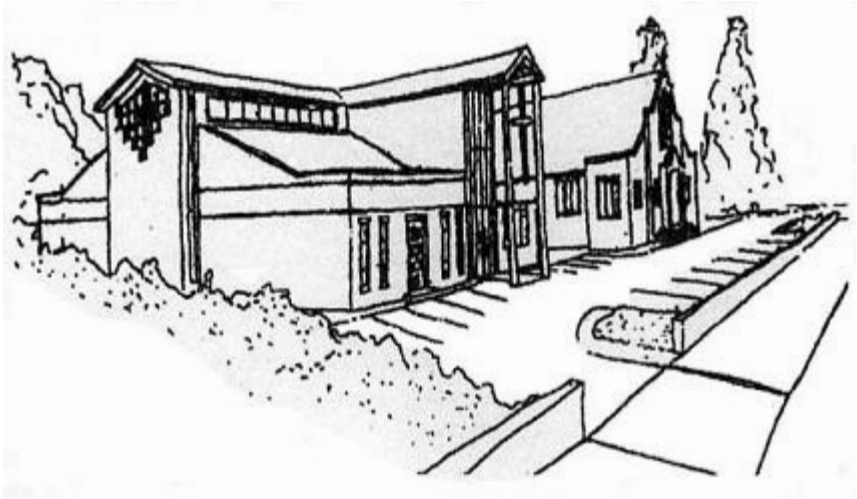


Shirley Methodist Church



February 2012



Eldon Ave, Shirley, Croydon, CR0 8SD

www.shirleymeth.org Suggested price 30p

Worship in February

FEB 5	10.30 AM	HOLY COMMUNION	REVD JANE CASSIDY
	6.30 PM		DR BRIAN ROBINS
FEB 12	10.30 AM		MRS ANN ATKINS
	6.30 PM	HOLY COMMUNION	REVD NIGEL COWGILL
FEB 19	10.30 AM		MRS FELICITY AL HASSAN
	6.00 PM	UNITED SERVICE	REVD JANE CASSIDY
FEB 26	10.30 AM		MR ROGER BYARD
	6.30 PM		MRS PAULINE LITTLE

The morning service starts with Gathering Time at 10.15am: organ music, informal singing or recorded music. There is usually a creche facility available in the lounge, staffed by two members of the congregation.

Sunday Morning Club - held during the morning service provides young people with a chance to explore the Bible, as well as with a wide range

Monday	2pm for 2.30pm	Monday Fellowship (2nd and 4th week)
Thursday	6.15pm 8.00 pm	Brownies (during term time) Guild
Friday	7.30pm	Choir practice

This month our Minister's Letter is written by Revd Dr Ebute Obiabo

My dear friends,

The days are difficult in many ways; most of all is the depressing state of the spiritual and economic health of our nation. The Euro-zone, the Arab Spring problems and the World concern us all deeply. While the beginning of the year may look very gloomy, depressive, cloudy and uncertain we take to heart, in the Methodist Church in Croydon Circuit, the word of the Scripture.

Behold the dark clouds, the sun of God's glory is always shining. God said in His word. Behold I will make a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert, to give drink to my people. Isaiah 43:19.

This should lift us up from the gloomy state of our economy and depressive state of the obscenities in the world to the hope, light and excitement as we look forward to this Olympic year in which every act of winning will be celebrated. We too can be winners in The LORD JESUS who gave His LIFE TO SET US FREE FROM SIN AND THE POWER OF SIN. Such winners, despite the hard times, difficulties, and failures they may be passing through will celebrate their victory in the words of the Scripture

This is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith. We are more than conquerors through Christ who loves us. And as Romans 8:1 stated -There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Praise God we can celebrate as winners in Christ. This in my view MAY lead us to the great hope of our Lord God who alone will bring order out of chaos, hope out of hopelessness and establish his kingdom of peace and righteousness. Such hope leads me to a positive reflection on the few events of the early months of the year 2012.

Despite a few things that made me so sad in the past, I have been delighted by many things over the past few months; some of which I would like to mention specifically.

One: our covenant services were worthwhile experiences in the life of our churches, where with courage and boldness vows were made to make a new friend for our church in the next twelve months. My prayer is "May the Lord bring it to pass and help us to be faithful to our vows".

Another: the thrilling and challenging experience of sharing in the caring ministry of our church during my pastoral visitations and being there for our community in the most practical way during the London riots. My sincere thanks to all, in and outside of our churches who pray, give, volunteer or do one thing or another to make this possible and who walk alongside others at difficult times. Thank you. Thanks to our Ecumenical partners too. We serve Christ by serving the Community. The joy, gratitude and the thankfulness that comes from the heart of our dear friends is humbling and deeply touches the heart.

Thirdly: it was a delight to see the efforts of the Youth Leadership Team of West Croydon to re-start Youth Fellowship again after it stopped in April 2011. It is my strong faith, hope and prayer that this will work, and what joy will it be for our church to see the young ones back in our Church in full fellowship with one another and the church leadership.

Please continue to work and pray towards this. As we prepare for Lent may I take this opportunity to encourage all of us to draw very close to God and deeply reflect on JESUS AND THE SACRIFICE HE MADE FOR YOU AND ME.



Can we please pray together, "LORD YOU TOOK MY PLACE ON THE CROSS MAY I TAKE YOUR PLACE IN THE WORLD"?

