

May



2012

Newsletter



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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 27th May. All material for inclusion should be placed in the folder in the church lounge (or e-mailed to **newsletter@bhpurc.org.uk**) by **Sunday 13th May.**

Please note that late contributions may be held over.

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

A Postcard from Norfolk...



It is a few weeks now since our short break in Norfolk. *We stayed near Kings Lynn. The highlight of our break was the visit to Sandringham, the Queen's Norfolk holiday home. The grounds are stunning and we enjoyed a long walk around the house. Only a few of the rooms are open to the public. It does however give an insight to a wonderful family*

home. We visited the church, which is really quite small. I could not get Viv to pose by the porch, where we often see the Royal family meeting members of the public.

I'm sure I would have written something like this on a postcard home. Not something we tend to do these days, though I always try to send a few postcards when we are on holiday in France. How often have we arrived home before the postcards? With the increase in postage, there is less incentive to write a letter or postcard. An e-mail although guaranteed to arrive, does not have the same impact. I delete most of mine after a while. So with fewer people writing letters, what will be left for our future generations? A memory stick or a CD. We have seen how quickly floppy discs have come and gone.

Over half of the New Testament contains letters to churches or individuals. Paul wrote 13 of these letters, (14 if you include Hebrews though some scholars think Paul did not write it).

Paul takes the teaching of his master and gives us a picture of faith in action. The guidance and encouragement he gave to young Christians and churches. Dealing with the controversies of the day and the issues that churches face, even today.

As you know, I am not much of a reader. I do have some old books and it is interesting to see what people thought and did many years ago. Although the people and places have changed many of the situations and circumstances have not.

Perhaps when you go on holiday this year, you could send us a postcard?

Sounds and Signs,

a poem

(Acts 2:1-4)

Sounds and signs from heaven,
How to describe them?
A roaring mighty windstorm -
Tongues of fire -

Words are too weak,
Too one-dimensional.
We need the Lord's own linguist
To describe them

Through transformed lives
Only when he fills us
Can we understand,
Only when he fills us
Can we pour out the joy,
The love and the laughter,

The power and the praise.
Only when he fills us
Can we speak and show.
Come Holy Spirit
Transform us into Sounds and signs from heaven.

By Daphne Kitching



"It's not a quotation or sermon theme, it's just a warning about the low doorway"

Smile Lines

Labels and signs

Godfrey Eland's wife bought a packet of Tesco sleep aid tablets, marked "may cause drowsiness". Nigel West acquired a Hewlett-Packard laptop computer: "to reduce the possibility of heat-related injuries ... Do not place the computer directly on you laptop". It's 'elf an' safety gorn mad!

Tony Currer was in Lidl, where he saw a large sign: "Permanent discounts! Hurry!" Ross workman was in Gaborone, Botswana, where a supermarket had mounted a placard declaring: "Food: an important part of any balanced diet." Possibly there was another sign at the other end of the store marked: "Drink: an equally important part."

And Stephen Green splashed out £2.99 on a plastic strainer for baths. You put it over the plug hole and it keeps out hairs. The Homebase label says: "Easy to fit, If in doubt, contact a competent plumber."

Well known hymns – with a twist of honesty

The way we might sing some hymns if we were being honest:

1. I Surrender Some
2. There Shall Be Sprinkles of Blessings
3. Fill My Spoon, Lord
4. Oh, How I Like Jesus
5. He's Quite a Bit to Me
6. I Love to Talk About Telling the Story
7. Take My Life and Let Me Be
8. It is My Secret What God Can Do
9. There is Scattered Cloudiness in My Soul Today
10. Where He Leads Me, I Will Consider Following
11. Just As I Pretend to Be

Here is the News



Dot & Dave have moved into their bungalow in Peacehaven and are slowly sorting things out. They hope everyone is well at BHP URC. There is a URC in the next village which they hope to visit soon.



We pray that they would settle in easily & find a church and friends locally.



Christian Aid 'Hunger Lunch'

There will be a soup lunch in aid of Christian Aid after the service on Sunday May 6th.

We are not collecting around the streets of Bush Hill Park this year and this is the only event our church is holding for Christian Aid so do please come along & donate to this good cause.



Book Club

'The Hackney Child' by Morag Livingstone and Hope Daniels

An interesting story set very close to home. From a deplorable childhood with a prostitute for a mother, and both parents alcoholics, at the age of nine Hope finally goes to the Police to say she is in a desperate situation and can they help her. They arrange for care which works out reasonably well for a while, but when the carers she trusts leave without explanation, she becomes unsettled runs away many times. Whilst at home and in care, she always looks out for her brothers, but then they are separated and by adulthood she realises the thing missing in her life is looking after someone and decides she would like a family. Hope goes on to make a steady relationship and has the baby she needs to fulfil her life, ensuring that she gives both her child and her grandchildren the love and security each child deserves.

A very emotional read which really does ask – Is it better to be kept with parents or put in care ...?

'Before I go to sleep' by S J WATSON

A psychological thriller, it is the story of a woman who, following an 'accident' has no memory of her previous life every morning when she wakes. After many years in a hospital she is released to live with her husband and, with the help of a Psychologist who takes an interest in her case, she writes a journal which she can then read every morning to up-date her life but ...

Is everyone she meets telling her the truth?

It is easy to read and has a twist at the end. Quite a good thought-provoking read.

Chosen for the next couple of months:

'My dear I wanted to tell you.' By Louisa Young May 14th

'Life below stairs' by Alison Maloney June 11th

Sylvia Page

Catching oysters

A story is told of about Wesley and one of the early Methodist lay preachers, a man with little formal education. On one occasion, the lay preacher took as his text Luke 19:21, "Lord, I feared thee, because thou art an austere man."

Not knowing the word 'austere', the simple lay preacher thought that the text spoke of "an oyster man." So he spoke about the work of those who retrieve oysters from the sea-bed. He described in detail how the diver must plunge down from the surface, cut off from his natural environment, into cold water. He gropes in the dark, cutting his hands on the sharp edges of the shells. When he has the oyster, he kicks his way back up to the surface, up to the warmth and light and air, clutching in his torn and bleeding hands the object of his search.

So Christ, declared the lay preacher, descended from the glory of heaven into the squalor of earth, and sinful human society. His purpose was to retrieve humans, and bring them back up with him to the glory of heaven. His torn and bleeding hands were a sign of the value he has placed on the object of His quest.

Twelve men were converted to faith in Christ that evening. Afterwards, someone complained to Wesley about the inappropriateness of allowing preachers who were too ignorant to know the meaning of the texts they were preaching on. Wesley simply said, "Never mind, the Lord got a dozen oysters tonight."



Diary

May

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

Tues 1st	7:45pm	Elders Meeting
Sun 6th	10:30am	Communion with Rev Martin Legg Followed by Christian Aid Hunger Lunch
Fri 11th	7:00pm	Boys Brigade Awards Night
Sun 13th	10:30am 5:30pm	Parade with Rev Martin Legg Second Sunday Supper
Mon 14th	8:00pm	Book Club, 'My dear I wanted to tell you.' By Louisa Young
Sun 20th	10:30am	Morning Worship with Michaela Lawrence
Sun 27th	10:30am 12:15pm	Pentecost Morning Worship with Ray Pettipher Arts and crafts for all ages

Next newsletter deadline
Sunday 13th May

PRAYER PLAN

MAY 2012

[Christ Crucified Is God's Power
and Wisdom]

For the message of the cross is foolishness to
those who are perishing, but to us who are
being saved it is the power of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18 NIV

