

# focus



Furrough Cross  
United Reformed Church

December 2023 /  
January 2024



**Website:** [furroughcross.org](http://furroughcross.org)      **Find us on Facebook:** [furroughcross](https://www.facebook.com/furroughcross)

**Minister: Rev. Heather Cadoux** (01803) 310156

e-mail: [revheathercadoux@gmail.com](mailto:revheathercadoux@gmail.com)

**Church Secretary:** Vacant

**Church Treasurer:** Mrs Jenny Marshall

**Hall Steward:** Mrs Ann Close (for hall bookings only)

(01803) 324080

email: [annclose49@gmail.com](mailto:annclose49@gmail.com)

**Messy Church Leader:** Miss Shirley Leaman

## **REGULAR CHURCH ACTIVITIES**

**Sunday Services and Junior Church:** Sundays at 10.30 am.  
Communion on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month.

**Midweek Worship:** Wednesdays at 2.30 pm. (Not on 27<sup>th</sup> Dec)

**Messy Church:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month, 4 to 6 pm.

**Friday Coffee:** Every Friday 10.00 - 12.00. (Not on 29<sup>th</sup> Dec)

**First Friday Film:** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month 2.00pm (not Jun-Aug)

**Bereavement and Friendship Group:** 4th Thursday of each month,  
10.30 am - 12.30 pm, in conjunction with the local Community  
Builders. (NB December meeting is 14<sup>th</sup> Dec at 10.45am)

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Opinions and views expressed in this magazine may be personal and not necessarily accord with those of the Minister and Elders of Furrough Cross United Reformed Church. Care is taken over the accuracy of the information presented but the Church and Elders cannot accept responsibility for any errors or omissions. The Editor reserves the right to edit or omit material submitted.

## EDITORIAL

*Roy Cadoux*



Unlike someone else who lives in the manse, I really don't like to think about Christmas before mid December, but I have to put this issue together in mid-November so I'll just have to grin and bear it!

Most of December is actually about Advent rather than Christmas – a time of waiting and preparing for the coming of the Son of God as a tiny baby.

We sing 'O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie'. Yet what we call the Holy Land was under a cruel Roman occupation that first Christmas. In the centuries before the Roman Empire, the lands of Israel, Judah and of the Philistines [which in Latin became Palestine] had been conquered by the Assyrians, the Babylonians and the Greeks. After Roman rule crumbled, several Muslim dynasties succeeded each other, followed by the Mongols, Egyptians and the Ottoman Empire. From World War I to 1947, the British had control. So sadly the area has had a long and far from peaceful history. We continue to pray for a lasting just peace for the people of Gaza, the West Bank and Israel, as well as Ukraine and other war-torn places.

The deadline for items for the next issue is 15<sup>th</sup> January. All contributions gratefully accepted.

PS It's not often I get cross with Heather, but when she told me to stop impersonating a flamingo I had to put my foot down.

*Roy Cadoux*

## MAGAZINE DONATIONS FOR NEXT YEAR

There should be an envelope attached to this copy of the magazine. We hope that you will be able to contribute £6 which should cover the production costs for all issues in 2024. If you normally receive the magazine by post, the total cost to the church is over £10 per year. Please place the envelope (marked with your name) in the normal offertory plate. Receiving the magazine by email will of course continue to be free (and has the advantage of better quality pictures), but donations are always welcome if you enjoy having the magazine!

## FROM THE MINISTER

*Rev Heather Cadoux*



Dear Friends,

Christmas is my favourite time of year. Perhaps it's the twinkling lights against the dark nights that just seem magical and fill my heart with joy. I remember as a child on a Saturday afternoon walking as a family to my grandparents for tea, and then coming home again after watching Dr Who. In December it would be dark by the time we left. I used to count the houses that had signs of Christmas decorations – lit trees in windows, wreaths on doors or lights around doors and windows, to see if I could reach a higher total than the previous week.

As I remembered those Saturday evenings I was reminded of a photograph of my mum and our son Tim who was two at the time. Tim was sitting on my mum's lap as he watched a Disney World lights parade, and the look of joy and delight on their faces is just beautiful. As I looked again at that photo recently it brought to mind that maybe this was something of what Jesus meant when he said that to enter the kingdom of God we had to be like a little child. We are not to lose that joy and delight in life.

