the months of ministry transfigured to a beam of light, the light of the world, your light. May your light shine upon us. We open our eyes and we see Moses and Elijah, your word restoring us, showing us the way, telling a story, your story, his story, our story. May your word speak to us. We open our eyes and we see mist, the cloud of your presence which assures us of all we do not know and that we do not need to fear that. Teach us to trust. We open our eyes and we see Peter's constructions, his best plans, our best plans, our missing the point, our missing the way. Forgive our foolishness and sin. We open our eyes and we see Jesus, not casting us off, but leading us down, leading us out - to ministry, to people. Your love endures forever. We open our ears and we hear your voice, 'This is my beloved Son, listen to him!' And we give you thanks. Amen

A Prayer for Lent

Hanging as a vine upon the Wood, O Christ our Saviour, Thou hast made the ends of the earth to drink from the wine of incorruption. Therefore do I cry aloud: I am darkened always by the hateful drunkenness of sin; Give me to drink from the sweet wine of true compunction, and grant me now the strength, O Saviour, to fast from sensual pleasures, for Thou art good and lovest mankind. St. Joseph Studite, Lenten Triodion

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Editor: Judith Ashton. Contributions for the Messenger should reach the Editor, Sunnybank, Raglan Road, Tintern, Monmouthshire NP16 6TH
E-mail: judith.ashton@moravian.org.uk by the 3rd day of the preceding month.