



Newslink

SOUTH WEST CUMBRIA UNITED AREA

Charity Registration Number 1141404

Methodist and United Reformed Churches Working Together



Sophie
Writes

As I write this I am in Chicago for the wedding of my friends' daughter. I met Cheryl and her husband, Chris, 21 years ago when they hosted me as a soon-to-be ministerial student attending the Willow Creek Global Summit. Julia, the bride, was, at that time, 18 months old. In the last two decades I have visited them, we think, 24 times and they (and their five children) have even come to visit me. They are among my closest friends (although not geographically, of course). The first time I stayed with them I barely saw them as I was busy attending

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seminars and visiting tourist attractions but there was a definite connection and I really enjoyed staying with their, then young, family. I was surprised, however, when, as I was leaving, they said something like "You should come and visit us again when you have more time to spend with us." I didn't know if they meant it, after all it's just the kind of thing people say when parting, isn't it? It's a bit like when we make friends with people on holiday and say, as we leave, "We should meet up when we're back in the UK!" but we don't really intend to do so. That being said, I felt that they were sincere in their invitation. The following year, in between years at ministerial training college, I decided to take them up on their offer, but it was not without some trepidation: What if they hadn't really meant it? What if, when spending more time with each other, we didn't really get on that well? What was the worst that could happen? (I had

Area Website www.swcumbriaunitedareaurc.org.uk

visions of getting in a taxi to the airport and trying to change my flight.) Memories of the connection that I had felt 12 months earlier were dim but I decided to take a risk, trust God and plan for the worst case scenario! I am so glad that I did!

The friendship that has developed over the years and over the miles (I try not to consider the carbon footprint of our relationship!) has seen us offer one another support through good times and bad. We still don't agree on everything - in fact I think our opinions have diverged further over the years. But I am accepted for who I am, I am one of the family. This weekend we're a growing family as we get to welcome Jake into the clan. And I get to be part of this because 20 years ago I decided to trust God and take a chance on a connection that I felt with two of his (very special) people.

As I reflect on this journey of more than two decades I consider what might not have been if I had chosen not to take that risk. I also consider what I have likely missed out on by not taking a chance on other people that God has put in my path. I am convinced that we all need to take more risks and intentionally build relationships with the people that we meet on this journey of life. This is how we will grow the church; this is how we will grow community; this is how we will grow family.

Sophie Carnaby

Flashbacks...to times with Jesus

We shall be running Flashbacks again at Trinity Church Centre from Monday October 14th to Thursday October 17th. We have invited the schools and wait to hear what sessions they would like. The children who attend are 8 and 9 year olds and they react with enthusiasm to the activities. If you would like to help with one (or more) of the half day sessions please get in touch with Ann (tel 812439 or email ann@hufton.co.uk). No experience necessary, just a desire to help the children know more about Jesus!

Ann Hufton

REGIONAL & NATIONAL WEBSITES

www.cumbriamethodistsdistrict.org.uk

Connexional: www.methodist.org.uk

North West Synod: www.nwsynod.org.uk

National: www.urc.org.uk

November issue No 146 of *Newslink* will be published at the end of October. Please send all material to reach Lilian Wood, 89 Risedale Road, Barrow, LA13 9QY by Sunday October 6th. Items can also be passed on by

☎ **01229 825986** or ✉ lilian.wood4@gmail.com

Chapter and verse

The latest in our series where people share Bible verses that are particularly meaningful to them.

I'm always amazed at how the Bible can speak into so many different situations in so many different ways. Quite often I will read a passage which I've read many times before and I will notice something new and relevant to my current situation.

There are so many different passages of scripture that I find inspiring. The one I have chosen for this article is Romans 8: 37 - 39.

“In all things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 8 talks about how, even in the midst of great suffering, Paul looks to God in hope. The whole chapter talks about the freedom which comes from Christ and from living in the Spirit and the certainty we can know when we place our faith in him.

When I read the last three verses of Romans 8, I am reminded of God's covenant promise to us that he will never leave us - that nothing will ever separate us from the Love of God. If we put our hope and trust in him, he will never let us down. No matter what happens - he is there. In all things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. Hallelujah.

Lynne Pearce

If anyone would like to contribute to this section of Newslink please contact Lilian by email lilian.wood4@gmail.com or phone 825986.

