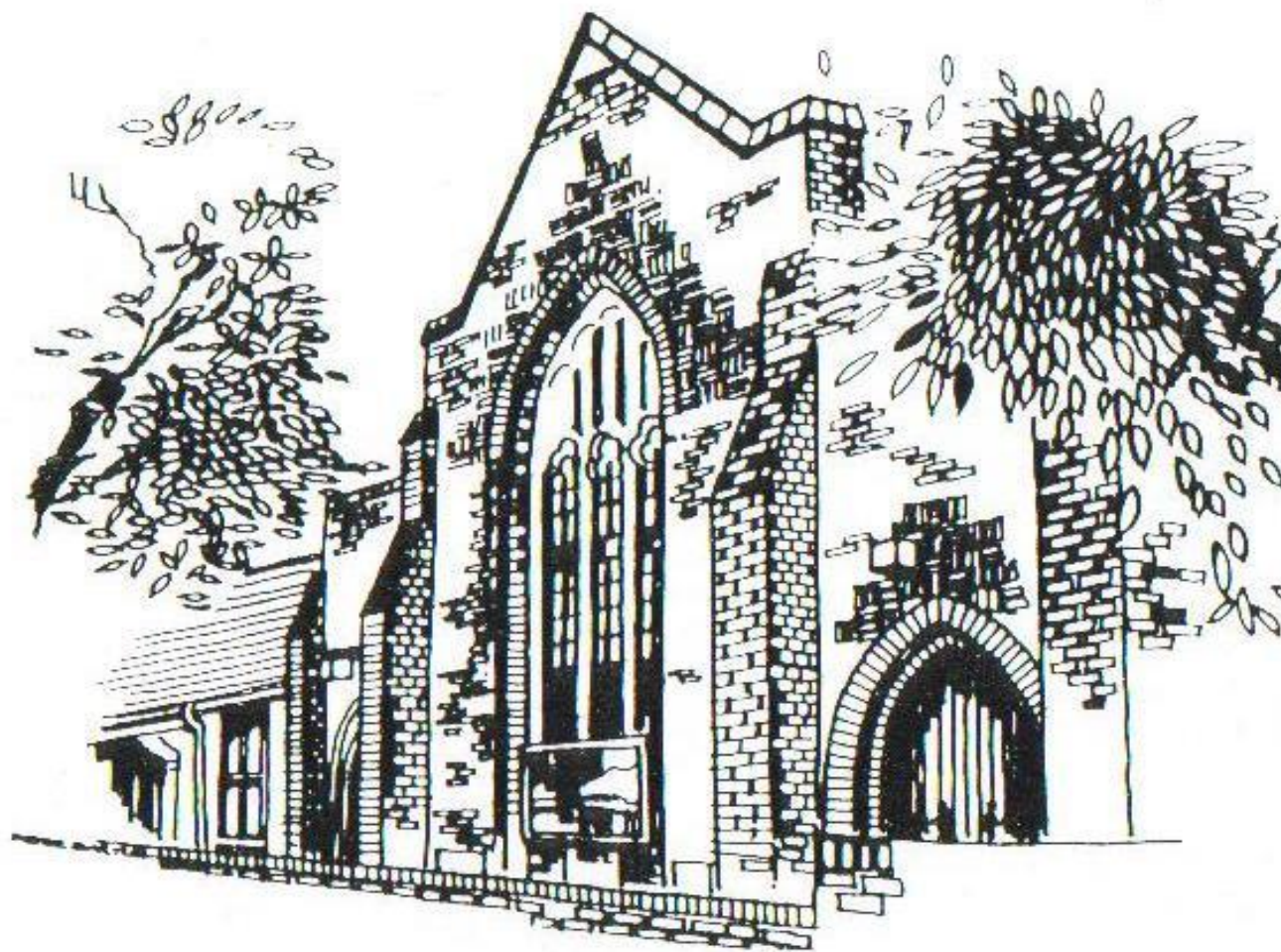




The Magazine
of
**Highams Park Baptist
Church**

Cavendish Road, E.4.



2017 NUMBER TWO

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 14th May 2017
Editors: Dave & Jacquie Lyus, 020 8527 1505 Email: davelyus@yahoo.co.uk

Cavendish Road, London E4 9NG
(☎ 020 8527 8993)
April / May

Moderator:

Rev. Gareth Wilde

Church Secretary:

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

☎ 020 8524 6258

What can we depend on in times of uncertainty? I have been watching David Davis MP, the Secretary of State for Exiting Europe answering questions by MP's at the House of Commons Select Committee on what is likely to happen after the United Kingdom has left the European Union. It was interesting to hear him say that since 23rd June 2016 Referendum, countries in Europe have started to come round to wanting to come to a successful outcome with regard to negotiations between the UK and the European Member States even though there is still some way to go. He also said it is people's fears that is the main stumbling block to a successful outcome especially in relation to immigration. So as Christians what can we depend on? Jesus said, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.' John 14 v1. It is difficult as human beings to sometimes put our fears aside. We all like to be reassured that it will be alright in the end even though we know difficult times may lay ahead. If we believe in Jesus as the Son of God and our Saviour because of His death on the cross then there is hope for us. Let us be reminded be reminded of this as we approach Easter, remembering Jesus suffering for our sins on the cross and that all who believe have assurance of forgiveness and new life because He conquered death and rose on the third day to be with His Father in heaven. Let us hold on to the words of the Apostle



Paul in his letter to the church in Rome, 'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.' Romans 13 v15.

