

## MINISTER'S LETTER



Jambo Rafiki,

By the time you read this I can promise you one thing: I will be thousands of miles from England. Forgive me if I speak a little Kenyan because my tongue here is Kiswahili or Kimeru, Kikuyu the local dialect of my people. In fact I am on my mum's gentle, tender and loving arms being called all manner of nice names with affectionate prefixes and suffixes. Yes I am being spoilt badly and wonder how I have coped all year. And as they say in *The Lion King*, Kenya hakuna matata! (in Kenya there are no worries). Yes I will be in Kenya enjoying my 'well-earned' furlough, if I may blow my own trumpet. I am really looking forward to this. But like everything else, I also know one thing: in the abundance of joy I will miss all of you. You see, if you never knew, you have had great impact on our lives as the Nyota family. Three years have meant that you are our family and we miss you as much as we miss those back home. I will be thinking and praying for each one of you and I ask that you do the same for us.

That three years have gone so quickly has reminded me of a fact that I know but sometimes ignore: **The only constant is change!** Life moves on and very fast these days. Any Church worthy the name must continually seek to come to terms with an ever-changing and complex world. Thus the life of our church as of many others is constantly changing. Twenty years ago life in church seemed far more static. People found a congregation and were part of it, sometimes for decades. Now, each year in our transient society, we are not only always-welcoming people but also saying goodbye. My heart is saddened at the people I have had to say goodbye to either through death or change of address. As I write I am aware that Janet and Bob who have contributed immensely to the life of this church might be on their way out to Devon. This is still up in the air but if and when it does happen we will miss them terribly but we have to wish them well and thank them for all they have done.

Change, as well as loss, is a time of opportunity. Undiscovered talents can be released, unrecognised potential can be realised, new initiatives can

begin. We encourage all those who attend our church to become more involved in our church life. If you would like to help in any area then do speak to me, or any in the Leadership Team. Let us ensure that the work never falters because of lack of committed volunteers. It is a reminder to us as a church that we constantly need a radical overhaul of how we lead our spiritual life and how we approach God. The same sometimes needs to happen to the way we have always approached worship. Even the church structures cannot remain as they were years ago. The leadership team is currently involved in that process and will be coming to you constantly for reference on these matters as it has done already.

Thank you all for a very open and well-attended AGM. Thank you also for giving us the mandate to continue with various programmes in order to change the inside and outside of the church. We will take your comments into consideration and will seek for your feedback every step on the way. Our Leadership Team is now totally different from the one we had three years ago in terms of offices represented. The Stewardship Team concentrates on handling the worship and spiritual side of the church while the LT handles matters of policy and strategy, a forum for dreaming and envisioning the best way for Martin Way to be a church that responds best to God's calling in a holistic way. At the moment the church is deeply involved in drawing up a direction (vision) and how to get there (mission). The teams will be redefined and given specific and substantial tasks.

From these teams we have been able to run Alpha and are hoping to do another one in autumn. Please organise to come and bring your friends along. This is the best way to spread the effects of our Christian life to those that we love. Also from the fourth Sunday in September we will be running a Bible study from 6-7.30 pm. Moira will be co-ordinating this and will let us know details soonish. Please mark the Sunday in your diaries so we can come learn and guide each other.

We are still hungry for more results and want to become better. To make our church easily accessible to folk around we are now about to implement phase IV. You will all know by now that this involves opening up Martin Way side of the building so we can have activities happening from a direction that many passers-by can see and tap into these activities. This is important as we are now dealing with an 'instant' kind of generation.

Of course as we agreed at AGM and Council the visibility study will best reveal the ideal location and items to be included in this package. Hence I invite all to respond when asked for comments during summer period.

I promise to come back. Yes and I promise to come back re-energised and with hunger to see God's presence spread faster than it has done in the last three years. And yes I promise you it will feel a little different when I come the resurrected John. You see I have been with you three years and I am a student no more. The coming years will be time to go higher places in our spirituality as a church and individuals. So if I push you a little it will all be done in love but with urgency. So I leave you with a reading from **1 Peter 1:3**

*'Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.'*

Blessings for the lovely summer and  
See you soooooon!!!!



