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WENDY BLENMAN (Dip. Couns., MSc in therapeutic counselling)

**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT
MAGAZINE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MARIAN
YOUNG BY**

SUNDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

**Anerley Methodist Church, Oakfield Road, Anerley,
London SE20 8QA
Web site:www.anerleymethodist.org**

**ANERLEY CENTRE
ECHO**



LATE SUMMER 2008

**The Newsletter of
ANERLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

USEFUL CONTACTS (as at 021.07.08) All prefix 020

Church (Minister is not available on this number)		8289 6771
Minister	Rev. Graham Cocking	8653 4902
Church Council Secretary	Emmanuel Anaman	7274 6294
Treasurer	Andrew Tredinnick	8658 2347
Property Steward	David Hynes	8289 3524
Property Bookings	David Hynes	8289 3524
Baptismal/Cradle Roll	Sandra Hynes	8289 3524
Junior Church Secretary	Janice Friend	8659 2905
Christian Action Group	Valerie & Andrew Tredinnick	8658 2347
Wednesday Club	Marian Young	8402 6618
Church Library	Valerie Tredinnick	8658 2347
Missions Secretary	Sandra Hynes	8289 3524
Junior Missionary Association	Dinah Anaman	7274 6294
NCH Action for Children	Valerie Tredinnick	8658 2347
Christian Aid		
Oxfam	Joan Loring	8659 1658
Penge Forum		
Penge Community Pre-School (Church)		8289 6771
Jumoke Holiday Club	Audrey Bobb	8656 8684

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METHODIST

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Penge Community Pre-School

Leader: Sarah Batchelor
 Deputy Leader: Sue Charlesworth
 SENCO: Teresa Ford

Overley Methodist Church
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 Overley
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AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2008

Volume 40 Number 2

As our Minister, Rev. Graham Cocking, was still away as I prepared the Magazine, I have again mined the archives for a Letter by a previous Minister. This was written by the Rev. Andrew Maguire in the Autumn 1988 edition and is still very relevant today.

LETTER FROM THE MINISTER

Many school teachers must have reflected on what they have said to their pupils and thought to themselves, "It just goes in one ear and out of the other"! A wise teacher will use visual aids and get pupils practically involved rather than just sitting there listening.

Careful listening is a skill which we are maybe losing. For many of us life is very busy and we hop like grasshoppers from one thing to another without giving anything or anyone our full attention. We live with distracting noises as a constant backcloth—be they the roar of traffic or television and radio.

Even when we have ears that are fully open there is the danger that we will interpret what we hear according to our own prejudices.

Today there is a real need for people who will take the time and trouble to listen carefully. We are surrounded, even in the big city, by lonely people who are longing for someone to take the trouble to listen with interest to their joys and sorrows. There are many distressed and anxious people for whom a listening ear could be a real lifeline.

And there is also a real need for people who will listen without prejudice. Lots of problems between the churches, between

different sides of industry, between different racial groups, have arisen because we hear what we choose to hear and not what the other is really saying. Careful listening with an open mind can be the beginning of reconciliation.

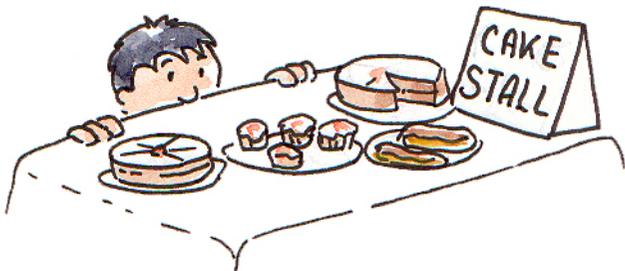
The Old Testament King Solomon asked God for the gift of wisdom and, as part of that, the New English Bible says that he asked God for a heart with skill to listen. May we too seek and value this skill of careful listening.

With all good wishes

ANDREW MAGUIRE

NETWORK CIRCUIT GARDEN PARTY

The Garden Party took place on 12th July at Forest Hill Methodist Church and, despite threatening clouds, the weather stayed dry. There were a variety of stalls and activities for the children, and also one or two more unusual items—where else would you be entertained with a display of belly dancing whilst you were having afternoon tea? Anerley was in charge of the bookstall and we raised just over £16. Thank you to everyone who gave books and other donations to the stalls. At the time of writing the final total raised is not yet available but it looks likely to be in the region of £650.



Now a member of the South East Methodist District and under the care of the Revd Fidel Patron, the Methodist congregation in Gibraltar is a growing and vibrant community of committed Christians. Its life is centred in joyful, meaningful worship, strong fellowship and prayer. No longer does it think of itself simply as a Methodist church in Gibraltar but a congregation very much of Gibraltar – with a sunny welcome for locals and holiday-makers alike.

(Taken from Momentum Summer 2008 on the Methodist website www.methodist.org.uk)

ANSWERS TO HYMN QUIZ

1. In heavenly love abiding (Hymns & Psalms 678)
2. Thou whose almighty word (H & P 29)
3. O for a heart to praise my God (H & P 536)
4. O the bitter shame and sorrow (H & P 538)
5. We plough the fields and scatter (H & P 352)
6. I cannot tell why he whom angels worship (H & P 238)
7. And can it be, that I should gain (H & P 216)
8. I heard the voice of Jesus say (H & P 136)
9. Rock of ages, cleft for me (H & P 273)
10. Yes, God is good, in earth and sky (H & P 363)

The church on The Rock

Gibraltar isn't only a favourite holiday destination for Brits abroad. It's also home to one of the sunniest Methodist congregations in South East England.



Just down the road from the governor's residence in Gibraltar sits the island's Methodist church.

Also on the premises at 297 Main Street, you can find a Christian bookshop, "Words Aflame", and "The Carpenter's Arms" café. In 1997, church, shop and café became part of the then London South West Methodist District and have recently strengthened their Methodist ties still further by joining the family of churches insured by Methodist Insurance.

Methodism was established in Gibraltar in 1769 by a group of soldiers, the best known of which was Sgt. Henry Ince, a Methodist lay preacher. Sgt. Ince became famous in Gibraltar because of his work in the Upper Galleries, or "Great Siege Tunnels" as they are known today. It was his home that provided the first meeting place for Methodists.

In 1809 the first church was built, then later a school and manse were added. As Methodism grew on The Rock, its work spread into the southern part of Spain, where churches and schools were also established.

The congregation moved to its present location in 1956. It has become the spiritual home not only of Methodists but of Christians from many backgrounds who live and work in and around Gibraltar.

ROUND THE FAMILY

Our thoughts and prayers are with Joe Oppong and his family following the unexpected death of Joe's mother at the end of June. Joe's mother lived in Peckham, but the funeral will take place in Ghana and we shall be thinking of Joe and his family when they travel to Ghana for the funeral in a few weeks' time. Please also remember Comfort Oppong, who has been in hospital with pains in her side and ribs. She is now home again but still in pain and we pray that the doctors will be able to find out exactly what the problem is.

Anita Yusuf, Audrey Bobb-Sayers, Hetty Thatcher and Dennis Pogose have all suffered falls over the last few weeks, sustaining various cuts and bruises, pulled muscles and ligaments. Adam McKop is also back in hospital following more problems with his chest. Please remember all these people in your prayers.

On a brighter note, we send our congratulations to Tim Yusuf, who has passed his final medical exams and is now a qualified doctor; his first post will be at Ashford Hospital in Kent. Congratulations also to Richard Hynes, who has passed his Police Inspector's exams, and to Hilary Oppong, who has now graduated with an MA from Harvard University.

We were pleased to welcome into the church family Cordell Paul Mate Azu on the occasion of his baptism on June 8th. Some of his family had travelled from Ghana and America to attend his baptism and we were pleased to welcome them to our church.

Marian

INTROIT for the next four months.

We love the place, O God,
Wherein Thine honour dwells;
The joy of Thine abode
All earthly joy excels.

It is the house of prayer,
Wherein Thy servants meet;
And Thou, O Lord, art there,
Thy chosen flock to greet.

William Bullock

Methodist Hymn Book no 677
CCL Licence no.221943



HYMN QUIZ

In the following you are given the last line of the last verse of the hymn. What is the first line?

1. And he will walk with me
2. Let there be light
3. Thy new, best name of love
4. None of self, and all of Thee!
5. Our humble thankful hearts
6. At last the Saviour, saviour of the world, is King.
7. And claim the crown through Christ, my own.
8. Till travelling days are done
9. Let me hide myself in thee
10. These prompt our song, that God is good.

(Answers on page 13)



WESLEY'S BEECH

Chrome Hill, Northern Ireland

On June 10th 1787, John Wesley, the maverick clergyman who founded the Methodist movement, visited Chrome Hill, near Lisburn in Northern Ireland. While there he is supposed to have twisted two beech saplings together to symbolise the continual union of Methodism and the Church of Ireland. Over the years the two trees locked themselves into an inseparable embrace—not a wholly comfortable marriage, to judge from the distortions and convolutions of the branches, but certainly an indissoluble one. With their shallow roots, beeches are particularly vulnerable to gales—perhaps the twin trunks of the Wesley Beech helped to give the tree, or trees, stability.

Mail on Sunday magazine

CHRISTIAN AID

The retiring collections taken for Christian Aid at the end of June raised £66.05. This was instead of our door-to-door collecting during Christian Aid Week in May. Thank you to everyone who donated.



OXFAM

Joan Loring, our Pledged Gifts Collector, has received the following letter from Oxfam.

“Dear Miss Loring,

“Thank you very much for your Pledged Giving donation to Oxfam of £94.40... Recently Oxfam has launched an emergency appeal to support our essential work, and raise awareness about the terrible plight people face in Somalia. Somalia is a war-zone that has remained away from the news headlines. Years of brutal conflict have brought the country's infrastructure to its knees. Recent months have seen the violence intensify and an estimated two million people have been forced from their homes. There are now one million internally displaced people in Somalia and approximately two million people in need of humanitarian assistance. In most parts of the country, malnutrition rates are beyond the emergency threshold levels set by the UN.

“Despite severely restricted access to Somalia, Oxfam is working with local partner organizations to provide vital assistance to half a million people across South and Central Somalia. We are currently providing the largest emergency water response in the region and supporting a pioneering programme providing hot meals to more than 50,000 people in Mogadishu every day.

“Oxfam is calling for all parties in the conflict to fulfill their responsibility to protect civilians as well as for increased humanitarian assistance to the people affected. Although at present there is no sign of peace in Somalia, we will continue to work there as long as we can; and when the time comes, Oxfam will be there to help people rebuild and get their lives back...

Suzanne Rodrigues, Supporter Relations”

Cows changing lives in Uganda

What do you get if you give a woman a cow? A changed community, says Margaret Nakato, Director of MRDF's local partner in Uganda.



When a fishing ban was imposed around the Lake Victoria Basin in 2000, the women in the nearby Mukono District were left without their main source of income. The business of exporting fish from Uganda had been a profitable one. But there were those who wanted to increase the number of fish for sale by poisoning them. The government had to take action and impose a fishing ban.

Margaret said, "When the ban was imposed, the whole community came almost to a standstill."

At a local meeting, one of the women suggested that they try zero-grazing – a system where food is given to an animal that lives in a shed. MRDF supported the group by providing agricultural and livestock training and by donating the first cows. They were all pregnant and every calf was passed on to another woman in the group – a system that continues today.

The recipients were soon able to get an income from selling cow's milk, and the manure acted as an organic fertiliser for their crops. MRDF supplied the group with a cooler, so the women could preserve their milk and sell it at a later date.

The women are now able to pay their children's school fees, family medical expenses and save a little in the group's savings scheme.

"Before, I saw women with no sense of direction," says Margaret. "But now they say, 'I'm going to build a farm, I'm sending my children to this school.'"

"Every woman who has a cow feels she is somebody important," she adds, "and we are very proud of that."

(From Momentum Summer 2008 on the Methodist Church website www.methodist.org.uk)

JOHN WESLEY said:

Do all the **good** you can,
by all the **means** you can,
in all the **ways** you can,
in all the **places** you can,
at all the **times** you can,
to all the **people** you can,
as long as ever you can.