

News from the Pews

Passing it on ...

One of the highlights of the World Athletics Championships that took place in London in August was the 4x100m relay gold for Great Britain. Four relatively unknown sprinters ran the third fastest time ever to win the gold medal.



How did they manage such a fast time? Because they passed the baton so smoothly: the next athlete was almost at full pelt when the incoming runner reached him. That only comes with practice and dedication, focussing not only on your own race but also being in the right place at the right time to ensure the next runner gets the best start.

We are seeing a similar thing happening in Roeburndale and Wray Chapels as we see one minister leave and another take up the baton of ministry. As Roy Burley takes over pastoral responsibility, we trust that there will be a seamless transfer in many senses, even if he will inevitably take a little while to get up to speed with the names and families and traditions – he's coming more to a distance race than a sprint, after all! But I'm sure we all pray that Roy and Gladys will feel welcome and valued and we trust God will bless them both in the time they spend in the Lune Valley.

But the idea of passing on the baton is not just for ministers, there is a strong sense in which we should all be engaged in passing on the Christian faith – to the next generation, to our family and friends and neighbours. It is important for us to focus on running the race of life ourselves but, rather like the relay runners, also thinking about how we can pass on that knowledge, faith and experience to others so that they can run the race, also.

One of the last things Jesus is recorded as saying in the New Testament is that his followers should go out and pass on the good news to 'all nations', to make disciples and to teach them in the faith. Hopefully, that's very much what we are

Who's Who at Roeburndale & Wray

Minister:	Rev Roy Burley 173 Brookhouse Rd, Brookhouse	01524 771230
Wray Leaders:	Judith Sanderson Edmund Park Charlie Preece Andrew Wright	01524 811139 21753 71986 21652
Wray Treasurer:	Andrew Wright	21652
Wray Stewards:	David Huddleston George Longton Michael Preece Andrew Wallbank Alan & Andrew Wright Thomas Whitfield	62170 22026 71986 37720 21652 61230
Roeburndale Steward:	George Preece	21618
Fellowship:	George/Ruth Longton	22026
Wray Sunday School:	David & Dawn Huddleston	62170
Drop-In:	Andrew Wright	21652
Youth Fellowship:	Richard & Hazel Preece	21285
Wray Pastoral:	Margaret Wright	21652
Wray notices:	Kath Fawcett	01524 811193
News from the Pews:	Peter Gorst	22303

Rev Roy Burley

From 1 September, Rev Roy Burley takes over as the minister of Wray and Roeburndale chapels along with Brookhouse and Quernmore. He will be living in the Brookhouse manse opposite Brookhouse Methodist Church.

A letter from Roy accompanies the new Circuit preaching plan, introducing himself and his wife, Gladys, to his churches and the Circuit. His first service in the Circuit will be at Roeburndale on 3 September.

about as churches and as individual Christians – sharing the love of God both in conversations and the way we live our lives. As the next article describes, it seems we are increasingly going ‘to the ends of the earth’ (Acts 1:8), too.

But it is a constant challenge to share our faith in an increasingly secular world. In a conversation recently, I mentioned the sycamore tree on the road into Jericho and I was asked, “Where’s Jericho?” I had wrongly assumed that everyone knows the story of Zacchaeus climbing a sycamore to see Jesus – clearly not. So, if we want to explain why we believe in the God of the Bible, we may have to start a lot further back than we might think because people have so little Biblical knowledge. It’s a challenge and we need to think carefully about how we share our faith – just as the relay guys practice passing the baton.

However, one thing is for sure, there is a prize to be won for those who faithfully pass on the baton – the promise of God saying to us, “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

Peter Gorst

Foreign parts

For a relatively small group of people, there seems to have been a considerable amount of foreign travel undertaken by people from our two churches recently, both for work and on mission of different types.

New Zealand and Australia seem to have become the places to be to work, with Will Huddleston out there now and Charlie Preece planning to return, plus others from this area. Mary Atkinson is working in a school near Brisbane in Australia, and Rory Gorst dropped in to see her when he was there last month and they went to church together on the other side of the world.

