

# The Chronicle

*Monthly magazine of the  
three Hayes Methodist churches*

*I found you there, one early morn,  
your petals all dipped with dew.  
Fresh captured beauty newly born,  
fragrant pure and new.*

*Denver E. Crow*



**Pentecost - June 2019 - Issue 263**

# The Methodist Church

Harrow & Hillingdon Circuit (35/36)  
Magazine of the three Hayes Methodist Churches

25<sup>th</sup> May 2019

**A letter from the Minister**

Dear Friends,

## Joining in!

It's very seldom that I go to the theatre, which makes it a real treat. Last year I managed to get a ticket to a performance of Shakespeare's Julius Caesar at a new theatre by the side of London's Tower Bridge. It was a performance like none other I have been to. For starters, I didn't even get a seat. I, along with a couple of hundred members of the audience had to stand and form the Roman crowd as the play happened all around us. We were gently pushed out of the way as actors made their entrances and exits and smelt the greasepaint of the makeup and the smoke of the battle scenes.

For the performance, we weren't just spectators watching something unfold before our eyes, but participants in the action. I remember particularly listening to the speech (warning – spoiler alert) Mark Antony gives at Julius Caesar's funeral whilst standing next to one of the minor characters who was listening in the crowd. For those who don't know the play, Mark Anthony turns the crowd from supporting those who killed Caesar, to being hostile to them. By standing next to an actor and watching the way he responded and how his thinking was changing, I felt more involved in the play than I have ever done before.

But what has that got to do with church?

**Take, for example, worship on a Sunday – to what extent are we participants in worship or are we spectators who observe the worship happening around us?**

**How do we play an active part in worship, even (and especially) when we don't have a role in leading it?**

**How do we play our part in the whole life of the church and live out our lives as disciples of Christ? How do we follow Jesus in our daily lives, rather than be a passive observer who sees the life of faith going on around us?**

**In June we enter the season of the church year known as Pentecost. On 9 June the three churches – Hayes, Hayes End and North Hillingdon - join together for Pentecost Praise. We will celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples in Jerusalem – the Spirit which empowered them, encouraged them and inspired them to live lives of faith.**

**God's gift of the Holy Spirit is available and given to all in ways that often we may expect. Through it (and because of it), we are participants in the Gospel story and as part of God's kingdom, rather than spectators.**

**May the Spirit of God live within you all.**

**Best wishes  
Ken**



# ***Our churches' prayer pages***



## **June**

Named after the Roman goddess Juno, and the sixth of the year, June is the month when we have the longest hours of daylight and, like all other months has its own signs and symbols and important dates to mark and recall (*have read that the USA celebrate all 365 days of the year with things like Ice Cream Day, and Flip-flop day – not sure the latter is advisable if it coincides with climbing Ben Nevis*) We believe June is the month of roses and honeysuckle so that brings to mind thoughts of all the wonders of God's amazing Creation - for our praise and thanksgiving this time we offer the very well-known hymn from the pen of Fred Pratt-Green -

### **GOD IN HIS LOVE FOR US LENT US THIS PLANET**

**gave it a purpose in time and in space:  
small as a spark from the fire of creation,  
cradle of life and the home of our race.**

**Thanks be to God for its bounty and beauty,  
life that sustains us in body and mind:  
plenty for all if we learn how to share it  
riches undreamed of to fathom and find.**

**Long have our human wars ruined its harvest,  
long has earth bowed to the terror of force;  
long have we wasted what others have needed,  
poisoned the fountain of life at its source.**

**Earth is the Lord's: it is ours to enjoy it,  
ours, as God's stewards, to farm and defend.  
From its pollution, misuse and destruction,  
good Lord deliver us, world without end!**

# **... In your mercy Lord,**

**Creator God,**

**You have ensured throughout our lives, that words, spoken or written; silent actions or prayers of those we have encountered on our journeys have quite clearly demonstrated – through our friends and family or even by total strangers – your great love for us in so many, many ways: we have been helped up when we have fallen, given encouragement when we have felt lost, alone or in need of forgiveness.**

**This month, whether they are already back home and dwelling with you in heaven, or remain here in this your earthly kingdom, may we offer our heartfelt thanks for all the individuals who have suffered or still suffer and that we name below this month -**

**Amen**

**Debbie & Scott  
Steve Green  
Joanne Lister  
George Steer**

**John Fuller-Rowell  
Anne Hine  
Constance Pattinson  
Connie Wakefield**

**please hear these our prayers  
of thanksgiving...**

**and, as always, we ask that friends be kind enough to continue to include in their prayers of intercession all the following:**

*Friends and members of our church families who,  
due to infirmity and other illness,  
are currently house-bound*

*All those named in our weekly prayer books –  
God will know the needs of each one  
and in His time will respond*

*All who suffer long-term and world-wide,  
who struggle every day, well aware  
that their situation may never improve*

*Families known to be suffering bereavement*

*The ministers and members of our Circuit team  
who work tirelessly in their roles as pastors of  
their congregations*

**FAITHFUL ONE, SO UNCHANGING,  
Ageless One, you're my rock of peace.  
Lord of all I depend on you,  
I call out to you again and again,  
I call out to you again and again..  
You are my rock in times of trouble,  
you lift me up when I fall down,  
all through the storm your love is the anchor,  
my hope is in you alone.**

**Brian Doerksen**

# ***Keep on Keeping on –***

most certainly not something that comes readily or easily to mind when today, both world-wide and in many of our own individual lives, there is so much suffering that brings us to our knees.

The horror of mindless slaughter of hundreds of innocent women, men and little children, both in lands far away and in our own country through knife-crime: concerns about life-threatening illness of those near and dear to us and the ultimate distress and heartbreak that comes when going through a time of bereavement all serve to bring us to a state of despair.

