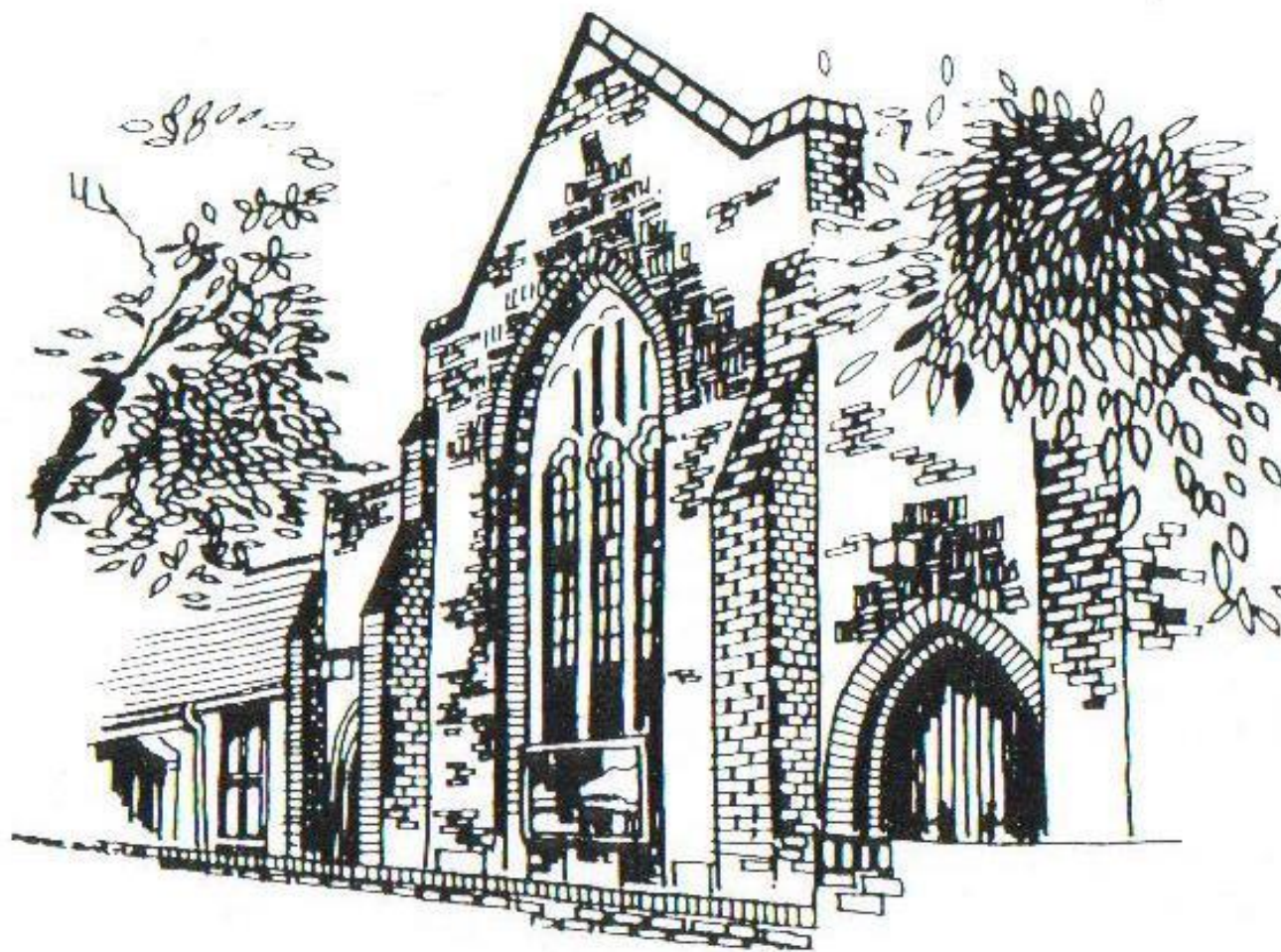




The Magazine
of
**Highams Park Baptist
Church**

Cavendish Road, E.4.



JUNE / JULY 2018

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

Thursday Boys Brigade and Girls Association:
Company Section **(Suspended at present)**

Friday: Boys Brigade and Girls Association:
Anchors (For boys and girls in school years 1-3)
combined with
Juniors (For boys and girls in school years 4-6) 6.30 - 8:30 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.

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 July 22nd 2018
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June / July 2018

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Meeting places

The weeks between Easter and Trinity Sunday have been filled with experiences and opportunities to get to know people. Meeting places have been many and varied. Some locations, like our own church and Costa at Tesco's, have featured fairly frequently. Others, including the Royal Forest Hotel and Epping Forest, have been new to me. There has been much eating, drinking, talking and sharing. I am grateful to those who organised meetings, social gatherings and our 'holiday' at Spring Harvest. The meeting places you helped to create have been very important to me as a newcomer in your midst.

Reading the gospel accounts we find that Jesus loved to meet people wherever they were to be found. At meals in private homes or in public places where crowds gathered Jesus loved to spend time with whoever was around. He ate, drank, talked and shared with friends and with strangers. He took time to get to know them, discovering what they needed or hoped for from him. In these meeting places a space was created for God's love to be made real and for individuals to grow in faith.

As a church we have opportunities to create meeting places both in our own building and wherever we gather together. Over the coming months I hope we will consider new ways of creating meeting places with those who use our building week by week. I hope too that the meeting places we create for ourselves will continue to be spaces where we grow together in friendship and in our shared faith.

A hymn written by John Bell and Graham Maule of the Iona Community speaks of Christian communities as meeting places. Here, as we gather with friends, God's love becomes real and present in our midst. The first verse of that hymn is my prayer for us as we move forward together in mission and in ministry.

*Take this moment, sign and space;
Take my friends around;
Here among us make the place
Where your love is found.*

Cavendish Circular



A friend told me recently of a visit he had made to a Church while away from home for a few weeks, with a view to possibly attending their Sunday service during his stay. I was saddened to hear that on his first visit no one spoke to him, or welcomed him into the Church and, while not being of a reticent nature (he's a jolly and friendly person!) he found no opportunity to stop and chat with members of the congregation afterwards. He tried again the following week and found the same reaction, so the next Sunday found him at a smaller fellowship where he was warmly welcomed at the door, led to a seat and was then joined by a member of the congregation who introduced him to others and escorted him into coffee afterwards. Needless to say he returned there again regularly to worship during his stay! In her second introductory article for the magazine Rosemary writes of the importance of enjoying fellowship with others on a variety of occasions and in diverse locations as well as at Church. At HPBC we have long known the importance of that welcoming handshake at the Church door and it is hoped that our care of the visitor in our midst reflects Christ's love for us. The time of refreshment and chat after our Sunday service, together with other social get-togethers, is an important part of our Christian life and we look forward to creating new opportunities for fellowship with friends old and new in the future.

Our Women's Group have met twice in recent months; in early March they held an afternoon tea at the Church when some delicious refreshments were provided by the members, and grateful thanks go to Paul Raymond, and Peter and Elise Burke who cared for the children during the tea. Another opportunity for fellowship took the form of a Saturday breakfast meeting held at the Royal Forest Hotel in May. A good number tucked into delicious food and some even managed to work it off in a walk afterwards! Thanks go to Muneyi Antoniou and all those who helped organised these occasions: we look forward to hearing about future events soon.

Two groups travelled to Spring Harvest just after Easter, the smaller to Minehead and a larger group to Skegness. This is another opportunity to get to know one another and make new friends while sharing in worship and informal gatherings to further their faith. You can read more about Spring Harvest further in the magazine!

In mid April we said farewell to Yvonne and Mike Davey who have moved to Hampshire. Together with their two daughters, they have played an active in our fellowship for many years. Claire and Kelly have maintained their links with HPBC despite University and career moves; Claire is our Auditor and the dedication took place of Kelly's youngest daughter just a few weeks ago at HPBC. Yvonne has helped in the Crèche for many years while Mike has been known to provide music at many of our social events! We do wish them well in their new life and look forward to hearing their news from time to time. Their new address is available from the Editors.

On Sunday June 3rd Mary Joy and Barrie Brown brought their daughter Ellie Abasola to the morning service for infant dedication. Barrie is the son of our late member Beryl Brown and was active in our Church during his teens and a member of the Boys Brigade. Ellie was held in prayer earlier this year when she underwent investigative surgery at Great Ormond St. Hospital and we rejoiced to learn that her tests were clear and she has since continued in good health. May God bless the family in their future life together.

The BBGA Annual Display took place on Friday 11th May when family and friends enjoyed an evening watching the Brigade members enthusiastically take part in games and marching, which even involved the adults at times! The Awards were presented by the Guest of Honour: Rev. Rosemary Eaton and a special, new Award was presented in recognition of Margaret and Geoff Norris's great contribution to the work over many years. You can read more about this special evening later in this issue.

Please remember those of our fellowship who are unwell at present or confined to home. Cliff Tayler is recovering from a recent fall and it has been good to see him and Dorothy at Church again. Christine Close has spent some time in hospital and will shortly be moving to a Nursing Home. We remember also those who are unable to regularly attend Church but are nevertheless much valued members of our fellowship. Rosemary and Phil took Communion to Mavis Grint after Gathered Prayer recently and prayed for her for which she was very grateful. Many of our members regularly contact the housebound, either visiting or phoning, and this, together with your prayerful support is very much appreciated by them.

As we were going to press we heard the sad news that our former member and good friend, Ron Preece had died on 31st May, after a short illness,. Many of our more senior friends will remember Ron who, together with his wife Kathy and daughters, were active members of our fellowship in the 1960 – 70's. Ron often led our worship, continuing this occasionally after their move away from London. The family moved to Bristol in 1976 where he carried on with his work with the Overseas Missionary Fellowship. On retirement he moved to Canterbury and in the last two years to Church accommodation in Leicestershire, midway between his daughters in London and Liverpool. In the last three weeks he had become a Great Granddad who shares Ronald as a middle name. We are grateful to Ron's son-in-law, Kim Rapley, who gave us these details. Our thoughts and prayers are with Ruth, Kim and all the family at this sad time.

JL

The Walk of Witness



The Walk held on Good Friday started outside Hale End Library and where the HPBC group met with members from Churches together in Highams Park including All Saints, Winchester Road Methodist Church and Christ the King Catholic Church. The walk stopped at several

places en route to sing and pray and to give out Easter Eggs to passersby.

A cross was carried through the village ending outside Tesco's in Signal Walk. A service was held at Winchester Road Church followed by refreshments and hot cross buns...

Our thanks to Phil for also providing the photographs.



Thank You

Thank you to all those who each Sunday provide and arrange flowers for our services. There is a Rota in the Welcome Area, and if you wish to provide flowers one Sunday, perhaps to mark a special occasion or a remembrance of a loved one, please put your name by the appropriate date, and I will get in contact. If you do not wish to arrange the flowers personally, no need to worry as this can be done for you.

Marilyn Robinson

The Meaning of Easter

In the Easter Day service Rosemary enlisted the help of some of the children to think about Easter and how Mary must have felt after the events of Good Friday. Each child held up a letter which was then pinned to the table. Thinking of the letters of the word Easter we arrived at Mary's feeling:

E motional as you would expect after all that had happened.

A ngry that Jesus who had meant so much to them all was no longer there.

S urprised that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb, but by whom?

T roubled to see that the tomb was empty and yet there were angels there.

E xcited when the man she thought was the gardener was in fact Jesus – alive.

R ejoicing that what had been promised had happened and that death was conquered.



As ever the Church was decorated with displays of flowers beautifully arranged by Jenny Cove and her bunch(!) of helpers. Jenny thanks all those who helped either by assisting in the arranging or by making donations which allowed so many flowers to be used.



More of the floral display

We now have a 'Children's Corner' where the youngest of the congregation can keep amused during the service. It allows a place where children can go when there are not enough to make a crèche viable. Thanks go to Dianne Kendrick and her helpers for setting this up.



With thanks

This is a very big thank you for all the loving support you have given Geoff and all our family first through the months of Geoff's increasing pain and weakness, and now for us as we live life without his physical presence.

