

Roundabout



**The Cotteridge Church
Witnessing at the Heart of the Community**

July 2019

Mike's message

Proclaiming God's Love

For the last three May Bank Holidays I've been part of a small group called 'Christians at Pride' operating outside Carrs Lane Church Centre.

The Saturday of the Bank Holiday weekend is the start of Birmingham Pride, a two day street festival of inclusion, and it begins with an enormous carnival parade. It took two hours to pass through Carrs Lane!

From Banks to Football Clubs, Unions to Utility Suppliers, Arts Groups to The Royal British Legion - dozens of organisations are involved. What they hold in common is a commitment to inclusiveness including on grounds of sexuality and gender.

Our group, together with other 'Christians at Pride' colleagues who march in the parade, want to proclaim a God of love and inclusion. We want to speak of affirmation and acceptance. Our group greets the parade as it passes down Carrs Lane. We give out love heart sweets, water and, this year, stickers proclaiming "Love is Love".

The presence of Christians at Pride is evidently appreciated and, situated where we are, is a stark contrast to other Christians who, just before the parade reaches us, stand on High Street with banners speaking of condemnation and judgement. We want to project a different image of Christianity - one in which love, affirmation and inclusion triumphs. For that we are often hugged, kissed and thanked "just for being here".

The following are the words of one person on the parade, who I've known for some years (I'm the "Tall man with a familiar smile"):

"We turned the corner down Carrs Lane, with our backs facing the yellow boards of selected scripture held high above (other) heads of supportive public faces. The words chosen by this first group of Christians were aggressive and made me feel sick. 'Sin' and 'vile' resounded in my head and I wondered, what about love? What about God's teachings of love? Surely, even in our differences, this should be the driving message? Then a woman in a rainbow tutu and a tall man with a familiar smile headed towards us with baskets of love heart sweets and welcoming whoops and cheers. A sticker 'Love is love' was handed over and I read #christiansatpride. My smile immediately returned and I was reminded that faith is active through demonstrating love and kindness and those who follow a faith should not be put in a box. From a personal perspective of my journey, it was so important to be reminded that two aspects of my life, faith and sexuality, can be symbiotic."

Hannah (of SEEDS: Supporting Education of Equality and Diversity in School)

Our churches are exploring how to be inclusive, with the URC having made the most progress with for example same-sex marriage. The Methodist Church is also





about to consider that step. There will be differences of opinion among those reading this but I suggest that, as churches, we need to do all that we can to proclaim the inclusiveness of God - and that All are Welcome.

Mike Claridge

Friends & Family - July 2019

We are sad to report the deaths of Betsy Hughes, sister of Sue Hazzard, Kathleen Gardner, Beryl Gussinklo, Angela Garrett, sister of Hazel Nash, and Elaine Babb, wife of Clive Babb. We send our condolences to their friends and families.

On Sunday 12th May, Barbara Calvert, Pam Waddell and Paul Cliff took part in the Birmingham Vélo 100 mile cycle tour.



Congratulations to Pam Waddell who was awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for Services to Innovation in the West Midlands
 Congratulations also to Alex Clayton who is now 21 years old.

Thank You

Nigel Garrett and family, Hazel Nash and family wish to express their thanks for the messages of condolence and the many tributes received following the death of Angela. The comfort and encouragement offered by so many people is much appreciated. Thank you all.

CoMAG (Cotteridge Mission through Action Group)

Mission Statement - *The calling of The Cotteridge Church is to respond to the Gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.*

Thank you to every one who participated in our Mission through Action service on 19th May. We have a lot of useful information on the questions we asked:-

What mission activities are our church members involved in individually and as a whole church, locally, nationally and globally, and what could we be doing. Please let me know if anybody wishes to add anything. The responses are attached. CoMAG will be meeting within the next couple of weeks to formulate some ideas on how we take this forward.

God works in mysterious ways, and quite fortuitously Rev Alison Richards led our service on 16th June, which provided an ideal opportunity to discuss the possibility of renewing our relationship with Villa Road Methodist Church. The current proposal is to invite their Church members to Cotteridge for a Life and Soul service, followed by a meal.

A very enthusiastic Chinese group led the Methodists for World Mission conference this year. It was a real inspiration to learn how Christianity is the fastest growing religion in China. The Amity Foundation have published their millionth Bible in Chinese. Rev Inderjit Bhogal chaired his first MWM conference as newly elected President.