However, when life knocks us for six, the news makes us fear for the future, for ourselves, for those who will follow after us, or for those in lands far away – it's not easy to be full of joy and delight.

Hope, peace, joy and love are the themes of the four Sundays in Advent. One of the lectionary texts from Isaiah says "O that you would rend the heaven and come down.... and make your name known." Those words seem to have a special significance this year. God's name needs to be known in the UK, in the Ukraine, in the Holy Land and many other places. Isaiah knew that God had provided in the past and would provide in the future – even if the tunnel was dark. He had hope, and faith in God that there would be light. There is hope and light at the end of the tunnel, even if the tunnel is long and winding.

The shepherds were on the hillside outside of Bethlem watching the sheep. As they sat together I suspect they would have chatted amongst themselves, keeping one another awake. Perhaps telling stories or wondering about the situation of the day and how the Roman occupation was affecting them. In the darkness a light shone, and they heard words of peace spoken by the angels even though at the time they were quaking in their boots because of the brightness of the sky. When they had seen Jesus and discovered that the angels' news was true, they returned to their fields, rejoicing and spreading the news of God's love. That first Christmas, Love came down to earth as the baby who found his first safe place in the animals' food trough.

We know the Christmas story well having heard it year after year, but those words of hope, peace, joy and love are needed just as much today as they were over 2000 years ago. My prayer is two-fold: firstly that we will find those four words to be true for ourselves, and secondly that we will find some way of passing them on to others.

All my love  
Heather



### **BOX CROSS OUTSIDE CHURCH**



You may have noticed that sadly the box plant cross to the left of the church had gone brown. There were concerns that it may have succumbed to box blight, though some of the cross seems to be greening up again. It may be that the very dry summer caused the plant to become dormant. We are waiting to see if the whole cross recovers, and if not then the church will need to decide what to do for the best.

If dead plants do need to be removed, before any digging starts the church needs to check if there have been any memorial deposits in the

area, as we would not want to disturb them. A list has been found of memorials, both plants and cremains. The list does not show any memorials in the area where the cross is, however it has not been updated since Rev Robert Jennings left. If you are aware of any memorials in the grassed area to the left of the gate (we are aware of a couple on the bank above) please let Heather or one of the elders know.

### **QUIET CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

This year's Quiet Christmas Service will take place at 11am on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December and will be followed by refreshments. This service is an opportunity for those who may find Christmas difficult this year to share in a time of remembering



and to find hope for the future. Perhaps there will be an empty space around the table, maybe news of a health issue for yourself or someone you care about, or you find Christmas a challenge. Everyone is welcome to come and share in the music, prayer and candle liturgy.

### **POINSETTIAS IN CHURCH**

It has been the tradition at Furrough Cross to bring Poinsettias which are displayed around the church as part of the decoration for Christmas and more importantly to remember much loved family or friends.

If you would like to take part this year, please bring your Poinsettia to church between 9.30 and 10.00 on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December along with a note of the person(s) you are remembering, so that if we don't already have a printed label we can make one.

We ask that you do not water your plant – the flower fairies will ensure this is done and ensure that plants are not overwatered. After Christmas you are welcome to take your plant home to continue enjoying it. Any plants not removed by 7<sup>th</sup> January will be disposed of.

## WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Furrough Cross are hosting the CTT unity service at 6pm on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024. This year's preacher is Rev Samantha Stayte who has recently taken up the post of Priest-in-Charge of Cockington and Chelston Parish. She also serves as Dean of Women in Ministry for the Diocese of Exeter and as an honorary Prebendary of Exeter Cathedral.



Samantha grew up in Babbacombe. She says, "Ecumenical links were really central to how my early faith was shaped. I have fond memories of hot cross buns at Furrough Cross at the end of the ecumenical Good Friday walk through St Marychurch! Being asked to preach at this year's unity service feels like a privilege and a blessing."

## DEFIBRILLATOR

We have now got the defibrillator fitted to the Furrough Room and it is operational, with its details registered with the Ambulance service so it can be accessed by anyone through a 999 call. The summer fair raised the cost of fitting the cabinet, and a very generous donor paid for the equipment. It is thanks to the generosity of people in the church that we have been able to provide this vital facility for the community.



