

# The Link

Between you and

Hockley and Hawkwell Methodist Church



## Editor's Note

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this first issue in 2016 of The Link.

The deadline for the April/May issue is **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March.**

Please either post items to me, Ron Chidwick, or send by email to:  
[thelink@hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk](mailto:thelink@hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk)

Here is a QR Code link to our Church Web Site.



## Message from the Manse

### Lent 2016

We often joke that the Easter Eggs appear on the shop shelves on Boxing Day, and this year, we'd had major conversations on our proposed Lent Course before we even thought of taking the Christmas decorations down.

As we reflect on Christmas, we had some amazing services over Christmas, and a big thank you to all who came, all who took part and all who helped in pulling these services together. Caroline and I would like to thank you for all your lovely good wishes, cards and gifts. We took a decision this year not to send any cards at all, it still feels a bit strange, but took some pressure off us.

Lent is early this year, with Ash Wednesday being the 10<sup>th</sup> February. Don't forget that this year we are being challenged by Revd Steve Wild to give up alcohol for Lent. At the time of writing this article, I can't find any more information about that, but as soon as I find something, I will make it well known.

Following the successful use of a film during our Lent course last year, we are again offering a film, this time, the film 'The Theory of Everything' about the life of Steven Hawking, starring Eddie Redmayne. The Lent course is entitled – **The Mystery of Everything** and it is written by Hilary Brand, who also wrote the book we used last year – "Finding a Voice."

**Based on the Oscar-winning film 'The Theory of Everything', this course deals with struggles of reason versus faith, the romantic versus the pragmatic, success and failure, the complications of relationships under pressure, and seeking understanding versus living with mystery. Daily readings present the Bible as a book struggling to make sense of life, rather than a book of absolute answers, but finding meaning in the face of mystery via the paradox of humility and trust before God. The course is designed to be studied by groups or individuals alongside the DVD of the movie. The course is based around 5 weekly group sessions entitled:**

**The experience of wonder  
The enigma of weakness  
The complexity of relationships  
The encounter with frailty  
The hope beyond brokenness**

**Each session includes extracts from the DVD, group discussion questions and ends with a short meditation.**

There are also short introductory and follow up chapters for individual reading each week, and a chapter of Bible passages for further daily reading.

We are offering the course on the following days and times:

Christ Church Rayleigh 10am Tuesday mornings.

Rayleigh Methodist 8pm Tuesday evenings.

Rochford Methodist 8pm Wednesday evenings. (Venues to be announced)

Hockley and Hawkwell Methodist 10am Thursday mornings.

There will also be opportunities to watch the whole film (note that the whole film is 2 hours long – there will be a comfort break and drinks and sweets available)

12th February 8pm at Christ Church URC

14th February 4pm at Rayleigh Methodist

The book will be available to purchase at £5.

As we approach Easter keep an eye out for leaflets and posters for our Easter Services, but note that we have an opportunity as 3 churches to share in a Maundy Thursday Service at Hockley at 8pm, various services on Good Friday, breakfasts on Easter Sunday morning, and celebration Easter Sunday Services. Let's have a reflective sober lent and a huge celebration of God's sacrificial love for us at Easter.

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup>, with some staff from C2C, NCP, Samaritans and other Street Pastors, we gave out sweets at Benfleet Station. Apparently Monday 18<sup>th</sup> was Blue Monday, the most depressing day of the year. (I was actually very happy that day!) We certainly brought some cheer into the lives of folk on their way to work as we wished them a Happy Monday, and gave out sweets. What can we do, as we continue to journey through this year, to stay in connection with God, as we share his love out to all who we meet?

Every Blessing and Happy February!

Regards

*Phil Warrey (Rev)*

## Family News

### Welcome

To all who come to our church to join in worship, social events or any of the many regular activities; if you would like a home visit please speak to a church steward.

### Congratulations

To Kay and Michael Deedman who will be celebrating their Diamond (60<sup>th</sup>) Wedding Anniversary on 10<sup>th</sup> March, what a wonderful achievement.

### Bereavement

We continue to hold Ros and her family in our prayers following the recent loss of Ros' mother.

### Illness

Our thoughts and prayers are with all who are unwell or undergoing hospital treatment. Especially we think of Sheila & Michael Hayman, Maureen Blake and Lillian Bains.

### Thank You

Maureen Blake would like to thank everyone for their prayers and good wishes, particularly during her recent three week stay in hospital. She is now back in Ashingdon Hall residential home.

### Remembering Simon Whittock

I would like to ask for your prayers for the family of Simon Whittock, who some of you will remember. Dorothy and Jim Whittock came to this Church in the late 60s to 70s with Simon and I have photos of our Harvest Suppers which Rikki (my son) and I attended. The boys grew up together in Cubs etc., and have kept this friendship.

Last year in May Simon was diagnosed with a brain tumour. He had an operation, but was told it could come back. In December he tried to go back to work, but it did not go as planned; he is now having further treatment. Simon married Nicola in March 1999, and they have two daughters, Lucy 15 this January and Anna 12 in August. Simon will be 50 in February.

Pray he can be helped. Thank you.

**June Waterfield.**

*Please let me know of any prayer request, special birthday, wedding anniversary etc. so that it can be included in our magazine.*

## What's coming Up?

Christmas has come and gone, so now we must look forward to 2016. January and February are relatively quiet months.

The band is playing on 7<sup>th</sup> February. This will be All Age Worship. The Gospel Rocks choir is also visiting that day, so it looks like it will be a musical extravaganza. Put the date in your diary and bring your friends!!

Our Superintendent, Rev Peter Moorhouse, is planned for Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February and morning worship will include Communion. We have also booked him for our Church Anniversary which will be on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June.

The first Sunday in Lent is 14<sup>th</sup> February. Following on from the success of The King's Speech last year, there will be a five week Lent course called The Mystery of Everything, based on the film The Theory of Everything, a film about the early life of Stephen Hawking. The course will be on a Thursday morning, starting with coffee at 10am on 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> February, then the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March. There will also be two opportunities to see the whole film, dates to be confirmed.

There will be No Messy Holiday Club on the Thursday of half term week, (18<sup>th</sup> February) as on this occasion Messy Church and half term coincides. We cannot resource and run the two events in the same week. Messy Church will be on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February in its normal slot.

The Palm Sunday Eggstravaganza on 20<sup>th</sup> March will be led this year by Sue Hockett, who led the service in the summer, when the Boys Brigade from Scotland visited us. It is our turn to host the Maundy Thursday service for our section, (Rochford, Rayleigh and Hockley) which is 24<sup>th</sup> March at 8pm. Church Council will decide on 9<sup>th</sup> February whether there will be a Good Friday service at 3pm as last year. There will be no early morning communion on Easter Day this year. There **will** be a breakfast with Phil leading **a Communion service which will commence at 10am.** Carolyn will bring the service to a conclusion as Phil needs to be at Rayleigh for 11am.

Advance warning! There will be two important meetings for everyone, member or friend, one of which I have mentioned elsewhere in the magazine, the AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> March. The other is a Worship Consultation on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May after Morning Worship at 11.30am and will include lunch. Also Rev Hannah Bucke has been invited for Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April.

**Muriel**

Co-ordinating steward

## Help at Last!!

Ever since Phil became our minister back in 2012, it has been clear that help with the paperwork and general admin was desirable and then essential. Phil is very involved with all we do, especially the work with young people and families. We can only just cover the leading of these groups, so we have needed his help. It was with great joy that we received a donation to cover the cost of employing an administrator for two years.

Getting this organised was not easy, and required a fair amount of admin in itself. All the details of the appointment had to go to the District and be approved before we could go ahead but eventually at the end of November, there were interviews and Holly Byford was appointed Hockley Administrator for four hours a week for two years. She started on January 4<sup>th</sup> and she is at present going through an induction process, whereby she and we are working towards make the best use of her time and skills. There is a six months probationary period.