Blessings *Peter*

(Dr) Peter Rookes, pjrookes@gmail.com, 07703336088

Mission through Action Focused Service at Cotteridge Church Action Feedback - Sun 19th May

What we do now

	Individual	Church
Local	Charity giving	Foodbank
	Helping neighbours	Food ministry fundraising
	D of E	St Basils donations
	Carers	Coffee bar
	Choir	Messy church
	Recorder group	Saplings
	Talking to people in Greggs	Bumps and Babes
	Support family with health problems	Brownies, Guides, Beavers
	Gardening	Boys' Brigade
	Jobs around church	Day Centre
	Baking	Tuesday Guild
	Café church	Book/Cake sale
	Pastoral links/visiting	Help women with PND
	Chaplaincy	School helper
	Committee/Circuit member	Rotary/Round Table
	Chiropody	Sunday lunch groups
	Photo competition	Welcoming to people who enter
	Roundabout	building
	Cycling witness	Transportation
	Pray	Open books

Counselling
 Support for Family and Friends
 Garden open day
 Talks in other churches
 Talking in shops
 Allotments

National	Charity giving	Youth group pilgrimage - Iona
	Sponsored events	Election hustings
	Non-uniform school days	Fellowship fundraising for charities
	Methodist Homes	Christian Aid
	Support National charities	Retired members education
	RSPB	Attending CofE training
	Deaf charities	NHS
	Funding – Children in Need, Red Cross, Water Aid, Help for Heroes, PTSD	
	Fun runs	
	HSBC Breeze	
	NHS visitors	
	Pray	
	Praying for political situations	
	Action for children	
	Church Urban Fund	
Global	Non-uniform school days	Traidcraft
	Comic Relief	Christian Aid
	Christian Aid	Disaster appeals – red buckets/DEC
	Amnesty I	Toilet twinning
	Sponsoring children	Fairtrade
	VSO	Oxfam
	Charity giving	Twinning – Romania
	Prayer group	Sponsored walk around Jerusalem
	Supporting individual people	Mission organisations
	Financial Support	World day of prayer, Shoe boxes
	Palestinian Blind School	
	Israel/Palestine	
	Pray	
	World Day of Prayer	
	Mission organisations	
	Volunteering	
	Shoe boxes	
	Sponsored walks	

What we could be doing

Music ministry in church
 More around Christmas – tree outside church, bring and share meals
 Assisting with housing - helping with refurbishing
 Raise money for an overseas project, eg Sri Lanka
 Twinning with another church Agape meals with other churches
 Men's interest groups
 Study groups Prayer groups Passover meal

Have you noticed all the children and families in church?

Over the past three years, we've introduced new groups, attracting both children and adults. In addition to Young Church on Sundays and Boys' Brigade on Fridays, we now have:

Bumps & Babies on Tuesdays

Saplings – Stay & play group on Fridays

Holiday Events for families in July/August

Messy Church for all ages every 3rd Saturday (except July & August)



One group leads to another and in a number of cases, to attending worship. Three years ago, we had 58 children registered with our church run groups. It's now well over 300! This includes an increase in children attending worship, either on Saturdays or Sundays from 22 to over 80! Plus, they bring their families to worship too.

We have lots of helpers, but with such exciting growth, we need more.

It currently takes 2 people 4 hours to set up Saplings on a Thursday, but one leader is ill at the moment and the other will be leaving the area after the summer. Could you help? There's a range of tasks, from physical work moving furniture around, to light work, arranging toys and preparing crafts. Even if you can just spare an hour on a rota, it would be a tremendous help!



We need helpers in all areas of children & family work. Could you chat with parents and grandparents? Prepare snacks? Supervise activities? Tidy up or vacuum after a session? Whatever you have to offer will make a huge difference and help our church to grow.

It is very rewarding, helping with these groups and seeing the church grow. If you can spare some time to help, please speak to Sue Clayton, Jane Jones or Revd Mike

Claridge. Or you can email Sue at sue.clayton@thecotteridgechurch.org.uk

A PRAYER FOR ATTENTIVENESS AND CONCENTRATION

God help my thoughts !

They stray from me, getting off on the wildest journeys.
When I'm in church they run off like naughty children,
quarrelling, making trouble. When I try to read the bible
they fly to a distant city filled with beautiful people

My thoughts cross an ocean with a single leap, they fly
from earth to heaven and back again in a single second.

They come to me for a fleeting moment then flee away.

No chains or locks can hold them back, no threats of
punishment restrains them, no hiss of a lash can frighten
them. They slip away from my grasp like tails of eels, they
sweep hither and thither like swallows in flight.

Dear Holy Jesus, who sees into every heart and reads
every mind, take hold of my thoughts. Bring my thoughts
back to me and clasp me to yourself.



from The Book of Celtic Prayer, submitted by Gordon Parsons

Services for July and August

	7th July	14th July	21st July	28th July
9.00 am HC	Revd R. Collins	Revd M. Claridge	Revd M. Claridge	Revd R. Collins
10:30 am	Revd R. Collins P	Revd M. Claridge/ Mrs S Knebel HC	Revd L Dixon	Revd R. Collins HC
6:30 pm	Revd M. Claridge HC	Revd R. Collins	Revd M. Claridge HC.	Miss Hazel Nash
	4th August	11th August	18 August	25rd August
9.00 am HC	Revd M. Claridge	Revd M. Claridge	Revd R. Collins	Revd R. Collins
10:30 am	Ms Sue Spencer P	Revd M. Claridge HC	Mr John Cooper	Revd R. Collins HC
6:30 pm	Revd M. Claridge HC	Revd R. Collins	Revd R. Collins HC	Miss Hazel Nash

Service types: HC - Holy Communion P - Parade

Communion Services are held each week at 10.00 am on Tuesdays

Messy Church will resume in September.



