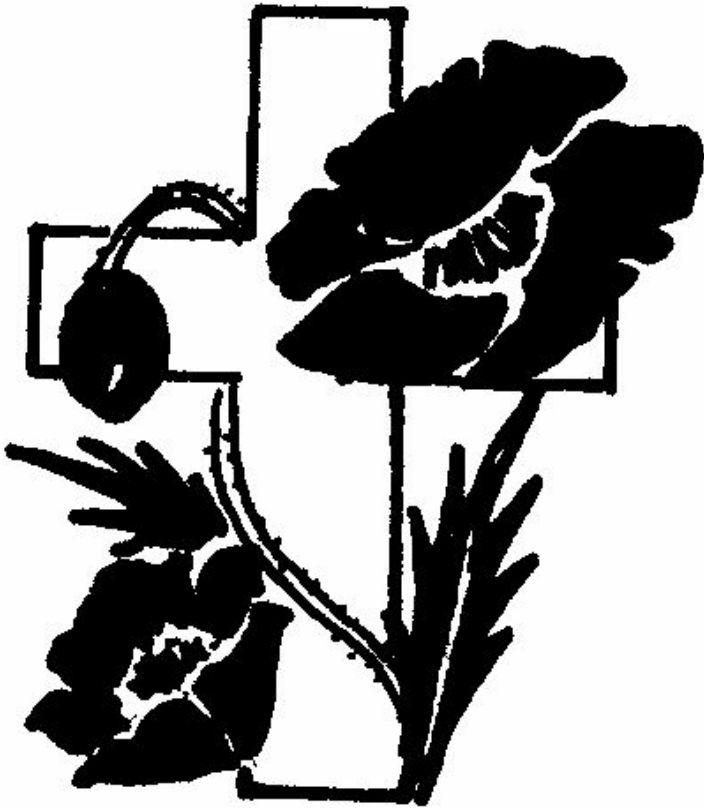




# KINGSDOWN MESSENGER



*November 2016*



## SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

6 Nov	10.30	Mrs Rekha Cheriyan
13 Nov	10.30	Rev Rachel Bending, Remembrance Family & Parade Service
20 Nov	10.30	Rev Rachel Bending - Holy Communion
27 Nov	10.30	Rev Randolph Turner
4 Dec	10.30	Mr Mark Budu-Manuel



### Christmas Services

18 Dec	6.00	Carol Service
24 Dec	11.15	Holy Communion
25 Dec	10.00	Christmas Morning Worship

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## Circuit Appointments

The Circuit is pleased to announce the appointment of Rev Randolph Turner as Associate Pastor and Will Quansah as Circuit Finance Administrator. Randolph has already started work and is known to many of us through his preaching at our churches. He will primarily work with the congregations at Acton Hill and Ealing Green.

Will is a qualified accountant and is currently treasurer for the Methodist London Mission North West Circuit. He will take up his post during week commencing 17th October and will be based at Ealing Green Church.

### The KINGSDOWN MESSENGER

Copy deadline for the joint December 2016 - January 2017 issue is  
Friday 25 November 2016

Editors - Pam and Alan Smith

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



Dear Friends,

I was teaching at a dance club recently when I noticed that the dancers seemed to be getting confused. Rather than flowing with the shape of the dance they seemed to be trying to remember each piece separately without seeing the overall picture.

As I watched I realized that this was partly because they were dancing so closely together that they were concentrating on not bumping into anyone else rather than enjoying what they were doing. We separated the groups out, walked the shape as a whole and then as if by magic the atmosphere picked up and people enjoyed the music and I had the privilege of watching beautiful dancing.

We are very often good at analyzing the minutiae of life, arguing and discussing the details of tiny fragments of belief or practice. How often do we allow the dance of faith to carry us so that we can enjoy the freedom of dancing to the music of our lives in the company of others?

It seems to me that in order to do that we have to be prepared to give each other space to move and grow. This means that we will value our diversity and different needs. That we will try not to step on each others' toes but give space for self-expression.

It means living with the spirit of the dance rather than following an instruction for each step and recognizing that the odd foot out of place isn't a disaster. At times it may mean that, like I did at the dance club, we may have to stop in mid-attempt, rethink and try again and realize that this is neither failure nor disaster.

I wish you an autumn full of joy in the presence of the dancing God.

