



# KINGSDOWN MESSENGER



*June 2014*

*Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – blessed Trinity!*



## SERVICES FOR JUNE

- 1 Jun 10.30 Mr Donney Samuel  
6.30 Circuit Easter Offering Service at Pitshanger  
4.30-6 pm Start of Circuit Membership Course, (Dome Room at Kingsdown) led by the Revs Peter & Suva Catford
- 8 Jun 10.30 Rev Peter Catford, Family / Parade Service  
4.30-6 pm Circuit Membership Course
- 15 Jun 10.30 Deacon Richard Goldstraw  
4.30-6 pm Circuit Membership Course
- 22 Jun 10.30 Rev Chrissie Howe, Holy Communion  
4.30-6 pm Circuit Membership Course
- 29 Jun 10.30 Mrs Esther Ackah
- 6 Jul 10.30 Rev Chrissie Howe



### The KINGSDOWN MESSENGER

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Dear Friends,

This month we will celebrate Pentecost, the birth of the Church. Jesus' followers received the gift of the Holy Spirit and were empowered to spread the good news of God-in-Christ, which led to 3,000 people becoming Christians in a single day. In the liturgical year Trinity Sunday follows Pentecost and is a day that honours the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). For centuries the concept of one God in three persons has exercised most Christians. Church history is littered with different views:

For example...

Father, Son and Holy Spirit are different modes of God's self-revelation. God is the Father in creation, the Son in redemption, and the Spirit in sanctification. In other words, God exists as Father, Son and Spirit in different eras. This heresy is called Modalism and does not accept that Father, Son, and Spirit exist at the same time in every time.

Or...

Father, Son and Spirit are not distinctive persons, either Christ is not fully God, or the Father, the Son, and the Spirit are the same person in different 'modes'. This heresy is called Monarchism.

Then again...

Father, Son and Holy Spirit are three independent divine beings, three separate gods, who share the 'same substance'. This heresy is called Tritheism.

In the fourth century the most prevalent heresy was Arianism. One of its beliefs was that the pre-existent Christ was the first and greatest of God's creatures but was not fully divine. The controversy created by this teaching led to the Church affirming its belief in the Trinity through the formal statement of the [Nicene Creed](#) in 325 A.D. In this way the Church dogmatically affirmed what was already believed in the earliest of Christian theology.

We worship the one and only God who exists eternally in three distinct persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – blessed Trinity! May we each be open to God revealing more of God’s self to us as we seek to become more like Christ.

Love and prayers,  
Chrissie



## **KINGSDOWN FAMILY NEWS**

"I would like to thank Kingsdown Church family for their support at the funeral of George my husband who died on April 21st after a short illness - help with the catering, sound system, attending the service and lots of cards from you all has given me strength both before and on the day."

**Jill Richardson and family**

The following three baptisms were celebrated at Kingsdown on Easter Sunday: La'miyah and Xavian Cole – parents Dale Cole and Cheryl Mattocks - and Cayden Grant – parents Shameeq and Diane. We welcome them to our church family.

A previous Minister at Kingsdown, the Rev David Holland has been in touch to tell us that his wife Meryl died peacefully on Tuesday 20th June at home following a long illness. The funeral is at Ruskin Road Methodist Church, Carshalton at 12 noon on Thursday 5th June. On behalf of those of the Kingsdown family, we extend sincere sympathy and condolences to David and his family.

A previous organist at Kingsdown, Robert Fletcher, who moved to Cornwall, has also been in touch saying that for health reasons and to be closer to their daughter, they will be moving to Poole, Dorset in August. He and his wife will be celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary this year. Robert sends his best wishes to those at Kingsdown who remember him. We send congratulations and kind remembrances from Kingsdown.



## **From the Annual General Church Meeting**

The Church Annual General Meeting took place after morning worship on 18<sup>th</sup> May and was attended by 36 members and adherents.

Importantly, the meeting elects the stewards and representatives to the Church Council for the coming year.

Chris Marlow has stood down as a steward after four years of service during his latest stint – he has already served twice as steward before. Kath Jarrett volunteered to become a steward to fill the gap. The full list of stewards elected is –

Esther Ackah, Emily Campbell, Tom Cheriyan,  
Sybil Corbin, Nerissa Fearon, Kath Jarrett

The meeting thanked Chris for all his service over the years to the church as steward and also for his continuing involvement in other things, such as the new AV system.

The representatives elected to the Church Council were –

Olwen Britton, Christina Cheriyan, Rekha Cheriyan,  
Juliet Edwards, Les Goodchild, Ivy Hanson, Blossom Jackson,  
Derek Matthews, Akin Phillips, Keji Phillips, Janet Smith,  
June Thompson, Eileen Tobias

Other church officers will be confirmed by the Church Council at its next meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

Janet Smith told the meeting that there will be a 'cleaning day' on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August. This will give us an opportunity to do a general clean and tidy-up around the building, She also drew our attention to the 'faults book' which is located in the church foyer. Anyone finding faults around the building should note them in this book so that they can be addressed.

