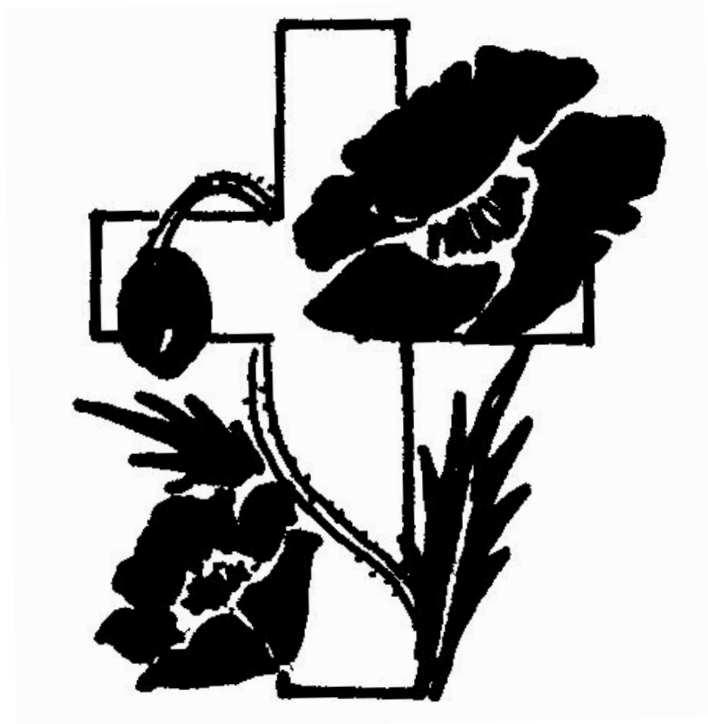




KINGSDOWN MESSENGER



November 2012

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them*

SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER - KINGSDOWN



- | | | |
|--------|-------|---|
| 4 Nov | 10.30 | Mr Mark Budu-Manuel |
| | 3.30 | Service at Hanwell House |
| | 6.30 | Mrs Rachel Kamara |
| 11 Nov | 10.30 | Rev Peter Catford, Family/Parade/Holy Communion Service |
| | | REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY |
| | 3.30 | Rev Peter Catford, Service of Remembrance for loved ones who have died |
| 18 Nov | 10.30 | Mrs Esther Ackah |
| | 6.30 | Mr Akin Phillips |
| 25 Nov | 10.30 | Mrs Blossom Jackson |
| | 6.30 | Rev Suva Catford, Holy Communion |

MAILING LIST FOR MESSENGER

We are very grateful to **Mary Osborne** for faithfully continuing to despatch the Messenger to so many people who maintain an interest in what's happening at Kingsdown. The stamps now being received for postage are much appreciated. However, there may perhaps be some on our list who would prefer not to continue receiving copies or, alternatively, might consider opting for an email version. Please let the Editors know if you wish any changes made.

Send the Queen a 65th wedding anniversary card!

Sixty-five years ago this month, on 20th November 1947, Princess Elizabeth (now Queen Elizabeth II) married Philip Mountbatten, Duke of Edinburgh, at Westminster Abbey, London. 65 years of marriage is quite a landmark in one's life, so our church may wish to get together and sign a wedding anniversary card from us all to the Queen and Prince Philip. If you would like to send the Queen your own card, please send it to: Her Majesty The Queen, Buckingham Palace, London SW1A 1AA

The KINGSDOWN MESSENGER

Copy deadline for the December 2012 - January 2013 issue is
Friday 23 November

Editors - Pam and Alan Smith



As I began to settle into this new phase of ministry I shared with you last month my, and all our, need to explore the art of stillness and reflection to be rather than to do. As I have done this over the last few weeks I have become more aware of those who God gifted me with to influence and deepen my faith in Jesus and encourage me on the Way.

At this time of year we are offered an opportunity together to remember those who have touched our lives in so many ways and we are offering the opportunity on the 11th November at 3:30pm at Kingsdown to once again mark this in worship. Here we will have time to remember events, people we have heard of, perhaps people we have known who were dear to us, but who are no longer with us. We remember their stories and sometime retell them to those who we meet. This is a vital part of our humanity and community for only when we tell the stories and listen to others that we have a chance to appreciate and understand one another better.

One of the privileges of being a minister in a community is when you are invited to take a funeral for a family. The majority of the funerals I take are for people who rarely go to church but still have a belief in God that doesn't find expression through what we do week in and week out. This is a challenge in itself.

It is when I come to write the eulogy that brief outline of a person that I am filled with awe and wonder at what people have done, coped with or been in their lives.

Perhaps this is a bit morbid. I find it fascinating to listen to families and friends as they share their experiences of others. I often get caught up in this over-view of their adventures, discover their true character, and reflect on the influence they have exercised in their lifetime.