With much love, prayers and gratitude

*Rachel*

## **Family News**

**Ivy Hanson** has recently been most unwell. We miss her (and her beautiful displays of flowers) and wish her a speedy recovery. Please remember Ivy, as well as others of whom you are aware in particular need of prayers at this time.



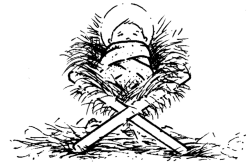
## **Can you help?**

**Northfields Winter Festival 10th December 4-8pm**

**Nativities Festival 25th November- 5th January**

Help needed to set up, run crafts, make and serve refreshments, meet school groups .

If you'd like to get involved please talk to Rachel.



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## **HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE SUNDAY 9 OCTOBER**

Many thanks to all those who helped to decorate the church for this occasion, especially as the theme of 'water' needed a bit of imaginative thinking in its interpretation! Everyone rose to the occasion magnificently. Thanks too to all who contributed donations for the Charity of the Year Appeal - Hope for Southall Street Homeless, and also the Kingsdown stalwarts who then helped to 'deconstruct' everything after the service to make the church tidy for the afternoon church's meeting.



## EALING CHURCHES WINTER NIGHT SHELTER



The Church Council has agreed that we can again provide a venue for the night shelter for the homeless on the four Sunday nights before Christmas (27 November to 18 December). Volunteers to help with any of the evening, overnight and morning shifts, with food preparation, transport for the folding beds and laundering bed linen and towels will be much appreciated by Sue Barton, our venue co-ordinator e-mail; [sue.garland6039@btinternet.com](mailto:sue.garland6039@btinternet.com), or tel: 020 8840 7704.

### Local charities - job vacancies

The Ealing Churches Winter Night Shelter is recruiting a Welcomer to greet guests when they arrive at venues, starting 25 November until the end of March 2017. For further details contact Project Co-ordinator, James Luckhoo, at [office@ecwns.org.uk](mailto:office@ecwns.org.uk).



## Kingsdown's Charity of the Year 2016/7 is Hope for Southall's Street Homeless

It is anticipated that the arrangements for COTY 2016/7 will follow a similar pattern to previous years - ie a Harvest collection of goods and/or money, Christmas fundraising including the Gifts Sunday, and finally the book fair in March 2017.

Further details about the Christmas donations should be available for the next Messenger.

**Olwen Britton**

***The people who tend to make a difference are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards; they are simply the ones who care the most.***

# BARN DANCE

Come and join us for  
an evening of fun!

12 November 2016  
from 7 until 10pm

Kingsdown Methodist Church  
Northfield Avenue Ealing W13 9PR

Adults: £5 / Children (12 and under) £3  
Light refreshments will be served

Ticket Sales:

Violet Cordon 020 8579 2637 Pam Smith 020 8840 4803

Janet Smith 020 8840 4803 Blossom Jackson 020 575 6181

Brenda Glassman 020 8846 9813

The **Barn Dance** promises to be a very enjoyable and social evening so do come along, and even if you can't get up and dance you can listen to the live musicians and watch our caller, Rev Rachel Bending, directing those who wish to get a little energetic!

## ***Junior Football champions again***

Congratulations to our four football teams who entered the West London competition on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October. Our Seniors were runners-up to a very well-organised squad from 4<sup>th</sup> Ealing. Our Company Section teams finished second and third behind a very strong joint team from 4<sup>th</sup> Hillingdon & 2<sup>nd</sup> Uxbridge.



Our Juniors, however, romped to glory for the second year running and secured our first trophy of the session. All of our lads were immaculately behaved on and off the pitch and were a credit to 10<sup>th</sup> Ealing at all times. Many thanks to the parents and friends who transported and coached on the day. "The Boys done good", you might say!

**Tony Plews, Captain**

## ***Churches Together in Ealing - Temple Visit***

Our next visit will be to the **Amman Hindu Temple** at 5 Chapel Road, West Ealing W13 9AE on **Sat Nov 12<sup>th</sup>** at 2.00pm.

It's full name is the Shri Kanaga Thurkai Amman Temple, and it serves a Tamil community. We hope that we can learn a little about Hinduism, and about the work of this particular community.



If you would like to join us, please contact **Noreen Barnes-Hoggett**, [noreen29@googlemail.com](mailto:noreen29@googlemail.com) or on 020 8997-4935.

