

## COSELEY OLD MEETING HOUSE

### NEWSLETTER APRIL TO JUNE 2012

APRIL by Thomas Hardy

This is the weather the cuckoo likes  
And so do I  
When showers be tumble the chestnut spike  
And nestlings fly;  
And the little brown nightingale bills his best  
And they sit outside at 'The Travellers Rest'  
And maids come forth spring-muslin dress  
And citizens dream of the south and west  
And so do I .....

Sunday 1st April	Gavin Lloyd
15 <sup>th</sup>	Philip Niblock
May 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO SERVICE</b>
20 <sup>th</sup>	Philip Niblock
June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Women's League Service Ann Harrison, National WL President
15 <sup>th</sup>	Father's Day

#### WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Birmingham District Women's League held their AGM in early March. The Officers were re-elected - Pam Rose (President), Florence Wood (Treasurer), Ann Harrison (Secretary) Donations were sent to the current Project - Combat Stress; and to Send a Child To Hucklow in lieu of Stella Burley (Manager of Nightingale House) who completed a 8km Endurance Challenge on 31st March.

Send as Child to Hucklow is also the annual project for Women's League during 2012/13, when the Bowland Trust will match £1 for £1 all that is raised.

National AGM of Women's League is being held on Wednesday 4th April at Keele University (during the General Meetings of the denomination). Ann Harrison is being elected National President of Unitarian Women's League.

### Car Parking

As everyone knows it's extremely difficult to park anywhere near the church on Sundays during the Football Season. There seems to be no recourse on the matter, the police seem unable to do anything about it.

We are therefore grateful to the staff of the new complex surrounding the church, who have agreed that we can use parking spaces on their car park during Sunday Services. Service Leaders will collect a notice to put on their windscreen from Helen on arrival.

**THANKS GIVING IN SPRING**, from Women's League Book of Prayers  
O God our Father, we thank Thee for giving each a place in this wonderful world. Nature at this season reveals Thee afresh as the Creator of beauty, power and joy. We are filled anew with sense of Thy presence and would render thanks to Thee, and pray that the vision of beauty which we have seen many remain with us for ever. When we are faced with difficulties, when our work seems monotonous, when we lose heart because of our weakness and our failures, may we remember the vision of beauty and joy that is with us now. May we learn to trust Thee more, never forgetting that Thou, who has given us the vision, wilt also give the power to work for its realization. For everything that helps us on our way we Thank Thee' especially for the friendships that enrich our lives and make us see fresh possibilities of good in one another. May our power of helping one another grow more and more; and may our gathering here today be a means of drawing us closer together and nearer to Thee  
Amen

Ann and Kern will be away from 13th April to 4th May, cruising around the Cape Verde Islands. Because of Ann's appointment as National President of Women's League, she will be at Scottish District Women's League Meeting the weekend of 19th/20th May, and so will not be at church that weekend. During the year, Ann has other invitations around the country, some during the week, others over the weekend, and so she and Ken may be missing from church on various occasions.

*"It is not how much you do, but how much you put in the doing that matters."*

*"Whatever is to make us better and happy, God has placed either openly before us or close to us."*

## **TIME AND SEASONS by A. Powell Davies**

Help us, O God in a world so full of what is wonderful, ever changing, ever surprising us with new revelations of life's power and beauty, to accept with gratitude all that gladdens us, and with fortitude all that brings us grief. Let us take time to watch the morning and the evening skies, to look often and long at the marvellous earth and all that lives upon it, to be with heart and soul a friend and neighbour and a part of humankind. Let us rejoice in the heritage bequeathed to us from yesterday, and in the festivals of faith and hope. Let us look at our world as it is and seek a wisdom that is not censorious. Let us look into our own hearts and be brave enough to separate the evil from the good. Let us be learning always, from all that we see and do, and from all that happens to us. And if shadows overtake us, let us not dim within ourselves the light that helps others to live.

Give us O God, to carry with us the kindness that we look for, to be gentle as we wish the world were gentle, and by being loving to bring closer to fulfilment all that is the fruit of love