Exhibition - Dissent and Nonconformity in Furness

The starting point for this exhibition was the celebration of the 350th anniversary of Tottlebank Baptist Church, which was established in 1669. The exhibition looks at the Baptist, Methodist, Salvation Army, Congregational, Quaker, Church of Christ and Presbyterian chapels in Barrow and Furness built since then. It can be seen at the entrance to the Archive and Local Studies Centre in Barrow Library, Ramsden Square until the end of November.

Safeguarding Training for SWCUA members

United Area members who carry out any of the following leadership roles are expected to do the **Advanced** training course. Of the courses announced, two will take place in the Furness area, though other venues are available. Although there will be more training opportunities in the future, there is no guarantee that the dates or venues will be more suitable, so I encourage you to attend one of these courses if possible.

Roles: Church safeguarding officers; presbyters or deacons with an active preaching or pastoral ministry, including supernumerary ministers; anyone in a paid or voluntary role which includes leadership of work with children, young people or vulnerable adults; lay pastoral leaders; worship leaders and local preachers (including those in training).

You can enrol on a course here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/creating-safer-space-advanced-module-registration-58634544501>

Dates and venues:

Tuesday 12th November 2019 at Beacon Hill Methodist Church, Barrow, LA13 9LH

Wednesday 17th June 2020 at Ulverston Methodist Church, LA12 0BL

Also:

Tuesday 17th September 2019 at Cornerstone Community Church, Sedbergh, LA10 5PW

Saturday 12th October 2019 at Wigton Road Methodist Church, Carlisle, CA2 7BJ

Saturday 18th January 2020 at Penrith Methodist Church, CA11 7QW

Saturday 29th February 2020 at Kirkby Lonsdale Methodist Church, LA6 2AZ

Saturday 7th March 2020 at Kirkoswald Methodist Church, CA10 1EW

Thursday 30th April 2020 at Keswick Methodist Church, CA12 4EF

Friday 15th May 2020 at United Church, Workington, CA14 2DZ

Foundation Training

Members in any of the following roles who have not yet done Methodist Foundation training in safeguarding are strongly urged to do so, as it is a requirement of the role.

You can register interest with your church safeguarding officer or with me on

km.aldred@icloud.com. Once we have a list of interested parties, we will organise some dates in October or November.

Roles: Church safeguarding officers; pastoral visitors; anyone working with 0 - 18 year olds or with vulnerable adults; church stewards; local preachers and worship leaders (including those training); key holders who may come into contact with vulnerable groups (e.g. caretakers).

Thank you.

Kathryn Aldred

The Leprosy Mission

A meeting will be held on Friday 11th October at Abbey Road Baptist Church, Barrow 1:30 - 3:30 pm. Paul Moores, Regional Manager, will speak on the work of The Leprosy Mission in Asia and Africa, followed by afternoon tea. To help with catering and to book a place please phone Paul on 01733 516089 or 07392 198413 or email paulm@tlmew.org.uk

Action for Children

A really good year to celebrate the 150th ANNIVERSARY. The COG SLOG raised £90.59 followed by Strawberry Teas at Millom with £63.00 and our wonderful holders of Home Collecting Boxes who made £350.00, over £100.00 more than last year. A really big THANK YOU to all who helped us achieve a Total of £503.59. GREAT. Anyone who would like a collecting box please give me a ring on 716640. Every penny counts and who would believe that after 150 years the need would still be as important as in 1869.

Beryl Hollowell

Cumbria District Methodist Women in Britain

Wednesday 16th October, 10:15 am - 3:30 pm at Penrith Methodist Church.

‘ALL ARE WELCOME?’

Is my church a place of welcome for everyone?

How will the Methodist Church proposals on Marriage and Relationships help to achieve this?

Refreshments provided, please bring a packed lunch.

Bring and Buy stall, MWiB resources, Book stall.

Contacts: Irene 07958 605049, Jackie 01768 371598.

First Tuesday Ladies

We will meet on Tuesday 1st October at 7:30 pm at 59 Croslands Park to watch the second part of a film about Mary Magdalene.

Elaine Pears

Christian Aid project

We have received a large contribution from an anonymous donor to the project to help children in Kenya affected by HIV and AIDS - many thanks. Our total is now £3698.05.

