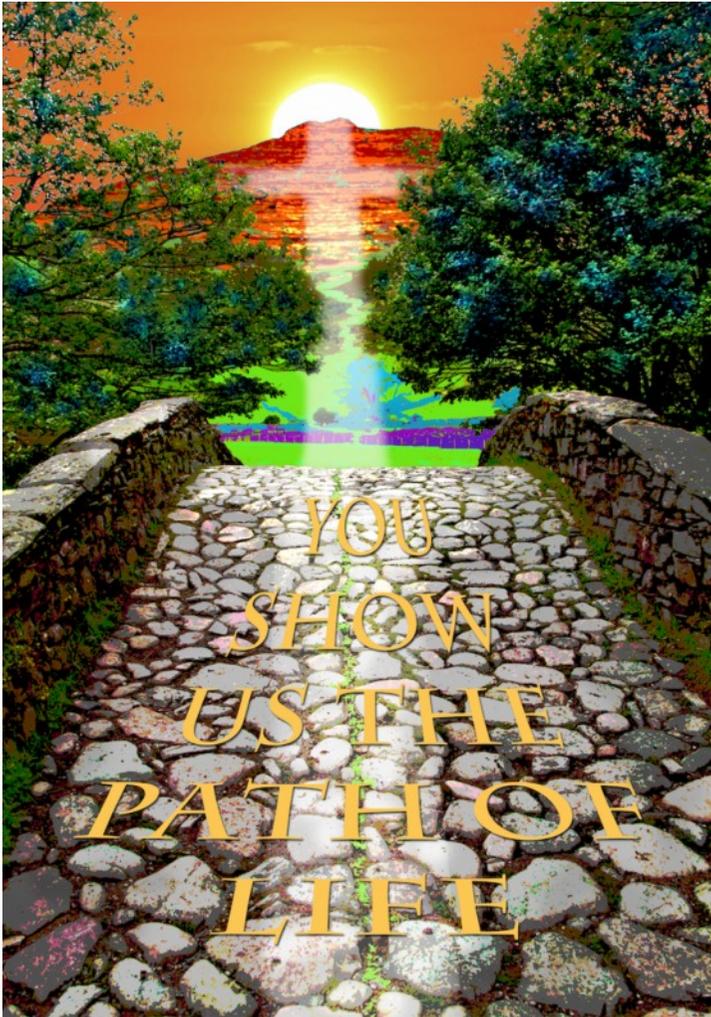




KINGSDOWN MESSENGER



July - August 2013

SERVICES FOR JULY/AUGUST



- 7 Jul 10.30 Mr Donney Samuel
*No Evening Service: Ordination
Service at Hanwell Methodist Church,
5.00pm, ticket only.*
- 14 Jul 10.30 Rev Chrissie Howe, Family/Parade Service
6.00 for 6.30 Sunday Evening Study Series discussion see p5
- 21 Jul 10.30 Mr David Street
6.30 To be announced
- 28 Jul 10.30 Rev Chrissie Howe, Holy Communion
6.30 To be announced
- Aug**
- 4 Aug 10.30 Miss Rebecca Catford
6.30 To be announced
- 11 Aug 10.30 Rev Peter Catford, Family Service
6.30 To be announced
- 18 Aug 10.30 Local Arrangement
Worship Leader - Mrs Rekha Cheriyan
6.30 To be announced
- 25 Aug 10.30 Rev Chrissie Howe, Holy Communion
6.30 To be announced



The Editors wish everyone a good summer break and hope you will be back ready to write all about it in time for the September issue.

Pam and Alan

The KINGSDOWN MESSENGER

Copy deadline for the September 2013 issue is Friday 23 August 2013

Editors - Pam and Alan Smith

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



Dear Friends,

As I write this preparations are being finalized for the Methodist Conference meeting at Westminster Central Hall. As the decision making body for the Methodist Church in Great Britain it is made up of lay and ordained representatives from across all of the Districts as well as some members of the Connexional Team. Each year it elects the President and Vice-President of Conference for the following year. Revd. Ruth Gee and Dr. Daleep Mukarji will be inducted as President and Vice-President of Conference respectively on Saturday to serve until Conference next year.

