



ddington  
Methodist

# *Magazine*



**OCTOBER 2021**

**WHITEBEAM BERRIES**



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## OUR MINISTER WRITES...

*Dear friends,*

*You may remember that I had three months sabbatical last spring, which was a precious gift from the church, and I gratefully enjoyed its privilege. For the sabbatical project, I intended to focus on the issue of 'Reconciliation' as a theme, with a particular interest in the issues around the Korean Peninsula, which had been the theme of my previous sabbatical project. My initial plan was to go back to Korea and walk along the DMZ (De-Militarised Zone, 155 miles), visiting the actual places of division where the scars of war and fighting can still be found even after the ceasefire almost 70 years ago.*

*But, as you can imagine, Covid-19 prevented me from proceeding it as was planned and I had to repeat the postponements and cancellations of my plan so many times, which was disappointing. Instead, however, I changed the plan, and Sarah and I did manage to walk along the Thames, 85 miles in six days, from Hampton Court to Canary Wharf on the North Bank and crossed the river, and walked back from Greenwich to Hampton Court on the South Bank. It was a challenge, but we so much enjoyed it and learned the beauty of the River Thames and the history of London, passing through rough areas as well as posh areas, historical sites as well as natural sites. Although this walk didn't have much to do with my theme of reconciliation, it made me think about what it means to live together peacefully in a global, diverse city.*

*As the restrictions of the lockdown were eased in June, we had an opportunity of visiting Belfast which was actually part of my project, as it is the heart of division in Northern Ireland and still needs 'reconciliation'.*

*And, I learned a lot about the issues of Northern Ireland. It is not just about sausages and meats. It is about the division between two groups: Loyalists vs. Republicans, or Catholics vs. Protestants.*

*And, you must be surprised that there is a separation wall literally, 15 meters high and 7.3 km long. That is the wall which divides the community in two, and separates the people in hostility. On the High Street of one side, we saw many churches: Baptist, Presbyterian, Church of Ireland, and Methodist. On the other side, of course, Catholic churches. But, I was wondering what gospel they were preaching, and which Jesus they were following.*

*As we know, Paul says in Ephesians 2. 14-16, "For he (Jesus) himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility." I am sure that is the message we need to bear in our hearts as the followers of Jesus.*

*Personally, this sabbatical gave me some precious lessons, one of which is 'We plan, but God proceeds'. However well we plan, it is all up to God. Nevertheless, the great thing is, even though it was quite different from what I planned and wished, I learned a lot and experienced many new things which wouldn't be possible otherwise.*

*And, I'd like to take this as an opportunity of thanking all those who covered my absence in various ways .*

*Every blessing,*

*Choi*

## METHODIST CHURCH ADVICE

Now government restrictions have been relaxed, there is an emphasis on 'personal responsibility.' Currently, the general guidance from The Methodist Church in England is:

- ✂ No maximum numbers for meeting in any indoor or outdoor environments, including removing restrictions on group sizes attending communal worship.
- ✂ Communal singing can resume.
- ✂ No legal requirement to wear a face covering, although it is 'advised' for enclosed and crowded spaces.
- ✂ No specific social distancing rules, although the risks to those deemed vulnerable need to be considered.

The Methodist Church, whilst always adhering to government advice, is urging some caution for the sake of others in the church, community and for self-care.

Firstly, from a missional perspective, reflect on and continue with the positive changes that have been made during the pandemic. Perhaps this has been live-streaming services or more outward-looking mission into the community through outdoor services, prayer or house groups or other events. Look to improve on these as a means of giving people within and outside the church continued access to worship, teaching and support during this period of transition and change.

AMC will continue to take a cautious stance for the moment:

FACE COVERINGS are still required

SIGN IN (or use the NHS Covid-19 App on your smartphone)

KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE apart

PLACE CASH offerings in the basket by the door or use direct bank transfer to **20-24-61, 6014 8008**

SIT AT TABLES in the Hall for coffee afterwards. Wait to be served

## Zoom Chat'offee

Make yourself a cup of coffee or tea  
enjoy a chat, a quiz, a book review...

First and Third Wednesday each month @ 10:30am

To get the AMC zoom link, send an email to [addmethzoom@gmail.com](mailto:addmethzoom@gmail.com)

# Our Church Matters



DAVID & JOYCE FANSHAWE are delighted to announce that EMMA HUGHES has volunteered to take over Editorship of this magazine from the next issue (November 2021).

## LETTERS

Dear Friends,

Some of you may be wondering why I am not in Church these days. Michael is on chemotherapy and we have been asked to isolate because his immune system is low .