Collecting boxes will soon be placed in the foyer for donations of food items to the Ealing FoodBank. Sue Barton, who is volunteering with the FoodBank said she would keep us advised on the items required by the FoodBank – at present they have a surplus of baked beans, pasta and

tinned tomatoes, but are short on items such as coffee and instant mashed potato. The requirement will change every month and details will be included in our weekly News-sheet.

On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July from 12 noon, the Northfield Avenue Traders Association is organising a 'Funday'. The meeting agreed that our church should be open for the afternoon.

Gerald Barton gave a brief presentation about the church 'AwayDay' on 5<sup>th</sup> April. It was agreed that we should hold another 'AwayDay' next year. Outline proposals for the day will be put to the next Church Council. Chrissie Howe thanked all those involved in organising the day for their efforts.

During the 'AwayDay' our facilitator, Wendy Beard had asked if we had had a service to celebrate completion of the redevelopment project. As we have not, the meeting agreed that we should do so and should celebrate its completion during morning worship one Sunday during the Autumn. This will be fed into the process for drawing together the Quarterly Preaching Plan.

Finally, the meeting agreed that the Sunday evening Bible study series that had been run by the Circuit had been very valuable and hoped that there would be further series in the future. The meeting closed with the sharing of the Grace.

**Gerald Barton - Secretary to Church Council**

### **Wow! What a psalm!**

The Lord is my Shepherd....(that's relationship)....I shall not want ... (that's supply)....He makes me to lie down in green pastures.... (that's rest)....He leads me beside the still waters... (that's refreshment)....He restores my soul....(that's healing)....He leads me in the paths of righteousness....(that's guidance)...for His name sake....(that's purpose)....Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death....(that's testing)....I will fear no evil....(that's protection)....For you are with me.... (that's faithfulness)....your rod and your staff they comfort me..(that's discipline)....you prepare a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.... (that's hope)....you anoint my head with oil.... (that's consecration)....my cup runs over....(that's abundance)....surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.... (that's blessing) and I will dwell in the house of the Lord....(that's security)....forever.... (that's eternity).

# **Kingsdown's AwayDay**

There was a sense of a "day at the seaside" as we met early on a Saturday morning, and boarded the coach which would take us to St. Katharine's Foundation in the East End. The sun was shining; we chatted and enjoyed the drive to St. Katharine's, thankful that we did not have to negotiate the London traffic.

St. Katharine's was founded in 1147 by Queen Matilda as a medieval hospital for poor infirm people, next to the Tower of London. In 1273, after a dispute over its control. Queen Eleanor granted a new Charter, reserving the Foundation's patronage to the Queens of England. For 678 years the Foundation carried on its work in East London, despite periodic difficulties and renewal. In 1825 commercial pressure (nothing new!) for larger docks caused the Foundation to be ejected, together with some 3,000 local inhabitants. The Foundation moved to Regents Park and became a residential almshouse for 125 years.

In 1948 St. Katharine's returned to the East London to its present location in Limehouse, a mile from its original location, and became a retreat house. The Royal Foundation is a charity, just minutes from the City and Canary Wharf and provides an unparalleled sense of peaceful seclusion as a venue for residential or daytime meetings; conferences; away days; retreats and overnight accommodation.

## **TRULY A HIDDEN URBAN OASIS**

After our coffee we then gathered in a light, pleasant room, overlooking the garden to start the day's events. Discussions took place within smaller groups on our view of Kingsdown; our hopes and aspirations for the future both within the Church and also in the local community. There was a positive feedback on many issues, the friendships formed, the resounding hymns, coffee mornings, book sales, Boys' Brigade, Tuesday Club, Wednesday's Toddlers and Babies, Sunday School, and for many the location.

These were positive comments and ones that we should be proud of, but on the flip side there was an almost unanimous view that the Redevelopment Programme, over many years, had had a derogatory effect on morale and peoples' desire to move forward.

Of course the aesthetics of the new build, with all its advantages were appreciated, but there seemed to be a consensus of opinion that we had become stuck in time.

After lunch we continued to discuss ways forward; how to encourage more young people to become involved and become a vibrant, forward looking Church.

The whole group interacted well, and our Leader, Wendy Beard, very ably pulled together all the views and opinions that we had discussed during the day, both within the large and smaller groups.

In summing up she suggested that if we were to regain our sense of a "whole" Church, we should "put the past behind us, be thankful for all the work that had been done, all the fund raising and the commitment by so many and look to the future. A new day dawning.....which I felt was a marvellous way to end what had been a new day in every sense.

