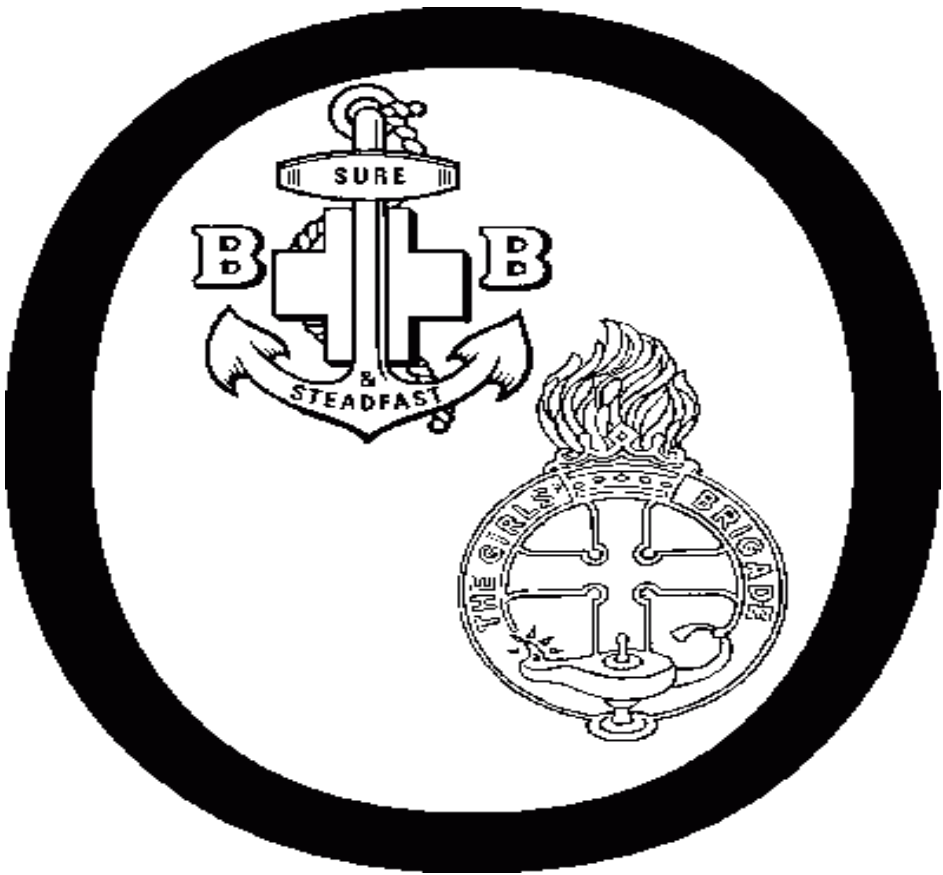


The Chronicle

*Monthly magazine of the
three Hays Methodist churches*



October 2018 - Issue 255

The Methodist Church

Harrow & Hillingdon Circuit (35/36)

Magazine of the three Hayes Methodist Churches

13^h September 2018

A letter from the Minister

Dear Friends

We don't live by bread alone

It's Thursday afternoon in the middle of September and I am almost three weeks into being the minister for Hayes, Hayes End and North Hillingdon. I've attended meetings, led worship and been introduced to many different people. If I haven't met you yet, I hope to do so very soon. Please forgive me if I don't remember your name and you have to remind me a number of times. But more importantly, thank you for your warm and generous welcome. My family and I really appreciate it.

I am beginning to discover something of what it means to be a Methodist minister and the lifestyle changes. Not least is taking services at least once a Sunday. I am now standing in the pulpit or by the lectern, rather than sitting in the pew. And instead of listening to sermons, I am now preaching.

For many of us, the sermon includes both teaching and nurture. It is a way of receiving from God and being both encouraged and challenged. Yet what happens when you are the one who is preparing the sermon?

I guess some of you may face similar challenges if you are unable to get to church on a Sunday, whether because of shift work, illness or family and other commitments. How are you nurtured?

It is easier to participate in worship with others, whether it is through BBC's *Songs of Praise*, Premier Radio or worship CDs. There are daily Bible study notes from the Bible Reading Fellowship or other organisations you can follow. And you can join with tens of thousands of other Methodists in a monthly cycle of prayer through the Methodist Church's Prayer Handbook, *'A Word Transformed'*, available from Methodist Publishing (www.methodist.org.uk/prayerhandbook).

Jesus said, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." (Matthew 4:4)

Also available on the Methodist Church website is their daily online Bible study '*A Word in Time*' (www.methodist.org.uk/a-word-in-time). This follows a programme of Bible readings in the Prayer Handbook and includes a Bible study relating to the lectionary Gospel passage every Sunday. There are some notes to help you understand the passage, along with two or three questions to stimulate you and encourage you in your discipleship. There is even space to post your comments, Somebody who was no longer able to attend church has said that this had become their church.

I am also a fan of podcasts and subscribe to a couple of churches who put their sermons online. This way I can sit at the (virtual) feet of preachers and be fed by them. One I find most helpful is the series from Westminster Central Hall in London. If you listen to podcasts on your phone or another electronic device (or want to start) then search for them and subscribe. In these different ways, you can nurture your faith if you cannot get to worship, and receive "the word that comes from the mouth of God". Or you could do both.

But it would still be great to meet you in church on Sunday!

With every blessing

Ken

Our churches' prayer pages



Now a few weeks into our new church year we considered what would be an appropriate hymn to offer God as we approach the days of autumn – however, as our Brigade companies have their annual enrolment Service on the 5th of the month, when they will renew their vows to Brigade, what better than the famous Brigade hymn “Will your anchor hold?” A great hymn that assures us we have an anchor that will hold for ever, no matter what storms we may have to endure.

