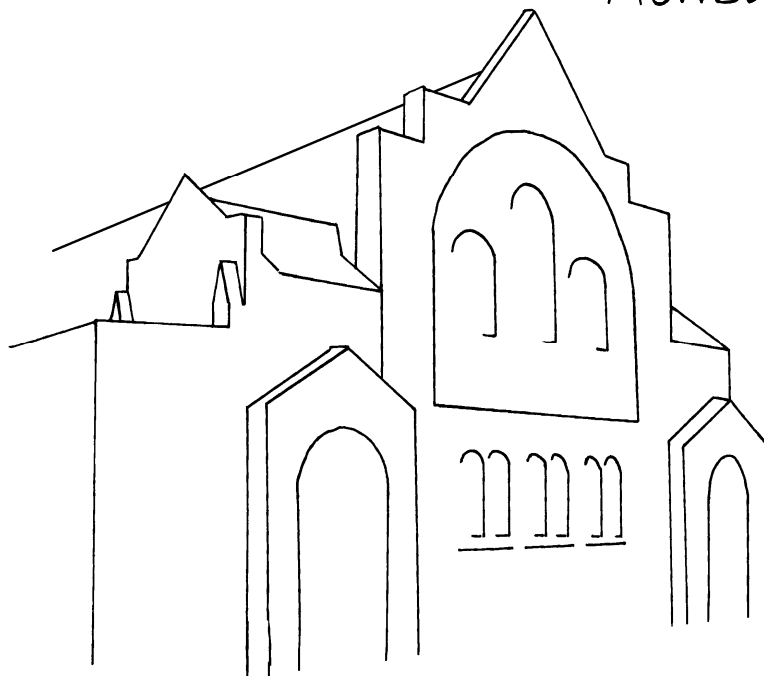


October



2011

Newsletter



Bush Hill Park United Reformed Church
25 Main Avenue, Enfield EN1 1DJ

www.bhpurc.org.uk

Associate Minister:
Secretary
Office:

Revd Martin Legg
Sylvia Page

020 8367 0289
020 8366 7481
020 8366 5526

Serving Elders

(with areas of special responsibility)

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Sylvia Page (Secretary) | 020 8366 7481 |
| Martin Hamblin (Treasurer) | 020 8363 0974 |
| Lynda Cook | 020 8360 5112 |
| Doreen Bamberger (Youth and Children's Work, excluding Brigades) | 020 8366 0866 |
| Carol Rensch | 020 8367 1208 |
| Andrew Caddies | 020 8363 0844 |

Where an Elder is listed with special responsibility for an area, please contact them first if your question relates to that area.

The Bush Hill Park URC Newsletter is published monthly on the last Sunday of the month. Please note that the views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the whole fellowship or representative of church policy.

*Have you seen the news on the Church Internet site? Check it out at **www.bhpurc.org.uk/news.htm***

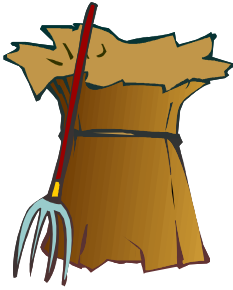
Next Newsletter

The next edition of the newsletter will be published on Sunday 30th October. All material for inclusion should be placed in the folder in the church lounge (or e-mailed to **newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk**) by **Sunday 16th October.**

Please note that late contributions may be held over.

Editor: **Lisa Hamblin, 130 Clive Road, Enfield EN1 1RF**

Harvest



I sat down to start writing this month's front page after our 'discussions' regarding harvest on Sunday morning.

The modern equipment now used to gather in the harvest has always amazed me. As we have travelled through France at harvest time we have seen a wide variety of specialist equipment ranging from the machines that pick grapes, harvest sweet corn and sun flowers to those that dig 'things' out of the ground. But I

have to say that nothing beats the site of people wandering along the grass verges and ditches late at night with bucket and torch.

It is right that we stop to give thanks for what we enjoy, but we also remember those who don't have the means to support themselves. We have seen pictures of Afghanistan before any action has been taken and we wonder how people can live in such conditions.