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## **CONGRATULATIONS**

Rachel Bradshaw, a member of the 1st Merton Park Rainbows, recently won the Pets Category of the Girl Guides Merton Division Photographic Competition with her photograph of a tropical fish. Her entry was highly commended by the judges. On Wednesday 24 May she was presented with her certificate by one of the judges.

Geraldine Ellis, the Rainbow Leader, said "it was a brilliant picture, particularly as it was taken by a child only six years old. It showed a large pink fish swimming past some rocks and was beautifully taken. The pack is very proud of Rachel."

## **THOUGHT OF THE MONTH**

### **JUNE 2006**

In May we had Christian Aid Week which focuses on giving. We are not only asked to give ourselves but we are encouraged to ask others to give through the annual door-to-door collection.



In years gone by our charity giving was done through the church - Home Missions, Overseas Missions, the National Children's Home and so on. Charity shops were unknown. Now fund raising for charity has become big business, like an enormous octopus with tentacles reaching out to everybody. With every postal delivery comes at least one appeal for money. Recently I added up what I had been asked for over a period of two days. The minimum total requested came to £89! One charity which I had not heard of previously sent me a tee shirt and requested a donation. Others send out attractive cards; pens are commonplace. I expect you know it all from experience. If we gave to every appeal that comes our way we would be bankrupt in no time!

So our financial giving has of necessity to be selective. But when we stop to think about it we realise how blessed we are to be in a POSITION to give. We have sufficient to meet our needs and have some left over. I expect that the most important thing in God's eyes is what we do with that which is left over.

We not only give by putting our hands in our pockets or purses or writing a cheque. We have much more precious things to give than money. We can give of our time and talents; we can give something of ourselves. Just a few words of encouragement, support, comfort or concern can mean a great deal. A neighbour drops in once a week for an hour or so to have a chat and a cup of tea, giving of her time and something of herself in friendship. Think of John Chapter 3 verse 16 and ask yourself which are the two most powerful words in that verse then, as Jesus might have said, go and do thou likewise.

*Bill Cox*



## **M.P.M.C.**

The Martin Way Methodist Church building is used by many different groups throughout the week, one of these is the M.P.M.C.

So what do those letters stand for? They stand for Merton Park Music Centre, a private music school established in its present form in 1986 and based at 49 Tybenham Road, Merton Park.

As a teaching centre we offer music tuition in a variety of instruments which include piano, violin, viola, cello, flute, recorder and electric keyboard. Lessons are also given in classical guitar, bass guitar, string bass, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet and singing. We have a number of teachers including Miss S Belchamber, Miss A Parker, Mrs Alexandrou, Miss M L Kaboha, Mr G Serter and Mr T Ashwood. Because we feel that music is for everyone we cater to a wide range of pupils from the 'very young' to the 'older adult' in our work.

With the closures of our studios in Wimbledon it was imperative that another venue was found quickly in order to maintain the continuity of lessons. With Ted Ashwood's help, discussions were held with the Clergy and Church elders and rooms were hired on a regular basis at Martin Way Methodist Church by M.P.M.C.

Merton Park Music Centre is an authorized centre for Trinity Guildhall Board music exams and also a registered centre for Edexcel (University of London) for GCSE exams in music. Both practical and theory examinations can be taken at any level up to external Diploma Standard and, of course, at any age.

Trinity Guildhall examinations are held four times a year at the Church and are open to candidates who are not specifically pupils of M.P.M.C. Ted Ashwood is our examinations representative and has a mailing list of over 100 teachers who send their candidates to the centre to take their

music exams. Sessions vary in length according to the number of candidates entered, the longest session with 115 candidates covered over four days.