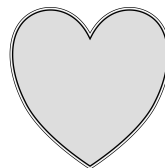
Revd Dr Ebute Obiabo

Don't our church premises look good after the recent decorating? A HUGE thank you to the Property Committee for organising this - and doing a mammoth session after the painters left to ensure we could worship in church the next day. An amazing achievement! Thanks to Dave, Bill, Elizabeth, Brian, Jonathan & Elliot - forgive me if anyone has been left off the list.



Kate Marsden

DIARY FOR FEBRUARY



- | | | |
|------|----|--|
| WED | 1 | BOOK SORTNG 10AM - 12 |
| THU | 2 | LUNCHTIME CONCERT 1.15PM
BROWNIES 6.15 PM
GUILD 'WESLEY ' - REVD JANE CASSIDY 8PM |
| SUN | 5 | KICK LONDON 3PM
18+ BIBLE STUDY 3PM
SUNDAY AFTERNOON CLUB 4PM |
| TUES | 7 | CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CROYDON PRAYER MEETING 7.30
ST GEORGES |
| WED | 8 | BOOK SORTING 10 AM- 12
CROYDON CHURCHES PRAYER MEETING 8PM NEW LIFE CENTRE |
| THU | 9 | BROWNIES 6.15 PM
GUILD DICKENS 8PM |
| FRI | 10 | CIRCUIT BOWLING YOUTH GROUP 8PM VALLEY PARK |
| MON | 13 | MONDAY FELLOWSHIP 'MY TRIP TO GHANA' REVD JANE
CASSIDY 2 PM |
| WED | 15 | BOOK SORTING 10 AM- 12 |
| THU | 16 | LAST DAY FOR MAGAZINE ARTICLES
BROWNIES 6.15PM
GUILD SOUTHWARK DOWN THE YEARS 8PM |
| SAT | 18 | CREATIVE ARTS DAY - SEE P 19 |
| TUES | 21 | AM; PM CHILDRENS CLUB ADDINGTON 3.30pm SEE P.12 |
| WED | 22 | ASH WEDNESDAY
BOOK SORTING 10AM -12 |
| THU | 23 | BROWNIES 6.15 PM
GUILD HYMN WRITERS 8PM |
| SAT | 25 | CAFE WORSHIP AT CHRISTCHURCH 5.30PM |
| MON | 27 | MONDAY FELLOWSHIP "DOES ONE NEED A TOASTMASTER!" 2PM
MEET AN AUTHOR AT SHIRLEY LIBRARY SEE P 13 |

ALL EVENTS LISTED WILL TAKE PLACE AT SHIRLEY UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE.

MARCH 7TH CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SHIRLEY PRAYERS 7.30 WEST WICKHAM BAPTIST
 MRCH 12TH CIRCUIT MEETING PARCHMORE
 MARCH 17TH JOHN RUSKIN CONCERT SEE P 20
 MAY 20TH CIRCLE THE CITY WALK
 CHRISTIAN AID WEEK MAY 13TH - 20TH

Family news

There has been good news shared by Andy and Christine Graham and they say – “We are delighted to have become grandparents twice last year – Anita had a little girl called Mary in September and Phil and Jennie had a little girl, Caroline, in December. Christmas was a very happy time with the two new additions to our family”. We send our love and best wishes to all the family and give thanks for the safe arrival of Mary and Caroline.



We send our warmest congratulations to June Marshall who has recently celebrated her 80th birthday and send her our love and prayers.



Sadly, before Christmas, we gathered as a church family to say farewell to Vera Harvey and remember her contribution to church life. Vera had been a life-long, committed Christian and a valued member of her Housegroup. We pray for Diane, and particularly for Helen who used to spend each weekend with her mother at Peregrine Gardens.



At a recent Pastoral Meeting we said thank you to Lucy Rogers who has been a Housegroup Leader for many many years and now feels she must take a well earned rest. Lucy's well prepared and thoughtful meetings will be remembered by the members of her Housegroup, always thoroughly researched and so very interesting and inspiring. Thank you Lucy for all the care you have given to being a Housegroup Leader. It has been so very much appreciated.

We pray for members of our church family thinking especially of Geoffrey and Jill Lipscombe and Alex and Glenna Fullick. We also pray for Andrew and Lis Black, Kathleen Brickwood, George Cole, Dorothy and Roger Cox, Richard Dutton, Christine Gayle, Anita Graham, Enis Hanks, Helen Harvey, Eric McKenzie, Alan McEwen, Myrtle Rea, Adele and Ron Sluce and Colin and Pearl Spittle. We continue to remember those who are not able to come to worship: for Peggy Bridger, John Burch, Jean Cooper, Essie Green, Margaret Lloyd, June Main, Jean and Martin Merrett, Joan Miller, Brian Reed, Shanti Ratnayake, Dorothy Winter and Margaret Wilmshurst and also Christopher Land. We also pray for our friends at Hall Grange and the staff who care for them.

Richard Dutton is delighted to announce that on February 1st it will be 60 years to the day that he started to attend our church. What a very special anniversary Richard! Thank you for all you have contributed over the years.



Christian Aid News

In December we were invited to "BRING JOY THIS CHRISTMAS", and we are delighted to announce that the £138 raised from money donated in lieu of Christmas cards, and from the sale of goods made by our young people **more** than covered all the projects chosen by Sunday Morning Club. The ducks, chickens, fruit trees, beehives, school uniforms, books and mosquito nets selected from the catalogue will bring new hope to people in the poorest parts of the world. Many thanks to all who helped to achieve this. Looking ahead, we have two dates for your 2012 diaries.



