



KINGSDOWN MESSENGER



October 2019

SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2019



Oct

- 6 Oct 10.30 Rev Susan Male, HARVEST FESTIVAL
HOLY COMMUNION
- 13 Oct 10.30 Local Arrangement
- 20 Oct 10.30 Ms Georgina Graham
- 27 Oct 10.30 Rev Tasawer Samuel, Associate Pastor
- 3 Nov 10.30 Mrs Esther Ackah



O God, who divides the day from the night, separate our deeds from the darkness of sin, and let us continually live in your light, reflecting in all that we do your eternal beauty.

O God, who gives the day for work and the night for sleep, refresh our bodies and our minds through the quiet hours of night, and let our inward eyes be directed towards you, dreaming of your eternal glory.

from the Leonine Sacramentary, 5th Century



The KINGSDOWN MESSENGER
Copy deadline for the October issue is Friday 25 October 2019

Editors - Pam and Alan Smith
E-mail: magazine@kingsdownmethodist.org.uk





Dear Kingsdowners

It has been a good start to the new Methodist year. I have been delighted by your response to the Preaching series on "The Book of Ruth", and especially by those who have seen this Bible Study as leading them to do more of it, and to join the **new Friday morning Bible study group**. The dates which we will meet on are: 15 Nov, 29 Nov, 13 Dec, 10 Jan, 24 Jan, 7 Feb, 21 Feb, 6 March, 20 March, 3 April, 24 April, 8 May, 22 May, 5 June, 19 June, 3 July, 17 July. **Initially at least, we will meet at Kingsdown.**

The First Three Sessions will be introductory, as people in the group get to know one another better. The aim of the group will be to help us to explore Discipleship and our relationships with God – through Bible Study, prayer, and reflection on the world, current affairs, and our part in it all as Christians.

Put the dates in your diaries, and here is the detail for the first three sessions.

Session 1

15 November 10-11.30 AM

Why do you come to church?

An exploration of what church is for and why we come?

Session 2

29 November 10-11.30 AM

What Bible passage is special/important to you and why?

A time for sharing our most valued Bible passages

Session 3

13 December 10-11.30 AM

What is prayer?

An exploration but come prepared to share what helps you to be with God.

Planning for the Spring Term

If you prefer an **Evening Bible Study** group, Phil Male will be continuing his group in the manse at **8pm on these Wednesdays:**

9th October, 13th November, 11th December, 8th January,

12th February, 11th March, 1st April

The group looks at overviews of the Books and will be looking at Judges, the Psalms and other Books. All welcome.

Studying Ruth has also prepared us well for our Harvest Festival Service today. This year we also have planned a special trip to **Ealing Liberal Synagogue**. This is where Brenda's husband worships, making the link especially good. **The visit will take place on Saturday 12th October. Please sign up or let me know if you intend to come so that food will be available for you.**

Jill and Kath are busy selling tickets for our **Christian Aid Fish and Chips Quiz supper** to be held on 19 October. You can come as individuals or as teams ... you can invite family and friends too. Tickets cost £10 for adults and £5 for children.

Plans are underway for our church anniversary celebration service and lunch on December 8th. Save the date. Much more to follow.



Please try your hardest to get involved in these events which will bring new life both to you, and to your church community.

**With Prayers
Sue**



*The love and affection of angels flying,
The love and affection of saints undying,
Heaven's love and affection satisfying,
O your guarding and cherishing let them be,
Your so loving protection eternally.*

Ancient Celtic prayer for protection

Family News

It was lovely to see **Rekha Cheriyan** in church last Sunday and she was able to report that **Tom** is now progressing well. Her mother **Leela John** is also making a good recovery and at last able to eat again.

We are delighted that we can also add **Ray Church** and **Sybil Corbin** to the list of those having made the recovery list following recent operations.

Doreen Winston has had a nasty fall and was in hospital 'for observation' (under the watchful eye of sister Rita as well of course). The main problem turned out to be severe bruising but Doreen subsequently ended up in Clayponds due to disquiet over her warfrin levels. However, she has now been allowed home and we wish her a speedy recovery.

Val Elgar has now taken the decision to make her home in a Care Home in Greenford, following her recent operation.

Regrettably, having been able to give such favourable news about **Evelyn Sangster** in our last Messenger, we now find in the Prayer Book that she is currently very unwell.

