

# NEWSLETTER

The Drive  
Methodist Church  
Eastern Avenue  
Ilford

November  
2010



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate  
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<http://www.the-drive-methodist-ilford.org.uk>

## **November Birthdays**

We wish the following young people a very happy Birthday.

Feyi Fadina  
Amy MacGinley  
Rochelle Inbakumar

## **JMA Awards**

The JMA badges and certificates will be presented during the morning service on 21<sup>st</sup> November. The full amount raised by The Drive for JMA for 2009/10 will be announced at the same time.

You may like to know that the Methodist Children and Youth office have produced a new JMA prayercard. Two of our young JMA members were invited to write a prayer on the theme "connecting with the world and each other" in particular thinking of the situation in Haiti. I'm very pleased to say that their prayers were included and are printed on the back of the card. There are some at the back of the church – please help yourself.

**Diane Foster.**

## **Pies at the bus stop**

We are again going to give out mince pies at the bus stop on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of December from 10am to 12 noon. The first Saturday is also "share a skill" and "Creative Church" so we would like lots of helpers to spare half an hour to wish passers by a happy Christmas from The Drive Church.

If you would like to help please turn up at 10am.

Thanks. **Michelle and Jo**

## **Helpers needed for the Sunday morning crèche.**

It is wonderful to have so many parents using the crèche on Sunday mornings and because of this we would like some extra help when we have a "full house". We need to have the correct ratio of adults to babies and if we have 6 babies we really need to have 3 adults. If you wouldn't mind being on standby on a Sunday morning then please see Jo Wright.

**Jo.**

## **Slide Evening**

Catherine and Frank thank everyone who supported the slide evening on October 23<sup>rd</sup> which raised £165. For Action for Children.

**Frank**

## **Christmas Tree Festival**

It is with regret that I have to advise you that due to an apparent lack of enthusiasm shown both at the recent open meeting held in the parlour, and poor response to Anne's approaches to possible exhibitors, it has been decided that there will not be a festival this year, and consideration to holding it next year will be made by the Church Life committee at a future meeting.

**Roy Brunnen**

## **Church Fellowship**

The Church Fellowship have made a donation of £25 to the church fund from their small fund. The fellowship is a valuable part of the church calendar, and I urge as many of you as possible make an effort to attend, as Frank and Catherine are concerned that if there is a lack of numbers attending they will not be able to attract speakers. The next meeting is on November 2<sup>nd</sup> when The Revd Ken Nicholls will be speaking on "What's the use of Gardens?". The December meeting is a "Christmas Miscellany" which I am sure will also be very interesting.

**Roy Brunnen.**

## **Harvest**

We wish to give a huge thank you to all those who kindly donated goods at the Harvest Festival. I feel sure the eventual recipients of those goods were very grateful to the church for thinking of them.

**Roy Brunnen**

## **Tradecraft Table.**

As I reported last month, the running and stocking of this table has been undertaken by Michelle following Philippa who has of course moved away. Michelle has a catalogue of the goods which are available and would be delighted to show it to anyone who would like to consider buying from it.

Please support Tradecraft whenever you can.

**Roy Brunnen**

## FRED AND KENNETH

We all appreciated the service on September 26 on the theme of the hymns of FRED KAAN (1929 – 2009) which our organist Andrew prepared and introduced. We heard about Fred Kaan's life and the experiences which helped to shape his beliefs and sang some the hymns which clearly expressed those beliefs, and which gave us something to think about. We have 8 of those hymns in Hymns & Psalms.

Writing in the Methodist Recorder on October 7, retired Methodist minister, the Revd. Kenneth Greet says he prays that God will give him 'a thankful heart and a discerning mind' (Caryl Micklem HP 548). He continues: "It is the discerning mind that I am concerned about in today's reflection. I cannot stand saccharine hymns and sloppy choruses that contain scarcely any theological seriousness - nothing to think about."

This criticism cannot be levelled at the hymns of Fred Kaan.

**Frank Sayers**

## AUTUMN FAYRE Saturday 13 November

This is the last Newsletter before our Autumn Fayre on Saturday 13 November.

