

Mottram Parish Magazine



We're back in Church!

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Community Contacts

We aim to be

~ a growing fellowship of believers ~

warm in welcome ~ reverent in worship ~ gracious in witness
and joyfully serving God and our community ~



www.mottramparish.org.uk



Mottram Parish

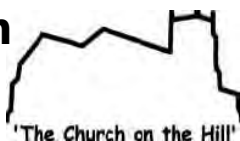


@mottramparish

December 2020

Printed: 55p monthly
or download or read online at
www.mottramparish.org.uk

Mottram Parish



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www.mottramparish.org.uk

the Church of England in Mottram Parish, serving the communities of
Mottram, Broadbottom and Hattersley East
together "seeking to know Christ and to make Christ known"

OUR MAIN SUNDAY WORSHIP IS AT 10.30am (Important - see P 13)

St. Michael & All Angels, Warhill, via Church Brow, Mottram, SK14 6JL

USEFUL CHURCH CONTACTS IN MOTTRAM PARISH

Churchwardens

David Russell 01457 765165

Dejan Melovic 07763962477

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01457 857331

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Brian Seaborn 0161 336 8089

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Safeguarding Coordinator

Claire Bibby 01457 763758

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Organists

John Brandreth 01457 238268

Nigel Crookall 0161 338 6790

Friends of Mottram Parish Church

Ian Roebuck 01457 763179

Bellringers Captain

Christine Broadley 07810 560796

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Community Groups & Charities - advertise free on our notice boards

Email: mandpbrown@protonmail.com

MAGAZINE CONTACTS

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A Christmas we didn't expect

We have just heard the news that we are to enter into tier 3 lockdown for the run up to Christmas. Many people now tell me they feel fed up. One lady said she usually gets invited to so many Christmas dinners/lunches/get-togethers that by Christmas day she starts to think "Oh no, not another one!" I felt a bit like that about carol services last year, particularly as the number of these went into double figures, but right now I would love to join you for mince pies and mulled wine or to sing *Away in a Manger*. A politician, on the radio, said "it's just one Christmas" but what if it is our last with a loved one? Every Christmas is special, even the ones filled with tears and sadness and nobody wants to spend Christmas alone or without a particular special someone. This is a Christmas we really did not expect.

It is important to grieve our losses and to take those feelings to God. We would take grief and sadness to anyone else that we have a close relationship with, so why not to God, our maker, our redeemer, our sustainer; but once we have taken it to God, let us be prepared to let God lead us through the darkness that we really did not expect.

This time last year, I had not heard of Zoom and now I am conducting services, PCC meetings, talking to youth group 'Under Construction', attending seminars and more via this platform. Human beings have an amazing ability to adapt. This is a gift that should be celebrated as much as our traditions and through these celebrations there may be a possibility of new growth, new ways, new traditions. This year our services will be a little different as we have to factor in cleaning and quarantine times for the church.

We will not be able to hold a Christingle service for the number of people we usually get into St Michael's church. **So, we have decided to give out packs to each of the children of Mottram and Broadbottom schools for them to create their own Christingles.** Instructions for these are on the next page of this magazine.

We are also creating a Living Advent Calendar. 24 homes and businesses have agreed to create an advent window for people to go out and look at. Each day a new window will be created somewhere in the parish and these windows will be available to see until Christmas. A list of the addresses and themes of the windows that you can go to see are on page 3 of this magazine. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who have agreed to create a window – a decoration they really didn't expect.

Which leads me to ask if tradition; following what we have always done, is really what Christmas is all about? A young girl was visited by an angel, who told her that she would have a baby – she was expecting to get married and live a normal married life. Her husband-to-be was expecting to marry a virgin and was then 'told' in a dream to stand by her and raise someone else's child. Shepherds in fields were expecting nothing more exciting than chasing off a few wild dogs when they were confronted by, not just one angel but a host of them. The wise men were expecting the birth of an earthly king, in fine splendour. Then a tiny baby arrived and he changed, shook up, uprooted people's lives and he still does today. Maybe this Christmas, we let him change, shake up and uproot ours. However you choose to celebrate this unexpected Christmas, I pray that Jesus brings you joy and peace this year.

God bless,
Cait



Making your Christingle

You will need an orange.

This represents the world.

Take a piece of red sticky tape and fasten it around the middle of the orange. This is to symbolise the blood of Jesus, which he shed for all the world.

Ask an adult to cut a small cross in the top of each orange (place it on a tray to catch the juice) and lay a square of silver foil (75mm/3in square) over the cross.

Place the candle on top and wedge it firmly into the orange. The foil will help prevent hot wax running onto your hand and also help to reflect the light. This light is to remind us that Jesus is the light of the world.

Load four cocktail sticks with sweets and insert them into the orange around the base of the candle. The four cocktail sticks represent the four points of the compass or the four seasons of the year. The sweets represent God's gifts to us.

Store the Christingles upright on a tray in a cool place. It may be necessary to take off a thin slice to form a flat base.

Light your candle and place it where people can see it, but **make sure it is not near any curtains or furnishings that may catch light.**

There you go!

You may like to share in this prayer:

Loving God, we pray for your children in the world who are sad and lonely.

We ask that this light may shine for all in our homes and community,

To let each person, who sees this light know that they are loved by you

And are never alone. Amen

You can find out about the Children's Society and how to donate at www.childrenssociety.org.uk





The Living Advent Calendar Windows

Date:	Address:	Theme:
1 st	The vicarage, 30a Broadbottom Road	Mary and the Angel
2 nd	7 Stalybridge Road	The Magnificat
3 rd	Mottram School	Peace on Earth
4 th	Broadbottom School	Winter Scene
5 th Saturday	21 Broadbottom Road	The Census
6 th Sunday	11 Lodge Court	St Nicholas
7 th	W. Brindley's Funeral Directors, 46 Market Street	Christmas wreath
8 th	The Well Pharmacy, Mottram	Partridge in a pear tree
9 th	14 Broadbottom Road	Candles
10 th	3 Church View	Joy to the world
11 th	1 Home Farm Avenue	Dove of Peace
12 th Saturday	6 Dale View (behind 19 & 21 Church Brow)	Donkey
13 th Sunday	55 Market Street	A lamb
14 th	6 Waterfoot Cottages	Christingle
15 th	7 Waterfoot Cottages,	Christmas tree
16 th	Broadbottom Preschool, Community Centre, Market Street	Post box
17 th	7 Church Brow	Shepherds and sheep
18 th	127 Broadbottom Road	Bethlehem
19 th Saturday	72 Market Street	Angels
20 th Sunday	24 Bucklow Close	Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh
21 st	1 Summerbottom, Broadbottom	Wise men
22 nd	15 Lodge Court	The star
23 rd	8 West End, Broadbottom	Carol singing
24 th	9 Broadbottom Road	The stable

NOTICE BOARD

Community Groups and Charities

You can make use of our notice boards - it's free!

Contact the magazine editor - details inside the front cover.

Deadline for the January issue is Monday 21st December.

The magazine will be in church and online on Sunday 27th December.



Reuben's Retreat

Charity Registration Number:
1150436

Head Office:
The Lodge at
Reuben's,
Reuben's Retreat,
Park Crescent,
Glossop, SK13 7BQ
(Formerly Woods Hospital)

Registered office;- Suite 4,
St Michael's court,
St Michael's Square,
Stamford St Central,
Ashton-u-Lyne,
OL6 6XN

Virtual Santa

December 15, 16, 17 18. 4 - 7pm
£10 per household.

Book at reubensretreat.org/shop



The Parish website is at www.mottramparish.org.uk

You can sign up for a regular e-news bulletin at
<https://mottramparish.org.uk/intouch/mailling>

MORE NOTICES

FEEDING THE HUNGRY IN OUR PARISH

Thanks also for your continuing donations to the Foodbanks.

As Christmas fast approaches, we'd like to encourage you to remember the two organisations below as you do your weekly shopping. Please start preparing now, and we'll let you know what to do with your gift, when the lockdown regulations become clearer.

The **Foodbank** operates under the Trussell Trust banner. Could you fill a carrier bag with the contents for a Christmas Hamper? Please don't wrap it up, as it prevents them checking the best-before dates and makes it difficult to stack and store in their warehouse.



Foodbank Centres opening times

Hattersley Baptist Church Melandra Crescent, Hattersley SK14 3RB
Fridays 2 - 3pm

St Mary's Church Market St, Hollingworth SK14 8NE
Mondays 11:00 - 12:00 (or call 07709 098068)

Grafton Centre Grafton St, Hyde SK14 2AX Wednesdays 2 - 3pm

There is a box in church for donations of groceries.

There is also a box in Tesco, Hattersley.

Donations of money can be made at

<https://www.givey.com/tamesidesouthlongdendalefoodbankltd>



Spotlight Outreach

is a local organisation looking after those in need, on a more informal basis than the Foodbanks.

