

July–August
2018

St John's Record

United Reformed Church

Somerset & Mowbray Roads, New Barnet, Herts, EN5 1RH

Neighbours Invited in and they came...

... to enjoy a Big Brekkie, our fundraiser event for **Christian Aid**, and to work on the community garden with us and **Incredible Edible Barnet**.

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Community Garden

Partnership between St John's and Incredible Edible

The total amount raised during the week this year was: £2,433.69, our best ever total, so a huge thank you to everyone for all your help and contributions. Just over £890 of that amount was raised at our very successful Big Brekkie/Community Garden morning, thanks to the generous backing we received from Sainsburys, Waitrose and Homeless Action in Barnet. The following thank you comes from Christian Aid:

Thank you for standing by the people of Haiti in their hour of need. Together, we're stronger than the storms. Supporters like you helped to build Vilia a house strong enough to withstand the power of Hurricane Matthew in 2016. During the storm she sheltered 54 people in it, potentially saving their lives. Your support for Christian Aid Week 2018 will help to provide safe, secure homes many more of her neighbours. Thank you for everything you've done for people like Vilia.

For those of you who are interested in facts and figures, we collected a total of 162 envelopes and Christian Aid will be able to reclaim an additional 25% on £1551.82 of the above total (from those who completed the Gift Aid form) adding a further £388 to the total amount. We had 7 collectors plus a further 5 people helping to deliver envelopes, and a very efficient team of 8 people helped count all the money.

Alison Bond



While the food was being cooked and served a good number of people, some of the regulars plus a few extra came to help with the community garden. Also, several people who were attending the Big brekkie came to take a look at the garden.

After planting, weeding and watering all enjoyed tucking into the breakfast. We also managed to raise money for Christian Aid by selling a variety of plants.

Heather Elsdon



Manse Garden Party

(Bring & Share)

**Saturday 21 July
12.30 - 3.00**

The flowers are planted, the lawn will be mown, and hopefully the tomatoes will be producing in time for this annual event. So, please join Julian and Laura on the patio or under the apple tree and enjoy!

If it's raining, we can find enough room inside!

A YEAR OF PRAYER FOR BARNET: To see God's kingdom come and His will be done

A YEAR OF PRAYER FOR BARNET is an invitation for churches in Barnet to come together in prayer, every day for a year.

Initiated by St James' Church (New Barnet) and The Stable (High Barnet) it is an opportunity for Christians of all denominations to join together in prayer with a common purpose, every day for a year, beginning on the 10th May 2018 (the day of Pentecost 2018) and running through to the day of Pentecost 9th June 2019.

It is our vision that church home groups, prayer groups and gatherings throughout Barnet that believe in God as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit will commit to various dates throughout the year, to create a continuous YEAR OF PRAYER FOR BARNET.

Our expectation is that for each of the 386 days that make up this 'year' there will be Christians seeking God for the community of Barnet, pressing in to the four areas of prayer listed below.

Four areas of prayer:

- **To foster church unity.** 'So in Christ we, though many, form one body and each member belongs to all the others.' (Rom 12:5)
- **To inspire, encourage and refresh God's people.** 'God is able to bless you abundantly so that in all things at all times, having all that you need you will abound in every good work.' (2 Cor 9:8)

- **To spread the gospel of Jesus Christ.** 'Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of God is near.' (Matt 4:17)
- **To see our community flourish.** 'if you are pure and upright, even now he will rouse himself on your behalf and restore you to your prosperous state.' (Job 8:6)

St John's has accepted the invitation and we are encouraging folk to meet together each Tuesday evening and to pray and reflect on the four areas of prayer mentioned above. We will focus on these areas of prayer during the monthly Prayer and Discussion group, which meets on the third Tuesday of each month, and during the Elders Meeting on the second Tuesday of each month with small groups of three or four folk meeting together on the other Tuesdays.

This is a great opportunity to be part of an initiative to show a united Christian presence in the Barnet area and that together, by the grace of God, we will see Barnet transformed.

For further information please speak to Andrew Mills or Tony Shepherd.

Fellowship Garden Party

67 Belmont Avenue, EN4 9JS

Saturday 11 August
5 - 9 pm

Tickets available from the Committee @£10.
Includes buffet meal. Bring your own bottle.

St John's QUIZ

Saturday 22nd September
7 pm

Includes delicious meal. Bring your own bottle. Raffle. Simon Smith of Jesus Hospital Trust is the Quiz Master. In aid of the St John's Organ refurbishment Fund. Tickets and more information from Committee at later date.

