



THE MESSENGER

for the Kingsdown and Pitshanger Church families



June - July 2008

“Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”

(Ephesians 4.11-13)

SERVICES FOR JUNE/JULY - KINGSDOWN



- 8 Jun 10.30 Rev Roger Dunlop, Family/Parade Service
3.30 Service at Hanwell House
6.30 Mr Akin Phillips
- 15 Jun 10.30 Ms Christine Robson
6.30 Rev Peter Summers
- 22 Jun 10.30 Mrs Lynda Blackburn
6.30 Rev Noble Samuel
- 29 Jun 10.30 Rev Roger Dunlop, Holy Communion/Healing Service
6.30 CIRCUIT SERVICE at Pitshanger - Farewell to
Ms Christine Robson, Rev Noble Samuel and Rev Peter Summers
- 6 Jul 10.30 Mrs Rachel Kamara, NCH
(followed by buffet lunch in support of NCH)
3.30 Service at Hanwell House
6.30 Rev Roger Dunlop, Holy Communion
- 13 Jul 10.30 Mr Tony Plews, Family/Parade Service
6.30 Miss Vera Marston
- 20 Jul 10.30 Mrs Charmaine Dinham
6.30 Mr David Groves
- 27 Jul 10.30 Rev Roger Dunlop, Holy Communion
6.30 Mr Peter Green

SERVICES FOR JUNE/JULY – PITSHANGER



- 8 Jun 10.30 Ms Christine Robson, MHA Sunday
- 15 Jun 10.30 Rev Roger Dunlop, Family/Parade Service
- 22 Jun 10.30 Church Group
- 29 Jun 10.30 Rev Noble Samuel
6.30 CIRCUIT SERVICE - Farewell to Christine, Noble and Peter
- 6 Jul 10.30 Rev. Roger Dunlop, Holy Communion
- 13 Jul 10.30 Mr. Daniel Bennett – Local Preachers/Vocations Sunday
- 20 Jul 10.30 Rev. Roger Dunlop – Family/Parade Service
- 27 Jul 10.30 Ms. Christine Robson



Possibilities and Opportunities

The recent Kingsdown Church Council recognised that as a church we are enabling a lot to happen. We can be thankful for all that people offer in terms of time and talents. Part of the excitement is there will always be more that can be done. So I'm listing below some possibilities/ways to be involved/share in the church's mission. There is no pressure but any of them would enhance our mission to share God's love.

Pitshanger has it's own list of property related needs and good progress is being made with the Church Growth meetings, but I hope Pitshanger members will read the list below as well to see if there are things appropriate for them.

- Invite your neighbours/friends to come to a Sunday service
- Suggest speakers to invite
- Put something in the Prayer Book (thanksgiving/world concern/person who is ill....)
- Offer to occasionally lead the prayers of intercession
- Join a house group or commit to a short course
- Plan a talents/gifts event
- Join the rota for Coffee & Conversation (see Rita Brewster)
- Spread the word re Kingsdown as a good place for business meetings/conferences/small exhibitions
- Share your testimony or an experience in a Sunday service
- Help plan a special service (eg festival/outreach/faith & work/particular spirituality or country)
- Offer to set-up or run a bookstall or church library
- Express interest in midweek service/prayer or Christian listening
- Help keep track of lettings
- Be on a team of people who can open and close the church and welcome people for occasional events/bookings.
- New ideas and offers of help to the Redevelopment Group (Ken & Hazel Pennells, Kath Jarrett, Janet Smith, Violet Cordon & Kathleen Loveridge)

- Help to keep the splendid illuminated notice boards well used and a attractive
- Occasional property work parties
- Set-up a website or keep it up to date
- Provide other ideas for sharing information with members and the community
- Other suggestions....! Maybe from churches you visit this in other places this Summer....

Our thanks for all that people are doing already as members of Christ's body in Ealing.

Roger Dunlop

Family News - Kingsdown

Thanks are expressed to **Lynda Blackburn** for the wonderful job she has done as Senior Steward.

Congratulations to : Liz and Steve Palmer on the birth of a granddaughter, **Edie**, born to **Andrew and Kerry**; **Violet Cordon** on the recent birth of her granddaughter, **Amelie Coco**, born to **Joanne and Glen Collins**; and **Ken and Hazel Pennells** on the birth of their fourth grandson, **Oscar James**, born to **Avril and David Agnew** (nearly a 5-a-side!).

Your prayers are asked for baby **Oliver Blois**, born on Thursday 29 May, who is unwell, and for his parents **Charlotte and Paul** (friends of Andrew Jarrett).

The funeral has taken place of **Iris Richardson** on Wednesday, 30 April 2008. Condolences are expressed to family and friends.

We give thanks for the life of **Annis Wiles**, who died on Saturday, 31 May, and ask your prayers for **Robert and Julie**, and the rest of the family.

We send condolences to **Gwen Duncan** on the death of her husband **Bill**. Gwen was a former member of Kingsdown.

