



Peace
on
Earth



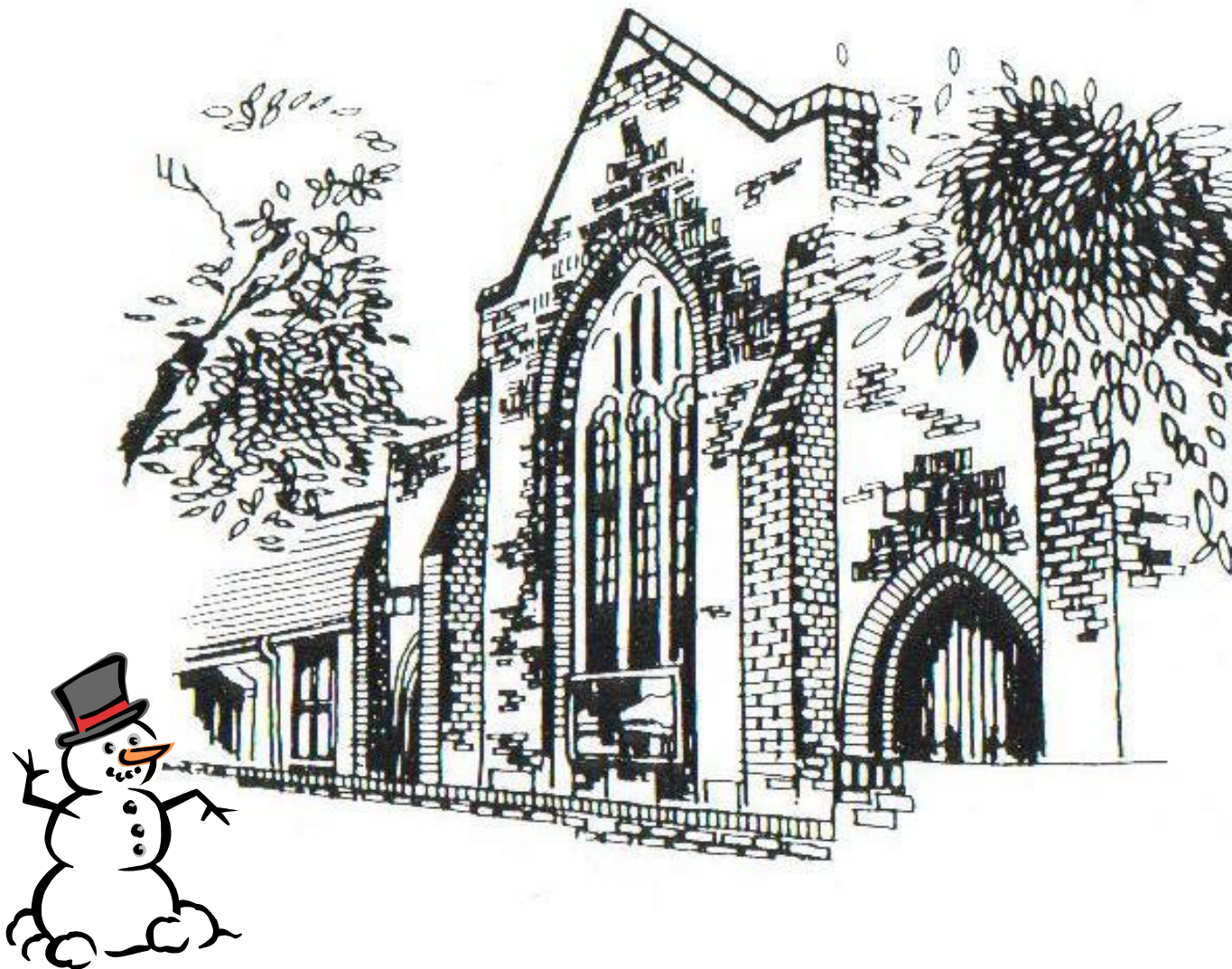
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THE MAGAZINE

OF

HIGHAMS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Cavendish Road, E.4.



2016 Number SIX



CHURCH PROGRAMME



SUNDAY SERVICES: 10.00 a.m. Morning Worship (including a crèche and groups for children and young people)

Holy Communion is conducted regularly within the Services. We invite all who believe in Jesus as Lord and Saviour to eat and drink in Communion. Please see the Church Diary (at the back of the magazine) for details.

Monday Gathered Prayer 10.00 – 11.00am at the Church
An opportunity to pray for the life and work of the Church and for the local community

Friday: Boys Brigade and Girls Association:

Anchors (For boys and girls in school years 1-3)	6:00 - 7.30 pm
Juniors (For boys and girls in school years 4-6)	7.00 - 8:30 pm
Company Section (For boys in school years 7+)	7:30 - 9:30 pm

Cell Groups: The cell groups are small groups of people that meet together every other week for friendship, support, Bible study / application. It would be great if you wanted to try one of the groups.

Sunday Cell Group : 7.30 - 9.00 pm at 21 Falmouth Avenue, contact Margaret on 8527 3544

Thursday Cell Group: 2.00 – 3.30pm at 212 The Avenue, contact Sheila on 8531 5480

The deadline for items for the next edition is Sunday 15th January 2017
Editors: Dave & Jacquie Lyus, 020 8527 1505 Email: davelyus@yahoo.co.uk



Cavendish Road, London E4 9NG
(☎ 020 8527 8993)
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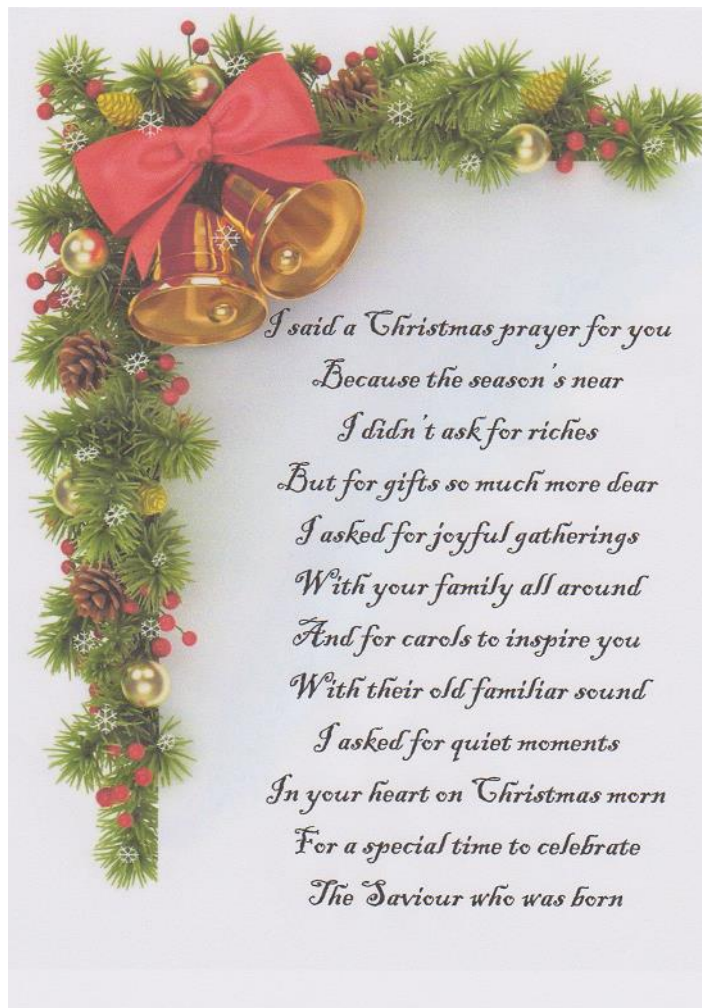
Moderator:

