

DIGEST

GREENMOUNT URC

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December 2018 and January 2019



Dear Friends,

This issue of the Greenmount Digest covers the busy period of Advent, Christmas and the New Year and, as you see, the notices are for many events during this time. I hope you also recognise the range of opportunities to meet together.

Last month it was wonderful to see so many people coming together to mark the centenary of the signing of the Armistice in 1918. It was also good to see the Old School full last Saturday for Santa's Christmas Cracker, which was a great success.

The involvement of so many people across the village in charitable organisations, some well-known to us like D. Caff, others with a much more individual commitment, shows us to be a caring community. The public meeting about Island Lodge spoke loudly about our environmental concerns.

Advent is a period of preparation for Christmas which because it can be a hectic time can make us focus on ourselves, our family and those closest to us. However, Advent is about looking forward with anticipation to the future. We join together to celebrate the birth of a baby but we know this is only the beginning of a life which shook the world and today still transforms the lives of those who have come to believe this message. So, over Christmas take time to reflect on the true message "God is love".

May love increase
May cares all cease
May all the world
Rejoice in peace.

Have a very happy Christmas and may 2019 be a good year for all.

God bless,
Neil Carter

ADVENT MEETINGS

Tuesdays at 7.30pm in church

December 4th **Preparation**, 11th **Prayer** and 18th **Praise**

A series of three evening reflections led by members of the worship team. Come along, share looking at these three themes and prepare for Christmas.

BIBLE STUDY

Bible studies will be held at Jennifer Robb's house at 7.30 pm on Tuesdays, January 8th and 22nd. You will be made very welcome if you would like to join this group.

GREENMOUNT CHOIR

The choir meet each Thursday evening at 7pm in the church. If you are interested in joining or want more details, please speak to Graham.

QUIET MORNING

From 10 am to 12 noon at Emmanuel Church centre, Longsight Road.

There will be no meeting in December, the next will be on January 15th. This is an ecumenical morning. Why not come along? If you'd like more information about the structure of the morning, please speak to Elinor.

Psalm 46 v. 10 "Be still and know that I am God"

MONTHLY DROP-IN

Saturday December 1st

10 AM TO 12 NOON

Potato pie lunch £2. All welcome

Please note, there will be no Drop-in at the beginning of January.

DUNDEE ART CLUB

Why not come along and join our growing group of artists?
We meet at Dundee URC at 10:30am on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month.

Dates for January are the 8th and the 22nd. We are not meeting in December.

This group is for anyone interested in painting or learning to paint – no experience is necessary. For more information please ring Aileen Brown on 01204 886145.

GREENMOUNT VILLAGE COMMUNITY D-CAFF

A lovely place to meet.....

... for people living with dementia, their carers, family and friends.

Greenmount Cricket Club from 1.15 – 3.15

Friday December 14th – “The Twelve Days of Christmas” – includes festive light lunch, fun and frivolity.

The children from Greenmount

Primary School will be singing.

Friday January 11th – Happy new Year!

REFLECTIONS FOR ADVENT

at Summerseat Garden Centre

Four Tuesday mornings

on 27th Nov., 4th, 11th, 18th December.

PRINCE OF PEACE

Buy your coffee at 10 am then join together with friends from

Ramsbottom Churches Together

to discuss and discover the real meaning of Christmas.

More details from Sandra 01204 883102

CHURCH MEETING

On January 20th to be held after the morning service.

**INVITATION TO ALL
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS IN GREENMOUNT CHURCH
2.30pm to 4pm.**

DECEMBER 12th
Musical Afternoon in Church
Followed by Afternoon Tea

JANUARY 9th
Memories followed by Communion then Afternoon Tea

JANUARY 30th
Listen to Bible Stories followed by Afternoon Tea

**CAR DRIVERS NEEDED
WEDNESDAY 12th DECEMBER**

We are very pleased that some residents from Hewlett Court are enjoying our Monthly Afternoon Church Meetings. It is getting so popular that we need more drivers to call at 2pm for people from Hewlett Court and take them back there at 4pm. Please contact Christine 07854260947 or Jennifer on 01204 884943 if you are free to help on 12th December and/or willing to go on a rota

IONA SERVICE SUNDAY 27th JANUARY AT 6.30PM.

Jim has been leading our Iona type service for the last six months and we have found them a time of wonderful worship, challenging and thought provoking. Come along and enjoy this worship time.

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP MEETING

The next fellowship meeting is on Thursday 17 January at 11am. Everyone is invited to come along and enjoy a coffee or tea as we look at the calendar for February and plan events.

