

THE CHRONICLE

*Monthly magazine of the
three Hayes Methodist churches*



September 2018 - Issue 254

The Methodist Church

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

24th August 2018

A letter from the Minister

Dear Friends,

Ever since I was stationed in January I have felt like Eliza Doolittle from ‘*My Fair Lady*’ having to practise her ‘h’s. Rather than unlikely hurricanes in Hertford, Hereford and Hampshire, I have been explaining to people that I am moving to be a Methodist minister in Hayes, Hayes End and North Hillingdon in the Harrow and Hillingdon Circuit.

I feel a little like the wanderer returning.

My wife, Jo, and I used to live in Uxbridge when it was in the Hillingdon Circuit before moving away to High Wycombe in 1996. (And I can just about remember preaching in the three churches.) And now 22 years later we are coming back, with two additional members of the family – Rebecca and Charlotte.

What has amazed me is the number of people I have spoken to about our move, who have lived, worked or gone to school in Hayes or Hillingdon. The links with the area have astounded me.

In her maiden speech to the House of Commons the late MP Jo Cox said, “We are far more united and have far more in common with each other than things that divide us.”

What unites us and what do we have in common?

Yes, we are linked by geography, living on the western fringes of London. But we have far more in common. There is our faith - we are brothers and sisters in Christ. And our love of Jesus is expressed in our worship, in our service and in our desire to share God's love. There will be times when we will laugh together, and occasions when we may weep together. We will be called to bear one another's burdens and have others help to bear our burdens (Galatians 6:2). And the ability to do this can only come from our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who strengthens us.

I look forward to meeting you, to working and worshipping with you, and discovering what more we might have in common. I will hold you in my prayers and ask that you might do the same for me and my family, as we make the changes to living in a new house and adjusting to a new way of life.

With love and prayers,

Ken

Dedication Prayer to begin **a new church year**

Lord Jesus, I give my hands to do your work;

I give my feet to go your way;

I give my eyes to see as you do:

I give my tongue to speak your words

I give my mind that you may think in me:

I give my spirit that you may pray in me.

Above all, I give my heart that you may love in me:

I give my whole self that you may grow in me,

so that it is you who lives and

works and prays in me

Our churches' prayer pages



And here we are, at the beginning of a new year in our church, hopefully refreshed from a summer break and anticipating good things in the months and year ahead. September, traditionally the time of Harvest and giving thanks to God for his incredible provision for his children, is also a time when (*just like traditional new-year resolutions*) we can resolve to spread the good news and help our church to grow by planting seeds where none have grown before. Therefore, we feel that the hymn selected for this month should be one we first sang at Hayes End in 2008, when we celebrated the restructure of our church – it was written by Marty Haugen -

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat; a
banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet. Here the love of
God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space; as we share in Christ
the feast that frees us:

All are welcome

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

All are welcome

... 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 journeyings 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 that we name below this month -

Amen

Moggy James

Jim Bull

Martyn Joseph

Cath Smith

Margaret Nelhams

Dorothy Fysh

Christopher Hill

Siegfried Sassoon

Bryan Longson

Traudi Winkler

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*

**“Suffering God, you lift us
from our deepest grief,
when emotion blinds us
to our own belief.
In love you touch us
with your nail-torn hand
and your wounds remind us
why you understand...”**

Marjorie Dobson

September starter ...

In our churches this is the beginning of our new year – new events and some special occasions; the welcoming of new friends and it is also time for planting bulbs and seeds in our gardens in readiness for next Springtime.

Back at the end of June it so happened that the relative Lectionary readings from both Ezekiel 17 and Mark 4 on the 20th of that month were based on the sowing of seeds and the expectation of the outcome of their planting – what would they be like, would they give a good yield?

And then in turn those readings led us to thinking how about the seeds that are regularly planted by all who work with the youngsters (*and the not-so-young*) in our churches? Will those seeds produce a good crop or, as so often appears to happen, give us reason to believe that it's all a waste of our precious time – that we are banging our heads on a brick wall and we might just as well stop trying to lead others to a belief and faith in God?

However, even if we never have the pleasure of seeing the reaping of a good harvest, it doesn't mean that our planted seeds have been totally pointless – as most gardeners are aware, seeds can often lie dormant for many months and indeed many years before they begin to grow.

It was Deacon Claire Gill who led our memorable Service at Hayes End on that sunny Sunday in June and she included in her message a wonderful prayer/poem from the Christian martyr, Archbishop Oscar Romero - the priest who, on the 24th of March 1980, was so brutally murdered while he was in the act of serving Holy Communion to his congregants.

His impressive writing gives such an uplift to any people who work hard at seed-sowing and who can quite often feel frustrated that they have seen no positive outcome from their planting efforts: we want to quote those words from the Archbishop in this issue as an encouragement to everyone as we begin our new church year and continue to plant seeds, hoping and praying that one day the harvest will ripen and bring forth great fruit -

We Are Prophets of a Future Not Our Own

It helps, now and then, to step back and take the long view. The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is beyond our vision. We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us. No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the church's mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything. This is what we are about: We plant seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects beyond our capabilities. We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for God's grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders, ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own

Such great words of wisdom from a truly wonderful Christian man who, just like the assassinated Dr Martin Luther King, gave his life while leading people to faith – both were amazing planters of seeds ...

so what could be better for us as the people of faith and at the start of another brand-new church year than to set about setting some seeds?

