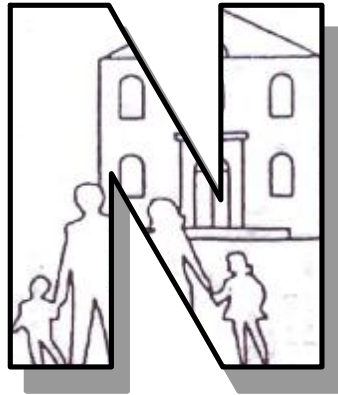


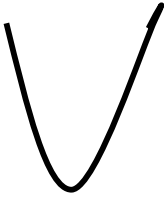
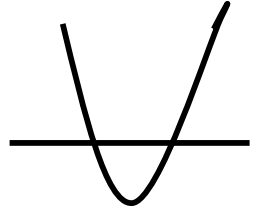
February 2010
No. 712



The Monthly Newsletter
of the Baptist Church,
Kay Street, Rawtenstall
Charity Registration No.1129330

..AND NOW FOR A LITTLE HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS

In the diagram on the right, it is clear that the line and curve intersect each other. Finding numerical values for the points of intersection is an important feature in a range of mathematical scenarios.



In the diagram on the left, the line and curve clearly do not intersect. However, during the 16th century, mathematicians began working on problems that suggested the curve and line actually do cross – but in a way we can't see. They began work on inventing a new set of numbers which stated where the curve and line crossed. Newton called these "impossible numbers", and Descartes labelled them "imaginary numbers".

The idea is that the curve and line do cross, but in two imaginary places, and the numbers which indicate the crossing points are called imaginary numbers. Of course, lots of very clever people laughed! However, in 1831 a mathematician called Gauss presented his work on them and established their existence as fact. This was possibly aided by his re-naming them as "complex numbers" (which sounds much more serious and difficult). What was incredible though was that a lot of incredibly difficult mathematics became much more straightforward through the use of these complex numbers. They have very wide ranging uses in all aspects of engineering.

It seems likely to me that there may well be other features of our universe that are all around us, that we simply can't (yet) see or fathom. And we think we are so clever! I'm so amused at the idea that mathematicians thought that they had invented a new number system with complex numbers – when in fact all they did was discover what was already there.

It speaks to me so strongly about the structure and design of the world we live in, and points clearly to a designer who has planned our world layer upon layer upon layer. I wonder, how well can an

ant comprehend the Statue of Liberty? How close is our comprehension to the ant's when we consider the environment we live within?

Genesis begins with such a simple statement – “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth”. Yet there is an immensity beyond our comprehension in the phrase. And if we look beyond the amazing creation – how much greater must the Creator be? Yet we see throughout history His initiatives in forming relationships with the ant-like beings occupying his universe – the human race. This begs the question – why? Why on earth is God interested in us at all? It is beyond rationality – what possible reason would I have in forming a relationship with a microbe?

Could it be due to the fact that we are (sharp intake of breath) like Him – Gen 1:26 “Let us make man in our image” – that we are also creative beings, capable of forming relationships? Could it be that the Creator really does love His created beings? Isn't this the most amazing thing of all?

Could it be that He loves us so much that He sacrificed part of Himself (Jesus) in order to enable us to draw near to Him? Again, here is the indication that there has always been a structure and plan within God's design. In Col 1:19 we read that “God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him (Jesus)”, and that that “In him (Jesus) you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit” – Eph 2:22.

What has God destined us for? It makes me tremble to consider it. Yet it also fills me with such a sense of security. The Creator has His creation in hand. If only we can put the nitty gritty of our lives into the context of being totally secure within God's plan – surely this is the way to live.

We don't need to worry about what is around the next corner – because we know who has already been there and set our destiny in place. Instead, we can be filled with excitement at what we will go on to experience and discover – who knows what numbers are ready to show themselves!

Paul Reeves, on behalf of Matt and the deacons

Baptist Mission Compound, Kuthibari,
PO Dinajpur, Bangladesh
3rd January 2010

Dear Friends in our Link Churches,

Thank you for your Christmas cards and greetings. It was lovely to be reminded of all our friends and supporters back at home at this special time of year. The cards also brightened up our veranda and made our temporary home look festive.