Obituary Eileen Osborn

25th May 1915 – 5th March 2018

Eileen was born in Halifax, Yorkshire, in 1915 and spent her childhood up to the age of 13 in Ilkley. The family moved to North London where her Father became the borough surveyor of Friern Barnet. After leaving school she did a domestic science training, as it was then called, and demonstrated the latest electric cookers in the electricity showrooms and in people's homes. When war broke out she suddenly found that she was employed by the Ministry of Food under Lord Woolton and ran communal feeding stations which were set up in church halls all over north London to cater for bomb victims. She was able to have a car and a petrol ration which was a real bonus at the time. There was no driving test then but she went out with a friend a couple of times and quickly mastered cars and vans.

She met Eric her future husband who was in the RAF and in 1942 they married. As war ended they had a baby girl who was unfortunately stillborn. Three years later their son, James, was born but tragically he lived for only a few months. Then in 1952 their daughter, Vicki, was born. They were an extremely sociable couple and had a wide circle of friends. They were a great team and belonged to various societies notably an amateur gardening club, painting groups and were very active members of St John's church. They became members of the church about 30 years ago and Eileen ran bible study evenings at her house for many years.

Eileen was very involved with the Hospice Movement and with others she opened the North London Hospice shop in Whetstone. She worked in the shop and also raised money through coffee mornings and sales.

She loved cooking and entertaining – her parties were legendary. She travelled extensively with Eric driving in Europe and holidays as far as India, the Far East and Australia. She became a prolific painter and was good enough to exhibit and sell some of her work.

When her grandchildren were born, Christopher in 1980 and Laura in 1983, she was very involved with them and was a really active Grandma. Christened Ma by Christopher as he couldn't say Grandma and the name stuck.

Eric sadly passed away in 1997 and in 2011 she became much less mobile and very reluctantly moved from her London house into a more manageable flat in West Moors to be near her daughter. She celebrated her 100th birthday there with family and friends and, of course, the all important card from the Queen. It was a lovely memorable day and we think she approved of the catering although she hadn't been involved herself. She was delighted in December 2016 to meet her great grandchild, George, and was always interested in him and what he was doing.

Her last 2 years were spent at Brook View nursing home where she was happy and the staff were very caring. She had a good sense of humour and very rarely complained as she became more and more reliant on others for her care. Now unable to attend St Mary's Parish Church she was pleased to see the Minister on his frequent visits to the home.



Dementia Club UK

Caring for the community

Sponsored by Saracens

Dementia Club UK, in Association with The Rotary Club of Barnet, held their first meeting in our church, on Tuesday 30th January 2018, and since then we have enjoyed hosting the regular monthly meetings. The sessions from 2pm until 4 pm on the last Tuesday of each month.

The Club, which has Charitable status, was formed by Lisa Rutter. There are several other venues in the Borough of Barnet on different days of the week. Up to 20 Members plus helpers attend the sessions at St John's and the programme includes a quiz, movement exercises and community singing and even dancing.

Refreshments are enjoyed with the help of Church members ably assisted by Members of Barnet Rotary Club who arranged to fund the purchase of 20 new chairs which are in addition to the 8 tables gifted by Lisa to the Club for a £1 donation.

If you would like further information please speak to Malcolm Bye or Andrew Mills.

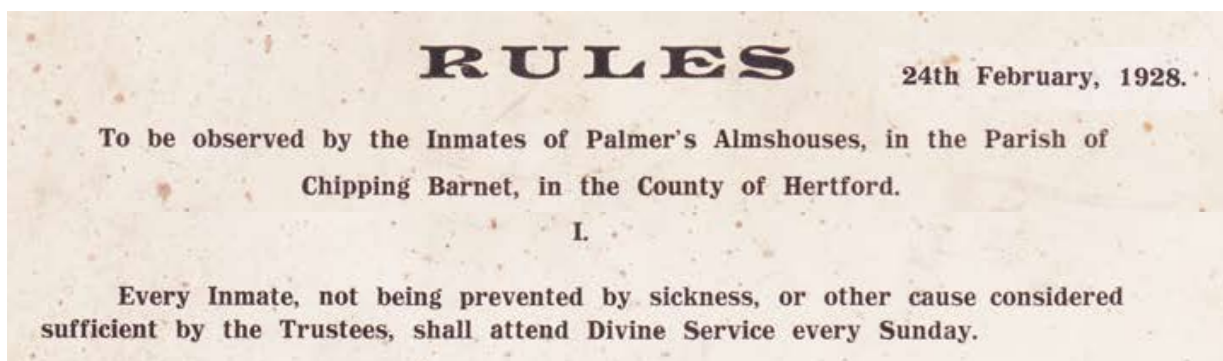


Lisa Rutter



The Eleanor Palmer Trust has just celebrated this remarkable lady who died in 1558, by having a Garden Party at the Almshouses in Wood Street. Eleanor was determined to help those less fortunate so, despite having five children, she insisted on leaving her considerable wealth to help the poor. One third has to go to those in St Pancras and two thirds to those in Chipping Barnet. Her first Almshouse was opened in 1823 and the charity now provides rented Almshouses to 78 people as well as a nursing and residential care to 33.

