Diamond Jubilee of HM Queen Elizabeth II
Prayer for the Diamond Jubilee

God of time and eternity, whose Son reigns as servant, not master; we give you thanks and praise that you have blessed this Nation, the Realms and Territories with Elizabeth our beloved and glorious Queen.

In this year of Jubilee, grant her your gifts of love and joy and peace as she continues in faithful obedience to you, her Lord and God and in devoted service to her lands and peoples, and those of the Commonwealth, now and all the days of her life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

The Diamond Jubilee Prayer, which was written under Her Majesty’s direction by the chapter of St Paul’s Cathedral, will be used at the official Jubilee Thanksgiving Service at the cathedral on June 5 as well as other Jubilee events during the year.
Dear Friends,

Churches change. If they didn’t they would die.
Buildings and people change. Brookside is going through an intense period of change at the moment, especially in respect of the building. This is nothing new. The church in East Barnet has continued to change throughout the ages.

The church in this place began as a little chapel in the forest round about 1085. Perhaps it was built on an earlier site of worship. Some parts of the church are Norman. There’s a little booklet which shows its development and change down the centuries.

In 1893 Nonconformity arrived in East Barnet when William Jackson built a Gospel Mission Hall in Jackson Road, a road which he of course built. Jackson was an unusual Methodist – he was landlord of the Prince of Wales and is buried by the main entrance to St Mary’s churchyard.

In 1915 he gave land at the centre of the village for a Wesleyan Methodist Church. The building was given by Miss Wyburn of Hadley Manor, and it survived until the 1960s.

In 1930, the future Lady Rank, opened the new church, the present ‘main hall’. Her family gave generous financial support to the building fund.

In 1967 the present church was opened as ‘Brookside Methodist Church’. It was a coming together of the New Barnet and East Barnet churches. It was an exciting time with youth and adult organisations flourishing. Mrs Thatcher sat on the front pew one Remembrance Sunday!

The 1960s building, typical of its time, did not last well – flat roofs, concrete, wooden gutters in the roof, orange backdrop to the communion table, yellow glass in the windows….. Thought was given to how it might be repaired and updated. There were endless meetings, consultations and two architects!

In 2006 the first stage of the renewal was completed with the new entrance, coffee lounge, offices, crèche, toilets and substantial repair work. This cost almost £500,000.

In 2006 High Barnet and Brookside Methodist Churches joined together to form ‘Barnet Brookside Methodist Church’, a church with two buildings, Brookside and Wesley Hall.
In 2008 a partnership was established with St Mary’s Church and in 2009 staring agreements were signed. Brookside became Anglican as well as Methodist, and St Mary’s vice versa. In 2010, the Anglican Parish Office settled happily at Brookside, and parish organisations began to meet with us.

In 2010 the windows, including the yellow glass, were removed and beautiful clear glass fitted. The church now is filled with beautiful light. Major repairs were also carried out to the roof above the communion table.

In 2011 the heating system was replaced.

In May 2012 the last stage of the renewal of the inside of the church began. A new lighting system has been installed. We are grateful to those who left the church substantial legacies which have enabled this work. We hope that a service of rededication will be held in early September.

By the time this magazine appears it is likely that the pews will have been removed as well as the staging at the front of the church, the pulpit and the font. The brick walls at each side of the front will be plastered and painted white. The orange will go and be replaced by white but with the possibility of a coloured light washing up towards the cross (which will be cleaned). A new audio visual system will be installed, with screens on both sides and at other points. A new loop system will be installed. The church will be carpeted and moveable, top quality staging put into place. There will be comfortable chairs with arms, and stackable (comfortable) plastic chairs obtained for the large services.

A new pulpit/lectern, font, communion rail and extra communion table will be obtained at a later date once we seek what the new church looks like.

So much change but it is very exciting. I am grateful for the generous gifts of money towards the new chairs. At the time of writing almost £4,000 has been given. But change can also be sad. There will be many memories associated with the old church and its furnishings: baptisms, weddings, funerals, special Sunday services and so many sermons!

We give thanks for all the special memories and we also give thanks for all that is to come. We have been particularly blessed in recent weeks by new members of our congregation from all over the world and from just across the road! Change isn’t just about buildings but about people.


May God bless us in all that we do!

