

June & July
2025

Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church
MAGAZINE



Our Mission

Living With Christ

Living For Christ

Living to Make Christ Known

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Website: www.chmc.org.uk
Circuit website: bramhallwythenshawemethodists.org.uk

Church Office: Closed Monday
Tuesday 12:30- 3:30pm
Wednesday to Friday 9.00am – 3.30pm

Minister:

Reverend Alistair Jones (Day off Friday)
0161 718 5815 07782 376945 alistairjones@live.co.uk

Children & Families

Susie Metcalfe

Community & Pastoral Worker

Jackie Sims

Fresh Expressions Missioner

Linda Rayner

Church Treasurer

Maurice Turnpenney

Leadership Team

Dave James, Barbara Clark, Charles Nevin, Gill Smith

Articles for the **August/September** issue of the magazine need to be submitted to the magazine editor Gill Smith via email to codnersmith@yahoo.co.uk

by **Friday 18th July**

If you include your personal contact details in your article it will be assumed that you are giving consent for these to be included in the paper copy of the magazine which will be in the public domain.

There are times when I rejoice in being an academic by nature and education, and there are times when I despair.

I was talking with a friend about a book that I am reading and she has read concerning parts of the Hebrew Scriptures, and I had to say that “While I can reconstruct what must be the meaning of some of these words by chasing down the etymology of each part, I can’t say I understand why they are being used!”

There are times when some authors seem more intent on proving their superior intellect than on communicating their findings.

Twenty three years ago a lecturer was scrawling over the whiteboard in Latin. I certainly didn’t understand what he was writing and I knew others wouldn’t either, so I asked him to translate since not all of us were fluent in Latin. He looked around the room, filled as it was with ordained clergy, and in astonishment replied “*Really?*”

When we cease to communicate in the language people understand we might as well be shouting into the wind. Pentecost is the exact opposite.

A sound like a rushing wind brings words for everyone to understand, words that everyone needs to understand, words that changed the world then and still do today. Words without pretension, words from the Holy Spirit of God, speaking directly to the hearts and minds of the listeners.

The message of the love of God is astounding and transformative. Let’s not cloak it in language that makes us feel better about ourselves. To quote the great poet Steve Turner:

There are people after Jesus.

They have seen the signs.

Quick, let's hide Him.

Let’s not.

Let’s talk about him, intelligibly, intelligently and emotionally.

Let the Spirit lead the way.

Alistair

Join us for Worship



Services will be held in the Sanctuary and will be simultaneously livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

Services in June

Sunday 1st June Bible Month 1

10.30am Morning worship led by Mrs Pat James

Sunday 8th June Pentecost MHA Sunday

10.30am Morning worship with Holy Communion
led by Rev Alistair Jones



Sunday 15th June Trinity Sunday Bible Month 2

10.30am Morning worship led by Rev Dave Warnock

Sunday 22nd June Bible Month 3

10.30am Morning worship led by Rev Sarah Parkin

Sunday 29th June Bible Month 4

10.30am Morning worship led by Rev Alistair Jones

6.30pm Churches Together Service

Evening worship led by Rev Alistair Jones

Services in July

Sunday 6th July

10.30am Morning Worship (Songs of Praise) led by Mrs. Pat James

Sunday 13th July Action for Children Sunday

10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion
led by Rev Alistair Jones



Sunday 20th July

10:30am Morning Worship led by Malcolm Gunn
4.30pm Circuit Farewell Service for Rev Dave Warnock
at Lawton Moor Methodist Church

Sunday 27th July

10:30am Morning Worship Local Arrangement
6.30pm Circuit Service at Bramhall Methodist Church

Home Groups

Home Groups normally meet on the first and third week of the month.



Monday 10:30am in Room 2

Contact: Margaret Parker

Monday 8pm

Contact: Gez Butterworth

Friday 2pm in the Coffee Lounge

Contact: Val Pickwell



Bible Month 2025

Copies of the
Bible Study Guide
to accompany this series, are
available every Sunday or from the
Office or follow us on facebook for
suggested daily readings in June/July

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Methodist Church.
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permission.

During the month of
June 2025
at Cheadle Hulme
Methodist Church
we will be exploring the
Gospel of John
in Sunday services.
Please join us as we study a
Gospel written to inspire
faith in Jesus as the Messiah
and the Son of God.

Regular Events at Church

MONDAY

Memory Lane 2:00 – 4:00pm

Meets the second and fourth Monday of the month for those with dementia and their carers
Contact: Jackie Sims

Take Time Together 8:00pm

Meets the **second** and **fourth** Monday of the month via Zoom-
contact church office for the link

TUESDAY

CAMEO 10:30am – 2:15pm Contact: Val Pickwell

Chelwood Foodbank Collection 11:00 am – 12 noon

In the Church car park. Contact: Linda Rayner

Reflective Worship 7:00 - 7:30pm in Room 2

Contact: Pat James

MATCH (Men AT Cheadle Hulme) 7:30 – 9:00pm

A meeting for men every 4th Tuesday evening on Zoom.

Contact: Ian Porter

WEDNESDAY

Toddler Breakfast Monthly 9:45am 18th June, 16th July

Toddlers 10:30 – 11:45am in term time

Contact: Jackie Sims

THURSDAY

Baby Chat 9:30 – 10:45am & 11:00 – 12:15 in term time

Contact: Jackie Sims

Network Cuppa & Chat each week 2pm

19th June - Meal at John Millington

31st July - Strawberry Tea

Contact: Margaret Pattie

FRIDAY

Wobblers 10:30 – 11:45am term time only

Contact: Jackie Sims

Church Family

Thank you

I am most grateful for all the acts of kindness I have received after my recent hip surgery, including messages, enquiries, cards, flowers, visits, and car journeys.

It has made this time of convalescence so much better than it could have been!

Thank you!

Margaret Parker

Thank you!

It was so lovely to see Hazel, our wonderful Pastoral Visitor, just before Easter, she popped into deliver these lovely Daffodils, they bloomed just in time!



With not actually getting to church very often, we often sit watching the livestream doing a “who’s who” from the back. And it’s so lovely to have the Zoom Coffee & Chat after the service!!

But Ian is always very grateful to actually see our church friends, Home Group (at our house) and MatCH (via Zoom) are just perfect for him. Thank you all.

Ian & Jean Porter

In our prayers

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are going through challenging times and those coping with tests, treatments, illnesses or bereavement.

Sheila Schofield

We were saddened to hear of the death of one of our former church members, Sheila Schofield who passed away on Friday 9th May.



Sheila was born at Foxholes, Chapel-en-le-Frith and lived there until she was nine when she moved to Meadway Road, Cheadle Hulme. She married Gordon in April 1952, firstly starting married life on Fairfield Ave before moving with their daughter Alison to Woodfield Road where they lived for over 65 years. Both Sheila and Gordon were long standing members of our church.

Sheila is remembered by all her friends as always being smartly dressed and being caring. If she could help in any way, then she certainly did. She visited church members, especially those in Care Homes, often taking flowers. For many years she helped with many activities within the church, as a Sunday School teacher, Communion Steward and supporting her husband when he was Society Steward. I recall her supporting the Christian Aid Sponsored Walk each May for many years by serving refreshments to the walkers on their return. Until recently she would offer to help with the Praise Tea and make delicious salmon sandwiches. Sheila would provide flower arrangements for tables in room 6 and the coffee lounge for funerals of church members, even going to the trouble of discreetly finding out their favourite flower or colour.

Last year Sheila and Gordon made the difficult decision to leave Cheadle Hulme, where they had both lived for most their lives, and move to Stourport-on-Severn to be nearer Alison.

We send our love, thoughts and prayers to Gordon her husband of 73 years, to their daughter Alison and all their family. Sheila will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Gill Smith

Jackie's corner.....

Who is God to you? On the face of it you may think it is a fairly basic question, but if you really dwell on this question you may re-visit or question your understanding of who God is. We live today in a world where people crave spiritual things, they want to have the answers for what life is all about. It is good to go back to the basics of what we believe and confirm once again that God is our Father and creator of this world and has made each one of us as a unique being.

The verse: 'Be still and know that I am God' is a very well known one from Psalm 46, however, if you read the whole Psalm, it is a Psalm that encourages hope and trust in God at all times, but especially in times of trouble and amidst injustice and wars. In the middle of chaos around, God says, come, be still, know, that I, am God.

I don't know about you but I can find it difficult in times of trouble, times of anxiety, times of difficulty to remember to come to God, to be still in the midst of the chaotic times of life. I endeavour (though I have to admit I don't always succeed) to ensure that in the good times, I remain close to God so that in tough times I can automatically reach out and know God is present, God is working, God is able to fill me with peace and comfort. For me, it is also vital to be part of a Church community where there is support, love and fellowship.

When we do go through times of trial we may not feel God present with us but we need to remind ourselves that we know God is present with us at all times. As verse 1 of that Psalm tells us: 'God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble'.

As Christians we can celebrate this, we can rejoice in the knowledge that whatever life brings, we have God on our side.

God Is.....

God is ever present

He is our strength

He is our refuge

He is our protector

He is our fortress

In the chaos and insecurities of life,

We stop....., pause..... and breathe.....

We fix our eyes on God

We sit at His feet

We drink from the living stream

We give praise and thanks

We walk in His ways and we feed on His word

'Be still and know that I am God'

In the stillness we anchor ourselves

In the stillness we centre ourselves

In the stillness we focus ourselves

Whilst chaos abounds, we find comfort and peace

And so we cry out:

Praise be to God for He is with us, always and forever, Amen!

We have been filled, renewed again,

We will go out to testify, we will go out to share His word

We will go out to help those in need

We will go out to show His love and exalt His name!

Based on Psalm 46

Jackie Sims

Leadership Team update

You may be aware that the General Church meeting saw some changes in the membership of the church Leadership Team?

Margaret Parker, Margaret Pattie, Wendy Turner and Judith Hutton all stepped down. As a church we should be very thankful to these four ladies. They all originally agreed to serve on the Leadership Team for a year because, without them doing that, there wouldn't have been a Leadership Team. They all served for more years than the one that they originally volunteered for and they all helped to steer the church through a difficult period when the minister stationed to us didn't arrive and the church had financial difficulties.

Thank you, ladies for your faithful service.

I joined the Leadership Team in 2024 so I am now starting my second year. I have been joined by 3 new recruits. They are Barbara Clark, Gill Smith and Rev. Charles Nevin. Welcome to all 3. They bring different gifts and experience to the team as we look to help guide the church through the coming year.

The membership of the Leadership Team also includes Rev. Alistair, Linda Rayner and Jackie Sims, whose work in the church and community bring a different perspective to our work.

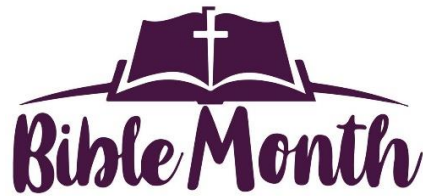
Dave James

Flower Visitors

June- Joanne Scoltock

July- Cheryl Palmer





This year the book chosen for our Bible Month is the Gospel of John. The material is divided into four sections and will be preached over June and early July. However, you might like to use the time from now until June for your own personal preparation, hence this article has a threefold purpose

1. To provide some background to John's Gospel.
2. To briefly touch on the main focus for each of the four weeks.
3. To suggest material and ideas for you to use.

The Gospel of John.

Unlike the synoptic Gospels – Matthew, Mark and Luke, - John takes a quite different approach to narrating the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. John's Gospel does not provide a chronological biography but focuses more on a theological portrait of who Jesus is and why he came.

Authorship, context and purpose: Traditionally the Gospel is attributed to John the Apostle, the “beloved disciple of Jesus” who was one of the twelve. The most likely dating for the Gospel is AD 85-95 and it was written in Ephesus or another location in Asia Minor. By this time Christianity had spread widely, and the church was suffering persecution from the Roman and Jewish authorities. Against this historical background Christians faced questions about Jesus' identity.

When we consider the purpose of the Gospel the best source are the words of John himself: *“But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in His name” John 20:31*

John's purpose goes beyond the words to the need for a response – **to inspire us all to faith.** To show Jesus as the

eternal son of God and one with whom we are called into a life-giving and life-changing relationship.

Key themes: This section touches on a few of the main elements of John's Gospel:

a) Jesus as the Word (Logos) – The very first verses of the Gospel set out this concept very much front and centre:

In the beginning was the Word, and the word was with God, and the Word was God.

This portrays Jesus as eternal and divine, there at the beginning of creation and representing the full revelation of God in human form.

b) Light v darkness: John makes much use of symbolic language. Light signifies truth, life and salvation. Darkness represents sin and alienation from God. Jesus is described as the *"light of the world"*, to dispel spiritual darkness. (John 1:4-5 and 8:12)

c) Signs and belief: John introduces seven signs or miracles to confirm his divine nature and invite faith:

- Changing water into wine
- Healing the son of a royal official
- Healing the paralysed man
- Feeding the 5,000
- Walking on water
- Healing the man born blind
- Raising Lazarus from the dead

d) 'I am' statements: Jesus uses seven statements about himself, each one beginning with the words 'I am'. This echoes the self-revelation of God before Moses (Exodus 3:14) I AM WHO I AM. They are:

- I am the bread of life (6:35)
- I am the light of the world (8:12)
- I am the door (gate) (10:7)
- I am the Good Shepherd (10:11)
- I am the resurrection and the life (11:25)
- I am the way, the truth and the life (14:6)
- I am the true vine (15:1)

e) Structure and style: The Gospel can be broadly summarised in four sections:

- Chapter 1 – The Prologue, clear evidence that Jesus is much more than a man.
- Chapters 2 – 12. Jesus' ministry.
- Chapters 13 – 17. The events leading up to the death of Jesus
- Chapters 18 – 21. The death, burial and resurrection of Jesus

John's Gospel is more meditative in style including

- Long discourses and conversations (e.g. with Nicodemus in Chapter 3 and the Samaritan woman in Chapter 4)
- A style rich in symbolic language and metaphor
- A clear and unwavering focus on the identity of Jesus.

The four themes of Bible Month

1. ***Embracing God and all reality (Chapter 1):*** This provides the overarching framework of the nature and person of Jesus. By the use of the term '**Word**' he sets in place God and hence Jesus at the heart of creation. He invites us into a personal relationship with Jesus and discloses Him as the fulfilment our life now and into eternity.
2. ***Signs, conversations and controversy (Chapters 2 – 12):*** Essentially this is the very heart of the work and ministry of Jesus. It begins with the Wedding at Cana symbolically declaring the new wine of the Kingdom demonstrating an abundance for all. It also allows time for deep conversations to explore more fully Jesus' nature and ministry. It further brings us up against the controversy generated by his message and his doctrine of universal salvation.
3. ***Jesus' discipleship course (Chapter 13 – 17):*** This allows us to join with the disciples at the feet of Jesus. It re-emphasises the nature and dynamic force of love; love fulfilled, and love betrayed. It gives us clear insights into the teachings of Jesus to inspire our own discipleship. It reminds us of the power of prayer to encounter God and ground our daily living in His constant presence.

- 4. ‘The hour’ and the resurrection and our drama (Chapters 18 – 21):** It leads us into the inevitable consequence of his teaching, but also the fulfilment of his calling. We witness his arrest and trial where justice is left outside the door. We walk with Jesus through his punishment and his crucifixion journey. Finally, we stand in awe at an empty tomb and wonder at the fulfilment of God’s covenant of grace and presence.

Ideas for your own preparation

This is just a list of resources you might find helpful.

- i. A 30-day reading guide to the Gospel of John – this is published by the Methodist Church and copies will be available in your church. Why not start reading it now so you are ready when Bible Month starts.
- ii. [Gospel of John Summary: A Complete Animated Overview \(Part 1\)](#)
- iii. [Gospel of John Summary: A Complete Animated Overview \(Part 2\)](#)
- iv. Reading text scrolling Contemporary English Version – different voices for different characters
[The Book of John | Contemporary English | Holy Bible \(FULL\) With Text](#)
- v. The Methodist Church website has a range of materials: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/faith/the-bible/bible-month/>
- vi. For a more in-depth view of the four weeks a book has been published and is available for £4.95 at Preach - <https://www.preachweb.org/books-and-diaries>
- vii. The Ultimate Book Club – Rev Philip Berry: [John — Bramhall Methodist Church](#)

Charles Nevin

Circuit Review Day



On the 17th of May members from almost all the churches of the Circuit met at Heald Green to discuss the continuing work of the Circuit Review, facilitated by Rosie from the Training Network and Abi from TCC.

We considered how the churches could support each other, and what we can do to encourage growth within our fellowships. Over the course of five hours, three bible passages, and a great deal of conversation we approached the idea of making an action plan for each church or group of churches.

An action plan that had to be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound. There were some interesting outcomes, with ideas and approaches varying widely.

For Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church, the plan encompasses the formation of three groups to encourage conversations and the growth of our personal faith and spirituality.

‘Knit and natter’, to be led by Jackie.

‘Snap and stroll’ to be led by Linda

‘Let’s talk about..’ to be led by Charles and Alistair.

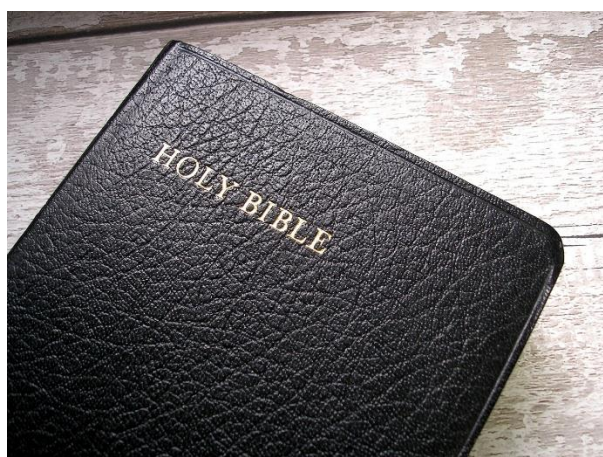
The ‘time-bound’ element to the plan means that we will review this at the next General Church Meeting.

Speaking personally, having attended many meetings for similar purposes across five circuits, this was the most constructive, lively and promising one yet!

We pray that God may bless this process of spiritual growth and deepening relationships within the whole of the Bramhall and Wythenshawe Circuit.

Alistair

John's Gospel



It's brilliant to have Charles' summary and notes on John's gospel, and I hope it will be well used, in Homegroups and private devotions.

I've been tackling this life-changing gospel in a different way, by reading straight through in one afternoon, using The Message paraphrase, and I've found it exciting!

Here's part of the introduction to The Message:-

'In deliberate parallel to the opening words of Genesis, John presents God as speaking salvation into existence...Jesus speaks the word and it happens...Everything broken and fallen, sinful and diseased, called into salvation by God's spoken word.'

I offer here a few of the sometimes startling, sometimes shocking, always insightful words and phrases which jumped out to me and caused me to stop and think. I hope and pray that some of the words will do the same for you.

