

# JULY-AUGUST 2007

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

### *We send Birthday Greetings to*

<b>ALICE SMITH</b>	who will be 12 on 3 <sup>rd</sup> July
<b>TIMOTHY WRIGHT</b>	who will be 10 on 29 <sup>th</sup> July and to
<b>KIANA KWAKYE-SAFO,</b>	who will be 12 on 25 <sup>th</sup> August.
and to <b>JONATHAN HINDS</b>	who will be 17 on 29 <sup>th</sup> August

*We wish all these young friends very happy days*

I didn't hear till very recently, that **Robert Normanton**, had passed his Grade 4 Clarinet exam some couple of months ago. **Congratulations, Robert!**

**Congratulations** also, to **Matthew Foster** on passing his recent Grade 8 clarinet exam with merit. Matthew is waiting for A-level results, to know if he has gained a place at University. We wish him well.

P.S. Please let me know about our young people's achievements (and the adults!)

– I do like to put them in the Newsletter.

BARBARA FOSTER

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## CHURCH ANNIVERSARY JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>.

This year we have invited the **Rev. Dr. Stuart Jordan** Co-Chair of our new London District, to conduct our Anniversary Service at 10.45 am. [This information was omitted from the Circuit Plan.] Dr. Jordan has served in the Connexional Team as Secretary of the London Committee since 1997 and prior to that was stationed in various appointments around the country. We look forward to welcoming him to our church.

## CELEBRATION OF THE HYMNS OF CHARLES WESLEY

1707 - 1788

**SUNDAY JULY 1<sup>ST</sup> at 6.30 pm**

Andrew Taylor, Brian Taylor and Frank Sayers have prepared an evening to mark the tercentenary of the birth of Charles Wesley to be held in our church, which will be led by a choir drawn from the Circuit. The organist at St. Andrew's Duncan Paterson will be taking part. Included is a dramatized conversation with Charles and his wife, Sarah.

The celebration will also include the presentation of a certificate in recognition of

**Fifty Years of Local Preaching to Sister Vera Nicholls.**

## **DECAJAZZ**

The long awaited Decajazz Concert and Supper was enjoyed on Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup> by over 100 people. The lovely meal was much appreciated, and the band was enthusiastically received by the audience. After the supper, 4 of the youngsters performed some 'Barber Shop' items, much to everyone's delight. Later people got up and danced, which was lovely to watch. I think I am speaking for everyone, when I say thankyou to all who helped in any way to make this event the success that it was, particularly to Jeremy and Diane, who masterminded the whole event. We anticipate being able to give £500 towards the second phase of the development plan

BARBARA

## **"LUMPS OF DEFORMITY!"**

That was the view of modern art held by the 20<sup>th</sup> century artist Frank Salisbury (1874 – 1962) and lifelong Methodist, who specialised in portraits, murals of ceremonial and historical events. His sitters included members of our royal family, including the Queen, 5 Presidents of the United States of America and many internationally known people. Not surprisingly, his strongly held views of modern art caused him to be 'out of tune' with the establishment of the art world of his day.

Frank Salisbury was the subject of our speaker at the June meeting of the Church Fellowship, Nigel McMurray, who spoke with great humour of Frank Salisbury's life and showed us slides of many of the portraits.

Our last meeting of the present session is on **Tuesday July 3<sup>rd</sup>**, when Martin Fairhurst will tell us about the discs, or CD's he would take with him on a desert island. Do come along and join us. During the year we have had some very entertaining evenings including a talk by Ian Grant who trains athletes for the Olympics, Derek Wright telling us about his piano tuning experiences, a Christmas Miscellany compiled by Barbara, a Photo Quiz presented by Susan and a talk with living illustrations about orchids from Pam & Peter Hall. We are about to plan the 2007/2008 season, so if you can suggest topics or speakers please speak to Barbara, Catherine, Hilary or Frank with your ideas. We hope to attract a larger audience. The Church Fellowship will meet informally on **Tuesday August 14<sup>th</sup>** at 21 Lakeside Avenue from 7.00 pm onwards F.S.

## **CHURCH LUNCH CLUB'S 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

This was celebrated on May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2007 with a delicious meal of prawn cocktail / fruit salad starter, followed by roast beef with trimmings, strawberry mousse and strawberries and fresh pineapple. To round off the meal, a sponge cake, with cream and fresh fruit decoration, organised by Barbara, was served. 24 diners enjoyed this meal, after which tributes were paid to the cooks Barbara Foster and Catherine Sayers, both of whom have prepared these meals since 1982, and also to Sheila Woodbridge, who cooked from 1982 till she and John moved away in 1986. We invited Sheila and John to come to this anniversary meal but they were unable to attend.

