

Roundabout



Celebrating 30 Years!

**The Cotteridge Church
Witnessing at the Heart of the Community**

January 2019

Mike's message

Uncertain times

It's been a while since we entered a New Year with as many uncertainties as we do this time. Globally, nationally and locally there are so many balls in the air that even the most adept of jugglers would struggle to make sense of them. Can they all be safely brought in hand?



As I write this it is 2nd January and hopefully still a few days before the news starts to be dominated by the things that were halted prior to the Christmas break. In all likelihood there'll be more confusion and uncertainty to come. Getting to the truth and trying to make sense of what we're told brings the old phrase "smoke and mirrors" to mind.

What are we to make of this, and how does it relate to our faith and calling as Christians?

Above all else the Christian faith is about love - God's love for us given unreservedly and unlimited. The gift of that love is called grace - Amazing Grace as the hymn proclaims. Amazing because it cannot be earned, nor does it need to be as it's already been given to us in Jesus Christ. A love, the light of which "shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it" (*John's Gospel 1 .5*) as we heard in our Christmas readings. A love that cannot be defeated, even by death.

In response to God's love, given to us without measure we are called to love one another. That is difficult at the best of times and, in times of uncertainty and division even harder. But let us seek to reflect something of God's love for us in our dealings with one another and especially with those with whom we disagree.

Back in 1939 the year came to an end in a time of danger and uncertainty. King George VI, broadcasting live on the radio on Christmas Day from Sandringham, included some words from a poem called 'God Knows' by Minnie Louise Haskins. It's believed that the poem had been given to him by his 13 year old daughter Elizabeth, the present Queen. Its words are still very appropriate as we enter 2019.

'God Knows'

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:

"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."

And he replied:

"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.

That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.

And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

Friends & Family

Happy New Year to you all. To echo Archbishop Welby's New Year Message, I hope 2019 will bring you happiness and hopefulness. As Mike says, we must trust in God, but we must also do what we can to alleviate the cult of xenophobia seemingly so rampant nowadays.. It is natural to be wary of the unknown, but we must try to evaluate it rationally, and with courage, and move forward in trust and love.

With sadness we record the deaths of Frank Webber and baby Sunday. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

Chris Brown has announced his engagement to Caroline Oliver a nurse in Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps based at Frimley Park Hospital. Wedding planned for spring 2020. He is also about to move stations in January joining the team at Whitchurch with the Roads Policing Unit. It was also good to see Ros Murphy in church before Christmas, looking well and now living with daughter Caroline in Manchester.

Very many thanks to Lin Brown, Chris Pascal, and to all those who knitted poppies, for our splendid banner, which hung in prime

position for the Remembrance Service on 11th November, and which is now hanging behind the organ. it was so good to experience the combined remembrance of the whole country for our WWI heroes.

Even the Birmingham buses all displayed "THANK YOU 100"

[to complete the page! & with thanks for the internet]

A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other.

May all your troubles last as long as your New Year's resolutions!

I have only one resolution. To rediscover the difference between wants and needs. May I have all I need and want all I have.

In 2019, may your neighbours respect you, troubles neglect you, angels protect you, and heaven accept you.

Keep the smile, Leave the tear, Hold the laugh, Leave the pain, Think of joy, Forget the fear. Be joyous, 'cause it's a New Year.

An iPhone and a firework were arrested on New Year's Eve. One was charged and the other was let off.

In the next edition of Roundabout we shall be recording our celebrations of the thirtieth anniversary of moving in to our refurbished building. Do you have any particular memories of the building, or of its refurbishment, - how it changed from what it was - which you could share with everyone? What makes it special to you? How has it helped us in our community mission? You can send them to me at any time, either on paper, or electronically via the email on the back page, but please by 24th February at the latest.

On the next page, Myra Dean has a few photos to get you started



Myra's memories of the Methodist Church



1976
Junior Church
Revd Hugh Howe in the pulpit

Sunday School on the stage
surrounding the pulpit



May 1977
75th Anniversary meal in the
Clent Room

February 1985
The last morning service of the
Methodist Church, Revd Joe
Stephens in the pulpit,
A Parade Service with Boys' and
Girls' Brigades in attendance



Life & Soul Dec 30th 2018

Our theme was Celebration - for Christmas, the New Year, and also for the 30th anniversary of our refurbished church building. The hymn below - written to Beethoven's Ode to Joy was compiled and sung during the service.



