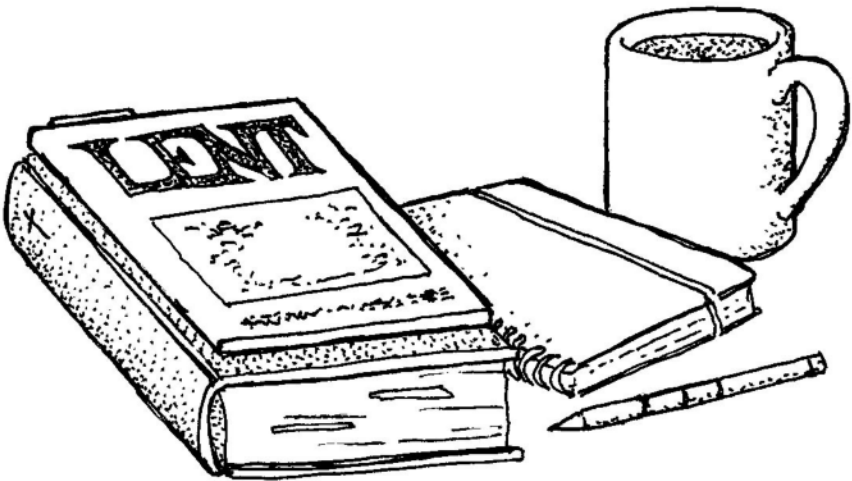




KINGSDOWN MESSENGER



March 2014



SERVICES FOR MARCH

- 2 Mar 10.30 Mrs Blossom Jackson, MWIB
- 9 Mar 10.30 Rev Peter Catford, Family/Parade Service
- 16 Mar 10.30 Rev Chrissie Howe, Holy Communion
- 23 Mar 10.30 Deacon Richard Goldstraw
- 30 Mar 10.30 Rev Chrissie Howe, Mothering Sunday



Year 2014



Clocks go forward

30 March

Clocks go back

26 October

The KINGSDOWN MESSENGER

Copy deadline for the April 2014 issue is Friday 22 March 2014

Editors - Pam and Alan Smith

Tel: 020 8840 4803 E-mail: magazine@kingsdownmethodist.org.uk



Dear Friends,

As I write the crocuses and daffodils are beginning to open, trees and hedgerows are starting to blossom; each reminds us of the cycle of creation and new life. This month we will enter the Lenten season, a time when we examine our Christian discipleship, and search after God's heart. A time in the life of the Church and the lives of individual Christians when we are called to prayerfully consider our journey of faith. Lent commemorates the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness, prior to his journey to Jerusalem and the events of Holy week which culminate in the wonderful celebration on Easter Day. It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at the ninth hour on Maundy Thursday. The number forty is significant throughout Scripture just two examples are the forty days Moses spent with God on Mount Sinai and the forty years the Israelites wandered before arriving in the Promised Land.

Traditionally during lent Christians vigorously pursue three areas of justice; towards God through prayer, towards one's self through practising self-discipline, towards others through almsgiving. Methodists have a long and rich history of making a difference to the lives of individuals and communities as they fulfilled their calling from God to spread Scriptural holiness throughout the land.

As we journey through Lent may each one of us examine our relationship with God with honesty through prayer and meditation. May we be reminded of what the Good News means, for us, for our neighbours, for our nation. And may we find in the coming six weeks a renewal of our faith, a strengthening of our commitment and a fresh sense of purpose to serve God and our calling as Christians, individually and as a faith community in Ealing. And as we do, may we find encouragement in the words of the Psalmist:

Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honour them. With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation. (Psalm 91.14-16).

Every blessing,
Chrissie

It's about time

I am going to speak about time. The time of decision.

The time of thinking of the gracious things I know and the peace I have earned as I sit in my lonely room.

I think of the time when all my friends have been to see me, and still come. May they live in happiness and joy.

I sit in my room and think of the time and joy when we shall all meet again in the heavens of justice and peace; and though I am growing old I am not afraid to go.

I have so much to be thankful for, and I have had time to think on all these things.

I am learning who I am, why I am here, where I am going – and I am glad that the hour is now near, the day is closing, the fretful life is over.

And I look forward to the time when I must close the book and search for the key of happiness that will open the gate for me.

I approach that time of joy with gladness and peace – the time when I hear the voice calling to me as I open the gate, "Who goes there?" and I shall cheerfully cry, "A friend," and he will reply, "Enter and join my fellowship, Thomas Reginald Dean."

written by Revd Reg Dean, from Derbyshire, just before his 110th birthday, and shortly before he died.





KINGSDOWN FAMILY NEWS

At our Morning Service on Sunday, prayers were said for Geoff Clarke and Christine as Geoff is apparently very poorly.

Also mentioned was Val Kingdom who, following a number of falls at home, is currently having a break in a local care home. (Address for anyone who might care to visit is Beech Haven, 15-19 Gordon Road, W5 4ES, telephone 020 88991 0658 - Mr & Mrs Scarman. It might be as well to check that Val has not returned home!)

Prayers were said too for Ray, father of Amy, Serena and Marcus who has recently been diagnosed with cancer.

Women's World Day of Prayer



The annual Women's World Day of Prayer service will be held at Kingsdown on Friday March 7th from 1.00pm and the theme this year is Egypt 'Streams in the Desert'.

There will be refreshments after the service and I would welcome any help with serving and/or stewarding.

Olwen Britton



A Lent Course Exploring Spiritual Practices

Fasting, Scripture, Prayer I and II, Fellowship and the Lord's Supper will meet each Tuesday during Lent, beginning Tuesday 11th March at 7.30-9 pm at Hanwell Methodist Church, repeated Thursday mornings at 10-11.30 am at Pitshanger Methodist Church.

All welcome! Led by Chrissie Howe, Jennifer Smith, Richard Goldstraw.

See also: <http://www.methodist.org.uk/deepening-discipleship/spiritual-practices/exploring-spiritual-practices>

Kingsdown 'Awayday' - Update

As you will know, the Circuit has given each church a gift of 'Talent' money to spend in some way related to 'mission'. The Church Council agreed that we should use our Talent gift to organise an Awayday for our church. We've been through some difficult times with the redevelopment and with recent changes in our ministers, so the Council felt that we should spend some time together, thinking about what our church means to us, how we see ourselves in relation to it, how we see it in relation to the Circuit, and how we see it in relation to the wider community.

The Awayday has been fixed for Saturday 5th April from 9.30am – 4.00pm at the Royal Foundation of St Katherine, a Christian conference centre in Limehouse.

A coach is being organised to get us there and back (leaving the church at about 8.30am), although St Katherine's is also accessible by public transport and has a private car park with parking for the disabled.

Wendy Beard, who is the Learning & Development Officer for the London Region/District of the Methodist Church, will be our 'facilitator' for the day.

Lunch and other refreshments throughout the day will be provided. As the day is being paid for from our Talent gift, **there is no charge for coming along.**

It would be good if as many of us as possible can participate, so please put the date in your diaries now! There is a list on the noticeboard in the foyer for names, including transport and any special dietary requirements.

Any questions at this stage, please contact Gerald and Sue Barton.

020 8840 7704

or - gerald.barton6039@btinternet.com



Kingsdown Methodist Church, Northfield Avenue, W13

BOOK FAIR



Books

Cakes

Bric-a-Brac

Saturday 8th March

10.00am to 12.30pm

Admission 40 pence

All proceeds to:

Tools for Life

WORKAID®



Kingsdown's Charity of the Year 2013/14

A reminder of what WORKAID needs -

carpentry, plumbing, electrical, building, blacksmithing, welding, lathes, motor mechanic tools, manual and electric sewing machines, knitting machines, leather working, upholstery, haberdashery, wools and yarns, sturdy adult bicycles, horticultural tools, typewriters and many other items.

There is a box in the Church Foyer for any further items that you would like to donate. So please continue to look out for items.

Perhaps you could widen the search for unwanted tools by asking family, friends and neighbours to see if they can find any.

For further information or if you require bulky items collected, please contact us on 0208 567 2668

Steve and Liz Palmer

LIVING AND DYING WELL

A warm invitation is extended to you to attend the Circuit "Living and Dying Well" series at Ealing Green Church

Day: Wednesday

Times: 2-3.30pm or 8-9.30pm

Date: 19th March 2014 with Deacon Myrtle Poxon, former Vice-President of the Methodist Church on "A good laugh - good for the soul!"