**Submitted by Janet Smith**  
**With thanks to the team who organised the day.**

"We do not come to God by navigation but by love."  
St Augustine of Hippo  
*(Quoted in the Royal Foundation of St Katharine's Chapel)*





# **Kingsdown AwayDay - another view**

What was an AwayDay - what would happen - would I have to give a talk about something - was it all prayers and bible readings - how would others react - should we treat it as a school outing - what was to be achieved - would the lunch be alright - well.....

The day started off a little like a school outing as we (*Pam and I*) arrived at 8.29 am to be the last passengers for boarding and greeted by others in a noisy but jovial way. At least the party was happy as the coach started off on the journey through busy London. The only seats left were right at the back - not the smoothest of seats over the London bumps - where we found that Wendy (the facilitator for the day) was to be our travelling companion. An interesting journey as we talked about a wide range of subjects and put the world to rights.

At Limehouse a trip round the block was needed to find the narrow entrance to St Katherine's - then as Janet has written elsewhere we entered 'an oasis of calm'. The rush and roar of Limehouse disappeared as you entered the building and a sense of contemplative calmness took over. A very good meeting room was the venue for the tasks that Wendy set as she led the group through an exploration of what made Kingsdown 'tick'.

Some of the negative issues were reviewed and put away as the snakes we had overcome but the pathway to the future was not so easy to decide upon.

It was interesting to see how many different interpretations could be placed on a picture chosen from the hundreds that Wendy put on display. How some only pictured the delicate brightness of imagination whilst others reflected trials and tribulations of reality.

One of the final images of an angel was reviewed with totally differing and strongly opposing comments - eventually this angel came through as one of those to be retained as a guide to the future. Is the angel rising from horrors, is it rising to a brighter future having conquered the depths and ravages that have gone before.

Would I go on an AwayDay again - yes I would - my fears in the main were unfounded and replaced by seeing how different people expressed their views from many different viewpoints.

I think I now know a little bit more about what makes Kingsdown 'tick' - the challenge is to make the 'tick' stronger - something that can only be done by us all working together.

Alan Smith



What does this angel  
say to you?

## **Awayday to St Katharine's Foundation**

St Katharine's Foundation has a long and fascinating history which, I understand, is detailed elsewhere in this magazine.

It's difficult to find the right words to describe this venue: suffice to say we couldn't have found anywhere better. It was everything that you would wish for to spend a day talking about the past and considering the future. The place was peaceful, comfortable and tastefully decorated and all the areas were easily accessible. The staff were friendly and obliging and the catering arrangements were excellent. The garden was a pleasant place to walk around and the chapel was awe-inspiring in its simplicity with its mix of old and modern and I was disappointed that we didn't manage to have time allotted for a service there. As you will have realised by now, dear reader, I really liked this place and would have liked it even more if we had been able to have an overnight stay there.

I feel that I have to say something about the facilitator. Wendy was an excellent leader and managed to bring out even the most reticent of us to share our thoughts and feelings with one another. She was able to

steer us to see things in a positive light and look to the future of our church with more optimism than some of us have felt for a while.

This was a very worthwhile experience and I look forward to the next time.

To finish on a slightly pessimistic note – our coach wasn't the most comfortable ride any of us had experienced. However, next time, if more people sign up to the **Awayday** we might be able to get a bigger, and hopefully more comfortable, coach. So there's food for thought folks!!

**Kath Jarret**

## **Well Done! - 10<sup>th</sup> Ealing**



**Best Band in London,  
Best Musically Accurate Band in London,  
Best BB Drum Team in London  
Best Drum Major in London,  
Best Football Team (15-18) in West London,  
Best Football Team (9-11) in West London  
Best Young Drill Squad (9-11) in West London,  
Best Athletics Team (9-11) in West London  
Best Athlete in West London,  
Best Gymnast in Ealing**

### **Runners-Up**

**Best Drill Squad (12-18) in London,  
Runners-Up Best Drill Squad (9-11) in West London  
Runners-Up Best Football Team (12-14) in West London,  
Runners-Up Best Athletics Team (12-18) in West London  
Third Place Best Football Team (9-11) in West London,  
Third & Fourth Place Best Buglers in London  
Third & Fourth Place Best Drummers in London,  
Fourth Place Best Gym Squad in London**

**Our Company carried the Olympic Torch in 2012 having been nominated as an inspirational organisation.**

**ANNUAL DISPLAY FRIDAY 6th JUNE 7.30 pm All Welcome**

Kingsdown Methodist Church, Northfield Avenue, W13

# BOOK FAIR



**Books**

**Cakes**

**Bric-a-Brac**

**Plants**

**Gifts**

## Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July

**10.00am to 12.30pm**

**Admission 40 pence**

**Proceeds to:**

### United Anglo-Caribbean Society



# **The Kingsdown AV Project**

It was some 13 years ago that the first draft ideas for upgrading the sound system and adding a projector were noted down. With the passing of time the project list got updated several times, still without any definite target date for its implementation.

Last November this all changed - funds were donated that have now made it possible for Kingsdown to have a very up to date Audio and Visual system that should last for many years without any cost to the Church funds.

