

*Buxton United Reformed  
Church  
Hardwick Square East*



Photo taken by Douglas Blane April 2017

*September 2019*



*It is not only  
Donald Trump  
who likes to  
build walls!*

Canadian Artist Cosimo Cavallaro has used 9,000 bricks of expired Mexican cotija cheese to build a wall that is perishable and will not last.

Cavallaro's six-foot-tall and three-foot-wide border wall is in Tecate, California, just 45 feet from the actual fence on the border with Tecate, Mexico.

The aim is to highlight the absurdity of building a real wall at such a massive expense. The Cheese Wall's message isn't as much political as it is an admonition against letting fear and hatred divide us from our fellow man.

**"It sounds cheesy, but just love one other,"**

Cavallaro

Yet something else is going on at the Mexican / USA border. Professor Ronald Rael, a teacher of architecture, and Professor Virginia San Fratello designed a temporary art installation of pink seesaws as a powerful vehicle for change. The seesaws were slotted into either side of the Mexican / USA border wall (pivoting in the fence) to allow children (and adults!) from each side of the fence to play with one another creating much fun.

**No walls can cage us in!**

Professor Ronald Rael and Professor Virginia San Fratello

As I write this before we go away to Ireland on holiday, the dam at Whaley Bridge Toddbrook reservoir has been major news in the papers and on radio and TV for 7 days. It is just another type of wall, this time 188 years old. How good were the engineers in designing and building such structures! You only have to look at the very old stone built viaducts around the Buxton area to appreciate their work.

But what really shone through the trauma of the last week's news was how different organisations worked together to help reduce the water level in the dam and the hospitality that was given to those who were advised to leave their homes.



Father Jamie McLeod, the local vicar was the first to raise the alarm including the use of the church bells to ring SOS in Morse code. As all the emergency services descended on the reservoir area he appealed for food donations on Facebook and that instigated a steady stream of people helping to cook and provide food for everyone. The whole village came to support one another. Pizza shop staff amongst many others spent a lot of time making food only for the emergency services. Field owners' land was requisitioned to build a new road for access to the reservoir for the enormous water extraction pumps.

One local DIY building supplier in Chapel was phoned on the Thursday night by the council asking for bags of aggregate to seal up the breach. He offered 3 bags. Later that night he was asked if he could give more and ended up working throughout the night filling 136 bags in total with aggregate for the dam completely exhausting all his stock. As he said – *"I did it for Whaley Bridge."* Many other local builders' merchants and quarries gave aggregate to shore up the dam. The list and accounts are many.



Services were provided by the police, fire service from around the country with the specialised pumps, the RAF Chinook helicopter crew from number 18 Squadron based at RAF Odiham in Hampshire dropping over 450 bags of aggregate with precision into the concrete crevasse of the dam, the Canal and River Trust staff and many other volunteers including Buxton Mountain Rescue Team on standby. The list is endless and so are the stories that will continue to be told.

What we saw was the community pulling together and communicating in ways that they may not have done for many years. Thankfully the dam wall held and did not wipe out Whaley Bridge and towns beyond. That was an answer to prayer in many ways.

Our friends Richard and Rosemary Kidd were OK. *"We are actually in Scotland for two weeks, a holiday which happened to coincide with the natural disaster. Our caravan and car were packed, so we left a day early, once the police closed our road."*



So were Rob and Pat Williams whose home is on the edge of the flood plains of the River Goyt near Whaley Bridge. Rob led our worship recently and used what happened at Whaley Bridge to illustrate his Christian message to us.

*We do need to pray for the people in the hamlet of Kettlethume whose properties were devastated by the torrents of water coming off the moors into Todd Brook that runs into Toddbook reservoir.*

*Also for people in the local area of Lightwood Road, Buxton who had severe flooding to their properties.*

# 5 + 5 = Very Good Team!

**Buxton United Reformed Church Lunch Club** together with Eileen and Peter Blane's home have both been awarded Food Hygiene Ratings of 5. The reason why their home was also inspected was because a lot of the food preparation is carried out there.

The inspection included filling in a very large document and a one and a half hour viva of Eileen answering many questions together with an examination in detail of their kitchen at home. The lunch club team also experienced the opportunistic visit of the Food Safety Officer whilst preparing lunch at church.



