

# SEPTEMBER 2007

This is an edited version of the September 2007 Church Newsletter. A printed copy of the full newsletter is available in Church throughout the period.

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Church Family News and Concerns can be found on P2 of the printed copy of the newsletter which is available in Church. We send our greetings and best wishes to all those for whom we have concerns.

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

**Susannah Normanton** and **Lorna Wright** who have gained good results in G.C.S.E exams, enabling them to take 6th Form courses.

Also to **Emma-Louise Raby**, who has gained good results at A-Level. Emma doesn't plan to go onto college, but hopes to find a good position where she can be trained, while working.

**Clare Dellow** doesn't have her results until later, so we will remember her in the October Newsletter.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO Matthew Foster**, who has also gained good A-Level results, enabling him to take up a place at Nottingham University, reading History and German.

**Louise Foster** will spend half the coming year in Munich, working and studying as part of her 4-year degree course. The second half will be spent in Russia.

I owe **Robert Normanton** an apology. I wrote in the July Newsletter that he had passed Grade 4 on the clarinet. In fact it was **Grade 5!**. Sorry, Robert. Robert also has good S-Level results, and we wish him well in this last year in school.

### **David Wright**

David left Coopers in July and will be starting at the Bisham Abbey tennis academy in September. This will involve a combined programme of tennis and GCSE study. David will be boarding there during the week and will return home at weekends when not in a tournament. He is excited as well as apprehensive about this adventure but is thoroughly looking forward to it.

Tim Henman trains there and will take some of the coaching sessions. Mark Cox is head of the programme, a name which some of you may know as the former British number one.

Recently David has enjoyed some of his greatest success coming runner up in an international event held in Bournemouth which gave him his first European ranking points (he is currently 320<sup>th</sup> in Europe at 14 and under), and 16<sup>th</sup> in Britain.

He also reached the quarter finals of the British National Championships also at Bournemouth defeating the number 3 seed in the process. Unfortunately David was unable to take part in his well earned quarter final due to severe cramp and the physio advising him to withdraw.

He followed up his achievement in the Nationals by winning the 14 U singles and doubles event in the Radlett Junior Open Tournament.

We wish all these young people every blessing, as they follow their chosen careers. We hope that they will remember us, and visit our church whenever they are able.

BARBARA FOSTER - Editor

**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Marie Segal** who was recently ordained Deacon at Chelmsford Cathedral. Marie is now appointed Curate at St. Andrew's Church.

We wish her well in her new work in the Parish.

The **Fordree family** would like to express their thanks for the love and kindness they received from church friends during the time of John's illness and since his death. They are also appreciative of the generosity of the donations to Cancer Research UK, in memory of John. Thank You, everyone.

We would like to pay a personal tribute to John Fordree, as we were so fortunate to benefit from his valued friendship over many years. It began after the Carol Service in December 1985. John, Sylvia and ourselves were drawn into conversation by the fact that each couple were holding new born baby girls. After making a comment about Sylvia looking so well, we were moved by the response that they were fostering their baby and hoped to adopt her.

The two babies were to become best friends as our friendship with John and Sylvia grew. Through the years Katie and Clare spent many hours together and John was always ready to help us out and often took the girls to various places in the school holidays. Clare recalls many happy hours spent at the Fordrees' and said that she and Katie were quite naughty at times but John was always very kind.

We enjoyed many conversations with John over the years and if during those conversations John thought there was something he could do to help us in any way then he would immediately offer to do it, giving his time and experience wholeheartedly.

John was a true gentleman who loved his family and cared for others. We feel privileged to have known him and will always remember him with much affection and gratitude.

RAY & ANNE DELLOW & FAMILY

### **John Fordree and his work with Property**

I know that Anne has written a tribute to John, however I wanted to specifically acknowledge John's involvement with our Property.

John served on the Property Committee for many years and took particular responsibility for our Lettings. As Lettings Secretary John built up close relations with many local community groups and this encouraged new groups to seek out The Drive as a venue for their activities. As a result, our lettings income has grown significantly over recent years.