I am usually on zoom for worship and am most grateful for those who wave to us each week. Makes us feel more included.

Thank you for all your prayers and waves.

Blessings from AnneR

Dear Friends

A big thank you to all who came to our Garden of Remembrance to watch the burying of Dad's ashes (Charlie Bryce) on 5<sup>th</sup> September.

I had worried about crying, but in the event I was so happy that Dad was together with Mum again, that I was happy rather than sad.

Thank you again for all who joined us.

Joyce Fanshawe

## LABOUR OF LOVE

Long before my family started regularly attending Addington Methodist Church, I would pick-up the magazine to find out when the Beavers and Brownies met, ballet classes occurred or the date the Christingle service would take place.

The Christingle service once saw my snowsuit covered baby daughter Evangeline marvel as everyone singing by candlelight and baby Nathaniel play the role of Jesus in Pastor Bennie Harms' nativity.

The service is always a highlight of Christmas and while making our own Christingle at home as we watched the Ely Cathedral service on YouTube was special, I hope this year we will be able to mark it again in Addington Methodist Church this year.

Without the magazine to keep us informed about, I wouldn't have these precious memories or the hope of creating more of the children belting out carols in the future.

So, after reading Editors David and Joyce Fanshawe's article in the last issue of the magazine detailing how, after 40 years producing the publication, they were considering handing over the reins I felt I should put my hand up.

Over the years I have edited school then university newspapers and edited Financial Times publications, I have loved hearing about hitting deadlines and producing polished print titles.

When catching-up with the couple, the passion they have for producing the publication shone through.

I learnt today it takes two minutes to print off each issue of the magazine and when there were lots of children attending Sunday School in the 1980s, the couple produced around 300 copies a month.

Many hours have been spent producing, printing and stapling pages together for your perusal over the past four decades.

I learnt how producing the magazine has been a family labour of love and their daughter, now a barrister, was roughly the same age mine is now when she interviewed and profiled members of the church community in the publication so everyone could learn a little more about their lives beyond Addington Methodist Church.

They talked about the heart of this magazine being "what's on this month".

What is clear is the heart of this magazine for many years, plus the commitment to making it freely available to promote the activities and services the church offer, has long been the Fanshawe family.

While the church has paid for the paper and ink, the labour of collecting rotas, editing articles and documenting the complete history of the church's magazine since the first issue in July 1956 has been the Fanshawe family's and it is truly inspirational.

I hope to be as safe a pair of hands for Addington Methodist Magazine and like Joyce, who drafted David in for production when computers came more commonplace in the home, I'll be getting the children's tech savvy father Neil to put his production editor skills to good use.

I hope, as David and Joyce have, this magazine will continue to be the voice of the church and would love to hear what you love and would like to see more of in the magazine in the months and years ahead.

*Emma Hughes*

(Our new Editor)

## JUNIOR CHURCH RESUMES

Welcome back to Junior Church. It has been really good to see so many children and their parents.

The term has begun with two classes:-

- 1) Juniors with children Year 6 and younger
- 2) Seniors with young people Year 7 and older.

This term we welcome Patricia to our teaching team. I am sure you will support her with this work to further the knowledge of the Bible with the young people in the church.

As some of our helpers are now involved with other voluntary work during and after the service we have a shortage of helpers to support in classes. Therefore, after discussion last night at Leadership Team Meeting we have decided that Sunday School will take place on the second and fourth Sunday each month.

The first Sunday of each month is all age worship. The preachers will be informed to ensure services are adapted.

We are sorry about this change but at this time there is no alternative. We will review in December before the next term begins in January 2022. Perhaps more parents will be able to support us in classes by then. If you can help please speak to me at Church on a Sunday, or email me on [jrgodfrey54@gmail.com](mailto:jrgodfrey54@gmail.com) or phone or text me on 07868 843697.

Blessings to you all.

*Janet Godfrey*

Sunday School Superintendent

## ROOF REPAIRS

We are facing expensive repairs to the church premises. The roofs over rooms 1.2 and 3 (at the end of the Hall) need attention, and rain water is also coming into the kitchen. As the weather deteriorates the situation gets worse.

We planned to have a 'Gift Day' in March 2020 to cover the cost, but the Covid Lockdown forced us to hold fire. Unfortunately roofs continue to deteriorate just as quickly during lock-down, so professional maintenance can no longer be delayed.

Addington Methodist Church is a UK registered charity, so you can 'Gift Aid' your donations. Every pound you donate to AMC will be boosted by 25p from the government.

### OUR CHURCH

Supports 'The Vine' Food Bank in New Addington  
Run by The Salvation Army.

There is a greater need for help due to the ongoing pandemic. To help us help others there will be a collection point at the church on

**First Saturday each month**  
**10:30 – 12:30pm**

**TINNED & DRY FOOD**  
**& TOILETRIES, please**



# Harvest BBQ

**Come and join us for Harvest!**

Celebrate our harvest meal on  
Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 5pm

As we are just coming out of the Pandemic and do not have enough time to plan our usual Yearly Harvest Lunch.

We are having a Harvest BBQ instead!

- **Burgers & Hot Dogs**
- **Fruit salad and Ice Cream**

**Fun & Games for all to enjoy!**

**Please be aware that there will not be tickets on sale but a donation on the evening of the BBQ will be greatly appreciated.**

Please let Sonia (07958 103 893) or Jenny (07798 814 556) know if you will be able to attend so that we know how many to cater for.

# October Worship

## 10:30am MORNING SERVICES

	<b>Preacher</b>	<b>Steward</b>	<b>Organ</b>	<b>Reader</b>
3	HARVEST FESTIVAL Mr Bennie Harms A	Sonia	Jenny	K.Dudley
10	Mrs Ann Atkins	Jenny	David	C.Rapps
17	Rev Soon Cheol Choi †	David	Jenny	A Short
24	Local Arrangement	Olu	David	P Sutton
31	Mr Bennie Harms	Sonia	Jenny	Sonia

A = All Age Worship

† = Holy Communion

Many of you still find ZOOM services helpful - allowing you to stay safe at home, but still join in with the service. Therefore we will continue to ZOOM our live services on Sunday mornings

Send an email to [Addmethzoom@gmail.com](mailto:Addmethzoom@gmail.com) to get the Zoom link.

## Prayer List

Week beginning:

- October 3 Our Guides
- 10 Our Audio/Visual system operators
- 17 Our Cubs
- 24 Action for Children
- 31 Health Workers



## Monthly Fellowship

COFFEE MORNING  
2 Oct

Usually 1st Saturday from 9.30am in Room 4

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PRAYER BREAKFAST  
16 Oct

Usually 3rd Saturday at 9am in Room 4

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EXPLORING THE BIBLE  
20 Oct

Usually 3rd Wednesday at 7.30pm in Room 4

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STITCH & CRAFT CLUB  
5 Oct & 19 Oct

Usually 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 2pm in Room 5

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AM:PM - MESSY CHURCH  
19 Oct

Usually 3rd Tuesdays at 3.30pm  
for youngsters with parent or carer

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### TUESDAY & THURSDAY MEETINGS...

We are having a meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> September to see whether we should restart the :

TUESDAY AFTERNOON CLUB (Usually 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 2.30pm in Hall)

THURSDAY GROUP (Usually 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 7.30pm in Room 4)

## October Diary

Tue 5 7.30pm Church Council (on ZOOM)

Sun 13 Last Day for contributions to the next Magazine

12-14 Christian Resources Exhibition (see page 14)

Sat 30 3pm "In Loving Memory Service"

**BENNIE'S BLOG****STORIES**

I just love to hear people tell the story of their lives. The other day, I drove an elderly lady home from the Lunch Club at the church. It wasn't very far and as we talked, she told me a little bit of her story. She's 98 years of age! I found that so incredible. She certainly didn't look 98. Then she told me of how during the war, the factory where she worked was bombed whilst they were working. Before long, it had been rehoused in another building and they carried on working. One afternoon, at another lunch club I was visiting, one of the ladies at the table spoke of how she used to fly Spitfire Aeroplanes from the factory to the airfield where they would be used as fighter planes. She wasn't bragging or saying how good she was - it was simply a fact of life and something she had done.

I was quite taken up with the story told during the TV show, 'Countryfile', about the hop pickers in Britain during the early 1900's. The presenter went to visit a lady who had been a child at the time and she spoke of the 'holiday atmosphere' that there was on the farms at the time; also, how her mother stuck a big, black umbrella into the ground and she had to fill it with hops before she could go and play with the other children and finally, how she bought her first bicycle with the money she had earned picking hops. Yet, there was another side to it all and sometimes the living conditions of the pickers were quite squalid and unhygienic. That side of the picture was not shown at all and I'm sure there are just as many stories of pain and injustice to the pickers.

I must admit that there are times when I listen to the stories of others that I'm quite ashamed of myself for the times I thought I was hard done by or ill-treated in my life and I'm extremely thankful for

the way my life has turned out. That's where our stories become 're-storied' by the Grace of God and the new life we receive through Jesus Christ. I sat enthralled as I listened to a Minister's wife tell us of some of their story. How the only work she could get was to wash dishes through the night. She spoke of how her faith grew by listening to recorded services on a tape recorder whilst washing the dishes. She worked nights, whilst her husband looked after their young family, and she returned home at 5am so that her husband could go to work during the day. She said she was never happier, despite the hard times they were facing.

So, what about your story? Have you ever shared it with anybody? Has your story been re-storied by God and how has this been for you and others around you? I can tell you that as I've shared my story with others, I am reminded of God's grace and the His power in re-storying my life. Not just being restored in Him, but Him re-writing the story of my life and His goodness and part in doing it all. You can listen to my story, entitled "Falling out of the tree", by going to this link - <https://soundcloud.com/londonmethodist/falling-out-of-the-tree-bennie-harms-31-october-2020-for-gods-story-your-story-every-story>

If you want to share your story with me (I will treat it with the utmost of confidences) then please send me an email or letter. You can also share it with a close friend or members of your family. I'm sure they'll be blessed and encouraged.

If you want to know more about the way, God can restory your life then just send me an email or write to me. May God bless you and your story.

*Bennie*

## CONCERNS



## What is there in a Hymn and a Prayer?

by Ken Dudley

Just recently my best man Brian and his wife sent me a letter containing some [to quote Brian] "Helpful thoughts". They were in the form of some hymns and prayers.

One of the hymns referred to was Anna Waring's lovely hymn "In heavenly love abiding". I remember many years ago when I was on a Methodist Guild Holiday meeting a young man from Manchester. He had recently become a Christian and had got involved with a very lively bunch of Christians and he used to go to meetings with them. There was one meeting he particularly wanted to go to but he wasn't able to get to, he was so disappointed at the joy and excitement he was missing, then he remembered a couple of lines from Anna Waring's hymn:

*"The storm may roar without me, my heart may low be laid, But God is round about me, and can I be dismayed"*

Brian's letter also included several prayers including a wonderful daily prayer very relevant to these days of lock downs and corona virus:

*Our loving heavenly Father*

*I thank-you for all the blessings of yesterday*

*I ask you to be especially close to me today, tomorrow and in the days ahead. Strengthen me physically, mentally and spiritually. Grant me all the patience and*

*the courage I need to take one day at a time Guide me in all the decisions I have to make I ask you to grant me the peace that only you can give, that deep sense of peace, calm and the ability to cope, even in the most difficult situations Thank-you Lord. Amen*

I would like to conclude with the three verses -of Anna Waring's hymn:

*In heavenly love abiding,, no change my heart shall fear. And safe in such confiding, for nothing changes here.*

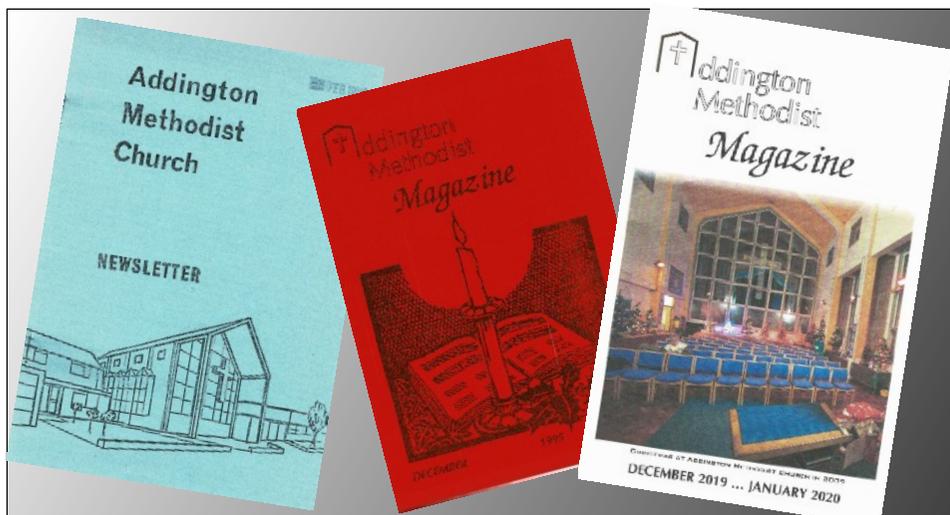
*The storm may roar without me, my heart may low be laid, But God is round about me, and can I be dismayed?*

*Wherever He may guide me, no want shall turn me back. My Shepherd is beside me, and nothing can I lack. His wisdom ever waketh,..His sight is a never dim. He knows the way He taketh and I will walk with Him.*

*Green pastures are before me, which yet I have not seen.*

*Bright skies will soon be over me, where darkest clouds have been. My hope I cannot measure, my path to life is free. My Saviour has my treasure, and He will walk with me.*





## CHRISTIAN RESOURCES EXHIBITION



CRE National 2021 will take place at Sandown Park, in Esher, Surrey, on 12-14 October 2021.

It's a great venue for Europe's leading annual exhibition of Christian resources. Just 15 miles from central London, the venue is easily accessible by rail (25 minutes from London Waterloo to Esher) and road (M25 and A3). Parking is free for exhibitors and visitors. You can just pay on the door (£ 8), but you can save queuing by booking online at

[www.creonline.co.uk](http://www.creonline.co.uk)

## HANDING OVER...

Next month Emma Hughes takes over Addington Methodist Magazine, and brings her professional experience to our church magazine.

It was originally called "The Newsletter of Addington Methodist Church". We have an almost complete set going back to the very first edition in July 1956, which begins with a 'Letter from Our Minister' (Rev D.R. Evans):

*I have been invited to write this letter to inaugurate the new monthly bulletin of our Addington Methodist Church, and I am very happy to do so. It is valuable to have such a means of spreading information, both among the Church Members, and our friends and neighbours outside.*

*The more we know about each other's activities, the better shall we be able to appreciate each other's hard-won successes, in the difficult but rewarding task of building a really vital fellowship.*

*The outlook of our Addington Society is hopeful for two reasons. The first is that we look forward to the erection of the long-awaited church in the near futures with additional rooms for our expanding youth work. Even more important than this, our people are loyally responding to the challenge which the opportunities of our neighbourhood present, and it is a privilege to share in the friendliness of such a company of warm-hearted folk.*

*The tone of all our work will be determined by the kind of people we are, so let us humbly pray that we may ever be kept true to the highest and best Christian Spirit in ourselves, and in all our relationships with other people. We shall then prove how true were the words of the Apostle Paul "Love never faileth".*

*Yours sincerely,*

*D. R. EVANS*

In 1956 we had Sunday services at 11am and 6.30pm, a Women's Fellowship on Tuesday afternoons, a Young Wives Club on Thursday afternoons and a Wesley Guild on Friday evenings.

The magazine expanded over the years and next month will see yet another 'New Look', The new editor will still be depending on your contributions - sent to [addingtonmethodistmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:addingtonmethodistmagazine@gmail.com)

*David & Joyce*



# 'OWLERS

## Jokes and Puzzles from Hoot & Screech

Hi! The leaves in the trees are beginning to change colour. Some are going gold, some more yellowy and some are just falling off their branches. The weather has been very fine recently, and our walks in the woods have been really enjoyable. Now we can look forward to a golden Autumn.

### *Hoot & Screech*

#### *The Beautiful Game*

Goalkeepers aren't born today until they're in their late twenties or thirties	KEVIN KEEGAN
I don't think there's anyone bigger or smaller than Maradona	KEVIN KEEGAN
The tide is very much in our court now	KEVIN KEEGAN
I'd love to be a mole on the wall in the Liverpool dressing room at half time	KEVIN KEEGAN
If I had a blank piece of paper there'd be five names on it	KEVIN KEEGAN
It's understandable that people are keeping one eye on the pot and another up the chimney.	KEVIN KEEGAN
I've had an interest in racing all my life, or longer really.	KEVIN KEEGAN

## JOKES



What do you call a cow that cuts grass ?

*A lawn mower !*

What do you call a magical secret agent ?

*James Wand !*

What do you get if you cross a plant pot with an infant ?

*A growing child !*

What do you get if you cross a cat with a cushion ?

*A cat-a-pillow !*

What do you get from a mountain with hiccups ?

*A volcano !*

# SPOT 7 differences



## WHAT DOES A MINISTER DO?



**A series of talks by Leslie Griffiths  
at Shirley Methodist Church**

Friday 15 October, 7:30pm

**Declare the Good News**

Sunday 24 October, 6:00pm

**Celebrate the Sacraments**

Sunday 31 October, 6:00pm

**Serve the needy**

Sunday 7 November, 6:00pm

**Minister to the sick**

Friday 12 November, 7:30pm

**Welcome the stranger**

Friday 19 November, 7:30pm

**Seek the lost**

*“These things are your common duty  
and delight. In them you are to watch over  
one another in love.”*

*[The Ordination Service]*

**All are welcome!**

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## THE NEXT MAGAZINE ...

... will be published on the last Sunday in October. Contributions to the Editor, Emma Hughes, two weeks earlier please, at

**addingtonmethodistmagazine@gmail.com**

You can pick up a copy next time you are at church, or DOWNLOAD it from the Circuit website (Addington page):

[www.croydonmeth.org](http://www.croydonmeth.org)



