

UNITY



The Newsletter of the Ealing Green Church

Ealing Green Church, The Green, Ealing, London W5 5QS.



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July - August 2008

From Alan's Desk

There is nothing wrong in itself in us seeking to preserve past institutions and traditions. Who does not feel a little more secure in this transient world when driving past men in white flannels playing cricket on the village green or knowing that strawberries and cream continue to be served at Wimbledon? The ideas and ways of our forefathers are not to be rejected simply because they are old. The desire for change considered on its own is not a virtue. Novelty is not a synonym for improvement.

Conservative attitudes only assume demonic form when they become a defence against doing what is right; when they serve as justification for our fearfulness; when they insulate us from God's voice of challenge. And it is in these situations that their darkness is manifest. I grew up in a land engulfed in a civil war where the government was determined to use its army to preserve a European way of life. But that preservation meant the exclusion of Africans from the institutions of power and privileges. Almost every act of Islamic terrorism is driven by the desire to preserve a golden age of Islamic authority and Sharia law. If the past becomes an absolute value, it overrides the absolute demand that we love our neighbour as ourselves and our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Christians are committed to the transformation of our minds and attitudes. By the Spirit we are being changed into the likeness of Jesus. We are also called to transform unjust institutions, practices and traditions. Sadly, the Church has far too often slipped into the dark or demonic form of conservatism. It has stood as a bastion against many of the good changes that have taken place in our society from the emancipation of women to the translation of the Bible into English. Our history is littered with martyrs who challenged the status quo, the old ways and attitudes.

It would be unrealistic to expect those terrified by God's open future to let go their past securities. It is just not going to happen. What we can do is encourage the people of faith to be martyrs for that which is good. Or as Jesus said, 'If anyone would be my disciple let them take up their cross and follow me.'

Every blessing

Alan

Things God won't ask you when you die:

How big your house was. He'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.

UNITY

I've tried to stay away from it in Unity, but it's a little like a disease (not in a bad way) or should I say boomerang – it keeps coming back. When we first went to Zimbabwe, someone asked if we were smitten and would come back again. I replied that it was a little early for such a thing to be considered, but by the end of the week, I could see why the question had been raised – and more importantly what the likely answer would be if asked again. Yes.

In this double month's newsletter I have included a couple of emails from the church in Zimbabwe, where we were fortunate to meet some lovely people all working to help their fellow men. One of the side effects of our trip to Zimbabwe is the fact that we have made friends with various other people we have never met and, frankly, are unlikely to meet. They are in Glasgow and Denver and a few months ago we didn't know they existed. The common thread is the Church in Zimbabwe. They all support the church and, through our contacts with the church, we have discovered them. The people in Denver have been instrumental in getting those in danger out of Zimbabwe, temporarily, as his outspoken defence of his flock had put him in a position of considerable danger from the criminals who presently hold power there.

The Summer Market was pretty successful this year, not least thanks to the weather. Many, many thanks to all the people who made it possible. The work is hard, but I hope the rewards are satisfying. The Zimbabwe project for the After-school activities at the church, The Burma Disaster appeal and the Ealing branch of the Alzheimers' Society are the three charities that will be benefiting to the net total of around £1,200 so thanks again for all your efforts.

Lastly, do you know the person sitting next to you right now? I remember someone years ago who seemed just a regular person, nothing special, nothing to write home about, just a regular, quietly spoken bloke (or Mensch as her was German). And then he went away. And someone mentioned something about him - and it opened a whole world of questions. To say he was remarkable would be an understatement. He had been everywhere, had suffered untold deprivation and could be forgiven for having all sorts of an attitude, but he was one of the gentlest people I ever met. I have asked a few people in our church to write about themselves and Harold agreed to let me have something. You can read his story in this month's newsletter.

There are some special people around us. Let me know if you are willing to write a short piece about yourself. I know that most of us are English and it's not what we do, but please think about it. It's your newsletter and we'd like to hear from you

God bless you

Things God won't ask you when you die:

About the clothes that you had in your closet. He'll ask how many people you helped to clothe.