## FAMILY NEWS

Phyl Henderson has moved in Paignton.

Isabelle had a very busy week recently, leading the Wednesday worship, then playing a leading role at Messy Church on the Friday, and on the Sunday leading the Remembrance Sunday service! What an example to remind us all that our numerical age should never stop us from doing all we can in the service of the Lord.

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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- Fri 1<sup>st</sup> December 2.00pm**      **First Friday Film show and tea**
- Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> December 11.30am**      **Blue Christmas service**
- Sun 10<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am**      **Festival Service**
- Thur 14<sup>th</sup> December 10.00am**      **Pre-School Christmas Play**
- Thur 14<sup>th</sup> December 10.45am**      **Bereavement Drop-in**
- Sat 16<sup>th</sup> December 10am-12 and 2-4pm**      **Manse Christmas Open House**
- Sun 17<sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm**      **Candlelit Carol Service**
- Wed 20<sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm**      **Wednesday Worship Christmas Special**
- Mon 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am**      **Christmas Day Service**
- (Wed 27<sup>th</sup> December – NO midweek service  
Fri 29<sup>th</sup> December – NO coffee morning)
- Fri 5<sup>th</sup> January 2.00pm**      **First Friday Film show and tea**
- Sun 21<sup>st</sup> January 6.00pm**      **Christians Together in Torquay Unity  
Service at Furrough Cross URC**
- Sun 21<sup>st</sup> January 11.45am**      **Church Meeting after the service**
- Thur 25<sup>th</sup> January 10.30am**      **Bereavement Drop-in**
- Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2. 00pm**      **First Friday Film show and tea**
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*This was the delightful sight on the church front lawn one morning recently. Someone who lives off pizzas and crisps and not much else? Even more rubbish was dumped in the Pre-School area the following week.*





## FIRST FRIDAY FILM



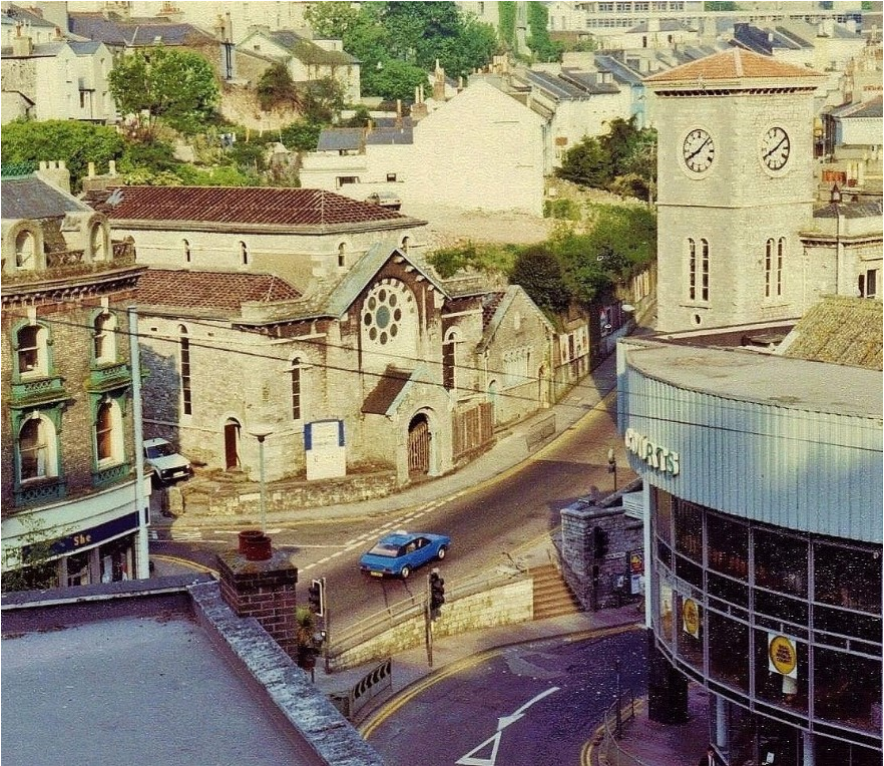
The October film was *The Law of Love*, the story of Jackie Pullinger. She graduated from the Royal College of Music, but in 1966 the plucky young woman from Croydon boarded a ship with nothing but a £10 note and a prayer that God would show her where to get off. When the ship arrived at Hong Kong God ordered her to disembark and she obeyed.