Why is it important to the Lunch Club?

Good hygiene practice is terribly important for maintaining the health of everyone when sharing meals prepared either in our home or in the church kitchen. All of the people coming to the

lunch club, being elderly, are in the vulnerable group category so a high standard is so important.

Ratings are a snapshot of the standards of food hygiene found at the time of inspection. It is the responsibility of the business to comply with food hygiene law at all times.

This includes:

- handling of food
- how food is stored
- how food is prepared
- cleanliness of facilities
- how food safety is managed

A food safety officer from the local authority inspects a business to check that it follows food hygiene law so that the food is safe to eat.

At the inspection, the officer checks the following **three elements**:

- how hygienically the food is handled – how it is prepared, cooked, re-heated, cooled and stored;
- the physical condition of the business – including cleanliness, layout, lighting, ventilation, pest control and other facilities;
- how the business manages ways of keeping food safe, looking at processes, training and systems to ensure good hygiene is maintained. The officer can then assess the level of confidence in standards being maintained in the future.



## The rating scale

The hygiene standards found at the time of inspection are then rated on a scale:

- 5 being the top of the scale, this means the hygiene standards are very good and fully comply with the law. That is what our Lunch Club was awarded.

To get the top rating, businesses must do well in all three elements. If the top rating is not given, the officer will explain to the business the necessary actions they can take to improve their hygiene rating.

Look out for our certificate which will be on display on the outside window of the church kitchen along with another type of certificate on the Lunch Club cupboard door.

***Our rating only applies to the lunch club and not to any other catering carried out at our church.***

The important thing is that the standard is maintained in the future whether we have a Food Safety Officer inspection or not!



A big thank you to Peter, Joan and Derek Bodey, Lesley Caddy, Roger Horne, (when he is not in Africa!) and in the past Steve Fisher and Mary Macdonald, for the grand excellent team work at the lunch club.

The award is for you all.

Eileen Blane

**Buxton United Reformed Church**  
**Everyone is welcome to come to our**  
**Sunday Services**



1 <sup>st</sup> September	10.30 am	Morning Worship – Simon and Fiona Bingham
8 <sup>th</sup> September	10.30 am	Morning Worship – Mark Houghton  <i>Followed by Church Meeting</i>
15 <sup>th</sup> September	10.30 am	Fellowship Service
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	10.30 am	Morning Worship – Simon and Fiona Bingham  <i>Followed by a very short Church Meeting with Synod Representatives</i>
29 <sup>th</sup> September	10.30 am	Harvest Service – Charles Jolly
6 <sup>th</sup> October	10.30 am	Morning Worship – Mark Houghton



This is the  
**Thinking Christ**  
on top of a mountain near Passo Rollo in the Dolomites.

“Take time to think  
Take time to Pray  
Take time to smile”

*We did !*  
Debbie Delight  
August 2019



'Towards a sustainable community'

## Easy Does It

Transition Buxton wants to make it easier to recycle those items that are currently hard to recycle. Things like plastic toothbrushes and foil crisp packets that don't currently get recycled through our Council bins.

You can now deposit used toothpaste tubes, indeed all oral care products and packaging, in one of three bins, at Sainsbury's on the Market Place. The other bins accept all crisp packets, nuts, popcorn, and pretzels packets.



Transition Buxton will see that they are sent to TerraCycle, who will recycle them.

"We are looking for another volunteer business in Lower Buxton to make it even easier for everyone to recycle. If you know of a business where we could locate these small bins, we would love to hear from you." Said Derek Bodey of Transition Buxton

Recycling is great but even better is avoiding single use plastic in the first place. Transition Buxton is therefore

leading moves towards achieving "Plastic Free" status, working along with partner organisations such as HPBC and the Town Team. Derek added "We need your help with this - there are lots of ways in which you can get involved" [contact@transitionbuxton.co.uk](mailto:contact@transitionbuxton.co.uk) or visit our website [www.transitionbuxton.co.uk](http://www.transitionbuxton.co.uk) for more details or to volunteer.