Letters

From Mr. Frank Bedwell

Dear Friends I type my letter for the July and August Unity.

We enjoyed the Summer Market on Saturday June the 7th and were pleased that the weather kept fine for us all. Maria and I enjoyed meeting our friends and the barbecue. I bought a cactus from the plant stall and enjoyed a sausage roll and a coffee with some biscuits. Maria will be taking her degree course soon, but she will still be working with us.

My computer is still not working properly, so I am writing this at the college with Maria helping me. Walter is away at the moment. I pray for you all during the summer break.

On Thursday 10th July there will be a college presentation at Hammersmith College when we will be joined by celebrities to present the awards certificates. Prayer:
Lord Jesus Christ, help me to listen to others, our carers and our staff, including Patrick, Ian, Bough, Mercy Kantina and the others. Amen

God bless you all,
from Frank Bedwell

From Kathy Dobbin

I would like to thank everyone for their phonecalls to Peter regarding my progress, prayers, cards and flowers whilst I was in the Brompton. Ealing Green is a special church family and I feel very fortunate to be part of it. With Alan's cheerful visit and all of the above, my spirits were lifted many times.

Thank you all once again for your kind wishes and regards.

Kathy Dobbin

An appeal (sort of)

Does anyone have a copy of Microsoft Windows XP that they might want to donate to the church (or sell for a reasonable price). The office computer is starting to show its age and we have the offer of a slightly newer computer, but it doesn't have any software and Windows XP (home or professional) would be just the thing.



Any offers, please let me know at unitymagazine@hotmail.com
or call me on 07796 938 592
Thanks

Lee

News of the Church Family

Frances Groves – had a fall and cracked a bone in her shoulder. She is resting, with her arm in a sling.

Margaret Cooper had swollen, painful legs for several weeks but is now improving.

Ken Shallis has had a very painful shoulder for some time, but at last a cortisone injection has provided some relief.

Geoff Harper had a couple of falls but is now on the mend.

We remember all these friends in our prayers and pray that God's healing hand will be upon them. We also remember in our prayers, our elderly or housebound friends and their carers.

Congratulations to **Mireia Fabregas** who has been accepted for a three year Training Course at the London School of Theology in Northwood. Mireia is a Carer at the Madeley Road Residential Home and often accompanies Frank to church.

Gill Hatherall

Diary Reminders:-

Social Event Harvest weekend - evening BBQ in new Church garden
Sat 20th Sep

Summer Market 2008 Once again, this turned out to be a very successful social event and fundraiser. Many thanks to all who prepared the site and turned out on the day to run stalls, provide sound & music, count the proceeds etc.
As mentioned elsewhere, we raised the magnificent sum of approx £1200 to share between our designated charities.

India Project

As agreed at the June Church Meeting, we are sending a Team to India to research and report on a Project introduced to us by Stalin. This is the "Healing Touch Primary School" founded by All Christian Evangelical & Social Service Fellowship. A proposal from the Charity has requested financial assistance to buy a Minibus, to build another classroom and to help fund staff salaries and administration costs

Suggested dates for the visit are:-
18 – 22 November 2008
13 – 17 January 2009

If you would like to be considered for the Team and are available to travel during these periods, please give your name to Colin as soon as possible. The Church Council will decide on the make up of the Team.

If you are interested but require more information, please ask John for a copy of the background details prepared by Stalin.

Church Secretary

Christian Aid Week 2008: Our best year yet!!

Thank you to everyone who helped in anyway with this year's Christian Aid Week. Our House to House collection raised £1806.61, £800 of which was gift aided, which will bring our grand total to approximately £2,000.

A number of our regular collectors were unable to help this year, for various good reasons, so it was really encouraging to have 5 new "volunteers" helping with the collecting.

The House to House collection is not easy and is time consuming, but all our efforts put together really can make a difference.

Thank you again

Deb Lovell

PS Last year's total, before Gift Aid, was £1491.50

Music Day.

On Saturday 10th May, members of the Choir went to Dorking for an afternoon of music making arranged by the South East District of the Methodist Church. We travelled to Dorking by car and stopped at Box Hill for a picnic lunch in glorious sunshine.