Her job description covers things such as assisting the minister in the daily responsibilities of running the church, (maintaining records, writing letters, liaising with contractors etc), supporting the lettings officer, those involved with electronic communications and social media, taking and circulating minutes of meetings if required and producing, copying and enlarging notices, booklets, leaflets and posters as requested. There is a management committee for Holly, composed of the minister, co-ordinating steward and church council secretary. For the time being all work for Holly must go through the minister or co-ordinating steward. Holly is known to us all and we welcome her into this new role as a support to all the work we do in our church.

Although the appointment of Holly will go some way to sharing the responsibilities there is still much to do, and to that end the stewards have been looking at a new working structure for our church. Many churches have changed how they are managed in the light of current practices and numbers of ministers and members. Please make a date in your diary for the Annual Church Meeting, which is on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> March from 10am and will include lunch. This is where we need to explain and discuss how we see the future running of Hockley Methodists and the part that each of us can play in its upkeep and growth.

**Muriel**  
Co-ordinating Steward

## New Church Logo and Revised Notices

You've probably noticed that the last few weeks' Notices have had a new logo and layout. There's a black and white version below.

Billy has designed a logo which, if it proves acceptable, would be used on posters, leaflets, etc. and perhaps as a letterhead. It's based on two "H"s, one on top of the other creating the outline of a cross. Different letter fonts from what we've had in the past have been used.

There are coloured variations as well as the basic, black and white version. We are also working on a photo montage to use on the website, in The Link and on other documents, making use of the photos taken before Christmas.

If you have any comments on the logo or the revisions to the Notices please speak to Billy, Mike or one of the Stewards.



## Flower Rota

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Kay Deedman	202802
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Carolyn Sturgess	203964
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Anne Sains	202010
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Linda Williams	204309
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Linda Clarke	204559



## Weather Report 2015

Rather a strange year, in effect, a year of two halves. The first six months were quite kind, with temperatures above average, more sunshine than usual and less rain. March, April and June were each particularly sunny, with June being the sunniest since 2006. January and February were certainly cold at times with night temperatures below freezing with just one modest fall of snow (3mm) on 30 January but the daytime temperature always reached at least 3°C March; April and June were dry months with just 58mm of rain as against the average 129mm; in fact the longest period in the year without rain (14 days) occurred at the beginning of March.

After June it was all a bit downhill. July started well with the hottest day (29°C) of the year on 1 July, and the month stayed fairly warm although sunshine was in rather short supply from mid July onwards and throughout August. Rainfall was about average for those two months although 19 August was the wettest day of the year (19mm). September was wet and cold. October was dry but not very sunny. Interestingly November and December were not especially sunny but each month was the warmest I've yet recorded over the last 29 years. Indeed December was almost twice as warm as normal, misleading spring flowers into making an unusually early appearance.

To sum up then, 2015 was as sunny as average, drier than average and warmer than average.

*Michael Deedman*

## Fairtrade Fortnight

Fairtrade fortnight this year falls between **29 February and 13 March**. As a church we are signed up to Fairtrade and so we are asked to bear this in mind as we shop, particularly during those two weeks. The organisation is shining a light on the scandal that despite working hard to grow the food we eat every day, many farmers and workers in developing countries don't earn enough to know where their families' next meal is coming from. Fairtrade works to change all this, and where producers are able to sell enough of their produce on Fairtrade terms, it can make a life-changing difference. Fairtrade now reaches 1.5 million farmers and workers across the globe. However with 795 million people undernourished globally, and many in farming communities, there is still a long way to go.

It is hoped to have a display at church during Fairtrade Fortnight of some of the Fairtrade goods now available and to inspire you on your next shopping trip.

*Kay Deedman*

## Thursday Social Club

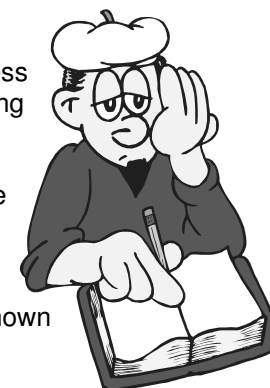
Meeting on Thursday 19th November we had a most interesting talk by Colin Gabell on his work as a volunteer chaplain at Chelmsford Prison. He told us that there are 720 prisoners in Chelmsford Prison where he assists the prison chaplain. It is a requirement for all prisoners to see a chaplain within 24 hours of arrival. He is supported in turn by a church group based in Southend. Prisoners have a variety of concerns on arrival, often about their families.

