

## **MINISTER'S LETTER**



In 2011 the Methodist Conference took the decision to review all 'safeguarding cases' since 1950.

Now that a pilot exercise in the Leeds and Wales Districts has been completed, it is the turn of the London District to undergo this review. It is to take place within a very short timeframe - with **all responses required by 7th June**. I am therefore taking the opportunity that this newsletter provides for sharing important information about this process with you as well as sending out individual letters and information booklets to all those on our pastoral lists.

This is, of course, not an easy subject. Indeed, it is one that has the potential to bring to the fore memories and/or feelings that are extremely painful. The church is not therefore entering into this process lightly. Rather, it is taking this courageous step out of a deep desire 1) to learn lessons from past experience - both where matters have been handled well and where hindsight would suggest that mistakes were made - and 2) to ensure that any matters identified have been resolved safely.

Also printed in the centre of this newsletter is a leaflet that should answer any further questions you might have and which provides contact information for the Review Team and for a number of support groups. Feel free to remove for your future information.

If you are aware of a safeguarding concern (which, for the purposes of the review, is defined as any concern that a child or adult may be at risk, be suffering or have suffered abuse, or that someone represents a risk of abuse to others) which has taken place within this or indeed any Methodist Church, you need to report it. This can be done either by talking to me or by completing and submitting a report form yourself. I will make a supply of report forms available for people to pick up in church. Alternatively, you could download one from: [http://www.methodist.org.uk/media/824819/Template%20Response%20Form%20PCR%202013\\_Final%2021.03.pdf](http://www.methodist.org.uk/media/824819/Template%20Response%20Form%20PCR%202013_Final%2021.03.pdf) or arrange with the Past Cases Review Team to complete one online.

There are some important rules here:

- **Do** take care of yourself in this process. If you have any queries, or would appreciate a pastoral conversation or support because of difficult memories that have been stirred up, then do not hesitate to contact the safeguarding team on 020 7467 5189 and arrangements will be put in place.
- **Do not** withhold anything because you assume someone else is better placed to tell us about it. We would rather be told many times than none.
- **Do** share all material which is possibly relevant even if you are unsure. That way we can sift through centrally and achieve some consistency, rather than each recipient of this letter making individual judgements.
- **Do not** be deterred because of anxieties about confidentiality. Great care has been taken to ensure that this process respects confidentiality and complies with all Data Protection requirements about the safe storage and proper use of information.
- **Do not** fear any ‘witch hunt’ about past decisions made according to different processes and widely different standards. We recognise that the past was often a very different country. The process will not identify any individual, church, circuit or district.
- **Do** tackle this very difficult subject quickly rather than hoping your memory will become clearer at a later date! We do recognise just how hard it is to be asked to recall such hard matters – but you will appreciate the importance of the task.
- **Do** ensure you tell us all you can but do not be deterred because of missing details. All safeguarding work is a jigsaw of information collected from a variety of places. Please just contribute your part of the jigsaw.

This is not an easy or a light request. It is being made because we need to ensure that past concerns have been resolved safely, and that we have learned the good and the bad lessons from the past to make our response now as good as it can be.

Thank you.

*Paul*

## **Money Matters**

### **Pantomime 2013**

After expenses, this year's pantomime made a profit of £1031. This was divided between the South West Thames Kidney Fund and the church.



In acknowledging receipt of the donation, the Kidney Fund has explained that donations are used to support research into kidney disease and diabetes at the South West Thames Institute for Renal Research. The aim of the research is to improve the quality of peoples' lives by finding the causes of kidney failure; to slow down the process of kidney failure; and to improve treatments and ultimately find a cure. It is only with donations such as this that research can continue.

In the past, some of the proceeds from pantomimes have been used to purchase items which benefit the performing arts at the church. On this occasion we bought a piece of electrical equipment (a dimmer pack) which allows us to use our stage lights to full effect. Previously we were limited in the use we could make of them. The remainder of the money is to be devoted to the 'chair fund' for the church.

We congratulate the cast on their performance and thank them for their donations to the Kidney Fund and church.

### **The late Joan Arnold**

When she died, Joan Arnold left a letter in which she asked that some money should be given "to the church where she had worshipped and been happy for so long". Janet and Bob Hamblin have now passed to the church a cheque for £2,000 in fulfilment of that wish and in memory of Janet's mother. Joan, with her husband Albert, made a valuable contribution to the life and work of this church over many years and it is typical of her generosity that she should wish to make a monetary gift on her death. It has been decided that this money

should go towards the planned work to refresh the church by investing in chairs, new flooring and upgraded lighting.

### **Easter Offering**

The Easter offering this year amounted to £85. This, together with £95 from collection boxes, has been passed to the World Mission Fund. Additionally, £215.25 from collection boxes has been passed to the Mission in Britain Fund.

### **Churches Together in Merton Park**

The collection for the Christian Care Association which was taken at the united service on 28<sup>th</sup> April amounted to £300.

*Roy Ellis*

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*It is with great sadness that we have to announce the deaths of Fred Handy and Dennis Clark. Fred had been stoically fighting illness for some time now and was admitted recently to hospital where he passed away after a few days. Dennis passed away suddenly in his bed. Please remember Fred and Eileen Handy and their family and Dennis and his in your prayers.*

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### **Frederick George Handy**

21st August 1933 - 30th April 2012

Jesus tells the story of the Good Samaritan in response to a question. The conversation began, as we've heard, with someone asking Jesus how eternal life is obtained or rather, how he (the questioner) might inherit it.



By his own admission, Fred wasn't a theologian. But he grasped the

truth of this story and took it very seriously. ‘You could always count on Fred to lift someone up rather than knock them down’, Eileen says. He based his beliefs on the story of the Good Samaritan and he sought to live his life in the light of it.

One day, he saw a young woman on Streatham Railway Station. Her name was Eileen Jeary and she was waiting for a train that never arrived, quaking in the midst of a thunder storm. Seeing her distress, Fred sat down beside her, offered words of comfort and saw her home. Obviously keen to see that she had made a good recovery, Fred appeared at her door the next day. And the one after. And the one after that. In fact, Eileen says that, at the time, it seemed like every time she opened the door, “there was Fred.” Not that Eileen minded. Fred’s kindness had warmed Eileen’s heart. And he was a handsome man, broad shouldered and “well set up”. During the year that followed the couple “grew together” and got engaged. One more year and they married.

Now, of course, it’d be possible for us to doubt that Fred was necessarily being a Good Samaritan here. We might just question his motives rescuing this damsel in distress. But it wasn’t just Eileen that Fred went out of his way to help.

If Fred saw someone in trouble, he had to help. If someone was upset, he’d ask ‘What’s up?’ and lend an ear. If he saw someone whose vehicle had broken down at the side of the road, Fred would pull over to assist - he simply couldn’t drive by on the other side and do nothing. On one such occasion, the RAC arrived not long after Fred but seeing that he had the repairs under control, drove off again.

In fact, in the early years of marriage, this sort of thing was such a regular occurrence that, when telling her mum what time they’d be back, Eileen would always add an extra couple of hours onto their estimated time of arrival, just in case Fred’s “Good Samaritan” gene kicked into action.

Much to their disappointment, Fred and Eileen were never blessed

with children. But they loved their niece, Ellen and nephews Martin, Danny and John and treated them as their own - enjoying greatly times spent with them at weekends, school holidays and over Christmas.

Frederick George Handy was born on 21st August 1933 - the third of five sons born to Amelia and Cyril Handy: Fred's father was a bespoke tailor who worked in London. The fact that both of his parents were deaf had a profound impact on Fred's own development. Unfortunately for Fred, with the country at war, schooling itself was disrupted by the need for him and his younger brothers to be evacuated to Lancashire. Though difficult, Fred had a happy childhood and especially enjoyed his time in the sea cadets and the opportunities that this provided for days out on the Thames.

Fred so loved his time on the water that in 1948, and at the age of 15, he decided to join the Navy and went to train on HMS Ganges at Shotley on the Suffolk Coast. Thereafter he was assigned a ship involved with fishery protection around Iceland. Thereafter Fred served on a number of vessels including HMS Chameleon - a mine-sweeper that took him around the Mediterranean; Landing Craft LCT 4001 - which saw Fred involved in the relief effort provided by the Navy following the Ionian Earthquake in 1953. Later, the same vessel would take him to Suez and then, when that crisis was over, down the East Coast of Africa. Thereafter he took to HMS Plover before he moved to HMS Urchin which saw him based in Northern Ireland.

During a period of leave, Fred and Eileen were married in Emmanuel Church, West Dulwich on 14th April 1956. Theirs would be a long and happy marriage. Soon after their wedding day, Fred returned to Navy life for a further two years, spending much of this time in Portsmouth. Having decided during an incident on a sub-mariners course that life on a submarine was not for him, and after 12 years service, Fred came out of the Navy in 1958 and they moved to 35 Leamington Avenue, Morden in 1965.

Fred had thought that he would become a fireman but failed the medical, he instead took a job as a milkman, before taking a mechanic's job at Gus Coombes Motorbikes. Fred was an excellent mechanic who specialised in hydraulics.

In 1961, whilst on a motorcycling holiday in the Lake District, disaster struck. A road traffic collision saw Eileen thrown from the bike and Fred have the bike's kick start puncture his ankle. A year in hospital followed for Fred and Eileen but, whilst they both made remarkable progress, each of them was left with a permanent disability.

Of the numerous jobs that Fred had in the years that followed, he enjoyed his time working with a small family firm that specialised in Rolls Royces, loving the precision engineering that he was asked to work on. In time, however, he obtained a position in the workshop first at Merton Council and then Sutton Council. Here he would work on anything and everything from dustbin lorries to the Mayor's car.

Diagnosed with prostate cancer in 1994, Fred insisted on taking retirement a couple of years early so that he could swap places with someone younger who was being made redundant. Held in high esteem, his employers initially refused Fred's generous offer. Fred went out of his way to obtain union assistance to fight on behalf of this younger man. Eventually his employers relented.

Beyond work, Fred enjoyed so many things in life. Fred loved to dance with Eileen and together they danced their way to gold medals in Ballroom and Latin. Fred loved model making, especially boats, and belonged to a model engineering club for many years.

Throughout his life, Fred was a popular member of a number of organisations. Fred joined the Lodge of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffalos just before he got married and remained a proud member for the rest of his life, last year being made an honorary life member.

When he left the Navy, Fred joined the Royal British Legion, and in time, found a Royal Naval Association to belong to at Colliers Wood. He enjoyed his times there and benefited hugely from being able to talk about his Naval experiences with the only people who truly understood what life at sea was like. Recently, as numbers continued to dwindle, the decision was taken to lay up the flag and close the branch. By which time, Fred himself was too ill to attend. By now,

the cancer that had lain dormant for almost twenty years returned with a vengeance. New drugs were tried to no avail and, in the end, Fred's deterioration was rapid. After a short time in hospital, during which Eileen and their carer Sarah barely left his side, Fred died, on 30th April 2012, aged 79 years.

In life, and in Eileen's words, Fred was a happy, contented sort of man. He had aspirations but, if he couldn't have something, he wouldn't agonise over it. He accepted things. Fred got all the satisfaction he needed by helping people.

Fred was a member of this church for many, many years. Again, he didn't push himself forward for positions or roles. But that doesn't mean that he wasn't appreciated here or loved. He was, hugely. And he helped people, quietly. Even when life was far from easy for Fred, he'd be off on his mobility scooter to pick up prescriptions for elderly church members.

It wasn't all give, of course. Over the years, Fred received a great deal from other people - his friends and family, and Eileen most especially. More recently he - along with Eileen - relied heavily on the help and support of Sandra and, especially, Sarah as well as the hospital staff at the Royal Marsden and St Helier. Fred deserved no less.

I don't know how many times over the years he'll have heard the story of the Good Samaritan told or preached about. One senses that he only had to hear it once. Thereafter he sought to live it - understanding more than most what life with an eternal quality looks like, even if he wouldn't use those words himself.

*Paul Timmis*

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**Christianity is a way of life, NOT a way of looking at life.**

*Lord Soper*



# Past Safeguarding Cases Review

## Your questions answered



Methodist Church House, 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR  
Tel: 020 7486 5502 [Helpdesk] or 020 7467 5189 [Safeguarding]  
Email: [pastcasesreview@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:pastcasesreview@methodistchurch.org.uk)  
Website: [www.methodist.org.uk/pastcasesreview](http://www.methodist.org.uk/pastcasesreview)

# Methodist Church Safeguarding Past Cases Review 2013 /14.

## What is this review?

The Church aims to review all 'safeguarding cases' since 1950 to learn lessons about what went well, find ways we can do better in future, and in particular identify any situations where more work may be needed.

## For this review, a safeguarding concern is...

- a) sexual or physical abuse of a child or adult
- b) significant emotional abuse or neglect against a child or adult
- c) domestic abuse of any kind
- d) any other abuse of an adult. This can be financial, racial or institutional abuse of a vulnerable adult. It can also be sexual misconduct of a minister or someone else in a church role of authority, where the relationship with the adult 'victim' has developed from a pastoral involvement
- e) accessing abusive images on screen (adults or children / young people)
- f) 'marital breakdown' where this included domestic violence, or the abuse of children or adults.

## How will the review work?

- Stage 1 **REQUEST.** Letters sent to all church leaders asking them to tell the review team about all relevant cases; similar information on Methodist website <http://www.methodist.org.uk/pastcasesreview>; article in Methodist Recorder.
- Stage 2 **RESPONSE.** People feed back using the standard template wherever possible.  
(Available from Methodist Church website / safeguarding)
- Stage 3 **INQUIRY.** Independent consultant reads through all responses and some people will be contacted by a Minister within the PCR team or by one of the independent consultant
- Stage 4 **DECISIONS.** Consultant recommends actions from a list of outcomes. Management team decides the way forward for individual cases and pulls together the overall data.
- Stage 5 **LEARNING.** Management team, agree the lessons learned and reports back to Methodist Conference January 2015.

### Why do this now?

The Methodist Church needs to be sure that we have revisited cases with the benefit of hindsight, to be sure that we have not mistakenly left situations where vulnerable people (children or adults) may remain at risk.

This is a great opportunity to see what went well, as well as learning from our mistakes, alongside reviewing the safety of past cases.

### What are the risks in looking back like this?

It can feel very difficult going back. The review will not make public any individual, church or district but nevertheless people may feel their decisions are under fresh scrutiny.

For some people involved in individual situations, this feels like a long awaited opportunity to revisit something that has needed resolving. For others, it will feel very difficult.

Support is available. This is for people who have dealt with situations in the past, as well as those individuals involved in them.

If you would like to speak with someone, please do get in touch with the safeguarding team, Telephone Number: **020 7467 5189**

or email: [pastcasesreview@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:pastcasesreview@methodistchurch.org.uk)

### If I share some information, what will happen next?

Everyone who sends in information will have that acknowledged. Some people will be contacted by a minister within the PCR team or by one of the independent consultant, who will talk through with you what you have said in more detail as well as consulting with you about whether you think anything further needs to happen. They will then make a recommendation about next steps. This could be no further action; referral to statutory authorities (e.g. social services); or further internal Methodist church action (e.g. referral for safeguarding assessment or to complaints and discipline.) The PCR safeguarding team will look at these recommendations. Unless there is an urgent situation needing immediate response, their decision will be shared with you for comment before the process goes any further and you will be kept informed of any further developments.

### For further information please contact the PCR Team on 0207 486 5189:

Mya Rahisi	PCR Assistant
Hilary Walker	Safeguarding Worker
Brendan Stephens	Safeguarding and Complaints Worker
Jane Stacey	PCR Project manager
Team Email:	<a href="mailto:pastcasesreview@methodistchurch.org.uk">pastcasesreview@methodistchurch.org.uk</a>

In addition, people are invited to speak to their District Safeguarding officers whose details can be found on each District's website.

Finally, people may wish to contact one or more of the different support groups below:

**MACSAS** - Ministers And Clergy Sexual Abuse Survivors Group - 0808 801 0340 / [macsas1@hotmail.com](mailto:macsas1@hotmail.com). This group is the only group to focus specifically on abuse within the church context.

**NAPAC** - National Association for People Abused in Childhood - 0800 085 3330. This group runs a helpline where people who have themselves been abused provide a listening ear and support for anyone who needs to call.

**One in Four** - 020 8697 2112. This group has published two extremely useful books for those who have experienced abuse - The Warrior Within and The Spirit Within. Free copies can be obtained via [safeguarding@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@methodistchurch.org.uk). Alternatively they can be ordered at cost through the One in Four website.

**StopitNow** - 0808 1000 900 / [help@stopitnow.org.uk](mailto:help@stopitnow.org.uk)  
This group is not a survivors' support group, but does offer experienced professional support over the telephone for anyone involved in abuse - this can be the victim/survivor, family or friends, professionals or even the perpetrator. As this is the only helpline accessible for perpetrators or people alleged to have perpetrated sexual abuse, it can be especially useful for anyone who wants to discuss abuse from that perspective, possibly the friend or family member linked with someone in this position.

**Mankind** - 01273 510447 / [www.mankindcounselling.org.uk](http://www.mankindcounselling.org.uk). This is a Sussex based support agency for men who have experienced sexual abuse at any time in their lives. They offer a range of services including counselling, therapeutic groups, support for partners, family and friends and a resource library.

#### **Domestic Violence Helpline**

(England) 0808 2000 247

(Scotland) 0800 0271 234

(Wales) 02920 541 551

For information on other services in the UK go to [www.thesurvivorstrust.org](http://www.thesurvivorstrust.org)

## **Dennis John Clark**

18th June 1941- 1st May 2013



Nobody knows who wrote Ecclesiastes, but whoever it was, was clearly more than aware that life is so full of contradictions and contrasting experiences that, at times, it's difficult - if not impossible - for us to make sense of it.

*For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die, a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted... Ecclesiastes 3:1-15*

Dennis John Clark was born on 18th June 1941, the first of two sons born to Gladys and Harold Clark - Dennis' brother Raymond being born 3 years later. Home for the family was 39 Buckleigh Avenue. Dennis clearly loved it and it would be home for Dennis for pretty much all of his life.

Being church members, Dennis' parents soon introduced him to life at Martin Way Methodist Church. It was here that a young Dennis would attend Cubs and Scouts.

Schooling for Dennis took place at Poplar Road Primary and later, Raynes Park Grammar School. When Dennis entered Kings College, London he became the first member of his family to go to University. When he emerged from it, he did so with a first class degree.

Dennis entered the teaching profession, teaching mathematics and physics in Canterbury for a couple of years before returning to live with his parents and taking up a position at Sutton Grammar School. Here he would teach mathematics and run a badminton club for many years. He moved, in time, to St Dominic's Sixth Form College, Harrow-on-the-Hill. Life with more mature students suited Dennis rather better than that with lively teenagers but, even so, Dennis took the opportunity to retire as soon as it arose.

He'd be annoyed by the poor use of grammar - inane phrases

frequently used by weather forecasters were, it seems, a source of irritation to him. So too were hymns that didn't scan and people who didn't know when to say 'whom' instead of 'who'.

Dennis loved to travel and to explore and experience different cultures - he loved reading travel books and planning holidays. In time the childhood holidays to Devon gave way to trips to Scotland and Austria with school friends, then coach trips to Europe and holidays in France with other friends. Later he'd go on his own to such far flung places as Australia and New Zealand. In recent years he discovered a love of cruises, taking them in a number of places around the world.

Dennis was someone who enjoyed nothing more than attending musical concerts at the Royal Festival Hall with friends or simply sitting with perhaps his closest friend, Michael, listening to classical CDs. At the same time he was a quiet, private person.

Church was always important to Dennis. This church in particular, of course - serving as he did as a Steward (including a long stint as Senior Steward), as Treasurer of the Lunch Club and as an organiser of the Weekly Coffee and Chat session. He occasionally helped out in Sunday Club working with the children. He was a member of a house group, and he was also, until recently, a regular attender of the Men's Supper Club. Dennis was a firm believer that churches should celebrate what they hold in common rather than focus on their differences and he put this into practice, serving as Martin Way Methodist Church's representative on Churches Together in Merton Park with great dedication for many years, enjoying the company of and interaction with those from other churches.

His kindness of heart was demonstrated in the interest that Dennis showed in his family. Ray had left home when Dennis was in his early twenties and when children arrived for Ray, Dennis was too far away to pay regular visits. He always showed great interest in the lives of his nephews Chris and Adam, and his niece, Holly, however, and would be diligent in keeping in touch. He also enjoyed regular telephone calls with his first cousin once removed, Carol, who lives in Devon.

Throughout much of his life Dennis enjoyed good health - no doubt benefiting from his weekly T'ai chi sessions. On those occasions that he was ill, he rarely if ever let on. No wonder then that 'stoical' is a word that's been used to describe Dennis. He underwent treatment for Prostate cancer a short while ago, but said little about it. Most of us believed that he had been given a clean bill of health. It was then a great shock to us all to learn that just days after going to bed complaining of flu symptoms, it was discovered on Wednesday 1st May 2013, that Dennis had died from an unrelated abdominal emergency.

In Dennis' life we see many contradictions. He was more than aware that life holds within it a variety of possibilities, that, in life, contrasting things do frequently sit side by side. So I think Dennis would have been able to identify with what the writer of Ecclesiastes was seeking to express and indeed make connections between these words and his own life.

*Paul Timmis*

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Dennis was a much-loved, active and participating member of our house group. Although he was well known to the church family in Martin Way for a number of years, it was through the house group at Fred and Doreen Warren's home and more recently at my house that we got to know him better.

Since his death, which was a shock to all of us at the house group, many of us have expressed our thoughts about this kind hearted and kind natured man. 'Kind' being the most frequented description when referring to Dennis. One of our house group members, who has known Dennis the longest, says he was exceptionally kind in the way he would always consider others, helping in practical ways, escorting a person to their home, walking 'the extra mile' to ensure their safety. Others refer to his playful sense of humour, his thoughtfulness and his words of encouragement. Indeed 'behind the scenes' he was a true Barnabas.

He was greatly encouraged himself when Rev Anne Rusbridge asked him if he would consider becoming a church steward. His immediate

response was a resounding ‘no’ as he didn’t feel confident or think he was capable. (Precisely the reason why he was asked!) He never wanted the limelight. There was no hint of this so-called inadequacy however, when he finally accepted the role which he did admirably, and from that time positively glowed in his spiritual journey. There are some (now) members of this church who can testify that Dennis was one of the church folk who would make a point of speaking to them when they were newcomers, made them very welcome and encouraged them.

When Dennis led the house group sessions, the rest of us knew it was going to be a challenging time! His enquiring mind and questions would often lead us on a tangent and away from the subject. Not that it mattered, the sessions were never dull. One time e.g. we were discussing the attitude of the two brothers in the story of the prodigal son but Dennis was feeling very sorry for the ‘fatted calf’ who had the poorest deal. On another occasion when discussing the story of the Good Samaritan, it was the Innkeeper that Dennis was concerned about! He had strong views on injustices, inequality and was concerned about the lack of Christian education in schools.

In whatever role Dennis undertook at Martin Way, he took it seriously. As with being a church steward, he also became the Churches Together in Merton Park representative for Martin Way and was passionate about the need for churches to be working together. He was a Methodist to the core and had a special regard for the traditional Wesley hymns which he loved. For me, especially, I valued his support and his contribution to the committee.

Dennis will be greatly missed by the church family especially the house group who will remember him with love and affection for his strong Christian principles. He has enriched our lives and we cannot but be thankful for having known him. We can only echo St Paul’s words when he wrote to the Philippians:

“I thank my God every time I remember you” Phil 1:3

*Gwen Wildman*



## Extreme Smile

*Taken from: Extreme devotion, the voice of the martyrs from the co-authors of Jesus freaks. Serious followers of Jesus pay a price, and extreme followers often pay the ultimate price. Each story is true.*

It was getting late, and the Soviet officer had beaten and tortured Paulus for many hours. “We are not going to torture you anymore, he said, smiling brutally when the Christian looked up. “We will send you instead to Siberia, where the snow never melts. It is a place of great suffering. You and your family will fit in well.”

Paulus, instead of being depressed, smiled. “The whole earth belongs to my Father, Captain. Wherever you send me I will be on my Father’s earth.”

The captain looked at him sharply. “We will take away all you own.”

“You will need a high ladder, Captain, for my treasures are stored up in heaven.” Paulus still wore a beautiful smile.

“We will put a bullet between your eyes,” shouted the captain, now angry.

“If you take away my life in this world, my real life of joy and beauty will begin,” answered Paulus. “I am not afraid of being killed.”

The captain grabbed Paulus by his tattered prison shirt and screamed into his face, “We will not kill you! We will keep you locked alone in a cell and allow no one to come see you!”

“You cannot do that, Captain,” said Paulus, still smiling. “I have a Friend who can pass through locked doors and iron bars. No one can separate me from the love of Christ.”

*Despite an uncertain future, we can be sure of one thing: Christ will face it with us. Whether we are going through a private trial or a public grieving, we are never going alone. In contrast, every human companion will fail us at some point. There will be places in life’s journey where they cannot walk with us—the water will be too deep and their understanding would be murky at best. Only Jesus has the ability to pass through the “iron bars” on our suffering hearts and share these difficult times. Although, in his wisdom, he may not choose to deliver us from our circumstances, his sure presence will see us through them. Smile, knowing you have a Friend from whom you can never be separated.*

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? Romans 8:35

# CHURCH DIARY



Sun	2	10.30 am	All Age Worship led by Rev Paul Timmis with the Baptism of Evie Salvador
Tue	4	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
Sun	9	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	11	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		7.00 pm	Circuit Meeting at Wimbledon
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Wed	12	7.30 pm	Worship Leaders Course
Fri	14	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club
Sun	16	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Valerie Ashcroft
		6.30 pm	Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	18	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
		7.00 pm	Men's Supper Club - <i>Janet Gilbert (RSPB)-</i> Fabulous Falklands
Sun	23	10.30 am	Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
		5.00 pm	Circuit Service at Raynes Park - Accreditation Service for Andy Frost
Tue	25	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Thur	27	8.00 pm	Pastoral Committee Meeting
Fri	28	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club
Sun	30	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Rev Margaret Adams

*Please refer to the Website ([www.martinway.org.uk](http://www.martinway.org.uk))  
or Weekly Notice Sheet for any additional information*



We wish all of those who celebrate a birthday  
this month a very

*Happy Birthday*

and especially to:

**Alice Day on 27th June**

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### **Job or Ministry**

In the church, some people have a **job**: other have a **ministry**.  
What is the difference?

If you are doing it because no-one else will, it's a **job**  
If you are doing it to serve the Lord, it's a **ministry**

If you quit because someone criticises you, it's a **job**  
If you keep on serving, it's a **ministry**

If you'll only do it, if it doesn't interfere with other activities, it's a **job**  
If you are committed to it, though it means letting go of other things,  
it's a **ministry**

If you quit because no-one praises or thanks you, it's a **job**  
If you stay with it, even without recognition, it's a **ministry**

If your concern is success, it's a **job**  
If your concern is faithfulness, it's a **ministry**

An average church is filled with people doing **jobs**  
A great, growing church is filled with people doing **ministry**

If you have a **job**, give it up and find a **ministry**! God doesn't want us  
being stuck with jobs, but excited and faithful to Him in ministries.

*Taken from an original article published in 'Wholeness', a New Zealand newspaper, and found in another church magazine.*

## Food and Drink Quiz

There is a special Food and Drink quiz being held to help raise money to support the young people from the Circuit to attend Spring Harvest in 2014.



*What is a Blue Vinney?*

*What did my true Love send me on the 6th day of Christmas?*

Are just a couple of the 25 questions that appear in the quiz.

To get your entry form (with all of the questions) for only £1 please speak to Angela Linton-Smith, Dawn Downes or Tony Loft as soon as possible. The **closing date is 30th June** and all entries have to be in by that time.

The prize (apart from knowing you have helped get the Young People to Spring Harvest) is either a Fruit Basket or Box of Chocolates.

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**myraynespark**  
**2013**  
**festival**

Now in its fourth year, the festival has an amazing line up of guests who are visiting SW20 for some incredible summer evenings.

Your SW20 arts festival: 14-23 June 2013

Why not join them?

See [www.myraynespark.co.uk](http://www.myraynespark.co.uk) for more details.

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## BUSINESS ADVERTISEMENTS

From this month we have agreed to start holding advertisements for local businesses. If you know anyone who may wish to advertise please speak to Roy Ellis or Andrew Fox for more details.

Please note: the church does not endorse any of the advertisements that feature in the magazine.

Items for the **July Newsletter** should be with Andrew Fox, (email: [roife@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:roife@hotmail.co.uk)) by **Sunday 16th June** at the latest