



CHRIST CHURCH URC

Chase Side, Enfield

Minister Rev'd David Atkinson



**Some of Christ Church's beautiful
stained glass windows**

April 2008

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY

- 11.00 am Morning Worship
11.00 am Pilots
Holy Communion *First Sunday*
Family Parade Service *Third Sunday*
12.30pm Church Meeting *bi-monthly*

MONDAY

- 6.30 pm Boys' Brigade Anchor Boys (5-8 years)
6.30 pm Junior Section (8-11 years)
7.30 pm Company Senior Section
(11-18 years) (including band practice)

WEDNESDAY

- 9.45-11.15 am Combined Bible Study
at Lancaster Road URC *Twice monthly*
2.15 pm Friendship Club *Twice monthly*

THURSDAY

- 7.45-9.15 pm Bible Study Group *monthly*
7.30 pm Elders Meeting *bi-monthly*

FRIDAY

- 5.00 pm Rainbows (5-7 years)
6.00 pm Brownies (7-10 years)
7.30 pm Guides (10-14 years)
Rangers (14-20 years)

MINISTER'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

What essential things do we need for life and without them we would die? My answer is that we need food and water without which we would die of hunger and thirst. We also probably need clothing and shelter without which we would die of cold and exposure. Although life would be extremely hard and lonely we can probably survive without anything else.

What essential things do we need to play football and without them there would be no game? My answer is a ball. We can probably manage without everything else using jackets for goal posts and wearing ordinary clothes instead of football boots, shorts and shirt. We can probably get away with this in the local park or on the beach.

What essential things do we need to have a holiday in America and without them there would be no holiday? My answer is a passport without which we would not be allowed into the country. We also need money whether traveller's cheques, U.S. dollars or a credit or debit card.

This leads me on to ask what beliefs are essential in Christianity? My answer has to include the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Paul put it like this in his first letter to the Christians at Corinth, "If Christ was not raised, then our Gospel is null and void, and so is your faith." (1 Corinthians 15:14). This is why Easter Day is the most important day in the Christian calendar.

If Christ was not raised then the death of Christ was the end and the sin of people which crucified Christ is victorious. But the resurrection shows that God's love triumphed over people's sin and evil.

If Christ was not raised then our hopes of the life after death are futile. But God's love overcame death and raised Christ to life. Jesus said, "Because I live, you too will live." (John14: 18).

If Christ was not raised then he cannot be present with us now through his Spirit to guide, strengthen and love us in our daily lives. But the risen Lord Jesus said to his disciples, "And be assured, I am with you always, to the end of time." (Matthew28: 20).

As Christians we believe God raised Christ from the dead and we live continually in the presence of the risen Lord Jesus with the assurance of eternal life. Now this really is Good News!

May the love and peace of the risen Christ be with you all. David.

NEWS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

Sylvia Coombs has had an operation on her back.

Congratulations to Betty Winter who celebrated her 100th birthday on 6th March

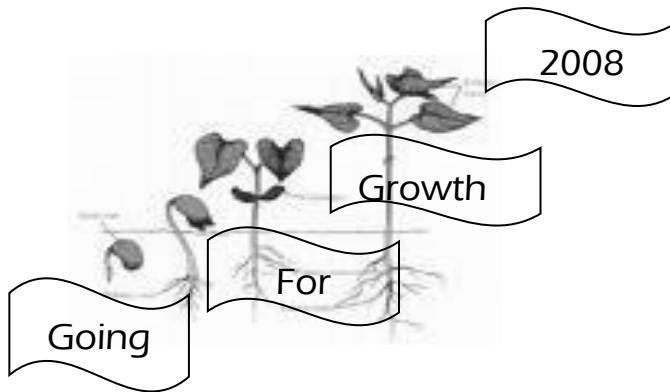
Let us remember all our church family in our prayers and caring. David.

Mrs Ivy Farthing

Friends will be sorry to hear of the death of Mrs Ivy Farthing, wife of Ewart, in Paignton on March 16th. They were both members of Christ Church and the choral society for many years and moved to Paignton, Devon in the 1960s. They joined Dartmouth Road URC in Paignton, and later the URC/Methodist Church in Torquay. Ewart passed away a few years ago. Ivy is survived by her daughters, Carole, who also lives in Devon with her husband Stanley.

Marion Wiley

Every Person Challenge 2008-9



This year we are continuing our theme 'Going for Growth'. In our February Church meeting we passed a resolution to focus on evangelism, growth and bringing people to regular worship at Christ Church during the next year.