The venue for the afternoon was St. Martin's Church; this very beautiful church is shared by the Anglicans and Methodists. After registration in the Christian Centre about seventy people gathered in the church for a rehearsal of Gabriel Faure's delightful 'Requiem' in preparation for a performance in the early evening. The rehearsal was directed by the Martin Ellis, organist of St. Martin's. The rehearsal over, we had a session on the New Methodist Hymn and Song Collection. This was led by the Rev. Ian Howarth who told about us the proposed new collection, if approved by this year's Methodist Conference, will be published in 2009/10. We had the opportunity to sing through a selection from the collection and to make comments. Some were very good and others were not really for congregational singing.

This session over we went to the Christian Centre for a very nice tea prepared by the people of St. Martin's. Tea over, it was back into the church for the performance of the 'Requiem' which was given to a small but appreciative audience. Considering that we only had one rehearsal it was a reasonably good performance. Although an agnostic, the composer Vaughan Williams frequently attended Evensong at St. Martin's when he lived in Dorking. There is to be a Vaughan Williams Festival in St. Martin's Church during the weekend of Thursday 3 July – Sunday 6 July 2008. See – www.rvw50.org for details.

The Rev. Ian Howarth is the son of the late Rev. George Howarth sometime minister at Kingsdown Church, Ealing.

*John Collingbourne,
Choir Secretary.*

Correspondence from our friends in Zimbabwe

I have had a number of emails from people in contact with the church recently that I thought would be of interest to those who are following our work out there – and the situation with the ‘election’ looming. John and Jean (names of all the people involved have been changed as this version is going on the web) are farmers and the last white members of the congregation and have already had considerable problems with the authorities. Peter is the Minister. These are the emails: There is a map on page 11 to help you place things.

May 25th 2008

Please pray for John and Jean because they have new challenges. Two vehicles drove up to their home, one definitely a government vehicle (registration plate) and delivered the news that their farm had now been offered to somebody else by the government. The man who had the 'offer letter' from the government has given them until end of June to pack their thing and harvest their crop. He says he only needs one of their houses immediately. You recall that William and his children use John's parents' house.

The strange thing about the offer letter story is that it is dated December 2007. The question would be Why was this person not coming to claim his plot of land all along? God has the answers so we are calling on people to pray.

Also, please, pray for a number of church leaders that will be trying to get the political parties contesting in the presidential elections to engage in a Dialogue for Peace. So far they have indicated that they are both sending reps. I will have the task of setting up a Peace Commission. I do not know what that is but others have asked me to do so. I like the peace part in that.

much love

Paul

3/6/08 From Paul:

Last week was very busy for me such that I am so tired today. I have had to postpone two meetings meant for today so that I will get some rest.

Thomas advised me that on Monday last week, the leaders of ZANU PF, in an area where our other congregation is, told members of our church there that I am being followed by their people and the CIO. This is their other way of saying that a person is on their hit-list. The death squads, as you know, have to keep busy. In the meantime they have closed our church there so people are now worshiping in small home groups or the Evangelist and the elders just have to visit families in a discreet manner and pray with them. Our services are banned until they have cleared the name of our church and dealt with me to their satisfaction. I encouraged Thomas and his session not to insist on holding services there so that people's lives are not endangered. The good news is that since our last visit with the diplomats there, the torture camp is no longer there. They may put it up again but at least now the two notorious camps in the area have been quietly dismantled. This means that people are not being tortured, those that were displaced, including our Evangelist are back in their homes and some are reconstructing again.

Do not worry much about people following me because this is not new. The only difference is that this was announced at a public meeting or rally. The local CIO have had me well-watched for a while now and I am sure God still wants me to do the work for which He called me before the final Call home. I was disturbed by the news from Thomas at first and Lyanne does worry a lot but I am meditating on the fact that the Good Shepherd has a way of preparing 'a table before me in the presence of my enemies'. Our task is to pray and not be afraid.

I am now convinced that we need to mobilise Christians to put on the full armour of God and be strong in God's grace. I think it would be embarrassing to face God at the end of everything and say that I did not do anything because I was too afraid to be killed and come to you. We also do not need to be suicidal but living as if one is already dead is a denial of the Saviour.

