

The Link

Chandler's Ford Methodist Church



Time to stop and listen 2
Celebrating God's gift of free time

Cakes and conversation 18
Celebrating God's gift of fellowship

July/Aug 2010 **Are you a pastoral visitor?** 20
Vol. 52 No. 10 Celebrating God's gift of service

From the Editor's keyboard

I was up with the lark the other morning. He (she?) was there before me, of course, singing away somewhere above me. But I wasn't far behind. A beautiful dawning deserves to be serenaded, and Vic Gold does just that on *page 22*. It's a sound of summer, just as hymns and joyful songs are a sound of worship.

Our music director Helen Cornick reflects on three years in post (*page 3*), picking out highlights – especially *Born in Song*, which brought so many of us together. Like the skylark rejoicing in the first light of day, so our singing should signify our purpose. Stan Roberts from Bishopstoke knows the joy of singing, and began his visit to Spectrum last month with a rousing hymn; this month Women's Fellowship are led by Kath Phillips playing 'favourite hymns'.

Looking a little further ahead, Joyce Smith and friends are inviting new singers and instrumentalists to the next *Dovetail Does The Ritz* (*page 21*); this won't be until November, so there's plenty of time to practise.

This month's issue of The Link covers the holiday period, a time to explore our gifts, says Rev Tony Parkinson (page 2).

It's a time to be creative, to read that long-delayed book with 'open ears', to sit and enjoy the view or put in a round of golf. Perhaps for some it's a time to stop singing, and 'to find the quietest place we can imagine to read, meditate and pray'. For a couple of good holiday book recommendations, see what the Book Group is preparing (*page 16*). There are also plenty of opportunities to enjoy good coffee and conversation (see the July/August invitation on *page 18*).

Meanwhile, if you know a friend who can't get to church, why not take a copy of *The Link* to share. And if you visit another church during your vacation, remember to bring back a copy of their magazines – the Editor is always grateful to hear of the spirit moving within other congregations.

Happy holidays, and happy reading.

Dear friends, By the time you read this, all the exciting things will have finished. Annual general meetings, World Cup, Wimbledon. Even the Methodist Conference: all over. Everything seems to close down as the church goes into 'holiday mode'. The next thing to look forward to is the Eastleigh Carnival, and then the beginning of September.

So how do we fill that time? Do we go on holiday, do the garden or play golf? Or do we just sit and enjoy the view? Why not take this as 'gift time', when we can do something we haven't done before, maybe something which will recharge our spiritual batteries so that we have more to give when we come 'back to work' in the autumn? We might go on retreat; stand back from the busyness around us and listen to God. We might go away for a day for something organised (such as the 'quiet day' which St Andrew's and Colden Common shared last month), or just find the quietest place we can imagine in the country, to read, meditate and pray.

We might go on pilgrimage, take a journey with a spiritual significance. From Canterbury to Compostela might be a little too far, but what about a deliberate 'journey' round Winchester or Salisbury Cathedral, or a visit to each of the chapels in one of the neighbouring circuits? Take the time to pray at significant places and reflect on how God has revealed himself through the witness of those who lived and worked and prayed there in years gone by.

Or we might get out a book that we have always meant to read – a spiritual classic, perhaps, or that book recommended by the Book Group, or the one we bought because it looked interesting but we've hardly more than opened. Read it with open ears, for God may have something unexpected to say through it.

For this is a free time – a grace-gift of release from meetings, an opportunity to be creative. Take it as a gift; handle it with love. Who knows what God may have to show you in it and through it!



Yours in peace and joy,



Music Director's Notes Helen Cornick

I am approaching the end of three years in the role of part-time Director of Music at Chandler's Ford Methodist Church. So in looking back, let me focus on a few highlights and look forward to the future.

Highlights have included the various services involving the orchestra. The group has grown over the three years, and there is always the possibility to make the group even larger and more varied.

Two particular memories have to be the **Carol Service**, when the group played an introit which I had written, combining melody lines from a number of well known Advent and Christmas carols, and the **J-Team Celebration** last year, when over half of the 11-piece orchestra playing the Joseph Overture as an introit gave way to another 11 who played for the rest of the service!