As most of you will now be aware during the weekend of Conference Ordinands, and those transferring from other Conferences or denominations will be received into full Connexion and then, where appropriate, be ordained at various churches around the London District, including our very own Hanwell with Elizabeth the daughter of Peter and Suva and sister of Rebecca. Please hold Conference, all delegates, and particularly Ordinands, their families and host churches in your prayers at what is a very special time.

If you are able to get into Westminster, or follow twitter, or the live website feed, I encourage you to listen and watch Conference in action. The Conference receives reports on various areas of Church life and memorials from circuits and districts for new ideas and changes to current practice. As it receives the reports and debates particular subjects decisions are made that affect the Church, including at the local level. In previous years subjects have included what makes a presbyter and a deacon, human sexuality, Holy Communion, and young people.

As Methodists it is important that we recognize the significance of our Connexion. Our local church is not on its own, we benefit from the ministry of those called to be Local Preachers, Deacons and Presbyters within our circuit. We also support and are supported by others in the circuit, the London District, and the Connexion.

We continue to follow the model that began with John Wesley. It is amazing to note that Conference never closes; it merely adjourns until the next one! As Christians we are enabled to grow in grace and holiness when we participate in the faith with others rather than struggle on our own.

May the sun be warm, the rain refreshing and may you each find refreshment and renewal over the summer period. Love and prayers,
Chrissie

KINGSDOWN FAMILY NEWS

Thanks to Mark Tobias for the sterling effort in erecting the green fence at the end of the carpark. He worked all day from 8 to 8, and we are very grateful for an excellent job.

Janet Smith

We are both extremely grateful to the many Kingsdown friends who have sent cards and messages, visited, done shopping, run a taxi service and covered duties for Kathleen since she suffered a stroke. Fortunately, the physical symptoms were slight and have practically disappeared.

The residual tiredness continues, and it will be some weeks at least before we can play a full part in the life of the church as we have done in the past. But the thoughts and prayers of our friends continue to sustain us. Thank you.

Kathleen & Peter Loveridge

Please continue to pray for **Florence Thamotheram**, who has had a stroke and remains in St Mary's Hospital; for **Kathleens Loveridge's** continuing recovery from a slight stroke; and for **Nerissa Watson**.

Yours prayers are also asked for **Barbara Smith** who is to have a second cataract operation shortly.

For any of our youngsters who may have been taking exams over the past few months, we wish them well in their results.

All good wishes to our **Boys Brigade** for fine weather and a good time at their Annual Camp in Brecon.



WORSHIP CONSULTATION

A first meeting of the long-planned Worship Consultation will take place on Monday 15 July, at 8.00pm in the Dome Room. Anyone from the Kingsdown congregation who is interested can attend.

Chrissie is planning that this meeting will focus on our children and young people, particularly our Parade/Family Services and Children and Holy Communion.

There may be time to cover other items but if not, they can be identified for further meetings after the summer. If you would like to suggest an issue about our worship that would benefit from some conversation, please contact me as soon as possible.

Kathleen Loveridge
Senior Steward



SUNDAY EVENING STUDY SERIES

The next Sunday evening on which the church will be open for a time of evening worship and study will be Sunday 14 July. It had been intended that I would begin leading a six-week series on that date; because of my recent ill-health that now seems unlikely. It may be (but is not decided yet) that we shall have to take a break for the summer, and resume meetings in September.

However, at Chrissie's suggestion, it would be good if as many people as possible, who have either taken part in any of the three previous' series or have ideas about how future series may be developed, were to join me on 14 July. We shall gather from 6.00pm for light refreshments, share a period of worship at 6.30pm, and then have time to share thoughts about our experience over the past six months, and make plans for the future.

Do join me, if you can.

Kathleen Loveridge
Senior Steward

THE COLOUR OF LITURGY

Following our service of Holy Communion I was asked about the meaning of the liturgical colours. Different parts of the Church Year are celebrated with various colours, sometimes the colours of pulpit falls or banners, the stole worn by a minister, the shirt, even the socks on occasions! The colour indicates the season or feast that is being celebrated. Violet symbolizes repentance and penance; White or gold symbolizes the resurrection and is used on most major feast days; Green is a sign of life and represents growth, life, and hope, symbolizing God's grace; Red symbolizes blood and fire.

What follows is a guide throughout the Church Year, beginning with Advent. The majority of the Year falls within Ordinary Time which is shown by the colour green. The list below includes some variations for the Methodist Church.

Advent - Violet
Christmas Day and Christmas 1 and 2 – White/Gold
Epiphany – White/Gold
Ordinary Time - Green
Lent – Violet
Holy Week – Violet or Red
Maundy Thursday – White/Gold
Good Friday – None or Red
Holy Saturday - None
Easter Day – White/Gold
Easter 1 through 7 – White/Gold
Pentecost - Red
Trinity Sunday – White or Gold
Christ the King (Sunday before Advent) – White/Gold
The Covenant Service - Red
Church Anniversary – White or Gold
Harvest Thanksgiving – Green
Remembrance Sunday - Green
John and Charles Wesley – White or Gold
New Year Watchnight – White or Gold
Baptism – White or Gold
Weddings – White or Gold
Funerals – Violet or White.

Chrissie Howe

A GREAT DAY OUT

As we have recently been remembering some iconic moments in our history, I recommend these places to visit related to World War II:

BROOKLANDS MUSEUM

(The Birthplace of British Motorsport & Aviation; Home of Concorde)

Attractions include the Wellington bomber which was raised from Lockness; and a ride on the original race track.

Approximately 40 minutes drive from Ealing to Weybridge, more information can be found at www.brooklandsmuseum.com.

HURST CASTLE

If you are exploring the Hampshire coast, Hurst Castle is a stunning place to visit. Although it is not possible to reach it by car, you can walk there from Milford-on-Sea on the 1.5 mile spit of land; or a boat ride will take you there from Keyhaven.

It is the perfect location to defend the western approach to the Solent. Built by Henry VIII in 1544, during World War II it was manned with coastal gun batteries and searchlights.

Exhibitions include the Garrison Theatre, Trinity House lighthouse, and the Association of Lighthouse Keepers' display room.

ASHLEY WALK

This is a popular, medium length walk starting and ending near the rural village of Godshill in the north of the New Forest. There is a good mixture of open heathland, forested inclosure and Ancient and Ornamental Woodland, and it takes one round the perimeter of what was a major Second World War site, Ashley Bombing Range, where Barnes Wallis tested his earthquake bomb. (OS ref SU 187157)

(All three flyers on these locations can be seen in the church foyer)

Our thanks to **Mary Osborne** for submitting these interesting details in response to our plea for new material from any of our readers.

WHERE ARE YOU HEADING FOR YOUR HOLIDAYS?

SOMETHING A BIT 'SPECIAL'

Do you want perhaps to help someone celebrate a particular occasion in a rather special way? Recently, I was treated to a visit to 'The Shard', now London's tallest building.

Easily accessible from London Bridge underground station, it proved an exciting adventure. One ascends by two lifts, each rising in a matter of



seconds, to the 68th floor, where panoramic views of London stretch out for probably well over 50 miles in all directions. And on fine days one is even able to ascend a further four floors to a partially open-air level - be brave its worth it! For one's additional enjoyment there are even machines on which one can home in



on particular viewpoints for a closer image and be given historic or current details of the site.

I recommend that if at all possible you book in advance on line as its cheaper that way!

The building is adjacent to Borough Market - an exciting cosmopolitan area where many exotic food dishes can be purchased; or take a shopping bag and take advantage of the many and varied stalls selling fresh fruit, vegetable, cheeses and other fascinating 'goodies'.

Southwark Cathedral is adjacent to the market and certainly worth a visit; its grounds are also well used by visitors and locals as a picnic area.