Colin
Our minister's penultimate 2011/12 Wesley Guild talk was given in the company of Tim Brain QPM (Queen's Police Medal) - Colin's friend of forty years; several of us recalling his Social Justice Lecture.

With Graham on camera filming the talk we began with the Deed of Union of 1932 when the uniting Methodist church recognised the sacraments of Holy Communion and Baptism as of 'divine appointment'. Methodism (although we heard of a instance of breaking the rules) allows for being baptised only once 'Baptism is a sign of God's generosity...to repeat it is against the principles of Baptism'. Using the Book of Common Prayer or an adaptation, John Wesley apparently spiritedly (Colin raising his voice) led into Baptism with 'Has this child already been baptised?' before 'the guilt of original sin' was 'washed away' and the infant entered 'into God's covenant' becoming 'incorporated into the church' as a 'lively member'. Less clear was how J.W. associated (or probably didn't) Baptism with regeneration. Although Baptism was commonly available for every member of the family in the early church, the Baptist church does not baptise children, one reason being that it doesn't happen in the Bible (adult baptism the Baptist way can be arranged if requested and blessings for children were discussed over tea).

We heard God's grace is given to us before we can respond to it, administered as a sign of God's love; promises are made after Baptism'. Copies of an often used the baptism of young people were distributed. Under the declaration we found words not too dissimilar to Wesley's -i.e. 'In this sacrament we celebrate....the living water offered to us, God claims and cleanses us, rescues us from sin and raises us to new life. He plants us into the Church of Christ'. There follows the parents 'the request for baptism' and the thanksgiving over the water 'full of biblical imagery'. Colin extending his hands over an imagined font. Then the affirmation of faith including the creed and the baptism itself.

Enlivening the words before us in the service copies, Colin continued 'For you, for you....just amazing! The child precious beyond belief has done nothing to merit God's love. All this for you before he or she knows anything about it'. He described the pouring of the water over the child's head as 'powerful imagery'. There follows the making of the sign of the cross on the child's forehead and the gift of the lighted candle 'Christ the light of the world'. The service continues finishing with the promises of all gathered and the Lord's prayer. Anecdotes included Colin, following a Baptism, being shown by the good ladies of Hove how to hold a baby and the time he baptised a boy called 'Ocean'. It is to be hoped that both became 'a lively member'.

Edward Eldred

Editors Note: A DVD of this and the Communion lecture are available for loan from the Church Office.
Thank you for making our lunch and auction of promises such a great occasion and for raising the wonderful sum of £1,325 for Wycliffe Bible Translators to support the work of Clare and Andrew Koens in Papua New Guinea.

For those who don’t know much about Wycliffe or PNG I thought you might be interested to read a bit about the country and the aims of Wycliffe. Much of Papua New Guinea is covered by rainforest. The central part of the main island is mountainous with deep, green valleys dotted with remote villages. There are still no significant cross-country roads from the capital city, and most vital transportation depends on small aircraft and over 400 isolated airports. Today, Papua New Guineans speak more than 800 languages, many as different from each other as English is from Chinese. The merging of beliefs and the fear of evil spirits remain strong in many places, often because the people do not have God’s Word in a language they can understand deeply.

Wycliffe’s vision is to see a Bible translation programme begun in all the remaining languages that need one by 2025. In 1956 four men began the work in PNG that is still going on today. God’s Word is now available in more languages there than in any other nation in the world, but even today 350-400 of Papua New Guinea’s languages are still without a single verse of scripture. Of all the world’s Bibleless language communities, nearly 15 per cent are in PNG.

If you would like to hear more about Clare and Andrew’s work they send out a regular newsletter by email or by post, or you can visit their website at www.koens.info.

Jenny Noble

We are so grateful to all who were involved in the Auction of Promises, held in support of our work with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Your generosity is overwhelming and we thank you for every promise, bid and donation.

Andrew, Clare, Levi and Heidi Koens
The Heavenly City - Old and New Jerusalem

This was the last of Colin's 'Heaven, Hell and In between' talks at the Wesley Guild. We were reminded of 'layers and layers' of violent history associated with Jerusalem, even now 'thorny problems' remain over land issues. Promised more of heaven than hell(!) we were asked what came to mind when hearing the mystic Blake's 'Jerusalem' which was played. Responses included The Women's Institute and Last Night of the Proms. Colin told of how 'Jerusalem' was rescued from obscurity in 1916 when set to music by Parry for the First World War soldiers 'Fight for Right' campaign and how prominent suffragette Milly Fawcett had suggested that it should become the womens' voters hymn. 'Jerusalem' is favoured for social justice and freedom causes and seen (as Colin simply expressed) as 'somewhere where things are good'; though together we lent sparse credence to the legend of Christ as a child being brought to 'walk upon England's pastures green' by Joseph of Arimathea.

Not dissimilar were the lyrics of mediaeval monk Bernard of Cluny's 'Jerusalem the Golden' trans. by J.M Neale 1818-66. Colin played selected verses. Amidst Cluny's ethereal imaginings are the lines 'O sweet and blessed country shall I ever see thy face? O sweet and blessed country shall I ever win thy grace?' - and didn't we just wait for the silence to land!

'Where does the new Jerusalem come from?' asked Colin. With the Holy City destroyed and the Jews languishing in captivity in Babylon, came the 'obvious idea' of building a new Jerusalem. The prophets Ezekiel and Isaiah vividly foresee the coming of a new Jerusalem. We heard how the concept of a special country chosen by God has affected world history, the Pilgrim Fathers for instance believing their new found colony would be the place God would create a new heaven and a new earth. Take home hand-outs contained selected passages from the climactic denouement to God's holy word. 'Everything comes to its conclusion, the heavenly city will come down to earth for all the chosen.........' said Colin.

Find the silence - Read again The Revelation to John, chapters 21and 22.

Edward Eldred.
The power of standing together

An article from Christian Aid as part of the recent Christian Aid Week.

Christian Aid Week tells the story of a community in Sierra Leone that has seen remarkable change. Tenneh Keimbay’s life turned around when the Methodist Church of Sierra Leone (MCSL) started to work in her town, distributing tools and teaching farmers simple food production techniques. She talks enthusiastically about the difference this has made: ‘Now the children eat two meals all year round, whereas before it was one. They are growing well; they don’t cry around me because of hunger. They are happy to go to school because something is in their stomach.’

The benefits of regular food speak for themselves. But the effects of the food production group have been more wide-ranging than this. Tenneh speaks of the huge difference working in a group has made to her. Acting together, the farmers can share their skills and work more efficiently. As she tells us, the bottom line is that ‘the group work provides more food’.

Tenneh speaks of the support and the encouragement that the farmers give to each other, and how much can be achieved when the community comes together. ‘What inspires me in life is unity,’ she says. ‘To me, unity means coming together to decide on one thing and take that forward.’

Now that they are no longer limited by hunger, the people of Gbap (pronounced Bap) have come together and successfully lobbied for a new school and an agricultural work centre for the community. The people of Gbap have taken their future into their own hands.

During Christian Aid Week, 15,000 churches across Britain and Ireland will organise house-to-house collections and events to raise funds to enable organisations like MCSL to carry out their work transforming communities such as Gbap. Christian Aid currently works with 507 partners in 47 countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, helping people to make change happen. Our donations will be multiplied many times over as many small actions come together to make a huge change. But the giving that takes place during Christian Aid Week is not one-way.

Unity is something that our churches are not always good at, and the value of community that has inspired Tenneh is something that we can learn from and be
changed by. Christian Aid Week is about raising funds. But it is also a call to unity – an invitation for churches to come together and celebrate the possibility of hope and life in parts of the world where mere survival can be a struggle. This is a challenge, because division and inequality and injustice will always be easier than unity. But Tenneh’s insistence that remarkable things can happen when we come together is not new. We see it in the actions and ministry of Jesus, who pushed against all that leads to violence and separation and called his disciples to model a new way of community.

Can we use this Christian Aid Week to allow ourselves to be changed? If we can work together, with each other, with our churches and with our neighbours both at home and as far away as Gbap, then we may start to see huge change happen. Tenneh says that ‘when you are a group and work with focus and total commitment, you work at a faster rate; the stronger ones can help with work that weaker ones cannot do by themselves’. As we engage in Christian Aid Week, we can rejoice as we stand together in solidarity. Although we might ask who is the strong and who is the weak – and who is actually giving to whom.

Be a part of Christian Aid Week this year: if, together, we take small actions we can give people like Tenneh the tools to make big change happen.

£6.50 could buy a set of four hand tools for a farmer living in the town of Gbap.

£50 could pay for advocacy training for two young people in a Kenyan slum, equipping them with the tools they need to pressure their government to provide essential services.

£123 could buy a reclaimed aluminium greenhouse for women working on market gardening projects in Tajikistan, providing a vital tool for growing vegetables in a harsh climate experiencing extremes of hot and cold.
The Barnet Passion

The Barnet Passion is an adaptation of one part of the York Mystery Cycle: the last days of Christ’s life, from the triumphal entry into Jerusalem to the Crucifixion. The York Mystery plays date from medieval times when the trade guilds in York used to put on plays to represent the Bible, telling the Bible stories from Creation to the Last Judgment. “Mystery” is a play on words – one meaning is a religious rite, the other is the Middle English for a trade or craft. They were presented on carts which travelled around, stopping at different places to perform their part of the cycle. The Barnet production will begin in St. Gregory’s Church and move during the play across Union Street and into Ewan Hall to keep the flavour of the originals.

In fact, there is a new production of the cycle in York this August – if you are interested look at this website: www.yorkmysteryplays-2012.com.

We hope to include as many people as possible from Barnet Churches Together and there are many different jobs to be done. Not only do we need actors, singers and musicians (experienced, novices, aged from 8 upwards) but also a range of “behind the scenes” help. This includes jobs such as costumes, prop making, lighting and sound as well as front of house staff and crew during the performance.

Auditions take place on the 30th June at St. Gregory’s from 10am to 12 noon and from 2pm to 4pm and the production dates are the 28th and 29th of September. There will be a few rehearsals in July and then an intensive rehearsal schedule in September. If you are interested in any aspect of this project please contact our administrator on 020 8449 3338 or email barnetpassion@me.com with your contact details.
New Rector
On 25th April, the Revd James Mustard, was installed, instituted and inducted as the new rector of St Mary’s by Dr Alan Smith, Bishop of St Albans and the Ven Trevor Jones, Archdeacon of Hertford. It was a very beautiful service with the choir of St Mary’s School and many friends of James’s taking part. The organist, James McVinnie, was one of the organists at Westminster Abbey for last year’s royal wedding. I had the privilege of welcoming James on behalf of the Methodist Church and our colleague Rupert Lazar, on behalf of the Baptists. I look forward to working with James and he, Rupert and I have already met together.

Good Friday and Easter
We had an outstanding, multi-voiced, multi-media Good Friday service at Brookside planned and executed by Shirley-Anne and Graham. Methodism was not well represented at the Easter morning dawn service in a wet Oakhill Park. I was the first there and it was rather spooky before others arrived. We had a good service, led by Rupert with an address by myself. We then adjourned to the Baptist Church for a splendid cooked breakfast. I moved on for another breakfast at Manor Drive followed by their service and then returned to Brookside to lead all age worship to a good sized congregation.

Yad Vashem
In March I had the privilege of being invited to join a group of clergy attending a seminar at Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Memorial and Educational Institute in Jerusalem. My colleague Shaun Sanders and three other Methodists were in the group. We stayed in a hotel in Jerusalem but studied at Yad Vashem most days. We had a day trip to Nazareth and Galilee. In Nazareth I caught a cold! It rained on a number of days and on one day Jerusalem was shrouded in dense fog. On another day I attended the 5am Sunday Latin Mass at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the site of Jesus’ crucifixion and resurrection. We then moved on to Bethlehem and worshipped at the Lutheran Church with a Palestinian congregation. On the Friday we attended worship for the start of Shabbat at a synagogue in Jerusalem. To my surprise I was pulled up to join the dancing to welcome the Shabbat.
The content of the seminars was of the profoundest nature – human suffering, evil, anti-semitism, genocide were the difficult themes. I hope to explore them at a session at church before too long. It was an amazing, if exhausting experience.

**The Revd Dr Martin Eggleton**

On Friday 27th April I presided over Martin’s funeral at Manor Drive church. Over 200 people attended the service which he himself had planned. I first met him when he worked at the old Methodist Division of Education and Youth at Muswell Hill in the 1980s. In his ‘retirement’ he served Manor Drive, Queensbury and Hendon churches at different times. He was a good friend and colleague.

**Circuit Jubilee/Olympic Walks**

Michael Giles, my Finchley colleague, has planned two walks to take us to all the different circuit churches. The first part was held on Saturday 5th May. We started at Wesley Hall, walked to Brookside, stopped off at St Mary’s, carried on to Manor Drive and Finchley and ended up at East Finchley. In each place there were prayers, refreshments and a toilet break. It was a highly successful day. On 9th June we will complete the walk by visiting the ‘other side’ of the circuit. Full details available.

**Stewards**

At the Annual Meeting we re-elected Lyn, Edward, Eddie, Mick and Derrick as church stewards. Jean continues as an associate steward and Rob as Wesley Hall steward. Louise decided to stand down due to other commitments but we thank her for her enthusiasm and efficiency. Christine Setchell was elected as a new steward. Shirley-Anne Wheeler was elected as a new member of the church council. Thank you to everyone who has a job in the church! A few weeks before we had been able to give particular thanks to Vivienne for her outstanding service in junior church – somewhere between 35 and 40 years. We hope that Vivienne will enjoy her garden chair and her book of photos.

Colin Smith
Towards the end of last year Vivienne announced to the church that she would be retiring as a Junior Church Leader. The rest of the Junior Church Staff along with a few others decided that a fitting thank you should take place at the All Age Worship Service at the end of April. So plans were set afoot with the prime principal that Vivienne should know nothing about it.

The Junior Church had to learn a new song; the congregation had a card and collection to sign, cakes and things were made and the hall set out for an after church gathering. Luckily we managed to barricade the hall doors just before Vivienne was going to return some washed tea towels (Sorry Vivienne for the white lie but it was worth it in the end …. And we managed it Vivienne knew nothing of it until the service was in full flow….

Katherine describes the service ….

During the All Age Worship a few weeks ago, Brookside said thank you to Vivienne Davies for her work with the Sunday School for over 35 years. The service started as a normal all age worship with the theme of thanking God for everything we have, however about half way through the service the theme changed from thanking God to thanking Vivienne. We started with Anna Durston interviewing some of the congregation about their experiences with Vivienne whether it be as a member of the Sunday School or as a leader themselves. After that the current Sunday School children sang a song written by Shirley-Anne Wheeler to the tune of Thank You For Every Great New Morning, this song was written with words telling the congregation of all that Vivienne does not only in Sunday School but for the church as a whole. Later on in the service Vivienne received some gifts from the Sunday School and the Church. She received a plant pot and a wooden garden table and chair set, as well as a professionally printed book with pictures of her time in Sunday School and the current members of Sunday School. The celebrating didn’t just finish with the service Margret and Helen had set up the tables and chairs in the hall and coffee was served a long with many different types of cakes that had been made by both child and adult members of the congregation.
Hello.

Some of you may have heard of Barnet Good Neighbours, there may be some of you who already use our service or have a relative or friend who does. But there may be a few who have not heard of us, so let me explain.

We are a small local charity based at Church house in Wood Street that offers an excellent service to the elderly sick, disabled and housebound. We offer practical help support and advice and friendship to local people and we are able to help with transport to medical appointments, the shops, some social events, collecting prescriptions and delivering medications to name a few. We also offer a befriending service where a few of our volunteers are able to make social visits to the housebound.

Now you have read the word ‘volunteers’ and this is where I am hoping you might be able to help. We have a small number of volunteers who help us and they are doing a superb job but we would welcome anyone else who feels they could offer their help to this wonderful charity. All expenses and mileage are paid for and you would really be helping our local community.

If you are able to volunteer we look forward to having you on board, Please contact the office for further information or to offer your help on 020 8441 5678.

Sue and Diane

Article from Sue Yates and Diane de Naeyer of Barnet Good Neighbours Scheme.
MISSION EVENTS

Saturday 9 June - 19.30 -
Social Evening at Wesley Hall
in aid of World Missions Fund (Overseas Missions)

Saturday 23 June - 10.00 -
Coffee Morning with stalls @ Brookside in aid of The Mission in Britain Fund (Home Missions)

Saturday 4 August -
15:00pm - Summer Tea at Wesley Hall
in aid of Methodist Women in Britain (Network)
Under 5’s and their parents/carers are invited to join us for praise, play and chat.

You are very welcome to come (and bring your friends).

St Mary’s Church, East Barnet
10.30-11.30am
1st & 3rd Thursdays

toddler praise

a relaxed service with time for play and chat.
THE SAINT & THE MONSTER

St Columba, whose feast day is 9th June, was born in Ireland and came to Scotland to be a 'pilgrim for Christ'. He founded a monastery on the island of Iona in 563. The monastery at Iona became a centre of learning and many missionaries were trained there. Columba carried the message of God’s love throughout Scotland and monks from his monastery carried the message into England.

St Columba wrote a number of hymns and is said to have transcribed, or written out by hand, some 300 books in his lifetime.

And what has he got to do with a monster? Well, it wasn’t the Loch Ness monster but a monster that was living in the River Ness. St Columba is said to have driven away this monster who was attacking a swimmer, with the sign of the cross and the words "Thou shalt go no further, nor touch the man; go back with all speed."

MONSTER MUNCHIES

- 75 g (3 oz) margarine
- 3 normal size Mars Bars (thinly sliced)
- 3 large tea cups Rice Crispies
- 100 g (4 oz) chocolate cake covering (melted)
- Grease and line a swiss roll tin.

In a heavy based saucepan, gently melt the margarine. Add the Mars Bar pieces and stir until no lumps are left.

Take the pan off the heat and stir in the Rice Crispies – adding more if the mixture will take it. Spread the mixture in the tin and press it down evenly with the back of a spoon.

Cover with the melted chocolate and leave to set. Cut into 24 bars when cold – or cut into less bars if you are feeding a very greedy monster!

How does a monster count to 17?

On it's fingers.
"May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you."

2 Corinthians 13 verse 13

Mouse Makes

The Bible teaches us that God is three persons in one:

- FATHER
- SON (Jesus)
- HOLY SPIRIT

Look out for symbols of THE TRINITY in your church.

Christians have symbol to picture THE TRINITY. Find out what it is by colouring in BLACK all the shapes with a dot in them. Then colour all the other shapes with bright colours like a stained glass window.
Crossword

Across
8 Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)
9 In favour of (3)
10 ‘The child’s father and mother — at what was said about him’ (Luke 2:33) (9)
11 Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)
13 ‘Terrors — him on every side and dog his every step’ (Job 18:11) (7)
16 Bay bits (anag.) (7)
19 Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)
22 Holy Communion (9)
24 ‘On their way to — out the land, Joshua instructed them, “Go and make a survey of the land”’ (Joshua 18:8) (3)
25 Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

Down
1 ‘Assyria’s pride will be brought down and — sceptre will pass away’ (Zechariah 10:11) (6)
2 ‘And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in — with God and men’ (Luke 2:52) (6)
3 The descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)
4 The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)
5 Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6–12) (4)
6 One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the Israelite army ‘to make atonement’ (Numbers 31:50) (6)
7 ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set — — ’ (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4)
12 Ate (anag.) (3)
14 ‘We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our — as sons’ (Romans 8:23) (8)
15 Abram’s nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)
16 Rupture (Job 30:14) (6)
17 ‘Yet to all who received him... he gave the right to — children of God’ (John 1:12) (6)
18 ‘I... asked him the true meaning of all — — he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things’ (Daniel 7:16) (4,2)
20 Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6)
21 ‘Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to — — her to public disgrace’ (Matthew 1:19) (6)
23 Diva (anag.) (4)
As one of the founding fathers of Methodism, John Wesley is well-known throughout the world as a Christian evangelist. But his experiments into producing cures for the sick are not often talked about – until now.

An exhibition revealing the surprising and illuminating history of Wesley’s wild and wonderful medical ideas are now touring the country until 30 September, visiting Epworth, Bristol, Launceston, Englesea Brook, London and Newcastle. The exhibition, entitled ‘Wesley and Well-being’, will explore Wesley’s medicinal manual, Primitive Physic, which was so popular in its day that it was republished 23 times, making it an 18th century best-seller.

Although some of his “cures” were denounced by 18th century critics as “possibly deadly”, his thinking was occasionally ahead of his time: honey is used in many of his remedies, even though its antiseptic and antibacterial properties have only been recently confirmed by science. It was only in the 1700s that medicine in Western Europe began to be a respectable profession and care for the sick was not seen as an extension of the pastoral care provided by the Church.

When Wesley’s Primitive Physic was published in 1747, doctors were still more likely to kill at a price than cure for a fee. Wesley wanted to put the knowledge of curing diseases into ordinary people’s hands. Some of his remedies, such as holding a live puppy over the stomach to cure colic, sound comic to us today. But, to Wesley’s credit, if he thought a critic’s claim was well-founded, then he would make changes in the next edition.

Wesley opened free clinics in London and dispensaries in London, Bristol and Newcastle. He took remedies and cures from other published medical books and re-wrote them in plain English. He tried to make all the remedies cheap and easy to get hold of and he asked his preachers to sell his book, encouraging them to add their own cures. He provided remedies and preventions on a range of ailments and diseases, from headaches to the plague, and gout to obesity. His ‘cures’ ranged from advising people to exercise around two to three hours a day in order to “soften the evils of life” to drying and powdering a toad into small pills in order to help ease asthma.

Dr Richard Vautrey, Former Vice-President of the Methodist Conference and a practising GP, said: “John Wesley took the command to ‘love the Lord your God
with all your heart, soul and mind’ seriously, working to ensure that Methodists were not only nurturing their spiritual health but looking after their physical health as well. Whilst some of his ideas belong in the 18th century, many are as relevant today as they were then. All Methodists today would do well to follow his advice by increasing the amount of exercise we do and reducing the amount of salt in our diets. By doing so whilst our hearts may still be "strangely warmed" – as Wesley’s was – they won’t overheat!"

The Church’s Olympic and Paralympic Co-ordinator Ish Lennox is supporting the exhibition. "The Methodist influence on Britain’s sporting heritage can be seen clearly in the history of football," she said. "Aston Villa FC was formed in March 1874 by four members of the Villa Cross Wesleyan Chapel. Walter Tull was brought up in the Methodist orphanage in Bethnal Green. He was one of Britain’s first black footballers, playing for Tottenham Hotspur."

Parish Pump
### Sunday Services

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<th>Venue</th>
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<td>3rd June</td>
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<td>WH</td>
<td>Berenice Fayad</td>
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<td>10:00</td>
<td>St.M</td>
<td>United Jubilee Service</td>
<td>- Revd James Mustard &amp; Revd Colin Smith</td>
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<td>18:30</td>
<td>St.M</td>
<td>Evening Prayer</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th June</td>
<td>09:45</td>
<td>WH</td>
<td>Charlotte Kwarteng</td>
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<td>10:45</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Revd Dr Jenny King -</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
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<td>24th June</td>
<td>09:45</td>
<td>WH</td>
<td>Revd Colin Smith -</td>
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<td>Revd Colin Smith -</td>
<td>AAW &amp; Church Anniversary</td>
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<td>1st July</td>
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<td>WH</td>
<td>Valerie Dickinson</td>
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<td>10:45</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Farai Muchuchuti</td>
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<td>8th July</td>
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<td>Revd Dr Jenny King</td>
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<td>12:00</td>
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<td>Praise in the Park -</td>
<td>East Barnet Festival</td>
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<td>Local Arrangement</td>
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<td>29th July</td>
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<td>Wendy Turl</td>
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<td>5th August</td>
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<td>Revd Dr. Jenny King</td>
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<td>12th August</td>
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<td>Revd Colin Smith -</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
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<td>18:30</td>
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<td>19th August</td>
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<td>Berenice Fayad</td>
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<td>26th August</td>
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Evensong each week at 18:30 at St. Mary’s unless otherwise indicated.
Sixty Years our Queen
A dozen tenants of Number Ten
And twelve the White House has seen
Since fifty-two, for that was when
Began the reign of our Queen.
And so they come, and so they go
The Dame, or titled Knight,
Some shone, it seems, an age ago
Short as a mayfly’s flight.

Some were good, and some were poor
It seems she’s met all sorts!
The Queen smiles on, but to be sure –
You’ll never guess her thoughts!

“My Government shall this enact”,
The Queen’s Speech – sixty times!
At Christmas, too, she’s never lacked
Encouraging seasonal lines.

Through times of peace and times of strife
She’s stood there at the helm,
For she has lived her whole long life
For the peoples of her realm.

Of this one fact we may depend
That few would be the tears
If God should choose her life to extend
To reign for lots more years!

Well, you can’t but admire her. God save the Queen!

By Nigel Beeton (Parish Pump)
Sunday 12th August
Is the last date for items for the next edition of The Messenger.
This will cover September, October & November

Please note:
Views expressed in The messenger are not necessarily those of Barnet Brookside Methodist Church