The engineer working on the system remembered installing the outgoing amplifier in 1979!! The system now provides for the projection of PowerPoint or other similar presentations, DVD's and output from 'tablets' or 'ipads'. If the presenter wishes to control the programme then connections can easily be made in the Chancel through small traps in the floor.

For optimisation of speech the old column speakers were retained but for music a new pair of full range speakers were installed. Those who need to use hearing aids are supported by a separate induction loop system ('T' setting) which includes both speech and music and a separate microphone to pick up the sounds from the congregation. All can be relayed to the Upper Room and Foyer with local control.

Four new radio mics - two tie clips for presenters and two hand held's for the children and roving use support the Lectern, Pulpit and two other wired mics on the Chancel. New CD and DVD players plus a laptop PC will allow for a variety of uses to be covered including, when required, the projection of hymn words and bible readings.

Drums of power, audio, video and signal cables have disappeared along the skirting and under the Chancel floor. Many new power points have been installed to provide the connections to all the equipment required.

Part of the new system is the new Lectern which can be raised or lowered to suit the presenters height complete with its own video monitor mimicking the projected image. The pulpit has a similar monitor.

Control of the systems and housing for all the equipment is in a custom built desk that matches the other church woodwork..

Bringing it all together was a challenge but overall it was an interesting project to work on, that would have been much harder without the support of a small team of very knowledgeable guys who literally worked above the ceiling and under the church floor.

The project included installing some additional lights to brighten up the overall Altar area and, by using LED's, lamp replacement should not be required for several years.

Now we need a small team of 'Operators' who want to get involved in 'AV' and can develop the way the facilities are used to support the activities in the Church.

The donated funds include some provision for the small occasional maintenance that might be required so Kingsdown can enjoy the AV system for a long time to come at nil cost.

**Alan Smith**  
***Project Leader (retired!)***

## **Circuit Membership Course**

The next Circuit Membership course will start on Sunday 1st June with further sessions planned for 8th, 15th and 22nd June. Sessions will start at 4.30pm and finish at about 6.00pm and will take place here at Kingsdown, in the Dome Room. There will be one further session plus a visit to Methodist sites in London (dates to be arranged). The course will be led by Revds Peter and Suva Catford.

All ages are welcome to join the course although it will be aimed primarily at adults. In addition, current members who would like a 'refresher' will be welcome to join. If you are interested in joining the course, please contact Peter or Suva or speak to your minister.





# HELP WANTED FOR.....

## Northfields Avenue Traders Association Summer Funday

Advance notice that the Northfields Avenue Traders Association Summer Fun Day will be happening on Saturday 12th July from 12 noon.

It would be great if we can organise a stall to publicise our church and the activities that happen here and provide refreshments to any visitors who come to see Kingsdown Church. WILL YOU VOLUNTEER?



## KINGSDOWN MAD HATTERS



HAVE YOU GOT ANY SPARE BALLS OF WOOL THAT YOU CAN GIVE TO THE MAD HATTERS WHO WILL TURN THIS INTO WOOLLY HATS FOR AN ORPHANAGE IN SRI LANKA? JUNE THOMPSON IS THE CONTACT

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## 16 August - Church Cleaning Day

Can you spare an hour or so helping to bring a sparkle back to the Church and Foyer.

Bring your rubber gloves - all else will be provided - tea and biccies will be available.

More details from Janet Smith





Methodist  
relief and  
development

## Philippines Typhoon

### Typhoon Haiyan: Six months on

When Typhoon Haiyan struck the Philippines on 8 November 2013, images of pain and devastation streamed onto our TV screens. Over 14 million people were affected, and six months on, All We Can and our partners are still helping communities to rebuild their lives.

#### Initial response

In emergencies, **All We Can**, responds quickly by working through local partners already present and rooted in affected communities. In response to the typhoon, we supported the immediate relief activities of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), and ACT partner the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP). These provided vital supplies such as food, bedding, kitchen utensils and hygiene kits to some of the most affected communities.

#### Listening to communities

Six months after Typhoon Haiyan, a recent UNOCHA report states that more than 2 million people in the Philippines are still living without adequate or durable shelter.

In response, **All We Can**, working in partnership with the Dutch Christian organisation Woord en Daad, is supporting local NGO Ang Mananampalatayang Gumagawa Philippines (AMG) to build temporary housing for displaced people in Giporlos municipality in the Eastern Samar region of the Philippines.

We believe it is vital to consult and listen to affected communities when seeking to meet their needs. The design of the shelters was drawn up with input from local construction engineers and the local mayor and a prototype model was then built. The shelter was then evaluated with the community to check it met their needs and in order to further optimise the design.



The whole community is now involved in the production of the homes, from sourcing and preparing locally available building materials, to building the homes after receiving training from AMG.