Rev. Gareth Wilde

Church Secretary:

Mr. Philip Slaney
49, Chingdale Road,
Chingford,
London E4 6HZ

☎ 020 8524 6258



*A Very Happy Christmas and a Wonderful New Year
to all our readers from the Magazine Team:*



Jacquie, Dave, Robert, Mandy and Stephen

We thank Dr. Geoffrey Norris for his letter based on a recent sermon he gave.

'This is faithful saying and worthy of ALL acceptance that Christ Jesus came into the World to save sinners of whom I am chief. Now to the King Eternal, Immortal Invisible to God who alone is wise, be honour, and glory for ever and ever, Amen.' 1 Timothy 1, vs. 15 and 17.

Christ Jesus came into to the world to save sinners. This is a fundamental truth that is not negotiable: Christ Jesus came into the world to save you and me and He is our Saviour! 'All' is a small word involving everyone with no exceptions. Because of the good news about our Saviour Paul states that **Supplications, Prayers, Intercessions**, and the giving of **Thanks** be made for all men. So many aspects of prayer!

In this time of Ministerial Transition we suddenly realise that the Church is us! We are now more responsible and we have to ask ourselves questions: what does the Church do? What is our function? What are our priorities? Who does what? Paul has no doubt that the first function of the Church is **Prayer**. What does that word 'Prayer' conjure up? Is this an activity others do? How do we pray? - thanks to the Lord's Prayer we have a pattern. Is it for Ministers, Priests, Monks, Nuns, the religious members of the Church Council? Yes - however it is a responsibility, a privilege and an activity that ALL can participate in. We may say: 'I have not the time!' 'You don't know how busy I am!' 'I pray by helping others'. 'I don't know what or who to pray for!' - the answer here is ALL men and women; those we love and those who we might not! We could sum up these verses by saying that we should pray ALL kinds of Prayer for ALL kinds of people. For those who, Paul says, rule over us, for our leaders, the monarchy and all in authority. Our Church does this regularly in Worship and at Gathered Prayer. I met a politician recently and, on shaking his hand I said: 'there is only one thing I want to say to you, Sir'. He looked perplexed and slightly worried! I continued: 'thank you for being a politician, our Church is praying for you'. He looked both relieved and grateful.

Supplications: this means asking God for His blessing and favours. As we bow before God we seek mercy, forgiveness and strength. He is our Father; He sent Jesus and, after the resurrection, He sent the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. It's a gift you don't have to tick boxes for, pass a test or be of a certain age or stage to receive: God has promised His Holy Spirit to those that love Him. One of the many privileges of serving this Church on the Council was to have the privilege of praying with those who were to lead the service, asking for the Holy Spirit to be with us. Some years ago I was praying with a visiting Minister with whom I was to share the service. I was tense and worried at leading worship with a Minister present and felt unworthy and incapable. My brother picked this up and said: 'Geoff it's not up to you - the Holy Spirit will take responsibility'. Let us make that prayer our own: '*Lord fill me with your Spirit*' - I love that supplication! 'He will, and there is no limit to how often you can make that supplication. Jesus said: '*do not be drunk with new wine BUT be filled with the Spirit.*' We can ask daily, hourly. The ministry of the Spirit involves leading us into all truth, including identifying our failures, leading us back to the Cross and to our Saviour. If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive and cleanse – Hallelujah, what a Saviour!



Intercessions: oh yes, that's easy: praying for others - do that all the time! Do I? Do you? Who are we to pray for? All in authority, all who we know; all those we love: our family, including our Church family, and the Church worldwide. How I honour the prayer diary and the prayer texts which help so much. I thank God for so many brothers and sisters with whom I have shared Gathered Prayer. How much God has used them to teach me about prayer! The most wonderful thing we can do is to offer situations, friends and the needy to the love of God. He knows the problems better than we, and He loves and cares because He sent His Son to die for us. Let's keep on praying for our next Minister: that the Lord will be preparing him or her to serve Jesus here. Let's continue to pray for our new Youth Leader Chris - His will be done. I cannot leave the topic of prayer without also thanking God for our Cell Group where we pray for one another and for others. I thank God for prayer meetings and for the Church Council- how we thank God for each of them.

Thankfulness: This is such a powerful word! I wish I had been more able to say 'thank you' to so many. At a reunion event five years ago I was privileged to meet my Clinical Medicine Teacher from Medical School, Sir Richard Bayliss. In 1956 he had inspired me as the Queen's Physician and a teacher under whose guidance I met my first patients. By some fluke I was sitting next to him. 'May I thank you Sir', I said, 'because of you I fell in love with medicine'. I learned later that he had died some months after our unplanned meeting. I was so glad that I had said thank you. In all our lives there are so many we should thank. Sadly one of our most frequent privileges is to attend funerals of friends and I so often wish that I had said thank you, and told them how much they meant to me. Thank you to everyone at HPBC for so much love, prayer, support, fun and fellowship. Above all we must praise God that Jesus came into the world to save you and me! The sacrament offers us an opportunity to say thank you for dying for us: 'This is My body, this is My blood, do this in remembrance of Me.'