As a Trustee, I helped produce some posters for the event. One of the interesting bit of history unearthed was the Almshouse Rules, the first of which Julian understandably wished was in place at St John's!



Get Daily Devotions from URC

The United Reformed Church is providing a 'Daily Devotion' with a Bible Reading, short commentary, and prayer for each day as part of the Walking the Way emphasis on discipleship. Anyone can subscribe to this and receive an emailed devotion each day. If you're interested, click on the link below to see today's devotion, and then follow the instructions to subscribe if you wish to do so.



<https://devotions.urc.org.uk>

Songs of Praise iPlayer Link

BBC's Songs of Praise featured these Daily Devotions last Sunday. The episode was entitled **The Power of Prayer** and the programme included a short piece on the Devotions showing how they can be used on various electronic devices.

The Rev'd Dr Susan Durber, was interviewed about her use of the Devotions (she also writes for them) alongside Andy Braunston.

There has been a big increase in the number of subscribers to the Devotions since then which is encouraging.



If you missed the programme you can see it, via the BBC iPlayer here.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0b8h8gk>




New Barnet and East Barnet
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER led by Women
 Summer Tea Party

Friday 27th July, 2018 (2pm start to 3.30pm)

At St. John's United Reformed Church Large Hall,
 Mowbray Road Entrance (/Somerset Road),
 New Barnet, Herts. EN5 1RH-near Station Road, New Barnet

Everybody Welcome, including Men.



A global ecumenical movement
 of informed prayer
 and prayerful action

Refreshments provided. Bring and Buy Stall in aid of WDP Funds.
 Donations of gifts or money gratefully accepted.

Enquiries & RSVP: Marjorie O'Connor (WDP. Sec.) Home-0208 445 6580 or
 mobile 07515 910514. Email: marjorie.oconnor@btinternet.com

St John's
United Reformed Church

Fellowship

21 March 2018

Desert Island Disc with Laura Templeton

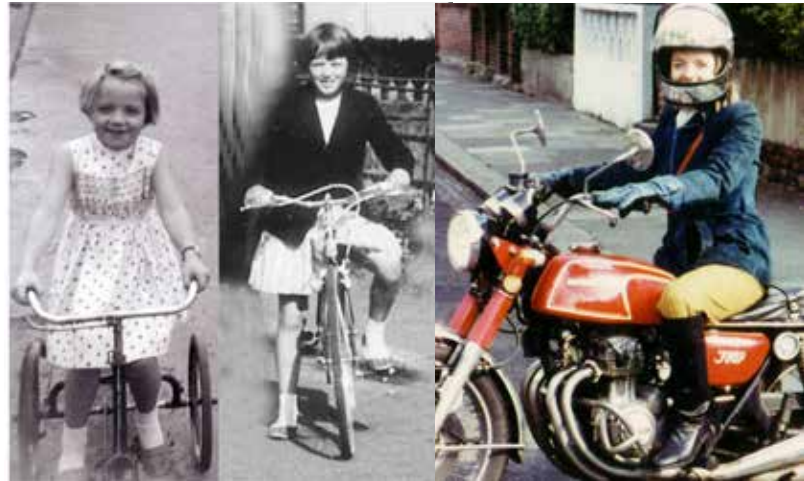
Our 'Desert Island Castaway' during the March Fellowship evening was Laura Templeton, wife of our minister. Although Julian occasionally speaks to us about his early life in New Zealand and various other events and influencers, we knew little of Laura's earlier life.

Born in Perth and proud of her Scottish heritage, Laura was the third of five children and admits to having been 'a bit of a rebel'. We viewed a series of photographs of the growing family, in a variety of humble surroundings. Recollection of her family's move from Perth to Coventry just after her 11th birthday prompted Laura's first chosen record, *Ye Banks and Braes*. This was chosen because her teacher made all the class learn it especially Laura so that she would never forget her home country.