We have around 20 stalls organised and there will be a full range of refreshments throughout the day. Stalls range from Home Produce to Christmas gifts to a Car Wash, but the success of the day depends on getting people through the door. Programmes will be available by the end of October and I would encourage everyone to use these to publicise the Fayre amongst their family, friends and neighbours.

We will also be calling for volunteers to distribute Programmes to houses in the neighbourhood during the week commencing 1 November.

We are still looking for stock for the following stalls:

Doreen & Eddie need **second hand books**

Amy & Florence need **DVDs, VHS tapes, computer games etc**

Janet W is looking for **Christmas gifts**

Janet B is looking for cakes for her **cake stall**.

Anne D needs **Bric a Brac**

Pre School are looking for **second hand toys**

One new stall is called **50:50**. This is an opportunity to bring along any item to sell for up to £50. If the item sells you receive 50% of the sale price.

We will be setting up the stalls on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November from 6.00pm. If you have items for any of the stalls please bring them along on Friday evening so that everything is ready for Saturday morning.

The Fayre opens at 10.00am on Saturday.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

**Jeremy**

## **VALENTINE SINGERS CONCERT**

Nocturne – Music of the Night  
for voices and piano  
from the Renaissance to Rodgers and Hart  
via Mozart, Chopin, Elgar and Barber

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 7:30pm  
Barnardo's Church, Tanners Lane, Barkingside.

Tickets £10, £8 (seniors), £5 (students/benefit holders)  
(£2 more if bought on the door)  
available from Andrew Taylor

[www.valentinesingers.org](http://www.valentinesingers.org)

## Ferrari Thrill

I'm still not sure what I did to deserve it, but earlier this year I was privileged to receive a 'special award' from my employer. I could have chosen anything from their catalogue – M&S vouchers, a case of wine – but instead, I decided to use it to do something a bit different. I chose a '*Ferrari Experience*' at the famous Silverstone motor racing circuit, home of the British Grand Prix.

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October dawned dry and I drove to the circuit in Northamptonshire and duly reported at reception to complete the formalities. After a short wait, I joined 27 other budding racing drivers in the briefing room, where a professional racing driver explained the rules, cornering techniques and principles of high speed car control. Then on to the dressing room to be fitted with a crash helmet before going outside to where an array of Ferraris, Aston Martin DB9s, Lamborghinis and Lotuses awaited us!

My car was a Ferrari F430, in traditional red livery, sporting the racing number '08'. I squeezed into the driving seat, and Ken, my instructor quickly ran through the various controls and pointed out a few things to watch out for. Then off we went down the long road that leads to the circuit, the gentle hum of the powerful engine behind me giving little clue that this car is capable of 196mph and of reaching 60mph in less than four seconds!

The first lap was spent learning the racing line, so the corners were taken (relatively) slowly but on each successive lap, confidence and speed gradually increased and with Ken's help, the third and final lap produced some exciting moments and the roar of the engine at maximum acceleration has to be heard to be believed!

All too soon we were slowing down to exit the track and back at reception I queued up to receive my certificate, an action photo of me on the track and most valuable of all, an in-car video of the entire drive so I can re-live the experience over and over again.

No lap records were broken - Jensen Button and Lewis Hamilton can relax - but the exhilaration of powering that £100,000 thoroughbred through Abbey Curve at close to 100mph and screaming down the Hanger Straight nudging 130mph will be with me for a very long time and I can't wait to try it again. Anyone want a lift to Church next week???

**Mike Seviour**

## MEET THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION

**FRANK SAYERS writes:**

It is exactly 60 years since I came to Ilford to take up a teaching post in the Borough of East Ham (which later became part of the much larger London Borough of Newham), having just completed my National Service. I served all my teaching career in various primary schools in the Borough, a period of enormous change, which has continued since my retirement from teaching in 1987.

To me, the most worthwhile and interesting changes were in the teaching of Mathematics in Primary schools. In 1950 the main emphasis was on the teaching of computation and mental arithmetic, and this soon broadened out to include, among other aspects, the study of size and shape, such as 'block graphs' to express relationships, which studies lent themselves to much Art and display work. You can define Mathematics as the study of relationships, and the expression of those relationships in abstract terms.