There is still so much more to immerse ourselves in: Prayer, adoration, worship, silence, meditation, listening, penitence and healing ministry. What does Paul say will be the effect if we pray as he strongly commends? He talks about a quiet, peaceable life - good as far as it goes but then the crunch: life in ALL Godliness and Reverence. It's that 'ALL' again - Paul is setting **Godliness** as a total aim. So what's special about Godliness? It is being like Jesus; it's being filled with the Spirit, thus showing fruits of the Spirit, the greatest of which is LOVE. We thank Gemma for her recent sermon on the topic of love.

It is nearly Christmas and 2017. Let us remember the glorious Truth, this is worthy of all acceptance; Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Without Jesus at the centre of Christmas there is no salvation, no gift of the Holy Spirit to lead us to God in Prayer, no Good Friday, no Easter Day, no Pentecost, no Acts of the Apostles, no New Testament. The Incarnation - Jesus entering our world from the Father - that is worth celebrating! Let us thank God for His Blessing and each other for our mutual love in Christ. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honour and glory forever and ever, Amen.

ALL PRAY ALL KINDS OF PRAYER FOR ALL – Let's go for it in 2017, and a happy Christmas and a blessed New Year!



C V E N D S H C R C U L A R



Our first Sunday worship of Advent was redolent with the sense of anticipation and wonder as we sang of Jesus' birth. This lovely carol was part of an inspiring Service, along with 'Come, thou long-expected Jesus'; 'These are the days of Elijah'; 'From Heaven you came, helpless babe'; 'From the squalor of a borrowed stable' and finally, 'There is a Redeemer', all of

which richly supported the message given by Paul Raymond. With a beautifully decorated Christmas tree and Sanctuary, and the lighting of the first Advent candle, we truly entered into the sense of awe and adoration which is at the heart of this season. Thank you to all who helped to prepare our Church for Christmas, and took part in this inspiring service.

Following this our Annual General Meeting took place at which elections were held for the Church Council. The following people were elected to serve: Jean Mitchell (Deacon), Jason Close (Deacon); Phil Slaney (Church Secretary); Robert Edwards (Church Treasurer) and Jacquie Lyus (Church Administrator). We thank them for their willingness to serve in this way. At the meeting voting also took place for our Christmas offering which will be divided between Spurgeon's Childcare and 'Action for Kids'.

We were pleased to hear that Sarah Cafell, who moved away from the area some time ago, has become a grandmother. Daughter Paris has had a daughter named Jasmine. We send our loving congratulations to the proud parents, Sarah and all the family. We have received a Christmas card from them, sending greetings to our fellowship. Ruth Underhay fell some weeks ago, fracturing her wrist which required being put in a cast. This has meant an enforced lengthy rest from work for Ruth, but we are pleased to report that the wrist has healed well and she will shortly be returning to the joys of commuting and work in a very busy hospital department! Mavis Grint was very grateful to receive Communion in her home recently when Phil Slaney, Margaret and Geoff Norris and Dianne Kendrick visited her. Please remember Mavis, and other house-bound members of our Church family - they do cherish contact with HPBC; a phone-call, letter or visit would be most welcome. We heard some weeks ago that the father of our former member Kirsten Dixon was seriously ill and requiring an operation. We are happy to report that he has recovered well and able to return home to preach God's word and celebrate his Golden Wedding Anniversary with the family in Germany.



We understand that the Dixon family have settled down well in their new home in Surrey; please pray for them as the children settle into new schools, and Mark undertakes added responsibilities in his new position at a local School. We also hear that the Boyce family are settling well into their new home in Surrey and assure both families of our continuing loving prayers. Several others in our fellowship are experiencing ongoing health issues, including Dorothy Tayler, Joan Ashley, Geoff and Margaret Norris, June Tresadern and Caron Kelly. We continue to uphold in prayer all those in need at this time. We have also learnt that our former member, Margaret Smith recently had a fall and, as a result, has experienced ill health resulting in several stays in hospital and tests. At the time of writing she has returned home with home care in place. We send our loving best wishes to her and prayers for a speedy recovery.

On Saturday 8th October a group of twenty from Church travelled to Southwark Playhouse, London, to see "The Greater Game", a play based on the book "They Took The Lead" by our member, Steve Jenkins. The afternoon proved a moving and enjoyable occasion as we watched an enactment of the inspiring story of those who went from the playing fields of London to the battle fields of the Somme. Our thanks to Steve for this opportunity and to Phil Slaney who arranged the trip. It was great to see two full rows of HPBC supporters in the theatre! You can read more about the visit further on. Present on that occasion was our good friend Dave Lewarne who arrived that day from his home in South Africa! It was good to see him once more at Church during a brief visit to England. We send him our seasonal wishes and hope it won't be too long before he is able to come over again.

On 20th October a good number of our fellowship, including ex-BB Officers and Boys, attended the funeral of our former member and co-founder of the 17th Company, Geoff Colinese, whose death on 4th October we announced in our last issue. The family were very appreciative of the support from the Church on that day and you can read tributes to Geoff further in the magazine. We give thanks for his life and work at HPBC.



A very warm welcome to Chris Willis, our part-time Youth Worker! Chris joined our fellowship in October and has already contributed enthusiastically to our work with the Junior Church and BBGA. We will be getting to know more about him and his plans for God's work at HPBC in our next issue. It's great to have you with us Chris! We thank all who work with our young people week by week

- and pray for them in all they do.



An important date for the New Year is our Re-Focus Day on Saturday 21st January, from 10.00am to 4.00pm. We are very grateful to our Moderator, Rev. Gareth Wilde, who has offered us the use of Broadmead Baptist Church for the day as they have several rooms available for use. Adequate parking is also available and lifts will be organised if necessary. More details to follow. Hilary Taylor from the London Baptist Association will be leading the day when we will begin to prepare ourselves for writing our Church Profile as we seek a new Minister. Everyone is welcome so please keep this date free if at all possible.

JL

Ed's note: We would like to take this opportunity to thank Stephen Edwards who has agreed to take over the printing of the magazine from his dad Rob.

Good to have you on the team!



*Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift
2 Corinthians 9:15*

The spirit of Christmas enters our lives when we are able to see Christmas not merely as an event that comes and goes in the course of a day. Then its' spirit remains with us all year round.



POST EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS!



Dianne and David Kendrick are donning their postie costumes again this year - we are very grateful to them.

These are the delivery and collection dates:

Sunday, 4th December - EARLY BIRD DELIVERY
(no collection available)

Sunday, 11th December - DELIVERY. COLLECTION
after Service only.