I had a hugely enjoyable day and would recommend it as a very special day's outing.

Pam Smith



MAJOR REFURBISHMENT GETS GO AHEAD

Ealing Council has given the green light for the transformation of the Arcadia Centre in Ealing.

The current site - which had 25 small retail units - will be reduced to just 3 stores - including a brand new Morrisons 'Fresh Format' store on the lower floor, TK Maxx will double its space and McDonald's will open a new corner unit both will be able to continue trading throughout the building works.



from Ealing Today Newsletter

COMMUNITY RETAIL



The uniquely stylish Accession Community Shop at 56 Boston Road, Hanwell, W7 3TR, sells a wide range of donated quality clothing, books, furniture and household items and Accession partnership products. It is perfect for original gift ideas.

The shop is managed by Accession staff, volunteers, Service Users and students, including graduates from the Challenge Network.

Opening hours are Monday to Saturday, 10am-6pm.

Please visit to browse and shop and please donate any items. The shop staff can arrange for collection of large or bulky items.

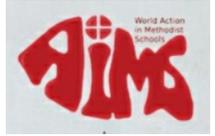
Also look out for Accession goods on e-Bay.

On June 8th 2013, the second Accession Community Shop opened in West Ealing, 136-138 Broadway (opposite Blockbusters).

The shop has the same stylish vintage feel as the Hanwell shop, with an industrial/workshop feel and a children's corner. The shop includes a picture framing department for quality, affordable customised framing.



WAIMS - WORLD ACTION IN METHODIST SCHOOLS TAKES TO DOWNING STREET



Four Methodist Schools descended on Downing Street on the 7th June to campaign for the end of global hunger and to ask the Prime Minister to take this issue to the G8 meeting on June 17th-18th at County Farmanagh, Northern Ireland.

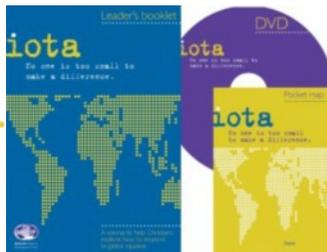
The Enough Food IF campaign is a collation of over 100 UK charities calling for the end of global hunger and highlighting the injustice of land grabs and tax evasion. Yesterday a strong group of 23 schools were invited to meet the Prime Minister, David Cameron, and campaigner, actor and children's writer David Walliams at Downing Street.

Ashville College, Queen's College Taunton, Kent College Canterbury and St Peter's Methodist Primary School represented all Methodist Schools in what was an exceptionally memorable and fantastic experience for students and teachers alike.

Schools were later taken to the Emmanuel Centre in London and participated in workshops teaching them to create banners for the Enough Food IF campaign. Workshops were led by our very own World AIMS Officer, Laura Cook.

Of course we must not forget to mention the huge 6ft by 6ft dinner plate made by Queen's College Taunton! The dinner plate attracted attention (and a few more signatures) outside Downing Street.





The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of tiny pushes of each honest worker.” Helen Keller

The Iota Course is an award winning multimedia course that looks at the causes of poverty and the things that Christianity has to say about global injustice. Containing eight sessions in total, you and your group can choose to include those that interest you most.

Through a combination of short films, discussion, Bible study, activities and prayer, Iota will help you to consider how each of us can make our Iota of difference. Take a look at the videos online and order your resources at www.iotacourse.org.

Alternatively, you can order by contacting Alan Smith at magazine@kingsdownmethodist.org.uk

IOTA TRAINING WORKSHOP

There will be an IOTA Training Workshop

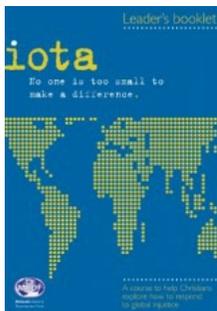
on

28 September at Church House, 25 Martlebone Road, NW1.

10.30am till 1.00pm.

The workshop is free and hot drinks are provided.

If you would like to attend please contact Alan Smith who will arrange registration for you.