As we did last year, could we ask people to buy one or more selection boxes? This would help Spotlight Outreach in their mission this year, 'To make sure that every one of our struggling families receives a gift this Christmas-time'. Please leave in church (not in Foodbank box.)

NOTICES (CONTINUED)



A thank you card from **Samaritan's Purse** to everyone who took part in this year's **Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal**.

We sent 31 boxes to Samaritan's Purse, plus £110 in donations.



Embrace the Middle East

is a Christian charity with over 160 years' experience helping people of all faiths and none to free themselves from a life of poverty and injustice.

Together with local Christian communities we're bringing lasting change to the Middle East through healthcare, education and community development projects.

We have worked with and supported Christian communities doing life-changing works in countries in the Near and Middle East, including Turkey, Syria, Egypt, the Balkans, Lebanon, Israel, Palestine and Cyprus.

Currently Embrace supports projects in Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Egypt, Iraq, and Syria.

To see what we do visit www.embraceme.org

Embrace the Middle East Online Shop has Christmas cards, gifts, the famous 'Bethlehem Carol Sheet', alternative gifts and a 2021 calendar showing photographs of the Holy Land as tear-off postcards.



Calendar - May - The ruins of Herod's great fortress of Machaerus in the hills of Moab above the Dead Sea.

Church News



Our friend and Lay Reader John Walker passed away at the end of his long illness, on Sunday 8th November.

The funeral will take place on Wednesday 2nd December at 2:30pm in church. This will be by invitation only.

If you wish to pay your respects outside the church, please stay well away from the church gates, and maintain a safe distance from others, including parents picking up their children from school.

ON-LINE WORSHIP

Thank you to all who came to church via Zoom last Sunday. We think there were around 40 of us again, and we had a lovely time together.



GUTTER REPAIR

We're very grateful to have been awarded a grant of £21,083 for the replacement of perished lead guttering at the eastern end of the north clerestory and the replacement of dangerous internal plasterwork below the perished gutter. This work is not part of our Big Plan, and was not identified until earlier this year - just before lockdown.

Earlier this week, we agreed the following schedule, with our architect and contractor: They will remove the dangerous plaster inside church, before Christmas.

The repair of the gutter (location shown in the picture above) - will be done in the new year, subject to weather conditions.

The final job - replacing the plaster - cannot be done until the wall has dried out completely and could take several weeks or even months, as you may remember from similar work in the south aisle in 2017.

The contractors will be working closely with us to ensure Covid safety for their staff and our congregation as the work progresses.

Historic England say:

#HereForCulture is a movement that unites the public, government and cultural organisations in support of our fantastic cinemas, theatres, music venues, museums, galleries and heritage sites.

74 organisations are receiving grants of up to £25,000 from the Covid-19 Emergency Heritage at Risk Response Fund, launched by Historic England as part of a £120 million capital investment from the Culture Recovery Fund, to restart construction and maintenance projects facing delays or increased costs as a result of the pandemic and save specialist livelihoods in the heritage sector.



Church News

Details of all our Christmas services

Starting with the Toy Service run by 'Under Construction' on the 6th of December (St Nicholas' Day) are on page 14.



Virtual Youth Group Meets Once a fortnight Mostly on Zoom

13th December: Christmas quiz

3rd January: The environment

17th January: Stretch and relax

31st January: An inter faith evening.

All sessions will start at the usual time of 6:30pm.

If you know of anyone going into year 6 who would like to join us please let me know who they are.

The zoom invitation will come from Claire's work - TLT - where she uses her maiden name, Claire Graham. Look out for it.

Any problems, give Claire a ring on 07740 303344

Alice xxx

Lockdown Resources Reading Plan

A big Thank You to David Russell and Allen Standeven. Hope you've enjoyed joining us for 231 days, as we've read the whole of the New Testament, and the first two books of the Old Testament.



ASPINALL WRIGHT



302512

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Offer general legal services to the Glossop and Longdendale community

Mottram Cricket Club

Join us on match days during the season

Facilities available for Birthday Parties (21st etc)

Christenings, Wedding Receptions & Funerals.

Room Hire also available



Please contact Social Secretary Tracy Woolley

Tel: 0161 406 9205 or mobile: 07962 070013

Web: www.mottramcricketclub.co.uk

Email: sbf13@sky.com



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Eritrea

More Christians arrested as others released

Release International confirms a total of 69 Christian prisoners of faith have now been released in Eritrea – while five more have been arrested.