The Centre holds recitals each term which gives the pupils experience in public performance and practice for their exams. A formal concert is given every eighteen months. In May 2005 the Centre teachers gave a concert of ensemble playing movements from concertos, sonatas and a session of free style jazz. The concerts have been to raise money for Church funds and the Rafiki Trust. The teachers and pupils of the Centre hope you will continue to give your support to our concerts as we offer our musical expertise to the community.

If you are interested in having music lessons, or know of anyone who might wish to learn music through one to one private teaching, please feel free to contact one of our teachers or myself on (020) 8540 6030.

*Maureen Cox (M.P.M.C. Principal)*

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### LAST MONTH'S BIBLE WORD SEARCH SOLUTION

E	X	O	S	R	S	M	L	A	S	P
D	M	Y	U	J	O	S	H	U	A	M
C	E	T	C	U	L	H	S	J	M	O
R	H	U	I	D	N	E	R	B	U	N
O	A	S	T	G	U	J	E	U	E	O
N	I	K	I	E	V	Z	B	V	L	R
I	M	I	V	S	R	I	M	O	Z	E
N	E	N	E	A	E	O	U	R	J	H
G	H	G	L	D	S	N	N	I	K	T
N	E	S	U	D	O	X	E	O	T	S
E	N	J	N	E	H	E	M	G	M	E
C	H	R	O	N	I	C	L	E	S	Y

# **LETTER TO MY PASTOR**

**By Brent Friesen**

*Submitted as an assignment for PTh 603 - Homiletics I*

Dear Pastor Joe Average,

I have sat under your preaching ministry for the past three years. There have been many weeks, sitting in the pew, that I have wondered how you are doing. All too often we (the congregation) expect you to come up with thought provoking, soul feeding sermons so that we can go on with our weeks. If the rest of the people are like me, then chances are, you are not asked all that often how you are doing. I am terribly sorry for never acting upon my compulsion to ask. This past Sunday morning while you were sharing your struggles in life, I was rebuked in my spirit, because I realized that for weeks the Holy Spirit had been prompting me to encourage you, and I failed. I am sorry.

Thank you for taking the risk of being honest with us, your congregation. For openly questioning your call to preach. For letting us hear that you wonder if time spent in your study is actually worth it. For admitting that all too often that you don't spend nearly enough time in preparation. I couldn't help but read between the lines of what you were saying, that maybe it was time to replace your sermon with some other form of communicating the gospel. Pastor, I may have missed the Spirit's prompting in the past, I will not miss it this time!

I decided to do a little research to see if there are other preachers out there, experiencing some of the things that you were talking about Sunday morning. No surprise, you are not alone. Thomas G. Long (professor of preaching at Princeton Theological Seminary) wrote about the loneliness of the preacher; We want to speak the gospel to them, the gospel of grace and demand, and yet we are standing there looking out at people who could hardly seem less receptive. We stand there and look at the man who is even now cheating on his wife, the parents who are pressuring their children into lives of frenzied superachievement . . . and the merchant who recently pulled a fast one on the Internal Revenue Service. As we stand there, we see the restless teenagers on the back pew passing notes to each other, the church officer who is doing her best to undermine our ministry, the man who is already asleep, and the place where we stand feels like a lonely place. Please Pastor, remember that

you are not alone in this struggle. Sometimes it feels good just to know that this is not unique to your own situation.

You are a part of an impressive line of preachers that have gone on before you. You share your calling with men like Moses, Isaiah and Micah in Old Testament times. Peter, Paul and Timothy in the New Testament era. Our Lord Himself was a preacher! “Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching and preaching the good news of the kingdom . . . “ (Mat. 9:35). Justin Martyr, Tertullian, St. Francis, Martin Luther, John Calvin (I threw him in because I know your predestination theology - see, some of us are listening!) were all preachers. Jonathon Edwards, Charles Spurgeon, Dwight Moody, and Dietrich Bonhoeffer all shared your profession. Look around today Pastor; Bill Hybels, Yonggi Cho, John Stott, Charles Swindoll and Billy Graham are part of your peer group. You are part of a distinguished group that have been preaching for thousands of years!

Listen to what your peers are saying about preaching:

**James Earl Massey** - “Preaching as God intended it will never lose its power nor its reason for being. Human concern will shift with every generation, but God’s means of addressing human need will never change.”

**Karl Barth** - “It is a simple truism that there is nothing more important, more urgent, more helpful, more redemptive, and more salutary, there is nothing, from the viewpoint of heaven and earth, more relevant to the real situation than the speaking and the hearing of the Word of God . . .”

**D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones** - “To me the work of preaching is the highest and greatest and the most glorious calling to which anyone can ever be called.”

**Matthew Simpson** - “His throne is the pulpit; he stands in Christ’s stead; his message is the word of God; around him are immortal souls; the Saviour, unseen, is beside him; the Holy Spirit broods over the congregation; angels gaze upon the scene, and heaven and hell await the issue. What associations, and what vast responsibility!”

**Charles Spurgeon** - “Life, death, hell, and the worlds unknown, hang on the preaching and the hearing of a sermon.”

Even the secular world is once again talking about preachers.

Time magazine recently ran an article asking questions like; “Who Will be the Next Billy Graham?” and “How Much Does the Preaching Matter?”

Time’s conclusion; “In mainline white churches, it was a lost art for a generation, but there are signs that the sermon may be having a revival all its own.”

As I was listening to you on Sunday morning I was reminded of an article I read a few years ago in Leadership Magazine. Craig Larson wrote; “given our turbo-powered world of communications, on occasion I’ve wondered [how] my preaching comes across . . . After all, preaching is as low-tech and scant-budget as it gets. Most of my listeners are accustomed to movies powered by special effects, by Hollywood budgets that can soar beyond \$100 million . . . Can preachers compete?” Sound familiar?

Let me encourage you Pastor, you don’t have to compete with Hollywood, you having something that television, theatre or movies can never, ever give their “congregations.” You bring us the Words that are a balm to heal our hurts. You bring the Words that quench our thirsty souls. You bring the Words that challenge us to live our lives as God intended. You bring the Words that are “useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that [we] may be thoroughly equipped for every good work” (II Tim. 3:16). No amount of money or cinematography can bring this to people! In some ways, the media has actually served to challenge the church towards excellence. David Allen Hubbard said this in an interview; “I do think that the media will affect preachers by challenging us to be better communicators . . . if I am going to talk about personal problems and the application of Christian faith, and they’re all going to go off to the other church to see Swindoll on tape, that is a challenge to me to do better.” Hubbard also said “one of the advantages that comes from not being a naturally fluent or articulate preacher is that you keep forcing yourself to grow.” I suppose that this is like anything else in life, we are often inspired by others to do better. Over the past three years I believe that your sermons have continued to get better and better (in a communication sense). I remember watching Michael Jordan’s story at the IMAX a few years back. He talked about when he first broke into the NBA, he was not a very good defensive player. He watched other great players and decided that if he was to

become a great player, he would have to learn to play defence. Jordan spent hours practising his defensive game and became not only the best offensive player ever, he was arguably one of the best defensive players in the game. (I'm not convinced that he will maintain his dominance at age 38)! Unlike the sporting world, preachers can have an impact on people beyond a game, season or career. Your preaching can affect people for eternity. Over the past three years I have benefited from your hours of "practising" your craft in the quietness of your study. I know that you do not spend hours preparing for Sunday morning in order to gain praise from the church. However, there were times when we should have given you a standing ovation for using your gifts for God's glory, and for our benefit.