The Cotteridge Church
Joint Church Council
Summary of Proceedings 30th April 2019

Key Decisions

1. Laurie Brown was co-opted as Churchwarden for the coming year on JCC.
2. Trevor Jones was co-opted as Methodist Steward for the coming year on JCC.
3. Dorothy Audley was co-opted as URC Elder for the coming year on JCC.
4. Neil Walters was elected as the Chair of JCC for a further year
5. Laurie Brown was elected as the Church Treasurer for a further year
6. It was agreed that the same Administrator's Report should be submitted firstly to F&P and then to JCC
7. It was agreed that Stephen Audley should pursue the fitting of an Electronic Access Lock on the Church's Front Door
8. A revised Internet and eMail Policy was approved
9. A revised Transport Policy was approved

10. Summary Proceedings

1. It was reported that quotes have been sought to replace the brick on the front steps, which is seen as a Health and Safety issue
2. The suggestion of replacing the lighting in the Malvern Room has been passed to the Building Steering Group (BSG) for consideration.
3. The treasurer reported that congregational giving was below budget and expenditure on utilities remains high.
4. Evelyn Bhajan was asked to investigate changes to the Church's pattern of worship to appeal to a younger generation
5. It was reported that the agreement on the use of the Co-Operative Car Park was for 21 years and has now expired. It was noted that the parking restriction now in place was for Monday to Saturday from 08:00 to 18:00 so should not affect the congregation
6. The JCC were puzzled by the Veolia Funding application which wasn't submitted on time, Laurie Brown to investigate at the next meeting of the Building Steering Group (BSG)
7. The Young People Forum reported it was looking for volunteers to enable it to continue with the provision of Youth Church for older children, but had approached many people without success
8. David Pycock commented that text for the WiFi splash screen needed to be written so it can be added to the Internet Router
9. Laurie Brown said that next week was Christian Aid Week and noted this was the last year he would be the co-ordinator and he was looking for a replacement.

The next meeting of the Joint Church Council will be on Wednesday 15th May 2019 at 19:30.

This Summary is authorised by:

Neil Walters (Chair of the Cotteridge Church Joint Church Council)



The Cotteridge Church
Joint Church Council
Summary of Proceedings 15th May 2019

Key Decisions

1. Jean Morgan and Carol Allan were co-opted as members of the Joint Church Council
2. The revised Articles of Commission for Catering services were approved

Summary Proceedings

1. Mike Claridge said the Safeguarding Policies need to be updated. Dorothy Audley and Jane Stephens volunteered to review and amend them.
2. Mike Claridge reported that a fixed loop for the hard of hearing would be purchased and installed in the Chapel, whilst a portable device to be used in meeting rooms would be piloted at the next JCC
3. The treasurer reported that congregational giving was below budget and expenditure on utilities remains high.
4. The treasurer also reported that the Church's main room hirer, CGL, was relocating due to cuts in council funding and this would leave a large hole in our finances.
5. The JCC was still awaiting feedback from the Building Steering Group (BSG) on the failure to submit the Veolia funding request in time.
6. An electrical supply load monitor has ceased currently with a peak of around 56Amps, but would resume in the summer to see the effects of Air Conditioning units on the load
7. Neil Walters reported that the changes made to the Church's constitution and agreed by the JCC and the Congregational meeting were invalid as we had to retain the wording of the Churches in England model constitution. The constitution and the Church's governance structure would be reviewed to ensure the documents were compliant but workable with the reduced numbers on the JCC
8. The story of the Potato Peeler continues as the cable glands supplied with the new equipment do not secure the cables. This is being discussed with the manufacturer
9. Pam Waddell expands the plan for Catering, developed by the Catering Services Strategy Group, and the requirements for support from the JCC
10. Mike Claridge said he was disappointed with the response to the Lent groups
11. Mike Claridge stated that Messy Church should be treated as an Act of Worship and its attendees as a separate congregation

The next meeting of the Joint Church Council will be on Thursday 20th June 2019 at 19:30.

This Summary is authorised by:

Neil Walters (Chair of the Cotteridge Church Joint Church Council)



The Midland Opera

Friday 31st May saw The Malvern Room play host to the Midland Opera. The talented singers raised the rafters as they sang items from Les Miserables, Carmen, and La Traviata to name but a few pieces.



The evening was marvellous, the choir obviously has a huge following as the Malvern Room was crowded.

The few folk from Cotteridge who attended were treated to a wonderful evening. It was a delight to have such talent here for the evening. I hope they come again!

Dorothy Audley

“Hey now it's time for you and me”

I think I have mentioned, if obliquely, in a previous article for Roundabout my love of Jefferson Airplane, the worlds greatest psychedelic rock band. No offence to The Pink Floyd. Don't worry I am not going to ask you to 'Turn on, tune in and drop out', for to quote another of my favourite groups, 'Timothy Leary's dead'. However, I do have something to ask everyone who is reading this article, could you find time to volunteer to help keep The Cotteridge Church running.



The Church is currently facing two major problems; The 'Financial Deficit', where our recurring expenditure is far greater than our recurring income and the 'Volunteer Deficit'. This Church is run by volunteers, without them the Church would not be able to function. We have over the past few years introduced new facilities, such as Saplings and Messy Church, which have stretched our willing volunteers to breaking point and some are retiring from other activities to keep these going, leaving a vacuum. If we can't find replacements some of our long-treasured institutions may have to close.

By now you may be asking, 'what this has to do with Jefferson Airplane?' Well, the title of this piece is a single line from the titular track of their 1969 album 'Volunteers' and although the all the songs on the record are protests against the American War in Vietnam I thought it would make a great rallying cry for our Church.

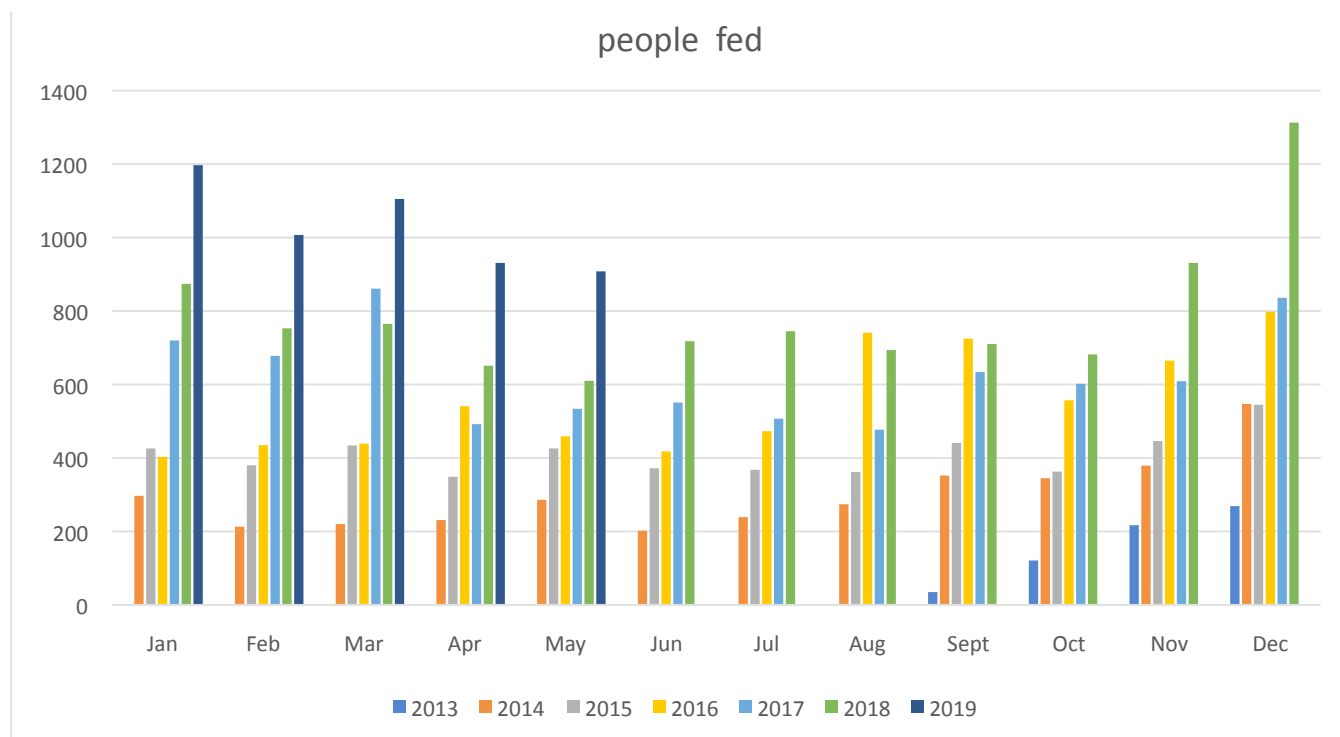
So, if you feel God calling you to volunteer there are many areas of Church life where you could help: Young Church, Christian Aid, Safeguarding, Fundraising and more. Please speak to Mike Claridge or myself and we can connect you with the relevant people.