But, as Christians hard as it can be, and regardless of all our tears, it is what we are called to do, so we would like to give word this month to three of those important Christian values –

## **Forgiveness, Hope and Joy**

### **About Forgiveness –**

we feel we cannot do better than quote below some of the words offered by Pope Francisco that Daya Kulasingham has kindly sent to us to include in this month's magazine and which he offered following the tragic murder of hundreds of people who were at worship in Sri Lanka last month ...

“we are not perfect,

We do not marry a perfect person; we do not have perfect children.

We have complaints from each other.

We are constantly disappointed.

There is no healthy marriage or healthy family without the exercise of forgiveness.

**Forgiveness is vital to our emotional health and spiritual survival.**

**Without forgiveness, the family becomes an arena of conflict and a fortress of evil.**

**Without forgiveness, the family becomes sick.**

**Forgiveness is the asepsis of the soul, the purification of the spirit and the liberation of the heart.**

**He who does not forgive does not have peace in his soul or communion with God.**

**Evil is a poison that intoxicates and kills.**

**Keeping heartache in your heart is a self-destructive gesture. It's autophagy.**

**Those who do not forgive are physically, emotionally and spiritually ill**

**For this reason, the family must be a place of life and not a place of death; a place of paradise and not a place of hell; a healing territory and not a disease; an internship of forgiveness and not guilt.**

**Forgiveness brings joy where sorrow has brought sadness; of the healing where sorrow has caused the disease.”**

## **About Hope -**

The theme from the Spring Harvest event in 2003 was **ONE PEOPLE**. Overleaf is a writing from author Gerard Kelly that he presented to us then and which is still so appropriate right now. He entitled it

# Make us one

Though the skins that are stretched over us  
have shades enough to mark a path from coal to  
snow in micron increments - we are one

Though the fine lines of our features  
are freehand enough that even smiles  
are signatures of difference - we are one

Though the cultures that encode us  
are cryptic enough to make each one of us  
a mystery to the other - we are one

Though the polarities that plague us  
can have power enough to make sparks fly  
every time we come together - we are one

Though the stories that have shaped us are self-  
penned enough to fill a library with the secrets we  
each hide and though the route maps we rely on may  
be rough enough to make finding common ground a  
roller coaster ride; though the distinctives that define us  
may be deep enough to aggravate and irritate and  
painfully divide and though the languages we vocalise  
are localised enough to keep a truckload of translators  
tongue-tied. We are one

Many; but one	Different; but one
Awkward; but one	Reluctant; but one
Taught to be one but none	

## May our maker make us one

In today's world where hatred, selfishness and cruelty appear to have the upper hand, may that brilliant poet's writing speak to us and serve to give everyone hope for the future

## And about Joy –

Now, here's a taste of joy – on not one, but two fronts from our BB captain David concerning his experiences during Holy week. Firstly, his family days spent at Spring Harvest in Minehead in Somerset from 13<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> of April ... David writes -

“After a 3 and half hour drive, we arrived at Butlins, Minehead about noon – we had arranged to meet up with the Pittam family in the arena under the Big Top. They had shared their story of what a great time they had had at Spring Harvest and as it was our first time we were looking forward to enjoying it too as they had advised us how to get the most out of things to do.

At 1.00 p.m. we checked in, but had to wait until 4.00 p.m. when our chalet would be ready, so Andrew and I went off to explore The Splash, while Alison studied the week's programme, marking up things she thought we would all like to do (bearing in mind that, as we had been told, it is not possible to do everything that looks interesting!)

We got into the chalet, which was very nice, allocated our beds and unpacked our stuff. Then it was time for dinner.

We had booked for both dinner and breakfast each day and what a choice of food there was, from soup to main dishes, puddings and ice cream and lots in between with both hot and plenty of cold drinks.

Then it was time to make our way for the opening night celebration and worship in the Big Top, and WOW!

There were 4000 people all singing and praising God, such a wonderful way to start our week.

We learned that the theme for the week was “PRAY” and that it was “UNLIMITED”. We learned how to pray for ourselves, for others and other churches, for people all over the world and about praying out loud.

That session over Alison and I made our way to another venue to listen to Ishmael who shared with everyone stories and other issues all about his faith and what it all means to him.

At the same time Andrew joined a young peoples' group where they discussed the theme and planned activities for the week that would involve a number of sports events.

Then time for bed following a long day's travel and lots of excitement.

That week we followed a routine of up early, off to breakfast (where again there was so much to choose from – porridge, full English, toast and fruit with a great assortment of juices and hot drinks)

Back again to the Big Top for the “Big Start”.

This was led by a Christian Theatre Company and it was based on a school classroom idea, and explored the week's theme, plus the Worship Band leading all the worship – it was real fun and a lively way to start the day: remembering that “Prayer is Cool” and there are no limits to what it can achieve..

Next there was Bible Study and we listened to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, together with Anna Robbins – it was all very worthwhile.

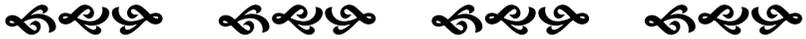
Some mornings we took a walk to look at the sea then back to the chalet for a spot of lunch before going to The Splash to swim.

There were lots of afternoon matinees which began at 3.00 p.m. and Alison and I greatly enjoyed Duggie Dug's Praise Party, Jonathan Veira, Rainbow Fish to name just a few.

Andrew and I also went on a 'behind the scenes' tour and saw how all the technical side of the Skykline Area was put together – it was so interesting. Andrew also enjoyed lots of the sports and spent some time on the fun fair! During each day there was always time to visit The Hub where there was a variety of Christian resources – sweatshirts, t-shirts, CDs, books, DVDs etc, etc,

More dinner then back to the Skyline for evening worship and guest speakers on the week's theme – it was all so inspirational and uplifting. We went to after-hours entertainment where we heard Ishmael, Graham Kendrick, Adrian Plass, Paul Kerensa, and the Urban Praise Project- what a wonderful way to end a day and back to the chalet about 11.30 p.m.