***Many of the problems people face can be put down to saying 'yes' too quickly and not saying 'no'***



## **KINGS HALL METHODIST CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY**

A wonderful service of 'Celebration and Thanksgiving' took place at Hambrough Primary School in Southall on Saturday, 15 October 2016, in a specially constructed marquee, attended by about 300 guests and visitors, many of whom had attended the church in the past and returned to share their memories with those who still remain in the locality. The service was followed by a generous meal served in the school hall where an exhibition of photos of past members and special occasions had been mounted, resulting in much discussion starting with "do you remember.....?"



*The Birthday Cake*

The service was led by Rev Rachel Bending, assisted by other participants associated with the church. Kingsdown was well represented, and no doubt our Circuit Secretary, Gerald Barton, will be giving a fuller report in 'In Touch' in due course.

Pam Smith

*The full marquee  
for the service*





### **CHRISTMAS, CAROLS AND CANDLELIGHT**

Let's light the way for those escaping violence and conflict. Join Christian Aid's Chief Executive, Loretta Minghella, for an uplifting evening of Christmas carols, gospel music and festive readings on

**Monday, 5 December, 7 pm at St John's Church, 73 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8TY.**

Our main speaker will be the Rt Rev Jonathan Claric, Bishop of Croydon. He will speak about **Christian Aid's Christmas Appeal** on behalf of **Refugees**.

St Joh's is about 5 minutes walk from Waterloo Station and an easy journey is via either the E2 or E8 bus to Brentford Station, then direct to Waterloo.

A FREE ticket is needed for the Carol Service. I have train times, and if you wish to attend please let me know.

**Ruby Warne**

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#### **HOLY CROSS CHURCH**

Ferrymead Gardens  
Greenford  
UB6 9NJ

#### **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS Craft Market**

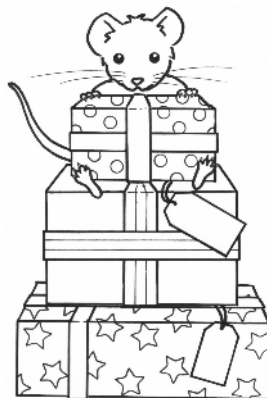
(To be opened by Steve Pound MP.)

**Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016**  
**11am – 3.30pm**

**Craft Stalls**  
**Home-baking**  
**Grand Raffle**  
**Father Christmas**  
**Children's Activities**  
**Refreshments served all day**

**Come and support our Craft Market**  
**Join us for lunch or refreshments**

**AND HAVE A GREAT TIME**



## ***Hurricane Matthew Haiti***

An estimated 1.4 million people require urgent humanitarian assistance as a result of Hurricane Matthew that reached Haiti on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

More than 60,000 people have been evacuated or displaced and at least 1,000 people have died. These numbers are expected to rise when the details from the more remote areas are included..

All We Can has continued to work with partners in Haiti since the nation was hit by a powerful and devastating earthquake that killed an estimated 220,000 people and left a further 300,000 people injured in January 2010. Our supporters responded generously to enable All We Can to reach out to communities in need at that time in the rebuilding of their homes, and more recently in the strengthening of health systems. In the wake of Hurricane Matthew further support is needed now more than ever.

**Kingsdown has responded well to this emergency and a total of £282.70 has been sent to All We Can for this Appeal.**





Methodist  
relief and  
development

## ***Extraordinary Gifts***

Practical gifts that help people in some of the world's poorest communities to become all that they can. From sheep in Ethiopia to a library in Nepal, find out how your gifts for friends and family can really change lives.

Simply choose a gift for a friend or family member from our selection and we'll send you a colourful card for you to personalise and give

Catalogues in the Church Foyer or ask Pam and Alan Smith to give you one OR go to:

<http://www.allwecan.org.uk/extraordinary-gifts/extraordinary-gifts>

Some examples -



£10 could provide a family in Ethiopia with half the materials needed to build a beehive.

The family contributes the other half and, coupled with training in good bee keeping and forest management, the tasty and good quality honey provides a sustainable year-round source of income.



£25 could buy a piglet and provide training on how to run a small business for a vulnerable woman.

Rani explains, "Now a lot of value has been given to me in the family by my husband and my in-laws. If my husband is not able to work for a day, I can still pay for the school fees for the children." Together with training on how to care for and breed pigs, it will enable her to take control of her life and give her children the best start.

