

S<sub>outh</sub> E<sub>ast</sub> D<sub>U</sub> rham M<sub>ethodist</sub>

# NEWSLETTER

for Bowburn, Shincliffe and  
Elvet Methodists

Sedum:  
a family of  
small plants  
with fleshy  
leaves,  
found on  
rock or bare  
ground.



“....I tell you  
Peter; you are  
a rock, and  
on this rock  
foundation I  
will build my  
church.....”

OCT-NOV-DEC 11

*A letter from our Minister*

*Dear Friends,*

**Peace on earth**

The Christmas carol ‘O Little town of Bethlehem’ paints a picture of the town that seems remarkably different from what is said to me by those who have visited Bethlehem recently. I hear on the news of a place not ‘still’ or ‘silent’ but troubled. Maybe Philips Brooks was more accurate however when he wrote ‘The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight’: Our hopes and fears are indeed intimately connected to the peace that the world needs.

The prophet Isaiah hoped for a child that was to be born to bring everlasting peace to God’s people:  
‘... he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace’ (*Isaiah 9:6*)

And Luke’s gospel describes a message which promised to change the lives and hopes of anyone living in a world where fear is used to enslave or oppress ...

“Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people”

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!” (*Luke 2: 10 & 14*)

Elizabeth Berryhill writes ‘ If I had been around that first Christmas I am convinced that I would have seen and heard nothing. I’d have been so busy cleaning, so uneasy about the state the world was in, so anxious about where I was going to live and what I would have time

### 3

for tomorrow, that I would not even have heard a whole massed group of choirs of angels and orchestras playing, let alone one solitary voice saying quietly and firmly ‘Do not be afraid’.

As we begin the new Christian year this Advent season may we all find time to prepare not just for the celebration of the birth of Christ but also for the coming of the spirit of peace.

Like shepherds sitting in the dark ordinariness  
of a working hillside  
We expect little  
We wonder when, or even if,  
you will ever bring us  
the peace of heart and world

So we listen for angels  
but often they speak too casually, too quietly  
Of glory and blessings  
The silent stars, carolling their good news  
of remembrance, gentleness and love from the emptiness  
forgiveness, purpose, peace.

For me, I'm going to try this Christmas and new year to let my hopes be simple and my fears be lost in the peace of God's promise, because I don't want to miss what God is saying in the quietness behind all the busyness.

May you all have a Christmas that, whether noisy or quiet, is full of God's joy and peace.

*Shaun*

## **WORSHIP IN OCTOBER**

### **Bowburn**

- 2nd 10.30 a.m. Rev Julie Lunn -  
**Harvest Festival**
- 9th 10.30 a.m. Mrs Frances Proud
- 16th 10.30 a.m. Rev Shaun Swithenbank - Holy Communion
- 23rd 10.30 a.m. Miss E Greener -  
**One World Week**
- 30th 10.30 a.m. Ms S Rush (WSC)

### **Elvet**

- 2nd 10.45 a.m. Rev Shaun Swithenbank - Holy Communion  
6.00 p.m. Mr Mark Teggart
- 9th 8.30 a.m. Rev Shaun Swithenbank - Holy Communion  
10.45 a.m. Prof Mark Wilson  
6.00 p.m. Rev Shaun Swithenbank and Rev Julie Lunn
- 16th 10.45 a.m. Mrs Ramona Samuel  
6.00 p.m. Rev Shaun Swithenbank - Holy Communion
- 23rd 10.45 a.m. Rev Shaun Swithenbank -  
**Back to Church Sunday**  
**One World Week**  
6.00 p.m. Mr David Willis (WSC)
- 30th 10.45 a.m. Rev Julie Lunn  
6.00 p.m. Readers' Service

## **WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER**

### **Bowburn**

- 6th 10.30 a.m. Mr Bill Offler -  
**Church Anniversary**
- 13th **10.00 a.m.** Rev Shaun Swithenbank -  
**Remembrance Day**
- 20th 10.30 a.m. Readers' Service
- 27th 10.30 a.m. Mr Eric Watchman

### **Elvet**

- 6th 10.45 a.m. Rev Kenneth Mankin - Holy Communion  
6.00 p.m. Mr Eric Watchman
- 13th 8.30 a.m. Rev Shaun Swithenbank - Holy Communion  
10.45 a.m. Mrs Margaret Wadge  
**Remembrance Day Service with Parade**  
6.00 p.m. Mr David Willis (WSC)
- 20th 10.45 a.m. Rev Shaun Swithenbank  
**Church Anniversary**  
6.00 p.m. Rev Julie Lunn - Holy Communion
- 27th 10.45 a.m. Rev Julie Lunn and Methsoc  
6.00 p.m. Mr Ian Rutherford (WSC)

## **WORSHIP IN DECEMBER**

### **Bowburn**

- 4th 10.30 a.m. Rev Raymond Hay
- 11th 10.30 a.m. Rev Shaun Swithenbank - Holy Communion
- 18th 10.30 a.m. Mrs Anne Offler  
**All Age Café Service**
- 25th **Christmas Day - 9 a.m.**  
Rev Shaun Swithenbank

### **Elvet**

- 4th 10.45 a.m. Rev Shaun Swithenbank - Holy Communion  
6.00 p.m. Mr Stephen Froggatt (WSC)
- 11th 8.30 a.m. Julie Lunn - Holy Communion  
10.45 a.m. Readers' Service  
**All Age, Parade and Gift**  
6.00 p.m. Rev Calvin Samuel
- 18th **3.00 p.m.** Rev Shaun Swithenbank - **Café Service**
- Christmas Eve - 11.30 pm Christmas Eve Communion**
- 25th **Christmas Day - 10.30 a.m.**  
Rev Shaun Swithenbank

### Prayer for Ecological Conversion

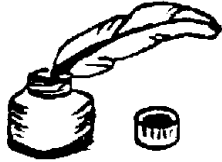


God of the sun and the moon  
 Of the mountains, deserts and plains,  
 God of the mighty oceans, of rivers, lakes and streams,  
 God of all creatures that live in the seas and fly in the air,  
 Of every living thing that grows and moves on this sacred Earth,

We are formed by Christ into Your People  
 Called to bring the world into Your marvellous light.  
 As the Body of Christ we are messengers of ecological vocation;  
 We are entrusted with caring for this earth which You have created.

Help us to love and respect it,  
 To repair what we have damaged,  
 To care for what You have made good and holy.  
 Give us the wisdom and the passion to change our minds, our hearts  
 and our ways.

Let us be mustard seeds in our world  
 Bringing about ecological conversion which grows  
 And spreads to every corner of the earth.  
 For our sake now  
 And for every generation which is to come.  
 We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
 Amen.



## EDITORIAL

*Dear Friends,*

At the school where I work, we have begun a Zumba group for the staff. (Zumba is a dance-exercise phenomenon for those of you who do not indulge.) I usually entertain my colleagues by being the least co-ordinated of us all - although I noticed yesterday that my colleague, Allison, who came to her first Zumba class then, might make even me look good.

It can be rather hard to make yourself go to Zumba on Friday after a whole week of work. The easy option is to sit in your classroom or the staffroom with a cup of tea before packing your bag with the weekend's marking and driving home.

I said to the colleagues who had turned up to Zumba, during one of our breathless, please-can-I-have-a-drink-of-water? breaks, "It's when you least feel like coming that you most need to come." They agreed.

Remember that when you are thinking about whether you can find the time to come to church: it's when you least **want** to come that you most **need** to come.

This issue of SEDUM is packed. I've had to save articles for the next issue! Enjoy this issue - and a Happy Christmas to you all.

Yours in Christ,

*Jackie*

*Elvet Methodist Church  
Thursday Club Programme  
2011-2012*

Sept 22	Social Evening at Bowburn Hall Hotel	
Oct 6	Nightstop in Durham	<i>Jackie Hall</i>
Oct 20	Life's Challenges (fundraiser)	<i>John Robson</i>
Nov 3	Silversmithing	<i>Les Howe</i>
Nov 17	New Hope in Cambodia	<i>Anne Scott</i>
Dec 15	Christmas Festivities	
Jan 12	Land of the Long White Cloud	<i>Nora Fisher</i>
Jan 26	Where did Cinema come from?	<i>David Williams</i>
Feb 9	Open Gate	<i>Rachel Waller</i>
Feb 23	Making a card	<i>Viv Howe</i>
Mar 8	Japanese Gardens	<i>Muriel Woodward</i>
Mar 22	Stained Glass Windows of the Cathedral	<i>Peter Lowis</i>
April 19	Victorian Women Explorers	<i>Ken Kay</i>
May 3	To be arranged	

## Remembering C K Barrett

**Following the sad news of his death, Darlington District Chair, the Revd. Ruth Gee, pays tribute to the Revd. Professor Charles Kingsley Barrett, Methodist minister and widely respected theologian.**

"Kingsley Barrett is held in great affection and respect by the Methodist people in County Durham. His scholarship and skill as a teacher of theology is widely known and celebrated and was rooted and grounded in his faith in Jesus and knowledge of the unfailing love of God.

"As a Methodist Minister, Kingsley never tired of preaching the gospel and, to the end of his life, was leading worship in the Durham area and further afield. He loved to preach in the churches in the former mining villages around Durham and would share the gospel wherever he was. In his last weeks in hospital the patients and staff on the wards heard the good news as Kingsley spoke of God and sang the hymns of Charles Wesley.

"Kingsley cared deeply for his family and friends and those who met him were soon aware of his humility, integrity, his gentle humour and his genuine interest in them and care for them.

"In his home church, North Road Methodist Church in Durham, Kingsley was a friend and a companion on the Christian journey. To his students he was an inspiring and challenging teacher. To all he was a caring pastor. Above all he was a disciple of Jesus Christ. He will be greatly missed."

*Do any readers have memories of Kingsley Barrett which they wish to share with others? I should be glad to publish them in our next edition.*

*JF*

Chris Hills 10 Marathons in 10 months  
Raising money for Leukaemia Research in a tribute to  
Chris Hills

Chris Hills was a charming and very talented young man with everything to live for. He had a loving family, and enjoyed life travelling and studying at Cambridge. Leukaemia first struck at when he was 19. He resumed his studies, but sadly the disease returned and he died aged 23.

Andrew Thompson studied with Chris at Durham Johnson School, and they became good friends on their travels in Japan. Andrew was travelling in Africa when his friend died and it was a terrible shock to come home and hear the news. Chris's family and friends still miss him and are supporting Andrew in raising money for Leukaemia research.

Today Liz Hills, and I turned out on a gloriously sunny day to cheer Andrew on, and provide him with drinks as he raced from Alnmouth to Beadnell and back, over 26 .2 mile of gruelling sand. He wasn't a pretty sight at the end but we enjoyed our day on the beach.

This is the seventh of the ten marathons, with three more to go. We are looking forward to Steve Cram's Kielder marathon – the distance round the edge of the lake is conveniently just over 26 miles of beautiful countryside. The final marathon is at Newcastle with 4 laps around the Town Moor. As a grand finale to his daunting task he is hosting a party at The Avenue in High Shincliffe on 30<sup>th</sup> October. Please come and join in the fun and support Leukaemia Research.

If you would like to support Andrew please go to  
[www.justgiving.com/Andrew-Thompson](http://www.justgiving.com/Andrew-Thompson)

More details about the races and pictures can be found online:  
"Chris Hills 10"

Margaret Thompson

### The Church Garden



During the past few weeks, Pam Cooper and myself have endeavoured to replace, rejuvenate and weed the shrub border behind and beside the church. First we were requested to remove the shrubs behind the seat in preparation for the new ramp. These we replanted and Pam has provided numerous new shrubs and plants in memory of her mother. Her valuable contribution has enlarged the number of foliage plants which we can use for flower arranging. They look good beside Chris's neatly cut grass.

Weeding, clearing and cutting has involved many trips weekly to the tip. Nevertheless, there is much more to do as you will see if you wander round the grounds.

Rosemary Williams  
31.07.2011

**Rev Dr Martyn Atkins**  
**CONTEMPORAY METHODISM**  
**Extracts from his address to Conference**

Please look on the Methodist website,  
[www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk),  
for a fuller version.

"The story of the Methodist Church is your story, and we want to help these stories to be shared. Our confidence in the future is based in our knowledge of God's grace revealed already in amazing accounts of what is happening across Methodism, and we will see more."

A clear direction for the Church  
"to be a  
**discipleship movement**  
**shaped for mission"**

"Methodism started as a movement; a movement that, in obedience to God, wanted to make a difference in the world within communities and the lives of individuals. We still share that same purpose today. So it is important for us to regain something of that sense of movement as we seek, through words and deeds, to share the love of God. We want to be a Church that helps people become 'Disciples of Christ'; disciples who share God's longing for a world healed and made whole."

"Methodism desires to be, and increasingly is, as it was when it started, a movement of people passionate about sharing God's love. The ways the Methodist people do this have changed out of all recognition since John Wesley's day, but we remain, at heart I believe, a **discipleship movement shaped for mission.**"

*(continued overleaf)*

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"The Methodist Church does a lot of things well. We own a great deal of property. We have considerable investments in our pension funds. We run schools. We helped found, and are still proud to be associated with, leading charities such as MHA, Action for Children, Christian Aid and MRDF. We are still part of the lives of over half a million people, and part of a worldwide movement of over 70 million. Knowing how much good God does through us and for us, gives us confidence as we seek a focus for all our work; the sense of a discipleship movement shaped for mission."

"Being shaped is not always comfortable: it means stopping doing some things so that we can do other things better. Change is exciting and challenging, but also uncomfortable and unsettling and we need the gracious community of the Methodist family to explore the opportunities we, as a Church, face."

"A sense of direction of travel makes things a lot clearer, but it also means that the Church can only go in that direction. Following this course means not exploring other paths, even though these might be useful and interesting."

"We will become a more vibrant, confident Methodist people playing a fuller part in God's mission in Britain and with partners around the world."

"Take advantage of various ecumenical opportunities: this year's the *Year of the Bible* and *More than Gold* in 2012."

*(continued on next page)*

**"SIX APPROACHES TO CHANGE**

WORSHIP - rediscovering our 'wonder, love and praise' at the heart of our longing to transform the Church and world

EVANGELISM - putting a disproportionate amount of resources into a less healthy area of our Church's life

FRUITFUL FIELD - consolidation of our resources bringing more coherence to our learning programmes, aiming at excellence to raise leadership capacity within the local church with an emphasis on lay ministry



CHURCH BUILDINGS - regarding our property resources as God's, entrusted to us for God's mission and purposes. Are they fit for purpose today?

GOVERNANCE - creating more flexible, more responsive and more permissive rules, regulations and governance

PARTNERSHIPS - ecumenical, worldwide and the Methodist family"

"The leadership of the Church (including Conference) has a clear sense of where God wants us to go and to be: a **discipleship movement** that longs for 'whole life, lifelong and world transforming' followers of Jesus; a **discipleship movement shaped for mission** that wants to reach out in grateful response to God's grace and share faith through loving word and deed. This is what the Church should be about. When we do all this we will start to see a healthier, more confident, more fruitful Methodist Church, more obedient to God and God's mission."

**Shall we join?**

**METHODISTS COMMIT TO CARBON REDUCTION**

The Methodist Conference has agreed that failure to acknowledge the urgent need for radical cuts in greenhouse gas emissions was “morally irresponsible”.

In 2009 the report *Hope in God's Future* addressed the need to look at climate change within a theological context. The Church has now launched a website on how to reduce the carbon footprint of local churches. Doing this will help to cut the Methodist Church's carbon emissions by 80% by 2050, in line with Government targets.

**The hundred churches challenge - benchmarking scheme**

The Methodist Church invites up to 100 Methodist churches across the country to road test a scheme so churches can measure and assess their carbon footprint in relation to other churches of similar size and usage.

Churches of different sizes, ages, community activities are needed - as well as different levels of involvement in carbon reduction activities. Each church needs to identify someone who is willing to learn how the benchmarking scheme works. It is estimated the scheme will require up to two days, or as little as three hours, of your time spread over three months.

Shall we join?

Is anyone interested enough to register either Bowburn or Elvet and to learn how the scheme works?

## RECIPE FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR



Take twelve whole months.  
Clean them thoroughly of all bitterness, hate and jealousy.  
Make them just as clean and fresh as possible.

Now cut each month into twenty-eight, thirty  
or thirty one different parts,  
but don't make up the whole batch at once.  
Prepare it one day at a time - out of these ingredients.

Mix well into each day one part of faith,  
one part of patience, one part of courage  
and one part of work.  
Add to each day one part of hope,  
faithfulness, generosity and kindness.  
Blend with one part prayer, one part meditation  
and one good deed.  
Season the whole with a dash of good spirits,  
a sprinkle of fun, a pinch of play  
and a cupful of good humour.

Pour all of this into a vessel of love.  
Cook thoroughly over radiant joy,  
garnish with a smile  
and serve with quietness, unselfishness  
and cheerfulness.  
You're bound to have a Happy New Year!

**CONFIRMATIONS**

4th Sept *Isla Jardine*  
*Katy Woodfield*

**WEDDING**



We congratulate the following on the celebration of their marriage at  
Elvet.

23 July *Anthony HINDMOOR and Ashleigh BURNIP*

*Congratulations!*

**FUNERALS**

Our condolences to the family and friends of those whose funerals  
were held:

at Bowburn

8th Aug *Ethel Anderson*

at Elvet

29th June *Ellice Wright*

10th Aug *Alan Wilson*

24th Aug *Jean Whitaker*

**ELVET FOCUS DAY**



Elvet Church is holding a focus day for all members and friends to look at what we are doing and what if anything we need to do to prepare for the future.

In our faith we constantly move and look at fresh ideas as to how we express our faith both inside the church and in the wider community. This day is our chance to explore this and in order to make decisions about Elvet your ideas, thoughts and opinions are valued and needed in order to get it right for the future.

Over the next couple of weeks members and friends of Elvet will receive a letter with more details about this event, so, when you do, please put the date in your diary, return the reply slip and keep the date free in order to make your opinions heard, and to ensure that the decisions we make are the right ones for the church.

**Durham Bible Society Action Group**

**Splash out for the Scriptures**

A very big **Thank You** to everyone from Elvet who sponsored Flora Jardine and her friend Aisha Barker to take part in the Bible Society Sponsored Swim on 22<sup>nd</sup> May. They swam a total of 136 lengths between them, and raised sponsorship of £265 which, together with Gift Aid contributions, should take the final total to over **£315**.

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

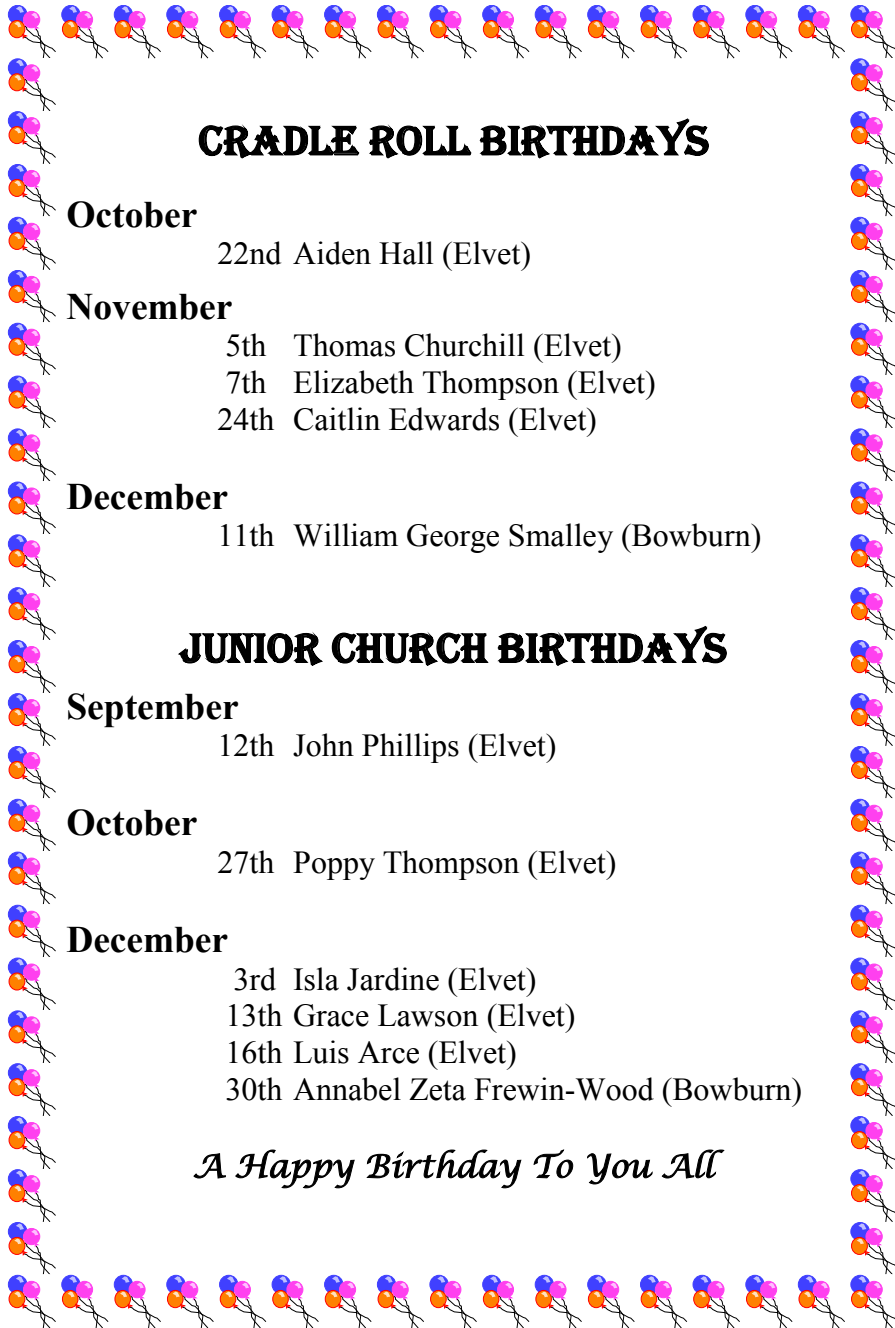
"It is predicted that by 2030 the world will need to produce 50% more food and energy, together with 30% more available fresh water, whilst mitigating and adapting to climate change."

*Professor John Beddington  
U.K. Chief Scientific Adviser*

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**Great Expectations**

A visiting preacher was asked to preach a sermon that would attract husbands, few of whom were inclined to forsake evening TV to attend Sunday night service. Believing a hard-hitting sermon on a motivational theme would bring them in, the preacher decided on the text: "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me." He gave this title to the minister a week in advance for advertising in the local paper. Sunday night came and the church was filled to overflowing with a great crowd of men. After the service, several of them approached the preacher with the air of disappointment. "We did appreciate your sermon," said one of the men, "but you didn't keep to your title." Puzzled the preacher asked to see the advertisement in the local paper & immediately all became clear. Instead of "Ten words to transform your life", the paper's description of his sermon read "Ten words to transform your wife!"



**CRADLE ROLL BIRTHDAYS**

**October**

22nd Aiden Hall (Elvet)

**November**

5th Thomas Churchill (Elvet)  
7th Elizabeth Thompson (Elvet)  
24th Caitlin Edwards (Elvet)

**December**

11th William George Smalley (Bowburn)

**JUNIOR CHURCH BIRTHDAYS**

**September**

12th John Phillips (Elvet)

**October**

27th Poppy Thompson (Elvet)

**December**

3rd Isla Jardine (Elvet)  
13th Grace Lawson (Elvet)  
16th Luis Arce (Elvet)  
30th Annabel Zeta Frewin-Wood (Bowburn)

*A Happy Birthday To You All*

ELVET PROJECT 2011-2012  
NEW HOPE IN CAMBODIA



Poipet is a town on the border between Thailand and Cambodia which has become known as 'the Las Vegas of Cambodia'. There is a 400m stretch of land between the two countries which is, in effect, no-mans land and on which has been built 8 casinos. However, Las Vegas it is not – these hotels/casinos are poorly built, rather tatty and 'down at heel', have badly planned layout and are generally rather sleazy. A private police force operates within this area and this therefore means it is safer than the town of Poipet.

This is generally regarded as a frontier town – an apt description if you think of the 1800's idea of frontiers. The majority of the houses are poorly built, many have no electricity and water often has to be brought into premises via a hosepipe. There are lots of social problems generated by poverty, gambling and drug taking – the general standard of living is extremely low. The streets are not surfaced so when the rains come they become a quagmire of mud. In the last three years, however, a surfaced road has been built linking the border with the tourist area of Siem Reap (town near to the Angkor Wat temples).

Poipet is where Titus, with Global Care's support, runs an orphanage for 20 children aged between 3 and 17 years. The reasons stated above are also the reasons why Titus wants to move the children out of the town into a rural village environment which is considered will be a lot safer for them. Global Care already has a piece of land on which to build a new Children's Home in addition to a paddy field that the group cultivates and which has provided enough rice to support the orphanage throughout the year. Next to this paddy field is a piece of land that Global Care want to buy in order to ensure the development of a self-sufficient farm that will support them all. The plans are to set up a fish farm as well as rear pigs, chickens and quails, grow fruits and vegetables as well as the rice. This is where we would like to help them.

Our fundraising is now underway and over the following months I would like to draw to your attention events such as:

**1 October - Scotts Open House**

Come along to 10 Lyndhurst Drive, Crossgate Moor between 10.30 am and 6 pm

**12 November a Progressive Supper** is being arranged

**19 November the Autumn Fayre**

**9 and 10 December a Variety Show** (instead of a pantomime) will take place

**23 December Festive Brass and Voices** led by Durham Choral Society will be held at Elvet.

**Look out for other activities, which are to be confirmed soon. Any ideas and offers of support would be most welcome.**

**Please contact Anne Scott or any of the Project team.**



## Elvet Communion Collections

Please give generously. *If possible, information on charities will be on the church hall notice board.*

Elvet has contributed £106.20p to **Youth for Christ** from our communion collections in June and £183.85p to **St Cuthbert's Hospice** from our communion collections in July and August.

Upcoming communion donations will be given to the following charities:

### **October 2011 - Kwagala**

Keith Johnson and Chris Harder visited Uganda in May, 2011 - and much progress was made. Plans were finalised with the architect and a project manager was appointed. The transfer of land was expedited and, as a result, the building work started in the last week of June.

During the visit, Chris and Keith lived at the home and occupied the children with games. The children particularly liked flying paper planes, making paper hats and blowing and chasing bubbles. A day was spent visiting the swimming pool and another day at the wildlife park. The children were happy and generally looked well. The delivery of clothes which we took out (approx. 50 kilos of supplies) became a fashion parade. A welcome party to celebrate the arrival of Destiny and Vanessa was popular and the family is now at the maximum of eight children.

After our visit, it was necessary to move again, as the landlord wanted a rent increase, so they are currently occupying the house of Ester's mother-in-law, pending more suitable arrangements.

The trust would like to thank Elvet for the continuing interest and support; pictures of the visit are in Elvet's church hall.

### **November 2011 - The British Legion**

The Royal British Legion is a UK charity that provides financial, social and emotional support to millions who have served and are currently serving in the Armed Forces, and to their dependents. They are one of the UK's largest membership organisations and recognised as custodians of Remembrance. They also run the annual Poppy Appeal. They help serving and ex-Service personnel and their families - not just those who fought in the two World Wars, but also those involved in the many conflicts since 1945 and those still fighting today. They provide welfare services and campaign on a range of issues affecting Service people.

**Elvet Communion collections in December/January** will be given to **South Tyneside Churches KEY Project**. KEY Project Chief Officer and Elvet member, **Jean Burnside**, explains the project.

**KEY** was established in 1992 as a direct response to the death of a homeless young man on the streets of South Shields. *Churches Together in South Tyneside* were appalled that such a thing could happen in their town and decided to seek to respond to the needs of young homeless people.

#### **EMERGENCY SUPPORT PACKS**

Initially they collected food and cleaning materials to give out to young people in need. Today, a group of volunteers put together Emergency Support Packs to assist young people starting out on their first tenancy, between benefit claims or, simply, in need. Donations are received from local churches and schools and referrals are made from agencies across South Tyneside. Last year, more than 150 support packs were given out.

#### **PREVENTION OF HOMELESSNESS**

In order to prevent young people from becoming homeless in the first place, **KEY** provides a mediation service for young people and their families with a view to the young people remaining at home or returning there. However, if necessary, **KEY** also assists some young people to find and keep a home, working closely with housing providers, colleges and youth services. Advice and guidance are offered to the young homeless and to those at risk of homelessness. The *Peer Education Programme* sends former homeless young people into schools to tell their story.

#### **FLAVIA HOUSE**

Flavia House provides accommodation for 4 young people together with training to enable the young people to "move on" to a tenancy of their own. **KEY** provides training in the practicalities of running a home - cooking on a budget, cleaning, budgeting, relationships, gardening, painting and decorating etc. The stable environment which Flavia provides enables staff

to work with clients individually and to develop a support plan which focuses on the clients' own aspirations and staff help clients to access opportunities. An important element of living at Flavia House is the positive relationships with the neighbours and the residents make a positive contribution to the neighbourhood: for example, the young people cleared snow from neighbours' drives - a huge help to elderly residents. **KEY** hopes that the young people will take these neighbourly attitudes on to their next home.

Because there is a desperate shortage of housing for young people in South Tyneside, **KEY** approached the Diocese of Durham seeking accommodation in vicarages which were surplus to requirements. Flavia House has been adapted for single young people to live in - and now a second vicarage is ready to be converted into a 10-bed unit for homeless young people.

#### **TENANCY SUPPORT**

**KEY** also has 2 full-time Tenant Support Officers who help young tenants to access their correct benefits, sort out their utilities bills and enroll on suitable college courses - in short, **KEY** helps them to manage their money - even getting involved with anti-social behaviour issues, if necessary.

#### **CHIEF OFFICER OF KEY**

Elvet member, Jean Burnside, is Chief Officer of **KEY** and an experienced social worker. She works with voluntary organisations to ensure that **KEY** does its best for the young homeless of South Tyneside.

#### **EFFICIENCY SAVINGS**

With all the recent cuts to funding, local authorities and voluntary organisations alike are struggling for funding. All have to "deliver more for less" and **KEY** has had to make **four** staff members redundant in recent months. Despite this, **KEY** is keen to develop the second, 10-bed, property - as this is the right way forward for the organization.

**THE WEEK IN BOWBURN**

Sundays	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b> and Sunday Club
Tuesdays	5.30 pm	* Kids' Club
	5.30 pm	"Messy Church" (1st in month)
Wednesdays	2.00 pm	Women's Fellowship (1st and 2nd in month only)
	<b>2 - 3 pm</b>	Prayer & Fellowship Meeting <b>last Weds of month.</b>
Thursdays	9.00 am	* "Drop-in" <i>* term-time only</i>

**THE WEEK AT ELVET**

Sun	8.30 a.m.	Second Sunday, Holy Communion
	<b>10.45 a.m.</b>	<b>Morning Service &amp; Junior Church, including Crèche</b>
	<b>6.00 p.m.</b>	<b>Evening Worship</b>
	7.30 p.m.	MethSoc (term-time)
Mon	2.00 p.m.	Prayer Meeting (2nd & 4th Mon)
	6.00 p.m.	Cubs (Open Group) [Boys and Girls 8-10½]
	7.30 p.m.	Guides (Open Group) [Girls 10-16] <b>meets at St Giles'</b>
	7.30 p.m.	Explorers (Open Group) [Mixed 14½-18]
	7.45 p.m.	House Group at Newton Hall (alternate weeks)
Tue	10.15 a.m.	Halliday Grove House Group (alternate weeks)
	5.30 p.m.	Beavers (Open Group) [Boys and Girls 6-8]
	7.10 p.m.	Scouts (Open Group) [Boys and Girls 10½-14½]
Wed	2.00 p.m.	Women's Fellowship (1st & 3rd wks)
Thurs	10.00 a.m.	Arts & Crafts Workshop
	7.45 p.m.	Thursday Club for All (alternate weeks)
	7.45 p.m.	House Group at Shincliffe (alternate weeks)

**ELVET and BOWBURN METHODIST CHURCHES**

**Minister:**

Rev Shaun Swithenbank B.Sc.

.Tel: 384 8755

and

**University Chaplain**

Rev. Julie Lunn, BA, MA

Tel: 384 7950



**DON'T FORGET**

Copy for the **January - March** Newsletter  
should reach Jackie Fielding by

**5th December,**

via the pocket in the rear entrance hall at **Elvet,**

by phone on Durham 384 7305

or by e-mail at [fielding@durhamcity.org.uk](mailto:fielding@durhamcity.org.uk)

Alternatively, those at **Shincliffe** and **Bowburn** can contact

Liz Atkinson on Durham 377 0687.