

# JULY-AUGUST 2008

## **CELEBRATIONS FOR 80 YEARS AT THE DRIVE**

**On Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July** the Church Anniversary Services will be led at 10.45 am  
by **Dr. Joy Leitch** – (member of Staff at Wesley's Chapel)  
and at 6.30 pm by **Rev. Marie Whitcombe**.

**On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July**, there will be a **BBQ at The Rodings**,  
after the morning service

***ALL ARE WELCOME***

**Do come and enjoy these special events!**

## ***CHURCH FELLOWSHIP***

The last meeting for 2007/8 will be on **Tuesday July 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**at 8.00 pm.** in the Parlour. Our speaker will be **Mrs. Stella Allen**.

The committee will soon be planning the 2008/9 session and suggestions for these monthly meetings will be gratefully received. Please speak to either Barbara, Hilary, Catherine or Frank. There will be an informal get-together for the Church Fellowship at 21 Lakeside Avenue on August 12<sup>th</sup>. from 7.00 pm onwards.

## ***JUNIOR CHURCH***

The **BBQ at The Rodings on Sunday July 13<sup>th</sup>**. will be the last meeting of the Junior Church before the summer break. All children and families are welcome at the Sunday services throughout July and August. A letter will be sent out in August with details of dates for the start of Junior Church. For any queries please phone me. Have a great summer. JO WRIGHT

# **The Drive Scout & Guide Group**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2008**

Coffee 7 pm - for 7.30 pm start

*This is your Group - come and have  
your say as to how it is run*

### ***WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER***

In order to raise funds to cover expenses for our local committee, there will be an open afternoon in the Parlour on Friday July 11<sup>th</sup> at 2. pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served and there will be a Bring & Buy Stall.

#### **"100 - NOT OUT!"**

This was the title I gave to my afternoon of recorded music with the Women's Fellowship on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Just after I had retired from teaching in 1987, I was asked to speak at the Women's Fellowship and chose as my title "Sixty Years of Change", and talked about all the changes in education I had lived through since I attended Broadwater Church of England Junior Mixed and Infants' School on the edge of Broadwater Green, Worthing next door to the blacksmiths, till I retired from teaching in the London Borough of Newham. There were many changes to talk about and from what I hear and read there have been many more rapid changes in education in the years of my retirement.

All my subsequent 99 visits to the Women's Fellowship have been to present programmes of music of various kinds. I like to have themes to connect the music we listen to. Apart from music for Christmas, Lent, Holy Week and Easter, my themes have included, Themes and Variations, Out door Music, 'Two's Company', Musical Anagrams, Jolly Music, Reflective Music, Song and Dance and many more. At my 100<sup>th</sup> I was presented with a commemorative mug inscribed with "*To FRANK SAYERS in celebration of his 100<sup>th</sup> Musical Event*" a gift for which I warmly thank the Women's Fellowship and which I shall treasure. FS

### ***THE PLAYTEX MOONWALK May 17/18***

Elizabeth Reed-Beadle has written to say that, together with £40.00 donated by members of The Drive Church, Elizabeth and her two friends completed the Marathon (26.2 miles) through the streets of London at night and raised the magnificent sum of approximately £1400.

We do congratulate them for their 9 hour achievement. Elizabeth took part in memory of her friend Margaret Close who lived in Ilford at the time that Elizabeth was here, and sadly Margaret suffered with breast cancer and died in February this year. Elizabeth's complete report may be seen in the church. FS

### **DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

I am pleased to let you know that the Property Committee has accepted a tender from Frederick J French for our Phase 2 development project. Including vat and professional fees the total cost will be £97,815.00. Our fund raising has been going well and includes £5000.00 from our Pre School, £17,785.00 raised from external sources, £25,000 from our Circuit and £9485.00 from central Methodist sources. Our funding shortfall has now reduced to £7500.00. Whilst our Treasurer considers this to be a "manageable sum" within the context of our church's overall finances, we will need to fill this funding gap. Our Development Fund therefore remains open for donations and we are particularly keen to encourage people to organise further fund raising activities.

The programme for the building work will be as follows:

- The Cranbrook room will be closed from Monday 21 July to enable the necessary pipework modifications to be made to the heating system.
- Towards the end of July the contractor will erect a site hut in the Car Park alongside the Hall. This will restrict the number of car parking spaces. Towards the end of the contract, the car park will have to be closed completely to enable the resurfacing work to be undertaken. Unfortunately, it is unlikely that this part of the work will be completed prior to the start of the Pre School term.
- The contractor will take over the Hall building from Thursday 24 July with a completion date of early September prior to the start of the Pre School term. During this time there will be no access to the Hall building.
- At some point after 23 July the contractor will fence off the external area from just north of the new Church entrance right round and across the front of the Church building. During this period, there will be no access to the grounds or the Church from the Eastern Avenue entrance. Access to the Church will therefore be via the new entrance. Separate access arrangements are being made for Redbridge Talking News.
- At some point after 23 July we will need to close the two toilets adjacent to the Parlour kitchen as these are to be refurbished.

I would ask everyone to bear with the short term inconvenience whilst this work is undertaken. Please let me know if you have any questions.

#### **APPEAL FOR SUPPORT - SATURDAY 19 JULY**

There is a certain amount of essential preparation work required in order that the contractor can start promptly on 24 July. We are therefore organising a work morning for Saturday 19 July from 10am. Your help and support for will be greatly appreciated.

JEREMY FOSTER

### ***A TALE OF THREE CITIES***

**New York** (West Side Story), **Paris** (Les Miserables) and **London** (Merrie England) will feature in the concert to be given by the **New Essex Choral Society** at Barnardo's Church, Barkingside on **Saturday 12th July at 7.30 pm**. The music will be followed by a buffet supper - with an outdoor option if weather permits.

Tickets are £10, children £5, under 5s free,  
from Brian Taylor or Box office 8550 8677.

### **The London District of the Methodist Church THE BIBLE IN THE GLOBAL CITY**

***A day for Local Preachers, Worship Leaders and everyone concerned for the way we use and interpret the Bible in our worship and church life.***

Date: 19<sup>th</sup>. July 2008

Time: 10.00 am - 3.45 pm

Place: **Chelsea Methodist Church**, 155a King's Road. SW3 5TX

(Tube: Sloane Square or South Kensington. Directions: [www.chelseamethodist.org.uk](http://www.chelseamethodist.org.uk))

**Full details and booking slip are given on leaflets in the church.**

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### **DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

There will be a Slides' Evening in aid of the work of N.C.H. on Saturday October 25<sup>th</sup>.at 7.00 pm.  
Further details will be given in September.

### **APRIL VISIT TO THREE CHURCHES**

#### **ANSWER TO QUIZ:**

1. Stained glass windows                      2. Pews  
*If you thought of different features, please let me know.*

Susan Ruckes

\* \* \*

### **Scout & Guide Group News**

Four boys, **Maurice Cooper, Stephen Marriott, Jay Tandel and Divya Tank**, from the Cub Pack joined up with boys from another Pack to enter the District 6-a-side football competition recently.. They did very well in reaching the quarter finals. Well done lads.

David Oldershaw, who has been a regular helper with the Cub Pack since he was 13, will be 18 on 1st August. Happy birthday, David. Robert (Normanton), also helps with the Pack when his studies allow, and we wish both of them well as they pursue the next phase of their education at college and university,

The Scouts have booked a short summer camp at the beginning of the school summer holidays at one of their favourite sites at Northrepps, a farm site near Cromer in Norfolk. Unfortunately only five of the lads are able to go on the trip this time but I know they will have a good time. This will be Jeremy's 40th consecutive summer camp. Well done and thanks, Jeremy.

The Group will be holding its AGM on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm in the Scout Hut when Peter Foster will be presented with his 40 year long service award by our District Commissioner. All friends and supporters of the Group will be more than welcome to attend.

**John Taylor**

**Did you find St George?**  
**St George is depicted in**  
**the war memorial window in the**  
**Prayer Chapel/Minister's Vestry**  
**Audrey**

### **GRINHAMS or FOSTERS**

Congratulations to the Grinham Clan for having had 10 members of the family in the family in the Scout and Guide Group over so many years!

Now, Brian, you have made me think again - our children Jeremy, Nicholas, Isobel and Rosalind, our grandchildren Louise, Matthew, Henry and Robert, our daughter-in-law Diane and our niece Liz Foster,

who became a Queen's Guide, while living with us in 1976. I think that makes 10, so, Brian, we are equal!

It has been lovely to have had all those youngsters, plus Diane, in the Group over the years.

Maybe there will be more - I hope so!

BARBARA

### ***VISIT TO ST. ALBAN'S ABBEY & CATHEDRAL***

The Revd. Peter Hudson was minister of The Drive Methodist Church about twenty-five years ago. He is now the Free Church Chaplain of St. Alban's Abbey & Cathedral. Frank Sayers organised a trip to St. Albans. 16 of us met at The Drive Church and travelled either by car or minibus along the M11 and M25 to St. Alban's. Peter Hudson greeted us at the Cathedral refectory, where we enjoyed a welcome hot drink before making our way to the Lady Chapel. Peter took a short service reminding us of the story of St. Alban, the first British martyr, and we sang the hymn "For all the saints who from their labours rest", with typical Methodist gusto!

Many of us returned to the refectory for lunch, explored some of the grounds and found our way to the nave, where much restoration work is being done. The assembled company was divided into groups for a tour, which was supposed to last forty-five minutes. There is so much to see and do that a week might be necessary . . .

Many thanks to Frank for arranging the visit, Mike Seviour for driving the minibus, Peter Hudson for enabling us to worship in such a beautiful historic setting, and the other pilgrims for being such good company.

SUSAN RUCKES

### **A PRAYER**

***God of love and hope, of encouragement and challenge, we pray:***

for the work of MHA,

for those who live in our Homes, Schemes and Communities,

for those who care for them,

for those whose vision and research enable new ways of caring,

for those in the organisation who direct and manage,

for those who support this work with prayer and fundraising.

We acknowledge our need of one another and ask for your gifts of wisdom and understanding that the love of Christ may be shown in all we do.

***AMEN***

*(from the Methodist Homes' prayer card)*

Spotted in the Newsletter of the Methodist church at North Walsham, Norfolk

### THE TATE FAMILY

The **TATE** family join in everything.

Then **RO TATE** tries to change it all.

**AGI TATE** stirs up trouble and **IRRI TATE** helps him.

If something new is suggested **HESI TATE** and **VEGE TATE** throw cold water on the idea.

**IMI TATE** tries to mimic everyone.

**DEVAS TATE** is thoroughly disruptive, and **POTEN TATE** wants to be so important.

**FACILI TATE, MEDI TATE** and **COGI TATE** together get things right.

## THE FIRST SERVICE AT EASTERN AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – 8<sup>th</sup> September, 1928

The opening service at Eastern Avenue Methodist Church was held on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 1928 when the sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Dinsdale T. Young who was a renowned preacher at the time. The service began outside with the singing of the hymn;

*'O Thou, whose hand has brought us  
Unto this joyful day'*

The Eastern Avenue (A12) had only opened three years earlier in 1925, when undoubtedly, the traffic would have been much lighter (and quieter!) than it is on a Saturday afternoon today, eighty years later. By 1903 the area between Wanstead Park Road and The Drive had been built up as far north as Seymour Gardens. The Cranbrook Park Wesleyan Methodist Church began worship in temporary buildings in 1904 and a permanent church was opened in 1914. After the First World War house building in Ilford continued with further developments along The Drive and in the Gants Hill area. In 1928 both Eastern Avenue and Gants Hill Methodist Churches opened as the population of Ilford grew.

A large congregation gathered to sing the opening hymn which was led by a combined choir from around the circuit under the direction of Madame Mabel Tarrant. The Superintendent Minister, Rev. James Ellis, then led the congregation in prayer before the Mayor of Ilford, Alderman W. J. Oliver Sheat, performed the opening ceremony. The architect, Mr. R. Palmer Baines, presented the Mayor with a silver key as, after a short speech, he declared the church open '*for public worship of God*'.

As the congregation took their seats in church, the choir led the singing of '*All Hail the power of Jesu's Name*'. Every pew in the church was filled and additional chairs had to be placed in the aisles and passages – would this pass modern Health and Safety Regulations? The sermon was based on the text '*The pleasure of the Lord shall prosper*'. The anthem was '*Lift up you heads*' (Coleridge Taylor) and the service concluded with the hymn '*These things shall be! A loftier race*'.

A marquee had been erected in the grounds of the church where a tea for 400 guests was served. This was followed by a conference at which the Mayor of Ilford spoke of the importance of the social, moral and spiritual needs of a new neighbourhood. During the evening the choir performed several anthems to conclude the day's celebrations. Special services continued on the Sunday when 80 people attended an early morning communion followed by morning worship and in the afternoon, a Young People's Rally.

The opening hymn, we have discovered, was in the old Methodist Hymn Book (984), where it was set to the tune, Jubilate. The words were written by Frederick William Goadby (1845-1880) and first appeared in the Baptist Hymnal of 1879 set to a different tune. Frederick Goadby was the son of a Baptist Minister and was a Baptist Pastor himself, who sadly died aged just, 35. Susan Ruckes has discovered from her relation, Mrs. Audrey Sherrill, that it was in the old Wesleyan Hymn Book (665) also set to the same tune. The original MHB was not published until 1933, five years after the opening of our church. It is unclear, at this time, which hymn book would have been used when the church opened and which tune would have been used, however, it is likely to have been the tune suggested when the Methodist Hymn Book was published five years later since the chosen tunes would probably have been those in popular use at the time. The hymn was included in the section for 'Anniversaries and Dedications'. The words, which are particularly apt for the opening of a church, are printed below;

ANNE WARDEN

1  
O Thou, whose hand has brought us  
Unto this joyful day,  
Accept our glad thanksgiving,  
And listen as we pray;  
And may our preparation  
For this day's service be  
With one accord to offer  
Ourselves, O Lord, to Thee

2  
For this Thy house we praise Thee,  
Reared at Thine own command,  
For every generous spirit,  
And every willing hand.  
And now within Thy temple  
Thy glory let us see,  
For all its strength and beauty  
Are nothing without Thee

3  
And oft as here we gather,  
And hearts in worship blend,  
May truth reveal its power,  
And fervent prayers ascend;  
Here may the busy toiler  
Rise to the things above;  
The young, the old, be strengthened,  
And all men learn Thy love.

4  
And as the years roll onward,  
And strong affections twine,  
And tender memories gather  
About this sacred shrine,  
May this its chiefest honour,  
Its glory ever be,  
That multitudes within it  
Have found their way to Thee.

## DIARY JULY 2008

TUES	1	8.00 pm	Church Fellowship - talk by Mrs. Stella Allen
WED	2	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Rev. Stephen Normanton
THUR	3	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
SAT	5		<b>Church Anniversary Strawberry Tea 3.30 pm for 4.00 pm</b>
SUN	6	10.45 am 6.30 pm	<b>80<sup>th</sup>. CHURCH ANNIVERSARY</b> <b>Dr. JOY LEITCH</b> <b>Rev. MARIE WHITCOMBE</b>
WED	9	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Mr. Frank Sayers
FRI	11	2.00 pm	Women's World Day of Prayer Tea Party and Bring & Buy Stall
SUN	13	10.45 am	<b>Rev, STEPHEN NORMANTON - All-Age-Worship &amp; Learning</b> <b>After the service, Picnic at The Rodings</b>
TUES	15	1.00 pm	Church Lunch in the Parlour
WED	16	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - <i>Last meeting until Wed 10<sup>th</sup> September</i>
SAT	19	10.00 am	Work Morning
SUN	20	10.45 am 3.00 pm	<b>Mr. GEOFFREY FREEMAN</b> <b>CIRCUIT SERVICE at Seven Kings - <i>see below</i></b>
THUR	24		<b><i>HALL CLOSED UNTIL SEPTEMBER</i></b>
SUN	27	10.45 am	<b>Rev. STEPHEN NORMANTON - Family Communion</b> <b>(Communion collection is for the Mayor's Charity "Victim Support")</b>

## AUGUST 2008

SUN	3	10.45 am	Morning service
SUN	10	10.45 am	Morning service
SUN	17	10.45 am	Morning service Material for the September Newsletter due in today
SUN	24	10.45 am	Morning service
TUES	26	1.00 pm	Church Lunch in the Parlour
SUN	31	10.45 am	Morning service

## CIRCUIT CALENDAR

Sat July 12	2.00 pm	Garden Party & Stalls at Beacontree Heath
Sun July 20 <sup>th</sup> .	3.00 pm	Farewell Service for Rev. Linda McMurray - followed by tea at Seven Kings Church

WILL YOU PLEASE HAND ITEMS FOR THE COMBINED **SEPTEMBER**  
NEWSLETTER TO BARBARA FOSTER BY **SUNDAY AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup>**.