Sheila and John sent greetings -

*"We are sorry not to be with you, but we shall be thinking of you, and wish you well. Long may the monthly lunch continue."*

Stan Singleton proposed an eloquent vote of thanks, and Peter Mitchell read this poem which he had prepared earlier:

The monthly lunch is here again.  
Our resident chefs Cath and Babs  
don't serve us plain kebabs.  
They provide a three course meal  
For £2 a head - a real fine deal.

They slave at the stove for the pleasure  
Of those who are now at leisure.  
Home cooked food is always best -  
You see it consumed with so much zest.

It was in 1982 that the lunches began,  
25 years is quite a span.  
So lovely Cath and Babs, thanks a bunch  
For 25 years of the monthly Church Lunch.

F.S.

## ALL AGE WORSHIP

### Global Warming

At one of the discussions which formed a part of our monthly All Age Worship we considered our responsibilities to the planet and the environment in which we live. The members of the group asked for a letter to be sent to the Prime Minister expressing their concerns. As the office of PM is in limbo at present letters were sent to our Borough MPs, Mike Gapes and Les Scott: 'We, members of The Drive Methodist Church, Ilford, Essex wish to express our concern at the lack of urgency apparent in protecting the environment from pollution leading to global warming. We believe that caring for the planet and so for our fellow humans is an essential part of our lives as Christians.

We are particularly concerned, and some of our members have first-hand experience of this, that moving production of goods abroad often leads to greater pollution and energy use in old factories using power from dirty power stations.

We ask that through Parliament you do everything possible to make people aware of the need not just for reducing our carbon footprint but of reducing our total energy use and accepting the change of lifestyle that this implies.'

It was also recommended that members try to watch the DVD 'An Inconvenient Truth' produced by Al Gore, former US Vice President.

### Reconciliation

At another discussion we were asked to write a church definition of 'Reconciliation': 'Acknowledging and understanding what has happened, forgiving and building a new future based on compromise.'

The BBC programme 'Facing the Truth' in which Archbishop Tutu spoke to both victims and aggressors from the troubles in Northern Ireland is recommended viewing.

Both of the DVDs mentioned above maybe borrowed from Brian Taylor.

\* \* \*

ILFORD CHORAL SOCIETY presents ***"THE MAGDALENE CHORALE"***

This is a very exciting time for Ilford Choral Society. To help us celebrate our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, a new choral work has been written for our Choral Society, and will have its World Premiere on the 8<sup>th</sup> July 2007 in Ilford Essex. The noted work is entitled 'The Magdalene Chorale', and is a rock opera written by composer Peter White.

The composition tells the story of Mary Magdalene through a variety of songs, musical interpretation and narration. Originally written for the band Only Human, the work has been expanded to include choral sections which will be incorporated with, and dovetail the existing music. The work is best described as a rock opera (along the lines of Jesus Christ Superstar) and is something that Christians of all ages would appreciate.

This is not only a coup for Ilford Choral Society, but for the Borough of Redbridge, the local area and Essex county. The society's conductor, Duncan Paterson and pianist Jean Wilson are heavily involved in bringing the wonderful project to Ilford.

If you have any questions regarding this performance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jo Clarke, Publicity Officer, Ilford Choral Society. Tel: 020 8507 0592

## **JUNIOR CHURCH**

1<sup>st</sup> July will be our Church Anniversary and the 8<sup>th</sup> July will be the **"All Age Worship"** service.

We feel that the once a month service for Junior Church is going well and we will hopefully continue in September. If you have any views on this, then please speak to a steward or me about it.

Our last meeting before the summer break will be on the 15<sup>th</sup> July. We will be having a "Whole Church Picnic" down at the Rodings after morning service. Please come with your sandwiches and a folding chair if possible.

Transport can be arranged by speaking to me. Tea and coffee will be available. It should be a time when we can enjoy each other's company and the wonderful summer sunshine. If the weather is bad we will meet in the Church Hall instead!

### ***PLEASE JOIN US!***

Our first meeting back will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

**JO WRIGHT**

## ***New Essex Choral Society***

The choir is holding a 'Broadway Banquet', a concert and buffet supper with music by Rogers and Hammerstein, Simon and Garfunkel and others. This will be held at Barnardo's Church, Barkingside on Saturday 7th July, commencing at 7.30 pm. Tickets £10 from Brian Taylor or on the door.