Then it was Thursday lunchtime and our Spring Harvest visit came to a close with a mass Communion – a wonderful experience. We had all enjoyed this so much and with many happy memories we set off for home. We had with us next year's Spring Harvest dates when all being well we hope to return to Minehead for Week One!"



## **Please now read about David's second 'lots of joy' April occasion**

Easter Sunday 2019 was indeed a special day for both the Kingston and the Wright families as we all gathered together at Kings Street Baptist church In Thetford. We were there to celebrate Michael's full immersion baptism as he publicly proclaimed his Faith.

The minister welcomed all to that very full church and the service was opened by the worship group, that included Michael, who led us in two lively songs that uplifted all our spirits for that most special day.

Time came for the baptism – for Michael and another lady.

Andrew gave his assistance by helping to open the very blue pool in the middle of the church which looked so inviting. Michael sang the worship hymn "Majesty" by Delirious, one very special to him, then he read out his testimony that made Alison and me feel very proud and come to realise what an influence we can have on our children.

I was very honoured to have been asked to go into the pool with Michael, so I then followed the Minister down into the water (it was nice and warm). Michael then responded to the question regarding his commitment to following Jesus all his life with the words "I Do" and I said a prayer. Michael then came into the water and we linked arms with the Minister and Michael was lowered into the water.

It was then that Jesus being baptised by John the Baptist flooded into my mind.

The congregation all clapped very loudly and together we sang that lovely song "O Happy Day".

Afterwards, when lots of photographs had been taken, we moved to the back of the church to dry off a bit while the lady had her special baptism. When that was over we removed ourselves to the church office to put on some dry clothes and went back for the rest of the service.

One of their church members, who is a local artist, had been sketching during that service and at the end presented Michael with a picture of him standing by an empty Cross – a lovely reminder that Jesus had risen and is alive in us all.

Next a lovely church luncheon was shared with everyone and followed with lots more photographs and it was special because it was the first that we had taken with both families since Karen and Michael were married back in May 2016

It was a day that will remain in the memory for always and what a way to celebrate a very Happy Easter.

### ***But that's not all!***

Here is some more very good news concerning Karen and Michael. They are moving into a new home in July – it is in the New Forest boundary and near to Ringwood. They will at last be able to live together as a married couple because during their time since getting married in May 2016, due to both work and training commitments, they have had to live apart and just be together for weekends and holiday breaks so we want to wish them all God's blessings and pray that their new home will be filled with lots of love and happiness.

And finally, “hot off the press” as they say, Michael has just been offered – and has accepted - a job as a drama teacher at a secondary school in Andover starting in the Autumn Term in September.

Andrew, Alison and I could not be more proud and we all wish both him and Karen every success for the future

David Kingston

And to David's sentiments the church family at Hayes End now want to add their blessings to a delightful young couple who so very obviously are truly committed to one another and also to travelling on a Christian Pathway.

We are always grateful when people offer items for inclusion in our magazine and most especially when they have a bearing on what we're all about – following the ways that Jesus led. Just to round off David's Easter reports we include an item from Eva – a lovely poem written by a lady from the Hanwell Methodist church named Eileen M. Pratt and is entitled

## **Easter Holidays**

**Hot cross buns and Easter eggs, Spring cleaning, gardening too – must go to the nursery to buy a plant or two.**

**Perhaps we'll visit auntie Anne and if the days are sunny we'll travel to the seaside and spend our hard-earned money We could decorate the bathroom and repair the second car and plan our Summer holiday. Will we go near or far?**

**But hark! Did I hear someone say that Christ was crucified?  
Betrayed by one for money and by his friend denied?  
They say he wore a crown of thorns upon his blessed head  
and a purple robe adorned him as a mocking notice said  
"King of the Jews" for all to see - such torture did he bear!  
He died for us in pain and grief he hung and suffered there.**

**And yet he rose triumphant as prophets once foretold  
that we might have eternal life – a treasure more than gold!  
What love you've shown, O giving Lord! Let us rejoice and sing  
and praise and honour you always, our Saviour and our King.**



Thanks for this one Eva.



## **ANOTHER BUSY WEEKEND @ HAYES END**

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May the Brigades held their annual “Open Night” at our Church which provided parents and friends a great opportunity to see what happens on a ‘normal’ Brigade meeting night, with the added bonus of audience participation.

Our main guests for the evening were our own Minister, Revd Ken Kingston and Mrs Christine Pittam, the newly appointed Deputy Commissioner for the Girls’ Brigade in Hillingdon. The evening began with a formal Parade then moved into a more relaxed mode as the youngsters provided an invigorating variety of items, where the undoubted enthusiasm of the young people was fully on display. During the evening there was also time for a welcome buffet.

Our Minister, Ken brought a delightful evening to a close with devotions, as we rightly recognized God’s part in all the work of the Brigades. A big thank you is due to everybody who made the Open Evening such a success with special mention reserved for those of you who made the effort and joined us on the night of our Open Evening.

Then on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May we held our third “Dave Live” Concert at the Church. David Steward, who is a member of our Bright Hour as well as being the organist at South Harrow Baptist Church, provided us with a feast of musical delights. David’s programme of music lasted over an hour and amazingly at no time did he refer to any musical scores. We were richly blessed that night with a great evening provided by an amazing talent. Thankyou David - now forward to “Dave Live 4”

# HAYES END NEWS



**WE GIVE THANKS** for the continuing vitality of our Brigades and it's great to note that Andrew Kingston, Paul Winterburn, Gavin Hampson and Sophie Williams were all promoted to the rank of lieutenants within our BB Company at the recent Brigades Open Evening following the completion of their basic training

**ALSO THANK YOU** to everyone who this Financial year has contributed to our several Appeals. Below is noted the latest position regarding these appeals:-

1. All We Can - £300.30
2. Action for Children - £ 341.40
3. Wateraid - £178.60
4. Christian Aid - £100.00
4. Southern African Cyclone Appeal - £ 245.00
5. World Mission Easter Appeal - £125.00

**WORK ON THE MINOR MODERNISATION IMPROVEMENTS** continues.

1. In the Disabled Toilets. (Hand Dryer next to be fitted).
2. The Speakers in the Church Porch are now working.
3. New picture frames fitted in the Church Porch.