The form of the meetings will be opening devotions related to the theme (15mins); Talk and discussion (45mins); Refreshment break (10mins); Closing thoughts - Any questions? Any answers? (20mins) -

Deacon Richard (convenor)

SOLVE THE MURDER DEATH IN VENICE

DON'T MISS



SATURDAY 8TH MARCH 7.30PM
KINGSDOWN CHURCH HALL

TICKETS £5 INCLUDES SUPPER
(UNDER 12'S £2.50)

FROM GERALD BARTON 020 8840 7704

or - gerald.barton6039@btinternet.com

THE COMPETITION SEASON

As we approach Easter we face three consecutive Saturdays of competitions.



Senior Section Boys are invited to compete in the Battalion Marching Competition on Saturday 22nd March.

Company and Senior Boys are invited to compete in the London Band Competition on Saturday 29th March (*this also includes the possibility of solo Drummer, solo Bugler and Drum Team events*).

Company and Senior Boys are invited to compete in the London Drill Competition on Saturday 29th March (*same venue as the Band event*).

Company and Senior Boys are invited to compete in the London Gym Competition on Saturday 5th April.

Times and venues not yet confirmed but generally speaking they will all take place in the afternoon.

(We wish our BB every success in their endeavours.)



Mid-week Communion, Wednesdays at 10.30 am

A reminder that there is a half hour quiet service of Holy Communion (congregation 10-12) each Wednesday at 10.30 am, Holy Trinity Southall (427, 207, 607 bus, on Southall park), alternating between Anglican and Methodist leaders presiding.

Open to all, in the vestry in cold weather. Why not come during Lent and pray for your circuit with your ministers, each week. **Imposition of Ashes, Wednesday 5th March**, will be led by Jennifer Smith.

CHRISTIAN AID NEWS



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - 2014 THEME-PEACE AND RECONCILIATION

Christian Aid Supporters Day

Another well attended and informative afternoon - it was good to see so many "old" friends and meet new staff in the London Team. Many of us arrived early and helped ourselves to the 2014 Christian Aid Week resources!

We were welcomed by Mark Sturge, Head of the London Region, followed by a surprise visit from our Christian Aid Director - Loretta Minghella OBE, who gave a most inspiring talk about Christian Aid now and in the future. Unfortunately she could only stay a short time due to another appointment. We were given information about this year's resources and then watched the films on our 2014 DVD FEAR LESS, which will be used by many churches:

Anoon's Story, South Sudan film, narrated by Dr Rowan Williams;
A Safe Place to Give, Columbia (a film for children);
Christian Aid Collective (a film for Youth Groups).

I have already handed out DVDs to a number of supporters; others are available, so please do ask if you would like one. There is a great deal of interesting information, apart from the films, on the DVD.

A break for refreshments and the opportunity to chat! And then a chance to join a group of our own choice for further questions and discussion.

A most enjoyable and helpful afternoon and I wish those who have usually attended, but for various reasons couldn't be with us this year, had been able to be there.

During March, I shall invite all who have helped during Christian Aid Week in the past to do so again - and please we do need new supporters. If you are interested in the work of Christian Aid, please do speak to me. It would encourage regular supporters to see some new faces.

Prayer

~Thank you Lord for the hope we find in you in the uncertain moments of life.

It is in your light that we see light.

Strengthen our faith, for you are our strength, our song and our shield.

Your resurrection turns any moment of hopelessness in our lives into hope;

Because you live, we can face tomorrow and all fear is gone!

Help us to proclaim your salvation and resurrection in a world that desperately needs your loving kindness and grace.

Amen

**Written by MacDuff Phiri
Christian Aid Country Manager in Malawi**

Ruby Warne



No atheists on Thought for the Day

BBC Radio 4's Thought for the Day cannot be given by an atheist. So Tim Berners-Lee discovered late last year when he was invited to be a guest editor on the programme.

Mishal Husain, the presenter, explained that it had not been possible to allow an atheist to take it because the slot is part of the BBC's religious programming and must be faith-based.

Aaqil Ahmed, the BBC's head of religion, has said that the segment is intended to provide a 'religious' perspective on the news. "People have complained, as they have the right to, and I have taken a view that at this moment in time, as far as I am concerned, we stay as we do. It is a specific slot within the Today programme which is a reflection from a religious perspective on stories of importance in the news."

* * * * *

Training for worship with children

As part of its 'talents' grant for mission development, Acton Hill is starting 'Messy Church' worship for carers and children. Formal training by national Messy Church coordinators will be offered at Acton Hill on **Thursday 6th March, at 7-9 pm** in the sanctuary.

If you are interested in worship among children and adults together, or Messy church specifically, or just want to get ideas, training or encouragement for junior church or Jesus Kids, please come. Book with Jennifer Smith or Barbara Quartey, see the Circuit directory for contact details. 207, 427, E3 bus routes.

Prayer in time of floods

O Lord of the waters of creation

*we are awed by the power and majesty
of the oceans, seas and rivers.*

*we give thanks to you for the water we have to drink;
for the skills we have been given by you
to channel the power of the wind and the waves.*

We remember before you those affected by flood, cyclone and hurricane

*We ask you to remind us, as we drink, of what we can do
for those for whom water is less friendly.*

AMEN

Taken from the Methodist Prayer Handbook



Gebrekiros's Story



Gebrekiros Mogese, 50, lives in Mescha village near the Wof Washa region of Ethiopia. He is married and has a family of four children and seven grandchildren.

MRDF's partner SUNARMA works to support farmers in Wof Washa, like Gebrekiros, to improve their agricultural production techniques and increase their income.

Gebrekiros says, 'I joined the forest user group three years ago after attending meetings. I realised I could benefit from the group so became a member.

Before SUNARMA started the irrigation project, there was no water near my farm. The irrigation has improved my crop production, and I have also started to grow fruit and vegetables after receiving seeds from SUNARMA. I grow onion, garlic, pepper and apples, and have stored the seeds so that I can replant next year without assistance from SUNARMA. I am also planning to sell seeds to other farmers so they can also benefit from growing vegetables.

I have become a model farmer and with training from SUNARMA, I have started to support farmer-to-farmer learning. Since I became involved with SUNARMA, my income has doubled. I have been able to buy furniture for my house and am planning to build a grinding mill.

MRDF and SUNARMA have supported me like a mother and father. I appreciate that they have supported this small community.'

MRDF's partner SUNARMA provides crucial equipment, training and resources, so farmers in Ethiopia can establish small businesses that are environmentally friendly and sustainable.

Sustainable development

MRDF is currently providing financial and organisational support to more than 40 community-based organisations in over 18 countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The curse of Facebook and Twitter?



Facebook, Twitter and other social media can do children a great deal of harm by undermining their moral development, warns the head of a fee-paying school in Somerset.

The reason is that such sites reward children for using “innuendo, half-truth and insults” and blurring the line between gossip and fact. Such children can then grow up struggling to appreciate the difference. Also, social media does not “engender a discernment for the true and noble.... we will raise a generation who do not love learning but simply see the screen as a source of opinion or nuggets of information, poorly digested, that will suit their point of view without testing their veracity.”

Other experts point out that nowadays, for children, “the safety of home has gone completely.” Research has found that parents tend to stop monitoring what their children are doing online from the age of eight. Yet the most vulnerable years for children are around the ages of 12 and 13, when they are struggling to establish their own identity.”

Then it is that online bullying can become a major problem. As the mother of a bullied daughter explains: “If some classmates gang up on your child at school, it's the school's problem; if it happens in a public place, there are other adults who can intervene. When it happens on the web, there is no one there to police it; and there is the additional torture that the nasty comments become a form of public humiliation, inviting others to join in the fun.”

(Editor: Is there someone in the church who could offer some ‘teaching’ or practical tips of dos and don’ts on Facebook, Twitter, and other social media, to your children? A teacher perhaps, or someone skilled in IT? Perhaps a one-off session might be held in the church hall, open to anyone who wanted to come along. This might be a very useful service the church could offer to our young people or the wider community!)

WASTE NOT...

There's very little wasted in the Bible. The Israelites were given only enough manna for each day. There are laws in Deuteronomy about keeping the camp neat and tidy. Elijah was brought just enough daily food by ravens. In the New Testament we find Jesus being very efficient when it comes to resources and waste. He turns water into wine, multiplies fishes and loaves and then commands that all the pieces be carefully gathered up, so that none should be wasted.

21 centuries later and in the UK things could not be more different. The anti-waste organisation Wrap (www.wrap.org.uk) reckons that about 600 million tonnes of products and material enter the UK economy each year – and only 115 million tonnes of all this gets recycled.

We throw away something like seven million tonnes of food and drink each year – most of which could have been safely consumed. And nearly 25% of the waste electrical and electronic equipment that is taken to household waste recycling centres each year could be re-used – saving about £200m gross a year.

Tristram Stuart, a prominent campaigner on food waste, argues

that the culture of waste has permeated the entire food chain. Farmers and other producers produce too great a surplus; supermarkets throw away perfectly good food and consumers buy far more than they can possibly eat or drink. The result is a waste crisis that is squeezing both the environment and society. And meanwhile precious land is being turned into landfill in order to accommodate the food mountain in the UK.

Meanwhile, FairShare, the UK's leading food redistribution charity, is making quality surplus food available to the nation's most disadvantaged. In 2012/13, the food redistributed by FareShare contributed towards more than 10 million meals. The FareShare Community Food Network has over 1,000 Community Members across the UK receiving food, training and advice, and every day an average of 51,000 people benefit from the service FareShare provides.

(Editor: Would any of our readers care to write in and share their personal tips for recycling, and how they make use of old things in a new way....??)

30 March Mothering Sunday – 4th Sunday in Lent

There is an old Jewish saying: God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made mothers.

Mother Church, Mother Earth, Mother of the Gods - our human mothers - all of them have been part of the celebration of 'Mothering Sunday' - as the fourth Sunday in Lent is affectionately known. It has been celebrated in the UK since at least the 16th century.

In Roman times, great festivals were held every Spring to honour Cybele, Mother of all the Gods. Other pagan festivals in honour of Mother Earth were also celebrated. With the arrival of Christianity, the festival became one honouring Mother Church.

During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as 'live-in' servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families - which is how 'Mothering Sunday' got its name. This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. In some places the day was called Simnel Day, because of the sweet cakes called simnel cakes traditionally eaten on that day.

In recent years the holiday has changed and in many ways now resembles the American Mothers' Day, with families going out to Sunday lunch and generally making a fuss of their mother on the day.



With Mothering Sunday in mind...

'Lend me your ears': a phrase used by Marc Anthony and ever since by the mothers of millions of six-year olds.

Her children arise up, and call her blessed. Proverbs 31:28

The mother's heart is the child's school-room H W Beecher

5 March Ash Wednesday: a good time to admit you are sorry

Have you done something which haunts you? Which makes you feel restless and defensive, every time you think of it? Why not deal with it this month, and put it behind you? Whatever your mistake has been, consider what the Bible has to say to you:

'I have not come to call the virtuous but sinners to repentance' (said Jesus). (Luke 5.32)

'Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. (Isaiah 55.7)

'Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.' (Joel 2:12-13)

God is inviting you to come to him this Ash Wednesday. What a wonderful offer! Make the most of it, and remember how the prodigal son was welcomed back by his compassionate father.

The Collect for Ash Wednesday is:

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

An humble knowledge of thyself is a surer way to God than a deep search after learning. **Thomas a Kempis**

The man who does not like self-examination may be pretty certain that things need examining. **C H Spurgeon**

80 years ago, on 26th March 1934, the Driving Test was introduced into the United Kingdom. Nigel Beeton writes: *'Actually, my father, who was born in 1932, never took one – a sergeant in the army bellowed at him to take a lorry load of troops somewhere, and a protest from Dad that he had no licence cut no ice. A quick squiggle on a form and Pa was on his way – and he's still driving today! (I wonder if anyone told the troops in the back?) The rest of us, however, will have experienced something like this':*

The Dreaded Driving Test
Sitting in a waiting room
Nerves a shredded mess
Waiting for the call of doom!
The dreaded driving test!

Then you're in the driving seat
Can't back out now – too late!
Just getting moving's quite a feat
Why must that gearbox grate?

"Please make it face the other way,
"By using reverse gears
"Then stop it quickly when I say
"And please dry up those tears!"

The whole thing passes in a blur
Although you've done your best
And then he says that "I concur
"That you have passed your test!"

GO!

A teenager was always asking his father if he could borrow the family car. Pushed to the limit, the father asked his son why he thought that God had given him two feet. Without hesitation, the son replied, "That's easy, one for the clutch and one for the accelerator."

A wise person is one who thinks twice before saying nothing

How do you pray for your Church?

We often hear these words from Ps 67: "May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us." Do you ever come across someone in your church and you think to yourself, "Oh no, I can't cope with bumping into them today" and you do all you can to avoid them. It seems to be a fact of life that we can get on with some folk better than others. In fact, some people are a downright challenge to us. If this is true, then what can we do about it? Or perhaps we should be asking a question about what part our Christian faith plays; or even more searchingly, where does prayer fit in?

The quote from Psalm 67 reminds us of a similar blessing in the book of Numbers: "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you." This is a powerful blessing spoken over another person, but have you spotted the difference with the Psalm? In the Psalm blessing we are all involved. It is a blessing for all of us, no matter who we are and what we are like. It includes everyone – the one giving the blessing and those who are receiving the blessing. No-one is left out. We are all embraced by it. Here it is again: "May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us." If we take this blessing with us into our everyday lives, what a difference it could make in our attitude to other people – both those we love and those we ought to love.

Let's keep this blessing in mind and let it be part of our make-up, before every conversation, every unexpected encounter, every telephone call we take or make and every email we send. Wouldn't this be an effective way to pray for our church? Our prayer is not for the building, but for people. The phrase 'God bless you' would not fall lightly from our lips. Instead we would be sharing a heartfelt blessing and our fellowship would be strengthened.

Ten (new) Commandments

1.Thou shalt enjoy **this lovely world which God has made; sun, moon and stars**; fields, flowers and trees; wind, warmth and rain; earth, sea and sky.

2.Thou shalt enjoy the gift of love of parents, **sweethearts, wife - the love** which goes on loving when you are most unlovely.

3.Thou shalt enjoy home - where you do not **visit** but belong, where your absence makes a gap which no one else can fill.

4.Thou shalt enjoy the trustfulness of little children and their adoring belief that there is nothing you do not know and nothing you cannot do.

5.Thou shalt enjoy friends, their loyalty and fellowship, their constancy in sorrow and their unprotesting acceptance of your timely help.

6.Thou shalt enjoy **wholesome laughter, the** ludicrous incident and sidesplitting joke.

7.Thou shalt enjoy **art, music, the cinema**, literature, **eloquence**, animals, singing, rhythm, games.

8.Thou shalt enjoy the privilege of helping others - the poor, the sick, **the** aged and maimed.

9.Thou shalt enjoy peace. This peace shall not attach only to your circumstances; it shall abide in your heart.

10.Thou shalt enjoy God - the knowledge that He is there, that He is Love and that He cares for all.

*Lynne Thomas came across these in an old Church magazine found while having 'a bit of a clear out'. They were 'invented' by Dr. William Sangster, a much beloved minister of Westminster Central Hall. They have a positive, rather **than** **a** negative, approach to living in God's world.*

Originally published in the December/January Greenford/Northolt 'News and Views' Magazine

EASTER



EASTER

Out of the 80 million chocolate Easter eggs sold each year in the UK, The Real Easter Egg is the first and only Fairtrade chocolate Easter egg to explain the Christian understanding of Easter.

A sizeable donation from profits and Fairtrade Premium fees goes to their farmers, allowing them to invest in their community, buying everything from school books and solar panels to providing fresh water.

The Real Easter Egg is now in its fourth year of production with more than 400,000 sold so far.

Original Real Easter Egg 2014 design

Inside is a 24 page Easter story book, a Belgian milk chocolate egg and pack of Swiss Chocolate organic Chunky Buttons. There are three crosses on the front and under the lid there is a quote from the bible - the resurrection text from Mark chapter 16. £3.99 each.

Special Edition Premium Real Easter Egg (280g)

A special edition Real Easter Egg. Inside is an olive wood holding cross from Bethlehem, an Easter message an extra thick Belgian Chocolate gold foiled egg (180g) and Meaningful milk Chocolate bar with a hint of natural orange (100g). The box has gold foil highlights and Celtic crosses. £9.99 each delivered in single boxes.

Sharing Box Real Easter Egg (400g)

Inside are 20 Midi eggs and 20 copies of the Easter story 8 page booklet. Midi-egg foil reads 'The Real Easter Egg. Christ is Risen.' Ideal for church services, assemblies or events where you have a budget of £1 per person. £19.99 each delivered in single boxes.

On line from: <http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk/shop>

Or

The Christian Resources Shop in Perivale is taking orders.