Textile Trail

The December Textile Trail will be at 2.30pm on Thursday 6th December at 8 Whitebirk Close. There will be a quiz and a textile video plus mince pies and beverages. Please join us for a fun afternoon. £2 for church funds.

PLEASE NOTE that there will NOT be a Textile Trail in January.

Thank You

We would like to thank everyone for your help, care and prayers during the last few weeks of my treatment and Frank's care at home. What a wonderful church family we are blessed with.

With our love,

Dorothy and Frank



T'was the night before Christmas,
God glanced over the earth.
He looked to and fro,
All over its girth.
They missed it again He said with a sigh,
A heavy heart and a tear in His eye.
I gave them my son,
So they could be free.
My greatest gift,
To them from me,
They traded me in,
For a man in red.
A little tree,
And horse drawn sled.
How do I save them,
And make them see?
My love is complete,
My grace is free.
How do I help them?
When all they know,
Is a talking snowman,
And a box with a bow,
Maybe next year,
They will stop and see.
The biggest gift of Christmas.
Is the little child from me.

**SUNDAY 9TH DECEMBER
AT 7PM
BOLTON CHAMBER
ORCHESTRA AND CHOIR**

Will perform the first half of

‘The Messiah’

**FREE CONCERT
PLEASE COME AND ENJOY THIS
MUSICAL TREAT.**

**This is a one hour performance of the highlights of
this Christmas favourite ending with the**

Hallelujah Chorus

**SATURDAY 15TH DECEMBER
AT 7.30PM.**

**The Annual
FAMILY CAROL CONCERT**

**RAMSBOTTOM CHORAL
AND ORCHESTRA**

**TICKETS £5 Adults
 £1 Children**

Including refreshments.

**Come along and enjoy this
traditional festive delight.**

Living for God's love

Loving God,
we can never thank you enough
for what you have given us in the mystery of Christ,
your uniquely precious child;
born into our world, as a Jew,
to make your unbreakable promises to his own people
valid for the whole inhabited earth.

Give us such thankfulness
that we may become true servants of this gospel,
boldly proclaiming your wisdom
in all its rich variety,
living for your love,
until, in the boundless riches of Christ,
no person or nation is despised,
all divided people are reconciled,
and the glorious gratitude of earth,
is fulfilled in your eternal joy.

Alan Gaunt

GREENMOUNT VILLAGE WALKING GROUP

on Monday 12th November

Short walk route: Greenmount, Kirklees Valley, Burrs, Summerseat, Holcombe Brook, Redisher, Greenmount.

It was another mild and sunny morning as 16 walkers made their way down the Kirklees Trail and across the viaduct over Island Lodge. The Lodge was once the water supply for Tottington Mill, then after the mill closed in 1929, became a haven for wildlife and popular with anglers, But, over the last 11 years it has been neglected and raw sewage has been allowed to pollute this once glorious beauty spot. Efforts are underway to save Island Lodge from destruction.

We continued down the trail before crossing Kirklees Valley to Brandlesholme, near what is now called Dukes Rise, taking the narrow path from here down to the Burrs.

Once in the park we enjoyed a coffee break, unfortunately the Lamplighter Café is closed on Mondays so we had to make do with our own flasks.

Refreshed we followed the River Irwell up towards Summerseat, crossing the river over Kay Bridge before going under the railway bridge and making our way to the bottom of Holcombe Valley.

We climbed up through the valley, which was littered with dead trees many of them lying across the footpath. Once in Holcombe Brook we crossed, Bolton Road West and walked by the side of the Hare and Hounds into Redisher Wood.

We spent some time looking at the new stone bridge being built over Holcombe Brook and we judged that as the bridge opening was so small its aim was to slow the flow of water in times of flooding. Turning left over the old bridge we made our way onto Redisher Lane and down to Bolton Road which we crossed onto a footpath through the fields back to Greenmount. In total a distance of just under 8 miles.

OUR DECEMBER Guided Walks

Note: During the Winter months our Wednesday walks will be planned with the option of calling in a café for lunch. What a pleasure it was on our November Walk to stop at Smithills Old Hall Café for lunch after enduring the bitter cold winds on Winter Hill and Smithills Moor, before taking the lower route back to our cars on George Lane Horwich.

MONDAY 3rd DECEMBER

Meeting Place: Greenmount Old School 8.40am., 7 miles back 1pm. at Bull's Head Steak House

Route: Greenmount, Two Brooks Valley, Walsh Fold, Quarlton, Redisher Wood, Greenmount

Option of lunch at Bull's Head, to be ordered at start of walk.