Esther Preece has been to Moldova with Operation Mobilisation – more on that elsewhere in this edition. Luke Gorst has been to France again with Sportsreach earlier in the summer as well as touring England with the team.

And Sarah Gorst has booked to go to Uganda again in January with CRMI on another medical mission, including, hopefully, meeting up with our sponsored children, Fred and Sarah, whilst she’s there.

We thank God for the opportunities he gives to see the world and experience things outside our comfort zone. We pray for those travelling – for their safety, certainly, but also that all of us will benefit from broader horizons and a sense of God’s presence right around the world.

A Sportsreach Summer

France - Way back in June I went to Macon, France (for the fourth time) with SportsReach, playing football with some of the local teams and sharing the Gospel with the players afterwards. Although we went out with a youthful and, on paper, quite a strong squad (football-wise), I think our results were quite disappointing, from what I can remember, June was a very long time ago! This year we



spent a lot more time praying as a team and in pairs both before the tour and also whilst out in France, and as I hope you are all aware of, God answers prayer! We saw evidence of this on the second night when for the first time since in the history of SportsReach going to France we witnessed our first conversion! Along with that throughout the week we had many conversations which went better than they often do. My highlight of the week was the Wednesday afternoon when we went and had a kick about with group of Albanian refugees and I just happened to have an Albanian football shirt in my bag (as you do) so wore it. They welcomed me as one of their own and I played on their side in our five-a-side game. We then bought some food for them to have then John shared with them. A great day.

Staines - The final week of July was the start of the soccer (and netball) school season, the first week lead us down to Staines-upon-Thames. I stayed with a couple from the church, on my own, which was nervy, but I actually really enjoy staying with them. The soccer school itself was very good: I had a bunch of lads who were easily distracted in the Bible times but with a bit of prayer for the lads, two of them went into Group One and became Christians. One of them just suddenly exclaimed in a Bible time, 'I believe!' which was a great moment.

Wray - The week after was our home soccer school - the land of milk and honey, Wray. A brilliant week in my opinion! I looked at the list of names of those who had signed up and spotted one lad I recognised from previous soccer schools who had never really shown any interest, so I decided I better start praying for him specifically. He spent a lot of the week with his mate who also has not shown a lot of interest before, so I started praying for him, too. Amazingly, both these lads were in Group One on the Saturday and both gave their lives to God! There were two other senior lads who made commitments that week, both of whom I'd invited to come: God used me without me even

realising. This week was also the week in which I chipped my shoulder blade, but I only missed two hours of soccer school for it, which I believe was God working, too.

Austwick - Another local one followed, the short trip to Austwick, for Clapham Soccer School, where three of



the new Christians from the week before all on my team. I've never had Bible times like we did that week; we didn't even look in the Bible booklets some days because they lads asked so many questions. On the Friday, there was only one senior out in Group Three which was good to see. Saturday came and after watching the Parents vs Coaches game the week before I couldn't bear to sit and watch again so, a week after injuring myself, I was back on the pitch playing football.

Sandhurst - I had one day of rest, then endured a 7 or 8 hour trip down to Sandhurst in Kent. They had a great team of coaches down there all whom were great to spend time with. We played football on two of the evenings with some local teens. After one of these I shared testimony with the guys we'd played against. We had another great week but I was ready for my bed after spending a week on an airbed in the church.

Luke Gorst

Ladies Meetings

All starting at 2pm in the Wray school-rooms with refreshments to follow:

Thurs Oct 12	Lindsey Cottam
Thurs Nov 9	Dorothy Kelsall
Thurs Dec 14	Mary & Kathryn

All ladies (of any age) welcome.

DROP IN

FUTURE DATES 2017:

Saturday 16th September
Saturday 7th October
Saturday 4th November
Saturday 2nd December

Special Dates

Welcome service for Rev Roy Burley and Rev Emma Holroyd at 7.30pm on Thurs 31 August at Bare Methodist Church, speaker Rev Paul Davis, Chair of District.

Roeburndale Harvest Festival – Sun 17 Sept at 2.30 and 6.30pm service (preacher/s to be confirmed) and 7.30 Mon 18 Sept service led by Crown Lane Young People with sale to follow.