Tuesday 1st

Staff and pupils at Edmonton
County School

Wednesday 2nd

Wellington Road

Thursday 3rd

Persecuted church in
Maldives

Friday 4th

Babies born recently and
expectant mothers

Saturday 5th

Sunday's Worship Leader
and the service tomorrow

Sunday 6th

Thanks for answered
prayers

Monday 7th

Martin & Vivenne Legg

Tuesday 8th

Staff and pupils at Enfield
Grammar School

Wednesday 9th

Alberta road

Thursday 10th

Persecuted church in Yemen

Friday 11th

Karam, our sponsored child
in Bethlehem

Saturday 12th

Sunday's Worship Leader
and the service tomorrow

Sunday 13th

Thanks for those who love
us and share our lives

Monday 14th

Ben Maydon

Tuesday 15th

Staff and pupils at Enfield
County School

Wednesday 16th

Amberley Road

Thursday 17th

Persecuted church in Iraq

Friday 18th

For all the people who use
our premises week by week

Saturday 19th

Sunday's Worship Leader
and the service tomorrow

Sunday 20th

Thanks for water, whether
rain or from the turn of a tap

Monday 21st

Gertrude, Forbes & Mwabi
Mwenya

Tuesday 22nd

Staff and pupils at Chace
Community School

Wednesday 23th

Amberley Gardens

Thursday 24th

Persecuted church in
Uzbekistan

Friday 25th

Ruth, our sponsored child in
Zambia

Saturday 26th

Sunday's Worship Leader
and the service tomorrow

Sunday 27th

Thanks for the Holy Spirit
given to us at Pentecost

Monday 28th

Martin, Charlotte & Jessica
McBride

Tuesday 29th

Staff and pupils at
Kingsmead School

Wednesday 30th

Bertram Road



Ten reasons NOT to legalise same-sex marriage in Britain

Britain is coming under increasing pressure to legalise same-sex marriage, and the Prime Minister David Cameron is determined to drive it through. Many people are asking 'Why not?' Now the chief executive of the Christian Medical Fellowship, Dr Peter Saunders, has set out ten reasons why same-sex marriage should not go ahead. Here is a shortened version of what he says:

1. Marriage is the union of one man and one woman Throughout history in virtually all cultures and faiths throughout the world, marriage has been held to be the union of one man and one woman. The UN Declaration of Human Rights (article 16) says the family, headed by a man and a woman, 'is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State'. It is not up to governments to redefine marriage – but simply to recognise it for what it is, and to promote and protect it as a unique institution.
2. Same sex couples already have civil partnerships All the legal rights of marriage are already available to same sex couples through civil partnerships.
3. Redefining marriage without consultation is undemocratic None of the political leaders who are supporting the legalisation of same sex marriage announced it as a priority in their election manifestos. There is already a huge amount of opposition, and pressing ahead with legalisation will lead to considerable dissension and division. Legalising same sex marriage to appease a small minority is wrong and it should not be foisted on the British people without proper consultation about whether rather than how it should be done.
4. Equality does not mean uniformity In a free democratic society we accept that many human activities are not open to everybody. Not everyone is able to drive a car, buy property, attend university, visit Buckingham Palace. This does not mean that those who are not eligible for these activities are in any way denigrated , but just that there are eligibility criteria. Same sex couples do not fulfil the eligibility criteria for marriage, which should be reserved for the voluntary union of one man and one woman for life.
5. Protecting traditional marriage safeguards children and society Stable marriages and families headed by a mother and a father are the bedrock of society and the state has a duty to protect the uniqueness of these key institutions. Though death and divorce may prevent it, children do best when

raised by a married mother and father.

6. Marriage is a unique biologically complementary relationship Marriage is the only legal union which can naturally lead to children. It takes both a man and a woman to produce a baby. The fact that there is a natural link between sexual intimacy and procreation is what makes marriage distinctive and different. Redefining marriage will undermine this distinctness and risks normalising the technological instrumentalisation of reproduction and increasing the confusion of biological, social and family identity.

7. Redefining marriage will be complex and expensive Redefining marriage could cost billions and involve amending hundreds of pieces of government legislation. The word 'marriage' appears 3,258 times in UK legislation, which underlines the central role the institution plays in national law. This is simply not a priority for government at a time of economic recession as it will confer no new rights.

8. Schools will be forced to teach about the new definition of marriage Under existing education law schools will be required to teach children that marriage can be between a man and a woman, between two men or between two women. Those parents who object could be undermined in their children's eyes, stigmatised as homophobics and bigots and prevented from full involvement in schools.

9. Redefining marriage will not stop with same sex marriage In Mexico same sex marriage was followed by two year fixed term marriage. In Canada legalising same sex marriage has led to supporters of polygamy demanding in the courts for their unions to be recognised. The best defence against this is to keep the legal definition of marriage unique and distinct – 'one man, one woman, for life'.

10. Redefining marriage will lead to faith-based discrimination If same sex marriage is legalized, faith-based adoption and fostering services that place children exclusively with married couples would be required by law to place children with persons of the same sex who are civilly 'married'. Marriage counsellors from faith backgrounds would be denied their professional accreditation for refusing to provide counselling in support of same-sex 'married' relationships. All these moves would place faith groups in the invidious position of being forced to act against their consciences or face marginalisation, exclusion and litigation and would further fuel social fragmentation, sectarianism, antagonism and civil unrest.

