

OCTOBER 2009

Thanks from Barbara

"I would like to thank those friends in church, who so kindly sent greetings and cards to me on the recent occasion of my 80th Birthday. I had a very happy day surrounded by friends and family. With love, Barbara"

CIRCUIT CALENDAR

OCTOBER

Saturday 3 rd	7.30 pm	Seven Kings	Harvest Quiz and Supper
Sunday 4 th	6.30 pm	Goodmayes	Youth Service
Thursday 22 nd		Celebration of 10 years of The Open Door Project	

(See notice in the Circuit Plan)

CHIP - N - CHAT

THURSDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2 - 4 pm Church Parlour

A couple of years ago during an All-Age-Worship service, some of our congregation helped to create two large mosaics, one of which was hung in church about 18 months ago. The other one was in the process of being cleaned up but has since been stored in my garage waiting to be made presentable.

For those of you who would like to help scrape and clean the mosaic, I shall be in the church parlour with tea and biscuits and the promise of plenty to chat about. Hope you can join me.

ANNE DELLOW

HARVEST GIFTS

A big thankyou to all those good folk who either donated, decorated, dismantled or delivered our Harvest display. The recipients were very grateful for all the gifts. CES

A VERY BIG THANKYOU to all our folk who came and enjoyed our Harvest Lunch. -
to all the talented people who cooked such delicious dishes for our delight -
for everyone who helped and served on the day -
and last but not least to all my dear family who prepared all the tables and carried all the necessities from the church building on Saturday night.

A sum of £117.66, [after expenses were deducted] was collected for Methodist Relief & Development Fund.

The collection during the service, for the same fund amounted to £148.00.

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 is available and it is full of entertaining evenings.

Refreshments and lifts are available. Do come.

[This extract from an article which appeared in St. Andrew's Church magazine last month is reprinted here with permission.]

"THE BIBLE: there's nothing else like it . . .

Former Poet Laureate Andrew Motion says it is becoming increasingly difficult to teach English Literature because students don't know the Bible. Andrew Motion was taking part in a BBC radio interview when he said that students had a sketchy understanding of once familiar stories. Literature is one of the many aspects of British culture with roots in the Bible, but Bible reading is more than a cultural exercise.

For millions of people across the globe, the Bible is the main reference point for life's biggest questions: Who am I? Why am I here? Where am I going? What is the purpose of Life? How should I live?

That's why many Christians make Bible-reading a part of daily routine. It's as vital as eating and drinking."

A group of us here at The Drive use a set of daily Bible Reading notes published by The Bible Reading Fellowship. I have a spare copy of the current set of notes which I will give to anyone who is interested enough to see them.

FRANK SAYERS

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** 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.**

WELCOME BACK, KEN!

Three of us from The Drive Church were present at the welcome service for the Rev. Ken Nicholls which was held at our Goodmayes Church on Tuesday September 1st. It was a moving and uplifting occasion, conducted with humour and warmth by the Rev. Stephen Poole and the Rev. Stephen Normanton. After the formal induction of Ken as a minister to serve for two years in our Circuit, with pastoral care of Goodmayes and Seven Kings churches, a large group of local priests and ministers of the local churches in the area warmly welcomed Ken and all looked forward to working with him. Many of us already know Ken from the days when he was a Local Preacher in our Circuit before he entered the ordained ministry.

The service also included the recognition of the thirty years' ministry of Mrs. Ruth Luke as a Local Preacher, for which achievement she received a certificate signed by this year's President of Conference, the Rev. David Gamble and she proudly let us know that she is ninety years old! Stephen Normanton told us that Ruth always tells him she will preach when and where he asks her to go.

We all took part in this benediction led by Ken:

LEADER: Touch your eyes with your hands and say:

Response: Bless my eyes, Lord, that I may see more clearly.

LEADER: Touch your mouth and say:

Response: Bless my mouth, Lord, which breaks the silence of centuries and seek to speak now of your truth.

LEADER: Touch your ears and say:

Response: Bless my ears, Lord, that I may hear my own words, thoughts and feelings of those of every person near.

LEADER: Touch your heart with your hand and say:

Response: Bless my heart, Lord, that I may be open to friendship and love

LEADER: Touch your feet with your hands and say:

Response: Bless my feet, Lord, so that I might travel each step firmly with courage during my life's path.

LEADER: Touch God's word with your hands and say:

Response: Bless your Word, Lord, the good news, which is a compass for my way.

LEADER: Touch your friends about you and say:

Response: Bless me, Lord, and my sisters and brothers.

The final hymn was; *"This, this is the God we adore,
Our faithful unchangeable friend"*

and which ends with those uplifting words:

*"We'll praise him for all that is past
And trust him for all that's to come."* (Joseph Hart)

Sad to say, Susan Ruckes arrived at the end of the service, having been badly let down by London Transport.
FRANK SAYERS

From the Senior Stewards.

We realise that it is not always possible to get to Church on a Sunday in time for the commencement of the service at 10.45 a.m.

There are many reasons for this such as heavy traffic and delays, buses cancelled or running late, children deciding to be awkward and taking a long time to get ready etc.

We have all had these and similar problems in the past and fully aware that delays are inevitable.

Please do not let the prospect of being late deter you from attending – we still want to see you.

One thing that we would ask, however, is that, if you happen to arrive during a period of prayer, then you wait in the foyer until the prayer has finished so as not to distract the congregation from their devotions. Your co-operation in this would be much appreciated.