Because, hey, now it's time for you and me!

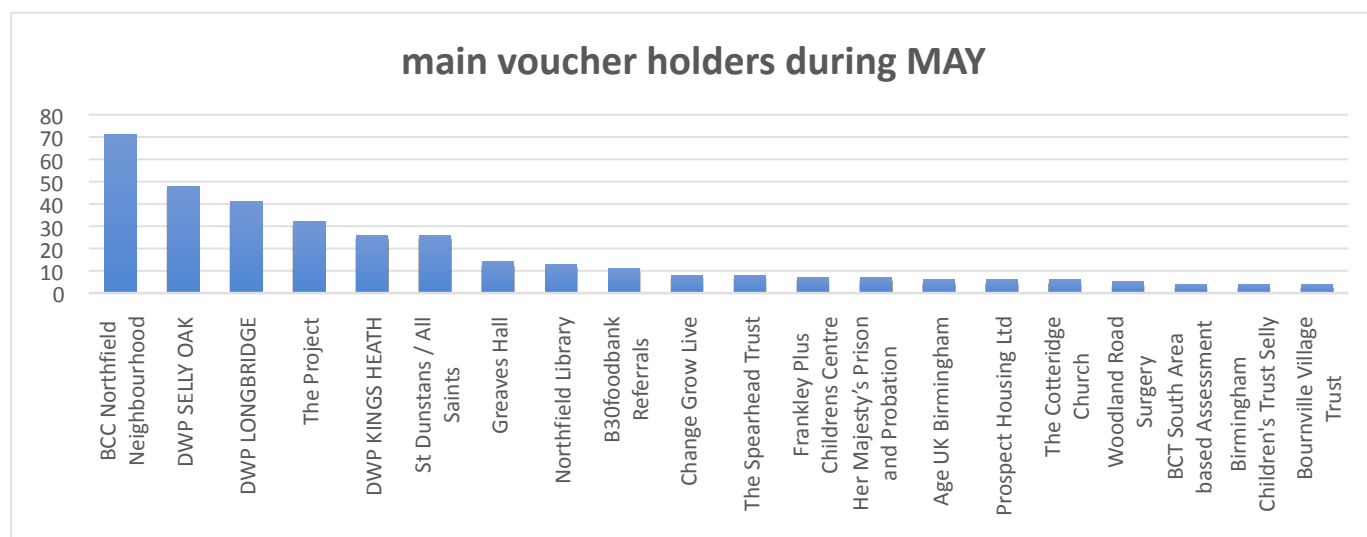
Neil Walters



Our **foodbank** is very busy doing a most important job for our community, as you can see if you visit the church on a Tuesday or Friday afternoon. The statistics are given below, but you cannot tabulate the value for the recipients.



During MAY 2019 the B30foodbank fed 908 people in S W Birmingham



During MAY DONATED FOOD REACHED 5417 KGS BUT FOOD GIVEN OUT REACHED 7161 KGS

Can you help us to bridge the gap?

Urgently Required: Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish, Tinned Fruit, UHT Semi Skimmed Milk, Pasta Sauces, potatoes, custard jam.

Not Required Currently: Pasta, Baked Beans, Tea, Biscuits

Warehousing: B30 Foodbank Warehouse, Unit 9, Castle Road, Kings Norton Business Park, B30 3HZ is open at the same times as the Foodbank 2.30-4.30. on Tue and Fri. Parking is easier at the warehouse.



This Year Celebrates Traidcraft's 40th Birthday!

Traidcraft are the original fair trade pioneers in the UK, fighting for social, economic and trade justice, since way back in 1979. Traidcraft believe in fair trade, which means that the artisans and farmers (the people who make and grow the food and products we used every day) should be paid and treated fairly at all times.

Over the last forty years, Traidcraft have done many fantastic things for fair trade across the world; in the '80s, they brought the first fair trade tea from Africa, as well as coffee and sugar. They brought the first fair trade chocolate (from fair trade cocoa beans) to the UK in 1991, the first fair trade wine in 2001, the first fair trade cotton in 2006 and the first fair trade cleaning range in 2014. Traidcraft also believe in equality, meaning that everyone within the supply chain should be treated equally, regardless of characteristics like race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation and age.

The original fair trade products were widely sold on church stalls and in markets, which is still the case to this day – you may even spot some fair trade goodies being sold at your own church! Forty years on, their range has come a long way, and now includes a wide collection of crafts, fashion and even groceries suitable for vegans (people who don't use or eat anything animal related).

In recent years, Traidcraft are placing more importance on looking after our planet than ever before. The earth's surface temperature is increasing at an alarming rate due to factors such as CO₂ emissions and greenhouse gases, both of which contribute to global warming. This is very dangerous for the future of our planet.

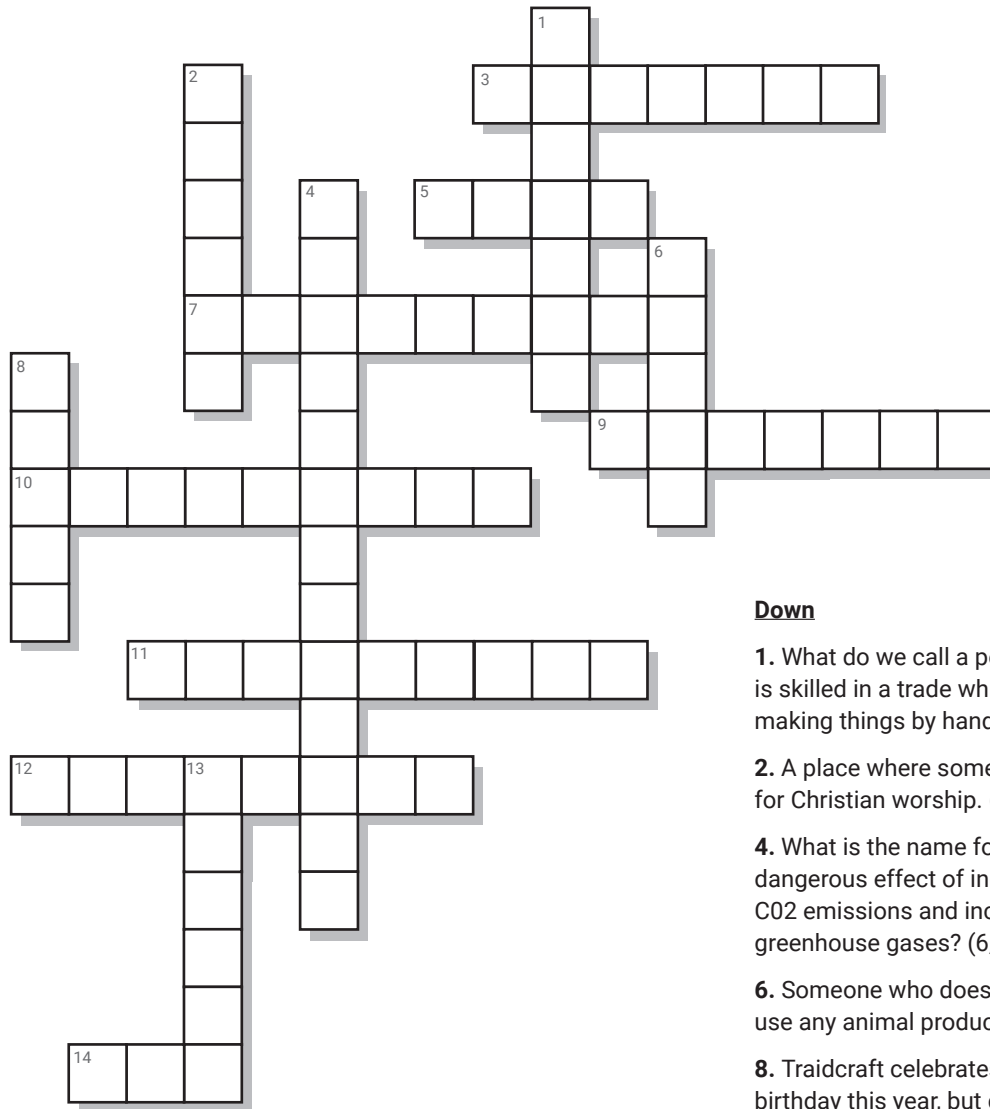
Traidcraft are doing all they can to protect and fight for our fragile environment; often craft products are created using recycled materials for example, and many of their grocery products are farmed organically, where no chemicals, fertilisers or pesticides are used and the soil remains happy and healthy.

Traidcraft have even produced the first sustainable, organic and fair trade palm oil, which is extracted from the little red/ orange fruits of the palm tree. Plants are encouraged to grow naturally rather than intensively farmed, supporting the growers and protecting the environment surrounding the palm trees

Answers to Crossword:

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|------------|-------------------|---------|----------|--------------|----------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. artisan | 2. church | 3. organic | 4. global warming | 5. soil | 6. vegan | 7. chocolate | 8. forty | 9. palm oil | 10. recycling |
| 11. fair trade | 12. equality | 13. Africa | 14. tea | | | | | | |

Traidcraft Week Crossword



Down

1. What do we call a person who is skilled in a trade which involves making things by hand? (7)
2. A place where someone may go for Christian worship. (6)
4. What is the name for the dangerous effect of increasing CO2 emissions and increasing greenhouse gases? (6,7)
6. Someone who does not eat or use any animal products. (5)
8. Traidcraft celebrates a big birthday this year, but do you know how old it will be? (5)
13. The continent where most of our Fairtrade tea comes from. (6)

Across

3. A type of farming which uses no chemicals, fertilisers or pesticides. (7)
5. What do we call the brown layer of earth which we must look after in order to keep crops healthy? (4)
7. Cocoa beans are the ingredients which go into which of our favourite sweet snacks? (9)

9. When the little red/orange fruits of the palm tree are crushed, this is produced. (4,3)

10. When waste material is converted into useful new products. (9)

11. What is it called when people who produce the things we buy are given a fair price for their work? (4,5)

12. When people are treated the same, regardless of race, gender and age. (8)

14. In the '80s Traidcraft brought the first fair trade coffee, sugar, and what to the UK? (3)

Pennine Way People

As some of you know, I'm a big fan of the Pennine Way. It was a stroke of genius to put in this area to connect up different parts of the The Cotteridge Church. It's far more than a corridor or a passage. Come in during the week and you will meet all sorts of people. It makes me think of the quote "all human life is there" - and it is.

The volunteers are very special people and make everyone welcome. They quickly get to know how people like their tea or coffee, what sort of mug they want and what they like on their toast. People know that they matter to The Cotteridge Church.

But what about the "characters" you might meet? Len is a really cheeky chappie. He enjoys a freshly made sandwich from Shirley or Tina or Doris. It's a wonder they still serve him since he found a Delia Smith CD in the Book Room and took it to the kitchen!

Yvonne and her father, George come in every week. They love the friendly atmosphere and the kindness of the volunteers. George likes to spend time in the chapel. He thinks our stained glass is beautiful, and I've been able to tell him something of its history.

Friendships are formed, tears and laughter shared - it's one more way of spreading the love of God in Cotteridge.

John tells me he first found The Cotteridge Church when he was experiencing a sad time. He soon found someone to talk to - Annette. She is the one person in the Pennine Way that everyone knows - generous, warm-hearted and kind, very much missed when she's not there. John and Annette often have lunch together. He tells her about his hobby - making greetings cards, and you'll often see him helping Annette to the bus stop with her shopping.

Mary comes in when she visits her daughter. She tells us the charity shops in Cotteridge are the best. She loves to have a browse around. She has made lots of friends in the Pennine Way while she waits for her daughter, Sue, who helps once a week in the Day Centre. Mary is quite happy enjoying her coffee and having a good old natter.

Paul says for him the Pennine Way is a lifeline. He has made many friends and knows that he always has somewhere to sit and chat.

Every other week a mini group from the South Birmingham Walkers arrive for their coffee break. They have tried other places but have decided The Cotteridge Church is the place for them.

Jesus said: "Come unto me all you who are heavy-laden and I will refresh you".

Well, the Pennine Way is certainly one place to visit for refreshment in more ways than one



Rita Sutton

Boys' Brigade

Our Peckwood weekend took place at the end of June and the 24 boys and staff spent a great 2 days in the Worcestershire countryside. Amongst the activities was the usual football, rounders in the near by park and exploring the woods at Peckwood. We also held a general knowledge quiz on Saturday evening.



Everybody enjoyed themselves and looking forward to next year. Amazingly we have been coming here for the last 30 years.



Euan Clayton is due to receive his Queen's Badge at the official presentation on Sunday 7th July at Yardley Baptist Church which starts at 3.00pm.

The day before that we have our family outing to Barry Island. Our session finishes with the annual camp being held in Kent this year from the 3rd – 10th August when 19 boys and staff are due to attend.

Bob Hotchkiss

Serbian Orthodox Church of the Holy Prince Lazar.



Many of you will know of the Serbian Orthodox Church in Griffins Brook Lane, and may remember artists from Serbia and Greece coming to paint the interior some years ago.

On Sunday 23 June, St Lazar's Day, BBC Midlands Today reported that a replica of the most important icon in the Serbian Orthodox church, the Trojeručica, begins its tour of the UK, Ireland and Scandinavia in this church. It will then return here to Lazarica, where it will reside permanently, available for all to see. It commemorates children who have lost their lives, and is dedicated to their bereaved families. A service of thanksgiving heralded its arrival.



Trojeručica means three handed - you can see the third hand at the lower left. This replica was made by the monks in the same Serbian Orthodox Monastery on Mount Athos in Greece, that houses the original. It depicts the Virgin Mary, with the young Jesus, and is covered with a riza.



[This is the ornate metallic cover protecting an icon]. Tradition says that it belonged to John of Damascus in the early 8th century, and is associated with his miraculous healing, after he was falsely accused of treachery, and his hand was cut off. After the restoration of his hand he had a silver hand made and attached it to the icon - hence its name.

Celia Lester

Free Solicitor Clinics

Davisons Solicitors of Cotteridge are offering some free clinics at the Church, on the first Thursday of each month - i.e. July 4th, August 1st, September 5th.



**FREE PRIVATE
CLIENT
DROP IN
CLINICS**

First Thursday of every month, 11-1pm:
The Cotteridge Church, 24 Pershore Rd S, Birmingham B30 3EJ

Visit our free drop in legal clinic and speak to your local legal experts, specialising in Wills and probate face to face for any concerns you may have. Giving you that peace of mind.

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Photo Competitions

Places of Worship

Please enter a Photograph depicting a place of worship for a competition display at The Cotteridge Church.

Entries cost £1
All proceeds will be given to our Day Centre.

Everyone is invited to vote for their favourite photo, and prizes will be awarded to the winner and runner-up.

Photos may be in colour or black and white, and depict any place of worship.

Size should be approximately A6

Please write your name and contact details and a title for the photo on the back.

Entries should be submitted by
Sunday 28th July
to Linda Woodhouse

The latest competition invites you to submit a photograph of a place of worship. This can represent any faith, inside or outside the structure.

Entries cost £1, all of which is donated to our Day Centre. The competition is judged by those who view the entries, and the dates for this will be given later.

Day Centre

Our members had a real treat recently; they went to The Crown Carvery in Kings Heath for their mid-day meals, funded by Linda's hard work selling books.

Everyone enjoyed the occasion; not many of our less-able members are able to enjoy such an experience.

Chris Pascal



CC Day Care

Garden Party

We held our annual Garden Party on Saturday 29th June. Despite the dreadful run of rainy weather we have had during the previous month or so, the garden looked amazing, even in temperatures well above 30°C.

Karen provided lively folk music to enhance the mood, and everyone enjoyed socialising with their tea and cakes. A lot of hard work goes into organising and running an event like this, and we are grateful to Chris Pascal, who looks after the garden, and organises this event, and to her team of fundraisers, to all who provided cakes, to the stallholders, and to C2U who helped greatly on the day. Thank you. As a result of this, we have raised £321 for the garden, and £17 for food ministry. The event was well attended by members of the Pennine Way, and the local people



What is Food Ministry ?

Ministry means simply meeting the needs of others in this case through food. The Catering Strategy Group has been looking at ways of fulfilling the mission of the Cotteridge Church to help the wider community. To this end the proceeds from holding 6 bake sales throughout the year, the pancake morning and the sale of homemade chutneys in Thursday mini markets and at the June garden party will all be donated to this cause. Further fundraising is being considered with more activities and the possibility of Sunday Coffee Bar takings going towards food ministry.



Cotteridge Church Food Ministry

At present the majority of money raised goes towards helping to fund the Summer Holiday Club which was a great success last year. This year the club will run on four consecutive Wednesdays starting the 24th July. We shall provide breakfast, activities, entertainment and lunch. It is run in collaboration with Church: Saplings provide equipment and it is manned by some members of congregation and Food Bank volunteers.

The Catering Management Committee is currently exploring an expansion in the number of activities funded. Suggestions so far are: Hot Food available for Food Bank sessions & the food element of Messy Church.

Food Ministry is a worthwhile venture and needs to be supported.

Linda Woodhouse

Fundraising Bulletin January - June 2019

	Income	Beneficiaries			
Activity	£ raised	Internal	£	External	£
Pancake Day	£30.00	Food ministry	£127.10	St Basil's	£215.82
Easter card sales	£64.50	Church funds	£380.00	St Mary's Hospice	£600.00
Easter Canisters	£215.82	Day Centre	£355.00	Christian Aid	£2475.66
Easter Bake Sale	£45.80	Youth	£269.00		
Photo competitions	£86.00	Garden	£321.02		
BB Quiz	£600.00				
Book Sales	£807.70				
Garden Party	£321.02				
Chutney sales	£97.10				
Christian Aid	£2475.66				
Total £ raised	£4743.60		£1452.12		£3291.48

Christian Aid Week took place from 12-18 May this year, and raised £ 2475.66

The CoCoMAD Festival took place in Cotteridge Park on Saturday 6th July

There are just three of us at the helm of the fund raising - Chris Pascal, Linda Woodhouse and Celia Lester, and we are all feeling the effects of health problems and advancing years, and will not be able to carry on our work for much longer without more volunteers. Please consider if you could help, and contact one of us if you can.



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to roundabout@thecotteridgechurch.org.uk

The Cotteridge Church, Pershore Road South, Birmingham B30 3EJ
Tel: 0121 433 5518 Fax: 0121 459 6909
Email: administrator@thecotteridgechurch.org.uk
Website: www.thecotteridgechurch.org.uk
Twitter: @CotteridgeChurc [facebook.com/TheCotteridgeChurch](https://www.facebook.com/TheCotteridgeChurch)
Instagram [the_cotteridge_church](https://www.instagram.com/the_cotteridge_church)

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