Love, Peter

5/6/08 From Peter today:

News that I got from Thomas today is that the ZANU PF leadership is backtracking on our church services. They have now said that once they see the reports that the Evangelist wrote and submitted to the nearby area session over the last year and verified that our church is allowed to operate in Zimbabwe they will let the services continue. The Evangelist is meeting with them today to submit the paperwork for their verification. Two things remain though:

1. they have a real problem with the church leadership (myself and the Harare guys which means Thomas and the others)
2. the members of our church should plead illiteracy and ask for assistance on the day of voting so that they can vote for ZANU PF before the party agents on the 27th June.

So we keep praying.

I hope to forward some of the plans that we made from our meeting last week. The Peace Commission is now working. We agreed that all the church leaders, or heads of churches as they like to be called, of the 27 member churches of the Zimbabwe Council of Churches will form the Peace Commission. This is in order to prevent division but also to enable better dissemination of information.

On Thursday 05 June we hope all these or at least most of these church leaders will visit one area badly affected by the violence so we can have first hand info when we have our next meeting with Zanu Pf leadership. The representatives of Zanu PF that met with us last week were able to lie with smiles on their faces and claim that they have a Zero-tolerance on violence. Some of our own bishops claimed that they were not aware that there was any serious violence in the country, hence the planned visit. It was not easy to get us all to agree on that so please pray that it will happen. The churches have been giving conflicting messages to the nation so the first step is for us to get the church to embark on a pastoral visit to the victims of violence and maybe shout out to the nation through the media that this violence is evil. This will make the perpetrators think again.

We have been invited to meet with the top leadership of Zanu PF. They will give us a date but such a meeting has to be entered into with some wise strategies in place because it can easily become a forum for endorsing what they are doing.

In peace, Peter

10/6/08 - from some friends of the church in the US

Friends,

Last night I received a note from Stephen expressing his relief that Peter will be coming to the US in the next few days. *"Peter is flying there at the end of this week. Much to my relief! I think he is among the most wanted at the moment. They have issued threats to him and the frightening thing is that these people normally carry out their threats. I think he has done his bit and should move out of the country like yesterday! I am sure when he comes back the situation would have calmed down a bit."*

Peter's note is below. He references Zimbabwe's Central Intelligence Organization (CIO), Simon, a candidate for ministry, and Wilfred, the church treasurer:

I just had a meeting with the CIO because a headmistress of one of the schools was given death threats by the Zanu PF candidate who lost the last parliamentary election. The lady then phoned her pastor (United Methodist Church) who in turn called me last night, since I am part of the Peace Commission. I called for the meeting between the pastors and the CIO. Only three pastors were there, and one official from the CIO but I think it was a good meeting. The CIO had been following our church vehicle in the morning when Simon and the others were running errands in town. I told their official to come directly to us and get the information they want. I am running out of patience with them. They visited Wilfred's office and went through all our books that he has and his own books. They did not say much about me apart from the fact that they knew me well. Wilfred thinks I should be expecting them to visit me on their own initiative.

At least today there was an undertaking from them to protect people at the school in question. I assured them that we will make public announcements on any victimisation they may produce. After the meeting I am having to reassure members of the church here that God is still in control.

thanks for your prayers, much love

Peter

15/6/08 - from the people in Denver

Lee,

Our Zimbabwe friends arrived safely and soundly last night!

Things God won't ask you when you die:

About which diet you were on. He'll ask how many hungry people you helped to feed.

A Trust in Zimbabwe

You might think this a little paranoid, but we are trying to avoid any possible repercussions for the trust in question, so we have deleted the name so the authorities do not focus on this organisation, knowing it has some funds, however few

We have also had a letter from the Trust that I would have liked to copy into this newsletter, but the quality would have been unreadable, so I have transcribed it as follows:

Dear Mr. Morris

23 May 2008

On behalf of the Trust and the College, I write to express most sincere and grateful thanks for the extremely generous donation of £1,000 received from Ealing Green Church, given towards the work being undertaken in Zimbabwe.

Alan had indeed shared with us that he had taken a group from the church to Zimbabwe and doubtless they have shared their experiences and concerns with you all since their return, hence the decision for this generous support, it is noted that further funds are earmarked for 2009 and 2010, and we will certainly endeavour to prove worthy of this commitment. In this regard I have duly noted your requirements of fed back and reports together with an indication of how this money has been spent so have made a copy of your letter available to both our Chairman and Secretary so that between us we will endeavour to fulfil your request. Undoubtedly this matter will appear on the agenda of our next Trustee meeting, scheduled for early July, in the meantime the funds will be held on deposit earning interest.

Can I ask that you convey an expression of our gratitude to all responsible for this generous support and I wish you all every Blessing and sincere best wishes.

Yours very sincerely
Jack Wilson
Trustee & Treasurer



NCH Sunday 13th July 2008

Always there for children

During the last 18 months, NCH has looked very seriously at revisiting its mission and core values. The agreed platform for our future work and messages to supporters is:

'Always there for children'.

For 139 years, we have sought to help the children who need us most:

- Always** - speaks of stability, our heritage and history of commitment to children and young people, and our ongoing commitment to not give up.
- There** - our involvement where children and young people are, expressed through the wide variety of our work.
- For children** - children and young people are at the centre of what we do.

'I dread to think how we would have turned out or what we would have experienced if we hadn't gone to the home. We had a good mother, but she wouldn't have been able to cope. We were better off in the home. It kept us on the straight and narrow, and has given us a loyalty to friends whom we keep in touch with 60 years on.' - Sadie, now in her 70s, who was brought up with her sister Emily in NCH's residential home in Frodsham in the 1930s

'It's like a family atmosphere. If I could stay longer, I would. My parents enjoy the break too. Mum calls it a chance to recharge her batteries. It's also a chance for them to do other things, like spend a bit more time with my brother and sister, so that's cool.' - Faye, 16, who attends NCH's Tripha Shared Care Project in Staffordshire

08457 626579 or at www.nch.org.uk/methodist
NCH is the children's charity of the Methodist Church
Registered Charity no 1097940/SC038092/company no. 4764232

Things God won't ask you when you die:

What your highest salary was. He'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.

What Ealing Green Means to Me

I have been lucky enough to have been brought up in a Christian family which regularly attended church. This has been very instrumental in my life. It has made it much easier for me to follow God in this ever challenging world.

I joined Ealing Green Church in 1998 when I moved to Ealing. I have always held the belief that all Christian churches share the same belief of loving God with all thy heart, soul and strength. I chose Ealing Green because it was local. The church has lived up to my expectations as my second or extended family albeit a different denomination from the one I attended in Zimbabwe. It's been a place where I feel welcome. The congregation has been kind and caring. The services which are sometimes thought provoking have helped me develop in my faith. My Children Alicia and Dionne always look forward to going to church. To them it's wonderful to be part of a caring family.

I always remember your special prayers on my travels to my troubled country. The strength it gave me to face immense challenges. The church has always extended a helping hand to all those in need. You have always sought ways to reach out to the community at large. Most recently I have been touched by the generosity and support you have given to the people of Zimbabwe. As a caring congregation you might not realise how much this means to the Zimbabwean community. Not only have you shown concern and support for our plight to have a fair and just society, you have gone an extra mile by giving much needed financial support to the people most in need. On behalf of the Zimbabwean community I would like to extend our heart felt appreciation.

James2:14 – 17

What good is it , my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily foods. If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

May God bless you all.

Boni Moyo

Things God won't ask you when you die:

What kind of a car did you drive. He'll ask how many people you drove who didn't have transport.

Harold Bridge - My Life

My name is Harold Bridge and this is a short story of my life. When the Second World War broke out I was 19. I joined the RAF hoping to be able to fly fighter planes, however after seeing various doctors and thorough examinations, I was told that my eyesight was not good enough to fly. I was advised not to be despondent because there would be plenty of good jobs on the ground; and so I became a driver transporting large trucks to anywhere they were needed. During my period in the RAF I was sent abroad to Aden, Cairo and I finished in Germany. Whilst in the RAF I entertained the lads in the barrack room with my singing. I like country and western music, and a favourite song with the boys was Texas Dan. This earned me the name Tex, which I was known as from then onwards. When the war finished, and having travelled around the world, I found it hard to settle down at home - as did a good many young fellows then.

However, one day after having returned, I was listening to the show "In Town Tonight" which had an interview with a gentleman called Vivien Van Damme. He was the manager of the famous Windmill Theatre in the heart of Piccadilly. He announced he was holding auditions at the Windmill every fortnight on a Tuesday. So just for the heck of it I thought I would go up and audition. I played the guitar, to accompany myself, and fortunately he booked me straight away. I had a wonderful time there and made many friends, I chummed up with Arthur English and became very good pals with Dick Emery. I had two seasons at the Windmill and it was a great experience.

However I still had itchy feet, and so after my two seasons with the Windmill Theatre I decided to emigrate to Canada. I headed for Calgary where I became friendly with a chap, McBride, who owned a small ranch. I was a good horse rider due to growing up on a farm in Hadleigh, Essex, and so McBride asked me to come and work on the ranch, which I willingly did. McBride had arrived in Canada years -previously as part of the William Booth Salvation Army project of fixing young men up with jobs in Commonwealth Countries such as Canada and Australia. He had been fortunate to be placed with an elderly couple who came to look upon him as their son and left him, and his Canadian bride the ranch. After a few years on the ranch, wanderlust again set in and so I headed towards Vancouver where I worked in various logging and mining camps.

I returned to England after having been abroad for eight or nine years, and upon my return became friendly with two brothers who started a small scrap iron business. I went to work with them for the next few years, and after learning the trade decided to go out on my own. I made contact with Basildon Development Corporation and secured a ninety-nine year lease on a tract of land. I took on a chap and we began our own scrap trading company, which included smelting aluminium. As the company progressed and became successful I employed more people. Basildon was also growing and was becoming one of the biggest industrial areas in Europe, and so I was able to make many contacts and secure contracts with large firms to clear their waste salvage materials. Eventually I also became a government contractor dealing with the Armed Services. I remember The Navy asking me if I could cannibalise a ship that was in a creek off Crete. I visited the vessel and was quite excited about disposing of it however, upon advice from my business partner at the time, I had to decline this opportunity. However there were many other exciting

opportunities, which needed calculated risks, and during this period of my life everything seemed to work out right for me.

I always felt that somebody was riding by my side and at this stage in my life, I felt God should be praised for guiding me in my achievements. I always felt God was never too far away in helping me with my decisions.

As I have grown old, I am now in my 88th year, I still have properties in Basildon, which I let out to various tenants, and a young lady who looks after my administration. You can achieve anything in this life if you are prepared to work hard and use the intelligence and talents that God provides; and work in a straight and honourable manner.

I hope my story is of interest and inspires you to fulfil your dreams.

Harold Bridge

“A Crack in the Family Line” by Christine Follett

Many of you enjoyed Christine’s first book “Letters in the Loft”, which was published just over two years ago and since then she has been writing her second novel, which is now in print.

This is a family story – (with no connection at all, it must be stressed with the Follett family!) – set in the country village of Baddlesmere, near Canterbury. The book is a work of complete fiction and tells the story of a family tragedy which indirectly causes the collapse, albeit temporary of a marriage. We follow the disturbing path of the disruption to the family and eventually the welcome forgiveness found by Merle for her errant husband David. Along the way we meet Vicky, the desperate and vengeful secretary. Hell indeed, hath no fury like a secretary scorned.

“A Crack in the Family Line” is an easy but absorbing read. We hope many of you will detect the “message within” – this is not a Christian book as such, but the essence of forgiveness is central to the tale.

Christine is very willing to talk to any reading/book groups, about her work if any would be interested. Please contact her at home in Ruislip on 01895 672818 or via e-mail on chris_follett@lineone.net, to either book a talk or order your signed copy! These are available to order in Waterstones or WH Smith, or via Amazon.co.uk, but will be more expensive this way. A copy will cost £7.99 via Christine at home, instead of the shop price of £10.69.