\* \* \*

*"I would like to say a big Thank You to our Kindly Drivers that week by week bring us to Church. If it was not for your kindness we would miss our Sunday morning Service, which I am sure we all look forward to.*

*Thank you all Vi"*

\* \* \*

## NEWS FROM THE GUIDES

After many years as a Guider at The Drive, (I joined in 1983 from St. Clement's) I will reluctantly be closing the Guide Unit this summer, unless we can recruit new leaders. The main reason for ceasing to run weekly meetings is because I am starting a full time university course in September to study and practise midwifery. My time will be filled with family / essays / assignments and shift working.

Jo has decided not to take over running the Unit. She is planning to mentor new Guiders, an extremely valuable role which she will be good at.

My favourite part of Guiding is camping and I have been looking back at my camping records - I have spent 313 nights under canvas (Jenny asked if I would retire once I had managed one whole year under canvas? I hope not!) Jenny started her camping career aged 3 months and has already notched up 83 nights with Martin close behind with 74 nights.

I hope to continue to offer my services at future camps where I am usually found in the kitchen area organising the cooking.

I want to thank Jo for all her hard work over the years, She is always ready with good ideas and cups of tea. She is also excellent in the kitchen at camp. I will miss working with her.

SANDRA RONECKLES

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Audrey Taylor is holding a **MacMillan Coffee Morning** on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September at the Redbridge Social Centre. Please book it now.

**The Drive Scout & Guide Group** is holding its Annual General Meeting in the Scout & Guide HQ on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July at 8.00 pm.

## ***SUNDAY HALF HOUR***

A few months ago I expressed my sadness on hearing of Rev. Roger Royle's imminent retirement. Fortunately he was persuaded to continue with 'Pause For Thought'.

Many of us who listen to 'P for T' were relieved to hear that FATHER BRIAN D'ARCY was to take over 'Sunday Half Hour' NO-one can replace Roger, but I think that Brian is doing superbly and I hope that he will be permitted to continue for a very long time. Do you agree?

SUSAN RUCKES

## ***BRISTOL 29<sup>TH</sup>. SEPTEMBER 2007***

If you have only paid the deposit for Peter Sharp's day trip, could you please pay the balance by **SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> JULY.**

**Any enquiries - contact Peter Sharp**

## ***IF GOD HAD VOICE MAIL . . .***

Most of us live with voice mail as a necessary part of our lives. Have you ever wondered what it would be like if God decided to instal voice mail ? . . . .

Thank you for calling heaven.

For English, press 1; for French, press 2; for all other languages, press 3.

Please select one of the following options:

Press 1 for request; press 2 for thanksgiving; press 3 for complaints; press 4 for all others.

I am sorry, all our Angels and Saints are busy helping others sinners right now. However, your prayer is important to us and we will answer it in the order it was received. Please stay on the line.

If you would like to speak to God, press 1; Jesus, press 2; the Holy Spirit, press 3.

To find a loved one who has been assigned to heaven press 5,  
Then enter his/her national insurance number, followed by the # key.  
If you receive a negative response, please hang up and dial 666\*. (*see below*)

For reservation to heaven, please enter JOHN followed by the numbers, 3 16.

For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, life, and other planets, please wait until you arrive in heaven for the specifics.

The office is now closed for the weekend to observe a religious holiday. Our computers show that you have already been prayed for today. Please hang up and call again on Monday. If you are calling after hours and need emergency assistance, please contact your local minister. Thank you and have a heavenly day.

\* *see Revelation 13:18*

(Spotted in the Newsletter of Wesley's Chapel)

### ***WHATEVER HAPPENED TO MARY WHITEHOUSE?***

Many of you will remember the Viewers' and Listeners' Association (V.A.L.A.) and may not realise that the name has changed to 'media watch-u-k'. My father was a member from the early days and I have now taken his place. Sadly there is an increasing loss of members. Many of those who die are not replaced.

I attended the AGM on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May and brought away from the meeting a folder of literature. It was a sobering thought that an event which took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2007 at the House of Commons was only a short time after the Virginia Tech. massacre.

Most of us have more than enough to read, but if anyone would like to borrow the folder or Mary's books, I have quite a collection here. I have also leaflets with details of how to contact the BBC/ITV and others. Don't shout at the radio or TV! Contact those who are responsible (or irresponsible?). Also tell them what you enjoy. SUSAN RUCKES

### ***LONDON RIVERSIDE PROJECT***

The event scheduled for 23<sup>rd</sup>. May has been POSTPONED until the autumn. The minutes of the Circuit Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup>. March 2007 at Beacontree Heath gave me cause for concern.