The baptism has taken place on 11 May at Kingsdown of **Lily-Rose Holloway-Smith**, sister of **Stanley** and daughter of **Jeffrey and Nancy** (and grand daughter of **Janet Smith**).

Eileen and Dave Tobias's daughter **Maria** is marrying **John** at Kingsdown on 5th July. We wish them every happiness.

Family News - Pitshanger

Congratulations to Margaret and John Axbey celebrating their Golden Wedding on June 21st.

David Richards has now been appointed a full Church Steward and was presented with his badge by Rev. Roger Dunlop on May 4th at Morning Service.

CHRISTIAN AID – Total raised including the coffee morning and house to house collection: £1.513.69 – up on last year.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - PITSHANGER

Jun

Thu 5 8 pm Home Group meets at 25 Lynwood Road

Wednesdays 12 – 2 pm Church open for prayer and reflection. Refreshments served

Thursdays 11.45 -12.15 pm Prayer Group meets in Vestry for prayers, praise and thanksgiving. All welcome

Sat 28 10.30 – 12.30 Coffee Morning in aid of Church Funds with sale of effects of the late Mrs. Marion Robinson donated by her daughters.

July

Wed 2 8.00 pm Wednesday Fellowship - AGM



In this edition of the Messenger there is a brochure about household insurance. The Methodist Insurance Company are prepared to give Kingsdown 20% of the first year premium on any house or contents policy. If you are considering renewing any insurance policy read the leaflet and complete the form and post it to the company. They will then contact you.

If you want further information regarding this speak to Ken Pennells tel no 208 579 4056.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - KINGSDOWN

Jun

- Mon 2 7 pm Guides (*and most Mondays throughout the month*)
Tue 3 6.30 pm Brownies (*and most Tuesdays throughout the month*)
Wed 4 1-3 Babies & Toddlers Group (*every week in term time only*)
6.30 pm Wednesday Club for young people (*every week in term time*)
Fri 6 10.00-12.00 Coffee Morning (*and every Friday morning*)
6.30 pm Boys Brigade (*and most Fridays throughout the month*)
Sat 7 10.00-12.00 Coffee Morning (*and every Saturday morning*)
Mon 9 7pm Ivy Hanson's Home Group, 18 Leyborne Ave, W13
Tue 10 8 pm Liz & Steve Palmer's Home Group
Tue 17 2 pm Kingsdown Club 'A Bingo Afternoon'
Sat 14 12.00 - 4.00 pm Traders Day - Flower Festival in the Church
7.30pm Capital Chorus - the Barbershop Choir at Kingsdown

Jul

- Tue 1 6.30 pm Brownies (*and most Tuesdays throughout the month*)
2 pm Kingsdown Club - 'Magic with a Message' a talk by
Rev Roger Dunlop
Wed 2 1-3 Babies & Toddlers Group (*every week in term time only*)
6.30 pm Wednesday Club for young people (*every week in term time*)
Fri 4 10.00-12.00 Coffee Morning (*and every Friday morning*)
6.30 pm Boys Brigade (*and most Fridays throughout the month*)
Sat 5 10.00-12.30 pm Book Fair plus gifts, bric-a-brac and cake stalls)
In aid of United Anglo Caribbean Society
Mon 7 7 pm Guides (*and most Mondays throughout the month*)
Mon 14 7pm Ivy Hanson's Home Group, 18 Leyborne Ave, W13
Tue 15 2 pm Kingsdown Club 'The Tea Party' Entertainment by Eileen & Frank
8 pm Liz & Steve Palmer's Home Group

The MESSENGER

**There is no edition in August - the copy deadline for the
September issue is Friday, 22 August 2008**

Editors - Pam and Alan Smith, 83 Elers Road W13 9QB

Tel: 020 8840 4803 E-mail: messenger@questa.co.uk

This Summer there are big changes in Circuit staffing.

After 5 years we say farewell to Peter & Jan Summers as they retire. We give thanks for Peter's caring, reflective ministry including his leadership in spirituality and social responsibility. Jan has wonderfully promoted Network and served in the Circuit Office.

Noble Samuel is moving to new opportunities at Heston with the URC where we pray that his gifts for media and communication will be well used. We give thanks also for Louisa's ministry to the many many visitors they had at the manse and on the joint visiting they did within the King's Hall Afternoon Church extended community.

Christine Robson steps down as Lay Worker to make way for new lay support in the Hanwell and King's Hall section that we envisage will include some Urdu language gifts. We are sure Christine will continue to provide God's encouragement and challenge where she is next able to serve.

I hope many of you will be able to come to the Circuit United Service at Pitshanger on 29th June which will be an opportunity to say farewell to Christine, Peter, Noble, and their families. As we say our goodbyes we give thanks for all we have been able to do together, for all we have learnt from one another.

We look forward to welcoming Revd Michaela Youngson as superintendent minister at King's Hall and Hanwell and we pray for God's blessing on her and husband Sandy, and children Robert & Tamsin. The Circuit Welcome Service will be on 7th September and will be an opportunity to celebrate the new possibilities for our Circuit on its 10th Anniversary.

