

NEWSLETTER

July/August 2015



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

<http://www.the-drive-methodist-ilford.org.uk>

Bernardino

Friends

I write that is known to be the longest day of the year. As a child, I was taught in Mozambique, during Geography classes that the longest day of the year is 21st June and the shortest is 21st December. At the time, it never made sense because June is the middle of winter and sunset is about 5pm in June. December is the height of summer and sunset is about 7pm. Eventually I realised that it was the longest day in the northern hemisphere, and the books we were using were produced in the northern hemisphere and not adapted to the Southern Hemisphere context.

I write also at a time when the church is mourning those killed during bible study/prayer meeting in Charleston. Our hearts bleed for the victims and we pray for God's comfort on the families of the victims and the members of that church. We pray for God's guidance and intervention to help us cope and find solutions. God help us.

It is time of change in our circuit. Two ministers are leaving us this summer and one coming in to start in September and the other arriving around Christmas time to start in January. By the time I write again I will have taken over pastoral charge of Goodmayes Methodist Church, due to start 1st September. I pray for God's guidance and strength as this new era begins and may the Lord help us all to adapt to the new reality in the circuit.

There was a march against austerity and cuts in which thousands of people participated. Nevertheless, cut are coming and we are told by those who know that 12 billion pounds will be cut from the welfare budget. This is not good news for the vulnerable people, the elderly, the disabled and children. This may require the church to get involved in solution seeking and more campaigning in order to improve the living conditions of the vulnerable. We will be called to act and make representations on behalf of the poor. We need to be prepared because the government may not change their stand unless something changes in parliament. Be prepared.

I hope that in the name of Jesus we will be able to assist and help. Be part of it.

Kind regards

Dino

Summer is here again.

Here we are once again producing our two month edition of the newsletter. There is never much to report at this time of the year, and even though it is yet only July little news comes over to me, and this could be a rather smaller edition than I would have liked.

However, I am sure that those of you who are travelling the country and world over the next two months should have some interesting tales to tell, Please put pen to paper, or fingers to keyboard and let us know how well you enjoyed your holiday.

We shall miss seeing you in church whilst you are away, and look forward to seeing you when you return.

Have an enjoyable time!!

Roy Brunnen.

Church BBQ Sunday 5th July

The annual church BBQ is taking place, at the Rodings, after the Church anniversary service on July 5th. Any offers of help will be much appreciated.

Please sign the list at the back of the church to let us know if you are coming and what food you will be bringing. Lifts to the Rodings can be arranged.

Thank you

Michelle and Jo

Action for children Sunday 12th July

Action for children Sunday is designated by the Methodist church as one of its special Sundays. It is a time to reflect on and celebrate the work of its children's charity.

We are very pleased that during the service Rachel Mederson will be speaking about her role as a corporate fundraiser for Action for Children.

The Chorale will be singing and members of the Junior church team will be taking the service.

Dates for Junior church

The Junior church will be joining in with the main congregation on Sunday 5th and Sunday 12th July and during August there will be no Junior church on Sunday 18th and Sunday 23rd August

On these dates there will be resources available at the back of the church for you and your children to enjoy if you wish to.

Hall Closure

The hall building will be closed for repairs and redecoration from Monday 17 – 31 August and there will be no access during this period so please remove any equipment or resources which might be needed before 17th August.

Brian Taylor

'A Summer Feast'

A summer concert and buffet supper

Saturday 11th July 2015 at 7.30 pm in the church.

The New Essex Choir will be performing Hiawatha's Wedding Feast, words by Longfellow, music by S Coleridge-Taylor. The programme will also include a selection from Oliver! , Down by the Riverside, Thank you for the Music, Someone to Watch over Me, and more.

Tickets £12 from **Brian Taylor** or on the door.

Hope for children Come and have a cake

As another fund raiser for Clare with her Mount Kilimanjaro climb, I am having an open house where you can drop in and have home made cake and a cup of tea or coffee. If we all smile, the sun will shine and we can sit in the garden.

Where: 34, Coventry Road – off Cranbrook Road

When; Monday July 27th 2pm – 5pm

All are most welcome.

Pauline Rodway.

Going sheep herding!