FRIDAY 21st DECEMBER

Meeting Place: Hare and Hounds, Holcombe Brook 6.30pm., back at 8.00pm 2 miles

Route: Peel Tower and back – route dependent on weather

Bring a good torch, Christmas quiz & treat in the Tower

THURSDAY 27th DECEMBER

Meeting Place: Greenmount Old School 10.30am back at 12.30pm, 4 miles

Route: Greenmount, Hollymount, Hawkshaw, Redisher, Greenmount (Mulled wine and mince pie at Hawkshaw)

JANUARY Guided Walks...

MONDAY 7th JANUARY

Meeting Place: Old School 8.40am back 3pm. 10 miles

Route: Greenmount, Affetside, Top O'Knotts, Bradshaw Brook, Affetside, Two Brooks, Greenmount

MONDAY 14th JANUARY

Meeting Place: Old School 8.40am back 12.30pm. 6 miles

Route: Greenmount, Old Kay's, Old Ned's Lowercroft, Hey Head, Tottington, Greenmount

WEDNESDAY 23rd JANUARY

Meeting Place: Hare & Hounds, Holcombe Brook 8.45am, back 3pm 12 miles

Route: Holcombe Brook, Peel Tower, Pilgrims Cross, Bull Hill, Ratchers, Helmshore, Irwell Vale, Edenfield, Stubbins, Nuttall Park, Holcombe Brook. Option: lunch at café in Edenfield.

HOLCOMBE MOOR HERITAGE GROUP

Talk at Greenmount Cricket Club

THE FLAX MILLS OF JAMES KAY (of Turton Tower)

By Professor Richard Horrocks

Wednesday 30th JAN. start 7.30pm.

Admission £3 with refreshments

TOTTINGTON & DISTRICT
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

There will be no meeting in December.

On Wednesday 9th January at 8pm in the Old School,
Dr Paul Hindle will talk about the “Meccano Bridge” built to
replace an older one over a section of the Bury/Bolton Canal
Admission is £2 including refreshments, pay on the door.
Everyone welcome. For more information, please contact
Dorothy 01204883379.

GREENMOUNT BEAVERS/CUBS & SCOUTS
INVITE ALL TO THEIR ANNUAL CHRISTINGLE
SERVICE ON
SUNDAY 16th DECEMBER AT 4pm
IN GREENMOUNT CHURCH

Everyone is most welcome. The Service reminds us of the
true meaning of Christmas and of the importance of children
at this time. During the Service carols are sung by the light of
the Christingles which you are invited to make and bring, or
bring a candle in a holder. A collection will be taken for
‘Save the Children’ helping deprived children worldwide.

RAMSBOTTOM CHORAL SOCIETY. & ORCHESTRA
FAMILY CAROL CONCERT
SATURDAY 15th DECEMBER 7.30pm.

Help required before the concert (11am Saturday) to prepare
church; and during the concert to serve coffee and mince pies at
the interval and clear up afterwards.

JUMBLE SALE
SATURDAY 5th JANUARY
10am to 12 noon

We are having a Jumble Sale in January as there is too long a gap between the October and February Jumble Sales making it very difficult to store all the donated Jumble.

Helpers are needed on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th January any time from 9 to 5. Help, no matter how long, on these days will be much appreciated. Helpers are also needed on Saturday from 10am to 12 at the Sale and from 12 to help to clear away and load Father Whyatt's van.

Power Point Operator

Church needs more people to operate Power Point during services. It isn't difficult and training will be given. There's always "an expert" around to sort out problems. Let Sheila know if you can help.

December Rota

December	Porch Vestry	Cleaning	Hymn Books
2nd	Alan Neil	D. Heaton L. Bartlett	M. Bailey M. Dyson
9th	Margaret Carolyn	R. Newsholme S. Lloyd	D. Kelly L. Bartlett
16th	Jean Graham	L. Townsend E. Archer	J. Hoyle C. Jones
23rd	Christine Jean	D. Smith C. Bailey	R. & J. Aston
30th	Jim Neil	V. Maden E. Carter	J. Knowles C. Tickle

SERVICES DURING DECEMBER/JANUARY

December	Preacher
2nd	Jim Hurst – Parade & Toy Service
9th	Jennifer Robb
16th	Neil Carter - communion
23rd	Tim Hopley
24th	Watchnight service at 11.30 pm led by Rev. Alan Morris with carol singing from 11 pm with the Strummers
25th	Christmas Day service at Dundee Lane at 10 am
30th	Graham Scott – joint service at Greenmount
January	
6th	Rev. Alan Morris
13th	Jim Hurst
20th	Jennifer Robb - communion
27th	Tim Hopley

Communion : Christine and Jim

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