- 1 Why are 10,100 houses to be built at Riverside in an area with no hospitals, few schools, little public transport and almost no work? (The Channel Rail Link, which under construction gave help in protecting Rainham Marsh, goes through without stopping.)
- 2 Why are houses being built on / near polluted land at high risk of flooding? (The Thames Barrier protects the area to the west.)
- 3 Why is Brian Endacott considering buying a house in an area which is so unstable, in more ways than one? Insurance?
- 4 Are homes to be built near the newly constructed Frog Island Re-Cycling Plant? (I wonder if there will be a high turnover of staff there.)
- 5 "The possible planned prison at Rainham was causing some problems". On 14<sup>th</sup> April 2007 six thousand people of all ages took part in a march against the prison. It was reported in the local press.
- 6 The only light relief in the minutes was the plan for a "Faith Square" with fountain, hands holding a globe . . . . Faith Forum, what 'world' do you live in? Possibly the same as those who devised the Olympic Logo, Millennium Dome, Unity Square . . . I won't depress you any further. . . .

Please give good publicity to Brian Endacott's next talk. I'll be happy to travel to RAINHAM, AVELEY, WENNINGTON or wherever. SUSAN RUCKES

Susan has commented on many issues, and has asked us to respond by chatting to her with your views, or writing for the next Newsletter. If you feel keenly about what she has written, let us know!  
EDITOR

### **GANG SHOW 2007**

*"We're riding along on the crest of a wave . . . "etc .*

What an enjoyable evening it was and how great to see so many scouts, guides etc. in the audience at the Kenneth More Theatre. I hope we don't have to wait for the panto to see again such a young audience! I look forward to seeing such talented performers in the next Gang Show.  
SUSAN RUCKES

### **I LOVE YOU NOW AND FOR EVER**

If you're ever going to love me,  
Love me now while I can know  
All the sweet and tender feelings  
Which from real affection flow.  
Love me now, while I am living;  
Do not wait till I am gone  
And then chisel it in marble . . . warm  
Love words on ice-cold stone.  
If you've dear, sweet thoughts about  
Me, why not whisper them to me.

Don't you know 'twould make me happy  
And as glad as glad could be?  
If you wait till I am sleeping,  
Ne'er to waken here again,  
There'll be walls of earth between us  
And I couldn't hear you then.  
So dear, if you love me any,  
If it's but a little bit,  
Let me know it while I'm living;  
I can own and treasure it.

*This lovely poem was sent by a friend to Verney, who read it out beautifully at one of our Women's Fellowship meetings. She said "My friend knows that I love her - I've told her so!"*

# DIARY JULY / AUGUST 2007

## JULY 2007

SUN	1	10.45 am 6.30 pm	<b>CHURCH ANNIVERSARY</b> Rev. Dr. STUART JORDAN - Co. Chair London District <b>CIRCUIT CELEBRATION OF THE HYMNS OF CHARLES WESLEY</b>
TUES	3	8.00 pm	Church Fellowship - "Desert Island Discs" with Martin Fairhurst
WED	4	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Rev. Stephen Normanton
THUR	5	8.00 pm	Scout & Guide Group AGM at Scout & Guide HQ - All welcome
SUN	8	10.45 am	<b>ALL AGE WORSHIP - Mrs PHILIPPA NORMANTON</b>
WED	11	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Mrs. Anne Dellow will talk about her work <i>This will be the last meeting before we resume on 11<sup>th</sup> September</i>
SUN	15	10.45 am	Miss JENNIFER BENFIELD
SUN	22	10.45 am	Rev. MICHAEL MOON
TUES	24	1.00 pm	Church Lunch
SUN	29	10.45 am	Rev. CHARLES WATSON – with Holy Communion <i>Collection at Communion for Victim Support in Redbridge</i>

## AUGUST 2007

SUN	5	10.45 am 6.30 pm	Rev. STEPHEN NORMANTON with Holy Communion- <i>Collection at Communion for Church Benevolent Fund</i> Rev. STEPHEN NORMANTON
SUN	12	10.45 am	Mrs. STELLA ALLEN
TUES	14	From 7. pm	Informal gathering of Church Fellowship at 21 Lakeside Ave
SUN	19	10.45 am	Mr. ALLAN RAMSDEN <i>Material for the September Newsletter due in today</i>
SUN	26	10.45 am	Rev. STEPHEN NORMANTON
TUES	28	1.00 pm	Church Lunch

## SEPTEMBER

SUN	2	10.45 am 6.30 pm	Mrs. BERYL VAUGHAN - Junior Church resumes Rev. STEPHEN NORMANTON
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WILL YOU PLEASE HAND ITEMS FOR THE **SEPTEMBER**  
NEWSLETTER TO BARBARA FOSTER BY **SUNDAY AUGUST 19<sup>TH</sup>**.