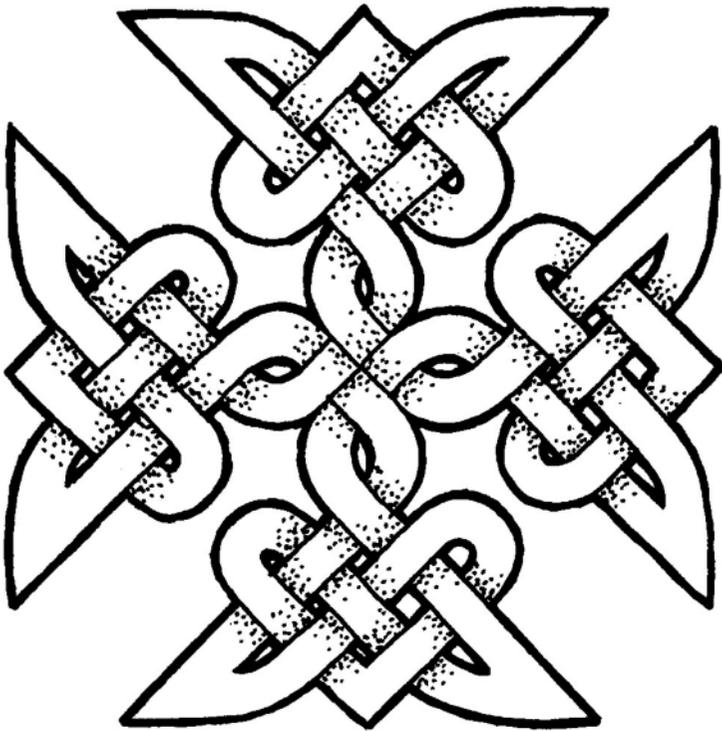




# KINGSDOWN MESSENGER



*September 2018*

## SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2018



### Sep

- 2 Sep 10.30 Mrs Rekha Cheriyan
- 9 Sep 10.30 Rev Susan Male
- 16 Sep 10.30 Rev Susan Male, Holy Communion
- 23 Sep 10.30 Local Arrangement  
6.30 **CIRCUIT SERVICE, HANWELL**
- 30 Sep 10.30 Mrs Esther Ackah



### Northolt



The latest edition of **In-touch** includes a note about subsidence at Northolt during the recent hot weather. Since the note was written it has become clear that the situation is nowhere near as bad as was first reported.

Following inspection by a qualified surveyor the building and the worship area in particular has been deemed safe to use. Whilst there has been some movement in a small part of the building which continues to be monitored, the surveyor also felt that with the return of wetter weather the movement in the building might be reversed.

from **In Touch**

The views expressed in articles in The Messenger are not necessarily those of Kingsdown Methodist Church or the Editors.

### The KINGSDOWN MESSENGER

Copy deadline for the October 2018 issue is Friday 21st September 2018

Editors - Pam and Alan Smith

E-mail: [magazine@kingsdownmethodist.org.uk](mailto:magazine@kingsdownmethodist.org.uk)



# What will we Unpack?



Dear Friends,

For me, and my family, the last few months have been a time of transition; saying goodbye to familiar places and people, then getting to know new places and new people. What dominated our time was the process of packing and unpacking boxes, finding new homes for things in a new house, and deciding what is no longer of use to us. This resulted in numerous visits to the charity shops and long hauls to the dump. In a metaphorical sense, I suspect that this sorting, the packing and unpacking of boxes, will continue for quite some time.

Right now, as I'm writing this, I've decided what to take out of the "me" box to introduce myself to all of you.

I am married to Phil, and together we have two adult children; Charis who lives in Plymouth, and Michael who studies in Aberystwyth and spends holidays with us. Phil is a civil servant and will become known to you as he begins to preach in the circuit as a Local preacher.

I have served in the Harrow and Hillingdon Circuit of the Methodist church for the last 10 years, during that time having had pastoral charge of four of the churches in that Circuit. Before that I stayed at home with my children. And before that I was a primary school teacher in a multicultural school in London.

If we unpacked a little the box of what has been important to me so far in my ministry we'd discover a passion for:

- ecumenism and interfaith relations
- preaching
- trying to find ways to make church accessible to all
- helping churches to pray and to develop prayer life together and individually
- leading and participating in services of Holy Communion
- working with small groups to go deeper into faith
- working with children and youth- in youth clubs all age worship, toddler groups, holiday clubs and schools.

and no doubt, much more as well.

You too will be wanting to unpack your boxes as we start to get to know one another.

- What has been important to you as a church? ... and as an individual child of God?
- What do you want to continue and develop?
- What might you think about taking to the metaphorical dump?
- What would you like **me** to include in **my** ministry in this place?

Together we will unpack our boxes, and go forward in ministry together - sometimes in well-trodden ways, it's true - but we will also have a new box, ready for those ideas and plans that are barely thought of yet but which, with God, we will as a church explore together.



You will probably already know that I am sight impaired. This mostly affects my ability to read print, and my ability to recognise faces. Neither are insurmountable, but I would be greatly aided in ministry with you if - wherever possible - you could send me written communications electronically (MS Word is easier than PDF), and if and when you see me in church or in the street - for the first couple of months or so - you remind me who you are, until I have - quite soon - found a way to recognise you without seeing your face. You will be surprised!

I am delighted to be in the Ealing Trinity Circuit, looking forward to getting to know you and above all finding out what God has in store for us all together.

With Prayers

*Sue*

**Prayer is important when things get hard and you find it difficult to keep going. It's also worth remembering it's often the last key in the bunch that opens the lock.**

# Family News

At the Morning Service on Sunday, 22 July, the baptism of **Jordan Maxwell Hodge-Amouzougan**, son of Sheridanne and Godfrey, was celebrated by family and friends. Jordan Maxwell is the grandson of Faith and Leroy Hodge, and the church family were delighted to welcome him and to be a part of this very special event.



From **Annegret** and **Derek Matthews**:

For anyone we haven't managed to speak to over the summer, here is a brief update regarding **Elisabeth** and **Caroline**.

Many of you will know that, after graduating with an MSci in Physics, Elisabeth moved to the University of Exeter for more studies in the Department of Astrophysics. After four years' work she successfully defended her PhD thesis at the end of June and is now 'Dr Elisabeth Matthews'. She has just moved to the USA to work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston, continuing the search for planets in other solar systems.

Meanwhile Caroline is settling down in Norwich. She has just graduated with a BSc in Mathematics from the University of East Anglia, UEA. She is about to start a postgraduate teaching course (PGCE) at UEA and is looking forward to becoming a secondary school maths teacher in due course.

*(Congratulations from the church family to both Elizabeth and Caroline on their achievements and wish them success in their chosen careers.)*



We are delighted to report that **Eileen Tobias** has had a successful left knee replacement operation on Tuesday, 21 August, and came home the following Saturday. We wish her a speedy recovery and look forward to welcoming her back into the fold in the not too distant future.

Commiserations to **Violet Cordon** on fracturing her ankle in a fall on the pavement whilst out shopping. She's in a 'boot' and advised not to put

weight on the leg anymore than absolutely essential for at least four weeks. We wish her well and will look forward to seeing her in the fullness of time.



We were sorry to learn that **Evelyn Sangster** had been admitted to hospital following a fall and wish her a speedy recovery.

Please remember all our absentees in your prayers.



On behalf of the church family, we are very pleased to welcome the **Rev Susan Male** as Kingsdown's new Minister starting in September, and thank her for her prompt response to our request for an introductory letter for this issue of the Messenger (in spite of an obviously really busy time arranging for the move to a new manse). We look forward to receiving future contributions.



No doubt many of you will be interested in the following letter received from our late organist Patryk:

Dear Gerald,

As promised, here I inform you about my results. I think I have been blessed with such a nice set of results.

Further Maths A

Maths A\*

Music A\*

Physics A.

Unfortunately, I can no longer study maths as an A\* was required in the Further Pure modules, however, I may end up doing music, and have the perfect results to do so! Don't know however, as I don't really like the courses I've seen. Do feel free to spread the good news with anyone concerned.

**With Best Wishes,  
Patryk**

# Certainty in an Uncertain World

Many years ago, I remember my Grandma saying, 'Whatever is the world coming to'. As a teenager, I found it amusing that my Grandma found the 20th Century world so difficult to understand, that some events somehow threw her off-balance. I wonder what she'd make of the 21st Century and the many changes that have taken place since she died. However events over the past few months may have left some of us, rather like my Grandma, wondering what the world is coming to. It may be the political uncertainty and turmoil of Brexit and Donald Trump as president of the USA; the continuing conflict in Syria, Iraq and elsewhere; or recent natural disasters, but the world seems to be an uncertain, unpredictable and often dangerous place. It is almost as if our ability to understand the world has been through some seismic shock so that, if we are not careful, it can undermine our optimism for the future.

An ancient Chinese curse says: 'may you live in interesting times', with the word 'interesting' implying difficult or uncertain. I think many journalists or commentators today would classify recent global history as 'interesting'. Because we are now much more globally aware than we were even 20 years ago, all this 'interesting' news is often immediately available world-wide, almost in real time as it happens.

Perhaps we should remember that the world has always been unpredictable and uncertain. History, no matter how far back you go, has plenty of examples of turmoil, conflict and political uncertainty. This was as true of 1st century Palestine and the world of Jesus and his disciples as it is for us today. Their country was occupied by a foreign army, with puppet rulers intent on securing obedience to Rome, often at any cost. With religious and political division, safety and security were by no means certain. Yet out of that world and environment came a tangible and human reminder of the certainties of God's promises. Indeed there came the new promises that we as Christians have as the basis of our faith.

Our modern world is far from ideal. Often things that happen are difficult to understand, but as Lamentations 3 reminds us: 'The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning ...'

In amongst the human uncertainty of our world, let us try to hold on to the certainty of God's steadfast and unconditional love. For us, as for all

the Christians who have come before us, keeping sight of God's promises will enable us to face uncertainty with confidence and optimism instead of despair and despondency.

**Martyn Lawson - ACE Forum**

**ALL WE CAN (MRDF) BOOK FAIR  
SATURDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER 2018  
10.00 am to 12.30 pm**



"ALL WE CAN" is the Methodist Church's own charity arm and we are fortunate to have a number of supporters within the church family who give throughout the year. The proceeds from the annual Book Fair adds to these funds.

As usual at this time, we are in urgent need of support from those able to assist by offering help on the various stalls, donating suitable items for sale, or baking cakes for a cake stall (always a popular attraction). Even if you are not able to provide donations, please do come along on the Saturday to have a cup of tea and biscuit, and perhaps buy a few of the sale items.

*(Pam is particularly in need of some extra help this year having had a fall and managing to get a fracture in her left hip – the site of her fairly recent hip replacement and a requirement that she stay off the leg as much as possible for the next four weeks!)*

We are grateful to Ruby Warne who has been busy coordinating all the various elements that contribute towards the successful running of these events.

**PLEASE GIVE US YOUR YOUR SUPPORT IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.**

**Pam & Alan Smith**

**In Church on Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> September you will find  
Gift aid envelopes for the All We Can 2018 Harvest Appeal.**

Kingsdown Methodist Church, Northfield Avenue, W13

# BOOK FAIR



**Books**

**Cakes**

**Toiletries**

**Bric-a-Brac**

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>  
September**

**10.00am to 12.30pm**

Proceeds to:



Methodist  
relief and  
development

**The next time you feel like complaining  
.....remember: Your rubbish bin probably has better  
food in it than 30 percent of the people in this world.**

# Boys' Brigade Camp 2018

During the second week of the summer holidays, 10th Ealing BB set off in two minibuses and several cars for our 49th Annual Summer Camp.



Our destination this year was Swanage and we arrived on a sunny but blustery Saturday afternoon. Once unpacked, we dashed off to the beach to sample the sand and sea (and an ice cream) while many of the staff remained on site to ensure the hatches were well battened down for the storm due to arrive during the night. Sure enough, as predicted, 50mph winds and driving rain hit before dawn. We were well prepared and had booked Sunday in the local swimming pool and sports centre to ensure the lads' safety.



A dedicated team led by David Lane stayed in the field and fought for several hours in dreadful conditions to keep the canvas upright -- what a heroic effort! When the Boys returned at dinner time, the storm had calmed a little and all was well.