Wray Harvest Festival – Sun 24 Sept at 10.30 and 6.30 led by Rev Tony Dent from Warcop.

Wray Harvest Supper – Mon 25 Sept at 7.00pm Jacob's join supper, an epilogue from Lauren Capstick with sale of harvest gifts to follow.

Wray Family Service – 10.30am Sun 29 October with Liz Whitfield, followed by a Jacob's join lunch.

Remembrance Service – united service 6.30pm Sun 12 Nov at the Parish Church.

Fellowship Anniversary – 7.30pm Sat 18 Nov service led by the Ayrtons. 10.30 and 6.30 Sun 19 Nov with services led by Derek Lawrence and singing at the evening service by Living Purpose.

Regular Activities

- Sunday 10.30 **services** at both Wray and Roeburndale
 10.30 **Sunday school** – weekly at Wray, fortnightly at Roeburndale
 6.30 **service** at Wray.
 8.00 **After Eight** young peoples' meeting at Wray, second Sunday of the month.
- Monday **Come for Coffee**, first Mon each month 10-12 in Wray schoolroom.
- Thursday **Ladies Meeting** - 2pm second Thursday of the month
 7.30pm **Prayer Meeting** or 7pm Prayer Meeting and 7.30 **Fellowship** on alternate weeks from October.
- Fri/Sat 7.00-9.30pm **Drop-In**, monthly in Wray schoolroom. Age 9 upwards. Games, tuck shop, etc. Contact Andrew Wright.
 7.30pm **Youth Fellowship**, monthly as announced. Year 9 upwards. Contact Richard & Hazel Preece.

Sportsreach - Wray

Earlier in the summer we held another successful soccer & netball school in partnership with SportsReach, our sixteenth at Wray. 49 children (35 football and 14 netball) applied and took part this year in the 'Believe' themed week, enjoying sport, fun and faith.

Alongside coaching time and learning and developing skills, each night the children learnt about the Bible asking big questions such as 'Does God exist? What is God like? Does God love me? Can I believe?' The Bible tells us that because of the sin in our lives we are separated from God. But because of Jesus' death on the cross and resurrection, if we believe and invite Him into our lives as Lord and Saviour we are promised eternal life with Him. John 3:16, one of the

memory verses from the week tells us that 'for God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.'

The weekend brought the usual World Cup matches and competitions which the children had been preparing for during the week. We concluded the week with a packed special awards service at the Chapel followed by lunch. Thanks to the SportsReach team, all the coaches for giving up their time to come and coach the children and support from the school and village, it really is a team effort.

For more information about SportsReach and the work they do, please visit their website – www.sportsreach.org.uk



Andrew Wright

Esther's Moldovan Adventure

I decided to go to Moldova as I wanted to go on a mission trip and this one involved working with children and trekking from village to village. After a little mishap at Istanbul Airport, (thank you for all your prayers), I arrived in Moldova on Monday morning and we were told a bit about the culture. We then met our team and did workshops learning how to make balloon animals, a few children's games and how to manoeuvre a puppet. We set off trekking on the Tuesday morning and trekked for 10 days. Here are a few of the postcard texts I sent home.



Preparation: There are 10 of us on the trekking trip, 3 helpers/leaders and a translator. Three English people then Swiss, German, Canadian and a few others that I can't remember! Staying at Operation Mobilisation centre tonight then starting mission tomorrow. We're going to be staying in a church tomorrow night then tents/under the stars the rest! Not staying with families. Sounds like it's going to be an adventure, walking in early morning and in evenings so it's not as hot (longest walk going to be 12km) then we'll do children's programmes in villages and visit some families/older people and then nap when it's too hot. 6 girls staying in a 4 man tent, 6 lads doing the same and a couple in a family tent, trying to squash as many in one so we don't have as much to carry. Bathing/showering in buckets, rivers and lakes - getting excited now!

Day 1 mission: Breakfast at 8, packed everything into our bags (all our stuff, tents, crafts for children, first aid). Set off at 9, drove for an hour or two to a village and went to the church. Organised a programme for the children who were coming. Had lunch then went to visit two ladies in their houses and we shared with them about Jesus and prayed with them and gave them food parcels. Then had children's programs this afternoon (kind of like kids clubs). Then tea, sharing and praying with each other.