Kowloon Walled City was a lawless slum full of opium dens and triads who profited from crime and prostitution. It was in this place of darkness that Pullinger's life (she detests the word 'ministry') began. As she got to work, loving the unlovable, God showed up. Heroin users would pray in tongues and find themselves miraculously released from their addiction. Crime bosses surrendered their lives to Jesus. Prostitutes quit.

In one sense, little has changed in the decades that have followed. The Walled City was demolished and replaced with a park in the mid-1990s, but Jackie's work among Hong Kong's poorest continues to this day through the organisation she founded, St Stephen's Society.

In November we enjoyed seeing some well-known current British actors in *Finding Your Feet*, and the film on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 2pm** will be the Christmas classic *It's a Wonderful Life*.

There will be another film show followed by tea and cake on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January**.



*A view of Abbey Road URC near the end of the life of the building  
(the Courts furniture store on the right is now Costa Coffee)*

*While Mary and Joseph were in Bethlehem, the time came for the baby to be born, and Mary gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for him in the inn.*

- Clare and Peter Smith wish everyone at Furrough Cross a blessed Christmas and peaceful New Year.
- From Ann Close: To all my lovely friends at Furrough Cross, as you will all know, Mike died this year, so for this year only please do not send me any Christmas cards (it's an Irish thing). I will be sending cards as usual, I hope you understand. Love, Ann.
- Ron and Val Ebrey will not be sending cards this year and are donating the cost to Torquay Community Larder. We both wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF ATTITUDE

*C. Swindoll (sent in by Val Elms)*

The longer I live, the more I realise the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than success, than what other people think or say or do.

It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company ... a church ... a home.

The remarkable thing is we have a choice everyday regarding the attitude we embrace for that day. We cannot change our past ... we cannot change the fact that people act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable.

The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude... I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you ... we are all in charge of our ATTITUDES.

## WHAT IS LOVE?

*Herbie Doney*

'What is love?' we ask ourselves;  
Perhaps one day we'll find  
That it's something very special  
But sometimes so hard to find.

'What is love?' we ask ourselves;  
Perhaps we've been denied.  
Yet you'll know when you have found it,  
For it lives deep down inside!

## SOMEONE WILL SHARE *Herbie Doney*

It's not always easy to share our  
problems  
When troubles come our way.  
The world is full of problems  
In so many different ways.  
But it helps to solve a problem  
When we just  
kneel down  
and pray.



## WINTER JOKES

How does Jack Frost get to work?

By icicle.

What do you call a snowman in the summer?

A puddle.

What sort of athlete is warmest in winter?

A long jumper.

What did the snowflake say to the fallen leaf?

"You're so last season."

Why do birds fly south for the winter?

Because it's too far to walk.

Why was the snowman rummaging in the bag of carrots?

He was picking his nose.

# **ALICE CELEBRATED 101 AT WEDNESDAY WORSHIP!**



*Photo: Beryl Navarro*

## **THANK YOU**

*Alice Hilton*

Dear friends old and new. Thank you to Roy for keeping myself, and many others, in touch with church life through the Focus magazine. We are all still very interested even though our bodies will not always let us attend. I know many of my good friends feel the same.

Thank you everyone for the lovely birthday cards and gifts when I was recently 33. (The doctor tells me I only look 70!!!!)

Many of us good church friends keep in touch and love our church and its life. God bless all of you and thank you for keeping me going.



We were able to donate £109 to Christian Aid as a result of our appeal following the earthquakes in Morocco and floods in Libya.

- Thanks to all who bought and filled stockings for orphans in Hungary. And special thanks to Shirley and Pam who have organised this project for Furrough Cross for many years.
- Please note that the two toilets in the church hall are now designated as unisex.