That is the power of story to help us to remember and reflect. In the Bible we have the stories of how God has acted within history. They are there to help us understand God better, to develop a deeper relationship with him. In the Gospels we read the story of God's boldest act the sending of His own Son Jesus. Jesus, himself was no mean storyteller.

God is a God of story and wants us to tell the story of our lives and so to reflect on where God has been with us in it all. The art of Christian story telling is known as testimony and in some traditions still plays a major role in the life of the church community. How often have you started telling a stranger a story of your own and found they have something in common with you. This is why testimony is

such an important part of the Christian life for it not only reminds us of where God is to be found but also what we believe. It builds up community and invites others to relationship with God.

It is a powerful tool. We need to learn how to use and develop it not just for our own benefit but to give glory to God who is both the writer and main character in all stories.

Peter Catford

Kingsdown Family News

Congratulations to **Darren Watts** and **Angela Watts** who were married at Kingsdown on 29 September 1912. A full church celebrated with Darren and Angela. The service was led by Rev Peter Catford and included music from Elton John and, to exit, 'Bring me sunshine'. The hymns were 'Morning has broken', 'Give me joy' and 'Shine Jesus shine'. Thank you to all who helped out with this special day and please hold Darren and Angela in your prayers as they move into this new stage of their relationship.

Please remember in your prayers **Beatrice** who has cancer and mental illness; and the **Rev Cecil Smith**, his wife **Barbara** and their son **Alan**. (It was great that Cecil and Barbara were able to spend a few days away in Suffolk as well as enjoy a number of other celebratory occasions to mark their Golden Wedding Anniversary.)

Commiserations to **Gillian Brierley** who has been rather indisposed by a fractured knee; we do hope by now it is considerably better.

Sue Young is on the move to be nearer her daughter and granddaughter in Haywards Heath. Hopefully this will take place on 26 October and her new address will be 5 Priory Mews, Franklynn Road, Haywards Heath, W. Sussex RH16 4TZ..

There was a brilliant response to a plea for innovative ideas for decorating the church for the Harvest Festival services. Many thanks to all who turned up to help and for all the 'creations', to those who raided their gardens for greenery, or donated so much non-perishable food or money, and to everyone who appeared on Monday morning to tackle the dismantling and packing of anything needing to be distributed further. The Soup Kitchen was most appreciative for what they received. Amount of money donated for the Charity of the Year will be announced next month.

A short service was held on 4th October for the children of Corner House Nursery who brought gifts for harvest. About 20 children and four adults came to the church with gifts and a short service and brief tour of the church. Thank you to **Ken Pennells** who arranged this event.

On behalf of the **Catford family** thank you for the warm welcome to Kingsdown at the meal after the harvest morning service. It was a good time for us to meet you and the cake was a lovely thought.

Saturday 6th October members from Kingsdown were part of a group visiting the **West Ealing Islamic** centre. It was a couple of hours looking around the Mosque and talking with members of the community. The tour included a question and answer session by a local Imam. Thank you to all who attended to help develop relationship with our neighbours and in listening to others to understand ourselves better.

On the 16th October the funeral of **Daisy Rajaratnam** was held at Kingsdown. Daisy used to attend Kingsdown during the late 70's, 80's and early 90's but had been ill for several years. The service included the hymns Great is thy faithfulness and How great thou art, tributes were brought by members of her extended family and two of her grandchildren sang. The service at the church was followed by internment at Gunnersbury Cemetery. Please pray for Daisy's family at this time

Fielding school invited **Rev Peter Catford** to lead an assembly for the infant section of the school on October 3rd. The assembly theme was making others welcome and the 400 children were in the hall to listen to a story and make a very shy Penny the dog (puppet) welcome to their school community. It is planned that Fielding will be coming to the church in December, as in previous years, to look at a selection of cribs and hear the story of Jesus birth. Please pray for the preparations for this event as it is an opportunity to build on our relationship with this part of our local community.

Advance notice: Churches Walking Together

Revs Suva & Peter Catford invite you to join a prayer/gentle walk, followed by a soup lunch. Walk starts at 10am from the manse - 182 Church Road, Hanwell, W7 3BP.

Dates- Friday 30th November, Friday 28th December 2012.
All welcome.

Advent Bible Study & Worship



Come and share on Saturday 17th November, 4.30pm to 6.30pm at Hanwell Methodist Church.

Refreshments and fellowship, preparing for Advent, led by Rev Suva & Rev Peter.

Autumn Thoughts

It was a lovely Autumn day and so I decided to go for a walk round the Bunny Park in Hanwell.

The slight breeze meant that hundreds of leaves were swirling around in the air and I sat down for a moment to take in the sight. There were beautiful yellow, orange and rust diamonds being released from the trees in a riot of colour but as I sat and looked, I noticed that some trees were holding on to a few, still-green but withered, dry leaves that didn't seem able to break free.