Change, it is said, is inevitable - except from a vending machine! Rather more wonderfully as Christians we believe that we are being changed from glory into glory till in heaven we take our place. Let us allow God to work on us and through us to that end.

Roger Dunlop



Data Protection

Kingsdown and Pitshanger Methodist Churches maintains a database of basic information relating to members and the community roll. Keep the Minister informed of any changes to your personal details. The database is maintained in accordance with the guidelines of The Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JQ to whom any formal requests for access to the data must be addressed.



Young Peoples News from Kingsdown

Thank you to all those who sponsored us for the Christian Aid walk on Sunday 25 May. Those of us who went had a great time and raised lots of money.

We look forward to welcoming people to the flower festival at the 'Traders' day' (14 June) and having relevant craft activities that morning. We are trying to make extra large flowers – so we will have an insect eye view of the world of plants and flowers. If you have any huge foliage (Rhubarb or similar) that we could use, please let us know.

We will also have a prayer tree – inviting people to add prayers in the form of leaves, and prepare Fathers Day cards.

On Saturday 21 June some of our Young People will go to the London Methodist District BBQ to think up some BIG Ideas for Young people in our District. We hope to report back to you soon.

Please pray for the Young people (aged 11 – 18) attending the MAYC weekend – 11 to 13 July – camping at Cliff College. There is room for more young people to attend travelling with Lynda and Harold or Roger and Ruth on Friday afternoon after school.

Please also pray for the Wednesday club (8 – 12 years) for the children who come and their families and that we will have enough helpers each week.

In September we plan to slightly change the age groups for young Church on Sunday mornings.

Crèche – 6months to 4 years

Shell group – 4 to 9 years

Seekers group – 10 to 14 years

Sunday Teenage Fellowship – 13 years plus

(possibly meeting at a different time on Sundays)

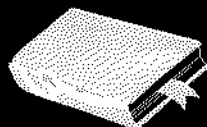
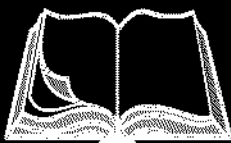
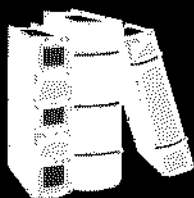
In order to do this we need two more helpers – so if you could join the rota for a year please contact Anna Church or Ruth Dunlop. And if you can help during August for one or two Sundays for craft activities and bible study please tell us soon.

Thanks for all your prayers and support for the young people and their leaders.

Ruth Dunlop

Kingsdown Methodist Church, Northfield Avenue
W13

BOOK FAIR



Books

Gifts

Bric-a-Brac

Cakes

Saturday 5th July

10.00am to 12.30pm

Admission 40 pence

Proceeds to

'United Anglo Caribbean Society'



Christian Aid – a View from the Doorstep

From time to time since I was a youngster I have been involved in door-to-door collecting. Initially going out with my mother, I did my first 'solo' collecting in 1971 at the tender age of 18. Bearing in mind that we were just 'decimalising' at the time, I well remember the dear old lady who came to her door and said "I don't have any real money, but here's thruppence (3d)", and put 1½p in the tin. I still think of the mental gyrations she must have gone through in order to value everything in 'old' money despite using the 'new'.

Some years later when I was living in New Malden, the first time I went to the local Methodist Church I got asked to do collecting for NCH. The lady who asked me later confessed that she had thought I was someone else, otherwise asking that wouldn't have been the first thing she said to me. The collecting got done with some success, but I gnashed my teeth somewhat at the man who, when I knocked on the door and said I'd come for the NCH envelope handed it back in silence – empty. I felt like knocking again to let him know what he was meant to do with it, but didn't.

Now, I have to confess I don't really like knocking on doors and asking people for money, even in the best of causes. Nonetheless, I did a couple of years Christian Aid before we went to Norwalk (and I do know Ruby wasn't serious when she asked if I'd be able to 'pop back' for Christian Aid week). Once again, qualms or not, this year I was back out with Olwen and Ivy. Collecting does, however have its definite compensations. When I knock on a door and someone says 'Ah, yes, I've got it ready', I think to myself that there are people who want to give – who I am I to deny them the opportunity? Lots of people haven't got it ready, can't remember where's it's gone, haven't seen it etc, but nevertheless are quite happy to put something in.

Of course, there are people who refuse, as is their right. This year I was intrigued by a number of people who, in declining, said, "No thanks, I'm all right". What's that supposed to mean, I wonder - "I'm all right, Jack", I suppose. Then there was one man who said he'd need to "talk to his wife" and send a donation later. Are there still men who hand over their wages to their wives, I wonder?

However, there is one who will stick in my mind for a long time to come. The first door has a sense of 'well, here we go' about it especially when one's natural reluctance is suggesting that being at home with a nice cup of tea and a good book might feel preferable. So, I approach and knock. A man looking 30-something opens the door and I hold a Christian Aid envelope prominently and explain what I'm there for. "Oh yes, I was going to do something about that, step

inside a moment". In I step as he disappears into his front room. "Come on in", so I go into the room where he's writing out a cheque which he then shows me so I can't miss how much he's giving. "Would you like to Gift Aid it – there's no cost to yourself?" I ask. "Oh yes, of course, then you'll get a bit more." Having filled out the Gift Aid declaration, he says "Thank you for all your hard work, I'm glad your doing this. Good luck for the evening." So I went off thinking to myself "that shows you". Never mind the reservations, there are people who really do want you to do this. That felt good!

Gerald Barton



BURMA - CYCLONE APPEAL

The DEC appeal (Disasters Emergency Committee) is now closed having raised approximately £10m. and this money has been allocated to the 13 agencies, including Christian Aid, who are members of the DEC.

However, the Christian Aid appeal, which hopes to raise £12m. is still open and if you haven't already sent a donation this can be sent to: Christian Aid, PO Box 100, London SE1 7RT, stating that your donation is for the Burma Cyclone appeal.

Ruby Warne

BOOK FAIR - SATURDAY, 5 JULY

Our next Book Fair will be held on Saturday, 5 July - and the proceeds are for the United Anglo Caribbean Society. In addition to books, the society will be selling cakes and also running a gifts and bric-a-brac stall. A number of members of the society are connected with Kingsdown and we do hope you will give your support to this event. Funds are needed for George Doyley House in Southall and the luncheon club at Acton. Mr. John Swan from George Doyley House will be along to tell you about the work they do. If you don't read, there will be lots to buy and you can always have a coffee and chat with your friends.

Ruby Warne

Sky at night

The scientific theory I like best is that the rings of Saturn are composed entirely of lost airline luggage.

Capital Chorus in Concert



An evening of entertainment hosted
by the 2007/2008 holders of the UK
Barbershop Small Chorus
Champions' Award

Kingsdown Methodist Church
Saturday 14th June at 7:30pm

Tickets £7

Proceeds to Kingsdown's
Redevelopment Fund



Be there to hear and see
them perform their
recent UK
Championship
songs and routines.



KINGSDOWN REDEVELOPMENT

Since I wrote in the last Messenger, we have had our International evening. This was held at St Thomas' church hall and a splendid evening it proved to be, with great entertainment. Many thanks are due to Blossom Jackson and her very hard working team for organising the evening. A total of £1,750 was raised towards our redevelopment fund.

We would like to say a big "thank you" to Rene Norton at Stamford Bridge Church. Rene sold 85 of Mrs Dunlop's quizzes and raised £170 towards our redevelopment fund and we really appreciate her kindness in doing this for us.

Our next fundraising event is a visit from Capital Chorus, the barbershop choir on **Saturday, 14th June**. This will start at 7.30 pm in the Church. Tickets are on sale from Hazel Pennells, Violet Cordon and Kath Jarrett and cost £7 and £4 for children and students and will include light refreshments.

We are to have recital of classical music by Mozart, Brahms, Elgar and Dvorak played on piano and violin by Errol Hui (our organist) and Rachele Goldberg. This will be on **Saturday, 5th July** and will commence at 8.00 pm and, again, will take place in the Church. Tickets will cost £5 and will be available shortly. Light refreshments will be included in the price of the ticket.

Holding concerts, such as the classical and the barbershop concerts, in the Church is something new at Kingsdown and I'm sure will prove to be an ideal venue for both these events, so please support them if you possibly can.

On **Friday, 8th August** we are to have a visit from the United Methodist Church Choir from Austin, Texas. Further information will be found in the weekly notices.

Dates for your diary:

Saturday, 27th September – Fish and Chip Supper and Quiz. This is being organised by our Young Church.

Saturday, 11th October – Roger and Friends are giving a Magic Evening.

Saturday, 8th November – the Boys' Brigade are putting on an entertainment.

Saturday, 29th November – Christmas Fayre.

Please support as many of these functions as possible because they are all in aid of our redevelopment fund.

Thank you to all those of you who do support fundraising events whenever possible. Your support is needed and appreciated.

Kath Jarrett

	Income					Expenditure	
	Sept	Oct	Mar	Apr	May		
Balance B/F*			£80,991				
Rent	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	Kitchen Equipment	£4,761
Smarties	£12	£13	£40	£40	£15	Partion/Trees Etc	£2,547
Yellow Moon	£18						
Donation	£20	£1,040	£3,925	£5,810	£100		
Sunday Teas	£50		£100		£50		
Around the World	£180						
London Pride		£423					
Standing Order	£150	£150	£150	£150	£150		
Interest	£327	£353	£402	£435			
Capital Chorus		£400					
Christmas Fayre							
Sale of Clock							
Coffee morning							
Christmas Cards							
Traders Day							
Christmas/Birthday Gifts			£10				
Home Function							
Quiz			£512	£14	£10		
Spare Cash			£146				
Burns Night			£110				
Games Evening			£115				
Cakes			£41	£44			
In Memory of Stephen							
Duncan-Bosu			£551				
Picture				£154			
International Evening				£1,210	£536		
Total	£1,258	£2,879	£6,602	£8,356	£1,361		£7,309
Bank *	£82,249	£85,127	£144,923	£159,546	£160,907		
Collected so Far	£98,796	£101,675	£115,780	£124,136	£125,497		
*Includes Grants & Legacy	£52,000	£31,000					
*Interest Free Loans	£22,000						
*Refund from Curtain Walling	£6,267						