ODE TO JOY

- 1) Sound the horn and blow the trumpet
Let the mighty organ play.

By LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

With spirit

Let us dance and sing together
Christ was born on Christmas Day.
Angels in the heavens adored him
All on earth were filled with joy
Kings & shepherds made their journeys
Just to see a baby boy.

- 2) Light and music filled the heavens
Shepherds heard the angel's song.

Magi carried costly presents
On that journey hard and long.
So we too should go to the manger
Walk through the open stable door
Ask our God to keep his promise
Peace on earth for evermore.

- 3) Hear the birds sing, let the bells ring
Play the organ, beat the drum.

Dance and sing and tell the children
Saviour of the world has come.
Choirs sing out with hearts and voices
Sing until the rafters ring
Join the angels in their praises
Paying homage to the king.

- 4) As we go into the New Year
We'll walk forward hand in hand.
Loving, hoping, laughing, praying.
Spreading joy throughout the land.
Taking time to know each other,
Building friendships through God's love.
We'll become like sister, brother,
Finding all God's works to prove.

Thanks to everyone who wrote verses. Seven were submitted and a 'break out' group had twenty minutes during the service to make them into a singable set of four. The four we chose might have scanned more easily or were chosen to fit into similar narrative.



LIGHT PARTY AND MESSY CHURCH



We have welcomed a number of new families into our church congregation in the last couple of months, firstly at the Light Party and then at Messy Church. Some of these families are already friends from Saplings. Others are joining us for the first time.

Young Church hosted our first Light Party on 31st October, focusing on Jesus, Light of the World. The church was transformed, inside and out and we welcomed many local families to enjoy craft, activities and worship, based on light, followed by a meal.



We held our first Messy Church in November. This is a new church service on the 3rd Saturday of each month (except July and August) from 4 - 6pm. We start with refreshments, games and simple activities in the Pennine Way, before moving into the Malvern room for the story. There are then a number of crafts and activities to enjoy, before a short time of worship and singing, followed by a meal in the Pennine Way.

The theme of our first Messy church was The Lost Sheep. Children and adults alike, went all over the church, on the trail of the lost sheep! In December, our theme was Christmas. We made shepherds, Jesus in the manger tree decorations, chocolate angels... The children also enjoyed dressing up and building a giant cardboard stable.



There is always a collective craft activity which is displayed in church the next morning, so that the Sunday congregation can see what the Saturday congregation has done. Please look out for it!

Messy Church is for everyone. So, do come and join us and enjoy worship in a different way.

YOUNG PEOPLE

Our new **Bumps and Babies** group started in September and we already have a small group of mums and babies who are enjoying meeting together, sharing their experiences and trying some taster activities.

The Pre School Learning Alliance have delivered a baby massage taster session and will return in the Spring term to deliver a session on weaning and a second baby massage session. Ruth an NCT voluntary Birth and Beyond Support worker, has also been to some sessions and offered one to one support. We have also had a taster session from Sarah, who runs the Green Fit Baby exercise sessions (for free) at Cotteridge Park.

All the mums are benefitting from this new group and new friendships

Saplings, our stay & play group, has now moved to the Malvern room and continues to grow and grow! The children are enjoying the larger space, which allows for more active play. We have recently bought some additional equipment with money donated from a Bake Sale. The children really enjoyed the telling of the Christmas story, in recent weeks with an audible “ahhh”, when baby Jesus appeared in the manger.

The **Young Church** Christmas Service took place on 16th December. The children dressed up for the telling of the story and there was a Christingle for everyone.



Saint Agnes.

Agnes of Rome (c.291–c.304). Her feast day is 21st January.



Agnes is the patron saint of young girls. Folk custom called for them to practise rituals on Saint Agnes' Eve (20th - 21st January) with a view to discovering their future husbands. This superstition has been immortalised in John Keats's poem, "The Eve of Saint Agnes".

Agnes was one of the early martyrs of the church whose story of faith and perseverance through persecution continues to inspire us today.

She was a victim of one of the random persecutions in Rome that occurred during the first three centuries of Christianity. In the year 304, Diocletian, one of the most brutal and thorough of Roman emperors, launched a round of

persecutions aimed at totally wiping out Christianity.

Agnes' name means 'pure' in Greek [ἀγνή], and 'lamb' in Latin [agnus], perhaps reflected in her fate, which she met when she was only 12 years old.

