



Hockley and Hawkwell Methodist Church

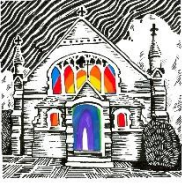
4th December 2020

No. 93 Edition 232

Hockley & Hawkwell Methodist Church Main Road Hockley Essex SS5 4QY

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Minister – Rev Dr Calvin Samuel



WE'RE OPEN - AGAIN!

Church re-opens this Sunday when All Age Worship will be led by Rev Calvin Samuel at 11:15am. This service is primarily for young families so there will also be a Zoom service at 11:15am led by Carolyn Sturgess. Joining details for this will be circulated separately.

**Sunday 13th December 11:15am
Morning Worship led by Anne Sains**

**The following services will be led by
Rev Calvin Samuel:**

**Tuesday 15th December 4:00pm
Messy Church**

**Sunday 20th December 11:15am
Carol service**

**Christmas Eve 5:00pm
Christingle**

To comply with social distancing, numbers will be limited at Messy Church, the Carol Service and Christingle – please register at hockleymeths@live.co.uk for any of these services. Regular attenders do not need to register for the 13th December service.

**There will also be a service on Zoom on
Christmas Day at 10:15am – joining
details will be sent out later**



Rev. Calvin Samuel's Pastoral Letter

The season of Advent is about directing our attention to the One who is to come and preparing for that coming. The coming of the Lord is an invitation to penitence. It's one of the reasons that the colour for Advent is purple or violet, a colour that symbolises royalty, on the one hand, and penitence, on the other. Advent speaks to both of those themes. If we are to be ready for the coming of the King we need to confront our own sinfulness in penitence.

Most of us no longer really think of ourselves as sinful. Sure, we know that we're far from perfect and that we're flawed human beings, but sinful and in need of forgiveness is probably not our default way of thinking of ourselves. There's always someone else worse than me.

I think previous generations were far more inclined to think of themselves as sinful. They carried a great deal of unnecessary and unhealthy guilt as a result. Therefore, in reaction to that we in our generation naturally resist the inclination to see ourselves as guilt-ridden sinners. That's in many ways a good thing.

Nonetheless, recognising our sinfulness in penitence is not an invitation to wallow in guilt. Rather, it is an invitation to acknowledge our sins and then to seek to be set free from them.

This Advent I wonder if that is not one of the best gifts we can be given this year. An invitation to have a good long and hard look at ourselves in the light of the coming King, to acknowledge our sins, and then to seek to be released from them so we can live changed lives.

Penitence is not just about being sorry for what we've done or failed to do in the past, it's also about how we want to change going forward. Making change, however, whether in ourselves or in our churches is always difficult.

Every year people make New Year's resolutions: we join a gym, take up running, start a new diet, begin learning a new skill, aim to create a new work life balance, plan to do our tax returns earlier, etc. By February, 80% of us have already failed in our New Year's resolutions and many start failing even earlier, by the second Friday after the new Year. So, January 15th 2021, is when the wheels begin to fall off most people's resolutions.

It's one of the reasons that public baptism after penitence was so important in the history of the Church. Baptism was an external and public indication that you had resolved to change your life. That sign, that symbolism, was one way to try to make the change stick.

Friends, I think we've got a lot of changes ahead. This pandemic has changed our world in ways that we still don't yet fully understand. As the people of God, I believe that God is calling us to change so that we are ready for whatever God wants to do next. but that change, as with all change, is going to be hard for us to adopt.

Advent is about preparing for what is to come so that we are ready. What action might we like to undertake this Advent as a sign that we are ready for change?

During Advent I'll be leading 4 weekly Reflections via Zoom beginning on Tuesday 1st December as we share some of our hopes, dreams and fears for the year to come. I do hope you'll be able to join me.

*God our Father and our Mother,
you spoke to the prophets of old
of a Saviour who would bring peace.
You helped them to spread the joyful message
of his coming kingdom.
Help us, as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
to share with those around us
the good news of your power and love.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into 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

Calvin's **Advent Zoom Bible Study** is on Tuesdays at **6:00pm** for the next 3 weeks. The joining details are:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83242505684?pwd=ZEFVS1lvWi9nSEwwdGdLOWNTK3EzQT09>

Meeting ID: 832 4250 5684

Passcode: 002082

TOY AND GIFT SERVICE



In lieu of the Toy and Gift Service this year, as bringing gifts to Church is not possible, we can send gift vouchers to the women's refuge, now working under the title of 'Safe Steps' and/or make a donation to HARP.