The next main work concerns our Church Garden which will be cleared and landscaped with new plants and bushes, then in the Summer large television screens will be fitted in the worship area as part of our plans to continue to uprate our IT facilities.

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET** that we continue to support the work of local Food Banks and your donations are always gratefully received.

# THE HAYES END ACTION PLAN FOR MISSION



Last Month the Circuit Leadership Team devoted its latest meeting to consider all the Church Action Plans and to consider how they can be brought together to produce an Action Plan for The Circuit. Our own Action Plan noted below and on the following page was the result of many meetings. The emphasis now must be to ensure that is **AN ACTION PLAN** and not just another document which get filed away.

Category: WORSHIP		
Action Immediate	Action Ongoing 1 to 2 years	Action Future 2 to 3 years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Making Worship a time of joy.</li> <li>• Explore having a time of Praise and Worship before start of Morning Worship.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Incorporating traditions from other cultures and learn new songs.</li> <li>•Provide different worship styles including worship appropriate for younger people and the unchurched. e.g. Café Worship etc</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Develop our music ministry.</li> </ul>
Category: DISCIPLESHIP		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Regular Bible Studies issued via email.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Develop further Bible Study and Prayer groups.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Look to develop ecumenical links.</li> </ul>

<b>Category: CHILDREN &amp; YOUNG PEOPLE</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Involve Children &amp; Young People in the life of The Church especially in Worship.</li> <li>•Support those working with Children &amp; Young People in our Church.</li> <li>•Develop regular Chill-Out and other events for teenagers and young adults.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Campaign to recruit additional Adult Staff.</li> <li>•Campaign to increase the number of children in our Junior Church.</li> <li>•Explore the possibility of appointing a Children's &amp; Young Peoples worker.</li> </ul>	
<b>Category: PASTORAL</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Radical overall of the present groups.</li> <li>•Arrange training for Pastoral Coordinators.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Keep revised system under continual review and amend as necessary.</li> <li>•Arrange more social events to build links within our Church Community.</li> </ul>	
<b>Category: MISSION &amp; OUTREACH</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Annually arrange/Participate in 2 major outreach events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Make best use of these events.</li> <li>•Make stronger links with those on the fringe of our Church.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Explore how we can make better use of our Premises e.g. Café, Lunches for Older Generation.</li> </ul>
<b>Category: RESOURCES &amp; PUBLICITY</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Look to make better use of Church Web Site, Magazine, Social Media as tools for witness and nurture to our congregation and beyond.</li> <li>•Use and equip the Porch Area for Toddlers so that Parents can still be part of The Service.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Continue to look at uprating our Premises and IT facilities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Review our continuing Copier Printer requirements.</li> <li>•Work with others to develop a Ministry to The Homeless ( Not necessarily in our Church).</li> </ul>

# **Deacon Claire's June message**

***'And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved' Acts 2:47***

Dear Friends,

In this time as we approach Pentecost, we think back to the those first disciples, those first followers who witnessed the life and ministry of Christ, his death and resurrection and then continued to spread the Good News.

It is often difficult to relate to events that happened over 2,000 years ago and the excitement and anticipation of what was to come, the explosion of followers, the conversions and commitments that spread across the whole world. It is particularly difficult to grasp that energy when we no longer see huge numbers on a Sunday and when our Sunday Schools and choir stalls are empty. We might well ask 'What has happened?' 'What has gone wrong?' and to these questions we are often given the standard answers 'Oh there are other things to do on a Sunday now', 'I believe in something, but I don't need to go to a church to express it' or 'Churches are boring and out of touch with reality'. It can become a downward spiral of depression and criticism which does nothing to inspire the faithful or attract the seeker.

I was told at a recent meeting that Membership of the Methodist Church in Great Britain is in decline by 5,000 members a year and that the Methodist Church will cease to exist in 2040, that's even before I am due to retire! It is a frightening thought. Some may say 'Well I will be long gone before that! As long as it sees me out I'm not worried', but surely we should have started conversations a long time ago about the shape of the church in the future, some may think it is too late to bother. I would urge us all to seriously think about the question 'What would be lost if there were no Methodist Church? In this country, in this City and in Hayes End?' We must relate to the communities we serve and we must have an impact and a voice to make a difference to people's lives.

At Pentecost the disciples knew they were at the start of something very frightening, but equally exciting, exhilarating and huge. We face an unknown future, but in order to secure a future we must look beyond the traditions we have sometimes slavishly followed and be willing to try new things. The church is not a cosy club, discipleship is costly, where will we be in 20 or 30 years time? Who knows, but I for one would like to prove the statisticians wrong. I believe churches are much more than buildings, the Early Church had no buildings and yet they still grew; there are churches and congregations that are still growing now, not perhaps in a traditional sense of overflowing on Sundays but who identify the needs of the area and work alongside others to try and meet them.

There is a lot of good work happening right now in our church, but there is always a need to be open to the moving of the Spirit and a willingness to be guided by God into uncomfortable places.

May this time of Pentecost light the spark in our hearts that we can be on Fire for God and live as a Resurrection People now and Always.

