

# Cullompton Baptist Church

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## The Network

Hello, and welcome to the June & July issue of "The Network".

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*"being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."*

**Philippians 1: 6**

This verse has always been special to me as an individual. We must remember that this verse was written in the first instance to a Church.

As I begin my 11<sup>th</sup> year, I feel it offers some encouragement for us all right now. The last 10 years have seen their fair share of joys and sorrows. We have lost a number of good saints and are gaining new ones just when we need them most.

It was always my desire to build a healthy Church, fit for mission in the heart of Cullompton. My strapline has become: "Cullompton Baptist Church, the small Church with a big heart in the heart of Cullompton. I absolutely believe this to be true and that is down to you.

I also wanted to encourage other smaller Baptist Churches in our area. Moderating at Bradnich and helping out at Uffculme has helped in that endeavour.

But what next for us? I believe year 11 is about three words: re-set, re-group and restore.

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June is what I have called "Re-set Sunday". Apart from an encouraging sermon, three other things will happen. First, an invitation to pre-service prayer. I will be

in the vestry each Sunday from 10am to pray for the service and the life of the Church. Everyone is welcome to join me for as long or as short as you like.

Second, prayer and Bible study on the go. We all lead busy lives. Meeting together is difficult. Each fortnight from the week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> June, I will send out a link to a 10-minute video from me containing a Bible reflection, two response questions, a prayer point and a link to a piece of music. Please either use this material alone or with friends.

Finally, multi-voiced planning. As Baptists we believe in the priesthood of all believers not Ministerial rule. I may be the Captain trying to plot the course and make sense of the map, but you are my crew. Speaking up at meetings is not always easy. To this end a permanent suggestion box will be placed at the back of the Church. You can put into it things you would like to see in the life of the Church, Bible verses the Lord lays on your heart and prayer requests. These will be looked at by the Deacons at each of our meetings. Also, a number of folk since Good Friday have expressed without prompting from me to be part of a way forward group. If anyone would like to be part of such a group, please let me know.

There is so much to take in. Please read this piece several times to take it all in. Only the Lord knows where this will lead.

As we step out into deep waters, may we know the Holy Spirit being the wind in our sails.

Yours in Christ.

Glen and Rowan Graham

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## Arty Party

On Saturday 8th of June, from 9.30am - 12.30pm in our school room, Creative Cullompton are running an 'Arty Party'. This is drop-in event where people can join in some creative fun. The programme will comprise a drumming workshop, a printmaking workshop, eco craft activities and more.

We will be serving refreshments for donations. If you are around Cullompton on that Saturday, which is also farmers' market day, do stop by.

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## Afternoon Tea

At the end of March, we booked an afternoon tea at the Victorian hotel in Sidmouth. It was a lovely day, sunny and dry!

We were welcomed by the young waiters who gave us a good table by the window so we had a good seaview.

The food arrived which was so delightful - but so much. The waiter assured us we would have a box to take home what we could not manage. We did eat all the dainty sandwiches, but not four scones! The service was excellent - filling up the teapot several times.

We would like to thank you all for such a generous gift. What made the afternoon more exciting was that we had a large vessel to watch. It was way out, but either a tanker or a container ship. We do like to see some "shipping" having lived near Dover where the sea is so busy.

Freda & Norman

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## Sunday Services

2<sup>nd</sup> June - Sunday Morning Service - Rev. Nigel Manges

9<sup>th</sup> June - Sunday Morning Service - Rev. Glen Graham - Luke 6: 12 - 17 "The three directions of Church life"

16<sup>th</sup> June - Communion Service - Rev. Glen Graham - Acts 8: 1

23<sup>rd</sup> June - Sunday Morning Service - Rev. Glen Graham - Acts 8: 14 - 25

30<sup>th</sup> June - BMS Sunday Service - Rev. Glen Graham

7<sup>th</sup> July - Sunday Morning Service - Prof. Noel Morgan

14<sup>th</sup> July - Family Service - Rev. Glen Graham

21<sup>st</sup> July - Communion Service - Rev. Glen Graham - Acts 9: 13 - 16

28<sup>th</sup> July - Sunday Morning Service - Rev. Glen Graham - Acts 9: 36 - 40

## **Other dates for your diaries**

8<sup>th</sup> June - Arty Party in the school room; 9.30am - 12.30pm.

1<sup>st</sup> July - Deacons' meeting at 2.30pm.

13<sup>th</sup> July - Tabletop sale for Church funds. 10am till noon. More information to follow.

24<sup>th</sup> July - Fellowship meeting at 10am.

Any contributions for the next "Network" need to be with Camille by 21<sup>st</sup> July; email at [mrs.camille.harrison@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.camille.harrison@gmail.com) or pass them on at Church on Sunday.