Lilian Wood

The second extract from a report giving details of the work done on this project for the year ending May 2019.

Objective 1: Improved access to health, education and social services for vulnerable children/orphans and their families

Improved access to education and academic performance

To ensure children are enrolled, retained and progress well in school, individualised case plans were developed to address their needs in school.

20,412 children benefitted from education support including:

School fees paid for 1,219 children

School uniforms provided for 1,362 children

School bags provided for 400 children

Scholastic materials provided for 2,831 children

Solar lamps given to over 500 children, to help with studying in the evenings

Menstrual hygiene packs provided for over 7,600 adolescent girls.

Across the project, out of the 4,847 children who completed primary education, **4,155** were reported to have successfully transitioned to secondary school, translating to an 86% transition rate. Another 2% have transitioned to technical institutions, 2% are reported to have repeated exams, 8% have relocated to outside of the project area and 2% who performed poorly are in the process of being linked to other opportunities.

Improved psychosocial support

84,734 vulnerable children and orphans received psychosocial support.

60 children's club meetings were conducted, reaching **35,060** children, where basic counselling, life skills and behavioural change were discussed. Sporting activities also took place, giving children an opportunity to interact with each other, nurture their talents and boost their self-esteem.

An additional **6,836** caregivers learnt about stigma and discrimination and about various ways of generating income to support their children and household members. Integration of those living with HIV is a key strategy in fighting stigma as it promotes disclosure and discussion of HIV issues within the community without discrimination.

Youth spot

Dalton Holiday Club

This year's Holiday Club was held early in the school holidays to avoid clashing with a sports event run by the Police. Whether this contributed to the numbers is not known but our attendance was a lot less than usual. We had an average of 10 youngsters together with some teenage helpers. Our theme this year was 'Showstoppers' which is a Scripture Union resource based on theatre. We explored stories of:

Jeremiah and his pottery (during which we had a local potter come in to work with the children), the Feeding of the Five Thousand, the Good Samaritan, the Prodigal Son and the trial of Jesus.

The children made items to take home, sang a theme song and acted out the stories with 'Open the Book' material. Although the numbers were few the children enjoyed themselves.

For future events we are exploring new methods of publicity at the suggestion of one of the dads (all above our heads).

Hilary Mantle



Green Tip

It all started with a request from the Furness Abbey Fellowship for volunteers to assist with a litter pick around the environs of the Abbey and the amphitheatre. If there were enough volunteers an hour would be sufficient. As it turned out after more than two hours the happy and willing band had accumulated well over twenty black sacks full of such a miscellany of rubbish that one started to believe that the area had been designated as an official tip. Not only were there the expected crisp packets, sandwich containers and soft drink cans, but on and above one banking dozens and dozens of alcohol cans and bottles were found, some of which were still half full and some even not having been

opened and fully intact. Furthermore large items were discovered which would not fit into a plastic sack - the remains of a tent, a large piece of carpet, a couple of road bollards and numerous other unidentifiable items.

Following this foray into the world of rubbish I read that if everyone who walked along the Channelside or on Biggar Bank picked up just three items of litter the said place would be clean and tidy. Again an underestimate. I find that on each visit even one black plastic sack is inadequate for such a target to be achieved.

Subsequently I have become involved with the local voluntary organisation Zest who makes numerous outings in the town to rid it of the scourge of litter. Recently a visit to the rear of Dalton Road produced an enormous amount of debris both large and small that had been cast aside.

If the need for the above activities had been simply one-off operations then the litter problems would have been solved by now. However it is a continual problem and not restricted to any one or two particular areas of the town. When one looks back at old photographs of the town and sees how clean and tidy it was then one wishes that the approach to litter was that which prevailed in the 1950s and 1960s.