Posted by Dr Peter Saunders, chief executive of Christian Medical Fellowship. For the full text visit: http://www.cmfblog.org.uk/2012/02/18/ten-reasons-not-to-legalise-same-sex-marriage-in-britain/?doing_wp_cron.

A Thank you from 2nd Enfield Boys Brigade Seniors - Quiz Night 25th February

If this was not a late item that should have been in the last newsletter (sorry Lisa) but instead was a DVD, this item would be in the extra bits of behind the scenes stuff that you probably usually ignore to get to the main event!

It is of course really another excuse to thank all those who supported the boys to raise £430 towards the costs of the next stage of their Duke of Edinburgh Awards. So whether you attended, helped clear up at the end of the night, provided prizes or booed at the poor questions or question-masters, thank you all very much. I especially would like to thank Andrew (Cads) Caddies as he always puts a lot of time and effort in to helping and supporting all the Boys Brigade, along with being a Church Elder.

Back in January he asked me to assist and help the seniors, Michael (Pickle) Peirce, Darnel (always on time) Goncalves, Tom and Charlie Humphries organise a quiz night, which has put them out of their comfort zone as they had not done anything like this before.

Cads and I were both originally quiet nervous and worried about all of the work that would be needed to make the event a success. The boys were very laid back and had a natural ability to assume everything would fall into place. On a Monday evening in January, we discussed with the boys what needed to be done and they drew up a list of who was doing each task. It was their event and I wanted them to do as much as possible without others helping. (Or in other words, avoiding Cads and I doing everything!) To their credit, they slowly realised what needed to be done and between their own school revision and exams, some question rounds appeared, (Thank you Pickle) and the event started to take shape. As the weeks went by, (and most of the questions and answers still failed to appear) the nervousness and worry shifted from us and on to the boy's shoulders, especially on the night of the evening when the boys had turned in to nervous wrecks. At 7pm, just as our first guests were

arriving and Bob Neate was laying their family table with a fine table cloth and candles, Darnell was in the office completing his set of questions! The worry of what to name the rounds was a concern as the boys wanted to disguise the names. A few ideas floated around when one boy said, 'change them to Spanish'. (I still have no idea why). Meanwhile, the 7.30pm start time is fast approaching.

'Do you know what sport is in Spanish?' said a boy.

'No?' was the reply.

'It's Sportz.'

'O.K., change it to Welsh then!'

Pure logic?

A lot of script prepared for the beginning of the quiz went out the window as with their nerves, the boys wanted to get on with the quiz. But as the night drew on and they settled in, I think you will agree (unless you were on the girls table,) they did a good job and it was a good night. It was great to see the hall filled with so many happy people contesting for the fabulous prizes.

The final round was the Christmas round and the introduction should have read: 'On Saturday 25th February 2012 there will be Ten months or 303 shopping days to Christmas,' but again this went out the window leaving the contestants a bit confused on why they were answering questions about Christmas in February?

I would like to finish by thanking Matthew Witter who was just going to collect the jokers and papers but also assisted beyond the call of duty by helping the seniors to add up the scores at the end. Also thank you to Rev Martin Legg for closing the evening in prayer.

This item is also a shameless plug to advertise early for the next 'Family Quiz Night' on 20th October to include questions and fun for all ages and raise funds for the hall roof and floor. So mark your diaries, spread the word to family and friends and see you all there!

Anthony (Rencho) Rensch

Boys' Brigade News

During the Easter Break Mr Ward and I took some of the boys away on Easter Expedition. This year we returned to Wales and the Snowdonia National Park. We left early on Tuesday morning for the four and half hour journey to our campsite.

We arrived by lunch time and the first task for the boys to do was to put up their tents. This was done very efficiently and soon the lads were boiling water on their stoves to make a cup of tea.

That afternoon we did a small navigational walk in the local area and got the bronze D of E lads to practise their map skills. On our walk the map indicated that the foot path crossed a river via a bridge. However the bridge was missing, so we all had to jump the river! Also while out walking on this first day we came across a sheep just as she gave birth on the hill side to her new baby lamb!

Our first full day of walking saw us do a lot of climbing and walking. The views were fantastic. We came across an old abandoned railway line that used to serve a mine. The mountain side was littered with old abandoned buildings from the mine and the railway.