The use of drugs is widespread and a problem for the prison officers in trying to maintain some control over the situation. We were impressed however by the steps taken to try to provide recreation facilities and useful vocational training so that inmates might have a better chance of finding employment on release.

We were surprised to hear that prisoners rarely spend all their time in one prison and there is constant movement. Release is a problem in itself when prisoners come to the end of their term and find themselves outside again but without money, job or accommodation; although there are separate voluntary organisations that can provide help in those situations. This was a very interesting talk revealing the incredible work taken on by our prison chaplains.

On Thursday 3rd December we had a change to our programme with a quiz presented by Ray Williams held at our church. We were low on numbers but we were still able to field two five-a-side teams. There were four rounds of questions which included recent news stories, the Queen and Essex. How good are you at quizzes? Here are a few questions with answers shown later in the magazine.

1. Where in Essex is the Secret Nuclear Bunker?
2. In 1952, in which country was the young Princess Elizabeth when she heard of the death of her father King George VI?
3. Beginning with the letter "C" what was the name of the 70 mph wind that battered the UK at the end of last year.
4. Due to a conflict of interests Lord Sebastian Coe stepped down as an ambassador for which well known sporting company.



On Thursday 17th December we met at the home of Stan and Joyce Rae for an evening of Carols by Candlelight. Peter Bennett kindly played the organ for us as we sang Christmas Carols and gave some Christmas readings. No Christmas cracker jokes this year but many tales that brought home to us the true meaning

of Christmas. We all took turns in sharing our Christmas stories and poems and joined together in singing well known Christmas carols. Mince pies and sausage rolls and cups of tea and coffee made for a most enjoyable evening.

Into a new year and on Thursday 7th January we met at the church for a talk by Jenny Routledge on her visit to Mount Kilimanjaro. Jenny is a third year student at Middlesex University and together with a small group of fellow students took a trip to Africa which included the climbing of Mount Kilimanjaro. Funds had to be raised for the trip and this was achieved over many months of fundraising events.

On arriving at base camp the climbing party was assigned to its group leaders and porters who would accompany them on the arduous ascent. It was a five day climb through various terrains ranging from deep forest, rocky paths and then becoming more barren and airless as they climbed nearer to the summit. Apart from the hazards of the climb other dangers were encountered as a group of blue monkeys crept into the camp and stole all the group's lunch their third day of ascent. A few of the party had to abandon the climb due to health problems and were escorted back down to base camp. On the fifth day the summit was reached and the entire group were congratulated on their achievement. Due to the diminishing daylight only fifteen minutes were allowed at the top before the long descent back to base camp. A thoroughly pleased but exhausted group finally reached base camp and received their well deserved certificates of achievement.

Jenny's trip to Africa did not end there as they then spent some time at a local school teaching young Swahili children English. After all the hard work it was now time to relax as they went on a five day safari where buffaloes, elephants and leopards were spotted. Thank you Jenny for an interesting and enlightening talk.

*Ray Williams*

### **Congratulations to Georgina Elkington**

This young lady has earned a Jack Petchey medal and certificate; these Awards are given to young people who make a wholehearted, unselfish and dedicated contribution to Guiding.

Well done, Georgina.



## 2016 PROGRAMME

Here's the programme for 2016 – we thought we'd have a "Retro" year, going back and doing some of the walks we've enjoyed over the years. There's another mid-week walk in August during the School Holidays, linked to the Messy Holiday Club but it isn't just for children! Come along! And there are also a couple of other mid-week walks especially, but not exclusively for retired members.

### PLEASE PUT THE DATES IN YOUR DIARY

These details are also on the Church Calendar at

<http://www.hockleyhawkwelldist.org.uk/>

#### Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March - Pagglesham - 5 miles.