Release partners say that many have been long-term prisoners. One has been behind bars for 16 years. None has ever been sent to trial.

When news of their release broke in Eritrea, many Christians took to the streets to celebrate – prompting another round of arrests. The authorities seized five women who stepped outside to pray and rejoice at the news.

‘These were mothers,’ says Release International’s Eritrean partner, Dr Berhane Asmelash. “One is a mother of five. They were cheering from the roadside – and they were arrested on the spot.”

Dr Berhane estimates some 300 Christian prisoners of faith remain in the country – held indefinitely without charge or ever having been sent for trial. Prisoners face hardship, illness and malnutrition. Most of the prisons don’t even have toilet facilities.

“Eritrea has been likened to the North Korea of Africa,” says Release International CEO Paul Robinson. “It began its crackdown on churches in 2002.”

So many denominations!

Church leaders often talk about new churches and church planting, but probably talk less about new denominations. Yet new denominations are also being started. In the UK the number has grown from the 97 listed, when they were first counted in 1977, to 250 by the year 2000, falling to 230 by this year.

The number of denominations has grown worldwide also. When first counted globally in 1970, the total number was 16,100. It reached 33,100 by 1995, and the number is now reckoned to be 44,800.

In 2020, Africa had almost half (46%) of all the global denominations. This is primarily because the charismatic Pentecostals are extremely strong in Africa, and, as in the UK, they are formed of many small denominations. Across the rest of the globe intercontinental comparisons are fairly even in terms of number of denominations, although Oceania has fewer.

A Letter from Mottram Parish Church Council

Dear Friends,
We hope you are well and safe in this current Covid-19 pandemic.

We are writing regarding the current financial position at St Michael's, Mottram. In the September magazine, and again in the November magazine, our treasurer Brian Seaborn explained the changing situation regarding our income and expenditure. Through a combination of fund raising, one-off donations, a slight increase in regular giving and some generous legacies we were able to turn a deficit in 2018 into a surplus in 2019. Little did anyone know what was waiting for us in 2020!



Covid-19 made its appearance early in 2020 and Mottram Church, along with all other churches, was forced to close in March. We reopened on 16th August but now find ourselves in lockdown once again. During the closures there were no cash collections or envelope donations and even on reopening these have been much reduced. Our income has inevitably taken a drastic tumble. Those members who give by standing order have continued to do so and we have also received some online donations for which we are grateful.

Our bills for items such as gas, electricity, insurance, and so on have continued to come in and we have managed to pay them. However, every month we are required to pay the "parish share" to Chester Diocese and this is where we are beginning to struggle. The parish share for Mottram Church is just over £5000 per month. We have been using the surplus from 2019 to get by but this is reducing steadily and Brian expects that our funds will be used by early 2021 unless action is taken now. In short, we need your help!

If you support Mottram church through the weekly envelope scheme or cash donation you may not have been able to give as regularly as you would have liked, and may now be wanting to make up the missing weeks. You may consider paying regularly by standing order or perhaps making a one-off donation. Whatever you decide, we really value your support.

We write this without knowing how the coronavirus affects individuals and we're sorry if this comes at a difficult time for you. For those who are unable to go further please be assured that we understand.

Details of how to support Mottram Church are on the next page.

Supporting Mottram Church

- ♦ If you have missed some of your regular cash or envelope donations you can send a cheque direct to us (address below) or pay direct into our bank account (details below).
- ♦ If you do not regularly donate to Mottram Church and would like to make a one-off payment you can send a cheque direct to us (address below) or pay direct into our bank account (details below). Alternatively you can use the "Financial Support" link on our parish website, details can be found below.
- ♦ The easiest way to support Mottram church on a regular basis is to set up a Standing Order. All the details of our bank account are below.