Our route down saw us following a river / waterfall back down into the valley. It was like a scene from the film lord of the rings.

On the second day we climbed Snowden, the highest peak in Wales. Now there are many different routes to follow when climbing Snowdon ranging from the 'stroll in the park' easy route, to the very difficult routes. If the easy route (Derek's route) was on a scale at 1 and the hard route was a 10, then the route we took was

a 15.7! It was a great challenge and involved a lot of climbing, walking along ridges and perseverance. There was great achievement felt by us all when we reached the top. Unfortunately the clouds covered the peak when we got there, so the view was a bit limited.

All of the boys were very well behaved and that made the trip very enjoyable for all. They all cooked for themselves and gained a lot of skills. I will be displaying some of the photos from the trip soon.

On Friday 11th May we will be holding our Awards Night. Please feel free to come along and see what's been going on throughout the year and to also support the boys when they gain their awards and badges. The evening will start at 7pm and should be finished by 9pm.

After the awards night we will be starting our summer session. The summer session is more relaxed and is where we do a range of activities and trips each Monday. It also marks the start of the countdown to CAMP!!

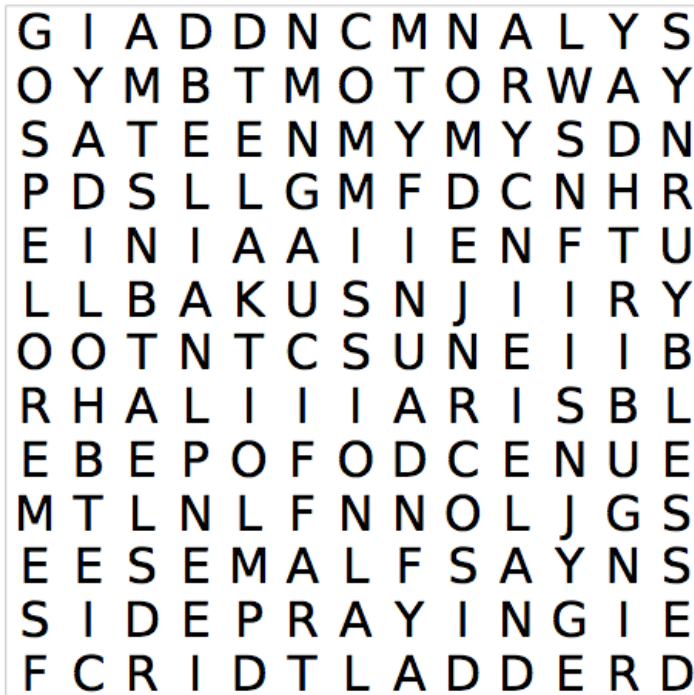
Andrew caddies - OiC Company Section



Wordsearch

May brings us Bank Holiday, that long weekend when if we don't join the traffic jams on the motorway, we attempt to do some DIY, fall off the ladder, and end up in A&E instead. May brings us Ascension Day, when Jesus blessed his disciples, and gave them the Great Commission to take the Gospel to all nations. May is also the month of the Church's birthday – on Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit fell like flames on the praying disciples in Jerusalem. It is a time of new beginnings, to seize the time given to us, and forge ahead, making the most of every opportunity!

bank	holiday	traffic	diy	casualty
ladder	ascension	blessed	flames	nations
jesus	disciples	gospel	beginnings	commission
birthday	jerusalem	praying	motorway	



Bible Sketchbook



Jesus rose from the dead and Mary was one of the first to see him. She told his friends but they did not believe her. So Jesus came and told them off. He said: "Believe and go global!" He said anyone who believes and is baptised will be saved! Also believers would see signs and wonders accompany their preaching. Jesus went up to heaven and that's when they really started talking about him!!

Now it's OUR turn!

Read more in Mark 16: 9-19



BHP DAY BY DAY URC

Sunday 10:30am Worship with groups for children and young people (Communion 1st Sunday in the month)
12:15pm Arts and crafts for all ages (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

Thursday 730pm Boys' Brigade Company Section circuit training (when advised)

Friday 9:30am Prayers in the Junior Room
10:00am Baby & Toddler Group
6:00pm Boys' Brigade (Anchor Boys)
7.15pm Junior Section)

