

# **The Drive Methodist Church**

**Newsletter**

**October 2010**

## **NEWS FROM ST ANDREWS**

Early in July, long before the date of the welcome service to be held in our circuit was announced, I was approached by the church Wardens of St Andrew's who asked if I would consider representing the local churches at the service of licensing for the Revd. Marie Segal as Priest-in-charge. My answer was that I would be honoured. Later on I found about our 'do'.

The Suffragan Bishop of Barking, the Revd. David Hawkins performed the bulk of the official licensing and various other dignitaries, the Mayor, the local MP, and the Archdeacon of West Ham, (who was an old friend of Eddie Chapman) took part. Marie's husband, Lawrence and members of her family were there to support her. She was presented with various symbols of her new post, including the keys of the church and a map of the Parish!

Marie was acclaimed and welcomed by the congregation. After the congregation confirmed their commitment to the mission and ministry of the Church, the Bishop gave the blessing and we all retired to the hall for refreshments and general conviviality.

Marie has agreed to be the first speaker at the opening meeting of the Church Fellowship and we look forward to welcoming her.

**Catherine Sayers.**

## **COAST TO COAST**

Matthew and I thoroughly enjoyed our Coast to Coast walk which we completed on Monday 13 September – a great experience. We are very grateful to everyone who sponsored us and I am pleased to advise that we raised £355 for Raysin Hope and over £1000 for the national charity Brain Tumour UK.

We will be showing a selection of photographs from the walk at Frank and Catherine's Action For Children slide evening on 23 October.

**Jeremy & Matthew**

## **AUTUMN FAYRE**

We are now in the final preparation phase for our Autumn Fayre on **Saturday 13 November**. This is an important event for our Church and I hope that everyone has made a note of the date and will support by contributing items, attending on the day and most importantly encouraging family, friends and neighbours to come along and support.

Preparations are going well, however we still need more stock for the stalls:

Anne D is looking for Bric a Brac

Janet B (for Women's Fellowship) is after cakes for their stall

Florence & Amy need second hand media e.g., DVD's, CD's, Video tapes etc

Doreen & Eddie need second hand books

Pre School need second hand toys

Janet W is looking for Christmas gifts

More publicity will be evident in early October with posters being circulated to other churches and displayed locally in schools, Council Area notice boards etc. In addition, we are planning to distribute 1500 programmes to local homes. We will be appealing for help with this distribution.

**Jeremy**

## **CRADLE ROLL SECRETARY**

Following our appeal for a new secretary following the resignation of Jose Jiggins who feels unable to continue with the work, Janet Wragg has offered her services. Thank you Janet, I am sure you will enjoy this valuable work within our Church.

At the same time I wish to record on behalf of all our church family our thanks for the many years loyal service by Jose, who has always been there when she was needed. I am sure she is remembered not only by those of us who attend the services regularly, but by all those families who have had their children baptised at The Drive.

**Roy Brunnen**

## **CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

At a recent meeting of the stewards one of the things we considered was this year's Christmas Tree festival. The conclusion we came to was that it would be beneficial if we found one of our congregation to co-ordinate this event, so I asked Anne Dellow if she would be kind enough to undertake this, and to my delight she accepted, and has asked me to include the following notice in this newsletter.

### **Roy Brunnen**

#### **Anne Dellow writes**

As co-ordinator of the Christmas Tree Festival which is to be held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December I would like to invite anyone who is interested in providing and decorating a tree, to join me for a planning meeting on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October at 8pm in the Church parlour.

### **THE CIRCUIT MEETING ON 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2010.**

The opening devotions were led by the Reverend Stephen Pool, our new Superintendent Minister.

There are 32,000 Bus drivers and the same number of Methodists in the London District.

There are 600 members of the Barking, Dagenham & Ilford circuit. Stephen urges us to look at the circuit first and individual churches second.

The Reverend Charles Watson is stepping down from preaching.

Stephen Cheal expressed thanks to the Reverend Michael Moon for all he has done for Barkingside church. Michael is in charge of Barking and Grange Hill churches until he leaves in 2011.

Reverend Ken Nicholls is also leaving in 2011. The Reverend Shamella Jamelee is to take over Seven Kings church from Ken when he retires.

There was a vote in favour of asking for two new ministers in 2011. Riverside may be financed by the connection as a pioneering ministry.

The Morley Road manse has been sold. The meeting voted in favour of selling Chestnut Grove Manse and buying Ken Nicholls house which is in a convenient location.

Stephen Pool hopes that there will be one circuit steward from each church. Liz Weatherstone was appointed for Gants Hill Church.

The Open door centre closed on the 13<sup>th</sup> August due to lack of funding.

Funding is being sought for a part time schools worker.

Three local preachers will be fully recognised soon. Frank Anipa is on note.

