



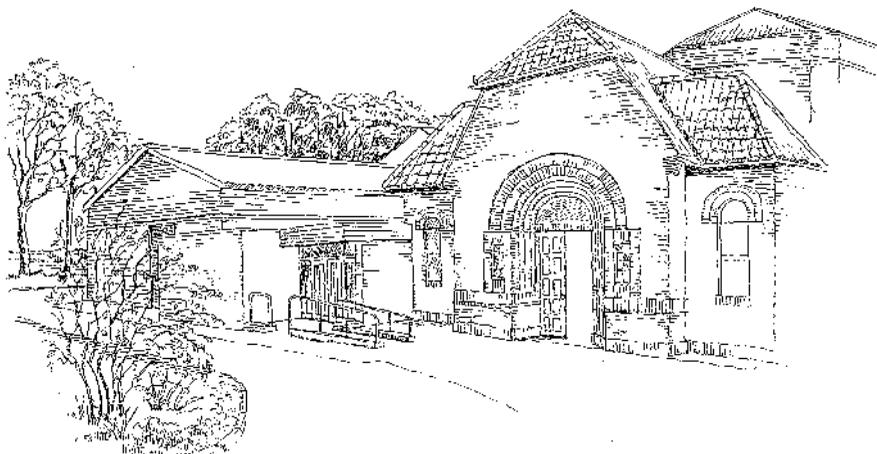
*The*  
United  
Reformed  
Church

# Sherwood

1 Edwards Lane,  
Nottingham,  
NG5 3AA

[www.sherwoodurc.co.uk](http://www.sherwoodurc.co.uk)

## The Newsletter



**June to July 2015**

**Pentecost & Early Summer**

*God's spirit is with us*

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## Minister's Letter

**PILOTS go on Safari.** The Annual Big Day Out for the PILOTS (The United Reformed Church's non uniformed children's organisation) is one of the biggest day events that the U.R.C. This year it was held at the West Midlands Safari Park near Kiddeminster, and I went as a volunteer steward with Tricia who is a Regional Pilots Officer (RPO) and a member of the national Pilots Management Committee. We set off in the early hours – just after 6.39 in order to arrive in time for the briefing at 8.30. There we were divided up in to teams of two, taught how to use the two-way radios, how to handle emergencies (lost children), told the programme for the day, and allocated our tasks on a rota (we moved every two hours).

Tricia was paired with Sylvia, another RPO. I was paired with David Miller, who was until a couple of years ago minister in our Synod down in Peterborough.

There were three main tasks: welcoming and directing people on the main gates or outside the Pavilion; working in the Pavilion – a large tent where everyone met at the very start for opening worship, and then offered a range of crafts or the main acts of worship (in two sittings); and manning a 'sticker station'.

Most of my time was spent outside on a 'sticker station'. There were thirteen, one for each synod of the U.R.C., each identified by a large 'sail banner' bearing the PILOTS badge and the Synod's name. At these we handed out triangular stickers with a picture or information about an animal at the park and the PILOTS (children and adults) collected and stuck onto a card. When complete this could be folded into a 'fortune teller' game.

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Tricia and Sylvia were first on the Wessex Synod sticker station, near the penguins, just inside the park, and they were on their feet all the time handing out stickers. David and I were given Wales Synod as our first station, which was in the amusement park. This did not open until  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour later, so we had plenty of time to sit at a picnic table and catch up! And when it did open, the rush did not reach us as the safari park drive had opened and many families decided to do that while the sun was out! From then on it was a steady trickle until the last hour or so when people rushed round the park to complete their collection.

There were about fifteen hundred 'pilots' there, all identifiable by their themed 'Pilots on Safari' kit bag and badge, making it easy for people to meet and greet U.R.C. folk from all over Britain. It was a wonderful and uplifting day, and reminded me that we are part of a pretty successful national denomination.

Back home, and the Sunday Church Meeting was not quite in the same league – mainly because we were thinking about the problem we face with the reducing number of ministers. In Nottinghamshire we have to cut down from 6.5 to 4.5. When you think that we have two large churches (the crossing Worksop, and St Andrew's with Castlegate here in Nottingham) which according to the formula get one minister each, that leaves  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ministers for the remaining 12 churches. For this to work, the style of ministry offered has to change, or there has to be long vacancies, or . . . . Well, please join in the deliberations by picking up a "Nottinghamshire Deployment Discussion" sheet and feeding any questions or comments to me as soon as you can!

*David*

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## Family News

On Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May we had the great pleasure of welcoming Karen Smith-Eccles with her family. Karen's Granddaughter Nazli Autumn Akdogan, daughter of Elizabeth and Kaan, was coming to Church for her Service of thanksgiving blessing and dedication. In the same Service. Karen herself was made a Church Member on reaffirmation of her faith. It was a special day for all concerned and it was a privilege to be part of it. Because of the special nature of the ceremony the family surprised the Church by bringing a lovely cake which we shared over coffee.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all members and friends of our congregation who are unwell, or unable to share in our fellowship in any way. We ask your prayers for them and if anyone would like to pray for specific people we invite you to join our Prayer chain – please phone Carol Foote 9137323

## Past Events

### Easter

#### Maundy Thursday

Our early evening communion service was held on the newly cleared platform at the front of the church. We made use of the space to hold the service 'in the round' (i.e. in a big circle round the table). We reflected on the fact that Jesus himself did not found the church, but if there was one occasion where he at least planted the seed it was on that Last Supper at which Jesus broke the bread, shared it with the disciples and said, "Do this to remember me"

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**Good Friday**



Despite the grim weather our Ecumenical Walk had the same number of people. We followed the now traditional route with the service as revised last year.

The picture above shows us emerging from our church at the start; the picture right shows us crossing at Winchester Street.



**Easter Saturday Flowers:-** a happy band of helpers prepared the flowers to decorate the Church for Easter –

a wonderful array of baskets and vases of mainly yellow blooms. It was delightful to have two of Sheila's Granddaughters Jessica and Amy with us and they produced some lovely displays. The Church looked very pretty.

**Easter Sunday**

A dozen of us met at 8.00 in the Garden Room for a spoken service celebrating the Resurrection. We reflected on the guilt the disciples must have been feeling having deserted Jesus, and the heightened sense of forgiveness they would have experienced when he appeared to them. We then moved into the Gallery for



breakfast - cereals, boiled eggs and toast.

After breakfast was cleared away we joined a nearly full church to continue celebrating Jesus' victory over death. The sermon focussed on the short ending of Mark - leaving the women afraid and speaking to no one. Of course, Mark was designed to be read by people who already know the ending of the story- you read it up to its original ending, and then say "and the rest is history"! That history involves us passing the story on, it is never ending.

During the service everyone was invited to come forward and slip a daffodil into the netting on the cross, symbolising two things: 1. The cross has been transformed from an item of torture and execution into a sign of new life. 2. We are all called to play our part in releasing that new life into the world. Here are two people removing a couple of the few remaining flowers to take away - one to keep, and one to give away.

A big thank you to all the people who helped in any way during the Easter festivities



*David & Pam*

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## Future Events

### **Sherwood Art Week – 20 June**

The Secret Garden Craft Fair will once again happen in our grounds. I hope you will come and see what it is all about, and enjoy the music and the food.. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our buildings and ourselves as a welcoming Christian community.

The display in church this year will be provided by the local MENCAP, and show art work connected to their performing arts group. We need people to steward the church and halls for a couple of hours at a time. Please sign up!

Look also for the Yarn Bombing, the Art in the Shops, exhibitions in St John's, Sherwood Methodist Church, The Place, and the Recycling Gala at Sherwood Community Centre. Pick up a brochure from church for details

## Articles

### **Commitment for life**

Earlier in the year at the church meeting we agreed to support Christian Aid through the Commitment for life programme. At the next church meeting we will vote to choose which one of the four areas we will link with. This will bring to us information about that project which we will use in our services and in the magazine.

- **Bangladesh**

Alongside corruption, poor governance and an over-dependency on natural resources, tackling poverty in Bangladesh has become increasingly difficult due to the

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impact of climate change. Whether preparing communities for climate related emergencies, supporting farmers to improve their harvest and income, or ensuring women participate fully in vital decisions that shape their lives, Christian Aid partners are committed to ensuring poor and marginalised people enjoy thriving and dignified lives.

- **Zimbabwe**

Political instability lies at the heart of Zimbabwe's problems. The majority of Zimbabweans are emerging from the socio-economic crisis and every year, millions of people rely on food aid in Zimbabwe. Drought and erratic rainfall patterns, a ruined infrastructure and an economy in collapse means many people can't grow enough food to survive. Church partners here focus on a range of issues from food security and nutrition, to HIV, health and gender equality

- **Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory**

Failure to secure a lasting solution to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is causing poverty to deepen, and allowing violence and despair to persist.

Christian Aid has been working with the poorest people in the region since the early 1950s, when they provided help to Palestinian refugees. Today they are working with more than 20 Israeli and Palestinian organisations to protect human rights, access to services and resources, and to build peace based on justice for all. Their development and humanitarian relief reaches Palestinians and Israelis; Jewish, Muslim, Christian and secular.