Christian Aid Week - Sun 13th May - Sat 20th May
The London Circle the City Walk - Sun 20th May

Thank you for your giving

The Christian Aid Committee

We have been recording Sunday morning services for many years, allowing housebound members to be part of our worshipping community. Recently we have begun making digital recordings and shortly friends far & wide will be able to listen via the Church website www.shirleymeth.org.uk

Demelza Hospice Care for Children

The Shirley Group of Friends would like to say a really big 'THANK YOU' to all those members of the Church who have supported our fundraising efforts during 2011. After expenses e.g. hall hire, stall fees, catering etc we raised the sum of **£3,874.74** which is no mean feat in the current economic climate. We look forward to welcoming you to our events this year!



The 10th

Great Book Sale

thousands of books at bargain prices

Sat. 10th March 2012

10 am - 4 pm - Shirley Methodist Church - Eldon Avenue, Shirley

Leaflets sponsored by
Poppy IT Services
www.poppyits.com

COLLECTING NOW

Good quality paperbacks, hardbacks, children's books, CDs, Records & DVDs

(No Videos this time thanks) will be gratefully received at any of the following:

	Shirley Methodist Church, Eldon Ave. (but ONLY on Wednesdays between 10am - 12pm please)	
or	Mr Stephen Hunt, 90 Devonshire Way	020 8777 4700
	Mr Jonathan Baxter, 72 Hartland Way	020 8777 3158
	Mr Bob Wakefield, 109 Shirley Avenue	020 8654 3318
	Mr David Bateson, 42 Ash Road	020 8777 7141

** www.GreatBookSale.org.uk * Last Collecting Day is 29th Feb 2012 * Registered Charity No: 1127524 **

In aid of Shirley Methodist Church building improvements & other selected charities

Please promote our book sale far & wide!

The organisers ask for your help by -

- donating books
- distributing leaflets
- sorting books (every Wednesday 10 -12)
- offering help on the day of the sale



PS. As this event will involve so many willing hands, and because 2012 is going to be a busy year (we have Church members involved in the Olympics & Para Olympics **) it has been decided **NOT** to hold our usual Autumn Jumble Sale this year.

** as volunteers - not as competitors !



The Guild in February

On **Thursday 2nd Feb** we are delighted to welcome Revd Jane Cassidy who will speak on “**The Lesser Known Side of John Wesley**”. She writes, “In our modern Methodist Church we test the orthodoxy of our Minister’s theology, the sympathy of those who offer as Pastoral Visitors, and expect our Stewards to fit into a Leadership Team. If John Wesley walked into Shirley Methodist Church, would you spot a potential new member and ask him to come through for coffee...?”

To celebrate the Bicentenary of the Birth of Charles Dickens, we invite you to a **Dickens’ Evening on Thursday 9th Feb**. We hope you will meet some of the wonderful characters found in his books and hear more about them: some may be dressed in the costume of their time: this evening has plenty of potential and who knows who will turn up! All are invited.

On **Thursday 16th Feb** we have a change of programme as our original speaker, Brian Bloice, is recovering from an operation. We are delighted that Stephen Humphrey, an archivist and author, has “stepped into the breach” and will give an illustrated talk entitled, “**From Hatmakers to Deal Porters: Southwark and Bermondsey Down the Ages**”. We will be hearing about Revd John Scott Lidgett (an early President of the Methodist Conference), Bethlem Royal Hospital and The Shirley Schools, all with Southwark connections. This promises to be a fascinating evening.

“**Hymn Writers and Hymn Writing**” is our title on **Thursday 23rd Feb**, when we welcome Martin Ellis, a professional musician, organist and composer. Martin has composed the music for three hymns in “Hymns and Psalms”. He has a connection with our church as his wife, Miriam, and her parents, Edith and Alfred Tuckwell, were members of our church for many years.

You are welcome to one or all of our Guild evenings and may be assured of a warm welcome.

Jean Beecher Guild Secretary



on our new Pastoral Assistant

Greetings, my name is Bennie Harms and I've just been appointed as the Pastoral Assistant for this circuit. I was born and brought up in Salisbury, Rhodesia - which is now known as Harare, Zimbabwe. My parents belonged to The Salvation Army and that has been my church all my life. As I grew up I learnt to play a brass instrument and have been in one band or the other for the past 52 years. At the age of 14 I taught myself to play the guitar and by now, I am sure you've guessed I'm not under 25. Music is one of my main interests along with computer technology, collecting both model vintage cars and unusual watches.

I am married and my wife's name is Jennifer. She will be accompanying me when I attend or conduct services in the circuit. We have three children - our eldest son Ryan, is married and lives in Johannesburg, South Africa; our second son Bevan lives in Ft Lauderdale, Florida, USA - he is also married and has 6 children; Our daughter Taryn is our third child and lives in Harare, Zimbabwe with her husband and 3 children.

My wife and I were Salvation Army officers for over 30 years and served in a number of different places in South Africa as well as spending 9 years pastoring a church in Harare, Zimbabwe. We relocated to the UK at the end of 2010 mainly so that we could be near my wife's aging mother. We are both actively involved in our local Salvation Army Corps in Penge. I am extremely happy to be involved in the pastoral ministry of the circuit and look forward to meeting members not only at church services but also visiting them in their homes.

