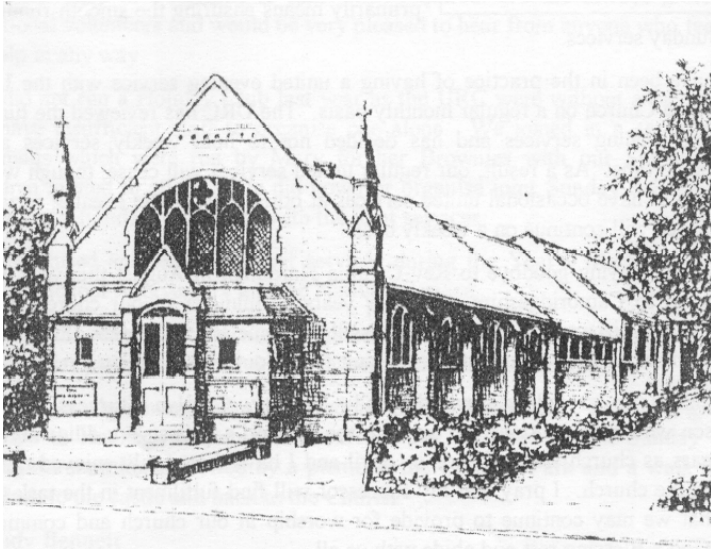


The Link

Between you and the Church



February/March 2019

No.59

Editors Note

My thanks to all who have contributed to this copy of The Link.

The deadline for the April/May (Easter) issue is Monday
March 18th

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



The views expressed in this magazine are those of the various authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy of the Church Trustees

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Message from the Manse

Hi, All,

Time for the long awaited and anticipated words of wisdom from the manse, pulpit or wherever you believe the inspiring words of wisdom spring from. There has been so much going on since the start of the New Year that a time to reflect becomes somewhat impossible. Valerie and I were lucky to have a seven night break aboard the Ociana as she visited a number of ports situated within the confines of the channel. It seemed a rather strange place to be, a bit like being on a ferry but getting nowhere. At one point the Captain let slip that we would be spending some time in the Channel. One got the feeling that in planning terms, those responsible for getting the best out of ships, crew, resorts and giving value to customers did not quite reach the target. We were the bit left over, day wise when all resorts had been catered for.

It reminded me of the time when we lived in three manses during a five year period because the manse was not big enough. We had to move into temporary accommodation out of a big stone built detached dwelling with an over large sloping garden (a complete waste of space in a manse). The idea was to eventually have a new house with a manageable garden. At the end of the day we had a three storey town house at the end of run and guess what! The builders told us we had a good size garden as there was not quite enough room to tag another house on the end.

Well it had a slope so they terraced it, and then made a large amount of rockery to break up the garden. The final bill for the gardener ran into four figures, looked really nice, which cut no ice with the moles, the previous tenants who brought in their own interior designer, assisted by a team of learned moles who had not read the script or seen the original designs!

So much for planning. But it was nice to reflect for a while and for Valerie to be looked after and not to have to worry about what to have to eat.

I hope we can all have time to reflect on our lives and whilst we may not make resolutions as such, at least be resolute in trying to be more neighbourly towards each other.

Love and best wishes

Stephen and Valerie Watts

CHURCH FURNISHINGS

If you were at church on 10 January, you may have met Susan Henshaw, the daughter of the late Harold Collingridge. She had come to see the table purchased through her donation made in memory of her parents Harold and Jean. The table will be used to display leaflets, church magazines etc. It is light and easy to move so will be helpful when it comes to moving furniture after the Sunday morning service in readiness for Brightstars on Monday morning.

Taking a look round the church you will see reminders of other gifts made over the years. A carving on the lectern records a gift in memory of Rev Royston York presented by his wife Edith. Royston was our minister in the late seventies and well remembered for his fine preaching. A plaque by one of the radiators marks the gift of covers purchased by the children of Tom and Isabel Murphy, members for many years from 1964 onwards. Tom was our regular organist. The lights over the pulpit area were donated in 2014 by Maureen Blake in memory of her husband Peter. And a number of other features including the automatic side doors and the stage doors were paid for through the generous legacy of the late Bill Potter.

I'm sure like me you can remember many friends of the church who have contributed time and talent and money over the last 135 years since the church was founded. And of course, the many members and friends who continue to contribute today in the same tradition.

