

# CONTACT

News & Views from  
Tavistock United Reformed Church  
& Salvation Army, Russell Street.



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Church Website: [www.tavistockurc.org](http://www.tavistockurc.org)

## MARCH 2008

- Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> SW SYNOD @ Bridgwater  
SUNDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT - Mothering Sunday - GIFT DAY  
10:00am Worship & Holy Communion - Rev Rog  
Followed by a Gift Day Lunch in the Lower Deck.  
6:00pm Salvation Army Meeting - John & Sandra Dryden
- SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT - Passion Sunday  
10:00am Worship - Rev Rog  
CHURCH MEMBERS' A.G.M. and election of Elders.  
6:00pm Salvation Army Meeting - Col Joan
- SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT - Palm Sunday  
10:00am Worship- Mr Jim Gay - St John's Horrabridge  
6:00pm Salvation Army Meeting - Major Pamela Woods
- Details of services and events for Holy Week inside.
- SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> EASTER DAY  
10:00am Easter Celebration & Holy Communion - Rev Rog  
6:00pm Salvation Army Meeting - Col Joan
- SUNDAY 30<sup>th</sup> EASTER 1  
10:00am Worship led by Revd Bob Jones  
- Bude URC & our SW Synod Pastoral Advisor  
6:00pm Salvation Army Meeting - Col Joan



# FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

## 25 FEB - 9 MARCH 2008

This year's **FAIRTRADE FAIR** will be held on **SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH** from **10:30am - 4:30pm** in the Parish Church Centre, Plymouth Road, Tavistock. FAIRTRADE -ers and ethically trading organisations selling local , national & international products, will come together for a spectacular and colourful event in celebration of all things Fairtrade.

Fairtrade is an efficient tool to overcome poverty. It gives producers a fair deal, not only by paying a fair price for their products but also to give their partners better market access, to protect their environment and to comply with European standards.

MARTIN ODOCH from Uganda will be visiting the Fair at 12noon and giving a short talk at 2:00pm about his experiences.



Entrance to the Fair is FREE. Refreshments - provided by Tavistock's own FOOD DRECKLY ( who only use local produce)- will be available.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**



The event has been organised by Tavistock FairTrade Town Initiative .

One of the most powerful weapons for change is consumer demand and we can all do our bit every day by supporting our local businesses and by asking for, buying and using Fairtrade whenever it is there as an alternative. And the work that the Tavistock Fairtrade Town Initiative has done, and is continuing to do, is to make sure that, in the not too distant future, the Fairtrade product is not the alternative option, but is the norm.

For more information about Tavistock FairTrade Town Initiative go to [www.fairtradetavistock.org.uk](http://www.fairtradetavistock.org.uk)

SUNDAY MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup> 2008

## CHURCH GIFT DAY & FREE LUNCH !!

The Church's Annual Gift Day will be held on Sunday March 2<sup>nd</sup> and all members and friends are asked to prayerfully consider giving a donation to the ongoing work of the URC here in Tavistock. Previous Gift Days have shown how blessed we are! Our congregation may be small in numbers but the generosity of its people is great!! You are requested to place your donation in a separate envelope marked **GIFT DAY** and place it with your usual offering on the plate on Sunday. Cheques should be made payable to **TAVISTOCK URC** and if you have an envelope number, please write that down too so that we can claim the tax!



**THANK YOU!!**

Following the morning service there will be a Roast Beef Lunch held in the Lower Deck. There is **no charge** for this but a plate for any donations will be on hand! However we need to know numbers so please write your name on the list by TODAY (Feb 24th).



## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Theme for 2008: "God's Wisdom provides new understanding"  
- prepared by the women of Guyana.

**FRIDAY MARCH 7<sup>th</sup>**

**2:00pm @ Tavistock Methodist Church**  
Speaker : Lieut- Colonel Joan Williams.



**ALL WELCOME!**



All Church Members are urged to attend the Annual General Meeting of Tavistock United Reformed Church, which will be held after morning worship on **SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MARCH** - to receive the financial accounts and other annual reports and to elect/ re-elect serving Elders. Non members are welcome to attend but only church members will be allowed to vote.

Two Elders have come to the end of their 3 year term of office - Revd Mrs Phyllis Ball and Mrs Dorothy Woodyatt.

Dorothy has decided not to stand for re-election and will now be a non serving Elder. We thank her for her devoted service to the Church as a serving elder over many years. She has always been a pleasant, cheerful, optimistic and supportive member of the Eldership and she will be missed. Revd Phyllis will be standing for re-election but has made it known that she intends to relinquish the post of Church Secretary at next year's AGM.

Anyone wishing to stand for Eldership must have been in membership for at least 1 year and have a proposer and a seconder. Names must then be given in writing to Revd Phyllis by **TODAY** - Sunday February 24<sup>th</sup>.

AND IF YOU LIKE AGMs.....!

The Tavistock branch of the **BIBLE SOCIETY** is holding its AGM on **TUESDAY MARCH 11<sup>th</sup>** at Tavistock Methodist Church Hall starting at 2:30pm.

**Anyone interested is invited to go along!**

The Bible Society is planning a fund raising concert on **FRIDAY MAY 11<sup>th</sup>** at 7:30pm which is being hosted by the URC. More details to follow - but book the date now!!



A CONCERT BY THE **TAMAR VALLEY MALE VOICE CHOIR**

MD : Rosemary Cole

will be held in the Church on **SATURDAY MARCH 15<sup>th</sup>** at 7:30pm.

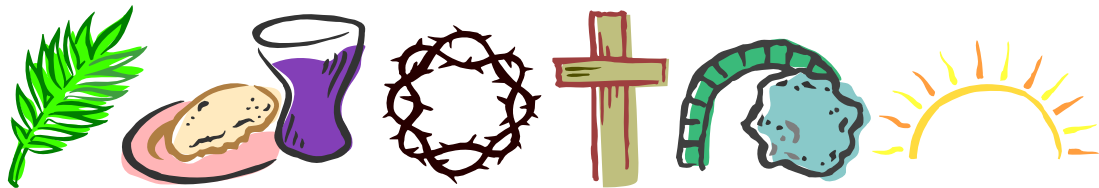
All tickets £5 in aid of the Roof Fund. Refreshments available



# Holy Week

MAUNDY THURSDAY      March 20<sup>th</sup>  
7:30pm      The Last Supper

GOOD FRIDAY  
10:30am      TACT Walk of Witness through the town and a  
United service in Bedford Square.



A CONCERT BY TAVISTOCK'S  
STANNARY BAND

on **SATURDAY MARCH 29<sup>th</sup>**  
at **7:30pm** in the Church

**FREE ADMISSION**

**COLLECTION FOR THE ROOF FUND**



## A tribute to Mary Jane

Mary Graham was born in Edinburgh on 25th September 1922 and grew up on a small farm at Slodahill Pendicle in Lockerbie being the eldest of four sisters with Nettie, Betty and Eileen. Mary doted on her mother Janet, and always helped her father Geordie with jobs around the farm.

Mary went to school at Lockerbie Academy and as she showed academic potential was further supported in her studies at Dumfries Academy where she went on to study for her highers. It was at school that Mary's singing voice was developed and she won several soprano Scottish champion singing medals.

After passing her highers Mary went on a secretarial course before starting work in the Dumfries Council Offices. Shortly afterwards Mary was called up to join the war effort servicing Stromberg carburettors, and was posted to RAF St Athan near Cardiff, where she first met Algy Jane.

On 27<sup>th</sup> November 1946, Mary and Algy married in Lockerbie and then Mary got a flavour of service life moving every three years. They were stationed at Petts Wood, Bath (where Peter was born), Singapore (where Phillip was born), then Blackpool, Basingbourne near Cambridge, Germany, Watford and then finally, from 1966 - 1969, to St Athan again. Algy retired from the RAF in 1969 and they moved to a former market garden in Plymouth Road, Tavistock.

Algy & Mary had never owned a home of their own before and were so very happy there. They were able to indulge in their hobby of gardening, particularly growing tomatoes and strawberries.

Mary joined the United Reformed Church in Tavistock and claimed that it was very similar to her Church of Scotland. She was also encouraged by her new friend and neighbour Rosemarie Beer. Mary particularly enjoyed hosting strawberry teas & coffee mornings to help raise funds for the church.

The development of Safeways (now Morrisons) saw Mary and Algy move to Down Road and continue their passion of gardening and still retain all their treasured friends.

Mary loved her association with the church, singing in the choir or congregation, chatting afterwards over coffee, or at 'knit and natter' and loved to 'show off' her grandchildren: Charlotte, Matthew & James on any visits by Andrea and Phillip to Tavistock.

Mary's contribution to the life of the church was remarkable. As she walked into the building, with a twinkle in her eyes there were smiles all around. Mary was unfailingly cheerful & had a great sense of humour - she always had a joke to tell. She made you feel special & was able to lift you up when you were down. She was interested in everything and everyone and had an enquiring mind. You never needed to worry about what to say next because Mary was so gifted in the art of conversation.

With her helpers: Dorothy & Sheila, every October, just after Goose Fair when everyone was feeling exhausted, Mary led an inspiring family service. And what a difference Mary made to the singing here! Her flower arrangements were outstanding and she could knit garments without a pattern.

Mary was a wonderful host and always had an open door. Many hymn-alongs & Bible studies took place in her home. Mary loved all her friends, she was always grateful for all the love and kindness she received and talked so fondly of everyone. She was kind, considerate, caring and loving to everyone.

Mary loved her family and was very close to her sisters who were always on the phone to each other. A devoted wife, loving mother and proud grandmother Mary was very much loved in return. She bravely faced the loss of Peter in 1975 & Algy in 1995 and was sustained by her strong faith & belief in God.

In recent years Mary suffered from illnesses, particularly with her legs. She rarely let the pain she was in get her down & seemed to rise above her difficulties. She showed great determination in everything she did and could be quite strong willed but she was resolute in all her beliefs. Where illness was concerned, Mary was a fighter almost to the point that it was sometimes difficult to know how poorly she was. She always thought of others suffering illness before herself.

Although she had wonderful help from friends and neighbours, eventually Mary recognised it was time to call it a day. With a heavy heart she moved from Tavistock to Market Deeping in Lincolnshire to be with Phillip and Andrea, Charlotte, Matthew and James. The arrangement worked well and they were grateful to see and be with Mary every day. Mary was able to join Bourne U.R.C. and found warmth and friendship with the membership there.

On 8<sup>th</sup> February Mary died. Her funeral service was held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February in Tavistock URC and it was her wish to be buried with Algy in Tavistock Cemetery. Be assured that for Mary, sorrow and pain are ended and, reunited with Algy, Peter and Nettie, she is at peace. We remember her family in our prayers.

**Mary was greatly loved and is missed by us all.**



**MRS MARY JANE 1922 - 2008**