The first meeting of the project group will be held on 10 September 2019 at 8pm at Poole's Cavern (in the "schoolroom"). All are welcome, members or not. This will follow the usual Members' meeting, which starts at 7.00pm.

Extracts from **The Zink Project** newsletter for July 2019.



**Buxton Community Café** run by Zink is going twice monthly from September. It's a great way to meet people over a wholesome meal, reducing food waste whilst preventing loneliness. It also provides work experience that can help people get jobs.

### **Zink Employability: New Employment Programme: SPRING**

*Zink has been running employment programmes for four years and supported over 300 High Peak people into jobs. We are pleased to be able to add a new programme to help more people get jobs. Called SPRING, it offers three months of work coach support along with mentored work experience within High Peak Foodbank or Buxton Community Café. SPRING is funded by the European Social Fund as part of its Community Grants programme. To be eligible, participants must be aged 16+ and not currently working.*

*Other Zink employment programmes are:*

**RISE** – for people who have been affected by drug and/or alcohol issues.

**BBO Towards Work** – for people who are struggling to get into work

Refer to any of these programmes or SPRING by ringing 01298 214926 or email [paul@zink.org.uk](mailto:paul@zink.org.uk)

### **Zink Advice**

An essential service for foodbank users, Zink Advice helps to resolve the issues that cause poverty as people attend to collect emergency food parcels. This means they are less likely to need the foodbank again. Together with Zink Employability, Zink Advice has helped to keep foodbank need at the same level as in 2014 whilst UK wide demand has increased by 49%. Current funding for Zink Advice ends in August 2019 and we are seeking additional funds to keep it going.

Best wishes from everyone at The Zink Project.



The total amount collected for Christian Aid week in Buxton was £4130.77

Many thanks to everyone who helped to raise this amount!

Thanks

Alison Darby

The amount raised by the URC was £303.02



## **22<sup>nd</sup> September Meeting with Synod Representatives**

The East Midlands Synod Representatives for Pastoral Care of North Derbyshire wish to have a very short meeting with church members after the service on 22<sup>nd</sup> September to discuss the role of Rev. Mark Houghton both within our church and the North Derbyshire Area.

The representatives coming will be Duncan Smith and Rev. Sue Powell.

If you are unable to attend and wish to have your views noted please contact Rev. Sue Powell ( phone numbers are 01246 200721 or 07375 521367).

# Mary Macdonald

Mary was part of our church ever since she and her husband Alec moved to Buxton from Essex in 2003.

One of the first involvements they had was joining the Thursday Lunch Club as helpers.

Laura their daughter was married to Craig in our church with Peter Meek officiating.



For Mary her involvement continued to expand when she became an elder and became responsible for the hiring of our building. A job that she was good at and she enjoyed meeting many *"Nice people"*.

She then took over the playing of the key board for Sunday services from Ruth who gave up in her 90's!

Following the threatened closure of a social club at another church hall in Buxton Mary and Di Horne took over the leadership and transferred the club to our building and that is still in existence today.

Many people will miss her in our church and so will the people who hire the building and the members of the Tuesday Club.

Mary died peacefully on the evening of Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August at East Cheshire Hospice in Macclesfield. Laura said she believed she took comfort in the clutch cross that she held in her hand.

Please continue in the coming weeks to pray for Keith, Laura and her husband Craig and their son Thomas.

# A MASSIVE THANK YOU

*A very big thank you to Lesley Caddy,  
Cath Sterndale, Charles Jolly and Peter Blane for all the help  
you have given each other and the church in taking over  
Mary's job of bookings for the church building.  
We recognise the amount of time that you have had to spend  
on the various jobs, letting people in and out and doing the  
administration of the bookings.  
We really appreciate you giving up a lot of your time to carry  
out these important jobs.*

We realise the amount of work needed to manage the church  
lettings. This has been faithfully carried out by Mary Macdonald  
over many years and we are very thankful to her. She said she  
*"always enjoyed meeting so many nice people."*

*Also a very big thank you to Simon and Fiona Bingham for  
providing our music every Sunday. We really appreciate it.*

In advance we also would like to thank all those folk who will be  
helping to implement the arrangements with Laura and Keith  
(Mary Macdonald's daughter and son) for the funeral service on  
2<sup>nd</sup> September.