Sunday, 18th December - LAST SUNDAY FOR DELIVERY
Collection available after Service only

Sunday, 25th December - LAST MINUTE COLLECTION ONLY. Please DO NOT deliver cards to Church on this day as there will not be time to sort them for collection.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO:

PRINT names with Surnames clearly, and put your cards in **alphabetical Surname order**. This helps the organisers to quickly and easily sort the cards, while also enabling them to get to some of the Morning Service.

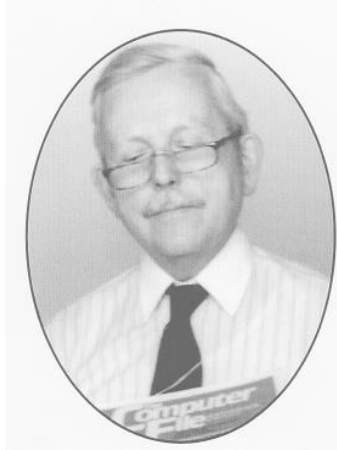
Please note that this service is for the exchange of cards that are for personal collection or that can be collected on behalf of somebody - it is not for cards that need posting on as normal mail.

Remember also that the money saved on postage by using this system can go to the Christmas offering!



Geoffrey Clifford Colinese **30th August 1922 to 4th October 2016**

A Tribute by his son Mike, in collaboration with daughter Audrey.



Geoffrey, or as most people knew him "Geoff", was born in Ipswich on 30th August 1922. Whilst still quite young he and his brother Philip moved with their parents to London, eventually ending up at 44, Higham Station Avenue London E4. Geoff attended William Morris School and due to concerns about his heart in his early-teens he spent some months in hospital. His schooling was cut short because he could no longer manage the stairs, and he was restricted - no football, no dancing, and only allowed to go up and down stairs once a day. At the age of 15 Geoff went to work for a Timber and Stave Brokers, earning the princely sum of £3-15-0 per month. He found himself doing virtually every job in the

Company due to lack of other staff, which gave him a good founding for the future.

During World War 2 Geoff was unfit for military service. He worked for De La Rue Plastics Ltd, and moved from their offices in Regent Street to Walthamstow Avenue. The company produced hand-grenades, safety helmets, vital communications equipment, parts for Wellington bombers, and the Pilot's seat for Spitfires. Shortly after he arrived at Avenue Works the air-raid siren sounded; well trained in what to do from his time in Regent Street, Geoff immediately dived under the sturdy desk - whilst the remainder of the office staff (including one Betty Tipler), went off to the air-raid shelter. Geoff also joined the ARP. His many stories told to Michael of bombing raids and the resultant devastation and recovery of both injured and dead people were quite harrowing. Michael well remembers finding Geoff's old ARP helmet, together with a well-used stirrup pump, in the loft of the house. Shouts of "Put that light out" from Mr Hodges in "Dad's Army" have no bearing on what the ARP must have gone through! In 1942 Geoff, along with the Rev. Stephen Winward, Arthur Barrett and Arthur Davis, founded the 17th South Essex Company of the Boys Brigade at Highams Park Baptist Church, and representatives of that Company were welcomed at his funeral.

Having met first at Avenue Works Geoff and Betty married on the 10th April 1948. In September 1950, son Michael was born, and daughter Audrey completed the family in January 1954. Michael and Audrey have great respect for Geoff's strong faith and his unswerving belief in God. He instilled in them the Christian values that he held. In the early years family life was simple - no TV, no car, and certainly no exotic holidays; however this did not mean that the family didn't get away. Each year Geoff would join the boys of the 17th together, with the 6th Company, at camp in St Helens on the Isle of Wight. Betty, Audrey and Michael, together with a family friend Eunice and her mother, would stay in a boarding house in St Helens, which meant that although Dad was "In Camp" the family could be together some of the time. Around 1960 Geoff was promoted to Sales representative, a job which came with a Company car - a Ford Anglia; suddenly holiday time took on a new meaning and family holidays were taken all over the UK. Around 1965, whilst captain, Geoff encouraged the BB Company to sponsor a young Kenyan by the name of Joel Mwangi.



Joel was at the Starehe Boys Centre in Kenya, which took in needy children who showed some learning ability. Joel became a 'brother' to the BB Company, and fund raising events were organised, which included a London to Brighton walk by the Company members, including Geoff.

Some years later Betty was a little taken aback when a young Kenyan knocked on the door, and said "Good morning, I have come to see my father"! Unbeknown to them Joel had received a scholarship to University in the UK and traced Geoff through the BB. During his stay in the UK for a number of years, Geoff helped him in many ways. On his return to Kenya he finally became Head of the Forestry Commission - a great success for the 17th and Geoff.

In September 1980 Geoff and Betty welcomed the arrival of their first grandchild, Dawn, and in June 1986 their grandson, Barry, arrived. Betty and Geoff went out to visit Mike in Zambia that Christmas. Whilst Geoff was almost getting himself arrested by guards at the Zambia/Zimbabwe border for carrying his mini-Pentax camera (they thought he was a spy), Audrey and family were dog sitting. The family daschund was less than impressed by Barry's skills at zooming around the hallway in his baby walker, and the elegant china jardiniere never really looked the same after Geoff patiently repaired it with superglue!

Just prior to his retirement in 1987, Geoff and Betty moved from Highams Park to Market Deeping, near Peterborough where Betty was born. This meant they could be close to Audrey, Bill and family who had moved there some years earlier, and to some of Betty's surviving relatives. Geoff delighted in attending Dawn and Barry's school shows and Youth Orchestra concerts, and was a loving and supportive grandfather. Geoff joined the congregation at St Guthlac's, and threw himself into Church and community life and made many friends in the congregation and the local Community. He still continued to enjoy his Public Relations work, and for a time was PR for the Red Arrows display team. His careful diction made him well suited to be one of the voices for the "Talking Newspaper". He kept in close contact with Highams Park Baptist Church, and returned regularly for special Church occasions and BB functions as he now held the position of Honorary Captain. As time went by he also returned for the funerals of many old friends, later accompanied by Audrey or Bill to help with the journey and to offer both moral and physical support.

He and Betty celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary in April 2008 surrounded by their family and friends. Betty passed away quite suddenly in 2011. She had been an invalid for some years and Geoff had taken care of her, together with Audrey, Bill, Dawn and Barry's help. Shortly before Betty's passing Geoff had injured his knee and after the funeral Doctors decided to do a knee replacement. It was never a complete success, but as everyone knows, this did not stop him from getting around to see friends and relatives, and in 2012, just prior to his 90th Birthday, he even travelled alone to Zambia to visit Mike and Jan. He had in fact intended to go again earlier this year, but was unable to do so due to health issues. His time in Peterborough City Hospital led to him joining the Hospital Volunteer Group, as a Chaplaincy Volunteer. He drove himself to the hospital once a month to meet and greet patients who wished to attend the hospital Church service. He was a much loved and respected part of the team and will be sadly missed.



As the years took their toll, Geoff decided that it was time to move out of his bungalow and into 'The Maples' in 2015. The distance meant he had to leave St Guthlac's, returning as frequently as he could. It is only fitting that he returned for one last time for the funeral. Geoff enjoyed his year at 'The Maples'. He joined the Christchurch at Orton, and made many friends there. Still driving at 93, he regularly gave other residents a lift to church.

He also threw himself enthusiastically into his new community at 'The Maples', joining film evenings, quizzes, auctions, residents meetings, and the Christmas party - the Christmas jumper and bobble hat, together with winter hiking socks (worn outside the trousers of course) and a compass around the neck, caused much amusement! Regrettably, after a fall in July, Geoff was hospitalised for some time. It had been a joint family decision that he would not be able to return to 'The Maples' as his health deteriorated so much, and a place in a care home was found for him should he recover. Geoff spent his 94th birthday in hospital, but enjoyed the day with visits from friends and family. Mike and Jan were able to give Geoff their birthday messages by phone, and his brother Phil (chauffeured by daughter-in-law Bev), made the long journey from Surrey to Peterborough to join in the celebration. The staff at Peterborough City Hospital did everything they could to get Geoff through his problems. They did not look on him as an 'Elderly Sick Man', but as Geoff Colinese - the bright humorous man they had known for years as a Patient Carer. But despite their efforts, Geoff finally passed away on Tuesday the 4th of October.

At his funeral the congregation of family, friends, and BB members were there to say goodbye to Geoff: a beloved Brother; a wonderful Father and Grandfather, a loyal Friend, a devoted Christian, a worker for the Community, and an inspiration to hundreds of Boys. AMEN TO ALL THIS!

A personal tribute by Dr. Geoff Norris.

For these memories and reflections I am wearing three 'hats': Friend, Hon President and Acting Chaplain of 17th Waltham Forest BBGA. Geoff was a family friend: in particular my Father in Law, Arthur Davis, a co-founder of the Company, very much valued Geoff's friendship and support; he had the highest opinion of him. Geoff and I 'clicked'. I enjoyed his sense of humour- the fact that we always referred to each other as 'Geoff, the other', and I so appreciated his continued interest and occasional visits to our Church after he moved to Market Deeping. Perhaps, because I was a GP, Geoff shared his medical adventures with me and I was much impressed by his insight, courage and determination to get better, as well as his appreciation for all the NHS care he received. A particular skill Geoff had was confidence in driving! He used to drive down to London E4, even recently sometimes, although more recently Audrey and Bill doing the honours. I used to ask him: 'are you sure you're OK doing this Geoff?' -each time he replied: 'I have checked with my GP, it's OK' - a brave, honest gentleman, committed to his Faith, Christ's Church, and to the Boys Brigade. Next year is the 75th the anniversary of the founding of the Company by Stephen Winward, Arthur Barrett, Arthur Davis and - the youngest - Geoffrey Colinese. At the time I first encountered it, in the early sixties, the BB was big and flourishing and had up to 20 Officers and dozens of Boys. Geoff had tremendous influence on so many boys. Relating to hundreds of boys is no exaggeration - the presence at his funeral of past members who came to pay tribute testifies to that. I had a phone call from Roger living in France.



I told him of Geoff's death on October 4th, the anniversary of the founding of the BB. His response was spontaneous: 'a righteous chap. I had no problems with Geoff; he was such an example to us'. I am sure that this assessment of Geoff is widespread, especially among the BB men of 17th Waltham Forest Company. A wonderful friend and servant of God.

The badge of the BB is an anchor: the motto of the BB is 'Sure and Steadfast'. The word of God in Hebrews 6 vv.18-19 says: '*We have strong consolation who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the presence behind the veil where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus.*'

'Sure and Steadfast' are great words to describe the character of our beloved Geoff.

Former Boy's Brigade Officer and member of HPBC, Arnold Coe gives his memories of Geoff:

The BB ran through Geoff like a stick of rock. He was so much a BB man you could hardly think of him any other way. At the funeral service I was reminded that Geoff's health in younger years had been difficult although he did not let this compromise his BB service. Always correct on Parade and meticulously prepared for Bible Class, Drill and other occasions, Geoff presented to us Boys a standard of immaculate order and correctness. Woe-betide any member who fell below his expectations! Consequently he was the target for mischievous challenges to his ordered unflappability. Behind Geoff's disciplined and ordered face was a heart that cared deeply for each Boy. He was a man who welcomed change and innovation: the first to suggest or adopt a new style or technique that would appeal to the Boys. Geoff would join in Company supper and Camp sketches, gladly welcoming a barbecue with camp fire and sing songs. He would lead display items, memorably as a Roman Emperor in a London District spectacular at the Royal Albert Hall!

One Sunday, when Geoff was Captain and Bible Class was about to begin, he was nowhere to be seen! This was highly unusual as he was always a meticulous timekeeper. The Officers got together and carried on with Bible Class as best they could. After 15 minutes or so an uncharacteristically ruffled Geoff rushed in the door claiming that he was in a terrible mess, he had overslept and was sorry to be late! It was a great reversal of his normal precise manner, staged to illustrate a point for his address that morning! I was privileged to benefit from Mr Colinese's kindness and help. During my school holidays he gave me an office job at National Plastics Ltd where he was Manager of the Sales Office. He chided me over my less than rigid punctuality and losing a valuable document, but tolerated my shortcomings with good grace. Later in life, as a family man, I am impressed at how Geoff devoted all his spare time to the Company. Even his brief holiday week was spent at summer camp with his family relegated to the nearby village as 'camp followers'. Hopefully, they joined other BB 'widows' and their families for the only annual holiday they would get that year. He always insisted on spelling 'Boys' with a capital 'B'. When he wrote 'The History of the 17th' his title was 'Boys', BOYS'



What a fitting Funeral and Commemoration service we had at Market Deeping! It could (and may well have been) ordered by Geoff himself. It was totally BB, with pride but no bragging. After the entry music: 'Jesus Joy of Man's Desiring', we launched into the BB hymn 'Will your anchor hold?'

There followed a thoughtful reading from Ecclesiastes 3, by Geoff's brother Philip. The poem 'All is Well' was read by one of the ladies. Then Dr. Geoff Norris read a eulogy written by Geoff's children Mike and Audrey, adding a few unscripted endorsements. After the hymn 'The Lords my Shepherd' and prayers, we closed with the hymn 'The Day Thou Gavest Lord is Ended'. In the silence following the hymn the nostalgic chords of the 'Last Post' rang throughout the church, played by Company buglers who had served under Geoff.

The committal included some appropriate verses from John 14, a prayer and a blessing, before exiting to a brass band playing 'Sussex by the Sea'. This evoked memories of Battalion Parades and happy camps at St Helens, IoW. A truly fitting march off!!!



Since the last time I updated you on how the 17th Waltham Forest Company is getting on we have had the passing of Geoff Colinese, one of the four founding Officers of the Company. Geoff supported the Company fully, right up to the end, always attending the awards/ display evening and any special events that the Company was doing. Over the years Geoff also did so much for so many in the Company and Battalion, and for so many young men and Officers for so many years. He took part in organising the Royal Albert Hall run for the London District, and we all looked up to him. We give thanks for all he did and the time he gave to the Company.

As you heard from Lee in the last Magazine, we had a good camp and with the winter session underway we have lots of things planned for this session. We started the new session by moving back into three sections on a Friday evening. The Anchors now have 9 children and they play games every week, doing craft, story time and learning new things. The Junior Section only have 3 children at present, but they are still joining the Anchors for 30mins so they get their games, and after the Anchors have left they do badge work, including cooking, painting and more.



At the start of November we had our party night with some small fireworks, hot dogs and silly games, which was good fun. On the last Friday of November the Company held the Battalion Carol service at HPBC, with about 30 children and 10 adults from the Battalion attending, and our Youth Worker, Chris, led the service.

Both Stephen Edwards and Toby Close are working in the younger sections as part of their work towards the Queens Badge; please do support and pray for them both.

The Company Section have had their normal Friday nights all in full uniform, learning new things and watching a DVD as part of their devotion time. They had a rifle shooting evening; our thanks go to Andy Bowles for coming down for the evening and running this activity. There was also a night walk followed by McDonalds. They will take part in the Battalion Bible Competition and table tennis.

The staff has had a bit of a change around with Emma, Jean, Jason and Toby Close running the Anchor Section.; Mandy, Jean, Jason and Stephen Edwards in the Junior Section. Stephen Close, Gemma, Lee and Chris our youth worker in the Company Section. Geoff Norris agreed to take on being Chaplain for the Company until we have a new Minister. Please do continue to pray for all the Officers in everything they do.

As London District, there was a training day called ' Refresh' for Officers to get new ideas, and 50 Officers from the London District attended this event. In June 2017 there will be a weekend camp as the junior section will be 100 years old.

In 2017 we have lots planned but please keep these two dates in your diary to mark our 75th Birthday celebration of the Company:

Friday 21st April – Awards / Display evening at HPBC 7.30pm.

Sunday 23rd April - Parade and service at 10am.

Finally, on behalf of all the Officers, staff and young people, we hope and pray that you have a happy and joyful Christmas whatever you are doing, and good health for 2017.

Jason Close – Captain

I wish we could put some of the Christmas spirit in jars and open a jar of it every month.



The Greater Game

On Saturday 8th of October 20 people from HPB came together to watch a play created from a book written by another person from HPB.

As noted in the last issue of the magazine the book - 'They took the Lead' written by Steve Jenkins - about how the Clapton (later Leyton) Orient players and staff all joined up to fight in the First World War has been made into a stage play called 'The Greater Game'. It has taken some time for the idea of a play to come to fruition, but finally there it was at the Southwark Playhouse.

The HPB party made their way to South London by various means - cars and train and underground - and all met up in time for a cup of tea or coffee before the curtain rose.

Except that it didn't! There was no curtain and the stage was a raised platform at one end of the room. The Playhouse could be described as 'cosy'. The HPB contingent were all in row D opposite the stage - and that was the last row...



The action mainly took place on the floor between the stage and the audience which gave a feeling of immediacy especially as the cast were able to enter and exit through the audience. At the back of the stage was a wall covered with posters from the time which showed how men were convinced that signing up was their duty.

The first half dealt mainly with laying out the connections between the players (both in the sense of footballers and the cast) and the events that lead to them deciding to all go and fight as part of a 'Footballers Battalion'. There was also the matter of wives and how they were going to cope with their loved ones going to war.

The second half was set in France and graphically showed how soldiers lived and fought, and in some cases died, together. There were the inevitable casualties both fatal and injured. The final part showed how, after the war, life went on and Orient played again.



The cast were all excellent, giving performances that made you feel their happiness and sorrow. The best known was Nick Hancock who played the team manager. He is probably better known as a humorous actor but here was playing a serious part.

For followers of 'Eastenders' the actor who played Bradley in the series was seen as 'Spider' Parker the leader of the group of soldiers. Most of the others in the cast have a solid background in theatre and television.

Steve Jenkins can be congratulated in his tireless efforts to bring this play to the public. It has been supported by the British Legion and the Professional Footballers Association. It is hoped that it might be staged at a bigger venue in the

future. If it does try and go to see it and you will understand why 20 people from HPB unanimously stated their enjoyment of the afternoon.

The Annual Remembrance Day Service was held on November 13th and led by Phil Slaney. To make the service more relevant to HPB Steve Jenkins had provided details of men from the Church who had paid the supreme sacrifice in the two World Wars.

They were :

Private A. Webb of the Essex Regiment who died on 12th November 1915. His parents lived in Royston Avenue, Chingford. He was aged 24.

Private Alfred Barnard of the South Staffordshire Regiment who died on 4th August 1917 aged 41. He was the husband of Agnes Barnard who lived in Bunyan Road.

Gunner A. F. Nichols of the Royal Field Artillery; he died on 3rd December 1917. No further details given.

Leading Cook Walter Albert Shakeshaft of HMS Picotee, Royal Navy died on 12th August 1941 aged 24.

Trooper Peter Richard Clarke of the Royal Armoured Corps died on 24th September 1944 aged 19. His parents lived in Chingford.

Phil also brought a Memorial Plaque that was given in memory of his uncle Phillip Albert Jenkins who died on 26th October 1917 and after whom Phil is named. The plaque was given, together with a scroll, to the next-of-kin of men and women who had died in the First World War.

