



IVYBRIDGE METHODIST CHURCH

Sharing Life
Sharing Faith

April 2015



He IS Risen!

Newsletter



From the Minister

It's Easter time and all of our spiritual focus turns to the cross. But can I invite you, just for the length of this letter, to shift your perspective of the events of Holy Week to a modern and distinct metaphor?

I want you to imagine that Jesus is a pop star.

Yes I know, he didn't sing or play an instrument (well, he did sing, actually, in Mark 14:26, just before leaving for Gethsemane). But my premise here is that most modern pop and rock stars don't simply trundle along, enjoying success as a happy accident: their careers are steered and moulded by teams of managers, promoters and PR men. These people know exactly what their goals and objectives are, and every step is manipulated with military precision.

Jesus, too, didn't happen to find himself in Jerusalem by accident at the end of his earthly ministry. The cross came as no surprise to him, though it did to his followers. Jesus had known the plan of salvation throughout his 3 year ministry, possibly longer, and He knew the awful sacrifice that He was facing on that cross. But that cross (and the empty tomb that followed) was the culmination of everything that came before; and it has guaranteed, whether or not one believes in the Risen Saviour, that to this day Jesus of Nazareth remains the most famous person in the history of the world.

There are rock stars too, who like Jesus have died at the peak of their popularity; and in doing so have guaranteed their "immortality" in the rock hall of fame - people like Buddy Holly, Jimi Hendrix, Kurt Cobain, and latterly Amy Winehouse. Other artists, rather than dying, have career defining moments when they do "THAT GIG" - their Wembley stadium, Hollywood Bowl, Woodstock or Glastonbury moment that forever froze them in a moment of time for their fans.

So let's consider Jesus, as He truly was, a massive First Century celebrity. He was followed by thousands, not just for His healing and teaching, but because they came to recognise His Kingship. As Jesus rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, a huge crowd gathered to witness the arrival of the King. It was as if He was arriving at the Brit awards; His red carpet a covering of palm branches and coats, the cheering crowd straining for a glimpse of Him (and also Lazarus, who was in the procession and had so recently been raised from the dead). You might wonder at Jesus' choice of transportation -



I mean, it's hardly a chariot! But the donkey had an instant significance for the crowd who knew their Jewish scriptures: from Zechariah, "Behold your King, riding on a donkey". This was how they knew that Jesus was about to do something amazing.

So let's run through the plan for the week. Having entered Jerusalem Jesus does very little apart from walk around the city, fuelling the expectations of the crowd. Every evening He leaves Jerusalem to stay at the home of Lazarus, Martha and Mary in Bethany; most mornings He returns.

Monday - Jesus goes to the temple and causes a massive publicity stunt, kicking over the tables of the money changers, and displaying His anger and dissatisfaction by lashing out with a home made whip! Rock star behaviour indeed, echoed by a long succession of badly behaved rock stars from the Sex Pistols on their Thames barge during the Silver jubilee, to Justin Bieber last year when he got arrested for being stupid with fast cars. It can only feed the PR machine.

Tuesday - time for teaching at the temple, with some of Jesus' most amazing prophecies of the fall of Jerusalem (which happened some 50 years after His resurrection), and the end times (which are of course yet to happen). But also it is on this day that we are given the great commandment, to love God and to love our neighbour as ourselves.

Wednesday - what happened on Wednesday? Well, not much. Jesus appears to have a day off, though it must have been difficult to rest with His suffering and death now so close, and really only known to Himself. Maybe it was on this day that Mary anointed Him in Bethany with the perfume, perhaps sensing what was to come, and making her extravagant and passionate expression of love for her Friend and Saviour.

Thursday - the day we know as Maundy Thursday. At the Passover meal with His close team of disciples, Jesus initiates the Lord's Supper, by which means we Christians continue to remember and celebrate His amazing sacrifice. Not all are united however, and Judas is about to change sides. From here Jesus goes to a painful prayer vigil before His arrest.

Friday - why do they call it Good Friday? The man they hailed last Sunday as a King and Messiah is given a mockery of a trial and condemned to death. His fans desert Him, and we see the fickle nature of popularity. One minute everybody loves you - the next you are nothing.

Saturday - all hope is gone. The biggest chill out ever. The loneliest day ever.



Sunday - Jesus pulls off the biggest comeback in the history of the world. Bigger even than Take That.

And ever since, there is no one and nothing that can top it. Your favourite song by your favourite artist can bring tears to your eyes and hope to your heart: but with Jesus this is just the beginning.

"I know that my Redeemer lives! What joy the blest assurance gives!"

God bless

Ralph

From the Editor ...

Our next Newsletter will be in May and if you would like to include anything in that Newsletter, please let me have the details by Friday 10 April in any of the following ways -

- ♥ send it by email to ***jenny.bucknall@gmail.com***
- ♥ ring me on ***01752 894634***
- ♥ hand it to me at church on a Sunday
- ♥ place it in the "B" pigeonhole in the Church Concourse
- ♥ post it through my letterbox at ***10 MacAndrew Walk, Ivybridge***



Finally I would like to wish you all a very Happy Easter!

Jenny Bucknall



Correction to an item in last month's Newsletter!

**The article on "MAF Find a Pilot" in the March Newsletter
was taken from the MAF "News to Share"
which is circulated monthly.**

With apologies from the Editor



February Worship

IVYBRIDGE

Apr 5	EASTER SUNDAY	
	9:00 am	Rev Ralph Ward - Communion
	6:30 pm	IGNITE
Apr 12	10:30 am	Mr Terry Milam
	6:30 pm	Mr John Pointon
Apr 19	10:30 am	Rev Ralph Ward - Family Service
	6:30 pm	Rev Ralph Ward - Communion
Apr 26	10:30 am	Christian Aid
	6:30 pm	Rev Kate Konrad

BITTAFORD

Apr 5	EASTER SUNDAY	
	2:30 pm	Rev Ralph Ward - Communion
Apr 12	10:30 am	Mrs Val Marriott
Apr 19	10:30 am	Rev David Youngs
Apr 26	10:30 am	Mrs Jo Smart

The speakers in May are not known
at the time of going to print.

*The speakers have been taken from Circuit Plan
and are correct to the best of the Editor's knowledge.*



April News

If you have anything you would like included in the Church News please let Judy Jago know at church, or ring her on 894829.

Spring is here, well, the flowers (and weeds!) in my garden think so and it's such a pleasure to see colour amongst the greenery.



Kathy Blackwood has recently become a Grandma as her daughter Kirsty gave birth to baby Nicholas. He is a lovely little chap and growing well and we are delighted to have shared in Nicholas' Christening here at IMC. Many congratulations to you all.

It was also lovely to welcome Arthur Godfrey into the church family at his dedication in March.



Many congratulations too, to Chris and Carla as they celebrated their marriage at IMC during March. It looked like a great celebration and have heard lots of stories that tells me it was lots of fun too.

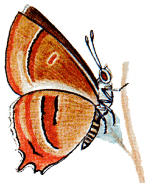
This month, on 11 April, Becky Hodgson will marry Nick Anderson and we wish them much peace in the remaining preparations and much joy in their new life together. We look forward to sharing your special day.



After much searching Vicky and Warwick Luscombe found just the right house for them in Ivybridge and moved into 13a Western Road during March. We wish you lots of joy and fun in your new home and hope the boxes are steadily going down!

Congratulations are well deserved by Hannah White and Chris Rowe as they have both successfully completed the first part of their medical training. Hannah now moves to the Severn Deanery for the next two years and Chris will be working in the Mersey Deanery. Very best wishes to you both and we wish you every success .





Sadly we have to share the news of two bereavements.

Cliff Corfield, who regularly worshipped here with his wife Gwen when his health permitted, died in February.

Ellen Badge, who was a regular worshipper, baker of pasties “par excellence” and an all round lovely lady, died in Wadebridge where she lived with Christine and Alex before moving into a care home for the latter two years of her 102 years.

Both will be sadly missed and we sent our love and sympathies to the families.

Please continue to pray for Terry as he continues to improve, for Tim as his treatment continues, and for those still fighting their way through the long journey of bereavement.



**Keep this date free,
and book it in
your diary!**

On Wednesday 3 June we will be hosting Patrick Regan for an evening as part of his “When Faith Gets Shaken” tour.



Patrick is a truly inspiring preacher and Christian speaker, some of us have heard him at events such as Soul Survivor and New Wine. He is also the man behind the **XLP** Ministries, and this is an opportunity not to be missed.

Also appearing as part of the evening will be singer songwriter, Andy Flannagan.

Tickets will be available soon at £5 each, but for now please put this date in your diaries, as it promises to be an exceptional evening.





THE BIBLE IN 100 PAGES - Seeing the big picture in God's Great Story by Phil Moore

This little thin paperback caught my eye in the Plymouth Christian Resources Project. I'm not very good at reading, mostly because there are other things I'd rather be doing, but this didn't look too daunting, and I thought it might be good for people new to the bible, a useful little introduction.

This is the blurb on the back:- *"Most people want to discover the message of the Bible. The problem is simply that they are too busy. It just looks far too long. When they do read it, they often find it hard to see the wood for the trees amongst its 66 books, 1,189 chapters and 31,102 verses. That's why 'THE BIBLE IN 100 PAGES' is so important. It will help you see the big picture in God's great story. It will help you to read the Bible with fresh eyes."*

Even after years of morning quiet times, house-group Bible studies and sermons, I still find many challenges within its pages, so I suspected I too would find it helpful. Indeed I did!

It is easy to read but still packs a punch! Parts 1-9 take us through the Old Testament, explaining the purpose of these stories from Genesis, up to the Prophets and how we can still benefit from them. Part 10 and 11 take us briefly through the gospels, part 12, entitled 'New Life' into the early church, and part 13 is entitled 'No Limits'. Up to this point I resisted underlining (as is my wont) important passages. But this spoke so clearly:-

"The Devil loves to persuade people that God's great story is just one of the great religious stories of the world. He loves to silence Christians through embarrassment and intimidation... The new life of Jesus isn't just something for us to talk about, but ... for us to enjoy. The Devil loves to restrict the flow of the Gospel by getting us to analyse and debate ... instead of demonstrating and proving it through works of power ... Paul was like Clint Eastwood at the end of a spaghetti western ... quick on the draw to demonstrate that the power of Jesus is real."

Of course this is what Ralph teaches us too, but for those new to the Bible, and others like me still struggling to break through a fog of world conditioning, there is a simple clarity here which, for instance, had me 'discovering' the joy which is Zechariah (to my own surprise - a book I had not been acquainted with).



This little publication fits in a pocket and can easily be digested in bite sized pieces in your tea-breaks. It brings some smiles to the face and a fresh breeze to blow away the old church cobwebs! It could make a sweet little gift to slip in with a birthday card. Yours for under a 'fiver'!

Lindsay Elis

COOK WANTED FOR CHEWSDAY LUNCHES

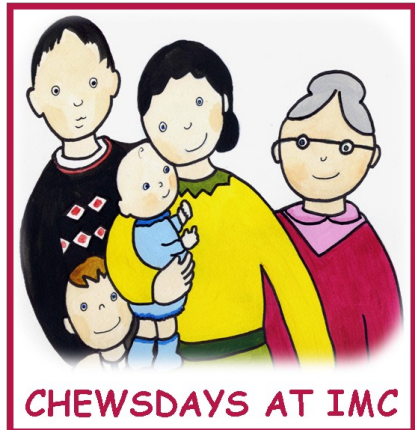
We are looking for a new cook to join the team cooking lunches every Tuesday at church.

Could you cook a meal for about 25 people every 5-6 weeks? Nothing fancy, just honest, everyday, tasty food. You would be well supported by the rest of the team. It's fun, good company, a chance to get to know other people from church and a free meal for you!

If you are interested, give Mercy a ring on 893812 or email:

bmercy.matthews@homecall.co.uk

She'd be delighted to hear from you.



***Beki Hodgson and Nick Anderson
are getting married!***

Date: 11 April 2015 (Saturday after Easter)

Time: 1:00 pm

Where: Ivybridge Methodist Church

If you would like to come and share
in our special service with us,
we would love to see you.



EASTER SERVICES

@ IMC

Maundy Thursday, 2 April

8:00 pm Communion Service

Good Friday, 3 April

10:30 am Service with Children's Workshop

3:00 pm Walk of Witness from IMC up Western Beacon

Easter Sunday, 4 April

9.00 am Easter Communion Service

(Please note the time!)



**Please,
can anyone
help?**



Have you got a travel cot and/or a baby chair for feeding that I could borrow, as I have family coming to stay with 5 month old baby for the last week of April.

Please ring 01752 651424 if you can help.

Many thanks

Adele

BITTAFORD METHODIST CHURCH



I'm sure most of you will recognise Bittaford Methodist Church even if you have never actually been there! It's that lovely little church on your right as you drive back to Ivybridge from the Exeter direction. How often have you been blessed by the sight of the cross lit up in the church window?

I'm sure you're aware that we do have a link with this church too, not least because they share this newsletter with us. Every month you will see their services listed at the beginning of the magazine along with IMC's.

What you may not be aware of, however, is that this lovely church is being threatened with closure. Whilst it is always sad to hear of a church closure, this would be a particularly sad loss to the community if it were to happen.

Like most village non-conformist churches, Bittaford is a small, one room building attended by a faithful few week by week. Because of its small congregation it could be considered a dying church, but this is very definitely **not** the case! Between them, the people who worship at Bittaford are involved in many community projects, including the running of both Ivybridge and Plymouth Food Banks, Street Pastors and local charity shops. They are also involved in raising money for different charities including Christian Aid, Action Aid and Ivybridge Youth for Christ to name just a few.





The church is not just open on Sundays, every Friday morning from 10:00 - 12:00 the Church is open to members of the community for Green Pastures Playgroup and Coffee Bar, a successful coffee morning that caters for parents and carers with small children. As you can see

there are a wonderful array of toys for the children to play with while the adults can enjoy fellowship with a hot drink and cake. This group has been running successfully for many years now.

Also every Thursday at 2:30 pm there is a Bible Study held which is attended by about ten people.

Several previously non church people have found care and friendship at Bittaford Church which has set them on a new path of spiritual searching. Two people who now regularly attended services at Bittaford were baptised in the sea last year.

As you can see, Bittaford Methodist Church, although a small church with a small fellowship, is anything but dead or dying! It is a much loved place of worship and fellowship within a small village community. Last year Bittaford celebrated its centenary year, it would be so sad if a year later it was closed down!

So, why is it threatened with closure?

Every Methodist Church must contribute to the running of the Methodist Circuit that they are in. Bittaford, although a small congregation, is no exception, but sadly has a shortfall of around £40 per week. The members at Bittaford are aware that their weekly giving is not enough to cover the cost needed to keep the church running, but most of the congregation are pensioners or on low incomes, they give what they can, but sadly it's not enough.

How can we help?

First of all for those of you who are on Facebook, did you know that Bittaford have their own Facebook page which can be found by typing in "Bittaford Methodist Church" in the search engine. Please check them out, and more than that add



them to your friends list so that you can then be kept up to date with events that go on in the church. Invite your friends to add them to their friends list too.



Maybe you've been going to IMC for a long time, but sometimes you feel you would like to go to a smaller, quieter, more traditional church service for a change, then Bittaford could offer you just that.

All their church services and speakers are listed at the beginning of our newsletter along with the IMC services. Check these out! Every month they hold their Communion Service in the afternoon at 2:30 pm, which may be an easier time for you for a change.

Maybe you have thought that you would like to attend a service at Bittaford, but you didn't really know how you could get there. Transport can be made available to you, and you could organise this by ringing Jutta on 01752 698381 or 07765 285828, or email her at juttaberger@tiscali.co.uk . Arrangements could be made to pick you up for the service and take you home afterwards.

If there are enough people who would like to go to Bittaford for a change of service, or maybe on a more regular basis, then there are volunteers who would be prepared to arrange transport using the church minibus. If you're unsure because you don't want to miss out on the fellowship at IMC, it could be arranged that everyone would be brought back to IMC after the service to join in the fellowship with their friends there over teas and coffees.

Maybe the quieter more traditional style of worship is not for you, but you still feel you would like to help Bittaford Church, you could consider helping them financially, either with a one off donation or maybe on a regular basis. Please prayerfully consider this.



Finally, and most importantly, let's support our brothers and sisters at Bittaford through prayer. Please pray that this small church can remain open and continue to serve its community in the future as it has served in the past.

Editor



Prayer for Bittaford Church

I was sad to hear recently that Bittaford Church is being threatened with closure. Living in Ivybridge, IMC is my local church to which I generally walk. However, occasionally I like to go to Bittaford for the more traditional, intimate atmosphere of a quieter service. I intend to go to services there more often now and transfer some of my giving to that church, as I expect that the Circuit looks at the income of struggling churches when making decisions regarding closure.

Living on the Bittaford side of Ivybridge, I frequently drive through the village on my way back from places. I loved to see the lit-up cross of the chapel as I passed, seeing that as an outreach of our bigger church. I felt quite shocked one evening recently, when returning from a weekend away, to notice the Chapel was in darkness. Last one out, turn off the light?

God has put it on my heart to pray for the Chapel, as I am sure many others will also be doing. I understand a massive roof repair is needed.

The Sunday afternoon services on the third Sunday in the month make a pleasant change and would, I feel, be enjoyed especially by some of our older congregation, as long as they can make it up the steep, but very short path. If anyone would like a lift to get there for either a morning or an afternoon service they can ring me on 894571 or Jutta on 698381. You will always receive a very warm welcome there.

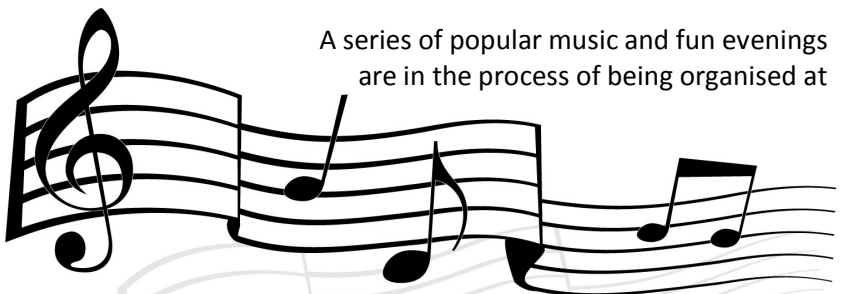
I also wondered whether any musicians in the church (or indeed comedians!) would be prepared to do a short slot at a fundraising concert at the chapel, something which might attract some local folks who have not visited the church before? The Yealmpton Community Gospel Choir would be willing to perform there. It might help to breathe fresh life into the place

In the meantime we can pray that God can indeed find a way where there seems to be no way.

Lindsay Ellis

P.S. Since penning the above I met up with Neil Bailey who plays the organ there once a month. He had been thinking along the same lines, and works with a number of choirs and music groups himself. So three dates have been arranged for monthly concerts over the next few months. Anyone willing to do 'a turn' at one of these, please contact Neil on 07717 726797 or 896446.

We hope you will come along and enjoy one or more evenings of popular music with us, and possibly bring neighbours, relatives or friends! The program will be different for each occasion.



A series of popular music and fun evenings
are in the process of being organised at

BITTAFORD METHODIST CHURCH

in aid of urgently needed church funds



The dates planned are -

Saturday 18 April

Saturday 23 May

Saturday 13 June
all at 7:30 pm



Also

A SUMMER GARDEN PARTY WITH LIVE BAND

on Saturday 18 July

Any gifts for the raffles will be
gratefully received.

***Be sure to put all these
dates in your diary!***





This is the 70th year that Christian Aid has been working to support the poor and needy in the wider world, also meeting needs in the disaster areas.

We would very much appreciate your help again with the collection for Christian Aid in Ivybridge, and by so doing making it another successful year!

This is also a wonderful opportunity to meet people in our own community.

If you would be able to help, please contact us on 01752 893147. Many thanks.

Sandra and Paul Morgan

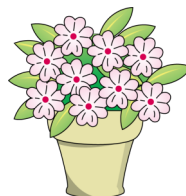
Thank you to everyone who has supported any of my fundraising events for my Trek up Kilimanjaro in aid of Compassion.

There are two more fundraisers coming up!



The first is a
Cake and Potted Plant Sale
at Wesley's Café on Saturday 18 April,
during their normal coffee morning
hours. Any donations of cakes or potted
plants would be much appreciated.

Thank you.



The second is an Israeli Worship Dance Evening
on Saturday 2 May in the church from 7:30 pm
There will be at least one experienced dancer showing the steps to learn





The Bridge Project

This follows on from Elis Norton's write up last month. Elis mentioned a new venture involving something as simple as giving out hot chocolate to young people at a local skate park. This venture is called "The Bridge Project", and is being run by Ivybridge Youth for Christ in partnership with Ivybridge Salvation Army and IMC. It has the backing of the police and the local authority, all of whom are keen to see interaction with young people who are out and about of an evening. We've already given out around 30 hot chocolates each week since we started on 27 February.

The Project in a nutshell is ...

What? – A six-month pilot to engage with young people where they are in terms of issues affecting their lives and to inspire them to see ways forward, where change is possible, by building relationships.

How? - Teams of around 4/5 offering hot chocolate/biscuits from a gazebo with a couple of tables and chairs. We do have a wagon kitted out for serving drinks etc, donated by the Salvation Army HQ, and this will be a great asset as it also offers a very visual presence.

When? – Friday nights from 6:30-9:30pm, dove tailing with Street Pastors who can also tell young people they meet about the van. It would also take place around the time that the Youth Leisure nights are run, and this would also give opportunity to chat to some of these young people.

Where? – Ivybridge Skate Park initially, but a flexible approach could mean we move to other areas of need. (We've already had request from Town Council to take the van to Cornwood.)

Why? – Concern for young people and the communities in which we live. To have the opportunity to chat and meet them on their patch - some are younger than those we have previously met.

Who? – A partnership project consisting of Ivybridge Methodist Church, Ivybridge Salvation Army Church and Ivybridge Youth For Christ but open to others who share our values.

If this is something you think you would like to be involved with, please contact Elis at ivybridge@yfc.co.uk. You will need to complete a volunteer application form and have a clean DBS.

You can also chat to Malcolm and Beverley Knightley from the Salvation Army or Caroline Hodgson from IMC.

Getting to know you!



Louise Grindrod

When I was asked to do this piece, I wasn't sure what would be of any interest, but here goes.

I'll start with my journey to know Jesus. It wasn't straightforward. I suppose my first memories were going to St John's Church here in Ivybridge on a very occasional Sunday morning. Mostly it was when I was with my grandma, though not always. I didn't go often enough to really understand what they were talking about. I had some more clarity on the subject when I attended my end of primary school camp. We met some very enthusiastic people who were probably in their 20's. They invited us to the chapel on the site where we stayed. They said they would tell us the Good

News. Some of us went that Sunday evening. I heard them say that Jesus can change our hearts to a soft heart.

I thought that sounded good and went home and told my grandma that I wanted to know more. My grandma said to go to Sunday school, so I started. However, on thinking about it I think she might have thought that I had been taught scriptures at school, like she had been, so perhaps thought I understood more than I did. She seemed in a hurry to get my older brother, Christopher, and I confirmed as soon as possible. I was quite enthusiastic about the idea. So we were confirmed when I was 12. Then I was told that I couldn't go to Sunday school any more, so I went to the adult services for a while, more frequently than before I was 11. The services weren't easy to understand so I lost interest in why I would want to go. It's a pity Youth for Christ wasn't around then, or if it was, I hadn't heard of it. A minister coming into the school would have been good as well. (We called it Ivybridge School in those days, it changed to become a Community College during my time there, but I still find it hard to think of it as a college, as they do these days.)

Several years elapsed when I avoided church, except at Christmas and I had moved away from this area. I met several people who tried to bring me back to church, but I wasn't convinced it was the right thing to do. One Christian woman invited me to a concert at her church and they also explained some more things to me that were helpful. I almost joined their church but they said that I had to be baptised after only knowing them for three weeks. I had to keep in contact with one of them every day, so it seemed like a bit longer. I left them. My sister (Helen Martin) helped me find another church in north

London, near to where I was living. However, their rather elderly congregation reminded me too much of St John's in Ivybridge so I didn't go there.

Some years later, a new work colleague of mine was almost constantly talking about her church. I went to her church's Alpha Course. That made everything much clearer to me and I realised then that I had to get it right this time! I joined her church which was a very lively and encouraging church. There was a fair amount of falling over in the Holy Spirit. I was a bit worried about the falling over bit and thought that they might hurt themselves, but they assured me that they didn't.

I didn't rush into getting baptised because I didn't want to fall away again. I got around to that in 2004. I came back to Ivybridge about two years later, to be nearer my family, some of whom come to this church. When things started to go a bit wrong again, I read a passage from the gospels, in which Jesus asked his disciples if they were going to leave Him, like a lot of people were doing. They answered that they couldn't because there was no one else worth following. I realised that they were so exactly right.

I have done several different sorts of work. Most recently I was a care assistant for eight years at Butterpark Residential Home for the Elderly, until we were made redundant at the beginning of this year when it was closed down. Whilst working there I was allowed to escort some of the people in our care to church during my shift on a Sunday. You may have seen them with me.

A few years ago, I did a course in manicure and pedicure. I used to do the manicures for the people living at Butterpark. I am now attempting to use some of the skills I learned during that time on a self-employed basis.

My interests are very varied. I am a prayer pastor and help with refreshments at church. I enjoy walking, dancing, swimming, going to the gym, cycling, tennis, table tennis, abstract painting, craft making, playing scrabble, and reading. I belong to Yealmpton Community Gospel Choir. (I frequently ask God to make me more musical, so I can sing better and maybe start playing an instrument again.)

I set myself a challenge about five years ago, to trek up Mount Kilimanjaro. I have eventually got it booked and am in the process of increasing my stamina and leg strength. My fundraising for the charity Compassion is going well. I am not at the required minimum yet but getting there. I have some more fundraising events planned (see page 16). I go in June and can still fund raise when I get back. All sponsorship is very much appreciated.



CHURCH BOOKINGS

When you want to book some part of the Church building for an event you are organising, is your first action to look in the diary in the Concourse to see if the venue is free?

Can we ask that you please don't just rely on that diary for checking when the room is free, and also that you do not write your booking in it. By all means check in the diary to get an idea of the room's availability, but please would you check with us first before you do anything else. Although we do try to keep that diary as up-to-date as possible, things are changing all the time so we cannot guarantee that every activity is shown in there.

It's great that we have a lot of enquiries about the use of our church from people in our community, on an average week there are about 20 different groups/bookings using the building, but that does mean that things keep changing from day to day. Therefore the only diary that is truly up-to-date all the time is the diary we have at home.

We do try to give church groups priority, but it is absolutely vital that we are kept informed of every activity that is taking place within the church at all times. Unfortunately, just recently there have been a couple of double bookings because events had been booked in the diary in the Concourse that we weren't aware of. Thankfully, we were able to work things out in the end, but it would make things a lot easier for us if we had been fully aware of all the events that were going on!

So, if you are wanting to use the church building for anything, please contact us first to make sure that the room that you want is free and also to tell us what you are planning so we can ensure that no-one else is booked in at the same time.

You can contact us on 01752 894273, but we would ask if could please ring us before 9:00 pm.

Thank you.

