

APRIL 2008

FLOWERS

Thanks to all those who give to the Flower Fund in whatever form, and thankyou too, to the generous folk who contributed to the Easter flowers which decorated our Church .
If you have a date to celebrate or commemorate, please add your name to the list in the Porch,
Finally, a big thankyou to the few on the rota who continue to decorate our Church, Sunday by Sunday.
CES

EASTER EGG HUNT

Thank you to everyone who came and took part in the EASTER EGG HUNT. A good time was had by all. The money raised will go to the Re-Development Fund. JO WRIGHT

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

The next meeting of the Church Fellowship is on April 1st, at 8.00 pm
and to mark the occasion the theme of the evening will be **SPOOFS & PARODIES**.

The Collins dictionary of 1994 defines *spoof* as "*mildly satirical parody*",
and defines *parody* as "*exaggerated and amusing imitation of someone else's style*".

My Oxford University Press dictionary of 1950 does not list the word *spoof*.
Do come along on April 1st and see if the assembled material fits those criteria.

Lifts and refreshments – *real not spoof* – will be available as usual. FS

CIRCUIT SERVICE SUNDAY 6TH APRIL

We are delighted that the service for the Admission of
Mr. Stephen Froggatt as a Local Preacher
will take place at **The Drive Church** on **Sunday 6th April** at **6-30 pm**.

The Revd. David Hinchcliffe from Walton-on-Thames Methodist Church will be leading the Service.

THE ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING LUNCH held on Sunday 16th. March was enjoyed by about 34 friends. A collection was taken and, after expenses are met, we are able to send £97 to Christian Aid. Thanks to all who made such nice food, and who helped in any way to make this such a happy occasion.

C R E D O

A concert by **THE NEW ESSEX CHORAL SOCIETY**
Saturday 12th April 2008 at Barnardo's Chapel, Barkingside.

Mendelssohn

Hear my prayer

Haydn

Little Organ Mass *

Vivaldi

Credo

Grieg

Holberg suite

**How do you fit all the words of a long service into a shorter time?*

The solution used by Haydn was to have the four voices in the choir sing different words at the same time - like parts of the congregation singing different verses of a long hymn at the same time. Hear the effect in the performance of the Little Organ Mass.

TICKETS price £8 (£7) available from Brian Taylor or at the door.

VISIT TO ST. ALBAN'S ABBEY & CATHEDRAL

This visit has been fixed for **Saturday June 14th**.
Booking forms and full details will be available from Frank Sayers in mid April.

CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council met on 6th March, chaired by our minister. Dr. Funmi Coker, Circuit Steward, was welcomed. There were fifteen members present. From the Stewards, Anne Warden reported that this year the Redbridge Faith Forum is funding ten Faith Centre Open Days. The Hindu temple and mosque in Albert Road had held sessions open to all, and on Tuesday 15th April there will be opportunity to visit three churches - St. John's, St. Andrew's and The Drive, finishing here at 4.30 p.m. The Bishop of Rochester is coming to the Islamic Centre in Albert Road on 18th April.

Referring to the visit of the London District Training and Development Officer, Paul Kybird, Anne said we may need to follow this up in our Tuesday meetings. After Easter, the Tuesday Meeting is to follow a five-week course on the Lord's Prayer, and following that there will be a series of three membership meetings. From the Property Committee, Jeremy Foster reported that there had been a lot of unexpected costs. The damage caused by squirrels cost £1,000, there was an effective cull of pigeons and the tower now needs to be cleaned. The Church Parlour kitchen ceiling collapsed, and a surveyor was employed, which was costly. The ceiling was about to be repaired. Concerning fire risk, we have had to install an audible warning system. The Property Committee will look at priorities and ensure they do not exceed the budget of £15,000 for the financial year. The priority is to bring all the maintenance up to date before Phase II.

Phase II of our development has been approved by the local authority, but the cost is now £88,000. We are close to our church target of £25,000. The Pre-school has contributed £5,000 and an external Trust has given £5,000, so we can now apply to Rank Trust. Other external trusts are considering our application. The Circuit has given £25,000. The Council agreed to go to tender within the following two weeks to enable the work to be done in the summer.

From the Finance Committee, Peter Foster reported that the weekly cash collections were down by £20, and the envelopes by £65; we need to think about responsible giving. From the Pastoral Committee Brian Grinham reported that numbers of members are dropping.

The Officers were elected as follows:

Treasurer	Peter Foster	Property Secretary	Sandy Aitken
Secretary	Kathleen Taylor	Junior Church Leader	Joanna Wright
JMA Secretary	Diane Foster	Property Chairman	Jeremy Foster
Pastoral Secretary	Brian Grinham	Safeguarding Officer	Lorraine Bendon
Church Life Chairman	Peter Foster		
Senior Communion Steward	Elizabeth Amah		

Representatives to Circuit Meeting:

Peter Foster, Barbara Foster, Susan Ruckes, Brian Taylor, Kathleen Taylor.
KATHLEEN TAYLOR

APPOINTMENTS AT THE ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING SUNDAY MARCH 16TH

The following appointments were made:

Stewards - Anne Warden, Ian Warden, Brian Taylor, Diane Foster, Joel Inbakumar.

Representatives to Church Council - Barbara Foster, Hilary Stevens. Susan Ruckes, Peter Sharp, Corinne Smith, Anne Dellow (3 vacancies)

Joel Inbakumar was thanked for joining the team of Stewards, and Anne for becoming a member of the Council

REDBRIDGE FAITH FORUM

THREE CHURCHES' VISIT - TUESDAY APRIL 15TH

As mentioned in the Church Council Report on page 3, on **Tuesday April 15th** there will an opportunity to visit three churches in Ilford, **St. John's, Wanstead Park Road, St Andrew's in The Drive, and our own Church, The Drive Methodist Church.** The walk will finish at our church at about 4.30 pm.

TUESDAY MEETINGS

The Lord's Prayer - praying it, meaning it, living it.

Meetings in April and May will be led by members and introduced on CD by distinguished contributors from a wide range of churches and traditions. A booklet will be available.

Prayer is not asking. It is a longing of the soul.... It is better in prayer to have a heart without words than words without a heart. (Mahatma Gandhi)

[1st April *Church Fellowship*

8th April No meeting

YORK COURSES:

15th April The Lord's Prayer (1) *Our Father*

22nd April The Lord's Prayer ((2) *Thy will be done*

29th April The Lord's Prayer (3) *Our Daily Bread*

[6th May *Church Fellowship*

13th May The Lord's Prayer (4) *As we forgive*

20th May Membership Preparation (1) *What membership means to me*
Rev. Marie Whitcombe

27th May No meeting

[3rd June *Church Fellowship*

10th June Membership Preparation (2) *What Methodism means to me*
Rev Stephen Normanton

17th June Membership Preparation (3) *What the sacraments mean to me*
Rev. Stephen Normanton

24th June Conclusions and planning

[1st July Church fellowship]

Meetings will resume in September

BRIAN TAYLOR

JMA BEETLE DRIVE

Many thanks to everyone who supported the JMA Beetle Drive on Saturday 1st March – to all those who came along and played and to those who kindly made donations. It was once again a great fun family afternoon with the beetles coming thick and fast! The adult winner was Stephen Normanton and the under-16s winner was Georgina Downes. Well done to them.

My grateful thanks also to Barbara for another splendid tea and to Peter for once again keeping control of the afternoon.

After expenses, we were able to send £210 to the Methodist Church in Kenya following their appeal for funds to help them support those still suffering after widespread violence.
DIANE FOSTER

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The service this year was held at St. Mary's, Ilford High Road on Friday March 7th. The Leader, Janet Crossland has sent us this letter:

"Dear Friends,

A big thank you to all of you who attended and supported the 2008 Service at St. Mary's Church. We raised a record total this year of £355.67 which I have sent with a report and photos to our Head Office.

I have shown here a list of Grants and Donations made by our Charity from Church Service Collections in 2006."

ANNUAL GRANTS

	£
Bible Reading Fellowship	7,500
Bible Society	18,000
Bible Society – Northern Ireland	1,500
Cafod	4,000
Feed the Minds	18,000
International Bible Reading Association	7,500
Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen	1,000
Royal National Institute for the Blind	4,000
St. John's Guild for the Blind	2,000
Lifewords (Scripture Gift Union)	12,000

	£
Scripture Union	4,000
Society for promoting Christian Knowledge	4,000
The Leprosy Mission	2,000
The Salvation Army – Literature Fund	3,000
United Christian Broadcasters	2,000
United Society for Christian Literature	18,000

ONE-OFF-GRANTS	10,000
WELSH SPEAKING CHURCHES	
CHARITIES	4,200

SCOUT NEWS

Maureen Hinds has had a fall downstairs leaving her with an injured back and wrist. The doctor does not think she has done any skeletal damage but she is in considerable discomfort. We wish her well soon.

The youngest member of the Foster clan – Robert Downes – is now a Beaver making him the 9th member of the family to join the Group – and this does not include Peter our Treasurer. This must be a record! Timothy Wright has followed his brother and his uncle by joining the Scout Troop.

While we were on holiday at Bognor recently, we had a day in Chichester and were pleased to meet up with Eileen Henderson who you may remember as my assistant Cub Leader in the 60's. She, George (former Scout Leader) Ian and Christine moved to Bracklesham Bay in 1971. Eileen has recently moved into a flat in Chichester, which we visited. It is walking distance into the Town centre and Christine and family are nearby. Her younger son Robin is 30 this month. Some former scouts may remember a camp in Sussex, where they had their picnic lunch in the Henderson's garden and canoed in the Bay. Eileen sends her good wishes to you all. AUDREY.

Another Senior Moment

At a Valentine Singers' Concert at St. Gabriel's Church, Aldersbrook I left my pashima behind. On looking on the internet for information about a contact number I discovered it was open Monday to Friday 10 a.m to 12 noon for anyone to drop in. We duly visited and gratefully recovered my lost property and was cordially welcomed. In that time we learnt from the lady who was the Church Warden that she was unable to be at the concert as she was committed to a concert at West Ham Parish Church, which has a Harrison organ, where her son-in-law is organist. Jon Cullen is leader of All Saints Chorus and Orchestra – no doubt Susan will know him as he also performs at St John's Stratford. St. Gabriels is high Anglican and the Vicar Peter Smith was at The University of Bristol, possibly at the same time as Andrew - there was more – an interesting half-hour but I only went to find my pashima. Audrey T.

A date for your diary.

Our annual Plant Sale will be held on Saturday 17th May so book the date now.
More details next month.

ARRIVALS

A glimpse of a familiar shape
Out of the corner of my eye, and
Suddenly my heart leaps in
Delighted recognition - they've
Arrived. After the months of
Watching the pavement lest I slip,
Hunching myself against the cold,
It's time to open up to gentle warmth,
And scan the skies for confirmation.
There they are, in growing numbers
Curving and swirling through the air.
One swallow may not make a summer,
But he definitely makes it spring.

From "Watching for the Kingfisher" by Ann Lewin



The Choir practising for the Easter Sunday service



DIARY APRIL 2008

(SUN MARCH 30 6.30 pm Youth Service at Goodmayes)

TUES	1	8.00 pm	Church Fellowship - SPOOFS & PARODIES <i>see page 2</i>
WED	2	2.30 pm 8.00 pm	Women's Fellowship - Rev. Stephen Poole Church Life Committee
THUR	3	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
SUN	6	10.45 am 6.30 pm	Mr. TIMOTHY NICHOLLS - All-Age Worship & Learning Circuit Service for the Admission of Mr. Stephen Froggatt as a Local Preacher
MON	7	8.00 pm	Pastoral Committee
WED	9	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Major Edith Hambleton from The Salvation Army
SUN	13	10.45 am	Mrs. STELLA ALLEN
TUES	15	8.00 pm	Three Churches' Visit - <i>see page 4</i> Tuesday Meeting - <i>see page 4</i>
WED	16	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - <i>to be arranged</i>
SUN	20	10.45 am	Rev. CHARLES WATSON - with Family Communion & Junior Church <i>Collection at Communion for Age Concern Redbridge</i>
TUES	22	1.00 pm 8.00 pm	Church Lunch Tuesday Meeting - <i>see page 4</i>
WED	23	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Light Music with Frank Sayers
SUN	27	10.45 am	Miss JANET TWEEDALE
TUES	29	8.00 pm	Tuesday Meeting - <i>see page 4</i>
WED	30	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - <i>to be arranged</i>

MAY 2008

SUN	4	10.45 am 6.30 pm	Morning Worship Evening Service
TUES	6	8.00 pm	Church Fellowship - "The Lamp Still Burns" - a talk by Martin Fairhurst
WED	7	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Rev. Stephen Poole

***Will you please let Barbara Foster have items for the
May Newsletter by Sunday April 13th***