EAST AFRICA MEETS WEST

A new MRDF fund has enabled two partner organisations in Africa, CDVTA and VAD, to carry out an experience sharing exchange visit.

CDVTA runs an innovative project to support and empower elderly people in remote areas of Cameroon, whilst VAD works to improve health in rural Uganda through education and the construction of water and sanitation facilities.

During CDVTA' s visit to VAD in Uganda, the staff shared their best practices, project management skills and expertise in governance.

CDVTA' s Director, Francis, said the experiences and skills we have got from VAD have made us more humble, more encouraged and more determined to serve our poor, disadvantaged elderly people and communities better than we did before.

Read more about the exchange visit at:

<http://ctt-news.org/6db-1kqh5-nepe0-mr1hc-0/c.aspx>

MRDF is continuing to respond to the humanitarian crisis caused by the conflict in Syria.

According to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, nearly 1.3 million Syrians have now registered as refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey and Egypt. Thousands more are fleeing the conflict every day and at present over 200,000 are still awaiting registration.

MRDF is responding to the crisis through the ACT Alliance (Action by Churches Together) partners, the global network of churches and related relief organisations. MRDF supporters have so far donated over £18,000 to its Syria Crisis Appeal.

**You can give £5 now by texting 'MRDF13 £5' to 70070
or visit www.mrdf.org.uk/give**



MAMUSH'S STORY



'Before 2007 I was in absolute poverty, I needed to take care of my wife, three preschool children, a niece and my aging parents. It was a great challenge for me to feed my family from the meagre income I got from farming three hectares of eroded land. I had to sell my sheep and young bulls when we ran short of food. I couldn't keep enough milk cows to feed my children or oxen to plough the fields and it kept getting worse.

It was in 2007 that I heard about SUNARMA from project workers who encouraged me to attend a meeting. Realising that I was keeping bees in two traditional beehives, SUNARMA gave me two modern beehives and provided training for me on beekeeping techniques. From this training I learnt how to keep beehives clean and protected from rain, how to protect beehives from pests, and when and how to harvest the honey. I started to see the difference straight away, instead of collecting 4kg of honey from a traditional beehive, I managed to harvest up to 15kg. This encouraged me to focus on beekeeping and with the extra income I invested in more beehives, now I own 14. I also bought oxen to help with farming and a cow to provide milk for my children. I have also been putting money aside to re-roof my house, replacing the thatch with corrugated metal.

For the first time since I was married, I can feed my family properly. Now I am happy because my children eat enough and dress properly. I have been receiving close professional support from field workers and I hope SUNARMA will continue supporting me with making my dream of transforming myself come true. SUNARMA's programme has enabled me to feel confident that I am involved in a sustainable activity that generates a long-term income.'

MRDF's partner in Ethiopia, SUNARMA, supports farmers in the Wof Washa region of the Ethiopian Highlands to improve their agricultural production techniques and increase their income. SUNARMA provides crucial equipment, training and resources, so individuals can establish small businesses that are environmentally friendly and sustainable.

Mallard 75

Celebrating Britain's
steam record



On 3 July 1938, A4 class locomotive Mallard raced down Stoke Bank at 126mph to set a new steam locomotive world speed record. That record still stands.

In 2013, we're marking the 75th anniversary of Mallard's achievement with a series of commemorative events, including three spectacular opportunities to see the record breaker united with its five surviving sister locomotives: a family reunion on an international scale. We're now counting down the days until our first 'Great Gathering, which is a free, non-ticketed event.

Only six of the 35 A4 locomotives built survive. We've temporarily repatriated two of them from their home museums in Canada and the US: right now you can come and see the cosmetically restored Dwight D Eisenhower and Dominion of Canada in the Great Hall at York. Mallard will be back on display on 3 July.

Visit NRM York
Leeman Road,
York, YO26 4XJ

Opening times
10am–6pm daily
FREE ENTRY

<http://www.nrm.org.uk/>



MY FAVOURITE THINGS

(Try singing it!)

Facebook and YouTube and E-bay and Twitter,
Lounging and texting, this won't make you fitter,
Sore eyes and fingers is all that it brings;
They're not remotely my favourite things!