"Blessed are those who trust in the Lord and have made the Lord their hope and confidence" Jeremiah 17:7

Are you thinking of becoming a member of the Methodist Church but you think you are too young - or too old - or not too sure ?

If you are interested in exploring issues surrounding Confirmation and Membership of the Church please speak to your Minister or Juliet at the Circuit Office office@croymeth.plus.com (8653 8791). Our Circuit membership course is appropriate for any age and is suitable as a refresher for those already in membership.

This email popped into my inbox the other day - I thought it was worth passing on - it certainly makes you think.

Kate Marsden

Apparently the White House referred to Christmas Trees as Holiday Trees for the first time this year which prompted CBS news presenter, Ben Stein, to present this piece. I think it applies just as much to many countries as it does to America.

I am a Jew, and every single one of my ancestors was Jewish. And it does not bother me even a little bit when people call those beautiful lit up, bejeweled trees, 'Christmas' trees. I don't feel threatened. I don't feel discriminated against. That's what they are, Christmas trees.

It doesn't bother me when people say, 'Merry Christmas' to me. I don't think they are slighting me or getting ready to put me in a ghetto. In fact, I kind of like it. It shows that we are all brothers and sisters celebrating this happy time of year. It doesn't bother me at all that there is a manger scene on display near my beach house in Malibu .

I don't like getting pushed around for being a Jew, and I don't think Christians like getting pushed around for being Christians. I think people who believe in God are tired of getting pushed around, *period*. I have no idea where the concept that America is an explicitly atheist country came from. I can't find it in the Constitution and I don't like it.

Or maybe I can put it another way: where did the idea come from that we should worship celebrities and yet we aren't allowed to worship God? I guess that's a sign that I'm getting old, too. But there are a lot of us who are wondering where these celebrities came from and where the America we knew went to.

Billy Graham's daughter, Anne was interviewed on the Early Show just after Hurricane Katrina and was asked 'How could God let something like this happen?' She gave an extremely profound

and insightful response. She said, 'I believe God is deeply saddened by this, just as we are, but for years we've been telling God to get out of our schools, to get out of our government and to get out of our lives. And being the gentleman He is, I believe He has calmly backed out. How can we expect God to give us His blessing and His protection if we demand He leave us alone?'

Funny how simple it is for people to trash God and then wonder why the world's going to hell. Funny how we believe what the newspapers say, but question what the Bible says. Funny how lewd, crude, vulgar and obscene articles are printed and pass freely through cyberspace, but public discussion of God is suppressed in the school and workplace. Funny how we can be more worried about what other people think of us than what God thinks of us.

My best regards, honestly and respectfully, *Ben Stein*

AM:PM

AM:PM Morning and Evening? Well yes but also
Addington Methodist: Play and Make.

It's a new venture on the third Tuesday of each month at 3.30pm for children of PriMary school age and their parents or carers. Our first time together is on Shrove Tuesday so our Planning Meeting decided to centre the afternoon round Pancake Making.

Look out for our Publicity Material with times and dates on and do hand them out to any children and their significant adults who you think might be interested. Could we also ask you all to make this a Prayer Matter as we try to spread the good news of the love of Jesus to the children of Addington and its environs?

Jane (Addington Methodist : Presbyterial Minister!)

Have you seen the British Heart Foundation advertisement featuring Vinnie Jones ?

We have a strong interest in life saving skills at Shirley - there is a defibrillator in the Welcome area and some of the congregation have been trained to use it.



It is therefore interesting to note the recent announcement from the British Heart Foundation that anyone who does not have CPR training should ignore the kiss of life in favour of hard and fast compressions in the centre of the chest. The BHF is also suggesting people hum to the Bee Gees hit ***Stayin' Alive***, to get the tempo of chest compressions right - who would have thought that a Bee Gee hit might save a life? If you can't recall the song - then ***Nellie the Elephant*** has the same effect ! The 'gold standard' CPR however does still include mouth to mouth if the first aider is trained (and willing to proceed).

A poll conducted across the UK and involving 2,000 respondents showed nearly half were put off from performing CPR because of a lack of knowledge and fear of contracting an infectious disease. The kiss of life can often be daunting for untrained bystanders who want to help when someone has collapsed with a cardiac arrest.

On February 24th BHF are holding a Red Heart Day - they ask you to wear red and get involved by organising an event or donating money.

Meet an Author

Ian Porter will be at Shirley Library on Monday 27th February between 2pm -3.15pm. His talk is entitled 'Suffragettes and the fight for Votes for Women'. He will be selling copies of his book, *Whitechapel*, which is set in the East End in 1888, and copies of a book entitled *Sylvia Pankhurst: Citizen of the World* following his talk.



Please contact the Library for tickets.020 8726 6900 x 14300 stating number of tickets plus names & phone numbers of each attendee.

A word from our Senior Steward

What shall I write about this month? It may seem like a toss-up between pancakes and red hearts but I'm rejecting both in favour of the village of Dominese in Ghana.

Nana Kow Baisie II is the village chief. "Who is he?" I hear you ask. Well, he is one of our Church Stewards, none other than Robert Dadzie! In the African village of Dominese he is the lead citizen. We discovered from Robert that the villagers there do not have money to spare; many are subsistence farmers. They have a problem with access to clean, safe and affordable water. I have outlined the difficulty below and what Shirley Methodists could do about it.