Kay Deedman

Pancake and Coffee Morning

There will be a Pancake and Coffee morning on Saturday 23rd February from 10am till 12noon at the church.



Two pancakes will cost £1.50, tea, coffee and soft drinks 50p.

EVERYONE WELCOME

TRADCRAFT AND FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

Fairtrade fortnight will soon be with us again, two weeks from 25 February to 10 March 2019 when we are asked to make an extra effort to include Fairtrade products in the weekly shopping basket. This year's campaign is centered particularly on cocoa farmers, so if it's chocolate you're after that's a good place to start. Hockley's Co-operative store boasts that it has a large range of Fairtrade products. As always Fairtrade's aim is to ensure that growers and farmers all receive a fair price for their supplies which in turn benefit their employees, their own families and the local community.

You may also have heard that Traidcraft suffered from a significant loss of revenue over the past 12 months. As a result the catalogue company has felt obliged to curtail its range of goods on offer to the public and limit its purchases to particular producer groups throughout the world, retaining its aim to set up fair and transparent ways of trading, powered by the sale of ethical products. At the same time Traidcraft Exchange has been established as a separate charity, relying on donations from the public to run life-changing development projects and campaigns. The two organizations are closely linked in order to transform trade for the better and build a fairer and more just world.

Kay Deedman

The new Admin Assistant

Claire Thompson has been appointed to the post previously held by Holly Miller.

Claire is artist in residence at The Fishermen's' Chapel and previously worked for Little Haven.

She's already started work and her main jobs will be to help Steve and the Leadership Team. She's already taken over production of the Notices. To contact with prayer requests and items for the Notices please email her at hmmc1883@gmail.com no later than the Thursday, in the week before you want an item to appear

From the Worship Team

So here we are in 2019. As I write this I am waiting for confirmation of the next plan, running from March to May so some details may be changed, but here is what is coming up.

All Age Worship

At the last meeting of the Worship team, before Christmas, it was decided to re-instate AAW, generally on the first Sunday of the month and advertise this amongst our young people and families. Our special services usually attract young people, if they are interactive and have modern music. We have invited specific preachers to help us with this. The programme so far is;

3rd March Rev Steve Watts for a baptism (for Betsy)
31st March Dani Mayo for Mothering Sunday
14th April Steve Mayo for Palm Sunday Parade and Eggstravaganza
5th May Sue Hockett
2nd June Rev Brenda Gutberlet for Church Anniversary
7th July Pam Smith

We need to create times for the youngest and their families, where they feel comfortable and catered for. This is also adding to the variety of service on offer. Our standard Sunday morning service should not be so frequent.

Circuit

There is plenty going on in the Circuit. If you look on the notice board in the coffee room, there are details of a Circuit Service, contemporary worship at Wesley once a month and a Lent course.

Easter

Easter is late this year, and Easter Sunday is not until 21st April. So far, Steve is planned at Hockley for an 11:00am service with Communion. The feedback sheets set out before Christmas to find out the general feelings towards Easter events, showed there was little

enthusiasm for a combined breakfast and service. There is some hope for ecumenical services during Holy Week, as there are two new ministers at the URC and Emmanuel but nothing concrete so far.

Church Anniversary

Brenda and Steve are doing a pulpit swap to enable the former to take our Anniversary service on 2nd June.

Please put these dates in you diary and do your best to support them.

Muriel and the Worship Team

Church Family

Our prayers are asked especially for Linda Williams, Colin Sains, Arthur Waterfield, Ron Hollioway, Eunice Burge, Sheila Hayman and Vivienne Mackenzie recovering from surgery, also Merle Kebbell's brother in Australia who is seriously ill, Ros Hayman's sister and their supporting families.

Coffee Rota

February

3rd Di
10th June & John
17th Kay & Michael
24th Di

March

3rd Di
10th June & John
24th Di
31st June & John



Flower Rota

1 st Sunday	Kay Deedman	S.202802
2 nd Sunday	Kay Deedman	
3 rd Sunday	Linda Clarke	S.204559
4 th Sunday	Linda Clarke	
5 th Sunday	(Dried flowers)	





HOCKMIRA
Hockley Methodists' Inactive Ramblers' Association

2019 PROGRAMME

Here's this year's programme of HOCKMIRA walks. We've tried to offer a bit of variety in terms of length and location and hope that you can make at least a couple of them. Where there's a pub lunch you can be assured that the pub in question has been thoroughly tested! We may even have walked out the route!

Please put the dates in your diary – we will send reminders but that'll be no good if you've already committed yourself to something less important! And please note the bits in bold about the three walks where we'll need to book visits – in particular it would be good to arrange another visit to Woodbridge after we had to cancel last year's trip.

Contact Mike or Mu if you want further details of any of these walks or need a lift - 01702 204748 or hockleymeths@live.co.uk



Bank Holiday Monday 6th May Local Walk about 4 miles

Start and finish at 36 Orchard Avenue, stop for tea/coffee. Start at 2:00pm.

Sunday 19th May Christian Aid Sponsored Walk London

Take part in the "Circle the City" sponsored walk in London. We'll go up to London on the train in the morning, probably around 10:00am. It's well-organised and there's a choice of a 3 or 6 miles route but we need to register beforehand. **Please let Mike or Muriel know by 1st May if you're coming on this walk.**

Saturday 15th June Woodbridge - short!

Another visit to Woodbridge for a pub lunch, a short walk (probably round Shotley) organised by Peter Cogar and tea at Peter, Anne and Claire's. Leave the Church car park 10:45am. If you just want a pub lunch and tea at the Cogars there's no need to walk! **Please let Mike or Muriel know by Sunday 9th June if you're coming on this walk**

Saturday 20th July Matching – 5½ miles

Pub lunch then a rural walk through fields, woodland and gently-rolling countryside. Leave the Church car park at 11:30am.

Thursday 15th August Layer Marney - 5½ miles

We plan to start this walk near Layer Marney Tower, which is a Tudor palace, composed of buildings, gardens and parkland, dating from 1520. We could visit it before we start the walk but that would need to be booked in advance. After a pub lunch and maybe a bit more walking we could then visit the Tiptree Museum but that too would need to be booked. Leave the Church car park 10:00am. **WE NEED TO DECIDE SOON IF WE WANT TO DO ONE OR BOTH OF THESE VISITS, SHORTENING THE WALK IF NECESSARY. PLEASE SPEAK TO MIKE OR MURIEL BY SUNDAY 17th FEBRUARY.**

Thursday 22nd August Messy Holiday Walk

Provisional - depends on progress with renovating the Church kitchen (and the weather!). Maybe just a Family Walk & Picnic Lunch in Hockley Woods starting at 11:00am. More details nearer the day.

Thursday 14th September Utling - 5¼ miles

Pub lunch in Woodham Mortimer then a relaxed, easy walk through open countryside. Leave the Church car park at 11:30am.

Saturday 12th October Lee Valley – 6 miles

Pub lunch near Broxbourne then a mainly canal-side walk. Takes in the Olympic White Water Centre. Leave the Church car park at 11:30am.



Mike & Muriel

Reminiscing

Another Sunday School song that I vividly remember singing (many times). It features as number 277 in the Methodist Hymnal. The words were written in 1885 by William H Parker at the request of children in his Sunday School Class at Chelsea Street Baptist Church, Nottingham. The well known tune is by Frederick A Challinor.

Parker wrote no less than 15 children's hymns, mainly for Sunday School Anniversaries, and they were published in 1905 in a volume called "Sunday School Hymnary"

- 1. Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;
Things I would ask Him to tell me if He were here;
Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,
Stories of Jesus, tell them to me.**
- 2. First let me hear how the children stood round
His knee,
And I shall fancy His blessing resting on me;
Words full of kindness, deeds full of grace,
All in the love light of Jesus' face.**
- 3. Tell me, in accents of wonder, how rolled the sea,
Tossing the boat in a tempest on Galilee;
And how the Maker, ready and kind,
Chided the billows, and hushed the wind.**
- 4. Into the city I'd follow the children's band,
Waving a branch of the palm tree high in my hand;
One of His heralds, yes, I would sing
Loudest hosannas, "Jesus is King!"**
- 5. Show me that scene in the garden, of bitter pain;
Show me the cross where my Saviour for me was slain;
Sad ones or bright ones, so that they be
Stories of Jesus—tell them to me.**

David Clarke

Thursday Social Club

Thursday Club continues to meet, following its new programme. Before Christmas we went to the traditional pantomime 'Puss in Boots' put on by Rayleigh Operatic and Dramatic Society at the Mill Hall. It was a good evening to go as it was also the evening of Rayleigh Christmas lights switch-on. We were able to see the lights and also watch the Christmas story projected on to the church tower. Later in December we were on home ground for the splendid Christmas Carol concert given by the Triple H Community Choir, a real treat.

At our first meeting of the New Year, Jean Saunders kindly invited us to her home for an afternoon of board games. By the time you read this we shall have listened to Susan Mathews describing her recent Chinese trip 'Up the Yangtze' and on 7 February we'll be enjoying our annual lunch. A fortnight, later on 21 February at 3pm, David Clarke will be reminiscing at the home of Vivien Allmey with his memories of Sunday School. If you went to Sunday School yourself, this may be for you too; visitors welcome but do have a word with Vivien first.

Kay Deedman



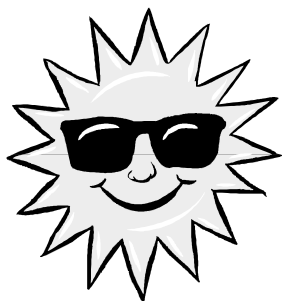
WEATHER REPORT 2018

Once again I can share with you some of the features of last year's weather before they pass out of memory. Hopefully you can remember what a good summer it was. Sunshine figures were the highest at 1969 hours since 2003 and the second highest over the 32 years I've been keeping records of Hockley's weather. The average for those years is 1694 hours, so a welcome increase, due largely to an exceptionally sunny July (301 hours against an average 214 hrs). But each month, apart from March and April, was markedly sunnier than normal.

Sunnier the year may have been but overall it wasn't especially warmer. The 'Beast from the East' may have had something to do with it because February and March were very much colder than normal. There was a series of frosty mornings throughout February, culminating in 18cm of snow over four days at the end of the month and start of March. The last day of February was actually the coldest, with a night time temperature of -5°C rising during the day to -1°. The wind blew relentlessly from the east for 11 consecutive days. By 4 March the snow had gone and the thermometer climbed at last to 7°. The average daily maximum temperature for the year was 14.9°, against an average of 14.5°, the same as 2017. There were 29 'hot' days with a temperature of 25° or more, 31° being the highest, with the average July temperature being 25.7°, compared with an average of 23.0°.

There was more rain than usual - 698mm compared with the average 613mm. March, April and November were particularly wet, although August turned out to be the wettest month of the year thanks to 45mm of rain falling over 4 days from the 7th to the 10th. Were you on holiday at the time? On the other hand both June and July were virtually rain-free, with just 2mm of rain falling in June, and July just as dry up to the 27th of the month when gardeners' prayers were finally answered and thunderstorms saved the day.

Michael Deedman



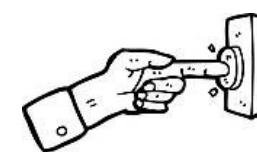
THE AUTOMATIC DOORS - A REMINDER

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 BOTH BELLS AND WAIT A FEW MOMENTS BEFORE TRYING TO UNLOCK THE

DOORS. The left side bell coffee room, the right side Hall



rings in the rings in the

There are on/off switches for these bells just inside the doors. **PLEASE DO NOT TURN THESE OFF.**

If you are in the building on your own and have set the doors to lock please switch on the light in the hallway to let others know that the building is occupied.

The Church Calendar & Heating

Colin Allison is now operating the heating system and will be relying on the Church Calendar on the website to set the heating programme. If the Calendar isn't kept up-to-date and accurate you could find yourselves sitting in the cold!

Please inform Carolyn on carolyn@cmsturgess.plus.com or 203964 of any Team or other meetings that you currently have planned and of all future meetings. Carolyn passes details of all meetings, bookings, etc to Mike and he puts them on the Calendar on the Church Website.

Although Colin is now operating the system there is still a need for cover during holidays, etc. Any more volunteers out there? Please contact Anne on 07739184627

. Christian Days of the Week

MONDAY – WASH DAY

Lord, help me wash away all my selfishness and vanity, so I may serve you with perfect humility through the week ahead.

TUESDAY – IRONING DAY

Dear Lord, help me iron out all the wrinkles of prejudice I have collected through the years so that I may see the beauty in others.

WEDNESDAY – MENDING DAY

O God, help me mend my ways so I will not set a bad example for others.

