

# Team Talk 2016



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### What’s in a name?

What do you like about our current name: 'Team of Ashby de la Zouch and Breedon on the Hill'?  
What does it express of our life together? What does it not reflect?  
If we were to rename our Team, what sort of a name would you prefer?

A geographical name, based on our location??  
Eg. The Woodfield Team

A theological name which says something about our mission or our values??  
E.g. 'The Beacon' (the parishes of Barnby Dun, Edenthorpe, Armthorpe and Kirk Sandall) where 'Beacon' expresses something of locality and mission: to receive light, to be light, to share light.

Who is the name for? - for us or for others?  
What is the name for? - to place us on a map or to describe who we are in terms of values and mission?

Got an idea for the name of our Team? Write it here.  
Check: what will this name mean to someone not part of the churches?

# Team Talk 2016, Week 4 Opening Worship

## Opening sentence of scripture: Mary

1 Peter 2:9:

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people in order that you might proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

## Song – Speak O Lord: Madeleine

## Reading – 1 Corinthians 12: Judith

## Reflection: Pat

Hi. I'm Pat Stafford - and don't worry, I am not going to preach you a sermon. I am certainly not qualified to do so under statute 29b or whatever it was (sorry Mary - I am definitely going to fail the end of term test on church regulations!!) but I do hope you will bear with me if I just give you a few brief thoughts and reflections.

The woes of life in our small village church have been more than adequately rehearsed. (Although I will just mention one more - how could we have forgotten - THE BATS!!!)

*However* despite all these challenges, I think it's fair to say that our congregation is growing - both in numbers and - hopefully - in faith.

One of the aspects of parish life we are very proud of is our increasingly strong link with our lovely C of E Aided Primary School - in which you are sitting right now. And this is where we hold our 'Messy Church', which is an initiative we are particularly proud of (I think that may be a sin - but hey - I'll take advice on that later!) which Nick Gurney started with us and which has now been in place for several years.

*So we thought we would tell you a little about what we do in Messy Church, and then share a Messy Church style 'reflection' with you on this evening's reading(s).*

Messy Church involves (like all good celebrations!) - plenty of food and drink - and while the refreshments are being served, we invite both children and adults to engage together with a number of activities, usually including an (often un-orthodox) opportunity for prayer, but also a

range of activities from the quietly contemplative to the seriously messy. These have involved (among other things):

- ▶ cutting;
- ▶ sticking;
- ▶ junk modelling;
- ▶ origami;
- ▶ finger painting;
- ▶ lantern-making (with safety bulbs of course!)
- ▶ marbling;
- ▶ blindfold food tasting;
- ▶ kite making;
- ▶ biscuit making;
- ▶ grape treading

and even standing bare-foot in trays of paint and walking along to leave a trail of 'footprints'. - You can guess the link there, I'm sure!

This might just sound like a load of very silly fun (and believe me, it is fun!) ... but these activities are all linked (OK - sometimes a little tenuously!) to our bible theme - and what's more, as we help people, young and old, with these activities, they often share with us their happy family news, their doubts and fears - and sometimes even their deepest sorrows.

In other words, this format gives us the opportunity to build relationships - in a way that conventional church services might not.

And then, we all join together in lively all-age worship at the end. The leader draws together all the ideas that we have introduced in the activities, tells a bible story and brings out a Christian message which is - of course! relevant to all of us, young, old and in-between!

Last week's Messy Church talk was very relevant indeed to what we are discussing today. Mary told us the story of Martha and Mary and (amidst much hilarious waving of our very own individual dusters and polishing everything and everyone within arm's reach!) she encouraged us to get the balance right between rushing around 'doing stuff' for God and sitting at His feet and listening.

Getting that balance right is surely going to be crucial for all of us as we move forward from Team Talk 2016.

... Which brings us back to our reading from Paul's letter about the parts of the body - and a 'reflection' which comes straight out of our Messy Church handbook. (Sadly we don't have time to do the 'mini-marshmallow sculpture' which is one of the suggested activities!)

The reading tells us of course, that we are all wonderfully made, but that we are all different, and just like a human body, the body of the church needs us to fulfil different functions in order for it to work effectively.

*So I wonder which part of the body  
are you most like?*

*Good listener?*, so you are like the ear. Beautiful singing voice? - the voice-box.

*Really practical person?*- (cake-making / carpentry) - hands. Eloquent speaker? - mouth;

*Really caring person* who is always ready with a hug ?- You'd be like the arms. Active / sporty? - the feet.

So, what we'd like you to do in a moment, is to talk to the person next to you and help each other decide - which part of the body are you most like? You've just got two or three minutes to do this, so it's just first thoughts and impressions we are looking for really.

And then to *write your name* on a post it note to stick on our body outline here at the front.

### Team Talk Prayers: Beryl

God-in-relationship,  
we pray for one another as we reshape our Team  
and move to inhabit the plans you have for us.  
Keep us attentive to one another and to you.  
Clothe us with love.  
Give us imagination and courage

to look beyond what has been to what might be.

Set before us, as our pattern  
your Son, Jesus Christ,  
who, through costly sacrifice, won us life.

Your kingdom come  
**Your will be done.**

Missionary God,  
we thank you for our ancestors of faith  
who have lived and proclaimed the gospel in this place.  
At this moment, in our me,  
make us faithful, humble, bold ambassadors,  
that as a Team and Mission Partnership  
we might share the love and hope we have in you  
across our town and throughout our villages.

And so we pray in Ashby and Coleorton,  
Isley Walton and Langley,  
Worthington, Newbold, Griffydam and Gelsmoor, Breedon on the Hill, Staunton Harold,  
Tonge and Wilson,  
Your kingdom come  
**Your will be done.**

God of me and eternity,  
as we stand on the threshold of this new beginning  
help us to find in Jesus the way, the truth and the life  
and, in following him, our peace even amidst change and challenge.  
God, who is both our journey and our destination,  
lead us on.  
Your kingdom come  
Your will be done.  
**Amen.**

# What Could the Team Be?

*Lead by Tim Phillips*

## How Should we organise ourselves as a team?

The Pastoral Scheme, the legal document that set up the Ashby and Breedon Team Ministry allows for a Team Council.

A Team Council may or may not be the way we want to organise ourselves.

To be able to talk about what we are organising, we need to know what 'we' are.

Just as a reminder, we are seven church congregations using eight church buildings with six PCC's. Even that is hard to get your head around.

We also have the names of our churches to remember, and without wanting to put anyone on the spot, I guess that most of us here would struggle to name all seven churches (or the eight buildings) from memory.

So the question remains: How should we organise ourselves? If we can come up good answers to "How should we organise ourselves?" We will need to work out how to change: How would we plan the changes. For this we need to know where we are now:

## Where are we now?

At the moment Holy Trinity works as one church (with the Vicar, me, and our two Readers (Steve and Jean) helping out with Sunday services in John's churches on a once-a-month basis).

The readers from St Helen's lead services at ColeOrton and in John's churches. St. Helen's works more closely with St Mary's, and historically has benefitted from the ministry of Brian's curates who all played a regular part in the life of the church.

The four congregations under John's care each have their own identity as well as having some shared services. Mary oversees all that we are, and currently takes the services at St Helen's and St Mary's.

In terms of Sunday service, that is where we are now.

When it comes to working together what might we find it helpful to have in common. In other words, what could we do better together?

## A Shared Identity

It is important to all of us that we retain our individual identities, but as a team we also need some sense of a shared identity. What is it that makes us a team?

There are various ways that we can strengthen our team identity, ways that are widely in use by organisations and churches. For example,

- We might have a Shared mission Statement
- We might have a shared logo.
- We might have a new name - one that we develop together
- We might have a shared look and feel to our
  - websites
  - any publications like magazines or pew sheets
  - our notice boards

This would give us some visible markers that we are a team. These would help other people see that we identify with one another and it would help remind us that we belong to something that is bigger than our church family.

It is also possible for us to share our expertise. Some of our churches have people with skills in finance, in buildings in outreach. There are various ways that teams of people with similar interests and responsibilities could support each other.

This evenings group time is going to allow an opportunity for some of those people to get together. For those of you who are not a church warden, or a worship leader or a PCC Secretary, there will also be the opportunity to start thinking about what we might call our team, instead of the rather long 'Ashby and Breedon Team Ministry' or to give it its fullest expression 'The Ashby de la Zouch and Breedon on the Hill Team Ministry and Mission Partnership consisting of St Helen's Ashby, Breedon Priory, St Mary's (and St John's) ColeOrton, All Saints Isley Walton-cum-Langley, Holy Trinity



Staunton Harold, St Matthews Worthington and Holy Trinity Ashby.

A short and memorable name might be a good idea.

Mary then introduced two ways of coming up with a Team name, you can see this on the pages below.

## Shared Expertise

The idea of Teams within the Team is one that can have many forms.