Phil Slaney

CAVENDISH CIRCULAR



In a recent sermon given by our member Paul Raymond, he told us of his decision to give up crisps for Lent – a favourite snack of his! He also added that, in a positive move, he was endeavouring to spend more time in prayer during this period of reflection before Easter. I wonder what other things were given up during Lent by our readers? I hoped to forgo my favourite 'treat' of chocolate (for health reasons also!) but succumbed to temptation and found myself eating a small amount before I remembered my resolution! However we choose to spend this Lenten period, whether in giving something up or undertaking a task, may we deepen our faith and discover a closer relationship with God as we contemplate Christ's sacrifice made for us on the cross.

Friends in Highams Park churches have been able to reflect on the Easter message in Lenten Groups. These have been held at Winchester Rd. Methodist Church, All Saints Church and St. Peters & St. Pauls Church.

The Women's World Day of Prayer was celebrated on 3rd March at All Saints Church, with a service prepared by the Christian women of the Philippines. You can read more about this occasion further in the magazine, and we thank Hazel Ansell, who is our Church's representative, for helping to organise this event and reporting on the service.

Our congratulations go to Muneyi and Tony Antoniou who recently celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary with a very special Blessing service in Zimbabwe. We hope to include some pictures of this very happy occasion next time.

Marilyn Robinson and Lynda Lewis-Azayear have both undergone hip operations after some cancellations, and we are pleased to hear that they are recovering well at home. We look forward to seeing them at Church once again very soon. Jason Close's mother, Christine, has been in hospital again recently and is currently undergoing tests. Our member Steve Jenkin's little grandson, Max, continues under the care of Great Ormond Street hospital. We continue to remember these and all others in our fellowship who are experiencing ill health or undergoing treatment at this time.

In our last issue we reported on the sad news that our former member Gwen Hunn had died. Her funeral took place on January 26th at Hampton where she, and husband John, had moved some years ago. Members from our Church were able to represent HPBC at the service and you can read the tributes paid to Gwen further in the magazine. We continue to remember her family at this sad time and give thanks to God for all she, together with John and all the family, meant to our fellowship over many years faithful service.

Congratulations go to Kelly Davey-Aitken younger daughter of Yvonne and Mike Davey, who recently gave birth to a little girl: Elspeth Louise, born on 23rd February, a sister for Rhona. Every blessing to the family in the future!

As we were going to press we learnt that one of our former friends of HPBC, Genevieve Brookes, had sadly died after some years of ill health. Genevieve attended HPBC for many years and took an active part in Church life, including hosting many of the Young Wives Group meetings run by our former member Mary Hough. Genevieve and her husband, Reg, moved to Devon some years ago but, owing to ill health, she had recently returned to the Chingford area for nursing care in a residential home. Many of us former 'young wives' have very happy memories of meeting in Genevieve's home where she was a warm and lively host, assisting Mary in providing us with a much-needed break in our busy lives! Although some of those attending the group were not regular Church goers they appreciated the friendly links with our Church and formed lasting friendships that continue to this day. Members of other local Churches also joined with us and there was often quite a squeeze to get everyone into Genevieve's spacious lounge! Her funeral will take place on Monday 3rd April at the City of London Crematorium. Our loving condolences go to son John and daughter Jane and all the family in their loss.

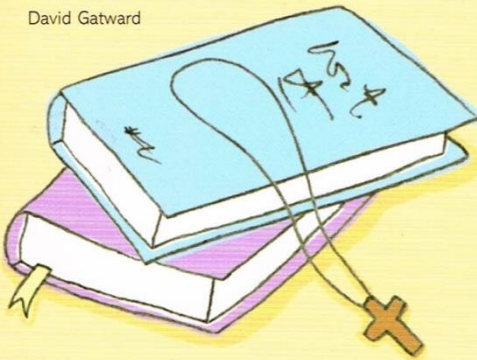
Mothering Sunday was celebrated on March 26th when the ladies in Church were delighted to receive beautiful posies of daffodils from the Junior Church. Our thanks go to Mandy Edwards and all those who helped in the preparation of these gifts which we have captured in the accompanying picture.