Our church from time to time has done a "second-mile project". Many of us are involved in the stewardship scheme; 12½ % of the money we give to the church is guaranteed to be given to good causes and charities. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus encouraged his followers to go further than just what was expected. He said to "go the second mile"! So you can see that by putting effort into fundraising, that extra commitment is "going the second mile" and we thought that this would be a super "second mile project" for us, not least in thankfulness for the clean water we enjoy.

Fundraising efforts can be great fun and you often get to know fellow Church folk better at the same time. Our Church Council has given the project its blessing – let's see what Shirley Methodist can do. Please let me know if any of the fundraising ideas "speak" to you (or if you have any other bright ideas)!

A possible time scale:-

February

*- Introduced and launched at church
- fund-raising activities - these will be*

February - August

worthwhile but it also fun for groups of people to work together and get to know each other better

July- September

-Robert and Rebecca Dadzie in the village supervising work on the storage tank & getting it up and running

After August

- Shirley could talk through Robert to the village Methodist Church to sort out how they can help with the costs of setting up a nursery. Any money raised would only go to the minister in charge to keep the situation secure.



DOMINESE - Robert Dadzie's village in Ghana

At the moment bottled water has to be purchased individually by families. This is expensive and many find this very hard. There is another supply of water from an artesian well fed by a freshwater spring. But for much of the year this is dried up and at other times the water is brackish and not fit to drink, nor is it plentiful as several communities use it.

If a central source of treated, safe water which is delivered under contract could be in place, the water would be very cheap to buy and would always be available. The village does have a very old storage tank, which would need relining by the water engineers so that it could be viable to store 5,000 gallons of safe water. The storage tank, would be covered and locked so that villagers could purchase their inexpensive water and have enough for drinking and keeping clean. This would transform everyday life.



To re-line the tank and set up a contract with water suppliers would cost in the region of £1,000. This could be a good 2nd mile project for Shirley. The work would take about 1 month. Robert has indicated that he will be in situ throughout that time to keep a constant check on what is happening - he says this is vital in Africa as all too often money from projects "disappears" and the workers are not as diligent as they should be.

If we raised more than £1,000, then other things could be usefully done for the village. The village Methodist Church has a dream of setting up a nursery school in its building; it obviously needs to equip this with all the furniture, toys and books that such a venture would need. Not only would it give a good start to children, it would alleviate some of the burden of numbers on the present village day school. One room houses children of all ages. (This situation may improve in two

years time; Robert has a contact with a church group in America who have experience in building schools and they are considering building a secondary school in the village in 2013. They would send their own people to build and Robert has offered them the use of his home as a dormitory and living space.) Perhaps Shirley could also consider contributing towards the purchase of toys, books and equipment for the nursery.

Ruth Tayler



SUGGESTIONS FOR FUNDRAISING EVENTS



Here are a few ideas to get you thinking! It's not an exhaustive list and other ideas are very welcome. As a starter, David and I are offering to organise a car treasure hunt ending in a Church Picnic on a Summer Saturday. Look at the following suggestions - are you inspired - just think what fun we can have - get your thinking caps on !

garden party with tea ✕ swimming gala ✕ barn dance

✕ social evening or party ✕ dinner dance ✕ disco

meals with a theme or nationality focus ✕ art exhibition

concert or panto or play ✕ quiz night ✕ palm court tea

✕ ideas linked to special interests of individuals or groups. ✕

✕ quiz sheets ✕ watery ideas , given it's a clean water project

✕ monetary gifts towards the project in memory of someone or in

thanksgiving or simply out of goodwill ✕ dedicating one of the new

hymnbooks ✕ anything else ?? ✕

Recycling opportunities

Do you have any of these items - too good for the tip - but no longer needed? They are passed along to a variety of organisations - churches, schools, clubs who are involved in fund-raising.

Milk screw tops

Inkjet toners/cartridges

Picture postcards

Greetings cards-not Christmas

Foreign coins

Tools- hammers, pliers, screwdrivers etc

2 litre ice cream boxes +lids

Jigsaws

Foil

Stamps

Blankets

Curtains

Old spectacle cases

Sewing patterns

Sewing /craft items

Fabric / trimmings/beads

Broken jewellery



Please contact

Mrs Pointer 53 Ravenswood Road West Wickham 8777 1051

Tools

FOR SELF

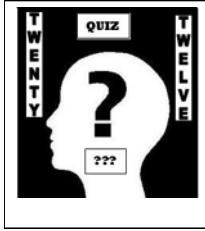
RELIANCE

practical help for
practical people

The charity **TOOLS FOR SELF RELIANCE** provides practical help for practical people by distributing tools from UK to local organisations across Africa. If you do not have any tools but want to help - they also collect money!

To donate or to find out which tools are needed go to www.tfsr.org or phone Alan Swanson 8647 2977 There is a flyer in the welcome area.

*Christchurch
Development
Fund*



*Twenty Questions
each month for
twelve months*

JOIN IN FEBRUARY AND RECEIVE 2 MONTHS OF QUESTIONS
TO GET YOU STARTED

Keep your mind active for the whole of 2012
Quiz questions suitable for the whole family
Receive an e-mail each month or a paper copy

- £12 for the e-mail version
- £15 for a paper copy
- £20 for a paper copy to be posted
- Add a Christ Church bookmark to any order for £1

Cheques payable to Christ Church Methodist Addiscombe
To sign up e-mail twentytwelvequiz@talktalk.net

FUN QUIZ

at

Radcliffe Guiding Centre Harding Close Radcliffe Road

Sunday 11th March 6.30 for 6.45 start

Tickets in advance by 3rd March

Teams of up to 6 people

£8 per person

Ploughman's Supper

***Bring your own drinks and glasses
In aid of the Radcliffe Guiding Centre
Registered Charity 303615***



Sunday Morning and Afternoon Club News

Our Christmas Family Party was held on 17th December, with about 60 people present - 32 were children and young people. All enjoyed the games, quizzes and 'bring and share' tea. We had some Christmas songs and carols to round off the party.



The following day the young people made cakes, cookies and Christmas items and sold them to help raise funds for the Christian Aid "Bring Joy this Christmas" appeal. About £60 was raised and thank you for your 'National Trust' rather than 'Poundsaver' donations! Pearl Spittle has forwarded a letter of thanks to us from Christian Aid: it detailed which 'Present Aid' items had been bought and where the families that would be receiving them live.

Around Christmas time young people from the Croydon Circuit enjoyed a meal together at Cosmo's restaurant in Valley Park, including Jemma, Lorna, Malik, Maya and Thomas from Sunday Morning and Afternoon Clubs.



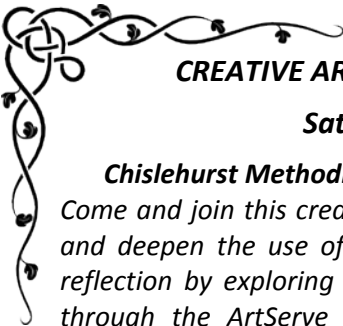
You will have seen on the news the arrival of two giant Chinese pandas on a customised Boeing 777 jet.

However you may not have heard about the Chinese Speaking Competition run by the Chinese Embassy to celebrate this event. Several Trinity pupils, including



Malik, who are learning Chinese entered the competition. They wrote and performed a short play in Chinese, featuring the animals and their keeper at Edinburgh Zoo.

Rosemary Jones



CREATIVE ARTS & MULTIMEDIA DISCOVERY DAY

Saturday 18th February 2012

Chislehurst Methodist Church Prince Imperial Road Chislehurst

Come and join this creative and exciting day led by ArtServe to discover and deepen the use of creative arts in worship. Take a little time for reflection by exploring the prayer labyrinth. Meet friends old and new through the ArtServe network. For more information contact David Grimwood 07968 369681 david@artserve.org.uk

Cost £16 payable on booking - 020 84 68 7695 chismch@talktalk.net Registrations from 9.15am 10am - 4pm Light lunch included



We, as a church, have had such a close connection with The Leprosy Mission over the years and are always pleased to hear of the work that the charity does all over the world to alleviate suffering and support projects. Recently a letter was received thanking the church particularly for the £137 raised in December from the sale of Christmas floral baskets.



West Wickham Local Committee Cancer ResearchUK

COLLECTIBLES & CRAFT FAIR

SATURDAY 3rd MARCH

**ST FRANCIS CHURCH HALL
Ravenswood Avenue West Wickham**

10am - 2pm

barbarabaker@hotmail.co.uk 8776 1256



Musical Notes from Paul Davies



The concert given by the Trinity Boys Choir in December was a great success and played to a full house. David Swinson, Director of Music wrote to me -

'I hope it is obvious that our collaboration is much enjoyed and appreciated on our side. We are fortunate to have a great hall at Trinity but the opportunity to perform outside school, in public as it were, is so important to our young musicians. You are all so generous in your welcome and your support at our own concerts is much appreciated.'

In January we welcomed the young Scottish clarinetist, Alison Turriff, who accompanied by Justin Connolly and Simon Whittaker played a concert of unfamiliar music which nonetheless went down well. Alison has a very engaging personality and I feel and hope that she is destined for a successful career. She has also written to say how much she enjoyed playing in the church to such a supportive audience.

There are two 150th anniversaries being marked this year: - Claude Debussy (some of whose music will feature in our February concert) and Frederick Delius both of whom were born in 1862. The 100th anniversary of the death of Samuel Coleridge Taylor who was brought up in Croydon is also being celebrated locally with a host of events taking place throughout the year. Coleridge Taylor is probably best known for his Hiawatha Cantatas, the most well known of which is 'Hiawatha's Wedding Feast'. This extremely popular before the Second World War and attracted large numbers when it was performed. In fact, it often attracted audiences as large as those for Handel's Messiah or Mendelssohn's Elijah.

As a footnote, those of you who attended the December concert will recall the mesmeric performance by the young violinist Andrew Samarasakera who played Sarasate's Fantasy on Themes from Carmen. Andrew took part in the second phase of the qualifying stages of the BBC Young Musician of the Year Competition. The field of 75 contenders was narrowed down to 5 and Andrew unfortunately came 7th. Nonetheless this was a great achievement for a 14 year old who had never previously entered a competition of any sort.

The February Lunchtime Concert is on Thursday February 2nd at 1.15pm It will feature the pianist Linda Chan will include music by Debussy, Chopin, Liszt and Dohnanyi. On March 2nd there will be a concert of jazz music given by the Royal Russell School.

Layworker's Luxury

It seems a long time ago but Christmas was a great time for young people in our Circuit. There were lots of special activities and, even though this creates lots of additional work for leaders, they enjoy a lot of the extra fun too!