Each of them focussed on how we can help each other. This is not about meeting for the sake of meeting, but how we can help and learn from one another and what things we might do better together than we could do apart.

I would like to link back to what Barry said about circles that overlap. We don't need to pretend that we are all the same, or have the same all interests or concerns. What can do is work with the areas that do overlap.

Teams within the Team might include Church Warden's, Children's Workers, Musicians and worship leaders and potentially many others.

Can you think of the ways that we might benefit from sharing in these ways?

## Shared Work

What is the purpose of working together and having a shared identity?

It will be a framework within which we can develop shared work.

In Ashby we have seen an increasing number of shared activities between the churches. AshbyChurches.Org provides communications between the church and a shared identity - not taking away from our individual identities. It has provided the space where larger churches can partner with smaller churches, and there are many ways that we can work together.

Let me give you some examples.

There is the AshbyChurches Alpha course based at Ashby Methodist Church. In the autumn the Ashby and Breedon Team partnered with Chapel in the Valley Griffydham to offer course that was attended by members of St Helen's, St Mary's, Chapel in the Valley and Holy Trinity.

The Churches football competition is lead by a team from Our Lady of Lourdes.

Holy Trinity and Ashby Congregational church partner in the work of Ashby foodbank with the governance and financial administration coming from Trinity and the foodbank working out of the congressional church building.

Open the book is lead by the Methodist churches with others helping, as St Helen's lead on the Street Pastors with members of other churches serving on the streets.

The CAP Money Course is lead by a member of Ashby Baptist Church, and the Debt Help service is staffed by a member of the Baptist Church and a member of Holy Trinity.

There are many ways that a shared identity, good communication and a heart for God's mission can bear fruit. And these are just examples from our town, I'm sure you will know many more.

What might be the shared work across the Ashby and Breedon Team? What could we help each other do in partnership?

Might it be learning from ColeOrton's experience with a Messy Church at Breedon, a teams wide Youth project, or starting a new Cafe church in Worthington? These might not be the ways we should go, but there are some examples that we might invest in.

## Process

For us to move from where we are, we will need to change.

For us to change we will be greatly helped to have a plan. To know where we are now, and where we want to be.

Currently we function as seven churches, with three vicars. How can we add to our shared life and prepare for a future with two full-time vicars by our key people working together?

What might be the best ways for us to start on this process?

Should it be with a shared website?

Should it be with new notice boards?

Should it be in shared activities reaching others?

There are various ways that we could work together. Which ones should we focus on first?

These are rhetorical questions. Ones that you might chew over in the weeks ahead.

Thank you for listening.

## Discussion Groups

*lead by Mary Gregory*

The meeting divided into groups. Four of these groups were made up of people with particular roles. The other seven groups looked at possible names and logos for the team.

Below are the notes given to the

- ▶ Church Wardens
- ▶ Treasurers and Secretaries
- ▶ Youth and Children's Workers
- ▶ Worship Leaders

### Churchwardens Questions

1. Take it in turns to introduce yourselves
  - ▶ including:
    - ▶ name
    - ▶ church
    - ▶ length of time as a churchwarden
    - ▶ your experience of being a churchwarden
2. What are the sorts of areas/ tasks where we might be able to support one another?
3. What might be helpful ways for us to communicate and build collegiality?
  - ▶ a meeting? with clergy or without? how often? with what purpose?
  - ▶ an email conversation group? a Facebook group?
4. How do we understand our leadership as churchwardens in the development of the Team
5. and in this process of change? How can we 4. support our clergy in this? What support do we need from them or others?
 

Is there anything specific you would like to feed into Team Talk from your perspectives as churchwardens?

### Churchwardens Responses

Supporting each others

Team Church Wardens hand book - created by us. Loose leaf file that can be added to

All church wardens to have each others Names, phone No's & emails so that help can be sought when needed.

Tick sheet of job to be done annually.

Church wardens to meet annually.

### Treasurers and Secretaries Questions

1. Take it in turns to introduce yourselves, including:
  - ▶ name
  - ▶ church
  - ▶ length of me as a treasurer or secretary your
  - ▶ experience of being in this role
2. What are the sorts of areas/ tasks where we might be able to support one another? Would there be any bene ts in the Team working together on stewardship campaigns, for example?
3. What might be helpful ways for us to communicate and build collegiality?
  - ▶ a meeting? how o en? with what purpose?
  - ▶ an email conversation group? a Facebook group?
4. How will being a more active Team affect how we administer the individual parishes, if at all? Which roles might a Team administrator fulfil? Would we want to see us thinking about our parish contribution across the Team rather than as individual parishes? Why/ why not?
5. Is there anything specific you would like to feed into Team Talk from your perspectives as treasurers and secretaries?