It may seem a funny thing to say, but all through this difficult time, even at points when Geoff's condition caused him confusion and panic attacks, and we felt too numb and exhausted to pray, I felt that God was weaving a safety net from your loving prayers, thoughts and kindnesses, along with those of many other friends, He loved us through you and we all felt secure and at peace,

I know, and I think you know that Geoff loved, loves his HPB family very much, and was always amazed at the love he received. So thank you again from us all for all you are.

May God continue to bless you all , and continue to make you a blessing.

With love

Geoff, Margaret and family - Elizabeth and Simon, Matthew Lucas, Rachel, Lucy , Paul and Elizabeth, Ben and Ally

Women's World Day of Prayer



This year our service was arranged by the women of Suriname and could go down in history as the longest on record as so many, including ours were postponed to a later date due to the heavy snow on the original day March 2nd!

The theme was 'All God's Creation is Very Good'. We were reminded of some of the things we humans have spoiled in our World and asked to think what we, personally, could do to put things right or prevent them happening again.

I felt that the service went very well and I was ably assisted by Dianne with the readings. At short notice Rosemary was able to be our leader as Rev. Hilary Cheng was unable to attend on the amended day, March 23rd. Rosemary was word perfect even with the words in the local tongue, which the rest of us found a little tricky.

Thank you to all who took part in, or attended, the service.











Hazel Ansell



Many thanks to all those who have been generous enough to contribute to our 'eat or heat' box so far this year. Your donations have been gratefully received by all those in need and the helpers at the South Chingford Congregational Church – where I take our collected items – have said how much they value the support of HPBC.

Although the warm weather means less heating is needed, the demand for help with your donations is still as great as ever.

Items in particular demand include:

-  tinned vegetables/meat/fish
-  cereals
-  rice/pasta
-  pasta/cooking sauces
-  tea/coffee
-  sugar
-  preserves
-  soap/toothpaste/tooth brushes/shampoo/shower gel
-  toilet paper
-  other toiletries

Obviously, any other items you want to contribute will be very gratefully received. Again, many thanks to all who have already helped.

Dave Kendrick



BBGA NEWS

A big thank you to those who came to support all the young people on this year's awards and display evening. The children have worked very hard this year and have to complete lots of tasks from different areas to achieve a badge for their armband. The awards were given out by Rosemary, this year's guest of honour including a brand new award in the name of Margaret and Geoff Norris in recognition of the many years of service they have given to the company in various capacities.



After the awards the children showed us some of the things they have been up to recently, including figure marching, singing silly songs and playing games. Many of the adults joined in and everyone seemed to have a good time.

A big thank you goes to the staff and helpers who have helped out this year keeping the company running and allowing the children to enjoy a range of activities.

We are now into our summer programme which means badgework is behind us and we now spend time competing with other companies in the Battalion (6 aside football and sports evenings) and going out and about having fun together. We have already been to Laser Quest and to War Memorial Park and still have bowling, a trip to Highams Park lake and a BBQ to look forward to.

The BBQ is going to be held on our last evening before the summer holidays, the 20th July (6:30-9pm). We are hoping you will come and join us, £5 per person who is not a BBGA member. Please let Mandy know if you want to come so that we buy enough food to cook!



Here are a few photos from our time at War Memorial Park:

Mandy Edwards

The Prayer Tree

Prayer is mentioned many times throughout the Bible showing how important it is.



However, it is much more than just repeating words and hoping that our words are heard.

Prayer can take place at any time anywhere. God is always listening to us. He knows each and every one of us. Prayer needs to come from the heart.

Sometimes we can become overwhelmed by sadness and come to God for comfort and yet equally we can experience immense joy and want to thank God for that. Whatever are our needs we know that we can talk to God.

As children, we perhaps feel more of a closeness to Jesus, the Son of God, because we tend to learn more about the human side of God as we grow. It is easier to understand. A few Sundays ago, we had an extra All Age Service. The children were asked about friendships and discussed how, if we need a very special friend when we are troubled, we can ask Jesus to help us to feel better. Our children are always happy to talk and answer questions.

An activity was introduced for the children and congregation. It involved a Prayer Tree.

Each person was given a tag and pencil, if they wanted one, by the children and they were encouraged to write a Prayer which, when finished, was hung on a branch of the tree.

Sometimes to write down a prayer can give us a focus. It is a different dimension to other forms of praying. The tags would remain on the tree then taken to Monday's Prayer Group to be included in that special time.