Easter Monday Bank Holiday

Start at the Plough & Sail for lunch then walk round the creek and past Church End. Leave Church Car Park at 11:30am to get there in good time for lunch

#### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April - Hockley Woods & Edwards Hall - 5 miles

Start at The Bull with a pub lunch at noon. Walk through the Woods to Edwards Hall and back

#### Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May - Woodbridge

Spring Bank Holiday

Another visit to the Cogars; pub lunch and walk then tea chez Cogar. Details later, probably leave the Church Car Park mid-morning

#### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June - Canewdon – 5 miles

Start with a pub lunch at The Anchor in Canewdon, then walk down to and alongside the Crouch and back via the Church. Leave Church Car Park at 11.30am.

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July - Hadleigh Castle Country Park – 5 miles** Start at the Country Park Car Park though the country park and back via the Castle. Leave the Church Car Park at 11:00am. Bring sandwiches.

#### Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August - Messy Holiday Walk

Family Walk & Picnic Lunch Hockley Woods. Coffee Morning and Activities at Church at 10.00am, followed by a short buggy-friendly stroll Through the Woods starting at 11.00am and picnic in the playground Around 12 noon. In the Hall if it's wet.

#### Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August - Danbury - 5½ miles

Danbury Country Park, Blakes Wood & Lingwood Common. Leave Church Car park 10:30am. Bring Sandwiches

#### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September - Hockley - 4½ miles

A short afternoon walk round Hockley and Hawkwell starting and finishing at 36 Orchard Avenue. Leave at 2:30pm.

#### Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October - Pleshey - 5½ miles

Valley walk taking in Pleshey and its Norman Castle mound. Leave Church Car Park 10:30am. Stop in Pleshey for a pub lunch

Please make sure you have sturdy walking shoes (not "fashionable" trainers) or boots, plus waterproofs and something warm to wear. Always bring something to drink. All these walks are fairly straightforward but any activity like rambling (even the inactive variety!) needs care so please watch what you're doing and keep an eye on any young people.

Contact Mike or Mu Pregnall on 01702 204748

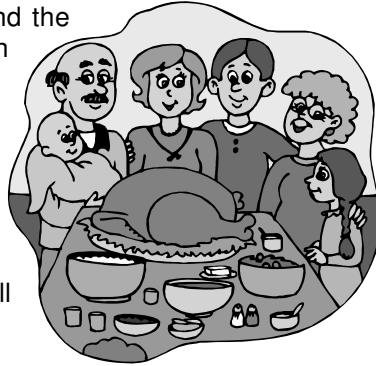
or e-mail [mumic@pregnall.freemove.co.uk](mailto:mumic@pregnall.freemove.co.uk)

if you want further details of any of these walks or need a lift.



## All for a Christmas Dinner

It has become an annual feature for me to attend the Thames Valley section of the Tricycle Association Christmas Dinner at the Milton Keynes Youth Hostel. Usually this means getting lost in Milton Keynes so this year I spent hours poring over Google maps of the area and planning a new shorter route to Milton Keynes or so I hoped. The journey would take me through some very rural and nice areas of Essex, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire. It is good to know that we still have lots of open countryside left.



So on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015 I got up at 05.30 and left home at 06.00, the morning was surprisingly mild and I had dressed for cold weather so felt rather warm.

From Hockley I went to Wickford then round the lanes climbing Downham Church Hill that gets the lungs working nicely! Past Billericay Station, feeling sorry for early morning commuters, then to Mountnessing passing a van in the ditch; some people had stopped to help so I carried on. Blackmore looked as picturesque as normal with the green and the duck pond.

Then it was past the Norton Heath café - with great willpower I did not stop as it was too early for Breakfast. The lanes route to Willingale is always nice and has lots of bends to make sure you watch the road and camber, very important when riding a trike. Following the Fyfield to Ongar Road for a short distance I turned off going via Abbes Roding to White Roding then along the A1060 (old A414) to stop at Hatfield Heath for Breakfast, time taken 2 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hours.

The cafe is very good and cyclist friendly; they serve a very filling meal and after 45 minutes or so I was on my way again. Initially heading towards Bishops Stortford then tuning off up Pig Lane, left and right and around the outskirts of Bishops Stortford and onto the B1004 to Ware via Much Hadam; this was only 12 miles but was very hilly and seemed hard going.

From Ware I took the A1170 to Hertford, where after asking directions, I found my route to Welwyn, this was about 11 miles and went fairly quickly. After Welwyn I was taking a lanes route which was a bit hard to find but with careful navigation and avoiding small floods and various potholes I got to Wheathampstead ok.

I followed the B653 to Marshalls Heath and then tuned left onto a narrow lane to A1081 to Harpenden. This was good fun as it developed into a really steep climb and I pulled over a couple of times to allow motor vehicles to get past. Soon I

emerged onto the main road and it was all downhill into Harpenden, where I had planned to stop for dinner. Unfortunately the pub I had used before had now gone upmarket and was not suitable. Luckily there was another one a little way back which was very busy but still found me a table straight away; a ramblers club was having their Christmas Meal. I had a very nice curry and a chocolate brownie for afters and I was so thirsty I drank two pints of orange juice and lemonade.

Feeling rather full I was glad of traffic delays as I followed the A1081 towards Luton. I then turned off and took the B4540 to Markyate and then a nice lanes route from the High Street to Whippsnade. Climbing up past the Zoo was quite hard; the view at the top was fantastic with what looked like a flat plain for miles. The descent down Bison Hill was exhilarating with some very interesting corners, the car following dropped back! I then followed the A4146 hoping to turn off at Stoke Hammond to take the lanes to Milton Keynes.

Unfortunately my old map did not take into account road changes and it was not possible to turn off. It was now dark and raining quite hard and there was lots of fast traffic, fortunately it was all dual carriage way. I stopped and used my gps to check the route. I had to use the main road for longer than I liked but was able to turn off to Newton Longville and Bletchley. In Bletchley I went the long way round as a result of advice of a local but was soon back on route.

I then followed Grafton Street and the turn off to the Youth Hostel should have been easy to find but I still missed it arriving at the A5. I remembered that the first time I rode to the hostel I came from the A5 so turned around and the area where the hostel is soon showed up on the sign posts. I turned off and used the cycle routes to get to the youth hostel arriving at 6pm. This gave me time to have a shower and change into dry clothes and sit down with my friends to eat. The meal was really good; we started with soup, then roast chicken pieces with all the trimmings and Christmas pudding with custard. This was followed by cheese and biscuits; although I was hungry, by this stage I was beginning to feel rather full. We were then served coffee and mince pies.

Surprisingly none of us went to sleep during the Slide Show put on by Chris the organiser of the dinner. It was very good with some trike touring in the UK, some rambling, classic cars shows and Morgan car shows. Chris now owns a Morgan. The slide show allowed me to digest the meal and I retired to bed about 11pm, all the male attendees staying overnight were in the same dormitory.

Next morning our cooked breakfast was served at 8am and by 9am I was on route home. The weather was much nicer but still very warm for December. I was soon out of Milton Keynes and into the lanes. Unfortunately I missed my turn and had to seek directions from some friendly locals but the route was an improvement on the A4146 and I went via Wing and the A418 and was soon back on the A4146. I took a different route to the bottom of Bison Hill up to Whippsnade Zoo, there must have been a cycle hill limb race up it recently as there was a special road



sign warning of cyclist for 500 yards and a start line marked on the road. I engaged bottom gear and rode up, glad I was on three wheels, no need to balance, soon I was round the three bends and after crossing the finish line crested the hill. Regaining my breath I enjoyed the downhill section to my turn off for Markyate. Crossing the A5 I turned off along the B4540 to head back along the outward route to Harpenden and then stopped at Wheathampstead.

I stopped there for my food break, still feeling full from the day before I had an omelette with a scone to follow. I got a bit lost in Welwyn but soon regained my route; a short cut over the railway crossing got me to Ware quickly. The route from Ware to Bishops Stortford seemed easier coming back than going and I was soon back at the cafe at Hatfield Heath arriving about 4.15 pm. The waitress recognised me and was suitably impressed by my mileage over 2 days. I had a prawn sandwich with seafood sauce, it came with salad and crisps and was very filling, and a pot of tea with it meant I did not need anything else to eat.