John was always willing to drop what he was doing and pop along to the Church to assist with a letting or to sort out any problem that had arisen – often at short notice. So often John would ring me in the evening to let

me know that, for example a window had been broken, but not to worry as he had been to the glaziers purchased and fitted a new pane of glass – his call was just for information.

During the Development John was the contact between the contractors on site and the Church. John built up a strong working relationship with the site foreman Lee and this ensured that the work proceeded smoothly and with minimal disruption. I remember one particular technical problem regarding the new floor in the Church. Neither the Architect nor I had a solution, but the Architect suggested that we allow John and Lee to find the solution – which they did.

Nobody could have done more for our Property than John. I remember talking with John and Stephen on the morning of the service to launch the refurbished premises in April 2005. Stephen thanked John for all he had contributed to the project. John's answer was clear. He said that he felt his work with the Property was simply part of his worship and service of God.

JEREMY FOSTER

### **CHURCH LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Please note that the Church Life Committee meeting on **Thursday 27th. September** will start at **7.30 pm**, in order to accommodate the church choir members who have an important rehearsal at 8.30 pm.

### **LIONEL HARRIS HESTER 1920 – 2007**

Lionel died on Sunday July 15<sup>th</sup> after a very brief illness, aged 87. At his funeral service, held at The Drive Church conducted by the Rev. Stephen Normanton, we remembered Lionel's long association with our church. Lionel came to live in Ilford after spending the whole of the war years 1939 – 1945 in the army serving for much of the time in the Middle East. He then worked for the Post Office telephone service as it was then known, till retirement.

He joined the Eastern Avenue Church (as this church was then known) in 1945, and sang tenor in the choir for many years till he became too frail to come to service. His 'Amen' at the end of the sung Lord's Prayer will long be remembered. He loved singing the anthems and cantatas - particularly "Olivet to Calvary" at Easter time.

In his retirement years Lionel regularly attended the Tuesday morning Holy Communion services, preparing the bread and wine each week. Every December Lionel sold calendars in the church, which he had made during the year, in aid of the work of the National Children's Home.

He regularly came to the monthly meetings of the Roding Housegroup, and used to tell of his visits to places in the Holy Land when serving in the army in the Middle East.

Lionel had a very pleasant unassuming personality and bore his increasing deafness without complaint. At the funeral a collection in aid of the Royal National Institute for the Deaf raised the sum of £135.00. FS

### **CHURCH FELLOWSHIP**

The programme is nearing completion and the Committee hopes that there will be plenty of interest for all. Speakers will include the Rev. Stephen Poole & Mr. Martin Fairhurst. There are others in the pipeline and we hope to have a Christmas Celebration and a Desert Island Discs's programme. Our first meeting will be on October 2nd. in the Parlour at 8.00 pm, when Mr. Allan Ramsden will be our speaker.

Refreshments and lifts available as always.

### **CHARLES WESLEY HYMN CELEBRATION**

In case you missed it in July, we have been asked to repeat our Charles Wesley Hymns' Celebration on **Saturday October 6th. at 6.00 pm** at the Hospital Chapel, Ilford Hill.

### **VISION DAY**

A time for the whole Christian Community to discover more about fresh expressions of church with **the Rev. Dr. Martyn Atkins, this year's President of Conference**, on **Saturday 22nd September, 10.30 am – 4.00 pm, at Westminster Central Hall**. Places must be booked in advance by 14th September, via [admin\(a\)methodistlondon.org.uk](mailto:admin(a)methodistlondon.org.uk)

### **HARVEST GIFTS**

There is to be a wedding at 2.00 pm on Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept. This means that gifts of fruit, vegetables, tinned and packeted food (preferably small sizes), for the Harvest Festival, will have to be brought to the Parlour between 10 am and noon on that day. The Church will consequently have to be decorated later in the day.

## HARVEST FESTIVAL LUNCH

This will be held in the Hall after the morning service of Sept 23rd. at 12.45pm. Everyone is invited. Please sign the list at the back of the church, to indicate that you would like to join us. The list will be taken down after Sunday 16th. September. All proceeds (after expenses) will be sent to M.R.D.F. (Methodist Relief and Development Fund).