Safe Steps has continued work throughout the pandemic, supporting those affected by domestic abuse, often over the phone or by video calls. They have seen a 77% increase in calls to their helpline.

This year they are having to adapt how they accept donations for Christmas and supermarket vouchers (for Tesco, Sainsburys or Coop) would be the best way of donating. Vouchers enable the women to purchase the essentials that they need and also gifts for their children this Christmas. The vouchers can be posted to Safe Steps Fundraising Manager at 4 West Road, Westcliff-on-Sea SS0 9DA or put through the door there. Or you can make a donation at www.safesteps.org.

In addition, donations can be made to Harp via the website at:

[Christmas Appeal 2020](#) | [HARP](#) | [Southend's homeless charity](#)



The Circuit Preaching Plan for December to February is available on the [Circuit Website](#). Paper copies will be available soon at Church

CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARD TREE



There will be no card tree in Church this year for you to wish members and friends a Happy Christmas. Instead, the last Link to be issued before Christmas will be mainly for your Christmas greetings to each other (see page 7)

Donations can still be made in lieu of cards to All We Can. Our donations at Harvest raised nearly £600 - a fabulous result. For Christmas, the aim is to buy an 'extraordinary gift' of a wheelchair for a disabled child, to transform a life so that they can go to school, play with friends and have a chance to develop their full potential. We need £222.



This is Eyosiyas from Ethiopia, who has benefitted already from the support from All We Can, working with communities to help overcome the stigma and prejudice surrounding disability and championing the rights of those affected.

At present the only way to make a donation via Church is to drop a cheque made payable to All We Can through Stan's letterbox or the Church letterbox (or post a cheque to Hockley Methodist Church, Main Road, Hockley SS5 4QY). We hope that more straightforward arrangements will be available soon!

Prayers for this week



Give thanks for the scientists who have used their knowledge and understanding of God's world to produce a vaccine against Covid-19, for their dedication and persistence. Remember also those who volunteered in the trials and those who are tasked with rolling out the programme.

For those working in the retail sector of the economy, especially those working for Arcadia and Debenhams, now facing a bleak Christmas and New Year.

For the homeless especially now the weather is turning colder, for those working with and amongst them, trying to bring security and a safe space. Remember the work of HARP in Southend and the charity Crisis at Christmas.

For those we know who are unwell, some dealing with long term health issues or are lonely, anxious and frail. For mothers with young children, unable to mix indoors with family and friends and desperate for adult company, especially those connected to Messy Church and Brightstars. For families where there is domestic violence, remembering the work of Safe Steps in our area.



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/>

Covid-19 Precautions at Church

We've gone to considerable lengths to try to make sure that Church is safe. When we were previously allowed to open after the initial lockdown an extensive risk assessment was carried out and guidance prepared both for worshippers and other users of our premises. These are available on the Church website at

<https://www.hockleyhawkwelldmethodist.org.uk/coronavirus/>

Amongst other things, a one-way circulation is in place, windows are kept open during worship, masks have to be worn, chairs are set out at least 1m apart.



More details are shown on a video that can be found on the Church under the [VIDEO](#) tab or on [YouTube](#).

This video also shows the rainbows and other illustrations sent in by members and friends during the pandemic.

We hope that these arrangements give you the confidence to return to Church and that you'll feel comfortable and safe while you're there



Christmas Greetings in the Next Unlocked Link

The next Unlocked Link will be the last one before Christmas. We intend to devote much of it to Christmas Greetings.

In previous years we've had a Card Tree in Church to which you could attach a card wishing all your friends a Happy Christmas and asked for donations to All We Can in lieu of the cost of cards and postage

This year we're suggesting you send your greetings via The Unlocked Link, either by way of a short video recorded on your phone, laptop or pc or by sending a brief written greeting if possible accompanied by a photo.

Please send your greetings to hmethslink@gmail.com by Wednesday 16th December. If the file you're trying to send is too large call Mike on 07798948236

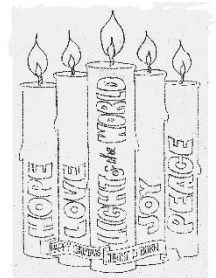
Christmas Poster

This Christmas poster, designed by Billy, will be displayed on our front Notice Board and will also form the front page of the Christmas edition of the Unlocked Link.

Kay is distributing copies to Emmanuel and Bramerton Road Churches and copies are available for our members and friends – we hope you'll display one in your front window or wherever it can be seen, so they'll be featured all over Hockley during Christmas.

There's also a black and white version for colouring in.

Both are attached to the accompanying email but for most of you a copy of the coloured version will be delivered by your Pastoral Leader (it may not be possible to deliver to those outside the main parts of Hockley and Hawkwell) and if you get a paper copy of this newsletter, you'll get a copy along with that.