The plaque is made of bronze and is approximately five inches in diameter and is sometimes referred to as a 'Dead Man's Penny' or 'The Widow's Penny'. Interestingly it was decided to issue such a memorial whilst the war was still in progress and a competition was held as to the design. To put into context the extent of plaques



required to commemorate those who had died, it took about 450 tonnes of bronze to make 1,355,000 plaques and was for all British and Empire service personnel. It was felt that all those who died were equal and thus no indication of rank is given, just their name. Of the total number of plaques issued 600 were for women. Distribution started in 1919 and continued until the 1930's for those who died as a consequence of the war.



HE whom this scroll commemorates was numbered among those who, at the call of King and Country, left all that was dear to them, endured hardness, faced danger, and finally passed out of the sight of men by the path of duty and self-sacrifice, giving up their own lives that others might live in freedom. Let those who come after see to it that his name be not forgotten.

*Major John Dover Proud, M.C.
Royal Army Medical Corps*



May You feel God's presence in the candles, that softly spread their glow at Christmas and may you experience the wonder of His abiding love, as He guides you, through each day of the coming year. May God's Blessings be with you. At Christmas and New Year!



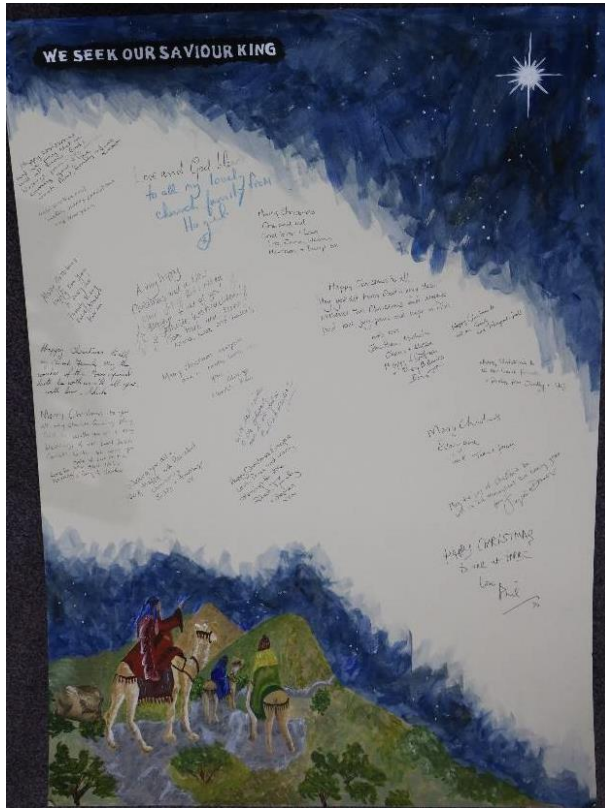
Now we know that Christmas is on the way!



We thank Sarah Raymond for the picture of Emily and Vinda decorating the tree - James also helped but did not want to be in the picture! We also thank Mandy Edwards for the poem. Thanks go to those who have helped decorate the Sanctuary so beautifully for Christmas. These include Cliff Tayler and Jason Close who organised the delivery and erection of the Christmas Tree, and our friend and former member Peter Bartle who once again is setting out the candles for the Christmas Services .



Christmas Cards

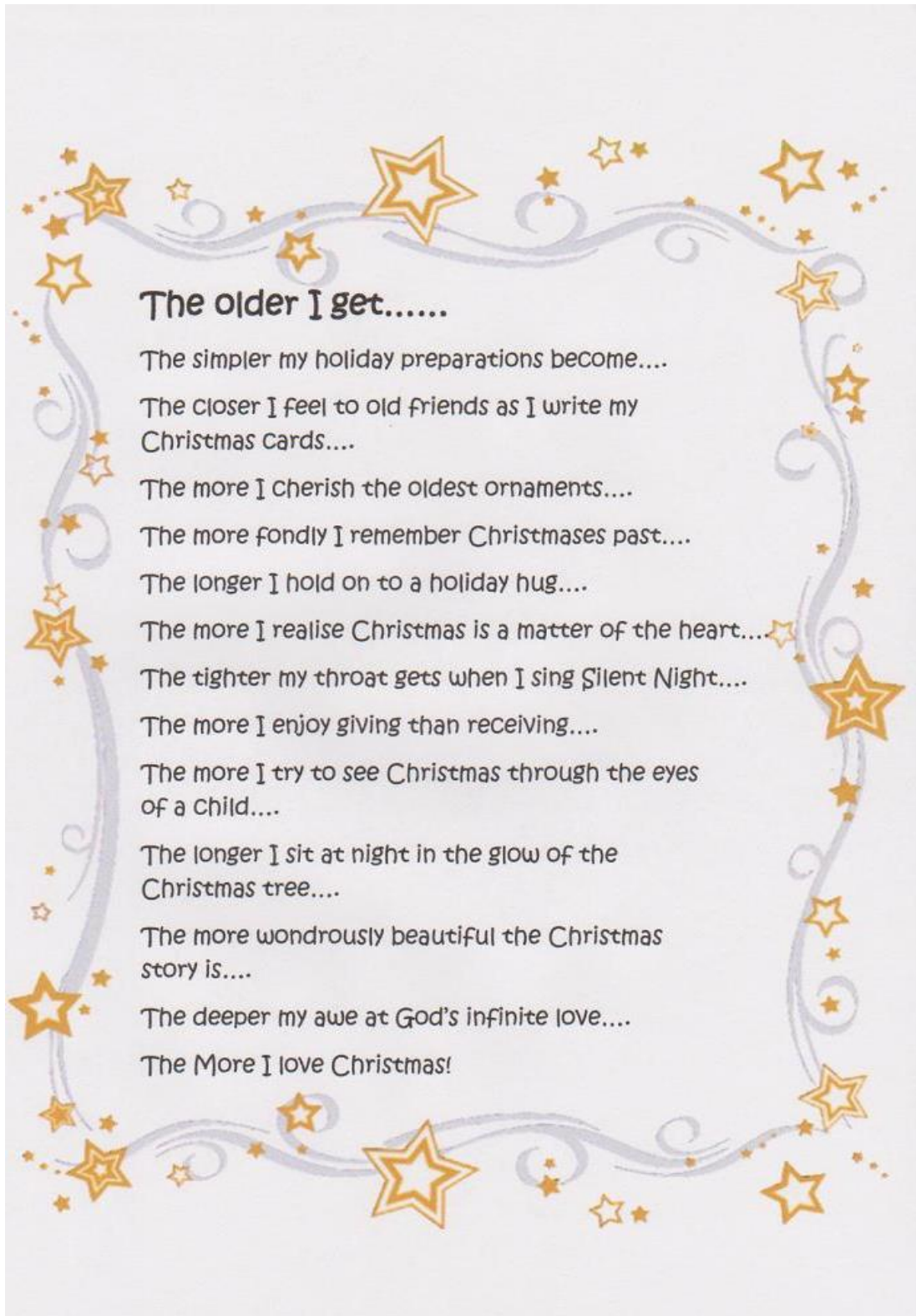


For the last couple of years Jonathan has asked me to paint a large Christmas card for people to sign as an alternative to (or in addition to) sending individual cards to everyone. I thought I might get let off the hook now, but Phil approached me instead!