The tree will be left in the church for a while, for people to use at any time that they wish, to add on a prayer. The tags and pencils will be there. It may be that you wish to pray in times of trouble, sickness, sad events or in times of celebration such as an anniversary. Your prayers will always be acknowledged.

It may be that we could have a link to the Prayer Board in the Welcome Area so that people outside the church may wish to write a prayer to be added onto the tree.

We followed the activity with the hymn "What a friend we have in Jesus ". We are so lucky to have Him and God his Father in our lives.

Dianne Kendrick

Spring Harvest Calls...

The following was read to the congregation at a recent service. We were so pleased that Gary felt able to tell of his experiences...

This year I went to Spring Harvest for the first time.

In previous years my wife Wendy and the kids had gone to Spring Harvest with Jason, and I stayed home with the house to myself – Ah the peace and quiet, it was heaven!

So shock/horror when, at the end of last year's Spring Harvest, Jason told Wendy that he wouldn't be able to go this year. What were they going to do, and how were they going to get there as Wendy does not drive? This got me thinking, so I had a word with my good friend Lee Dorrington, as I know he has been going to Spring Harvest for the last few years. 'What's this Spring Harvest like then?' I asked him. 'It's great!' he said – 'the queue for the coffee is longer than the queue for the bar!' Well that was it: I was sold. 'Yes' I said to Wendy, 'I'll take you to Spring Harvest!' At which point they all got very excited!

As the time got nearer, I wondered what I had let myself in for, as I'm not a great lover of driving and always seem to end up getting lost, but as I have a satnav in the car, I told myself it would be ok. Also I wondered what Spring Harvest would be like – would it be all crazy people in sandals and socks? Well I thought, I'll give it a go and see what happens.

The day came around and it was time to set off. We decided to stay at the Premier Inn in Minehead on the Monday before going to Spring Harvest on the Tuesday. So we packed the car up, typed the post code into the Satnav, and off we went. All went very smoothly at first, we found our way down to Weston-Super-Mare without too many problems. Unfortunately the Satnav now went a bit mad. Due to heavy traffic in the area, it decided instead of taking us down safe A roads, it would instead take us down back roads, un-named roads, through floods, and down dirt tracks which although they were two-way, were only the width of one car, and provided some very hairy moments with oncoming traffic. I think there was more praying done in the car that day than in some of the days at Spring Harvest!

We eventually arrived in one piece (thank God) and stayed the night at the Premier Inn, before going to Butlins the next day. We eventually got booked in after a slight detour round the campsite (told you I always get lost!), and got ready for the first night.

Gemma and I went to the Skyline for the first night, Wendy looked after Toby back at the apartment, and we took this in turns throughout the week.

The atmosphere was amazing, one of the first songs we sang was 'How great thou art' which sounded amazing sung by a full crowd of over 5000 people, most with

their hands in the air as praise to God. I could feel the emotion inside me, which is very strange as I don't usually do emotions!
I'm not sure if it was.

- A) the relief of getting there in one piece despite the satnav trying to kill me.
- B) the emotion of all the Christians singing together in praise to God.
- C) feeling God's presence that night.

I think probably a mixture of all 3!



Toby went to his morning club at 10 o'clock every day, Gemma went to Bible study in the Skyline, leaving me and Wendy to wander into town, or pop to the shops, more often than not ending up in the bar for a little snifter. We collected Toby for a hot chocolate mid-morning, after which he then went back to club until about 12, allowing us enough time for another little snifter!

Gemma loves Spring Harvest, and says it is her favourite holiday. She shines with confidence when speaking to fellow Christians, and this should see her well in the future, if she still decides to follow the path to become a Baptist minister.

Toby also loves Spring Harvest and seems to smile all day long when he is there. This year he made a friend at his club called Joe who was a young Downs syndrome lad. His favourite trick was to sneak up to the microphone when no one was watching, and shout Praise be to God – I love Jesus, before running round the dance floor high fiving all the other kids to great cheers! – if only everyone was as accepting of disability as these kids were!



I was surprised at how much I enjoyed the speakers, and how much sense they made with what they were saying. My favourite was Lucy Peppiatt, who I think spoke every morning. Most late afternoons were spent watching repeats of Lucy and the other speakers on Butlins TV, before getting ready to go out that night.

On the last night it was my turn to look after Toby while Wendy and Gemma went to the

Skyline. I switched on the TV to watch from the Apartment. This also gave me time to reflect on being at Spring Harvest. I decided I did like it, and I was sad it was coming to an end! I'd had a great time, and would actually miss watching Lucy and the other speakers.

I would also miss mixing with some of the nicest people I've met for a long time.

Would I go back again next year? Yes I would – Bring it on!

and how did Wendy feel about this?:

As most of you are aware myself and Gemma and Toby normally go to spring Harvest at Minehead with Jason, and we have always had lots of fun. One of the things I remember always enjoying is when we rent out the family bikes. Gemma and I go on one bike, and Jason and Toby go on another. Gemma and I peddle together, and Jason peddles very hard while Toby sits back and does very little. At the end of our trip Gemma and I were tired from peddling hard, Jason is worn out and red in the face and Toby is fresh as a daisy!



The reason I am telling you this is because during this trip last year, as Gemma and I cycled past the posh apartments I said to Gemma I would love to come to Spring Harvest and stay in one of these posh apartments and for your dad to come; we both looked at each other and knew for this to happen would be a miracle.

This year my miracle happened, I stayed in the posh apartment which was lush, and Gary came which meant we shared in worship, had time together when Toby was at club, holding hands around the campsite, and we got to spend time as a family, and I really enjoyed my miracle.



With thanks to Wendy, Gary, Gemma and Toby Player

Band Call...

The 17th Pal's Battalion Band have been busy in recent weeks - On March 22nd they took part in the St. George's Day Parade leaving from near Tesco's and marching down Selwyn Avenue and round to HPBC where they attended the morning service. After the service they formed up outside the Church and marched back to Signal Walk.



9th-10th June - 17th BB Company walking weekend - The band will be making an appearance at Highams Park Baptist Church on the Sunday morning when a considerable number of former members of the 17th will be present

Their fame is obviously spreading...

The 17th Pals' Battalion Band were approached by The Western Front Association for buglers to play during the unveiling of a memorial plaque in Walthamstow, to commemorate the deaths of three Fireguards during bombing in World War 2.

During WW2 the Government passed an act stating that due to the "Blitz", all areas of London should form Fire protection parties. These were known as Fire Street parties, Fire Watches and Fire Guards.

On the 19th of April 1941 William Howard of 9 Carnanton Road E17, along with his colleagues, handed over their shift to Sidney John Lee age 50 of 31 Beacontree Avenue, Edward Manning age 57 of 32 Beacontree Avenue. and William Arthur Shadbolt age 34 of 30 Beacontree Avenue. At 10.45pm a German parachute mine exploded killing all 3 and injuring 22 others.

The ceremony was attended by local MP Ian Duncan Smith, local councillors, Firemen, Members of the Royal British Legion, local residents and children from nearby schools. WW2 firefighting and bomb disposal equipment and vehicles were on show including a WW2 Turntable ladder. The buglers played Fire Call, Last Post and Reveille and were accompanied by a three man colour party from the band. The unveiling event was filmed and appeared on both VVC and ITV London News programmes.



We are grateful for the information from Chris Thorndyke.

Spring Harvest at Skegness



This year I booked for 42 people to go to Skegness and 10 to go to Minehead. Our group is not really an HPBC church group but rather a 'friends of HPBC' group. There are more people that are not weekly attenders of our church than are. I think it is wonderful that friendship, and being brothers and sisters in Christ binds us together, seeking renewal, increased knowledge, and great company, worshipping and having fun together.

For the first time we did not travel down as a group, our merry little band has diverse starting points and some also decided to have an extended stay, either at Butlins itself or in the local area. SH feels a bit rushed since dropping to only 4 nights and a few extra days make it more like a holiday rather than a rushed break.

The weather was not so kind to us this year, being much colder and wetter than the last few years, it meant we had to be more flexible in our afternoon activities especially when having decided to go swimming, many others decided the same and so we could not get into the pool! But we still had fun.

The seminars and worship sessions were of the same usual high standard, with something appealing to everyone. We were treated to morning bible sessions led by Jeff Lucas (international author, speaker and broadcaster) who gave us great insight blended with funny personal stories. I don't think I have ever laughed so much during bible study sessions! Children were catered for in their groups in the mornings whilst the adults did their own thing and then we met for group devotions after a quick lunch.



These sessions might only be for 15 minutes but they are really the only opportunity we get to be together as a group especially as we don't all worship together on a Sunday. It's good to spend a few minutes in prayer and praise together, especially when the children join in with actions, flag waving and percussion instruments.



After an afternoon of fun and relaxation (or additional seminar for those whose eye was caught by something from the programme) and an early dinner the evening celebrations were upon us, interesting talkers and loud worshipping with 5000 people in the Big Top, quieter more intimate worship in the Alternative venue or interactive, kid accessible, fun and worship in the All Age Celebrations. Then, if you still had some energy left there was a good range of drama, comedy and music in late night sessions or social meet ups in 'The Beachcomber'.



I think everyone had a good time. It was nice that a few of us decided to go half board again, not having to worry about cooking and clearing up and everyone being able to choose something different to eat is great. I think the food standard was good, we did not have to queue and the food definitely seemed less greasy than it used to be and no-one was ill! I do miss the days when we all used to eat together.



If you would like to join us for next year talk to Mandy as soon as you can. We usually stay in Gold Apartments (£225 adult, £205 child). But there are plenty of other options plus an early booking discount if booked before the end of July.

Mandy Edwards

Samson and General Data Protection Regulations...



GDPR
Rules
page 1 of 98

Hello Samson we haven't heard from you for some time?

No Ed, I've been keeping a low profile because of all this fuss over GDPR.

So why are you worried it doesn't affect you?

I was afraid that someone was going ask me to go on the Church Contact List, to use a photo/video that includes me on display boards or other printed media and use my image on the church website, official social media or other digital media?

Well Samson, everyone in the church has been asked to complete the forms because of new legislation so why can't you comply?

Because spiders don't like all this exposure - they just want to quietly crawl round the church frightening old ladies and children then retiring to their own homemade website for some peace and quiet. Isn't that what churches are for?

Phil Slaney

Highams Park Snippets

In the latest edition of 'The Park', the newsletter of the Highams Park Society, there is a reference to the fact that they have been responsible for looking after the Station Garden for over ten years. (well done them). This corresponded with my coming across a publication of the Great Eastern Railway Society (which from a search on the internet seems to be in good health!) which described the suburban lines out of Liverpool Street. These, of course, included the Chingford Line. It is written in the form of a history of the lines and reminiscences of the writer. I think that taking an overall view of the two societies we are led to the belief that the railway was important then and is still very much so today...

There is a description of the service in the 1920's which became known as 'The Jazz'. This had nothing to do with music! The service into and out of Liverpool Street from Chingford and Enfield Town had the reputation of being the most intensive (during peak times) in the world. Therefore it was important that passengers (I do not know if there were commuters then!) would quickly know what class the coaches catered for. It must be remembered that then there were 3 classes - 1st 2nd and 3rd - and to assist identification a coloured line was painted over the coach doors - this touch of colour led to the nickname which seemed to stick.

One part which made me smile was a description of the fact that in steam days the guard was sometimes situated at the front of the train and when there were delays in the service, such as for fog etc, passengers would find their unofficial way into the unattended guards space at the rear of the train. With the coming of the electric trains there was no guard but several times Jacquie and I joined others in the sardine can of the driving cab at the rear!

Both Jacquie and I commuted to the City for many years and by and large the service was reasonable but I have to say neither of us miss it!

DL

Selwyn Avenue School's rebuilding is coming on apace and it seems that they will start transferring pupils into it in June. I even think we are getting used to it...



A New Venue Opens

Many of you will recall those long gone days when a trip to Highams Park lake allowed you to hire a rowing boat to venture onto the water and follow up with refreshments from the little kiosk. Well, the rowing boats seem unlikely to reappear (but who knows?) but the refreshments are back on- this was the letter sent by the Highams Park Planning Group - which includes our very own Phil Slaney:

Dear all,

We are pleased to announce that Humphry's will open as a cafe and community hub in The Highams Park at 11:00 am on Thursday, 26th April.

The name Humphry's was chosen in honour of Humphry Repton who originally landscaped the park and lake. (*ed's note it is also the bicentenary of his death*).

The intention is that the cafe will be open seven days a week from 8:00 am until 6:00 pm and will provide much needed refreshment and toilet facilities for visitors to our beautiful park and lake.

You may ask why HPPG undertook this project. At the launch of HPPG in 2014 a café and toilets in the park was the most popularly expressed wish of local residents. HPPG approached the Council to see if they would agree for the community to take over the unused Council building in the park. After several years of negotiations the Council agreed to give us a ten year lease and in June 2017 planning permission was granted and we started work on the building in earnest. This project was made possible by the support and good offices of the Council and Local Councillors who have supported us all along and granted us £15,000 of seed money through Ward Forum funding.

The actual implementation of the project was achieved with the amazing support of local businesses and volunteers who provided so much of their time, services and goods for free. They have been incredible. This has been a true community project in every sense of the word.



As Phil suggests -
'a new
venue for
the Church
picnic!?'

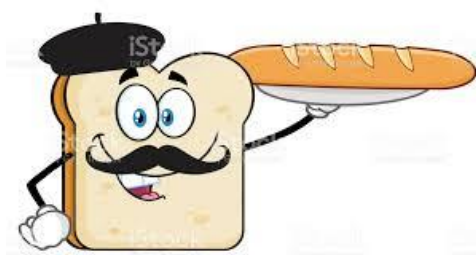
The building in which Humphry's is situated has a mixed past - its original purpose was as an ARP Station during the Second World War and when peace returned became a community centre. This served the estate of 'prefabs' which grew up in the park and provided 'temporary' housing for those people bombed out of their homes - they were built in 1947 and comprised 176 homes. The prefabs (which comes from 'prefabricated' as these homes were made off site in such a form) were deemed not to be suitable for purpose and demolished in the 1960's. The building then became a storage area for then equipment such as tractors and mowers used in the upkeep of the park. When this use ended the windows and doors were blocked off and the building then became derelict.

Ed's note: The building did have one other use at least - it provided a substantial goal to play football against as my children will testify!



Humphry's had considerable use during the recent Friends of Highams Park Spring Festival which took place in the Park on Sunday May 13th.

As before the Uflag Viking re-enactment group were attendance



A Taste of France

As the Farmer's Market no longer comes to us Highams Park Planning Group have arranged for a French Market to come to Highams Park Station Car Park on Sunday 8th July between 10:00am and 4:00pm.

CHURCH DIARY

June

Sunday 3rd	10 am	All Age Service led by Rev. Rosemary Eaton
Sunday 10th	10 am	Boy's Brigade Reunion Morning Service and Communion led by Rev. Rosemary Eaton (17th Pal's Battalion Band will be marching afterwards)
Sunday 17th	10 am	Morning Service led by Rev. Rosemary Eaton
Sunday 24th	10 am	Morning Service and Communion led by Paul Raymond

July

Sunday 1st	10 am	All Age BBGA Service led by Jason Close
Tuesday 3rd	7.30 pm	Churches Together in Highams Park and CARE Highams Park AGM's at HPBC
Sunday 8th	10 am	Morning Service and Communion led by Rev. Rosemary Eaton
Sunday 15th	10 am	Morning Service led by Rev. Rosemary Eaton
Sunday 22nd	10 am	Morning Service and Communion led by Rev. Rosemary Eaton
Sunday 29th	10 am	Morning Service led by Rev. Rosemary Eaton

August

Sunday 5th 10 am Morning Service and Communion
led by Rev. Rosemary Eaton

Sunday 12th 10 am Morning Service
led by Rev. Rosemary Eaton

Note that details are subject to change.

All services and events take place at the Church unless noted.

Refreshments are served after the Morning Service every Sunday.

AN INVITATION

*To all who are weary and need rest
To all who are friendless and desire friendship
To all who believe in God and wish to worship Him
To all who are grateful and would give thanks
To all who hunger for prayer and wish to pray
To all who know sin and need the Saviour
This Church opens wide its doors
And in the name of the Lord Jesus*

WELCOME