Viruses, hacking and spamming and phishing,
Data on lap tops that seems to go missing,
Sitting on trains when a telephone rings;
These aren't exactly my favourite things.
When they break down, when they spam me,
When they make me mad,
It's then I remember how things used to be
And then I don't feel so bad!

(How did things used to be?)

Letters from loved ones and presents in packets,
Walks in the park with no phones in our jackets,
Good punctuation when a sentence begins;
These were a few of my favourite things!
For those old days, and those old ways,
I am feeling sad,
So I switch off my i-phone and shut the PC
And then I don't feel so bad!

Miscellaneous observations on life...

- ~ *The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so he can tell when he's really in trouble.*
- ~ *Middle age – when you begin to exchange your emotions for symptoms.*
- ~ *Never go to a doctor whose office plants have died.*

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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YOU DIDN'T DO THE GREEN THING!

The girl on the checkout suggested to the older lady that she should bring her own shopping bags in future because their plastic bags weren't good for the environment. The lady apologised and said "We didn't have this green thing in my day." The girl responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation didn't care enough to save the environment for future generations." The lady reflected on this when she got home and put pen to paper, using the title "Did we have the green thing in my day?" These are her thoughts.

Back then, we returned milk bottles so that they could be washed, sterilized, refilled and recycled. Didn't have the green thing back in our day? We walked up stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the shops and didn't use a car every time we had to make a short journey. And we didn't have the green thing in our day?

We washed the baby's nappies because we didn't have the throw-away kind. We used a washing line and relied on wind and solar power to dry our clothes, not an energy-gobbling spin drier. And our children wore things passed down the line because they didn't get brand new clothes at the drop of a hat. We didn't have the green thing back in our day?

Back then, we had a small TV or radio in the house, not a TV in every room, half the size of the wall. In the kitchen, we stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do every simple task. We didn't use a petrol mower in the garden; we used a push mower, which helped to keep us fit. We didn't need to go to a health club to run on electrically-operated treadmills. We didn't have the green thing back then!

We drank water from a tap, not from plastic bottles. We refilled pens with ink instead of buying a new one each time it ran dry. We replaced razor blades instead of throwing away the whole razor when it got blunt. But we didn't have the green thing back then.

We used the bus to get around. The children walked to school, or rode their bikes. They didn't expect mum to be a taxi driver. We had one electrical outlet in a room, not three on each wall to provide power for a host of gadgets. And we didn't need an i-phone to receive a signal beamed from a satellite to order a pizza.

And did that girl say our generation didn't care enough about the environment?

LARGE PRINT GOOD NEWS BIBLE



The large print Good News Bible is easy-to-read and especially helpful for those with difficulty seeing smaller text. With a hardback cover, ultra-clear large typeface and layout it makes a perfect gift for older relatives or those who need an easier read. **£30.**

The large print Good News Bible uses the updated 2004 edition of the Good News translation. It includes the textual revisions from the 1994 edition and the use of inclusive language in order to update the version's first edition. Sometimes known as the TEV (Today's English Version) the

GNB is the work of an international committee of scholars using the best available manuscripts.

Features

- Easy-to-read Good News Bible translation
- Hardback maroon cover
- New ultra-clear large typeface (nearly 12 point) and layout
- Quick-search list of people, events, passages
- Helpful passages for difficult times
- Footnotes and Cross references
- Maps, Index and Word list

To get hold of these and more, visit
<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/products/>



KINGSDOWN MESSENGER

The Messenger is now available in PDF format which can be e-mailed out to you as soon as it is published.

If you would prefer to have an 'e-copy' please let Pam Smith know your e-mail address so that the circulation details can be updated.

Hard copies will still be available and will continue to be circulated to those who prefer to have a 'bit of paper' to read through.



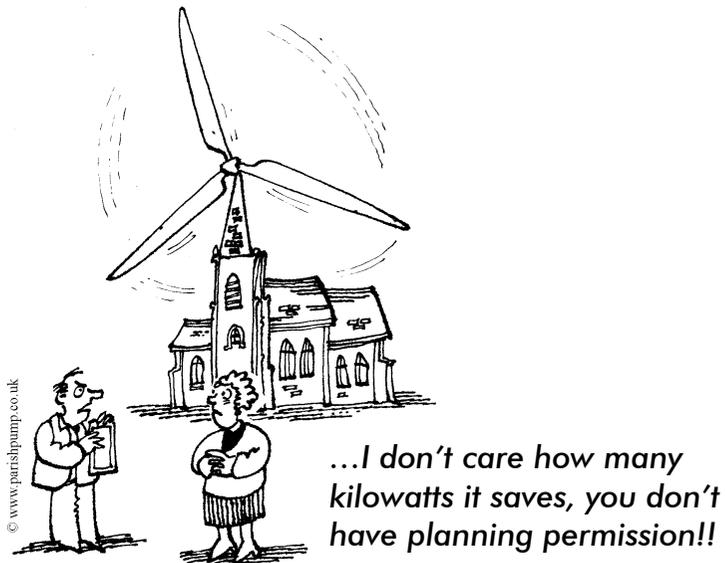
HERE IS A TRUE SHORT STORY, IN 100 WORDS, BY MEGAN CARTER

Out of the Depths

"John was seven years old when his mother died, and 11 when his father took him to sea. John soon became a hardened blaspheming seaman, and slave trading became a way of life. One day a tremendous storm arose. John in fear calling to God for mercy was miraculously saved from the deep. So chastened and reformed was John that on his return to England he gave his life to God, becoming ordained in the Church of England and a curate in 1764. He joined forces with William Wilberforce campaigning for the abolition of slavery. This is John Newton's testimony."

John Newton wrote:

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see.



SOLAR POWER

Somebody finally invented a solar-powered laundry dryer. It's called a 'clothes line'.

PRAYER TO KNOW GOD'S WILL

Loving Father,

You made us in your image. Our whole life is a process of transformation to become like you. And yet it is so difficult to know, to really know what you are calling us to do; how you want us to serve you. There are so many possibilities, so many roads we could choose. Which one has your signpost? Which one has the green light for us? The disciples faced the same dilemma, "What must we do to do the works God requires," they asked. And Jesus' answer was quite simple, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent." (Jn 6:28,29)

Lord help us to believe in Jesus, with a real, active, trusting faith and then to relax, knowing that if we do believe, everything, absolutely everything we do will be your work. Washing up, working in the office, preaching a sermon or preparing school dinners, we will be doing your work.

Thank you for showing us your way in your word, in the name of Jesus,
Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

PRAYER TO STAY CONNECTED

Heavenly Father,

Forgive us that we are all so busy. There are so many demands; so many expectations. Emails and Facebook demand instant replies and, if we're honest, they drain away our time as we try to keep in touch with everyone, whenever they contact us. We keep in touch with everyone who demands our attention, Lord, but often, in all the rush to communicate, we don't keep in touch with you, the greatest communicator of all. You communicated all we need to know by sending Jesus. He is your love in person. He makes it possible for us to know you by trusting in him. Thank you for pressing the send button that gave Jesus to us. Thank you that you will never switch off or close down. Help us to spend our precious time wisely and to stay connected to you.

In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

By Daphne Kitching

JOHN BUNYAN – THE MAN WHO WROTE PILGRIM’S PROGRESS

After the Bible, John Bunyan’s wonderful Christian allegory, the Pilgrim’s Progress, is one of the most celebrated and widely-read books in the English language. It has been translated into more than one hundred languages around the world and keeps its place as a Christian classic.

Names of people and places from its pages have been commonplace wherever English is spoken. We need only recall Mr Great-Heart, Mr Valiant-for-Truth, Giant Despair, Madame Bubble, the Slough of Despond, Vanity Fair, the Delectable Mountains, the Hill Difficulty and the Celestial City.

