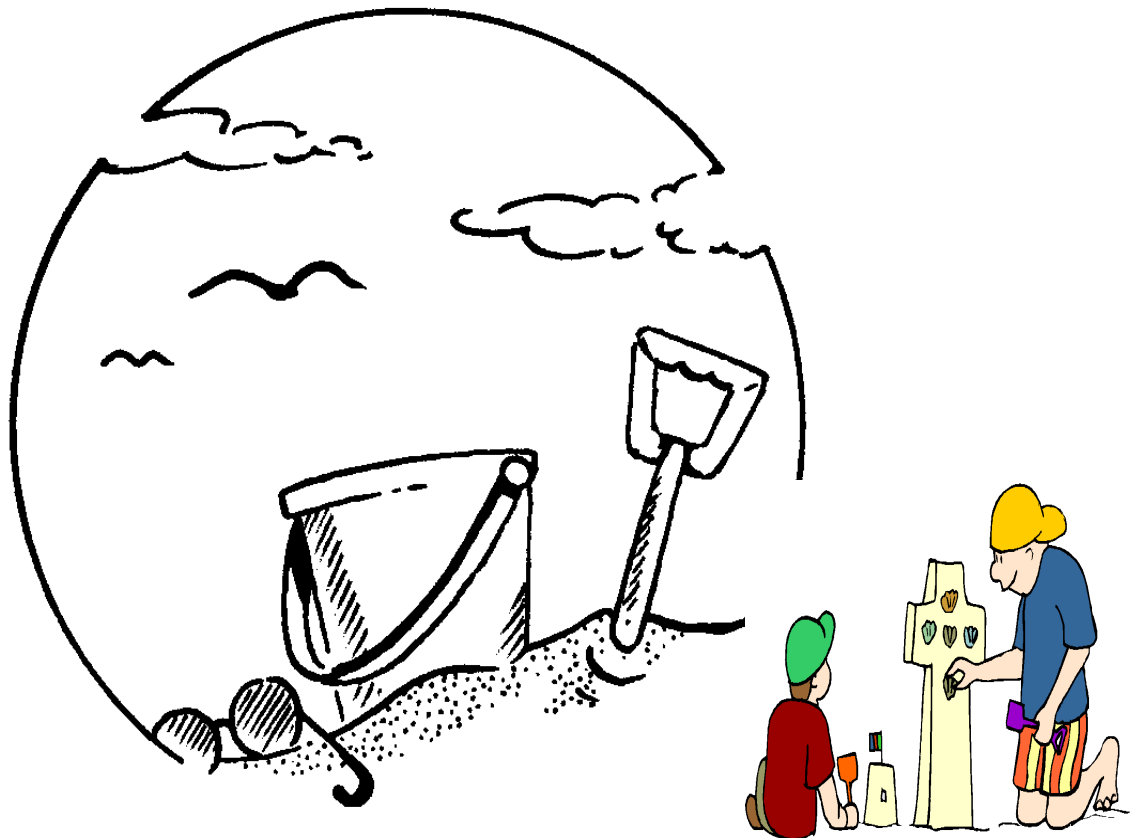


ACOMB METHODIST CHURCH

Gather - Grow - Glorify

*Serving Christ
in Acomb*



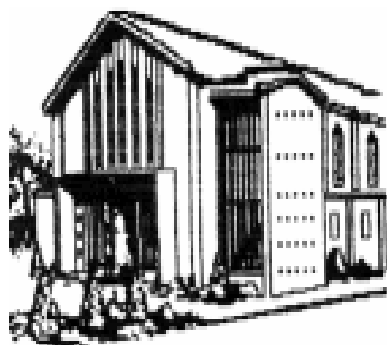
Newsletter
July/August 2010

Useful Contacts

Minister: Revd Rachel Wood
Tel: 784545
Email: Rachelyorksouth@aol.com
Please respect Rachel's day off - Monday

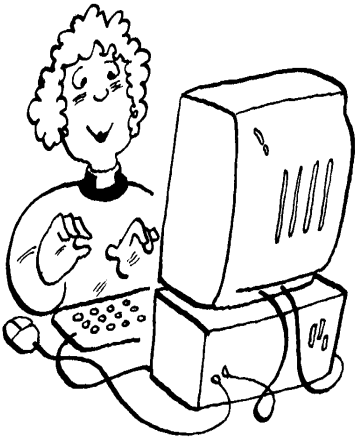
Church Office: Acomb Methodist Church
Front Street, Acomb, York, YO24 3BX
Tel: 790510
Email: amcyork@btopenworld.com
Open: Tuesday & Thursday 9am-12noon
Saturday 9-10am

Church Website: <http://www.acombmethodistchurch.org.uk/>



Items for the next Newsletter Sept/Oct 2010
by Thursday 19th August
Please pop them into the Church Office or email.
Thank you.