From this point onwards, the weather improved each day and we were able to carry out our planned activities. On Monday we played sports and then took the Boys for a hike along the spectacular (and slightly scary) Dancing Ledge, and the Seniors also completed a Night Drop after midnight. Tuesday was wonderfully sunny so we spent much of the day playing water fights and zipping down a makeshift water slide (staff too!) in our field. We also found time for another visit to the beach and played football in the park.

On Wednesday, the Seniors went Paintballing (painful but fun) and the younger lads spent a pleasant afternoon boating in Wareham (thankfully, no one fell in!). We also had a visit from ex-chaplain Roger Dunlop today and it was lovely to welcome him back to the fold. After dinner, we travelled back to the park to play evening cricket, drink hot chocolate and enjoy the Swanage Carnival Firework Display.

Thursday is always our big day out at Camp and, as ever, we went to Splashdown in Poole to sample the amazing water slides -- it's always a real highlight of the week and the Boys love it. We then spent a couple of hours in Poole and returned to Camp for a leisurely barbecue in the late-afternoon sunshine.

For our final day, we popped down for a last dip in the sea and spent the afternoon competing in the Camp Olympics, all Boys hoping to gain extra points for their team before the prize-giving on Friday night. The traditional last night party was as wonderful as ever -- many Boys performed for the assembled Camp and the singing and dancing was glorious.

Our theme for the week was Pirates and we encouraged every Camper to think about Peter Pan, the Boy who wouldn't grow up. During our Evening Devotions, the staff linked this to Jesus' instruction that all who enter the Kingdom must do so as a child. As Last Post sounded at 10pm on Friday, the Captain brought together all of the talks and themes and offered a place in the Kingdom to all in the marquee.

It was a happy, safe and God-filled week of Camping and we thank all who were able to pray for the success of this venture. If you'd like to see some photos of our week then please go to:

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

We will be having a one-hour Camp photo show at Kingsdown in the church beginning at 9pm on Friday 14th September and all are welcome to attend.

**Tony Plews**



**ALL  
WE  
CAN**

Methodist  
relief and  
development

## 2018 Harvest Appeal Let YOUR light shine



**In Church on Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> September you will find Gift aid envelopes for the All We Can 2018 Harvest Appeal.**

Malawi is one of the most impoverished countries in the world. While making progress, having held five peaceful presidential elections since 1993 and achieved steady growth in GDP, around 50% of the population still live below the international poverty line. One of the many problems in Malawi that have contributed to such a high poverty rate is an over-reliance on subsistence farming.

In Nsanje District, in southern Malawi, All We Can is working in partnership with the local organisation, Churches Action in Relief and Development (CARD). Together, they are introducing solar irrigation, equipping people with modern farming techniques and providing seeds and fertiliser, helping families produce better harvests. The communities in Malawi are representative of the kind of impact All We Can is having across the world. By donating to All We Can's Harvest Appeal, you will be helping people in these communities, and others in some of the world's poorest places to find solutions to poverty.

# Change happens when we all work together

All We Can helps find solutions to poverty by engaging with local people and organisations in some of the world's poorest communities to end the suffering caused by inequality and injustice.

To do this we:

Support and strengthen local partners – organisations, churches, emerging initiatives and inspiring individuals that share our vision and values – to implement effective and sustainable solutions with some of the world's poorest and least served communities

Respond to humanitarian crises with emergency relief and help communities to be better prepared for disasters

Engage in global education to inform, challenge and motivate people to take a stance against poverty and injustice.

*Women  
working  
together in  
unity in Irbid,  
Jordan.*



# CHRISTIAN AID NEWS RICHMOND RIVERSIDE SPONSORED WALK



This very popular annual event will be held on SATURDAY 29 SEPTEMBER and three supporters from Kingsdown will be taking part. A long walk of 8 miles, or a short walk of three miles – you have your choice!

Information packs are available and, if you are interested, please let me know and I will forward your name to Justice Onwuka, who is in charge of this event.