At this time of year some of our young (and not so young) will busy revising or taking exams. We wish them well:

Exams

Help me, Lord, to be able
to pass the test, to run life's race,
and never give up.
To do my best – for you.
And, when swamped by a pile of books
and confused by countless questions,
then help me to pause and to give thanks
that in all the stress,
the work and the pain,
I have at least the opportunity
to try to do well.
Thank you, Lord.

David Gatward

An illustration of two books, one blue and one purple, stacked on top of each other. A string is tied around the books, and a small wooden cross is attached to the end of the string. The background is a light yellow color.

JL

Family tribute to Gwen Hunn,
delivered by Andrew at All Saints' Hampton 25 January 2017



Mum was born in Edmonton in 1928, the middle of three sisters (Joan & Valerie), and followed by a younger brother Roger. She was brought up in Highams Park, where her parents were original members of Highams Park Baptist Church and in which much of her life was rooted for the next 60 years including all our years as children and teenagers.

A member of the 1st Highams Park Girl's Life Brigade, she became an Officer, then Captain, taking the whole Company on summer camp each year and devising annual displays, performing at the Albert Hall which were highlights in the social calendar.

School was Selwyn Avenue Primary then, from the start of WWII, secondary education took place at William Morris until the age 14, when it was interrupted by evacuation to Oakham in Rutland. Later she worked in the city as a secretary in a firm of stockbrokers.

Her father worked for Cable & Wireless and holidays were spent in the far west of Cornwall, where the company let a cliff-top holiday "cottage" anchored to the rock with cables. When she was 17 her Dad left home, leaving a big void in her world.

In the late 1940s, she discovered a diversion which provided an escape and became another life-long commitment: Tottenham Hotspur! Then in the Second Division, Mum became a regular at White Hart Lane and a frequent traveller to away games (not so easy then!). Before long, the "Push and Run" team had won promotion and next year, as newcomers, the First Division title. They've only won it once since and how she longed for them to catch Leicester City in the run-in last year.

Through Girls' Brigade, she met a young officer in the 18th South Essex BB company based at Orford Road Baptist Church: John Hunn. They married at HPBC in June 1953, set up home in Highams Park and had three children: Andrew, Caroline and Jonathan. We moved to Chingford and Woodford Green but never far.

When we had all married and left home and Dad had retired from his regular work in 1991 Mum and Dad made the big decision to move from the area and HPBC to Hampton, where Caroline and her husband Nigel had settled. Once there they visited several churches before settling themselves at All Saints, where they found a warm welcome and made many dear friends, so that together and, after Dad died in 2005, they were very much "at home" there.

The real Gwen:

You didn't have to dig deep or know her for long to learn what was important to Mum - it was plain for all to see. She loved her family as well as her brother and sisters, children and grandchildren. She strove to keep in touch with nephews and nieces, cousins, their children and their children's children.

How they loved her and appreciated her kindness and interest in their achievements, their lives and loves, their ups and downs, the little gifts at Christmas and birthdays remembered.

Mum's cousin, Kay's son Daniel lives in Utah with his wife LaDawn and their 12 children. Mum really cared for this family far away and her reward - and she was so thrilled about this - was that their penultimate child was called Gwendoline after her. Mum always disliked her name but then, suddenly, it took on a new lustre. A dear tiny little girl called Gwen.

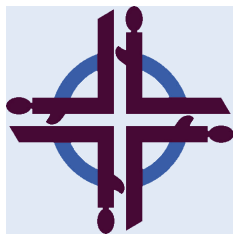
Her strong and constant faith was practical and she liked to describe it as 'simple'. She was a doer, more than a thinker. She loved her garden and kept it beautifully right up to last summer. She made things - not just our clothes as children, but tailored garments, evening dresses, wedding dresses, bridesmaids dresses (four at a time!) , lace, embroidery, exquisite smocking and soft toys; she also trained in upholstery. She decorated: taking a paintbrush to the window frames and skirting boards after her 85th birthday and creosoting her fence LAST SUMMER! There was nothing she wouldn't tackle.

Much of the doing was a practical demonstration of faith, whether it be assisting broken-down travellers at the roadside by driving miles to take their young families home, visiting elderly and hospitalised church members, collecting envelopes for Christian Aid and supporting in the most practical ways. She had her limits. She didn't like the water and yet spent so many summers on the beach in Cornwall where she would get us all dry and changed into dry costumes 10 times a day and make the picnic - woe betide anyone who accidentally got sand on the freshly buttered rolls! She didn't like what she called a "poppy show". When Dad came home from work one Friday with a snazzy new company car, yellow with a tan interior, we were ecstatic but her response was "If you think I'm going to church on Sunday in a banana you've got another think coming!" She hosted events; she mended things, she patched, she darned. But most importantly she strove to mend and to tend relationships.

She had firm views on right and wrong and politics. When Jonathan and his journalist colleagues went on strike, she went on strike too at home - and not in sympathy! Peace and reconciliation was a mission she pursued with fervour, within the family and beyond. Keeping communication channels open, speaking frankly with both parties, sometimes uncomfortably so, but always speaking the truth, in love. *"When you behave like this I don't like you but you know I love you"*. And it could be tough love, as you'd know if, as a child, you'd had your mouth washed out with soap! But it was a cake of love which was never used up and which continued to grow. As her grandchildren paid tribute at the funeral: ' Whilst to you, she was 'Gwen', or 'Mum', to us she was simply, 'Narnia'. We all feel so fortunate to have had Narnia in our lives. They then read extracts from 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C. S. Lewis.

The visitors' book that we kept at the hospital shows what the nurses who cared for her in her last days saw in her and thought of Mum. Their messages are a remarkable tribute to a lady of grace and elegance and thoughtfulness and love. Right to the end of her days on earth.

Taken from the family tribute.



WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2017

WWDP began as separate days of prayer organised by individual denominations in America in the mid 1800's and has now become a truly international and ecumenical day of prayer. The people of the Philippines prepared this year's service and resource materials and, just as they began to write the service, Typhoon Haiyan struck the Philippines causing great destruction. Life in these islands must go on despite these natural disasters and the people go on in faith, knowing that God is with them. Please pray for them.

The passage from St. Matthew's Gospel (Ch. 20: 1 - 16) chosen to support this year's theme was written in the context of an economy based on agriculture. The ground is prepared, crops are planted and tended and the community waits for Harvest time. However, pests, bad weather and other accidents, natural or man-made, can lessen the crop and possibly destroy everything. The unfertile ground and hot, cold or humid weather add to the worker's discomfort. The work is also seasonal and intense. When Harvest time comes recruitment offers some work so that that they will be able to feed their families and they are employed for a fixed term but are not permanent workers. Some are given modest accommodation with their families, but others are not local and have to leave their family for months meaning that they have to ask for money in advance to take care of their families. These are loans with interest which will eat up their already low wages and leave them very little to take home. The economic injustice is evident – the landowner has a big house and enough food on the table while the families of the workers live below the poverty line. A 2015 report of OXFAM stated that 1% of the world's population holds 99% of the world's wealth. In the Philippines 20% of the population owns 80% of the nation's wealth. In order to overcome and gradually reduce the gap between the 'haves' and the 'have nots', we must plant the seeds of justice, so we can all share the harvest. *(based on WWDP worship leaflet.)*

Hazel Ansell, our Church representative, reports on the Service held at All Saints Church.

Despite the weather being a tad wet, to say the least, there was quite a good turn-out for this year's Women's World Day of Prayer. Early each year the representatives from the Churches in Highams Park are summoned by our leader, Mary Burgoine, to the first meeting. This always seems rather too early to me but, as happens in life, the big day arrives in no time.

This year the Service had been prepared by Christian women of the Philippines, and the whole service was to be taken by us with no speaker needed to be found, and personally I thought it worked better that way. This year's theme was **"Am I Being Unfair To You?"** and was based on Matthew 20: 1-16. A semi-circle of chairs was placed at the front of the Church and as the time came for each of us to read we walked from the back of the Church to the front and sat on one of the chairs until all were occupied. At the end of the service the readers held hands and then everyone present was asked to hold hands, thus making a circle, to signify that, as our prayers encircle the world, so God encircles us with His love.

I felt that the morning went well and hopefully as the women of the Philippines would have wished. I must admit the service suggested that the first three Readers perform a liturgical dance when moving from the back of the Church to the front – however, we felt that this may have been a 'step' too far and that we knew our limitations!!



As you read this you will be all getting ready for Easter. We have had a fun and busy time in the 17th Company.

The Anchor and Junior Section have taken part in a number of competitions. With the Battalion, figure marching, the Bible competition (Glen Neal), which the Junior Section team won, and the Anchor section came 4th out of 7 teams, we also took part in the London Bible Competition and the International team games, and even though they did not win they did perform well as a young team.

The Company Section have continued to meet in small numbers, with weekly classes and activities including Badminton and clubroom.

After the Awards evening we start our summer session, with more games, evenings out and competitions for all sections, plus the annual company section weekend away and Summer camp at the end of July. The Junior Section in London will be having a weekend camp to celebrate 100 years of Life Boys / Junior Section

Lastly, please see the notice about our Company 75th Birthday weekend from 21st to 23rd April - please do support and join us where you can.

On behalf of all the young people and officers, have a good Easter break and do continue to pray for the whole company.

Jason – Captain



The Bible Competition for the Anchor section, with Emma - coming 4th out of 7 with the Parable of the Sower.



With Mandy, the Junior section won the Battalion Glen Neal Bible competition, also doing the Parable of the Sower



Mayor and Mayoress of the London Borough of Waltham Forest Cllr. Peter Herrington and his wife Susan, Sophie Close, Stephen Close, Winfred Hakeem, (from 9th Waltham Forest) and Samantha Akins, at the presentation of the Jack Petchey awards.