Tradition tells us Agnes was born to Roman nobility in 291 and raised in a Christian family. Apparently a pagan prefect named Sempronius wished to have Agnes marry his son, but she refused. This decision condemned her to death. However, Roman law did not permit the execution of virgins. So Sempronius had Agnes dragged through the streets naked to a brothel. Agnes was finally led out to a stake to be burned, but the wood would not catch fire. That's when the officer in charge killed her with a sword.

A few days after Agnes' death, a girl named Emerentiana was found praying by her tomb. This girl claimed to be the daughter of Agnes' wet nurse, thus her foster sister. Emerentiana refused to leave the place, and reprimanded the pagans for killing Agnes. She was stoned to death and later canonised.

Today, Agnes' bones are conserved in the church of Sant'Agnese fuori le mura in Rome, which is built over the catacomb that housed Agnes' tomb.

The instrumental song "Saint Agnes and the Burning Train" appears in the 1991 album 'The Soul Cages' by Sting.



The Cotteridge Church
Joint Church Council
Summary of Proceedings 22nd November 2018

Key Decisions

1. An advertisement asking for new Coffee Bar Volunteers was approved
2. The Articles of Commission for the Mission through Action Group was approved
3. The Articles of Commission for the Worship, Pastoral Care and Spiritual Growth Group was approved
4. It was agreed that each of the Church's Policies would be review every two years in the future
5. The Church's budget for FY2019 was approved. This indicated an expected deficit of around £2000
6. The Coffee Bar Helpers Role Outlines was approved
7. It was agreed that the Building Steering Group could form a sub-group to arrange the 30th Anniversary celebrations
8. A short form of The Cotteridge Church mission statement, authored by Rita Sutton was approved

Summary Proceedings

1. It was with sadness and regret that the JCC received the resignation of Clare Naughton. The meeting thanks her for all the work she had done for the Church in the past
2. It was reported that Jane Stephens and Neil Walters were at the Sunday Forum on 19th November, but it was noted that no one from the congregation attended, the next Sunday Forum will be held on 16th December
3. It was noted that the steeplejacks have erected scaffold balconies in preparation for repairing the stone work on the tower
4. Thanks, were given to Steven and Dorothy Audley for partitioning the old reception area and fitting a letter box and cage
5. The review of the Church's Financial Reserves Policy was referred to the Finance and Property Committee
6. It was noted that a review of the Church's Safeguarding Policy would be undertaken by the Church's Safeguarding Co-ordinators would take place in the new year
7. The JCC has begun a review of the Church's Complaints Procedure
8. It was noted that standing outside the Church on Remembrance Sunday was very effective
9. It was with regret that the meeting was informed that Clare Naughton had stood down as the Chair of Catering Services. Pam Waddell was asked to seek volunteers for the post. The meeting thanked Clare for all the hard work and effort she had put in as Chair

The next meeting of the Joint Church Council will be on Thursday 15th January 2019 at 19:30.

This Summary is authorised by: Neil Walters Chair of the Cotteridge Church Joint Church Council

Boys' Brigade



Many thanks to all the church members, parents and friends who made a donation towards our BB week. The final figure collected was a fantastic £585-21p. This will go a long way toward's paying our capitation fee of £700 to BB headquarter's this year.

The Junior section entered 2 teams in the Battalion quiz and both reached the final stages. Our 'A' side came first in the final, beating the 51st company [Northfield Baptist] by just one point. The lads were presented with their trophy at the parade service by our chaplain.

At the church Christmas Fair we again ran the tombola stall. Thanks to everybody who donated prizes or supported us on the day to raise £101.



The Anchor Section visited the Fire station during November and had a great time. The Company Section is due to visit in the new year.

Our session finished on the 15th December with our usual party and re-opens on the 12th January and new members are welcome in all sections. Bob Hotchkiss

Services for January and February

	6th January	13th January	20th January	27th January
9.00 am HC	Revd R. Collins	Revd M. Claridge	Revd M. Claridge	Revd M. Claridge
10:30 am	Revd R. Collins P	Revd M. Claridge Mrs S. Knebel Cov	Mr J. Cooper	Revd L. Dixon HC
6:30 pm	Revd M. Claridge HC	Café Church	Revd R. Collins HC	Mrs S. Knebel
	3rd February	10th February	17th February	24th February
9.00 am HC	Revd M. Claridge	Revd M. Claridge	Revd M. Claridge	Revd R. Collins
10:30 am	Bishop of Aston Rt Revd Anne Hollinghurst P	Revd M. Claridge HC	Miss S. Spencer	Revd R. Collins HC
6:30 pm	Revd M. Claridge	Café Church	Revd M. Claridge HC	Miss Hazel Nash