It made me realise that I am just like those trees – holding on tight to the useless, almost dead, leaves of anger, indignation and resentment, instead of releasing them into the wind of God's Spirit so that they are whisked far away....leaving to me to rest, find peace and grow again in the Spring

Rekha Cheriyan

*So far today, God...
I've done all right.
I haven't gossiped,
I haven't lost my temper,
Haven't been grumpy, nasty, or selfish,
I'm really glad of that.*

*But in a few minutes, God,
I'm going to get out of bed;
And from then on,
I'm probably going to need a lot of help!*

Amen

*Dora Bryan
Submitted by Rekha Cheriyan*



IT IS NEVER TOO EARLY TO BEGIN PLANNING FOR CHRISTMAS



Staff at Fielding Primary School are well into planning for Christmas events, and they have asked our minister if once again they can bring the youngest children to see our display of Christmas Cribs. It appears now to be part of the school tradition, and Peter and I have been glad to agree. They will come on 14 December.

I'm seeking offers of help between 9.15am and 11.00am and between 1.15pm and 3.00pm. This is always a lovely occasion; the children are extremely well-behaved and get very excited. They come with several adults, but it's good to have 3 or 4 members of the church to welcome them and talk to them about the Christmas displays. Our minister, Peter Catford, has already led an assembly at the school, and will be with us to meet the children on 14 December.

(A Reminder from last month's Messenger ...)

Last year we had our largest collection of cribs ever, but several of them belonged to the Dunlop family, and will not be available to us this year. So once again I am asking friends to donate or lend a Crib. I noticed today that some are already appearing in the shops, but home-made creations are just as acceptable! One innovation of 2012 was the 'Knitivity' created by our members; perhaps someone would like to organise another group display. And if you have children or grandchildren with nothing to do at half-term, why not encourage them to create a crib, or a picture of the crib scene, that we can add to the display.

This year I am looking not just for crib sets but for representations of the nativity story in any medium - paintings, posters, hangings, books, puzzles, calendars - last year we even had a clock!



Ideas and offers of help will be warmly welcomed!

Kathleen Loveridge

There are some of your graces which would never be discovered if it were not for your trials. C H Spurgeon

Rejoice !!

Friends, we've had a great day of BB Football and come home with yet another trophy!



The Company Section Boys came third (hooray).

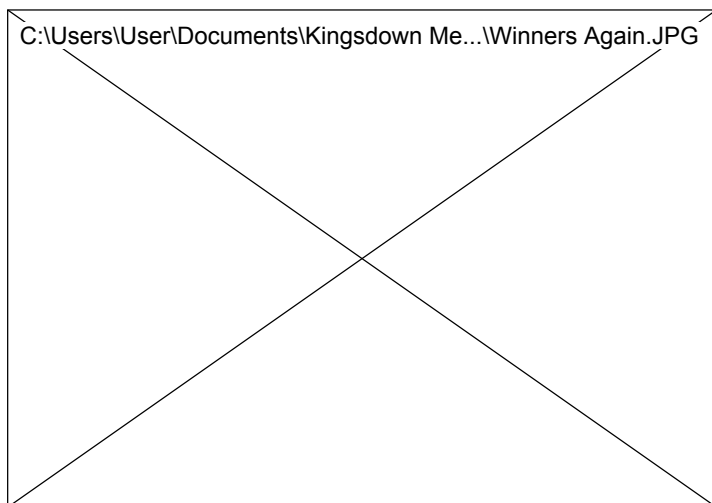
The Senior Boys picked up silver medals (bravo).

The Junior B Team were knocked out in the semi-finals ... by our own Junior A Team (yahoo).

And our Junior A Team played a blinder and won 2 - 0 in the final (YEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEESSSSSSSSSS).

The Boys were brilliant and composed themselves perfectly on and off the pitch. The football was top-drawer and the sportsmanship was beyond reproach.

The final scene as our entire twenty man squad raced across the pitch and swept our winning lads off their feet was an absolute triumph and one to treasure forever, the Senior Boys carrying the victorious Juniors on their shoulders. Glorious!



A massive Thank You to our Dad Coaches and the supporters and transporters ... but most of all, WELL DONE ALL OF OUR BOYS !

Tony Plews
Captain

Kingsdown Methodist Church, Northfield Avenue, W13

BOOK FAIR



Books



Cakes



Nearly-new

Bric-a-Brac

Saturday 3rd November

10.00am to 12.30pm

Admission 40 pence

All proceeds to:



'Methodist Homes for the Aged'
Housing and care for older people

Worship Radio

A new internet-based Christian Radio Station was recently launched, known as Worship Radio 247. It airs Christian Music and Worship 24/7.

Visit www.worshipradio247.org.



Ealing Churches Winter Night Shelter



This year Hanwell Methodist has agreed to offer its premises for the **Ealing Churches Winter Night Shelter Project**. The Church has offered to open its doors on the Friday/Saturday nights in the month of December thus enabling the project to be extended for a further month from that of previous years. This extra period will allow homeless people in Ealing to have shelter and advice for a 4-month period over winter as opposed to the previous 3-month period.

