

The Link

Between you and the Church



October/November 2019

No.63

Editor's Note

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

The deadline for the December/January (Christmas and New Year) issue is Monday November 18th

Please either give items to me, Ron Chidwick, or send by email to: thelink@hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk

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

Issue: 201

There is a mousetrap in the house!”

A mouse looked through the crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife open a package. “What food might this contain?” the mouse wondered. He was devastated to discover it was a mousetrap! Retreating to the farmyard, the mouse proclaimed this warning. “There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!” The chicken clucked and scratched, raised her head and said, “Mr Mouse, I can tell this is a grave concern to you, but it is of no consequence to me. I cannot be bothered by it.” The mouse turned to the pig and told him, “There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!” The pig sympathised, but said, “I am very sorry, Mr Mouse, but there is nothing I can do about it but pray... Be assured you are in my prayers.” The mouse turned to the cow and said, “There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!” The cow said, “Wow, Mr Mouse. I’m sorry for you, but it’s no skin off my nose.” So, the mouse returned to the house, head down and dejected, to face the farmer’s mousetrap... Alone... That very night a sound was heard throughout the house—the sound of a mousetrap catching its prey. The farmer’s wife rushed to see what was caught. In the darkness, she did not see it. It was a venomous snake whose tail was caught in the trap. The snake bit the farmer’s wife. The farmer rushed her to the hospital. When she returned home she still had a fever. Everyone knows you treat a fever with fresh chicken soup. So the farmer took his hatchet to the farmyard for the soup’s main ingredient. But his wife’s sickness continued. Friends and neighbours came to sit with her around the clock. To feed them, the farmer butchered the pig. But, alas, the farmer’s wife did not get well... She died. So many people came for her funeral that the farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide enough meat for all of them for the funeral luncheon. And the mouse looked upon it all from his crack in the wall with great sadness... **(Source unknown)*

When one of us is threatened, we are all at risk. We are all involved in this journey called life. We must keep an eye out for one another and make an extra effort to encourage one another. Yes, each of us is a vital thread in another person’s’ tapestry; or let us say another

piece of our tapestry in our ministry. Our lives are woven together for a reason. One of the best things to hold onto in our ministry is to see everyone as a friend on our journey—A spirit of ministry!

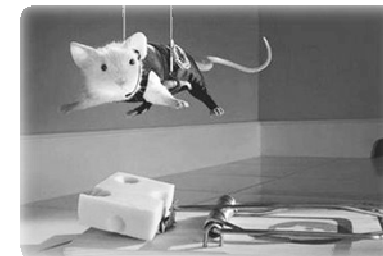
As we come to a new year of the Methodist Church in September we expect some lofty ideas that we have done before or never have done in terms of our ministry in our church. Towards such a commitment we may need to visualise loftier heights in our spiritual journey towards Christ-likeness. No matter how far we have ascended, we can go farther; no matter how low we have fallen, we can begin again. Particularly marking the fifth year of my appointment in the circuit I am thankful that many hands and hearts have become parts of my journey.

I have discovered a well-established tradition with various activities in our church. I wonder and I wonder how we can continue our journey in a neighbour-friendly impact for the sake of our future church. I hope and pray that our church would create a cluster of various fruitful activities and spiritual adventures for the coming months and years ahead.

Reflecting on the farm story, I recall how Jesus gives us a significant clue to accomplish our sacred mission that we must go back to a School Assembly of Christ—“Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls” (Matthew 11:29). If we continue in loving and caring for one another in the farm of our ministry the mission can be accomplished. And the glory will be proclaimed; eventually, our church will be remembered as a champion of God’s ministry as well as Team Jesus.

With a spirit of Team Jesus,

Michael Moon



Revd. Teresa Rutterford

As many of you will know, the Revd. Teresa Rutterford is a highly creative and gifted artist – witness her quilted wall hangings at a number of churches, including Leigh Wesley, Highlands and Canvey Island Methodist Churches; not forgetting her Circuit Wall Hanging, and also her Wall Hanging in Rayleigh Baptist Church.

For two weeks, from October 21st to November 4th, a variety of examples of her beautiful and unique work will be on display and on sale in the shop "PUDDLE and GOOSE" close to St. Clements Church, Leigh on Sea.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to buy special and unusual gifts, and a way to start your Christmas shopping! Profits from the sale of items will go to Rethink Mental Illness, Southend Recovery Point, in memory of her late son, Jerome."

Flower Rota

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



Coffee Rota

October	6 th	June and John
	13 th	Kay and Michael
	20 th	Muriel
	27 th	Di
November	3 rd	Sally Anne
	10 th	John and June
	17 th	Muriel and Mike
	24 th	Di



From the Worship Team

There has certainly been a variety of services over the last few months, culminating in Rev Michael Moon's spectacular walk through Summer for Youth Weekend, so a big thank you to all those who have worked hard to prepare and present Worship in a variety of styles.

The next few months will have Harvest Parade led by Bob and Anne Briant, a return visit by Sue Hockett and her husband Steve for November's AAW, Remembrance Sunday led by Carolyn and Anne, then the Toy and Gift Parade led by Rev Michael Moon marking the beginning of Advent. In between Michael will be taking a regular Communion service on the fourth Sunday of the month. Revd. Brain Gameson will be taking the service on 20th October and this will be his last at Hockley as in November he is moving to Durham to live near to his son.

As a Partner Church with All We Can, there will be envelopes for gifts as part of our Harvest giving, with donations of dried and tinned goods for HARP during the service. The envelopes can be put in the collection bag at any time over the next few weeks. The young people have been asked to decorate the windows as usual. All We Can's theme this year is potatoes.

There will be a Christmas Day service this year at 10am, preacher to be confirmed. It is proposed that we join together with Rayleigh on the 29th December and for Maundy Thursday to help us to maintain contact with them. We will have the same minister again from September 2020 along with Rochford and I am actively involved with the Circuit Invitation committee to find a new minister. Rev Peter Moorhouse, our Superintendent, has been invited to stay for another five years as of next year.

Things to look out for in 2020 – a Teddy Bear service on 5th January, the annual Covenant service on 24th January, the President, Rev Elisabeth

Glasson, preaching in our Circuit on the evening of March 1st 2020, an animal blessing on 3rd May.

I am happy to receive photos of any Church events for display on the photo board. Make sure it shows what has been happening rather than just who was there!

You will notice that there are one or two new people on the rota for door steward and coffee. Thanks to them and all those who take a turn to make things run smoothly. Ideally, we need some more people to read a lesson from the Bible, so if you are willing, let me know.

Muriel

Worship Team Leader

Church Family

Our prayers are needed for Valerie Watts who has moved to Keighley and Revd. Brian Gameson, who will shortly be moving to Durham.

We continue to remember all in our church family who are unwell, and their families.

Congratulations

We offer our love and congratulations to Gill and Ivor Cross who have recently celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary,

House of Thrones

No, this isn't meant to be the popular Game of Thrones. The title is a bit misleading as it is really about a palace and a throne. A golden throne at that.

As many of you know, I am an avid football fan following the fortunes (or not) of Billericay Town Football Club along with son and daughter, David and Caroline. When the fixtures come out in July the date of Saturday 14th September got my attention. Billericay Town were away to Oxford City. With this in mind I decided to book a weekend away to visit Blenheim Palace and the university city of Oxford. I booked a guest house in Woodstock which was just a few minutes walk away from the Blenheim estate.

I arrived at Woodstock on the Friday at midday and booked into my guest house before setting out for the nearby Palace. After a ten minute walk I entered the vast expanse of Blenheim Park. It was a lovely day with clear blue skies and golden sunshine. Here I go mentioning gold again. I warn you, it will be repeated.

I strolled around a beautiful lake within the grounds before the magnificent building that is Blenheim Palace came into view. As I entered the vast building the smell of fresh coffee pulled me in and a large slice of coffee and walnut cake reinforced the pleasure of this welcoming café. I paid my £25.00 admission fee (admittance valid for 12 months) and stepped out into the square. A Union Jack bedecked the pathway leading the way to the entrance hall. No EU flags on display here.

Within the place was an art display by Italian conceptual artist Maurizio Cattelan. There were many strange examples of artwork but the most unusual piece was America. This was located in Churchill's Birth Room and was a golden toilet which was plumbed in ready for use. Three minute time slots were available at the visitor centre to visit this small room. I passed on this invitation. The notice on the door explained this procedure in English, German, Italian, Spanish, French, Chinese and Japanese. Other languages are available.

A number of hours were spent walking around the palace rooms, followed by more time walking around the extensive gardens. A number of souvenirs were purchased before I returned to my guest house late afternoon. I hasten to add I did not return with a golden throne, the reason for this plea of innocence will be made clear later.

I walked the short distance to The Black Prince public house and enjoyed a superb meal of sirloin steak with all the trimmings, washed down by a glass of red wine. After an exhausting but enjoyable day I returned to Hamilton House Guest House to watch the cricket highlights before retiring to bed.

Next morning, being Saturday, I was looking forward to the football match in the afternoon but straight after a hearty breakfast I caught the bus into Oxford City centre. As with lots of towns and cities these days it is so difficult to park and going by bus was the easier option. It was Open Doors weekend in Oxford and this added to the footfall this weekend.

On route to Oxford the bus passed Blenheim Palace and there was a lot of police activity going on within the grounds. I assumed there must be the arrival of a royal visitor or perhaps an important foreign statesman. Extra security I guess. Good job I visited the palace yesterday.

On arrival in Oxford I made my way to the Tourist Information Centre which was incredibly busy. Fortunately service was most efficient and adequate literature was available. Much of the city centre is pedestrianised but some bus routes do compete with the many tourists. The sound of car horns was almost constant as many camera happy tourists stopped in the middle of the road snapping away oblivious to the oncoming traffic.

My original plan had been to visit as many colleges as possible in the little time I had available but I had to change my plans. There was too much to see. I came upon Lincoln College which originally had the name The College of the Blessed Mary and All Saints but I guess you all knew that. It has a long association with Lincoln Cathedral and was founded in 1427 by Richard Fleming, the Bishop of Lincoln. As time was of the essence I left the college for another venue.

A sign for The Covered Market beckoned and I spent an enjoyable time exploring the many stalls. The market was established in 1774 and although busy it was less so than the throngs of tourists in the surrounding streets.

Stepping outside I retraced my steps as I made my way to the John Wesley Methodist Church at the end of the road. This was a lovely small church but with a spacious coffee room at the rear. The stained glass windows were very impressive and the church staff very informative.

I looked at my watch and was surprised at how quickly the time was passing so I started to make my way to the bus station for my bus to Marston. On route the New Theatre stopped me in my tracks. On the board were Aled Jones and Russell Watson, Motown the Musical and many were shows appearing there in the forthcoming weeks. What also caught my eye was Backstage Tours, free entry. I wandered inside and joined a group as we explored the many facets of running a theatre in the modern age. Although an interesting tour, I had to break away before the end as it was time for me to catch a bus to Marston and Oxford City Football Ground. I allowed myself ample time as I wasn't one hundred per cent certain of the actual location. Reaching Marston I found Marsh Lane quite

easily so at least I had found the correct road. Almost there, ten more minutes and I had arrived at the football stadium and met up with fellow supporters. Caroline and David had driven up and arrived half an hour later at 2.30 pm. As kick off time approached there was no sign of our manager and rumours were circulating. At 3.00 pm the match started and within twenty minutes we were goals to the good. That was it as far as we were concerned. Game over. We were wrong as Oxford pulled back the two goals and it finished as a draw.

A hasty exit as I made my way to the bus stop for my journey back to Oxford. Flashing my concessionary bus pass I enjoyed my free bus ride back into the city centre. As I passed the rail station I saw some of our fellow supporters entering for their rail journey home. The bus arrived taking me on to my guest house at Woodstock. As the bus approached the gates of Blenheim Palace scores of police could still be seen in the Palace grounds. I guess the V.I.P.s were still in residence. How wrong could I be?

I alighted at the village of Woodstock and purchased a sandwich to have for my evening meal. Reaching my guest house I went straight to my room after another exhausting day. I turned on the TV and could not believe the shock news. In the early hours of Saturday morning a golden toilet seat has been stolen from Blenheim Palace. The first time palace staff got word of it was when water could be seen flooding into one of the large halls. The golden throne had been cut away from the wall and removed from the palace. It was an almighty shock and in the early police investigations they had nothing to go on. Blenheim Palace had been closed following this incident so I was lucky I visited yesterday.

Next morning my landlady asked if I had heard of the theft from Blenheim Palace of the golden toilet seat. We joked about how it would fit into our present bathrooms but we would never steal a toilet seat as we would have too much to looos.

I did a slight detour off the M40 and visited Cliveden House near Maidenhead. I say visited the house but in fact it was the grounds I visited. The house is now a palatial hotel only open to guests and not the general public. After seeing a few limousines turn up at the house/hotel I made my way back to my car and drove home to Hockley.

It was an exhausting but most enjoyable weekend away that I would recommend to anyone. One thing I ask before I finally sign off. If anyone has any information in regards to the theft of the golden toilet seat, please contact your local police station and relay any information that will lead to the return of this expensive item. It's times like this that I'm glad I went for avocado.

Ray Williams

A Message from Eileen Simmons

2019/2020 worship academy

Dear all,
We start the new session of Worship Academy again on October 2nd, when our Chair of District, David Chapman is our speaker. Attached is the online version of the programme for the year, and I intend to post you a hard copy.

When WA was first begun there was a circuit agreement NOT to hold any other meeting on the WA dates so that all involved COULD attend if they wished. Normally all the ministers attend with Worship Leaders and Local Preachers, when personally convenient.

WA is however OPEN TO ANYONE INTERESTED as long as they are booked in via the Eventbrite online invitation.. All queries about the on line system to the circuit office.

Eileen Simmons
Local Preacher and WA programme organiser



Our last walk of 2019!

Saturday 12th October
Lee Valley – 6 miles

We'll have a pub lunch near Broxbourne then a mainly canal-side walk. that will take in the Olympic White Water Centre (for a cup of tea and a piece of cake!).

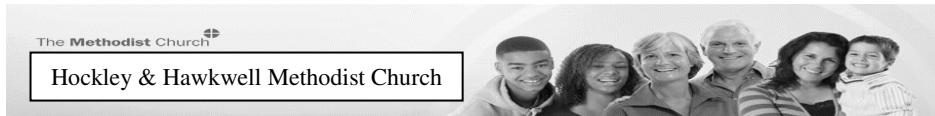
Leave the Church car park at 11:30am.

Mike & Muriel
hockleymeths@live.co.uk
01702 204748



The Church Notices

If you're away but want to see the Notices, they're available on the



Home page of the Church website

at www.hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk/ (along with the current edition of The Link)

OR a copy can be e-mailed to you. Speak to Mike to arrange it.

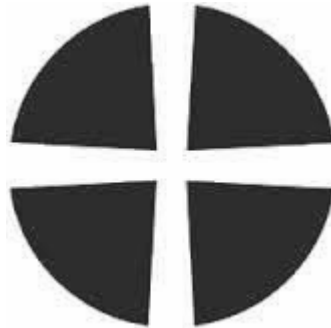
Methodist Church App

Did you know that the Methodist Church has an app?

Features include: Daily Bible studies, featuring a different author each week
Prayer of the Day from the Methodist Prayer Handbook, Lectionary readings and suggested hymns to help with planning worship, the latest news stories from the Methodist Church in Britain and topical podcasts from Methodist Web Radio

You can download it at:

www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/connect/methodist-church-app/



Thursday Social Club

On Thursday 12th September we held our Annual General Meeting at the home of Vivien Allmey. With a smaller membership we intend to take suggestions from all our members when planning our programmes for the weeks ahead. We want everyone to be included so ideas can be put forward at any of our meetings to be discussed. There are certain positions that need to be filled within our club and the current committee members were all voted back in for a further term. Chairman - Ray Williams, Secretary - Vivien Allmey, Treasurer - Chris Davis and Minutes Secretary - Michael Deedman

Chris handed out the treasurer's report which was audited and agreed by all members present before being duly signed off. Our accounts are in a most healthy state due to Chris's expert stewardship. With less external speakers last year our balance is most respectable and the unanimous decision was to reduce the membership fee to £10-00 per person for the next twelve months.

Various members then put forward suggestions for our programme leading up to Christmas. There were some very good ideas put forward and based on this our secretary Vivien set to work in organising dates for our planned activities.

Subject to any late changes the programme has been finalised as follows

- Thursday 3rd October - A visit to Cliffs Pavilion for a backstage tour of the theatre - 2.30 p.m. prompt- meet at theatre box office
- Thursday 10th October - A Games Afternoon - 2.30 p.m. - at home of Chris and Olive
- Thursday 24th October - A Talk by Rev. Michael Moon - 2.30 p.m. - To be held in coffee room of church
- Thursday 7th November - A Working Life by various speakers - 2.30 p.m. - Venue to be decided
- Thursday 21st November - Christmas German Market - 2.30 p.m. - A Visit to Meadowcroft Garden Nursery
- Thursday 5th December - "Oliver" performed by Little Theatre Club - Matinee show commences at 5.00 p.m.

Additionally The Triple H Choir is performing its evening Christmas show on two dates in December and if interested please let us know. On Saturday 7th December they will be at Hockley Methodist Church and on Saturday 14th December at The Emmanuel Church.

Thursday 19th December - A pre-Christmas get together with mince pies - 2.30 p.m. - at home of Chris and Olive.

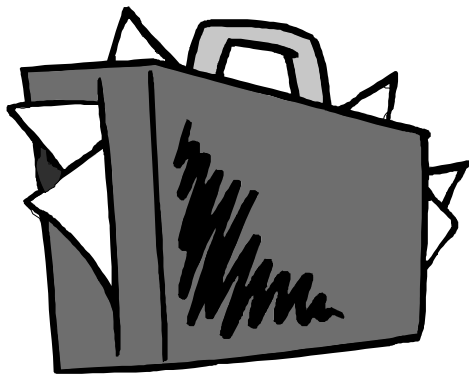
Ray Williams

Wells Solicitors in Hockley (Andrew and Yuping Wells)

Did you know that on 19th July 2019 Wells Solicitors informed the Solicitors Regulation Authority of their decision to close their practice in Hockley?

This is a voluntary and orderly closure planned for some time because of illness.

All documents stored by them remain in safe and secure storage but if you have any documents which you would like returned then an appointment can be made to do so.



IT'S NEARLY CHRISTMAS 2019

Yes, it's time to start thinking about Christmas! The next edition of The Link will be the Christmas edition and it will appear after some of our Christmas events. So, here's a list of planned events leading up to Christmas and running over into the beginning of the New Year – get them in your diary, more details will follow.

Sunday 6th October 10:30am Harvest Festival and Parade
Bob Bryant

Sunday 13th October "Harvest Supper" following the morning service
Rev Michael Moon

Thursday 17th October, 7:15 for 7:30pm Chinese meal at The Great Wall,
Rochford

Sunday 10th November Remembrance Day service
Anne and Carolyn

Saturday 16th November 10:00am - 2:00pm Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 30th November 10:00am – noon
Decorate Church for Christmas

Sunday 1st December at 10:30am, Toy & Gift Service and Parade
Rev Michael Moon

Sunday 15th December at 4:00pm, Carol Service
Rev Michael Moon

Tuesday 17th December 4:00pm DIY Messy Nativity

Tuesday 24th December at 4:00pm, Christingle
Rev Michael Moon

Wednesday 25th December Christmas Day at 10:00am
Preacher TBC

Sunday 29th December – no service here – 10:45am at Rayleigh

Sunday 5th January at 10:30am - All Age Worship & Teddy Bear Service,
Rev Michael Moon

Sunday 26th January at 10:30am Annual Covenant Service
Rev Michael Moon

**Dear God when I am Lonely, and
Perhaps I feel despair,
Let not my ailing heart forget
That you hear every prayer.
Remind me that no matter what
I do or fail to do.
There still is hope for me as long
As I have faith in You.
Let not my eyes be blinded by
Some folly I commit.
But help me regret my wrong
And to make up for it.
Inspire me to put my fears
Upon a hidden shelf.
And in the future never to
Be sorry for myself.
Give me the restful sleep I need
Before another dawn.
And bless me in the morning with
The courage to go on.**



**DON'T FORGET THAT YOUR CLOCKS NEED TO BE
PUT BACK ONE HOUR ON SUNDAY 27TH OCTOBER.**

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 Club (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** Dru Yoga Class *contact Ruth on 07818599183* 10.00–11.30 am. 7.30-9.00 pm
Lingotots contact Mrs Kate Thorne 07792790586 1.30 – 2.30pm
southend@lingotot.com
Messy Church (3rd Tuesday each month) 4.00 – 5.30 pm
contact Anne 07739184627
- WED** PIYO Pilates 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 520332* 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
Chair Yoga. Contact Julie Wheeler 07912622483 11.15 am – 12.15 pm
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. 6.45 – 8.15 pm
- SAT** Chameleon Productions, contact Stephen Hulse 07368461766. 10.00 – 1.00 pm
or at steve.hulse@chameleonproductions.co.uk

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