17th Waltham Forest Boys Brigade & Girls Association

Highams Park Baptist Church, Cavendish Rd,
Highams Park, London E4 9NG

75TH Anniversary of 17th Waltham Forest Company (formerly 17th South Essex)

As you will see the BBGA are about to celebrate 75 years of its existence. There are several events planned as below:

Friday 21st April – Annual Awards Evening and Display from 7.30pm to 9.30pm at Highams Park Baptist Church.

This is a chance to see the young boys and girls get their awards and some of the things they have done. We would be grateful if you can come and support the girls, boys and Officers .

Saturday 22nd April - Fun, fellowship, games, quizzes, catch up with old friends and food, for both you and partner.

This evening will be at Highams Park Baptist Church from 7pm to 10pm. Fish/ Chicken and Chips. Cost £6.00 per person

Sunday 23rd April - Parade and Service of Celebration followed by light refreshments.

We will be marching from Tesco in Highams Park at 9.45am, to the Church. Please meet for 9.30am to form up with the Company and Band.

10am All Age Service

11.15 am - After the Service we will be marching back to Tesco in Highams Park followed by refreshments at Highams Park Baptist Church. For further details please see:

Jason Close – BB Captain

Where are we now?



Some people call it an Interregnum, others a Ministerial Transition, but whatever it is called, we are in one. When Jonathan left last year there was the obvious need to find his successor. On the face of it it seems a simple process – however there are many hoops to jump through before a new minister takes up residence at HPB.

For people who have been through previous Interregna there are a lot more steps to be taken now than in the past. The first main task is to create a profile of the Church. Our path to this end started with a 'Refocus Day' some weeks ago at Broadmead Baptist Church, courtesy of Rev. Gareth Wilde who is our Moderator, that is a Minister who has an oversight of a church when it does not have its own minister. It was open to all Church members and friends, and was a 'brainstorming' session when participants were split into groups and gave their ideas on what they would like to see in a new minister and what they felt was the way forward for HPB. It was run by Hilary Taylor who is the LBA Small Church Enabler. She felt that this was a very successful day's work and the results of the groups deliberations were collected together to form a framework for the Church Profile.

The Profile lays out details of the Church – its buildings, its services, its outreach to the community etc. as well as a section about Highams Park as a place to live. We are extremely grateful to Phil, and others for their input, but especially to Sarah and Paul Raymond who took the brainstorming thoughts and created from them an excellent four page document.

This initial draft was sent to the Church Council and a number of amendments were made, (thank heavens for e-mail which wasn't available to all in the previous Interregna!). The amended version was then presented to all at a 'workshop' after the Service on March 12th. The complete document was read through and a small number of changes were made. As a Church we also have to create a 'mini Profile' which acts as the first indication to people seeking a ministry. This is basically a very slimmed down version of the main Profile.

The Profiles have to be properly agreed at the next Church members meeting and are then sent to the London Baptist Association (LBA) They will take our Profiles and try to match our needs with similar profiles created by potential ministers who will view the mini Profile and, if interested, be provided with the main Profile. As a Church we will be advised of anyone who has expressed an interest in becoming our new minister. We will then decide if we wish to meet them and take matters further.

As a Church we must be very thankful that we have members who give their time and energy in ensuring that whatever road HPB travels down we have the right person to give us the directions.

It is not only Church members who have concerns about all that is happening at this time – our favourite arachnid has been telling of his thoughts...

DL



Samson and the Profile

'Hello Samson, you look worried what's wrong?'

'Well Ed, I've been hearing about all these changes. Brexit, Trump and Profiles!'

'So why are you so worried, spiders aren't likely to be affected?'

'How do you know? I wasn't consulted on any of these changes!'

'So what are you really worried about as our long standing resident spider?'

'I would like to know if the new minister likes spiders and if you can put that in the Church Profile?'

'Well Samson, I'm not sure that we can be put that in the Profile as it might scare him or her off coming if they know we have got a spider in the church.'

'Well, maybe you should make sure the Profile says that you are a spider friendly church and welcome new spiders to drop in at anytime, otherwise I might have to find somewhere else to hang out!'

P T Slaney - in the tradition of Sam the Spider by A S Fuglar

Message of Thanks

Marilyn Robinson writes:

Many thanks for the prayers, cards and messages concerning my operation. They were a tremendous help and comfort to me and were much appreciated.

I am progressing well and look forward to getting back to the church family soon.

With love from Marilyn.



The
Nationwide
Christian
Trust

Spring 2017

EVENTS AT MULBERRY HOUSE

Girls Night Out

FANCY A NIGHT OUT LADIES WITH...

- Drinks on arrival
- Three course meal
- Dynamic after dinner speaker
- Opportunity to be amongst friends

This evening promises an inspiring speaker, fine food and plenty to talk about with your friends, so come and join us for a great Girls Night Out.



