



"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake"

Psalm 23:1-3

Autumn Newsletter 2015

As Rob's time in Upper Rissington is drawing to a close and Kami has just recently started with CUR:ve we thought it was a good time for a bit of an update to let you know what has been happening recently. There has been a lot of change here over the last few months and new people are moving into the village all the time. It is an exciting time to be living in Upper Rissington with lots of different things going on. With change new challenges and adventures do come, but we are looking forward to what the future might hold.

What's been happening?

University Work: You will be pleased to hear that Rob has now managed to complete his Masters in Sport and Christian Outreach at the University of Gloucestershire. He will now be addressed in formal communication as Rob French, BSc, MA. The dissertation was the final part of the jigsaw to be completed and was handed in at the end of August. The title of this was "Sports Ministry: Church, Community and Mission". If anyone wants a bit of bedtime reading let Rob know and he can always send over a copy! Graduation is in November.

Sports: The sports in Upper Rissington have continued to go from strength to strength and we have enjoyed playing a variety of different activities over the summer, including bits of rounders, cricket and frisbee. The standard sessions of football for the different age groups and touch rugby have continued with lots of people now involved. There is a great team of volunteer coaches who now co-ordinate these sessions, which are a great way of bringing people from all over the village together to engage in sport and with each other.

Schools: The new school site is now open and quickly becoming well established in Upper Rissington. This is part of what was previously known as Great Rissington School and is now The Rissington School, which spans across two sites. Rob was able to spend a good amount of time in the Rissington School at the end of last year and it has continued to be a brilliant way of connecting with the children and local families in Upper Rissington. The new school has already helped to bring the whole community together, bridging the gap between the new development and the existing parts of the village.

Sundays in Upper Rissington: It has now been over a year that we have been meeting together every Sunday morning in Upper Rissington. It certainly feels now that CUR:ve is church in Upper Rissington and the Sunday morning services have helped us to work this out. Understanding what it is for us to be Church in Upper Rissington is a continual process but God has used and is using Sunday mornings to shape us as individuals and as the local church body into what he wants. It is exciting to see new people coming along to join with us. It has continued to feel quite different to your average church service and tends to be pretty relaxed and informal in nature. We are taking the exciting step of moving to the new school building for Sunday mornings which will be a positive move forwards and will also signal a bit of a fresh start.

Community, Sport and Outreach Worker:

You may have been aware that Rob's initial three year contract was coming to a conclusion at the end of the summer. In the lead up to this time there was a lot of prayer, thought and discussion as to the next step forwards. We felt that it would be good to continue with a full time worker in Upper Rissington and that they should continue to be community based with an emphasis on sport. An application form was drawn up and the new job was advertised the length and breadth of the country. There was significant interest from all parts (literally) of the world and eventually three candidates were interviewed during a day that included meeting members of the community, group discussion, presentations, formal interviews and of course a buffet lunch. We are pleased to announce (if you haven't heard already) that we were able to appoint Kami Kalsi to the position, which he officially started at the beginning of October. He has moved from Scotland along with his family and is looking forward to getting stuck in. We'll leave Kami to introduce himself properly another time but suffice to say that he is coming with plenty of enthusiasm ready for the work ahead.

For more information about CUR:ve or any activities that are happening please contact Kami Kalsi, Community and Sport Worker, email kami_curve@outlook.com