We send sincere condolences to **Faith Hodge** and her family on the recent death of her mother.



Please maintain your prayers for all those people in our church family in need of your support at this time.

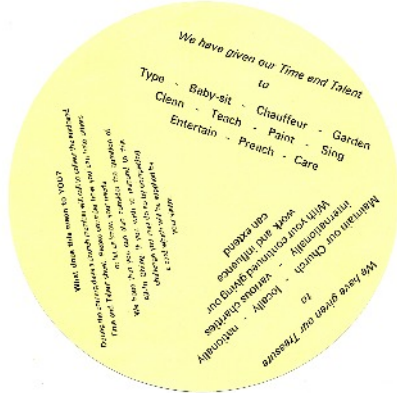
Jill Richardson reports that The **Babies & Toddlers Group** is continuing to attract new families, but was sadly bereft on Wednesday, 18 September, when three of it's team were unable to be there. .

We were fortunate in that **Kath Jarrett** stepped in to help, so no one missed out on their tea and biscuits. The extra pair of hands was very much appreciated, and highlighted the fact that the team could really do with a few more volunteers to call on in times of stress.

60 years anniversary

Part of an interesting leaflet published in 1968 seeking 'Time and Talent' from the members of Kingsdown.

Do any of our readers remember this??



Or do you remember this Time and Talent leaflet from 1970?



THE FIVE AGES OF MAN → IN THE PICTURE AT KINGSDOWN

<p>Crèche Sun.11.00 Mothers and Babies Club Thurs.2.15</p>	<p>Sunday School 11.00 Brownie-Guides Tues.5.45 Junior Thurs.6.30 Boys Brigade</p>	<p>Youth Club Wed.7.00 " Fri. 7.30 " Relationship Sun.6.30 Guides Mon.7.00 Boys Brigade Co. Section Thurs.7.30.</p>	<p>Wives Club 2nd Mon.8.00 Mens' Club 2nd Mon. 8.00 Kingsdown Club Tues. Relationship 7.30. Activities 8.15. House Groups - as announced. Chair Practice: Fri. 8.00. Coffee Morning Fri.10.00. SERVICES - SUNDAY 11.00 and 6.30.</p>	<p>Womens'Divn Wed.8.00</p>
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60 years
anniversary

Kingsdown's Diamond Anniversary celebration Sunday 8th December

Invitations and brochures about Kingsdown's history have kindly been produced by Tony Plews and are available in physical and electronic format. Rev. Sue is very keen that we use them to invite those involved with Kingsdown in the past to join us for the celebratory service and bring-and-share lunch afterwards.

Photographs and memories would be welcomed by both and our Messenger editors. Sue is also seeking a volunteer to co-ordinate the lunch arrangements.



Greenford International Evening – Saturday 5th October



Greenford is organising an International Evening on
Saturday 5th October from 6.00pm – 9.00pm

in support of the Christian Aid Iraq and Lebanon Project. Entrance will be £5.00 per person. All are invited to attend! There are many nationalities and cultures among in the Circuit and if anyone would like to contribute an item for the entertainment - a song, dance, sketch or poem etc. please contact **Win Thompson at win.thompson69@btinternet.com or by calling 020 8570 2531.**



KINGSDOWN QUIZ EVENING

Kingsdown is holding a quiz night in support of the Christian Aid Iraq and Lebanon Project.

The date is **Saturday, 19th October at 7 pm – 9.30 pm.**

You are invited to come on your own and join a team when you arrive or bring your own team (*approximately 6 people to a team*).

Tickets will be £10, available from Kath Jarrett (0208 579 6480) or Jill Richardson (0208 567 0634), and will include a fish and chip supper.

Please support this very worthwhile project.

Kingsdown Methodist Church, Northfield Avenue, W13

BOOK FAIR



Books Cakes Gifts
Bric-a-Brac

Saturday 2nd
November

10.00am to 12.30pm

Proceeds to:



Methodist Homes



Book Fair in aid of Methodist Homes

MHA was founded in 1943 by a group of Methodists who wanted to improve the quality of life of older people in the time before the creation of the Welfare State. The charity continues to have strong support from Methodists as well as other Christians to this day. Today MHA continues to provide care, accommodation and support to more than 18,000 older people across the UK thanks to the commitment and dedication of its 7,000 employees and 5,000 volunteers.

In the Borough of Ealing the MHA 'Live at Home' scheme based at Greenford Methodist Church goes from strength to strength

Our book fair will be on Saturday Nov 2nd from 10.00-12.30 with stalls for books, cakes, gifts and bric a brac. There will be light refreshments.

We will also have an envelope appeal in aid of MHA so we would really welcome your support. Many thanks in advance.

Olwen Britton

Ealing Churches Winter Nightshelter



Hello,

An email last week from the Nightshelter Admin Co-ordinator has reminded me that the start of our next season isn't that far away so I thought I'd better start getting in touch with all those who have so kindly volunteered with us previously to see if you can help us this year too.

We will be hosting the nightshelter at Kingsdown Methodist Church on the four **Sunday nights 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd December** and assistance would be very welcome with the evening and morning shifts and also with preparing meals, transporting beds and doing the laundry.

If you are able to volunteer, please do get in touch to let me know what you can help with and when.

Many thanks for everything you do to help us at Kingsdown with hosting the night shelter.

**Best wishes,
Sue Garland**

CHRISTIAN AID NEWS SEASON FOR CHANGE



Last year at Harvest Time, Christian Aid featured the EU-funded Breaking the Barriers programme which aims to strengthen the social status of women in rural Ethiopia, Malawi, Burkina Faso and Honduras, and this appeal raised over £1 million. Thanks to the support of their partner the Women Support Association there are now over 100 women-led Support Associations in South Omo, Ethiopia. Women reported that men are now working alongside them in the fields during harvest and more girls are attending school. The Breaking the Barriers programme has now won a Climate Coalition Green Heart Hero Award for overseas inspiration.

Just a little of something that has happened since last year. But what about 2019?

Hopefully, you will see a photo, in the Church Foyer, of Kasthuri and her son Mathi. Kasthuri was born into India's Darlit community: she's faced prejudice all her life - no rights, no security, no voice. When she was ostracised by her family for marrying against their will, and later abandoned by her husband, she was excluded even from her own community. She survived because someone had faith in her. Selvi is from a different caste, but she broke her society's biggest barrier to give Kasthuri what she needed most: a home to raise her son Mathi. Selvi explains: "I want to break any form of slavery and exploitation of women, whether it is due to caste, class or gender."

Selvi also bought the land for the women's farming collective. The farm works because of EcoVeg. This project trains people from excluded communities in natural farming, and provides the marketing and logistics to start a business.

—Land that was abandoned is rich again. Kasthuri can feel pride, security and belonging. And Mathi has the chance of a better future. Kasthuri says "I have no words to explain how happy I am to be here with my son."

Maybe we can help more women to build sustainable futures for themselves and their children?

Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, wherever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all. GALATIANS 6: 9-10.

Ruby Warne

CHARITY BOX IN THE CHURCH FOYER

**STAMPS for the LEPROSY MISSION
SPECS for VISION AID OVERSEAS
MOBILE PHONES and INK JETS for CHRISTIAN AID**



Socks are still needed, but there is a difficulty over delivery, so no more at present, please.

Ruby Warne

‘Creating a Culture of Invitation’ conference Saturday 19th October

In preparation for the National Weekend of Invitation next 26th – 28th June when we will be encouraged to invite our friends, family and neighbours to church, there is a special conference **‘Creating a Culture of Invitation’** at Central Hall Westminster on Saturday 19th October from 9.30am – 3.00pm.



The speaker will be Michael Harvey who has been helping churches in 18 countries over the last 15 years to move from being ‘welcoming’ to being ‘inviting’.

Register online at <http://wofitraining.eventbrite.co.uk>.

There will be a free sandwich lunch for those who register by 6th October.

Life is what happens to you when you're busy making other plans (John Lennon)

Harvest Festival donations – Sunday October 6th

The packaged and tinned food kindly donated at our Harvest Festival celebration service will be passed on to the Ealing Foodbank which has experienced continuously increasing demand during the past year and so is very keen to replenish its stocks.



We may also use some of the items when we host the Ealing Churches Winter

Nightshelter for the homeless at Kingsdown on Sunday nights this coming December.



The Foodbank has asked for the following –

- Cereal and porridge
- Tinned meat and fish
- Tinned fruit and vegetables
- Milk (UHT cartons and dried/powdered)
- Long-life fruit juice and squash
- Instant coffee and drinking chocolate
- Savoury and sweet biscuits
- Tinned rice pudding and custard
- Long-life sponge puddings
- Jam and peanut butter
- Ketchup and mayonnaise (small sizes)

Please try to make sure that tins and packages have six months shelf life. Anything out-of-date, partly used or open cannot be passed on to the Foodbank, also please avoid very large sizes.

Any questions about donations, please do ask me – Sue Barton tel 020 8840 7704 sue.garland6039@btinternet.com. The Foodbank would also welcome carrier bags of the strong, reusable “bags for life” type. Many thanks to everyone for the great support you give to the Foodbank and Nightshelter.

Sue Garland

As usual, there will no doubt be some attempts to give the donated goods some sort of decorative Harvest Festival setting and anyone free to lend their talents to this task, on Saturday, 5 October, at 10.30 am, will be most welcome.

Festival of Tabernacles

On 13-20th October this year many people around the world will be celebrating the Jewish festival of Tabernacles, or . They will celebrate the Harvest, and also remember God bringing the Israelites out of Egypt and through 40 years in the desert.

The biblical book of Deuteronomy contains a description of what Tabernacles should have been like back then. "Celebrate... for seven days. Be joyful... you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, and the Levites, the foreigners, the fatherless and the widows who live in your towns."

These festivals were not just a celebration, but also an expression of gratitude to God: "celebrate the festival to the Lord your God...For the Lord your God will bless you in all your harvest and in all the work of your hands, and your joy will be complete." Tabernacles was a proper holiday, with two whole days off normal work and seven days of feasting.

Farming looks very different today. Very few of us have had to sweat long hours over crops, so we're not as ready for (or deserving of) a rest and a party as our ancestors were at this time of year. That might be even more the case in future, as the agri-tech revolution unfolds. For example, small autonomous tractors are already becoming available that do

less damage to the soil and make better use of steep or oddly shaped fields.

Many arable farms already hire contractors to do the routine work with large specialist GPS-equipped machinery. In future years those people might find themselves using very different kinds of high-tech kit, acting more as land-management advisors, helping farmers to gather data and to find ways of improving soil quality, biodiversity and the water cycle.

I'm very grateful for the food that arrives on my shelves. Instead of worrying about whether or not we earned it, our modern-day Tabernacles or Harvest celebration could include ways of encouraging those involved in agriculture and developing new agricultural technologies, as well as enjoying how we can learn about and benefit from God's creation through Science.

So, after you celebrate Harvest at church, why not follow it up with a trip to a local farm this month? Why not learn from the ancient Israelites, and follow it up with a meal together? It stands to reason that those of us who live in countries where food is plentiful and cheap could do with being proportionately more generous in our gratitude and giving. Should we throw better parties? Probably!

Bahamas Hurricane Appeal

All We Can's CEO Graeme Hodge would like to thank all those who are supporting All We Can' Bahamas Hurricane Appeal. 'We have seen a great outpouring of support for the people of the Bahamas from the Methodist Community and would like to thank all those who have generously given to the appeal. As we learn more about the devastation wreaked by Hurricane Dorian we continue to pray for the people of the Bahamas.'

Only two weeks after Hurricane Dorian devastated areas of the Bahamas the islands faced further damage from heavy rains brought by tropical storm Humberto. Although Humberto wasn't expected to make landfall it brought dangerous salt, surf and rip tides to the north-western Bahamas. The heavy rains and strong winds will also impact ongoing rescue and recovery efforts following Hurricane Dorian.

As the full extent of the devastation inflicted by Hurricane Dorian becomes clear, All We Can and the Methodist Church in Britain will continue to support communities in their efforts to provide emergency response and look towards rebuilding.

The BBC warned of 'unimaginable' human suffering and a 'staggering death toll in the wake of Hurricane Dorian, All We Can and the Methodist Church in Britain launched a joint appeal for those affected in The Bahamas

Our long-term partner in the region is responding with food, clean water and medicines. However, they have issued an appeal for more support as the full extent of the devastation is uncovered. The response is focusing on the Abaco and Great Bahamas islands which were hit the hardest by the hurricane. All We Can and the Methodist Church in Britain are calling for support for this urgent appeal. All We Can's CEO, Graeme Hodge said

“Together, we stand shoulder to shoulder with people affected by Hurricane Dorian – with communities, families, children and grandparents at the very heart of the suffering.”

The Methodist Church in Britain’s Director of Global Relationships, the Revd Conrad Hicks said, “With limited resources, our sisters and brothers across the Caribbean are responding to the plight of those impacted by this natural disaster. This appeal gives us an opportunity to stand in solidarity with them.”

Please pray for the people of the Bahamas, and give all you can to the Bahamas Hurricane Emergency Appeal.

Donate on-line:

<https://www.allwecan.org.uk/give/current-appeals/bahamas-hurricane-appeal/>

Thoughts for Christmas - Extraordinary Gifts

Practical gifts that help people in some of the world’s poorest communities to become all that they can.

From providing a child in Uganda with a bicycle to get to and from school, to ensuring that a family in Zimbabwe has clean water to drink– you will find gifts to capture the hearts and imaginations of your loved ones and make a world of difference to a family in need this Christmas.

With every Extraordinary Gift, you will receive a card to pass on to your loved one, showing them the kind of difference their gift could make.



Busy Bees
£10



Chirpy Chicks
£15



Make a Splash
£15



Pedal Power
£66



Lighting Up Lives
£385

And many more at a wide variety of prices

For the full range go to :
<https://www.allwecan.org.uk/shop/>

BOOK FAIR in aid of 'ALL WE CAN'

Pam and Alan would like to thank all those people who kindly helped in any way at the recently held Book Fair. It being a fine day, enabling the bric-a-brac and clothes stalls to be held outside, certainly attracts more customers but the hard work this involves is particularly evident. But these events are all about team work in every area and Kingsdown is good at meeting these challenges on a regular basis.

The amount collected has yet to be added to the three-week envelope appeal before forwarding to All We Can, and the total will be published in c



Petition

*O holy Father of truth adored,
O kindly Father of mercy poured,
Deliver me from the spells that harm,
Deliver me from each evil charm.*

*Allow no stain to blemish my soul,
Allow no spot to my body whole,
Allow no taint my breath to defile,
Father of tender and lovely smile.*

*For now and for henceforth unto me
In my life, in my death, do thou be,
O Son and Abba Father of love,
And Holy Spirit of grace above!*

From an ancient Celtic prayer from South Uist

THE MAGIC BANK ACCOUNT

The author is not known it was found in the Billfold of coach Paul Bear Bryant, Alabama, after he died in 1982

Imagine that you had won the following *PRIZE* in a contest. Each morning your bank would deposit \$86,400 in your private account for your use. However, this prize has rules:

The set of rules:

1. Everything that you didn't spend during each day would be taken away from you.
2. You may not simply transfer money into some other account.
3. You may only spend it.
4. Each morning upon awakening, the bank opens your account with another \$86,400 for that day.
5. The bank can end the game without warning; at any time it can say, "Game Over!". It can close the account and you will not receive a new one.

What would you personally do?

from News & Views Greenford - Northolt 2015

Love and protection

*The love and affection of angels flying,
The love and affection of saints undying,
Heaven's love and affection satisfying,
O your guarding and cherishing let them be,
Your so loving protection eternally.*

Ancient Celtic prayer for protection

**God can do no more without us than we can do
without Him**



Tyndale - Bible Translation

This month is the 501th anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation, and so a good time to pay tribute to an outstanding English scholar, translator and martyr of the Reformation.

William Tyndale (c. 1494 – 6th October 1536) was born near Gloucester, and studied at Oxford and Cambridge. He could speak seven languages, and was proficient in ancient Hebrew and Greek. As a priest, his abilities would have taken him a long way, but by 1523 Tyndale's only desire was to translate the Bible, so that English men and women could read it for themselves. It became his life's passion.

For Tyndale had rediscovered a vital doctrine that the Church had been ignoring: that of justification by faith. He had found it when reading Erasmus's Greek edition of the New Testament. In fact, his life's work was well summed up in some words of his mentor, Erasmus: "Christ desires His mysteries to be published abroad as widely as possible. I would that [the Gospels and the epistles of Paul] were translated into all languages, of all Christian people, and that they might be read and known."

Tyndale's translation was the first Bible to be published in English, the first to draw directly from Hebrew and Greek texts, and the first English translation to take advantage of the printing press.

It was to cost him his life. For Tyndale's work was seen as a direct challenge to the power of both the Roman Catholic Church and the laws of England in maintaining the Church's position.

When the authorities had tried to stop his translation, Tyndale fled to Hamburg, Wittenberg, Cologne, and finally to the Lutheran city of Worms. It was there, in 1525, his New Testament emerged. It was quickly smuggled into England, and King Henry VIII, Cardinal Wolsey, and others, were furious.