WALK INTO FREEDOM

Thursday 27th April £25.00

Come and be inspired by Laura Ryder from MERCY as she brings a powerful message of hope and freedom, sharing the heart and vision of MERCY UK.

MERCY UK exists to provide opportunities for women to experience God's unconditional love, forgiveness and life transforming power. Mercy looks to address the root causes of issues women face, rather than merely medicating the symptoms or addressing external behaviours such as eating disorders, depression, self-harm and the affects of abuse.

Laura Ryder is the corporate director and will share about MERCY'S work in transforming lives and bringing freedom to those currently trapped in the desperate cycle of life controlling issues.

**£25.00 to include drinks on arrival and three course meal
6.30pm for 7.00pm - Advanced booking is required**

Call us now to book: 01277 365 398 OPTION FOUR

If you are interested in going on a Women's Night Out with other Christians please let me know. If anyone requires transport we can arrange to 'car-pool' or share cars with those willing. I am definitely going to this!!!

Many Blessings
Muneyi



British churches founded Christian Aid in 1945 to support refugees who had lost their homes and possessions in the Second World War. Twelve years later, we launched Christian Aid Week to help fund this ongoing work. Sixty years ago, Christians refused to stand by while people suffered in refugee camps. Our generation is rising to that challenge again.

A prayer for the 60th anniversary of Christian Aid Week

As a diamond catches the light
and refracts it into a kaleidoscope of colours,
we give thanks, O God, for the myriad acts of kindness,
generosity and love over six decades of Christian Aid Week.
For the willingness of collectors
for the generosity of neighbours
for the donation of cakes, books and works of art
for the concerts, recitals and dramatic performances
for the walks, cycles and sponsored swims
for the bowls of soup, pots of coffee and cups of tea
for the posters, bunting and banners displayed
for the heads and hearts that have been changed
for the prayers spoken and campaign postcards signed
for the acts of worship and stories shared
for the calls for justice challenging the causes of poverty
and for the millions of envelopes,
weighted with coins or light with notes,
for the cheques and the texts to donate
we give you thanks.
Most of all we give thanks for the millions of lives transformed
so that together we may all flourish.
Amen

TOP SECRET

HIGHAMS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH
MENS' GROUP EVENT – SATURDAY 13 MAY
LUNCH IN BRENTWOOD AND A VISIT TO THE
SECRET NUCLEAR BUNKER, KELVEDON HATCH



Hi Men,

I have arranged a special day out to Brentwood in Essex on **Saturday 13 May**. The day will comprise of two main events, a lunch at the Harvester 'Golden Fleece' at **12 noon**, London Road, Brentwood and in the afternoon, at **2.30pm**, a visit to nearby Kelvedon Hatch, just a few miles from Brentwood, to experience the much maligned but unique 'Secret Nuclear Bunker.'

The Harvester restaurant has free parking and a rough guide to price for an average meal is £20 per person, depending on your appetite, **which you pay on the day**. Remember, a free unlimited salad comes with your meal.

The visit around the Bunker will take about an hour and a half and on site there are all the usual facilities, with opportunities to have a look around at your leisure. The cost is £7.50 per person, **payment before the day** and there is a discount if we can get 14 in a group. Depending on the response I receive, places will then be offered to the Women's Group and family members.

Please let me know if you are to join us for the lunch and the Bunker visit, but indicate whether you intend to participate in both events, or plan on just coming to just the Bunker or the lunch.

Brentwood is a very busy and interesting town, and on that Saturday, you may decide to arrive early and spend time visiting the car boot in the Brentwood Centre (early start advisable), the cathedral or how about some retail therapy?

Please let me know asap, if you are coming, I look forward to hearing from you

Bob Jenkins – E Mail: robertjenkins625@gmail.com or mobile: 07973 655129

Kelvedon Hatch Secret Nuclear Bunker



The bungalow that serves as the entrance to the Kelvedon Hatch Nuclear Bunker

The **Kelvedon Hatch Secret Nuclear Bunker** at [Kelvedon Hatch](#), Brentwood, Essex, is a large underground bunker maintained during the [cold war](#) as a potential regional government headquarters. Since being decommissioned in 1992, the bunker has been open to the public as a tourist attraction, with a museum focusing on its cold war history.

The bunker was first built as an air defence station (an 'R4' Sector Operations Control or SOC) as part of the RAF [ROTOR](#) air defence project.^[1] Upon the demise of the ROTOR SOC the remaining Nuclear Reporting Cell and UKWMO elements were incorporated into a Home Office 'Regional Seat of Government' or RSG. The bunker was able to hold various numbers (in the hundreds) of military and civilian personnel, the numbers changing over the years as the role of the building changed from SOC to RSG and in its later years; 'Regional Government Headquarters' or RGHQ. In the event of a nuclear strike the RSG / RGHQs etc. would be tasked to organise the survival of the population and continue government operations.

The Kelvedon Hatch bunker was built in 1952–53 as part of [ROTOR](#). ROTOR was a programme to improve and harden Britain's air defence network. It was constructed by Peter Lind & Company of London who still trade today. The bunker was a hardened (three level 'R4') Sector Operations Centre (SOC) for RAF Fighter Command. It was to provide command and control of the London Sector of Fighter Command.

During the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s and early into the 1990s, the UK government (Home Office) maintained the bunker as an emergency regional government defence site. Eventually in the early 1990s when nuclear threat was seen as diminished, the bunker was sold back to the farming family who had owned the land in the 1950s. It is now a Cold War museum and retains many of its original ROTOR and RSG/RGHQ features.

The bunker is built 125 feet (38 m) underground and the entrance is through an ordinary looking [bungalow](#) (a standard ROTOR 'Guard House') set amongst trees. The inside of the bungalow leads to a 100 yards (91 m) tunnel entering the R4 at its lowest floor (of three). Above are two more floors, the 'hill' which covers it, and a radio mast.

The bunker was able to accommodate some hundreds of personnel (the numbers changing as function and form varied over the years) and could sustain them for up to three months. The bunker has air conditioning and heating (using the original ROTOR AC-Plant but replacing the original coolant with a more 'modern' type [c.1980s]), its own water supply (mains water and its own deep bore hole) and generators, and was equipped with many types of radio equipment, protected (EMP) telecommunications, teleprinter (MSX) networks and various military systems

By 1992 the bunker was no longer required, so was decommissioned and the land was sold back to the original owners. It has now been renovated and made into a museum and tourist attraction.

eat or heat



Many thanks to all those who have already contributed items to our **Eat or Heat** box. Your gifts have been gratefully received by those in need who attend the food bank at the South Chingford Congregational Church.

The demand on this service is as great as ever and I hope you will continue to support this worthy cause. Items in particular demand include:

- canned meat/fish
- canned fruit
- sugar (large bags especially)
- canned soup
- canned vegetables
- jam/marmalade
- large boxes of cereal
- teabags/coffee
- toilet rolls
- soap/toothpaste/shampoo



Any other items you wish to contribute will obviously be gratefully received.

Again, thank you so much for all you've done in the past to help those in need.

Dave and Di Kendrick

The 'Secret Garden'

This is our 'Secret Garden' which is being landscaped by the Handsworth Pre -School Playgroup who will be using this as a play area and Cowling Hall every day after Easter. They are so pleased to have the use of our premises after the closure of Malvern Avenue URC. where they previously met. It is good to know that this area is at last being used for a good purpose.

The garden is a work in progress as they are still having paving laid on the path.

More photographs from Photo Phil!



I think you will agree that this is a vast improvement on what was there before....



Your Church Needs You

On Saturday 3rd June 2017 from 9am till 4pm

We will be painting Fellowship Hall and Welcome Area
Cleaning the Chairs
Sorting out and cleaning the kitchen
Some gardening work
Simple DIY jobs
Plus more

Also we need some to help to look after the refreshments and lunch for the workers.

No experience needed -all tools provided.
NO age restriction – all welcome.

Come for the day or a few hours and make our church and halls look great.

Please Let Jason Close know if you can help on this day to make HPBC look and feel great.

Youth News:

Our Youth Worker, Chris Willis, has been busy organising a series of events for the young people which included a group of twelve who went bowling after a Sunday service recently. On 28th April (by popular demand!) there will be a night walk, and another special event is planned for 2nd June, in half term week – more details to follow. You can contact Chris on hpbcyouthwork@gmail.com



Saying it with Flowers

On Mothering Sunday the Ladies of the Church were presented with a posy of daffodils -



Thanks to the Junior Church - and yes, Mandy, they did bloom!

Highams Park Snippets

Phil Slaney has been out with his camera again and has captured some views of Selwyn School. Make the most of them - it will not be there for long!



The Signal Box: 15 years on and a wonderful outcome

The date of 3rd March 2002 might have been a sad day for Highams Park. It was the day Railtrack had scheduled to demolish the Signal Box at the level crossing. Local residents were horrified; the Signal Box is an iconic landmark for the area. The Highams Park Forum and others rapidly organised a campaign to save it and on 26th February 2002, with just days to spare, Railtrack relented and the Signal Box was saved. It is therefore fitting that we write this news item on the exact day of the 15th anniversary of it being saved. After 15 problematic years, full of trials and tribulations, we now have a wonderful outcome; the signal box has been transformed into "La Boite" (French for "The Box") an elegant Creperie for drinks and rather delicious posh pancakes (sweet and savoury varieties). "La Boite" opened for some trial days in December of last year but started trading properly just a couple of weeks ago in mid February.

All those years ago, when we were looking at possible uses for the box, one of the most popular suggestions was for a café of some sort. We reasoned that this would be a good solution since it would generate the necessary revenue for the ongoing maintenance and security of the box whilst at the same time making it open to the public for the price of a cup of coffee. But for many years that seemed like a dream that would never happen. Little did we know...