As you know, this was our first Christmas and new year in Dinajpur. Although very different from the three busy and happy Christmases we spent at Chandraghona, we had a lovely time. The hostels were closed and some of the staff went back to their family homes, so the compound was pretty quiet. However there were many visitors who joined us for our various services, church feast and sport's day. We had Christmas lunch with the girls hostel's warden at her family home about two miles away. We also had a tour of the village which included a visit to a large Catholic mission. We were wearing a number of layers as winter is pretty cold up here (although no snow, unlike the UK we hear).

We know that many of you will be holding covenant services this month and we think of you all at this special time. This is a service we have always found moving and meaningful and we had one ourselves yesterday. As we reflected on the year gone by, we were struck afresh at how faithful God is and how He walked with us through what was an eventful and, at times, very stressful year. As we look forward to 2010, we are excited about the events to come and are full of hope and expectation that God will equip us for the joys and challenges which lie ahead.....

We pray that you will know God's abundant love and rich blessings in this coming year. We look forward to seeing you all later in the year when we hope to return for home assignment.

Peace and love, Fiona & Les

KAY STREET COVENANT

Trusting in Jesus Christ as Saviour and confessing Him as Lord, we covenant together to walk with God in all His ways, made known or to be made known and in all the responsibilities and privileges of church fellowship and worship, service and witness; in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Heavenly Father we pray for this fellowship, that we, your people, may be obedient to the vision you have given us. May we be:

a witnessing church where Jesus Christ is proclaimed as Saviour and Lord;

a growing church where the community of God's people are discipled and encouraged and the word of God is studied with expectation and taught with relevance;

a praying church that regularly talks and listens to God, both individually and collectively;

a caring church where people of all ages are valued and respected and a place where forgiveness and mutual love prevail;

a visionary church ever seeking to discern the signs of the Spirit's action in the world;

a serving church where people are encouraged to discover and use their God-given gifts.

We pray that we may support and encourage one another and, that together, we may grow in the unity of the Spirit through Jesus Christ our Lord.

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy."

1 Peter 2:9-10

Count on it

Living in the certainty of God's Word



We shall be celebrating Bible Sunday on February 14

Newsletter from Bible Society:

'When people are in difficult situations, I counsel and pray for them,' says Aruliraj Kivil Pillai, a chaplain to migrant workers in Dubai. 'the most exciting thing is seeing people's lives changing when they are exposed to the Gospel.'

Dubai lies in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Its oil fields have made it one of the richest places on earth. And the combination of oil and tourism has attracted an influx of migrant workers.

Today more than three quarters of the UAE's population is made up of migrant or expatriate workers.

But because work is demanding and workers are isolated from their families for years at a time, it can become an overwhelming life.

That's where Bible Society comes in bringing hope, support and encouragement through the gospel. Arulraj is sharing the gospel with around 600 labourers drawn by the areas vast construction projects.

As we celebrate Bible Sunday, we have a chance to remember people like Arulraj and the men and women among whom they work.

This year's theme – **Count on it** – is taken from Isaiah 55:1-11. Isaiah gave this message to the people of Israel when they were in exile in Babylon. They'd been there for 70 years and were losing confidence in the God Who was to deliver them to their own land.

Isaiah is reminding them that this is not the end of the journey and that they can have confidence in their God to fulfil His promises for the future.

This message is as relevant for us today as it was for the Israelites thousands of years ago. It helps us to rediscover the living certainties of God's Word in times of trouble.

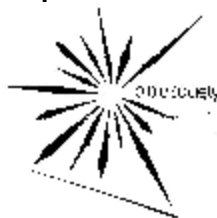
Today, Bible Society is bringing the knowledge of the fact that you can count on God's Word to millions of people around the world, including migrant workers both at home and abroad.

And for us in the UK, it's also a wonderful reminder of the security we can find in God's Word during the recession. Uncertainty seems to reign around us, but God's promises to us still hold firm. We can count on them.

February 17 marks the beginning of Lent

**Our Lent project is to help migrants
live in the certainty of God's Word**

**For example:
£10 = Bible booklets for 10
£50 = NT in own language for 23
£120 = audio Scriptures for a Bible
listening group**





PRAYER POINTS for FEBRUARY

Pray for those involved in disasters: Haiti

- Pray for the people of Haiti as they deal with the aftermath of the earthquake, ask the Lord to comfort those who are injured and mourning.
- Pray for rescue efforts to find survivors trapped in destroyed buildings and for communication links and power supplies to be restored quickly.
- Pray for a swift and generous response from the international community to help this disaster-prone poor country.
- Pray for the safety and protection of Tearfund staff and partners based in Haiti and **all** aid workers that they will be able to respond as effectively as possible.
(Tearfund)

Remember too:

**Bangladeshi cyclone (Oct 07),
Pakistan earthquake (Nov 05),
Hurricane Katrina (Aug 05),
Tsunami (Dec 04), and others forgotten.**

- Pray for those still struggling to restore homes and services.
- Pray for those ministering in these areas in the name of Jesus, particularly the Allans in Bangladesh.
- Pray for the authorities in countries prone to natural disasters, for wisdom in planning and construction.
- Pray for God to protect those involved in disasters from those who would wish to use the disaster for evil ends.

People trafficking

- Pray for the estimated 42 million people worldwide who have been uprooted from their homes, that they will receive water, food, sanitation and shelter, and be protected from violence and abuse
- Pray for those who campaign against commercial exploitation of children and for advocacy work amongst politicians in the UK and elsewhere.

- Pray for Christians working to rescue those trapped by trafficking and support their rehabilitation.
- Pray for Christians working in UK projects helping street workers.

Pray for Hannah Wilson and for the work she started in Albania to continue to bear fruit.

Pray about the anticipated massive demand for paid-for sex during the London Olympics. Pray for churches, media, police and other agencies to stand and work against this.

And..

Much of our chocolate is grown using trafficked labour. Pray about what we choose to consume and the implications this has for those who make/grow it. (Care UK)

Pray for our YP

- That a group identity will be created. We have lots of YP around but not always able to come along, (Friday YP can range from 2 to 12)
- That they will bring their friends – this has happened a bit already;
- That we will be able to find a good balance between spiritual and social activities.

Table Tennis

- Pray that our own players will talk about their faith/what's going on in church/Alpha etc.
- And that visiting teams will sense a Christian atmosphere.

Please continue to pray for...




- Alpha – thank God for the 40 who started the course. Pray for their growth in Jesus.
- Bacup Family Centre as it continues to re-establish its work
- The Engage party now re-scheduled for Feb 27
- The local mission team and their plans to help us reach out into the community
- The Christians in Orissa. Thank God that they are reported to have enjoyed a peaceful Christmas. Pray for the success of peace-building initiatives in this state.

Fair Trade Fortnight
February 22 to March 7



A REMINDER

Kay Street is a Fairtrade Church which means that we have committed to

-  using Fairtrade tea & coffee for all meetings for which we have responsibility;
-  moving forward on using other Fairtrade products such as sugar, biscuits, fruit;
-  promoting Fairtrade during Fairtrade fortnight and through other activities whenever possible.

So please, if you are catering for anything bear in mind – we are a Fairtrade Church

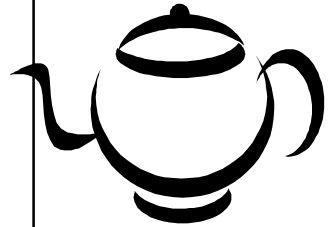
An Invitation to

Antioch Christian Bookroom's

BIG BREW

**at Kay street Baptist Church
on Saturday, March 6
from 9.30 am. to 1 pm.**

**Enjoy a Fair trade cuppa and visit
the bookroom**



Prayer in a teacup

A nice cup of tea!

How I relish its versatility.

The way it restores and revives me in the morning,
calms and comforts me as I prepare for bed,
shared so easily with friends, consolingly familiar when I'm
alone,
its warmth a constant blessing.

And I take it all for granted, forgetting the miracle of
growth and harvest,
the painstaking labour that brings it to my cup,
the way this everyday drink connects me to people all
round the world.