An added pleasure was that 17 young people from three churches met at Cosmo's restaurant for on December 21st. The joy of the varied cuisine was only surpassed by seeing people from different churches enjoy each other's company and catch up on relationships they'd begun at other joint events through the year. For me this was additionally satisfying after the 'Tea Meeting' at South Norwood the same week. Here, four young people surprised even themselves with the quality of their four five-minute speeches about Christmas. The content and their delivery left the rest of us without words to express just how capable they were. The congregation were truly inspired and blessed and left asking when it would be repeated. You will be invited when it does, hopefully around Easter.

The New Year has brought even more excitement. Addington are launching a monthly after-school family activity called AM:PM along the style of 'Messy Church', a growing children's ministry of mid-week fun and Christianity (all welcome). South Norwood are investigating the possibility of starting a new-style youth group supported by the Girls' and Boys' Brigade on Tuesday evenings. (If you have experience of the Brigades or would be interested in helping lead the group please get in touch immediately.) Shirley's Kick London Football Academy is set to expand along with the other activities of their Sunday Afternoon Club and we are especially pleased that Thomas Beck, 16, has completed the Circuit Worship Leaders Course and will be hosting a special Café Worship at Pentecost. God has blessed His church with lots of good things for us to do together. I am privileged to work amongst it. Thanks to all of you who make it all happen. Please pray for further ways in which we can share our bounty with others.

Lindsey Macfarlane, Youth Development Officer

020 8653 2424 Lindsey@croydonmeth.org

In a Chiropodist's office: "Time wounds all heels."

On a Septic Tank Truck: "Yesterday's Meals on Wheels"

On a Plumber's truck: "We repair what your husband fixed."

On another Plumber's truck: "Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber."

On a Church's Bill board: "7 days without God makes one weak."

On a Maternity Room door: "Push. Push. Push."

At an Optician's: "If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place."

On a Fence: "Salesmen welcome! Dog food is expensive!"



Seen on an Indian take away menu

Chicken Tarka

*Presumably its like Chicken Tikka
though a bit 'otter!!*

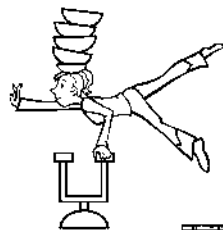


A teacher asked Tom why his brother Jack had not come to school. "Mum said to tell you that Jack couldn't come because he couldn't go. Mum has given him something to make him go and when he has gone he can come".



The Brownies have an exciting term ahead! They will be working on their CIRCUS SKILLS badge!

So you can expect to see stilt walkers, jugglers and clowns on Thursday evenings. They will also be visiting Girlguide HQ in Buckingham Palace Road - we will let you know all about it next time! Two new girls are starting this term and we hope they enjoy their time with us.

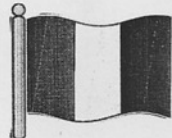


Karen & Julie

John Ruskin Choral Society



Spring 2012



England to Italy

Stanford – Te Deum

Elgar – Ave Verum

Rutter – All Things Bright &
Beautiful

Puccini – Messa di Gloria

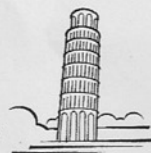


Matthew Howard – Tenor

Ian Wilson-Pope – Bass

Sam Ali – Organ

Adrian Connell – Conductor



March 17 2012

St John's Church

Shirley Church Road, Shirley

7.30pm

Programme Vouchers £7.00/£6.00

Under 18's free

Available on the door, or contact:

Email: johnruskinchoir@yahoo.co.uk



Across

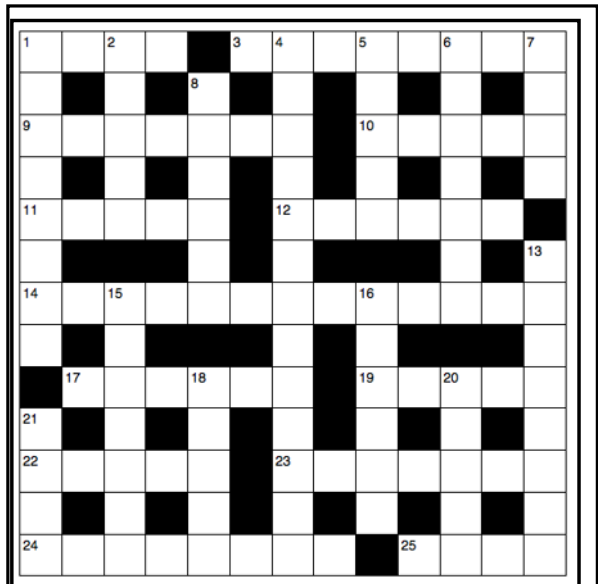
- 1 Salary (Is19:10) (4)
- 3 What Jesus asked of those healed of leprosy, 'Were not all ten — ?' (Luke 17:17) (8)
- 9 Elevated level area (Josh 13:9) (7)
- 10 'So you also must be — , because the Son of Man will come (Matt 24:44) (5)
- 11 "Stretch out your hand." He — — , and his hand was restored' (Luke 6:10) (3,2)
- 12 'Who has gathered up the wind in the — of his hand?' (Prov 30:4) (6)
- 14 Not born again (13)
- 17 'Again and again he — the same sacrifices, (Heb 10:11) (6)
- 19 Mails (anag.) (5)
- 22 'He — — here; he has risen' (Matt 28:6) (2,3)
- 23 Defeated (Judges 20:43) (7)
- 24 Soldiers' quarters (Acts 21:34) (8)
- 25 ` Pillars of marble' were how the Beloved described those of her Lover (Song of Songs 5:15) (4)