Tyndale moved on to Antwerp, where for nine more years he continued his work. Then in May 1535 he was betrayed, arrested, and jailed in a castle near Brussels. Tied to the stake for strangulation and burning, his dying prayer was that the King of England's eyes would be opened. Sure

enough, two years later King Henry authorised the Great Bible for the Church of England, which relied largely on Tyndale's work.

Not only that, but in 1611, the 54 scholars who produced the King James Bible drew very heavily from Tyndale. Even today we honour him: in 2002, Tyndale was placed at number 26 in the BBC's poll of 100 Greatest Britons.

from Parish Pump

Sunrise and Sunset

There are two very special moments each day - sunrise and sunset. Let us focus on these for a moment. Take the sun's rising; having extinguished the stars, ever so slowly and gently, it eases itself over the rim of the world. Up, up it comes from the great beyond, scattering light and radiating heat to the earth. We are amazed at how large it appears. It is at its largest when it sits on the horizon, joining heaven and earth. It seems to pose there fleetingly before it starts to climb the sky and get on with the business of the day.



And take the sun's setting. Down, down it goes. Its rate of departure can be measured by the fading light and waning heat. As it retreats, it appears to grow in size once more and is again at its largest when it meets the horizon. As at its coming, so at its going, it seems to pose briefly on the edge of the world. Then, re-lighting the stars, it slips slowly and silently away into the great beyond from whence it came.

Just as sunrise and sunset are very special moments in the day, so birth and death are very special moments in the life of a human being. At these moments, we realise that a person is absolutely unique. At birth, something comes into being that never was before. At death, something passes away that will never be on earth again. People seem larger to us at these two moments, when we get a glimpse of their true worth and their gifts. There is something sacred about birth and death. Heaven and earth are joined together. Each person is a mystery; each person is a gift from God

from ACE Forum. (A meditation by Deacon Angie Allport)

Celebrating Multi-Faith Britain - 12th November



Are you coming to 'Celebrating Multi-Faith Britain' here at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster on Tuesday 12 November from 5.30pm - 9pm? Join us, keynote speaker Canon Dr Sarah Snyder - the Archbishop of Canterbury's Advisor for Reconciliation and guests from other faiths as we celebrate the religious diversity that makes modern Britain.



There's even a global kitchen!

To register your attendance, please visit :

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/celebrating-multi-faith-britain-tickets-60571353549>

John Bell and ORAN (Iona Abbey Musicians) Wednesday 13th November St James, Piccadilly

Join John Bell and ORAN (Iona Abbey Musicians) for an evening learning new songs from the World Church interspersed with reflections and music by ORAN.

The event takes place at St James, Piccadilly on Wednesday 13th November 2019 starting at 5.50pm. There will be Iona Liturgy until 6.20pm followed at 7.00pm by a Song and Music Workshop.



Tickets can be booked via Eventbrite .This is a free event but donations are welcome and will go towards upgrading and creating disabled access at the Iona Abbey buildings.

To book tickets go to

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/john-bell-oran-songs-music-from-the-iona-community-tickets-63646577627>

THE IMPORTANCE OF REPORTING CRIME INCIDENTS

What makes the police be quicker in dealing with crime incidents is when these incidents have been reported and immediately via the proper police reporting channels (101, 999, Met Police website, and @MetCC). All these services have 24/7 paid staff waiting to take your reports and then dispatch them to be dealt with.

Once this is done, please let us know via OWL and include the crime reference no. We remain most grateful to everyone who has turned a difficult personal experience into an opportunity to help prevent crime whether this has been shared directly or it has been passed onto us via Social Media.

However, there have been several cases across the Borough whereby crimes have been posted on Facebook or Nextdoor but the Police have not been contacted. Failure to report a crime results in a reduction in recorded crime, which leads to fewer officers and hence a further rise in crime. It may appear that posting on social media is quicker than calling or logging an incident online on the Met's site but to be clear the Police cannot react to reports posted on Facebook, Nextdoor, or shared privately via Whatsapp.

Depending on the severity of the case, there were many occasions and on a daily basis when the police arrived within 2 minutes of the 999 call. From a personal experience, the last one was this past Sunday. Everyone, we are counting on you to please report all incidents and suspicious activities to the police first.