As I add water to my tea
to release all its goodness, all its potential,
so I pray for the splash of Your living water in my life,
Lord, releasing all I have to offer in Your name.

As I drink my tea, sweetened with Your love,
bless those for whom it is a livelihood,
and stir up in me Your thirst for justice.
Amen

Now just let me put the kettle on....!

Traidcraft

THOMAS WILSON BURY

After a long illness, Wilson Bury died on January 8th in Highfield Hall Nursing Home. Coming from a family with long Kay Street connections, he was baptised at the church in 1946 (together with Amy Lord and Joyce Barnes), met his wife, Brenda, at the church and they were married here in September 1954. Essentially a quiet, yet totally committed individual, he lived a life of unstinting service to His Lord. Most will remember him as the church's organist, a role he undertook for nearly 40 years and where his utter reliability shone through. He considered it his ministry. Playing the organ every Sunday morning and evening, he and Brenda rarely went out on a Saturday evening since Wilson wanted to ensure he was totally prepared. He also acted as choir master, both on a weekly basis and for special occasions.

However, his work didn't end there. He was often in the background ensuring that things were done. Having trained as a mechanical engineer and draughtsman after leaving BRGS, he put his skills to good use on the fabric of the church. Alterations, large and small, were devised with plans drawn meticulously by Wilson. A new vestry in the downstairs area (now Matt's office) - designed and drawn by Wilson; enclosing the gallery in the School Hall (now DBA room) - designed and drawn by Wilson; the construction of a totally new toilet block in 1971 (previously the church had outside loos!) - designed and drawn by Wilson.

Having taught at Accrington and Rossendale College, Wilson took early retirement in 1986. And it was God's timing! It was Wilson, together with the late Jack Nuttall, who designed, drew up plans and did a great deal of the physical work on dividing the Church into two, with the worship area upstairs and the multi purpose downstairs area. All this work, Wilson did quietly and methodically 'as to the Lord and not to men'. No job was too large or too small or menial. He helped Vera Cunliffe, on a weekly basis, in the cleaning of the church. During this time (until 1993), Wilson also acted as a deacon.

Wilson applied the same qualities to his leisure interests, be that tall sailing ships or making the flies for his fishing passion. He was also essentially a family man, bringing up Alison and Nick to believe in Jesus and to follow Him. Our sympathy goes to both of them and their families and to his sister, Celia. To many of us, Wilson was a example that we wish we could emulate. (GS)



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

You will see opposite a tribute to **Wilson Bury** who died on Jan 8. and **Celia, Alison, Nick** and all the family 'would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, letters and expressions of sympathy, following Wilson's death. Thank you also for remembering him in prayer, visiting and enquiring about him during his long illness. We've appreciated it very much.'

Our sympathy has also gone to **Pauline Stephenson**, her parents and family. Pauline's brother **Andrew Dobson** died in Holland and a memorial service was held at Kay Street on Jan 18.

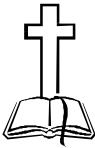
Alan Hoyle has died after a long illness. We offer our sympathy to Brenda, Nick, Rachel and the rest of the family.

Ben & Eva Parker have been in a car crash. Both were badly shaken and Eva sustained a broken shoulder. Eva says they are improving slowly and writes :-
'We would like to say "**Thank You**" for the prayers, flowers, cards and offers of help with shopping. Special thanks to Brian & Kath Williams for their care. whilst it is an experience we wouldn't want to repeat, we thank the Lord for the many blessings we have seen. Our thanks to all.'

....and further afield..

Congratulations to **Ted & Kathleen Wright**, now living in Carmarthen, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Jan 2.

Sara & Tim Ordway have a baby daughter, **Lucy**, which means that **Sandra Conaghan** (formerly Coleman) is a grandma.



SUNDAY WORSHIP in FEBRUARY

	AM	PM
Feb 7	Joint Service see opposite	Prayer and Communion
Feb 14	Bible Sunday see pages 6-7	DVD
Feb 21	Rev D Parkin	Rev J Prior
Feb 28	Rev M Hirst	Café Church

Communion Services will be on Feb 7 in the evening
and Feb 21 in the morning.