Peace be with you all,

Claire



# **Comments on Deacon Claire's May item –**

As you may recall, Claire's article last month was based on Luke 24 where we read all about the Walk to Emmaus made by two of Jesus' followers the day after his crucifixion – that writing also related to the long walk made earlier this year by a group of celebrities. Known as 'Walking the Way of St. James' it was televised. Each one of those well-known people had decided to join in that journey for a variety of reasons - mostly as a result of having suffered pain or other times of stress in their lives, and which Claire explained to us in full detail.

We are left wondering how the journey may have affected their lives now that Walk is behind them – have their lifestyles changed, or was it just another venture to cross off their 'things to do' list, and enhance their popularity - have they continued their day-to-day living just as before or has their attitude to life been altered and/or improved? We do not know.

But back to Cleopas and his friend on their walk. Aware that although he was not named as one of the 'twelve' it is obvious he must have been a part of the close group of un-named followers who also knew Jesus pretty well – maybe he too had often journeyed with those followers during Jesus' ministry. And as to that friend who walked with him – well might it have been a female – could it possibly have been his wife? We know several women were included in the Jesus Group, but obviously as was custom then, females did not merit any mention being regarded by men as mere chattels and of no value or importance (*I believe that under a dozen females are actually given a name in the Bible*). So it's likely the first question we may ask when we read that passage is '*who was that un-named companion?*' Something else we do not know.

On the last weekend of April the London Marathon took place. The thousands who ran the twenty-six miles were also on a journey – a journey that would enable the majority of those unnamed men and women to raise money for a charity that was important to them. In many cases they had suffered the loss of someone dear and taking part in the Marathon had kept alive a precious memory and was a tribute to that person or persons; at the same time it was serving to raise money that could give support to others who may experience the same worry and sadness that they had known

Grief following the death of someone we have loved affects us in many different ways – it can cause us to be guilty of looking but failing to see. Why didn't Cleopas and friend not recognize Jesus as he walked with them that day? Why didn't Mary recognize her son on that Easter morning? Like Cleopas and his friend, we are all on a journey – not, of course to Emmaus but on the journey of life. But, just like those two travellers do we always recognize Jesus? Do we look and not see him?

When anyone gives a hand to help another up or offers support to someone in need Jesus told us that we do it for him – may God help us to see beyond our own problems and do just that.

# *The Merrie month of May*

Early in the last century there was a popular light opera entitled “Merrie England”. It was all about the court of Queen Elizabeth 1. A bit cheeky, it contained a song – ‘Merrie England’ that made special reference to May and its delights. *(some of us had the dubious pleasure of singing and dancing to it at school!)* No longer is it produced as it is now well out of fashion. Nonetheless, for many of our Hayes End church family the month of May did indeed offer good reason for joy and merriness – here's why –

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of the month baby Alfie Bennett made his first appearance. He is the second grandchild of our previous Minister Kip Bennett and wife Jane, born to their son Owen and wife Sarah, so through the magazine we offer our love and congratulations. Also, and more widely known a new royal boy, Archie was born to Prince Harry and his wife Meagan, so greetings to them too.

The 5<sup>th</sup> too was a special date in that Pat's youngest son Jason ran the Belfast Marathon in aid of Cystic Fibrosis and in memory of their twin daughters so very sadly lost eleven years ago – so lots of congratulations to you too Jason - he raised over £1,000.00

On the 10<sup>th</sup> our Brigades held an Open Evening, on the 11<sup>th</sup> our good friend Dave Steward gave the third of his special musical evenings and the following day was our Junior Church Anniversary *(these last three events are all reported later in this issue)*

So in just the first twelve days of May such a lot to thank God for – however, there is one more date - the 5<sup>th</sup> – that is also well deserving of a special mention. It was an important Sunday Service at Hayes End concerning Care and Giving – overleaf is a report from Pat and that too surely has a message for everyone ....



## Methodist relief and development

Our service on 5<sup>th</sup> May was led by Matthew Forsythe from All We Can, formerly the Methodist Relief and Development Fund.

It was interesting to hear a little of the history of this organisation and its roots in the evacuation of refugees from Nazi Germany and Austria in 1939 – 80 years ago this year.

All We Can has its roots in Methodist principles with particular focus on a certain statement by John Wesley:

**“Do all the good you can.  
By all the means you can.  
In all the ways you can.  
In all the places you can.  
At all the times you can.  
To all the people you can.  
As long as ever you can.”**

John Wesley, founder of Methodism

**Matthew told us something of how they work with partner organisations in different countries around the world including their work with CARD in Malawi. Drought is a problem for large areas of this country but, when the rains come, flooding is a major problem as demonstrated recently by Cyclone Idai. They are working to improve the flood risk by installing solar irrigation systems which will protect the crops and therefore the harvest.**

**This year there will be no harvest as it was due to be collected just as the storm hit. All We Can are working with CARD to ensure that people have access to food until they can harvest again next year and, fortunately, a lot of the infrastructure that had been installed survived the storm.**

**It was also interesting to hear about how the gifts of livestock, etc. we give at Christmas instead of the usual gifts work for the people who receive them. We heard about a woman in Ethiopia with 2 children who had no home or land. She survived by doing jobs around the houses of friends and other members of her local community which, being a poor area, didn't provide her with much security.**

**When All We Can started working in the area, they asked the local leaders who needed help most and they suggested this lady.**

**As a result, in 2016 she was given 3 sheep for a year and access to a ram. She now has a small herd of sheep and lambs and several chickens. Her children can go to school and she is starting to build their first home. All because someone decided to give 3 sheep as a gift somewhere in this country.**

**Amazing isn't it how such a small thing can make such a big difference in such a short time.**

**Pat**

***Thanks for this Pat – when Christmas arrives  
might it be a good idea to keep this lovely  
story in mind as we make decisions that  
concern the giving of our gifts?***

## ***Those other May ‘Specials’ –***

By now we hope you have already read John’s report on the Brigades’ Open Evening on the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month and about David Steward’s musical evening on the 11<sup>th</sup> - that weekend then concluded on a great big ‘high’ as we celebrated the Hayes End Junior Church Anniversary on the 12<sup>th</sup> – and what a celebration it was -

## ***“Dream a million dreams”***

was the theme of the young people’s service and it opened with the song “Come Alive” from ‘The Great Showman’ – and Come Alive it most surely did, with the song and dance bearing that title. It had many members of the congregation clapping and jogging along with those lively young ones.

