

FEBRUARY 2008

FLOWERS

Thankyou to all the generous folk who gave flowers during 2007 to decorate our Church. Thankyou too, to the arrangers, now even fewer in number than last year. Please support them by putting your name on the list in the Porch on your special date. Don't forget to tell us when anyone is sad or celebrating and would appreciate the gift of flowers from the church. CATHERINE SAYERS

Thanks to everyone who helped in any way to make Christmas such a special time. The church looked lovely with the Christmas trees, flowers and candles. The music, singing, Nativity presentation, Christmas Lunch and mince-pies, all added to the festivities and were all much appreciated.

Dear Friends at The Drive Church,

Thank you so much for the kind donation for the Family Centre collected at the Toy service. The donation will be used to help our families have a happy time this Christmas and I know that it will be very much appreciated. Everyone at the Family Centre hopes you all have a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

With all good wishes,

JOANNE BIDDLE,

Administrator, Staff at Loughton Family Centre

Thanks from Doreen and Eddie

"Thank you very much for the gardening vouchers recently received from Brian. Come the Spring we will buy two hanging baskets as a constant reminder of our friends at The Drive.

"We look forward to meeting up from time to time.

DOREEN & EDDIE"

GIVING AT CHRISTMAS

The collection at the Toy Service for the Loughton Family Centre amounted to £115 and was most gratefully received. The collection at the Carol Service for Shelter (the National charity) was £185.04, and on Christmas Day the collection in aid of N.C.H. was £151.53.

I think it is gratifying to know that at Christmas time, so many people were willing to give that bit extra in aid of these very worth-while causes.

PETER FOSTER - Treasurer

WHY DOES IT HAPPEN AT CHRISTMAS?

Two years ago our fridge at home broke down on Christmas Eve. A few days before Christmas 2007 our central heating broke down. However only a few people at church were aware that on the day before our Christmas Carol Service the church organ developed an electrical fault so that only half of it was usable! Mr. Richard Pawlyn who tunes and maintains the organ, immediately came from his home near Aylesbury and repaired the fault, so that our four major Christmas services had full musical accompaniment. Now that's service for you! Considering that our organ has about nine hundred pipes and complicated electrical switching gear, it is very reliable, giving us very little trouble.

FRANK SAYERS

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

We start our new session after the winter break on **Tuesday February 5th** at 8.00 pm in the Church Parlour. **Duncan Paterson**, the organist at St. Andrew's Church will be delighting us with his choice of music to accompany him to a desert island. Lifts and refreshments are available as always.

PROPERTY MATTERS

Our Saturday mornings are essential for the ongoing maintenance of our premises and I have previously written in the Newsletter appealing for help. This year, to give everyone plenty of notice the Property Committee have scheduled the dates for work mornings for the whole of this year. The good news is that there only four!

The dates are:

Saturday 15 March	General tidying up so that the grounds and premises look Good for Easter.
Saturday 17 May	The garden will need attention.
Saturday 13 September	Start clearing the garden.
Saturday 22 November	Final clear of the garden ready for the winter.

Please try to support these mornings - everyone is welcome for some light gardening, or general cleaning and tidying around the premises.

Start at 10.00 am - coffee at 11.00 am



Watch Out!....There's a Beetle About!

(Yes, it's almost that time of year again!)

JMA FAMILY BEETLE DRIVE and TEA

SATURDAY 1st MARCH 2008

2.30 pm for 3 pm START

THE DRIVE METHODIST CHURCH HALL

Tickets: Adult:£4; Child: £2; Family ticket (2 adults, 2 children):£10

An afternoon of fellowship, food and fun for all the family to support the work of Junior Mission for All

***Tickets are available from me now
so please tell all your family and friends.***

With thanks Diane Foster

JOIN US



HOW TO BECOME A MORE WELCOMING CHURCH

An afternoon of thought provoking discussion and practical suggestions led by Paul Kybird – London District Training and Development Officer

Sunday 9th March

A light lunch will be served after the morning service.
The activity will follow and finish by 4.00pm

How to become a more welcoming Church.

The Tuesday Meeting recently held a series of discussions called 'Making It Work' which looked at the way in which our church welcomes new people who attend services. To look at this area in more detail we have invited Mr Paul Kybird, the London District Training and Development Officer to lead a session on Sunday 9th March. I do hope that as many members of the congregation as possible will be able to join for what will be a thought provoking afternoon as we seek to become a place of Christian worship and fellowship within the community.

Anne Warden

WELCOME!

Please sign the list at the back of the church, if you would like to have the light lunch, which will be served in the Parlour after the Morning Worship.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year the service has been prepared by the Christian Women of Guyana, the only English-speaking country in South America. St. Mary's in the High Road, Ilford is to be the Host Church and we hope to have a good attendance to hear about this beautiful country and to join our prayers with all the women around the world who will be using this service. Please try to come at 2.00 pm on Friday, 7th. March.

LENT 2008

Once again we will join with St. Andrew's and Cranbrook Baptist Churches,
In following a series of studies during Lent.

The **ASH WEDNESDAY** service will be held at **St. Andrew's Church** at 8.00 pm.
and the **MAUNDY THURSDAY** service will also be held at **St. Andrew's Church** at 8.00 pm.

The series of studies "**THE GROWTH OF LOVE**" led by the **Rev. Dr. Keith White**
Will al be held at **The Drive Church on TUESDAYS 7.45 – 9.15 pm**, including refreshments.
(The Tuesday Meeting and the Church Fellowship will join in the Lenten series.)

Our own **GOOD FRIDAY Meditation Service** will be led by Frank Sayers at **10.00 am**.

LIFE WITH THE SPENCERS

Thank you to everyone who sent us greetings on our house move, and for Christmas. May we also thank everyone for the generous garden gift token which we received. I know that this particular gift is usually given much nearer the time when people leave, but we appreciated the delay as it made a real contribution to making us feel that we had arrived in our new home. We have not yet spent it, as we hope to get something to stand by our front door, and recently there has been little to choose from in the garden centres except Christmas trees.

It does not seem possible that it was August when I last wrote. However, a lot has happened in that time. We completed the first tranche of renovations to our house and moved in during November. There is still a list if bits and pieces to do, but we are now very much living here, not just working here! For the first time since 2000 we have all our possessions in one place.! We now have space for guests, so do let us know if you are passing this way or simply want to come and investigate the area. Dorset really is a beautiful county, with plenty to see and do.

The pace of life is supposed to be slower down here, but I see little evidence of that in our diary. We have been persuaded to take on responsibility for producing the church notices each week. I'm still trying to work out when we let slip that we could use a word processor and printing machine!

We have booked tickets for a number of Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra concerts, which are held about 20 minutes drive away in Poole. There is also plenty of concerts by high standard amateur groups in the Minster or other local churches. We greatly enjoyed the Messiah by candlelight, sung by a small group of 14 voices.

I was stage manager for the local drama group's production of "Jounrney's End" in October, which finished about a week before our house move! Things are picking up speed with regard to my clarinet playing. The church held an open day just before Christmas, and along with others I contributed to the background music. Our organist will only be playing to two Sundays a month in future, and the pressure is on to contribute to the music for the services if there is no other organist available. One of the church members enjoys accompanying, and I will be meeting up with him in the new year to give some of my piano and clarinet repertoire an airing. Hopefully we will be able to meet regularly if that goes well. And I am still playing with the Community Orchestra. Some of the clarinet players are going to get together and try our hand at quartets, which will be something different.

PHYLLIS 27 December 2007

***WILL YOU PLEASE LET BARBARA FOSTER HAVE ITEMS FOR
THE MARCH NEWSLETTER BY SUNDAY FEBRUARY 17TH.***

D I A R Y FEBRUARY 2008

SUN	3	10.45 am 6.30 pm	All-Age worship & Learning with Rev. Stephen Normanton Rev. Stephen Normanton
TUES	5	8.00 pm	Church Fellowship – “Desert Island Discs” with Duncan Paterson
WED	6	2.30 pm 8.00 pm	A S H W E D N E S D A Y Women's Fellowship - Music for Lent with Frank Sayers Ash Wednesday service at St. Andrew's
THUR	7	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
SAT	9	7.00 pm	Church Barn & Line Dance <i>(see page</i>
SUN	10	10.45 am	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT Mr. Albert Grant
TUES	12	<u>7.45 pm</u>	Lenten Meeting at The Drive <i>(see page 5</i>
WED	13	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Rev. Stephen Normanton
THUR	14	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
SUN	17	10.45 am	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT Rev. Michael Moon - Family Communion Collection at Communion for The Open Door Project
TUES	19	<u>7.45 pm</u>	Lenten Meeting at The Drive <i>(see page 5</i>
WED	20	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Members' Afternoon
THUR	21	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
SUN	24	10.45 am	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT Sister Vera Nicholls
TUES	26	1.00 pm <u>7.45 pm</u>	Church Lunch Lenten Meeting at The Drive <i>(see page 5</i>
WED	27	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship <i>(to be arranged)</i>
THUR	28	8.00 pm	Choir Practice

MARCH 2008

SAT	1	2.30pm for 3.00 pm start	B E E T L E D R I V E <i>(see page 3</i>
SUN	2	10.45 am 6.30 pm	MOTHERING SUNDAY All-Age Worship & Learning with Rev. Stephen Normanton Rev. Stephen Normanton
TUES	4	<u>7.45 pm</u>	Lenten Meeting at The Drive <i>(see page 5</i>
WED	5	2.30 pm	Women,s Fellowship -- Rev. Stephen Normanton
THUR	6	8.00 pm	Church Council
FRI	7	2.00 pm	Women's World Day of Prayer Service <i>(see separate notice</i>
SUN	9	10.45 am	PASSION SUNDAY Miss Jean Fryer Following this service there will be a light lunch, served in the Parlour – After which Paul Kybird will lead a discussion on “How to be a more welcoming church”

CIRCUIT CALENDAR

Tuesday February 5th

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at Seven Kings

Tickets £3 for those over 12 years!

Proceeds to Burrswood Christian Hospital

Wednesday February 6th

Ash Wednesday Worship at 8.00 pm at Seven Kings

led by Rev. Linda McMurray

Sunday February 17th

"A Wild Afternoon" at Seven Kings – with the Rev. Steve Wild at 3.00 pm