Between late March and the end of May there were 50 sheep loose in London!! The 4ft models of Shaun the Sheep, created by artists, celebrities and designers, were sited in various places around the capital, including Canary Wharf and Paddington Station. Sheep-spotters were able to get a map, visit the stall in Covent Garden to collect souvenirs, or buy online.

The project is raising funds for the Wallace and Gromit Children's Foundation – supporting children's hospitals and hospices throughout the UK – as well as The Grand Appeal, which supports Bristol Children's Hospital.

Thea and I saw 46 Shaun's but we'll try again in Bristol, where there will be 70 new models from 6th July. It has been a baa-rilliant way to see London and I've learnt lots more about my hometown. If you would rather see the flock in one go, all 120 models will be in Covent Garden Piazza from 24th to 27th September before being sold by auction.

Michelle Garner



Jack Petchey Achievement Award

Recently, Rochelle was awarded the 'Outstanding Achiever' award given by the Jack Petchey foundation.

Rochelle was nominated by her teachers at Seven Kings High School. In addition to the award, she has also given £200 spending grant for the school. The award was in recognition of her work in relation to the new Seven Kings' Primary School and her other good deeds at school.

She will be collecting her medallion at an awards ceremony to be held in December at the Town Hall.



Peertalk

'Peertalk' is the charity being set up by Stephen and Phillipa Normanton to help people suffering from depression. Collection envelopes will be given out at the Church Anniversary service should you wish to contribute.

Brian Taylor

Janet Wragg wishes to thank all those who supported the tea dance on Saturday 20th June, when music was provided by the Earl Grey Big Band, featuring their vocalist Jeff Wragg. The result so far is £700 with some monies still being received, which will also be sent to help with the setting up of Peertalk.

Roy Brunnen.

**Circuit Meeting
Wednesday 10th June 2015.**

Your elected representatives attended the above meeting which opened in the usual way with an opening devotion, welcome, apologies and greetings.

The invitations committee has to meet to consider appointments which have to be made for either extending or replacing ministers who are coming to the end of their appointment in September 2016. This year there is only one minister involved, and that is Revd. Jan Atkins.

This coming year we have Bernardino starting his five year extension and a probationer minister, Angela Pothecary, will be taking up her appointment looking after Old Dagenham and Becontree Heath churches.

The appointment of Revd. Ermal Kirby as circuit superintendent, and his wife Revd. Jenny Sweet, who are at present serving in South Africa is very welcome, but they will not be able to take up their appointments until January. Jenny has been appointed as a Supernumerary to work within the circuit. Ermal's responsibilities will be covered by the chairman of the district until January.

We expressed our thanks to both Revd Stephen Poole and Revd Jan Tate for their dedication to their work in our Churches and circuit. We received an update on the property works on our churches and manse's, and the current financial position regarding the circuit finances.

Carol Dawson gave us an update on her work with children in Schools. She told us that her work has continued to increase with her taking more lessons and visits by the children to our churches.

We were also warned that over the next few months there are likely to be more local arrangement Sundays at least until all our new staff are in place.

The next circuit meeting will be held at Goodmayes Methodist Church on September 17th.

Roy Brunnen.

**Date for your diary.
Friday 25th September from 10am.**

I have just received my "World's Biggest Coffee Morning" pack so please put the date in your diary for my **8th Macmillan coffee morning** at Redbridge Social Centre.

Audrey Taylor.

From our roving reporter.

Revd. Dr. Stuart Jordan

I took the circuit mascot to Westminster Central Hall. The fluffy toy bullfinch, "Beady Eye" is named after the BDI circuit and is known by district chairpersons past and present.

A service was held on Sunday 21st June to celebrate the ministry of Dr. Stuart Jordan before he moves to Cambridge. Dr. Jordan has looked after the London district of the Methodist Church (North of the Thames) since the creation of the district.

Instead of the usual Westminster Central Hall choir, an augmented choir, many in national costume, was rapidly assembled during the afternoon. The beautiful singing, directed by Revd. Paul Wood, reminded me of some South African Funerals I have been to. Martin Fairhurst was singing in the choir. The preacher was the Revd. Dr. David Deeks.

It is not going to be the same without Dr. Jordan. He has preached at many churches in "his" District and has encouraged both large and small congregations.

And what of the much heralded London District? What has the London District (North and South of the Thames) ever done for us? Do you regard yourself as a London Methodist?

Susan Ruckes.

Honours for our Scout Group

I am pleased to report that at the Ilford North West District AGM, our Cub leader, Reenit Shah, was awarded the Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Services and Andy Marriott our hardworking Secretary, received the Chief Scout's 15 year Service Award.

In memory of Phil Wray – a long serving District Scouter who sadly died last September – it was decided that a cup should be awarded annually to a member of each Section (Beaver, Cub, Scout, Explorer and Adult/Leader) who had "gone the extra mile" as Phil always did.

The first recipients of this award went to Reenit Shah for the Leader Section and to Stephen Marriott for the Explorer Section. Stephen was a Beaver, Cub and Scout with our Group.

John Taylor, Group Chairman



Marks Tey Methodist Church, Essex.

Since Christmas 2006, I have regularly attended the Christmas Eve Service at the above church. Sadly the church closed for worship on 31st August 2014.

A telephone message from the minister on Christmas Morning informed us of services at Lexden and Eight Ash Green.

Peter and I had already decided to attend St Andrew's Church of England in the village. St Andrew's had left details of services and directions at our hotel.

In May 2015, the former church council secretary of Marks Tey Methodist sent a letter to the Minister or Steward of The Drive Methodist Church. The Secretary had found the newsletter I had put in the church letter box, but had obviously not read it.

So here is a beautiful traditional chapel looking for a congregation and which needs our prayers for its future use.

Susan Ruckes.

East Runton Methodist Church, Norfolk

East Runton Methodist Church is at the end of the Village, on the left hand side, when you travel on the coast road from Cromer towards Sheringham.

Peter Sharp, Corinne Smith and I used to attend a Thursday coffee morning while staying at Aylmerton for the Cromer Carnival. We always received a warm welcome.

We signed the visitor's book, as one does, and have regularly received Christmas greetings from the church.

We now no longer stay in the Cromer area. Perhaps some of our readers are able to attend a Sunday service or a Thursday coffee morning. Could you please pass on our greetings and tell them that we often think of them and really appreciate their Christmas card.

Susan Ruckes.

Mission Statement The Drive Methodist Church.

The Drive Methodist Church aims to be faithful to the commandments of Jesus, and the calling of the Methodist Church.

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission, and to fulfil the promises detailed in the Methodist worship book.

In seeking to be faithful The Drive Methodist Church is committed to:
Provide a weekly opportunity for all people to worship God in Christ,
Enable people to grow and learn as Christians through mutual support and care.

Be a good neighbour to the immediate and wider community.
Sharing our faith with others through pastoral care, church activities and communication.
March 2013.

July Diary

Thu	2 nd	7.30pm	Choir end of year Evening Prayer. All are invited to this short service.
Sun	5th	11.15am	Church Anniversary Service Led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate Followed the annual Bar-B-Q at The Rodings Scout Centre, Roding Lane South, Redbridge.
Fri	10 th	10.00am	Church coffee morning at The Gardeners Café, Valentines Mansion, Emerson Road, Cranbrook Road, Gants Hill.
Sun	12th	11.15am	Action for Children Service Led by Our Junior Church.
Fri	17 th		Pre School term ends
Sun	19th	11.15am	Morning Communion Service Led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate. Communion Collection in aid of The Whitechapel Mission.
Sun	26th	11.15am 5.00pm	Morning Service Led by Mr David Pender. Revd. Stephen Poole's farewell service Goodmayes Methodist Church.

August Diary

Sun	2nd	11.15am	Morning Communion Service Led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate. Communion Collection in aid of The Methodist Relief and Development Fund
Sun	12th	11.15am	Morning Service Led by Members of the Congregation
Fri	14 th	10.00am	Church coffee morning at The Gardeners Café, Valentines Mansion, Emerson Road, Cranbrook Road, Gants Hill.
Sun	16th	11.15am	Morning Service Led by Mr Robert Debrah.
Sun	23rd	11.15am	Morning Service Led by Members of the Congregation.
Sun	30th	11.15am	Morning Service Led by Mr Ian Sheach.