Kingsdown Garden Sale 31 May



Many thanks to all those who so generously donated items for the Garden Sale, helped in the preparations, worked hard on the day, or did their bit by turning up to give their support.

The total raised was £289 which includes £47 from the Cafe refreshment sales.

GRAND DAY OF EVENTS - 14 JUNE 2008 - 12.00 till 4.00 pm



Don't forget the Northfield Avenue Traders Day, on Saturday, 14 June, as part of which our worship space and new foyer will be decorated and opened up to the public, followed by the Capital Chorus barbershop concert in the evening.

Tickets for the concert are on sale from Hazel Pennells, Violet Cordon and Kath Jarrett and cost £7 and £4 for children and students, including light refreshments.



Burma Appeal

Following news of the devastation caused by Cyclone Nargis affecting Burma, MRDF launched an appeal, with the Methodist Church, for funds to provide relief supplies to the hundreds of thousands left homeless.

With over 60,000 people feared dead and thousands missing, getting clean water and food to the survivors is essential in halting the onset of diseases like malaria, cholera and dysentery which thrive in areas of contaminated water and poor sanitation.

Menka Jha, MRDF's Programme Officer for Asia, said: "The cyclone is the biggest natural disaster in Burma's recorded history and is on almost the same scale as the Tsunami in the Indian Ocean in 2004. It is important for us to come to the aid of the Burmese people."

Fierce winds, rain and storm surges have completely flattened some areas - between 80 – 95% of houses in the slum areas and villages around the capital, Yangon, have been razed to the ground. To compound the situation, power supplies have been disconnected and the price of food, fuel and building supplies has gone up, by 300% in some cases.



Little boy looking at cyclone damage.

MRDF is appealing for funds for Burma that will be channelled through a local organisation, which is working in the most affected areas.

To donate to MRDF's appeal for Burma by debit or credit card, call 020 7224 4814.

Taxpayers are encouraged to gift aid their donations where possible, adding a value of 28p to every pound they give, at no extra personal cost.

NCH COLLECTING BOXES

To all those of you who have NCH home collecting boxes, I hope to be collecting your boxes to empty within the next few weeks. Many thanks for continuing to collect for NCH.

Kath Jarrett

NCH Sunday, 13 July 2008



NCH Sunday is designated by the Methodist Church as one of its Special Sundays – a time to reflect on and celebrate the work of its Children’s Charity. Each year it falls on the second Sunday in July, the anniversary of the opening of the first Children’s Home by Revd Thomas Bowman Stephenson and a group of Methodist friends.

This year NCH Sunday falls on 13th July and we invite all Methodists to remember our work in worship that day. It is an opportunity to remember, give thanks and pray for the continuing work of NCH and recognise the support given to their children’s charity by Methodists all over the UK.

During the last eighteen months NCH has looked very seriously at revisiting its mission and core values. The agreed platform for our future work and messages to supporters is; ‘Always there for Children’.

Always - speaks of stability, our heritage and history of commitment to children and young people, and our ongoing commitment to not give up.

there – our involvement where children and young people are expressed through the wide variety of our work.

for Children – children and young people are at the centre of what we do.

Envelope Appeal



There will be an envelope appeal in aid of National Children's Home, with envelopes in the Kingsdown pews for the Sundays of June 29th, July 6th and 13th. As always your donations may be Gift Aided and you are invited to contribute generously.

Buffet Lunch 6 July

To complement the Appeal Liz and Steve Palmer have very kindly offered to provide a buffet lunch for after morning service , at Kingsdown, on Sunday July 6th. A list will be posted in the church foyer for people to sign up,there will be no fixed charge but donations gratefully accepted. I am sure a good time will be had by all, in aid of a worthy cause !

Olwen Britton
(Secretary, WSMC)

IT COSTS NOTHING

To say "Thank you" or "That's fine"
To shake hands warmly
To give a pat on the back
To listen to somebody else's story, even if you've heard it before
To tell a story to a child, or bandage a scrubbed knee, or make funny faces, or give a kiss at bedtime
To be polite and considerate
To crack a joke
To give a little sympathy
To carry a smiling face and kindly spirit around
To look for the best.

Winnie Lake, Pitshanger

Summer days

Sing a song of summer days
Leafy nooks and shady ways,
Nodding roses, apples red,
Clover like a carpet spread;
Sing a song of running brooks,
Cans of bait and fishing hooks,
Dewy hollows, yellow moons,
Birds a-pipe with merry tunes.

J W Foley

Drawn to faith

When I see your sea surging so wonderfully, and I reflect that I cannot understand the origin of water or its measured movements, I am drawn to faith - because only you could have created the sea and its waves.

When I see all the trees and flowers in the earth, and I reflect that I cannot understand how they grow and multiply, I am drawn to faith - because only you could have created the trees and flowers.

When I look at myself, and I reflect that I cannot understand how my mind and body work, I am drawn to faith, because only you could have created mankind.

Ignorance of myself does not prevent me from knowing and worshipping: on the contrary, ignorance of the mysteries of myself and of all things around me tells me that I depend wholly on you to create and sustain life.

Hilary of Poitiers c310 - 367 Brought up a pagan, he converted and was made a bishop

The Fair Trade Debate



Growth of fair trade makes our role more important than ever



As mainstream business embraces fair trade, Traidcraft's role has become more important than ever, says Marketing Director Larry Bush

The latest, hot-off-the-press figures show sales of Fairtrade-marked products have increased by more than 80% in the past year and now stand at an amazing £500 million a year.

Our promise to go the extra mile for producers commits us to:

- Pioneering new areas of fair trade
- Investing in new producer initiatives
- Enabling producers to diversify
- Developing long term partnerships with producers
- Providing access to the fast-growing UK market
- Working with poor and small-scale producer groups
- Demonstrating ethical business practices and challenging others to do the same
- Campaigning and lobbying governments in the cause of trade justice
- Tackling issues created by unfair trade agreements

That's a lot of cups of Fairtrade tea and coffee, bunches of Fairtrade bananas and Fairtrade cotton t-shirts!

It is amazing to think that what was a radical idea back in the 1970s, supported by church congregations and a few organisations like Traidcraft, Oxfam, and Christian Aid, has now become a really significant movement that can no longer be ignored by the major supermarkets and food and drinks companies.

One reason Fairtrade is so popular is because it is so practical. Every tea bag and every cup of coffee makes a difference to the farmers and producers who work hard to produce the crops we enjoy.

I saw this in action when I visited Fairtrade cotton farmers in Gujarat, India, last September. They are members of the Agrocel Pure and Fair Association who have been working with Traidcraft for a number of years.

I met one group who had decided to use some of the social premium to hire a JCB digger and dig out a lake. Following the summer rains, this village now has its own supply of clean drinking water, for the first Time.

This is transformational stuff for a community who previously had to trek several miles to the nearest clean water supply. And this sort of thing is what is happening all over the world as a result of the fairly traded products that we are now buying in increasing numbers.

The growth of fair trade means more of these kinds of projects across Africa, Asia and Latin America. The lives of millions of people are being improved and the possibilities for fighting poverty in the future are exciting.

In fact, the impact of fair trade goes well beyond the obvious benefits of a guaranteed price and much-needed community projects. With these things come the deeper, life-giving benefits like security, self-confidence, hope, optimism and dignity.

You can see it in the eyes of the cotton farmers and their children that I met in India and it's exciting to hear them talking about the future with real enthusiasm and Hope.

This is what fair trade is achieving.

The challenge is to maintain this momentum – to extend the reach of fair trade, enabling more farmers and producers to trade their way out of poverty – and that's why Traidcraft's pioneering and supporting role is as vital now as it ever has been.

The Agrocel cotton farming project provides a great example.

It started with a Traidcraft Exchange project called *Straight from the Cotton Fields*, providing training and support for smallholder cotton farmers.

Cotton is a traditional crop in Gujarat and the project fostered the move into sustainable and organic farming methods which are well suited to this dry and saline region. It also enabled the cotton farmers to form an association and the foundations



were put in place for Agrocel to become registered as a Fairtrade supplier.

Traidcraft plc began buying Agrocel's Fairtrade organic cotton fibre so it could be used in our clothing range, made by another fair trade group – Craft Aid, in Mauritius – doubling the fair trade benefit.

By becoming established as a Fairtrade producer, Agrocel was also able to access the mainstream market, significantly, Marks and Spencer. As a result, M&S started sourcing cotton from Agrocel for their successful Fairtrade cotton range of clothing. M&S's cotton buyer visited a cotton farm and, for the first time, M&S have committed to a three-year contract, guaranteeing secure business for the cotton farmers.

This security has meant that Agrocel is now bringing more smallholders into the association to meet the demand.

VERONICA HELEY

INVITES you to help her celebrate her 75th birthday
and the publication of her 60th book – False Picture.

Date: Thursday, 19th June 2008 Time: 8 pm

Place: Pitshanger Bookshop, 141 Pitshanger Lane, Ealing, London W5 1RH

Refreshments.

No presents, please.

