



August Key Events

7th Community
Sport Plus

13th/14th
Martina at
CCW

Cytun Hunger Lunch – Art Ellinson

I just want to give a short word of thanks to all those who supported and helped at the lunch. We catered for some 30 friends from at least 9 different churches for lunch and we were able to take a gift of £92.80p for Christian Aid.



Relay



This month we have a worship report from Colin Elliott and John Ellinson - they recommend a CD and John gives the story behind one of his songs.

Myra has also provided some information about Ramadan and how we can pray for Muslims.

Scripture Focus for August

Genesis 2:3 - And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

Exodus 20:8 - Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Nehemiah 8:10-11 - Nehemiah said, Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength. The Levites calmed all the people, saying, Be still, for this is a sacred day. Do not grieve.

Leader's LogHolidays – make the most of them

The distribution of this edition of Relay magazine will coincide with the peak of the holiday season. Whether it is here in the UK or further afield across the seas, we all love to take time away from it all and to enjoy a change of scene – even if it is only for a few weeks at most!!! A change is as good as a rest is what I was always told as a child.

It is very interesting to note that Israel's annual pattern, directed by God, included a round of feasts and festivals – all designed to keep the nation focussed on God and the heritage they shared as a people. People took time out as the normal routines were set aside for HOLY DAYS. A second theme running right through the scriptures is that of SABBATH. Deliberately setting everything aside to be with God and to find rest in His presence. The place of rest is often the place of revelation as it creates an environment where we are more open and prepared to receive from God.

It is so very easy to get caught up in the many varied and exciting events and opportunities that holiday's provide. Before you know it a day, or a week, or an entire fortnight has whizzed by. If we are not careful we can easily squeeze God right out of the picture. It doesn't have to be like that though. We can decide and make plans to approach things a different way.



What if we decided our holiday was to be a series of HOLY DAYS and a time of SABBATH set aside for the Lord. Deliberately setting out to make our quiet times and devotions a feast each day rather than the hurried snacks they so often are. Soak in the scriptures, meditate, pray and sing spiritual songs and hymns to the Lord with the extra time and space that you have.

In doing this you will find refreshment not only for your bodies but also, and

far more importantly, for your souls and spirits too. These are just a few ideas to make the most of the extra time a holiday provides us with.

Make your holiday, wherever it is and however long it lasts, a series of Holy Days and an extended Sabbath to the Lord.

Happy Holy Days!

Have a great time,
Love and prayers,

Every Blessing,

GARETH



Local Leadership Team Reports- Hightown

Community First's **Men In Sheds** has got under way - the first week Peter was the only man - second week four men - we had a good time playing domino's and table tennis, several brews and quality biscuits! Sadly we don't have a shed yet! Here's hoping. **M-I-S** (Men in Sheds) meets 11-1pm on a Friday in Luke O'Connor House, Hightown.

Hightown Art Scene has the privilege of exhibiting their work in the Eisteddfod tent in conjunction with AVOW (Association of Voluntary Organisations in Wrexham) As displayed on the borrowed church notice board - it looks magnificent.



Hightown Holiday Club will be over by the time this is published. Two local schools were quite happy to distribute leaflets to the pupils.

We pray that many children and parents will be blessed. Thank you Leslie and Genni and all the helpers.

Sylvester Court Lunch Club goes from strength to strength - four of us attend and offer a hand. Peter was asked to do a watercolour workshop at the **Hightown Parents Group** which was very much enjoyed - they have asked for a return visit.

HLT (Hightown Leadership Team)



Local Leadership Team Reports – Acton

What is happening with Acton Community Centre?

The existing building will remain in structure but the stage will be removed and everything completely refurbished. There will be more storage, a movable partition down the middle of the hall, a larger entrance, a training room (where laptops can be used) and an unstaffed café area. There will be extra areas built on to the building including a children's activity area and patio. If you want to see the plans they are on the notice board in the entrance of the centre.

When is it happening?

The original dates for starting/completion have been delayed a couple of times which has been frustrating but, the date for the official opening is now March 1st 2013. The building work will begin probably April 2012. All groups using the building will be found an alternative venue during the work. It may seem like nothing is happening but it is a long process - every decision has to be approved by various committees and many people have to be consulted. Centre Management staff will be appointed Autumn 2012.

Do we get to give our opinion about the new building?

There have already been many opportunities advertised for people to attend consultation meetings regarding the plans for the new centre. These plans are now in place but decisions on equipment and colour schemes will need to be made. Two members of the ChristChurch Leadership Team attend the Steering Group and Stakeholder's Group where we have an important role in these discussions. If you have a suggestion please make it to Gareth or Sally E.

Why don't we meet there every week now?

The work was originally due to start a lot earlier hence our move to Hightown. However, in our commitment to plant a church in Hightown it is right to meet there and dedicate ourselves to being involved in the community there. The longer we can all work together in this new venue the stronger it will be when the time comes to move into two congregations. Community Sports is held in Acton once a month alongside the children's work and lunch club which are helping to maintaining our presence in Acton.

Hope this information helps anyone who has been wondering about these questions – but please, do just come and chat to a member of the Leadership Team if you have questions or concerns. Please remember that we don't have all the answers but we trust in God who does!



Take a look at www.north-wales-christian-events.co.uk – for Christian events across North West Wales

Worship at CCW – Colin Elliott and John Ellinson

The worship team recommend the following CD – Hillsong Chapel: Yahweh

“Hillsong Chapel is an intimate and devotional collection of Hillsong songs by the Hillsong Live team. Recorded live in the Hillsong Chapel in March 2010, “Yahweh” is the first installment in this organic contemplative expression of praise and worship.



Comprised of 13 congregational songs carefully rearranged to be more intimate, this project is perfect for smaller gatherings and will help resource smaller congregations with the favourites from Hillsong Live and Hillsong United. It is also ideal for your own personal devotional and meditative times of worship.” (Taken from the Hillsong Live website <http://live.hillsong.com/>)

This CD contains some songs that you may recognise from church including: Hosanna; Stronger; This is our God and Everyone needs Compassion.

The nature of the recording, in a small chapel with a small (for Hillsong) band means that you can get to hear the lyrics and appreciate the heartfelt nature of the worship. A good CD for chilling out and worshipping to as well as being easy listening! Available from: Amazon & iTunes for download. CD from Manna Christian bookshop as well as online stockists e.g. Kingsway; Purashop

Story of the Song

Author of Creation (Creations wonder) by John Ellinson

This song was written as a response to the account of creation in Genesis 1. The chorus is about how the wonder of creation speaks of the glory of our Lord. God created this world for us to enjoy – the variety, the beauty, the complexity – I think that is AMAZING!! Our response can only be to give glory to the Lord who instigated it all.

Verse 1

At first there was nothing, and You
called forth light,
Separating darkness, You made day
and night,
Revealing creation
From the highest of heights,
To the depths of the ocean -
Such creative might.

Chorus *Creations wonder,
Moulded by Your mighty hand.
The mountains and valleys,
Sing ‘Beautiful God’
The stars in the heavens,
The rocks and the waves cry out –
‘Author of Creation,
Our Glorious Lord!’*

Verse 2 You shaped and designed, every plant and tree,
 Imagined the creatures of the air, land and sea.
 Your breath gave life,
 To humanity,
 Creations story
 Shows Your majesty.



Bridge Glory! Glory! to the Author of creation
 Glory! Glory!
 Glory! Glory! to our Light and our Salvation
 Glory! Glory!

Verse 3 The world was created, just as You had planned,
 The wonder of nature, guided by Your hand.
 Displaying Your glory,
 For the eyes of man,
 Just a glimpse of the glory,
 Of the Great I AM.

Lead Worshippers

Although we are currently blessed to have a number of different lead worshippers in ChristChurch, it's clear to us as a worship team that we must be looking to the future - when we become two separate congregations, there will be a need for more musicians and people to lead sung worship on Sundays.

This is an opportunity to release people into new ministry areas or perhaps to revive a previous gifting. Colin, John, Huw or Rhys would be happy to be approached by anyone who thinks God could use them as a musician or a lead worshipper to help lead the congregation into worship. We would then discuss together as to how to take this forward, but rest assured you would not be thrown into the deep end!

Invitation to Growing Leaders

The next course starts in September. The first session, on 22nd September, is an introduction to the course.

Then the course will run for 10 months, meeting on the 4th Thursday of the month, except December. (There are two Friday/Saturday sessions in October and February) - **Speak to Gareth now to book your place**





Open Doors - Praying for the Muslim World August 1st to 30th – RAMADAN

God is at work using many different means to make himself known to Muslims. He reveals himself through: Dreams and Visions, Radio, Internet and Satellite TV, The Bible and DVDs.

Many missionaries are working in the Muslim countries. Muslims are telling their people about Jesus. Equally, Muslim terrorists have established themselves in many countries and the number of mosques and Muslims is growing. There is more radio, internet and TV available to Muslims than ever before.

The organisation 'Open Doors' has requested that we pray for Muslims at this time, especially remembering those in our own town.

For more information go to www.opendoorsuk.org/30-days

Coach Trip to Nantwich

Zoë and I had a coach trip to Nantwich on Thursday, 14th July. It was a lovely sunny, warm day.

The highlight of our day out was visiting the flower festival in St Mary's Church.

The displays were so beautiful. Zoë took some photographs of 'I am a new creation' and 'Spirit of the living God'. The poem 'Loving me' was at the side of one display.



The children's contribution was 'Our God is a great big God' and 'Every hand a prayer'. They had cut out their hand prints and written a simple one line prayer on each finger – then wrapped it around a flower bud.

The stained glass window of the Creation was just so lovely too.

We just thank God for the gift of creativity which enables people to produce such lovely displays.
Myra and Zoë

Bearing Witness - Act and pray for climate justice

Join us in **Manchester** on **Saturday, 1 October 2011**, the eve of the Conservative party conference, and be part of the church's response to the injustice of climate change. There will be the chance to hear from inspiring speakers, take part in workshops with overseas partners, and attend an ecumenical service in the cathedral. Supporters of Tearfund and Cafod will be there, too - it should be a great day!

Go to this page for more information

<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/ActNow/climate-justice/bearing-witness.aspx>



ChristChurch Monthly Rotas

Date		Setting Up	Music Group Leader	IT	Service Leader	Topic Bible ref	Tea
7 th Aug		Sue	tbc	tbc	James and Meg All Age service	Glorious Kingdom Samuel - Kings	Andrew, Elizabeth
14 th Aug		Gareth	tbc	tbc	Rhys and Genni All Age service	Exile Kings &Chronicles	Glenys, Marilyn, Rosemary
21 st Aug	O	Art	tbc	tbc	Huw and Lesley All Age service	Christ & Gospels Gospels	Dorothy, Jan, Steve
28 th Aug		Peter	tbc	tbc	Ros and Peter All Age service	Role of Church Acts	Peter, Elaine W, Elaine M

C= Communion / O = Offering



Your chance to be part of the magazine!

If anyone would like to contribute to the magazine we are always looking for items to include. If you have poems, pictures, stories, or would like to share your testimony please can you let us know?

Thank you from Sally and Marilyn

If you have any queries please call Gareth Jones - ChristChurch Team Leader on 07545 866597 (01978 354805),

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or send us an email - admin@christchurchwrexham.org.uk

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