### CHARLES WESLEY HYMNS, CELEBRATION - JULY 1ST. at The Drive

It was wonderful to have so many talented singers from so many churches taking part in this unique event. We had singers from our own B.D.I. Circuit churches together with guest singers from St. Andrew's, St. Laurence's, St. Margaret's and St. John's. There was an entire family from Redhill. It was great to have so many singers in the choir.

I counted four church organists, in addition to Andrew and Duncan. A 21st. Century hymn-writer was there – Stephen Froggatt, winner of the London District hymn-writing competition. Duncan Paterson's organ-playing was superb. He included organ music composed by Samuel Sebastian Wesley, grandson of Charles.

We had a large appreciative congregation who were full of praise, as we talked over coffee. We are so glad that the whole event (including the lovely dramatic interludes) will be repeated on Saturday October 6th. 2007 at 6.00pm at the Hospital Chapel, Ilford Hill.

### Time stands still!

You may have been wondering where the Church Clock has been for the last few months. With the Property Committee's agreement, I took it to have an electric movement fitted to save the job of having to climb up each week to wind it up – it is an 8-day movement and so needs winding each week.

With all the health and safety regulations it now needs two people to do this task. One to hold the steps and the other to wind the clock! My idea was that I would do this in memory of Pat and also to make life easier for my daughter Mary who has very sensitive hearing and can't stand the ticking! (Not that she is here very often!)

Unfortunately the quartz movements now available are not powerful enough to turn the hands and they have not made electric movements for the last 15 years. I am sorry that it has taken so long, but the jewellers were searching for a movement that would work, without success

The clock has now been returned with its original movement but in the transportation back to the Church the pendulum fell off and a thin strip of metal bent and had to be straightened. The clock was working satisfactorily for about 5 days standing on my dining room table before bringing it back to the Church.

I removed the pendulum for the journey, but it must have been weakened by the bending because it broke when trying to re-assemble the clock when it was fixed back in position. I have taken the pendulum to try and get it repaired, but in the meantime the clock is decorative but not much use!

I hope it will not be too long before we have the ticking back. BRIAN GRINHAM

### **Do you have any spare wool?**

*"Since moving into Birchwood I have knitted several knee rugs and five baby blankets(not for residents!) and am now running short of wool.*

*As I have linked up with a group which sends knitted items to Uganda and other areas I should be grateful for any spare wool including small amounts which can be knitted into gaily striped blankets. Thank you. MAISIE"*

Congratulations to **Helen and Peter Brown** whose baby daughter **Ezri** was born on Friday 13<sup>th</sup>. July. We wish all the family much happiness with baby Ezri in future years.

### **AN EXTRA WESLEY CELEBRATION**

Peter and I took advantage of **Kaye** and **Paul's** hospitality back in July when we were travelling to France via Yorkshire! We stayed with them in their lovely home on the Sunday night, ready for a 7.00 am start for the Channel crossing the next morning.

Several local churches in Canterbury were presenting a Wesley Celebration. The church was packed (it was a very hot Sunday evening) and we thoroughly enjoyed the presentation, which was quite different from our own, held at The Drive in July. It was interesting to think about the differences which were equally enjoyable. BARBARA  
P.S. No, we didn't see the baby, but I'm sure she's beautiful. B.

**MORE JAZZ!**

Myrna Hague and friends will present  
**“AN EVENING OF JAZZ”**  
on **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>. September at 7.30 pm**  
at Gantshill Methodist Church.  
Tickets are £10 each (including Buffet Supper)  
All proceeds will go towards Gantshill Church Development Fund.  
Telephone **Liz** on 020 8500 3280 or **Pam** on 020 8551 0534 for tickets in advance.

**Junior Church Dates**

- September 2<sup>nd</sup>** First Junior Church back after the hols.!
- September 16<sup>th</sup>** Junior Church - theme “ The Parable of the Sower”
- September 23<sup>rd</sup>** Harvest Festival (All staying in the service)
- October 7<sup>th</sup>** All Age worship – theme “Holy Communion”
- October 21<sup>st</sup>** Junior Church
- November 4<sup>th</sup>** All Age Worship –“ The Parable of the Good Samaritan”
- November 11<sup>th</sup>** Remembrance Day Service
- November 18<sup>th</sup>** J.M.A service ( All staying in the service)
- December 9<sup>th</sup>** All Age Worship and Toy Service (Please bring a toy unwrapped and some wrapping paper). **We will also be giving children their Nativity costumes.**
- December 23<sup>rd</sup>** Nativity Service – Everyone is needed for this service both young and old! **Please make every effort to come.**

**CHOIR PRACTICE DATES**

SEP	6	Harvest	NOV	15	Advent & Christmas
SEP	13	“	NOV	22	“
SEP	20	“	NOV	29	“
SEP	27	Charles Wesley Hymns	DEC	6	“
OCT	4	“	DEC	13	“
NOV	8	Remembrance	DEC	20	“

## **CIRCUIT CALENDAR**

Sat	22 Sep	7.30 pm	"An Evening of Jazz" at Gantshill Church
Sat	29 Sep		Visit to Bristol – Contact Peter Sharp 020 8984 0919
Sat	6 Oct	6.00 pm	Wesley Celebration at the Hospital Chapel

### **GOODMAYES ANNIVERSARY:**

Sat	15 Sep	10.00 am – 4.00 pm	Open Day at Goodmayes
Sat	6 Oct	from 6.30 pm	Ghanaian Celebration
Wed	24 Oct	8.00 pm	Regional Guild Rally
Sat	27 Oct	6.30 pm	Church Anniversary Social

## **GUIDES**

I started as a Brownie when I was 8 and haven't left Guiding since! It will therefore come as a shock when I don't have to leave my house on a Wednesday evening to help run Guides. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as a Guide and a Guider with the 5th Ilford Company and I will miss working with Sandra and the Guides. We have had some great laughs over the years and some wonderful summer camps including this year at Reigate. Sandra has made me a lovely cross stitch to remind me of my time at Guides and the group very kindly presented me and Sandra with a beautiful clock each. This was done just as we had arrived home from summer camp. I would like to say thank you for the lovely clock and the cross stitch and wish Sandra good luck as she embarks on her midwifery course.

JO WRIGHT

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This year our Junior Church have decided to support a charity called The Samaritan's Purse .It involves sending shoe boxes that have been filled with various items to children in need in countries around the world. I am writing this now as the date that the boxes have to be sent is early November. The paragraphs below explain how the charity works.

This annual project enables caring individuals, families, schools, churches, businesses, and other organisations to fill ordinary shoe boxes with small toys, school supplies, sweets, and other gifts for needy children around the world. Operation Christmas Child sends a message of hope to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes.

Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest children's Christmas project. Since 1990 the project has brought the joy of Christmas to more than 47 million boys and girls throughout the world. Last year we sent 1.24 million shoe boxes from the UK to children in hospitals, orphanages, Internally Displaced Persons camps, homeless shelters and impoverished neighbourhoods. With your help we want to reach even more children in the poorest parts of the world in 2007.

We would like to send as many boxes as we can. This will involve collecting the items listed and either putting them in the box provided at the back of the church or wrapping and filling your own box.

Here is what we have to do.

Wrap a shoe box no bigger than 18x30x13cm, wrap the lid separately.

Decide what age group you would like to send to either 2-4, 5-9, 10-14, boy or girl.

Donate items plus £2.00 per shoe box. Please don't feel you have to make this donation but it would help with posting costs.

### **Items that you can donate for the boxes are:-**

#### **✓ TOYS - something to love**

Bear, soft toy, tennis ball, finger puppet, jigsaw, yo-yo, building blocks, small musical instrument, (for boys – trucks and cars, for girls – doll, clip-on earrings, make-up or hair accessories) etc.

#### **✓ EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES – something to do**

Felt pens, pens, pencils, pencil sharpener, rubber, colouring book, notepad, picture/puzzle book, chalk, pencil case, stickers etc.

#### **✓ HYGIENE ITEMS – something to use**

Toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, comb, hair clips, bar of wrapped soap, flannel etc.

#### **✓ OTHER ITEMS – something to eat or wear**

Sweets (sell-by date to be at least March of following year), gloves, scarf, sunglasses, cap, hat, bangles, necklaces etc.

### **Items that cannot be sent are:-**

**✗FOOD** Chocolate, crisps, biscuits, tinned food or cakes (or any other food)

**✗MEDICINE** Medicines or vitamins of any kind

**✗WAR RELATED ITEMS** toy guns, soldiers or knives

**✗CLOTHING** (other than listed above)

**✘FRAGILE ITEMS** Glass containers; mirrors

**✘LIQUIDS** of any kind including blow bubbles, shampoo, bubble bath, toiletry sets or aerosols

**✘DANGEROUS ITEMS** Marbles or sharp objects – scissors or razors

**✘NOVELS**

**✘ANYTHING OF A POLITICAL OR RACIAL NATURE**

If you would like to make a monetary donation instead then this would also be gratefully received and would go towards posting costs and buying items to fill the boxes.

Look out for posters and leaflets coming shortly. If you have any questions then please contact **JO WRIGHT**

### **WEBSITE NEWS**

Almost a year ago, the Church Council expressed its wish that we should have our own website in order to:- provide an additional channel of communication with our members and regular visitors, and advertise our Church to anybody else who may be interested in who, what or where we are.

After four months of hard work designing, writing and constructing the website, it was launched in a blaze of publicity on 1 st April. So, after nearly five months, how are we doing?

In the period up to 15th August, we have recorded:-

590 'Unique Visitors' (of whom 271 have subsequently returned for another look)

3,802 'Page Loads' (the number of pages which have been looked at).

Of those 590 visitors, 98.13% (as you'd expect) were in the UK. However, we've also recorded 'visitors' from the following countries:-

USA Australia France Italy Mexico India Sri Lanka

The most popular pages on the website have been:-

Weekly Notices Newsletter Minister's Page The Virtual Tour

All sorts of other (mainly technical) information can be gleaned from the log – if anyone's interested, please speak to Mike Seviour.

What of the future? To be successful, a website has to be lively, informative and above all, up-to-date. No matter how much a visitor enjoys looking at a website, if they return a week later to find nothing has changed, it's unlikely that they'll bother to look again.

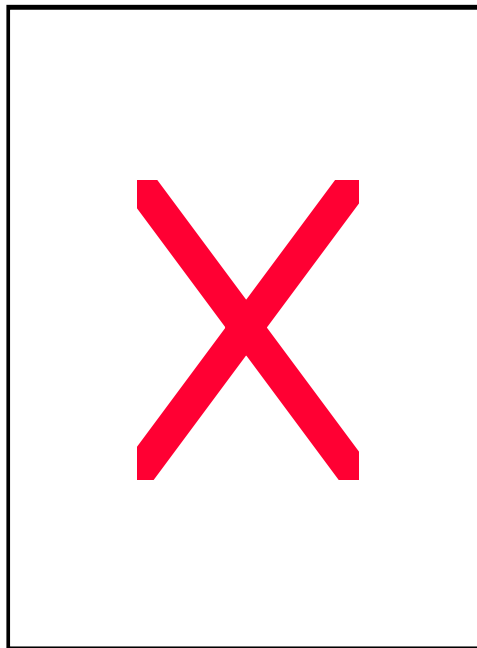
We welcome contributions from anyone - reports of events, prayers, photographs - in fact anything which may be of interest to others. You don't need to be able to use the internet to contribute. We're quite happy to take items which are typed, hand-written or on electronic media. Photographs can be prints, slides, digital, or even negatives. What *is* important (particularly if your contribution is about an event) is that we can publish it as soon as possible - ideally within a week. Just give your contributions to Anne Warden or any steward and it will be on the website within hours!

Finally, don't forget to have a look yourself - [www.the-drive-methodist-ilford.org.uk](http://www.the-drive-methodist-ilford.org.uk)

MIKE SEVIOUR Webmaster



# VOTE FOR THE DRIVE'S FAVOURITE CHARLES WESLEY HYMN



Choose 5 favourite hymns from  
September newsletter.

the list of 30 hymns in the

To vote use the voting form in the September newsletter  
OR

Vote online at [www.the-drive-methodist-ilford.org.uk](http://www.the-drive-methodist-ilford.org.uk)  
Vote between 1<sup>st</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September

## VOTE FOR THE DRIVE'S FAVOURITE CHARLES WESLEY HYMN

In celebration of the Wesley Tercentenary and to mark the launch of our church website you are invited to take part in a vote to find The Drive's favourite Charles Wesley hymn. Voting will take place between **1<sup>st</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September**. The results will be announced during the All Age Worship and Learning Service on 7<sup>th</sup> October.

From the list of 30 Charles Wesley hymns below you can select up to **5** hymns. Your favourite hymn will receive 5 points, your next choice 4 points and so on, with your fifth choice receiving one point. The winning hymn will be the one receiving the highest total from all the votes cast.

To vote complete the voting form included with this newsletter OR vote online at [www.the-drive-methodist-ilford.org.uk](http://www.the-drive-methodist-ilford.org.uk). Only 1 vote per person please.

H&P No.	First line
46	What shall I do my God to love
62	Captain of Israel's host, and Guide
81	Come, thou long-expected Jesus
106	Hark! The herald-angels sing
109	Let earth and heaven combine
193	Christ the Lord is risen today
197	Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!
216	And can it be that I should gain
241	Lo, he comes with clouds descending
243	Rejoice, the Lord is King
264	Jesus the name high over all
267	Love divine, all loves excelling
278	Ye servants of God, your master proclaim
300	Father of everlasting grace
374	Thou God of truth and love
381	Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go
457	Christ, whose glory fills the skies
469	Come, Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire
504	O heavenly King, look down from above
520	Father, whose everlasting love
528	Jesus, lover of my soul
649	Come, let us use the grace divine
726	God of all power, and truth, and grace
744	O for a thousand tongues to sing
745	O thou who camest from above
753	All praise to our redeeming Lord
764	Christ from whom all blessings flow
767	Give me the faith which can remove
781	See how great a flame aspires
788	Behold the servant of the Lord!

#### DIARY SEPTEMBER 2007

<b>SUN</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10.45 am</b> <b>6.30 pm</b>	<b>Mrs. BERYL VAUGHAN - Junior Church resumes</b> <b>Rev. STEPHEN NORMANTON</b>
THUR	6	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
<b>SUN</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10.45 am</b>	<b>Rev. STEPHEN NORMANTON - Family Communion –</b> <b>Collection at Communion for Macmillan Nurses</b>
MON	10	7.30 pm	Circuit Meeting at Barkingside
WED	12	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Rev. Stephen Normanton
THUR	13	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
<b>SUN</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10.45 am</b>	<b>Mrs. PHILIPPA NORMANTON</b>
WED	19	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Sister Vera Nicholls
THUR	20	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
<b>SUN</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10.45 am</b>	<b>H A R V E S T F E S T I V A L</b> <i>see page 4</i> <b>Rev. STEPHEN NORMANTON</b> <b>Harvest Lunch in the Hall</b>

TUES 25 1.00 pm Church Lunch  
 WED 26 2.30 pm Women's Fellowship - Members' Afternoon  
 THUR 27 **7.30 pm** Church Life Committee  
**8.30 pm** Choir Practice  
 SAT 29 Coach trip to New Room & Charles Wesley's House at Bristol  
**SUN 30 10.45 am Miss JEAN FRYER**

**OCTOBER 2007**

TUES 2 8.00 pm Church Fellowship - speaker: Mr. Allan Ramsden  
 WED 3 2.30 pm Women's Fellowship  
 THUR 4 8.00 pm Choir Practice  
 SAT 6 6.00 pm Charles Wesley Hymns' Celebration at Hospital Chapel, Ilford Hill  
**SUN 7 10.45 am Rev STEPHEN NORMANTON - Family Communion**  
**Collection at Communion for Redbridge Samaritans**

**WOULD YOU PLEASE HAND ITEMS FOR THE OCTOBER  
 NEWSLETTER TO BARBARA FOSTER, (if you can catch her!)  
 BY SUNDAY 16th SEPTEMBER,  
 OR PLACE THEM IN THE APPROPRIATE ENVELOPE  
 IN THE MINISTER'S VESTR**