## Treasurers and Secretaries Responses

Group Meeting with Cathleen (Treasurer), Greg (Treasurer), Pat (Secretary) & Douglas (Secretary). Key points covered included:-

- a) Consistent website
- b) Group email or other mechanism to communicate between the members
- c) Sharing of best practise and consistency, e.g. production of and management of accounts
- d) role definition and key responsibilities are consistent;
- e) Sharing of opportunities e.g. grants and how to develop grant proposals

## Youth & Children's workers Questions

1. Take it in turns to introduce yourselves, including:
  - ▶ name
  - ▶ church
  - ▶ the nature of your involvement in youth or children's work
  - ▶ a couple of words explaining why this ministry motivates you and gives you life.
2. Are there areas where you would like the advice/ help/ support of others in this group? Who could offer this advice/ help/support?
3. What might be helpful ways for us to communicate and build collegiality?
  - ▶ a meeting? how often? with what purpose?
  - ▶ an email conversation group? a Facebook group?
4. Can we imagine the potential for joint youth or children's one-off events or new initiatives? What might these be? Would we look to spread these across the Team or target specific parts of it?
5. What engagement do we have with local schools? Would a Team approach be helpful here? What might a 'schools team' look like?
6. Is there anything specific you would like to feed into Team Talk from your perspectives as youth and children's workers?

## Youth & Children's workers Responses

Youth Programme

Resource well

Collaborating events

Joined up social events

5th Sunday Youth

Supporting Open the Book & AYFC

Research Mums and Tots groups and package Little Fishes to Villages

## Worship Leaders Questions

1. Take it in turns to introduce yourselves, including:
  - ▶ name
  - ▶ church
  - ▶ the nature of your involvement in worship leading
  - ▶ a couple of words explaining why this ministry motivates you and gives you life.
2. How are you feeling about Team Talk and its potential implications for the ways in which you minister? Do you feel there are opportunities and/ or threats?
3. Are there areas where you would like the advice/ help/ support of others in this group? Who could offer this advice/ help/support?
4. What might be helpful ways for us to communicate and build collegiality?
  - ▶ a meeting? how often? with what purpose?
  - ▶ an email conversation group? a Facebook group?
5. Can we imagine the potential for joint training courses relevant to our areas of worship leading? What might these be?
6. Would we see the value in a Team service, perhaps once a year, specifically focused on our re-dedication to the Team; a covenant service? How might we work on this together?
7. Is there anything specific you would like to feed into Team Talk from your

perspectives as youth and worship leaders?

## Worship Leaders Responses

Q2: Generally we all feel very positive about Team Talk, in particular if it leads to further opportunity to work with different congregations, and develop our ministry. We are aware of some potential challenges though, coming about where we're working with congregations that we're not so familiar with:

- The risk of not being aware of individuals or specific situations in need of prayer
- When working with churches we don't know so well, there is a risk that we may take a "safer" line on our preaching / teaching and leadership
- On a similar line, the challenge of getting pastoral care right across the team (applies to a wider scope than just worship leading)

Q3/5: it might be helpful to have some kind of ongoing training / development work for us as a team, a sort of "CPD" programme. Also (or part of this) an Day Away together, which could incorporate a Preaching Workshop.

A definitive list of who to contact at each church about hymns, readings, intercessions etc.

Training on various bits of technology

Q4: There was definite support for a meeting to help us develop as a team supporting the Team, hopefully the meeting on the 17th March could be the first of these

Q6: An Annual Team Service could focus on rededicating all ministries and support roles across the Team – not just the Worship Leaders. The question surfaced some doubts about the current success of "united services" and how this suggestion sat in relation to these – but by now time had run out.

One of the group also raised a question of accountability when we are operating on our own .

How can each church ensure continuity/balance of teaching, or discipleship building through the teaching programme, when there may be a different preacher each week?

## A Name and a Logo

One the next two pages are the sheets that Mary put together to help us think about a name for the team and a logo.