I was not happy with all the changes that took place while I was teaching, and felt it was wrong that computation was, and still, is I believe, somewhat neglected.

I started to attend The Drive Church (then known as Eastern Avenue Church) occasionally in the early fifties. My elderly father was then living alone in Worthing, where I was born and brought up and I spent much of my spare time with him.

Then I helped in the Sunday School, mainly with the teenagers, till I was asked to be the organist to which I reluctantly agreed, as there was no-one else available, and gave up the Sunday School work. I had just married Catherine, so this meant that for the next 33 years we were unable to sit together in church. In those days there were two services every Sunday, and there were many weddings as well, often of couples who were not church goers.

There were also funerals, and the funerals of young people I found to be very sad occasions even when the family was not known to me. One very joyful occasion was the service for Mayor's Sunday, held in our church in June 1986, when our present Senior Steward, Roy Brunnen was Mayor of The London Borough of Redbridge. The Redbridge Youth Orchestra Brass Ensemble took part. Brass and Organ together made a glorious sound. Since Andrew Taylor has been our organist, I have been happy to be his deputy.

**Frank.**

## **Susannah Normanton climbed Kilimanjaro!**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2010 I left Heathrow airport to embark on a 2 week adventure which would take me to the roof top of Africa. I went with a group of 10 other Cardiff University students, 9 of whom I didn't know. We arrived at Nairobi airport the following morning where we were greeted by our guide, Reggie, and set off on an 8 hour bus trip to Moshi, Tanzania. In the evening we were briefed about the trek and had an early night in preparation for the challenge ahead and to recover from our long journey.

Day one of the climb began with an hour long bus ride to Machame Gate where we would begin the walk. At the gate we met our assistant guides, Goodluck and Livingstone, and we set off into the jungle. The first day was spent bonding as a group and getting to know each other's favourite films, jokes and music. We walked for six hours and the jungle had just started thinning as we reached Machame Hut, camp. We were all overwhelmed as we arrived in camp. Our tents had been put up, we had a mess tent with camp chairs and tables and they even gave us popcorn. We were so incredibly well looked after; we didn't have to do anything.

We awoke to day two with hot water for washing and tea in bed which was a pleasant surprise. After a hearty breakfast of porridge, toast and omelette we began walking through the remainder of the jungle, with stunning views of where we had walked the day before. As we approached lunch the trees became sparse and the surroundings became more like moorland. The path became dusty and the incline became steeper. We were all delighted when we reached a hot lunch, having had packed lunch the day before, and couldn't quite believe our eyes as they started serving us up spaghetti bolognese. The walk from lunch to camp wasn't very long but it was quite steep so we took it nice and slow. When we arrived at camp, Shira Plateau, we had a quick rest and then went on a 45 minute acclimatisation walk in preparation for the large altitude gain the following day. Back at camp we watched the beautiful sunset over the mountains in the distance.

Day three was a struggle. I had been up sick in the night and didn't have much of an appetite in the morning. Reggie gave me some anti-nausea tablets which made me feel better for a while but the high altitude gain before lunch proved difficult for many of us. The terrain had changed again and we were now surrounded by large

rocks with hardly any plants. Lunch was at Lava Tower, 4600m. It was very cold and even started snowing at one point. After lunch it

was all downhill to camp and as we approached we could see the very daunting path we would be taking the following morning, straight up the side of the valley, known as the Barranco Wall. When we arrived at Barranco camp we all put lots of layers on as the cold night was setting in. After dinner we had an early night, it being our last full night's sleep before reaching the summit.

Day four began with tackling the Barranco Wall. We spent the first part of the morning scrambling which I thoroughly enjoyed, mainly because it made a change from walking. We had to have a lot of stops as we got stuck in a traffic jam of porters, also heading up the mountain. As we reached the top of the wall we stopped for a group photo with the summit in the background. The path was then downhill and the terrain became like a desert. We were all excited when we saw the camp for lunch but as we approached, were bitterly disappointed when we came to the massive Karanga Valley. Going down the valley was very steep and quite hard work. We had a short break at the bottom then went back up the other side to lunch. The two hour walk after lunch to Barafu camp was cold and cloudy, it wasn't very enjoyable and most of us had started getting headaches from the altitude. When we arrived at camp we had dinner, which we hardly ate because of a lack of appetite due to the altitude, then Reggie briefed us about summit day. He told us all to take time to pray to God to keep us safe and help us get to the top. We went to bed early to get as much sleep as possible before the 11.30pm wake up call.

Day 5, summit day, began with breakfast at midnight, which we couldn't bring ourselves to eat. When we were all ready to go we set off in the dark with our head torches on. The altitude made breathing difficult so we walked very slowly and took regular breaks. We walked up a scree hill for hours and it felt like every two steps I took, I slid back down three. It was very demotivating and mentally and physically challenging, although I never thought I wouldn't get to the top. We split into different groups so we could go at our own pace. After being sick a couple more times I started to feel a bit better. Breathing became increasingly more difficult and for every step we took we were breathing in and out once. As the sun rose we could see the stunning views although it was quite cloudy at ground level so we couldn't see the bottom. We could also see where we

still had to go, which didn't look too far, but seemed to take forever. The walk up to Stella Point was the hardest bit for me. It was still a scree hill and I had already walked about seven hours with only four hours sleep so I was very tired. I took a quick break after about every five steps. When I reached Stella Point I was very relieved and enjoyed sitting down for a while. I was mostly glad that the scree hill was over. At this point we were an hour away from the summit so I was determined to carry on. I powered on up the hill and because it wasn't scree anymore, I didn't stop as regularly for breaks. The views were incredible. There were huge glaciers on one side of the ridge and on the other side was desert. I had been walking on my own most of the way from Stella Point but as I got closer to the summit I caught up with a guy from our group. We had a short break and then as we walked over the brow of a hill we could see the sign. I was so overwhelmed and thankful to God that I had made it I was fighting back the tears. As we reached the sign I was welcomed with huge hugs by some of the girls who were already there. We posed for lots of photos and promptly headed back down so as not to get acute mountain sickness. A few other members of the group had been very ill coming up the mountain and we weren't sure if they were going to make it to the top. We were all delighted when we met them still coming up the mountain as we were on the way down. I was so pleased for them as they had really struggled and it was such an achievement for them to make it to the top. It was just a shame we weren't allowed to go back to the summit to have a group photo. We had a quick break again at Stella point then headed back down the scree hill. I find it hard to go downhill anyway because I have a bad knee and poor balance but the scree made it ten times harder and my headache was getting increasingly worse. One of our assistant guides, Goodluck, told me to wait behind as the rest of the group went ahead then he took my arm and ran down the hill, dragging me down alongside him. When we got back to Barafu camp we had a short sleep to recover and were given lunch which, again, we hardly touched. We were all relieved when the other group members arrived at camp and we shared in their joy as they told us they reached the top. After lunch we were supposed to be walking another three hours to Mweka camp, but having already walked for 13 hours and with three members of the group being very ill, Reggie told us we only had to walk another hour and a half to Millennium camp. The path after lunch was quite a gentle decline so the walk to camp wasn't too strenuous. After dinner we all went to bed, exhausted.

Day 6 was the final descent day. After breakfast all our porters, guides, chefs and waiters gathered together and sang to us. It was a great experience and I couldn't get the songs out of my head for days. The path down to Mweka Gate took us back through the jungle. With the altitude becoming less of a problem we all started chatting again and even singing a little bit. It was an enjoyable walk and it was nice to be back together as a group. As we got deeper into the jungle Goodluck told us we might see some monkeys. After a while we hadn't seen any and the porters coming up had told us they hadn't seen any lower down the mountain either. Morale was quite low because we were getting fed up of all the walking and we all really wanted to see some monkeys. I prayed to God that we would see some, just to raise the spirits of the group, and literally five seconds later we saw about six monkeys jumping between the trees. The rest of the walk down to the gate took ages but when we finally got to the bottom a sense of relief and accomplishment easily outweighed the fatigue. After signing in and saying a massive thank you and goodbye to everyone who had helped us get up the mountain, we got back on the bus and headed back to the hotel. Reggie returned to the hotel later in the afternoon to present us all with our certificates. Having hardly eaten for three days, we ordered takeaway pizza to the hotel and enjoyed spending the evening sat out together and not being cold.

After a day of rest in Moshi, seven of us went on a three day safari. The first day was at the Tarangire National Park. We saw zebras, cheetahs, a leopard, giraffes, lions, elephants and lots more. It was definitely one of the best days of my life so far. It was incredible to see wild animals in their natural habitats, and to be able to get so close to them. The second day of safari was at the Ngorogoro Conservation Area. We started the day by visiting a Maasai tribe. It was really interesting to see how they live and it was great fun when we got to join in with their dancing. After that, we headed down into the crater. We saw a lot more of what we had seen the day before and also some hippos, a hyena, buffalo, and really far in the distance, two rhinos. Day three was at Lake Manyara National Park. We saw a lot more birds and monkeys than we had on the two previous days. We saw a hornbill feeding its young and kingfishers catching fish. After lunch we headed back to Moshi.

After safari the rest of the group travelled to Zanzibar but me and my friend stayed in Moshi for another two days as we had to come home early to go back to uni. On the first day we went souvenir

shopping and visited a church. We had seen a church that said they had daily mass at 4.30. When we arrived the gates were closed but there was a nun outside and she showed us another way in. She met some people that she knew and they told her she was too late and mass had already finished. There was a community church next to the one we had planned to go to which had people piling in so we decided to go there instead. The service was all in Swahili so we didn't understand a word. The greeting was awesome. People were coming up to us and giving us high fives and welcoming us into their church. The singing too was incredible. They did it all without musical accompaniment and they didn't have any hymn books. The passion in their singing was so great, we could feel how much they loved God and it made us feel God's love too. They started singing the Swahili version of "How Great Thou Art", so we sang along in English, which made us feel a bit more involved. We didn't have a clue what the sermon was about but every now and then people in the congregation would shout "Amen" or make some sort of noise so it was clearly a passionate subject.

On our final day in Tanzania we went on a day trip to the Marangu waterfalls. We went for a paddle in the water and posed for photos for the local school children. My flip-flop broke as I slipped off a rock but I was amazed by the local's hospitality as the cafe owner let me borrow his own flip-flops to walk back to town to buy some new ones.

I was very sad to leave Tanzania. I could have easily stayed out there forever and will definitely be returning once I graduate as a physiotherapist. I have decided that I want to travel the world as a physiotherapist as there are so many incredible places to visit in the world and so many people to help.

I have raised nearly £3000 for the day centres for disabled children in Nepal. Thank you so much for sponsoring me and helping me raise such an incredible amount!

**Susannah**

## NOVEMBER DIARY

Tue	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8.00pm	Church Fellowship
Wed	3 <sup>rd</sup>	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship
Thu	4 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Sat	6 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Creative Church
Sat	6 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Share a Skill. (Christmas Card Making) Bring a pair of scissors.
<b>Sun</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Revd. Mandlate</b>
		<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Evening Service led by Revd. Moon</b>
Wed	10 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship
Thu	11 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Sat	13 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Autumn Fayre
<b>Sun</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Remembrance Day</b>
			<b>Morning Service led by Dr. Knight.</b>
Wed	17 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship
		8.00pm	Property Committee
Thu	18 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Fri	19 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Coffee in the park. Gardeners Cafe. Valentines Mansion.
<b>Sun</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning service with communion</b>
			<b>Led by Revd. Mandlate</b>
			<b>JMA awards will also be presented.</b>
Tue	23 <sup>rd</sup>	1.00pm	Church lunch in the parlour
Wed	24 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship
Thu	25 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Choir Practice.
<b>Sun</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Revd. Jameelee</b>