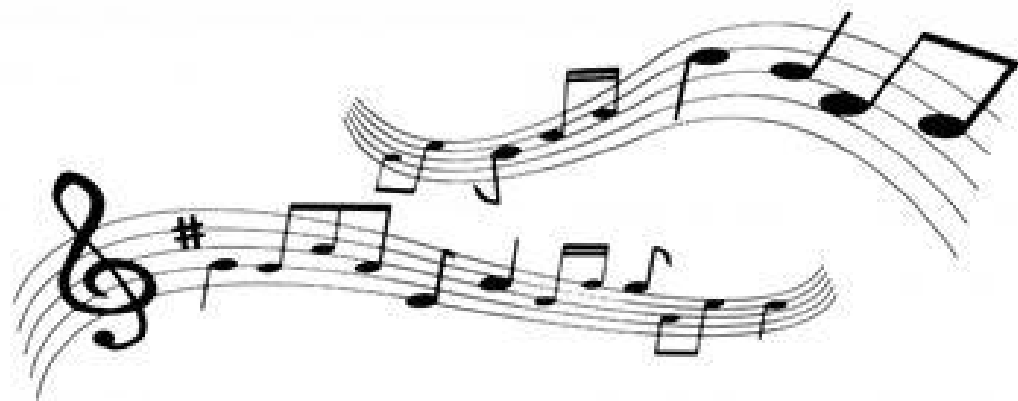
The black sacks, gloves and litter pickers-up are now continually to hand and the chances are that the next time the telephone rings or an email arrives I will be once again called to duty.

Susan Howell

If you are a reader of The Mail you will have seen Susan, as she features quite regularly in photographs of various litter collection events. Perhaps her article may encourage some of us to follow her example.

AUTUMN CONCERT performed by THE GHYLL SINGERS

with music to entertain, soothe and enlighten.....



Sunday 20 October 2019 at 2:30pm
Dalton Community Church,
Wellington St, Dalton

Tickets £5 – book on 01229 466069
or pay at the door

Proceeds to
Dalton Community Church's
Refurbishment Fund

Ladies! Interested in singing with us at future concerts? See our website at www.ghyllsingers.org for contact & rehearsal details.

The Bay's Relaxed Community Music Group

'A Different Tune'



Is starting on Tuesday 8th October 2019 at the United Reformed Church Hall, Kents Bank Rd, Grange-over-Sands between 10.00 am and 11.30 am. Weekly sessions will be led by Jane Thedham, during school term-time.

Everyone who has enjoyed playing an instrument in the past and fancies playing again in a relaxed non-pressured environment is invited to join our ground breaking, community dementia embracing music group. A first for Cumbria!

Please bring your instrument along

£2 per session

For more information ring
Diane on 07771 682378



**Dignity in
Dementia**

Helping you support people with dementia

Individual churches

Trinity

Midweek communion Tuesday 1st October, 10:30 a.m. with refreshments served from 10:00 a.m.

Monthly Coffee Morning, Saturday 5th, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Saturday 12th Charity Christmas Card Sale, 10:00 a.m. A chance to buy your Christmas cards and support some of the worthwhile charities. Coffee will also be served at the usual cost, £1.00.

Friday 11th 6:00 p.m. Pie & peas supper followed by a Quiz organised by Sophie and Tim.

Friday 1st November at 6:00 p.m. Holy Beetle Drive. There will be soup and a roll followed by a cuppa and cake. Tickets: adults £4.50, children £2.50. Tickets from Margaret Lawton 01229 827925 or Margaret Manvell 01229 826053.

Family Matters

Hazel Rayner died on Friday 6th September after a short spell in hospital. She wasn't strong enough to undergo the treatment on offer and wanted to spend her last days at home. Her request was granted and she died peacefully. Our thoughts and prayers are with her daughter Maureen and all the family at this time.

Brian Whittaker has been in hospital and we hope that by the time you read this he is well on the road to recovery.

We are glad to report that Bob Watkinson has had good news about his health.

Jean Newton had a fall coming into church on Sunday 1st September and had to go to A&E, but fortunately did not break any bones. We trust that by the time you read this she will be hale and hearty.

It was a pleasure to welcome Vincent and Kate Copley, who brought their daughter Holly Emma for baptism on September 8th. There were quite a few members of their family, among them Holly's two elder sisters, and friends. Holly was a lively sixteen month old who kept on the move but was not disruptive; her Mum must have been exhausted, following her to keep her safe! A lovely service which we hope the whole family enjoyed.

Margaret Manvell

Trinity Prayer - We meet in the lower meeting room at Trinity each Thursday morning between 8:50 and 9:30 am to pray; each week we give time to one of the United Area churches, and a set of streets, as well as other prayer concerns. If you have any prayer concerns or things you wish to be prayed for, please contact Janet/Alan Ladds (833882) so we can add them to the prayer book.

Week commencing

Oct	6 th	Hartington Street	O
	13 th	Ramsden Street	P
	20 th	Beacon Hill	Q
	27 th	Dalton Comm Church	R

Janet Ladds

Hartington Street

Toddlers @ the hub

Toddlers @ the hub is every Monday in term time 1:00pm - 2:30pm. All babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers welcome. £1 per family including tea/coffee and snacks for the children.

Knit and Natter

Knit and Natter is held in the church every Tuesday morning from 10:00am until 11:30am. The session ends with a brief time of prayer for others. Tea/coffee and refreshments provided.

Bible Study

The Bible Study group runs on alternate Thursdays in the Hub at the new time of 10.00am. The next sessions are Thursday 3rd, Thursday 17th and Thursday 31st. All welcome.

The Messy Church Away Day

This great event has been a long time in the planning and was held on Saturday 7th September at Kirkby Methodist Church. Thanks go to our hosts for their generous use of the building. Members of the HST Messy Church Team spent the day studying the themes for the next 4 Messy Church Sessions and participating in craft activities that the children who attend Messy Church will create.

The day got off to a resounding start with the opening devotions being led by Rebekah Mills Strawson who came home from Yorkshire especially to co-lead the day. Crafts and Bible teaching followed as well as a short, reflective Communion service. As it was such a beautiful day, we took all our coffee breaks in the garden and also enjoyed a sit down lunch looking across to the hills. A short session on communicating successfully with the children who come to Messy Church was led by Lois Kavanagh, and Charlie Mills challenged us to communicate more successfully with the parents who attend during the family meal.

The Away Day is new territory for HST and the day was considered to be very worthwhile!

Messy Church sessions this term:

Saturday 28 th September:	Psalm 8:	Harvest
Saturday 26 th October:	Luke 15:	The Prodigal Son
Saturday 23 rd November:	Luke 10:	The Good Samaritan
Saturday 14 th December:	Luke 2:	The Birth of Jesus

Lois Kavanagh

Beacon Hill

Our usual monthly coffee morning will be held on Thursday 31st October, 10am-11:15am, with stalls selling cakes, handmade cards, books and Fairtrade items.

We will be holding a Soup and Quiz evening on Saturday 9th November at 6 pm, with donations requested for the Area Christian Aid project. If you intend to come could you please let me know for catering purposes (phone 825986, email lilian.wood4@gmail.com)

Lilian Wood

Dalton

The Bible Society Action Group gave a vote of thanks to everyone who supported their coffee morning in August. Despite the awful weather £213 was raised for Bible Society work.

About 20 people “Stepped Back in Time” to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the beginning of World War One. The attendees enjoyed the dancing and music played by the bands. On Sunday 8th September congratulations and best wishes were sent to Terry and Rita Leach who were celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

Future Events:

Tuesday 8th October at 2:30 pm Midweek communion service at Market Street

Sunday 20th October at 2:30 pm Concert by the Ghyll Singers at Wellington Street

R Willock

Askam

Sisterhood commenced in September and we were delighted to have Mary Willan back with us after her stay in hospital - which meant we were able to celebrate her forthcoming 90th birthday with singing Happy Birthday to her, and having cream cake with our tea at the end of the meeting.

The Armchair Exercise started again in September, and we were able to welcome two new members, added to the faithful exercisers. Open to all ages, this class is an ideal way to keep active and flexible - exercising to music. Held each Thursday at 9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. All welcome.

Our October Sisterhood meetings will be Wednesday 2nd when we welcome the U3A Ukelele group again, and 16th October, a special Harvest Service led by the UA Praise Group.

On 30th October we look forward to Sophie Carnaby visiting Sisterhood for the first time, and on 13th November Rev Gwyn Murfet will lead a Remembrance Service. Sisterhood starts at 2:30 p.m. and everyone is welcome.

Askam will hold their 2nd Cafe Worship on Sunday, 13th October led by Rev Zena Smith at 11.00 a.m.