Service types: HC - Holy Communion P - Parade Cov - Covenant Service
Communion Services are held each week at 10.00 am on Tuesdays

Foodbank initiatives

YouTube star Lad Baby (Mark Hoyle) has pulled off a festive upset by winning the race to this year's Christmas number one spot. He has reached pole position with a cover of Star ship's 'We Built This City' called 'We Built This City... On Sausage Rolls'. The charity single, in aid of food bank network **The Trussell Trust**, beat Ava Max and Ariana Grande to the top spot.



Sainsbury's has this week launched dedicated shelf-edge labels to alert its customers to items most useful for food banks as the grocer looks to improve its food collection scheme by encouraging more suitable and long-lasting donations.

Foodbank usages

Anything to increase the level of donation would be great for we have seen a surge in clients from December 2017: 344 vouchers with 836 people fed to December 2018: 526 vouchers with 1313 people fed, well over a 50% increase from December last year to December this year. What we really need is for the government to realise the problems its policies are creating rather than continuing to deny such problems exist.

Government Reaction to the Trussell Trust

A row erupted on Wednesday after figures from the Trussell Trust, Britain's biggest food bank provider, revealed that almost a million people have sought three days' emergency food supplies over the last year.

One senior DWP source accused the charity of "misleading and emotionally manipulative publicity-seeking", while another official said the rise in food bank use was down to the Trussell Trust "aggressively marketing their services".

Government Response to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation

“The sharp rise in poverty among working families with children is particularly concerning. We can and must do more to support families who are trying to give their children the best possible start in life, but are locked in poverty by low wages, high rents, and inadequate benefits.” From the report of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

A spokesman for the Department for Work and Pensions said: “We disagree with this report, and there are now one million fewer people living in absolute poverty since 2010, including 300,000 children. With this Government's changes, household incomes have never been higher.”

Government Response to the United Nations

The United Nations envoy, Professor Philip Alston, has condemned the British government's austerity measures in a damning report, saying the “mean-spirited, and often callous” program has inflicted ‘great misery’ on millions of Britons. The British government reacted to Alston's report by saying it “completely disagreed” with the analysis provided by the UN investigator.

Roger Collins B30 Foodbank Project Manager

Life without Jeanie 2 years on

It is now 2 years since Jeanie, my best friend, soulmate & wife of 40 years, died. It has been a challenging, and often painful, 2 year rollercoaster, with many highs and lows. I know that Jeanie is never far away and I constantly feel her presence guiding me in the right direction, as she always did during her lifetime.



*Jeanie's graduation
– smiling as always*

Like most widows, particular lows occurs at those special times we spent together at Christmas, Valentines Day, Easter, Wedding Anniversary, Birthdays and the anniversary of her death. I was grateful to my oldest grandson, Wesley, for coming with me to say a prayer at her grave on 15th December, the anniversary of her death, also to other friends who sent their best wishes, including Annie, our long-time friend and nursing colleague, who had a mass said for Jeanie at her local church in London.

The deepest low was when my sister, Margy, died in August. Like Jeanie, she bravely fought the progression of cancer through her body with courses of chemo, and kept cheerful until the end. Life can be so unpredictable – it was so unforeseen

that I would not only outlive Jeanie, who was a onetime local Marathon champion, but also my 3 younger siblings. These have been times when I felt my faith to be greatly challenged. Widowhood offers the gift of time, and I believe that God encourages us to use this precious gift productively. After much reflection, I believe that I have been given this time to:-

- a) Reflect and Reconciliate
- b) Care about others
- c) Make a difference

With the help of God and good friends, I have been able to achieve a level of emotional equilibrium and move forward positively.

Rambling is very helpful, which I do with South Birmingham Ramblers, with benefits to physical, mental and social health. I try to promote this across the country as a member of the national Board of Trustees and Vice Chair.

In addition to my usual work as Secretary for BCF (Birmingham Council of Faiths) and member of the West Midlands Police Chaplains and Faith Advisors group I continued serving on the West Midlands Crown Prosecution Service Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel. This is a role I feel passionate about because no one should suffer abuse or discrimination because of a disability, ethnicity, faith, age or sexual orientation. So often people suffer in silence. I hope that I can contribute to making it easier for them to report it, so that the situation can be improved.