Going Shopping?



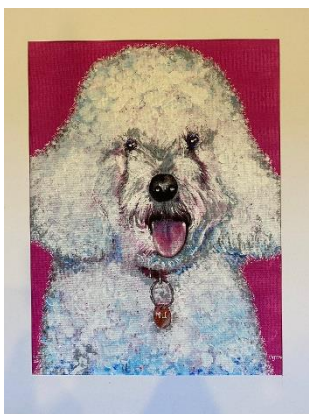
I'm afraid that I have to report the loss of a few more local businesses.

The bra manufacturer has gone bust, the specialist in submersibles has gone under, the manufacturer of food blenders has gone into liquidation, a dog kennel has had to call in the retrievers and the suppliers of paper for origami enthusiasts have folded.

The Heinz factory has been canned as they couldn't ketchup with orders, the tarmac laying company has reached the end of the road, the bread company has run out of dough, the clock manufacturer has had to wind down and gone cuckoo, the Chinese has been taken away, the shoe shop has had to put his foot down and given his staff the boot and the launderette has been taken to the cleaners!

The pet shop has gone to the dogs. The butcher's has had the chop, the Greengrocer's in a vegetative state. The venetian blind shop has closed, so it's curtains for us all. The wallpaper shop's taken a pasting; the fish monger's been battered. The florists are now pushing up the daisies, the milkman's lost his bottle and, finally, the bread man's toast.

D-Ream 1993?



Milo

Here's another picture by Billy, this time of Milo, David and Linda's dog before Bella.

They're delighted with it as it's a lovely memory of Milo.

Nativity Cancelled!

No Nativity this year because the Three Wise Men face a travel ban

The shepherds have been furloughed

The innkeeper has shut down because of Tier 3 regulations and a slump in business

Santa won't be delivering as he would break the Rule of Six working with Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Donner and Blitzen

As for Rudolph, with that red nose he should be isolating and getting tested!



A LINK TO THE PAST

I was going to continue Ian's epic cycle ride from Land's End to John O'Groats with a return to Issue 16 dated December 2011 to January 2012 but thanks to the generosity of June Waterfield I have been able to borrow further editions of The Link. This has enabled me to take a backward step, or should I say back pedal to the start of Ian's journey from Lands End which was in issue No. 14 August/ September 2011.

Lands End to John O'Groats Cycle Ride

Part One

As a keen cyclist one of my ambitions was to cycle from Land's End to John O'Groats known as "end to end." So in November 2010, I spent hours poring over maps and adapting the CTC Route to suit me, then I booked all my accommodation, a combination of bed and breakfast, and youth hostels.

So on Monday 16th May 2011, I travelled to Liverpool Street by train then cycled to Paddington, further than it looked on the map, resulting in me running along the pavement down the one-way street to the station but I made the train to Penzance ok.

I arrived at Penzance at 17.10 and after getting slightly lost in Penzance, I was soon on the right route to get to Land's End Youth Hostel. The route was fairly hilly and I missed the turning for the hostel, which is near St. Just, the sign was buried in the hedge but I made it in time to order an evening meal.

Tuesday 17th May : Lands End to Padstow : 75 miles

After a good breakfast I cycled the short distance to Lands End, the site was almost deserted as the amusements and entertainments do not open until 10.00 a.m. I took the obligatory photo of my bike by the sign and then set off for the first day's ride to Padstow, where I was staying in bed and breakfast.

Initially the weather was not too bad, the route however was very hilly and I had to stop to change gear so that I could use my smallest chain ring to ride up.

I stopped at a nice village pub for lunch with friendly staff. My route went along the coast to Newlyn, then through Penzance, a short stretch on the A30, then across country to Cambourne and Redruth and then minor roads through Chacewater, Threemilestone, Shortlandsea and St Newlyn to Newquay. This route was pleasant with not too many hard climbs.

However after Newquay I rode along the coast on the B3776, this was extremely hilly and meant I spent a long time riding in very low gears. There were a lot of steep descents followed by a steep climb out of the valley. The weather began to deteriorate: it began to rain and was misty. I was going to arrive late at my digs and a hotel advertising cream teas was too tempting, so I stopped for some much needed refreshment and phoned up to let my landlady know I was going to be a little late.

After the break there was only three hard climbs and I was in the outskirts of Padstow and soon at the digs. After a quick shower and change of clothes I walked down to the harbour area and found a good pub for a dinner. The harbour area is a nice place to explore and I enjoyed the walk back to the digs.

