

MINISTER'S LETTER

November is a month of remembering. We all know this. We know all about All Saints' Day, All Souls' Day, Guy Fawkes' Day and Remembrance Sunday. We know all about the need to remember and the power of re-remembering.



This year, November comes to us with memories, stories and pictures of the fiftieth anniversary of the Aberfan disaster fresh in our minds. If ever something reminded us that remembering something can be both a painful and liberating experience it was this - as survivors called to mind and spoke openly about the horrific events of that day. For some, this was the first time in fifty years that they had felt able to put bottled up emotions into words.

This November, it seems that, as a nation, we are in desperate need of remembering something else - namely that every human being is a child of God, just as unique, special, loved and valuable as any other.

I mention this in the wake of conversations concerning refugees that have left an unpleasant taste in the mouth this week. I am referring here to *The Sun* newspaper calling on the BBC to sack *Match of the Day* presenter Gary Lineker, following his statement issued in defence of some young refugees from Calais, and to the questioning of the age of some of those refugees by David Davies MP. The MP for Monmouth went on to suggest that dental checks be carried out to determine whether someone is young enough to be considered a child - an idea that was quickly condemned by the British Dental Association and ruled out by the Home Office. All of this led to Lineker saying in desperation, 'Imagine, just for a second, being a refugee having to flee from your home'. It also resulted in the comedian Mark Steel making the point - 'Jesus said, "Suffer the children to come unto me - but not him*, he's 19 if he's a day.'" (*I paraphrase!)

At the heart of *The Sun's* complaint against Lineker was the accusation that he was peddling 'migrant lies' - which seems a bit rich given the

coverage of immigration/migration/refugee issues by this and other tabloid newspapers in recent times. Given the pictures that these newspapers paint, you would never think, for example, that less than 1% of the world's refugee population comes to Britain to seek asylum.

There are plenty of good arguments doing the rounds. Giles Fraser's response in an article in *The Independent* being one of them:

‘What are these teens supposed to look like? They’ve been travelling for months (years, in some cases), sleeping rough, starving and dehydrated, with little treatment for injuries, and then they ended up living in the – let’s pause on this word for a second – Jungle. They've had to act like men to survive. They’re not going to bounce off the bus like Harry Potter on his first day at Hogwarts.’

And then there is this one from Vanessa Cowan of the British Red Cross:

‘We must not forget that these boys are children. In many ways they’re so similar to British teenagers: at first apprehensive with strangers like me, but for the most part open, despite their experiences. Most of them are just 14, 15 or 16 years old. They all have the legal right to come here and live with their families in the UK.’

When conversations rage around us, it would be good to remember such arguments and make them. Most of all though, and above all, we need to remember that every human being is a child of God - just as unique, special, loved and valuable as any other - and we need to remember too that this should make a difference to how we view and talk about others.

With every blessing

Paul

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The service we render for others is really the rent
we pay for our room on this earth.

Wilfred Grenfell



Finance & Property Matters

Odd Jobs

In this second article from the Finance & Property committee we are looking at maintenance work. Exciting I know. Read on!

Let's cut to the chase before you actually nod off. We're really talking about getting odd jobs done around the premises inside and out. There are jobs that we could be doing ourselves without the need for professional services. For example, at the last F&P meeting I asked if anyone would be willing to repair and paint the window frames of the church in areas where they had deteriorated. Pete Boyd stepped up to the challenge and worked on them in his own time which is just perfect and a great job it is too.

There are other jobs of course – there are always other jobs! Here's a little to do list just for starters (got to have a list!): Vacuum acoustic panels in the hall (2-3 people), clear gutters and gulley covers, tidy patio garden, trim hedges, paint wall in corridor where old telephone used to be, clean windows on doors, vacuum cleaning and dusting in the church (our cleaners leave the church to us).

Sooner or later there'll be jobs with more of a 'DIY' nature and perhaps we'll make these jobs known on a notice board or even on cards such as those used for morning worship tasks.

If you think you could help in anyway please let me know and keep an eye open for news on the notice boards.

Colin Smith
Chair of Finance & Property
mwcomms@hotmail.co.uk

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The church is an anvil that has worn out many hammers.

Old English Proverb



**CHRISTIAN
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October Press Releases
from CSW

The eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love.

Psalm 33:18

We're delighted to tell you that Pastor Behnam Irani has finally been released after serving an unjust prison sentence for six years. We know many of you have been praying faithfully for him, and we want to thank you for your persistence in bringing his case before God!

We'd also like you to pray for Li Heping. Li Heping is a Chinese lawyer who has been in prison for 15 months without access to a lawyer or family visits. His only crime is defending human rights.

On Wednesday 28 October we protested outside the Chinese embassy in London, and delivering a petition for Li Heping's release signed by 2,148 of you. Please pray that this would be a clear sign to the Chinese government that we won't stand by while human rights are blatantly ignored.

We'd also like you to pray for the hearings in two of our ongoing cases. In Nepal, eight Christians are on trial for giving out comic books about Jesus. Meanwhile in Sudan, Rev Hassan, Rev Kuwa, Mr Jašek and Mr Abdumawla will have their next hearing at the end of October. These four men are facing national security charges that could carry the death penalty, simply for an act of compassion. Please pray that justice would be done.

In summary, please pray:

- Thanking God for the release of Pastor Behnam Irani
- For God to watch over Pastor Behnam and his family as he recovers from his time in prison
- That the protest on behalf of Li Heping, along with the petition, would send a clear message to the Chinese government
- That Li Heping would soon be released from prison and reunited with his family

This week's Prayer Diary:

Real Change for Refugees

The world is witnessing unprecedented numbers of refugees, many of whom are fleeing severe religious freedom violations. So much of the media's focus has been on asking, "Where will they go?" We believe that to tackle the crisis we need to ask, "What made them flee in the first place, and how can we address this?" One reason is the increase in violations of religious freedom in many countries. This is the driving force behind our Real Change for Refugees campaign.

This month, please pray:

- Please pray that the UK government would take a leading role in effectively tackling the root causes of the refugee crisis.
- Today we're praying for the 65 million refugees around the world. Ask God to give them the sanctuary and refuge they're seeking.
- Pray that Burma's government would lift restrictions on aid to its refugee camps, and provide much-needed help to the 140,000 Rohingyas living as refugees in their own country.
- Since 2012 there's been a dramatic rise in violence against Rohingya Muslims and Christians in Kachin state. Let's pray that their precarious situations would be transformed, and the hope of a certain future restored.
- Please pray for Eritreans who've been forced to leave their homes and families in search of safety.
- Many of the Eritrean refugees we met this summer are traumatised and still live in fear, scared not only for themselves, but for the lives of the loved ones they left behind. Pray today that God would replace that fear with his peace which passes understanding.

God, today we pray for those who have been forced to flee their homes. Protect them on their journeys, Lord, and help them reach somewhere where they can be safe. Amen

Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

The CSW team

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Extreme Hymn

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.

NORTH KOREA : THE VILLAGERS OF GOKSAN

The young, brown-eyed girl looked up at her mother. What would her mum decide?

Earlier that morning, the young girl's mother, their pastor, and twenty six others in her North Korean village of GokSan were bound and taken before a screaming crowd of Communists.

One of the guards ordered Pastor Kim and the other Christians, "Deny Christ, or you will die." The words chilled her. How could they ask her to deny Jesus? She knew in her heart he was real. They all quietly refused.

Then the Communist guard shouted directly at the adult Christians, "Deny Christ, or we will hang your children." The young girl looked up at her mother. She gripped her hand knowing how much her mum loved her. Her mother then leaned down. With confidence and peace she whispered, "Today, my love, I will see you in heaven."

All of the children were hanged.

The remaining believers were then brought out onto the pavement and forced to lie down in front of a large steamroller. The Communists gave them one last chance. "Deny this Jesus or you will be crushed." The Christians had already given up their children; there was no turning back.

As the driver started the heavy piece of equipment, the singing from the villagers started softly. "More love, O Christ, to thee, more love to thee."

More. It's what God gave when he sent his Son. More. It's what Jesus gave when he was crucified. More. It's what believers give simply out of love for Christ. They want to give more to the One who gave so much to them. In a worldly age that values giving only what one must to get by, believers set a new standard. "More love to thee" is more than just words in a traditional hymnal. It's a lifestyle without limit. Each day is a path of discovering how to give more to Jesus Christ. For some believers, this path has led to their death. For others, "more love to thee" has meant financial sacrifice. What does "more love to thee" mean to your everyday life?

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

Concert in aid of

'Gift Bags for the Homeless'

Come and enjoy a fantastic evening of music and help make Christmas a little bit better for homeless people this year. All donations will go to ***Gift Bags for the Homeless*** and will be distributed in the run up to Christmas 2016

Saturday 12 November 2016

7:30–9:30pm

MARTIN WAY METHODIST CHURCH

Buckleigh Avenue, SW20 9JZ



www.rockchoir.com www.rockchoir.org

Led by the charismatic, energetic and thoroughly entertaining
Elliot Sutcliffe

FREE ENTRY

***(There will be a retiring collection for you
to show your appreciation of the concert)***

On the night, if you can, please donate any of the following:

- Gloves
- Hats
- Scarves
- Socks
- Underwear (female and male)
- Tissues
- Shampoo
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Shower gel
- Soaps
- Deodorants
- Wet wipes
- Face cloths
- Ladies sanitary products
- Small bottles of water/soft drinks
- Small cartons of juice
- Tins of fruit
- Crisps
- Sweets, treats, chocolate bars, etc.
- Money, to buy more items!
- Anything else you may like to donate

Rock Choir



Rock Choir is described as being the United Kingdom's original, and the world's largest, contemporary choir. It holds three Guinness World Records – 'biggest hit act in the UK', 'largest musical act to release an album (signed)' and 'largest song and dance routine held at multiple locations'.

Rock Choir is much more than a choir – it's a multi layered singing experience. The power of music, meeting new friends and performing at life changing events, together contribute to an emotional and powerful journey for our members. We have been perfecting Rock Choir for 10 years now and have achieved an award-winning standard of excellence in both the educational and emotional aspects of what we try to do. I personally choose and train our brilliant team of musicians, teachers and performers who lead their choir in each community through the most uplifting and feel good songs ever written.

Rock Choir is the pioneering contemporary choir of the UK and remains unique with over 20,000, members enjoying it across the UK. Each member is welcomed into the Rock Choir family and their journey with us allows music, friendship and a new found confidence to impact their everyday lives. Together we have created a safe, up-lifting and exciting experience just for you.

To find out more visit www.rockchoir.com

Caroline Redman Lusher
Founder & Musical Director
of Rock Choir



Platform 10 ³/₄ are intending to take part in Operation Christmas Child again this year.

Choosing gifts to put in your shoebox is a really fun part of getting involved in Operation Christmas Child. There is something very rewarding about giving to a child you will probably never meet in this world – especially when you know your simple act of kindness will be felt and appreciated in more ways than you can ever imagine.

Once you have decided whether to give your shoebox to a boy or girl, you need to think carefully about gifts that would be most appropriate for the age group you have selected (either 2-4 or 5-9 or 10-14 years old).

Please see the list on the oppposite page of what we can and can't accept.

There will be a box in the vestibule by the Hall to place your items into. Platform 10 ³/₄ will put the shoeboxes together on Sunday 13th November. If you are unsure of what to get, but would like to make a monetary donation towards the shoebox appeal please do as we are required to send £3 per box made. There will be a donation plate in which to put your donation after the morning service on 13th November.

Full boxes can be left in the Vestry.

For the knitters out there we would also be happy to accept knitted items, but especially hats or gloves—see the next few pages for some patterns or speak to members of 10³/₄ who have details of all the different patterns.

Abby Herring

No Thanks!

No Food

especially chocolate or other food items

No medicine

or vitamins of any kind

No war related items

toy guns, soldiers or knives of any kind

No clothing

other than listed

No fragile items

glass containers, mirrors

No liquids

including blow bubbles, shampoo, bubble bath, toiletry sets or aerosols

No dangerous items

sharp objects, scissors or razors, marbles

No novels

Nothing of a political nature, racial or religious nature

No hand-knitted stuffed toys without a CE mark

YES PLEASE

Toys

Teddy bears (with CE label), finger puppets, building blocks, yo-yos, small musical instruments, tennis ball, etc.

For Boys: toy trucks and cars,
For Girls: dolls, clip on earrings etc.

Educational Supplies

Pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons or felt pens, writing pads or notebooks, chalk, colouring or picture books, pencil case, stickers, etc.

Hygiene Items

Toothbrush and toothpaste, bar of wrapped soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel.

Other Items

Hat, cap, gloves or scarf, sunglasses, hair accessories, jewellery set, wind up torch, wrapped sweets (sell by date must be at least March of the following year).

Knitted items

Hats and gloves

Operation Christmas Child Knitting Patterns

Three patterns to have a go with!

Why not make a matching set of the hat and wrist warmers?

Abbreviations:- k knit, p purl, rep repeat, st(s) stitch(es), tog together

Stretchy pull on hat

This hat fits most children as it is very stretchy. It is quick to knit and uses up odd balls of wool of any ply. The hats will come out slightly different sizes according to the yarn and tension but this is fine as head sizes also vary. The children can choose whether to turn up the brim or keep the hat pulled well over their ears.



You will need:

Wool – Use 2 strands of DK or 3-4 strands of 4 ply or any combination of differing plies that gives a reasonably chunky feel. You can do plain colours or combine different colours to give a tweedy effect or you can do stripes etc.

Needles: Size 2 (7mm) for the single rib at the start

Size 0 (8mm) for the rest of the hat

OR Size 1 (7½mm) throughout

Cast on 57 sts fairly loosely with the smaller needles, leaving a length of wool at the start of the row that you can use later to sew up the finished hat.

Pattern

1st row *k1, p1, rep from * to last st, k1

2nd row p1, *k1, p1, rep from * to end

Rep these 2 rows twice more (or more times if you want more depth of single rib)

Change to bigger needles and proceed as follows:-

1st row k2 p1, *k3, p1 rep from * to last 2 sts, k2

2nd row p1, *k3, p1, rep from * to end

These 2 rows form a pattern. Repeat them until you have done 18 rows in pattern altogether (9 repeats of the 2 rows) You should have a pattern that looks the same on both sides.

Now shape the top of the hat as follows:-

1st row k2, p1, *k3tog, p1, k3, p1, rep from * to last 6 sts, k3tog, p1, k2.
43 sts

2nd row *p1, k2 rep from * to last st p1

3rd row k2 *p1,k5, rep from * to last 5 sts p1, k1, p1,k2

4th row as 2nd row

5th row k2tog, *p1, k1, p1, k3tog, rep from * to last 5 sts p1, k1, p1, k2tog
29sts

6th row p1, *k1,p1, rep from * to end

7th row *k1,p1, rep from * TO LAST ST K1

8th row As 6th row

9th row k1, *k2tog, rep from * to end 15 sts

Break off the yarn about 6-9 inches from the knitting and thread it through the 15sts. Pull up tightly.

Sew up the hat from the ribbing to the top and fasten off the ends securely.

Add a pom-pom if you feel like it.

Chunky Wrist Warmers

You will need:

Wool – Chunky wool of any colour

Needles: Size 6 needles

Pattern

Cast on 30 stitches.

k1 p1 until it measures 7” (18cm)

Cast off loosely.

Sew up the sides, leaving a gap to form a thumb hole.

To make the flower,

Cast on 66 stitches.

*K1, cast off 9, repeat from * to end of row (16 stitches).

Cut wool, and with a sewing needle thread wool through the remaining stitches. Pull together and hey presto!



Sew flower on to back of each wrist warmer with a button in the middle of each if desired - or a couple of brightly coloured buttons will be just as effective.

Soap Sack

The soap can either be removed for use, using the bag as a flannel or bath mitt for little hands or left in the bag for an all in-one flannel and soap.



You will need:

Wool – Approx. 30g of 100% cotton or cotton blend DK yarn.

Needles: 1 set of 4.5mm (Size 7) double pointed needles OR

1 4.5mm (Size 7) circular needle using the magic loop method.

1 stitch marker

1 3.75mm (Size 9) crochet hook

Abbreviations: - k – knit, kfb – increase by knitting into the front and back of the same stitch, yo – yarn over, k2tog – decrease by knitting 2 stitches together

Pattern

Cast on 4 stitches, divide equally onto dpns to work in the round.

Place marker at start of row.

Round 1 – (kfb) repeat to end (8 stitches)

Round 2 – kfb, k1, (kfb) 3 times, k1, (kfb) 2 times (14 stitches)

Round 3 – kfb, k3, (kfb) 4 times, k3 (kfb) 3 times (22 stitches)

Round 4 – (kfb, k5, kfb, k4) twice (26 stitches)

Round 5 – (kfb, k7, kfb, k4) twice (30 stitches)

Round 6 – (kfb, k9, kfb, k4) twice (34 stitches)

Work the next 21 rounds in knit stitch

Next Round – (yo, k2tog) repeat to end

Work 5 more rounds in knit stitch and bind off. Weave in ends.

For the cord tie:

Using the 3.75mm crochet hook, chain 45 and fasten off.

Thread through eyelet holes.



Epsom and Ewell Friends of Shooting Star Chase

Christmas and Craft Fayre

Bourne Hall, Spring Street, Ewell



Father
Christmas



Raffles



Tombola



Face Painting



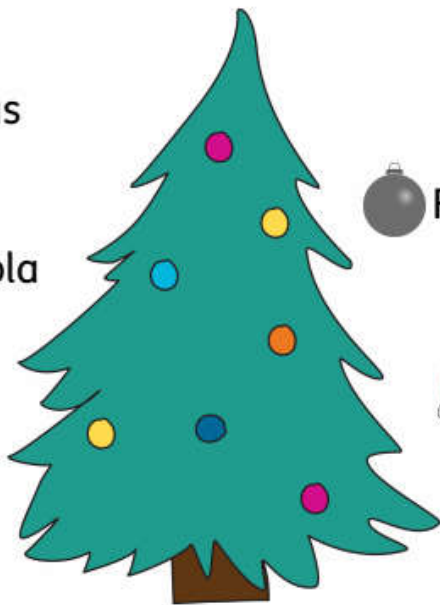
Gifts



Crafts



Cakes



Saturday 19th November 2016

10.30am - 3pm

Admission: Adults £1 Children FREE

An ideal opportunity to buy your Christmas
presents and stocking fillers

Sponsored by Paul Killoughery

In aid of

Shooting Star Chase
Children's Hospice Care





FAIRTRADE RECIPES

Nutty Chocolate & Coffee Brownies

Makes about 12 brownies

*An ideal treat for those
November Firework displays!*

- 110g butter
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 50g plain flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- pinch of salt
- 100g hazelnuts (chopped in half)
- 225g unrefined (golden) Fairtrade sugar
- 50g dark Fairtrade chocolate, roughly broken up



For the frosting:

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 100g butter, softened to room temperature | 100g icing sugar |
| 1 tablespoon strong black Fairtrade coffee | 100g cream cheese |

Pre-heat oven to 180°C/350°F/gas mark 4. Grease a tin measuring approximately 27cm x 18cm and line with baking parchment, allowing paper to rise 3cm above the tin. Toast hazelnuts in oven for 10 minutes (maximum) until lightly browned. Melt chocolate and butter in a bowl over a pan of simmering water. Sieve flour, baking powder and salt into a bowl. Stir in sugar. Beat in eggs and chocolate mixture until well-mixed. Stir in hazelnuts. Pour mixture into the tin and bake for 30-40 minutes until centre springs back when lightly pressed.

Remove from oven and allow to cool completely in tin.

To make frosting, beat butter and icing sugar together until pale and fluffy. Beat in cream cheese and coffee. Spread frosting on the cooled Brownies. Chill in fridge for 30 minutes, then cut into squares before serving.



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For further information contact:

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CHURCH DIARY



Tue	1	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Thur	3	7.30 pm	Christian CARE Association AGM
Sun	6	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Rev Chris Morley
		6.30 pm	Holy Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	8	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Wed	9	8.00 pm	Leadership Meeting
Fri	11	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club
Sat	12	10.30 am	Big Brunch
		7.30 pm	Rock Choir
Sun	13	10.30 am	Remembrance Sunday Service with Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	15	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
		7.00 pm	Men's Supper Club - <i>Some current Issues and challenges</i> - Richard Polley
Sun	20	10.30am	Healing and Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	22	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Fri	25	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club
Sun	27	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Brenda Cannon
Tue	29	10.30am-noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer

*Please refer to the Website (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:

Megan Sweby on 7th November
Jack Pallister on 9th November
Amy Chilcott on 15th November
Jacob Passfield on 26th November

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Everyone is invited to the **Christian CARE Association AGM** on
Thursday 3rd November 2016 at 8.00 pm (refreshments from 7.30 pm)
at Martin Way Methodist Church.

The Main Event of the Evening will be “The Merton Health Gap”, a
presentation by Dr Mohan Sekeram, a GP at Wide Way Medical Centre
in East Mitcham.

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Carol Singing

I know it is only November, but this is just a quick advanced notice. We
are planning some carol singing at Morden Underground Station in
December as we do every year.

We are awaiting confirmation of the dates
which we hope will be Monday 19th and
Wednesday 21st between 5pm and 7pm.

Please watch out for updates in the
Notices and clear a space in your diary so
you can join us.



Tony Loft

On Saturday 19th November there is to be a Christmas and Craft Fayre at Bourne Hall in aid of the Shooting Star Chase Children's Hospice. There will be over 40 stalls showing Christmas essentials and gift ideas. You will be able to browse into a spread of toys, jewellery, cakes, and stocking fillers.

Please come along and support this very worthwhile charity. The cost is £1.00 and children are free. Father Christmas will also be there handing out small gifts to the children. You should be able to get some unusual gifts. There will also be a raffle, tombola for the adults and a separate one for the children as well. We are open from 10.30am until 3.00pm.

Sylvia Baxter



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Martin Way Brownies

Having recently been successful in finding a new leader for the Rainbows who meet on the church premises, we now find ourselves needing a new Brownie leader. Kate Avery who has been leading them for 15 years is moving away from the area and will not be able to continue after October.

This means there is a serious risk of the unit having to close. If there is anyone who feels they could take on this rewarding task, or who knows someone who might, please contact Kate on 020 8542 2540 or kavery121@btinternet.com.

It would be sad if the Rainbows had no Brownie unit to progress to and there was a reduced intake of girls to the Guides. Can you help?"

Items for the **December Newsletter** should be with Andrew Fox, (email: roife@hotmail.co.uk) by **Sunday 20th November** at the latest