**WILL YOUR ANCHOR HOLD in the storms of life,
when the clouds unfold their wings of strife?
When the strong tides lift, and the cables strain,
will your anchor drift, or firm remain.?**

**We have an anchor that keeps the soul
steadfast and sure while the billows roll;
fastened to the Rock which cannot move,
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour’s love!**

**Will your anchor hold in the straits of fear
when the breakers roar and the reef is near?
While the surges rave, and the wild winds blow,
shall the angry waves then your barque o’erflow?**

We have an anchor.....

**Will your anchor hold in the floods of death,
when the waters cold chill your latest breath?
On the rising tide you can never fail,
while your anchor holds within the veil.**

We have an anchor ...

**Will your eyes behold through the morning light,
the city of gold and the harbour bright?
Will you anchor safe by the heavenly shore,
when life’s storms are past for evermore?**

We have an anchor ...

Priscilla Jane Owens

... 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

**Beverley Answer
Diane Briggs
Olive Collins
Ursula Heidt
Bob Hartman**

**Michaela Youngson
Miss Spall
Bruce Porter
Denis Marston
Rob Lacey**

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

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness

Well, that is how poet John Keats described autumn in his well-known poem entitled '*To Autumn*', and although both October and November always herald the approach of winter, with its cold winds and dreary dark nights, nonetheless I feel autumn is one of the most colourful seasons in the year – possibly because my favourite colours range from yellows and oranges to beiges and browns. It's the time each year when you observe God at work every day with his paint brushes as leaves slowly take on some amazing changes from their summer greens to reds and golds until they finally give up the ghost and fall gently to the earth below, creating a warm, safe covering for seeds under the earth, who are waiting for their time to move and sprout up into the greens of springtime.

(According to the Internet, the start of autumn was the 22nd of September, but if memory serves that day was far from autumnal – dull, yes, with just a little sun but temperatures were in the mid-twenties!)

But back to this month: in our churches, unlike the leaves, nothing ever lies dormant, at least not for very long, and it is on the very first day of October that Bright Hour will hold their AGM – there will be a short report on this in the next mag., to keep everyone up-to-date with who does what.

Today many people regard October as the month when Halloween is celebrated; it is a time marked on their calendars. However, even though this can be an occasion for fun and 'trick or treating' for youngsters, not everyone is aware that it arises from an old pagan festival called Samhain. Apparently long ago the Celts regarded this date each year as the time when spirits who were roaming the atmosphere got close to our world! It was then they believed the dead would walk the earth again, so they thought if they left little 'treats' outside their doors those spirits would go away and not bother or frighten them! Quite a superstition.

However, although over the ages several of our Christian festivals have also arisen from pagan activities, the people of faith know better. The word 'Halloween' derives from 'All Hallows' Eve' - the night before 'All Saints' Day' that in Christian churches is celebrated on 1st of November – the date when thanks are given to God for all the saints of the world who, in their lifetimes, have gone beyond the call to serve their fellow men and God, and have been canonised by the church..

Names that immediately spring to my mind are Mother Theresa, Oscar Romero, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther, but there are thousands and thousands gone before us and indeed, still today, there are in our midst countless souls of faith who continue to live to serve others in a world where there is so much need, just as there always has been: the great divide between the 'haves' and 'have nots'. Each one of these dear souls needs to be offered to God for his blessing and our grateful thanks as once again in 2018 Christians will meet to celebrate All Saints Day on Sunday the 1st of November.



So, by all means go ahead and have some fun as children dress up, knock on doors and do some 'trick or treating' and by eating hot dogs or whatever it is you like to do on the 31st of October, but never forget it is simply just 'having fun' and nothing else: that activity is of no importance whatsoever when compared with the need to remember people who, by their wonderful examples, have shown the world that we are all here to live in peace and to serve one another.

These are the men and women that everyone should celebrate and give thanks for: Those individuals who can be regarded as very real 'saints'. (*and not, in my own opinion, just those 'officially' recognised by the church*) Their ears have been open to the messages they have all received from God via his son Jesus, and they have not failed to act upon them. Wonderful examples for all of us to emulate.

“Parting is such sweet sorrow ...”

Five well known words from William Shakespeare in his play, ‘Romeo and Juliet’ as Juliet bids farewell to Romeo: that was the situation at Hayes End on Sunday 26th August when our Minister Andrew led his final service before leaving Hayes and starting his new appointment as Superintendent of the Circuit. It was, however, by no means an occasion of sorrow – far from it, and especially as we will occasionally still see Andrew and his wife Laura who now live not too far away.

It was a warm and family orientated service and began as Kathryn Clark presented her delightful little daughter Evie for baptism. Evie – plus mum - have been ‘regulars’ at our church for a number of years, ever since Evie was a babe in arms, and they are already regarded as established members of our church family.

Then to follow Evie’s part in the service her mum Kathryn came forward to be confirmed by Andrew, as she declared her wish to follow Jesus for the rest of her days. To this we all say ‘amen’ and will keep both Kathryn and Evie in our prayers, asking for God’s blessings to continue for them wherever life may lead them.

Andrew’s theme that morning was the question “Who is this Jesus?” and in his message used that passage from scripture in John’s gospel when Jesus is assuring his followers that he is going to prepare a place for them, and when Thomas asks “Master, we have no idea where you are going – how do you expect us to know the road?” the reply is “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life – no one gets to the Father except through me” Then Philip comments “Just show us the Father and we’ll be satisfied” *please get your bible and read on*

Our challenge?

To ensure that we never miss an opportunity to tell others just who this Jesus is, and to assure them that if they choose to follow him they can be quite certain he has prepared a place for them too – those places are not just for the chosen few.

Much, much more was included by Andrew, that involved the sharing of assorted chocolates, an opportunity for us to select from a range of prayer aids and the singing of some great hymns all with positive relevance to his theme of knowing and of an understanding who Jesus is and that unquestionably the best thing for everyone to do is to follow him.

But that was not all – our Senior Steward, John then came forward to join with Andrew to share and offer a celebratory piece of prose that was written to mark Andrew’s leaving. Rather too long for inclusion here in its entirety, it begins with words taken from Psalms 121 and 139, and then concludes as follows:

Congregants: As you meet the poor, the pained and the stranger on the Way we pray that you may see in each one the face of Christ.

Andrew: I know that God goes with me.

Congregants: As you walk through the good times and the bad we pray that you may never lose sight of the shelter of God’s loving arms.

Andrew: I know that God goes with me.

Congregants: As you ponder your decisions and wonder over the fruits of your choice, we pray that the peace of Christ may reign in your heart.

Andrew: I know that God goes with me.

John: We praise and thank you God of the journey for our brother Andrew who is soon to leave us. We entrust him into your loving care, knowing that you are always the faithful traveller and companion on the Way. Shelter and protect him from all harm, and anxiety. Grant him the courage to meet the future, and grace to let go into new life; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen. Andrew may God bless you (*here John made the sign of the cross on Andrew’s forehead*)

Congregants: Go in peace, for our God goes with you.

Andrew: And also with you all, may God go with you.

(please ask John if you would like to see the full wording of this farewell dialogue)

The service continued as everyone was invited to share the Peace and the celebration of Holy Communion round the Lord’s table.

As an almost final act in that morning's worship, our Steward Ajayi in his own inimitable fashion, offered a vote of thanks to Andrew together with a gift from the church family, followed by our worship leader Nicola who presented Laura with a colourful flower arrangement – Laura had been our musician that morning, (*as she has on several occasions*) and so also well deserving of our grateful thanks.

And then the service did conclude as we sang the words of the short, but most meaningful hymn, written by Joseph Hart –

***This, this is the God we adore
our faithful, unchangeable friend,
whose love is as great as his power,
and neither knows measure nor end.
'Tis Jesus, the first and the last,
whose Spirit shall guide us safe home,
we'll praise him for all that is past
and trust him for all that's to come.***

It was now time for our normal 'after-church refreshments' and not only that, some intrepid souls had prepared a barbecue luncheon for everyone – (*we say intrepid as that day, and following a week of quite pleasant weather, heavy rain came down and it poured and poured, continuing non-stop until teatime!*)

So, undaunted, the muscle men in our company quickly re-arranged chairs in the church and it was there that our meal was shared and enjoyed by many of the family before making their soggy journeys back home. (*Our very sincere thanks to all those willing helpers who provided and cooked the food, who moved furniture and provided good fellowship*)

So this brings to a conclusion our 'departure' bit, but with any departure there has to follow an 'arrival' and it was on the 31st of the month that our new minister Ken, together with his wife Jo and daughters Charlotte and Rebecca, received their official Circuit Welcome at the Ruislip church; one that was well attended and that also included greetings and a welcome into the Circuit of the Revd Lynita Conradie who will have pastoral care of Canon Lane, Eastcote and Pinner churches, also starting from 1st September.

Here is a report from John C. of the events of that special Circuit evening:

INTO THE NEW METHODIST YEAR



On Friday 31st August we finally moved from a departure into an arrival mode, when our new Minister, Ken, together with his wife Jo and daughters Charlotte and Rebecca, received their official Circuit Welcome at Ruislip Methodist Church.

It was good to see so many people present and also to give our welcome into the Circuit of the Revd Lynita Conradie who will have Pastoral Oversight for Canon Lane, Eastcote and Pinner Churches.

Thankfully it was a less formal service than usual for such events and we were richly blessed to also have the President of the Methodist Conference, the Revd. Michaela Youngson with us to take a lead role in the Service. After worship we moved into the Hall for refreshments lovingly prepared by the ladies from Ruislip Church. The evening provided a great start to our welcome for Ken and his family, and I thank everyone from Hayes End who came to the Service.



Another major event at the beginning the New Church year occurred on Saturday 8th September when the Hayes End Community Centre held its Annual Fun Day in the Park.

The event emphasized how important it is that we, the church, are seen more in the community at events like this because they always provide us with great opportunities to ensure that people learn more about the work of our Church. The Boys' Brigade was present, representing the Church, and it is great to be able to report that both from discovering new Networking opportunities, as well as gaining new members for our Company, the Fun Day was a great success.

John Chamberlain

Ken's 'local' service of welcome took place at North Hillingdon church on the afternoon of Sunday 2nd September, when members of the Hayes, Hayes End and North Hillingdon churches joined together to celebrate his arrival in Hayes and to offer their own greetings of welcome.

This celebration began at 4.15 p.m. when we shared a meal (*never forget we are all Methodists so eating food is a 'must' on any occasion*) accompanied by lots of introductions in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. 'Starters' were provided and served by the Hayes church, the main dish came from North Hillingdon, and Hayes End had responsibility for the puddings – all was delicious and I'm sure no one had need to eat anything else for the rest of that Sunday! North Hillingdon had also ensured that a selection of hot and cold drinks was available – non-stop.

At 6.00 p.m. the Service, that had been prepared by leaders from all three churches, began with a 'lead-in' as we sang together some of today's popular hymns. Then, following an introduction and welcome, the time of worship began with opening prayers. Included next was that popular reading from Romans 12, where Paul is explaining that, just like a human body, the church body comprises lots of different parts with individual gifts, all of equal worth. We should use those gifts from God to the best of our ability, sincerely and cheerfully, sharing what we have been blessed with, and remembering the importance of opening our homes to strangers.

Then a trio from the churches presented a drama entitled 'The Super Minister', a somewhat caustic dialogue listing requirements that are expected from a church's new minister, who, just because he has spent time in a Methodist training college and wears his stiffly-starched (uncomfortable?) white collar back-to-front, will obviously be a super-human being with an ability to multi-task and be in several places all at once.. Not unreasonable? We thank God that Ken is possessed of a sense of humour and accepted this rather sarcastic, but fun contribution with the proverbial pinch of salt – and in his words to us Ken gave back as good as was delivered by his three churches in that off-the-wall sketch. As we begin working together his message to everyone was we must never forget that all we do is in God's name and to his glory – never for our own self-gratification.

Prayers for our troubled world and sharing in the Lord's prayer knitted our worship together and Ken closed the service with a most meaningful blessing.

So, just a final word of thanks to everyone and anyone who contributed to those events at North Hillingdon on 2nd September; and we mention Jean and Ian who both ensured we sang lustily to the music and enabled us to follow the words as today's technology provides.

A Grand Day Out ...

No, not to visit the moon and eat cheese with Wallace & Gromit, but as seen through young eyes, i.e. a report on the church family trip to Bournemouth kindly given by Abigail, one of Sue and Mike's granddaughters.

... that wasn't!

so many apologies to all our readers, and also to those who had booked for that outing because unfortunately it didn't happen – the coach failed to arrive so we are unable to offer any report in this issue.

(The above was the intro we had intended to use as an opening!!)

A bit disappointing for all those (especially with young ones) who had risen early that day to be in time for the planned departure. We did hear, however that one small girl did get to make sandcastles, but it was at Ruislip Lido by the lake, and not at Bournemouth by the sea! It was Linda and Norman Jones who wisely decided to take their little granddaughter Ava to the Lido to compensate. Not only that, but we hear that hot chocolate and lots of yummy marshmallows were enjoyed by them all and a fun time was spent in the play area – not too sure what Linda and Norman played, but they report that it was a very enjoyable time and they have been asked for a repeat performance. As Linda says “it was one of those unfortunate things that happen now and again that often end better than we had expected”.

At the time of writing we've not heard what any other friends did with that day, but sadly also as Linda said, these things happen sometimes so fingers will not be pointed at anyone – we'll just hope for better things on the next occasion which we are quite certain will prove to be successful, just as it has always been for well over the past forty or so years!



The Church Modernisation Project

Bringing the Church Modernisation project to a successful conclusion has proved to be a tortuous exercise, especially when one realises that we first went out to tender back in March, and only now 6 months later have we accepted a quote for this work and appointed a Head Contractor to undertake the main bulk of the project work.

The original tender process confirmed a costing for the project of around 150K, way above the funds we had available. So we had to slightly change tack and on the advice of our Architect excluded some of the original elements which related to the Car Park. We are now working on a revised budget figure of 90K which is well within our financial capabilities having already raised over 65K from our own funds to finance this work.

The next stage is to enter into negotiations with our Grant Bodies, who may well reduce proportionally the grants offered towards this project. **SO FINALLY, AT LONG LAST WE HAVE CONFIRMED GOOD NEWS REGARDING OUR CHURCH MODERNISATION PLANS.** Now having received the rubber stamp from the Church Council it will be all systems go for starting this work in the New Year with completion in time for the Church Anniversary Celebrations in March.

The only down side will be that for a period of about 7 weeks in the New Year we will have to use the Hall for Sunday Worship. But I am sure you agree that's a small price to pay in the circumstances.

John Chamberlain

Hayes End Methodist Church End of 2017/18 Financial Report



From a financial perspective 2017/18 was another very encouraging year. A year in which we had two main objectives, which were:-

1. To build up the Church Modernisation Fund sufficiently so that the major changes to the front of the Church could be funded and undertaken in 2018 or 2019.
2. At the same time to maintain 'Business as Usual' as far as possible in the process. We can now thankfully confirm that these twin objectives have been achieved and we have also managed a surplus of £887.69 in the year on the General Fund and build up a Property Fund to finance future property expenditure.

Our good results were driven in the main by an increase in our Letting Income, which totalled £27,165.15 up from 8.8% in the previous year but continued good returns from Sunday Collections and Gift Aid also contributed to this situation. Copies of the full Church Financial situation will be available shortly when the accounts have been audited. But below I note the Fund situations at the end of this successful Financial Year.

Fund	2017/18	2016/17
General Fund (Unrestricted)	17,210.57	16,322.88
Church Modernisation Fund (Designated)	64,557.14	40,921.28
Technology (Designated)	2,774.20	2,274.20
New Property Work (Designated)	3,609.20	2,500.00
Food Bank (Designated)	-	218.20
Foul Pipe (Designated)	-	1,000.00
Benevolence (Restricted)	120.00	170.00
Combined Total	88,318.11	63,463.56



PROPERTY PRIORITIES 2018/19 AND BEYOND

When considering our plans for our Church it must be noted that the Modernisation Project is only the end of the beginning and at our recent Church Council the following list of ‘Major Item’ priorities were agreed. It must also be noted these priorities form an important part of the overall Mission Vision for the development of our Church.

- ◆ INTEGRATED FIRE ALARM SYSTEM FOR THE BUILDING – Cost around 10K.
- ◆ UPRATE OF IT FACILITIES IN THE WORSHIP AREA with large Plasma Screen TV’s - Cost a round 15K.
- ◆ MODERNISE AND REDECORATION OF LADIES & GENTS TOILETS. Cost around 5K.
- ◆ COMPLETE PHASE THREE OF THE CHURCH MODERNISATION PROJECT. Cost in excess of 25K.

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



OUR BRIGADE COMPANIES ENROLMENT SERVICE FRIDAY 5TH OCTOBER

Please come along and support their vital work
at 7pm in the Church on the 5th.



THE HAYES END MISSION PLAN

Over the past year we have devoted several meetings to considering our Mission Plan. Now at the Autumn Circuit Meeting it was agreed that we will now concentrate all efforts to encourage all Churches in the Circuit to produce their own Mission Action Plans. To confirm how importantly this matter is viewed it was also agreed that all churches must report back to the Circuit with their plans by next Easter. At Hayes End we are well on the road to being able to achieve this objective with the Church Leadership Team having already produced a first draft Mission Action Plan. The issue was also discussed at the recent Church Council and now we move to engage with as many people in the Church before we present our finalised Church Mission Plan - a working document for taking forward the vital work of our Church.



On Sunday 16th September The West London Battalion of The Boys' Brigade gathered together at Christ Church in Uxbridge for a Service led by Deacon Claire Gill, plus games, fellowship and food.

This event was held to celebrate the 20 years of The Battalion and it was good to see so many of the Old Hillingdon Battalion Companies represented at the event with the Companies from our Church and North Hillingdon at the forefront. Now we look forward to the next 20 years.

Here is Deacon Claire's monthly message for October – plenty for us to ponder

Dear Friends,

As a circuit we are continually seeking to discern a way forward for us as individual churches, and as a whole. At the recent Circuit Meeting all churches were asked to complete a Mission Action Plan, whereby each church identifies areas they would like to develop and sets realistic time frames to try and achieve these.

It may all sound rather alien to try and set targets in churches, but as most of you will have experienced over the years, there is a tendency to agree things at meetings which are then sadly not followed up.

As with any denomination, numbers at Sunday Worship are in decline, if we continue at our current rate then the future of the Methodist Church as a whole can appear bleak.

However, if we look at the rising needs in food poverty, social housing, knife and gun crime we see that our communities are in as much need as when Wesley first recognised that the world was crying out for change and for a voice to speak into peoples' lives.

We have that same mission and it is our responsibility to change our attitudes and no longer view church as something we just do on a Sunday.

We need to think of ourselves as 'Every day churches with an Everyday mission'. That our churches operate everyday and therefore every day we have a chance to further the mission of God, to give glimpses of hope, to provide a warm welcoming, safe space, where all are accepted, listened to and valued as Children of God.

So may we buck the trend of decline and continue to seek for ways in which we can offer something of worth to the many lost and lonely people of our communities.

Yours in Christ,

Claire



Pots of stew, learning and Jeff Lucas ...

I waited patiently for responses, as Deacon Claire had invited, to her article in the last mag., but that wait was in vain, so apologies to our readers – again you'll need to put up with my comments concerning trying something new, reading and learning new things.

I guess that books are without doubt one of my most favourite things, and perhaps a plate of stew (*with dumplings of course!*) for good measure. I still possess the first book I had before I could read entitled “Noisy Norah” by Hugh Lofting – a silly tale about the need for good table manners and could almost recite it by heart, plus a King James bible given on my fifth birthday. Apart from paper backs I find it quite hard to dispose of any book: I love giving them as presents, especially to children. Here's a true tale of me and my book reading that may amuse

My dear mum was a cleaning fanatic – had the necessity arisen we could have eaten our food from the floor – if it didn't move she'd polish or wash it with unbounding vigour, but apart from women's knitting weeklies I never saw her with an actual book. I took after my dad – he loved reading when work allowed – a baker, he spent best part of each day outside in the bakehouse producing bread and cakes –

but back to my tale. In my early teens I had a distinct aversion to having a bath or washing myself (*apart from going swimming which I did several times a week*). Mum would instruct “*I think it's high time you had a bath young lady*” so muttering under my breath, I'd go up to the bathroom, which was above the kitchen, picking up my current book from the bedroom on the way. Seated on the edge of the bath, I'd run the water. I would roll up the sleeve on my left arm, pick up a flannel and swish it up and down in the water - I knew mum would be able to hear that in the kitchen below; then, holding my book in my right hand, I would have a good old read.

After a while a broom would be banged on the kitchen ceiling and mum would call “*that's enough for now – come down I've got a job for you*”.

I'd pull out the plug on a bath full of very clean water, dry my left hand, put my book back in the bedroom and report for duty as instructed.

Apart from that crinkly left hand and forearm, no water had been in contact with my body anywhere and I'd not removed any of my clothing. Bless her, I don't think she ever knew just how devious her elder daughter could be.

As for learning something new – as everyone knows I have a computer and can still touch-type, but often have problems when operating the darn thing; I know I drive both dear Pat and my son silly asking stupid questions, especially when trying to use the Internet. However, recently I have persevered and made 'searches' with some success so I will continue in my attempt to learn and discover more about today's technology.

Unfortunately, the body is now unwilling to follow instructions from the head, so much as I'd love to, going for a ramble over new country and scaling rocks must remain a lovely and treasured memory. Recently I did have the pleasure of visiting Wendover Woods; not on foot sadly – I had to see stuff from a wheel chair which nevertheless was lovely and enjoyable – have learned that Bucks is a really beautiful county. *(Despite all the years spent in the Smoke and its environs, I still feel a country girl at heart)*

But, ever unfailing, God has always been near and still is, so I give thanks for all the new stuff I've learned and discovered on the way and what may lie ahead that I can still learn and pass on to others.
My thanks to you Claire – more of the same please.

Enid

© Randy Glasbergen
glasbergen.com



"Tech support says the problem is located somewhere between the keyboard and my chair."

To keep you up-dated and informed – and to give thanks

Our Hayes End Church Council met on Tuesday, 18th September, and we would like to confirm that your current leadership team is now as follows:

Beverley Answer,	Gabriel Bahinga,
John Chamberlain (Senior Steward),	
Tamiwe Musyani,	Grace Nicholson,
Ajayi Oguntokun,	Bose Osinioye

This dedicated group of hard-working (and non-paid) ladies and gentlemen are those who meet on a regular basis to propose, plan and organise events that are so essential to ensure that the running of our church continues as it has done for well over one hundred years (*next March we'll have our 128th Birthday!*). They are the ones who also ensure that the building we call church is maintained to a good standard and is appealing to all the folk who come into the premises - not just on Sunday mornings.

Every member of the Team willingly offers his or her own particular talent and expertise to the life of our church and we feel this is a good time to say a very big thank you for all you have done, and for all that will involve your input in the months to come.

... also to keep you informed, the representatives to Church Council now are:

Jim Ashton,	George Kulasingham,
Angela Lount,	Nicola Mercer,
John Rout jnr,	Pat Walsh

Were it not for dedicated folk of faith like all of you, and the many hundreds who have been in 'office' since 1891, Hayes End would be just a bus-stop on the Uxbridge Road. There would be no haven where people could come and find long-lasting friendship and fellowship and, most importantly that no matter who or what they are or may have been, discover God, who created them and who loves them beyond their understanding.

So thank you dear friends – that's all!

Autumn is falling, falling -“

Grey scudding clouds, swirling mists, barometers dipping,
nights drawing in, the scent and smoke of bonfires,
all indications of the approaching demise of the year.
Muddy pathways, gutters and drains choked with leaves ... STOP!

*“Not so” say the leaves “watch our aerobatics;
see us dance and whirl, admire our colours –
the reds, oranges, the browns and yellows -
it’s time to celebrate”*

And yes, there they are, all gaily dancing for their lives – their swan-song,
floating and falling to the wind’s orchestra; twirling, rising, falling
and rising again; skittering, scuttling, rustling, spiralling, gliding –
hither and thither until, breathless, they slowly drift down
to the paths and pavements, the streams and the lanes.
They settle, like tossed-aside cloaks of subdued colour
under trees, round the lamp-posts on rooftops and chimneys,
until again, very gently, the wind places them on mother earth.

*“And now we’ll sleep – once we were the green shoots of Springtime:
in the days of Summer, along lanes and country ways we
provided those cool green tunnels of shade from the
fierce heat of the noon-day sun;
we gave secret places for little children to play;
we fed countless creatures throughout the year.
Our work is almost done, so of course we celebrate”*

so yes, they settle in their landing bays; quietly dissolving and disintegrating in the
brown earth; there they will rest and stay beneath the frozen snow and by their self-
less action will give birth and life to the next generation of tiny green shoots when
they too, in their ordered turn, are ready to emerge from the soil and burst forth into
the light, as and when decreed by that amazing Power, far, far greater than any
works of man

... as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be -

Three 'Specials' to come

Number one –

Quite possibly, from leaflets received in church, you will already be aware of the family afternoon out on 7th October at Ruislip Lido – however, for those who may have missed this, here's what is planned – everyone is very welcome to come with their friends and family for a sponsored gathering and a picnic – in fact anyone else you feel might enjoy relaxing at the Lido: bring your eats, plus buckets and spades so you can build sandcastles. As stated, you can walk round the lake, you can trot round the lake, be wheeled round the lake or simply take a seat under a tree overlooking the lake and enjoy having a chat and engage in some people watching. Whichever course of action you prefer, please endeavour to get people to sponsor your efforts and so give our fund raising a boost. *(please sponsor John in particular as he has the means to get his money doubled!!)*

And a reminder that if you don't feel in the mood to make egg sandwiches, bake buns or fill up thermos flasks, there is a small café by the lake where you can buy light refreshments and drinks, or alternatively dine at the Water's Edge Restaurant. So please don't miss this chance for a relaxing (or strenuous) afternoon out – it could well be the last opportunity available before the end of the month when we will be putting our clocks back, staying at home and spending time watching television with a rug around our knees!

Number two –

Sunday 14th October is also among our 'specials' as on that Sunday our Minister Ken is planned to lead a three-church service at Hayes End to be followed by Sunday lunch. Therefore, as already aware, no services will be held at either Hayes or North Hillingdon that morning, although the usual second Sunday Praise and Worship time will still go ahead at North Hillingdon at 6.00 p.m. in the evening. Leaders in all churches will have advised members of their congregations of this special united worship time and necessary information – just know that a warm welcome awaits everyone for worship and fellowship and food on this day.

Number three –

Guess what? If you are reading this on the 30th October there are only nine weeks and six days remaining until our annual Family Christmas Concert takes place. This is currently in our church diary for 7.00 p.m. on Saturday, 8th of December.

My view, as many will already know, is that mileage makes champions, and if you don't do the mileage beforehand, it will never "BE ALL RIGHT ON THE NIGHT!" so the time is approaching to get cracking with ideas and rehearsals quite soon. As always, we welcome individuals or groups (especially the young folk) from any of our three churches to offer an item for inclusion in the programme, and to let me (Enid Thomas) know - look forward to hearing from you soon as soon as possible – no later than Sunday 18th November please – this will allow time to prepare and print the programmes. Thanks.

This is the information that we require:

- a. Whether it is song, dance, words or playing a musical instrument
- b. The title of your item and, most importantly – HOW LONG?

(Please remember that you should aim for 4 minutes only. If an offering is too long the audience get bored and what's more, we are unable to include as many pieces as we would wish – our aim is to end no later than 8.30 p.m., so allowing time for refreshments afterwards.

We are aware that there is a plethora of talent among our churches' families and friends, and this is a good opportunity to be able to share with others the gifts with which we are blessed, and don't forget to tell everyone to come along on the 9th of December for a taste of Christmas! (Entertainment is free, but we do make small charges for the drinks and snacks)

We will also need assistance with volunteers to welcome and control the crowds, operate the sound desk and to assist serving refreshments – any offers of help there please? Number to call is 01296 324909 – thanks again.

NB – this is just one of our season's events – you will soon receive a fully detailed list from our Church Leadership Team of all our Advent and Christmas services and occasions

Our girls



To keep you posted concerning our adopted girls ... we have lately received messages from Netsanet and Shawa who are now both five years old, and you may have noticed the pictures of them attached to our Notice board outside the vestry at Hayes End. The difference can now be seen - they are beginning to look quite like little girls, no longer at the toddler stage!

Netsanet has a pet called Urree (*but we're not sure what that pet is!*) and she does like to watch tv - we have also learned that Shawa enjoys singing, but she tells us sadly her sister is not very well and she asks us to pray for her. Both girls send thanks to everyone for helping them.

A very wise lady (it was in fact Pat's dear mum) used to say "*educate a girl and you feed and educate a family*" – if you think about that you will realise how just true it is. Today an educated female is well able to cope with the demands of a family and hold down a reasonable job at the same time, whereas it can present problems for a male and his somewhat different work circumstances. So that is why we chose to adopt girls, instead of boys.

Our prayer for both Netsanet and Shawa is that they will go on to learn well at school, perhaps followed by university, and when the time comes they will be able to find good employment.

So bearing that thought in mind, Anne (E) has kindly offered the following very interesting item:

Anne writes –

Reading the report about Netsanet and Shawa in a previous magazine, I thought people would be interested in hearing about Christine in the Philippines, who has been sponsored by the Hillingdon District Girls' Brigade for about ten years. She is now nearly sixteen years old and can stay at her Compassion project until she is twenty-two.

Each month a Company in the District prays for her and her family – the Company at Hayes End is allocated the month of April, and the Chaplain and Presidents also have allocated months although, naturally, we remember her all the time.

Compassion UK also translate her letters and ours, so we keep up to date with news. She is doing well at school and is always very appreciative of our sponsorship and our interest in her life.

Our thanks to you Anne – that augers well for our two children as it appears we may well be able to continue to support them for the next seventeen years until they too become adults, and then who knows what the future has in store and what God has planned for them.



Some days I spend time attempting to sort out my 'stuff' and recently uncovered a book given by a friend many years ago – it has 365 short verses and is entitled 'Angels - Everyday thoughts' with, obviously, quotes concerning angels – I think some may provide good space fillers - here's one for this month:

**Angels do the work of love: love around us,
love within us, love compelling us
and love uniting us.**

YOU TOOK MY PARKING SPACE AT CHURCH

One day, a man went to visit a church, he got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up nearby and the driver got out and said,

"I always park there! You took my place!"

The visitor went inside the building, found an empty seat and sat down. A young lady approached him and stated,

"That's my seat! You took my place!" The visitor was distressed by this very rude welcome but he said nothing. After the service, the visitor went into the sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said,

"That's where I always sit! You took my place!" The visitor was even more troubled, but still he still said nothing.

Later as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up, and his appearance began to change. Horrible scars became visible on his hands and on his sandaled feet. Someone noticed him and called out,

"What happened to you?"

The visitor replied, as his hat became a crown of thorns and a tear fell from his eye,

"I took your place"

Thankyou Beverley for this and yes, we know we have used it before, but may it serve as a reminder once again that as followers of Jesus one of the things we are called to do is to give welcome to the stranger in our midst

It all began at Creation

Whenever your children are difficult take comfort from the thought that even God's omnipotence did not extend to his children.

After creating heaven and earth, God created Adam and Eve, and the first thing that God said to them was

"Don't"

"Don't what?" Adam asked.

"Don't eat the forbidden fruit" said God.

"Forbidden fruit? Really? Where is it?" Adam and Eve asked.

"Over there" said God; he pointed and wondered why he hadn't stopped after making the elephants.

A few minutes later God saw them having an apple break, and he was very angry.

"Didn't I tell you not to eat that fruit?" the First Parent asked.

"Ub-huh" Adam replied

"Then why did you do it?" God asked exasperatedly.

"I dunno" Adam answered.

God's punishment was that Adam and Eve had children of their own. Thus the pattern was set and it has never changed, but there is reassurance

if you have always tried to give your children wisdom to no avail, don't be hard on yourself. If God himself had trouble handling his children, what on earth makes you think it should be easy for you?

Here are some ‘little gems’ from our collection of statements from ‘little gems’:

Melanie (age 5) asked her grandma how old she was. Grandma replied she was so old that she didn't remember any more. Melanie said – *“If you don't remember grandma, you must look in the back of your knickers. Mine say I'm five to six”*

Brittany (age 6) had an ear-ache and wanted a pain killer. She tried in vain to take the lid off the bottle. Seeing her frustration Mum explained it was child-proof and she'd have to open it for her. Eyes wide with wonder, the little girl asked *“How does it know it's me?”*

John (just 4) stepped on to the bathroom scales and asked his mum *“How much do I cost today?”*

Tammy (also 4) was walking with her mother when they met an elderly, rather wrinkled lady her mum knew. Tammy looked at the lady for a minute and then asked *“Why doesn't your skin fit your face?”*

Mark (age 5) was sitting on his bed looking very worried. Mum asked him what was bothering him. Mark replied *“I don't know what will happen with this bed when I get married. How will my wife fit in it – there's really only room for me?”*

Jimmy (age 4) is very engrossed in a couple hugging and kissing in a restaurant. Without taking his eyes off them he asks his dad *“Why is he whispering in her mouth?”*

Things aren't always what they seem!!!

A woman spent months serving God in Kenya. On a final visit she attended a medical clinic. As the Maasai women there began singing together, she found herself deeply moved by the hauntingly beautiful harmonies. She wanted to remember this moment and share it with her friends back home. With tears flowing down her cheeks she asked a friend

“Can you please give me the translation of the words to this beautiful song?”

The friend looked at her and solemnly replied

“If you boil the water, you won't get dysentery”

What's that you said?

As a night owl, I'm never ever at my lively best in the morning, and being well aware of this, plus the fact that I'm now quite deaf and showing no signs of improvement, a good church friend sent me the following – believe it was one of those offerings from the poet 'Don' -

Hearing aids are wonderful things, they mean you don't miss much.

You hear again the birds and bees, ticking clocks and such.

What people say about you 'cos they think you still can't hear.

you note to change your Will again, those words will cost them dear.

They make you feel you're part of things where once you felt cut off.

but they don't half sound awful when they amplify your cough**

NB

I'll not be changing my Will because thankfully I can no longer hear what people say about me, but it did give me a giggle on that grey morning – thanks Pat.

** also whenever you are eating!



The closing date for items in our November Magazine

Wednesday 17th October

Please write or type your article and hand to Enid Thomas -
you can also send 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 October and
November***



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 at Hayes End
- 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 fa family Picnic
and 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
10.00 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 and 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 (*we go on the 18th*)

- 17th 10.00 a.m. Insight Group E meet
12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
- 17th 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
followed by 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

November

- 1st 7.30 p.m. United Allsorts Group meet at Hayes End
- 3rd 12.00 p.m. Table Top Sale at Hayes
3.00 p.m. 'Young at Heart' Club at North Hillingdon
- 4th 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon
11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes with Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End
- 5th 7.30 p.m. Insight Group A meet
- 6th 7.30 p.m. Insight Group C meet
- 7th 12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
7.30 p.m. Insight Group D meet
- 8th 7.30 p.m. Handicraft group at Hayes End
- 11th **Remembrance Sunday**
9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon
11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes
11.00 a.m. Parade Service at Hayes End
6.00 p.m. Praise Service at North Hillingdon

- 12th United Bright Hour at Hayes End
- 14th 12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
 11.00 a.m. United Holy Communion at Aston House
 7.30 p.m. Circuit CLT meet at Ruislip
- Closing date for December magazine items**
- 15th 10.30 a.m. Insight Group B meet
 7.30 p.m. United Allsorts Group meet at Hayes End
- 18th 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon with Holy Communion
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End
- 19th 7.30 p.m. Insight Group A meet
- 20th 7.30 p.m. Insight Group C meet
 8.00 p.m. Circuit Treasurers meet at Ruislip
 1.30 p.m. Prima's joint management meeting at Hayes
- 21st 12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
 7.30 p.m. Insight Group D meet
- 22nd 7.30 p.m. Handicraft group at Hayes End
 7.30 p.m. London District Treasurer's meet at Central Hall
- 25th 9.30 a.m. Service at North Hillingdon
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes
 11.00 a.m. Service at Hayes End with Holy Communion
 185h followed by 'come & share' meal
- 26th United Bright Hour at Hayes End
 7.00 p.m. Local preachers & worship leaders meet at Hayes End
- 28th 12.00 – 3.00 p.m. North Hillingdon Crafters
- 29th 10.30 a.m. Insight Group B meet
 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**



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 B - Church porch
(Alt. weeks) Contact: Ajayi – Tel. see above

WEDNESDAY:

10.30 a.m. Insight Bible Study Group C - 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



Lectionary Readings for October 2018

7 th October	Genesis 2;18-24 Hebrews 1:1-4, :2;5-12 Mark 10:2-16 Psalm 8
14 th October	Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 Hebrews 4:12-16 Mark 10;17-31 Psalm 90:12- 17
21 st October	Isaiah 53:4-12 Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark10:35-45 Psalm 91:9-16
28 th October	Jeremiah 31:7-9 Hebrews 7:23-28 Mark 10:46-52 Psalm 126

The Chronicle

Our Production Team

Editor

Enid Thomas

Telephone: 01296 324909

Email: crummage@btinternet.com

Printing, collating and construction

Molly Lewis, John Chamberlain
and Phil Pindai

Reader & and designs

Pat Walsh

Postal Subscriptions

to Enid Thomas

Minister's contact details

Revd Ken Kingston

Telephone: 0208.756 0567

Email: kingston86.k@gmail.com

Please respect Ken's day off – Saturday
and also his study day – each Monday

Church Administrator

Prima Mendonca

Office hours –

Mondays & Tuesdays

10.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m.

Telephone 0208 561 3061

Email: hahemcoffice@btinternet.com