With a positive feeling of uplifted spirits, I have just returned home along the beautiful roads in Buckinghamshire with its hedges of dancing bushes all adorned with May blossoms and many Chestnut trees with creamy candles and I can’t wait to put it all down on paper. At Hayes End today we have most surely worshipped God in a new and very meaningful way. And if the church is to survive the current and obvious downward trend it really must seek new ways in which to spread the love of Jesus and put them into practice before it’s too late.

So I’ll start at the beginning with information from our Worship Leader Nicola – when discussing the service with the young folk they apparently made it quite clear they wanted to do something ‘different’ in worship. So that was why their call to worship this morning was the song “Come Alive” It was Nicola who led the service, but who had obviously let the youngsters have control of its content, and to quote some words from that song –

*“don’t ask yourself what the world needs, ask yourself what makes you come alive and then go and do that because what the world needs is people who have come alive!”*

Those young members jointly offered a number of most meaningful prayers and a Reflection, entitled “The sadness of the world” which was very moving as we watched pictures of the needy and homeless in our world, and the film was backed by playing of “The Lord’s my shepherd” (Stf 481) by two accomplished musicians from junior church.

A section they entitled 'rewriting the stars' was when everyone had been given a 'star' on which to write their various dreams for a world of the future. The stars were collected and later were to be put in a place somewhere in the hall.

One of their readings was the well-known story from Luke of the Prodigal Son and this they presented not only as a reading, but as a mime that clearly demonstrated the feelings of the mother and her two daughters; even showing the anger of the older daughter as she hurled shoes at her sister in disgust! But all three ended with a great big cuddle of forgiveness which we know is the true message from that reading.

Everything was interspersed with excellent hymns and some thought-provoking talks from Nicola. She stressed the importance of listening to youngsters - the thinkers and doers in this 21<sup>st</sup> century, and it's time for us older ones to stand back and only give advice when called to do so. We've had our day, now it's their turn, so I conclude this report about Sunday morning, 12<sup>th</sup> of May with the words of their sending-out prayer

“Through the Spirit, let us become people of dreams and visions.  
Wherever we go, may we always hear God's voice calling us  
home, and from now on, by daring to dream big and, following  
Jesus's example, let our anthem be to make a positive  
difference in the world”.

And to all of that we loudly and sincerely say “AMEN”

Of course, it goes without saying that some will not have appreciated this very different, loud and effervescent worship and undoubtedly it would not be welcome every Sunday. However, if the church is to remain a place where there is positive and meaningful help in today's world of so much greed and need, it should give space to young people and new ways of worship – now and in future They do have really good ideas and should not be patronised. We need to ensure that church stays a place of comfort, refuge and support especially when so many are called to face so much horror and pain in their earthly lives.

To bring this to a close we must give heartfelt thanks to each member of the Hayes End Junior church who were our preachers and leaders that lovely sunny day – and as always, no names but we know that you know who you are! And they added to their undoubted talents by offering everyone drinks and bikkies before we left for our homes! Thanks guys for all your efforts – more power to your elbows, or whatever it is you use!

## Christian Aid Week – 13<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> of May –

followed that special birthday celebration and even though it's no longer possible for some of us to join in the 'Walk the City' event it is hoped all friends received a gift envelope to fill for contributions towards the vital work that is done by Christian Aid – just go back and read again the report on the "All We Can" service, it may help to reinforce the importance of our giving to those who are unable to give.

Please also give some thought to sending off the card at the back of the Bible Study booklet. We need to let our politicians know we care about these things and need them to care too.

## ***Now let's look ahead at future events***

the first of these will be a very important birthday celebration – the birthday of the Christian Church which believers know as Pentecost and this year is on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June. On that day friends and members from both Hayes and North Hillingdon have been invited to join us at Hayes End for a united service of celebration and that time of worship will be preceded by a Family Brunch to be served by members of our catering committee. And, of course, the regular time of drinks and fellowship will follow the service.

Brunch will be served at 10.00 a.m. so a reminder that if you wish to join in that you need to arrive an hour before normal on the 9<sup>th</sup> June. The Sunday following is Trinity Sunday, always a week after Pentecost and when the Christian church celebrates the Holy Trinity – God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Then just a week later, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon will be holding a Strawberry Cream Tea at 3.00 p.m.

The final date of importance in June is the 30<sup>th</sup> - the last Sunday of the month, when at Hayes End the Service is planned as a Café Worship time and will also be the annual General Meeting, followed by our regular monthly cake sale. Please do your best to be with us that day as we make plans for the future mission of our church and also appoint our Leadership Team for the next church year from the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020

So let's go back to Pentecost for a minute. In the old Hillingdon Circuit, one of our local preachers, Yvonne Farnell, wrote a poem about Pentecost and we'd like to quote it here – it's called