HILARY STEVENS and BRIAN GRINHAM (Senior Stewards)

MOVING ON WITH HOPE

During a recent service at The Drive, the theme of the sermon was 'Hope' and I thought about the significance and impact that the word has had on my life over the past 18 months. After Ray's diagnosis we hoped for more time, and thanks to his courage, the skill of his medical team and the prayers, love and support of our family and friends, we were given five precious months together.

We hoped to be able to show our gratitude to everyone in some way and after Ray died I prayed for strength and direction. Two weeks later I was at Queens Hospital again for the birth of our grandson, James and Ray's specialist nurse came up to see us all. I took the opportunity to ask her if there was anything I could do to support her department, and she told me that she had been thinking of an idea for the past four years, and hoped to have something in place in the new year. She also advised that I take time to grieve before doing anything.

The Brain Tumour Support Group was set up in March and meets on the first Wednesday of the month in the waiting area of the Oncology Department. It enables patients and their partners or carers to come together socially whilst also being able to access information. My role at present is to make tea and chat, which suits me well, but I am hoping to do more in the future when the group is firmly established

Clare has always enjoyed running and has many fun stories of her times with Ray cycling by her side. She has always wanted to run a marathon and earlier this year she found the Brain Tumour

UK charity on a website and has become involved with them, consequently running two 10 k. charity races (miles??!!) in London during the summer.

I went up to London on both occasions and have stood alongside some prestigious landmarks to cheer her on! I have experienced some wonderful sights, such as the sun coming up over the River Thames whilst listening to a brass band playing "I vow to thee my country" I have stood on a traffic island between The Houses of Parliament and Westminster Bridge, and swayed to a selection of music reminiscent of my youth, and being so engrossed that I almost missed Clare yelling out as she came by the Embankment. I was bursting with so much pride.

After the run we were invited to join people from the charity for lunch and we were able to meet a number of people who all have connections with those who have or have had brain tumours. Clare's next run was a half marathon on September 27th and I was in place again to cheer her on and saw her complete the half marathon in 1 hour 58 minutes which achievement should gain her a place in the London Marathon next year.

ANNE DELLOW

CONCERT FOR ST. CECILIA'S DAY

THE NEW ESSEX CHORAL SOCIETY

will be presenting a concert in honour of the patron saint of music and musicians on Saturday 21st November 2009, 7.30 pm at Barnardo's Church, Barkingside.

The programme will include -

Handel : Ode on St Cecilia's Day and music with a pre-Christmas theme.

Kathryn Copeland will be returning as soprano soloist.

The concert will end with Handel : Hallelujah Chorus as part of the BBC 'Sing Hallelujah' initiative.

Tickets £10, £8 concessions (under 18's free)
from Brian Taylor

*(A paragraph from this article published in September was accidentally omitted.
Here is the complete article. Apologies FS)*

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 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 Victoria 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 to commemorate the work of Dr. Robert Milne and his wife, Mary. Dr. Milne was the Senior Medical Officer of Barnardo's from 1880-1919.

In the 1960's and 1970's many of the houses were demolished. Some of the land was used to build 200 new houses whilst some was used for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Centre. The chapel ceased to be used for worship in 1968 and was later sold. Gwynne House was sold in 1985 and later became the Prince Regent Hotel as did the Garden City Chapel.

Some of our photographs of the window and chapel can be seen on the church website.

ANNE WARDEN

**Please let Barbara Foster have items for the November
Newsletter by SUNDAY OCTOBER 18TH**

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to all who supported my MacMillan Coffee Morning at the Redbridge Social Centre. We enjoyed a good social morning with friends from the church and the centre raising £377.

Audrey Taylor

Drive Scout and Guide Group AGM

The AGM which was to have been held on 9th July has been rescheduled for Wednesday October 7th. Everyone welcome.

THE DRIVE SCOUT AND GUIDE GROUP
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**WEDNESDAY 7TH OCTOBER
AT 7.30 FOR 8 PM**

**IN THE SCOUT & GUIDE HQ
AT THE DRIVE METHODIST CHURCH**

*We hope to see as many parents and
supporters at the meeting as possible*

DIARY OCTOBER 2009

SAT	3	10.30 am	Creative Church - led by Philippa and Michelle
SUN	4	10.45 am 6.30 pm	Mr. Ian Sheach - All Age Worship Rev. Stephen Normanton
Mon	5	8.00 pm	Finance Committee
TUES	6	10.00 am 8.00 pm	Morning Communion in the Prayer Chapel - led by Rev. Stephen Normanton Church Fellowship - speaker Mr. Stan Crees <i>see page</i>
WED	7	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Rev. Stephen Normanton
THUR	8	2.00 pm – 4.00 pm 8.00 pm	Chip- N-Chat <i>see page 2</i> Church Council
FRI	9	10.00 am	Coffee Morning at The Red House
SUN	11	10.45 am	Rev. Stephen Normanton - Family Communion
WED	14	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Open Fellowship - arranged by Barbara
THUR	15	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
SUN	18	10.45 am	Mr. Allan Ramsden <i>Material for the November Newsletter due in today</i>
MON	19	8.00 pm	Evening Prayer in the Church Parlour - led by Rev. Stephen Normanton
WED	21	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship
THUR	22	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
SAT	24	<u>7.00 pm</u>	Action for Children 'Slides' Evening - <i>see page 3</i>
SUN	25	10.45 am	Rev. Stephen Normanton
TUES	27	1.00 pm	Church Lunch
WED	28	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship

NOVEMBER

SUN	1		ALL SAINTS' DAY
		10.45 am	Morning Worship
		6.30 pm	Evening Service
TUES	3	8.00 pm	Church Fellowship - Lorna Wright talks of her trip to India
WED	4	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship - Rev. Stephen Normanton
THUR	5	8.00 pm	Choir Practice