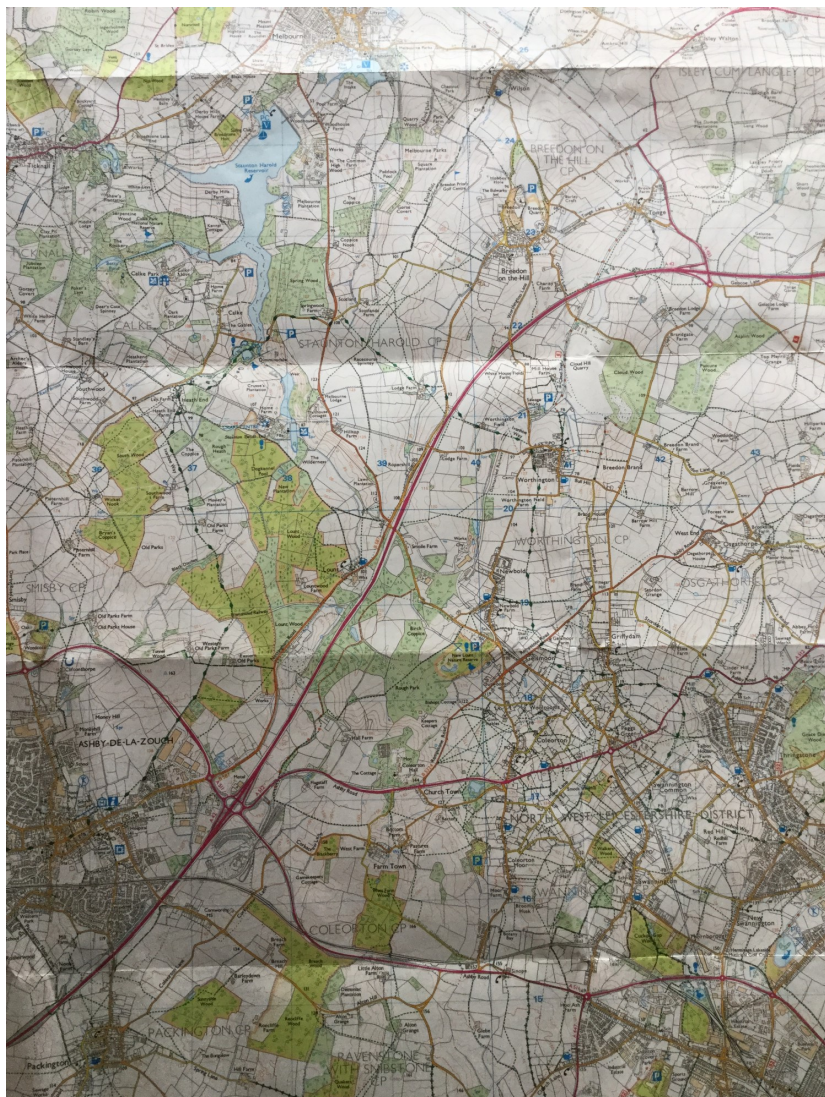
## What's in a name?

# What's in a name?

What do you like about our current name: 'Team of Ashby de la Zouch and Breedon on the Hill'?

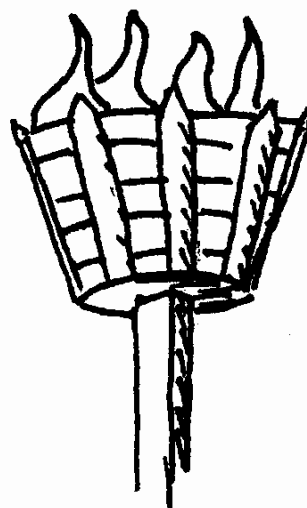
What does it express of our life together? What does it not reflect?

If we were to rename our Team, what sort of a name would you prefer?



A geographical name, based on our location??

Eg. The Woodfield Team



A theological name which says something about our mission or our values??

E.g. 'The Beacon' (the parishes of Barnby Dun, Edenthorpe, Armthorpe and Kirk Sandall) where 'Beacon' expresses something of locality and mission: to receive light, to be light, to share light.

Who is the name for? - for us or for others?

What is the name for? - to place us on a map or to describe who we are in terms of values and mission?

Got an idea for the name of our Team?

Write it here.

Check: what will this name mean to someone not part of the churches?

## Picturing the Team

# Picturing the Team

What do these logos express to you of the churches or dioceses behind them? How well might they communicate to someone outside the church?

What style of logo do you favour? Why?

What do you think we should be trying to depict of our Team? Why?



