

UNLOCKED LINK

HOCKLEY &
AMKWEELL
METHODIST CHURCH

UNLOCK LOVE



Rev. Calvin Samuel's Pastoral Letter

Galatians 5 lists the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, self-control.

The Bible often speaks of love, joy, and peace. It makes sense that these cardinal Christian virtues should be part of the fruit of the Spirit.

But what about goodness? Goodness is a virtue in danger of being undervalued. Goodness feels a bit mediocre. It's good rather than excellent or brilliant. When one is mildly surprised one might say, 'Oh my goodness!' However, when we're properly shocked some of us might be inclined to reach for, shall we say, a somewhat stronger phrase?

In University terms, good means you've perhaps scraped into a 2.2 classification, but you're miles away from a first.

Does anyone actually aspire to be good these days? Anyone with ambition aspires to be great; to be successful; to be famous; to be lauded. But to be good? Not so much. Nonetheless, here is a virtue, goodness, which is described as an outworking of the Holy Spirit.

Goodness is often not highly valued... until you encounter its absence.

I wonder whether one of the reasons that there is such widespread distrust in our public institutions and public figures like politicians, the police and even the clergy is that we no longer feel able to take for granted that those who hold positions of responsibility and authority are at heart people who are good.

I wonder how much better our communities might be if we sought simply to be good? Good husbands, good wives, good neighbours, good friends, good siblings, good Christians, good people. Effective witness for Christ does require that we are perfect but it is surely helped if we are good.

It's striking that in the story of creation in Genesis 1 the phrase 'And God saw that it was good occurs' no fewer than 7 times. Goodness is not a mediocre aspiration. It's shorthand for describing the way things and people were created to be.

Loving God, who created all things
and described them as good,
enable us by your Spirit
to become all that we should be
and so reflect your goodness and glory in the world. Amen.

Calvin



Calvin's **YouTube services** will continue to be available at

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

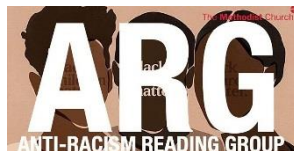
Calvin issues a copy of the liturgy for his online service each week. If you would like a copy email Nicola at hmmc1883@gmail.com

Other talks and meetings with Calvin

AntiRacism Reading Group: Monday 19.30

Sign up via EventBrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/antiracism-reading-group-tickets-123380310831?aff=erelexpmlt>



Methodist Year of Prayer:

Every Tuesday at 2.45pm

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/our-work-in-britain/evangelism-growth/year-of-prayer/>

Rochford Section Bible Study via Zoom:

Tuesdays at 7pm. Join Zoom Meeting



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83242505684?pwd=ZEFVS1lvWi9nSEwwdGdLOWNTK3EzQT09>

Meeting ID: 832 4250 5684

Passcode: 002082

Prayers for this week

You call us to speak to you in prayer– even when the places we would usually go to are not available.

Help us to know you Spirit's presence wherever we pray.

Today we especially pray for those who are living in fear, where there is war, famine and disease – give them your strength.

For those who have not yet realised the urgency of the situation during the pandemic – protect them, and all of us from harm.

Today we especially want to pray for those whose livelihoods are damaged by restrictions and who fear for the future; those who become infected with the virus and fear for their own health and their family; those making decisions about how we are to live and work until the virus can be defeated.



We bring to you those we know who need your strength to fight their fears of ill-health and frailty - Chris and Ron, Ian and Vivienne Mackenzie, Eunice, Kath and Sheila.
In the name of Jesus. Amen

A Message from the Southend and Leigh Circuit,

It is with great sadness that two of our Local Preachers, Miss Jean Pickering and Mr Andy Thomas, have passed away. Both brought so much to our churches and furthered God's Kingdom in our Circuit. They will be greatly missed.

Please pray for their families and friends at this time.



Andreas

Church Council on Zoom

At a recent meeting of the Church Council, members:-



- * spoke about the arrangements for morning worship during Covid-19 restrictions and listened to proposals for Christmas services;
- * discussed use of the hall by non-church organisations and the analysis of risk assessments as appropriate;
- * agreed to continue with weekly Zoom meetings for social chat and the weekly quiz, together with occasional worship;
- * were given an update on the church's finances, noting with gratitude that the loss of the weekly offering had been largely offset by donations in lieu;
- * heard that the church buildings and car park remained in good shape, with replacement sheds behind the hall on order and a start made on re-covering chairs in the sanctuary;
- * were advised that a Deacon, Sarah McDowell, had joined the Circuit, with special responsibility for work in Southend Town Centre and Whittingham Avenue.

***Michael Deedman,
Secretary to the Church Council***



JMA Boxes

If you want to have your JMA collecting box emptied, please give me a ring on 01702 204559 or email clarked46@talktalk.net to arrange for it to be collected.

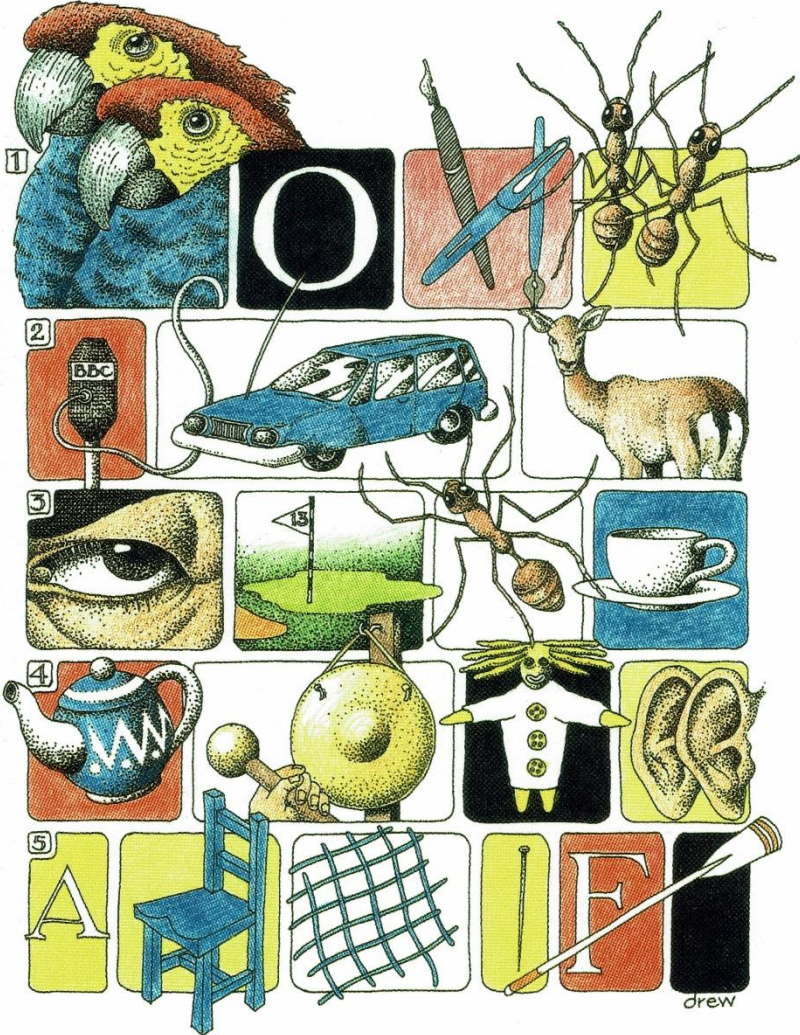
Please don't bring it to Church

David Clarke

Simon Drew's "Spot The .." Postcards

These Catchphrase-like games are available on postcards with a whole range of subjects. We'll print some in the next few issues and give you the answers in the subsequent edition.

SPOT THE GILBERT AND SULLIVAN OPERETTA



The answers to the last 'Spot the ... Postcard' quiz, Famous Films, are:

- 1 Silence of the Lambs 2 Citizen Kane 3 Great Escape
4 African Queen 5 Dirty Harry 6 Towering Inferno

We're up and running – Sunday Worship is back!



This Sunday the service will be led by Sue Hockett. And will start at 11:15am

We've now had six Sunday services in Church and whilst Essex is now in Tier 2 the rules and guidance for holding Worship does not appear to have changed. The Church has been laid out to maintain social distancing and other safeguards are in place. Please come along.

Because of the necessary precautions, Church and the services look and sound different from the "old normal". Here are some of the points you need to remember:

- please don't come to Church if you have coronavirus symptoms or have had recent contact with anyone who has symptoms or has been tested positive
- everybody will have to wear a mask
- maintain social distancing – 1m +
- there will be no singing
- please stay seated throughout the service, from when you arrive till when you leave. Don't move the chairs.
- please don't socialize

The Church is also beginning to re-open for **Community Activities**. Keep Fit classes have recommenced in the Hall on Thursdays and the Triple H Choir have started rehearsals again, also in the Hall. All users will be providing Risk Assessments and operating guidelines to ensure that their activities can be carried out safely.

From the Worship Team

We have now done six services under the “new normal” and we seem to be running smoothly. Calvin has led most of them, as Rayleigh did not open until October and Rochford don't open until December.

Thank you to everyone for following the guidelines and especially the part we all find most difficult, not socialising!! The latest government guidance for places of worship for Essex at Tier 2 says that you “must not mingle with anyone outside of your household or support bubble” and use of “must” means it's a legal requirement. That is how it is for now, anyway – I am sure it will change again but we will try to keep you up to date.

In the present situation, using the technology has become a vital part of our way of “doing church” from worship all the way to meetings and socialising. There is a shortage of ministers and local preachers, so services will not always be at the same time or even in the same format. The Worship Team is conscious that not everybody can access the internet or get to Church and government regulations, poor health or bad weather during the winter months will affect the numbers. We are trying to provide a range of ways to access what we do, so don't be afraid to ask if you want help to join in with something. If you haven't done so already, give Zoom a try – don't give up - and give us feedback on your experience as this helps identify problems.

November has two changes to service times. The **8th November is Remembrance Sunday**; it will be led by Anne and Carolyn and will begin at **10.45am** so that we can fit in the one minute silence at 11:00am.

On **29th November**, there is **a section service at 10.15am**. Calvin is hopeful that this will be held in church but linked with Rayleigh via streaming and Zoom. Our efforts at live streaming are improving, so we might have cracked the technology for this by then, but no guarantees, so watch this space!!

A Cup of Song is planned for 4:00pm on the same day but cannot take place in its planned format. The Worship Team is hoping to meet with

Calvin sometime next week, so we can decide what we think is the best thing to do.

The Church Council agreed that the All Age Worship services planned for the first Sunday of the month can be split between children and families in church, in family groups and the “usual” congregation having a Zoom service. The first **AAW** will be on **6th December at 11.15am**.

AAW will be by invitation, so that we can still comply with present regulations. The **Christingle on 24th December** will also be by invitation for the same reasons and will be led by Rev Calvin Samuel but will be at the later time of **5:00pm**.

The next quarter’s plan is out in draft form so the Team will be discussing this with Calvin when we meet and will cover how we have a Carol Service with no singing, a section service with three churches on December 27th , the Covenant service on 3rd January and AAW on the first Sunday in February. Once a month, there will also be a service that we have to organise ourselves.

Keep looking out for each other, keep well and keep safe.

Muriel

Hockley Methodists’ on Zoom

We’ll continue with our efforts to stream our **Sunday morning service live on Zoom**. The Service last Sunday was an improvement and we’re looking into ways of sorting out what we hope is the last hitch. So we’ll try again on Sunday



We’ll also continue with our Wednesday Morning **Social Chat at 10:30am** and, for as long as Ray’s willing to think up the questions, with **Ray’s Friday Quizzoom at 7:00pm**.

A Link to the Past

Today we are going back to the relatively recent “The Link” of December/January 2019/20

Written by an 83 year old lady to her best friend

My dear friend

I am reading more and dusting less.

I am sitting in the garden and admiring the view without fussing about the weeds.

I am spending more time with my family and friends and less time working.

Wherever possible, life should be a pattern of experiences to savour, not to endure.

I am trying to recognise the moments now and cherish them.

I am not saving anything ; I use my good china and wine glasses to celebrate every special event such as losing a pound in weight, getting the sink unblocked or the first amaryllis blossom.

I wear my best coat to the market. My theory is that if I look prosperous I can shell out £20 for a small bag of shopping.

I am not saving my good perfume for special parties, but wearing it for the check out staff in the supermarket and cashiers in the bank.

“Someday” and “one of these days” are no longer in my vocabulary. If it’s worth seeing or hearing or doing, I want to see and hear and do it now.

I’m not sure what others would have done had they known that they would not be here for the tomorrow that we take for granted. I think that they would have called family members and a few close friends. They might even have called a few former friends to apologise and mend fences for past squabbles. I’d like to think that they would have gone out for a Chinese meal or whatever their favourite food was.

I’m guessing because I will never know. But it’s those little things left undone that would make me angry if I knew that my hours were limited. Angry because I hadn’t written certain letters that I intended to write “one of these days.” Angry and sorry that I didn’t tell my husband and parents often enough how much I truly loved them.

I am trying very hard not to put off, hold back, or save anything that would add laughter and lustre to our lives. Every morning when I

*open my eyes I tell myself that it is special. Every day, every minute, every breath is truly a gift from God.
People say that true friends must always hold hands , but true friends don't need to hold hands because they know that the other hand will always be there.*

Submitted by David Clarke

Ray Williams

Weather Report

I don't usually comment on the weather other than to make an annual report. But the start of October was so exceptional (i.e. wet) that it's worth giving a few details.

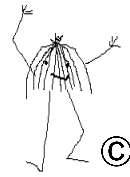


The Met Office has already reported that thanks to Storm Alex, the third of October, taken over the country as a whole, was the wettest day since their records began back in 1875. My records only go back 34 years, but they do show it was also Hockley's wettest day with 40mm of rain and in fact the first six days of the month here produced 101mm (4 inches). That's a lot of water bearing in mind the average rainfall for the whole of October is just 65mm.



I guess it's thanks to the dry spells in summer that the ground was largely able to cope with the deluge without major flooding. October is usually the wettest month of the year anyway, but this was clearly something exceptional. By 20 October we have already clocked up 145 mm - so we're already ahead of the previous monthly record from January 1988 of 141mm. and there's still over a week to go.

Michael Deedman



Hairy Plin Movies © suffer more delay with “Noddy – the Opera”

The latest setback for Boggart Hole Clough company **hairy plin publications ©** and **Hairy Plin Movies** in their ambitious production plan for “Noddy – the Opera”, comes hard on the heels of an optimistic forecast from their accountants, Kant, Count, Forte, Toffee Ltd., after shares recovered following the post Clunes rejection scenario situation.

Both David Suchet and Dame Judy Dench have now rejected approaches to play Mr Plod and Tessie Bear, respectively. Dame Judy felt that in the **theatre, film** and TV should reflect the world we live in, and in the current climate of positive discrimination it would be more appropriate to cast a bear in the role. In any case she felt sure that the costume would be irritating.

Mr Suchet is reported as saying that he felt it would be difficult to adjust to the role of Mr Plod. “He’s not Belgian and he walks in a strange way.” he said, “Not my sort of policemen at all. What about John Nettles?”

Who next is the question? Which illustrious actors will add their names to this catalogue of rejections? Will Noddy ever sing a note? Will the little red and yellow car ever pollute Toytown again? Can (*enough questions, get on with it! Ed*)

hairy plin publications © offshore solicitors, Knevver, Noe-Ingly, Dunnan Unestdaes, Werkk & Prtnrs issued their usual tight lipped and unhelpful statement expressing confidence that their clients would pursue the project and saying that they were still talking to other stars. There’s absolutely nothing of interest on their website at www.ksbtpc-maphear.org.pa – no mention of the possibility of Jeremy Clarkson being cast as Mr Sparks, or Pam Eyres replacing Dame Judy Dench as Tessie Bear. Watch this space!

The Marlborough Road and Hatfield Road Methodist Churches in St Albans have had the idea for an Anna Chaplaincy initiative for St. Albans. They have secured funding for five years for a full time Anna Chaplain to minister to the elderly in St. Albans.

The Anna Chaplain will be expected to work ecumenically and to build a team of Anna Friends (Volunteers) to expand the work across the city in a sustainable way. Although funded by the Methodist Church applicants from any tradition are welcome.

Vacancy: *Anna Chaplain (chaplain to the elderly) in St. Albans under the auspices of Hatfield Road and Marlborough Road Methodist Churches. Full time for 5 years. Work ecumenically in partnership with ministers and lay volunteers to help meet the spiritual needs of older people in the city of St. Albans using the model of the Gift of Years / Anna Chaplain initiative of the Bible Reading Fellowship. Lay or ordained can apply. Please visit www.mrmc.org.uk/index.php/future-projects/ for advert and job description.*

Closing date 8th November. Interviews 13th November.

Although the Covid-19 situation complicates the work they believe the need has never been greater.

The South Essex Circuit

The Circuit has a vacancy for a Church Administrator (part-time — 20 hours) at Billericay Methodist Church.

Job Opportunity — Billericay , Essex working from home and church office

Church Administrator (part time) 20 hours per week

A new post, and a new challenge, for someone with the passion, knowledge and experience to help develop a coordinated approach, including a growing online presence, for all aspects of administration and communication at Billericay Methodist Church.

Closing date for applications 22nd Nov 2020

Ray's Quizzoom

For those of you who missed Ray's Quizzoom 20, here it is (no cheating – use of smart phones not allowed!) along with Quizzoom 21 from last week, when there was no newsletter. Also, here are the answers to Quizzoom 19.



Ray's Quizzoom 22 – 9th October 2020

ROUND ONE - TRIVIA NEWS

Q.1 Name the dinosaur who has just been given the news, that after 27 years, he is being made redundant.

Q. 2 Which British boxer has been lined up to take part in this year's Strictly Come Dancing.

Q. 3 A new controversial book has been published, detailing the differences of opinion between Prince William and Prince Harry.

Q. 4 Which member of The Rolling Stones has recently revealed his unlikely hobby of knitting.

Q. 5 From 1984 to 1996 there was a TV show of grotesque puppets caricaturing public figures and celebrities. The show is being revived this year. Name this programme.

ROUND TWO- SWEETS

Q. 6 Which chocolate bar is also the name of a planet.

Q. 7 Swizzels make these sherbet tasting sweets which contain individual romantic messages. Name these sweets that have been around for a long time.

Q. 8 Bertie Basset is associated with which sweets.

Q. 9 What was the former name of the chocolate bar Snickers.

Q. 10 What peppermints are also the name of a sport, played on horseback.

ROUND THREE - OPERA

Q. 11 What is the name of the Gilbert and Sullivan opera based in Japan.

Q12 Who was-the composer-of Madame Butterfly

Q. 13 A barber is featured in the title of this well known opera.

Q. 14 "A policeman's lot is not a happy one", is a line from which of Gilbert and Sullivan's operas.

Q. 15 Who was the composer of The Marriage of Figaro.

ROUND FOUR - POETRY

Q. 16 Who wrote the poem Jabberwocky.

Q. 17 What was the name of the musical, performed on stage and screen, inspired by one of T. S. Eliot's favourite poems.

Q. 18 Who wrote the poem "Tam O' Shanter."

Q. 19 Batemans, is a National Trust property in Burwash, East Sussex and was the home of this poet for many years. Name him. Gunga Din.

Q. 20 In "The Owl and the Pussycat", written by Edward Lear, they ate with a (PAUSE). What did they eat with? A (TWO WORDS)

ROUND FIVE - CHURCH

Q. 21 What cathedral city is 8 miles south of Stonehenge.

Q. 22 What is the Christian name of the Welsh soprano singer and talk show host with the surname Church.

Q. 23 St. Peter's Basilica is the largest church in the world, but where in the world is this church located.

Q. 24 The church of St Mary and All Saints is known for its crooked spire. In which Derbyshire market town can this church be found.

Q. 25 Dawn French played the part of the Reverend Geraldine Grainger in which TV comedy.

Ray's Quizzoom 23 – 16th October 2020

ROUND ONE - THE ROMANS

Q. 1 What is the name of the large amphitheatre in Rome, where many gladiators fought to the death in front of up to 50,000 spectators.

Q. 2 Housesteads is the best known fort in which Roman construction that stretches for over 70 miles on the border of England and Scotland.

Q. 3 Which actor played the title character in the 1976 TV series "I Claudius."

Q. 4 The first Roman city in England was called Camulodunum. By what name do we know it now.

Q. 5 According to tradition, Rome was named after the twin brother of Remus. Name this twin brother.

ROUND TWO - STAR SIGNS

- Q. 6 What star sign is from April 21st to May 21st and is represented by a bull.
- Q. 7 What star sign is represented by an archer and runs from November 23rd to December 21st
- Q. 8 What star sign runs from July 24th to August 23rd and is represented by a lion.
- Q. 9 What star sign is represented by a goat and runs from December 22nd to January 20th
- Q. 10 What star sign runs from February 20th to March 20th and is represented by two fishes tied together.

ROUND THREE - ALL AROUND THE WORLD

- Q. 11 Which mountain overlooks Cape Town in South Africa.
- Q. 12 Machu Picchu is a mecca for many adventurers but in which South American country is it found.
- Q. 13 The Taj Mahal is designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site and is in which Indian city.
- Q. 14 Uluru is now the used Aborigine name for this large sandstone rock formation in the Northern Territory of Australia, which is 200 miles south of Alice Springs. What was the name used prior to its name change.
- Q. 15 Which European capital city is the most northern capital city in the world.

ROUND FOUR - KEEP IT LOCAL

- Q. 16 Turning right out of our church, what is the name of the café that you reach just before the zebra crossing.
- Q. 17 What is the name of the lawyers, next door to Seemore Glass in Spa Road.
- Q. 18 At the entrance to the Hockley Library car park, what is the name of the nearby florists.
- Q. 19 What is the name of the traditional Turkish barbers, near to the Co-op in Spa Road.
- Q. 20 Next door to Potters is a card shop. Name it.

ROUND FIVE - A SONG FOR THE DAY

Each song title will contain a day of the week.

From the clues given you need to identify the song title.

- Q. 21 Every Monday in 1979, The Boomtown Rats were very unhappy. What did they say to express their feelings. (4 words)

- Q. 22 Where were The Drifters on a Saturday evening in 1964. (5 words)
Q. 23 In 1968, The Small Faces did not do much on a Sunday. (2 words)
Q. 24 Where was Friday for The Easybeats in 1966. (4 words)
Q. 25 Who did The Rolling Stones meet on a Tuesday in 1967- (1 words) - October

ANSWERS to Ray's Quizzoom 20

ROUND ONE - BATTLES

- A.1 BALAKLAVA
- A. 2 ROBERT THE BRUCE
- A.3 BOER WAR
- A.4 ICELAND
- A.5 GENERAL GALTIERI

ROUND TWO - SHAKESPEARE

- A. 6 AS YOU LIKE IT
- A. 7 A MIDSUMMER'S NIGHT DREAM
- A.8 JULIUS CAESAR
- A.9 ROMEO AND JULIET
- A.10 HAMLET

ROUND THREE - FAMILY BIBLE

- A. 11 JACOB AND ESAU
- A. 12 BENJAMIN
- A. 13 EVE
- A. 14 SAMSON
- A. 15 SALOME

ROUND FOUR - RADIO

- A. 16 PETER SELLERS
- A. 17 MRS DALES DIARY
- A. 18 TED RAY
- A. 19 WAKEY WAKEY
- A. 20 KENNETH WILLIAMS

ROUND FIVE - MAGIC

- A.21 THE GREAT SOPRENDO
- A.22 MOZART
- A.23 PAUL DANIELS

A24 BLACK
A.25 TOMMY COOPER

ANSWERS to Ray's Quizzoom 21

ROUND ONE - COMEDY

1. DAWN AND JENNIFER
2. LUCILLE BALL
3. BILLY CONNOLLY
4. MATT LUCAS
5. THE GOODIES

ROUND TWO - MIND YOUR P'S AND Q'S

6. QUEBEC
7. MUSHY PEAS
8. QUICKSILVER
9. THREE POINTS
10. QUEUE

ROUND THREE - PRINTING PRESS

11. THE MORNING STAR
12. HARPER'S BAZAAR
13. PLAYBOY
14. DANDY
15. DAILY STAR

ROUND FOUR - PATRON SAINTS

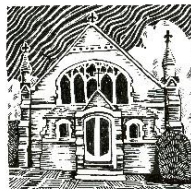
16. SAINT NICHOLAS
17. SAINT VALENTINE
18. SAINT CHRISTOPHER
19. SAINT PETER
20. SAINT MICHAEL

ROUND FIVE - WHAT THE DICKENS

21. MAG WITCH
22. DAVID COPPERFIELD
23. OLD CURIOSITY SHOP
24. BULLSEYE
25. LONDON AND PARIS



I don't care how magnificent you are, the law says six.....



Newsletter No. 27 Still unlocked, just about!

Thank you, once again, to everybody who's contributed, particularly to Billy for another inspired front cover. Please keep your contributions coming! Send items to us at hmethslink@gmail.com or phone 07798948236.

Muriel & Mike

Hockley and Hawkwell Methodist Church

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Minister – Rev Dr Calvin Samuel