We do hope you will enjoy reading “A Crack in the Family Line”, and we look forward to some feedback in due course.

Things God won’t ask you when you die:

How many friends you had. He’ll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.

News Briefs

Church agency says government is failing on global warming target

By agency reporter 14 Jun 2008

UK-based International development agency Christian Aid has accused the government of 'eviscerating' the Climate Change Bill by failing to include within it a number of measures crucial to the fight against global warming. The NGO said it was deeply disappointed at the government's refusal, revealed by Phil Woolas MP, Minister of State for the Environment at the start of the bill's second reading in Parliament recently, to include a target for cutting UK carbon emissions of 80% over 1990 levels by 2050.

The churches' agency said the removal from the bill of an undertaking to ensure that UK emissions of greenhouse gases do not exceed the level necessary to limit global temperature rises to not more than 2°C above pre-industrial levels would fatally undermine the credibility of the UK's climate change policies. It also roundly condemned the dropping of amendment agreed in the House of Lords that would have made it mandatory for publicly listed companies in Britain to declare their annual carbon emissions.

Another disappointment was the failure of the bill to ensure that at least 70% of its targets had to be met through emission cuts within the UK, rather than by purchasing carbon off-sets from poorer countries. Sarah Spinney, Christian Aid's climate change campaigns manager, explained: "The government has eviscerated a piece of legislation that should have seen Britain blazing a trail internationally over combating climate change." She added: "It is the first such piece of legislation anywhere in the world, and expectations were high. Instead, the government has apparently lost its nerve. Its entire commitment to tackling climate change is now open to question. Instead of the UK setting an example of the measures needed to combat global warming, the lofty sentiments uttered by government ministers in recent months have apparently been just empty words. The campaign for a bill with real teeth will continue. Only carbon emission cuts of 80% and above will keep global temperatures below 2°C. That target is essential as beyond 2°C the effects of climate change such as drought, floods and disease will become rampant."

The amendment on mandatory reporting, tabled by the Liberal Democrats and Labour backbench peers, followed pressure from a coalition of MPs, businesses and non-governmental organisations led by Christian Aid. UK businesses fund up to 15% of carbon emissions around the world.

Most listed companies at present do divulge some information about emissions, but the information is often provided in such a way as to make a true assessment of their activities impossible. At a Confederation of British Industry (CBI) conference last year, 82% of delegates voted in favour of mandatory standards on carbon emission reporting. In addition, the CBI Climate Change task force report calls for mandatory standards to be introduced in the short term.

Christian Aid's concern over carbon off-setting is based on its view that countries such as the UK, where major industrial CO₂ emissions first began, must help finance clean development in poorer countries on top of their cuts at home, not instead of.

This article is reproduced from the Ekklesia website.

Collection Point Collection Point



In July the Communion Collection will be for the local Ealing branch of Samaritans. They are entirely dependent on people like us for their funds and provide a wonderful, and life saving service for us, right here in our community. Everyone knows of the Samaritans – this is an opportunity to help.

Samaritans

We don't know when you might need us.

That's why we're open 24 hours a day.

Feeling low?

Realising things are not as good as they could be is a first step to doing something about it. If you are feeling low, we have some suggestions that can help.

Samaritans provides confidential non-judgmental emotional support, 24 hours a day for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those which could lead to suicide. Whatever you're going through, whether it's big or small, don't bottle it up. We are here for you if you're worried about something, feel upset or confused, or just want to talk to someone.

We offer our service by telephone, email, letter and face to face in most of our branches.

Samaritans is available to anyone in the UK and Ireland. If you live outside of the UK and Ireland, visit www.befrienders.org to find your nearest helpline.

Our service is offered by 17,000 trained volunteers and is entirely dependent on voluntary support. There are 202 branches of Samaritans in the UK and Republic of Ireland. Your local branch of Samaritans is always looking for people with the ability to listen, without passing judgment. You will be carefully trained to be a listening volunteer.