Diocese of  
**Leicester**



Diocese of Liverpool



**SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL**  
A PLACE FOR ALL PEOPLE



Holy Trinity



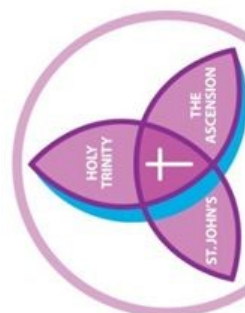
CHURCH  
OF THE  
**GOOD  
SHEPHERD**



Langtree Team Ministry



Growing in God's Love



**RAVENSBOURNE TEAM**  
*Together in Christ for others*



**SOUTH COTSWOLDS  
TEAM MINISTRY**  
*Parishes in Partnership*

**SOLEBAY  
CHURCHES**  
BLYTHBURGH • REYDON • SOUTH COVE  
SOTHERTON • SOUTHWOLD • UGGESHALL  
WALBERSWICK • WANGFORD CUM HENHAM



DORCHESTER  
AND THE  
WINTERBOURNES  
TEAM MINISTRY



**DIOCESE OF LINCOLN**  
faithful • confident • joyful



Growing with God's Grace in Glasgow and Galloway

Got an idea for a logo that might express our identity and mission as the Team of Ashby de la Zouch and Breedon on the Hill? Sketch it here.





## Verbal Responses in Plenary

- The United Seven
- Forest, Faith And Fellowship
- The Seven Rings Mission
- Corkscrew Lane: The Corkscrew Team.
- The SEven CRosses MIssion
- Forest Fire
- All Skulls
- 42 The Answer To Everything
- Fortuitous / Forty-Tude / Forty-Two'd
- 42-It-Us
- Churches In The First
- Follow The A42 Team
- A24
- Team Seven
- God's Seven Belles
- Ferrers Team. In the middle of the Team. An Anvil Logo.
- Gregory's Seven
- The Edge Team
- The 42 Way (Cf Ivanhoe Way)
- The Meaning Of Life
- The Ferrers Mission with a picture of a church rather than an Anvil

### Other Suggestions Included:

- Ask our children's groups what they think?
- Always think about those who don't know us, how will they understand our name and logo.

## Closing Worship

### Song: Madeleine (music), Pat (actions)

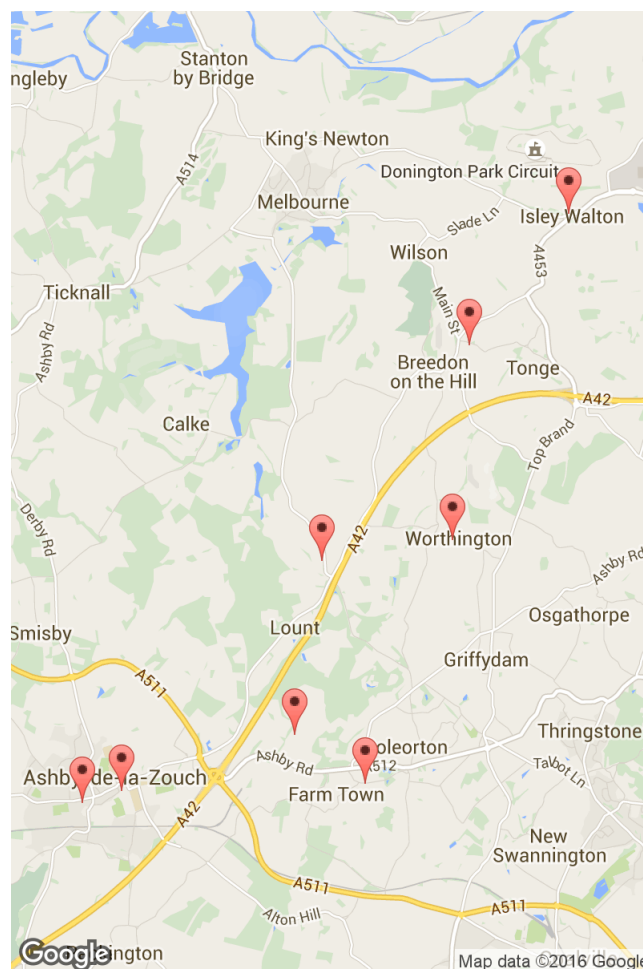
*There is someone who knows me,  
knows me by my name.*

*There is someone who chose me,  
chose me to proclaim.*

*There is someone who loves me,  
who loves us all the same.*

### Grace: Mary

**My the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
The Love of God  
and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
Be with us all,  
Evermore  
Amen**



*Team Talk 2016, Session 5: What Next?*

*Will be at **Breedon on the Hill** - please note the  
change of venue.*

*at 7:15 p.m. on Tuesday 8 March 2016*

*Bring the questions you would like to ask about the  
team and our shared future.*