The project is looking for volunteers to help out. There are numerous tasks to be done and various times for doing them. If the project is not being run at your Church that doesn't matter, volunteers come from a pool made up of Church members from various Churches in the Ealing district. You can say what jobs you would like to help with and nominate what times and days you are available. So if you wanted to help out at Hanwell you could offer to help with cooking an evening meal for guests on a Friday or help with setting up the venue ready to receive the guests. Alternatively, if you are an early riser you could offer to serve breakfasts on a Saturday morning or transport some of the equipment to the follow on venue. Alternatively you can just put yourself down as a general volunteer for an evening, night or morning shift.

In the next week or so on Thursday 8th November at 8:00pm, a meeting will be held at Haven Green Baptist Church for those interested in volunteering for the upcoming Ealing Churches Winter Night Shelter Project that starts on 1st December.

It will take the form of a training evening but it is also important for people to register their services and the times and skills they can offer in the coming season. This also includes those who have previously helped with the project so that we have an up-to-date list of volunteers and what services they can offer. You must undertake a training evening if you wish to volunteer.

Each evening offers a different Church venue for about 12-14 homeless guests to gather to give them a roof over their heads, hot meals, a time to socialise and to meet up with advisers. Each venue has a nominated Venue Co-ordinator and it is up to that person to put together a team from the pool of volunteers for the evening. Thus, for example, although you may volunteer for Friday evenings, you may only be chosen for a few dates – other volunteers will cover other Friday evenings.

For more information, why not visit the website www.ecwns.org.uk where you can watch a video and see some of the local people involved and see what goes on. You will also see a list of the Churches involved in the project and the nights

they have been assigned. Please don't think that because your Church is not being offered as a venue then you cannot volunteer. For more information you can also contact from Hanwell Methodist Church, Ray Garnett on (020) 8567 6739 or ray@hanwellmethodist.info or Mary Blackwell on 07514 053294 or mblackwell@hanwellmethodist.info.

Although the project is being extended a further month this coming season, it is still looking for venues for three Mondays and three Tuesdays in December.

**"I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me
something to drink,
I was a stranger and
you welcomed me."**

Matthew 25:35

Ray Garnett

Ealing Churches Winter Night Shelter Project

Liz Moody, who oversees the Ealing Churches Winter Night Shelter project reports that *Alison Wood*, previously venue coordinator at St Dunstan's Church, has been appointed as the new Project Coordinator and will begin (in a part time capacity) in October. Alison will be full time during the months that the shelter is open.



New floods in northern India force 800,000 to flee

Recent incessant rains in the Indian states of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh (for a period of at least 19 days) have forced 800,000 people to flee to higher ground after flood waters breached river dykes and embankments.

Christian Aid has released £50,000 to help meet immediate fresh water, sanitation and hygiene needs in 131 flood-affected villages in the Dhemaji and Lakhimpur districts of north east Assam.

More than 34 people have been killed in the third wave of flooding to hit the area during exceptionally high monsoon downpours since June. More than 700 villages have been submerged in the worst flooding for three decades.

Ealing Charity Christmas Card Shop



**YMCA
St Mary's Road
London W5**

**Monday to Saturday
10.00am - 5.00pm**



**Sundays 25 November, 2,9,16 December
12.30pm - 4.30pm**

*Entirely run by Volunteers -100% money made goes back to
Charities*

National Service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph



HM The Queen lays a wreath at the Cenotaph (Photo credit: POA Phot Amanda Reynolds/MoD) The National Service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph in Whitehall is a unique expression of national homage devoted to the remembrance of those who have given their lives in war. It was originally conceived as a commemoration of the war dead of the First World War but after the Second World War the scope of the ceremony was extended to focus on the nation's dead of both World Wars, and in 1980 it was widened once again to extend the remembrance to all who have suffered and died in conflict in the service of their country and all those who mourn them.

The service at the Cenotaph is framed to ensure that no-one is forgotten. The wreath laid by The Queen and the other tributes placed on the Cenotaph are dedicated to all who have suffered or died in war. Members of the Cabinet, Opposition Party leaders, former Prime Ministers and certain other Ministers and the Mayor of London are invited to attend the ceremony, along with representatives of the Armed Forces, Merchant Air and Navy and Fishing Fleets, and members of faith communities. High Commissioners from Commonwealth countries also attend the ceremony and lay wreaths at the Cenotaph.

The service is organised by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport.



**Methodist Relief &
Development Fund**

EXTRAORDINARY GIFTS

**Full catalogues in the Church
Vestibule**

**on line at MRDF.ORG.UK or contact
Pam or Alan on 020 8840 4803**

Some examples of inspiring gifts - a great way to celebrate special occasions while making an extraordinary difference to some of the world's poorest people.

Simply choose a gift for a friend or family member and your donation will be put to use by an MRDF partner. For each item you choose, you'll receive a colourful card to give to your loved one. The card does not show the price of the gift, but it does contain an explanation of the small miracle that has been made possible in their name. There is also plenty of space for you to write your own message.



Equip children in Cameroon to grow - £8.50

£8.50 could pay for a watering can for a primary school in Cameroon. An MRDF partner gives school children training in better agricultural techniques, helping them to become catalysts for change in their community.



Nourish the next generation in Mali - £14

£14 could pay for the ingredients for cooking demonstrations in two villages in rural Mali. Training women in how to cook nutritious meals with local products is a great way to help solve the problem of chronic malnutrition amongst children and pregnant women.



Help an Ethiopian family build their herd - £26

£26 could provide an Ethiopian family with a breeding ram. Because of deforestation and drought, life is increasingly difficult for farmers in the highlands of Ethiopia. These rams help farmers increase the size and quality of their herds, and these hardy, disease-resistant sheep can then be sold for better prices.

**AN INVITATION
TO COME AND
CELEBRATE
JESUS**
**3-7 PM SATURDAY
24TH NOVEMBER 2012
EALING TOWN HALL
FREE EVENT - OPEN TO ALL**

‘Eat less meat’ – to help save the planet

It sounds ridiculous – how could eating pasta instead of steak matter to anyone but you? But scientists are now saying that Westerners need to cut half of the meat out of their diet, in order to prevent global warming caused by agriculture.

A recent study at the University of Exeter urges that the West needs to eat less meat (especially beef), recycle more waste, and give over more of our farmland to growing crops that can generate biofuels, if the world is to combat climate change. If we fail to change our lifestyle, we will be less efficient in food production, and in the future this will mean we are unable to feed the growing world population. Not only that – we are flirting with ecological disaster as ever more dangerous levels of carbon dioxide build up in the atmosphere – heating things up.

A ‘high-meat, low efficiency’ model will increase the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere by 55 parts in a million. Only a ‘low meat, high efficiency’ model will lower such levels by 25ppm – enough to keep the rise in global temperature to below the two-degree threshold, which is seen by climate experts to be the maximum ‘safe’ increase.

Taking a Stand

*I ask you to stand with me
For both the injured and the lost
I ask you to keep count with me
Of all the wars and what they cost
I ask you to be silent with me
Quietly grateful for our lot
As I expect you're as thankful as me
For the health and life we've got
I ask that you wish them well with me
All those still risking their all
And I ask that you remember with me
The names of those that fall
I expect that you are proud like me
Of this great nation of ours too
So enjoying all its freedoms like me
Support those upholding them for you
I hope that you are hopeful like me
That we'll soon bring an end to wars
So you'll have to stand no more with me
And mourning families no different from yours
'Til then be thankful you can stand with me
Thinking of those who now cannot
For standing here today with me
At least we show they're not forgot*

John Bailey



Acton Hill Christmas Fair

Acton Hill are holding their Christmas Fair on Saturday 10th November from 10:00am – 3:00pm.

There will be a variety of stalls offering food, toys, books, jewellery and gifts and a raffle with prizes including a £300 voucher for a professional photo-shoot, a £65 spa voucher, Crabtree and Evelyn products, Christmas hampers and many



Methodist Women in Britain London District



***We invite you to our District Day
on Saturday, 3rd November, 2012
at Walworth Methodist Church,
54, Camberwell Road London SE5 0EN***

10.30 a.m – 3.30 p.m

DISCIPLESHIP

***What does it mean to be a Methodist
woman in 21st century Britain?***

What is our calling?

***Come and spend the day with other women
from the London District as we explore these
themes together.***

***Tea and Coffee available from 10.00 a.m: 50p a cup or £1.50 for
the whole day!***

Please bring your own lunch.

Parking is free in the church car parks

Religion and mental health

People with religious faith tend to have better mental health than non-believers. A recent study, done at the University of Missouri, was carried out on the mental health of people who were recovering from various medical conditions. It was found that mental health “appears to be related to positive spiritual beliefs, and especially congregational support and spiritual interventions.”

Researchers studied people within the Buddhist, Muslim, Jewish, Roman Catholic and Protestant communities. Across all five strains of belief, results showed that a higher level of spirituality was related to better mental health and general sense of well-being. The researchers also noted that “the selflessness that comes with spirituality enhances characteristics that are crucial for a global peace... With increased spirituality, people feel a greater sense of oneness with the rest of the universe.”

*Teach the children to remember
(Deut 4:9b)*

*Teach them to your children
And to their children after them,
The things our eyes have seen
The things we remember
From our parents telling.*

*And as the anniversary of armistice comes round
See again those sepia soldiers and their sweethearts,
Who lived and loved and longed for peace and home,
Watch today, as widows weep on News at Ten.
And in the hopelessness of history repeated*

*Let's teach our children
Of a different death,
Of one who overcame the world and death's destruction,
Who rose and lives
And opens up the way to peace.*

*Let's teach our children
To remember Jesus.*

By Daphne Kirching

Government plans to cut betting machine stakes welcomed

Government plans to limit harmful betting machines have been welcomed by many churches and also the Evangelical Alliance. Reports suggest the government are planning to reject proposals to remove the cap on machine numbers and are considering lowering the stakes.

