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An occasional newsletter to keep you in contact with
Hockley and Hawkwell Methodist Church

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Rev Peter Moorhouse's Pastoral Letter



Eat out to help out!

Hello from the Manse!

As of last Monday, dinner was on the government, well part of it anyway! So, did you eat out to help out? Eat out to help out is the latest attempt to restart the economy but are we still a bit wary about going out? I must admit during the lockdown I have enjoyed at times having the time to prepare a meal, try out new ideas, even have a BBQ mid-week. I'm not sure the boys enjoyed it as much as me. It's been nice to have the time.

For my family and I'm sure it is for yours every big celebration, Birthdays Weddings and anniversaries have always been around meals. When hosting such events how long have you taken to plan the perfect menu? It's such a big part of our culture.

Of course, in the bible we read how important mealtimes were for Jesus. Teaching, Healings, Miracles and even the way Jesus wanted the faith to be remembered all involved meals. As for modern ways of being church Messy Church and The Alpha Course all involve meals. Some may say that the meals were a big part of the success of both programmes.

They are so many meals our lord had with people whilst here on earth where we learn so much from his encounter. For me the meal with Mary and Martha amongst the most memorable. You know the one where Martha did all the work and gets annoyed with Mary for doing nothing but sitting with her guests. Mary gets all the praise from Jesus for doing the right thing. Of course, Jesus was making the point that he wouldn't be physically with them much longer and that's why Mary picked correctly. We know it's about balancing the two. One doesn't work without the other, thus making the balance all wrong. How we have missed spending time with friends but know there is a lot to work on when we get back to normal.

A Preacher like myself always talks about Christianity is counter cultural. Give, instead of taking, forgive instead of seeking revenge, maybe when things get back to normal, we need to stay in churches to help out and open our doors. After all the isolation of lockdown maybe we don't need to plan the perfect menu just celebrate. We used to run supper clubs and luncheon clubs. Maybe we help out by doing these again or just simply open doors put the kettle on give people a place to meet up.

My prayer this week is that we as churches just help out.

God Bless

Pete

Prayers for this week

For the Lebanon, unstable, with many internal problems, few hospitals, and now dealing with the aftermath of a huge chemical explosion, with many dead and seriously injured

For world peace thinking of the survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, after 75 years since the dropping of the atomic bomb.

For public health officials analysing data about Covid 19, and seeking to control the spread in large towns and conurbations



For the health and well-being of those whose jobs have been lost due to the present economic climate

For those we know who need to feel the comfort and surety of God's love for them - the isolated, the lonely, the frail, those who are anxious, ill, receiving treatment or in hospital, as well as those who mourn.

With so much trouble and so many problems around us, we lay our burdens at the foot of the Cross - **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers.**

The building may be closed but we're still here! The latest on whether or not we can open!

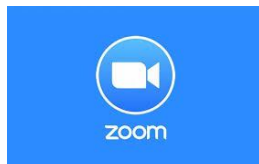
Although the government now allows Churches to open both for private prayer and restricted acts of Worship, the Church Council decided a while ago not to re-open the building. It was felt that – having regard to the arrangements and restrictions that would be needed and the format that any service would have to take – it wouldn't, at that time, be practical or safe to re-open the building.



But it is still our wish to re-open as soon as it's safe to do so and the Church Leaders are continuing to look for the right time to reopen in the light of changing government guidance. So we are considering what's necessary to allow us to re-open safely. We have carried out a risk assessment and the conclusions from that will be reported to members and friends to canvas their views on whether or not we should open.

In the meantime, we continue to meet regularly on-line, pastoral and ministerial support is still available and we look forward to being able to meet and renew our activities as soon as possible. The Worship Team and some other Leaders are meeting regularly with Rev Calvin Samuel and representatives of Rochford and Rayleigh Methodist Churches to consider immediate and longer term plans for the three churches and a draft Circuit Preaching Plan has been drafted for the next quarter (starting September), although it remains to be seen whether that Plan will be implemented. We'll let you know!

We have three zoom events each week Please join us at any or all of them



Sunday Morning Service at 10:30am We've been holding a short service including a brief reflection led by Anne with prayers and lessons read by church members and Ros singing the hymns. Last Sunday, however we joined Peter Moorhouse's Circuit Zoom. **On this coming Sunday 10th August Hockley Community Church (URC) will be joining our Zoom Service at 10:30am. Joining details will be circulated soon. For the rest of August, we'll join the Circuit Zoom Service at 11:00am.**

Wednesday Morning Social Chat at 10:30am

An opportunity to meet friends and find out how they are and find out what they've been doing. We had 13 at this last Wednesday's Chat.

Ray's Friday Quizzoom at 7:00pm

Five rounds of five questions in each - with everything from TV soaps to quantum mathematics! There were 12 quizzoomers last Friday and **Billy was Quizzoomer of the Week with a full house – 25/25!!**



If you haven't got a Zoom account go to <https://us04web.zoom.us/signup>
Any problems installing it phone Mike on 07798948236. Don't be put off by the technology, once it's going it's not complicated.

Before each Zoom you'll get an email with a meeting ID and password and full instructions on how to join in.

You can join any of these events on your landline (or mobile), you don't need a pc, laptop or tablet. Ask me and I'll give you the number to call (it's a UK number) and the meeting ID and password. You ring it at the start of the event; you get instructions as you go along till you reach a "waiting room" and I can let you into the event from there (this is a security measure to keep out unwanted "guests"). June Waterfield and Stan Rae (his iPad had frozen!) joined us on Wednesday morning without any difficulty. If you need persuading or any help in joining us (or even a practice session) phone Mike on 07798948236.

Worship While Church is Closed

There are several ways to listen to or even join in worship while the Church building is closed.

Each week we're sending out (by e-mail and bike!) this Lockdown Link and at the same time a copy of the Sunday service that we're holding on Zoom.

Details of how to join our weekly **Zoom service** are on the previous page.

With the e-mailed newsletter there will be links to these weekly YouTube services:

Rev Dr Michael Moon



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAsvGVGFfR6KIESXEKS36XA>

Rev Calvin Samuel



https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Rev+Calvin+Samuel



Wesley's Chapel in London. Several Services are “streamed” from there during the week and can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUAUqhmhevz5sqhh72LIMxA>

There are other worship opportunities across the **Southend and Leigh Circuit**, including Zoom services, and details of these can be found at: <https://www.southendandleigh.org/circuit-newsletter.html>

In addition, we're providing a service sheet each week for anybody who prefers reading a service to watching a video. This is a short act of worship for use in people's homes while churches are closed. It will also be available on the Church website at <https://www.hockleyhawkwelldist.org.uk/> and our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/hockleymeths/> a day or so later. Links to both Rev Calvin Samuel's and Rev Dr Michael Moon's YouTube video services will also be on the website and Facebook page.

There are other services you can watch or listen to at home, for instance:

Methodist Central Hall

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MCHWevents>

The Church of England

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>

plus Songs of Praise every Sunday on BBC1 TV
Radio 4 Sunday Worship at 8:10am

Offers of Help

The Elkington family and Adam and Becky Markham are still willing to run errands if you can't get out. Sally can be contacted at 01702 258288 or

sally_elkington@yahoo.co.uk.

Adam and Becky can be contacted at 07969522986 or

adam.markham01@googlemail.com



Garden Party Cancelled

IN THE LIGHT OF THE LATEST GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE AND THE RISING INFECTION RATES THE PROPOSED GARDEN PARTY ON 15TH AUGUST HAS HAD TO BE CANCELLED.



THANKS JANE, PAUL, JULIE & CHRIS FOR A LOVELY IDEA. MAYBE LATER?

A Thought for the Day

I like to read a 'Thought for the Day' from a book called 'Prayer for the Day'. This was the reading for 31 July:

“High Summer seems to be the invitation to dust off the tent in the attic and go camping. The tent is a stock item for those attending music festivals and for many people camping is the preferred of summer holiday. On this day in 1907, a very different sort of camp was held for the first time. Robert Baden-Powell set up the Brownsea Island Scout Camp at Poole Harbour in Dorset - and the scouting movement was born. He took a group of lads, some from the local community and others from top public schools, and showed them they could work together, encourage one another and

have fun. And it was out of this first 'experiment' that Baden-Powell wrote the definitive guidebook for the movement, called 'Scouting for Boys' which outlined life skills and personal values, while warning of the perils of drunkenness, gambling and swearing, not to mention the wiles of the opposite sex! These days Scouting embraces young people regardless of gender as well as background, and it's come a long way from the time when Baden-Powell's instructions were confined only to boys. The current Chief Scout is Bear Grylls who many people know from his exploits on TV. He was once asked what he loved about scouting, and his response was some words his Dad had said to him when he was young "Follow your dreams and look after your friends'.

In an age where we celebrate the cult of the individual and invariably prize personal attainment, it is encouraging to celebrate a movement that looks to develop the very best of the gifts that any of us possess - and find ways of using those gifts in the service of others. **So today Lord, give us minds that are filled with possibilities, hearts that are open to every prompting of Your Spirit and lives that embrace one another in Your name."**



Just to add too how much my own children enjoyed their time in the uniformed organisations, Lesley and Heather in Brownies and Guides and Paul in Cubs and Scouts, eventually leading the Venture Scouts with Michael Cuthbert.

