

The Link

Between you and the Church



Editors Note

My thanks to all contributors of this copy of The Link. The deadline for the December/January Christmas issue is Monday November 19th, I look forward to your contribution.

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



Message from the Manse

Hi, Just a quick message this month as we enter a new Methodist Year. It always seems strange to talk about a year starting in September but it is no different to the Tax year starting when it does. It's not the actual date that we are celebrating when it comes to anniversaries; it is the time line itself.

It always seems strange to me when New Year celebrations come around. Now we have access to most places on earth in an instant, you can see the fireworks in Australia and then in London but it is all at different times. The business of travel round the earth is fascinating; in that travelling by plane the wrong way, you can just about lose a day of your life. I love the film, 'Back to the Future' where our hero travels back in time and is able to engage with his family and even himself. It gets really complicated when he uses the time machine to try to prevent his best friend from being killed by terrorists. It takes a bit of juggling with the time machine but of course he manages to do it in time. I have to say that I got really confused when they made a sequel!

I guess we have to be content with the time in which we live, although it is good to dream about time travel with all its possibilities.

The thing about time is how quickly it goes and that is more of a concern. It hardly seems possible that I have been here for over a year and in that time I wonder what we have achieved. But our task is not to look back, but to look and move forward in our faith, helping ourselves and others grow from day to day, worrying not what we have done, there isn't time for that, it is about what is to come being more important than what has been.

Every Blessing

Steve

Church Family

Our prayerful thoughts are with Stan and his family, and those who are unwell: Linda Williams, Arthur Waterfield, Colin Sains, Kay Deedman, Vivienne Mackenzie, Ron Holloway, Eunice Burge, Sheila Hayman and all their families.

Thanks

Stan and his family are most grateful to all who gave donations to Arthritis Research UK in memory of dear Joyce. A grand total of £1,170 was given to the charity.

Congratulations.....Jean Hodges celebrated her 100th birthday on Saturday 22nd September. We hope to give an account of her special day in the next Link.

From the Worship Team

Harvest 14th October

This will be a parade service and All Age Worship. The theme this year is The Sun, taken from the All We Can campaign in Malawi to provide solar panels so that land can be irrigated and become more productive, improving the life of those who have no means of supporting themselves. All We Can envelopes will be given out and there will be a special collecting box for them. We will be asking the children to bring dried and tinned goods to form the usual display. **On Saturday, 13th October**, please can you bring fruit, vegetables, flowers, branches with berries etc in sun colours [red, yellow, orange] to decorate the four window sills that will not be done by the organisations. I have asked Matthew Forsyth from All We Can to come back in the New Year.

News from the Circuit

We will not be seeing as much of Rev Brian Gameson in the future because he is only going to take preaching appointments in the area in the eastern part of the Circuit, closest to his home. This is because of the continued ill health of his wife Christine. Rev Hannah Bucke will be leaving the Circuit and the town centre ministry next July, to take up a post as Chaplain to an army medical corps. She feels that this is what she is being called to do. Rev Peter Moorhouse reported that there is a group of volunteers ready to take on the work she has been doing. Hannah is coming to lead worship at Hockley on the 23rd December, so put it in your diary now. I will also see if I can arrange another date for her to come to Hockley before she moves on.

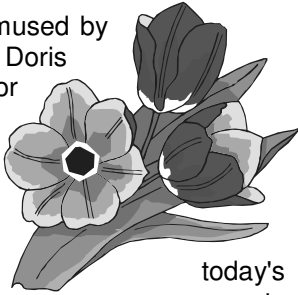
Reporting Back

In May, there was a discussion at the end of the morning service about how Worship might develop to cater for all sections of our community. As a result, the Worship Team will be bringing proposals to the Leadership team and subsequently Church Council. The first is that on any fifth Sunday of the month [there are about four each year] there would be an earlier morning service which would be a full communion – just communion, with no sermon, [suggested time 9.30am]. Then in the afternoon, [suggested time about 4.30pm to 5:00pm] there would be a café style service, where we enjoy singing together and learn new songs. This may involve the band and it would probably be a “bring and share” type of afternoon tea. One of the other suggestions was that there are Bible “days” when a whole range of age related Bible - based activities are planned on the same theme and we can all share in these together. These would take time to organise and might only be once or twice a year. The proposals need to be approved and the details thrashed out so watch this space.