It only took about fifteen minutes. I phoned Viv to let her know I had arrived safely and retired to bed at about 10.30 p.m.

Wednesday 18th May: Padstow to Okehampton: 65 miles

My journey to Okehampton was much easier than the first day. I went down to the harbour and caught the ferry to Rock and cycled along the pleasantly quiet B3314 to Delabole: then lanes towards Launceston, some of these had grass growing in the middle of the road and hardly any traffic on them.

In Launceston I stopped at a pub for lunch and then only had a short distance to travel to Okehampton, again it rained! I arrived fairly early at the digs and the proprietors provided tea and biscuits while we chatted., this was very welcome. It meant I could have a rest watching the TV before walking down into the town to get my evening meal, then return to phone home and relax in front of the TV before going to bed.

More of Ian's epic adventure to follow.

Ray

Ray's Quizzoom 28 – 27th November

ROUND ONE - FAIRY TALES

Q. 1 The German brothers Jacob Ludwig Carl and Wilhelm Carl were known for writing many fairy tales. By what name were they more commonly known.

Q. 2 Hans Christian Anderson wrote a famous fairy tale about a creature turning into a swan. What was the name of this fairy tale.

Q. 3 In "Jack and the Beanstalk", the giant was heard to say, "Fee Fi Fo Fum, I smell theWhat did he smell. (4 words)

Q. 4 In the fairy tale Snow White, she met up with seven dwarfs. Which of the dwarfs comes last alphabetically.

Q. 5 In "Cinderella", her fairy godmother struck an object with her wand, which turned it into an elegant coach. Cinderella shall go to the ball. Often seen at Halloween, what object was turned into this coach.

ROUND TWO - MEDICAL MATTERS

Q.6 In bingo, what number is "Doctor's orders."

Q. 7 The MMR jab is a vaccine against which three diseases.

Q. 8 The TV period drama "Meet the Midwife" is set in which city.

Q. 9 Beginning with the letter H, what is the medical term for bad breath.

Q. 10 The World Health Organisation is based in which European city.

ROUND THREE - FASHION)

Q. 11 The four fashion centres of the 20th century were considered to be Paris, London, New York and which other city.

Q. 12 Meryl Streep and Anne Hathaway starred in this 2005 film based around a major fashion house. Name this film.

Q. 13 Which London street is famous for traditional men's bespoke tailoring.

Q. 14 Name the fashion designer, whose father was one of the Beatles.

Q. 15 A former girlfriend of Hugh Grant, which English actress and fashion model is particularly known for wearing a plunging black Versace dress, held together with gold safety pins.

ROUND FOUR - EATING OUT

Q. 16 From which country does sushi originate.

Q. 17 What is the abbreviated and more popular name for spiced ham.

Q. 18 Which old fashioned, sweet and powerful northern confectionery, used to be taken by mountaineers in need of a fast energy hit.

Q. 19 What is the traditional, batter-based accompaniment to roast beef when having Sunday lunch.

Q. 20 Four rectangles of sponge, two pink and two yellow, in a block, and wrapped in marzipan. What is the name of this cake.

ROUND FIVE - AROUND BRITAIN

Q. 21 You can count on Len Goodman for liking this bridge, when crossing into Wales.

Q. 22 In this Scottish town, you will find no crocodiles but plenty of cake.

Q. 23 This bay in Yorkshire, is miles from Sherwood Forest.

Q. 24 Travelling north up the Mu, this Essex village sounds like an unattractive place to visit.

Q. 25 According to the song, it's a long way to this place in Ireland. It's a long way to go. Name it.

Ray's Quizzoom 29 – 27th November

ROUND ONE - FIRE

Q. 1 This ran on TV for fourteen series, from 1988 to 2002, and featured Blue Watch, a team of city firefighters. What was the name of this popular TV series.

Q. 2 Which British group had a UK hit in 1968 with "Fire Brigade." 0.
3 Fireman Sam lived in which fictional Welsh village.

Q. 4 What was the name of Take That's, 1993 UK hit, with fire in its title.

Q. 5 There were many historic events in the 17th century, which included the Great Plague of 1665, but in which year was The Great Fire of London.

ROUND TWO - "A" PLACE IN THE WORLD

This is all about places in the world, beginning with the letter "A".

Q. 6 According to the song, where do tulips come from.

Q. 7 What is New Zealand's largest city.

Q. 8 This sports club in Lancashire has a long association with Stanley.

Q. 9 This is the second city of Egypt and named after a great hero.

Q. 10 The Atomic Weapons Research Establishment is on the Hampshire/ Berkshire border. It was the starting point for protest marches by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in the 50s & 60s. Name this place beginning with the letter "A."

ROUND THREE - COURTS OF LAW

Q. 11 This legal series ran from 1972 to 1984 and all the action took place in court showing the workings of a court trial. It could be seen early afternoons, Monday to Friday.

Q. 12 Rumpole of the Bailey starred Leo McKern as a defending barrister. The series ran from 1975 to 1992. Rumpole often referred to his wife using which five words.

Q. 13 What was the name of the American TV legal series that ran from 1957 to 1966 starring Raymond Burr as a criminal defence attorney.

Q. 14 Kramer vs Kramer was a 1979 American legal drama film. Who were the two main stars of this film.

Q. 15 What is the official name of the Old Bailey.

ROUND FOUR - DAYS OF THE WEEK - (Q16-Q20)

Each answer will be one of the following five languages. Danish, French, German, Italian, Spanish.

Each of these five languages will be an answer.

Q. 16 LUNES is Monday in which language.

Q. 17 TIRSDAG is Tuesday in which language.

Q. 18 MERCREDI is Wednesday in which language.

Q. 19 GIOVEDI is Thursday in which language.

Q. 20 FREITAG is Friday in which language.

ROUND FIVE - TV SITCOMS

Q. 21 "What is your name?" "Don't tell him Pike."

Actor Ian Lavender was Pike but what was the name of this TV sitcom.

Q. 22 In this long running TV sitcom, a market trader was often heard to say, "This time next year, we'll be millionaires."

Q. 23 "Mr. Humphries, are you free? Mr Humphries looking all around eventually answers, "I'm free." What was the name of this TV sitcom that took place in Grace Bros department store.

Q. 24 Barry Island and Billericay is the connection for this TV sitcom in which Ruth Jones regularly asks, "What's occurring?"

Q. 25 "Listen very carefully, I shall say this only once." These words were often said in the vicinity of a French café.

ANSWERS to Ray's Quizzoom 26

ROUND ONE - A MATCH OF TWO HALVES

A. 1A) SIR FRANCIS DRAKE and B) PLYMOUTH

A. 2A) REAL MADRID and B) WHITE SHIRTS

A. 3A) STAN and B) OLIVER (OLLIE)

A. 4A) LETTUCE and B) TOMATO

A. 5A) MORECAMBE and B) WISE

ROUND TWO - ISLANDS

A.6 CANARY ISLANDS (CANARIES)

A. 7 ANGLESEY

A.8 COWES

A.9 DOUGLAS

A.10 ALASKA

ROUND THREE - IN THE MONEY

A.11 1960'S (1968)

A. 12 ABBA

A. 13 FORT KNOX

A. 14 ESCUDO

A. 15 THREADNEEDLE STREET

ROUND FOUR - INSTRUMENTAL

A. 16 GLENN MILLER

A. 17 APACHE

A. 18 A WALK IN THE BLACK FOREST

A. 19 FLEETWOOD MAC

A. 20 AMAZING GRACE

ROUND FIVE - SPORTING TERMS

A.21 GOLF

A. 22 HALF NELSON

A.23 HIGH JUMP

A. 24 BOXING

A. 25 CRICKET

ANSWERS to Ray's Quizzoom 27

ROUND ONE - TOYS

A. 1 CABBAGE PATCH DOLLS

A. 2 SCALEXTRIC

A.3 DENMARK

A. 4 WALLACE AND GROMIT

A. 5 SPACEHOPPER

ROUND TWO - SUPERMARKETS

A. 6 PARTY SEVEN

A.7 HEINZ

A. 8 COFFEEMATE

A.9 CADBURY'S

A. 10 BRUT

ROUND THREE - FILM MUSICALS

A. 11 OLIVER

A. 12 CATS

A.13 GREASE

A. 14 THE GREATEST SHOWMAN

A. 15 CHICAGO

ROUND FOUR - THE 1990'S

A. 16 NELSON MANDELA

A. 17 BILL CLINTON

A. 18 BUZZ LIGHTYEAR

A. 19 DOLLY

A. 20 1995

ROUND FIVE - BOYS AND GIRLS

A. 21 THE SPICE GIRLS

A. 22 TAKE THAT

A.23 BOYZONE

A. 24 BANANARA

A. 25 LITTLE MIX

Simon Drew's "Spot the"

The answers to last week's "Spot the Mammal" are :

1. Giant Panda
2. Hippopotamus
3. Rhinoceros
4. Bottlenose Dolphin
5. Porcupine
6. Chimpanzee.
7. Elephant

Newsletter No. 30

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

Muriel & Mike