The interior has been fitted out to a high standard. Externally, there is still work to be done but this needs to be synchronised with one of the (infrequent) scheduled "line closure" days. Apparently using aluminium ladders near high voltage overhead cables and moving trains is not a good idea. Our congratulations go to all the people whose hard work has made this happen.



This article appears on the Highams Park Forum website and is used with their permission. More news and a fuller report on the history of saving the signal box can be found at : www.highamparkforum.co.uk

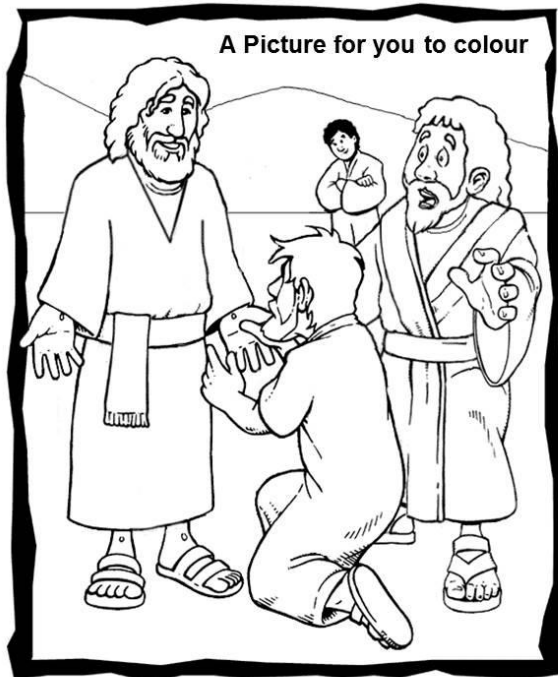
An eagle eyed resident recently spotted this old (1960) Pathe News video on YouTube. The video features a motorcycle side car called "The Canterbury Belle" that turns into a boat. There are many references to it on the internet. The interesting thing, from the perspective of Highams Park residents, is that the video shows them trying out the boat on Highams Park Lake. In the ride to the lake, the roads look very familiar.

Click this link: [Canterbury Belle on Highams Park Lake](#)



A Date for your Diary:

The 10th Highams Park Day will be held at 11am to 4pm on the 15th July 2017 on Vincent Green, Vincent Road. It is the Village Fete for Highams Park. All are welcome.



Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance.
John 20:1 (NIV)

Re-arrange the letters to make a word to do with the Easter story then find the answer:

DRAK

1

TIRSF

2

3

KEWE

4

WMOAN

5

ANSWER:

1 2 3 4 5

The Easter Story

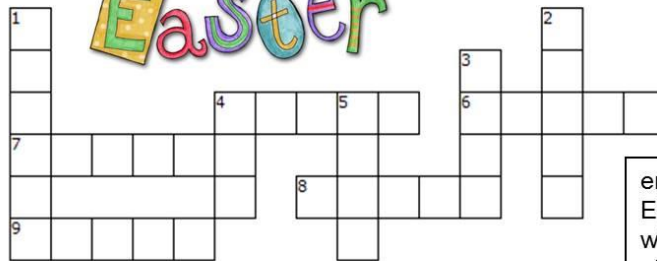
Luke 24:36-48

J
U
N
-
O
R
C



Happy
Easter

HE IS _____!



empty Mary
Easter cloth
white stone
alive tomb
angels cry

ACROSS

4. A piece of fabric made by weaving cotton, wool, or other fibres
6. Not dead
7. The day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection
8. To have nothing inside
9. What was used to cover the entrance to Jesus' tomb

DOWN

1. Messengers from heaven
2. The colour of snow; the opposite of black
3. The woman who found the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb
4. To produce tears; to weep
5. A grave or a room where someone is buried

CHURCH DIARY

April

- Sunday 2nd 10 am All Age BBGA Service
led by Gemma Player
- followed by 11.30 am Church Members meeting
- Sunday 9th 10 am Palm Sunday Morning Service
led by Hilary Taylor
- Sunday 16th 10 am Easter Sunday Morning Service
led by Phil Slaney
- Sunday 23rd 10 am All Age and BBGA 75th Anniversary Service
and Parade led by Jason Close
- Sunday 30th 10 am Morning Service with Communion
Led by Mandy Edwards

May

- Sunday 7th 10 am All Age Service
led by Gemma Player
- Sunday 14th 10 am Morning Service with Communion
led by Rev. Angela Bacon
- Sunday 21st 10 am Morning Service
led by Bob Jenkins
- Sunday 28th 10 am Morning Service
led by Mandy Edwards

June

- Sunday 4th 10 am All Age Service
led by Jason Close
- Sunday 11th 10 am Morning Service
led by TBA

Refreshments are served after the Morning Service every Sunday.