Muriel and the Worship team

Flower Power

When I joined the church, many years ago, I was much amused by the number of Deedmans on the flower rota. There was Doris (Michael's mother), Alice (who also played the organ for morning service) and Kathleen (evening organist). With Kathleen Cross these four ladies did the flower arrangements in turn for Sunday services using a wide variety of flowers mostly grown in their own gardens. All four had husbands who were very keen gardeners and plantsmen. The gardens were quite large compared with **standard and I remember thinking as I looked at the** today's arrangements that I must ask 'What flowers have they used today?' Thanks are due to everyone who has done the flowers over the years.



At the beginning of this year there were five names on the flower rota. Alas, for a variety of reasons we are down to two - Linda Clark and me. I do the first two weeks of the month, Linda the third and fourth Sunday. I feel it's good to have flowers on show, partly tradition and partly because it's good to have something appropriate to look at when we hear words from Genesis or sing hymns such as 'For the Beauty of the Earth' or 'Picture a World without any Flowers', a reminder of God's creation. We are collecting dried flowers, such as statice, to use whenever one of us is away or on the fifth Sunday of the month. We shall endeavour to have flowers Sunday by Sunday but if on occasions there is nothing to see, I'm sure you will understand.

Kay Deedman

Coffee Rota

October	November
7 th Kath	4 th Kath
14 th June & John	11 th June & John
21 st Di & June	18 th Di & June
28 th Kay & Michael	25 th Kay & Michael



Ecumenical News

Most of you will have heard that Emmanuel Church has a new Priest-in-Charge, Revd. Mark Rowan. Michael, as Church Council secretary, wrote a letter of welcome on behalf of our church hoping that there will be "opportunities to share in mission or fellowship in the future". Mark's encouraging reply is published on the opposite page.

A new minister, Rev Gillian Thomson, has also been appointed to the Bramerton Road church, and we shall similarly be welcoming her to Hockley.

For some years we have shared Harvest Supper with friends from St Peter and St Paul. This year it falls to them to host the event on 6 October. As they have no church hall it is held at the 55 Plus Centre by Hockley Library. There is a list for names at the back of the church and a space to tick if you need a lift. We greatly enjoy these evenings together.

You may have seen the report from this year's Methodist Conference that further work is to be undertaken on proposals for bringing the Methodist Church and the Church of England into closer communion, with the aim of "taking down the barriers between us without weakening the boundaries that give our two Churches their distinctive shape and their distinctive life in the family of faith".

Kay Deedman

This a True Story

In class teacher asked pupils to draw a picture to confirm their understanding of a topic being taught - Division or sharing.

Going around the room to observe and discuss their work one boy was asked about his drawing. "It's wafers for the Africans" he explained.

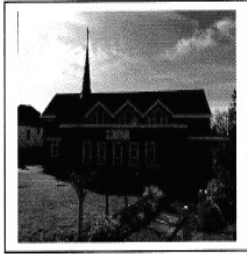
"Wafers for the Africans?" queried the teacher, looking a little puzzled.

The support assistant whispered "They've just come from an RE lesson and have been learning about communion. He means the communion wafers."

The teacher was still puzzled and repeated "Communion wafers for the Africans?"

The support worker looked up and again whispered "No. Not for the Africans he means the ANGLICANS!"

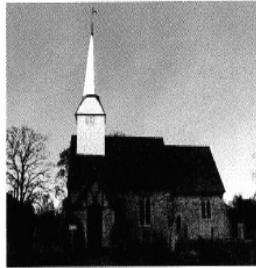
The pupil earned himself a merit mark, not necessarily for his work but for making his teacher chuckle.



Emmanuel – Main Road SS5 4NR

The Parish of Hawkwell St. Mary's Church & Emmanuel Church

Rev'd Nick Rowan
Priest in Charge



St. Mary's – Rectory Road SS5 4LL

7th August 2018

Dear Michael,

Thank you so much for your letter of welcome.

I have now started at St Mary's and Emmanuel after a licencing service with the Bishop of Bradwell on Monday 30th July. I have had a great first week, and am gradually getting to know the people at St Mary's and Emmanuel. I also look forward to meeting you. I am sure there must be areas where we can work more effectively together as God's church to share his love with our wider community.

Please do pass on my thanks and best wishes to all brothers and sisters at Hockley and Hawkwell Methodist Church.

Yours in Christ.