Betting shops are currently allowed four fixed odds betting terminals (FOBTs) in each shop and players can stake £100 on each spin and potentially lose £18,000 an hour.

Recent media reports suggest David Cameron and Nick Clegg have agreed to cut the limit, potentially to £2 per play. This follows a report from the Culture Media and Sport Select Committee earlier this year that proposed removing the cap on the number of machines in betting shops.

The fixed odds betting machines are played by six per cent of gamblers but are cited in 29 per cent of calls to the gambling helpline. These machines have also frequently been referred to as the crack cocaine of gambling.

Fixed odd betting terminals have doubled since 2007 to 34,000, bring in over £1.3 billion to the betting shops and account for nearly half their overall takings. Recent research shows that gaming machines are disproportionately located in areas with higher levels of deprivation, and the 2010 British Gambling Prevalence Survey showed those who are unemployed or on low incomes are more likely to have gambling problems.

BOOK FAIR - CONTACT A FAMILY

£255.00 was raised at a Book Fair (with stalls and coffee) held on 22 September and the proceeds given to Contact-a-family - Ealing and Southall.

It was good to have Jasbinder (Development Officer) and her delightful family with us. I know many of you spoke to her and learned of the extreme valuable work that she and her group are doing for disabled children and their families.

During 2012, Charity of the Year, at Featherstone High School, Southall, is also Contact-a-family! The annual Christmas Party for the disabled children will be held at Featherstone, and the money we raised will be used for presents for the children. (The last time we helped in this way was in 2008!) During December, a Carol Service will be held at St. Barnabas.

Very many thanks to everyone who supported the Book Fair.

Ruby Warne

The 2012 Olympic & Paralympics 2012

The summer in the United Kingdom ended with the eyes of the world, focusing on the Olympic & Paralympic Games, which has been widely acclaimed as the greatest games in 100 years. Certainly, the Paralympics proved to be the most successful games ever.

We thank God that the games proved to be safe, that the Olympic organising committee were able to pull off a successful event for which our country should be proud.

A 'feel good' factor appears to have infected people of all ages, despite the plethora of negative forecasts that abounded in the Press and airways before the games began.

More Than Gold – the churches response to the Olympics- proved to be the biggest and most successful endeavour since the Atlanta Olympics where it first originated.

Figures released showed that:

UK Churches gave 13000 hours of voluntary service to travellers by a team of 300 Games Pastors, plus Athletes Family volunteers, who met travellers and Athlete Family members at Airports and main train stations.

Athletes family members enjoyed over 2000 nights of free hospitality there were 160 hosts and 280 guests from more than 20 countries.(more details will be given elsewhere)

The response from Kingsdown and Northolt, numbered 13! My thanks to all who volunteered for home visits and the manning of the reception and welcome Centers. The Kingsdown group will be participating in the morning service on 25 September at Kingsdown- Theme: The legacy of the 2012 Olympic & Paralympic.

Future Diary Dates

MWIB London District Day Walworth Methodist Church	3 November
Medal 2012 event- Westminster Central Hall	10 November
Women's World Day of Prayer- Theme- Together in Prayer	1 March 2013
Women's Network Sunday- London District	3 March 2013
Daffodil Day Westminster Central Hall	4 March 2013
Circuit Easter Offering Service 2013 - Theme- Beyond the Harbour Wall	

Blossom Jackson, President MWIB- London District
Coordinator Athletes Family Homestay- Methodist Church

METHODIST HOMES FOR THE AGED

We are holding our annual book fair for Methodist Homes on Saturday November 3rd with the usual stalls for cakes, gifts and bric-a-brac. Any donations for the stalls gratefully received.



On Sunday November 4th we are holding our annual service for Methodist Homes. Envelopes will be in the pews for the Sundays of October 28th, November 4th and 11th and you are encouraged to give generously to this very worthy cause. Donations may be Gift Aided if required.

As part of the service we are hoping to give a (very) short playreading for which 7 people will be required. Also the minister would like to show a short clip from the Methodist Homes dvd 'Heart and Soul' so if you would like to help in the playreading or can loan a projector and screen please let me know as soon as possible.

MHA is a charity providing care, accommodation and support services for older people throughout Britain. It is one of the most well-established care providers in the sector and amongst the largest charities in Britain, providing services to older people for nearly 70 years.

MHA currently has various housing developments in north west London, namely care homes in Harrow, Kingsbury, Willesden and Wembley. Also a sheltered housing scheme at Willesden. If anyone would like further details I will be happy to provide them, I hope we can 'do our bit' to support the dedicated staff at this very worthy charity, both at the book fair and/or via the Appeal.

Olwen Britton.