- 6 For example, Caesarea, Joppa, Tyre, Sidon (7)
- 7 'Jesus was in the desert for forty — ' (Mark 1:13) (4)
- 8 'Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power — to our God' (Rev 19:1) (6)
- 13 Mend dots (anag.) (8)
- 15 Purifier (Malachi 3:3) (7)
- 16 Attacked (1 Sam 27:8) (6)
- 18 When I return, I will reimburse you for any — expense (Luke 10:35) (5)
- 20 How Matthew described the crowds (Matthew 4:25) (5)
- 21 For example, one of 25 Across (Judges 19:29) (4)

Solution
on next page

Down

- 1 Totally destroyed (Gen 7:23) (5,3)
- 2 What the Philippian jailer was told to do with Paul and Silas (Acts 16:23) (5)
- 4 Object of ridicule (Job 12:4) (8-5)
- 5 Easter often falls in this month (5)



Articles for the *March* issue should be submitted by Thursday 16th February. This edition will be available on Sunday 26th February. Articles can be placed in the box in the Welcome area, or sent to either:

Kate Marsden 8 Edgewood Green, Shirley (8654 0872).

kate.marsden@tesco.net or

Jenny Crook 29 Bingham Rd, Addiscombe (8406 1342)

jenny.crook@blueyonder.co.uk

The photos on our website have been updated but there is always space for more. If you have any you would like to be included please let Kate Marsden know (8654 0872) *kate.marsden@tesco.net*. This monthly magazine can be read via the website - this could enable those who have moved away to keep in touch - and save the cost of stamps. Shortly recordings of morning services will be able to be heard via the site. www.shirleymeth.org



Shirley Neighbourhood Care Shopping Bus to Tesco



Dates in February: Tuesday 7th 21st

Wednesdays - 1st 8th 15th 22nd 29th

RETURN FARE: £4.00 The bus will pick you up from your home and return you there. A volunteer escort will be on hand, to help you on and off the bus,

and help carry shopping to your home. The minibus is adapted for wheelchairs. Please indicate your mobility when booking. Early booking is recommended!

**Please call: Shirley Neighbourhood Care Office
on 020 8662 9599 to book your seat.**

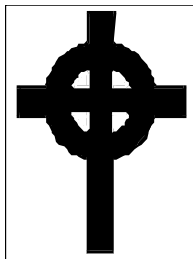
ACROSS: 1, Wage, 3, Cleansed, 9, Plateau, 10, Ready, 11, Did so, 12, Hol-
low, 14, Unregenerated, 17, Offers, 19, Islam, 22, Is not, 23, Overran, 24,
Barracks, 25, Legs, DOWN: 1, Wiped out, 2, Guard, 4, Laughing-stock, 5,
April, 6, Seaport, 7, Days, 8, Belong, 13, Oddments, 15, Refiner, 16, Raided,
18, Extra, 20, Large, 21, Limb.

Church phone (in kitchen)		8656 6087	
Revd Jane Cassidy	Minister	07896 993 041	revjane@croydonmeth.org
Revd Eric Mckenzie	Associate Minister	8655 1927	eric@mckenzie9920.fsnet.co.uk
Ruth Tayler	Sen.Steward	8651 0085	david.r.tayler@gmail.com
Elizabeth Smart	Pastoral Care	8681 0057	bandesmart@btinternet.com
Sheila Bryant	Monday Fellowship	8239 9810	
Jean Beecher	Guild	8654 2891	
Pearl Spittle	Prayer Chain Fellowship	8654 5894	
Lindsey Macfarlane	Youth Development	8653 2424	lindsey@blue480.fsnet.co.uk
Margaret King	Choir	8777 3770	margking3770@btinternet.com
Bill Smart	Property	8681 0057	bandesmart@btinternet.com
Karen Smith Julie Burns	Brownies	07701 088 366 07988 658 473	kally110@blueyonder.co.uk julie.burns@yahoo.co.uk
Margaret Walker Ruth Dadoo	Weekly notices	8777 4888 8777 1987	m.c.m.walker@btinternet.com rcappiah@blueyonder.co.uk
Rosemary Jones	Sunday Morn. Club	8656 1915	jonesrabarnfield@virginmedia.com
Heather Tarling	Ch. Council	8656 5961	mike.tarling@blueyonder.co.uk
Christina Lyon- Williams	Neighb'd Care	8662 9599	snc@cnca.org.uk
Bill Smart	Lettings Secretary	8681 0057	bandesmart@btinternet.com
Okon Edeke	Treasurer	8777 8385	edeo@doctors.org.uk

Shirley Methodist Church

As followers of Jesus Christ, our mission is

- ✚ *to honour God by our daily living as individuals and our corporate life as a church*
- ✚ *to offer God worship which is both lively and dignified*
- ✚ *to offer welcome and care to all, regardless of age, status, gender, ethnicity, social class, sexual orientation, ability or disability*
- ✚ *to stimulate one another to grow in our faith and develop our discipleship*
- ✚ *to work with our fellow-Christians in Shirley to serve our neighbours and share with others our experience of God's love*



www.shirleymeth.org