Alternatively, many branches also need professional advice or administration support from time to time. If you have expertise in fields like accountancy, marketing, construction or the law, you might be able to help.

The Samaritans Ealing Branch

26 Junction Road, Ealing,

London

W5 4XL

United Kingdom

Phone: (020) 8560-2345

Registered Charity Number: 278552

Thank you

Collection Point Part 2 (August)

Collection Point Part 2 (August)

Anyway, another local charity is one that we can all (I hope) see the benefit of. I hope you are able to help us support:

The Hanwell Neighbourly Care Scheme

The aim of the Hanwell Neighbourly Care Scheme is set up to encourage the residents of Hanwell to be aware of their elderly neighbours and to offer them friendship and help.

The scheme also runs Pop-ins, to enable older people to maintain their independence and to nurture friendship among active older people. The Pop-ins have monthly lunches and organise outings to places of interest. Everyone is welcome - Just pop-in for a coffee or tea.

The two Organisers work closely with other organisations concerned with the care of older people and are willing to help older people who may have a problem.

The Pop ins are at:

- St. Thomas` Church Hall, FRIDAYS 10.30- 12.00 noon
- St. Christopher`s Church Hall, Tuesdays 10.00 - 11.30am
- North Hanwell Baptist Church Hall, Cuckoo Avenue. Mondays 10.30-12 noon

Please give them your support. Thank you

From the Bookstall

As you have read earlier (you have read it haven't you? – I will be asking questions later.) Frances has had a fall and has not been able to send in the usual comprehensive list of books with reviews that she recommends for us to consider reading.



I hope that you will join with me in wishing her a speedy recovery and looking forward to the next set of books that she brings before us with the inviting synopsis of what they offer us all.

July Rotas

July		Preacher	Readers	Prayers	Communion Stewards	Coffee Duty *
6 th	11:00 am	Alan Spence	Ken Shallis	Jane Horwich	SS, PC, HH, MC	Louise, <u>Merle & Colin</u>
	6:30 pm	No Service				
13 th	11:00 am	Mr. A. Philips	Tina Berry	Peter Chadburn		<u>Kathy & Peter</u>
	6:30 pm	Alan Spence				
20 th	11:00 am	Cameron Holder	Hazel Humphries	Martin Sarbicki		Margaret Lewis & <u>Helen</u>
	6:30 pm	No Service				
27 th	11:00 am	Mr. Robinson Brown	Shirley Shallis	Bill Lovell		<u>Martin</u> & Susanne
	6:30 pm	Alan Spence			VJ	

*Notes: From the 27th the names are provisional. Please check with Susanne to confirm your names. Could we please have some volunteers for the Coffee Rota. All help is welcome - and it would be nice to see other faces behind the counter (no offence to those who already volunteer). Please could the underlined person bring milk.

August Rotas

August		Preacher	Readers	Prayers	Communion Stewards	Coffee Duty *
3 rd	11:00 am	Alan Spence	Lirea Beyleveld	Ken & Shirley Shallis	DB, CH, BL, DG	Margaret Cooper & <u>Linda</u>
	6:30 pm	No Service				
10 th	11:00 am	David Groves	Ramesh Khanna	Helen Harper		<u>Patsy & Charles</u>
	6:30 pm	Alan Spence				
17 th	11:00 am	Alan Spence	Charles Kenny	Jean Rose		<u>Hazel & Philip</u>
	6:30 pm	No Service				
24 th	11:00 am	Mrs. Ackah	Fleur Hatherall	Ken & Shirley Shallis		<u>Louise, Merle & Colin</u>
	6:30 pm	Alan Spence			VJ	
31 st	11:00 am	Local Arrangement	Janette Pender	Helen Harper		<u>Kathy & Peter</u>
	6:30 pm	No Service				

*Notes: Could we please have some volunteers for the Coffee Rota. All help is welcome - and it would be nice to see other faces behind the counter (no offence to those who already volunteer). Please could the underlined person bring milk.

Bible Readers for

September

7 th	Pat Sucher
14 th	Ron Honor
21 st	Kathy Dobbin
28 th	Colin Paige

If any of the above dates is inconvenient, please arrange for a substitute.