Guy Fawkes – an early terrorist

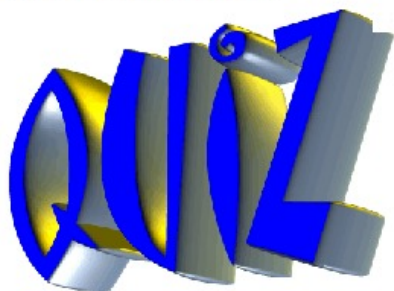
If modern security at the Houses of Parliament seems a bit weak to you, take heart, it's never been much better. Back in 1605 Guy Fawkes managed to stow a good few barrels of gunpowder under the House of Lords without anybody noticing.



He wasn't a member of Al-Qaeda, he was part of a Roman Catholic plot to murder James 1 of England and his parliament at the state opening. Fortunately, Guy Fawkes was found - and stopped - in time.

HANWELL METHODIST CHURCH

Church Road, Hanwell, W7 1DJ



Evening



Saturday 10th November 2012
in the main Church Hall
at 7:00pm

Tickets

Adults: £8

Children 16 or under: £5

Tickets include a two-course hot meal

available from Barbara Williams (020) 8991 1913

and Rita Mac Murray (020) 8813 1817

proceeds in aid of general Church funds

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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TORCH - Vision for people with sight loss



So often we learn something new because a friend, a member of our family or we ourselves suddenly discover life has changed because part of the body isn't working as it has been.

I have experienced a number of changes in the last two years as my left eye now only sees a thin curve of light on the outer edge. The blank area is inclined to superimpose itself over the other eye unless I close it. Great! Well close it you may think, but it isn't always appropriate to wink at the person one is talking to, especially the opposite sex.

I no longer drive and really miss the freedom this gave me in getting from A to B at my convenience and being able to give lifts to people. However, using public transport gives me the opportunity of meeting more strangers and I have lost count of the times I've been thanked for talking to someone.

One of the side effects of Macular Degeneration is depression, but I have only occasionally felt a little sad. I suspect this is because I have received so much prayer and now take this opportunity to thank everyone who has and still does pray for me. Thank you very much.

Kevin as most of you know (he who is seldom indoors) has provided the practical support at home, of locating things I've dropped, escort on countless hospital visits and chauffeuring at times.

A couple of months ago I received a copy of the magazine TORCH. This is a worldwide Christian organisation enabling people with sight loss to discover faith and lead fulfilling Christian lives. I didn't know anything like this existed and felt this was a good way of sharing what I now know with other Christians, as no one I've spoken to had heard of it either.

Lent Studies were provided this year in giant print, Braille and DAISY audio.

TorchTalk is a telephone friendship service which can link people throughout the UK helping to build friendship, support and encouragement in the comfort of the home. Each facilitator brings a to the group a biblical passage, a reflection, and creates a forum for sharing prayer.

Contact DAVID PALMER 01858 438272 for details.

Torch Holidays

There are at least two one week breaks each month with themes such as gardening, music of various kinds, sharing memories, walking, Biblical study, cooking and crafts, and shopping and a show in London.

These holidays give guests a daily opportunity to take time to think about their spiritual well being as well as being refreshed mentally and physically. Special weekends are held throughout the year for people new to the sight loss journey.

Interesting articles from other countries are included in the magazine. Those featuring the struggles of people in third world countries certainly made me count my blessings.

For further information contact:

Torch Trust for the Blind, Torch House, Torch Way,
Market Harborough, Leicestershire LE16 9HL

Or info@torchtrust.org or phone 01858 438260

*(This article by **Margaret McCarthy of Greenford Methodist Church** has been copied from their October/November magazine, as we are sure Margaret would have wished us to 'spread the word'.)*

Illtud

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.

I know not the way God leads me, but well do I know my guide. Martin Luther

The other side of the door

A very sick man visited his doctor in a small rural village. As he was leaving, he suddenly blurted out: "Doctor, I am afraid to die. You go to church on Sundays. Tell me what lies on the other side."

The doctor thought a moment. Then he said simply: "I don't know."

"You don't know?" protested the man. "You, a Christian, can't say more than that?"

The doctor was holding the handle of the door into the waiting room of the surgery. On the other side, there was a sound of eager scratching and whining. He opened the door and the patient's spaniel sprang into the room, leaping on his owner with an eager happiness.

Turning to the patient, the doctor said, "Here's your dog. He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here, and so when the door opened, he sprang in without fear. It is the same for me. I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I do know one thing: I know my Master is there, and that is enough. And when the door opens for me one day, I shall pass through with no fear, but with gladness."

Let's make 20 million Christmas trees more meaningful

Meaningful Chocolate Tree Decorations are now available and are an opportunity for parents, grandparents and Godparents to buy a gift that allows the sharing of the Christmas story while making the family Christmas tree a bit more Meaningful.

Each box contains a new limited edition Christmas story booklet, a nativity character sticker set and five hand-wrapped blank chocolate discs.

The Christmas story booklet allows adults and children to share the Christmas story while placing nativity character stickers on the blank discs. Once completed, the five decorations can be hung on the tree as a reminder of the real meaning of Christmas.

Each decoration is made from Belgian Fairtrade chocolate so the biggest problem will be keeping them on the tree for any length of time.

David Marshall, from The Meaningful Chocolate Company, says; "Research has found that only 12% of adults, and only 7% of people aged between 18-24, know the Christmas story. So these decorations can help adults communicate the essentials of the Christmas story to the next generation."

The Meaningful Christmas Tree Decorations cost £4.20, or £4 if more than 20 boxes are ordered at a time. Church orders can be made through www.MeaningfulChristmas.co.uk or exclusively from Traidcraft. Orders should be made by the end of November 2012 as supplies are limited.

Did you know? The use of evergreen trees to celebrate the winter season began before the birth of Christ. However, in Britain the custom of decorating trees to mark Christmas did not begin until Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's German husband, brought the tradition from his home land to Windsor Castle in the 1840's. 161 years later it's hard to believe that most of the UK's 20 million Christmas trees have nothing religious hanging on them.

(Editor of Parish Pump: In 2011 the Meaningful Chocolate Company launched The Real Easter Egg, the UK's first and only charity Fairtrade Easter egg to mention the religious understand of Easter on the box. By Christmas 2012 the company expects to have helped raise over £60,000 for charitable projects, as a result of Meaningful Chocolate sales. Find out more at www.meaningfulchocolate.co.uk)

Chocolate!

If you like hot chocolate, go ahead: it seems that drinking a cup at bedtime can help stave off memory problems. Certainly a recent study in Italy found that people who indulge in cocoa drinks had better memories, higher scores in reasoning tests, and improved blood sugar control than those who did not.



St HILDA

St Hilda was born a princess on November 17th 614 and was christened at the age of 13 with her uncle, King Edwin of Northumbria. When she was 33 she became a nun and in time she became the abbess (or leader) of a double monastery (where both monks and nuns lived) at Whitby in Yorkshire. And it was at Whitby, under St Hilda's leadership, that a famous conference was held to decide the date of Easter.



You know that Easter falls on a different day each year, but do you know that at that time the Celtic churches (in Ireland, Scotland and some of England) used a different way to the Roman Church (in the rest of England and Rome) to work out the date. This meant that in some kingdoms one group of Christians were still keeping the fast of Lent while others were celebrating Easter. The debate went on until finally it was decided that everyone would follow the Roman pattern.

CELEBRATION DAYS

The words hidden in this word search are names of holidays and seasons in the Church's calendar. The words go up, down, backwards, forwards and diagonally and some letters are used more than once.

C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	T
A	Y	A	F	A	R	L	L	R	N
N	N	D	E	S	I	A	N	O	O
D	A	V	S	T	N	E	L	G	I
L	H	E	T	E	I	T	S	A	S
E	P	N	I	A	T	U	E	T	N
M	I	T	V	S	Y	V	I	I	E
A	P	E	A	T	E	H	V	O	C
S	E	S	L	E	W	S	E	N	S
H	Y	A	D	R	E	B	M	E	A

Advent Ascension Candlemas
Christmas Easter Ember Day
Epiphany Eve Festival Lent
Rogation Trinity Whit



Whose parrot said 'Pieces of four, pieces of four'?
Short John Silver.

What is a ghost proof bicycle?
One with no spooks in it.

How does a boat show its affection?
It hugs the shore.

EVENTS AT KINGSDOWN

NOVEMBER

- Sat 3 10-12.30 Book Fair - Books, cakes, nearly new, bric-a-brac.
Admission 40p. Proceeds to Methodist Homes for the Aged
- Mon 5 8.00 pm Guides (most Mondays throughout the month)
- Tue 6 2 pm Kingsdown Club - Dave and Maria Entertain
- Wed 7 1-3 pm Babies & Toddlers Group (term time only)
- Fri 9 10 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 10 10.00 am Coffee & ~Chat in the Foyer - each week unless Book Fair
Everyone welcome
- Tue 13 Liz & Steve Palmer's Home Group
- Tue 20 2 pm Kingsdown Club - Christmas Bingo and Quiz

Other local Methodist Church Activities

- Sat 3 Nov 10.30 am - 1 pm Greenford Methodist Church Autumn Fair
- Sat 10 Nov 10.00 am - 3.00 pm Acton Hill Methodist Church Christmas Fair
7.00 pm Quiz Evening - Hanwell Methodist Church

Advance Dates for 2013!

World Church Sunday 17 Feb 2013

Methodist Women in Britain (Network) 3 March 2013

Christian Aid Sunday 5 May 2013



The congregation



A minister was considering a move to a busy town-centre church, and wanted to know what the congregation were like, and especially the church council. So he rang the minister who had just retired from that church.

The retiring minister hesitated a moment and then replied: "Some of them are wise; some are otherwise."