**Ruby Warne**

## *Words for today*

*The Lord is my pace-setter, I shall not rush,  
He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals.  
He provides me with images of stillness, which restore my serenity.  
He leads me in ways of efficiency through calmness of mind,  
And His guidance is peace.*

*Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day,  
I will not fret for His presence is here.  
His timelessness, His all-importance will keep me in balance.  
He prepares refreshment and renewal in the midst of my activity.  
By anointing my mind with His oils of tranquility;  
My cup of joyous energy overflows.*

*Surely harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruits of my hours.  
For I shall walk in the pace of my Lord and dwell in His house  
forever.*

*Translation of Psalm 23 by Taki Miyashina*

**KINGSDOWN CLUB  
PROGRAMME  
For  
SEPTEMBER to DECEMBER 2018**

MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AND ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. WE MEET IN THE FOYER OF THE CHURCH ON THE CORNER OF KINGSDOWN AVENUE/ NORTHFIELD AVENUE FROM 2.00 TO 4.00PM

TRANSPORT IS AVAILABLE FOR ANYONE WHO SHOULD NEED IT. PLEASE CONTACT EILEEN TOBIAS [TEL.0208 567 4205 FOR DETAILS.

**SEPT 4<sup>th</sup> A BINGO and QUIZ AFTERNOON**

**SEPT 18<sup>th</sup> AND THE WHEELS WENT ROUND AND ROUND by the REMINISCENCE ROAD SHOW**

**OCT 2<sup>nd</sup> DAVE PLAYS FOR US**

**OCT 16<sup>th</sup> THE SOUTHBOURNE SONGBIRDS ENTERTAIN US**

**NOV 6<sup>th</sup> to be advised**

**NOV 20<sup>th</sup> LYNDA SILK sings and plays for us**

**DEC 4<sup>th</sup> A CHRISTMAS PIC AND MIX with ALAN SMITH**

**DEC 18<sup>th</sup> THE CHRISTMAS TEA PARTY DAVE ENTERTAINS**

**THE NEW PROGRAMME BEGINS 8TH JAN 2019**

**HANWELL METHODIST CHURCH**  
**Saturday 29th September 2018**  
**7:00 - 10:30pm**

*Including a 2-course meal*



**Barn Dance**  
**LIVE BAND AND CALLER**

*In the Church Hall, Church Road, W7 1DJ*  
*Tickets including 2-course meal*

*Adults: £10*

*Children under 15: £6*

**Tickets available from:**

**Gill Standfield: (020) 8567 4018**

**Rita Mac Murray: (020) 8813 1871**

**Ticket numbers are limited**

*In aid of the  
Church premises'  
refurbishment  
programme*

## *Doing it your way*

*Believe while others are doubting.  
Plan while others are playing.  
Study while others are sleeping.  
Decide while others are delaying.  
Prepare while others are daydreaming.  
Begin while others are procrastinating.  
Work while others are wishing.  
Save while others are wasting.  
Listen while others are talking.  
Smile while others are frowning.  
Commend while others are criticising.  
Persist while others are quitting.*

*William Arthur Ward*

## *If there is to be peace*

*If there is to be peace in the world,  
there must be peace in the nations.*

*If there is to be peace in the nations,  
there must be peace in the cities.*

*If there is to be peace in the cities,  
there must be peace between neighbours.*

*If there is to be peace between neighbours,  
there must be peace in the home.*

*If there is to be peace in the home,  
there must be peace in the heart.*

*(Lao Tzu (570-490 BC))*

# September Prayer

Dear Father,

September again! How quickly the months roll by. How quickly our lives move forward. Help us this September to welcome the new starts in our every-day lives – the new school year, the new clubs and activities for all ages that start up again this month. There are so many opportunities, so much to keep us busy. Help us Lord, this September to commit each new day and each new activity to you, aware that every day is a gift from you. Help us to choose wisely how we spend the time you give us and to reflect your love and generosity and kindness to those we meet each day. In Jesus name, **Amen.**

**Daphne Kitching**

## A simple Sunday morning prayer

Lord, our very being here today is a prayer.

By being here we say 'We love you, Lord' and appreciate all you have done in saving us from our sins.

By being here we say 'Thank you, Lord' because we are aware of all the daily blessings you shower on our lives.

By being here we say 'Use us, Lord' because we are offering ourselves again to your service, and to live for your glory.

By being here we say 'Help us, Lord' because we face many trials and temptations are in need of your grace.

By being here we say 'Change us, Lord' because we want to be more like Jesus in all we say and do.