It was really nice to turn off the main road at White Roding and follow the lanes back to Willingale, Blackmore and Mountnessing. There was hardly any traffic and my hub dynamo and LED front light really lit up the road.

It was a little busy in Wickford; it seemed hard going as I was starting to feel a bit shattered, but several sips of energy drink later, I arrived home at 7.45 pm. A Chinese takeaway after my shower was a nice end to the day's ride.

Mileage about 130 each way I think, 260 roughly in total.

**Ian Mackenzie**



## Christmas Cracker Jokes

Christmas cracker jokes are a fundamental element of British culture and their quality has remained consistently awful for many years. Here's a selection from the last couple of years:

1. What do you call a cat in the desert?  
Sandy Claws
2. What lies in a pram and wobbles?  
A Jelly Baby
3. Where does Tarzan buy his clothes? At a jungle sale
4. What kind of sandals do frogs wear?  
Open toad
5. Why did Scrooge buy everybody a budgie for Christmas?  
Because they were going cheep
6. What did Adam tell his girlfriend on 24th December?  
Happy Christmas, Eve
7. Why did the baker get an electric shock?  
Because he stood on a bun and a currant ran up his leg
8. Where do spiders play football?  
Webly
9. What do you serve but never eat?  
A tennis ball
10. How do you keep cool at a football match?  
Stand next to a fan

Ah – there's no joke like a bad joke!!

**Mike Pregnall**



## Reminder to put your clocks on by one hour

### British Summer Time

The clocks will go forward on **March 27th**.  
(Easter Day) Don't forget to change yours!



## Ten Reasons Why I Never Wash

Allegedly written by a parish priest in Dublin, Ireland who got tired of listening to the same old excuses from people who don't attend church

1. I was forced to wash as a child
2. People who wash are hypocrites. They think they are cleaner than everyone else
3. There are so many different kinds of soap. I could never decide which one was right
4. I used to wash, but it got boring so I stopped
5. I wash only on special occasions, like Easter and Christmas
6. None of my friends wash
7. I'm still young. When I'm older and have gotten a bit dirtier I might start washing
8. I really don't have time to wash
9. The bathroom is never warm enough in the winter or cool enough in the summer
10. People who make soap are only after your money.

## Ecumenical Meal

For each of the past three years members of St. Teresa's Church at Rochford have invited other churches in Rochford, Hawkwell and Hockley to join them for a meal at the Antica Roma Italian restaurant. This year 55 members from other churches had a very enjoyable evening together.

The night was cold and frosty but the atmosphere inside the restaurant was warm and friendly and the six of us from Hockley Methodist Church were made very welcome. The food was pretty good too, with a wide choice of menu and something to suit all tastes.

It is hoped to repeat the event next year - so bear it in mind when the time comes. In the meantime members of St. Peter & St. Paul have invited our congregation to tea on Saturday, 28 May, so do put this date in your diary now.

*Kay Deedman*

## Pancake Day

Pancake Day or Shrove Tuesday enables people to show off their pancake making skills and this year it takes place on February 9<sup>th</sup>. It always falls between February 2<sup>nd</sup> and March 9<sup>th</sup> depending on the date for Easter and is always the day before the start of Lent or Ash Wednesday. Can you toss a pancake?



## Mothering Sunday

Mothering Sunday is celebrated on the fourth Sunday in Lent, and this year it falls on 6<sup>th</sup> March. Mothering Sunday has been observed for about 400 years and is believed to have started in Britain. Young people working away from home were given a day off work to go back home to their 'Mother Church' where they were baptised and to see their family. They would take home small gifts and flowers for the celebration. The Simnel cake, a rich fruit cake made with marzipan, is traditionally baked on Mothering Sunday. Over the years Mothering Sunday has been commercialised but people still continue to repeat the celebration of motherhood.

