

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

'Thought for the Day' began here at Marshside Road on Thursday 18th October 1990 at the instigation of Eva Hughes.

Initially those who came met in the vestry, then in the hall, as the members grew in number, eventually moving into the 'new' Lounge, when it was opened on October 1991, by Rev. George Barton.

During Rev. Pauline Basterfield's ministry, 'The Prayer Book' was introduced, in which the names of those prayed for each week are recorded.

Since the beginning, our meeting has met **every** Thursday, with the few exceptions of when the lounge and kitchen are taken over each year for our Annual Holiday Club, and when Christmas and New Year have been a necessary priority.

We begin our meetings officially at 10.15am.. Coffee/tea and biscuits are served until 11 o'clock, which gives us plenty of time to chat and browse 'The Stall', the brain child of Joyce Walker, and now with the assistance of Diane and Tony Graham, which sells everything from books and cards to marmalade and chutney, and assorted items brought in by members. All proceeds go to the church.

At 11 o'clock, we make any announcements for the weeks ahead, followed by prayers for those known to us who need remembering before the Lord. We have seen many wonderful examples of answers to our prayers over the years, praise the Lord!

Next, our speaker for the day brings us our 'Thought for the Day', which usually consists of a hymn or two, wonderfully led by our pianist Liz Tomkin, a Bible quotation, and a Christian message. We aim to close at 11.30am.

Over the years our speakers have been our own minister and various members of the fellowship, which means we get a wonderful variety of messages varying from very serious to downright hilarious, but always with a spiritual basis! We now include a number of 'outside' speakers from other fellowships than our own.

Our speaking plan is put together on a quarterly basis so, with there being 13 Thursdays in every 3 months, we have 13 different speakers each quarter! How's that for variety! Currently we are privileged to have approximately 15 people who are prepared to bring us a 'Thought for the Day'.

If you have not already experienced the joy we share at our meetings, don't wait any longer! Come along next Thursday – you will find a wonderful welcome as well as a message to think and pray about.

Our next meeting will be approximately our **1330th!**

George Phillips