Our being here today is a prayer Lord, whether spoken or not. Hear us we ask, in Jesus' Name. **Amen**

**Tony Horsfall**



## Alternative prayer

Charlie had been misbehaving and was sent to his room. After a while he emerged and informed his mother that he had thought it over and then said a prayer. 'Fine', said the pleased mother. 'If you ask God to help you not misbehave, He will help you.'

'Oh, I didn't ask Him to help me not misbehave,' said Charlie. 'I asked Him to help you put up with me.'

## The hot heckler

Tony Benn, who used a hearing aid, recalled a meeting in a church hall on a terribly hot day. 'There was a heckler who kept interrupting. Eventually I tackled him and said: "If you want a separate meeting of your own, fine, go away and have it. Stop trying to wreck ours.'

When he intervened a fourth time, I caught what he was actually saying, which was "Could somebody please open a window?"

## Baby on way

999 Caller: 'Help! My wife has gone into labour and her contractions are four minutes apart!'

999 Operator: 'Is this her first child?'

999 Caller: 'Of course not, you idiot! This is her husband!'

## Six Again

A man asked his wife what she'd like for her birthday and she said, I'd love to be six again. On the morning of her birthday, he got her up bright and early and off they went to a local theme park and he put her on every scary ride. What a time she had! Her head was reeling and her stomach felt upside down, but they went straight to McDonald's where her husband ordered her a Big Mac along with extra fries and a refreshing milk shake

Then it was off to the cinema to watch the latest Star Wars film, while nibbling popcorn and drinking Cola.

Finally, she wobbled home with her husband and collapsed into bed. He leaned over and lovingly asked, "Well, dear, what was it like being six again?" She replied, sleepily, "You fool, I meant my dress size!"



**14 to 31 Dec - The Questors Present  
Sleeping Beauty by Ben Crocker**

**Only true love's kiss can break the spell**

**A beautiful princess is born to King Norbert and Queen Dotti, in the kingdom of Woollycombe, the land of sheep and spinning wheels.**

**As Princess Aurora's fairy godmothers bless her, the wicked Carabosse suddenly appears and casts an evil spell on the little princess - on her 18th birthday she will prick her finger on a spinning wheel and drop-down dead!**

**No one can stop the spell, but Fairy Peaceful, one of the fairy godmothers, has yet to cast her spell. So, will she manage to change Carabosse's evil spell? Or will Carabosse win the day...**

**Come along this Christmas for our fun, laugh-out-loud family panto. Sing along and shout at the wicked fairy Carabosse – if you dare!!!**

**Tickets to our popular panto sell out quickly, so book early.**

### **Early Bird Tickets**

**From now until the end of September, discounted tickets for performances on Friday 14th to Thursday 20th December are £6 per child and £12 per adult.**

**Box Office 020-8567 5184  
BOOK ONLINE - [www.Questors.org.uk](http://www.Questors.org.uk)**



## And they say it's old fashioned

The family had been up in the attic together doing some cleaning. The children uncovered an old manual typewriter and asked, "Hey Mum...what's this?" She answered, "Oh...that's an old typewriter", thinking that would satisfy their curiosity.

"Well, what does it do? they asked. "I'll show you," she said and found a blank piece of paper. She rolled the paper into the typewriter and began striking the keys, leaving black letters of print on the page. "Wow!" they exclaimed, "that's really cool, but how does it work like that?"

"Where do you plug it in?" She explained, "There is no plug, because it doesn't need electricity." The children persisted, "Then where do you put the batteries?" With a smile she said, "It doesn't need batteries either."

The children were amazed and one said, "This is fantastic; someone should have invented this a long time ago!"

**from ACE Forum**

## The Messenger

Diamond Jubilee issue is now residing at Lambeth Palace Library.



June 2012

Way back in June 2012 we were invited to send in copies of The Messenger magazine to Parish Pump as part of our 'Jubilee Hoard'. More than 270 Editors did so, and so the Jubilee Hoard became a unique collection of church magazines from all over the UK, acting as a sort of 'snapshot' of local church life in the month of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The good news now is that Parish Pump has found a home for the Jubilee Hoard!

Lambeth Palace Library in London has welcomed it and will keep it safe for future generations of social historians interested in local church life.



Google, the internet search company, was founded 20 years ago this month, on 4th September 1998, by Larry Page and Sergey Brin, both students at Stanford University in California.