And all that leads us to offer readers a reminder concerning the giving of our thanks to God for any person or persons who may have planted seeds in our own lifetimes – indeed some may have noticed that Oscar Romero’s name was one that was offered to God in the June magazine.

Unfortunately – at the time of writing this item – only three people have so far taken the trouble to give in some names: surely there must be more folk in our church family who have reason to say thanks to God for someone from whom they have received blessings – some individual who has been the sower of seeds in their life? We have no need for any intimate details – just a name or two to offer to God on our prayer page as detailed on page 15 of the April issue of this magazine, and now included each month on page 6.

But now we’d like to hark back to our General Meeting, also held in June and to our current important task of church growth.

One activity that our then Minister Andrew included in worship that day was to ask us for ideas as to how we might work together towards achieving that growth – what is necessary for us to do to attract people to follow Jesus and learn of God?

That day we were blessed with a very good congregation and, seated in several groups, we wrote down ideas from people in those groups. It was quite incredible to hear some of the results concerning activities, services and general outreach.

Sharing food was a very popular item, but one that caught our special attention was how to approach people who have never been to a Sunday school; people who were not at school when those regular Christian assemblies were part of the curriculum; those individuals whose parents had never been involved with any church and thus had not passed on the story of God and his son Jesus – the way in which the majority of us had received the good news when we were small children.

Okay, so today most folk are aware that on the 25th December many years ago a baby called Jesus was born in a country far away and that all churches hold something that is called a Christmas Nativity which is very sweet and endearing as it involves little children all dressed up as adults to tell the story about that Jesus baby whose mother was called Mary, and they sing some nice songs that are all about his birth – they may also know that that baby grew up to be a man and at a time called Easter (when most importantly we give one another chocolate eggs) he was nailed on a wooden cross and killed by some bad men.

They've also heard about harvest which is the time when people take lots of fruit and vegetables into a church to put on a show, so that's nice too, and they sing some good songs about it. And, of course, there's christenings, weddings and funerals which all need to be done in a church, but in many cases that would appear to be the extent of their knowledge of 'church'. I'm sure we've quoted this before, but one of the saddest things I overheard in a card shop one Christmas time was the remark – *“you don't want to pick those, they're only about religion and not about Christmas”*

It's so apparent that growth of the church today really is all up to us, and our prayer is that the new Leadership Team will continue to work hard with some of the suggested ideas that may have an appeal among our local community – especially to youngsters many of whom today appear to find their lives bewildering and very stressful – also to find people who are able and willing to lead and welcome those who don't know what we do 'in church'

By no means must we ever water down our faith, but we must discover that which will appeal to their tastes thus helping them find that getting faith does not just involve going into a building each Sunday for an hour – it's far more than that. And that those who are already there and belong to the church are exactly like them: they too are possessed of all known human failings – they too have problems and lots of serious worries, but they belong to the church and believe in God because they want to get things better and because in their past someone at some time had sown good seeds in their life.

With these thoughts concerning the planting of seeds and at the start of our new year, might now be a good time to remind ourselves of the Covenant made a couple of years ago and that Andrew included in that General Meeting Service ...

Hayes, Hayes End and North Hillingdon Churches

Our Covenant Together

This Covenant represents our common belief that by working, worshipping and sharing fellowship together we become a more effective vehicle for God's mission and service in the life of our Circuit. We have been brought together under the pastoral care of our minister, the Revd Andrew Pottage, in the south of the London Borough of Hillingdon, geographically we are within a 7 mile radius of each other and the needs of the three communities are similar.

We believe in the Christian doctrines of the Church especially those highlighted by our Methodist tradition as expressed by the values laid down in Our Calling. These are to worship regularly, learn more about the Bible, care for each other, serve our community and share our faith and we seek to promote these whenever and wherever we can.

We believe that by working more closely together we will develop closer friendship, fellowship and ultimately draw more people into the kingdom of God.

We will stand against injustice, prejudice or intolerance when it seeks to divide our community and persecute people or groups of people within it.

We seek to worship together regularly and to share in social occasions, in order to know each other better, thus enabling a deeper level of friendship.

We seek to promote the values of our Lord Jesus Christ whenever possible and present His Kingdom as a place of love, welcome and embrace for all who would seek it.

We are committed to continuing to serve the Lord Jesus Christ, learn more of His kingdom and enter into a deeper relationship with Him.

This Covenant has been prepared by the Leadership Teams of the 3 Churches.

Signed by **The Revd Andrew R. Pottage**

January 2016.

Well done, thou good and faithful servant –

We feel certain that those were the words offered to the late Fred Dale, long-time member at the Hayes church when he arrived at the gates of Heaven. Sadly, after years of service Fred died on 12th July at the age of 99 years. Had he survived a little longer he would have celebrated his 100th birthday during this month (September), but that was not in God's plan for him.

Fred was one of those characters who automatically spread joy, and each time he met you he would offer heartfelt greetings, and you knew he was pleased to see you. Our Minister, Revd Andrew Pottage officiated at Fred's funeral on the 20th of July that was followed by internment at the local cemetery. Afterwards family and friends returned to Hayes church to share a time of refreshment and many memories of this much-loved gentleman. Through this magazine we now wish to pass on condolences and sincere sympathy to all the members of Fred's family, and especially to his daughter Mary, also a valued member at the Hayes church.