This was last year's card, 'We seek our Saviour king' with the messages from some of our number. I thought it might be a nice idea this year to open it up to everyone who reads the magazine too.

So if you would like to add a short greeting to this year's card, 'Star of Wonder', but you are not able to come and add it yourself please e.mail me your message and I will add it for you. My e.mail address is mandy.edwards@bridol.co.uk (or you can ring me on 020 8281 7210)
Mandy







Four Months in Ghana – Part 3

The first Friday in December was a public holiday, Farmers' Day, so schools were closed. The purpose of the day was to recognise, honour and appreciate the farmers of Ghana. This is an annual event and various celebrations take place across the country. Justice and I attended one at a village called Asikam, which was about half an hour's drive from Nkawkaw.

We left home about 8 o'clock (it was supposed to be 7am, but the other lady, Felicia, who we were taking, wasn't ready.) We picked up Felicia and her boxes of agricultural products and headed off, eventually, turning off onto a dirt road, which was extremely bumpy and dusty. I noticed that the once-green foliage on the side of the road was brown, from being covered in this dust. Definitely a sign that the dry season had arrived! We bumped along for a while, dodging potholes as well, but then had to stop, as there was a problem with the handbrake sticking, or so it seemed. We managed to crawl to the village of Asikam in first gear, and onto the field where the event was taking place.



The next hour or so was spent getting set up, as canopies were put up, produce was put out on display, plastic chairs were arranged and Felicia set up her stall of agricultural products. People from around the area started arriving and getting seated.



The members of the East Kwahu Assembly arrived and they walked around each of the canopies, greeting everyone, including me, by shaking hands. The same happened when the village chief arrived. This took quite a long time. Justice then opened the gathering in prayer, then various speeches in the Twi language were given by the different Assembly members. A couple of them spoke in English and I thought what they said was very encouraging and

positive, as they spoke about the importance of the farmers of Ghana. The theme was: 'Transform Ghana, invest in Agriculture'

A school group performed a handkerchief dance and another school group presented a sketch which, I assume, was connected to farming in some way. It was in Twi so I couldn't understand it all.



I was very impressed with the school girl, dressed in traditional dress, who spoke very passionately to the Assembly members and other important people at the front, again presumably about the importance of investing in agriculture. Then the awards for the various categories of produce were given out and this took ages, although it was a very necessary part of the day, and actually quite moving, seeing so many people's achievements recognised. Justice was invited to close the celebration in prayer.

Jan Smithers



Samson and the swimming pool

Ed: 'Hello Samson have you noticed anything going on in the church recently?'

S: 'Well Ed, I noticed a few weeks ago three members of the church taking up carpets at the front of the church to reveal the swimming pool'.

Ed: 'That's not a swimming pool - it's the Baptistry where people go down into the water to be baptised to have their sins washed away and to declare their faith in Jesus, that's why we are called a Baptist church.'

S: Well, I did notice 3 people going down into the water and lots of people were watching and they seemed very happy!'

Ed: 'Yes Samson, that was 3 people from the Risen Christ Church who asked if they could use our Baptistry because they don't have one of their own.'

S: 'I didn't think I recognised them, so why did you not have anyone from this Church being baptised?'

Ed: ' Well Samson that's a very good question?'

S: ' I did notice a few days later it took 5 members of your church to empty the baptistery and they were there all day long!'

Ed: 'Yes Samson, it took 5 members, 6 hours to empty the water out of the Baptistry because they kept getting air locks.'

S: 'Well Ed, it seems like an awful lot of work for 3 people to have a swim !'

Phil Slaney after the tradition of Sam the Spider by A. S. Fugler



Selwyn Avenue School

I am sure that many of our readers have an attachment to one or more of the schools situated in Selwyn Avenue. They may have gone to the Infants and then to the Boys or Girls school or had children who went there. Opening in April 1904 they predate HPB by some nine years. The buildings have changed little in the last 112 years -but that is to change!



Starting soon the school buildings we have come to know so well are to be replaced by, what judging from the artist's impression's, will be a glass and concrete block of doubtful aesthetic value. Fit for purpose it may be but fitting in with locality it isn't (note: I would love to be proved wrong!)

The building process seems likely to take about two years - of course this will mean a lot of upset for people living in the vicinity especially in terms of restricted parking during weekdays



The buildings marked by the arrow are those for the builders etc. As an aside there are also building works in progress to extend Highams Park School. One block was demolished and a larger one is being built in its place. It is also noted that Waltham Forest Council has decided that some of its garages are no longer suitable for modern vehicles and are erecting houses on the sites - this includes new houses at the bottom end of St. Leonards Avenue. DL



Highams Park School



Once there were garages!



*To keep up with current trends..... a colouring picture
for adults!*





A colouring picture for the children





CHURCH DIARY

December

Sunday 4 th	10 am	All Age Service led by Jason Close
Sunday 11 th	10 am	Morning Service with Communion led by Paul Raymond
Sunday 18 th	10 am	Morning Service led by Mandy Edwards and Paul Raymond
Sunday 18 th	6 pm	Carol Service led by Mandy Edwards and Ruth Underhay
Saturday 24 th	11.30 pm	Midnight Communion led by Phil Slaney
Sunday 25 th	10 am	Morning Service led by Phil Slaney





January

Sunday 1 st	10 am	Songs of Praise Service co-ordinated by Geoff Norris
Thursday 5 th	7.30 pm	Church Council Meeting
Sunday 8 th	10 am	Morning Service led by TBA
Sunday 15 th	10 am	Morning Service led by TBA
Sunday 22 nd	10 am	Morning Service with Communion led by Hilary Taylor LBA Small Church Enabler
Sunday 29 th	10 am	Morning Service Led by Rev. Ken Walker (LBA District Minister)
followed by	11.30 am	Church Members Meeting

February

Sunday 5 th	10 am	All Age Service led by Jason Close
Sunday 12 th	10 am	Morning Service led by TBA

Refreshments are served after the Morning Service every Sunday.