If you need to reply regarding this message, use this email address:

ealingowl@hotmail.com



Regards,
Suzanne Tanswell
Community Coordinator
Email: ealingowl@hotmail.com

TEXT MESSAGE SCAMS



A text might not be from who you think – Smishing is when criminals pretend a message is from your bank or another organisation you trust. They will usually tell you there has been fraud on your account and will ask you to deal with it by calling a number or visiting a fake website to update your personal details. Please take a moment to stop and think and realise this is the fraud...

These signs indicate a text message might not be genuine:

- It asks you to provide sensitive personal or financial information, passwords, or to make transactions by following a link in the message.
- It asks you to call a certain number but that number is unknown to you. In this case, call your bank on a number that you trust to check the number and message is authentic. E.g. – such as the number on the back of your card.
- The sender uses an urgent tone, urging you to 'act now'.

For more information please visit:

<https://takewfive-stopfraud.org.uk/advice/>

from Metropolitan Police Service



"So really, it is very easy to understand how Brexit will affect our parish..."

A bearded man in the sky?

I have long remembered an exhibition I attended in which were featured photographs of the universe. These had been shot from near-Earth space and penetrated further than any had before. They featured galaxies hundreds of light years away from us and hundreds of light years across. Millions upon millions of stars shone from them. The sheer vastness was impossible to get my head round and I was awestruck. I stood and looked and looked. And then I realised that all of us there had been stunned into silence.

Why? What would have been your reaction? To me it shouted out Intelligent Design. The galaxy of which our solar system is a tiny part is a barely significant one. Our sun is one of its minor stars and has a shelf life. But our Earth is at just the right distance from it for life (as we know it) to be possible. Life, which we learnt this Autumn, has existed in animal form for 558 million years. It is surely amazing that our home planet should have ended up at just the right distance from our star. Life here took millions of years to evolve (unless you believe that Genesis is literal history!) and has apparently peaked with us homo sapiens.

But humanity is much older. Before our ancestors emigrated from our East African home there were other

species of humans living elsewhere. As our ancestors moved into Europe and Asia and then further, they met them. Just imagine the mutual surprise! Now we are the only species of humans left (except that many of us carry the genes of earlier kinds, e.g. the Neanderthals). What happened, I wonder? So what do we believe led God to tire of His earlier creations and make us homo sapiens supreme? Why did he not send a "Son" to the humans who came before us to offer them redemption from their sins? What was their unforgivable sin? And will God remove us in turn?

Look back, if you will, to the time before time and then to the time when the first humans evolved. Is it our belief that the Intelligent Design behind the visible universe planned the planet earth and those of us whose home it is? A God "out there" who is the architect and arbiter of our lives and to Whom each one of us is a unique treasure? A God who favours and punishes and apparently forgets? A God who demands that we "accept" Jesus? Do we still, deep down, get drawn to those medieval pictures of a bearded man in the sky? Or have we moved on? I remain a Christian agnostic. Where has your thinking led you?

Howard Cooper - ACE Forum

A young minister arrived at a country church for the first time and found only an old farmer, dressed in his Sunday best, had turned up.



After waiting for a few minutes, the young minister said, "It appears no one else is coming, so we should probably cancel the service today." The old man replied, "Well minister, I don't know much about preachin', but I know a bit about farmin' and if I went out in the field and found only one cow, I'd still feed it." The young minister was happy to oblige and he preached enthusiastically for almost 45 minutes.

Before leaving, the old farmer said, "As I say, I don't know much about preachin', but I do know somethin' about farmin' and if I went out in the field and found only one cow, I wouldn't let it have the whole bale!"

from **ACE Forum**



Lexophile

is a word used to describe those that have a love for words such as "you can tune a piano, but you can't tuna fish"



- A few lexophiles
- A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months
- A will is a dead giveaway
- A boiled egg is hard to beat
- Police were called to a day care centre, where a 3 year old was resisting a rest
- A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail
- Acupuncture is a job well done. That's the point of it
- He had a photographic memory which was never developed.
- The guy who fell into an upholstery machine is now fully recovered.

from **Janet Smith**

A Smile or two.....



God grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway, the good fortune to run into the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference.

Now that I'm "older" (but refuse to grow up), here's what I've discovered:

1. I started out with nothing, and I still have most of it.
2. My wild oats have turned into prunes and All Bran.
3. I finally got my head together; now my body is falling apart.
4. Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded.
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5. All reports are in; life is now officially unfair.
6. If all is not lost, where is it?
7. It is easier to get older than it is to get wiser.
8. Some days you're the dog; some days you're the hydrant.
9. I wish the buck stopped here; I sure could use a few.
10. Kids in the back seat cause accidents.
11. Accidents in the back seat cause kids.
12. It's hard to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere.
13. The only time the world beats a path to your door is when you're in the bathroom.
14. If God wanted me to touch my toes, he would have put them on my knees.
15. When I'm finally holding all the cards, why does everyone decide to play chess?
16. It's not hard to meet expenses ... they're everywhere.
17. The only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.
18. These days, I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter. I go somewhere to get something and then wonder what I'm here after.
19. I AM UNABLE TO REMEMBER IF I HAVE MAILED THIS TO YOU OR NOT!!!
20. Funny, I don't remember being ... absent-minded.

from Janet Smith

Christians Face Harassment and Persecution

Christians face harassment in 143 countries with a record increase in restrictions on religion imposed by many governments. It also finds violence and harassment against religious groups are on the rise.

'The excellent new review of Christian persecution by the Bishop of Truro for the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) found that Christians were the most persecuted religious group in the world today. In contrast, the Pew Report states: 'Religious restrictions have been rising around the world for the past decade.' 52 governments, including China, Indonesia and Russia, are now imposing high or very high levels of restrictions on religion.

CHINA The Pew Report notes that by 2017 the Chinese government had 'ramped up' efforts to arrest and deport Christian missionaries. China is restricting the number of religious groups who can register with the government. Even registered Chinese Christian churches are being shut down.

ISLAM The Pew Report states that since 2015, Islam has been the most common state religion around the world. In the Middle East and North Africa, most governments favour Islam over other faiths.

Growing numbers of countries are restricting religion. 'The number of countries [in the region] where people experience the highest level of hostility towards religion has risen by almost 50 per cent.'

The survey of 198 countries finds religious restrictions and violence are

spreading to Europe. In the UK in 2016, a Sunni Muslim man killed an Ahmadi Muslim shopkeeper because he had 'disrespected the Prophet Mohammed'.

Religious terrorism is growing in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa.. According to the Report: 'The Middle East and North Africa has seen the highest levels of religious violence by organised groups.'

That violence has spread from just four countries in 2007 to 11 of the 20 countries in the region by the end of 2017. Organised groups spreading religious violence include Isis, Al Qaeda, the Taliban and Hamas.

Among the most populous countries in the world, Egypt, India, Russia, Pakistan and Indonesia have the highest restrictions on religion, according to the report.

Another region to experience 'a sharp rise in government laws and policies restricting religious freedom' is Sub-Saharan Africa.

The report singles out Nigeria as a country with one of the largest increases in religious violence by organised groups since 2007.

Turkmenistan continues to deny visas to foreigners suspected of missionary work and with Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan has imposed restrictions on Christian literature.

In the Asia-Pacific region 86 per cent of countries' governments were found to be intimidating religious groups.

from Parish Pump

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 2019

- Mon 8.00 pm **Guides** (most Mondays throughout term time)
- Tue 1 2.00 pm **Tuesday Club** - Graham Jenkins Entertains us
8.00 pm **Property Committee**
- Wed 2 1-3 pm **Babies & Toddlers** (term time only)
- Fri 4 **BOYS BRIGADE** 6.30-7.30pm Anchor Boys, 6.30-8.00 pm
Junior Section, 7.30-10.00 pm Company Section. (Every
week during term time)
- Sat 5 10.30 am **Coffee Morning & Chat** in the Foyer - all
welcome
6.00 pm-9.00 pm **Greenford International Evening** (see p.7)
- Wed 9 8.00 pm Phil Male's **Bible Study Group** at the Manse
- Sat 12 Visit to **Ealing Liberal Synagogue**
- Tue 15 2.00 pm **Tuesday Club** - A Bingo Afternoon
- Sat 19 7 pm-9.30 pm **Quiz Evening for Christian Aid Project**, see
p.7 for details

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER

- Sat 2 **Book Fair in aid of Methodist Homes** - cakes and
bric a brac (see pp.8/9)
- 15 10-11.30 **Session 1 Bible Study Group** at Kingsdown (see
Rev Sue Male's letter to us all for further details)