'**Born in Song**' involved more people than I could have hoped for. It will certainly go on the calendar for another year. Co-ordinating the music for the **Barn Dance** at Harvest was a new experience for me which I would also hope to repeat. Concerts from our own musicians and from outside groups continue to provide excellent entertainment, and necessarily raise money for good causes, including our church funds.

Looking ahead, I continue to hope that we might be able to work together on a musical – to include friends from other churches in the circuit; more groups continue to enquire about having concerts here, and part of my role has been to work with some of these to provide for their needs; music in our Sunday services continues to take much of my time – in preparing groups, variety, visual copies of music.

One Sunday in June was nationally recognised as '**Music Sunday**'. We did not do anything in particular for that this year, but it may be possible to do something in the future. What do you think?



As I write, our church has just completed another two enormous celebrations: the **Street Pastors' Commissioning Service** and the **Ordination of eight ministers** into the Methodist Connexion. These events are the result of a commitment and preparation to which our church has contributed with great pride.

We wish God's blessing on everyone setting out on these great journeys. A huge vote of thanks is due to all who have prayed and baked, planned and cleaned, lifted and shifted, and helped us get ready in so many other ways.

The stewards would like to say 'Thanks' for the help they received during the recent **fire drill**. This succeeded in clearing the building smoothly and calmly. Please could I ask that, on future occasions, whether they are real or practice, vehicles remain parked until the car park has been cleared of pedestrians. In the event of a fire, the access to and from the premises will be kept closed to give priority to emergency vehicles.

At our last meeting, Peter shared some insights into serving the elements during the **Lord's Supper**, which is one of the great privileges of being a steward. This was a discussion raised in the context of becoming a steward, but we all learned a lot from it.

In last month's notes, I highlighted a number of vacancies: you will be delighted to know that names for **Pastoral Visitors** were put forward to Church Council and that **Colin Davies** has offered to represent our church at meetings of **Churches Together** in Chandler's Ford.

A small request from the stewards team: it would be helpful if counting team were not handling additional requests for changing money after the service as this disrupts a sometimes long and convoluted process.

Finally, please ensure the building is left secure if you are the last person or group to leave the premises. Please **check external doors and windows** as you leave.

Steward in Profile– Heather Francis

I was born in Aberystwyth to a Welsh Methodist mother and a Scottish Presbyterian father. At the age of three my family moved to Airdrie, North Lanarkshire, my father's hometown. There I remained for the next 17 years worshipping at the local Presbyterian church.

I met and married Syd in the summer of '66, a good year – we won the football world cup! We set up home in Ashford, Kent where our three children, David, Heather and Matthew were born. I am now the proud grandmother of five lovely grandchildren. Eleven years later we moved to Hawley, near Dartford in Kent and lived there for the next 26 years. During this time I devoted myself to raising my family and later returning to part-time work as a secretary.

Syd and I moved to Chandler's Ford in November 2003. The move has been a great success not least because of our association with this church. I truly feel it is an honour and privilege to serve as a steward and, with God's help, I will do my very best to fulfil this role.

Our Staff Team

Rev Peter Cornick	☎8026 8803	Superintendent Minister <i>(Day off – Thursday)</i>
Rev Tony Parkinson	☎8061 2871	Minister <i>(Day off – Friday)</i>
Susan Gulliver	☎8025 4916	Pastoral Assistant
Jane Padley	☎8026 6180	Pastoral Assistant
Marilyn Pack	☎8026 0128	Church Secretary <i>Home: ☎01794 512022</i>
John Andrews	☎8026 1253	Youth Worker <i>Mobile: ☎07809 616775</i>
Helen Cornick	☎8026 8803	Director of Music
Bill Davidson	☎07950 384 233	Building Services Manager
John Gilbert	☎8027 5449	Caretaker
Vanessa Fingerle	☎07704 604 549	Bookings/Special Events bookings@chandlersfordmethodistchurch.co.uk

Stan Roberts got our evening off to a rousing start last month with a hymn, then told us a little of the **history of Bishopstoke** Methodist Church. He outlined the New Horizons Project for building work, and the effort and money it took. The fund-raising was all worthwhile and it was completed in time for their 50th Anniversary in 2008. Stan knows how to get things done, and what can be achieved if everybody works together.