My transfer from Harborne to Kings Norton U3A, which is closer to home, was an opportunity to start a new Exploring World Faiths Group and have so far explored the Buddhist and Jain faiths, and continued in my role as National Subject Advisor.

It was a great privilege to be asked by Richard Tetlow to contribute to his book



*My sister, Margy
with Daughter, Sally*

'Perceptions of Christianity from people of different faiths' in which 5 people of different faiths wrote about how they perceived Christians and Christianity, and then 5 Christians, including myself responded.

This has been an outstanding Scouting Year, which started with me going to Belfast to help with their first Scout of the World Discovery for 18-25 year olds, followed by our own Birmingham Discovery. In March we held our 10th annual Faiths for Fun for 7-12 year olds of different faiths. I was presented with my 30 year long service award, and met Bear Grylls at Windsor Castle when I was awarded my Silver Acorn. In September I joined the Gilwell Fellows, with whom I shared the Gilwell Reunion weekend, including a visit to the site of the first Scout camp at Brownsea Island.

In addition to my input at Birmingham Uni and Birmingham Voluntary Services Council, we have continued to work in a proactive way at Healthwatch Birmingham by developing our Quality Standard and Feedback Widget to enable patients to comment on the service they have received.

I was pleased to attend the Research Seminar on Social Prescribing in June. We picked this up, with Complementary Therapies for our Faiths, Health and Wellbeing Seminar in November. I am glad to have joined the Board of Ammalife to reduce the incidence of maternal and infant morbidity and mortality, particularly in Malawi and Pakistan, by supporting evidence-based improvements in care.

The other two health issues that have been occupying my mind are improvements in the diagnosis and support for people with mental health issues, particularly youngsters on the Autistic spectrum and older people with Dementia. At least these issues now have a higher profile, so hopefully we can work to bring about some improvement.

(Dr) Peter Rookes

TEN RULES FOR BEING HUMAN.

(1) You will receive a body. You may like or hate it, but it will be yours for the entire period, this time around.

(2) You will learn lessons. You are enrolled in a full time informal school called Life. Each day in the school you will have the opportunity to learn lessons. You may like the lessons or think them irrelevant and stupid.

(3) There are no mistakes, only lessons. Growth is a process of trial and error, and experimentation. The failed experiments are as much a part of the process as the experiment that ultimately works.

(4) A lesson is repeated until learned. A lesson will be presented to you in various forms until you have learned it. When you have learned it you can then go onto the next lesson.

(5) Learning lessons does not end. There is no part of life that does not contain its lessons. If you are alive, there are lessons to be learned.

(6) There is no better than here. When your *there* has become *here* you will simply obtain another there that will again look better than here.

(7) Others are simply mirrors of you. You cannot love or hate something about another person unless it reflects to you something you love or hate about yourself.

(8) What you make of your life is up to you. You have all the tools and resources you need. What you make of them is up to you. The choice is yours.

(9) The answers lie inside you. The answers to life's questions lie inside you. All you have to do is look listen and trust.

(10) You will forget all this. *Sourced from R & M Seminars by Gordon Parsons.*

Festival of Remembrance 2018

On the 9th of November, I arrived in London to see the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance, held at the Royal Albert Hall, and watched by the Queen, other members of the royal family and Theresa May.

When I arrived, I looked around the outside and entrances of the hall. It was huge and I thought the architecture was amazing. I hardly got to see my sister who was rehearsing all day – she was going to perform a poem she had written called



“Thank You” which had won the British Legion competition.

On the day of the service we arrived at the hall at 5:30pm, and we had a box on



the 2nd tier to ourselves. The service began with the flag bearers marching in, shortly followed by my sister who read her poem about our great grandma who worked in a factory aged 12.

After she had performed, the Queen arrived. Then the marching bands came on followed by Tom Jones. Then professional poets came on and then McFly. The parade was last with people from the Army, Navy, Air Force and many others. At the end they all saluted the Queen and poppies fell on them slowly.

When the service finished, the soldiers handed out the poppies that fell on them.

I was proud to be able to wear my Boys Brigade uniform for the service, and it's a day I will never forget.

Finlay Attrill, 7th Birmingham Boys Brigade

Grandfathers

My Great Uncle Louis died on the 1st November 1914, drowned when his ship, HMS Good Hope, was sunk in the Pacific off the Chilean town of Coronel during the first large naval battle of the Great War. The Royal Navy's first defeat for over one hundred years.

