

## NEW CHURCH SOCIETIES

### This Months news...

we will be celebrating Christmas this year against a backdrop of bad news from around the world, and for many people in our neighbourhoods a time of financial difficulty. But celebrate we must. Gratitude for what we do have; family, friends and neighbours.

I recently came across a very challenging quote from CS Lewis (1898-1963), the man who wrote the Chronicles of Narnia. It goes "Next to the blessed sacrament itself (what the New Church calls the Holy Supper) your neighbour is the holiest object presented to your senses".

This is not often easy to see! But if God loves us all unconditionally, and we are made in His image, it makes sense. We don't have to like everyone just love them.

Above all at this time, and Advent Sunday falls on 3 December this year, we look forward to celebrating the period leading up to the birth of the Lord in Bethlehem all those years ago. If we can allow time for personal reflection, and stillness, in the run up to Christmas we can prepare to receive the Lord in our hearts. It is essential to programme in time for rest in the midst of our busyness.

Advent marks the beginning of the church year. It is a time for reflection in darkness, for renewal of hope and for a movement towards a new beginning. And of course the new year begins a week after Christmas Day. New beginnings indeed.

As we contemplate the real meaning of Christmas, let us be prepared to say YES to what God asks of us as Mary, the mother of the Lord, said YES to what God asked of her.

Finally a short Christmas prayer:

Lord Jesus, Light of Light, you have come among us. Help us who live by your light to shine as lights in the world. Amen.

A joyful and peace filled Christmas to you all.

### CONGRADULATIONS

To the Dalton Christmas Fair volunteers who raised £452.10 for the church and £42 for aid to Ukraine

To the Bradford church as work has started on replacing the church roof!

### DAVID BLAND

James and Trevor attended the funeral of David, who was a volunteer at the Bradford garden on Monday mornings, held on 27 September. A good number of people turned up to show their respects.

### WALTER RICHARDSON

I am sorry to have to report the recent death of Dalton stalwart Walter Richardson. Walter, such a kind man and a reliable and hardworking member of the church will be greatly missed. He so enjoyed his 90th birthday celebration at the church, on 7 October. He died quietly at home surrounded by family members. His son in law will conduct the service at Huddersfield Crematorium at 1.15pm on Monday 18 December, all welcome; a celebration of Walter's life will take place at 3pm the same day at Dalton New Church. This will be led by Jean Mrozek and Trevor Millar; refreshments will follow in the church hall.

### NEW CHURCH CHILDREN'S DAY

The New Church Youth Association are celebrating Children's Day on Sunday 21 January and churches are asked to remember children and young people on that day if possible. NCYA will be issuing worship material nearer the time.



*Walter Richardson at his birthday celebration in October*



*Bradford members enjoying the activity weekend away*

### POINT TO PONDER

"For though my faith is not yours and your faith is not mine, if we are each free to light our own flame, together we can banish some of the darkness of the world."

- Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

"Rest is not idle it is not wasteful. Sometimes rest is the most productive thing you can do for your body and soul."

- Erica Layne

## NEW CHURCH SOCIETIES

### NOTICES

25th December Christmas meal at  
Bradford New Church

13th January Walk and Talk a  
Fountains Abbey (Youth and Family  
team)

7th January Great Family Bake Off at  
Bradford New Church

### Preaching Plan

Services at 10.45am unless stated

#### Date

#### 3 December

Bradford - Carol Service

Dalton - Jean Mrozek; Advent Sunday

#### 10 December

Bradford - Christingle Service 3pm

Dalton - Jan Millar & Trevor Millar

#### 17 December

Bradford - Kids Christmas play

Dalton - Lessons, Carols and Lunch

Christine Mrozek

#### 24 December

Bradford - No service

Dalton - Jonathan Millar; Christmas Eve

#### 31 December

Bradford - no service

Dalton - Jan Millar and Gwendolen

Rowe Holy Supper

#### 7 January

Bradford - Gwendolen Rowe

Dalton - Trevor Millar

#### 14 January

Bradford - no service

Dalton - Jan and Jonathan Millar

#### 21 January

Bradford - Jonathan Millar, Holy Supper

Dalton - Gwendolen Rowe, Holy Supper

#### 28 January

Bradford - no service

Dalton - Jan Millar and Trevor Millar

#### 4 February

Bradford - Shannon Fitzgerald

Dalton - Jonathan Millar



*Bonfire night festivities at  
Bradford, family walk, sparklers,  
jacket potatoes and live music!*

### Contacts

#### BRADFORD AND SALTAIRE

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#### DALTON

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*Bradford families enjoying the  
lantern parade. Some of our  
children even made it onto ITV  
news!*

### REGULAR EVENTS

#### DALTON

Coffee mornings -

Saturdays 10am-noon

Fellowship circle 2nd and 4th

Thursdays 2-3pm

#### BRADFORD

Community project -

Monday - Friday 10am till noon

Gardening

Monday 10am-12pm

Nature school

Monday 10-11.30am

Home Educating

Thursday 10-11.30am

Advice and Support

Tuesdays 10am-12pm