CHEQUE, payable to "Mottram Parish Church" Please send to Brian Seaborn, 17 Lee Dale Close, Denton, M34 6BG

or to Revd Cait Walker, The Vicarage, 30a Broadbottom Rd, Mottram, Hyde, SK14 6JB

OUR BANK DETAILS (ONLINE BANKING)

Sort Code: 05-05-29

Account Number 45670614

Please remember to include your name if you set up a Standing Order or make an online donation so that we can keep an accurate record.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT LINK

Our "Financial Support" address is <https://www.mottramparish.org.uk/joinin/finances/>

or <https://www.justgiving.com/mottramparish>

If you would like to discuss any of this, here are our contact details –

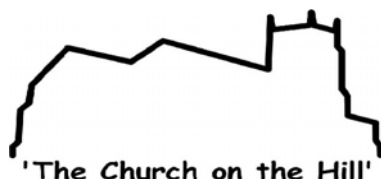
TREASURER

Brian Seaborn 0161 336 8089 brianseaborn@mottramparish.org.uk

VICAR

Revd Cait Walker 01457 762268
vicar@mottramparish.org.uk

Thank you, and stay safe
Mottram Parish Church Council

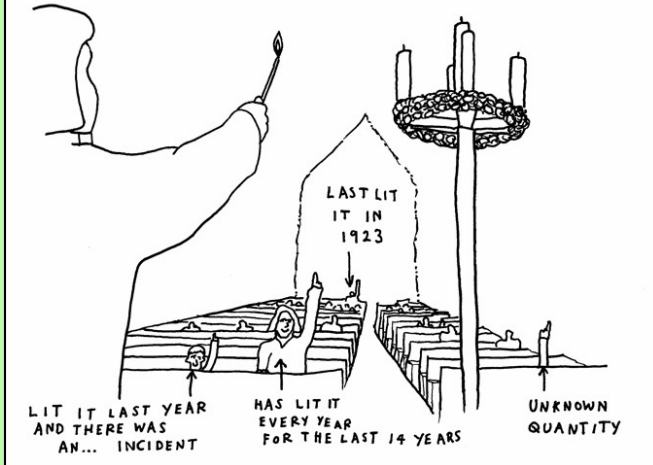


Not To Be Taken Seriously



ADVENT

DURING THE SUNDAYS IN ADVENT THE VICAR MUST CHOOSE SOMEONE TO LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE. IT IS ONE OF THE YEAR'S MOST DIFFICULT DECISIONS



"I am looking for a Christmas Card that contains inclusive language, and yet retains the richness of 16th century English and is overtly Christian whilst being sensitive to the multi-faith patterns of our day ... any suggestions?"



Holy Days - 6th December



St Nicholas - a much-loved saint

One account of how Father Christmas began tells of a man named Nicholas who was born in the third century in the Greek village of Patara, on what is today the southern coast of Turkey. His family were both devout and wealthy, and when his parents died in an epidemic, Nicholas decided to use his inheritance to help people. He gave to the needy, the sick, the suffering. He dedicated his whole life to God's service and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. In later life, he joined other bishops and priests in prison under the emperor Diocletian's fierce persecution of Christians across the Roman Empire.

Finally released, Nicholas was all the more determined to shed abroad the news of God's love. He did so by giving. One story of his generosity explains why we hang Christmas stockings over our mantelpieces today. There was a poor family with three daughters who needed dowries if they were to marry, and not be sold into slavery. Nicholas heard of their plight and tossed three bags of gold into their home through an open window – thus saving the girls from a life of misery.

The bags of gold landed in stockings or shoes left before the fire to dry. Hence the custom of children hanging out stockings – in the hope of attracting presents of their own from St Nicholas – on Christmas Eve. That is why three gold balls, sometimes represented as oranges, are one of the symbols of St Nicholas.



Saint Nicholas
throws three bags of
gold through an
open window.

(He seems to be missing the
stockings by quite a distance in
this picture - ed.)

*Gentile da Fabriano
Altar piece painted
between 1433 and 1435
Now in the Walker Art Gallery
Liverpool*

Church Services

Details of our Christmas services are given below.

If you wish to attend please contact Kate Best on Tel: 01457 857248 or email: katebest@mottramparish.org.uk to book your seats. These services are at St Michael's, Mottram, except for Christmas Day 10.30am, which is at the Magdalene Centre, Broadbottom.

6th December	8:30 Holy Communion, 10:30 Toy service led by our youth group Under Construction. You may wish to donate a gift card or voucher to enable a family to buy a gift for their child.
13th December	8:30 Holy Communion 10.30 Holy Communion
20th December	8:30 Holy Communion 10:30 Carols and Christmas Story
24th December	23:15 Midnight Communion at St Michael's
25th December	10:30 Christmas Day Family Worship at The Magdalene Centre, Broadbottom

Information about Mottram Church can be found at
www.mottramparish.org.uk

If you would like to help the work of the church please go to
<https://www.justgiving.com/mottramparish>



Registers and Records

Contacts for arranging baptisms, thanksgivings, weddings, wedding blessings and funerals can be found inside the front cover.