Circuit Carol Service	12 <sup>th</sup> December.
Grange Hill 60 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary.	12 <sup>th</sup> December.
Water Aid event. Grange Hill.	7 <sup>th</sup> May 2011.
Ilford Church 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	March 2011.

**Susan Ruckes**

## **NEW EXPERIENCES**

Having always enjoyed a long walk I have never considered myself a 'serious' walker, that is until recently when I set off with Diane Foster to join Jeremy and Mathew along the route of their 'Coast to Coast' walk in North Yorkshire. I had been looking forward to this new experience not least because Jeremy had kindly asked if he could support the "Raysin Hope" charity by being sponsored for his walk. When I read in the magazine that Diane would be walking part of the way I decided to ask if I could join her and on the 6<sup>th</sup> September we set off for Kirby Stephen. Although I enjoy chatting even I was surprised to find that when Diane and I retired for the night in our first B&B we had been talking non stop for 14 hours!

Over the course of the next five days we experienced four different guest houses each offering comfortable accommodation and a delicious breakfast. Diane and I joined Jeremy, Mathew and Nicholas on our second day and prepared for our section of the walk which was to commence the following day. I finally felt like a 'serious' walker when I donned my walking shoes (courtesy of my daughter Clare). Before Nicholas left for home we had a photo shoot of the four of us in our "Raysin Hope" T-shirts and as we set off I felt immense gratitude to my companions for their suggestion of sponsoring Ray's charity.

The sunshine and fresh air was exhilarating as we crossed many fields and streams and at one point walked under the A1. We arrived in Denby Wiske having completed about 15 miles and not a blister among us, unlike fellow walker who displayed his blistered feet akin to a pair of trophies to his day's accomplishment of 23 miles! We met numerous people along the route and in some instances it was easier to identify walkers by giving them

nicknames, but I think my introduction to 'Blisters' will remain one of my most amusing moments.

We walked to Ingleby Cross on the Thursday and completed just over 8 miles. It's fair to say that I am now ready to do another walk but I have to say that had the route planning been left to me I could have ended up in Timbuktu, so many thanks Jeremy for showing me how it's done (not that I could). But I'm afraid its back to pounding the aisles of Sainsbury's until the next time.

Diane and I were pleased to be able to visit Stephen and Philippa in Settle where they made us most welcome. They have a lovely house which has an amazing view of Penyghent from their top windows. We shared lots of stories and laughter and they send everyone their love and best wishes.

My thanks to Jeremy, Diane and Mathew for welcoming me on their walk and enabling "Raysin Hope" to raise more funds.

**Anne Dellow.**

## **CHURCH FELLOWSHIP**

### **AUTUMN PROGRAMME 2010**

Tuesday October 5                      Speaker: The Rev. Marie Segal

Tuesday November 2                  Speaker: Rev. Ken Nicholls

Tuesday December 7                  A Christmas Miscellany

ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 8 pm REFRESHMENTS ARE SERVED

### **? ? PROGRAMME FOR 2011 ? ?**

Unless we get more support there will **NOT** be a programme in 2011! If you have never been to one of our evenings, sometimes serious and sometimes light-hearted, please try one of these Autumn evenings. Newly installed at St. Andrew's is our good friend the Rev. Marie Segal, and the Rev. Ken Nicholls will talk on "What's the use of gardens!" December's programme will be seasonably light-hearted.

*We have booked speakers for 2011, So **PLEASE** support us – we don't want to cancel!*

*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 23<sup>RD</sup>.**

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,  
must contact Mike by **Sunday October 10th.**,  
(on 020 8554 1982),

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.**

## HEARTFELT THANKS

I am sure we all wish to give our thanks to Hillary and Andrew who kindly arranged the two "Church Arrangement" Sundays. These services are always a concern, as we do not have worship leaders, but it is comforting to have such gifted members amongst us. Thanks are also due to those who so ably supported them "on the Day"





AUTUMN FAYRE  
Saturday 13th November  
10 am to 5 pm

**So now it's in your diary,  
NOW how can you help?  
See Jeremy's article on Page 3**

**If you are willing to have a poster in  
your window contact John Taylor**

## **MEET THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION.**

### **Susan Ruckes**

I was born in Ilford. I attended Parkhill Junior School, and Ilford County High School. After a three year course at Southlands College of Education I taught at Dulwich Hamlet junior (no connection with the football team) then St Alban's R.C. primary school in Camberwell.

By 1966 my brother and sister-in-law, John & Pauline, were living on the Sussex coast, my parents, Lionel & Iris were in Reigate, Surrey and I was living in Wimbledon then Dulwich. In 1973 I moved to Sweden to teach grade 3 at the Anglo-American School of Stockholm. After I left, some of the pupils sang "I have a dream" with Abba. I also missed the visit of our Queen and Prince Philip. However, I was at the Anglican Church when the present King of Sweden unveiled a Plaque to his late grandfather. There were also official visits by two Royal Navy Ships --- but that is another story.

After a very reluctant farewell to Scandinavia, I was on a plane bound for Canada to teach English at Toronto French school, Mississauga branch. This was a great chance to travel east to Quebec Province and west through the Canadian Rockies to Vancouver. Toronto was also a good base for American cities example Boston and San Francisco. I visited Hawaii twice from Toronto and the third time from Reigate --- but that is also another story.

In 1978 I returned to Essex (just temporarily) and in 1980 moved to my present address. After spending six long years at a Dagenham comprehensive, I joined Newham's peripatetic team and spent time in about 15 schools before the system changed.

In 1995 I left my last School and since 1996 have been working as a telephonist. Since 1997 I have been working at the building with the famous clock by the Thames.

Over the years I have been very lucky to have friends in the right places.

I have been a member of 4 Churches. I started attending the Drive in 1981, in recent years coming an official roving reporter for the Barking, Dagenham, & Ilford circuit, which has not been living up to its name recently.

**Susan Ruckes**

## **THE FEW CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

On Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September we attended the Battle of Britain service of thanksgiving at St Andrews Church, Hornchurch.

The service began in the military cemetery behind St Andrews. It was attended by local dignitaries, three veterans of the wartime RAF Hornchurch and many air cadets.

At the appointed time, 10.10am, a spitfire flew three times over the delighted crowd not just any spitfire. This spitfire took part in the Battle of Britain and is the oldest that is still operational. You may have seen David Jason fly the plane on the ITV programme "David Jason The Battle of Britain." It was show on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September. After the Spitfire had left we all went into the church for the thanksgiving service. It was packed.

The vicar, reverend Barry Hobson, gave an inspiring talk. Although they were outnumbered, our pilots were able to shake the confidence of the Luftwaffe. Also they had the backing of the ground crew and others behind the scenes whose contribution was vital. He stressed the importance of remembering and expressed a wish to see the cadets at other services besides Remembrance day.

We sang traditional Hymns, "Jerusalem" and the National Anthem. The choir anthem, John Rutter's, The Lord bless you and keep you was ideally suited to the occasion.

We left to the stirring sound of Eric Coates the Dambusters march played on the organ.

**Peter Sharp and Susan Ruckes.**

## **OPEN DOOR PROJECT**

I was very sad when I learnt that the project has not attracted sufficient funds to enable it to continue, and has had to close its doors and dispose of all the assets which have made it such a valuable contribution to the young of the area.

We thank those who "Manned" and administered this over the Years it was running, and I hope they all feel they "made a difference" in the lives of those who benefited. A number of those came from this church, and our thanks and blessing go from our congregation.

**Roy Brunnen**

## **FAMILY NEWS**

We send our good wishes to our young people who, following successful A level results, are now embarking on the next stage of their studies.

Martin Runeckles to Sheffield University – Journalism

Florence Smith to The London School of Fashion

Lorna Wright to Hereford University – Art

Amy MacGinley who is taking a year out.

Our love and prayers go with them.

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## **MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING**

A big thank you to all who supported my Coffee Morning. I am very pleased to say it was a convivial occasion and we raised over £380.

Amongst the friends present were some who have and are currently benefiting from the support of Macmillan nurses.

**Audrey Taylor**

## **SEEN IN A NATIONAL NEWSPAPER**

I took a trip to Nurofen  
Near Asprin by the sea,  
and all along my journey there were many sights to see  
Like Anadin, and Panadol two lovely seaside towns  
and a place called AlkaSeltzer nestling in the downs  
I bypassed Paracetamol and took the road through Vick,  
It was quiet in Mentholatum  
so we got through pretty quick  
I saw the oil rigs near Hedex  
just past Solphadine,  
and because of all its Olbas its twinned with Aberdeen.  
But now I'm safely home again  
I'm tired for goodness sake,  
I've got a splitting headache  
But I don't know what to take.

## OCTOBER DIARY

Sat	2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00am	Creative Church
<b>Sun</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Harvest Festival led by Revd Mandlate</b>
Tue	5 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Church Fellowship
Wed	6 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship
<b>Sun</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mrs Allen</b>
Wed	13 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship
Thu	14 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Church Council
Fri	15 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Morning Coffee in the Gardeners Cafe, Valentines Mansion.
<b>Sun</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mr Grant</b>
Wed	20 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship
Fri	22 <sup>nd</sup>		Pre-School term ends
<b>Sun</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service with Holy Communion led by Revd. Mandlate.</b>
Tue	26 <sup>th</sup>	1.00pm	Church Lunch
Wed	27 <sup>th</sup>	2.30	Women's Fellowship
<b>Sun</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mrs Jumbe</b>

### CIRCUIT NEWS

Revd. Charles Watson has decided to retire from regular preaching

Mr Tim Nicholls has moved out of the circuit

Revd. Michael Moon has assumed responsibility for Barking & Grange Hill churches for his last year in the circuit.

Diane Foster has concluded her role as an administrative assistant.