FROM THE MANSE



As I write this, I have been listening to the Methodist Conference live stream on the internet. Conference meets every year to consult with districts, to make decision about the work and workings of the Methodist Church, and once it is over a report will be made by those from our district who go and be will circulated and made available for anyone.

The weekend is a key time in the life of conference – and one I remember very well from last year – for firstly it is the time that ministers are ordained including Neville Simpson from our own circuit, and Jo Lightowler who lived in this circuit until her appointment in Lincoln. I'm sure we would want to wish them, and all those ordained our congratulations and offer our prayerful support as they continue in ministry.

The other part of the weekend, includes speeches by the newly inducted President and vice president of conference – this year being Revd Alison Tomlin and Deacon Eunice Attwood respectively. In their speeches, they set out their intention for the year, and what particular issue they wish to deal with. Although I have yet to listen to the whole speech, by the two of them, I wanted to share with you some of what they were saying. The following has taken from the Methodist Conference website:

The new President of the Methodist Church, Revd Alison Tomlin, emphasised that listening requires action in her inaugural address to the Methodist Conference. Alison paused half way through her to demonstrate how people listen to God. She showed a series of images played to an eclectic mix of music in order to illustrate that paying attention to God can happen in as many different ways as there are people. "If we pay attention to God we won't stay inside the Church," she said. "If we pay attention to God we will have to do the things God challenges us to do. And that will take us out to be among people who need to know that God loves them; the people who have no voice; the people who have doors shut in their faces. It will take us to that place where we become passionate for justice, passionate to be peace makers, passionate to make sure other people hear how much they are loved." She explained that every time people look at each other they look into the face of God because God loves everyone. "I pray that we will indeed become a Church paying attention to God in such a way that the passion of God for people, for God's creation, for our world enlivens us, enthalls us and energises us to be all that God created us to be before the world was made," she said. "I pray that in paying attention to God and each other we may be all that God desires."

In her inaugural address as Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, Deacon Eunice Attwood called on the Church to recognise the transforming power of God's love; she said, "Tonight I want to remind you all here of a very simple message, aware that there is nothing new about this wisdom; the message is old and it is ancient; it has been there from the very beginning. God loves you, he thinks you're absolutely amazing. The awesome God who created and sustains this universe thinks you're fantastic. God loves you." But Eunice was clear that this love is as much as challenge as it is a gift. She added, "If the Church is to be a sign of God's kingdom, it must participate in the world that God loves. For the Church does not have the monopoly on God. God is already at work in people's lives, in the world he created and sustains. In being sent into the world we get to join in with what God is doing. In the doing and engaging we meet God." Eunice spoke of her own experience of poverty, and of her current work with vulnerable women in the sex industry. She encouraged the Church's to take seriously its calling to serve communities in the spirit of God's love, saying, "I want to be part of a church that throws parties for prostitutes - a church that welcomes those who seek asylum, a church that longs and yearns for justice, a church that listens to those no-one else wants to listen to."

I think these snippets of the speeches they made offer us all challenges – to pay more attention to God, to spend more time listening to him. But also to look beyond the four walls that we call our church and reach out to those in our community in need; to bring Christ's love to those who are not welcomed or who are abused in the world. It can be a quite scary thought but we are not

on our own as we do this. We need to listen to God, and pay attention to what he calls us to do in this part of the world. Then we can truly be the type of church described by Eunice in the words below:

A church where the story of God's love is at the centre.... a church that offers outrageous grace, reckless generosity, transforming love and engaging faith. This is God's story Transforming Love: Engaging Faith. My prayer is that by the power of the Spirit of God at work amongst us, it will increasingly be our story.

I echo her words in offering a prayer that we, together, may in the power of the Holy Spirit, our story will be one of love for all people. I hope that it is yours too.

If you want to read or hear more of their speeches, please log onto the Methodist Conference website. Alternatively let me know and I will get you a copy.

On Another Note...