Funerals

Tuesday
3 November 2020
Carol Evans

Monday
9 November 2020
**Pauline & Derek
Willerton**

Wednesday
2 December
John Walker

Friday
4 December
Wendy Armstrong

Family History

We have a list of all the surviving inscriptions, and can help you with your family history enquiries if you have an ancestor buried here.

To contact our family history expert Bill Jubb, send an email to familyhistory@mottramparish.org.uk



Flying The Flag

Wednesday 25 November 2020

**Happy 80th Birthday to
Brenda Roberts**

Monday 30 November 2020

**The Saltire on St Andrew's day
for Margaret Douglas and all
Scots**

Wednesday 2 December 2020

**In celebration of the life, love
and service of our Lay Reader
John Walker**

Friday 25 December

Happy Christmas

*If you would like the flag flying for a special occasion or anniversary
Contact Tony Kershaw on
01457 765350 or
flag@mottramparish.org.uk
or <https://www.mottramparish.org.uk/occasions/flag>*

*We will fly the flag and put the dedication on the flag page
(Registers and Records).*

The cost is £15, which goes towards the upkeep of the building and the work of the church.

*You can see who it is flying for by visiting the flag page on the parish website
www.mottramparish.org.uk*

Let's Pray



Parish Prayer Rota

Month by month, we invite you to pray with us for all the residents of the parish, asking for God's blessing or healing touch wherever it is needed.

December 2020

Edge Lane
Roe Cross Road
Rabbit Lane
Dewsnap Lane
Hobson Moor Road Farms
Lodge Court
Old Road
Spout Green
Roe Cross Green
Old Hall Lane
Old Hall Close
Hall Close



Please add to your prayers:

Peter and Julie, coming to terms with Peter's terminal diagnosis.

Joan, Ben and Chris and all those who miss our friend and Reader Emeritus John Walker

Bishop Mark - on prayer

"Prayer is both a duty and a joy." I love that insight. What greater privilege could we have than to bring the world before Christ and seek his blessing? And what higher responsibility do we have than to pray for our neighbours, communities, and nation.

The thing about prayer is that you don't have to be good at it, fired up for it, or go on about it... you just have to give it a go and God does the rest. Prayer makes a massive difference, and it is our privileged calling.

Prayer Requests

The prayer meeting at Betty Gadd's home, and the meeting in church have been amalgamated into a fortnightly 'virtual' prayer group.

Please send any personal prayer requests by email to:
prayergroup@mottramparish.org.uk

or telephone

Allen Standeven 01457 857331 or
Tony Kershaw 01457 765350

All these requests are held in strict confidence and are not shared outside the prayer group.

COMMUNITY CONTACTS IN MOTTRAM PARISH

Mottram Primary School

01457 763368

admin@mottram.tameside.sch.uk

Broadbottom Primary School

01457 762382

admin@broadbottom.tameside.sch.uk

Arundale Primary School

01457 762328

admin@arundale.tameside.sch.uk

Longdendale Pre-school in Mottram

07594 640487

Broadbottom Pre-school

01457 764423

Mottram Brownies

07928 575865

Mottram Guides & Rainbows

07884 183129, 07921266168

Broadbottom Brownies

07884 006484

Broadbottom & Mottram

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

07912 387358

Longdendale Women's Institute

01457 763319, 01457 766517

Longdendale Neighbourhood Police

0161 856 9484

Tameside Police (non emergency)

0161 872 5050

Tameside Council

www.tameside.gov.uk

Councillor Janet Cooper

01457 763319

Longdendale Town Council

0161 342 2346

Member of Parliament

Jonathan Reynolds MP, 0161 367 8077

jonathan.reynolds.mp@parliament.uk

Tameside Local Studies & Archives

0161 342 4242

Hattersley Library, in the Hub

0161 342 2552

Friends of Mottram Parish Church

Ian Roebuck 01457 763179

The Magdalene Centre

Broadbottom

- see back cover.

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01457 763758**



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See page 4

of this magazine for more
information and contact details.

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Contact Janis Bond on

01457 763504



BROADBOTTOM COMMUNITY CENTRE

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group activity?

Contact Mandy Pluck on 07967567420

Email Mandy.pluck@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.broadbottomvillage.com



There will be no public gatherings at The Magdalene Centre for the duration of the corona virus emergency but you may wish to keep a note of our advertisers' contact details.

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www.mottramparish.org.uk

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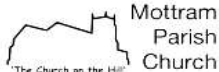


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