Our present harvest festival follows the Jewish Feast of Tabernacles. My diary said it was on the 2nd October. This was one of three main feasts at which all Jewish males were expected to attend. It was also known as the Feast of Booths - this had a historical link to the shelters or tents built by the Israelites in the desert during the Exodus. It was also known as the festival of Ingathering (Succoth). This festival was the first in the New Year and celebrated the final harvest of the olives and fruits, and the grape vintage, (Deut 16:13-17)

This was not the only Jewish harvest Festival. The Feast of Weeks which coincided with the first of the wheat harvest, seven weeks after the first barley harvest, (Deut 16:9-10).

As I recalled with a friend the events of that Sunday morning after worship, I was a little disappointed. My friend however, saw it differently. He thought that we are clearly an open and honest group of people. 'Most people', he said, 'Would have just walked off moaning.'

Hmmm, I thought. If only we could really be honest and say what we think and feel to God, let alone to one another. If we have something to say, then be bold and say it.

Let us truly express our thanks for all that God has given us to share.

With love....

Feast of the Guardian Angels - 2nd October

The teaching of Jesus encourages us to believe in guardian angels. He once said, 'See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.' (Matthew 18.10)

The existence of angels was suggested in various Old Testament texts, Jesus mentioned them explicitly, and the early Christians accepted their existence and work (Acts 12.15).

In England, devotion to the angels, both in Anglo-Saxon times and later, was strong. In modern times, the great American evangelist Billy Graham, has written an entire book on the existence and work of angels.

Alcuin described them as intercessors (in the 11th century Leofric Missal); Herbert of Losinga, bishop of Norwich (d 1119) specially praised them, and his contemporary, Reginald of Canterbury, wrote prayers in their honour.

Honorius Augustodunensis (d 1151) clarified the existing belief of the time by asserting that each human soul, when infused into the body, is entrusted to the particular care of a single angel, who protects both body and soul and offers prayers to God.

For many centuries Christendom was satisfied with the feast of St Michael (and all Angels), but the special feast of the Guardian Angels was introduced in Austria, Spain and Portugal in the 15th – 16th centuries. Guardian Angels were there seen as guardians of particular towns or regions, or of each individual. Pope Clement X made the feast day universal in 1607, fixing its date to 2 October.



Smile lines

Glass

The two window panes were arguing as to which one was made of the better glass. One said to the other, "Well, you may think you are a better glass, but I know what you are trying to prove. Believe me, I can see right through you."

Shampoo

I don't know why I didn't realise this sooner. It's the shampoo we use in the shower. When I wash my hair, the shampoo runs down my whole body, and printed very clearly on the shampoo label is this warning , "FOR EXTRA VOLUME AND BODY." No wonder I have been gaining weight. I am getting rid of the shampoo and am going to use dishwashing liquid instead. It's label reads, "DISSOLVES FAT THAT IS OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO REMOVE." Problem solved.

New International Bible for Cats

On the first day of creation, God created the cat.

On the second day, God created man to serve the cat.

On the third day, God created all the animals of the earth to serve as food for the cat.

On the fourth day, God created honest toil so that man could labor for the good of the cat.

On the fifth day, God created expensive furniture so that the cat would have objects whereon to sharpen its claws.

On the sixth day, God created veterinary science to keep the cat healthy and the man broke.

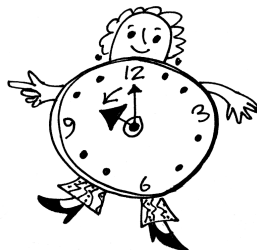
On the seventh day, God tried to rest, but he had to scoop the litterbox.

Here is the News

Carol Rensch has now moved.
Her new address is:
38 Laineys Close
Marlborough
Wiltshire SN8 1BS

We pray that she will find a
great church, good friends and
peaceful days.

Don't forget
that the
clocks go
back on
October
30th.



Building Fund update

As of 31st August £59,980 has
been received in the fund.
Thank you to everyone who
has contributed so far - we still
need another £9,900 to repay
our loan if you can help please
donate online via our website
or at the Church direct.

Soldiers baptised in Afghanistan

Four servicemen were recently in the chapel of Camp Leatherneck, a US military base in Afghanistan. Three US personnel and one Briton were immersed in a water tank, watched by a young, multi-ethnic congregation, singing modern worship songs. The US soldiers brought their guns to the service, as they must have their weapons with them at all times – even in church. The sermon was given by a British chaplain from the UK's Camp Bastion, Padre Cole. Each baptism was applauded and photographed on mobile phones. US marine Major Harbour said: 'This deployment has solidified my faith. Our faith helps us get through the tougher times.'

Source: The Guardian (23/8).

Fishers of men... and women!

I love the Bible. To be more specific, I love the Gospels. The amazing array of diverse characters Jesus met on the sea shore, along the road and up the mountain. It is a joy to read—especially when you see how Jesus deals with them. First there are the fishermen, fed up with a hard night's work and nothing to show for it. Do you remember the conversation with the carpenter and his call to leave their nets? Next, Jesus heals, and almost instantly his fame spreads and 'they brought him all the sick' (Matthew 4:24, NRSV). Then, when the crowd wanted to know more, he spoke the beautiful words of the Beatitudes. He didn't point the finger at people, but pointed the people to God and simply said where they would find blessing. It's amazing stuff!

As followers of Jesus today we are called to be 'fishers of men' (not 'vicious old men' as I once heard a child sing!) Human nature hasn't changed and two thousand years later people still want to see miracles and be blessed. We are the means by which that is most likely to happen, and the way to do it is to follow the example of Jesus himself. Meeting people where they are, having a conversation, praying and trusting the Holy Spirit—then offering beautiful words to those who ask. It's a great joy when it happens naturally.

We have just had an 'open gardens' afternoon with a Bible picture in ten gardens with a trail and quiz sheet. I offered cards for the website www.christianity.org.uk and small Gospels of Luke for the 'Year of the Bible'. I was really surprised and encouraged at the interest in the trail and the Bible story. We don't have to be pushy, but we do have to be present. Pray for the people you know and take the opportunity to listen to their story and then tell them about yours—in the bigger picture of God's story found in the Bible.

Jim Currin is a Church Army Evangelist and Secretary for Evangelisation at Churches Together in England. His recent book, 'Sharing Faith the Jesus Way' (BRF, £7.99) offers helps and ideas of how to do personal evangelism.



Trick or Treat, a poem

When the night time comes
Then begins the fun
For tiny ghosties and ghouls,
As they rush about
We need have no doubt
We'll wish they were in their
schools!
They laugh and sing
And the streets soon ring
With the sound of their running
feet,
For Hallowe'en is here again
It's time for trick or treat
Ha Ha!
It's time for trick or treat.

Kids, you must be sure
Before you knock that door
That they want to play the game –
If some eggs you toss
That will make them cross
And that would be a shame!
For not all folk
May share the joke
With fear their hearts may beat;
Though Hallowe'en is here again
No time for trick or treat
No no!

No time for trick or treat.
No one need be sad
Yes, we should be glad
We all should laugh and cheer!
Cause of our delight?
Jesus won the fight
'Gainst sin and death and fear!
No spooks can harm
Or cause alarm
No devil can defeat!
This Hallowed Eve is here again –
No need for trick or treat
Praise God!
No need for trick or treat!

Diary

October

See also Prayer pages, back cover for regular activities
The diary is also online at www.bhpurc.org.uk/calendar

| | | |
|----------|--------------------|--|
| Sun 2nd | 10:30am | Communion with Martin Legg followed by Harvest Lunch |
| Tues 4th | 7:45pm | Elders Meeting |
| Sun 9th | 10:30am 5:30pm | Enrolment Parade with Martin Legg Second Sunday Supper |
| Sun 16th | 10:30am | Morning Worship with Martin Wells |
| Sun 23rd | 10:30am 12:30pm | Morning Worship with Robert Taylor Messy Church |
| Sun 30th | 10:30am | Morning Worship with Martin Legg (Mission for Jews for Jesus) |

Next newsletter deadline
Sunday 16th October

PRAYER PLAN

OCTOBER 2011

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Philippians 2:3-4 NIV

Saturday 1st

Sunday's Worship Leader
and the service tomorrow

Sunday 2nd

Thanks for our Brigades as
they help local girls and boys
to learn useful skills

Monday 3rd

Margaret Trevallion

Tuesday 4th

Mothers needing help and
support to care for their
children

Wednesday 5th

First Avenue

Thursday 6th

The United Nations and their
work as peacekeepers

Friday 7th

For the people of Pakistan
who face floods and famine

Saturday 8th

Sunday's Worship Leader
and the service tomorrow

Sunday 9th

Thanks for carers and those
helping people to stay in
their own homes

Monday 10th

Stuart, Mason & Kai
Trevallion

Tuesday 11th

Financial problems of
Greece & Europe

Wednesday 12th

Firs Park Avenue

Thursday 13th

The Coastguard Service

Friday 14th

People of East Africa

Saturday 15th

Sunday's Worship Leader
and the service tomorrow

Sunday 16th

Thanks for Christian
organizations providing aid
when disasters strike

Monday 17th

Valerie, Martin & Rebecca
Vant

Tuesday 18th

New believers to grow in
their faith

Wednesday 19th

Fotheringham Road

Thursday 20th

The homeless on the streets
of London as the weather
gets colder

Friday 21st

Those living in North Korea
under a totalitarian regime

Saturday 22nd

Sunday's Worship Leader
and the service tomorrow

Sunday 23rd

For the churches of Bush Hill
Park and their congregations

Monday 24th

John & Marlene Vyse

Tuesday 25th

Safety for women facing
violence in the home

Wednesday 26th

Haileybury Avenue

Thursday 27th

Those suffering from cancer
and the charities who seek
to find a cure

Friday 28th

The work of the RNLI saving
people on our coasts

Saturday 29th

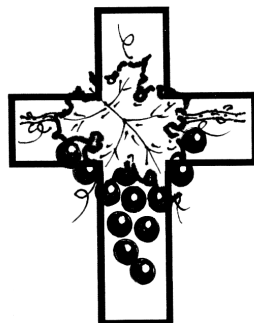
Sunday's Worship Leader
and the service tomorrow

Sunday 30th

Thanks for our musicians,
the stewards, tea makers
and those who project our
services and provide the
flowers week by week

Monday 31st

Robin, Frances, Cerys &
Erin Ward



Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes and the Olympics

This autumn, when it comes to choosing gifts for your shoe box for needy children in Eastern Europe and Africa, why not do an 'Olympic themed' shoe box? As well as giving you the chance to do something a bit different with your shoeboxes, this is also your chance to send sporty items out to needy children in our world – children who might otherwise not have the chance to experience the joy of sport for themselves.

GIFTS: You might want to include a tennis ball, skipping rope, baseball hat, small football, inflatable beach ball, stop watch, sweat bands, swim goggles, toy medals or some other sports-related gift that would bring a smile to a child!

BOX: Decorate your shoebox with Olympic stickers, drawings or even try and get hold of wrapping paper with a sporty theme.

MESSAGE: Add a message to your child, stating that the shoebox has come from the home of the next Olympics and that you hope they enjoy the sports items you've included in your box for them to play with.

For details of your nearest collection point for Operation Christmas Child, visit: www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk/

A Prayer for Peace in Our Communities

The Church of England has published a prayer for peace, following the riots across the UK this summer. It reads:

Gracious God,
We pray for peace in our communities this day.
We commit to you all who work for peace and an end to tensions,
And those who work to uphold law and justice.
We pray for an end to fear,
For comfort and support to those who suffer.
For calm in our streets and cities,
That people may go about their lives in safety and peace.
In your mercy, hear our prayers,
now and always. Amen

Reflecting on the Bible (or ‘Meditating on scripture’)

Many children enjoy boiled sweets – especially trying to see how long they can make them last. The pleasure of holding the flavoured sweet in your mouth is far better than crunching it up in a few seconds!

There is a way of doing much the same with a Bible passage, and it is called *Lectio Divina* or ‘holy reading’. Centuries ago, before Bibles were widely available, the abbot of a monastery would gather his monks together and read to them the Bible passage that was set for the day. He would read it three times and the brothers were encouraged to listen attentively and choose a phrase to remember. They would then go about their daily work in the garden, in the kitchen, in the infirmary or wherever. Through the day they would meditate on the phrase they had chosen and, rather like sucking a boiled sweet, would draw out the meaning for themselves.

You might like to try something similar: choose a passage from the Bible and begin to read it very slowly as if it were addressed to you. A few verses from Psalm 103 would be a good place to start.

Stop when a phrase captures your attention. Maybe it touches you in some way, attracts or even disturbs you. Repeat the phrase slowly over and over again, taking its meaning into yourself. Let it sink in slowly. What does it have to say to you? Why do you think it caught your attention? Where is the connection for you? What memories does it evoke? Is there a word, a phrase, a sentiment or an image that you can hold on to?

Move into prayer, expressing to God the thoughts and feelings that have spontaneously arisen in you. Let your mind be at rest and your heart open to the love and peace of God. When you are ready, carry on with reading the next bit of the passage or just leave it there for the day.

Follow the example of the monks and return to your phrase or phrases during the day.

Ann Persson has written a book for BRF entitled *Time for Reflection: meditations to use through the year*, which may be helpful. The meditations are based on the Christian calendar, the seasons of the year in nature and also the theme of time. They will offer you further ways of exploring the greatest book ever written.

You've Got the Time

Fit the Bible into your busy lifestyle

Discover the Bible in a new and exciting way through Bible Society's new FREE listening programme You've Got the Time.

You will be enriched and inspired as you listen to the whole of the New Testament for just 28 minutes a day over 40 days.

Whether you're on a lunch break, at the gym, walking the dog or doing the shopping – with You've Got the Time, the Bible can fit into your busy day.

A FREE download of the New Testament – a new CEV version recorded by Riding Lights Theatre Company.

A simple listening plan – this will take you all the way from Matthew to Revelation in just 40 days.

Why it is free?

The Bible Society want to give you a free download because you will be enriched by your listening experience.

All The Bible Society ask is you express your gratitude through gifts to help people around the world hear the Bible in their own language through our Faith Comes By Hearing projects.

Go to www.biblesociety.org.uk/support-us/ygtt-2010/ or itunes to download the audio files.



Girls Brigade News

We have started the year with a new syllabus for all our girls this year. It is packed with lots of exciting activities for the girls to take part in.

The Explorers time in their group is presented to them as an exciting journey, with lots of different experiences to get involved with on the way - from games and craft to serving others. Their first investigation is God's Family.

The Juniors' n:gage programme is helping them discover who God created them to be and to discover the adventure that is following Jesus. Every time the children meet they'll be joining in with an adventure, helping them to explore and develop an understanding of characteristics and values which will be good foundations for their life. Their first adventure is Co-Operation.

The Seniors and Brigaders are looking at the topic (or track) on World Need and are planning a day of fund raising to raise money to buy something for a chosen cause. We would like as much support from you as possible and further details on when this will be will follow shortly.

Coming up this Half Term is Enrolment for our young people and you will have an opportunity to see the camp video that I have been promising you. Chloe Hanson has worked really hard to put it together and I am sure it is going to be fantastic.

I know it seems as though I say this a lot, but we are appealing once again for anyone who can spare an hour or two on a Wednesday night between 6.30 and 9.00pm to help us deliver these fantastic new programmes to our young girls. It would be on a need to use basis, rather than every week, to cover absences as sometimes we find ourselves with so few people we are unable to run the session on a Wednesday evening and this is discouraging our young people to come.

We are losing girls to other 'more exciting' youth groups and need your help to keep the ones we have and encourage more to come along!

Boys Brigade News

Before I tell you about the Monday night sessions, I would first like to mention about the Silver D of E boys. At the end of August I took them to mid-Wales so they could undertake their silver expedition assessment. The silver expedition had to last 3 days and 2 nights. Just like their bronze assessment, they had to carry everything they needed for the 3 days on their backs. This included all their food & water and also their tents and sleeping bags. Not forgetting their cooking equipment and stoves. The first day of walking went very well and they navigated themselves to their first overnight stay. The assessor had arranged for them to experience a wild camp. This is where they don't stay on a proper camp site but camp in the open country side. The site chosen was in the middle of nowhere, next to a beautiful lake. There were no buildings, no electricity and no toilets anywhere for miles!! This is where they would spend their first night completely on their own. What an amazing experience. There wasn't any light pollution, so the amount of stars you could see in the sky was fantastic.

When the assessor and I arrived in the morning to check on them, they had already packed up camp, cooked and eaten breakfast and were ready to set off.

After another nights camping and another day of walking, they finished back at the final check point right on time. The assessor was very impressed and they all passed the expedition assessment part of their D of E. A big well done to Thomas, Charlie, Michael and Darnell.

The first few weeks of the term have started off really well. For the first time in over eight years we have 24 boys on roll in the company section. This is fantastic and very encouraging. It has meant that we now run two games sessions (one for the Senior boys and one for the younger boys) and four different badge classes every Monday night.

We kicked things off with a bang. Our newest members, fresh up from Junior section, will spend the next 12 weeks doing what is called 'Target Award'. It is designed to give them a brief insight into all areas of the BB work, while being fun in informative. So far they have found out all about the staff and the history behind the 2nd Enfield and even seen a film of Derek running!! (from when he was 18, I think it was filmed in about 1956 or something close to that).

They have also learnt a bit about fire safety in the home. Yes, once again my smoke machine made an appearance, and the boys had to escape the building full off smoke (which they did really well, keeping low and feeling doors with the backs of their hands etc). They are also going to learn a bit about expedition and compass work and will go out on a night walk in the forest.

We are embarking on the Rocket programme again with another lot of lads. They will all get to make and craft their own rockets which we will then launch over the playing fields one Saturday afternoon.

Another group of lads are making remote controlled cars as part of a skills and craft section of their badge work. And the silver boys are currently preparing an article about their experiences on the expedition to go into the BB gazette.

We have the usual competitions coming up as well as the start of the football league.

There are lots of things planned and I will fill you in on those as the month progress.

Andrew Caddies



Wordsearch

October and the leaves are turning! This is the month of Harvest, when we thank God for all his many blessings. (Did you know that baked beans are the most popular gift at Harvest Services?) The Psalmist praises him for crowning the year with his goodness, for his bountiful provision.

October brings us St Francis' Day, when we celebrate the gift of animals. It brings St Luke's Day, when we thank God for those in the medical profession. It brings Bible Sunday – when we thank God for his Word, which guides and comforts us. The clocks go back, and the dark nights draw in. October also means World Mental Health Day and Parents' Week.

| | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|--------------|
| leaves | ted | orange | trees | raking | pumpkins |
| dark | clocks | harvest | bounty | food | thanksgiving |
| beans | medical | luke | bible | word | bonfires |
| hallows | doctors | parents | families | healthy | depression |
| Yellow | francis | animals | birds | kindess | compassion |



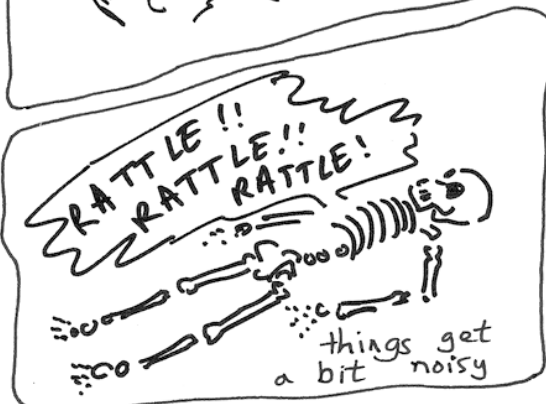
Bible Sketchbook

Can these dry bones live?

Greed in high places – politicians, police, press; teenage riots and extremist ideologies... Are these today's "dry bones"? Maybe, like Ezekiel, we need to prophesy to them and tell them about God's Word;

about Jesus; about his Holy Spirit. And God's promise as we do so is to send his "wind" - his Holy Spirit - and "to bring you back to life" – part of a great army! Do you want to experience this? Do you want to help others do the same?

Read more in
Ezekiel 37: 1-12



William Mather©

BHP DAY BY DAY URC

Sunday 10:30am Worship with groups for children and young people (Communion 1st Sunday in the month)
3:00pm Messy Church (4th Sunday in the month)
5:30pm Second Sunday Supper (2nd Sunday in the month)

Monday 7:30pm Boys' Brigade (Company Section)
8:00pm Book Club (2nd Monday in the month)

Wednesday 6:15pm Girls' Brigade

Friday 9:15am Prayers in the Quiet Room
10:15am Baby & Toddler Group
6:00pm Boys' Brigade (Anchor Boys)
7.15pm Junior Section)