## How your donations helped

**All We Can's** supporters have donated over £350,000 to our appeal launched in response to Typhoon Haiyan. By working closely with four partners on the ground, this has enabled us to deliver support to those most in need in the Philippines, including:

- Survival kits, food and essential supplies for 20,000 households
- Fishing boats and nets to enable 500 families to rebuild their livelihoods
- Providing 4300 grieving families with access to counseling to help them cope with the loss of loved ones, significant trauma and physical injuries
- Materials and training to enable 2700 families to rebuild their homes.

Thank you

*Maurice Adams, Chief Executive of **All We Can**, said: "We know that the people affected by Typhoon Haiyan will require long term support. Because of the generous and speedy response of those who have given, All We Can has been able to effectively contribute to that rebuilding process. Not just the rebuilding of homes, but the rebuilding of lives. Thank you."*

*The retiring collections taken at Kingsdown for the Typhoon appeals were split between DEC and All We Can*

## **HISTORY OF HANWELL METHODIST CHURCH**

In 1881, when Hanwell was still a village, a Mr. Joseph Blackall started a "Society Class" in his home in Uxbridge Road. By 1882 there was a Sunday School of 18 and premises at 6 Brook Villas, Boston Road were rented, but by 1883, the Church needed to move again. These frequent moves were unsatisfactory and in 1884 a chapel was opened in Lower Boston Road .

The Wesley Guild, which later proved so important in the life of the Church, was started in 1887, followed by the Slate club in 1902 – both organisations continuing until around 1960.

In 1904, the Church moved to its present site in Church Road, where on November 9<sup>th</sup>, the President of the Conference conducted the Dedicatory Service of Hanwell Methodist Chapel.

To enhance the worship, a "Bell" organ was purchased, being replaced in 1912 by the present instrument. As well as Junior and Senior class meetings, there was a Band of Hope, a Ladies' Working Meeting and a thriving Sunday School. The Church built a good musical tradition and during the 1920's and 1930's, the Junior Choir won many competitions.

Always ready for an opportunity for spreading the Gospel, between 1911 and 1914 the Church held open-air services each Sunday evening in Hanwell Broadway and between 1908 and 1914 rented a cottage in Wilmot Place, Hanwell, for evangelisation and welfare work amongst the poor in the slums of The Slip'. During the War, Scout and Guide groups were started.

Between the wars, the work of proclaiming the Gospel continued. Around 1924 services were started in a hut in rural Greenford and later in 1928, services were held in the Parish Hall, Northolt. Even later in 1937, a Sunday School (which became North Hanwell Baptist Church) was started on the Cuckoo Estate.

A large fire in 1952 destroyed the "temporary" huts erected in 1922, but, in faith, the Church embarked on an ambitious building programme. These new premises are to-day well used by community groups as well as our own organisations.

Although to-day's congregation is much smaller than in the early days, and the pattern of Church life has greatly changed, Hanwell Church is upheld by the firm foundations, both spiritual and actual, laid by our predecessors looking forward to whatever God has in store.

In the autumn of 1996 the Methodist Church in England undertook a major re-structuring. As part of this process the Ealing and Acton Circuit decided to review its position and to make plans for the future. What was put together, headed by Colin Pratt was only ever done in a draft form, so there may well be inaccuracies, but perhaps this bit of history will prove to be interesting and helpful.

**Janet Smith**

(next time the history of Greenford)

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## **15 June Father's Day – time to celebrate male role models**

Today, Father's Day is a great time to celebrate any sort of male role models, like uncles or grandfathers, as well as dads. Certainly Father's Day has become a day for greeting card companies to rejoice, and sales of the most popular gifts for Dad (shirts, ties, and electric razors) increase considerably. Perhaps most telling of all, though, is how children continue to see their fathers: (in America, for example, more 'collect calls' to home are recorded on Father's Day than on any other day of the year!)

### **Prayer at Pentecost**

Dear Heavenly Father,

We all come from different places, a bit like that crowd on the first day of Pentecost. We are from different backgrounds, with different experiences that form us. I can't be just like somebody else and no one else can be just like me. Thank you for the gift of your Holy Spirit to speak and reveal your will to us in a way that is personal and unique. Help us to be open to receive him every day. Please go on filling us with your Spirit Lord, that we might be effective witnesses to Jesus our Lord and Saviour.

In his name, Amen

**A prayer by Daphne Kitching, Parish Pump**

# United Anglo Caribbean Society (UACS)

The United Anglo Caribbean Society was established in October 1971 by a group of West Indians who saw the need to eliminate discrimination and to promote equality of opportunity and good relations between the indigenous community and the people of Caribbean/African descent.

The founders of the Society aim was to improve the quality of life for Black people in general, as well as increasing their awareness and understanding of their history and culture with a hope of enabling them to establish a solid foundation in Britain for future development.

As time passed the work of the UACS became the focus of a two strand service one to older people, the second to homeless young Black people.

The UACS is a voluntary not for profit organisation which currently employs 4 staff, and has been providing services to this community for 42 years having celebrated its 40 Anniversary in October 2011.

The society is a membership organisation aiming to improve the lives of the people whom they serve.

Although some of the projects were closed due to financial constraints, the Older People Day Centre in Acton is vibrant, providing exercises, games, mind stimulation, a daily hot and balanced lunch.

The centre also provides a place where older people can meet to reminisce and to ensure that they are not socially excluded.

Here are some of the members' comments on the organisation;

" it's a place where we can meet other people, great atmosphere , lovely people, look forward to coming each day instead of watching television; food is excellent, the cook is great, we enjoy bingo sessions, dance, drumming ; friendships are formed, all birthdays are celebrated; trips to seaside and historic places and all major festivals are celebrated."

Grace before meals is a given, and the short daily worship after lunch with prayers and thanksgiving to God with Singing of Hymns, led by Mrs Allen or other inspired member is always uplifting.

Members of Kingsdown Methodist have always supported this organisation, Hope and George Doyley of

whom the hostel for young people is so named. The late John Cordon and many others have shown real commitment over the years.

So let us continue to support this worthy cause by participating in the next Book Fair on the 5th July, the proceed of which will be donated to the United Anglo Caribbean Society.

For further information on UACS, please visit the website on [www.uacs.org.uk](http://www.uacs.org.uk)

**Sybil Corbin**

21 June Summer Solstice – longest day of the year

June, of course is the month of the summer solstice, the month of the Sun. Sol + stice come from two Latin words meaning 'sun' and 'to stand still'. As the days lengthen, the sun rises higher and higher until it seems to stand still in the sky. The Summer Solstice results in the longest day and the shortest night of the year. The Northern Hemisphere celebrates in June, and the Southern Hemisphere celebrates in December.

While the Druids worship at Stonehenge and elsewhere, here is a Christian alternative that honours the Creator rather than the created.

A Canticle for Brother Sun

Praised be You, My Lord, in all Your creatures,

Especially Sir Brother Sun,

Who makes the day and enlightens us through You.

He is lovely and radiant and grand;

And he heralds You, his Most High Lord.

**St Francis of Assisi**

**Wars don't achieve anything. They don't determine who is right - only who is left.**



## CHRISTIAN AID NEWS

Christian Aid Week 2014 has come and gone! And the financial result? Although we may be a little 'down' on last year, it's much better than than expected. The final result will be given as soon as possible.

I was looking again at some of this year's materials and glanced again at the "Guide to Collecting", a copy of which is given to every House-to-House collector, to help with awkward questions. The facts are set out very clearly and I felt I should pass them on to Messenger readers.

### CHRISTIAN AID - THE FACTS

- Christian Aid works to bring an end to poverty around the world
- We work with people of all faiths and none
- We never give money to government
- We currently work in 46 countries with 814 local partner organisations in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, and Latin America and the Caribbean.
- We are the official development agency of the church denominations in Britain and Ireland.

And the verse from Ephesians we were given to take with us:

"So stand ready, with truth as a belt tight around your waist, with righteousness as your breastplate, and as your shoes the readiness to announce the Good News of peace."

Ephesians 6: 14-15 (Good News Translation)

**Ruby Warne**

### THE BOX IN THE CHURCH FOYER

Very many thanks for the stamps, socks and specs, placed in the box in the Church Foyer. All these items and mobile phones continue to be needed.

**Ruby Warne**

# HANWELL METHODIST CHURCH

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June  
in our Church  
2:30 pm – 5:30 pm



If you go down to the Church that day you'll be sure of a big surprise!

It will be a ...

All bears welcome,  
young or old!

Refreshments  
Cakes/Crafts/Games  
Magic and more

Admission: FREE

## Teddy Bears' Picnic



Parents are responsible for their own children

For more information about our Church and the events we have planned, visit our website [www.hanwellmethodist.info](http://www.hanwellmethodist.info)

Hanwell Methodist Church  
Church Road, Hanwell,  
London, W7 1DJ



## **District Appointments - Vacancies 2014**

We would welcome your prayerful consideration of whether there are ways in which you could offer to serve in these roles and/or whether there are people you know whose gifts, skills and experience could be of use within the wider District.

### **District Officers**

1. District Property Secretary
2. Presbyteral Synod Secretary

### **Commission/Group Convenors**

3. Convener, Discipleship & Congregational Development Commission
4. Convener, Local Preachers and Worship Leaders Task Group

### **District Committees**

5. Candidates Committees members: Presbyters, Deacon, Lay
6. Ecumenical Officers (North & West)
7. Circuit Steward Representative to District Council (West)
8. CDIM Secretary

### **Notes:**

For Job Descriptions and Nomination forms please contact the district office.

**The deadline for the nominations is the 30th June 2014.**

Applications/Nominations should be sent to: London District Resource Centre, 1 Central Buildings, Westminster, London, SW1H 9NH

In the event of any query please contact: Nwabisa Ewing on 020 7654 3850 or [nwabisa@methodistlondon.org.uk](mailto:nwabisa@methodistlondon.org.uk)



## **8 June Day of Pentecost – Whit Sunday**

Pentecost took place on the well-established Jewish festival of Firstfruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was exactly 50 days after the Passover, the time of Jesus' crucifixion.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told his apostles that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for his apostles – but he knew they could not do the work themselves – they would need his help.

And so the apostles and disciples waited in Jerusalem, praying together for several days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues – to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the apostles and disciples of Jesus: and the Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian Church that morning: proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, he could INDWELL them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

**Don't regret the past; create the future.**

## All in the month of JUNE

**It was:**

**125 years ago:-** on 8th June 1889 that Gerard Manley Hopkins, British poet and Jesuit priest, died. He was one of the leading Victorian poets.

**100 years ago:-** on 26th June 1914 that Laurie Lee, British poet, novelist and screenwriter was born. He is best remembered for 'Cider with Rosie' – a memoir of his childhood.

**100 years ago:-** on 28th June 1914 that Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria was assassinated, sparking a conflict between Austria-Hungary and Serbia that led to WW1.

**90 years ago:-** on 8th June 1924 that George Mallory, British mountaineer, disappeared on Mount Everest. His body was found in 1999.

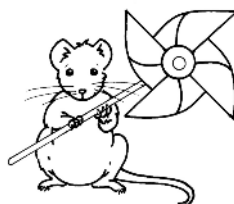
**70 years ago:-** on 6th June 1944 that D-Day took place with the Normandy landings. More than 150,000 Allied troops landed on the beaches of Normandy at the start of the Battle of Normandy.

**65 years ago:-** on 8th June 1949 that George Orwell's novel 'Nineteen Eighty-Four' was published.

**50 years ago:-** on 12th June 1964 that Nelson Mandela and seven other leaders of the African National Congress were sentenced to life imprisonment for acts of sabotage designed to end apartheid. (Mandela was released in 1990.)

**25 years ago:-** on 4th June 1989 that The Tiananmen Square Massacre took place in Beijing. Students holding a pro-democracy demonstration were forced out of the square in a bloody government crackdown. The number killed is unknown – estimates range from less than 200 to more than 6,000; thousands were injured. On 5th June the Unknown Rebel (or Tank Man) temporarily halted a column of tanks by standing in front of them on the morning after the massacre. It became one of the most iconic images of the 20th century.

**20 years ago:-** on 7th June 1994 that Dennis Potter, British TV dramatist and screenwriter died. (Best remembered for 'The Singing Detective', 'Lipstick on your Collar' and 'Gorky Park')



## **The next Churches Together visit**

**We have been invited to visit the St Mary & Archangel Mikail Coptic Orthodox Church at Cranbourne Gardens near Golders Green at 7.30pm on Thursday June 19th.**

Father Mina Barsom will give us a talk about the Coptic Church, its liturgies, and about some of the icons which they have and use. There will be opportunities for asking questions, and Father Mina is an engaging character.

The church is situated less than a quarter of a mile from a bus stop on the No 83 route, making it relatively easy to get to from Ealing.

If you want to come, please let me know whether you can (and would like to) bring a car, so we can organise a lift for those who might need one.

If you would like to come, please let me know, and, if possible, let me have a contact phone number, just in case it's needed.

**Noreen Barnes-Hoggett**

**0208 997 4935 e-mail: noreen29@gmail.com**

## **THE WAR TO END ALL WARS**

**Part 6 of 12 :**

### **THEY WENT WITH SONGS TO THE BATTLE**

'We don't want to lose you, but we think you ought to go', sang music hall star Vesta Tilley in the Summer of 1914, when theatre stages became recruiting centres as young men, urged on by their girl-friends and wives, made their way forward to offer themselves for military service.

This was, of course, in those first heady months of the war, the 'over by Christmas' time, when not to volunteer was to risk being given a white feather of cowardice in the street. Rapidly a huge volunteer army was assembled,



**THE GREAT WAR  
1914 - 1918**

and soon made its way to the western front.

The songs of the music-hall went with them - indeed, this was an army that sang and whistled its way into those muddy trenches and kept on singing, even when it turned out that the war was going to be long, bitter and brutal. 'Pack up your troubles in your old kitbag', they sang, 'and smile, smile, smile'. All that was needed was a 'lucifer to light your fag'. After all, 'What's the use of worrying - it never was worthwhile'. Soon that song was joined by others - I learnt many of them from my father: 'Mademoiselle from Armentieres, parlez-vous?' 'It's a long way to Tipperary' and so on. The songs of the music hall became the songs of the battle-field. Soldiers on leave or in 'Blighty' for medical treatment sat in the cheap seats and sang their heads off, while a singer on stage, often wearing patriotic uniform, marched up and down orchestrating the performance. ('Blighty' incidentally was the soldiers' slang for Britain or home - it's from an Urdu word brought back from India by a previous generation of soldiers, and actually means 'European'.)