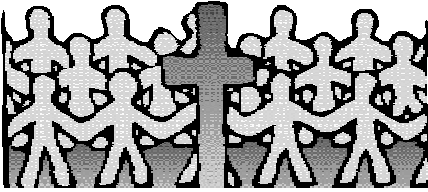
DIARY for FEBRUARY

Mon Feb 1	Alpha Week 3
Fri Feb 5	Deacons' Meeting
Sat Feb 6	Prayer Breakfast – Asda (8:00am)
Sat Feb 6	Torch Fellowship (2:00pm)
Mon Feb 8	Alpha Week 4
Fri Feb 12	Ordination of Ashley Stansfield as Minister at Sion, Higher Cloughfold
Sat Feb 13	Valentine's Dinner with NEO - see Ian Pickup
Sun Feb 14	Visit to Holme Manor
Mon Feb 15	Alpha Week 5
Mon Feb 15	Tearfund Prayer & Support meeting Holcombe Brook Methodist Church 7.30 pm.
Fri Feb 19	Music Session – 7:30pm
Mon Feb 22	Alpha Week 6
Thurs Feb 25	Church Members' Meeting
Fri Feb 26 – Sun Feb 28	Alpha Weekend Away
Fri Feb 26	Camera Club – 'Dawn, Dusk and Night time'
Fri Feb 26	United Celebration – Sion, Higher Cloughfold
Sat Feb 27	'Engage' Party
Sun Feb 28	Visit to Cherry Tree Lodge

MONTHLY WALK



Saturday, February 27
Whitewell to Browsholme 5½ miles approx.



**Sunday, February 7
Rawtenstall Churches
United Service at
St. Mary's at 10.30 am.**

OUT OF THE MOUTHS...

From one of the 'Hands On' folk..

Walking along the road one afternoon with my two children, my son, aged six, asked me how we know that God is always with us? Thinking on my feet rather quickly, I told him to look at the trees which were moving in the wind and pointed out that we could not actually see the wind; I likened this to God being always around us and looking after us. My son seemed to accept this explanation – thank goodness!!

We walked on up the road when all of a sudden he stumbled. I asked him what was wrong and he calmly told me he had just bumped into God!!

25 YEARS AGO

from the February 1985 issue

Notice of the Church and School Anniversary on June 30 was given when the preacher at the evening service was to be Mr Robin Oake, an Assistant Chief Constable with the Greater Manchester police Force who had recently been set aside by Altrincham Baptist Church as their Church Evangelist.

(More recently he has been Chief Constable in the Isle of Man and has written two books – 'Father forgive' about the death of his son Stephen, also a police officer and 'Gilbert was wrong' about his police experiences.)

People were already signing up for the church working holiday at Kilcreggan at Easter.

Monthly prayer meetings were to continue on the first Saturday each month, 6.30 – 9.30 pm.

ROTAS for FEBRUARY

STEWARDS

	Porch	Upstairs left	Upstairs right
Feb 7	United service at	St. Mary's	
Feb 14	Helen Platt Paul Webb-Sear	Joan Crook	Andrew Platt
Feb 21		Alpha group 1 to arrange	
Feb 28	Carol Hargreaves Paul Webb-Sear	Peter Leonard	Margaret Robinson

COFFEE

Feb 7		United Service at St. Mary's	
Feb 14	Yvonne Rhymes	Peter Leonard	Pat Coulston
Feb 21	Jim Barrie	Andy Moss	Gill Wills
Feb 28	Thelma Hitch	Audrey Madge	Stephanie Snaith

CRECHE

Feb 7	Alison Perry	Derryth Mellish	Joanne Emberton
Feb 14	Rachel Gosling	Gwen Haworth	Janet Barrie
Feb 21	Carol Hargreaves	George Kirk	Sheila Whipp
Feb 28	Anne Webb-Sear	Sue Bury	Thelma Hitch

FLOWERS

Feb 7	Vacant
Feb 14	Vacant
Feb 21	vacant
Feb 28	Vacant

COMMUNION

Feb 7 PM
Joyce Barnes & Thelma Hitch
Feb 21 AM
Bob & Mary Callender

Material for March's newsletter should reach the Editor, Joyce Barnes by February 18 for publication on Feb 28.