The company was initially based in a friend's garage. The friend – Susan Wojcicki – is now CEO of YouTube.

The company developed from an idea for an innovative search engine originally called Backrub, which outshone early competitors. Eventually its use became so ubiquitous that the word "google" is now often used to mean search on a computer.

From the outset Google has included "Don't be evil" in its code of conduct, and this has been reiterated as recently as this year. The company says: 'We believe strongly that in the long term, we will be better served – as shareholders and in all other ways – by a company that does good things for the world even if we forgo some short-term gains.'

The name Google is a play on the mathematical expression for the number 1 followed by 100 zeros. It reflects the founders' mission 'to organise the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful.'

The company's huge campus, Googleplex is a tourist destination in the San Francisco Bay Area. It is regarded as an ideal employee-friendly workplace. The company employs over 60,000 people.





## Textiles and Shoes

Approximately 1.4million tonnes of textiles which could have been re-used or recycled are needlessly put in to rubbish bins

Lots of textiles can be recycled in Ealing including clothes, bags, belts, curtains,

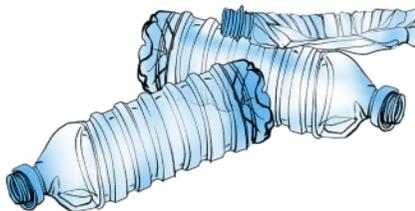
blankets, towels, odd socks and lingerie.

Any unwanted clothing, can be put in plastic bags and placed on top of or beside your blue wheelie bin for recycling on your next recycling collection day. Just make sure you put them in a bag to keep them together and dry and tie any pairs of shoes together.

Otherwise you can take them to your nearest textile collections bank–there are many of them dotted around the borough, which accept clothing, blankets and linens. Other similar materials such as old tea towels, odd socks and towels are also accepted.

## Plastic Bottles

It takes approximately 500+ years for Plastic Bottles to disintegrate in landfill.



One plastic bottle recycled would power a 70 watt light bulb for three hours.

35.8 million plastic bottles are used in UK each day **BUT** only 19.8 million get recycled. This means there are on average 16 million plastic bottles a day **not** making their way into the recycling bin.

Ealing School pupils are doing their bit to boost the borough's impressive recycling rates - recycling so much material that it was equivalent to the weight of about 140 African elephants.

Street cleaning, rubbish and recycling services across the borough are to be brought under the control of Ealing Council. The current contract, runs until July 2020,

**Dan Stephens reports in 'Around Ealing'**

## All in September .....



100 years ago, from 26th Sep to 11th Nov that the WW1 Meuse-Argonne Offensive took place in France. It was the last major battle of WW1, and the American Expeditionary Force's largest and bloodiest operation of the war. Allied victory.

90 years ago, on 28th Sep 1928 that the use of cannabis was made illegal in the UK. (Medical use of cannabis was made illegal in 1973.)

80 years ago, on 30th Sep 1938 that British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain returned to England in triumph after signing the Munich Agreement, declaring there would be 'peace in our time'.

40 years ago, on 8th Sep 1978 that the 'Black Friday' of the Iranian Revolution took place. Thousands of protestors gathered in Jaleh Square, Tehran, and ignored calls to disperse. The Imperial Army opened fire and foreign journalists reckoned that up to 4,000 people were killed. This was the pivotal event in the Iranian Revolution, and marked the beginning of the end of the Shah's regime.

Also 40 years ago, on 17th Sep 1978 that the Camp David Accords were signed in Washington DC by Israel and Egypt. They led to the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty in 1979.

30 years ago, on 6th Sep 1988 that 11-year-old British boy Thomas Gregory became the youngest person to swim the English Channel.

20 years ago, on 4th Sep 1998 that Google, the internet search company, was founded by Larry Page and Sergey Brin, both students at Stanford University in California. The company was initially based in a friend's garage in Menlo Park.

10 years ago, on 7th Sept 2008 that the 2008 Financial Crisis was underway. The troubled US mortgage-financing giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were placed into government conservatorship, under the Federal Housing Finance Agency.

# Bread of life

All the saints have their special symbols. When we see a saint in a window or painting carrying loaves of bread, we know it is St Philip. It was Philip who wondered how the multitude gathered around Jesus could be fed in John 6. Our Lord met their hunger with just five loaves and two fish.



