

SEPTEMBER 2009

EXAM RESULTS!

At last we have news of all our young friends and their places for future studies. Some were printed in last month's Newsletter.

Congratulations to **Lindsey Higgins** who has gained a degree in Animal and Equine studies from Lincoln University, and to **Susannah Normanton**, who has gained a place at Cardiff University, to study Physiotherapy.

Emma-Louise Raby will be studying English Literature, in her second year at University of East Anglia.

Florence Smith will be taking a BTEC course in Art and Design at Valentines High School.

Amy MacGinley will be continuing her A-Levels, also at Valentines, hoping for university next year.

Last but not least, **Martin Runeckles** will continue his A-Level studies in the second year 6th at Valentines.

We wish all these young friends, and those mentioned at month, every success in what they have chosen to do.

BARBARA FOSTER - EDITOR

*We all send our congratulations and good wishes to our editor, **Barbara Foster** on the occasion of her 80th Birthday. FS*

Audrey and John Taylor write -

"Our thanks for the greetings and good wishes received on the occasion of our Golden Wedding. We were surprised and pleased to receive cards from Maureen Bird and Eileen Hart. It is good to know that our Newsletter Outreach is working."

HARVEST GIFTS

Please bring your gifts, fruit, vegetables, packed and tinned goods to the Church
on Saturday September 26th between 10.00 am and 12 noon,
where they will be gratefully received.

HARVEST LUNCH

A list will be put up at the back of the church on **Sunday September 6th**, and will be closed after the morning service on **Sunday 20th September**. Please add your name to the list if you would like to come. Vegetarian options will be available.

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY BARBECUE

The Church Barbecue, held at The Rodings after the Church Anniversary service on Sunday July 5th, was a great success. The weather was perfect, and the barbecue was expertly cooked by Joanne Alder and Peter and Lorraine Bendon. Many thanks to all the people who came, and especially to those who provided food, and everyone who helped in making the event such a happy occasion.

JOANNA WRIGHT

DEACON MARGARET COX

A service of farewell for Margaret and her husband David took place on Sunday 26th July at Beacontree Heath. All the BDI Circuit Ministers were present and took part in the service. Philippa Normanton preached the sermon on the subject of Moses.

A young people's singing group sang for us. We were invited to use benefited instruments. I was very impressed with a little lad called Michael, whose sense of rhythm was faultless. I hope he is encouraged to develop his talent.

For once, Peter Sharp and I managed to be at the right place on the right day and in good time for the 6.30 pm service. (Why is DIANE LILLEY, the Circuit Admin Officer often informed of changes AFTER an event?

I wish Margaret and David all the best in Reading. We are lucky to have had them in the BDI Circuit for {?6?} years. SUSAN RUCKES

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

The 2009/10 session of the Church Fellowship opens on Tuesday October 6th in the Church Parlour. We are to have an illustrated talk by Mr. Stan Crees about the work of OPERATION AGRI in Nicaragua. The whole of the programme will soon be available and it is full of entertaining evenings. Refreshments and lifts are available. Do come.

THE ACTION FOR CHILDREN SLIDES' EVENING!

Catherine and Frank will be presenting another 'viewing' evening in aid of the work of **ACTION FOR CHILDREN** (formerly The National Children's Home), with the help of Mike Seviour. This will be on **SATURDAY OCTOBER 24th**, beginning at **7.00 pm**.

As before we can promise you a varied selection of places visited and events witnessed, provided by our intrepid band of digital photographers.

If you have digital material to show,
please contact **Mike** also by **Sunday October 11th**,

This is to help us plan a balanced programme.

If you have holiday photographs that you would like to display,
please bring them along on the night.

REFRESHMENTS SERVED IN THE INTERVAL
NO TICKETS - DONATIONS REQUESTED, PLEASE.

WHAT WAS IT BEFORE? 2

Last year I visited two places of worship that had had another "life". The visit was organised by Redbridge Faith Forum. The Gurdwara had been a telephone exchange. St. Cedd's Catholic Church had been Goodmayes Methodist Church until 1966. I had been overwhelmed by the present restoration and the similarity to Ilford Methodist Church, which I had attended as a child.

My report last year ended with a wish to attend a service at St. Cedd's. This wish came true last Sunday evening when Elsie Blanchard and I attended a joint service with Seven Kings and Goodmayes Methodist Churches.

Father Adam, the Polish priest, took the service in English. A Phiippino (?) choir led the singing, which was also in English. If the Catholic Church had not bought the old church, it might have shared "High Road's " fate. SUSAN RUCKES

CHARTERHOUSE

In July Catherine and I were invited to join a party from Wesley's Chapel to visit Charterhouse off Aldersgate Street. What is the connection with Wesley's Chapel? We were told that during the building's time as a school, John Wesley {1703 – 1791} was a scholar here from 1714 to 1720, before going to Oxford University – and it seems, the school's most famous pupil.

The buildings began life as a monastery founded in 1371. The name Charterhouse comes from being founded by a group of monks from Chartreuse, France. Charterhouse School moved to Godalming in 1872.

Our visit ended with the Order of Evening Prayer, taken from the Methodist Worship Book. We sat in the Chapter House, now part of the Chapel, where in 1538 the monks decided they could not accept King Henry VIII as head of the Church in England, which cost all of the monks their lives when the monastery was dissolved. They were taken to the Tower of London and were charged with being rebels and traitors. Being found guilty of treason, they were sentenced to death. An observer wrote:

“They were dragged mercilessly on hurdles, at the horses’ heels,
across London from the Tower to Tyburn.”

They were then hanged drawn and quartered. They uttered no cry, they forgave their executioners and they went to meet their Maker in peace. It was a solemn moment to reflect on the bravery of those monks who died for their beliefs.

2009 has seen celebrations of the accession of Henry VIII and of his achievements, and it is quite chilling to reflect on those who were on the receiving end of his policies.

In 1545 much of the building was destroyed to order to erect a grand Tudor mansion where Queen Elizabeth I spent a few days prior to her coronation in 1558. We saw the grand Elizabethan fireplace in the great hall. Then it became a school, first as Charterhouse, later Merchant Taylors, then a medical college for nearby Barts Hospital. Now part of the site is occupied by Queen Mary College, University of London.

During the 1939 – 1945 war much damage was caused by bombing, but careful reconstruction means that we can now see much of the original architecture. Now there is accommodation for retired mainly professional men, known as ‘brothers’ who live in comfortable separate flats, who dine together and take part in the daily services held in the chapel. There is also a wing with accommodation for those brothers who become too frail to look after themselves.

Coming home, walking through Charterhouse Square we passed the 1930’s block of flats which features in the introduction to the earlier Poirot TV programmes. I looked in vain for Agatha Christie’s famous detective and Miss Lemon with her ancient typewriter. FRANK SAYERS

SOUTHLANDS COLLEGE

DR. PETER BRIGGS, who has been the Principal of the College for seven years, is retiring this summer. On Saturday 27th June I travelled to Southlands, now part of Roehampton University, to the farewell evening. Peter Briggs has been an inspiring leader with a deep concern for the present students and in keeping links with the past.

“Southlands Saturday” has given us old’uns a chance to meet the students, usually over lunch, as well as catching up with old acquaintances. We have been encouraged to join a sing-a-long - Mozart, Fauré, Haydn - while old students taking a course in conducting practice for their exams.

The retirement evening included a reception, piano recital by a concert pianist and “after dinner” speeches followed by a buffet dinner. The first speech was given by Lord Leslie Griffiths of Burry Port, Minister of Wesley’s Chapel and former Chairman of Southlands Governors. This was followed by Peter Briggs’ speech.

During the evening I was able to catch up with JAN SUCH PICKARD, Southlands’ former poet in residence. [See Jan’s books in The Drive Church library.]

It was a lovely evening and a fitting tribute to someone who has given so much to Methodist education. We can only hope that Southlands’ future is secure in new hands. SUSAN RUCKES

WOMEN’S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

At the tea-party and sale of work held in July to raise funds for our local committee the sum of nearly £70 was donated. Many thanks to all those who came to give support. C.E.S.

GARDEN CITY CHAPEL.

During the summer Ian and I spent a night at the Prince Regent Hotel in Woodford Bridge. Imagine our surprise when we opened the door to our room to discover the room contained stained glass windows. We were intrigued by this and the following morning took a stroll in the hotel gardens. The hotel, as many of you will know, is Georgian and they have now added a new curved wing which contains many of the bedrooms and various function rooms. We were amazed to discover that this wing is also attached to a chapel which itself has been converted into additional rooms including, of course, our room with the stained glass windows. None of this can be seen from Manor Road. In many ways from the outside the chapel is quite plain. There is no visible foundation stone or any plaques such as on our church and certainly no decorative embellishments. The architecture is, however, quite striking with several large windows and arched perpendicular pillars set at right angles to the main building.

We were staying at the hotel on the night before John and Audrey's Golden Wedding celebrations. The following morning we were eager to show off the photos we had taken and to tell of our discoveries. No-one knew anything about the chapel

A quick internet search on our return home soon provided some answers. The Prince Regent Hotel was formerly Gwynne House which had been re-built in its current style in 1816. The property and its 64 acres of land were acquired by Dr. Barnardo's Homes in 1910 when 34 boys lived in the home. By 1912 13 houses had been built in the grounds to accommodate 390 boys. The 'Boys Garden City' was officially opened in May 1912. Three more houses were built the following year and a gymnasium, hospital, isolation hospital and swimming pool were added. Woodford Bridge Garden City Elementary School was opened for the boys in 1913, too. In 1921 three more houses and a bakery were added and a Scout troop was opened.

The City Garden Chapel, which is now part of the hotel, dating from 1932 is described in the Victorian County History as 'a building of brown brick and designed in a free perpendicular style by W. H. Godfrey'. The stained glass windows in our room were unveiled on 10th May 1951

ANNE WARDEN

WHO CARES?

WE DO

DO YOU?

We at Redbridge Voluntary Care are trying to re-establish our links with member churches with whom we seem to have lost touch lately.

Many people will remember our origins – some 35 years ago we were founded by Revd. Peter Hudson, who saw the need for some kind of organised 'Good Neighbour' scheme in Ilford. Not only did he see the need, he actually did something about it and 'Community Care' (as it was then known) was born!

You might be surprised to know that we still exist and we are still finding a great need, in Ilford, for some neighbourliness; with a little effort we can brighten someone's day, share a cup of tea, fetch a bit of emergency shopping, feed a cat, maybe give a lift to visit a hospital or dentist – you name it, we've probably done it at some time.

This is where you come in of course – we are always very pleased to offer the kind of people who are reading this newsletter the opportunity to be a good neighbour, and we will be delighted to hear from anyone who is at all interested in learning more about us.

You don't have to commit any more time than you are able, maybe even only a couple of hours a month when you are free – more if you want of course – nothing too demanding or difficult. If you aren't a driver then we need people to 'man' the phone (we work from home, so you don't even have to go out to an office), or even just to visit a lonely person.

It would be very good to hear from anyone who is interested – please call for a chat – no pressure.

Looking forward to hearing from you – anyone is welcome, no upper age-limit!

JANET CHEAL

I am back from India and had an amazing time. I visited the Taj Mahal, Red Fort and Lost City whilst in Agra and tried some delicious local delicacies in Manali. The trek was hard work but I saw some beautiful sights whilst climbing the mountains. I would just like to thank all those who gave me kind donations for the trip. All the money raised from the Smarties tubes bought the school I worked in 13 desks, which is a great achievement and will make a huge difference within lessons at the school. In November I will be taking part in the Tuesday fellowship where I will give a talk on my trip to India. Thank you again for all your help. I had an amazing time in India and have benefited hugely from this trip. LORNA WRIGHT

WHEN CHILDREN PRAY

Written by Brian Wren (born 1936)

2009 marks the 30th anniversary of the UN Year of the Child. Many of the Churches in Britain have declared 2009 the year of the child with a mandate to celebrate to 'Celebrate children in Church'.

Listen...Listen...Listen...

This is a poem,
from all of us,
to all of you.

When children pray,
please do not say, "How nice!"
Remember – Jesus cares,
and listens to our prayers.

When children speak,
please do not say, "How sweet,"
and pat us on the head.
Remember what we've said.

And when we sing,
please do not say, "How cute –
It is so nice to hear
the children do their thing."

Look in our eyes.

We may be angels in disguise.
Our singing voice
may be God's choice.

We don't want you to miss
the Holy Spirit's kiss.

The things that children say and do
may be God's way
of calling you.

DIARY SEPTEMBER 2009

TUES	1	10.00 am 7.30 pm	Morning Communion - led by Rev. Stephen Normanton - in the Chapel Welcome service for the Revd. Ken Nicholls at Goodmayes Church
SAT	5	10.00 am 10.00 am	Creative Church - led by Michelle & Philippa - in the Church Parlour Work Morning
SUN	6	10.45 am 6.30 pm	Rev. STEPHEN NORMANTON - All Age Worship Rev. STEPHEN NORMANTON
TUES	8	8.00 pm	Bible Study - ABRAHAM - led by Rev. Stephen Normanton - in Church Parlour
WED	9	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Revd. Stephen Normanton
THUR	10	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
FRI	11	10.00 am	Coffee Morning at The Red House
SUN	13	10.45 am	Mr. JOHN NICHOLLS
MON	14	7.30 pm	Circuit Meeting at Seven Kings Church
TUES	15	8.00 pm	Bible Study - MOSES - led by Stephen Froggatt - in Church Parlour
WED	16	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship
THUR	17	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
SUN	20	10.45 am	Rev. MICHAEL MOON - Family Communion - Collection at Communion for Church Development Fund
MON	21	8.00 pm	Evening Prayer – led by Rev. Stephen Normanton - in Church Parlour
TUES	22	8.00 pm	Bible Study - ISAIAH - led by Rev. Stephen Normanton - in Church Parlour
WED	23	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Frank Sayers with GFH – part 2
THUR	24	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
FRI	25	10.00am – 2.30 pm	MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT COFFEE EVENT at Redbridge Social Centre
SUN	27	10.45am	H A R V E S T F E S T I V A L . - led by Rev. STEPHEN NORMANTON - Followed by a Lunch in the Church Hall (see page 2)
TUES	29	1.00 pm 8.00 pm	Church Lunch Bible Study - ST. PAUL - led by Frank Sayers
WED	30	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship

OCTOBER

THUR	1		Musical event
SAT	3	10.00 am	Creative Church - led by Michelle & Philippa (see page 3)
SUN	4	10.45 am	Mr. IAN SHEACH - All Age Worship
TUES	6	8.00 pm	Church Fellowship
WED	7	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship