



CHEAM METHODIST CHURCH

Cnr Church Hill Road and Chatsworth Road,
Cheam, Sutton SM3 8LJ

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018

Lay Pastor: Mr John Dawson 020 8644 2331 john@nonsuchcottage.me.uk

Eucharist Minister: Rev Gill Long

gill.long@methodist.org.uk

SERVICES AT CHEAM METHODIST CHURCH (10.30am)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Preacher</i>	<i>Service</i>
2 September	Mr Chris Morley	22 nd Ordinary
9 September	Revd Gill Long	Holy Communion
16 September	Mr Alan Jameson	24 th Ordinary
23 September	Mr John Dawson	25 th Ordinary
30 September	Revd Barnabas Alexander	26 th Ordinary
7 October	Mr Philip Richter	27 th Ordinary
14 October	Revd Gill Long	Harvest Festival / Holy Communion
21 October	Mr Keith Halstead	29 th Ordinary
28 October	Mr John Dawson	30 th Ordinary

Hall Bookings: Audrey Saunderson – 020 8644 6911

www.cheammethodistchurch.org.uk

Church Charity Number: SI 2655/2007

A MESSAGE FROM REVD GILL LONG

An angel appears at a University Department meeting and tells the dean that in return for his unselfish and exemplary behaviour, the Lord will reward him with his choice of infinite wealth, wisdom or beauty. Without hesitating, the dean selects infinite wisdom.

"Done!" says the angel and disappears in a cloud of smoke and a bolt of lightning. Now, all heads turn toward the dean, who sits surrounded by a faint halo of light. At length, one of his colleagues whispers, "Say something."

The dean looks at them and says, "I should have taken the money."

As I write this, 'A' level results have just been published and there is condemnation that a higher proportion of students have been offered

unconditional places than ever before. The implication is that the students aren't worthy; but that universities are struggling to fill places (there was a dip in the birth rate in 2000).

As you read this, students are preparing to leave home and study at Uni. Whether they got the places they wanted or went through 'clearing' and accepted alternative courses, children are leaving home, persuaded that the world will be their oyster once they have a degree. Family life will be changing.

I remember when our eldest went off to Uni – we all packed in the car (dog, too – we couldn't leave him all day) with cases, boxes, bedding, food supplies spilling out of every window and threatening to come off the roof rack! It was so hard, leaving our first born by the time our third child went off to Uni, we'd got it down to a fine art (and yet still took the dog).

But through their university careers we discovered a big difference between intelligence and wisdom. It has been said that intelligence is knowing that a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is knowing not to put it in a fruit salad.

Research for the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development showed that 58% of UK graduates have ended up in non-graduate jobs, and around one in twelve of those working in low skilled jobs, such as in coffee shops, bars, call centres and at hospitality events, are now graduates.

Not everyone needs to go to Uni. The truth is we are worthy because of who we are, not because of how we look or what we accomplish. We are worthy because we're made in the image of God – whether or not we have a degree. May we never judge someone by their academic achievement or the work they do.

As the University term begins, we think of those young people leaving home for the first time; facing temptations and peer pressure – and a very large debt. We think of families missing them and worrying about them. We think of all those known to us and known only to God who have let someone go.

“An empty place at the table,
silence from the bedroom – no loud music!
Clothes no longer strewn on the floor,
the washing machine strangely silent,
Our child has gone away.

*‘It was I who taught Ephraim to walk,
I took them up in my arms’ Hosea 11:3*

Loving God,
you are a Father and a Mother to your children
and you have let them go -
to grow, to live, to learn.
Your children have always made mistakes,
hurt themselves and others
and still you love them.

‘How can I give you up, Ephraim?’ Hosea 11:8

Gill

FAMILY CIRCLE



We have received so many wonderful messages from our Cheam Methodist Church family since the death of our beautiful daughter, Sally, in late July. And we were so moved to see so many from Cheam at Sally's funeral, even though for many it meant staying the night, and an awkward journey each way. Many of you had known Sally since she was baptised at Cheam, attended Junior Church and APEX where she made life-long friends with Ruth Delafond.

Although Sally had been diagnosed with a particularly nasty type of cancer more than three years ago, her death has still been devastating for our family and friends. We have received nearly 200 cards and letters, and it is so moving to know so many people are sharing our great sadness.

Sally's funeral was held at Lodge Hill Crematorium in Birmingham, and was attended by friends and family from Bangkok, Ireland, Scotland and many parts of England. Her brother James read a tribute to his sister on behalf of the whole family. In it he spoke of Sally's devotion to family and friends, her strong belief in social justice, her love of travel, and the beautiful smile which always lit up the room.

James also read a tribute from Sally's last manager in her role working in support of victims of domestic violence: "Sally was an absolute joy to work with. She made a real difference to the lives of many people, helping to keep them safe, and I'm sure a lot of people have no idea what she achieved." Afterwards more than 50 people gathered at our retirement village in Edgbaston to share their memories of Sally.

We do want you to know that your support during these difficult weeks has been a great comfort to us. And as a tribute to Sally, donations are being collected for two causes, St Mary's Hospice Birmingham, who supported her during the later stages of her illness, and Gilgal Birmingham, a wonderful refuge for victims of domestic violence. Cheques for either cause can be sent to us at 2 Chamberlain Place, 1a Church Road, Birmingham B15 3AX and we will be honoured to pass them on.

Cynthia and Tony Brett Young

One of the Women's Friendly Hour members, Joyce Nicholas sadly died on the 8th July aged 93 and her funeral service was held on Wednesday 18th July. Four WFH members were able to attend the service and heard what a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, sister, auntie and friend she was from all the people who attended the service. Joyce was a loyal member of our fellowship and although she was in a wheelchair and brought by her carers, still joined in Chair Exercises, enjoyed the singing and came to the recent outing to Denbies for the cream tea at the end of May. Her son Tony lives locally and was a great supporter of our meetings and her daughter Carole, came from her home in New South Wales, and though missed our WFH Garden Party, came for a coffee and chat one Tuesday morning. Our Fellowship was one of the charities selected for donations from the funeral and we are extremely grateful for the generous amount given to

us. Thanks also to Steve, Joyce's other son, and all the family. Joyce had been a member for six years and will be sadly missed.

Prayers please for all those having treatment, and those who have recently been bereaved. Please continue to pray for John, our Lay Pastor and Gill, our Eucharist Minister.

Mary Freeman

FAMILY PRIDE

Helen's House



On 29th June, Bob and I were invited to Kenley Primary School for the dedication of a new Play House for the children in memory of our daughter Helen. Helen had raised over £1,000 for the school before the end of term last year and the school wished to show their appreciation of her dedication. Our granddaughter, Poppy, helped choose the play house and cut the red ribbon during the afternoon. It has been named 'Helen's House' and the sign has hopefully been added since. Poppy will be in Year 6 in

September so will have a year to enjoy this tribute to her Mum.

Mary Freeman

CHURCH NEWS AND NOTICES

Cheam Tots end of year presentation.



Seven of our Tots are heading to nursery in September and we said 'goodbye' to...

From left to right – Katy, Shriya, Erin, Isla, Amelia and Jessica. Unfortunately, Isabella had chickenpox but her Nan collected her certificate.

MESSY CHURCH

As you were probably aware, we decided to postpone the last Messy Church as it fell on the Football World Cup final day. With a chance that England could reach the final, we felt that there would be a low turn out.

The postponement has now become a cancellation as the diary is already filling up during the Autumn.

So.... The next Messy Church will be in December (date to be decided) and incorporate the Christingle service.

SPRUCE-UP DAY



Our Church 'Spruce up Day' was on 18th August and twelve volunteers set about to cut grass, weed, paint, clean, sweep, varnish chairs, repair plant boxes and plant flowers in troughs on our railings. I'm sure you'll agree that the outside of the church (back, front and side) looks so much better. Gill and John were part of the 'spruce up team' and we were treated to lunch by Gill and Brian. Well done and many thanks to all who helped in any way.

FEATURES



Early in July our fire equipment underwent an annual check. Several of us were lucky enough to be there when the technicians came and gave us a free, in depth tutorial on how to use the equipment, particularly the fire extinguishers. It occurred to us that most people don't know where the extinguishers are and why there are different types for different kinds of fire. There are 4 different types of extinguishers on our premises and each is for a specific kind of fire. Did you know that?

Carbon Dioxide
ABC Powder
Hydro spray
Foam spray.

A simple fire extinguisher training technique to use is the PASS method:

1. **P** - Pull the pin on the extinguisher.
2. **A** - Aim the hose nozzle low toward the base of the fire.
3. **S** - Squeeze the handle to release the extinguishing agent.

4. **S** - Sweep the nozzle from side to side at the base of the flames until extinguished.

The overriding aim, though, is to get everyone out of the building, call 999 and only use the extinguishers if there is a hindrance near an exit.

Please take time, when you can, to notice where each appliance is and what kind of fire it is used for. There are notices next to each one and also on the unit itself.

NEWS FROM RYELANDS

Methodist Homes Sunday

Thank you for your generous donations for this annual appeal. A total of £141 was received and this will be presented during the Circuit Service celebrating 75 years of MHA to be held at Ryelands on Sunday 14th October at 3.00pm.

Please look out for copies of the quarterly magazine *Heart & Soul* which are available at the back of the church and include interesting articles about the work of Methodist Homes.

The Christmas Fair at Ryelands will take place on Saturday 24th November 2018 at 2pm. More details later.

Jenny Delafond

NEWS FROM SEEABILITY

The Community Awareness Group visited us on Monday 2nd July and we all enjoyed chatting over coffee and cakes before the usual sing-song. Paul Whittingham gave a warm vote of thanks on behalf of the group and said they were already looking forward to their Christmas visit! Many thanks to all the helpers and especially to Jane for playing the piano and Mary for leading the singing, which was particularly good thanks to some strong men's voices. Do take a look at the photos displayed on the board at the back of the church, together with a card from the group expressing their thanks.

Many thanks to those from CMC who supported the Wild Cats' Dramatic Society when they performed their latest play, 'Bird Song', in July. It was another excellent production, thanks to the enthusiastic cast, volunteers and their director, Hannah Stuart.

Jenny Delafond

SUTTON SCHOOLSWORK

New director appointed..



Thank you so much for your prayers. We are delighted to say that we have recruited a new Director, Simon Ellingham, who will be starting mid August. Some of you may have seen him in the Easter Experience at North Cheam Baptist Church where he played Jesus.

A replacement for Cat Hubbard (Secondary Schools Worker) will hopefully be appointed by January.



SUNDAY SERVICES IN JULY AND AUGUST

The aim of this item is to help us reflect on the services of the previous months. It will include details of the readings, and some brief notes from each service.

1st July Mr John Dawson

Readings: Mark 5: 21 – 43

Lamentations 3: 22 – 33

'What are we meant to do with these stories?

Why do bad things happen to good people?

Why do good things happen to bad people?

How do we live in a world that's not right?

1. *Emmanuel – God with us – Jesus*
2. *Hope – the Holy Spirit gave Jesus hope and was able to trust His life in the Father.'*

8th July Revd Gill Long

Readings: Samuel 5: 1 – 5

Mark 6: 1 – 13

'The disciples followed the commands Jesus gave which were for a specific purpose at that time. God has put us here at this time to make a difference. The Kingdom was coming then and there and Jesus was proclaiming it for here and now.'

15th July Mr John Dawson MHA Sunday – 'Full of Years'

Readings: Genesis 12: 1 – 8
Luke 2: 25 – 35
Hebrews 11: 8 – 16

'You don't grow old – when you cease to grow, then you are old'
'Age speaks wisdom into young lives' – Simeon

22nd July Mrs Hannah Chun

Readings: 2 Samuel 7: 1 – 14a
Ephesians 2: 11 – 22

'Remember how we were and how we got here.'
'What frivolous thoughts do we have that take up our time?'
'God took David from the pasture. Where is the pasture that God took us from?'

29th July Favourite Hymn Service

Readings: 1 Kings 3: 5 – 12
Matthew 13: 31 – 33, 44 – 52

'Where is our treasure?'
Do we put our faith in earthly things or things that are eternal?'

5th August Mr Keith Halstead

Readings: 2 Samuel 11: 1 – 5, 14 - 15
Readings: 2 Samuel 11: v26 – 2 Samuel 12: 1 – 13

'The fragile nature of human behaviour.'
We all have the potential for significant sin. A significant leader, David, fell spectacularly from grace.
We should never underestimate...

- 1. The lure of sin*
- 2. The effect of sin and its consequences*
- 3. The Grace of God which is sufficient to cover any sin.'*

12th August Revd Gill Long

Readings: Ephesians 4: v25 to 5: v2
Readings: John 6: 41 – 51

'Only those who come to the Father will have eternal life.'
'Strip away the old self and put on the new.'
'As the bread of life, Jesus nourishes us.'
'Unity and love must be real – always in our church and our daily lives.'

19th August Mr Richard Smith

Readings: 2 Kings 4: 42 – 44
Readings: John 6: 1 – 21

'Don't be afraid when God intervenes. He can do a lot with what little we have. He can provide enough – and more.'
'We mustn't waste what little we have – don't think it's too small. How much is multiplied when we offer it to God.'

26th August Mr John Dawson

Readings: 1 Kings 8: 21 – 30, 41 – 43

John 6: 56 – 69

Ephesians 6: 10 – 20

- *'The Christian life is a battle for all of us and was too for Jesus and Paul.'*
- *'Why did Paul choose the uniform of an occupying imperial force for his analogy?'*
- *'Why did he leave the prayers til the end of the analogy and not at the beginning?'*

Readers required...

If you feel you could be added to the Sunday morning readers list, please let one of the Leadership team or John know.

PRAYER TOPICS FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

Pray for...

- Cynthia and Tony Brett Young as they mourn the loss of their dear daughter, Sally
- those who feel 'bad' different. Help them to feel 'good' different.' (Hannah Chun)
- the 12 boys and their coach reunited with their families following their rescue from the flooded cave in Thailand
- the effects of recent disasters in Italy, India and Indonesia

For further daily prayers look in the Methodist Church Prayer Handbook 2017/18 and on our website.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS FOR JULY AND AUGUST

July	1 st	£153.50
	8 th	£211.50
	15 th	£154.00
	22 nd	£188.50
	29 th	£141.00
August	5 th	£196.50
	12 th	£133.80
	19 th	£155.90
	26 th	£166.60

The amount raised for Action for Children on the 24th June 2018 was £132 plus Gift Aid. Many thanks to all who contributed.

CHURCH FLOWERS

The latest donations for the Church's floral displays have been.....

July	1 st	Audrey Saunderson IMO of Her Husband Len
	8 th	Mary and Bob Freeman's Wedding Anniversary
	15 th	IMO Rene White
	22 nd	June Japp IMO of Her Husband Ben
	29 th	IMO Rene White
August	5 th	IMO Rene White
	12 th	Margaret and Brian Kingswood IMO Sally Brett Young
	19 th	IMO Rene White
	26 th	IMO Rene White

A flower calendar is available on the notice board at the back of the church so if you would like to donate money towards flowers on a particular date in 2018, please enter your name against the date and give the money to Audrey. Any other donations for the flower fund would be very much appreciated, so if you would like to contribute, you will find a plate on the table at the back of the church – alternatively, please give your donation directly to Audrey.

If you know of anyone who would appreciate receiving flowers previously displayed in church, please let Mary Freeman or Jenny Delafond know.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER

Tues 4 th	10-11.30am 2.30pm	Cheam Tots – Parent/Carer & Toddler Group Women's Friendly Hour Speaker - Mr John Dawson
Sun 9 th	9.45am	Prayer Meeting
Tues 11 th	10-11.30am 2.30pm.	Cheam Tots – Parent/Carer & Toddler Group Women's Friendly Hour Speaker – Maureen Patel
Weds 12 th	8pm	House Group at Audrey's home, 105 Abbots Road, Cheam
Mon 17 th		Pastoral Committee Meeting
Tues 18 th	10-11.30am 2.30pm	Cheam Tots – Parent/Carer & Toddler Group Women's Friendly Hour AGM Members afternoon
Fri 21 st	8pm	House group at Mary's home, 14 Priory Avenue
Tues 25 th	10-11.30am	Cheam Tots – Parent/Carer & Toddler Group
Tues 25 th	2.30pm	Women's Friendly Hour Speaker – Revd Rosemary Richter

OCTOBER

Tues 2 nd	10-11.30am	Cheam Tots – Parent/Carer & Toddler Group
	2.30pm	Women’s Friendly Hour
Weds 3 rd	8pm	House Group at Audrey’s home, 105 Abbotts Road, Cheam
		Douglas Gilbert – Precious Promises
Tues 9 th	10-11.30am	Cheam Tots – Parent/Carer & Toddler Group
	2.30pm	Women’s Friendly Hour
		Madeleine Blake -Belgium Evangelical Mission
	8pm	CTSC Meeting – Christchurch, Sutton
Sat 13 th	10.00am	Decorating for Harvest
Sun 14 th	9.45am	Prayer Meeting
	10.30am	Harvest Festival service
Tues 16 th	10-11.30am	Cheam Tots – Parent/Carer & Toddler Group
	2.30pm	Women’s Friendly Hour
		Members afternoon
Tues 23 rd		Cheam Tots & Women’s Friendly Hour
		No meetings – Half term
Fri 26 th	8pm	House group at Mary’s home, 14 Priory Avenue
Tues 30 th	10-11.30am	Cheam Tots – Parent/Carer & Toddler Group
	2.30pm	Women’s Friendly Hour
		Ian Currie – The History of Weather Forecasting

WHO'S WHO

Lay Pastor: Mr John Dawson: Email; john@nonsuchcottage.me.uk
Tel: 020 8644 2331

Eucharist Minister Revd Gill Long
Church Leadership Team

Church members elect the leadership team to be responsible for the day-to-day running of the church and to help develop policy. Supporting John and Gill are David Worthington (8644 5160), Brian Kingswood (8641 0016), Jane Wasbrough (8641 4304), Mary Freeman (8644 3999), Audrey Saunderson (8644 6911), and Charles Ponnuthurai (8644 3367).

Hall bookings Audrey Saunderson 020 8644 6911

The Newsletter Editorial Team

The content in the *Newsletter* is the responsibility of the Church Leadership Team. Articles, news, ideas and comments can be emailed to Jane Wasbrough on jane.wasbrough@btinternet.com

The deadline for NOVEMBER/DECEMBER Newsletter is

Friday 19th October