Thank-you for staying true to the Word of God, for preaching expository sermons. Too many preachers are being sucked into thinking that "entertaining" their congregation will make them seem like better preachers. We don't come to church to be entertained, or to hear from you (no offence), we come to hear from God. Your commitment to preaching the Bible does not go unnoticed. James Montgomery Boice wrote this about preaching: "clearly the first and essential requirement is a joyful and total commitment to the absolute authority of God's written revelation. There has never been a great expository preacher who has not held this high conviction; there have been pulpiteers who have not, but never expositors." I assume that at times you may have considered preaching your own agenda, I'm sure this must be a hard temptation to fight off. "Ministers can proclaim anything in a stained-glass voice at 11:30 on Sunday morning following the singing of hymns. Yet when they fail to preach the Scriptures, they abandon their authority." Before I came to this church I had visited a dozen other churches. Unfortunately, there are many preachers in our city who have abandoned their authority, thank-you for not abandoning yours.

The last few things that I want to leave with you come from the Book. All the things that I have written to this point were intended to encourage you from a human point of view. But, as you know, the most important wisdom comes from God. Paul wrote; ". . . men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God. Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful" (I Cor. 4:1-2). Please do not allow yourself to be

by everything else that your position entails, to the detriment of preaching. “You are expected to counsel like Joyce Brothers, visit like a hospital chaplain, lead like the President of the USA, manage with the financial acumen of Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith and preach like Billy Graham. If you are the leader of a biblical church, the ministry of the Word of God is your primary task.” I don’t mean to tell you how to do your job, rather I encourage you to continue placing your sermon as the top priority. Recall that the early church in Acts were pressuring the apostles to re-prioritize their time by asking them to deal with the problem of food distribution. The apostles delegated responsibilities to the laymen, saying “it would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables . . . we will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word” (Acts 6:1-4). There is nothing more important that you could invest in this church than spending time in prayer and the Word. We may not be instantly gratified if you do this, but we will be eternally grateful!

Paul wrote to Pastor Timothy, “watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers (I Tim. 4:16) . . . Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct , rebuke and encourage - with great patience and careful instruction (II Tim 4:2). Pastor, whenever a life saving message needed (needs) to get out to the people, “God has always called upon a preacher.”

Very Sincerely,  
Joe Attender

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## **MONEY MATTERS**

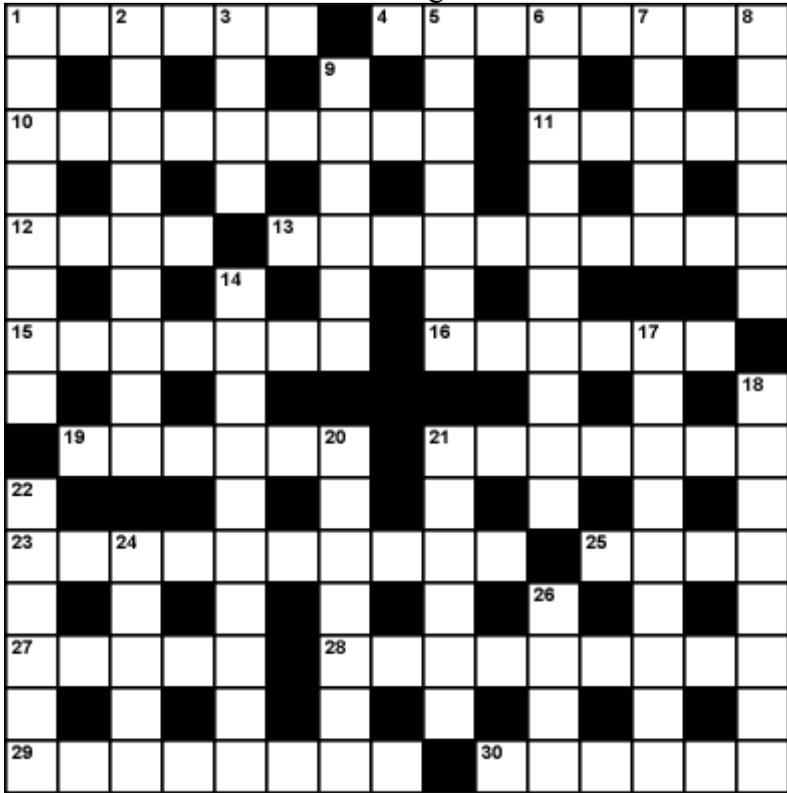
The East Africa appeal raised £236.20, of which £181.00 was Gift Aided so £286.88 has been sent to the Methodist Relief and Development Fund.

