

The Drive Methodist Church  
Eastern Avenue, Ilford, Essex, IG1 3PP

# NEWSLETTER

May 2015



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

<http://www.the-drive-methodist-ilford.org.uk>

## **From Revd. Bernardino.**

Friends

I pray to God that all is well with all of you. I was reading about the Good Shepherd in John's gospel and just realised something that we often overlook when reading and reflecting on this particular passage. It is John 10. It is the fact that sheep have a usefulness to their shepherd. Their either provide the shepherd with wool or meat, lamb chops come to mind; or both.

As sheep of our Lord's flock, obviously we do not provide him with any wool or lamb chops. However, we ought to have some sense of usefulness to The Good Shepherd. What could our usefulness be?!

As the death toll rises in Nepal after the earthquake, we look at the TV screens with all the horror of the situation and we become helpless. Are we really helpless? Aid agencies have been asking us for help so that they can help. Can we ignore those appeals and pretend it does not touch? Or pretend it is nothing to do with us?

As we also see the pictures of migrants drowning in the Mediterranean, we feel sorry for the victims and anger for against those who benefit from those disasters, the smugglers who are faceless, who just carry on preparing the next boat journey who has paid to go on it regardless of the dangers faced by those seeking a better life in European shores.

God calls us to respond to these dire situations, to listen to the appeals and react positively where we can, so as to alleviate the suffering and pain.

We have a duties to campaign for better living standards for all peoples of the world regardless of their location.

The Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ, wants us to be useful. It is not in our nature to produce wool or lambs chops, but it is in our nature to be hospitable, to be helpful, to be of service to others. That we can and we should do to the best of our abilities whenever it matters.

I pray to God to us the wisdom and the humbleness to serve, to help and to listen to the dire needs and be able to give some fork or some kind of response. Drop by drop we fill a bucket.

May the Good Shepherd, the Good Lord fill your lives with blessings so you can bless others.

***Dino***

### **Family news.**

We congratulate Peter Foster on reaching 90 years of age on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April. We hope he had an enjoyable and successful family celebration.

### **Rochelle says**

Happy wedding Anniversary to my parents who will be celebrating on 5<sup>th</sup> May.

***Rochelle Inbakumar.***

### **In Memoriam**

In loving memory of our dear Husband, Father, Grandfather and Great Grandfather, Eugene Gabbidon. We still remember your calming, and caring voice, you will always remain in our thoughts, gone but not forgotten.

***Amy & Derek Gabbidon.***

### **From me**

On a personal matter, I thank all those of you who contacted Janet and prayed for me during my illness. Once more the skill of our general practitioners and Janet has saved my life.

***Roy Brunnen.***

## **My Thanks**

Thank you to everyone who came and supported the Easter egg hunt.

I would especially like to thank all the junior church team leaders who provided wonderful crafts and face painting throughout the morning.

***Jo Wright.***

### **Raysin Hope Coffee Morning and table top sale Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2015 at 10am. In the Church Parlour**

Table top items kindly donated and all proceeds to Raysin Hope.

Tea/Coffee and light snacks. All proceeds towards Share-a-skill.

### **Raysin Hope Quiz Evening Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2015 In the Church hall 7pm for 7.30 start.**

Tickets £6 to include Ploughman's Supper and hot/cold refreshments. Raffle tickets will be on sale.

I would like to thank everyone who continues to support Raysin Hope in various ways. Ruth Joyce makes lavender bags and Janet Wragg is currently incorporating the making of these into her successful Share-a-skill sessions. Saving Pots, Lavender bags and items to sell, all these warm hearted gestures mean so much to everyone who benefits from the fundraising in the support for people with brain tumours.

***Anne Dellow.***

## **A personal view on scams**

Having noticed the blank page at the back of April's newsletter with the invitation from Roy to compose an item for the next edition prompted me to share something that I have been thinking about following recent news coverage regarding scams, some of which have affected people within our own community.