Kay Deedman

A Link to the Past

For this week's entry I return to Issue 19 dated June/July 2012

This link is a contribution from sadly departed Norman Daniels. To anyone who knew Norman he was quite a character and in later years when his hearing was causing a problem it created a few humorous situations. Norman was a staunch supporter of our church and filled many church roles in his lifetime. He supported all of our church activities such as Christian Aid Week, Open Gardens, Table sales, Christmas Bazaars and also our concerts, auctions and our various plays. Despite all these I think Norman's favourite was our Pancake Days. Normally the first to arrive and often the last to leave, Norman did love his pancakes. In fact, he loved them so much that if it was an international contest then Norman would have won a record number of international caps.

A good storyteller, this is Norman's story.

Reminiscences - My First Date

One Saturday afternoon I had a date with an attractive young lady whom I had met through a mutual friend. We planned to go swimming in the open air swimming pool in Barking Park.



At that time I was working at a local builders and estate agents. On that Saturday morning I was ordered to supervise the eviction of, as it turned out, an elderly lady for non-payment of her rent. I was surprised that two big tough looking men from the builder's yard were willing to take orders from a fifteen year old boy. The men had cleaned the bed of the truck which was to be used to take away the old lady's furniture.

I knocked at the old lady's door, showed her the court order and told her we had come to evict her for non-payment of her rent. She burst into tears. I started to walk down the front garden path, when the old lady came in front of me, got down on her knees and begged me not to evict her. I felt like a Victorian villain, all I

needed was a moustache which I could twirl nefariously. (I have been dying to use that phrase for 67 years. I first read it in a Victorian novel I was reading at the time in which the villain had the habit of twirling his moustache nefariously.) I showed the old lady the court order but she could not see it through her tears. I said: "I am sorry but I have no option, the order must be carried out today." I helped her to her feet and she went indoors. I told the two men to start bringing out her furniture.

So as not to be in the way I stood on the pavement by the front hedge. I thought surely my employer could have been more reasonable and warned the old lady that if she did not pay her rent and something off the arrears she would be evicted. As it was it came as a terrible shock to the old lady. On the other hand my employer would argue. As she has not paid any rent for over a year, what else could she expect.

While I was thinking that, I was surprised to see the young lady I had a date with walking up the road. "Hello" I said. "What are you doing round here?" "I've come to visit my nan" she said with an exquisite smile on her face. She was just about to ask me what I was doing when a look of horror spread over her face. "What are you doing to my nan?" she demanded and rushed into the house before I could answer.

About half an hour later she came out with her arms round her still weeping nan, she did not look at me, but as she walked past me she said "Never mind nan, you come home with me, we'll look after you." I was worried as the old lady had no bag with her so she did not even have a change of clothes. As I watched them walk up the road, that was the last I ever saw of my date.

Norman Daniels

For first date disasters that takes some beating.

Unless you know different.

If you do and would like to share it with us, please write in.

Ray Williams

GPS Jokes

We were sent this joke recently:

I got myself a seniors' GPS. Not only does it tell me how to get to my destination, it tells me why I wanted to go there.

If only



Anyway, I decided to look the subject up and found, not surprisingly, that there's a whole collection of GPS jokes. Here are a few:

*Whenever I try to look up specific coordinates on my GPS it misbehaves
It has a bad latitude.*

*What do you call a Mexican GPS?
Juan Direction*

*What do you call an alligator with a GPS?
A Navi-Gator!*

*I couldn't find an army camp, so I typed the address into my GPS.
Apparently, I needed to go left, left, left, right, left.*

*Did you hear about the new Star-Wars GPS?
It's called the D2-R*

and a cautionary tale for burglars –

Two burglars were convicted when the satellite navigation system in their van recorded them at the scene of each of their crimes. It led to the burglars, who broke into ten houses in the space of three months, being jailed for a total of seven years.

One used his work van to drop off the other outside each home they burgled, a court was told. A check of the van's sat nav gave a precise record of their movements.

SINGING THE FAITH PLUS

Now Ros has gone back to work she may not be able to sing every Sunday at our Zoom service, so I had to go looking for alternative sources of music (Billy and I offered to sing when Ros couldn't but nobody seemed keen on the idea?).

While I was doing this, I came across the Singing the Faith Plus website which contains a load of information and links about music in worship – it's described as a worship planning hub, and includes the lectionary, hymn choices and more.

It looks to be a very useful resource that Ann and Carolyn have probably used but it's also of general interest.

Have a look:

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-faith/worship/singing-the-faith-plus/>

Ray's Quizzoom 12

Friday 24th July

For those of you who didn't Zoom last Friday, here are Ray's Quizzoom questions (no cheating – use of smart phones not allowed!)



QUIZ -TWELVE

ROUND ONE - MIND AND BODY

Q.1 The larynx is more commonly known by which two word name.

Q.2 If a person has a fear of water, what phobia would it be.

Q.3 Moorfields Hospital specialises in the treatment of what body part.

Q.4 In 1967 Dr Christian Barnard performed the first successful heart transplant operation but in which country did this take place.

Q.5 Which Greek is known as "The Father of Medicine."

ROUND TWO - NICKNAMES

Q.6 During the 1970's Shirley Crabtree was a popular wrestler on IN's "World of Sport" but by what parental nickname was he known.

Q.7 Born Lesley Hornby she became a leading model of the 1960's.

Q.8 This King of England reigned during the late 13th century and had the nicknames "Longshanks" and "Hammer of the Scots."

Q.9 Which social reformer and founder of modern nursing became known as "The Lady with the Lamp."

Q.10 Nicknamed "The Maid of Orleans", which French heroine was burned at the stake on 30 May 1431 at nineteen years of age.

ROUND THREE - SPACE

Q.11 Which planet has rings surrounding it.

Q.12 Who was the first man to successfully enter space in 1961.

Q.13 Who was the first man to set foot on the moon

Q.14 The Eagle comic introduced this character to the British public in the 1950's and 1960's together with his companion Digby. Name this pilot of the future.

Q.15 Which planet is closest to the sun.

ROUND FOUR - WAY UP NORTH

Q.16 Which construction stretches from Wallsend to Bowness on Solway.

Q.17 Close to Berwick on Tweed is the island of Lindisfarne but by what other name is this island known.

Q.18 Which is the largest lake in the Lake District.

Q.19 Which mountain range is known as the backbone of England.

Q.20 Which football club is the most northern Premier League club.

ROUND FIVE - ANIMAL FILM TITLES

In this round you are given the film title with the exception of one word, which is the name of an animal. To help you, further clues are given. You need to answer giving the full film title.

Q.21 "Who Framed Roger(6 letters). A 1988 film starring Bob Hoskins who is trying to exonerate the title character, accused of murder.

- Q.22 "The Silence of the(5 letters). A 1991 film starring Anthony Hopkins as the cannibal killer, Hannibal Lechter.
- Q.23"(9 letters) Dundee." A 1986 film starring Paul Hogan and Linda Kozlowski and set in the Australian outback.
- Q.24 "The.... (4 letters) of Wall Street." A 2013 film starring Leonardo Di Caprio as an ambitious stockbroker.
- Q.25 "The(8 letters) Man. A 1980 film starring John Hurt as a severely deformed man in 19th century London.

Answers next week

Ray's Quizzoom 11 – Friday 24th July: ANSWERS

ROUND ONE - CAPITAL CITIES

1. OTTAWA
2. CARACUS
3. KATMANDU
4. DAMASCUS
5. CANBERRA

ROUND TWO - POT LUCK

6. MRS WHITE
7. GEOFFREY CHAUCER
8. M6
9. ARSENAL (13 times)
10. PRINCESS ANNE - (for being in charge of an out of control dog)

ROUND THREE - PUPPETS

11. STATLER and WALDORF
12. LADY PENELOPE and PARKER
13. BERNIE CLIFTON
14. TOYOTA
15. ROD HULL and EMU

ROUND FOUR -MODEL CARS

- 16.FORD
17. ROLLS ROYCE
18. SEAT
19. VAUXHALL
20. FIAT

ROUND FIVE - PLACES OF MUSIC

21. WATERLOO
22. I LEFT MY HEART IN SAN FRANCISCO
23. DON'T CRY FOR ME, ARGENTINA
24. MASSACHUSETTS
25. IS THIS THE WAY TO AMARILLO

Newsletter No. 20 – still going!

Thanks again to everybody who's contributed.

After 20 weekly editions we've decided to have a break. Everybody is probably getting Lockdown Fatigue as the number of contributions has tailed off a bit. Also, we've acquired a couple of sun loungers and intend to spend some time lounging before summer disappears. **So, no Lockdown Link next week** - but we'll be back a week later.

But please keep your contributions coming! Send items to us at hmethsLINK@gmail.com or phone 07798948236.



Muriel & Mike

