

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY	Services	10.30am and some evenings
MONDAY	Craft Club (alternate weeks, see Diary for dates)	2.00pm to 4.00pm
WEDNESDAY	Community coffee shop	9.00am to 5.00pm
THURSDAY	Thursday Group (1st Thursday in month)	2.45pm to 4.00pm
SATURDAY	Community coffee shop	10.30am to 11.30am

## DIARY DATES FOR MAY

Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	Preacher: Revd Simon Oliver General church meeting and gift day, with bring-and-share lunch, see notice	10.30am
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	Service at Bramley Court	2.45pm
Thu 5 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday Group. Please bring and talk about a favourite possession (Note: change of speaker. Paul Allen will now be bringing his baby pigeons on July 7 <sup>th</sup> )	2.45pm
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	Yard sale, see notice	
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	Preacher: Revd Jean Simmonds	10.30am
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	Craft Club	2.00pm
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup>	Pentecost. Preacher: Revd Jean Simmonds	10.30am
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	Service at Etheldred House	11.00am
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Holy Communion. Preacher: Revd Simon Oliver	10.30am
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Craft Club	2.00pm
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup>	Preacher: Revd Barbara Garwood	10.30am

### Future dates for your diary

Beetle drive, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June, details next month

Harvest Festival, 25<sup>th</sup> September. Revd Simon Oliver will lead morning worship.

We are very privileged to have Revd Steven Wild, current President of The Methodist Conference, to lead our Church Anniversary service this year on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30am.

Please make a note of the date in your diary.

Christmas market, 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

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### COUNTRY DANCING

Due to holidays and other commitments, there will be no dancing in May,

Jane and I look forward to seeing you on 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

*Kathryn*

### YARD SALE

We are holding a yard sale on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 9.30am.

Items to sell can be left in the church any time after morning service on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May.

If you are unable to store items yourself until then or need help transporting them, please speak to one of the stewards and we will try to help.

Coffee and delicious refreshments will be available as usual. All proceeds to our Development Fund.

### GENERAL CHURCH MEETING AND GIFT EVENING

The General Church Meeting and Gift Day will take place on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016 after morning worship. The meeting will be followed by a bring-and-share lunch, a finger buffet. A list will be available in the church for you to sign if you can bring something.

Papers for the meeting are available on the bookcase in church. We hope you will be able to come; this meeting is open to the whole church, and is a chance to give your views on what is going on in our premises.

### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

We have raised money for three different causes recently. From the Easter Offering envelopes we sent £310.40 to *Methodist Women in Britain*. The £269.36 from Coffee mornings during Lent went to *All we can*, (which used to be known as *Methodist Relief and Development Fund*), and £325.50 was given for relief in the migrant crisis. A big thank you to everyone who contributed.

### ANNUAL QUIZ HELD 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL IN THE CHURCH HALL

A fun but hotly challenged quiz was held to raise funds for the development. A huge thank you goes to Robin McCombie the amiable but tough quizmaster, to Joy McCombie and friends who worked so hard to prepare and produce delicious, plentiful refreshments, and thank you to all who supported this well-planned social evening, when the admirable sum of £510 was raised for the church development

fund. I understand Robin has already begun to work on next year's questions!

### QUIZ EVENING

We are very grateful to everyone who helped or offered to help at the quiz evening on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April. Thank you to those who came and to those who made a donation. We are delighted that the sum of £510 was raised for the Church Development Fund.

*Robin and Joy*

### BESOM

We are pleased to report that Derek Slaymaker has joined the *Besom* group as a volunteer to help Martin, Moya and Les with the removal and delivery of furniture. Welcome to the group Derek, we hope you will (as we all do) find lots of rewards for what we are able to do for those who have fallen on hard times.

Best wishes from us all,

*Wendy Toates*

### DEVELOPMENT REPORT

We held a very successful quiz evening on 8<sup>th</sup> April when £510 was raised for funds (see article above).