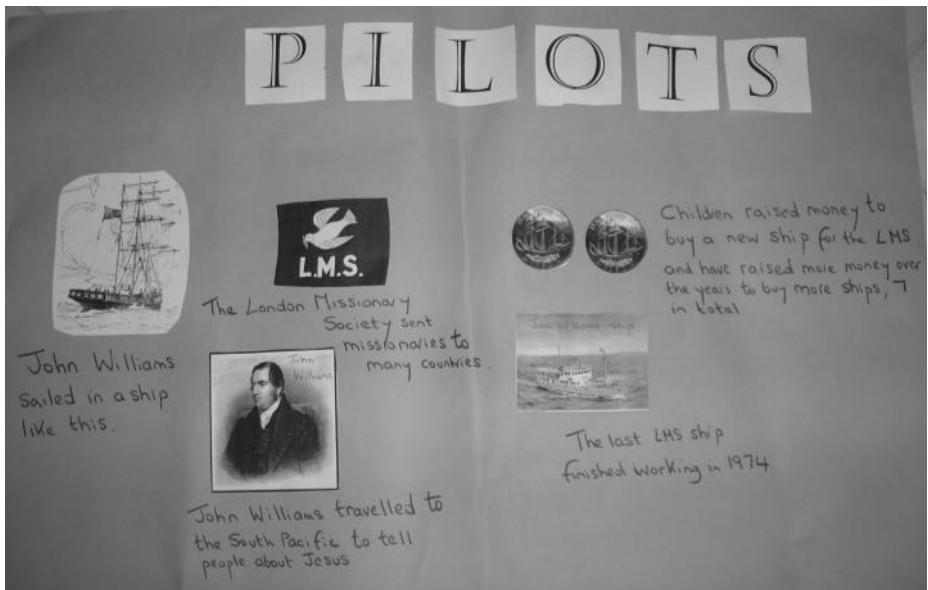
Our Challenge Sunday is 4th May when we give out the Challenge forms, and Thanksgiving Sunday is 18th May when forms are returned completed

Please support our new Every Person Challenge by

- ♦ Praying for the Challenge
- ♦ Attending Challenge Sunday
- ♦ Returning your completed Challenge forms
- ♦ And fulfilling your commitment in your Challenge form

Pilots' Taster - 16th March

We had a successful Pilots' Taster morning which ran alongside our normal Sunday service. 10 children ranging through all the ages and youth groups attended and thoroughly enjoyed the various activities. We started by making colourful name badges. The children were then divided into 2 teams for a treasure hunt. 10 envelopes had to be found, each containing a picture. The pictures were used to tell the story of how Pilots was started, as you can see below.



We had a fun game of Port and Starboard, followed by a short drama about Palm Sunday; a song with musical accompaniment from the children; and to finish, the making of decorated biscuits—some very colourful creations went home! Thank you to everyone who helped with this. If you would like more information about Pilots, please contact Rosemary, her telephone number is on the back cover.

"The Pilots will be joining the National Pilots outing to
Longleat on Saturday 17th May.

Further information is available from Rosemary.

THE BOYS' BRIGADE

>the adventure begins here



3rd Enfield (T R Plowman's) Company

Founded 3rd December 1890

Annual Display and Presentation Evening

To be held at the
Christ Church Hall
on

Monday 28th April 2008 at 6:30pm

Come and join with us and watch some of the activities that the 3rd Enfield get up to, as part of an evening of fun, fellowship, games and much more - including refreshments afterwards! All parents, friends and supporters of the Company are encouraged to come, so we look forward to seeing you there at the Display for our 118th year!

All are welcome!

For more info, please speak to one of the Company Officers

The Object of the Boys' Brigade: The advancement of Christ's Kingdom among Boys and the promotion of habits of Obedience, Reverence, Discipline, Self-Respect and all that tends towards a true Christian Manliness

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Friendship Club continues to meet on alternate Wednesday afternoons in the church hall at 2.15pm .

We warmly welcome any friends who are able to join with us, even if only occasionally.

April 2nd Mrs M Taylor from the donkey sanctuary in Sidmouth will show slides and talk about her work and is also bringing cards for sale.

April 16th - An Easter Break

Summer Programme

April 30th Mr Frank Bayford will be showing 'Slides of Flowers' including some which grow in his garden

May 14th. Mrs Pamela Davies will give a talk on 'The Mission to Seafarers' for which the club collects money each week.

News of Members

Mrs Irene Baker is feeling better and **Mrs Layzell's** injured wrist is slowly healing.

Miss Betty Winter thanks all her friends for the gifts and the good wishes she received on her 100th Birthday.