Each year, the Methodist Church asks all their ordained ministers, to go through a process of 'accompanied self appraisal', setting aims to work on in the forthcoming year. The purpose of this self-appraisal is to help ministers and deacons in the context of their work and vocation:-

- 🚩 To affirm their gifts, achievements and personality;
- 🚩 To step back and take stock
- 🚩 To reflect on their personal hopes and needs; and
- 🚩 To check out their effectiveness in the church and community in which they work

This is the first year that I do this, and I will be using the process to consider the priorities I should have for myself and for the Church, looking especially at the most effective use of my time. It's important for all Christians to have a healthy balance between God, family and church time and even more so for ministers - as we deal with expectations that we place on ourselves as well as that which Churches, Circuits and Districts place on us.

Specific things I aim to look at are:

- How much time I devote to the community
- Use of time spent within Acomb and Lidgett Grove and the circuit.
- Time management
- Setting realistic priorities
- Time spent with God
- Studying, reading etc
- And private life - spending time with family, friends and doing housework and the garden!

I aim to do this through conversations with others, especially my mentor & spiritual director, through specific and specialised reading, taking 'time out' to consider priorities and recharge the batteries and of course through prayer and time spent with God. ! If you have any questions or comments please don't hesitate to get in touch! Rachel

Diary dates for AMC

- Tuesday 20th July – 7.30pm Module A safeguarding awareness session at Copmanthorpe (please book a place with Rachel)
- Thursday 22nd July – 7.30pm - Family and Outreach Committee
- Saturday 24th July – Messy Church (4pm – 6pm)
- Sunday 25th July – Southlands 6.30pm – leaving service for Revd Keith Himsworth
- Tuesday 27th July – 7.30pm – Leadership team meeting
- Wednesday 28th July – 10am - Wednesday Concern Communion Service – all welcome.
- Saturday 31st July – coffee morning / promises auction / gift day 10am–12noon. Fundraising for Car Park resurfacing.
- Saturday 14th August – Acomb Green Festival
- Saturday 21st August – Organ recital and Strawberry tea.
- 2nd October – Acomb Away Day

Dates of weddings already booked at Acomb Methodist Church for the rest of this year:

- 14th August
- 18th September
- 25th September (2 services - wedding blessing and a wedding)
- 8th October
- 29th October
- 30th October
- 27th November

Dates of baptisms already booked this year – although still more being arranged – please come and support those families who want to make a connection with our church.
(some dates will include 2 or more baptisms)

- 25th July (3pm)
- 8th August (3pm)
- 15th August (10.30am)
- 5th September (10.30am)
- 12th September (3pm)
- 10th October (3pm)
- 28th November (3pm)

Church Family News:



To Geoff Ferry who celebrated his 90th Birthday on 7th June!



BAPTISMS:

In May/June we welcomed into the Church family: Charles Thomas Frederick Bentley, Jack Richard Sanderson and Archie Mason-Blee.



WEDDINGS:

12th June - Lindsay Robinson & Andrew Crow
18th June - Michala Schofield & Lee Grist

FUNERALS: Commended into God's eternal loving care: Our dear friend Maisie Clarke - God opened a window to Heaven.

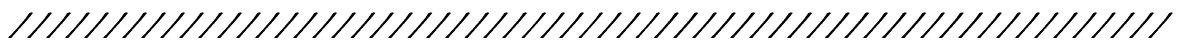
Photos From a Recent Pastoral Visitors' Social!



Afternoon Tea
in the garden at
Rosemary & Jim's

Looks a Sunny Day!

A lovely time
was had by all.



Volunteers don't get paid ~
Not because they are worthless,
but because they are Priceless!

Keeping In Touch.....

Alistair Timmis

Dear all at Acomb Methodist,

For me, it is strange to think that last time I wrote here it was in the weeks preceding exams and that they have now come and gone, but very successfully. I have now picked some very interesting modules for year two, including Operations Management, Business Law and Macroeconomics & International Finance for Business. Year two, on our course, is a good opportunity to start steering things towards your personal interests, and I look forward to recommencing. From October, I will be living in a house with two friends, which I am looking forward to, as one year of the 'halls experience' was quite enough for me.

Obviously the exams were a busy time, and having moved back to York four weeks ago, I found myself suddenly doing much less. However, I have filled the time with a lot of relaxation, which I think I needed! I have also set some worthwhile goals for the summer. I am at this moment seeking employment, and three weeks ago attended a summer school in Durham based on 'Entrepreneurship and Venture Creation', to which I commuted.