RSVP 58 Barnfield Road, Ealing, London W5 1QT Tel 020 8997 4674

Email: veronicaheley@lineone.net www.veronicaheley.com

I am about to start a newsletter periodically giving information about the latest that's coming up with my books and talks. Would you like to receive this by email? If you would, please visit:

<http://lists.veronicaheley.co.uk/mailman/listinfo/vhnews>

Veronica Heley

So,can we cultivate healthy thinking?

Definitely; try these tactics.

1. Never say that you're too old to change.
2. If you're overweight,try living with the 'discomfort' of not having that biscuit,or second helping.
3. If you tend to say,I shouldn't have to do this... ask yourself why the universe has made you a special case.
4. When you are having a bad day, put things into perspective by remembering that whatever you're going through,you're not a starving child in Africa.
5. If you get easily upset,ask yourself if there's any evidence that you are more frail or sensitive than other people.

Mental resilience is difficult to achieve. But if we acquire more of it,we not only enjoy far more fulfilling lives we make things much easier for everyone around us.

John Axbey, Pitshanger

Daphne.Edwards “Worker with the Homeless”

REPORT FOR WET MEETING ON MONDAY 19TH MAY 2008

1) INTRODUCTION

The Ealing Soup Kitchen and the work with the homeless continue to run smoothly with the Churches commitment to the rota and the unity that exists. The teams are hard-working and seem to have new faces enrolling which is a good sign. There seems to be new clients at the Soup Kitchen each week, especially Eastern Europeans. I spend the session times talking to the regular clients and also to those I haven't met before, obviously there can be a language barrier but I seem to get through this getting those whose English is a little stronger to interpret for me. I would like the quality of the food to be consistent throughout all groups and Julian the Soup Kitchen Co-ordinator often pops in to see that the various groups are functioning well and coming alongside them to encourage consistency. I have felt a little unsettled this term, due to the fact, I was not sure about the future contract for another three years, but hopefully I should know a definite soon. The high note is that one of the first clients I met when I first arrived in 2005 sleeping in the church garden has been progressing so well now has a full time job in Sainsburys!!

2) ACTIVITIES

- √ Second visit to the Tate Modern with the Art Class on Friday 18th January. We had free tickets for a special exhibition by Louise Bourgeois. We were able to discuss and do some artwork related to this at the next group.
- √ Took a small group of SK clients bowling at Park Royal, trying these smaller events from time to time.
- √ Our Spring event Karaoke Western Style on 2 April went very well, although it is often hard to get the numbers attending that have received a ticket.
- √ Boot Sale on a Saturday morning in Denham on 5 April to raise funds for the proposed Café Church weekend away in October. Two of the SK clients helped.
- √ Proposed Summer Visit to Margate for the day and a BBQ.

3) VISITING OTHER ORGANISATIONS & GROUPS

- I visited Roy King in Brixton this quarter. I have cut down on prison visits due to the demand of time, but make it a priority to send letters periodically.
- Visits to the Homeless Persons Unit Ealing to help client with sheltered housing.

- Visit from Seedbed Trust, a trust that supported Yorke to invest his time into a "Home for the Homeless".
- Asked to speak at an elderly group in Greenford about my role with the homeless.
- Visited High Leigh to talk over the proposed Café Church weekend with the organisers.
- Visited Westminster Central Hall for a day seminar on Ministry to the Poor/Healing with Jackie Pullinger, Hong Kong.

4) EALING CHURCHES

- o Spoke at St James on Homelessness Sunday in January.
- o Continued contact with Prayer Ealing plus prayer requests to all the Churches.
- o On the St James speaking rota.
- o Visit to Ealing Abbey to be shown around the Church and meet office staff.
- o Asked to write an article for New Wine Magazine by St Pauls.
- o Attached report for St Johns.

5) DISCIPLESHIP/SPIRITUAL NEEDS

- Ø Café Church continues to grow, the enthusiasm from the leaders and clients remains and looking forward to what God will do in the future.
- Ø Enjoyed a visit from Teen Challenge recently they may be able to help some of our guys.
- Ø Weekend away planning is going well, the team have different responsibilities, the speaker John Robinson from last year has promised to come again. The money is miraculously coming in from all different sources.
- Ø Prayer continues as a priority in our personal lives if we are to see breakthroughs in people's lives. Felt a personal challenge after New Wine.

6) BEFRIENDING TEAM

This scheme continues. There is a struggle to recruit others to take on the commitment to befriend a client fortnightly. The clients who are befriended find it very helpful to have this support. I will encourage the SK teams to advise on potential befrienders.

7) PERSONAL

- § Went to New Wine Conference for 3 days part of my training.

Daphne Edwards

daphne.edwards@stjohnsealing.org.uk



The basics about debt

The world's poorest countries pay over \$100 million every day to the rich world. Read the basics about how this works - and why it should stop.

[1. Why should we drop the debt?](#)

Debts should be cancelled because they are unjust in terms of their origin, and also because they worsen poverty.

[2. How big is the debt of poor countries?](#)

The poorest 53 countries have debts totalling between 290 and 380 billion US dollars, whilst for the poorest 149 countries, it is over 2.6 trillion US dollars.