Following an experience I had some years ago I decided there and then that in future I would only trust people I knew, be it at my street door or at the end of a phone. Since then I politely tell all unknown callers that I do not wish to engage in conversation with them and close the door or in the case of a phone call I firmly replace the receiver. So far I have been fortunate and have not had another experience but it is not easy as these people continue to find ways to dupe us. When we have been brought up to be polite and trusting it can be difficult but life has changed so much in so many ways.

***Anne Dellow.***

## **Peertalk**

In order to help fund Phillippa and Stephen Normanton's "Peertalk", a tea dance will be held in the church hall on Saturday June 20<sup>th</sup>, from 3pm to 5.30pm. Featuring the Earl Grey Band. More details will follow later.

***Janet Wragg.***

(see the appeal letter and detail towards the end of this newsletter)

## **Susan's spot**

### **Ten commandments for a choir**

This appeared on page 9 of the April newsletter.

I cannot claim credit for finding this gem. Muriel Masters found this when turning out a church cupboard. Framed and behind glass, this list had obviously been displayed prominently on a choir vestry wall, many years ago.

### **The St Neots Passion Play**

The first St. Neots Passion play took place five years ago in 2010. The 2015 enactment used several sites, all ideally chosen to enhance the story.

The roads in the town closed at 2.30pm and did not re-open until after the play ended at about 5pm.

A booklet giving a map showing the sites and directions was given out to bystanders, who really felt like participants in the drama. It was not unusual to turn round and find one of Jesus' disciples – perhaps Peter or John – hiding in the crowd.

The resurrection scene, in the riverside park, was particularly effective. It was a beautiful setting.

I am very grateful to Pauline and Colin Rodway for taking me by car to St Neots on Easter Sunday for this unique occasion.

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### **Media watch – UK**

Was she right? To mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the campaign led by Mary Whitehouse, her image was projected on to various buildings in London including BBC's Broadcasting house. You may have seen pictures in a newspaper. It was organised by Media watch – UK, the present name for the former viewers and listeners association (VALA). The campaign continues and is ably led by Vivienne Pattison. Although

they didn't come to the 2015 AGM, there is a strong young people's movement, giving hope for the future.

### **Mozart's Requiem at The Drive**

Some years ago it would have been unthinkable. Singing Mozart's Requiem in a Methodist Church. In Latin too! I found a piece of Mozart.....in English.....in one of the old choir books we occasionally use at The Drive. It was the beautiful Benedictus from the Requiem.

So there we were, on Good Friday, enough people to fill all the choir stalls, chairs in front and facing a large audience with a solid row of Drive supporters at the back. And the soloists! What an inspiration! Some had travelled a distance. Andrew Taylor was conducting the choir AND singing a solo part – but not at the same time.

Organist David Sheppard "was" the orchestra, even when his page turner disappeared to sing a solo.

I first sang Mozart's Requiem with Ilford Choral Society at St Andrews, Ilford in November 1980, the weekend I moved house. I think that Olive Hazard was also singing.

My neighbour in the sopranos was sight reading. She left her service at Hainault Catholic Church at 4.30pm to join us for the rehearsal.

The money raised was for the "BAHAY NG PAG ASA" or "HOUSE OF HOPE" orphanage in the Philippines.

***Susan Ruckes.***

An old retired farmer opened up as "Dr Old Geezers clinic.  
Get your treatment for £500, if not cured get back £1000.

Dr Young who did not think the Old Geezer knew anything about medicine thought he could make an easy £1000.

Dr Young – Dr Geezer, I have lost all taste in my mouth. Can you please help me?

Dr Geezer – Nurse, please bring medicine from box 22 and put 3 drops in Dr Young's mouth.

Dr Young – Aaaaaaagh!! That's awful. This is Gasoline!.

Dr Geezer – Congratulations! You have got your taste back, that will be £500.

Dr Young was annoyed and returned a few days later.

Dr Young – I have lost my memory

Dr Geezer - Nurse please bring me medicine from box 22 and put three drops in Dr Young's mouth.

