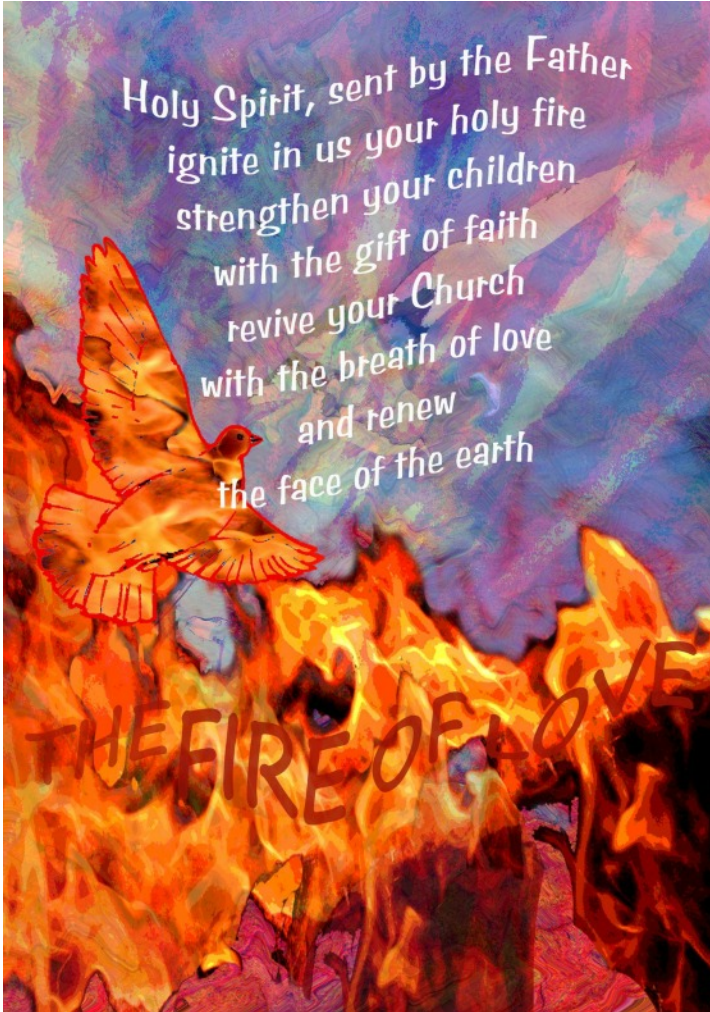




# KINGSDOWN MESSENGER



*May 2015*



## SERVICES FOR MAY



- 3 May 10.30 Dr Anita Oji
- 10 May 10.30 Rev Rachel Bending, Family/Parade Service  
followed by General Church Meeting  
6.30 Circuit Service at Greenford  
MWiB Easter Offering Service
- 17 May 10.30 Rev Rachel Bending, Holy Communion
- 24 May 10.30 Local Arrangement, World Church Sunday
- 31 May 10.30 Mr Mark Budu-Manuel - Trinity Sunday
- 7 June 10.30 Ms Ade Benson



**Annual Church Meeting  
Sunday 10th May  
following the morning  
service.**

**Come along and reflect on  
the past year and make  
plans for the future.**



### The KINGSDOWN MESSENGER

**Copy deadline for the June 2015 issue is Friday 29th May 2015**

Editors - Pam and Alan Smith

Tel: 020 8840 4803 E-mail: [magazine@kingsdownmethodist.org.uk](mailto:magazine@kingsdownmethodist.org.uk)



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR  
THINK, PRAY, VOTE X

# FAITH IN POLITICS

Preparing Churches for the General Election 2015

Dear friends

As I write we are in the end stages of an election campaign. Manifestos have been published and party lines drawn. There has been much discussion of who might be willing to join whom to create a coalition. Politicians have spent much time trying to persuade us that a vote for them will make us better off. It seems to me that, more than ever in my memory, commentators are suggesting that they can't work out who to vote for: Piers Morgan this week said he was certain to vote but had no idea where he would put his cross and his allegiance.

In preparation for the election various Christian denominations have published documents looking at the issues. Each has carefully looked at issues that may feature in the election campaign and some which sadly may not and asked us to consider not only our own needs and well being but those of our neighbours locally, nationally and globally. Having thought and prayed it asks us to make sure we vote.

A document published by the Joint Public Issues Team (Methodist, Baptist, URC and Church of Scotland) says:

*"Archbishop Desmond Tutu once said: "When people say that the Bible and politics don't mix, I ask them which Bible they are reading."*

Our Christian faith is woven through with a concern for justice, peace and the integrity of creation. We seek to answer questions such as how immigrants should be treated, whether a nation should go to war and how we are stewards of the environment. These are issues for living our discipleship today as they were when the Bible was written.

Now is the time for the Churches and wider civil society to do what they can to join the debate, to help communities understand the issues and to contribute in a positive way to the democratic process.

Of course, the Bible doesn't tell Christians which party to vote for. Christians can be united in a common faith but have different ideas about how politics can best serve the common good.

The weeks leading up to polling day are a chance for us all to scrutinise ideas and ask questions before making a decision about who we want to lead us for the next five years."

So how will you vote?

God bless

*Rachel*

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR  
THINK, PRAY, VOTE

## No one wants to Mow



Now that spring has sprung so has the grass outside Kingsdown.

Unfortunately although many people voted for grass only Janet Smith (who did not vote for it) mows this with help from Ray Church. If anyone else could help this would be appreciated by Janet.

Alternatively, donations could be given to help pay for a gardener or if anyone has the know how the lawns could be turned into attractive wild flower gardens.

**June Thompson**

## FAMILY NEWS

**Juliet Edwards** writes: "I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and cards sent during Keith's recent illness. We are both grateful for all the kind wishes and support we received from so many at Kingsdown"  
With many thanks **Juliet**

It is excellent news that **Ivy Hanson** is recovering well from her recent stroke, and we know that she has very much appreciated all the visits, cards and good wishes received from Kingsdown folk.

**Jill and Roy Ward** write: "We wish to say a very big thank you for the gift that you so very kindly gave to Roy and myself. We will enjoy buying something for either our home or the garden that will remind me of all the happy 42 years that I have been at our church. I will miss you all so very much.

I can see Barton-on-Sea Methodist Church from our front garden, so I have no excuse for being late. But I am sure that my heart will always be at Kingsdown.

I have taken a few days to find my computer amongst all the many, many boxes still waiting to be unpacked. So I hope that my message will not be too late for the May Messenger.

If you should come down this way, please do call in and have a cup of tea. It would be lovely to see you.

May God bless you all. With love from" **Jill & Roy**



## Ordinands Testimony Service

17th May 2015

Wesley's Chapel,  
EC1Y 1AU  
6:30pm

## From the Church Council

The last meeting of the Church Council was on 19<sup>th</sup> March – just before the April edition of the Messenger went to press.

Starting with matters financial, Rob Hutchings presented the half year accounts for the church. These showed a surplus of £7,800 for the 6 months ending on 28<sup>th</sup> February. This is significantly better than the budget for the period. Income was about £6,400 higher than expected, mainly due to increased lettings income, whilst expenses had been about £1,400 lower than expected. At the end of the connexional year, Rob expected the church to have a surplus of about £10,000.

We should all be aware that Rob Hutchings formally resigned as Treasurer at the end of December, but has been happy to carry on in the role pending the appointment of a successor. Whilst volunteers have come forward for the all the peripheral tasks (Gift Aid Secretary, banking, lettings invoicing etc), no one to date has volunteered for the central role of Treasurer.

Our relationship with the Guides was discussed as they haven't attended Parade Services for some considerable time. It was agreed that an informal meeting should be set up with the Guide leader to

discuss ways in which our relationship with the Guides can be strengthened.

There was positive feedback from the AwayDay on 7<sup>th</sup> March, particularly the opportunity to talk in depth with a small number of other people. Whilst it was felt that it would be good to get to know each other better, it was clear that the time before and after church services does not lend itself to the kind of discussion required. It was suggested that there should be regular lunches to allow people to engage more fully with each other. Monthly was felt to be too frequent, and quarterly more appropriate. The venue could be at the church (hall/Dome Room) or possibly external – a venue in Roehampton was mooted but there were concerns about access by public transport. This idea was to be put to people at the lunch on 19<sup>th</sup> April when Wendy Beard's report on the AwayDay would also be presented.

As you will all know, Kingsdown participated in the Ealing Churches Winter Night Shelter during November/December last year. The Project Co-ordinator for the scheme, Alison Wood has sent us a letter of thanks particularly as we agreed to operate the Shelter at fairly short notice. Alison also asked if we would be prepared to participate in

the scheme again this year, for four Sunday nights 29<sup>th</sup> November – 20<sup>th</sup> December. The meeting agreed in principle to operating the Shelter at Kingsdown again this year, subject to sufficient volunteers being available.

The meeting heard that more help is needed with the regular Book Fairs to set up and put away. However, the meeting also felt that consideration should be given to the future of these fairs given the amount of work involved.

The meeting agreed to a suggestion from Rachel Bending that from September, our services should follow a consistent theme based on 'We Make the Road by Walking' by Brian McClaren. This book is divided into 52 chapters and week-by-week will take us through the whole Bible story. In addition, the meeting decided that the former evening service should be removed from the external church notice board. This time slot is now used for periodic Bible study series organised by the Circuit, which are much appreciated by those who attend them.

Our 'World Service' service will be on 24<sup>th</sup> May. A small group is organising this service which will be

focussed on our experiences of church around the world.

David Street told the meeting that the King's Hall Class Meeting is now very fragile with attendance of only 6 – 7 people each week. However, they still hope to be able to return to King's Hall following its redevelopment, although this is at least 18 months away.

Finally, David Street said that the Circuit was now using funds from the sale of Moullin House and the church building at Perivale to support initiatives, groups, and individuals around the Circuit. Major initiatives include the MHA Live at Home Scheme (support for a development manager), a Christian School Worker for Southall as well as support for people's individual training needs. Churches are encouraged to apply for grants from the Circuit to support their initiatives. The Circuit's policy on grant funding can be downloaded from the Circuit website – go to [www.ealingtrinity.org.uk/forms-and-policies](http://www.ealingtrinity.org.uk/forms-and-policies).

The next meeting of the Church Council will be on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June at 8.00pm.

**The most impressive Christians are those who don't try to impress.**

Kingsdown Methodist Church, Northfield Avenue, W13

# BOOK FAIR



**Books Cakes Gifts Plants**  
**Raffle Traidcraft Bric-a-Brac**

## Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May

10.00am to 12.30pm

Admission 40 pence

Proceeds to:



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## Methodist magazine - The Connexion

The new spring edition of 'the connexion' has just been published. This is the magazine with articles about Methodist church life in Britain and around the world. Special features on Chaplaincy are included in the spring edition.

There are three copies in the church foyer: please take one and read it, then pass it on or return it to for someone else to read. Or find it online at:

[www.methodist.org.uk/news-andevents/the-connexion-magazine](http://www.methodist.org.uk/news-andevents/the-connexion-magazine)



## May 14: Ascension Day

Surely the most tender, moving 'farewell' in history took place on Ascension Day. Luke records the story with great poignancy: "When Jesus had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands - and blessed them."

As Christmas began the story of Jesus' life on earth, so Ascension Day completes it, with his return to his Father in heaven. Jesus' last act on earth was to bless his disciples. He and they had a bond as close as could be: they had just lived through three tumultuous years of public ministry and miracles – persecution and death – and resurrection! Just as we part from our nearest and dearest by still looking at them with love and memories in our eyes, so exactly did Jesus: "While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven." (Luke 24:50-1) He was not forsaking them, but merely going on ahead to a kingdom which would also be theirs one day: "I am ascending to my Father and to your Father, to my God and your God..." (John 20:17)

The disciples were surely the most favoured folk in history. Imagine being one of the last few people on earth to be face to face with Jesus, and have Him look on you with love. No wonder then that Luke goes on: "they worshipped Him - and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God." (Luke 24:52,53)

No wonder they praised God! They knew they would see Jesus again one day! "I am going to prepare a place for you... I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." (John 14:2,3) In the meantime, Jesus had work for them to do: to take the Gospel to every nation on earth.



**Knowledge is knowing that a tomato is a fruit.**

**Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.**

## **May 24: 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.

## CHRISTIAN AID NEWS

### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - 10-17 MAY 2015



Still striving for a world without poverty 2015 is the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Christian Aid. Born in the ashes of World War Two, it is still responding to needs that are just as vivid today.

The organisation that became Christian Aid was launched in the aftermath of the second world war in the face of huge opposition. Why should we help our former enemies when we were still rationed ourselves?

The brainchild of the British Council of Churches, Christian Reconstruction in Europe was renamed Christian Aid after the 'Christian Aid Week' it created in 1957, to raise funds and awareness.

The churches' initial vision was of a world where every person was respected because they are a human being, a world where women and men, large nations and small, have equal rights; a world where everyone's needs are met; a world where everyone lives in peace and harmony with others as good neighbours; a world without poverty.

As Christian Aid looks back 70 years, we are struck by the fact that the original version still burns brightly and is as relevant today as it was in 1945.

*(From the Christian Aid Magazine - Spring/Summer 2015)*

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### **And today?**

Christian Aid works in 40 countries with 726 local partner organisations in Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Christian Aid is the official development agency of 41 church denominations in Britain and Ireland.

Christian Aid works with people of all faiths and none, and never gives money to governments.

And Christian Aid's main aim? To bring an end to poverty around the world.

## KINGSDOWN 2015

Please don't forget our Book Fair , with numerous stalls, on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> May from 10.00 to 12.30.

THE WEEK begins on Sunday, 10 May, and it would be helpful to have more supporters - House-to- house collecting is hard work, but so necessary. Remember its the one time in the year when we go out to the local community.

FLAG DAY - Saturday, 16 May with collectors in Northfield Avenue, and West Ealing. As usual, we shall be wearing our tabards or sashes. We no longer rattle our tins, and never ask for money. So far the supporters are booked, but we would welcome more in the afternoon. Why not try it?

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May - Circle the City Walk This is a very popular event, and is suitable for everyone! This year,Christian Aid hopes to raise £50,00.00. If you would like to join the Kingsdown Group please speak to Anna Church.

Envelopes for your CA donations will be in the pews for the usual 3 weeks - 3 May, 10 May and 17 May. Please place your envelope in the offertory bag, or in a basket as you leave the church. Please consider Gift Aid which adds 25p to every £1 you donate.

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## ACT NOW - DO JUSTICE

Please do sign the card addressed to the Prime Minister - this year CLIMATE CHANGE You are invited to join the march in Central London on Saturday 17h June.

Together with more than 100 other agencies including TEAR FUND and CAFOD, Christian Aid is calling on UK citizens to show the new government that we're serious about protecting the world we love - with the people, environment, and everything in it.

If you are unable to join in, please do sign the card.



**Ruby Warne**

# Storms and Picnics

A morning for people of all ages  
reflecting on and responding to John 6  
using creative arts

May 30th 10am-12.30pm  
followed by a bring and share lunch  
More details to follow



A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work.

As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, 'I'm drawing God.'

The teacher paused and said, 'But no one knows what God looks like.'

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, 'They will in a minute.'

**Submitted by Kirsty Smith**



Methodist  
relief and  
development

# NEPAL Earthquake Appeal

The earthquake, the worst in 81 years, caused devastation in the capital city Kathmandu as well as in isolated mountainous areas of the country including Gorkha district. The epicentre of the earthquake, which measured 7.8 in magnitude, centred around 50 miles east of the second city, Pokhara.

All We Can has been supporting partners working in this region for a number of years and will be responding to the humanitarian crisis through them, drawing on their expertise and knowledge of the land and its people.

The death toll is already in the thousands and is likely to rise. Many more have been injured or displaced and due to the challenging landscape of Nepal it may be some time before the full scale of the disaster is known. There are immediate needs for shelter, food, safe water and sanitation facilities, health services and psycho-social support.

In the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, All We Can made an initial emergency grant of £5000 to its partner Kopila to assist it in providing trauma management and counselling in Kathmandu and the surrounding areas.

We are currently working closely with our partners to assess the situation and identify priority areas for additional support.

Gifts to our emergency appeal will enable us to respond quickly to needs identified over the coming days.

**To donate by post, send a cheque made payable to 'All We Can' to All We Can, 25 Marylebone Rd, London NW1 5JR, stating your gift is for the Nepal Earthquake Appeal.**

**To donate by phone call us on 020 7224 4814.**

**On-line : <https://www.charitycheckout.co.uk/291691/nepal>**



Methodist  
relief and  
development

# VANUATO Cyclone Pam Update

All We Can is continuing to help people in Vanuatu to recover from the dramatic impact of Cyclone Pam on this small island nation in March.

The people of Vanuatu are used to tropical cyclones, as they are a frequent occurrence in the south-west Pacific, but what occurred on March 13 was something well out of the ordinary for Vanuatu's population of around 267,000 people. Cyclone Pam swept through the nation with winds surpassing 300km per hour. The cyclone devastated businesses, homes and farms, with particular damage being done to the southernmost islands of the country.

All We Can responded immediately to the emergency through our ACT Alliance partners in the region and has so far sent £20,000 to help support the vulnerable in the aftermath of the disaster. Over 3000 people have been internally displaced as a result of Cyclone Pam, many more have suffered extensive damage to their properties and farms and the country as a whole is still working to restore communications and road networks. Our ACT Alliance partners estimate that around 166,000 people living on 22 different islands have been affected in total.

The generous donations given to All We Can's Vanuatu Cyclone Appeal have already been put to use supplying people with much needed shelter, food and clean water. The ACT Alliance response is being coordinated through the Vanuatu Church Partnership Program and over the coming weeks our partners will be working to reinstate water supply systems, secure longer-term shelter for those who lost their homes and to rebuild health and education facilities.

**To donate by post, send a cheque made payable to 'All We Can' to All We Can, 25 Marylebone Rd, London NW1 5JR, stating your gift is for the Vanuato Cyclone Pam Appeal.**

**To donate by phone call us on 020 7224 4814.**

**On-line : <https://www.charitycheckout.co.uk/291691/vanuatu>**



## **Boys' Brigade Drill & Band Champions 2015**

On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April, your Boys' Brigade Company, 10<sup>th</sup> Ealing, enjoyed one of its most special and memorable days.

We entered the London Band & Drill Competitions hoping to match our wonderful 2014 performance. The Boys, however, would not rest on their laurels ... they took a collective deep breath and played and marched to the utmost of their abilities: they each achieved a personal best for the good of the team, and what they achieved was astonishing.

We brought home the following trophies:

- **Best Bugler in London (Cpl Daniel Plews)**
- **Best Drum Team in London**
- **Best Drill Squad in London**
- **Best Overall Band in London**
- **Best Musically Accurate Performance**

We also took runner-up in the following disciplines:

- **Best Bugler in London (Sgt Michael Cummings)**
- **Best Drum Major in London (SSgt Nathan Howard)**





I don't mind telling you that all three staff members had tears in their eyes at some point: the Boys were amazing and their practice and dedication to the team ethic was breathtaking.

If you can spare ten minutes, you might like to watch this video showing 24 young men at the very top of their game.

<https://www.facebook.com/10thEalingBB>

or

<https://youtu.be/mOL-GCPWvYI>

Congratulations are also due to Drill Master and Band Master Mr David Lane, and to Bugle Instructor Mr Mark Tobias. The support from our Chaplain, from the church family and from the parents was hugely appreciated.

Awesome ... just awesome. We are beyond proud.

If you'd like to see the Boys in action, you are warmly invited to our Annual Display beginning at 7pm on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May.

**Tony Plews  
Captain**

### *The Guarding of the God of Life*

*The God of life with guarding hold you,  
The loving Christ with guarding fold you,  
The Holy Spirit, guarding, mould you,  
Each night of life to aid, enfold you,  
Each day and night of life uphold you.*

*Ancient Celtic poem*



JOIN THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE IN WESTMINSTER FOR A DAY  
OF ACTION – AND BE PART OF THE UK'S BIGGEST EVER  
MEETING WITH MPS ON CLIMATE CHANGE.

17 JUNE  
**SPEAK UP**

**FOR THE LOVE OF...**

**WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE 2015  
WESTMINSTER, LONDON**

Do not lose what we love to climate change,  
just because no one knows we cared.

Register NOW at: <http://fortheloveof.org.uk/speakup/>  
Or for more information

Call: 0207 802 9988

E-mail: [campaigns@theclimatechangecoalition.org](mailto:campaigns@theclimatechangecoalition.org)



## **May 31: Trinity Sunday – celebrating our God who is Three Persons**

Trying to explain the doctrine of the Trinity has kept many a theologian busy down the centuries. One helpful picture is to imagine the sun shining in the sky. The sun itself – way out there in space – unapproachable in its fiery majesty – is the Father. The light that flows from it, and which illuminates all our lives, is the Son. The heat that flows from it, and which gives us all the energy to move and grow, is the Holy Spirit. You cannot have the sun without its light and its heat. The light and the heat are from the sun, are of the sun, and yet are also distinct in themselves, with their own roles to play.

The Bible makes clear that God is One God, who is disclosed in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit. For example:

Deuteronomy 6:4 'Hear O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one..'

Isaiah 45:22 'Turn to me and be saved... for I am God, and there is no other'

Genesis 1:1-2 'In the beginning God created.... And the Spirit of God was hovering...'

Judges 14:6 etc 'The Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power...'

John 1:1-3 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.'

Luke 24:49 actually manages to squeeze the whole Trinity into one sentence. Jesus tells his disciples: 'I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power (the Holy Spirit) from on high.'

In other words, the sun eternally gives off light and heat, and whenever we stand in its brilliant light, we find that the warmth soon follows.

**One of the secrets of a long and fruitful life is to forgive everybody  
everything every night before you go to sleep.**

## **KINGSDOWN CLUB PROGRAMME - FOR MAY to JULY**

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. 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.

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>5th MAY</b>   | <b>PIANO PLAYTIME AND QUIZ with ROB CUNNINGTON</b> |
| <b>19th MAY</b>  | <b>A TALK by JUNE THOMPSON</b>                     |
| <b>2nd JUNE</b>  | <b>‘THE ENTERTAINMENT’ with BETTY and GLADYS</b>   |
| <b>16th JUNE</b> | <b>A BINGO and QUIZ AFTERNOON</b>                  |
| <b>7th JULY</b>  | <b>A TALK by JANET SMITH</b>                       |
| <b>21st JULY</b> | <b>SUMMER TEA PARTY DAVE ENTERTAINS</b>            |

**NEW PROGRAMME BEGINS on the 8th SEPTEMBER 2015**

### **Join in the VE Day 70th Celebrations!**

Following the General Election on 7th May, there will be a national three-day commemoration for the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe.



Photo: Open Gov licence

On Saturday 9th May, communities are encouraged to organise street parties and at 11am churches and cathedrals are being asked to ring their bells, as they did in 1945. Beacons will be lit from coast to coast, and on Sunday, 10th May, a service of thanksgiving will be held at Westminster Abbey, followed by a parade of Armed Forces personnel and veterans from the war.



## Walk in Aid of Children Unite

21st June 2015 will mark The Consortium for Street Children's inaugural Marathon Walk on the Thames Path from Windsor to Bourne End and back. This chosen section of the Thames Path is beautifully scenic and easy on the feet. We have arranged very popular and enjoyable places for your comfort breaks...

I will be doing this walk which lasts for 10K, in Aid of Children Unite AND ESPECIALLY FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST Child Domestic labour.

Some of you will recall, that Children Unite was one of my 2 chosen Charity for fundraising, during my term of Office as President London District and one of the Circuit Fundraising concern, was held here at Kingsdown!

If you wish to become one of my sponsors, a list will be on the Notice Board or you can Donate direct. My fundraising page is now live and here is my unique URL

<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/blossomjackson1>

I look forward to your support, if you can

Many thanks  
**Blossom Jackson**



**Ealing Flower Club** are looking to welcome 'new friends'. They meet every third Wednesday (*apart from December when it is second Wednesday*) at Ealing Town Hall (Liz Cantell room). 7.15 pm for 7.30 pm. Cost for visitors is currently £5.50.

More information from Mary Devlin e-mail: [mad\\_devlin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mad_devlin@yahoo.co.uk)

# Prayer at Election Time

Heavenly Father,

We need your wisdom at this Election time. There are so many issues, so many voices clamouring for attention, clamouring for votes, clamouring for power. Thank you that you give your people a different sort of power, the power of your Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. Help us Lord to receive your Spirit, to listen to him, so that we make good decisions on Election Day - and every day of our lives. Thank you for the wonderful gift of your Spirit,

In Jesus name. Amen.

By **Daphne Kitching**



**Ealing Live at Home** is an exciting new scheme to help older people in the borough of Ealing stay active and healthy in later life. The activities will also help people get out and about and feel less isolated and lonely.

Ealing Live at Home offers the following activities

**Grow and Eat** - Help to grow food and flowers in the scheme's garden

**Choir** – Come and sing, or rekindle an old talent

**Exercise classes**- Lots of different kinds of exercises to help you stay healthy and strong

**Lunch club and afternoon tea**- Afternoon tea and lunch club sessions to enjoy a healthy meal, make new friends and join in activities

**Information** – Find out more about what's going on in your area and get help with what you need to keep you independent

**Befriending** – Have a visit from someone in your home.

## Live at Home Scheme 'Taster Day'

There will be a 'Taster Day' for the MHA Live at Home Scheme at Greenford on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May from 10.30am – 4.00pm. If you would like to find out more about the scheme, how to volunteer and how to sign up for more information on volunteering, drop in any time during the day and meet some of the Live at Home team.

Refreshments will be available.

# **We take postage stamps for granted, but how much longer will we need them?...**

## **The Way I See It : celebrating the Penny Black**

I wrote three letters yesterday. That is such an unusual event that I thought I'd catalogue it. I printed them off my computer, and then looked for an envelope. I couldn't find one. Then I looked for stamps in the drawer where I used to keep them. Again, I could not find them. Undaunted, I put on my coat and walked up to the Post Office, where I queued to buy envelopes and stamps.

Initially, thinking I ought to stock up, I asked for forty first class and forty second class stamps. But when the clerk told me the cost, I revised my order downwards, not wanting to embark on a second mortgage. Then, armed with envelopes (addressed) and stamps I actually posted them, and sometime over the next couple of days my correspondents, who do not have email, will get a letter through their door. Job done!

1st May is the 175th anniversary of the Penny Black, Britain's first official adhesive postage stamp. Ever since then, we have been writing letters, putting them in envelopes, addressing them and sticking a stamp on. In recent years we have been spared the need to lick them, as peel-off stamps have become the fashion. The penny, of course, has multiplied sixty fold, like the biblical wheat, and, oddly, on the whole, letters take longer to arrive now than they did in the days of Queen Victoria.

What we are seeing now looks like the slow death of letter writing, which old'uns like me are supposed deeply to regret. To be fair, I do regret not receiving personal letters (I could do without all the others, mostly appeals, advertisements or official notifications). But I can't expect to get them if I don't send them, and almost all my personal 'correspondence' is via email. Sadly, I don't think people will one day be reading the collected emails of David Winter, or even of distinguished artists, poets or bishops. Letters will go the way of diaries and fountain pens.

Perhaps it's just as well that the invention of the internet is so recent. I can't imagine that St Paul's Email to the Ephesians would have stood the test of time.

**David Winter - Parish Pump.**

## *Top ten hymns for people of a certain age*

*It is well with my soul (but my back aches a lot)  
Nobody knows the trouble I have seeing  
Amazing Grace (considering my age)  
Just a slower walk with thee  
Count your many birthdays. Name them one by one  
Go tell it on the mountain ---- and speak up  
Give me that old timer's religion  
Blessed insurance  
Guide me, O thou great Jehovah (I've forgotten where I parked)*

*Janet Smith*



**ExCel, London**

**Halls S1-S4**

**19th - 22nd May 2015**

**10.00am until 5.00pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and  
10.00am until 4.30pm Friday.**

The exhibition and programme will include:

A unique exhibition of Christian resources with an anticipated 300+ exhibitors.

An extensive range of books, music and resources to buy.

The latest multimedia equipment & expert advice.

Over 100 practical and resourcing seminars.

The best in Christian theatre and music.

In fact, no other event provides such a remarkable range of seminars, workshops, theatre and church resources - this event is truly an experience not to be missed.

**- See more at: <http://www.creonline.co.uk/visitors/cre-international-london-2015/#sthash.zOciKIRG.dpuf>**



# HANWELL METHODIST CHURCH

Church Road, Hanwell, London, W7 1DJ

## PLANT AND CAKE SALE

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2015**  
**10:30am to 1:30pm**

### Including...

- 🌸 Bedding plants
- 🌸 Pot plants
- 🌸 Herbaceous plants and shrubs
- 🌸 Tomato plants, strawberry plants and geranium plants
- 🌸 Delicious homemade cakes

**Refreshments  
available**

*50% of proceeds will be  
donated to Christian Aid*

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





## PENTECOST

24<sup>th</sup> May

Do you know what happened on the first Pentecost? On that day what really amazed all the people was that everyone there heard the message of the Good News in their own language. You can read about this in Acts, chapter 2.

How many languages can you speak? We all speak English but most of us know at least a few words in more than one language. I bet you know some French, even if it is only 'bonjour' or 'merci', perhaps you know some Urdu, Spanish or Polish too.

There are so many languages in the world we couldn't hope to learn more than a few of them – but Jesus knows our language... He can speak everyone else's language too. His gospel can be translated into every possible dialect and tongue because, whatever words are used, that gospel is the same. It is for all people, everywhere. Jesus speaks to everyone in His own language.

## P - QUIZ

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

1. Paul wrote to the people of this town.
2. The Roman Governor who washed his hands.
3. Where the last book in the Bible was written.
4. Short stories Jesus told.
5. Goliath was one.
6. What Amos and Hosea were.
7. To begin with he was called Saul.
8. The Egyptian ruler who argued with Moses.

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**Where would you look for a lost vicar?**

The Bureau of Missing Parsons.

**What is wet, round, and taste of peppermint?**

Water Polo.

**What did the policeman say to the naughty frog?**

Hop it.



⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘⌘

ANSWERS: 1.Philippi 2.Pontius Pilate  
3.Patmos 4.parables 5.Philistine  
6.prophets 7.Paul 8. Pharaoh

## EVENTS AT KINGSDOWN

### MAY

Mon	8.00 pm Guides (most Mondays throughout the month)
Tue 5	2.00 pm Kingsdown Club - Piano Playtime & Quiz with Rob Cunnington
Wed 6	1-3 pm Babies & Toddlers Group (term time only) 7 pm Youth Group - Upper Foyer
Thu 7	3.30 pm - 5.30 pm CBSI UK Bible Studies in the Foyer
Fri 8	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)
Sat 9	10.00 am to 12.30 pm Book Fair with various stalls & Traidcraft in aid of Christian Aid (see p. 8 for further details)
Sat 9	10.30 am to 4.00 pm There will be a 'Taster Day' for the MHA Live at Home Scheme at Greenford (see p.22 for details)
Fri 15	7 pm Annual Boys Brigade Display
Sat 16	10.30 am to 12 noon Coffee & Chat - everyone welcome
Tue 12	Liz & Steve Palmer's Home Group
Tue 19	2.00 pm Kingsdown Club - A talk by June Thompson

**Refer to p.12 for further information about Christian Aid dates.**

### JUNE

The next meeting of the Church Council will be on Thursday 25th June at 8.00pm.