## CHRISTMAS CAKE RECIPE

*Finchdean church magazine*

Once again, I've had requests for my Rum Christmas Cake recipe:

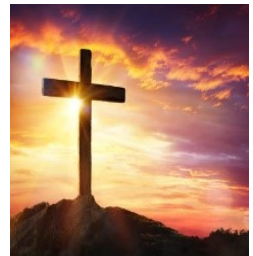
Ingredients: 1 cup sugar, 1 tsp. baking powder, 1 cup water, 1 tsp. salt, 1 cup brown sugar, lemon juice, 4 large eggs, nuts, 1 bottle of rum, 2 cups dried fruit.

Sample a cup of rum to check its quality. Take a large bowl, check the rum again to be sure it is still of the highest quality, then repeat. Turn on the electric mixer. Beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl. Add 1 teaspoon of sugar. Beat again. At this point, it is best to make sure the rum is still OK. Try another cup just in case. Turn off the mixerer thingy. Break 2 eegs and add to the bowl and chuck in the cup of dried fruit. Pick the fruit up off the floor, wash it and put it in the bowl a piece at a time trying to count it. Mix on the turner. If the fried druit getas stuck in the beaterers, just pry it loose with a drewscraver. Sample the rum to test for tonsistency. Next, sift 2 cups of salt, or something. Check the rum. Now shift the lemon juice and strain your nuts. Add one table. Add a spoon of sugar, or somefink. Whatever you can find. Greash the oven. Turn the cake tin 360 degrees and try not to fall over. Don't forget to beat off the turner. Finally, throw the bowl through the window. Finish the rum and wipe the counter with the cat.

## FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE

*Larry Amner*

I do believe in God, and Jesus is my hope:  
When all around is failing, He's there to help me cope.  
I know I fail Him daily, and often led astray;  
But He will never leave me, forgiveness is His way.  
It's faith in Him who saved me, it's faith in Him I trust.  
The day I said 'forgive me' to Him so pure and just.



**WEDNESDAY WORSHIP CHRISTMAS SPECIAL - 20<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2.30pm**

*"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners."*

Everyone is welcome to our Christmas Special, with our own worship team and festive refreshments. Expect some surprises!

The last ten years have certainly brought changes for the church in Torquay. People and projects have come and gone. Some have dwindled, others have flourished. Covid brought changes for society at large, and it's harder than ever to find volunteers. But although we must expect change, our God is unchanging – ever faithful, ever true – and in the past year we have seen some wonderful answers to prayer in Torquay. Here are just a few of them.



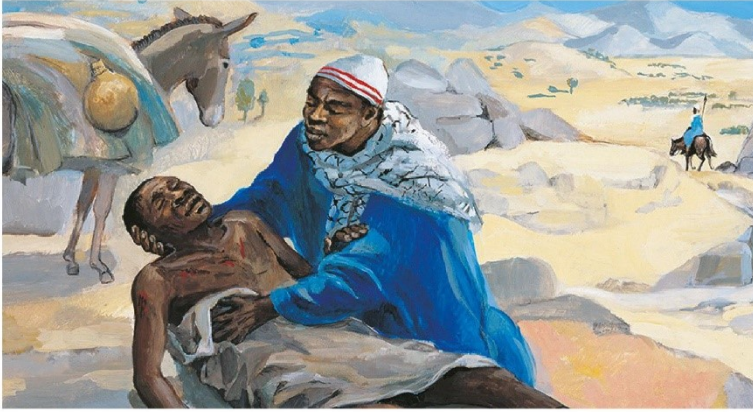
- Street Pastors have relaunched and are working to drum up support to get back to pre-pandemic levels.
- Our several Christian food banks have increased in number and expanded their offer in response to the growing needs in our local community.
- In spite of difficulties, a winter night shelter was able to run last winter, and there are firm plans for the same to happen again this winter.
- Warm spaces were opened through the winter in at least ten churches and some of those have continued to operate as welcome spaces through the summer.
- Our several youth ministries, such as LiNX and ICE Torbay, continue their work in local schools and a new Schools Support Network has been established.
- Unleashed Theatre Company have a new home and permanent premises which they actually own at the former Merlin cinema, now relaunched under its old name of The Royal Lyceum.
- In the past year CTT has organised eleven prayer breakfasts, a programme of Christmas events, a Unity service to mark the World Week of Prayer in January, a united Palm Sunday service and the Good Friday walk of witness.

So we have very much to thank God for and every reason to expect to see his blessing in the year to come!

PS Our next CTT Prayer Breakfast is on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 8am at the Church of the Assumption. There is no breakfast in January.

## CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN TORQUAY

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2024



## Go and do likewise

*There can be no doubt of the need to pray for the world today.*

*The World Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will focus on the Parable of the Good Samaritan and Jesus' command "Go and do likewise".*

***Make a date to join us to pray and to worship God together on Sunday 21st January at 6pm at Furrrough Cross URC.***

**CHRISTMAS CARDS:** You are welcome to leave cards in the church pigeon holes, but please **only for people who come regularly to church.**

**Sorry but we will not be able to deliver to people who are unable to pick their cards up.**

While waiting to pay at a Christian bookshop, a man in front of me asked about the hats with "WWJD" on them. I explained that WWJD stands for "What Would Jesus Do?", with the aim of getting people to think about that when making any decision.

The man pondered for a moment, then replied "I don't think he would pay £17.99 for one of those."

**EASY ECO TIPS**

**DECEMBER:** Recycle right this Christmas (and beyond!) Since more waste ends up in landfill over Christmas than during the rest of the year, it's a great time of year to review and improve your own recycling setup at home.

**JANUARY:** Make 'enjoying nature' your priority. From bird watching to writing about or drawing something that inspires you in nature, growing your own fruit or veg or visiting an area of outstanding natural beauty – be sure to fall in love with nature in a new way this year.

# EcoFest



Everyone is invited to a free day of talks, displays and family activities focusing on the impact of climate change and what we can do to care for the environment

Find out more about what is being done locally and globally and leave inspired by what each of us can do ourselves!

**Saturday 2 December**  
**12 - 4.30pm**

We are delighted to welcome **Dr Ruth Valerio**, environmentalist and theologian, author of "L" is for Lifestyle as keynote speaker



**At St Matthias Church, Babbacombe Rd,**

**BIRTHDAYS**

**December:**

- Jaime Navarro
- Janet Dart
- Betty Spragg
- Carole Doney
- Paul Madge

**January:**

- Linda Hall
- Pam Meaden
- Christine Powell
- Joyce Peters





Help us respond faithfully to the climate and nature crises

**Worship and Teaching**



Embedding creation care in worship, prayer and learning

**Buildings**



Finding energy efficient and innovative ways to manage our places of worship

**Land**



Nurturing spaces for people and nature

**Community and Global Engagement**



Transforming local and global communities and ecosystems

**Lifestyle**



Living joyfully and sustainably as followers of Christ

get involved #ecochurch [ecochurch.arocha.org](https://ecochurch.arocha.org)

**Solar power may be the future, but it won't happen overnight!**



*Shirley Leaman*

On a cold and rainy October afternoon, what better place was there to be than at Messy Church. Full of warmth and laughter, the church rang with happy voices. Our theme was Harvest and thanking God for all the wonderful food He has given to us.

We started our session with a short video about harvest and a great harvest song to a fab Salsa beat. So many lovely activities to choose from, but one of the most popular was the edible garden. With chocolate sponge for the earth the children “planted” lollipop trees, there were marshmallow containers, green icing grass and jelly bean seeds, to name but a few, and there was much excitement around this craft.

Other things to do were planting bulbs, making two different sorts of bird feeders, icing biscuits, making scarecrow magnets and volcano oranges (yes you read it here first, volcano oranges – only at Messy



Church!). The children also helped with a giant picture showing the harvest of the land, harvest of the sea and the harvest of the bees.

During worship time the Rev Val told us all about crusty bread and how God sent the sun and rain to make the wheat grow, then it was ground



into flour, made into bread, sent to the shops and ended up on our plates. Soooo much to thank God for.

Then we enjoyed a lovely 2-course meal – lasagne followed by ice cream and sponge. Afterwards, because it was Eddie’s birthday, everyone had a slice of his cake to take home. Thanks Eddie (and Nanny!)