Bunyan was born on 28 November 1628, at Elstow, near Bedford, England, of a poor family. He had little formal education and his father taught him to be a metal worker. His first wife died young. His second wife, Elizabeth, helped him considerably with his blossoming literary career. His conversion was the result of reading the Bible, and the witness of local Christians. From that time the Bible became the great inspiration of his life. He wrote more than fifty books on Christianity. A Baptist by conviction, he had little time for the Established Church.

Bunyan became a popular preacher, but because of his opposition to the Established Church and because he did not have a Church of England preaching licence, he was imprisoned in 1661. It was in prison that he wrote Pilgrim’s Progress. It was not only Bunyan’s greatest book but was destined to become one of the most popular Christian books in the world.

Pilgrim’s Progress is an allegory, using the names of people and places from the Bible to teach spiritual lessons. The vivid and unforgettable imagery in the Pilgrim’s Progress covers the whole Christian gospel from sin and condemnation all the way through faith, repentance, grace, justification, sanctification, and perseverance to heaven itself.

Bunyan died on 31 August 1688. His portrayal of the death of Mr Valiant For Truth is Bunyan at his allegorical best. This brave old soldier of Jesus Christ had received his summons to ‘go home.’ Calling his friends together he says, ‘My sword I give to him who shall succeed me in my pilgrimage ... My marks and scars I carry with me, to be a witness for me, that I have fought His battles, Who will now be my rewarder.’ ... So he passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side...



BARTIMAEUS

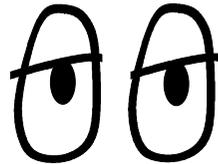
Who? To the people of Jericho who walked past him every day while he sat begging for the smallest coin, he was 'that blind beggar' sitting by the roadside. And there he sat until one special day when Jesus was leaving Jericho, surrounded by the usual crowd. We can imagine Bartimaeus tugging at someone's robe and asking 'What's going on, who is it?' and the answer coming back 'It's that preacher, Jesus of Nazareth'.

But Bartimaeus knew that Jesus was special, was more than just a preacher from Nazareth. He called out, he carried on calling even when the crowd told him not to - and Jesus stopped. Bartimaeus threw off his beggar's cloak and came to Jesus, asking to be able to see. And Jesus gave him the gift of sight; his eyes were opened. Just imagine – the first thing that Bartimaeus saw was Jesus' face. He saw the Light, the Light of the World, and left the roadside to follow Jesus (St Mark's Gospel, chapter 10, verses 46-52).

BIBLE EYES

Every one of these answers is a person or thing in the Bible which are all something to do with eyes.

1. He went blind on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:8).
2. Was blinded in Gaza and pulled down a building (Judges 16:29).
3. What Jesus put on the blind man's eyes (John 9:6).
4. Was a beggar in Jericho before meeting Jesus (Matthew 10:46).
5. Helped Paul regain his sight (Acts 9:17).
6. The boy Samuel ministered to him because his eyesight was going dim (1Samuel 3).



Have your eyes ever been checked?

No, they've always been this colour.

Optician: what can you see out of that window?

Patient: only the sun.

Optician: how far do you want to see, then?



Answers: 1.Saul, afterward Paul 2. Samson 3.mud 4.Bartimaeus 5.Ananias 6.Eli

EVENTS AT KINGSDOWN

JULY

- Mon 8 8.00 pm Guides (most Mondays throughout the month)
- Tue 9 Liz & Steve Palmer's Home Group
- Wed 10 1-3 pm Babies & Toddlers Group (term time only - finishes 17/7)
7.00 pm Youth Group
- Fri 12 10.15 am Coffee Morning in Foyer - Everyone welcome
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) (Final meeting of the Current Session 19 Jul -
BB restarts 13 Sep)
- Sat 13 10.30 am Coffee & Chat in the Foyer - Everyone welcome
- Mon 15 8.00pm - Dome Room - Worship Consultation**
Anyone from the Kingsdown congregation interested can attend.
- Tue 16 2 pm Kingsdown Club - The Summer Tea Party: Dave Entertains
(New programme begins 3 Sep)
- Tue 30 Church Council Meeting