Worship leader Linda Jones and her husband Norman have very kindly offered the following words of remembrance for dear Fred

Fred was loved by everyone and every time we met he would always enquire about our two children, even though they no longer are in the church. And we suspect that he was in the habit of making such enquiries of all his church family. He was a gentleman in every sense of the word, and there is no wonder that quite a few tears were shed on the day of his funeral. He will be so much missed.

Fred was one of fourteen children, but only seven survived their childhood. In addition to four daughters he had grandchildren and one great grandchild, and it was so obvious that they all loved their dear dad, granddad and great granddad

On Sundays in church Fred loved to sing his praises to God, and quite frequently it was smiles all round in the church during our hymn singing. As soon as the hymn was announced Fred would stand and proceed to deliver at the top of his voice and always with such great gusto and meaning every word that he was singing – however, he was quite frequently well out of tune, and would finish the words of the hymn either before, or after, the rest of the congregation! Never mind the music, Fred was there to offer his praises to God and to the very best of his ability.

We had planned to give him a surprise 100th birthday party, but we feel sure that he now knows just how much we all cared for him - our precious friend Fred – ‘til we meet again dear one may God keep you safely in his care.

Norman and Linda



What is dying?

I am standing on the sea shore, a ship sails in the morning breeze and starts for the ocean. She is an object of beauty and I stand watching till she fades on the horizon, and someone at my side says, “she is gone!”

“Gone where?”

Gone from my sight, that is all; she is just as large in the masts, hull and spars as she was when I saw her, and just as able to bear her load of living freight to its destination.

The diminished size and total loss of sight is in me, not in her, and just at the moment when someone at my side says “She is gone”, there are others who are watching her coming, and other voices take up a glad shout

“There she comes!!” - and that is dying.

Harvest Home ... or?



This is the time of Harvest, we've come to thank you God for all that you give to us – the fruits, the flowers, our food. The joy of friends and family; the care that we all know but most of all for Jesus, because he loves us so.

You sent him to live with us – your precious only son, to teach and heal and show us how lives on earth might run. Some listened to his message and did their best to stay to love and trust in you Lord; but many turned away.

And may we not forget Lord those other souls on earth – the millions who have nothing and feel of little worth. No gifts have they to bring you – no harvest do they know – their lands are war-torn deserts, their crops they fail to grow.

Each day we watch them suffer – their grief so hard to bear so little can we offer to ease the pains they share. We know you're hurting with them, but Lord they need much more – restore the world where they are, give healing to the poor

So at this time of Harvest let's be prepared to give the bounty freely offered – for all on earth to live: to live as one great family, as Jesus came to show and help us build the kingdom on your earth here below



A FLUID SITUATION

THE HAYES END CHURCH MODERNISATION PROJECT & BEYOND

Over the past few weeks the situation regarding this major property project has become very fluid. But now finally I can confirm with some certainty where we stand with the Modernisation Project.

Our original budget figure for the Modernisation Project was 120K. But the two tender quotes received calculated the cost at around 150K, far in excess of what we can afford. So the Finance & Property Committee in conjunction with our Architect urgently looked at changes to the Project to bring the cost down closer to the Budget figure. We have now gone out to tender with our “Preferred Contractor”, but this time excluding the major changes to the Car Park and Garden, which hopefully will ensure that we get an acceptable tender quote. We have offered two windows of opportunity for this work to be undertaken, either pre- Christmas or in January and February. We now wait patiently for good news from both a financial and a start date perspective. Also, the work will now be completed in a shorter time- span of around six weeks.

The Modernisation project though forms only part of our plans to continue to uprate our premises. We have a magnificent suite of premises, which have stood the test of time remarkably well but it must be said in some areas are now looking rather tired.

Even with uncertainty re the Modernisation project we must consider what else should be included in our future programme of Property improvements. Obviously finance dictates what is possible and only when we have an agreed tender price for Church Modernisation will we have the information available to set next year's Budget. But it is obvious that if we want to achieve all our future Property objectives then Fund Raising must remain a major priority, and that will not be possible without your undivided help and support.



I have recently given the matter of establishing our other Property Priorities much thought. In the process and have come up with the following list, some new and some already established. They are in no particular order but I believe should be included in our forthcoming 5 year programme of Property improvements

The list includes, in no particular order,

- ◆ **INTEGRATED FIRE ALARM SYSTEM FOR THE BUILDING** – Cost around 10K.
- ◆ **UPRATE OF IT FACILITIES IN THE WORSHIP AREA** including 2 large Plasma Screen TV's. Cost a round 15K.
- ◆ **MODERNISE AND REDECORATION OF LADIES & GENTS TOILETS.** Cost around 5K.
- ◆ **MODERNISE PRIMARY ROOM** including new floor, cupboards etc. Cost around 10K.
- ◆ **EXTERNAL – CAR PARK, GARDEN AND REDECORATION PROGRAMME.** Cost around 40K.

This programme of work is very ambitious, but over 5 years with continuing Fund Raising efforts is definitely achievable.