Dorothy Gleaves

Kirkby

Sunday 13th October, 6pm HARVEST SERVICE.

Our preacher will be Charlie Mills and donations from the service will go to the FOOD BANK. Everyone will be made most welcome.

Saturday 26th October, 10am - 3:30pm CRAFT FAIR.

Entrance £1.00 includes drink and biscuit. Soup lunch £3.00 will be served from 12noon.

There will be numerous stalls including cakes, candles, jewellery, Save the Children

Christmas cards and not forgetting Mary's famous marmalade and jams. See you there.

Beryl Hollowell

Millom

Hello from Millom and happy new Methodist year.

We continue to welcome different preachers who bring a different perspective and also keep us advised of news in the Area.

We had a tea party in August and raised £63 for NCH Action for Children.

The church barbecue and community lunch was a success and raised £47 towards the shoebox appeal, which we are again doing this year - we are hoping to complete 125.

We are hoping to pack them in October and have an event to raise more funds.

Our community groups continue to use our church and we hope that they feel welcomed and happy with our premises.

Roberta and myself are attempting to keep the grounds in good order, with help from Melvyn who is now cutting the grass, and the flowers are looking lovely at present with this good weather.

Liz Watson

Ramsden Street

Our Friends and Family service, led by Jennet, will be held on Sunday October 6th at 11:15am. Personal invitations have been produced for use by the congregation.

We are holding a Jigsaw and Craft Afternoon on Saturday October 19th from 2pm to 4pm. Teams of up to four people can take part but if you cannot raise a team of four just come along anyway and we can make up teams on the day. The cost is £3 per person and includes refreshments. For those who enjoy crafts there will be people to help with making items.

Our Autumn Fair this year will be held on Saturday November 2nd from 10am to 1 pm.

There will be several stalls selling gifts, home-made cakes, books, jigsaws etc.

Refreshments will be available including light lunches.

Anne Stevenson

Vickerstown

Our fortnightly Bible Study continues at 10 a.m. on Thursdays, working through the book of Revelation a chapter at a time. Anyone who is interested is welcome to join us.

October's dates will be Thursday 10th and Thursday 24th (unless either of these dates becomes a general election day - not impossible at the time of writing - as the church is a polling station) and we should be up to chapters 7 and 8.

There will be a coffee morning at Vickerstown on Saturday October 5th, 10-11:30 a.m., with stalls selling homemade cakes, Fairtrade goods, books and bric-a-brac. The following day, Sunday October 6th, will be our Harvest Festival when we look forward

to decorating the church and welcoming our uniformed organisations to a parade service at the usual time of 11 a.m.

Karen Edmondson

Regular Sunday Services

Morning service times are as follows:

Askam	(Duddon Road) 11:00 am fortnightly (alternate weeks at St Peter's, Ireleth at 11:15 am)
Beacon Hill	(Holyoake Avenue, Barrow) 9:30 am
Dalton Community Church	(Market Street) 9:30am
Hartington Street	Barrow 11:00 am
Kirkby	(Marshside) 11:00 am (except 2 nd Sunday – 6pm service 5 th Sunday – 10 am at St Cuthbert's)
Millom	(Queen Street) 11:00 am
Ramsden Street	Barrow 11:00 am (except 1 st Sunday – 10:30am & 5 th Sunday – 11:00 am at Trinity)
Trinity Church Centre	(Warwick Street, Barrow) 11:00 am
Vickerstown	(Warren Street) 11:00 am

Evening services are held as follows:

Beacon Hill	6 pm every week,	4pm from October 27 th
Trinity Church Centre	6:30 pm every week,	4pm from October 27 th
Kirkby	6 pm on the 2 nd Sunday	

United Area joint evening services as arranged. For details, please consult the Plan or the website: www.swcumbriaunitedareaurc.org.uk

Regular coffee mornings

Please note that coffee mornings are held every week as follows:

Millom -	Fridays from	9:30 till 10:30
Ramsden St. -	Fridays from	10:30 till 11:30



Broughton - Tuesdays:	at the Square Café from 10:30 to 12 noon
Dalton - Mondays:	Tea and Chat at Wellington Street from 10 to 11:30
Hartington St - Tuesdays:	Care & Share Fellowship & Knit & Natter from 10:00 to 11:30