## **Remembrance**

### **– 100 years after the Somme**



THE GREAT WAR  
1914 - 1918

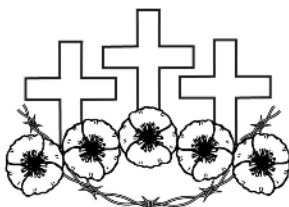
Remembrance Day this year will have a special significance. Almost exactly a century after the Battle of the Somme finally came to its inconclusive end (18th November) we shall once again be remembering all those who have lost their lives in war, or had their lives blighted by its consequences.

The unbelievable slaughter of the Somme – more than a million men were killed or wounded – made it perhaps the bloodiest battle of human history. The incessant bombardment of heavy artillery, the suicidal waves of attack by unprotected soldiers, the introduction, a few months from its close, of the first tanks in battle all contributed to the vast number of casualties, but so did the pointless efforts of both sides to break what was in fact a five month stalemate. This was a battle nobody won but a million men lost.

This year we shall once again make our prayers for peace and our reflective remembrance against a back-drop of a world that is stubbornly inclined to think that problems can be solved by fighting over them. In the Middle East and in parts of Africa there are still too many who believe that guns and bombs can solve things, when all the evidence of history is that they can't.

Today, a hundred years after the Battle of the Somme, historians still can't decide what the Great War was actually about. And the arrival of the Second World War in 1939 tells us that whatever anyone thought it was, five years of sickening killing had not settled it.

'We will remember them', we say. Surely the finest remembrance would be a world without violence. It still seems a long way off.



## **6 November - Illtud – patron saint of NGOs?**

Not many people have heard of Illtud, but perhaps we should make him the patron saint of all Christian NGOs (Non-Government Organisations) who work in emergency and famine relief.

Illtud did not set out to be an action hero – he was a gentle and learned abbot heading up a monastery in Glamorgan. Illtud spent his days reading the Scriptures and philosophy. Yet the year that famine struck the coast of Brittany, Illtud put down his parchments and became a man of action.

Illtud issued what must have been one of the earliest ‘emergency relief appeals’, and was able to collect a great deal of corn. Illtud loaded this corn onto several small ships, and set off across the perilous Channel in order to save the people of Brittany. Perhaps he had in mind the words of Christ: “I was hungry and you fed me...” (Matthew 25:35)

Certainly the people of Brittany never forgot Illtud’s kindness towards them: even today some Breton churches and villages bear his name. Many churches in Wales are also dedicated to this compassionate man.



## **Removing stickers and labels**

WD40 – or Water Displacement, 40th formula to give it its full name – is a versatile product that has thousands of different uses, earning itself a place in almost every toolbox, shed and garage in the country.

One of the many banes of modern life is that almost everything you buy now comes with a stock identification number and a plethora of health and safety labels stuck to it.

These are, of course, utterly impossible to remove in one piece leaving a sticky, papery residue if you so much as think about trying to peel them off.

However, a decent squirt of WD40 dissolves the glue that holds them in place, allowing you to wipe them off with a micro-fibre cloth without damaging or marking the surface.

## ***Good old Advent!***

On the last Sunday in November the Church celebrates Advent. In popular thought this is seen as the start of the Christmas season. Advent Calendars are on sale in the supermarkets. Christmas, our annual festival of excess, is just a few weeks away. Good old Advent!



I yield to no one in my enjoyment of Christmas, with all the trimmings, but where Advent is concerned I have to be a bit of a party-pooper. It's not the start of the 'run-up to Christmas', whatever the shops think. In any case, they've been 'running up' since September. Advent is a solemn but exciting reminder that Christmas is not the end of the Christian story, but the beginning.

The end, with which Advent is concerned, is the ultimate triumph of love and goodness over evil and cruelty. The final loving purpose of God will be achieved. The kingdom of heaven will lie before us, its gates permanently open. 'Death will be no more, mourning and crying and pain will be no more'. God says, 'I am making everything new'.

'Advent' simply means 'Coming'. The first Advent was Christmas, the second Advent will be when all that the coming of Jesus promised will be fulfilled. Yes, it's a bit more complicated than a cattle shed and a manger, but it's a wonderful prospect. Good old Advent!

David Winter

## ***Compassionate Father***

*You are Sovereign. Your plans and timing are not always easy for us to understand, but we trust you and know that you love us and only want good things for us.*

*At this time of Remembering, when so many are so sad, thank you for giving your only Son, Jesus, so that if we believe and trust in Him we have the promise of eternal life and re-union with all who loved Him too. We choose to believe and trust, in Jesus' name. Amen.*

***By Daphne Kitching***

## *A November Field*

*The tractor ploughs a lonely field  
Seen through November mist;  
Which, to the rising sun doth yield  
The earth is gently kissed.*

*The earth is gently kissed,  
And melts remaining frost  
But yet a chill does still persist  
For thousands here were lost.*

*For thousands here were lost.  
They fought for this same soil  
These thousands paid the awful cost  
In blood, and pain, and toil.*

*In blood, and pain, and toil,  
'Gainst shell, and gun, and bomb  
They fought, these men, courageous, loyal  
The Battle of the Somme.*

*By Nigel Beeton*



A minister's son, a musician's son, and an artist's son were talking. The artist's son said, "My dad can scribble something on a piece of paper, call it a picture, and sell it for £100." The musician's son said, "Oh, that's nothing! My dad can scribble something on a piece of paper, call it a song, and sell it for £200."

The minister's son looked at them and said, proudly, "You guys don't know anything! My dad can scribble something on a piece of paper, call it a sermon, and it takes up to six people to gather all the money!"



## **PERFECTIONIST?**

for friends and women

You will never ever find one, if you're looking for a perfect husband, or wife. The only hope for the imperfection is the transformation of a person. One quality is missing here and that is a God fearing husband or wife.

Finding a husband is hard!

You find a handsome one, the brain is empty.

You find a brilliant one, he looks too serious.

You find a rich one, he is disrespectful.

You find a hardworking one, he never has time for you.

You find a serious one, his ex keeps calling.

You find a humble one, he feels he is alright.

You find an illiterate one, he gets angry whenever you correct him.

You find a smart one, he lies every time. **SMILE!!!**

**Lita Requinton Stoll**



## **Who would it be?**

Three university graduates applied for a single remaining place on a popular post-graduate theology course, which could be a first step to them becoming ordained. The head of department and two practising ministers were on the interviewing panel.

In addition to the usual discussion about their background and calling, they decided to throw the following question to each candidate: "If you could have a conversation with someone, living or dead, who would it be?"

Two of the applicants gave the name of a well-known person who had impressed them, but it was the third candidate who was offered the place. His answer was, "The living one."

## Premium Bonds – launched 60 years ago this month

The first British Premium Bond was sold 60 years ago, on 5 November 1956 – to the Lord Mayor of London, Alderman Sir Cuthbert Ackroyd. On Budget Day the previous April, Prime Minister Harold Macmillan had announced the launch of the Bonds, which he said were intended to reduce inflation and offer an alternative way to save.



They were immensely popular: by the end of that first day £5 million worth had been sold. However, there was opposition from the churches. Archbishop Geoffrey Fisher was against them, and Hemsworth MP Horace Holmes said hundreds of thousands of churchmen had communicated with him and were “utterly opposed” to the Government’s policy. He added: “I am of the opinion that they have started on a scheme now which will have its repercussions upon the nation's moral standards and conduct.” Many, however, regarded the Bonds as in a different category from gambling, as you could not lose the money you invested. Others pointed out that you were gambling with the interest.

Winning numbers were (and are) chosen by Ernie – which stands for Electronic Random Number Indicator Equipment. The original was invented by one of the Bletchley Park codebreakers. It is now in its fourth incarnation. The prize fund in September this year was over £65 million, with £2 million given away in prizes.

Meanwhile, the nation has taken to gambling in a much bigger way with the National Lottery and its offshoots.

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### *One thing only*

*If there's one good thing I can do, one heart that I can mend,  
One teardrop that I can replace with laughter for a friend;  
One unsaid word that I can say to take away a wrong,  
One little thing that I can do to make a weak faith strong;  
If there's a kindness I can show, however great or small,  
My life will have some meaning - that's what matters most of all*

## *Empty words*

*Empty words*

*from those who live in luxury and despise the poor.*

*Empty words*

*from those who enquire after the sick, but never visit them.*

*Empty words*

*from those who offer hollow sympathy, but never weep with those in sorrow.*

*Empty words*

*from those who are severely critical of local and national governments, but refuse to vote, or to become involved in politics.*

*Empty words*

*from those who proclaim themselves to be Christians, but only take care of themselves and their own kind.*

*Empty words*

*from those who preach of suffering and sacrifice, but have never challenged themselves to experience either.*

*Empty words from those ... ..*

*Empty words ... ..*

*Empty ... ..*

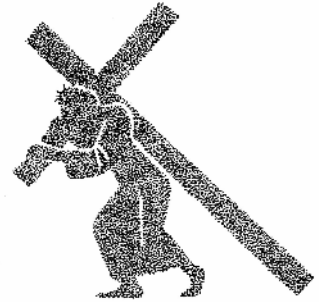
*And God, who knows our hearts, looks on and asks us to look again at the sacrificial love of Jesus  
and to fill our empty words with love and action.*

©Marjorie Dobson

***Don't bother much about your feelings. When they are humble, loving or brave, give thanks for them; when they are conceited, selfish or cowardly, ask to have them changed. (C S Lewis)***

## A bargain cross

In a jewellery store window of a large shopping centre, a sign was posted which read: "Crosses for sale, half-price." In our culture it often means very little to wear a cross. It can be an attractive, but meaningless piece of jewellery - not so much a faith statement, but a fashion statement. It may be just one more popular piece of jewellery without any clear symbolism.



Contrast our situation with some cultures where today where any evidence of the cross can cost you your life. In Nepal today there are many people in the court system charged with nothing more than being Christians. Recently a Christian named Abraham was killed in India by a hostile Hindu group. A Bishop in Indonesia returned home to find that Muslim groups had burned down many of his churches, and one pastor's family was burned to death within the church building. Christians today are the most persecuted religious group in the world, and the persecution is intensifying. Clearly, crosses are not cheap everywhere.

Jesus said, "If anyone wants to be my follower, he must deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me." In that context, a cross refers to some suffering or sacrifice that you undertake voluntarily out of love for Christ and concern for other people. Wearing a cross as a sign of our faith is fine, but that alone will not earn us a ticket to heaven. Those tickets are free gifts from God, paid for by Christ on a cross.

*from ACE Forum*

## **Acton Homeless Concern – Sleeping Bag Appeal**

Acton Homeless Concern runs two drop-in centres in Acton for homeless and disadvantaged people. With the winter months approaching they are appealing for donations of sleeping bags.

If you have a sleeping bag you no longer need you can donate it by taking it to Acton Homeless Concern at Emmaus House, 1 Berrymead Gardens, Acton W3 8AA. Sleeping bags can be dropped off Monday – Friday 9.00am – 3.00pm. For further information contact Kim on 020 8992 5768 or e-mail [actonhomelessconcern@yahoo.com](mailto:actonhomelessconcern@yahoo.com)

## **EALING CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARD SHOP (ECCCS)**

This year the ECCCS will be at the church of Christ the Saviour, Ealing Broadway, opening from Monday - Friday 10.00am - 5.00pm from Tuesday, 1 November until Tuesday 30 December 2016, and manned by volunteers.



Do try to pay the shop a visit as **every penny** from the sale of cards goes to the individual charities represented there. The 'shop' is situated just inside the main door of the church, on the left.

## **Making hymns more comfortable**

Someone suggested today's generation of modern church-goers might prefer hymns which can be sung without guilt, conviction or discomfort. Some of the titles could be amended to read:

Amazing Grace, how interesting the sound  
Praise God from whom all affirmations flow  
Pillow of ages, fluffed for me  
When peace like a trickle  
We give thee, but still think we own  
What an acquaintance we have in Jesus  
Blest be the tie that doesn't cramp my style  
I surrender some  
Standing on the premises  
Sweet minute of prayer  
Blessed insurance  
Onward social workers  
Avoid the good fight.

***It's no good telling me to act my age because I  
haven't been this age before.***

Kensington Singers presents

# Tis The Season!

*a night of heart warming carols and winter songs*

with special guests

**Capital Chorus**

**Monday December 5th, 8.00pm**

**St John's Church**

Lansdowne Crescent, Notting Hill, London. W11 2NN



£8/£6 in advance £10/£8 on the door (under 5's go free)

[www.kensingtonsingers.co.uk](http://www.kensingtonsingers.co.uk)

**Profits to Glass Door homeless charity**

Glass Door helps people end their homelessness, working towards a future where no one has to sleep on the street

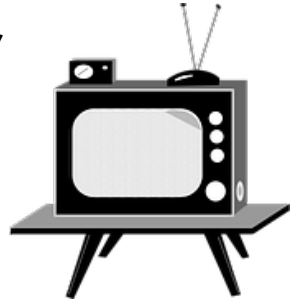


**GLASSDOOR**  
Homeless support in West London churches



## ***THE WAY I SEE IT: 80 years of BBC television***

Some things seem to have been around forever, and among them, I suppose, is television. Most people alive today can't remember a time when the TV set didn't stand in the living room. So it is worth noting that 80 years ago this month BBC television went on the air for the first time. I remember working in a studio at the front of Broadcasting House, and reading the plaque on the wall recording that the world's first television transmission was made from there in 1932.



It was not technically a 'broadcast', because in fact it was simply a successful experiment. Four years later regular evening programmes went on air from the BBC television studios at Alexandra Palace, north London. And look at it now!

Some people would say that we are now in the 'post-television' age. On the whole young adults don't watch television, in the normal sense, but stream or download the content when it suits them, on various 'platforms'.

World-wide, however, television is still the universal medium of mass communication. Elections are won or lost on it, reputations built and shattered, genius recognised and incompetence or error instantly ridiculed on social media. It is an unforgiving medium, yet most of us, I suspect, would miss it enormously.

I like to think of television as simply rather sophisticated gossip. Most of it is the sort of thing my parents talked about with neighbours over the garden fence. Only instead of 'that Mrs Jones at No.72' it's 'that woman with glasses on Bake Off'. We feel as though we know – and like or dislike – all these important, dazzling and gifted people personally.

Indeed, TV personalities often remark how people on a train or even in the street will assume they know them and start up a conversation. And why not? It's important, surely, that we treat television as an accessory of life, not its substance. Neither we, nor the people who make it, should take television too seriously.

**David Winter**



## **Local Church News**

**St Mary's Church, South Ealing**, is looking for a capable administrator to work, alongside their present Church Administrator. The role involves management of day to day church lettings, administration and some maintenance tasks of the church and church community.

Application details and role description are available to view or download from our website. Hours are 20 - 25 per week by negotiation, and salary £12,480 - £15,600 per annum with a probationary period of 3 months. The closing date is 9.00am on Friday 11th November. Interviews will be held from Friday 18th November.

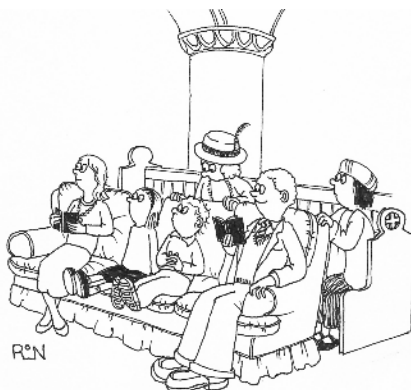
For more information and to apply go to: [www.stmarysealing.org.uk/](http://www.stmarysealing.org.uk/).

### **St. Mary's Church Almshouses in Ealing - vacancies**

The Trustees of St. Mary's Church Almshouse Charity have asked other local churches to publicise that they currently have one bedroom flat vacancies for retired individuals or couples in housing need with an active Christian faith who have resided in Ealing for the past two years or more.

Also available are two new flats designed for wheel chair users and one flat with a spare room for a live in carer.

If you know of anyone in these circumstances in housing need please direct them to the website <http://stmarysealing.org.uk/st-marys-almshouse/> for further information and to download an application form or contact Revd Steve Paynter on [steve.paynter@stmarysealing.org.uk](mailto:steve.paynter@stmarysealing.org.uk)."



*Regular worshippers were upgraded to first class*

## ***Martin Bashir becomes BBC religious affairs correspondent***

Journalist Martin Bashir, famous for his interviews with Princess Diana and Michael Jackson, is rejoining the BBC as its religious affairs correspondent. He takes over from Caroline Wyatt, who is stepping down after being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

Bashir, who last worked for the BBC in 2004, is also known for TV interviews with suspects in the murder of Stephen Lawrence. He said he "cannot wait to get started" in the role.

As correspondent, he will cover events and provide analysis on issues affecting different faiths both in the UK and around the world.

BBC head of newsgathering Jonathan Munro said: "Martin's track record in enterprising journalism is well known and respected in the industry and amongst our audiences.