# HEALING AT THE CROSS

We know when Jesus was crucified  
Upon the wooden cross,  
Our every sin was laid upon Him  
All for loving the lost

And we know that when He rose again,  
He conquered death and hell  
Through His resurrection we have  
Eternal life as well

For this we praise our gracious Lord  
And thank Him for His love,  
For we could never have had this hope  
If it wasn't for His spilled blood

But we can know His resurrection power,  
Right now, while we are here,  
For we can come to the cross of Christ  
And lay down our burdens there

For everything that may hold us back,  
The hurts from yesterday,  
At the foot of the cross we lay it down  
And then just walk away

For I believe that there is healing  
At the cross of Christ  
We do not need to carry these loads,  
For they've all been crucified

Receive from Jesus the healing you need  
For your spirit, body and soul  
Then you can arise, freed from your past  
To walk completely whole

For what He accomplished on the cross  
Goes on into eternity,  
Just reach out your hand and He will too  
And receive His victory.

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(Conditional Permission Granted)

## **Anagrams of Easter Hymns – can you solve them?**

1. **FRAILS YEARN HEALTHIER WAGE**
2. **HOI GREEN VALLEY THAW**
3. **HOLY BETTING HERE**
4. **CHILDS STORIES DITHER ON TRAY**
5. **WOLVING MONKEYS ON SUN**
6. **FEELY CHAMP HEAVES A REBEL MOON BUS**

(Answers in next issue of the Link)

## **Answers to questions by Ray Williams**

1. **Kelvedon Hatch (near Brentwood)**
2. **Kenya**
3. **Clodagh**
4. **Nike**



**Details of Easter services will be given on the weekly notice sheet and church website.**

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## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

<b>SUN</b> Morning Worship	10.30 am
Children's activities every Sunday	10.20 am
<b>MON</b> Brightstars Parent & Toddler Group	9.30 – 11.45 am
contact Linda S 204309	
Ballroom Sequence Dancing: IN THE HALL	7.30 – 10.00 pm
contact Fay 01268 780028	
Triple H Community Choir: IN CHURCH	7.30 – 9.30 pm
contact Ashley 07581390448	
<b>TUE</b> Dru Yoga Class: contact Ruth on 07818599183	10.00 – 11.30 am
	& 7.30 – 9.00 pm
Hockley Ladies Keep Fit Club:	12.00 – 1.00 pm
contact Roselle 07709349695	
Messy Church (3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month)	4.00 – 5.30 pm
Contact Anne S 202010	
<b>WED</b> 50+ Keep Fit: contact Julie 07912622483	10.30 – 11.30 am
50+ Stretch & Tone: contact Julie 07912622483	11.45 – 12.30 pm
Dru Yoga Class: contact Ruth on 07818599183	2.00 – 3.30 pm
Bible Study followed by a Communion Service 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed.,	3.00 – 4.00 pm
contact Anne S 202010	
2nd Hockley Brownie Pack: contact Vivienne S 204550	5.30 – 7.00 pm
Badminton Club: contact Wendy S 200484	7.30 – 9.30 pm
Gospel Rocks Choir (in Church)	8.00 – 10.00 pm
Contact: Hannah Conacher <a href="mailto:gospelrocksc@gmail.com">gospelrocksc@gmail.com</a>	
<b>THU</b> PIYO [Pilate /yoga contact Rachel Yates 07990513413	9.30 – 10.30 am
U3A Floral Art Group, contact Irene 202975, last Thursday	1.30 – 4.30 pm
1st Hockley Beaver Colony: contact Jane S 203739	5.15 – 6.15 pm
1st Hockley Cub Scout Pack contact Dan, 07802 193936	6.30 – 8.00 pm
or email <a href="mailto:Hockleycubs@yahoo.co.uk">Hockleycubs@yahoo.co.uk</a>	
Thursday Social Club: contact Joyce S 201635	8.00pm, alternate weeks
<b>FRI</b> Pilates, contact Tracy Bateman, contact 07916954966	9.15 – 10.45 am
Friday Club (years 3-7) contact Wendy S 200484	6.00 – 7.30 pm
Friday Club + (years 7 & upwards)	6.45 – 8.15 pm
Contact Rev Phil Warrey 01268 770333	

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**Minister:** Revd. Phillip Warrey    **Tel:** 01268 770333    **Mobile:** 07917077785  
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**Web:** [www.hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk](http://www.hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk)