



# The Link



The Magazine of

**Marshside Road Methodist Church Southport**

[www.marshside-methodist-southport.org.uk](http://www.marshside-methodist-southport.org.uk)



Priceless, but donations gratefully received

May 2016



**Fun, Friendship, Fellowship, Faith  
and HOT DOGS, CHIPS and BEANS! 😊**

Dear Friends,

One of the highlights of the last month for me has been listening to the vice president of conference, Jill Barber, talk at Synod about Methodist heritage. I must admit I wasn't holding out much hope of enjoying it never mind being excited by it, after all we are meant to be looking forward, planning for the future not wallowing in our past, right? When Jill isn't serving as vice president of conference she is the project director at Englesea Brook chapel and museum of primitive Methodism, a heritage for mission project. Jill is passionate about telling our stories to engage people from outside the church. Jill has many opportunities through her job to engage with people who don't have faith, some come to Englesea Brook to research their family history and through talking with Jill and learning of their ancestor's faith hear the good news and discover faith for themselves. That's very simple evangelism if you ask me! Using the old, our heritage, to engage with the new. Our past is very important to us and of course we shouldn't forget it or disregard it but we also shouldn't be worshipping it or hoping to go back to the way things were.

Isaiah says something similar:

**Isaiah 43:19 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>19</sup>See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness

and streams in the wasteland

The Israelites had come to believe that the only way God could work was like he did in the Exodus, when he delivered his captive people from Pharaoh's grasp. A few verses earlier Isaiah refers to the path through the sea, and the chariots and horses of Egypt that perished. It was as if he was saying, "yes that's how God did it in the past. But just wait...! He continues by telling them to forget the former things! Let go of the assumption that God can only act in one specific way. See I am doing a new thing!

That new thing as we know would be Jesus. And as we know the religious leaders and those in power failed to recognize that God was not limited to acting only as he had in the past. God's plans are eternal but his methods are always changing. It seems to me then that we have to weed out what we don't need to carry forward with us and work out what it is about our heritage that do want to carry forward with us.

One of my favourite hymns is by Fred Pratt Green, The church of Christ, in every age. 415 in Singing the Faith. It has a line in the first verse that says the church "must claim and test its heritage" which seems to me to be exactly what Jill was talking about at Synod. My question then is, what are the things that we value that we would want to

pass onto those around us? What is the story that we are passionate about that needs telling above everything else?

*Every blessing*

*Rev Jan*

### **Roundelay Concert**

Roundelay Choir are giving a concert in aid of Alder Hey Hospital, Sing into Spring on Monday the 23rd May at 7.30pm . Refreshments provided. Please come along and enjoy an evening of singing, and support a good cause with donations.

Thanks

**Lin Mayor**

### **I am a Seenager. (Senior teenager)**

I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 60 years later.

I don't have to go to school or work.

I get an allowance every month.

I have my own pad.

I don't have a curfew.

I have a driver's licence and my own car.

I have ID that gets me into bars and the wine store.

I like the wine store best.

The people I hang around with are not scared of getting pregnant,  
they aren't scared of anything,

they have been blessed to live this long, why be scared?

And I don't have acne.

Life is Good!

Also, you will feel much more intelligent after reading this,  
if you are a Seenager.

Brains of older people are slow because they know so much.

People do not decline mentally with age,

It just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more  
information in their brains,

scientists believe this also makes you hard of hearing as it puts  
pressure on your inner ear.

Much like a computer struggles as the hard drive gets full,  
so too, do humans take longer to access information when their

brains are full.

Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for.

It is NOT a memory problem, it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

SO THERE"

I have more friends I should send this to, but right now I can't remember their names.

So, please forward this to your friends; they may be my friends, too.

**Supplied by Marian Halpin, thanks to Helen Comell**

### **Church Contagious Diseases**

Beware of these contagious diseases in church

**Frontophobia** : A morbid fear of the front seats in church. The sufferer is struck by an attack just inside the church door, and collapses in the nearest back seat.

**Sermonic Throat** : A dreaded choking caused by the start of the sermon. The sufferer unwraps a sweet very slowly and noisily, which seems to effect a complete cure.

**Accelerate Vocal Response (AVR)** : A condition which causes the sufferer to try to sing faster than the organ.

**Church Meeting Paralysis (CMP)** : This can strike suddenly, when a post in the church needs filing. A good dose of enthusiasm works wonders with this sad affliction.

**Supplied by Marian Halpin, thanks to Helen Comell**

### **Boys' and Girl's Brigade Display.**

On Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> of May at 6.30pm, the BB and GB companies will be holding their annual display in the Church Hall. The Inspecting Officer is Rob Campbell, who used to be in the Company in the 1970s and 1980s. Be great to see you all there.

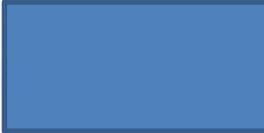
**Kay Owen and Heather Jackson.**

Your Supporter Number is: 99328181

06 April 2016



Mrs Dorothy Taylor



**Supporter Care**  
3 The Boulevard  
Ascot Road  
Watford  
WD18 8AG

Telephone: 0300 123 2112  
[ask.us@actionforchildren.org.uk](mailto:ask.us@actionforchildren.org.uk)

Thank You

Dear Mrs Taylor,

It's so inspiring to see the tradition of the league of light still shines on in our Home Collecting Box Holders, and that's why I'm writing, to say thank you for the £583.34 you and your Box Holders came together to raise.

In these hard financial times, we find more and more young people's lives are affected by poverty. Many parents are struggling to feed their families, leaving many more vulnerable children needing our support. More than ever, every penny we receive is desperately needed to make sure every child and young person we support can achieve their full potential.

The tradition of the League of Light runs deeply in our Home Collection Box Holders, and we are extremely grateful for the valuable time and effort you give as a Secretary, and every gift donated makes a positive difference to a young person's life.

That of course is why we are so grateful for your support, and please be sure to pass our sincere gratitude on to all the Box Holders that made this kind gift possible.

Together we continue to be there, for vulnerable and neglected children and young people, for as long as it takes.

Heartfelt thanks to all involved in the collection, for all your time and support.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Cook  
Director of Fundraising

P.S - If like Action for Children you want to be there for vulnerable and neglected young people for as long as it takes, you may wish to consider remembering Action for Children in your Will. If the time is ever right for you to do so, please contact our Legacy team on 0300 123 2112 or at [legacies@actionforchildren.org.uk](mailto:legacies@actionforchildren.org.uk)

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[actionforchildren.org.uk](http://actionforchildren.org.uk)



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Registered Office: 3 The Boulevard, Ascot Road, Watford WD18 8AG • Telephone: 0300 123 2112

## **Next Issue**

The next edition of **The Link** will be published on the **Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2016**. Therefore, items for inclusion in the next edition need to reach me by **Sunday the 29<sup>th</sup> of May**. Thanks, Mike ([MikeOwen10@aol.com](mailto:MikeOwen10@aol.com))

## **Boys' and Girls' Brigade Camp in Kirkham**

On Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> of April, 14 children from the Boys' and Girls' Brigade met on the Church car park before driving to the Boys' Brigade North West Centre in Kirkham. After the rooms were allocated, and everyone had unpacked, the children got creative with craft items brought by Karen before heading over to the Sports Hall for a game of football, table tennis, pool and bar football. After supper and devotions, everyone made their way to bed, eventually settling down by 2am.

On Saturday, a talent contest was held as part of devotions led by Heather, with Alicia performing a Bratz song, to demonstrate that we all have talents provided by God and that we should use them to his benefit. We then went back to the Sports Hall for Potted Sports, set up by Elena and Nathan, including skipping, skittles, darts and ball slalom. After lunch (and birthday cake number 1 for Nathan Junior), we walked to the local baths, stopping at the playground on the way, for an hour of splashing over the inflatable assault course. After tea (and a second birthday cake), we played Bingo, baked some cup cakes and enjoyed Frank's legendary quiz. A very busy, tiring day that saw all the children, except Reece asleep by 11.

On Sunday, we ate 59 sausages for breakfast, had room inspection and devotions, led by Frank and Andrew before searching for Blackbeard's treasure around the site. After a chicken roast, the children joined in an impromptu archery session and decorated their cup cakes before packing up and heading off home.

A brilliant weekend that was enjoyed by everyone and provided numerous memories to treasure for years to come.

One of the highlights of the weekend was on Saturday night when all the children had gone to bed and Reece joined the helpers in the lounge area for a cup of tea, some of Frank's cakes and a natter. We spent the next 2 hours laughing together and Reece really joined in with the banter. It was great to see Reece shine and enjoy himself so much.

Roll on next May!

**The members, Officers and helpers at the Boys' and Girls' Brigade**

# Marshside Road Methodist Church, Southport, PR9 9TL

[www.marshside-methodist-southport.org.uk](http://www.marshside-methodist-southport.org.uk)

Ministers : Revd. Jan Fraser

Tel : 01704 227296

Email : [revjanfraser@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:revjanfraser@hotmail.co.uk)

## Sunday Services

09:00 am. Holy Communion – first Sunday of each Month  
10:30 am. Morning Worship – including Crèche, J Team and Teenscene  
18:30 am. Evening Fellowship – see Weekly Notices

## Weekly Programme

Day	Meeting	Time	Contact
Monday	Parent, Carer & Toddler Group	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Margaret Boston (211548)
	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Playgroup	12:50 – 14:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Monday Evening Fellowship	20:00 –	Mrs Joan Owen (220436)
Tuesday	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Playgroup	12:50 – 14:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Bible Study Fellowship	10:45 –	Mrs Dorothy Taylor (211643)
	Prayer Fellowship	19:00 – 20:00	Mrs Pat Wright (213647)
	Knit & Craft Club, see website for details	13:00 – 16:00	Mrs Dorothy Mitchell (228430)
Wednesday	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Boys' Brigade & Girls' Brigade	18:30 – 21:30	Mrs Kay Owen (225126) Miss Heather Jackson (532977)
	Wednesday Group - every 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday		Mrs Sheila Jones (227661)
Thursday	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Thought for the Day	10:15 –	Mr George Phillips (514795)
	Playgroup	12:50 – 14:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Choir Practice	19:30 – 21:00	Mr Glenn Howard (840485)
Friday	Preschool	09:15 – 11:45	Mrs Mai-Ling Duckworth (509944)
	Chris Wright's School of Dance & Drama	16:00 – 19:15	Miss Alison Wright (0773 4305348)
Saturday	Chris Wright's School of Dance & Drama	09:15 – 15:00	Miss Alison Wright (0773 4305348)
	Monthly Messy Church (see Website)	16:00 – 18:00	See the Church Website for details
Other Contacts :	Church Notices	Mrs Dorothy Simpkin (229987)	
	Cradle Roll	Mrs Margaret Boston (211548)	
	Magazine/Website Editor	Mr Mike Owen (225126)	
	Action for Children Co-ordinator	Mrs Dorothy Taylor (211643)	
	Pastoral Committee	Mrs Joan Owen (220436)	
	Premises Letting Officer	Mr David Goldson (514390)	
World Missions	Mrs Lin Mayor (212059)		

### **Disclaimer :**

*The views and opinions expressed in this Church Magazine are solely those of the author of the individual article and not necessarily the views of the Church, Leadership Team or Minister.*