Day 2: Early start this morning and off we went, we trekked for 8km (early so it wasn't too hot, but it was still hot enough especially carrying all our equipment!) We made it to the village by lunch and we set up camp. We then had lunch (somebody from neighbouring village had made it for us). After, we walked round the village inviting children to the children's programmes

tomorrow. We then took food packages to a few people in the village who the mayor took us to. Tea was made for us by the only Christian family in the village. Then organising tomorrow, sharing and prayer. Going to sleep now ready for another busy day tomorrow. And by going to sleep, I mean trying to ... sleeping under the stars, listening to the crickets (there's a lot of them!).

Day 3: Early start so we could have breakfast, spend quiet time with God and set up, prepare and organise children's programmes, We had 2 today, one at 10am and one at 5pm, so playing games, face painting, puppet show and colouring, etc. After children's programme this morning we walked to the neighbouring village for lunch and then we walked back and had a rest (nap time for me). We then prepared for the next children's programme quickly and then did it. We were invited to the mayor's house for tea (she offered for me to come live with her and her family next year for 3 months so I can learn Moldovan and they can learn English. I told her I'd have to see what I was doing!) We got the privilege of "showering" tonight, we had put bottles of water out in the sun and we went into the field to wash which was very welcome! Until a man on a motorbike decided to turn his vehicle around on the road next to the field and stopped to see what was going on!! We think "go away" is something different in Moldova as he didn't move very quick!

Day 4: Can't believe it's only day 4! Early morning again (I'm guessing it'll be early mornings every morning). We left the last village and trekked to the next one; it took us all morning and it was hard work because it was so hot. When we arrived some believers had made us lunch (the lady had been preparing food since 4am! We were very grateful!) We went to set up camp and then delivered food packages and visited families. After tea (at the same house as lunch) we played football and then had testimony sharing and praying. To finish off the day we got to bathe ... in a river! It was sludgy and not the cleanest of rivers but if you turned your torch off you couldn't tell how dirty it was! Very invigorating!!!

Day 5: I didn't sleep very well last night so was lacking energy today. We had quiet time and breakfast and then devotion this morning. Then at 10 we had a children's programme. After this we went to a believers house for lunch, then we had a free afternoon so I slept for a couple of hours and then we went for a swim in the river (not sure this was a good idea as I realised how dirty the water was I washed in last night but it was good fun and refreshing). We then set off trekking to the next village with a stop at the shop for tea. Got here at 9ish then we had biscuits and testimony time. We're attempting to sleep under the stars tonight because it's such a pretty night! A bit cooler tonight though so it might be too cold (I didn't manage to stay outside yet because I kept feeling bugs on me).

Day 6: Sunday, so we get a lie in...well an extra hour in bed then stretches, quiet time and breakfast. It was my turn to share devotion this morning. We then went to deliver food parcels, a lady with 2 little boys and an oldish man who couldn't see very well. It's good to encourage these people and pray for them. We then had lunch made and brought to us from a family that lives about 10km away! After lunch we rested and played games (team bonding) then preparing and doing children's programme. Today was my favourite programme so far, the children were really well behaved and we even had parents staying to listen. Then tea, sharing and testimony time. The shooting stars were amazing last night so attempting to sleep outside again although I keeps feeling rain drops and it's thunder and lightning quite close by...we've prayed it won't rain though so sleeping in faith!

Day 7: It rained and was windy last night so nobody slept very well which meant we've all been tired today and probably a bit short with each other (I'm ready for home!). We had devotions and quiet time and breakfast this morning and then we had a couple of hours to walk round the village and talk to people we met. We then went to visit a 91 year old lady to encourage her. Another old lady made us lunch with the deal that we'd wash her windows (she has a big house). Afterwards we did a children's programme and before making tea at the same lady's house. We also killed 3 chickens and plucked and gutted them ready for lunch tomorrow which was fun! The old lady said we could sleep in her house because the weather still isn't great which was nice of her but I saw the weirdest looking bug on the wall next to my bed and I don't know where it is now so am slightly freaked out ... hoping I don't get eaten! (Thankfully, I survived!)