THURSDAY – CLEANING DAY

Lord Jesus, help me to dust out all the many faults I have been hiding in the secret corners of my heart.

FRIDAY – SHOPPING DAY

O God, give me the grace to shop wisely so I may purchase eternal happiness for myself and all others in need of love.

SATURDAY – COOKING DAY

Help me, my Saviour, to brew a big kettle of brotherly love and serve it with clean, sweet bread of human kindness.

SUNDAY – THE LORD'S DAY

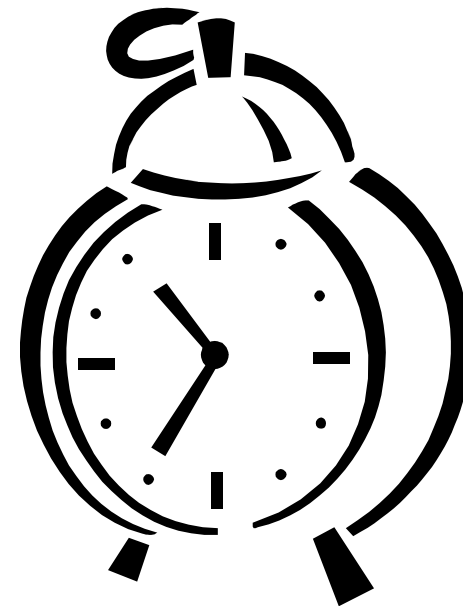
O God, I have prepared my house for you. Please come into my heart as my honoured guest so I may spend the day and the rest of my life in your presence.

**The deadline for the next
Magazine (April/May) is
Monday March 18th**

Please make a note of this in your diary

Don't forget

Sunday 31st March – British Summer Time begins,
advance your clocks by one hour.



Sunday 31st March is also Mothering Sunday

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

- SUN** Morning Worship 10.30 am
- MON** Brightstars Toddler Group contact Sandra 206146 or June 204481 9.30 –11.45 am
Pilates & Yoga, contact Rachel 07990513413 1.30 – 2.30 pm
Ballroom Sequence Dancing (in the hall) 7.30 –9.30 pm
contact Fay 01268 780028
Triple H Community Choir (in church) 7.30 –9.30 pm
contact Ashley 07581390448
- TUE** YogaFit Class contact Julie on 07912622483 6.15 – 7.15 am
Dru Yoga Class *contact Ruth on 07818599183* 10.00–11.30 am. 7.30-9.00 pm
Lingotots contact Mrs Kate Thorne 07792790586 12.30 – 2.30pm
southend@lingotot.com
Messy Church (3rd Tuesday each month) 4.00 – 5.30 pm
Contact Anne S. 202010
- WED** PIYO Pilates & Yoga contact Rachel Yates 07990513413 9.30 – 10.30 am
2nd Hockley Brownie Pack: *contact Amy Ensum, S 470134* 5.30 – 7.00 pm
amyensum@hotmail.com
Badminton Club, in hall, *contact Wendy S 225203* 7.30 – 9.30 pm
Gospel Rocks Community Choir (in Church) 8.00 – 10.00 pm
Contact: Hannah Conacher gospelrocksc@gmail.com
- THU** 50+ Keep fit, contact Julie 07912622483 9.15–10.00 am
50+ Stretch & Trim: contact Julie 07912622483 10.15–11.00 am
U3A Floral Art Group, 4th Thursday in the month 1.30 – 4.30 pm
contact Irene Morris 01787 310265.
1st Hockley Beaver Colony: contact Jane S 203739 5.15 – 6.15 pm
1st Hockley Cub Scout Pack contact Mike, S 201253 6.30 – 8.00 pm
or email hockleycubs@yahoo.co.uk
Thursday Social Club: contact Vivien, S 203997 2.30pm, alternate wks
- FRI** Pilates. Contact Mrs Tracy Bateman 07961 954966 9.15 - 10.45am
Email tracybateman1107@aol.com
U3A Play Reading Group (every 2nd Friday) 11.00 - 1.00pm
Contact Coral S 201252 Email coralkathro@gmail.com
Friday Club+ years 7 & upwards contact Merie 07796 958343 6.45 – 8.15 pm
- SAT** Yoga 4 all. Contact Keely 07984801726 8.30 – 9.30 am
Chameleon Productions, contact Stephen Hulse 07368461766. 10.00 – 2.00 pm

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