John Chamberlain

WELCOME

September, the start of the Methodist Church Connexional Year, is always a busy time in the Church Calendar and this year is no exception. In fact we are very pleased to extend a welcome to many, which include:-

Revd. Ken Kingston and his family, and we must not forget that Ken is a Probationer Minister meaning that he has to spend one day a week on completing his studies. So please note Ken's study day is Monday and his day off is a Saturday.

Deacon Claire Gill. Because Ken is a Probationer Minister Clare will devote more time, in fact 15% of her time, will be devoted to our Sector of Churches, so Claire will become a familiar face in our churches.

Mrs Bose Osinloye has joined our Church Leadership Team, as our newest Church Steward.

Revd. Lynita Conradie has joined the Ministerial Staff in the Circuit, having Pastoral Oversight for Pinner, Canon Lane & Eastcote Churches.

Revd. Andrew Pottage now moved to pastures new in Northwood and has now taken on the full duties as our new Circuit Superintendent.

We extend our best wishes to all named above and assure them of our continuing support, as hopefully we now look forward to a more settled period in the life of our churches and Circuit.

FORTHCOMING MAJOR EVENTS



HAYES END METHODIST CHURCH HARVEST FESTIVAL

Sunday 23rd September 2018

Join with us and our new Minister Revd. Ken Kingston on Sunday 23rd September for our Harvest Festival Celebrations. The All-Age Parade Service will be held at 11am and this will be followed by our "FOODS OF THE WORLD" meal. We do hope you will be able to join this Harvest Meal in The Hall.



OUR BRIGADE COMPANIES ENROLMENT SERVICE

7pm In the church on Friday 5th October. Please come along and support their vital work.

This is it –

as promised, Minister Claire Gill has kindly sent in her article for this month's issue and it's much appreciated! What a wonderful concept to try something new at the start of a new year – please read on everyone and thank you so much Claire

Give something new a try!

I realise this September will be a time for new things, you have now 2 new ministers in myself and Ken, you will have expectations about the future and what it may hold and I hope we may never become too set in our ways to be willing to give something new a try.

Someone last week gave me a book called 'Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine', they said they enjoyed and thought I might too. I love to read, I think I was first introduced to reading by my parents, both of whom loved to read, we went regularly to the library and I remember even from a young age waiting to see if my name was on the board, which meant the book I had requested was ready for me to collect, and nearly running home as I couldn't wait to read it. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, The Magic Faraway Tree, Judy Bloom books, then I had a Speight of Catherine Cookson (being northern!) on to Thomas Hardy, Jane Austin, the Brontes and Dostovesky. Reading for me opened up a whole new world of possibilities, coming from a small mining town in West Yorkshire with limited career options and even more limited travel my imagination became my escape and also inspired me to want to learn more.

I was asked a couple of months ago to lead a group of people looking at church growth and so I scoured my bookcase for resources and had to laugh, I wondered what my bookcase said about me - if I had been on 'Through the Keyhole' what conclusions would people draw.

I had 'Mission Shaped Church', 'Fresh Expressions of Church' alongside Karl Marx, next to Pam Ayres Poetry, Paddington and St. Benedict's Rule of Life, apart from reminding me that I really should try and sort them into some sort of categories, it also reminded me that we are all a mix of different elements, a huge pot of stew with all sorts thrown in! It would be remiss of me not to mention the vast number of Bibles I also seem to have collected as Christmas and Birthday presents (make a note - it is very kind but ministers do read other things!)

As a member of a Religious Order as well as an order of Ministry we all follow a Rule Of Life in which we are required to spend time each day in prayer, bible reading and reflection, we are meant to try and achieve a balance between Being and Doing. I find that when reading is the Doing, it helps me with my Being, the act of switching off everything, the television, the distractions, the noise levels and finding a comfy chair and opening a book after 5 minutes I can physically feel the change both to my mind and body.

So in this next few months as the nights start to darken and the days are colder give yourselves permission to sit and read, even if you think you don't like it, try something new or try something old: a newspaper, magazine or the collected works of Dickens - give it a go for our God is a God of surprises and you never know what might happen, let me know how you get on!

Claire



It's all happened since our last mag!

Was this a first? We have a feeling that it was: we refer to the Beach Party that took place at Hayes End on Sunday 8th July that involved the staff and members of our Junior church. No need to mention the weather for, as everyone knows, it really was 'beach' weather – in fact it's possible that sand was far too hot to walk on that day. Here is a report kindly submitted by Nicola on the events of that 'different' and happy Sunday

It was Funday Sunday!

Junior church usually has a small party at the end of term but this time we thought we'd go a little bigger in keeping with the new programme that we will be running from September.

Weeks before, the young members had decorated invitations to give to their friends, so it was great to see a few new faces. I think there were about 20 of us, including the adults. Everyone was greeted with an Hawaiian flower garland and whilst the youngest members headed straight for the sand filled paddling pool, the older members joined in a few party dances. It was a bit too hot to play the games we had planned but everyone seemed to enjoy hula hooping, doing the limbo, making mocktails and cooling down with ice cream cones. We finished off with a lunch of hot dogs, pizza and doughnuts.

"I really enjoyed the brightly coloured glasses and making mocktails!"

"...some outstanding limbo dancing!"

"I was really proud of my sandcastle!"

"I've never had an umbrella in my drink before!"

Next term we will be starting our new programme which will include some project work - look out for the addition of a wall painting in the hall and can we top last year's Nativity? There will also be more themed parties running alongside our usual discussions, crafts and group work.



St Swithen's Day 2018

this year fell on a Sunday and was important for four good reasons, viz:

a – it didn't rain (at least not in Hayes – it was very hot)

b – it was the day of the Wimbledon tennis finals

c – it was the day of the World Football Cup match final

d – it was the day that baby Tyler Foster was baptised at

Hayes End church,

but we suspect that the most important of these for tiny Tyler was 'his' day, despite the fact that, when grown, he will have no memory of that time when he was the centre of attraction for the Hayes End church family and, as always, for God. His mum Hayley, brought him along with many family members, including more children than you could shake a stick at, to celebrate this most special of events – being named and received by the church, with thanks to God. It was so good to have almost every seat in church occupied that lovely summer morning.

The Foster family have had a long association with our church – for over thirty years young Fosters have always been part of the Junior Church and also members of both Boys' and Girls' Brigades: now those 'children' have suddenly become adults and are parents and grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, not forgetting good friends. It was such a pleasure to have them all with us that day along with their many little ones who were on their very best behaviour. Thank you for letting us share with you, and especially for including us in the 'afterwards' with a piece of Tyler's cake and a refreshing slice of mouth-watering melon to cool us down. I have such a lovely memory picture of the children, all seated on the floor in the middle of the hall quietly enjoying their 'picnic' lunch and chatting among themselves.

***St Swithen's Day 2018 at Hayes End was
certainly one to remember!***

Our God gives and our God takes away -

It was but a few days after God's generous gift of a small baby that he came and gently took away to heaven our long-time member, Wesley Mason. Back to the place that, long ago, Jesus said had been prepared for him.

Wesley had been suffering from many ailments and physical problems for well over three years and it was on the 19th July that he died in Hillingdon Hospital. His funeral, when our Minister Revd. Andrew Pottage officiated, was at Breakspear Crematorium on Friday 10th of August. The service was followed by a reception at our Hayes End church when family and friends were able to share their memories of that once lively and engaging character we all knew as Wesley, or simply just Wes.

Here are a few memories for us to share –

Wesley was possessed of a very dry and subtle sense of humour. We recall that on a past occasion, when we treated our long-suffering friends to an Old Time Music Hall, Wesley was our master of ceremonies. He took this very seriously and adorned in appropriate dress – including cravat and headgear – played his role well. Afterwards, when talking over the past two hours with him he said to me *"they didn't laugh at some of my jokes"*. I assured him that many did, but there were others in the audience who had likely missed the point or the punch-line, delivered as he always did with a poker face!

Wesley was a very able cook, and stuffed mushrooms were one of his specialities. We also recall that once on a church picnic in the ARocha Country Park he brought along a salad, the like of which some of us had never tasted before. It was a delight of berries, nuts and fruit with just a little of the green stuff topped with some delicate seasoning – so very unlike the mundane English version of a lettuce, tomato and cucumber salad.

Once an active member of our church property group Wesley played his part here. On occasions he proved a great asset with the production of this magazine: having been 'in print' before retirement, he was an absolute wiz when our somewhat antiquated equipment was in malfunction mode and he was able to solve a problem. Also, and from the property viewpoint, we know that, assisted by Molly, he once helped a church friend to erect a greenhouse.

He loved his garden and that garden certainly bore witness to the fact. It was so well organised and obviously cared for – once on a visit we talked at great length regarding the best time to plant runner beans, and what was the best variety of tomatoes to grow and his preferred way to treat invading snails and other small unwanted creatures!

There are as many memories of Wesley as there are folk who knew him.

Through this magazine we wish to offer very sincere condolences to all members of his family and especially to our own dear caring Molly who had for many years been his best friend, partner and support. Both Wesley and Molly had sadly lost their original partners, Mandy and Keith, some years earlier, but we are all aware of their special story – it can be put down to a simple apple pie.

When Molly learned that Wesley was on his own, she made him one of her delightful apple pies and – well, the rest is their own precious history. God had brought them together and we are so thankful that they were able to share some years of companionship and loving care for one another - times of happiness that they both richly deserved.

May God's blessings be with all who were once a part of the life of family member and friend, Wesley Mason, now resting in eternal peace. 'Til we meet again Wesley, go well with God.

Congratulations, a Farewell & Egg Sandwiches

First of all we give many congratulations to Mrs Joan Wells who reached her four-score-years-and-ten birthday on the 22nd of July and who has been a member at Hayes End since the mid-nineties. Joan, a member at the Greenford church for some years, had her membership transferred to Hayes End when she moved to live quite near to the church. Since her arrival Joan has been involved in sundry church activities, not least being a member of our United Bright Hour – when she jointed it was known as “The Women’s Bright Hour”, but thankfully that was changed some years ago. Despite the usual problems that are experienced with advancing years, Joan is at both church and Bright Hour as often as is possible. We thank Joan for sharing her celebratory cake with us on that Sunday, and the church family ask for God’s continued blessings on you Joan in the years ahead. Your target now is to get to the five-score years’ mark!

Also, that same Sunday Mrs Gloria Benson was celebrating her birthday, and we wish to say thank you too to Gloria who also brought along some delightful eats for all to share. Many happy returns Gloria.



It was also during the nineties, when the Revd. Kip Bennett was our minister that Mrs Carmen Dunster arrived at the Hayes End church. Carmen very quickly became involved with the life of the church and in 2005 was appointed one of the church stewards – a post she dutifully carried out for seven years. Then came the job of Baptismal Secretary, and it was on the day of baby Tyler’s baptism that she last acted in that capacity. Oh, and being the Birthday Secretary at Bright Hour was another of her ‘jobs’ when she always ensured that every member would receive a delightful greeting card from Bright Hour on their birthday.

Carmen’s husband, retired fireman Tony, was also a very good friend of the church and gave his invaluable advice concerning our fire protection.

Many of us will have special memories of the time when Tony came to talk to Bright Hour members all about his experience at the London Olympics in 2012 when he was on duty there. It was great to have this peep behind the scenes of the things that go on at such world-wide events! But time passes and now Carmen and Tony have re-located to live on the South Coast – in fact they moved away on 5th August. They will both be greatly missed, by friends and members of the Hayes End church family, but it is good to know that they already have a number of friends in that area. As requested, they will be on our Magazine mailing list, so will be kept informed of all the usual comings and goings here – we wish you both Godspeed, and want you to know there will always be a welcome for you if ever you are in this neck of the woods again. Take care, God bless you and please keep well.



... now for the egg sandwich bit – it’s because egg sandwiches always play their role – among lots of other delightful and delicious delicacies – every summer at the Bright Hour ‘Tea in the Garden’ event. It was on the 13th of August this year when Bright Hour met in the garden of Secretary Eva and husband Chas. This provides a great opportunity to get together during the summer break from their regular Monday gatherings and enables members to stay up-to-date with their lives and aches and complaints - well, we all do it, don’t we? Eva writes:

With thanks to members of my family, we managed to erect the gazebos and tables in the garden – then with just a few spots of rain falling the phone calls started “are we still meeting?” “Of course we are” I said!” People arrived and then good friend David Steward kindly played as we sang a hymn and Heather led us in prayer. Then the fun began. In addition to lots of lovely food donated by everyone in the group, we chatted together and took part in one of Chas’ quizzes which everyone likes. This year we missed our President Edna, who was sadly in hospital and Carmen and Enid who have moved away - nonetheless it was a good afternoon. But without a great deal of help from Gemma, Katie, Pete, Sophie, Gavin and Chas it would not have been so, and especially the clearing up afterwards, and I am so very thankful to them all for their kind support. Eva

And once again grateful thanks to Eva and Chas for sharing their garden on that pleasant summer day.

So, what's in the pipeline?

For starters, there are three Harvest thanksgiving services –

23rd September at Hayes End, followed by a World Foods meal

30th September at Hayes

7th October at North Hillingdon

then, in addition to all our regular weekly gatherings-groups-meetings etc. everyone will be welcome on:

2nd September - at 4.15 p.m. for refreshments and at 6.00 p.m. for a Joint Welcome Service at North Hillingdon for our new Minister, Revd Ken Kingston and his family

8th September a United coach outing to Bournemouth

7th October following morning Service at Hayes End

there will be a sponsored walk and picnic at Ruislip Lido

14th October – united three-church family service and meal at Hayes End

and that covers just the first six weeks of our new church year!

Church life dull?

Church life boring?

Not from where I'm standing (or sitting). Think I can say without any fear of contradiction that in every month, in every year for the past fifty years there have been many events for family friends and members – and that does not take into the equation the numerous events that involve both our Brigades and their young members! Thanks be to God for all those who have, who now are, and who will, in years to come, maintain the life of our churches.

We hope the following verses, discovered by Pat a dozen or more years ago, will serve as a reminder that, despite the changes in our lifestyles from past years, we still need to celebrate Harvest and give our thanks to God for his never-ending provision -

Supermarket Harvest

What does Harvest mean to me? I neither sow nor reap,
but glean through supermarket shelves to pluck what's going cheap.

No mellow fruitfulness is here, but sterile, tidy tins,
and crops all smart in cardboard coats and glossy plastic skins.

No harmony of autumn leaves, but glaring lies entice
and labels scream – “There's ten pence off. It's cheap at half the price!”

No sound of tractors in the fields, but cram-full trolleys clash
and jingling tills bind sheaves of notes and gather in the cash.

No need to plough and scatter now the good seed on the ground;
with canned, convenient, frozen food it's harvest all year round!

So through these claustrophobic fields Robot-like I roam,
and long for fragrant country air and joys of harvest home.

And chapels heaped with fruit and flowers, arranged with homely art,
where grateful mortals yield to God the harvest of the heart.

So through that soulless check-out point bring all you can afford
and check in here at Hayes End * church and come and praise the Lord!

Arnold Kellett

** or Hayes or North Hillingdon*

If you have been a member or friend of our church family since the year 2000 you will no doubt remember our then Minister Revd Judy Turner-Smith and her husband Dr Alan Turner-Smith. We met quite recently and after we discussed together the need for church growth they sent a poem for our magazine – it was written by Alan’s cousin 92 year old Sheila and has relevance to the planting of seeds – Judy and Alan told me that frequently when on holiday Sheila would find a way to chat to unknown people about God, but obviously in her case there was no way she would ever see the results of her broadcasting his love for all humankind – here is that poem:

THE JOURNEY BEGINS

When I was young, to church we'd go
at school, I was confirmed, I know
In London, training, I had fun.
No time for God, His day was done.

To Cambridge for a job I went
and looking back t'was heaven sent
There came a night which changed my life
Oh no, did not become a wife!

A Christian friend, I thought her odd
and firmly said "I don't do God."
and going to church is such a bore
Then Alex asked me just once more.

This time being lonely, I said "Yes"
but felt quite nervous I confess
To Holy Trin-i-ty we went
I am quite sure t'was God's intent.

I sat amongst the student crowd,
the music playing very loud
The preacher spoke, I listened well
for God's own truth he came to tell.

I heard that Christ died for my sin
He knocked and I could ask Him in.
He said "You know you have a choice
You can reject or hear my voice".

I'd never heard of this before
Of Jesus knocking on my door.
I said "Oh please come live in me,
I really need to be set free."

When riding home I felt so free
That something good had happened to me
My life would never be the same
The night I asked, and Jesus came.

So began my Christian life.

Alex was an excellent mentor, introducing me to the Bible and all my questionings.
I joined a church and began to enter into some of the activities, joined the choir and went to the weekly prayer meeting, which was a shock, having never experienced anything like it before.

I had been a Christian for two or three years before I prayed a prayer which changed my life for good. I remember the moment so clearly, I knelt by my bed and said "Lord, I am willing to be single or married, your will be done".

I immediately felt a sense of freedom and I entered into life as a "single" which has been rich beyond my wildest dreams.

THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

I am so thankful I learned that day, that in all things, God knows best what is right for me.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Intelligence or Wisdom?

with our thanks to Daya Kulasingham, who sent us the following, here are some interesting points to ponder:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Intelligence leads to arguments. | Wisdom leads to settlements. |
| 2. Intelligence is power of will. | Wisdom is power over will. |
| 3. Intelligence is heat, it burns. | Wisdom is warmth, it comforts. |
| 4. Intelligence is pursuit of knowledge, it tires the seeker. | Wisdom is pursuit of truth, It inspires the seeker. |
| 5. Intelligence is holding on. | Wisdom is letting go. |
| 6. Intelligence leads you. | Wisdom guides you. |
| 7. An intelligent man thinks he knows everything. | A wise man knows that there is still something to learn. |
| 8. An intelligent man always tries to prove his point | A wise man knows there really is no point. |
| 9. An intelligent man freely gives unsolicited advice. | A wise man keeps his counsel until all options are considered. |
| 10. An intelligent man understands what is being said. | A wise man understands what is left unsaid. |
| 11. An intelligent man speaks when he Has to say something. | A wise man speaks when he has something to say. |
| 12. An intelligent man sees everything as relative | A wise man sees everything as related. |
| 13. An intelligent man tries to control the mass flow. | A wise man navigates the mass flow. |
| 14. An intelligent man preaches. | A wise man reaches. |

**Intelligence is good,
but wisdom achieves better results**

Howlers from hospitals – taken from patients' reports:

Between us I think we ought to be able to get this lady pregnant

Patient has two teenage children, but no other abnormalities

When she fainted her eyes rolled around the room

Skin – somewhat pale, but present

**I saw your patient today who is still under our care
for physical therapy**

**She stated she had been constipated for most of her life
until she got a divorce.**

She is numb from her toes down

Discharge status; alive, but without my permission

**The patient has been depressed since she
began seeing me in 1993**

**On the second day the knee was better and
on the third day it had disappeared**

**Patient's medical history has been remarkably insignificant with only a
40 pound weight gain in three days. The skin was moist and dry**

Patient has left white blood cells at another hospital

The patient refused post mortem

Patient has chest pain if she lies on her left side for over a year

Patient was alert and unresponsive



The closing date for items in our October Magazine

Wednesday 19th September

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

crummage@btinternet.com

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 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
London District Website is www.methodistlondon.org.uk

***Worship dates and other events
in our church and Circuit during
the months of September and
October***



September

- 1st 12.00 p.m. Table Top Sale at Hayes
3.00 p.m. Senior Citizens' tea party at North Hillingdon
7.30 p.m. Hillingdon Park Baptist Church a Concert with Ismael
- 2nd 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon
11.00am Service at Hayes
11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End
6.00 p.m. Joint Welcome Service at North Hillingdon -
(shared meal at 4.15 p.m.)
- 3rd 2.30 p.m. United Bright Hour at Hayes End
- 4th 7.30 p.m. Circuit Leadership meet at Ruislip
- 5th 12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
7.30 p.m. Local Preachers & Worship Leaders meet at S, Harrow
- 6th 10.30 a.m. Insight Group B meet
- 8th Joint Coach Outing – Bournemouth
11.00 a.m. Hayes End Community Centre Fun Day
GB District Hillingdon Outdoor Adventure Centre
- 9th 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon
11.00 a.m. Service & Holy Communion at Hayes
11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End
6.00 p.m. Praise Service at North Hillingdon
- 10th 7.30 p.m. Insight Group A meet
- 11th Circuit Meeting – 7.30 p.m. Pinner
7.30 p.m. Insight Group C meet
- 12th 11.00 a.m. United Holy Communion at Aston House
12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
7.30 p.m. Insight Group D meet
- 13th 7.30 p.m. Handicraft group at Hayes End
7.30 p.m. Hayes End Finance & Property meeting
- 14-16th GB District Hillingdon Outdoor Adventure Centre
- 15th London District Synod (WCH)
- 16th 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon
11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes
11.00 a.m. Service & Holy Communion at Hayes End

- 16th Boys' Brigade Battalion Celebration event
 17th 2.30 p.m. United Bright Hour at Hayes End
 18th 7.30 p.m. Hayes End Church
 19th 10.00 a.m. Insight Group E meet
 12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
Closing date for October magazine items
 20th 10.30 a.m. Insight Group B meet
 7.30 p.m. United Allsorts Group meet at Hayes End
 22nd Joint Brigades Recruiting Event in Uxbridge
 23rd 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes
 11.00 a.m. Harvest Festival Parade Service
 at Hayes End, followed by 'Foods of The World' meal
 24th 7.30 p.m. Joint Leadership Team Meet at Hayes church
 7.30 p.m. Insight Group A meet
 26th 12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
 7.30 p.m. Insight Group D meet
 7.30 p.m. North Hillingdon Church Council
 27th 7.30 p.m. Handicraft group at Hayes End
 30th 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon
 11.00am Harvest Festival Service at Hayes
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End

October

- 1st 2.30 p.m. United Bright Hour at Hayes End – General meeting
 3rd 12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
 4th 10.30 a.m. Insight Group B meet
 7.30 p.m. United Allsorts Group meet at Hayes End
 5th Girls' & Boys' Brigades' Annual Enrolment Service
 6th 12.00 p.m. Table Top Sale at Hayes
 3.00 p.m. 'Young at Heart' Club at North Hillingdon
 Harvest Social – Beetle Drive at North Hillingdon in aid of Water Aid
 BB Battalion Anchors Games & Sports (Whitton)
 GB District/ BB Battalion Ten Pin Bowling - 3.00 p.m. Airport Bowl
 7th 9.30 a.m. North Hillingdon Harvest Festival Parade Service
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes – refresher training after worship
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End followed by Picnic & Sponsored
 Walk in Ruislip Lido
 8th 7.30 p.m. Insight Group A meet
 9th 7.30 p.m. Insight Group C meet
 7.30. p.m. Hayes End Pastoral Committee Meeting

- 10th 11.00 a.m. United Holy Communion at Aston House
12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
7.30 p.m. Insight Group D meet
- 11th 7.30 p.m. Handicraft group at Hayes End
- 13th BB Battalion – Hillingdon Outdoor Adventure Centre
9.30 a.m. Stewards meeting with Super. (Ruislip)
- 14th 9.30 a.m. NO Service at North Hillingdon
11.00 a.m. NO Service at Hayes
11.00 a.m. United Autumn Praise Service & Meal at Hayes End
6.00 p.m. Praise Service at North Hillingdon
- 15th 2.30 p.m. United Bright Hour 85th Anniversary Tea at Hayes End
7.30 p.m. Hayes End Youth Leaders Meeting
- 16-18th CRE Exhibition at Sandown racecourse
- 17th 10.00 a.m. Insight Group E meet
12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
Closing date for November magazine items
- 18th 10.30 a.m. Insight Group B meet
7.30 p.m. United Allsorts Group meet at Hayes End
- 20th GB District Regional Training
- 21st 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon
11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes
11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End
- 22nd 7.30 p.m. Insight Group A meet
- 23rd 7.30 p.m. Insight Group C meet
- 24th 12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
7.30 p.m. Insight Group D meet
7.30 p.m. Circuit Resources Committee Meeting at South Ruislip
- 25th 7.30 p.m. Handicraft group at Hayes End
- 27th Coffee morning at North Hillingdon for Macmillan Cancer Care
- 28th 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon, with River Cruise and tea
11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes
11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End
- 29th 2.30 p.m. United Bright Hour at Hayes End
- 31st 12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters

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



DURING THE WEEK IN HAYES END CHURCH

- SUNDAY:** 11.00 - Morning Worship & Junior Church
Evening Services - Held at various locations
for details please check the Church Web Site
- 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
7.30 p.m. Insight Bible Study A – Choir room (Alt. weeks)
(Contact: David 0208-581-9594)
- TUESDAY:** 7.30 p.m. Insight Bible Study Group C - Church porch
(Alt. weeks) Contact: Ajayi – Tel. see above
- WEDNESDAY:** 10.00 a.m. Insight Bible Study Group E - Church porch
(3rd Wed, monthly Contact): Edna – Tel: 0208-573-8564
11.00 – Holy Communion (2nd 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- 581-959 **38**



Lectionary Readings for September 2018

2nd September

Deuteronomy 1-2, 6-9
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15,21-23
Psalm 15

9th September

Isaiah 35:4-7a
James 2:1-10(11-13)14-17
Mark 7:24-37
Psalm 146

16th September

Isaiah 50:4-9a
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38
Psalm 116:1-9

23rd September

Jeremiah 11:18-20
James 3:13-4:3,7-8a
Mark 9:30-37
Psalm 54

30th September

Numbers 11:4-6,10-16,24-29
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50
Psalm 19:7-14

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