Tel: 020 8998 2933 or 0845 388 3940

Email: sales@perivalechristianbookshop.co.uk

Children Are Quick

TEACHER: Why are you late?

STUDENT: Class started before I got here.

TEACHER: John, why are you doing your math multiplication on the floor?

JOHN: You told me to do it without using tables.

TEACHER: Glenn, how do you spell 'crocodile?'

GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L'

TEACHER: No, that's wrong

GLENN: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

(I Love this child)

TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

DONALD: H I J K L M N O.

TEACHER: What are you talking about?

DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O.

TEACHER: Winnie, name one important thing we have today that we didn't have ten years ago.

WINNIE: Me!

TEACHER: Glen, why do you always get so dirty?

GLEN: Well, I'm a lot closer to the ground than you are.

TEACHER: Millie, give me a sentence starting with 'I.'

MILLIE: I is..

TEACHER: No, Millie..... Always say, 'I am.'

MILLIE: All right... 'I am the ninth letter of the alphabet.'

TEACHER: George Washington not only chopped down his father's cherry tree, but also admitted it.

Now, Louie, do you know why his father didn't punish him?

LOUIS: Because George still had the axe in his hand.....

TEACHER: Now, Simon, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?

SIMON: No sir, I don't have to, my Mum is a good cook.

TEACHER: Clyde , your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's..

Did you copy his?

CLYDE : No, sir. It's the same dog.

TEACHER: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?

HAROLD: A teacher

from Janet Smith

PASS IT AROUND AND MAKE SOMEONE LAUGH

Due to current economic conditions the light at the end of the tunnel has been turned off

from Janet Smith

WHY SENIORS STILL NEED NEWSPAPERS

I was visiting my daughter last night when I asked if I could borrow a newspaper.

"This is the 21st century," she said. "We don't waste money on newspapers. Here, use my iPad."



I can tell you this. That fly never knew what hit him.

from Janet Smith

BRITISH HUMOUR IS DIFFERENT

FOR SALE BY OWNER.

Complete set of Encyclopaedia Britannica, 45 volumes.
Excellent condition, £200 or best offer.

No longer needed, got married, wife knows everything.

from Janet Smith

THE WAR TO END ALL WARS:

Part 3 of 12 : The Great War - The Trenches

The trenches are the defining visual image of the Great War. Both sides created them when it became obvious that for all the 'pushes' and counter-attacks not much was happening geographically. A hilly ridge would be taken, at enormous human cost. A month later it would be recaptured. The trenches stretched for hundreds of miles across northern France, once the earlier ones in southern Belgium were abandoned, and they became 'home' to hundreds of thousands of soldiers.

The trench was a narrow but deep ditch, designed to shield the men who were on look-out duty from enemy fire. Behind the trenches were the living quarters - dug out of the earth, usually with roofs of corrugated iron, where there were bunks for sleeping and rudimentary facilities for washing and eating. Hot food came from the Company cook-house behind the lines. 'Too much bully beef', my father complained - corned beef, to us. Very nice as an occasional choice, but a bit unexciting as a regular diet. Surprisingly, perhaps, to those of us who only know of the War from films and books, in between major outbreaks of fighting the trench

provided an adequate if modest degree of normality. Every day, my father told me, the newspaper seller would visit with copies of the Daily Mail. No escaping from the football results and news from home.



THE GREAT WAR
1914 - 1918

The trouble was that periodically the senior officers would decide that it was time for another desperate attempt to dislodge the enemy. Bayonets would be fixed, ashen faced young men would line up in the trenches awaiting the signal - usually a blast on a whistle - which would summon them to climb the steps out into the open, there to face, inevitably, the devastating fire of the German machine guns. It was some time into the War before the Allies were equipped with these deadly weapons, and it was the multiple, sustained rain of bullets that caused most of the casualties.

Above all this was the constant barrage of the big guns, firing from both sides but well behind the lines. Their thunderous roar could be heard at times far away across the Channel in Kent. Most of the shells simply exploded in the soft soil of Flanders or the Somme - they are still being ploughed up by farmers

today, a century later. But some 'Shell-shocked' was the diagnosis in those days. The wonder is that those who were what became known as 'direct hits', and those could be devastating. anybody could.

In the midst of all this - the mud, the stench, the noise and the imminent possibility of death - were the soldiers themselves. Among them moved the medics, the nurses, the chaplains - agents of care and compassion in a world which seemed to have gone mad. Some soldiers simply couldn't stand it.

By David Winter



THE GREAT WAR
1914 - 1918

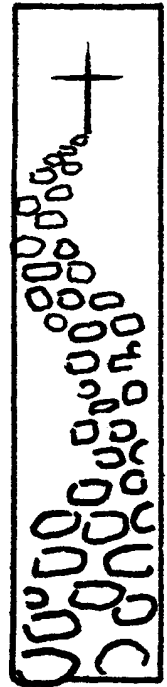
A story you can't contain

It has never before been told like this. The BBC is planning to dramatise the final moments before Jesus Christ's crucifixion using a giant cross made up of dozens of shipping containers.

It will tell the Easter story in a live spectacle on the north east coast in an attempt to appeal to non-religious viewers put off by traditional church services.

Up to 80 shipping containers will be placed on the sea front of South Shields, providing a walk-through set for a series of dance and musical performances in an hour-long programme on BBC1. The scale of the cross, which will be longer than St Paul's Cathedral is intended to replicate the length of the path trodden by Christ on the way to His crucifixion.

The BBC believes that the show, due to be broadcast on Good Friday will attract viewers who would not be drawn to its traditional Easter broadcasting.



Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional



LENT

Lent, before Easter, is like Advent before Christmas, a time of preparation. Lent is when we remember that Jesus prepared himself for starting his ministry by going away by himself for 40 days of fasting and prayer. You can read about it in your Bible: Matthew, chapter 4, verses 1-11; Mark, chapter 1, verses 12-13 and Luke, chapter 4, verses 1-13.

Jesus went into the wilderness – a quiet lonely place away from people – where he could think things out. He knew that his work would be hard, that many people would not listen to him, or if they listened, they would not believe him. During these 40 days Jesus made his choice: to work in God's way however hard that might be.

This year Lent starts on 5th March and goes through half of April. Have you thought about how YOU are going to prepare yourself to follow Jesus this Lent?



SPRING COLOURS

There are colours which are mentioned with these things in the Bible. Answers at the bottom of the page.

1. Pastures, herbs and olives are all?
2. A sea, tents and wine are?
3. Hangings in the Temple, pomegranates and doors of tents were all?
4. A horse, robes and teeth were all?
5. Kings' raiment (clothing), Jesus' robe and the dye that Lydia sold were all?
6. One of the gifts to the baby Jesus, candlesticks and spoons were?
7. A raven, clouds and chariot horses were?
8. Lips, a thread tied to a window and robes are?



What's blue, V-shaped and flies?

The Red Arrows in disguise.



What do you do with a green monster?

Wait till he's ripe.



Answers: 1.green 2.red 3.blue 4.white
5.purple 6.gold 7.black 8.scarlet

EVENTS AT KINGSDOWN

MARCH

- Mon 3 8.00 pm Guides (most Mondays throughout the month)
- Tue 4 2 pm Kingsdown Club - An Orphanage in Sri Lanka - a talk by June Thompson
- Wed 5 1-3 pm Babies & Toddlers Group (Term time only)
7.00 pm Youth Group
- Fri 7 10.15 am Coffee Morning in Foyer - Everyone welcome
1.30 pm Women's World Day of Prayer "Streams in the Desert" - speaker Rev Suva Catford at Kingsdown
BOYS BRIGADE 6.30-7.30 pm Anchor Boys, 6.30-8.00 pm Junior Section, 7.30-10.00 pm Company Section (most Fridays throughout month)
- Sat 8 10.0 am 12.30 pm Book Fair with cakes and bric-a-brac stalls. Admission 40p. In aid of Workaid
7.30 pm Murder Mystery Evening - 'Death in Venice'
Tickets to include supper (see p. 7 for details)
- Tue 11 Liz & Steve Palmer's Home Group
- Tue 18 2 pm Kingsdown Club - Dave Entertains
- Thu 27 Kingsdown Church Council

APRIL

- 1 Apr 2 pm Kingsdown Club - 'Happy Days are Here Again' with the Reminiscence Roadshow

This year's Annual General Church Meeting

Sunday 18th May after the morning service.

The meeting is open to everyone who attends Kingsdown, so please put the date in your diaries.

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Data Protection - Kingsdown Methodist Church 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.

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