Home Mission Boxes produced £309.21 with Gift Aid adding £86.35, so £395.56 has been forwarded for Home Mission work.

Easter Offering envelopes produced £170.00 of which £117.00 was Gift Aided so £202.76 has been forwarded for World Mission work.

# PUZZLE CORNER

Bible themed crossword containing words from the KJV Bible



**Down**

**Across**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Skilled animal workers (8)</p> <p>2 Inspiring (9)</p> <p>3 Compass point (4)</p> <p>5 Intense emotion (7)</p> <p>6 The words of Jeremiah said not to listen to these (10)</p> <p>7 Jewish leader (5)</p> <p>8 'He is proud, knowing nothing, but _____ about questions and strifes of words...' (1 Tim 6:4) (6)</p> <p>9 Bread makers (6)</p> <p>14 In this year of King Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Nebuzaradan arrived in Jerusalem (10)</p> <p>17 Ancient city of Og, King of Bashan (9)</p> <p>18 Stringed instrument (8)</p> <p>20 Joseph, perhaps? (7)</p> <p>21 Tiny amount (6)</p> <p>22 Jesus did this with authority (6)</p> <p>24 Last letter of the Greek alphabet (5)</p> <p>26 Province of the Roman Empire (4)</p> | <p>1 An ancient weight (6)</p> <p>4 Seemed (8)</p> <p>10 New Testament book (9)</p> <p>11 Unit of length (5)</p> <p>12 '...it is a _____ thing the king requireth' (Dan 2:11) (4)</p> <p>13 Contemplation (10)</p> <p>15 Abigail supplied David with one hundred clusters of these (7)</p> <p>16 A son of King David (6)</p> <p>19 Concurred (6)</p> <p>21 Light sources (7)</p> <p>23 Propitiations (10)</p> <p>25 A false god (4)</p> <p>27 Gather (5)</p> <p>28 Abimelech was hit by this (9)</p> <p>29 Instructors (8)</p> <p>30 Hastily (6)</p> |
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## **A LETTER TO GOD**

*This first appeared in the Morden Parish News and was written by a lady after she was diagnosed as having a serious form of cancer*

Dear God,

How are things with you today?

I'm not feeling so well after having had my first session of chemotherapy yesterday. My body doesn't really know what hit it - talk about a chemical cocktail. I now know I have to look forward to a strict routine of tablets, daily injections, weekly intravenous drips in hospital with radiotherapy and surgery following in the next few months. But then you knew all this before it was diagnosed. You could have given me a clue as to what was going to happen so that I could have been prepared, but then perhaps you like the element of surprise!

Despite this I have never asked 'why me?' It's more of a 'why not me?' I am certain that you have a purpose for me to have to endure this difficult time in my life. I also know you have so much more work for me to do in your name and that I will come out of this a totally different person. I am beginning already to learn that it is OK to feel vulnerable; having always been the strong one, bearing everyone else's burdens, it's quite hard for me to admit vulnerability and that it's OK to break down and cry occasionally. I'm also finding it hard to accept so much love, kindness and compassion from so many people; I am far more comfortable being a giver rather than a receiver.

I need to thank you for giving me such wonderful friends and support - if I named them all it would already sound like a speech at the Oscars. But I have to mention X, whose daily prayers and almost daily contact via text, phone or email has been invaluable. And also my best friend Y who comes to all my doctors' appointments to be my 'second set of ears' to make sure I don't miss anything and who knows as much about my body functions as I do!

I can't actually thank you yet for my cancer. I'll let you know when it's all over how I feel about the experience, but thank you for giving me the

strength at least to cope at the moment .  
I love you Lord.

PS I'm still very angry with you for dumping this on me after what I went through last year. I really don't deserve it quite so soon - you could have given me a bit of a breathing space. But I haven't got the energy to tackle you on this issue today .... That will have to wait for another day!

PPS  
Will write again soon

*This was read and used in the Men's Supper Club Service on 4th April. Sincere thanks to those who came and supported us that evening. We raised £150 which was shared between St Raphael's Hospice and Wheels for the World.*

*Bill Cox*



**THE RAFIKI TRUST**  
present  
**A MID-SUMMER CONCERT**  
Saturday 24th June at 7.30pm  
at  
Martin Way Methodist Church

**FEATURING CLASSIC, JAZZ & FOLK MUSIC  
AND SONGS FROM THE SHOWS  
WITH STUART THOMAS, EMMAUS, LESLEY MORTLEY,  
GRAHAM CURRIE, TED ASHWOOD, TO NAME A FEW**

Tickets will be £7.50 adults, £5.00 aged 16 and under  
and a family ticket (2A + 2C) at £20.00.  
Monies raised to go to support the Toto Simba project

*For further information  
please contact Mike Mortley on (020) 8540 4961*

## **CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MERTON PARK**

Churches Together in Merton Park (CTMP) continue to meet 6 times a year. The meetings are usually well attended with all 5 churches represented. At our last meeting in May there was a general feeling that we should be raising our awareness of our planned activities for the year ahead;

**Lent groups.** Attendance was down this year due to many Churches having their own courses i.e. Alpha, Purpose Driven Life and meditative studies relating to Lent. It was decided that it would be sensible not to hold future Lent courses but to concentrate on doing more events in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

**Week of prayer for Christian Unity.** The next annual Church Unity Service will be held in St Mary the Virgin on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in January during which members of the CTMP group will be commissioned. Suggestions were made to include a Service in each of the Churches during that week.

**Pentecost Service.** There were positive feedback on last year's Pentecost Service and will be held again this year on 4<sup>th</sup> June in John Innes Park. It was agreed that those attending would be invited to bring a picnic to share afterwards. This event could be enhanced in the future to include some social mixing afterwards.

**Social events.** Other events possibly involving young people will be considered in the coming year.

**Christmas leaflets.** The CTMP group would welcome any comments on the Christmas leaflet and possible suggestions about its continuation. It was noted that Christian Care had contacts and helpers as a result of the leaflet.

**More Representatives?** Although meetings are well attended it would be good to have another person to represent Martin Way. Please speak to Derek Heaton or Gwen Wildman if you would like to attend these meetings before deciding.

**The next meeting will be on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July, to find out more please speak to either Derek or Gwen**



## **FAIRTRADE RECIPES**

### **Two short recipes for you this month**

#### **Fairtrade Tea Jelly**

*This is delicious with cheese, cold meats or spread on hot, buttered crumpets or toast.*

1 litre/2 pints water steeped in Fairtrade tea  
(use about 4 tea bags)  
6-8 cups of Fairtrade sugar  
½ cup apple pectin  
Juice of 1½ Fairtrade lemons

- Bring tea to the boil.
- Add the sugar, pectin, and lemon juice.
- Bring back to the boil and continue cooking for four minutes.



**Place in jars, cover with a piece of plastic wrap and allow to cool.**

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#### **Fairtrade Banana Smoothie**

*Serves one*

1 large or two small Fairtrade bananas  
200ml ice cold milk (skimmed if you prefer)  
1 tablespoon rolled oats (porridge oats)  
2 ice cubes

**Place all the ingredients in a blender and whizz for approximately one minute until smooth. Pour into a tall glass and enjoy.**

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*“Strange to see how a good dinner and feasting reconciles everybody.”*

*Samuel Pepys*

## **From a Kenyan point of view English THE CRAZIEST LANGUAGE?**

Begin with a box. Yes, its plural is boxes;  
But more than one ox would be oxen, not oxes.

You may see a lone mouse or find twenty mice;  
But to pluralize house, we say houses not hice.