My Father also served in the Royal Navy, during the Second World War. Although he spoke about his time at sea, his tales were more like scenes from 'Operation Petticoat' I know he was part of the D-Day landings on a ship that landed tanks on Gold beach, but he never spoke about it. He held a lifelong resentment of the Americans as he was recalled from Christmas leave with his family and his fiancée, my Mother, to recover the 101st Airborne from their disaster in the Ardennes. Nuts! Publicly my Father always said he left High Anglicanism to join Methodism to worship with my Mother, but privately he said he left because he didn't like the belligerent way the Anglican Church supported the war.

I don't remember my maternal Grandfather, he died when I was four, he was this shadowy grey figure that sat bolt upright in an armchair watching horse racing on the television. I never spoke to him, but my brother, who remembers him well, said he often used to regale him with stories of leaving Villa Park at the turn of the last century amid flying half bricks [football hooliganism is **not** a modern phenomenon], or having to walk back from a match with as many friends as could be mustered to ensure you were not attacked by a 'tribe' of ruffians with razor blades in their caps, the real peaky blinders, not the glamorous twenties gangsters of the BBC series, but a gang of thugs from the late Victorian era. He never talked about the First World War, but I know, as a strict Christadelphian he declared himself a Conscientious

Objector, which I feel was a very courageous and thing to do and I very much admire him for it. He did, however, serve as a stretcher bearer on the Western Front. I well remember my paternal Grandfather, he was the gentlest, kindest and most generous person I have ever met. In the twenties he and my Grandmother opened a green grocers shop, but it went broke, because they used to give their vegetables away to people they didn't think could pay. He was personable and charismatic man, as my Father used to say 'he could sell refrigerators to the Eskimos'. I loved my Grandfather and spent many happy hours talking with him. He spoke at length about the First World War. He joined up in 1915, because all his friends did, to become one of Kitchener's volunteer army. ['Your Country Needs You.'] After basic training he was sent abroad and eventually landed at Suvla Bay, as part of Churchill's great fiasco in the Dardanelles. After the British pulled out of Gallipoli he returned to England in time to be shipped to France to take part in the first day of the Somme. Whilst on the Western Front he was wounded in the leg and walked with a limp until the day he died. After convalescing he was sent to the White War to aid the Italians in their fight against Austria in the alps. A terrible catalogue of events for just one man to live through.

Neil Walters

Church Pillars - Shap Granite

As we approach our celebration of 30 years together in this building, inevitably we shall be looking back at our history. One of the features of our building which I have long admired are the six stone pillars in the Malvern Room. They are a fantastic colour, and so tactile.

Feel them and realise that the rock they are made from was formed by the very slow cooling of a large body of molten rock, buried far below the Earth's surface about 400 million years ago. Each must weigh almost 3/4 ton.

This rock is Shap Granite, often referred to as pink granite.

Large pink crystals of the mineral feldspar are a characteristic feature.

This particular form of granite is limited to an area of 8 km² on the Lakeland fells, to the south of the village of Shap. The quarry has now become a geological conservation area where collecting is no longer allowed.

Pink granite when cut and polished is used as an attractive and extremely durable building stone. With the coming of the

railways it became a popular architectural stone with the Victorians and has been used as a

decorative stone on buildings throughout Britain. Granite is made up from quartz, feldspar and mica, each of which crystallised separately from the molten matrix. The more slowly it cooled, the more time was available for the individual components to separate from each other, and make larger crystals.

St. Mary's Cathedral, in Edinburgh, has beautifully polished Shap granite pillars at the entrance, and St. Paul's Cathedral,

London, has a semicircle of polished bollards once used as hitching posts for gentlemen's horses, but now an attractive and effective traffic barrier!

Celia Lester



Christmas Fair

Our annual Christmas Fair took place on Saturday 1st December. It was a happy and festive occasion, shared by many local visitors, and church members. It was good to include stalls from C2U and the Guides and Rangers.

We raised a total of £1142.



We shall send another donation to the toilet twinning charity we supported last year, and will thus have a certificate for the gents toilet also.



The majority of the takings has been given to the church. Our thanks go to our organisers, and helpers and everyone who supported and enjoyed the event.



Roundabout is the bi-monthly newsletter of The Cotteridge Church.
Large print issue in the Pennine Way, and available to download from our web site.
Your Editor from January 2017 is Celia Lester

Please send copy for the next edition by 24th February 2019 at the very latest
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