## NOVEMBER MESSY CHURCH

Shirley Leaman

Lots of children, lots of noise and lots of chat. Our theme today was 'Jesus and the Children', and all our activities reflected this. We started as usual by welcoming our lovely families with tea or coffee. Then the children played board games or chatted with their friends. We welcomed a lovely new family who, at the end of the afternoon said how much they enjoyed Messy Church, and what a pity it couldn't be held every week!

Following this we watched a video telling the story of



Jesus wanting to talk and greet the children whose mums had brought them to see Him. After this we sang our Christmas song (which we've been practising since about July!) If you've never heard "*Hee haw, Hee haw, doesn't anybody care, there's a Baby in my dinner and it's just not fair!*" then come to our Christmas Messy Church and sing along - you're in for a treat!

After this the children could make a jelly tot tower, a pretzel butterfly, ice some children-shaped biscuits, create a big picture of the story, dress a



paper picture of themselves, decorate masks, hang things on a gratitude tree, decode secret messages or make sounds with bottles.



During our worship time Heather retold the story of Jesus welcoming the children and how He loves each one of us. After this everyone enjoyed lasagne, vegetables and crusty bread followed by Vienetta. Yum! Our Christmas Christingle Messy Church will be held on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Please come and check us out.

## MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Our Friday event at the end of September raised £160.12! Many thanks to all who came for your generosity to such a worthwhile cause, and to Marilyn and Heather for their home-made cakes.



That same evening Roy and Heather went to see Tim Vine at the Babbacombe Theatre. As lattes are our second most popular drink at Friday coffee mornings (after tea!), this joke of his was rather relevant:

*"I went to a church service last Sunday. They served coffee before the service, during the service and after the service. It was the Church of the Latte Day Saints."*

## A SWEET QUIZ from our last magazine – THE ANSWERS

1. Reward money – BOUNTY
2. Alien spacecraft – FLYING SAUCERS
3. Say it quietly – WISPA
4. Outdoor meal – PICNIC
5. Red capital transport – DOUBLE DECKER
6. Mixed-up witches – CHEWITS (anagram)
7. A heavy blow or drink – PUNCH
8. Can be found in the prologue – ROLO
9. Dating agencies – MATCHMAKERS
10. Big cat's pub? – LION BAR
11. Street disturbance – TREETTS (another anagram)
12. Sport that's only played right-handedly – POLO
13. Nine, ten, eleven, twelve, etc. – AFTER EIGHTS
14. A vehicle with a raincoat! – CARAMAC
15. Royal herb – MINT IMPERIAL
16. Member of 'Under the Boardwalk' hit song singers – DRIFTER
17. Very dark non-royal playing cards – BLACK JACKS
18. Mediterranean island residents? – MALTESERS
19. A good road – QUALITY STREET
20. 100% Au – ALL GOLD

At the Christmas Eve service, the pastor, quizzing some children about the nativity, asked, "What gifts did the three wise men give the Christ child?"

"Gold!" one child yelled.

Frankincense!" shouted another.

After a pause, a third asked, "A gift card?"

**CRYPTIC QUIZ – CAN YOU FIND THE NAMES OF THESE MUSICAL SHOWS?** Answers in the next issue of FOCUS.

1. They (the French) are not very happy
2. Red and white cells are related
3. An evil production
4. Jesus' mum calls round to see you?
5. A fixture for the coiffure
6. A tiny retail establishment of nightmare proportions
7. An exclamation of the organ that secretes bile
8. Blonde female belongs to me
9. An accident-prone partner of Tarzan
10. An unmarried maiden exhales then disappears
11. We don't care what you do
12. This medical man doesn't do a lot
13. Not savoury, she donates everything
14. November 5th's men and their little playthings
15. Two signed vouchers and two explosions
16. I hear this is a very tuneful show
17. Yo Adrian! a frightful cinema trip to the theatre
18. A taxi to get a Frenchman's hat
19. Filthy Fandango
20. The OK State
21. The kid and ET's mate
22. Plural 'I', an inheritance document, Blackpool's finest and a female sheep
23. Lubricant
24. Mr Stalin's surprising multi-shaded vision garment
25. A peck from Miss Moss
26. An insect's vision, and mother lends cash

# HOPE



  
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Every blessing for Christmas and the New Year to all our readers