## **I Wonder**

I wonder what the Disciples felt in the upper room that day?  
I wonder if they understood all Jesus had to say?  
    I wonder what the disciples felt that Pentecostal day, far away.  
I wonder what the disciples felt with the rush of wind so light?  
I wonder if they understood the flames of fire so bright?  
    I wonder what the disciples felt that Pentecostal day, far away.  
I wonder what the crowd felt as they heard the disciples talk?  
I wonder if they understood the concept of a Christian walk?  
    I wonder what the crowd felt that Pentecostal day, far away.  
I wonder what the crowd felt as three thousand then believed?  
I wonder if they understood the future they'd received?  
    I wonder what the crowd felt that Pentecostal day, far away.  
I wonder what we felt to hear the tale retold?  
I wonder if we understood the message clear but old?  
    I wonder now what we felt on Pentecostal day, not so far away.  
I wonder now what we felt as two thousand years unfurled?  
I wonder if we understood with the Scriptures more uncurled?  
    I wonder now what we felt on Pentecostal day, not so far away.  
I wonder what the people felt as the tale is very old?  
I wonder if they understood it was still new, clear and bold?  
    I wonder what the people felt on Pentecostal day, not so far away.  
I wonder what the people felt of Spirits, dreams and visions?  
I wonder if they understood it was for them to make decisions?  
    I wonder what the people felt on Pentecostal day, not so far away.  
I wonder

**Any reader like to share their thoughts that involve  
Pentecost and the arrival of the Holy Spirit  
back then and now in this 21<sup>st</sup> Century?**

## ***An item from Jim Ashton***

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March when Ken preached on the Good Samaritan a thought came to my mind when back in the mid-sixties we lived in West Drayton. One day I had been shopping and returning home with our son in his pram. At the time I was wearing a light-coloured mac. A small boy in front of us fell over and cut his knee which was bleeding profusely. I grabbed him up just as a neighbour passed and enquired what was happening. I told her I'd take the boy to the doctors if she would push the baby home which she kindly did. The doctor, who sported a beard and resembled Svengali was a little brusque and said, "No, not you again" meaning the boy. The family was well-known for their frequent visits to A & E rather than seeing a doctor. I was told to go home, and the doctor said he would bandage up the child's leg. What I failed to realize how blood-stained my mac was. Although we soaked it in cold water that stain could not be removed – so much for being a good Samaritan.

## **Quotes from here and there that may raise a smile**

**My mother is very short-tempered  
I think she is going through her mental pause.**

**In spring the salmon swim upstream to spoon**

**Kicking baby is considered to be healthy**

**Question in Court – were you alone or by yourself?**

**The local medical association made a presentation  
to the Minister complaining of laboratory delays, and  
especially the ten-month wait for a pregnancy test.**

**That snake-in-the-grass is  
barking up the wrong tree.**

**Celibacy? Something you put in a salad.**

## **and Commandments for marriage**

**Marriages are made in heaven.  
But so is thunder and lightning**

**When a man opens the car door for his wife,  
either the car is new or the wife is**

**Every man wants a wife who is beautiful, understanding,  
economical and a good cook. But the Law allows only one wife**

## **Now for some signs of the times -**

**(seen above a dryer in a launderette)**

**When the light goes on, please  
remove all your clothes**

**(notice seen outside a church)**

**Prayer is the one thing that  
is always going up**

**(and this)**

**Under the same management  
for over 2000 years**

**Here's the alphabet: not as we learned when children – Daya kindly sent this one – thanks Daya -**

***The Holy Alphabet...***

**A**lthough things are not perfect,  
**B**ecause of trial or pain,  
**C**ontinue in thanksgiving  
**D**on't even think of whom to blame  
**E**ven when the times are hard,  
**F**ierce winds are bound to blow,  
**G**od is forever able  
**H**old on to Jesus .  
**I**magine life without His love,  
**J**oy would cease to be,  
**K**eep thanking Him for all the things  
**L**ove imparts for you to see.  
**M**ove out of complaining,  
**N**o weapon that is known  
**O**n earth can yield the power  
**P**raise can do alone.  
**Q**uit worrying about the future,  
**R**edeem the time at hand,  
**S**tart every day with prayer  
**T**o 'thank' is God's command.  
**U**ntil we see Him coming,  
**V**ictorious in the sky,  
**W**e'll run the race with gratitude,  
**X**alting the God Most High.  
**Y**es, there'll be good times and yes some will be bad, but...  
**Z**ion awaits in glory...where no one is ever sad!

May we now wrap up this issue with some great words of advice from an unknown author, entitled:

## ***Something to live by –***

Have a mustard seed faith,  
walk on water,  
sing a new song,  
spread joy,  
follow a rainbow.  
Celebrate the dawn.  
Rejoice in the Lord.  
Welcome solitude.

Laugh heartily,  
feel enough to cry,  
reach out,  
share good news,  
start a conversation.  
Plant a seed.  
Mend a relationship.

Affirm others.  
Forgive and seek forgiveness.

Let Jesus surprise you.  
Bear someone's burden.  
Love the unlovely.

Soar like an eagle.  
Run the good race.  
Walk without fainting,  
attempt the impossible.  
Pray without ceasing.  
Wait.  
Never give up on God.



The closing date for items in our July/August Magazine

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June**

Please write or type your article and hand to Enid Thomas -  
you can also send items by email to

[crummage@btinternet.com](mailto:crummage@btinternet.com)

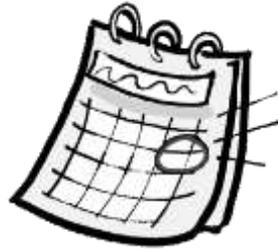
[www.hemc.org.uk](http://www.hemc.org.uk) is the web site address for Hayes End  
Methodist Church and <http://northhillingdonchurch.org.uk> is  
the web site for North Hillingdon Methodist Church.

[www.hayesmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.hayesmethodistchurch.org.uk) is the web site for the Hayes  
Methodist Church (If you have access to the internet, please  
remember to use these sites when you need to check what's  
happening in your Church)

Other web sites of interest:

The Circuit Website is [www.hah.org.uk](http://www.hah.org.uk)  
London District Website is [www.methodistlondon.org.uk](http://www.methodistlondon.org.uk)

**Worship dates and other events  
in our church and Circuit during  
the months of June and  
July 2019**



**June 2019**

- 1<sup>st</sup> 12.00 p.m. Table Top Sale at Hayes  
3.00 p.m. 'Young at Heart' Club at North Hillingdon
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon  
11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes  
11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End
- 5<sup>th</sup> 1.30 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
- 6<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m. Handicraft Group meet at Hayes End
- 9<sup>th</sup> **Pentecost Sunday**  
No service at North Hillingdon  
**10.00 a.m. Breakfast Brunch and**  
11.00 a.m. Joint Service at Hayes End  
No service at Hayes
- 10<sup>th</sup> 2.30 p.m. United Bright Hour at Hayes End  
. Prima's Management Committee at Hayes End
- 11<sup>th</sup> 2.00 p.m. Resources Network meeting at S. Ruislip
- 12<sup>th</sup> 1.30 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters  
11.00 a.m. United Holy Communion at Aston House
- 13<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m. United Allsorts Group meet at Hayes End
- 16<sup>th</sup> **Trinity Sunday**  
9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon  
11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes  
11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End
- 19<sup>th</sup> 1.30 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters  
**Last date for items for July/August magazine items**
- 20<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m. Handicraft Group meet at Hayes End

- 23<sup>rd</sup> 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon  
3.00 p.m. Strawberry Cream Tea  
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes  
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End
- 24<sup>th</sup> 2.30 p.m. United Bright Hour at Hayes End  
 8.00 p.m. Circuit meeting at Hayes End
- 26<sup>th</sup> 1.30 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
- 27<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m. United Allsorts Group meet at Hayes End
- 30<sup>th</sup> 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon  
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes  
 11.00 a.m. **Annual General Meeting and Cafe Worship Service**  
**at Hayes End with monthly cake sales**

## **July**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> 1.30 - 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
- 4<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m. Handicraft Group meet at Hayes End
- 6<sup>th</sup> **All Day – Hayes Family Fun Day in Town Hall Park**  
**(previously Hayes Carnival)**
- 12.00 p.m. Table Top Sale at Hayes
- 3.00 p.m. 'Young at Heart' Club at North Hillingdon
- 7<sup>th</sup> 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon  
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes  
 11.00 a.m. Children's Praise Service at Hayes End
- 8<sup>th</sup> 2.30 p.m. United Bright Hour at Hayes End  
 7,30 p.m. Hayes End Church Council
- 10<sup>th</sup> 1.30 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters  
 11.00 a.m. United Holy Communion at Aston House
- 11<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m. United Allsorts Group meet at Hayes End  
 CLT meeting at Ruislip
- 14<sup>th</sup> 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon  
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes  
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End to be followed  
 by a family Barbecue

- 17<sup>th</sup> 1.30 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters  
 18<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m. Handicraft Group meet at Hayes End  
 21<sup>st</sup> 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon  
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes  
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End  
 22<sup>nd</sup> 2.30 p.m. United Bright Hour at Hayes End  
 24<sup>th</sup> 1.30 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters  
 25<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m. United Allsorts Group meet at Hayes End  
 28<sup>th</sup> 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon  
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes  
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End  
 29<sup>th</sup> 7.30 p.m. Circuit Stewards meet at Ruislip Manor  
 31<sup>st</sup> 7.30 p.m. United Allsorts Group meet at Hayes End

**all dates listed are as known at time of going to press  
 but not included are any regular Brigades' meetings**

***Quote of the month, via Pat who knew that there was a  
 very good reason why some us don't dust!***

**You are dust, and you will return to dust -  
 that's why I don't dust - it could be someone I knew**

Following church policy, we reserve the right to amend or omit any item or part of any item submitted that is deemed to be unsuitable or inappropriate for inclusion in this church magazine.



## **DURING THE WEEK IN HAYES END CHURCH**

- SUNDAY:** 11.00 - Morning Worship & Junior Church  
18.00 - Evening Services - monthly at North Hillingdon
- MONDAY:** 10.00 – Ramblers Club (meet in Car Park)  
Contact: Ajayi - Tel: 07738-709595  
10.00 – The Parent & Toddlers’ Group  
Contact: Janette - Tel: 0208-845-3485  
14.30 – The Bright Hour (Alt. weeks)  
Contact: Eva - Tel: 0208-581-5853  
19.30 p.m. Insight Bible Study Group A (Alt. weeks)  
(Contact: David 0208-581-9594)
- TUESDAY:** 19.30 p.m. Insight Bible Study Group B (Alt. weeks)  
Contact: Ajayi – Tel. see above
- WEDNESDAY:** 11.00 – Holy Communion (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. Monthly)  
held at Aston House Care Home  
Contact: Anne - Tel: 0208- 573-5602  
18.00 – The Girls’ Brigade  
Contact: Colleen - Tel: 07928-231254
- THURSDAY:** 10.00 a.m. – The Parent & Toddlers’ Group  
Contact: Janette – Tel. see above  
19.30- The Craft Group (Alt. weeks)  
Contact: Pat - Tel: 0208-561-3134  
19.30 – All Sorts Club (Alt weeks)  
Contact: John - Tel: 0208-573-3607
- FRIDAY:** 17.30 – The Boys’ Brigade  
Contact: David - Tel 0208- 581-9594



# Lectionary Readings for June 2019

2<sup>nd</sup> June

Acts 16:16-2  
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21  
John 17:20-26  
Psalm 97

9<sup>th</sup> June  
Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9  
Romans 8: 14-17 or Acts 2:1-21  
John 14:8-17 (25-270  
Psalm 104:24-34,35b

16<sup>th</sup> June  
Trinity

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31  
Romans 5:1-5  
John 16:12-15  
Psalm 8

23<sup>rd</sup> June

Isaiah 65:1-9  
Galatians 3:23-29  
Luke 8:26-39  
Psalm 22:19-28

30<sup>th</sup> June

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-2  
Galatians 5:1,13-25  
Luke 9:51-62  
Psalm 16

# ***The Chronicle***

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