*So a massive thank you  
to you all from the church!*

# What is prayer?

Prayer is uniting of the soul with  
God  
A very important thing.  
The building of relationship.  
Just like two human beings.

*A child will talk with its parent.  
So natural and free.  
God is our heavenly father.  
Wanting to talk with you and me.*

It doesn't have to be a need.  
Praise Him for creation.  
The many things He's given you.  
He'd love a conversation.

*Talk to God He's waiting.  
Try it at the kitchen sink.  
It really is a lovely place.  
To thank and always think.*

There are many ways to chat with  
God.  
You can kneel or maybe bow.  
Sit on a chair or lie on a bed.  
It doesn't matter how.

*The place it can be anywhere.  
At work, at rest or play.  
The time can be whenever.  
There's twenty four hours in a day.*

As we pray and draw near to Him  
We'll know His presence and rest.  
Experience Him in our daily lives.  
All that happens is for our best.

*Prayer should be our steering  
wheel.  
Don't let it be your spare tyre.  
It will be your joy in the journey.  
On the roads which will come in  
life.*

Prayer will never be technology.  
An email, text or phone.  
God wants us just as we are.  
With others or alone,

*Prayer it never changes God.  
It changes the one who prays.  
God will always hear us.  
Whether it's yesterday or today.*

God wants us to exercise faith.  
Believe He can and He will.  
He's in control of everything.  
So often we have to BE STILL.

*Look to Him and you will shine.  
Cast your cares down at His feet.  
His yoke is easy and burden light.  
All He is, is ALL WE NEED.*

**Psalm 62**

Trust in Him at all times.  
Pour your hearts out to Him.  
God is our refuge.

Fiona Bingham

# Dates to Remember



## Lunch Club

The next lunch will be on

**Thursday 3rd October**

*There will be no lunch club in September.*

## Fellowship Evenings

**Wednesdays at 7:30 – 9:00pm**

Locations to be announced

## Church Meeting

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September** after the morning service

**Meeting with Synod Representatives** (see separate notice)

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September** after the morning service

# Contributions for the magazine

*We appreciate your contributions  
so please keep them coming.*

Contributions please for the next magazine to

**Eileen and Peter Blane by**

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

**for the October publication.**



*To ensure your magazine is as informative  
as possible please keep us up-to-date with*

*news and events. Tel: 01298 27591 or email [peter@blane.co.uk](mailto:peter@blane.co.uk).*

**Please be aware that, in addition to the printed magazine, an electronic  
version is available to read on the church's website:**

[www.buxtonurc.org.uk](http://www.buxtonurc.org.uk)

# *Please Pray For*



Roger Horne in Kenya with Mission Direct winding up the projects and then returning home early September.

*Mary Macdonald's family, her children Keith and Laura, Laura's husband Craig and son Thomas.*

Alison Darby and her sister caring for their Mum who is very frail.

*Lesley Caddy and her family needing special prayers.*

All our church family who have supported each other in so many ways over the last few months in particular.

You are welcome to join us for prayer at the Church every Friday morning any time between 7am and 8am. Simon and Fiona Bingham



## Sunday Worship

**There will usually be a Service at 10.30 a.m.  
each Sunday**

Please check inside this magazine for details of the services  
as the format will vary from week to week

*We offer a sincere, loving welcome to all  
in Christian Worship*

Web site: [www.buxtonurc.org.uk](http://www.buxtonurc.org.uk)

---

### Weekly Activities for Children and Young People

- **Rainbows:** Tues. 5 - 6pm  
Leader: Stephanie Sterndale  
(Mobile Tel. No: 07967205209)
- **Brownies:** Tues. 6 – 7:30pm  
Leader: Cath Sterndale  
(Mobile Tel. No: 07973670595)
- **Guides:** Tues. 6pm  
Leader: Stephanie Sterndale  
(Mobile Tel. No: 07967205209)

### Other Activities

**Fellowship Evenings – Wednesdays**  
**Early morning prayers - every Friday drop in between 7 & 8am.**  
**Lunch Club – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in the month**  
**Tuesday Club – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays in the month 2pm**