Chris and Kate Crouch





Gospel Choir Workshop

at

Yealmpton Community Methodist Church
on Saturday 11 April, 2:00-5:00 pm

Followed by a Concert
at 7:00-9:00 pm

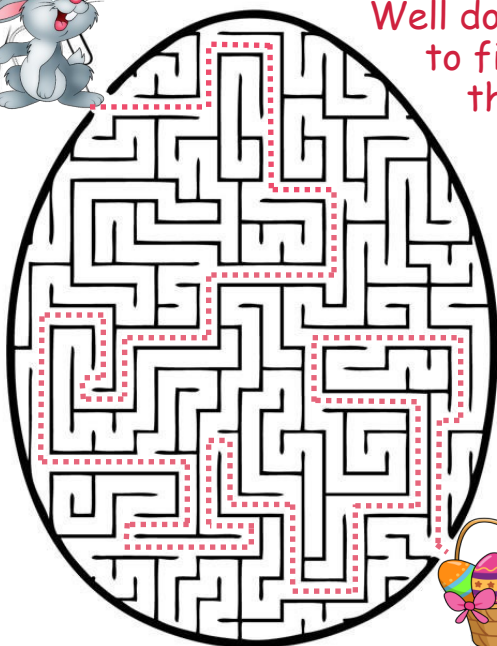
All welcome!

Cost of workshop – £5.00

Evening concert – Free admission with donations for
Plymouth Charity S.A.L.T. and Compassion Fund.

Please contact Angie Brimblecombe
for further details on 895364.

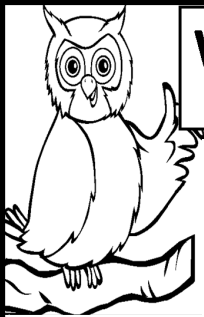
Solution to last month's puzzle



Well done if you managed
to find your way to
the eggs!

**HAPPY
EASTER!**



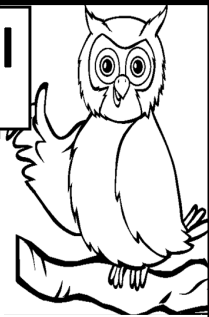


Wise and Wonderful

(because that is what we are)

Fellowship for "third-agers", all are welcome. We meet fortnightly in the IMC Café: see dates below.

Meetings are on Fridays, 2.30 - 4:00 pm
with a charge of £1 each time



Summer programme 2015

17 April

"The clay works and tramway at Redlake
with Nigel Phillips

1 May

Art and Craft
with Dawn Martin

15 May

Question Time
Ask our panel of experts about gardening, cooking,
and the story of old Ivybridge

29 May

Mystery Trip
led by Brian and Christine Treharne

12 June

Shaun the Sheep invites you for films and popcorn.

26 June

Annual Cream Tea
at Hannah's, Seale Hayne

10 July

"Four old ladies in the Himalayas"

Please contact one of us for more information:
Valerie Marriott 893614 Sara Bromage 894198
Judy Jago 894829 Sue Pengilly
David and Christine Moulder 892858



Please note another change to the email address for the Church Website

Since writing to you in last month's newsletter things have changed yet again!

Tony Merriman has kindly taken on the responsibility of putting new information on the church website to free myself and Josh Antonio up to work on a new redesign. So if you wish to update or add anything to the website will you please contact Tony at mrmerrit@icloud.com or ring him on 01752 894265 or 07841 015762, remembering to contact Ralph first if you wish to advertise an event.

I would like to thank Tony for his help, and once again apologise to everyone for any inconvenience that has been experienced.

Matt Bowker

Dates of the next Work Days

April 11th

May 9th

June 6th -

(Please note this is 1st Saturday in June)

July 11th

August No Work Day

Please come along from 9:30 am onwards and help to keep our Church building clean, tidy and welcoming for all its users.



Delicious coffee and cakes from "Wesleys" and free lunch for all helpers!

**Christ
is risen
He is risen
indeed
Alleluia !**



Happy Easter!

Church Contacts



Minister:

Rev Ralph Ward Tel: 01752 651424
email: ralphward@talktalk.net

Senior Steward:

Mrs Helen Martin Tel: 01752 698054

Room Bookings:

Chris and Kate Crouch Tel: 01752 894273

House Group Information:

Mrs Helen Maddaford Tel: 01752 892810

Youth Work:

Mrs Anna Bushby Tel: 01364 72097

If you have any items for the

May Newsletter

please get them to the Editor by

Friday 10 April

at the latest please.

Tel: 01752 894634

email: jenny.bucknall@gmail.com



Visit our website at

www.ivybridgemethodistchurch.co.uk

If you wish to contact Tony regarding the website
you can do so at mrmerit@icloud.com

**Please note the change
of email address!**