The one foul's a goose, but in groups, they are geese.  
Yet the plural of moose turns out not to be meese.

We know that the plural of man is some men,  
so why shouldn't more than one pan become pen?

If I spoke of my foot then I showed you my feet,  
And I gave you the boot, would a pair be called beet?

And more than one brother's referred to as brethren.  
But though we may say mother, we never say methren.

Then one may be that and two might be those,  
Yet hat in the plural would never be hose.

The masculine pronouns are he, his and him,  
But imagine the feminine – she, shis and shim!

So, English, I fancy you all will agree,  
Is the craziest language you ever did see!

## CHURCH DIARY FOR JUNE

Fri	2	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club
Sun	4	10.30 am	All Age Worship led by Miss Jo Wells
		2.30 pm	“Fresh Expressions” Circuit Workshop
Mon	5	2.45 pm	Fellowship
Tue	6	10-12noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Sun	11	10.30 am	Communion Service led by Rev Stuart Thomas
Mon	12	2.45 pm	Fellowship - Valerie and Graham Currie
Tue	13	10-12noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Weds	14	7.45 pm	Midways Group – <i>A Safari through Morocco</i> - Geoffrey Moir
Fri	16	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club
Sun	18	10.30 am	Praise Service led by Bob & Janet Hamblin
Mon	19	2.45 pm	Fellowship
Tue	20	10-12noon	Coffee and Chat
		7.30 pm	Men's Supper Club – <i>Anecdotes and Arias</i> - Derek Little
Sat	24	7.30 pm	Rafiki Trust Mid-Summer Concert
Sun	25	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Bill Cox
Mon	26	3.45 pm	Fellowship
Tue	27	10-12 noon	Coffee and Chat
		8.00 pm	Time for Prayer
Weds	28	10.30 am	Morning Communion
		7.45 pm	Midways Group – <i>Fish &amp; Chip Supper</i>
Fri	30	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club

*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:

**Simon Ward on 3rd June**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2006. - 2.30pm to 5.30pm**

at

**Martin Way Methodist Church**

Wimbledon Methodist Church will be hosting a Circuit Event  
introducing:-

## **‘Fresh Expressions’**

**A new initiative for changing times**

‘Fresh Expressions’ is a new national initiative of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York supported by the Methodist Council. The aim is to resource and encourage this major movement of mission and change across the churches.

The event will be chaired by Rev. Barrie Tabraham.

Andy Frost of Share Jesus International will present an introduction to ‘Fresh Expression’ which will be followed by question time/workshops.

There will be tea and coffee and the afternoon will conclude with a short time of worship

*A warm welcome is extended to everyone in the circuit to the introduction of this new and exciting initiative.*

## Your Help Is Needed!!

Please if anyone is able to help with any of the following jobs, speak to a Church Steward. They will also be able to tell you more about the job or direct you to someone who does.

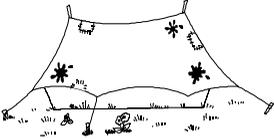
- Church Steward
- Communion Steward
- Welcome Team  
(Helping on the door Sunday mornings)
  - Car Rota
- Counting Collection Money
  - Coffee Rota

**These jobs are very important and with your extra help it will make such a difference**

### **SWANAGE !**

Once again our **CHURCH CAMP** at Swanage will be happening later on this year. Dates that have booked are from 22<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> July.

Anyone wishing to go please see Janet or Bob Hamblin for more details.



### **ROTA HELP NEEDED**

I wanted to write and thank everyone for all your help when I devise the quarterly rota. Due to the fact I am getting married in September I will be unable to do my job for the October-December rota.

I am asking if anyone would **PLEASE OFFER** to do this job for just the Oct-Dec rota [I'm NOT giving up my job!]. Please come and see me if you feel you can help me - thank you

Abby Loft [8543 9093]

Items for the **July/August Newsletter** should be with Andrew Fox, (email: roife@aol.com) by **Sunday 18th June** at the latest