Nick Rowan

The Methodist Church
3GENERATE
CHILDREN & YOUTH ASSEMBLY
www.methodist.org.uk/1000letters

1000letters

Letters from one generation to another

The purpose of the letter is to help children and young people feel connected to, and part of, the wider body of the Church; to feel part of the big Methodist family!

The letter you write will be displayed at 3Generate to be read by children and young people aged 8-23. If your letter is written particularly for younger children, or the older attendees, then please make a note of that when you post it to us. Otherwise, you can write a general letter aimed at all ages. Aim for about one side of A4. Can you write a letter of encouragement to one of around 1,000 young people who will attend 3Generate this November? A letter to help them be **courageous in their faith** by sharing an experience of your own.

Include something personal about your faith that might be interesting for the children and young people to hear about, maybe something about your experiences of being part of a church/faith community, perhaps when you were younger.

Please make sure that the language you use and the stories you refer to are appropriate for the age group. A handwritten letter is more personal, but if you need to type it that's fine too! But please **don't** put your surname, address, or any personal contact details, on the letter. Ideally your letter should be one side of A4.

Where do I send it to? To: 3Generate 1000 Letters, 6th Floor, Methodist Church House, 25 Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5JR. Send it at any time, but please make sure it arrives by the end of October. Any queries email: strachans@methodistchurch.org.uk If you'd prefer to email your letter, please send it to: 3generate@methodistchurch.org.uk



HARP's Harvest Wish List:

We urgently need:

UHT Milk, Coffee, Sugar, Fruit squash, Cans and cartons of soft drinks Tinned meat (spam, corned beef, ham), Cooking sauces e.g. curry and chilli, Marmite and peanut butter, tinned meals e.g. curry and chilli and snack chocolate bars

We can definitely make use of:

Cooking oil, Tinned veg, 1ltr cartons of fruit juice, tinned new potatoes, instant mashed potatoes, biscuits, ground pepper, herbs & spices, mayo, ketchup, brown and BBQ sauce, jars of sandwich fillings and paste, tinned hot dogs and meatballs, pasta and instant noodle sachets, pasta bake sauces, rice pudding, Fray Bentos meat pies and puddings, breakfast cereals, microwave sponge puddings, multipacks of small packs of crisps, instant gravy and stuffing, tinned fruit, microwave rice, tinned fish, batter, dumpling and crumble mix, powdered milk, large bottles of fizzy drinks, custard, sultanas and other dried fruit, evaporated milk, jam and baked beans.

Please note, we have plenty of tea bags, soup, pasta, cup-a-soup, plain flour, rice, and marmalade at this time

On behalf of all the local homeless people who use our services, thank you for your support. Your donations really do make a huge difference. Receiving a nutritious meal after a period of homelessness can be a life changing first step towards recovery. Thank you for helping local people overcome homelessness for good. If you would like to make a £3 one off donation to support our Harvest Appeal, just text **MEAL28** £3 to **70070**.

For further information go to www.harpsouthend.org.uk, phone **01702 415 834** or e-mail lisa.walton@harpsouthend.org.uk

JOYCE RAE 6th October 1931 – 7th June 2018

The following eulogy was written by Stan and read by Simon, his son-in-law:

Joyce loved her family and as mother for her two sisters and four children of her own she dedicated herself to providing them with a happy and secure environment to enable them to enjoy the pleasures and to manage the challenges of life.

She placed great emphasis on politeness. 'Please' was an essential word for any request to receive a positive response and 'thank you' was expected before the deal was deemed to have been completed. Even friends did not escape her efforts to promote good manners. She also emphasised respect for authority, in particular standing whenever the National Anthem was played.

The family enjoyed sharing her sense of humour – she would react to situations that amused her with gleeful giggles. She also made use of verbal humour from time to time. On occasions she would bring the children breakfast in bed. If they asked why she was being so kind she would reply: 'Because it keeps everyone from under my feet for longer'.

As the children grew up and had partners, she liked to gather the whole family together for a social evening. This would begin with a meal, starting with a more than adequate first course, after which she would say apologetically: 'I'm afraid I haven't made much for dessert' and we would watch agog as item after item emerged from the fridge, revealing the efforts she had made to provide what she knew were the favourites of various members of the family.

Then came some party games to promote togetherness – she hated the company breaking into small groups. Two games emerged as regulars. One involved seeing who could complete the most Christmas cards in a given time from the previously cut up pieces scattered at random on the floor; in the other game the object was to find the longest piece of wool from the pieces of varying length that had been hidden in obscure places. It could be days, or even weeks before some pieces would emerge from obscurity.

Whether by accident or design, the names of all the children began with the same letter as that of their mother and it was not unknown for Joyce to call the wrong name. As the only boy Jim was fairly safe and Joyce honoured him by describing him as her favourite son.

Much more could be said about Joyce and the family but she disliked long speeches. We can almost hear her saying: 'You went on a bit didn't you?'

Jan wrote recently: 'My sister Joy was a caring and kind person; I will always be grateful for what she did for my sisters and me. I will miss her terribly'. All the Js, including the favourite son, would endorse those words and Gina, joining the family later, would add that knowing Joyce transformed her life.

Many might think that so much family activity would be enough to keep her busy and give her a sense of fulfilment. Joyce thought otherwise. The care and concern that she showed for her family overflowed to her friends, acquaintances and the community. She loved helping others.

Her choice of employment as a doctor's receptionist illustrates this, and when she retired she wasted no time in finding voluntary work at two antenatal clinics as well as acting as secretary for the Hockley First Responders and helping with the production of the local talking newspaper for the visually impaired.

In her seventies she took part in two sponsored activities to raise funds for the RNIB, abseiling down the Council Offices in Southend and doing a 1000 feet aerial slide at South Weald Park. Only her arthritis, which made her ineligible, relieved the family of the challenge to attempt to dissuade her from doing a wing walk.

She was very keen on country dancing and was a talented caller at barn dances. She also enjoyed playing badminton though she would probably say that the best part was giving enjoyment to the other players as she entertained them with her somewhat unorthodox style of play.

A Sunday School teacher for several years whilst living in Romford, she remained active in church life when moving to Hockley, though in less conspicuous ways. She was an occasional organist until arthritic fingers became attracted to the wrong notes, and was secretary of the Thursday Social Club for several years, but she preferred background roles. Her favourite activity at social events was doing the washing up – she really enjoyed the fellowship of the kitchen.

Joyce held firm views on a wide range of issues, perhaps not always entirely supported by fact or logic as we would teasingly tell her. She accepted the teasing, possibly with a suitable quip in response.

She was traditional in her tastes and not a lover of change but she had recently taken a stride into the technological world of the 21st century and was communicating freely using texts and joining WhatsApp groups.

Several of the cards of condolence that we have received have included the same five words: 'She was a lovely lady'.

With that verdict we the family, for whom she cared so devotedly, entirely agree

Thursday Social Club

We held our AGM at the home of Ian and Vivienne on Thursday 6th September 2018.

The majority of our members were in attendance and we quickly went ahead with the AGM as teas and coffees together with biscuits had been kindly prepared by Ian and Viv for us all on completion of the meeting.

We discussed the previous AGM and any matters arising. A summary of the past year's activities brought back to us what busy lives we lead.

The treasurer's report is always exciting but we all did well to keep our excitement in check.

Our autumn term programme was discussed and subject to any last minute hitches, will include a visit to Heybridge, a visit to Prittlewell Priory, a visit to Tank Museum at Maldon. A challenging quiz, Who do you think you are, a visit to Meadowcroft German Christmas Market or a pantomime at Rayleigh Mill and a local Christmas concert.

All officers were re-elected into their current posts but we decided that with less members we would incorporate our programme planning at the end of one of our general meetings.

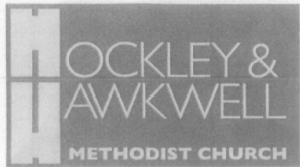
We also decided to hold our New Year's dinner at The Rose Garden as it came thoroughly recommended.

The Waverley makes many sailings from Southend to London and we are considering this for next year.

We welcome new members to our club, so if you know of anyone who might be interested please ask them along. Autumn programme;

Thursday 20th September	- A visit to Heybridge Basin 3.00 p.m.
Thursday 4th October	- A visit to Prittlewell Priory 2.30 p.m.
Thursday 18th October	- A visit to Tank Museum, Maldon 3.00 p.m.
Thursday 1st November	- A quiz at Chris and Olive's 2.30 p.m.
Thursday 15th November	- "Who Do You Think You Are" at Jean's 2.30 p.m.
Thursday 29th November	- Meadowcroft German Market or Rayleigh Mill Pantomime - Further details later
Thursday 13th December	- A visit to a local Christmas Choir concert - Further details later

Ray Williams



A Night Out at The Rose Garden

Lower Rd, Hullbridge SS5 5LU
Wednesday 10th October
6:30pm for 7:00pm

Any 2 courses for £25 (£5
deposit). Free Raffle

To book or arrange a lift contact Gill on
07518027291 or e-mail hockleymeths@live.co.uk

This is a fundraising event for
Hockley & Hawkwell Methodist Church

Hockley & Hawkwell Methodist Church Main Road Hockley Essex SS5 4QY
01702 205870 info@hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk www.hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk www.facebook.com/hockleymeths



HOCKMIRA

Hockley Methodists' Inactive Ramblers' Association

Last walk of 2018

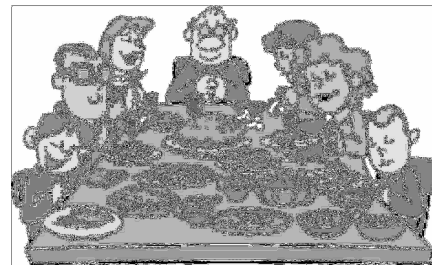
Our last walk this year is on **Saturday 13th October** and is a 5½ miles amble near **Matching**. We'll have lunch at The Fox in Matching Tye (Make sure you're wearing Matching Sox!) then enjoy a rural walk through fields, woodland and gently-rolling countryside.

We'll leave the Church car park at 11:30am.



HOCKMIRA End of Walking Season Meal

We're planning a meal at the George & Dragon in Mountnessing, which is a half hour's drive from Hockley. It'll be on either Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday 15th to 18th October depending on which of these nights is convenient for the greatest number of people. Non-walkers welcome, lifts can be arranged. Speak to Mike or Muriel if you're interested or e-mail your preferred date to



hockleymeths@live.co.uk.

More info about the George and Dragon, including menus, can be found at <https://www.thegeorgeanddragonbrentwood.co.uk/>.

Christmas Cards

I enjoy drawing and offer drawings that make suitable cards for any occasion including birthday, get-well and of course Christmas cards.

A suitable greeting can be added or left blank.

I will bring my cards along to the Christmas Bazaar on 17th

November; However I am happy to bring them to your home for you to choose, for a donation to Church Funds.

Gill Cross, 07518027291



HAVE YOU HAD A PROBLEM WITH THE AUTOMATIC DOORS? PLEASE READ THIS!





On a few occasions recently there have been problems with the automatic doors jamming or not opening properly. As this is almost invariably caused by incorrect locking or unlocking please follow these steps.

If, when you approach them, the doors don't open automatically, please don't immediately try to unlock them. There may already be somebody in the building and trying to unlock the doors will jam them



PLEASE RING THE BELLS AND WAIT A FEW MOMENTS BEFORE TRYING TO UNLOCK THE DOORS

If the doors are locked: 1; Turn the large key in each lock at the bottom of each door. Turn until you hear it unlock and keep turning until you can take the key out. 2; Open the doors by turning the small key in the keyhole to the top of the doors, then turn it back 3; Follow the instructions on the inside right of the doors.

Door Operation - To have the doors opening and closing automatically press the  button on the control box on the inside right of the doors. To keep the doors locked (e.g. if you're alone in the building) press the  button.

To lock up when for leaving press the  button and walk out

clear of the porch; wait for the doors to close, .

Turn the key in each lock at the bottom of each door. Turn until you hear it lock and keep turning until you can take the key out. The doors are now locked. No further action required! **Do NOT use the small key on leaving.**

Recollections

In preparation for a talk, I have been recalling the songs that we used to sing in Sunday School, and I thought it might bring back some memories to some of you if I published a few of them (one at a time). This one is my all time favourite:-

**I sing a song of the saints of God
Patient and brave and true
Who toiled and fought and lived and died
For the God they loved and knew
And one was a doctor and one was a queen
And one was a shepherdess on the green
They were all of them saints of God and I mean
God help me to be one too**

**They loved their Lord so dear, so dear
And God's love made them strong
And they toiled for the right, for Jesus's sake
The whole of their good lives long
And one was a soldier, and one was a priest
And one was slain by a fierce wild beast
And there's not any reason, no, not the least
Why I shouldn't be one too**

**They lived no only in ages past
There are hundreds of thousands still
The world is bright with the joyous saints
Who love to do Jesus's will
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea
In church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea
For the saints of God are folk just like me
And I mean to be one too.**

How many of you can remember the tune?

As a young boy I had vivid mental images of the fierce wild beast!"

Published in 1929. Written by Lesbia Scott. It appears in the United Methodist Hymnal No. 712.

David Clarke

Looking ahead

A few dates for your diaries:

Sunday 11th November – Armistice Day. This year's is the 100th anniversary of the signing of the armistice that ended World War 1. Our service will be led by Anne and Carolyn

Saturday 17th November – Christmas Bazaar 9:00am till noon

Saturday 1st December – Decorating the Church for Christmas & Children's Bazaar Starts at 9:30am

More details later

Harvest Supper, Saturday 6th October at the Day Centre is CANCELLED (see letter below from Fr. Ken of St. Peter & St. Paul church)

I am sorry, but we have taken the decision to cancel our Harvest Supper, this year.

My colleague here, who had agreed to lead the arrangements, has suffered a terrible blow. Her daughter died in an accident. As you might appreciate, she would rather stand down from certain commitments at this time. Appeals for someone to fill her place have been unsuccessful. Many of the people who would usually step in are coincidentally away on holiday or have other prior commitments.

It is most certainly our intention to host a joint Harvest Supper next autumn. I am sorry for any inconvenience.

The deadline for the next Magazine (December/January) is Monday November 19th

Please make a note of this in your diary

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

SUN	Morning Worship	10.30 am
MON	Brightstars Parent & Toddler Group <i>contact Linda 07964 864872</i> Ballroom Sequence Dancing (in the hall) <i>contact Fay 01268 780028</i> Triple H Community Choir (in church) <i>contact Ashley 07581390448</i>	9.30 – 11.45 am 7.30 – 9.30 pm 7.30 – 9.30 pm
TUE	YogaFit Class <i>contact Julie on 07912622483</i> Dru Yoga Class <i>contact Ruth on 07818599183</i> Lingotots <i>contact Mrs Kate Thorne 07792790586</i> southend@lingotot.com Messy Church (3 rd Tuesday each month) <i>Contact Anne S. 202010</i>	6.15 – 7.15 am 10.00–11.30 am. 7.30–9.00 pm 12.30 – 2.30pm 4.00 – 5.30 pm
WED	PIYO Pilates & Yoga <i>contact Rachel Yates 07990513413</i> 2nd Hockley Brownie Pack: <i>contact Amy Ensum, S 470134</i> amyensum@hotmail.com Badminton Club: <i>contact Wendy S 225203</i> Gospel Rocks Choir (in Church) <i>Contact: Hannah Conacher gospelrockscs@gmail.com</i>	9.30 – 10.30 am 5.30 – 7.00 pm 7.30 – 9.30 pm 8.00 – 10.00 pm
THU	50+ Keep fit, <i>contact Julie 07912622483</i> 50+ Stretch & Trim: <i>contact Julie 07912622483</i> U3A Floral Art Group, 4 th Thursday in the month <i>contact Irene Morris 01787 310265.</i> 1st Hockley Beaver Colony: <i>contact Jane S 203739</i> 1st Hockley Cub Scout Pack <i>contact Mike, S 201253</i> or email hockleycubs@yahoo.co.uk Thursday Social Club: <i>contact Vivien, S 203997</i>	9.15–10.00 am 10.15–11.00 am 1.30 – 4.30 pm 5.15 – 6.15 pm 6.30 – 8.00 pm 7.30pm, alternate wks
FRI	Pilates. <i>Contact Mrs Tracy Bateman 07961 954966</i> Email tracybateman1107@aol.com U3A Play Reading Group (every 2 nd Friday) <i>Contact Coral Kathro S 201252</i> Email coralkathro@gmail.com Friday Club (years 3-7) <i>Contact Merie Kebbell 07796 958343</i> Friday Club + (years 7 & upwards) „ „	9.15 – 10.45am 11.00 - 1.00pm 6.00 – 7.30 pm 6.45 – 8.15 pm
SAT	Yoga 4 all. <i>Contact Keely 07984801726</i>	8.30 – 9.30 am

Minister: Revd. Stephen Watts **Tel:** 01268 770333 **Mobile:** 07940882886
259 Eastwood Road, Rayleigh, SS6 7LF, **Email:** revswatts@btopenworld.com
Web: www.hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk