

JANUARY

# Cross Section

Chesterfield Methodist Circuit

Issue 26

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>**

7.30pm Local Preachers meeting at Central

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>**

10am – 11.30am Prayer Shawl Ministry, Loundsley Green

Methodist

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup>**

7.30pm Circuit Leadership Team meeting at Gordon's

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>**

11am coffee at Cutthorpe

11.30am Reflective worship service at Cutthorpe followed by a light lunch. All welcome!

**Loundsley Green Methodist -**

Every Saturday 10.30am - 12pm

**Loundsley Green COTA**

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> 10.15am

**Cutthorpe**

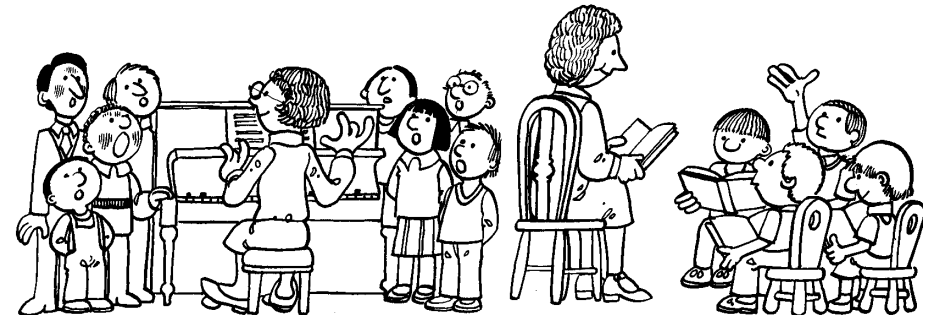
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> 10.30am to 12pm

**Hasland**

Every Saturday morning

Are there other regular coffee mornings across the circuit?

Let me know and I can include them here.





A good time was had together at our **circuit advent quiet day**, led by Rev Judith Jessop. We shared in worship and prayer together and then had spaces of quiet to reflect upon this season of waiting and what it means for us to wait upon God, to wait with God, to wait for God. After a shared lunch we spent time together being led in a meditation and then more space for personal reflections, ending in

a time of worship together. Thanks to Storrs Road for hosting this event. If anyone is interested in hosting another quiet day then please let me know.

Debbie



Hasland is ticking over, and hoping to tap further into the large body of people who enter the premises for the local schools' Christmas concerts, for the community carol service on Christmas Eve, on Remembrance

Day and so on. The church space strikes some members as very dated and inflexible, but there is no doubt that lots of occasional people like it, whether for a concert, a one-off service or a wedding or whatever. As plans evolve for altering the lay-out and furnishings, we shall have to watch that we do not lose this latent interest.

Coffee continues to be served every Saturday morning by one of the teams; there is a community lunch once a month; the men's institute (darts and dominoes) is there for any men at a loose end on a Tuesday afternoon; so there are possibilities.....

The Methodist Church is not the only church in Hasland, but the CofE building is out on the Grassmoor Road, and the Baptists seem pretty quiet at present; we have the prominent site. So we are advertising ourselves on the circuit website as Hasland's Community Church – with some justification.

Paul King (acting minister)

Mid-Week reflective service at Cutthorpe Methodist Chapel  
Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2009

Service will be led by Chris and Debbie

Drinks at 11am, service starts at 11.30am,  
light lunch to follow.

All welcome! To all or part of this time of fellowship!

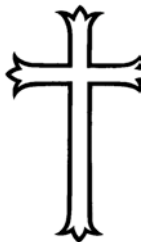
### Have your say!

If you wish to comment on anything you read in CrossSection we would love to hear from you.



Please send any correspondence to Debbie at  
26, Thorndene Close, Greenside,  
Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S41 8SE  
or email: [debbie@raindropmusic.co.uk](mailto:debbie@raindropmusic.co.uk)

**Any contributions would be most welcome from any church for next months newsletter needs to be in by 19<sup>th</sup> January**



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## Christmas Tree Festival

Well, what a wonderful 8 days I have spent again amongst many friends. It has been very hard work for some of us but the friendship and fellowship we shared has been wonderful.

How wonderful to see so many children in our church. There have been over 70 school children and of course those that joined us at our Christingle Service, plus, the many visitors. Again it was great to see the trees being dressed with great excitement (and that was just the adults)! We had 39 trees so imagine how many people have been involved in that process.

The entertainment was exceptional and of course I will be writing to thank them all. Peak fm did us proud with reminders to their listeners everyday from the Monday to visit us.

Staveley United Churches Choir excelled themselves at our Carol Concert and Barbara Parrish from the Derbyshire, Leicester and Rutland Air Ambulance is delighted that we are sending her a cheque for £255.

We had 2 wonderful services, the Christingle in the morning led by our minister Chris who had us doing exercises to the North, South, East and West, and received a wonderful message in the evening from Chris Townsend who encouraged us to continue "branching" out to people outside the church.

We have had 3 people express interest in joining our church because of the warmth and fellowship they felt this Festival. How wonderful let us hope we can build on this. Of course, the fact that we have raised over £1100 for church funds makes it all worthwhile and I pray that we will put it to good use to work for our Lord. Thank you to everybody who has helped and supported me in any way to make the Festival so successful. I have heard the dreaded words "we have already got an idea for our tree for next year" quite a few times already!!!!

Kay Baker



## Support our circuit in prayer

Come and join us as we pray for our circuit churches.

We pray for the churches within our circuit, for our circuit leadership team, for congregations as they develop new ways of working and those with particular challenges at the moment and anything else that comes up. We pray as led and welcome any others who would like to meet with us. You do not need to pray out loud if you are not comfortable with this, pray in your own way and how you feel comfortable.

**January meetings are on Monday's**  
**at 4pm until 4.45pm**  
**starting on January 12<sup>th</sup>**

Venue: Debbie Keegan's  
26 Thorndene Close  
Greenside Avenue  
Chesterfield  
S41 8SE

For more information please contact Debbie  
Tel: 01246 234792 [debbie@raindropmusic.co.uk](mailto:debbie@raindropmusic.co.uk)

# The Prayer Shawl Ministry

**‘Begin to knit, and God will show you the pattern and give you the yarn’ (adapted from a German proverb)**

The prayer shawl ministry was started in America in 1999 by Janet Bristow and Vicky Galo.

Sit down with a group of knitters and the conversation soon flows as memories and stories are shared. As we knit or crochet, we also share something of ourselves and of our love for those for whom we knit.

So far 7 people representing 3 churches have committed themselves to praying as they knit shawls at home and then come together every 3 weeks to pray together for those who receive the shawls. We also help and encourage each other, share ideas for patterns and teach this ancient skill to others.

Our meeting begins with a short reflection and prayer. After a cup of coffee or tea any shawls to be distributed will be blessed by the group and arrangements made for them to be taken or posted if the person does not live locally. Group members also take time to help complete the fringe, thus everyone contributes. A card will then be attached so that the one receiving a shawl will be reminded that God loves them and that the group are praying and thinking about them.

The shawls will be blessed by the group, we will pray for the individual and each take time to add our love perhaps by completing a fringe. A card will then be made and attached so that the one who receives the shawl will be reminded that God loves them and that the group is praying and thinking about them

So far 20 shawls have been blessed and sent out, not only to those who are ill or bereaved but as a gift to a bride and also a baby who was baptized at Loundsley Green. The cards and comments we receive in return are an inspiration to us , people are overwhelmed by the thoughtfulness and really feel God’s love reaching out to them. In addition at least one other group has started as a result of someone receiving a shawl.

Shawls have been important to people throughout generations, they offer comfort, support warmth and security. Christian fellowship is also vital to our faith. So please feel free to join us even if you do not wish to knit come and meet together and let us share our love for one another and God’s love with those around us.

If you want to know more then talk to Agnes Tranter [trants10@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:trants10@tiscali.co.uk) Or visit the international shawl website. [www.shawlministry.com](http://www.shawlministry.com)

**We meet at Loundsley Green Methodist Church about every 3 weeks on a Thursday morning from 10am –11.30am**

There is also a book entitled Knitting into the Mystery by Susar Jorgenson and Susan Izard published by Morehouse publishing. This is well worth reading and is a beautiful book to give as a present as well.

The group are using the following prayer to end each session

May our knitting be blessed  
May God touch our hands with love  
May God guide our needles with compassion  
May God fill our yarn with Spirit

May God touch our heart with peace  
May God guide our soul with freedom  
May God fill our mind with silence

May God touch our shawls with warmth  
May God guide our community with joy  
May God fill our world with hope

*Susan Jorgensen and Susan Izard*

*‘The important thing is not so much what you knit as what happens to you while you knit it. Where the journey takes you. What you find there. How you are transformed when you come back home.’*

Susan Gordon Lyndon