Bread has always been a staple food in the Holy Land, and in July the media reported that the oldest bread had been found in the remains of a Jordanian fire 14,000 years ago. Today all kinds of bread are sold in our bakeries and supermarkets. Each country has its own way of producing bread, but at heart it is the same procedure combining the four ancient elements of life: earth, air, water and fire – earth producing the grain for flour, air to transform the dough, water added to the mix, and fire to bake the bread.

Bishop Geoffrey Rowell tells the story of sharing a picnic with some Lebanese Christians. Fragments of the bread were scattered on the ground, and he idly cracked them with his feet. The reaction was immediate. 'Don't do that' one said. 'It is bread. It is life.' John tells us in chapter 6 how bread is a sign of life for the people, and a sign that points to Jesus whose life is generously shared with others.

A church was built on the site of that miracle at Tabgha by the north-west shore of the Sea of Galilee. It is called the Church of the Multiplication. On the floor in front of the altar is a 5th century mosaic depicting the loaves and fish – beautiful and immediate in its simplicity.

We enter our own churches and see bread offered on the altar at every eucharist, and rejoice that Jesus is our host as He was by the Sea of Galilee. He comes to us with the same invitations: 'Take and eat. See and believe.' He offers us the bread of life. But more than that: He offers us the bread of eternal life.

**Michael Burgess**

# The silent sermon

A member of a certain church, who had previously attended services regularly, stopped going. After a few weeks, the minister decided to visit him. He found the man at home all alone, sitting by a blazing fire. Guessing the reason for his minister's visit, the man welcomed him awkwardly, and led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited.

The minister made himself at home, but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After some minutes, he took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone. Then he sat back in his chair, still silent.

The host watched all this in quiet contemplation. As the one lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and dead.

Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. But now the minister chose this time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead bit of coal and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow once more, with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it. With that, the minister smiled at his host, and quietly let himself out.

## Lent Course Book

During Lent this year Rev Dr Calvin Samuel led our Circuit Lent study group on the subject of holiness. The course material has now been published in a book entitled "More Distinct: Reclaiming Holiness for the World Today".

In today's culture we are often told it's good to be bad, while holiness is associated with negative stereotypes or thought to be simply unattainable. How do we pursue holiness without being holier than thou? How can we be holy if we are all sinners? Should we even try? Calvin's book invites you to unpick and explore what it truly means to be holy in our culture today.

More Distinct: Reclaiming Holiness for the World Today can be purchased online direct from the publisher price £7.99 or as an eBook price £5.99 – go to: <https://ivpbooks.com/more-distinct-139>.

## COMING EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

- Sat 1 Sep 4 pm (provisionally) **CIRCUIT WELCOME SERVICE** for our new minister, the Rev Susan Male, will be at **KINGSDOWN**
- Mon 3 8.00 pm Guides (most Mondays throughout term time)
- Tue 4 2.00 pm Tuesday Club -A Bingo and Quiz afternoon
- Wed 5 1-3 pm Babies & Toddlers (finishes on 18 Jul for summer Break, restarts 12 Sep)
- Thu 6 3.30 - 5.30 pm CBSI UK Bible Studies in Foyer
- Fri 7 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.  
(Every Week during Term Time)
- Sat 8 Coffee & Chat in the Foyer from 10.30 am - all welcome.
- Tue 11 Lis & Steve Palmer's Home Group
- Wed 12 7.30 pm. Mission & Outreach Committee
- Thu 13 Finance Committee
- Fri 14 9.00 pm Boy's Brigade - one-hour Camp photo show.  
All are welcome to attend.
- Sat 15 10 am -12 noon **BOOK FAIR**, with books, gifts, toiletries and bric-a-brac stalls. Proceeds to All We Can (MRDF).
- Tue 18 2.00 pm Tuesday Club - The Wheels went Round and Round by the Reminiscence Road Show
- Wed 19 Property Committee
- Thu 20 Church Council
- Sat 29 700 pm Barn Dance at Hanwell (with live caller and band, and 2-course meal) (see p. 16 for details)  
Christian Aid Richmond Riverside Sponsored Walk

## FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Nov

- Sat 3 10.00-12.30 Kingsdown Book Fair in aid of Methodist Homes