Our next meeting, at 7.30 pm in the Dovetail Centre, is:

Tuesday 6th July 50th Anniversary with a buffet supper,
celebration cake and musical entertainment
by Joyce Smith and friends

Our new year starts again on:-

Tuesday 7th September Members' Memories
Tuesday 5th October AGM and talk by Rev Peter Cornick

Women's Fellowship

Rosemary Pontin ☎8026 9330

June was a month of fascinating reflection for us, leaving us with the impression that things are not always what they seem.

Rev Peter Cornick told us the allegorical story of **Babatt's Feast**, the tale of two puritan sisters whose dreary lives are revitalised when their housekeeper gives a lavish meal. Like Jesus' love and sacrifice, the feast changes the sisters' lives. Later, **Susan Gulliver** shared with us a wonderful book that has had a lasting impression. **Oriel's Diary** was written by a London vicar and tells of Jesus' life from an Archangel's point of view. A mix of biblical fact and creative fiction, Oriel's Diary is compelling, humorous and moving.

Rounding the month off were **Marlene's** songs, stories and poems, and **Lily Mitchell's** experience of true friendship.

New members and visitors are welcome in the Dovetail Centre at 2.30 pm.
Next meetings are:

<i>Tuesday 6th July</i>	Guided tour of the Meon Valley with Jill Daniels
<i>Tuesday 13th July</i>	Social afternoon
<i>Tuesday 20th July</i>	Favourite hymns with Kath Phillips

Summer break

Tuesday 7th September Rev Peter Cornick

John Knight Church Golf Day

On **Monday 5th July** at Romsey Golf Club (time tbc). It will cost £32.00 to include coffee and bacon roll on arrival, green fee, meal after golf and prizes. A great day out. Please sign the sheet in the Linkway if you wish to attend.



Church Mission Statement

Our Purpose is to worship God, and, helped by the Holy Spirit, to love each other, to care for those in need and to share the love of Jesus with those in the community around us.

Our vision is for a church and community where people are not isolated or excluded, and where Christians have a higher profile as a force for good.

Drama Group Alison Baseley ☎8025 2694
(baseleys@btinternet.com)



**Drama group plays involve lots of people,
not just actors**

A brief reading of the programme at any of the MDG Players' productions will show you how many people are needed backstage and front of house, serving refreshments at the interval, stewarding and helping out during the week of the play. There are many jobs to be done, even if you don't want to go on stage.

A successful and enjoyable production is about teamwork and we'd like to invite you to join the team preparing for the next play at the end of November. Contact me to find out more.

Making a difference: Waitrose green tokens

Syd Francis, ECCC Trustee

Many of you will know of the green token system in Waitrose supermarket, where there is a container with a choice of charities to deposit your token. For the month of July one of the charities will be the Eastleigh Child Contact Centre (ECCC). From its launch seven years ago, the group has operated from our church premises once a fortnight. The ECCC provides a facility where contact between parents that have separated and their children can meet in a safe, secure and supervised environment (where no other alternatives are available).

The majority of cases are referred through the Court system. The Centre supports families by providing a child-centred, neutral and independent facility where children can enjoy contact with the absent parent and sometimes other family members. They rely on volunteers for the smooth running of the Centre and many of these come from our church.

Your support for this charity is greatly needed, so when next in Waitrose, your green tokens would be very much appreciated. Thank you.

Services

<i>Sunday 4th July</i>	8.00 am	Holy Communion Rev Peter Cornick
	10.30 am	All Age Worship J Team Celebration Rev Peter Cornick
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion Rev Lesley Martin
<i>Friday 9th July</i>	10.30 am	Shoppers' Service Helen Cornick
<i>Sunday 11th July</i> Action for Children	10.30 am	Family Worship Rev Peter Cornick
	6.30 pm	United Service at Kings Road URC Delcie Dalby
<i>Friday 16th July</i>	10.30 am	Shoppers' Service Rev Bryan Coates
<i>Sunday 18th July</i>	10.30 am	Family Worship with Holy Communion Rev Peter Cornick
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship Ken Richardson
	7.00 pm	Sofa Service Church Hall
<i>Friday 23rd July</i>	10.30 am	Shoppers' Service Delcie Dalby

Services (continued)

<i>Sunday 25th July</i>	10.30 am	Family Worship Tony Richmond
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion Rev Peter Cornick
<i>Friday 30th July</i>	10.30 am	Shoppers' Service Pam Madders
<i>Sunday 1st August</i>	8.00 am	Holy Communion Rev Peter Cornick
	10.30 am	All Age Worship Rev Tony Parkinson
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship Helen Cornick
<i>Friday 6th August</i>	10.30 am	Shoppers' Service Rev Peter Cornick
<i>Sunday 8th August</i>	10.30 am	Family Worship Rev Peter Cornick
	6.30 pm	United Service Rev Peter Cornick
<i>Friday 13th August</i>	10.30 am	Shoppers' Service Rosemary Minett
<i>Sunday 15th August</i>	10.30 am	Family Worship with Holy Communion Rev John Archer
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship David Wrighton

Services (continued)

<i>Sunday 15th August</i>	7.00 pm	Sofa Service Church Hall
<i>Friday 20th August</i>	10.30 am	Shoppers' Service Rev Tony Parkinson
<i>Sunday 22nd August</i>	10.30 am	Family Worship Barbara Hillier
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion Rev Bryan Coates Series "With Love to the Church – Paul's Letters" – Philippians
<i>Friday 27th August</i>	10.30 am	Shoppers' Service Eileen Green
<i>Sunday 29th August</i>	10.30 am	Family Worship Rev Lesley Martin
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship Simon Young
<i>Friday 3rd September</i>	10.30 am	Shoppers' Service
<i>Sunday 5th September</i>	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.30 am	All Age Worship
	6.30 pm	Evening Worship

Calendar

<p>Sunday 4 July Services (9)</p>	<p>Sunday 11 July Services (9) Open Garden (18)</p>	<p>Sunday 18 July Services (9) Sofa Service (9)</p>
<p>Monday 5 July Film show (17) Golf Day (7)</p>	<p>Monday 12 July Occasional Music Grp Monday h/g (15) Bring a Thought (16)</p>	<p>Monday 19 July Book Group (16)</p>
<p>Tuesday 6 July Women's Fellow (6) Spectrum (6)</p>	<p>Tuesday 13 July Women's Fellow (6) Z Group (15) Open Garden (18)</p>	<p>Tuesday 20 July Women's Fellow (6)</p>
<p>Wednesday 7 July</p>	<p>Wednesday 14 July Park Road h/g (15) Computer Tutorial (16)</p>	<p>Wednesday 21 July</p>
<p>Thursday 8 July Prayer Time Bloomer h/g (15)</p>	<p>Thursday 15 July Prayer Time Mums and Minis (16) Summer Ramble (17)</p>	<p>Thursday 22 July Prayer Time</p>
<p>Friday 9 July Shoppers' Service (9) Hiltingbury h/g (15) Rowntree h/g (15)</p>	<p>Friday 16 July Shoppers' Service (9)</p>	<p>Friday 23 July Shoppers' Service (9)</p>
<p>Saturday 10 July</p>	<p>Saturday 17 July Open Garden (18)</p>	<p>Saturday 24 July BB Open Garden (19)</p>

See page (in brackets)

Sunday 25 July Services (10)	Sunday 1 August Services (10) Open Garden (18)	Sunday 8 August Services (10)
Monday 26 July	Monday 2 August	Monday 9 August Occasional Music Grp
Tuesday 27 July	Tuesday 3 August	Tuesday 10 August Summer Ramble (17)
Wednesday 28 July	Wednesday 4 August	Wednesday 11 Aug
Thursday 29 July Prayer Time Summer Ramble (17)	Thursday 5 August Prayer Time	Thursday 12 August Prayer Time
Friday 30 July Shoppers' Service (10)	Friday 6 August Shoppers' Service (10)	Friday 13 August Shoppers' Service (10) Lunch Concert (21)
Saturday 31 July Open Garden (18)	Saturday 7 August	Saturday 14 August

Welcomers

Mike Slatcher 📞8057 0306

July	4 th	Pam Brookes and Margaret Mair (Spectrum's 50 th)
	11 th	Jill Goodeve and Mavis Hutchinson
	18 th	Jean Hiscocks and Pauline Waterman
August	25 th	Lesley Cunningham and Olive Langdown
	1 st	Ivy Corbett and Barbara Hillier
	8 th	Linda and Brian Hopgood
	15 th	Beryl and Alan Priday
September	22 nd	Dorothy and Trevor Randall
	29 th	Norma and David Reid
	5 th	Sue and Neil Ross

Sunday Morning Coffee

Chris Embleton 📞8026 5885

July	4 th	Winchester Road housegroup
	11 th	Hiltingbury housegroup
	18 th	Oakmount housegroup
August	25 th	SNiF
	1 st	Bring a thought group
	8 th	T A G
	15 th	Men's Fellowship
	22 nd	Drama Group
September	29 th	Rowntree housegroup
	5 th	Winchester Road housegroup

Crèche Rota

Mo Martin

Each week Mo Martin and Doreen Lewry will staff the crèche, plus:

July	4 th	Hilary Singer and Carolyn Hawthorne
	11 th	Celia Child
	18 th	Sylvia Jobson
August	25 th	Elizabeth Ruff
	1 st	Wendy Searle
	8 th	Sylvia Jobson
	15 th	Elizabeth Ruff
	22 nd	Celia Child
September	29 th	Carolyn Hawthorne
	5 th	Hilary Singer

Housegroups

Gordon Bloomer

☎ 8076 8581

Thursday 8th July at 7.45 pm
61 Glen Eyre Road – Pot Pourri

Hiltingbury

☎ 8026 1454

Friday 9th July at 7.30 pm – Meal out.
(see below)

Monday

☎ 8026 6786

Monday 12th July at 7.00 pm
Social Evening
Sunday 15th August at 11.00 am
Nomansland Methodist Church – All welcome

Oakmount

☎ 8025 2405

See notice sheet for details

Pam Rowntree

Friday 9th July
Summer Event at The Chalet, Mudeford
Friday 3rd September at 8.00 pm
17 Beechwood Crescent – Hot Topics

Park Road

☎ 8025 1528

Wednesday 14th July at 7.45 pm
115 Park Road
Wednesday 8th September at 7.45 pm
115 Park Road

Winchester Road

☎ 8026 1146

No meeting in July
Sunday 15th August after morning service
BBQ at the Marchmont's, Underhill, Shawford

Z Group

☎ 8025 1481

1A Kingsway Gardens

Tuesday 13th July at 7.45 pm
Rob Bell Nooma DVD discussion

Hiltingbury Housegroup requires a new co-ordinator from September. Sue and Neil Ross are standing down after many years of leadership and none of the current members feel able to take on this role at present. It would be sad if it ceased to meet. Could you help? Talk to Sue or Neil.

Book Group

Christine Slatcher ☎8057 0306
Daphne Waite ☎8025 3611

Mutant message down under, by Marlo Morgan

Monday 19th July at 26 Scantabout Avenue

This is the story of a courageous woman who walked with Aboriginals and learned the secrets and wisdom of an old tribe. It is described as a “unique, timely and powerful message for all humankind: that it is not too late to save our world from destruction, if we learn to respect all living beings and to live in harmony with the earth.”



Mother without a Mask, by Patricia Holden

Monday 13th September at 8.00 pm at Flat 12 Oakleaf Place, 33 Hursley Road (opp. Community Centre)

The author became an intimate friend of a United Arab Emirates family, before the oil-boom, and saw the transition from living in tents to building skyscrapers, from riding camels to driving Mercedes. Herself a Christian, she is deeply sensitive to the Islamic culture, especially to the lives of the women.

Bring a Thought

Derek Lowe ☎8026 9423

Mondays 12th July at 8.00 pm at 9 Clevelands Close.



Mums & Minis

Elizabeth Ruff ☎8026 7507

Thursday 15th July 10.00 am – 12 noon in the church.

Computer Basics Tutorials

The last free tutorial is on **Wednesday 14th July** in the Dovetail Coffee Room from 12.15-12.45 pm. It will cover **Presentations and Slide Shows (Digital Photos)**.



Memoranda

Sylvia Harris thanks everyone who either gave items for the container that is going to the **Philippines** in July or a donation. Keep saving your used toothpaste tubes, ring-pulls and crisp packets

Ian and Chris Embleton announce the safe arrival of their third grandson, **Oscar James**, a first baby for **Peter and Bernice**.

We pray God's blessing on **eight new ministers** who were ordained at our church on 27th June. They are: Rev Joanne Archer-Siddall, Rev Susan Greenhart, Rev Jo Lightowler, Rev Barry Lotz, Rev Darren Middleton, Rev Frank Okai-Sam, Rev Claire Simpson and Rev Kim Williams.

Key missing. If anyone knows the whereabouts of the plastic key for the small box which protects the heating thermostat control in the church, could they either leave it by the box or contact Bill Davidson.

Summer Rambles

Daphne Waite ☎ 8025 3611

Rambles are planned for **Thursday 15th July, Thursday 29th July** and **Tuesday 10th August**. The rambles are 2-3 miles in length. We meet in the church car park at 6.30 pm. And lifts are arranged; all welcome.



Film Show

On **Monday 5th July** at 7.30 pm in the Dovetail Centre the Justice and Peace Group will be showing the film **The End of Suburbia: Oil depletion and the Collapse of the American Dream**.

All welcome. See the Justice and Peace Notice board in the Linkway for further information.

Coming up

Cakes, cookies and company! Neil, Sue and Elaine Ross invite you to their Open Garden on **Sunday 11th July** 2.30 - 5.00 pm at 8 Ashdown Close. Bring and Buy stall. Proceeds shared between church funds and Stuart Strange Vasculitis Trust. The Trust supports people with Vasculitis diseases such as Wegener's Granulomatosis, which affects at least two members of our church.

Coffee at Cornerstone with the ducks. On **Tuesday 13th July** at Caroline and John Andrews, 9 Wellowbrook Close, Valley Park. 3.00 pm Tea and cakes, 6.30 pm burger/sausage BBQ. In aid of Church and Kenya funds. Stall and cards in aid of Kenya fund.

Church camping weekend. From **Friday 16th to Sunday 18th July.** Contact Phil Wakelin ☎8048 2474 for details.

Coffee and croissants. Christine and Mike Slatcher welcome you to their home 28 Westwood Gardens on **Saturday 17th July** 9.30 am - 12 noon for tea, coffee, croissants and muffins (£3.00). In aid of Church and Kenya funds. Cake and card sale for Kenya. Why not come for breakfast?

Coffee morning in aid of the Alan Cranmar Fund. Supporting the work of Holdsworth Memorial Hospital, Mysore, India. On **Saturday 31st July** 10.00 am - 12 noon at 137 Hursley Road. Please bring cakes to sell. Cards for sale in aid of Kenya project. Offers of help to Barbara Hillier ☎8026 6786.

Andrew, Dawn, Laura and Jonathan Wood invite you to come for **Tea in the Garden** on **Sunday 1st August** from 3.00 - 5.00 pm at 4 The Glade, Thornbury Wood. Please call us ☎8013 0171 if you need a lift. Donations for Church and Kenya Funds.

An Invitation to a **Cream Tea** at Colden Common Methodist Church on **Sunday 1st August** from 2.00 - 4.30 pm. Come and meet friends at another Circuit Church.

1st Chandlers Ford Boys' Brigade

Brian Burnage ☎8026 9733

Website: 1cfbb.com



The weather has been kind to us, and our regular outdoor activities have all been achieved. We shall continue with our programme up to the school holidays and then take a break until September.

DofE Award activities continue. The Bronze participants are all prepared for their Final Expeditions in July - this will also be an opportunity for our Leaders to become accredited assessor under the new expedition scheme.

We have a few events to complete before the end of the BB year.

4th July Band playing at Horton Heath Baptist Church
17th July National Association rehearsal in Birmingham

24 th July	OPEN GARDEN All welcome (bring a chair) at 24 Sycamore Avenue, 2.30 - 5.30 pm.
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8th August Morning Service at Chandler's Ford
21st August Concert at Brighton
29th August Band for Methodist Caravan Club Service

New members are welcome at any of the BB meetings. Leaflets giving full details of all can be obtained from the BB Notice board in the church Linkway corridor.

John O'Groats to Land's End

Sponsored bike ride in aid of church funds and Naomi House Hospice.
Contact John Andrews ☎07809 616 775.



You could be a

Pastoral Visitor

Why do we have pastoral visitors?

What does a pastoral visitor do?

What support do they get?

Come to an informal meeting in Meeting Room 1

on Sunday 12th September

after the morning service to find out if this might be for you

For more information speak to:

Rev Peter Cornick, Jane Padley, Susan Gulliver or Sue Ross

Dovetail does The Ritz

"We began as a response to 'Further a Fiver' in 2007, a one-off event we thought, just a group of people who sometimes sang together and some willing caterers. But we seem to have become a bit of a Church institution, and have also performed at Romsey Methodist's Tea and other local fund-raising events. So the fiver has been well furthered.

We'll be back in the Dovetail on **Saturday 20th November** with the catering provided by the wonderful Social Events Committee and their army of happy helpers. As last year, the profits will be divided between our church funds and a charity, this time at the Neurological Department of Southampton General Hospital.

We performers never intended to become an exclusive group as we may seem now, and our audience would be glad to see some new faces. We're also considering including an interlude of a more classical nature with instrumentalists, amid all those lovely old songs.

If you'd like to join us to sing, accompany, play an instrument or even tell a good story, talk to Frank Allen, Alan Gilbert, Anna Ruff, Penny Thatcher, Joyce Smith ☎01794 519672.



Brumbones Present:

**A Lunchtime Concert of
Easy Listening Classics**

at our church

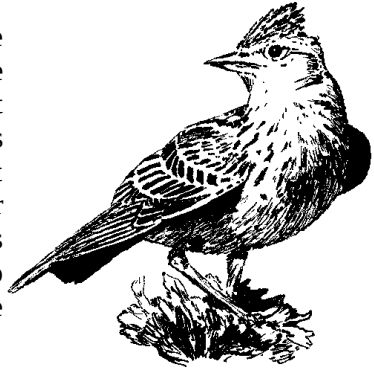
on 13th August from 12.00 noon -12.45 pm

Come and listen to a trombone quartet of 3rd year
Music Performance students from Birmingham Conservatoire

Free admission with a retiring collection for the Church Funds

Birdsong is one of the real pearls of life, a heavenly gift that enchants our senses wherever we happen to be. Whether we are enjoying the tranquillity and charm of a hilltop vista, overlooking spacious heathlands or delighting in a woodland's sunny glade, such evocation never fails to enhance the English psyche.

For years, poets have extolled the distinctive character of the skylark, the only British bird that habitually sings as it flies almost vertically upward until it is little more than a dot in the sky. In fact it performs its courtship song high in the air and keeps on singing even when it heads down towards the earth again. Who couldn't fail to feel poetic about a bird like that?



Shakespeare in his sonnets writes of 'the lark at break of day arising from the sullen earth, sings hymns at heaven's gate'. Shelley also referred to the skylark as a 'blythe spirit' whose notes 'flow in a crystal stream'.

The skylark is a lovely little bird that likes nesting in open spaces. Over the years it has always had a place in people's hearts, not just because of its looks, but also because of its unique, silvery warbling song that carries across fields and moors in the summertime.

The old familiar saying 'up with the lark' has been attributed to this delightful little bird because it rises and sings at the break of dawn. Its lovely song heard from soaring heights is one of the best means of identification.

In this country we are fortunate to be encompassed by a rich natural environment, a home to a variety of wonderful birds, plants and animals. Thankfully we are more than blessed each day by God's enduring and creative heritage that is so freely bestowed on each one of us.



Helping people make the best of their lives for over 15 years

Getting you back to work

Are you facing uncertainty in the job market?

Is your current job insecure, have you been made redundant, do you need a change of direction or do you just want to get into the job market?

We are a small, friendly yet professional and independent organisation based in Chandler's Ford. Following generous funding grants from sources including Eastleigh Borough Council and HIWCF, we can provide free job search support to those who need it.

The kind of practical help that is available includes:

- finding out what work you might be good at and you will enjoy
- learning how to be better at finding work
- creating or updating a CV
- identifying where to sell your skills in the job market

We are here to listen, build your confidence and help you to realise your potential. Here is some feedback from a recent client:

'The best parts of the sessions were the feedback I have received from writing my CV and the advice I got about job interviews. It has also been challenging to think of my goals and aspirations.'

Why not get in touch and make an appointment for a chat with one of our advisers? **Telephone/answer-phone: ☎8027 1462**

Email: info@springbrd.org website: www.springboard.hampshire.org.uk

Shaping up at The Hexagon

By Fiona Benham from St Boniface church

The Hexagon, in Suffolk Close, Chandler's Ford, is a centre for physically disabled people and slow-learner adults from all over the county. It was built in 1980 and opened by Sir David Price MP. The idea came from Hampshire County Council social workers and carers. I have been helping there on Thursdays for nearly two years and enjoy it very much.

There is a wide range of disability. The aim is to help clients to build up their confidence. People are assessed at home to see what help they need. If that help is available at The Hexagon, and there's a vacancy, they can be given a four-week trial.

People come to the Centre to make new friends, learn new skills and new hobbies. Different activities are held there including art, cookery, craft and woodwork. There are computers to use, and many clients enjoy quizzes or going out for a meal. I do some very basic art and also help in the craft section. In this section people do tapestry, cross stitch and weaving.

Friends of the Hexagon was set up in 1981. The organisation helps to support the clients and the staff who run the centre. A small shop with drinks and snacks is run by Friends. At the moment we are looking for volunteers to help run it.

The Friends have paid for many items over the years including a talking microwave for the partially-sighted, wheelchair scales (special scales to check the weight of those who are chair bound) and a greenhouse for the horticultural section. They have funded trips for clients, software programs for the business studies section, photographic equipment, televisions and videos. They have also provided garden furniture, equipment for the sensory room, and they make donations each year for the Christmas Party.

The Friends are looking for more help in the shop. If you can offer some time for the work at The Hexagon, contact Derric Webster (☎8026 1949) or Eileen Macrae (☎8026 5613).

The Link

Contributions to *The Link*

Thank you to everyone who contributes to *The Link* each month, reflecting the life and work of this church and community. Please respect the deadline or, if that's not possible, let the editor know when to expect copy.

Deadline for the September issue is

Wednesday 25th August

Send to both:

Richard Clayton at **link.editor@hotmail.co.uk**
and Richard Wright at **barnpiece@yahoo.co.uk**

Handwritten contributions should be left in *The Link* pigeon-hole at church. You can also post contributions to: The Link Editor, Chandler's Ford Methodist Church, Winchester Road, Chandler's Ford, EASTLEIGH, SO53 2GJ.

Please remember your contribution to the production of *The Link*.

We suggest 40p to cover costs.

If you know of anyone who can't get to church regularly but would like to receive a copy, contact Brian Marchmont ☎01962 712121.

We apologise for any errors or omissions – Ed.

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Editor: Richard Clayton (link.editor@hotmail.co.uk) 023 8026 6128

SUNDAY

8.00 am Holy Communion (first Sunday of each month)
10.30 am **Family Worship**
J Team (for children school age to early teens)
(There is a crèche for those pre-school age)
6.30 pm **Evening Worship**
7.45 pm Young People's Fellowship
8.00 pm SNIFF (Sunday Night Fellowship)

MONDAY

7.00 pm Boys' Brigade
7.00 – 8.30 pm Other Hand Puppets (Age 7+)
7.30 pm Occasional Music Group (2nd Monday)

TUESDAY

2.30 pm Women's Fellowship
5.45 – 7.15 pm Brownies
7.00 – 8.00 pm Youth Choir
7.15 pm Men's Supper Club (4th Tuesday)
7.30 pm Badminton Club
7.30 – 9.00 pm Guides
7.30 pm Spectrum Group for Women (1st Tuesday)

WEDNESDAY

10.00 am Men's Fellowship
1.45 – 3.15 pm Doves Parents and Toddlers (Term time)
6.30 – 7.30 pm Junior Choir
7.30 – 9.00 pm Folk Dancing (2nd and 4th Wednesdays)
7.30 pm Drama Group

THURSDAY

9.00 am Prayer Time in the Prayer Corner
2.00 – 4.00 pm Ladies' Badminton
4.45 – 7.45 pm Boys' Brigade (Anchor Boys/Juniors)
8.00 – 10.00 pm Youth Club

FRIDAY

10.30 am **Shoppers Service**
5.00 – 6.00 pm Rainbow Guides
6.00 – 7.30 pm Brownies
6.00 – 9.00 pm Boys' Brigade Band Practice

SATURDAY

6.30 – 8.00 pm Junior Youth Club

COFFEE ROOM is open in the Dovetail Centre every Monday to Saturday
(except Bank Holidays) from 9.30 am – 12 noon
PRESCHOOL – Every weekday from 9.05 am – 12.05 pm (2.9 – 5 years)
TRAIDCRAFT – In the Linkway each Friday from 10 am – 12 noon