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- **Central America**

Christian Aid works in four countries in Central America: Guatemala; Honduras; El Salvador and Nicaragua. We reach poor and marginalised families prioritising women, young people and ethnic groups historically excluded from society. We help small farmers access markets, produce higher quality products and obtain a better price for them. We work to build resilience of communities in areas along the Pacific coast which are particularly prone to disasters and environmental hazards such as floods and landslides. Finally, we enable people to lobby their governments to develop policies which take into account the voices of the poor and marginalised

### Richard III



The opportunity to attend the funeral of a king of England does not come along every day. I admit that I didn't have a ticket to attend the actual funeral but I was able to travel to Leicester on

Wednesday 25th March to file past the coffin of Richard III and pay my respects.

My favourite subject at school was history, but perversely we never covered the Middle Ages, or the Tudor period. Everything I know about Richard comes from books writ-

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ten by authors who come to vastly different conclusions from each other. All, however, now agree that he did suffer from the Tudor “spin doctors.”

The television news on the Monday and Tuesday showed the multitude of people waiting in the queue outside the Cathedral who wanted to experience this once in a life-time event. I heard about how they queued for hours just to spend a few minutes inside the Cathedral. Therefore I set out from Nottingham early, getting to Leicester just after 8.00am, joining the queue at about 8.30am. I had worried needlessly as I was inside the Cathedral and filming past the coffin after just half an hour.



The coffin was covered by a black cloth that depicted woven figures on the sides representing his family and other figures showing members of the team who had found his re-

mains. A crown lay on top and four willing military personnel stood at each corner of the coffin to honour him.

With everybody else I stopped, bowed my head and quietly paid my respects. An announcement was made that there were to be a few prayers and a lady priest went up to the lectern. It was a very moving, uplifting experience and even the visitors with their camera

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phones who were ignoring the “no flash photography” request, paused for a few minutes.

Richard died over 500 years ago and for the major part of this period he has been one of the most vilified people in history. His main “crime” was the disappearance of his two nephews in the Tower of London and there were those who thought him guilty and those who now believe in his innocence. The passage of time has certainly muddied the waters. We will probably never know the truth but for a king from long ago who never received a proper burial there was a lot of respect and love shown.

*Howard Clarke*

## Finance

### Offertory and Lettings

	Offertory	Lettings	Money going out
January 2015	£845	£1415	£4341
February 2015	£825	£830	£3323
March 2015	£956	£2319	£4152
April 2015	£1017	£1899	£5398
Average per month 2014	£1323	£1407	£4674

### Money given to Outside Causes

Thank you for your donations to the Nepal Earthquake appeal. We were able to send the sum of £65.50 to this urgent appeal

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## Diary

### June

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|----|-----------------|---|
| 3  | Wed 10:30       | Prime Time  |
| 4  | Thu 11:00       | Chill-Out   |
| 5  | Fri 10:00       | Open Church   |
| 6  | Sat 10:30       | Coffee Morning - Christian Aid                                  |
| 7  | Sun 10:30       | Morning Worship / Junior Church<br>Barry Drake                  |
| 11 | Thu 11:00       | Chill-Out   |
| 12 | Fri 10:00       | Open Church   |
| 13 | Sat 10:30       | Coffee Morning - Christian Aid                                  |
| 14 | Sun 10:30       | Morning Worship / Junior Church                                 |
| 17 | Wed 10:30       | Prime Time  |
| 18 | Thu 11:00       | Chill-Out   |
| 19 | Fri 10:00       | Open Church   |
| 20 | Sat 10:00-17:00 | Sherwood Art Week Craft Fair                                    |
|    | 10:00-12:00     | Coffee will be served for Christian Aid                         |
| 21 | Sun 10:30       | Morning Worship / Junior Church<br>Sherwood Art Week Exhibition |
| 25 | Thu 11:00       | Chill-Out   |
| 26 | Fri 10:00       | Open Church   |
| 27 | Sat 10:30       | (NO Coffee Morning)   |
| 28 | Sun 10:30       | Morning Worship / Junior Church                                 |
|    | 11:00-16:00     | SAW Remarkable Recycling Gala -<br>Sherwood Community Centre    |
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**July**

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|----|-------------|---|
| 1  | Wed 10:30   | Prime Time  |
| 2  | Thu 11:00   | Chill-Out   |
| 3  | Fri 10:00   | Open Church   |
|    | 16:00-21:00 | Ladies Night (Joy of Giving)  |
| 4  | Sat 10:30   | Coffee Morning - Christian Aid  |
| 5  | Sun 10:30   | Morning Worship / Junior Church<br>Richard Turnbull                     |
| 9  | Thu 11:00   | Chill-Out   |
| 10 | Fri 10:00   | Open Church   |
| 11 | Sat 10:30   | Coffee Morning - Christian Aid  |
| 12 | Sun 10:30   | Morning Worship / Junior Church<br>Sylvia Salmon (Lay Preachers Sunday) |
| 15 | Wed 10:30   | Prime Time  |
| 16 | Thu 11:00   | Chill-Out   |
| 17 | Fri 10:00   | Open Church   |
| 18 | Sat 10:30   | Coffee Morning - Christian Aid  |
| 19 | Sun 10:30   | Morning Worship / Junior Church   |
| 23 | Thu 11:00   | Chill-Out   |
| 24 | Fri 10:00   | Open Church   |
| 25 | Sat 10:30   | Coffee Morning - Christian Aid  |
| 26 | Sun 10:30   | Morning Worship / Junior Church   |
| 31 | Fri 10:30   | Open Church   |
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**August**

1	Sat	10:30	Coffee Morning - Christian Aid
2	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship / Junior Church
3	Wed	10:30	Prime Time
7	Fri	10:00	Open Church
8	Sat	10:30	Coffee Morning - Christian Aid
9	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship / Junior Church Duncan Wilson

<b>Rotas</b>
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		<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Coffee</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>7</b>		Jean and Christine
	<b>14</b>		George and Margaret
	<b>21</b>	Doreen Fillingham	Pam and Doreen
	<b>28</b>		Barbara and Maureen
<b>July</b>	<b>5</b>	Pam Whitby	Jean and Christine
	<b>12</b>		George and Margaret
	<b>19</b>	Joy Hammond	Pam and Doreen
	<b>26</b>		Barbara and Maureen
<b>Aug</b>	<b>2</b>		Jean and Christine

***Please 'Adopt a Sunday': Please volunteer  
with Sheila Waldron or Marita Chambers  
to buy or pay for flowers for one of the un-adopted Sundays.***

## Regular Weekly Events

### at Sherwood U.R.C

<b>Mon</b>	6.00 - 7.00	Taekwan-Do
	5.45 - 6.45	FitSteps Health and Fitness
	7.30 - 9.00	Singing for fun choir (term time)
<b>Tue</b>	3.30 - 8.15	Children's Dance Class including various age classes
	11.30 - 1.30	Tiny Talk - sign language for babies
	7.30 - 9.00	Sherwood Women's Institute (4 <sup>th</sup> Tue)
<b>Wed</b>	12.00 noon	Prime Time Lunch Club (1 <sup>st</sup> & 3rd)
	11.00 - 2.00	Y.M..C.A Active for Life
<b>Thu</b>	11.00 - 1.00	'Chill Out' drop-in for under fives and their carers
	6.00 - 7.00	Taekwan-Do
	7.30 pm	Reformed Players
	7.30 pm	Beeston Big Band practice night
<b>Fri</b>	10.00-12 noon	Open Door (Church open for quiet time)
	11.00 am	Stroke Club (fortnightly)
<b>Sat</b>	10.30 am	Christian Aid Coffee Morning (Traidcraft, cakes, greeting card stalls etc.)

Please check the Website for up to date information

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## General Information

**Minister:** Revd David Legge, 0115 952 5759  
Contact David for baptisms, weddings and funerals.

### WORSHIP

**Sunday Morning** at 10.30 with activities for children.  
with communion on the third Sunday of the month

**Prayers for Healing and wholeness:**  
Following morning worship  
on the first Sunday of the month (11.45am approx.)

**Voluntary offerings** maintain the work of the Church and details of planned giving can be obtained from Alison Taylor, Gift Aid Secretary (07757311531)

### Serving Elders of the church:

Christine Hyndman	840 2521	Sue Janiszewski	01623 75 0374
Stefan Janiszewski	01623 75 0374	Bev Lockyer	981 0960
		Pam Richmond	926 3310

### Church Officers:

<b>Church Secretary:</b>	Stefan Janiszewski	07812 975625
<b>Assistant Church Secretary:</b>	Bev Lockyer	981 0960
<b>Church Treasurer:</b>	Carolyn Belcher	960 3357
<b>Pulpit Supply Secretary:</b>	Bev Lockyer	981 0960
<b>Organist:</b>	Marita Chambers	962 5700
<b>Magazine Secretary:</b>	Pam Whitby	926 8044
<b>Flower Secretaries:</b>	Marita Chambers	962 5700
	Sheila Waldron	965 3283
<b>Church Stewarding:</b>	Norman Parr & Pam Whitby	926 8044

**Hall Booking**                      *Send a text to*                      0795 232 4912  
*or use the website:*                      [www.sherwoodurc.co.uk](http://www.sherwoodurc.co.uk)