

# Sharing Our Story...

## Roman Road Church, Failsworth, Manchester

**Roman Road is an Independent Methodist Church, who became part of the Baptist family a number of years ago. They are dedicated to sharing the good news of Christ in their locality, and will use any means necessary to do so, as minister Dorothy Kendrick explains....**

"We held a Pancake Party as Shrove Tuesday fell in the half term holiday this year. Last summer, I suggested to Beryl, the leader of our Take a Break group, that we opened it up as an inter-generational event and she agreed. I encouraged her to discuss the matter with the group and they thought it a really good idea. The leader of Take a Break, Beryl usually shared a brief word about Shrove Tuesday and they have shop-bought pancakes, but members of the group suggested we could do more, which was great. One lady offered to organise some games and I said I would explain about why we celebrate Shrove Tuesday. We produced tickets (admission was free but we had to limit it to 30 because of organising the pancakes) and Beryl said she would make 'proper' pancakes for the children.

In the event we had about 45 people who came! All were connected with us but only about half were regular Sunday worship attenders. We had all ages and it worked really well. The whole event lasted just about an hour and 10 minutes. Everyone said how much they had enjoyed it and many were asking if we would do something similar again.

The other new thing we have done recently is hold a sports quiz, organised by 2 of our young people. We didn't have much food at that - just a selection of cakes and crisps on the group tables, but the lads organised the questions, and did the scoring. It was a really good evening with a wide selection of ages represented. Again, everyone said they had enjoyed it and wanted to know when the next one will be.

I just wanted to share those two things with you as an encouragement. We have a long, long way to go but we did celebrate Easter Day with us all together for worship so bit by bit we are getting there.

### **Questions for consideration and prayer**

In what ways could food be used in your context to bring the church and the community together?

How engaged with the local community would you say your church is? What steps can we take to ensure we're engaged locally but also getting the rhythm of work and rest, mission and reflection?