The yard sale will go ahead on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May, and we hope for a fine day. The beetle drive will be held at 7pm on 17<sup>th</sup> June, more details later.

Trudi Gooden won the voucher donated for the survey. We had a very positive meeting with QMP recently and hope to go out to tender very soon.

Michael Simmonds is working very hard on grant applications and results there are trickling in.

Further to the notice about pews last month, most of the furniture and fittings in the church will be sold or disposed of. If anyone is interested in purchasing, please contact Christine who has the list.

### METHODIST WOMEN IN BRITAIN

A meeting has been arranged to discuss the future of 'Methodist Women in Britain' in our circuit and how best to take this forward. Revd Barbara Garwood is happy to facilitate this initial group and some of the officers at District level have been invited to talk to us. The meeting has been arranged for 24<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at 10a.m. at Chesterton Methodist Church and anyone interested and able to attend will be very welcome. If you wish to know more about MWIB please speak to our church representative Revd Jean Simmonds.

**CHOIR RULES!**

Whilst sorting out vestry cupboards recently the stewards came across 'Histon Methodist Choir Minute Book' dated from July 1935 to January 1962.

At a meeting held on October 19<sup>th</sup> 1939 a list of *Choir Rules* was drawn up as follows.

*Rule 1 Six or more members must be present at the time stated for choir practice in order that the said practice should take place. These members should then practise hymns and if during this time insufficient members arrive for the practice of any other music, choir practice should close.*

*Rule 2 Members are not to take part in rendering of an anthem unless having been to a practice for the same.*

*Rule 3 A register shall be kept of attendance at practices and this to be read up and posted up every quarter. A 1d fine to be paid for non-attendance*

*Rule 4 Permission must be asked of the choirmaster to take home music which must be returned to him.*

*Rule 5 Members are to be asked to let the choirmaster know if they will be unable to attend a practice, also if they come late to wait outside until the conclusion of the piece being sung*

Quite a tough set of rules to abide by!

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

I have been producing this *Newsletter* since 1991, with a brief break in 2005/6. Initially twelve editions a year, then ten, so a total of around 250!

I now think it is time that someone else took over. If anyone is interested I'll happily go through the procedure for obtaining the news, getting it proof-read and eventually printed.

In 1991 it was a 'typed, cut and paste job', but is now slightly more sophisticated. I use a word-processing program on my computer, but I'm sure there are other people who would use a more modern system such as desk top publishing.

Any offers?

*Jenny Phillipps*

**COMMUNITY COFFEE SHOP.**

We celebrated our 4th birthday on April 18<sup>th</sup> and are still continuing to grow week by week. We welcome Pam and Carol, our two new volunteers. They each came along on separate Wednesdays to see if they could be of help. They have soon found their feet and are very valuable additions to the team.

Thank you to Simon so very much for all you do and for support. Thank you to everyone who has helped make this venture a success. David and Otto have joined the team of helpers who clear up in the afternoons. Thanks also to the team who set up the tables on Tuesdays, such a great help now Colin is unable to do this with me.

Thank you all, it is very much appreciated.

*Wendy*

**FOOD BANK**

Just a reminder there is a basket in the porch into which items can be placed which are regularly taken to our local food bank. There is also an up to date list of what types of food are most urgently needed.

We thank you for your continuing support.

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 15-21 MAY 2016**

Christian Aid Week runs from 15-21 May this year. Most churches in Histon and Impington help with the house to house collection. If you can spare an hour or so to help cover the roads we have been allocated please let me know. I am always short of collectors!

I have now done this job for over 30 years so if anyone feels they can take it on please let me know.

*Christine Pooley*

**PRAYER FOR  
PENTECOST/CHRISTIAN AID**

Holy Spirit of God,  
light a flame within us,  
burning for justice,  
glowing with kindness,  
shining with hope  
for the end of poverty  
and the peace of all people  
in this ever-turning world.  
Amen.