We saw that by the age of sixteen Laura had developed a longer hair style than she had been allowed in childhood, and started embracing the new Hippy movement. After a few years working, Laura was able to fulfil her dream and go to Art College. The first Foundation Year in Coventry and later earned a place on the Fine Art course at Bristol School of Art. Laura's next choice of music, *White Rabbit*, by Jefferson Airplane was a typical psychedelic song of that time.

A clear indicator of rebelliousness was affirmed by a montage illustrating Laura's progression from small tricycle to bicycle to four-cylindered motorbike. This she rode until it broke down and could not afford to get it repaired – which was probably just as well, as she was heavily pregnant at the time.

Following a period back in Scotland this time in Tain, north of Inverness, Laura started a new business from scratch – a graphic design studio and shop, sharing family life with her first husband and two daughters. The business went well for the first few years then suffered from the collapse of the local



economy. Laura and her husband had little choice but to return London where they were both guaranteed employment. *Holy Mother*, sung by Eric Clapton and Pavarotti at Modena in 1996 for 'War Child', was Laura's music choice number three, which she said helped her through a very difficult time.

May You Never by John Martyn followed by Judy Collins singing *One Day at a Time* were next. Laura told us that these supported her through even more difficult times as she lived as a single parent working full-time as a graphic designer and now with three children.

Next we were brought gently towards Highgate where she met Julian and formed a friendship that eventually resulted in marriage and a new family life.

Wonderful tonight, which Laura reckons Julian sings better than Eric Clapton, was next and her penultimate choice, was *Annie Laurie*. This was chosen because it was her mum's 'party piece'. Sadly she died last November, but this always brings her back.

Photographs of Laura and Julian's extended family in New Zealand were followed by her final music choice, *Happy* by Pharrell Williams.

Laura finally talked a little about the board game 'Call-to-Mind' that she has designed and now sells. This communication and conversation game, was designed to help people living with dementia, though she now realises it potentially has a much wider market.

True to form, Laura's choice of luxury item was a large box of watercolours, plus brushes and paper.

Patricia Picken

Calendar

July - August 2018

JULY	Sunday 1st	10:00am	Informal Prayer in Memorial Room	JULY
		10:30am	Elders' Meeting, Vestry	
		11:00am	Worship + Lord's Supper led by Julian Templeton	
	Saturday 7th	10:00am	Community Garden Session	
	Sunday 8th	11:00am	Worship led by the Sarah Beaumont	
	Tuesday 10th	7:45pm	Elders' Meeting, Vestry	
	Sunday 15th	11:00am	Worship led by Julian Templeton	
	Tuesday 17th	8:00pm	Prayer & Discussion Group at 37 Greenhill Park	
	Wednesday 18th	8:00pm	Fellowship-St John's Community Garden & Gardeners' Question Time with Wendy Alcock & Heather Elsdon in the Sanctuary.	
	Friday 20th	2:30pm	Community Café & Short Service	
	Saturday 21st	12:30 – 3:00pm	Manse Garden Party (bring-and-share) 11 The Fairway EN5 1HH	
	Sunday 22nd	10:00am	Singing Practice	
		11:00am	Worship led by Julian Templeton	
	Tuesday 24th	2:00pm	Dementia Club	
		8:00pm	Justice & Peace Group	
	Thursday 26th	8:00pm	Men's Group –Curry Evening at The Railway Bell, East Barnet	
	Friday 27th	2:00pm	Women's World Day of Prayer Summer Tea Party in Large Hall. ALL WELCOME.	
	Sunday 29th	11:00am	Worship led by Tony Alderman	
		3:00pm	Causeway party in the park, Greenhill Gardens, in Large Hall if wet.	
AUGUST	Sunday 5th	10:00am	Informal Prayer in Memorial Room	AUGUST
		10:30am	Elders' Meeting, Vestry	
		11:00am	Worship + Lord's Supper led by Julian Templeton	
	Wednesday 8th	10:00am	Pastoral Team Meeting, Vestry	
	Saturday 11th	5:00 – 9:00pm	Fellowship Garden Party (tickets: £10) 67 Belmont Avenue, EN4 9JS	
	Sunday 12th	11:00am	Worship led by Julian Templeton	
	Friday 17th	2:30pm	Community Café & Short Service	
	Sunday 19th	11:00am	Worship led by Julian Templeton	
	Tuesday 21st	8:30pm	Men's Group –The Railway Bell, East Barnet	
	Sunday 26th	11:00am	Worship led by Richard Harvey and David Paul	
Tuesday 28th	2:00pm	Dementia Club		
SEPT	Sunday 2nd	10:00am	Informal Prayer in Memorial Room	SEPT
		10:30am	Elders' Meeting, Vestry	
		11:00am	Worship + Lord's Supper led by Julian Templeton	