On other matters, I have also been doing a great deal of organ 'stuff'. As many of you will have observed, I have been doing an enormous amount of practice, irrespective of whether or not I am rostered for services, and I fully intend to keep on doing so. This is largely owing to my desire to learn more organ repertoire, and to work on my improvised organ 'symphony' based on the events in the book of Revelations in the Bible. This will make its debut at the Monday Circle 'An Evening with the Organ' event in September.

Looking ahead, Beth is now deciding on her options for her post-16 education, and has been looking in to options at York College. In addition, Mum has had her gall bladder stones operation. As I write this she has literally only just got home, and things are going the right way. We express our immense thanks to those of you who have prayed for her throughout this, and I am pleased to say that we should now be on the 'home straight'.

Some of you may be interested in the organ and even having a go on it, so do please take advantage of the full demonstration being offered by myself as part of the 'Auction of Promises' in aid of the church car park. I will also be playing the organ in church on Saturday August 21st in aid of this same cause. Alongside other bookings, I look forward to playing for services at both Central and Acomb Methodist Churches over the coming weeks and months, and hope to catch up more with many of you then.

Every Blessing,
Alistair Timmis
Organist

Delia and Jim Mckean

Dear All

I asked Jim to write an article for the newsletter and this is what I got!!

He fails to mention that when Sean asked how old I was Jim replied 103, and it then got commented on throughout the service.

We have nice neighbours downstairs and to the side of us, partial to trout so we try to keep them happily supplied.

Whilst Jim is out working and earning the pennies I have busied myself with getting new windows put in and sourcing a Kitchen fitting company. All the work was completed last year and I managed to get most of the painting done before the Russians came in March.

I volunteer at Cfine and OAK and sing with the Acclamations, next concert at the end of the month with Lisa Milne.

Apart from that the usual domestic chores keep me busy. It is true that Aberdeen is the Silver city with

the Golden Sands; you do see people (men) wearing kilts even if they are not going to a wedding. We also know of some students who went swimming in the sea just last weekend!

Personally I go to the local pool and try to keep up with at least 50 lengths a week. I recently did the Swimathon and achieved my goal of 100 lengths in 2 days. I'm also doing the yoga; showing Jim all the strange positions keeps him amused; and have recently started with Frisky and Sveti aka Frisky and Sweaty - a local exercise class, v energetic.

For our 5th anniversary we went to Mull and Iona and had a gorgeous holiday of sunshine and fellowship with the islanders. A beautiful place, don't miss out on Mull if you go to Iona, the scenery and sea eagles are spectacular!

We still think of you all and it would be lovely to see any visitors who chance this way!

Take care and God Bless.

Delia

--- On **Mon, 17/5/10, jim mckean** wrote:

Do you realise that it's 15 months since we moved to Aberdeen? Of course you don't, but that's the facts, so you might be curious to know if we have adopted Scottish accents, wander around in kilts, or if the weather's really too hot for such heavy clothing and we wander around in bikinis. Jim doesn't, but only because he's far too modest, and would cause alarm and consternation amongst the natives.

Delia did her degree up here, Jim came here more or less as a stranger. This was something of a disadvantage, because as a driving instructor, he was supposed to be able to find the places his students lived, and more importantly, find safe places for them to learn to drive. So he became very familiar with the Beach Boulevard (complete with waving palm trees, impromptu barbecues, and gentle breezes off the sea; and this was February, mind you!) It was pretty much a case of learn quickly or lose a lot of income, and there's something osmotic about Aberdonians' attitude to earning money! Thus the months passed.

Many of you will know that they speak the Doric in this part of the world, and it was a little odd that Delia understood it better than Jim when we arrived here, but, as noted above, she did her degree here, so had learned the language. Jim had to pick it up too, but then he had to learn a bit of Polish, Punjabi, Urdu, Bambaran and French. Aberdeen is an oil city, and attracts people from all over the world; 60%-70% of learner drivers are from overseas. Life can be interesting in these circumstances, the one word I know in all the above languages is "Stop!" At least here the roads are considerably wider than in York (not difficult, it has to be said) so there's a chance of steering out of danger.

During the last 15 months, we have had the occasional visitor, though so far none from York, so maybe it would be wise to dispel some myths. We do have both an airport and a railway station here. What's more, they aren't always snowbound; why, we can go weeks at a time without a single blizzard. One visitor last year wondered out loud why so many of the houses were built from breeze blocks. We thought it a bit odd too, what with all the granite there is around.

The thing about Aberdeen that surprises people is how close it is to the Cairngorms and Grampians; we have our own local mountains, and some of them are quite climbable. To Jim's unbounded delight, there are two salmon rivers, and Delia has allowed him to buy appropriate gear to tackle them. So far it hasn't happened, but it will....

So far there has been little mention of what the actual people are like here, so it might interest you to hear that one of our congregation, an American doing a Phd in Divinity, joined a couple of Aberdonians in a cafe, there being a shortage of seats. They chatted of this and that for a while, till the old Aberdonian looked at his watch and said, "Well, I've been talking to you now for ten minutes, that'll be £5. Oh, and while you were in the toilet, I had a wee lick at the carrot cake you've bought, so I know it's not the genuine article; we'll call it another fiver for that, shall we?" This is fairly typical humour. Aberdonians have a reputation for meanness, and they try desperately hard to equal Yorkies; I'd say it was a tie. (But if you know different...)

The Methodist Church here (there's only one!) is Crown Terrace. The circuit is enormous, however, and covers Fraserburgh, Peterhead, Banff and almost everywhere in between; look at it on a map before you volunteer to become a local preacher here! Because there's only one Methodist Church in Aberdeen, the congregation comes from quite a distance, some travelling as much as 30 miles to attend services.

You will all doubtless remember Sean Turner, who was one of the circuit ministers here when we arrived. He was a little surprised to see us here, and actually preached at Crown Terrace on Delia's birthday this year. Most of you will know that his mother died a couple of days before he returned to his native land, and though her death wasn't unexpected, we can only guess at his pain at not being there before she died.

Is it a lively church, we hear you ask. Not yet, but we're working on it. All the right ingredients are there, and we feel that God is doing the stirring and adding more ingredients as time goes on. Because Aberdeen is an oil city, a lot of the population is fairly transient. People come and go because of work and there's the ever-changing student population. New life is splashed in from time to time in the way of children; we don't quite have football team size families, but we value the children, and are working to make church more welcoming for everyone.

Just one more thing; our flat has 3 bedrooms, each of them capable of sleeping two medium-size people, hint hint.....

Coming Events:

Meeting Place

Lidgett Grove Methodist Church, Wheatlands Grove
Thursday 22nd July 2010 10.30am – 3.30pm
ALL are welcome at anytime during the day!

Drop in
for carers and those on their own
from 10.30

Simple lunches from 12

Games

Craft group from 1.30

Meet with volunteer and charity
care groups

**For more
information
Call Rachel
on 784545**

Although designed for Carers – all are
welcome to come along!

Those you care for also welcome too if you wish!

York South Circuit is running
Module A
Safeguarding Awareness Sessions

For Ministers, Deacons, Circuit Administrators, Church Council secretaries, Children's Workers, choir leader or Musicians working with children, Drama Group Leader working with Children, Church and Circuit Steward, Property Stewards, Local Preachers, Worship Leaders, Sponsored uniformed organisations and Safeguarding representatives.

Tuesday 20th July 7.30pm
at Copmanthorpe Methodist Church
Or
Wednesday 28th July 2pm
at St Georges Methodist Church

*Numbers are limited so please do book your place with Rachel Wood
rachelyorksouth@aol.com or on 01904 784545*

Dates from September coming soon

(Please note there are extra roles on the list of people / groups who need to do it!)



Food
Friends
Fun
Faith
Free

For all the family - Under 18's must be accompanied by an adult

FOOD

CRAFTS

PUPPETS

**15 MINUTES FAMILY WORSHIP
& MUCH MORE!**

Acomb Methodist Church

Saturday 24th July 2010 4 – 6pm.

Theme: The Seaside - Wear your shorts & T-Shirts if you dare!

For more information please contact Rachel on (01904) 784545 or rachelyorksouth@aol.com
or the Church office on (01904) 790510 or amcyork@btopenworld.com

Coffee Morning



Silent Auction and Gift Day

Saturday 31st July

10am - 12noon

Here at AMC

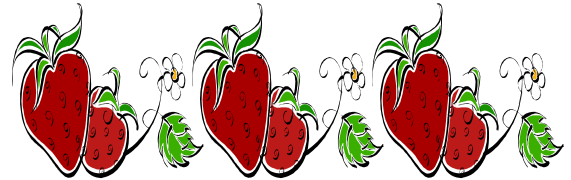
Be sure to come along!

*Proceeds towards
resurfacing
the Car Park*

Saturday 21st August

Here at 2pm

Organ Recital & Strawberry Tea



*Acomb Methodist Church Away Day
at The Quiet Garden, Westfield Farm, Sherriff Hutton
on Saturday, 2nd October 2010.*

*Graham Carter (ex President of Conference) will be speaking
and lifts will be arranged for those requiring one.*

Further details to follow.

WORSHIP LEADERS' COURSE

Do you want to know more about leading worship?

Interested in leading worship yourself?

Then come long to the
Worship Leaders' Course:

Where? - Acomb Methodist Church

When? - One evening a week for 7
weeks, starting October 6th

Time? - 7.00pm-9.00pm

Leader? - Adelaide Morley



For more information please
contact: Adelaide Morley

Phone: 01904 423506

Email:

oldrectoryyork@hotmail.co.uk

Please remember to speak to
your minister before applying to
go on the course.

Carecent

Central Methodist Church
St Saviourgate
York

Carecent, the ecumenical centre serving breakfast to the homeless and disadvantaged members of our community totally relies on donations of food , toiletries, clothing and money, We have run out of and are currently needing to buy sugar, squash, biscuits and tinned meat i.e. ham, spam, hot dogs and marmite! (Cereals, tea, coffee and jams are not needed just now) But we do also need younger men's clothing and Blankets.

Donations can be taken to the centre at Central Methodist Church, St. Saviourgate between 8.30am and 10.45am Monday to Saturday; or larger amounts can be collected by phoning the centre, 624244 and leaving a contact number.

PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING BY ADDING AN ITEM TO YOUR WEEKLY SHOPPING LIST

THERE IS A BOX IN THE VESTIBULE HERE AT AMC

WHERE ITEMS CAN BE LEFT EACH SUNDAY MORNING – Thank you.

(Ask a Door Steward to point it out!)

Carecent also urgently need volunteers for Saturday's either weekly, fortnightly or as relief. Please contact the centre for further information.

=====

A Timely Chuckle..!

There is the story of a pastor who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: 'I have good news and bad news.

The good news is,

we have enough money to pay for our new renovation program.

The bad news is,

it's still out there in your pockets!

**JUDITH'S QUIZ No.3
(Mar/April Newsletter)
ANSWERS!**

1. Stonegate
2. 1984
3. Minerva
4. Part of Archbishop's Palace
5. The Guildhall
6. Nepal
7. Asia
8. Wellington
9. Amazon and Nile
10. Indian Ocean
11. Gilbert and Sullivan
12. Barnum and Bailey
13. Eric Morecambe & Ernie Wise
14. CS Rolls & Sir Henry Royce
15. Romeo and Juliet
16. Electro-plated nickel silver
17. Personal Identification Number
18. Primary Care Trust
19. Anti-Social Behaviour Order
20. Digital Versatile Disk

JUDITH'S QUIZ No.4 - Enjoy!

1. How many legs does a butterfly have?
2. What is the Aurora Borealis commonly known as?
3. Who was the author of 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland'?
4. Who wrote the Famous Five and Secret Seven series of books?
5. Which country covers the largest area of land?
6. Which is the largest coffee growing country in the world?
7. Which is the largest island in the Mediterranean?
8. Which Sea does the River Jordan flow into?
9. Which artist painted 'Iris'?
10. What did Lewis Waterman invent in 1884?

11. Which spice comes from the outer skin of the nutmeg?
12. Tiger Lily is the name of a character in which books ?
13. The Artichoke is related to which prickly plant?
14. 'Oriental', 'Field' and 'Welsh' are all varieties of which flower?
15. What is the proper name for an Archbishop's hat?
16. Which is the world's tallest mammal?
17. On which Bar in York were traitors' heads displayed?
18. Which City Centre former Church has a large clockface on it's wall?
19. Which Cinema was in Castlegate?
20. Where in York is 'Jacob's Well'?

Answers:

In the next Newsletter!



Operation Christmas Child is 20 years old this year!

It's never too early to start collecting shoeboxes – please remember to save them when buying new shoes!

It's never too early to put aside £2.50 to include in the box!

It's never too early to start looking out for soap, flannels, toothbrushes and toothpaste on special offer!

It's never too early to knit hats, scarves, gloves and glove puppets!

It's never too early to start thinking about the children!

