



In Rotherham

Linking our Lord with the Locality

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## THE GROWTH OF THE FAITH IN OUR TOWN

Among church leaders in Rotherham there has always been optimism about Christianity, about spirituality, and even about 'still better times to come'. But in the past year there is no doubt that there has been a welcome and refreshing extra enthusiasm and vigour, hope and greater optimism that things are taking a noticeable turn for the better compared with recent years. God is certainly at work in Rotherham, and growing numbers of people are rejoicing.

It is particularly good to see that there is a lively and steady growth of faith among those of the younger generation, but that does not mean to say that those of more mature years are standing idly by and letting others do it all.

Christians, and indeed people of other faiths, have never chosen to sit back and wait for things to happen. There's an old saying that we all know, to the effect that God helps those who help themselves. Alright, you can put various interpretations on that train of thought, but there is no doubt that when Christians want things to happen and start to do something positive about it, our loving God puts a smile on his face and says to himself, *"That is wonderful! My folk are doing more of the things I've always wanted them to do. I'll really encourage them, so that more and more people start to recognise the power of the Holy Spirit. Come on, you folk in Rotherham and elsewhere. I am your God and I will give you all the help and strength you need. There is nothing I cannot do if you trust in me. Put your faith where it should be, pray to Jesus, and miracles can and will happen. That I promise you."*

As you read the rest of this newsletter, you will find examples of what is happening here in Rotherham. It is only skimming the surface of the wonderful work in our Christian community that is turning many lives round. More and more people are becoming uplifted by what Christ is offering them.

By the time this newsletter reaches you the well-publicised PARTY IN THE PARK will be ready to welcome all age-groups to friendly, non-insistent Christian love in many forms. If you have just half a chance, get yourself down to Clifton Park and JOIN IN.

If you want to volunteer your help --- and we hope you will! --- try your hand at collecting a useful sum for Christian Aid at Morrisons of Parkgate. There's a contact number in these pages to help you to help the organisers. Yes, there is the work HELP twice in that sentence, because that is what it is all about --- HELPING others.

You can read about coffee mornings, healing ministry, a county-wide prayer initiative, courses to help young people, special worship sessions for young folk, help for people with memory loss problems, and more --- *all activities organised by Christians wanting to make life better for other people.* You can easily join in with at least one of these activities that you've probably never tried before. It costs nothing more than the will to do so and the effort of getting to the right venue.

**Come on, all Christians in Rotherham. Let us show the townsfolk that we Christians are here to make life happier, less stressful and generally more enjoyable for everyone.**

**Let's put an even bigger smile on God's face!**

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**VOLUNTEERS WANTED**  
**to help CHRISTIAN AID**

MORRISONS at Parkgate have kindly granted permission to the Rotherham Christian Aid Group to organise a charity collection on two days in August ----

**WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> AUGUST and THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

Chairman of the Rotherham Group, *Sylvia Jordan*, is delighted the supermarket has granted this opportunity for local people to help a wonderful charity, and she would be pleased if anyone in our local churches could spare a little time to collect the public's usually generous offerings.

"The more helpers we have, the easier it will be for everyone involved, "says Sylvia. "You don't have to volunteer for all-day collecting. Anyone who can spare just an hour, or perhaps two, could help us enormously on either of the days during the morning or afternoon. Please seek volunteers in your church, as this is an easy way to help **CHRISTIAN AID.**"

To help Sylvia co-ordinate the volunteers, kindly give her a call as soon as you can on **01709-510792** or e-mail her on **[s.m.jordan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:s.m.jordan@hotmail.co.uk)**

**“PARTY IN THE PARK”**  
**CLIFTON PARK ROTHERHAM**  
**Tuesday 22 - Saturday 26 July**

**Daytime activities:**

**10.00am until mid-day and 2.00pm until 4.00pm**

Family activities: free face painting; kids club; kids games and crafts  
Sports activities, including volleyball competition, five a side football etc

Drama workshop  
African drum workshop  
Live music  
Special guest --- Bruce Dyer

**Evening activities**

**6.00pm until 9.00pm**

Music and entertainment  
Testimonies (true stories) about the power of God  
Vibrant praise and worship  
Powerful preaching  
Presence of God  
Prayer for the sick and prayer for salvation

All our activities and events are **COMPLETELY FREE**

**No charges, no collections, no offerings**

**Simply blessing the town of Rotherham**

**ADRIAN DEXTER --- 07790030899**

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# HOLIDAY COFFEE TIME FOR EVERYONE

And some lovely music as well!



\* Did you know that every time there is a Bank Holiday Monday there is an *open invitation* to a Coffee Morning at Talbot Lane Methodist Church from 10.00 am to Noon? Sometimes there is also an organ recital on the church's original 1904 Harrison and Harrison organ, or there may be other musical entertainment arranged --- and all of this prior to an optional soup and roll lunch. Be there! On August 25<sup>th</sup>, the accomplished and highly qualified David Oldfield will give an Organ Recital. All are welcome, as usual.

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## ***24-hour Prayer Initiative in Sheffield***

"We have planned a **24-hour Prayer Initiative** in **Sheffield** from **Friday 17th October 2014 at 7.30pm through to Saturday 18th October finishing at 7.30pm,**" says *Pastor Adrian Dexter* of Rotherham's Liberty Church. "The venue is now finalised and it will all take place at the ***St Thomas Philadelphia Campus***, 6 Gilpin Street, Sheffield. Make a note of the postcode if you will be using SatNav to get there. It is ***S6 3BL***."

"It will all happen from 7.30 pm on the Friday evening for twenty-four hours until 7.30 pm on the Saturday, so don't miss out!"

"Helping the event to really bring the God of the Breakthrough to South Yorkshire will be Nathan Morris, Jarrod Cooper and others. We are praying for a significant move of God across the county."

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## NEW COURSES FOR LEADERS OF YOUNG PEOPLE

**Jonathan Buckley** of the White Rose YMCA and **Mike North**, the Youth and Children's Development Officer for the Sheffield Anglican Diocese, are advertising the second intake of the '**Aurora Youth Ministry**' and '**Aurora Children's Ministry**' courses which will run from September 2014.

Aimed at volunteer youth and children's workers in the local church, these courses are designed to meet the needs of volunteer youth and children's leaders and workers who have busy lives and no formal qualifications. It is a ten-month course run by the YMCA, Sheffield Diocese and Cliff College. It costs £200 (bursaries are available) and students can gain a Level 3 or 4 Cliff College Certificate in Youth or Children's Ministry, and a Bishop's Certificate in Youth or Children's Ministry at levels 2, 3 or 4.

Anyone interested in the course can find out more information at [www.auroratraining.org.uk](http://www.auroratraining.org.uk), or by contacting [jonathan.buckley@ymcawhiterose.org.uk](mailto:jonathan.buckley@ymcawhiterose.org.uk) or via his mobile on 07450 778678.

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**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 7 - 9pm**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 9.30 – 4pm**

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 7 - 9pm**

**Central Methodist Church**

**Lodge Lane, Aston, Rotherham**

**S26 2BP**

For further information contact [joanne.archersiddall@gmail.com](mailto:joanne.archersiddall@gmail.com)

01709 372863

## HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE MUSTARD SEED?

Come along and sample **THE MUSTARD SEED** on the first Friday of the month between 1.30 and 2.30 pm. Meetings are held at the Central Methodist Church in Lodge Lane, Aston, S26 2BP.

**SHARE \_\_\_ SING \_\_\_ REMINISCE**

These meetings will be especially helpful for anyone suffering from MEMORY LOSS. There are trained helpers available, thanks to supporting organisations like the Alzheimers Society. Home Instead and DAA.

\*\*\*\*\* More details from either Elaine Gee on 0114 2876642

or Rev Jo Siddall On 01709 372863

## ***A BIG CHANGE FOR LOCAL METHODISTS***

The 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2014 marks the retirement of **Rev Vernon Marsh**, Chairman of the Sheffield Methodist District, the former Circuit Superintendent Minister in Rotherham and a former President of Churches Together in Rotherham.

Those who were able to attend Vernon's retirement service at the Firth Park Methodist Church in Sheffield on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July were able to take part in a very special act of worship to mark the tremendous contribution he has made to Methodism, to Christianity generally and also to Interfaith matters in our area.

Vernon will certainly be in our prayers as he and his wife Meg move to pastures new across the Pennines.

Vernon's successor to lead Methodism in the geographically large Sheffield District will be a lady minister, **Rev Gill Newton**. Her welcome service will take place at *Talbot Lane Methodist Church* in Rotherham town centre on *Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August at 4.00 pm*. Talbot Lane is a large church with more seating than anywhere else in Rotherham, so if anyone at all would like to attend there will be room to seat you. You don't have to be a Methodist to welcome a new leader to the District --- all are welcome.

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# **IGNITE**

***Worship and Prayer --- every month on Friday the 'teenth', except in August.***

*This means the next meeting of the **IGNITE** series will be in September at Liberty Church, Station Road, Rotherham. It will start at 8.00 pm.*

*There will be a summer break in August, but there are **IGNITE** sessions planned for Fridays **19<sup>th</sup> September, 17<sup>th</sup> October** (--- the 24-hours event in Sheffield) and **14<sup>th</sup> November**.*

## **REVIVAL --- PROPHECY --- INTERCESSION**

***Everyone is welcome to these sessions led by the Youth Pastor Emmanuel Dexter***



## **Hey, Youth Leaders!**

First of all I just want to thank everyone who came to **The Pulse** and supported the event on June 6<sup>th</sup>. Thank you so very much! It was awesome, and so many of the young people who came met with God. We are still receiving testimonies from the different youth groups of how many of them were inspired to grow in their relationships with Jesus.

We are amazed and so encouraged that **OVER 12 CHURCHES** from our area were represented on the launch night. Praise God! We believe that this is the start of something big in our community and in our young people. Again, our vision is to grow the youth groups of this region by providing an inspirational and evangelistic bi-monthly event.

After an amazing launch night, we are excited to announce that the next **Pulse Event** will be on **Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> September**. Initially we had planned for an 8<sup>th</sup> August date, but this was problematic for many of the Churches.

We will soon be mailing out a flier for the September event, along with other news to keep you up to speed with our plans.

If you want any more information, please respond via the email address below with any requests. Also, if you were not able to attend the last Pulse Event, please know that you are most welcome along with any young people from your church.

If you know of any youth groups or churches that might like to be involved please feel

to let them know about this message, or give them my contact address, which is:  
[edexter5@gmail.com](mailto:edexter5@gmail.com)

Follow The Pulse:

--- Twitter @ThePulseEvent

--- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Pulse/1413579878926852>

God bless you, and I hope to hear from you soon.

*Emmanuel Dexter*

Youth Pastor

Liberty Church Rotherham



## **Something's New at Churches Together in Rotherham? What is it?**

At the recent AGM of **Churches Together in Rotherham** a new position in the management set-up was created when a volunteer came forward to act as Assistant Secretary. Take a bow, *Monica Grant* of St Bede's Roman Catholic Church. She is the lady who only a few months ago took on the secretarial role of the Women's World Day of Prayer in Rotherham.

Monica will 'shadow' what the Secretary does in terms of preparing agendas, minutes and the like, as well as learning about the necessary administration for the Good Friday Procession of Witness each year. So, we pray the transitional period will be a smooth one.

What of the current secretary Ted Ring, you ask? Well, after nine years in the role he wants simply to diversify and concentrate on preparing the monthly newsletters like the one you are reading. With a smile on his face he will tell you that there is just no truth in what some folk believe --- that very little happens in churches during the month of August. Plenty happens!



*The **CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ROTHERHAM** Action Group would be pleased if you could ensure that other people in your church know about our Newsletter. Sending it on by e-mail is easy enough, and if you could arrange for just one printed copy to be pinned to your church notice-board that would be helpful.*

*This is especially useful in churches where the main contact person does not have access to a computer, for we send out several more items of news nowadays than was the case a few years ago. Please make sure that your church gains the best benefit from its links with **Churches Together in Rotherham**. Thank you.*