[3. Where did the debt come from?](#)

Much of the debt of poor countries is left over from the 1970s - and often arose through reckless or self-interested lending by the rich world.

[4. Hasn't all the debt been cancelled?](#)

No! Thanks to campaigners, debt cancellation has become a reality - but the debt crisis is still with us.

[5. Hasn't the UK cancelled all debts?](#)

No! The UK has cancelled many debts, and been active in calling for further cancellation for the poorest – but it still holds billions in debts from other poor countries.

[6. What do countries have to do to get cancellation?](#)

There are lots of harmful, undemocratic and irrelevant conditions attached to debt cancellation - we want these strings to be cut.

[7. Where do debt payments go?](#)

Poor countries are paying debts to the World Bank, the IMF, other international bodies (all controlled by rich countries), to rich country governments and to companies.

8. Doesn't corruption make debt cancellation pointless?

No. Corruption is a big problem in some places - but funds from debt cancellation do make a difference.

9. How do we prevent future debt crises?

We need economic justice - covering debt, trade, aid, tax, etc - and responsible financing in the future.

10. What can I do?

Plenty! Campaigning does make a difference.



These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

- Next Thursday there will be try outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

- At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

- Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

- Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

from Rekha John, Kingsdown

Cool news for Ealing's old fridges

Ealing Council is scrapping the charge for collecting old fridges and freezers. From Monday, 2 June, the Council will scrap the £15 charge for collecting the appliances and taking them away so their plastic and metal parts can be recycled.

Every year dozens of fridges and freezers are fly-tipped in the borough, costing thousands of pounds to clear up. The Council has invested £71,000 in the new service in a bid to reduce the number of appliances dumped illegally across Ealing.

It's also good news for the environment because older models often contain chemicals in their cooling systems which can damage the ozone layer if they're not disposed of correctly. All appliances collected by the Council will be taken to a cryo-condensation plant where the ozone-depleting gases will be removed and destroyed.

To find out more about the Council's free fridge/freezer collection service call 020 8825 6000.

New White Sacks to be issued for Plastic recycling

There is a further small change on the way in relation to plastics recycling. Over the next few weeks households will be issued with a white reusable sack. This sack will be exactly the same as the pink sack for garden waste and this will be for residents to put their plastics out in.

This change has been introduced following feedback from residents since plastic recycling was introduced and these new sacks will go 'live' in mid July. Further information on this will be circulated to residents shortly.

Potentially toxic caterpillars,

Keep a watch out for potentially toxic caterpillars, residents are being warned. The hairy larvae of Oak Processionary Moths were spotted on oak trees in the borough last summer and Ealing Council's Tree Service is taking action again this year to scour the borough and any larvae found will be destroyed.

Apart from the damage the hungry caterpillars cause to the trees, their tiny hairs can be blown in the wind and can cause respiratory problems in humans and animals as well as itching, rashes, and eye problems.

Any sightings can be reported to our Tree Service. Call 020 8825 5000 or e-mail trees@ealing.gov.uk.

If you think you are showing symptoms associated with the caterpillars visit your GP or call NHS Direct on 0845 4647.



A RULE FOR LIFE St. Benedict - 11th July

From the earliest Christian times there have always been those who felt a special call to give their whole lives to God. Gradually these people came together with others who wanted to live in the same way. 500 years after Christ died, St Benedict set down a series of rules for these communities of monks and nuns.

St Benedict called his Rule one for beginners, a 'school of the Lord's service' where the student is 'to set nothing before the love of Christ'. The Rule sets out a life of prayer, study and work, living together as a community.

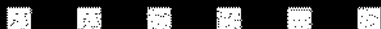
Many still live by the Rule of St Benedict today - in the Church of England and in the Roman Catholic Church. They keep the same Rule and Office (seven times for prayer each day) that St Benedict set down some 15 centuries ago.



B- QUIZ

All the answers to this Bible quiz begin with the letter B - can you find them all?

1. He was released instead of Jesus (Matthew, chapter 27)
2. When Jesus fed the 5,000, the loaves were made of this (John 6)
3. The youngest son of Jacob (Genesis 35)
4. A city where they built a tall tower (Genesis 11)
5. How Saul escaped from Damascus (Acts 9)
6. A village near Jerusalem where Simon lived (Matthew 14)
7. David ordered his men to stay away until these has grown again (2 Samuel 10)
8. Joseph and Mary travelled there because of a census (Luke 2)
9. God created them on the fifth day (Genesis 1)
10. Ruth's 2nd husband (Ruth 4)

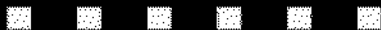


Why do bees have sticky hair?

Because they have honey combs.

Why do bees hum?

Because they don't know the words.



ANSWERS: 1. Barabbas 2. barley
3. Benjamin 4. Babel (or Babylon)
5. in a basket 6. Bethany 7. beads
8. Bethlehem 9. birds 10. Boaz