Dr Young – Oh no you don't, that is Gasoline

Dr Geezer – Congratulations, you have got your memory back. That will be £500.



THE DRIVE SCOUT & GUIDE GROUP

# Plant Sale



***The Drive Methodist Church Hall***

***Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2015***

***10am to 12.30pm***

***Refreshments and Cake Stall***

***Come early for the best selection***

**Our young people in the Junior Church have been busy.**







**The Methodist Church**  
The Settle Circuit

Stephen and Philippa Normanton /  
4 Penyghent View  
Settle  
North Yorkshire  
BD24 9JJ

*sprnorm@globalnet.co.uk*

Dear Friends

We are writing to churches in Circuits where Stephen has served previously as a minister. Our hope is that you might be able to respond to our appeal.

For many years Philippa has lived with depression which has been managed with medication. Over the past few years sometimes the depression has been more serious and coping has been more difficult. Throughout this time we have become aware of many people who regularly experience depression. They often live with the illness in isolation or are reluctant to tell friends and family about their feelings.

Following consultation with mental health professionals and with the support of our Methodist Circuit and District we have determined to set up a project to establish a network of peer group support events and meetings to be facilitated by volunteers from the churches and wider community. The initial stages of the project will essentially be developing training material and identifying appropriate models of delivery.

We are looking towards establishing this project as a charity within twelve months and securing significant funding from the Methodist Church and other Charitable Trusts. In the meantime we have identified start up costs and are seeking seedcorn funding to get the project going. We are aiming to raise £20 000 as soon as possible to fund the first year of the project.

We have a working title for the project of 'Peertalk' which identifies a core feature of the work which is peer support. We will issue progress updates on a regular basis.

We hope you can help.

With grateful thanks

Stephen and Philippa Normanton



# Peertalk

**supporting each other  
through depression**

Stephen and Philippa Normanton are seeking to establish a project to support individuals and families living with depression.

The aim of the project is to establish a network of peer group support events and meetings across the UK.

An initial target of £20 000 is being sought for seedcorn funding:

*Start up and travel expenses*

*Training costs*

*Training material development*

*Project advocacy and publicity*

Please support this venture by using this envelope for gifts of cash or cheques payable to:

Hellifield Methodist Church (Peertalk)  
4 Penyghent View, Settle, BD24 9JJ



<b>Sun</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mr Dave Pender</b>
Mon	4 <sup>th</sup>		Bank Holiday
Thu	7 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Choir Practice
Fri	8 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Coffee morning
<b>Sun</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Members of the congregation</b>
Tue	12 <sup>th</sup>	10.00pm	Morning communion
Thu	14 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Choir Practice
Sat	16 <sup>th</sup>	10am – 12.30	Scout & Guide Group Plant Sale
<b>Sun</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mr John Nicholls</b>
Thu	21 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	Choir Practice
Fri	22 <sup>nd</sup>		Pre School term ends.
<b>Sun</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15</b>	<b>Morning Service with Holy Communion led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>11.15</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Roy Brunnen &amp; members of the congregation</b>

## **An invitation to join us for the Scout & Guide Group Plant Sale**

We shall be pleased to see as many of you as possible at the Plant Sale on May 16<sup>th</sup>. We shall be selling a wide variety of plants but if you want the best selection we advise you to come early. You can always stay and sample our Maggie's refreshments. We are pleased that the Guides and Brownies will be running the Cake Stall which is always popular.

Please let your friends and neighbours know – there is a supply of flyers in the Church available for this purpose.

## **Mission Statement The Drive Methodist Church.**

The Drive Methodist Church aims to be faithful to the commandments of Jesus, and the calling of the Methodist Church.

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission, and to fulfil the promises detailed in the Methodist worship book.

In seeking to be faithful The Drive Methodist Church is committed to:  
Provide a weekly opportunity for all people to worship God in Christ,  
Enable people to grow and learn as Christians through mutual support and care.

Be a good neighbour to the immediate and wider community.  
Sharing our faith with others through pastoral care, church activities and communication.  
March 2013.