"As a student of theology, Martin will bring immense knowledge of the brief to his new role, and an enthusiasm to cover the broadest range of faith-based stories."

Bashir said: "I am delighted to be rejoining the BBC at this time and in this subject area. The opportunity to cover the broad spectrum of religious affairs is challenging and compelling and I cannot wait to get started."

He first worked as a BBC news correspondent from 1987 to 1992, and then joined Panorama. He was there until 1999 and also presented BBC Radio 4's Sunday programme until 2004. He worked for Tonight on ITV before moving to the US in 2004 to host ABC's Nightline programme. In 2010, he joined NBC News as an MSNBC anchor and a correspondent on NBC's Dateline programme.

## Action for Children

This plaque was unveiled on the site of the first Children's Home to celebrate the 140th anniversary of Action for Children; in 2009: [www.actionforchildren.org.uk/about-us/our-history](http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/about-us/our-history)



Shocked by the plight of homeless children on the streets of London in 1869, a young Methodist minister, the Revd Thomas Bowman Stephenson, with the help of two Methodist friends, converted a disused stable block into 'The Children's Home' and took in their first two boys.



The organisation has since been known as National Children's Home/NCH (from 1908), and now Action for Children. Action for Children continues in close partnership with the Methodist Church.

Over time, their work has shifted away from children's homes towards community-based projects such as children's centres and intensive family support services, to support vulnerable families and try to prevent potential problems.



## St MARTIN DE PORRES

Martin was born in 1579 in Lima, Peru, the son of a former slave. He grew up in poverty and was taken in by a religious order as a servant boy. The monks looked down on Martin because he was mixed-race but in time his behaviour led to the Dominican Order stopping their racial limits on admission and he was made a full brother. He worked tirelessly on behalf of the poor, starting an orphanage and a children's hospital.

During his lifetime he was seen in other places. An African slave said Martin came to comfort him and many others. When the same man later saw him in Peru, he was very happy to meet him again and asked Martin if he had had a good voyage; but Martin had never left Lima.

In pictures, Martin de Porres is shown as a young man with a broom, since he thought all work sacred, no matter how lowly. He is also shown with a dog, cat and mouse, all eating in peace from the one dish.

## DOG, CAT & MOUSE

St Martin de Porres is often shown with mice because, according to one story, the monastery had problems with rodents and decided to put traps out. Martin was so upset that he spoke to the mice and agreed that if they would leave the monastery, he would feed them at the back door of the kitchen. From that day forward, no mouse was seen in the monastery.

Which of these animals do you think are actually mentioned by name in the Bible?

1. Cat
2. Horse
3. Dog
4. Mouse
5. Lamb
6. Frog
7. Monkey
8. Lion
9. Donkey
10. Ox



Answers at the bottom of the page.

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### How does a group of dolphins make a decision?

Flipper coin.

### How do sheep sign their letters?

'Ewes sincerely.'

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Answer: all are in the Bible except numbers 1 and 7, the cat and the monkey.

## **EVENTS AT KINGSDOWN**

### **November**

- Mon 8.00 pm Guides (most Mondays throughout the month)
- Tue 1 2-4 pm Kingsdown Club - Lynda Silk entertains
- Wed 2 1- 3 pm Babies & Toddlers (weekly - term time only)
- Thu 3 3.30 pm - 5.30 pm CBSI UK Bible Studies in the Foyer
- Fri 4 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 the month)
- Sat 5 10.00am to 12.30 Book Fair with cake/gifts/bric-a-brac  
stalls. Admission 40p. Proceeds to MHA Ealing Live at  
Home Scheme
- Tue 8 Liz & Steve Palmer's Home Group
- Sat 12 7pm - 10pm Barn Dance in hall at Kingsdown. Tickets £5  
for adults/£3 children up to age of 12 yrs, including light  
Refreshments. Live musicians/caller Rev Rachel Bending.  
(See p.6 for full details)  
10.00-16.00 Healing Retreat: "Refreshing the parts only  
God can reach", Ruislip Manor Methodist Church (see  
October Messenger or Church Notices for details)
- Tue 15 2.00 pm Kingsdown Club - The Season to be Jolly by the  
Reminiscence Road Show

### **Future Events**

#### **Nativities Festival**

**25th November- 5th January**



### **December**

- Sat 3 11am-3.30pm Holy Cross Annual Christmas Craft Market
- Sat 10 4-8pm Love Northfields Winter Festival