When, in his most famous poem For the Fallen, Laurence Binyon wrote that 'they went with songs to the

battle' he was stating the truth. 'Pack up your Troubles' was the defining song of the trenches, though in the harsh light of reality its message seems a bit like whistling in the dark.

As the war went on and year followed year, so the songs tended to change their mood. In 1918 it was Ivor Novello's first great hit, 'Keep the home fires burning . . . till the boys come home' that stirred the audiences' hearts.

The same shift occurred in the Second World War, from the confident 'We're going to hang out our washing on the Siegfried Line' in 1939 to Vera Lynn's plangent voice assuring war-weary troops in 1944 that 'We'll meet again, don't know where, don't know when'.

Popular songs, in other words, captured very accurately the mood and heart of the nation. As they always have been, their trade secrets were smiles and tears.



THE GREAT WAR  
1914 - 1918

DO YOU  
LIVE  
IN THE  
BOROUGH OF

# EALING?

AND DO YOU  
NEED FREE  
CONFIDENTIAL  
AND IMPARTIAL

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**WE'RE HERE TO HELP  
AND POINT YOU IN THE  
RIGHT DIRECTION**

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## St ALBAN

St Alban, whose special day is 22<sup>nd</sup> June, was the first English martyr, the first English person to be killed for the Christian faith.

He lived in Verulanium which was an important Roman settlement in Hertfordshire. At the time the Romans were persecuting followers of Jesus and Alban was brave enough to shelter a travelling Christian priest. Exchanging clothes with the priest so that he could escape, Alban was arrested.

When asked to prove his loyalty to Rome and the Emperor by making offerings to the Roman gods, Alban declared his faith in 'the true and living God who created all things'. He was condemned to death and had his head cut off.



All this happened a long time ago but St Alban is remembered today in the name of the place where he lived and died: Verulanium was renamed the city of St Albans.

## THE FIRST

All the answers to this Bible quiz are the first: either the first thing in a list or the first person to do or be something.

1. The first man (Genesis, chapter 2).
2. The city where Jesus' followers were first called Christians (Acts, chapter 11).
3. The first bird Noah sent out of the ark (Genesis, chapter 8).
4. The first woman (Genesis, chapter 3).
5. The first person to see Jesus on the first Easter Sunday (John, chapter 20).
6. What happened on the first day of creation (Genesis, chapter 1)
7. Israel's first king (I Samuel, chapter 10)
8. The first of the four Gospels (New Testament)



**What is a forum ?**

Two-um plus two-um !

# VIII

**Why didn't the two 4s feel like dinner?**

Because they already 8.



Answers: 1.Adam 2..Corinth 3.Raven  
4.Eve 5.Mary Magdalene 6.God made light and dark 7.Saul 8.Matthew

## EVENTS AT KINGSDOWN

### JUNE

- Mon 2 8.00 pm Guides (most Mondays throughout the month)
- Tue 3 2.00 pm Kingsdown Club - A Bingo and Quiz Afternoon  
8.00 pm Church Council - Foyer
- Wed 4 1-3 pm Babies & Toddlers Group (Term time only)  
7.00 pm Youth Group
- Fri 6 10.15 am Coffee Morning in Foyer - Everyone welcome  
BOYS BRIGADE Annual Display 7 pm - All are invited
- Sat 7 10.30 am Coffee & Chat in the Foyer - Everyone welcome
- Mon 9 Liz & Steve Palmer's Home Group
- Tue 17 2 pm Kingsdown Club - The Twickenham Trio entertain us

### Future Events

- 5 Jul 10.00 to 12.30 Book Fair for United Anglo-Caribbean Society  
books, cakes, bric-a-brac, plants, gifts.
- 20 Jul Circuit Service at Kingsdown -  
*Service will include a Farewell for Rev Chrissie Howe*
- 16 Aug Cleaning of Church - details to follow

### KINGSDOWN CLUB PROGRAMME

MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH .ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND . WE MEET IN THE FOYER OF THE CHURCH ON THE CORNER OF KINGSDOWN AVENUE / NORTHFIELD AVENUE FROM 2.00 TO 4.00 P.M. TRANSPORT IS AVAILABLE FOR ANYONE WHO SHOULD NEED IT. PLEASE CONTACT EILEEN TOBIAS [TEL. NO. 0208 567 4205 ] FOR DETAILS.

- 17th JUNE  
THE TWICKENHAM TRIO  
ENTERTAIN US
- 1st JULY  
PIANO PLAYTIME  
with BOB CUNNINGTON
- 15th JULY  
SUMMER TEA PARTY  
DAVE ENTERTAINS

THE NEW PROGRAMME BEGINS 2nd SEPTEMBER