'The Word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighbourhood.'

At the temple, *'The loan sharks were there in full strength,'* and, *'Stop turning my Father's house into a shopping mall.'*

Later, *'Whoever accepts and trusts the Son gets in on everything, life complete for ever!'*

*'Don't be nit-pickers, use you head..to discern what is right'.
'You're tied down to the mundane.' 'Know that you are trying to kill me because my message hasn't yet penetrated your thick skulls.'*

John writes, *'All these God-signs Jesus had given them, and still they didn't get it.'*

'Some from the ranks of the leaders believed but they were afraid of getting kicked out of the meeting place.' 'When push came to shove they cared more for human approval than for God's glory.'

Jesus said, *'What I've done for you (foot washing), you do. I'm only pointing out the obvious.'* *'You are going to look high and low for me.'* *'If anyone loves me, he will keep my word and my Father will love him – we'll move right into the neighbourhood.'* *'I am carrying out my Father's instructions right down to the last detail.'* *'Make your home in me just as I do in you.'* *'If you keep my commands, you will remain intimately at home in my love.'* *'Put your life on the line for your friends.'* *'You are going to be in deepest mourning while the godless world throws a party.'* *'You're about to make a run for it – saving your own skins and abandoning me.'*

If you have time, maybe try reading through John's gospel in any translation or paraphrase, and see what jumps out for you.

Margaret Parker

80 year VE Anniversary Celebrations in the Park

We seem to be awash with bank holidays at this time of year, and it's always good if we – Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church – can join in with something that is happening in the area. So when we saw that celebrations for the anniversary of VE day were happening at Waterhouses fresh food store on Mellor Road, we worked with them and joined forces with the *Friends of Hesketh Park*, to continue the festivities further up the road, with a 'Bring your own Picnic' in Hesketh park.

1940s music set the vibe, and the *Friends* offered a nature trail and 'brass rubbings' and masses of cake! We provided medals for prizes and lots of colouring-type activities for the children, free drinks, sunflowers to plant (a reminder that war continues in many places) and plenty of people to chat – plus a prayer tree.



When I wasn't running around with the children, looking for clues, I had two really unexpected conversations.

One conversation was with a lady who has no particular church background, we talked about the prayer tree and she asked what people prayed for? Then asked why do they put their prayers on the tree??

The other lady talked about taking church outside into nature - and reflective, mindful walking. Who'd have thought we'd be talking theology in the park, surrounded by children and picnickers?



Every event of this type is a form of mission. People notice that the church is active in the community – even if we’re not directly talking about Jesus, we’re modelling a Christian way of life, by being part of the community and being generous with our time.

I find it fascinating – and I’m convinced - that the Holy Spirit is at work in events of this type, but rather scarily, it’s probably not for us to see the final fruits of these seeds that we’re planting.

Ecclesiastes 11 says “*Go to work in the morning and stick to it until evening without watching the clock. You never know from moment to moment how your work will turn out in the end.*” From the Message paraphrase

Massive thanks to everyone who helped with our stand, we cannot be a Christian presence in the community without you! Thanks also to the *Friends of Hesketh Park* for their warm welcome and generosity in helping us to join-in, to Stockport Council for funding the activity resources and to Waitrose, who provided the drinks.

Linda Rayner

Thank you

The amount raised by the collections at the six Lent Lunches and at Oak Meadow amounted to £1628.34 which has been sent to the Christian Aid Sudan Appeal.



The money raised during Christian Aid Week in May will support projects in Guatemala.

Please do support our forthcoming concert, 'A Night at the Movies!' with Vernon Building Society Poynton Brass Band

Let your family, friends and neighbours know too. Tickets are £10 each available online, by scanning the QR code below, from the church office, or from Gill or Hazel.

The band's last concert sold out three weeks before the event, so get your tickets soon as it promises to be a memorable night.



Vernon
Building Society
(Poynton) Brass Band





Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church
Ramillies Avenue
Cheadle Hulme
SK8 7AL
Tel: 0161 485 1605
Tues: 12:30 - 15:30, Wed - Fri 9:00 - 15:30



Churches Together in Cheadle Hulme present
In association with Christian Aid

A Night at the Movies!

An evening filled with iconic scores and
unforgettable melodies from the silver screen

Saturday 21 June 2025 19:30

Tickets now available from www.poyntonband.co.uk
via the QR code or in the church office



Tickets:
£10 Adults
Free for U16's

Net ticket proceeds split equally between PBB & Christian Aid

Vernon Building Society Brass Band

The Vernon Building Society (Poynton) Brass Band is one of the North-West's premiere brass bands. Records show that the band first started in the early 1800s and was thriving by 1824, so they are celebrating their bicentenary. The band are regular prize-winners at contests throughout the country, including winning the British Open, Senior trophy in 2019 at Blackpool Winter Gardens and coming 3rd at Rochdale contest (2nd section) in October 2024.

The Band rehearse twice a week (Tuesday and Thursday, 8.00pm to 10.00pm) at their own band room on Park Lane, Poynton.



The band invite you to celebrate with them as part of their 200th anniversary celebrations to an evening filled with iconic scores and unforgettable melodies from the silver screen. Prepare to be transported through cinematic history as they perform a captivating selection of music from beloved films across the decades. From sweeping orchestral themes to instantly recognizable tunes, this concert promises something for everyone. Relive the drama, the romance, the adventure, and the excitement of your favourite movies, all brought to life by the power and passion of live brass music.

Net ticket proceeds will be split equally between Poynton Brass Band (511930) and Christian Aid (1105851)

Eco tips for June

1. When water is scarce.....



Water the garden with your (cooled) washing up water! (Water is heavy so be careful not to lift more than is comfortable.)

We have a water butt at the end of the old scouts shed – well done Phil Peacock! If you can manage to get one fitted at home

it can provide water for the garden in a dry season.

If you have a water meter, saving water also saves money.

Water from the taps is processed - so each gallon from a tap has a carbon footprint so these measures also reduce your carbon footprint.

2. When the weather is hot.....

Pull the curtains and blinds on the sunny side or sides of your house. Blackout curtains or shutters are best. As soon as the temperature outside exceeds the temperature inside,



close windows and doors. Even a breeze will increase the temperature of your house if the breeze is hot! Open them up again in the evenings and early morning to capture as much cool air as possible.

Fans are great – they help us to perspire more quickly and perspiring is one of our body's ways of cooling down. Only run the fan when you are near it – it cools bodies not rooms!

At night a hot water bottle filled with cold water may help. Drink as much water as you can – and of course it is great from the fridge or with the addition of ice cubes if you have the space.

More tips: [11 Top Tips to Keep Your House Cool in a Heatwave | Edward Mellor](#)

An Eco Suggestion for July

When the church first installed solar panels, the organising group intended to return some of the money saved to third world countries – perhaps even to tithe our income once the panels had been paid for. As a group we looked hard for projects associated with solar cells but could find none.

Today there are several schemes which might suit and I would like us as a church to consider sponsoring a project.

[SolarAid | Combatting poverty and climate change](#)

From their website:



When the sun goes down the working day ends for millions of people across sub-Saharan Africa, the only option is to ignite kerosene lamps and paraffin candles,

which emit toxic fumes into people's lungs and into the earth's atmosphere. Yet with the power of solar and the flick of a switch you can change the story. Every time someone switches on a solar powered light, it's an instant win for people and the planet.

In the picture you see a typical small solar panel which charges up batteries which in turn power efficient LED lighting.

We currently support many charities and you may feel that one more is a step too far – let me know what you think and if there is positive feedback, I will raise the idea at a church council. My suggestion would be to allocate a fixed percentage of our income from the solar panels to this or a similar charity rather than ask for a separate fund-raising activity.

Pam Howie