Day 8: Not sure why we woke up early this morning as we had quiet time, breakfast and devotion and then we had a lot of time doing not much. Some people were preparing the chicken for lunch so we prepared the children's programme for tomorrow and then I read my Bible whilst some people packed and slept etc. We then set off trekking about midday and trekked all afternoon, with lots of breaks (lunch, waterfall, and big hill). I really enjoyed the waterfall break as I got to wash my hair properly!!!! Bliss! We arrived at the village, set up camp, had tea, played a game, then prayer and testimony time (my turn tonight!) Sleeping under a sky of stars tonight, already seen 3 shooting stars.

Day 9: Last full day! Woke up to the sun on my face, had quiet time, breakfast and devotion then headed into the village to buy food packages before delivering them to some families/older people. After lunch we headed back to camp and we had a couple hours rest before the children's programme (it was

the longest one we did as it was the last one!) Back to camp for tea, sharing and last two testimonies. Heading back to Chisinau tomorrow.

Back home: It was a really good experience and I learned a lot, made some new friends and have some wonderful memories. Some highlights were:-

- Sleeping under the stars (there were a lot of shooting stars)
- Bathing in the river
- Sharing with a man who gave his heart to Jesus and seeing the change in his attitude
- The children's smiles when we played with them and painted their faces,
- The trekking and the views

I was glad to return to toilets and showers but I loved my Moldovan adventure!

Esther Preece

More Wray Rotas					
Morning Coffee			Cleaning Fortnight		
Sept	3	Seth, Martin, Andrew	Sept	4	Dawn H
	10	Liz & Michael		11	
	17	Sarah & Peter		18	Sarah G
	24	Thomas, Alan, Maurice		25	Post-harvest
Oct	1	Steven, Charlie, Luke	Oct	2	Sarah G
	8	Ruth & George		9	Margaret W
	15	Judith & Malcolm		16	
	22	Joan & Andy		23	Jan F
	29	Family service lunch		30	
Nov	5	Rachel, Dora, Jan, Lou	Nov	6	Liz P
	12	Diane & Mark		13	
	19	Kath, Mark & Edward		20	Dorothy H
	26	Laura, Sam, Ben		27	
Please bring milk, squash and biscuits. Tea and coffee are provided.			Cleaning fortnights start on Mondays thro' to Saturdays		

2017	Wray preachers	Wray welcome	Wray flowers	R'dale preachers	R'dale flowers/cleaning
Sept 3	JW Gorst Rev R Burley C	Dora & Lou George L	Carol G	Rev R Burley C	Hazel E
10	Str Vivien D Kerr	Franc & Carol Judith S	Dawn H	J Bampton	
17	Rev R Burley At R'burndale	Jan F No service	Dorothy H	2.30 & 6.30 HF	Harvest
24	10.30 & 6.30 Rev T Dent HF	Laura S Thomas W	Harvest	J Corkish	Barbara H
Oct 1	Rev K Clapham Rev R Burley C	Seth P Edmund P	Diane H	E Rendle	
8	D Yates W Mashiter	Sam H Sarah G	Joyce L	P McWilliams	Hazel P
15	Rev R Burley C I Ellershaw YS	Rachel H Will P	Ruth L	Rev A Champley	
22	J Hutchinson M Longton	Kath F Malcolm S	Maggie L	D Battarbee	Ellen
29	E Whitfield FS G Woodhouse	Andy W Anne P	Rosie M	PJ Gorst	
Nov 5	S Lawson PJ Gorst	Luke G Steven W	Anne P	Rev R Burley	Grace
12	LA Remembrance	Dorothy H No service	Liz P	S Eaton	
19	10.30 & 6.30 Lawrence FA	Andrew W Lois P	Judith S	E Brennand	Margaret
26	Rev R Burley C B&E Gorst	Chris H Michael P	Janet T	J Hutchinson	

C - Communion

FS - Family Service

LA - Local arrangement

FA - Fellowship Anniversary

HF - Harvest Festival

YS - Youth Service