An Advance Notice—On May 28th the club is planning a lunch at Forty Hall café when members and friends will meet. If dry we will later take a tour of the walled garden, meeting afterwards for a cream tea or normal tea as desired. Menus will be available later

Lily Smith

Thank you

Thank you to my Guiding colleagues at Christ Church for making my farewell at the end of 2007 so memorable. The thanks and good wishes were quite overwhelming and it was sad to say goodbye to you all and The Brownies.

We are settling in very well in Oxfordshire and my new role with The Ashmolean Museum is fantastic.

Of course we miss our friends and family but we are only a short drive away. It was lovely to see so many of you again at the Mothers Day Family Parade Service.

I would like to sincerely thank Kathy Brown for taking over the 9th Enfield Brownies and for working so hard to make the meetings and activities as fun and relevant as possible for the girls. Well done, well done, well done.

Yours in Guiding

Gill Morris

gill_morris99@hotmail.com



Girlguiding

Easter Sunday Service 23rd March

Led by the Worship group

We had a 'cracking time' at this Sunday's Easter Service. Following the reading from Luke 24 verse 1-12, we displayed 3 Easter eggs which is what most people, especially children, think of at Easter. The first Egg was a very highly decorated egg which looked very spectacular, when it was hit by a mallet by Katherine (One of our Pilots) it was found to be empty — no chocolates in it at all!



The second egg should have had a mug and other bits with it but all that was in the box was an egg. When it was cracked open by Denni (One of our Rainbows) a chick was found. All the congregation brought up daffodils and decorated a bush to show the new life at Spring following Easter



The Third Egg looked very dull. Damien cracked it open with the mallet and found it to be full of chocolates, much to everyone's surprise.

As well as giving everyone some chocolate after the service, the eggs help us to remember:

- * the empty tomb—when Jesus came back to life
- * that this is a time for new life, as it was for Jesus that first Easter Sunday
- * the wonderful surprise God gave us that first Easter morning—a new life because Jesus died for us.

GIFT AID AND FREE WILL OFFERING

6TH April heralds a new tax year, which is an ideal opportunity to review your level of giving to the Church. If you pay tax on your income or pension, or have it deducted at source from your savings, the best way to contribute is under the Gift Aid Scheme, as the Church can then claim back the tax you have suffered on the amount given. If you are not a taxpayer you can donate under the Free Will Offering Scheme.

Gift Aid

1. You need to obtain a Gift Aid declaration form from me and complete and return this. The declaration entitles the Church to reclaim from the Inland Revenue an amount equal to the basic rate of income tax on the donation(s) you make. Although the basic rate of tax will be reduced to 20% from 6th April next, charities, by concession will still be able to reclaim the current basic rate of 22% for the next 3 years, so the claim made by the Church is equivalent to 28p per £1 given. So, if you give £10 that becomes £12.80, or £100 becomes £128, at no extra cost to you.

2. To balance the Church's claim, you must be paying an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax *at least equal to the tax which the Church reclaims*. If your circumstances change so that you no longer pay tax of this amount, you must inform the Gift Aid Officer (i.e. me) and cancel your declaration.

3. The declaration can be cancelled at any time by notifying the Gift Aid Officer in writing.

4. A declaration can be made in advance of a donation, at the time of a donation, or at any time after a donation (subject to the normal time limit within which you can reclaim tax - normally around six years). Accordingly if you are a tax payer and have made a donation to the Church since 6th April 2000, which is

not covered by a covenant, it is not too late to complete a Gift Aid declaration so that the Church can reclaim the tax.

5. In relation to future donations, you do not have to say in the declaration how much these will be, so you have total flexibility as to the level of your gift. However, from the Treasurer's budgeting point of view, it would be useful (but not essential), if you could give an indication of what your minimum contribution per year is likely to be on a Pledge Card (available from me).

6. If you pay tax at the higher rate, currently 40%, you can claim further tax relief in your self assessment tax return.

7. In order to satisfy the Inland Revenue's requirements, it is essential that if any gift is made under this scheme I can identify the person who made it, so that the Revenue can tie it up with the declaration that that person has made. Accordingly each person who makes a Gift Aid declaration will be allocated a number and that or the donor's name should be given when any gift is made under the Scheme. If you would like to make your contribution weekly, I can supply you with a set of envelopes to use. Lenten gifts also count, provided I can identify the donor.

Free Will Offering

You decide how much you would like to give each week, (or month, or year). You then contact me to let me know, in confidence, how much this is. I let you have a set of weekly envelopes, and you place the envelope containing your gift in the collection bag (or give it to David Fisher), as and when convenient.

If people would like any further details, please do not hesitate to speak to me.

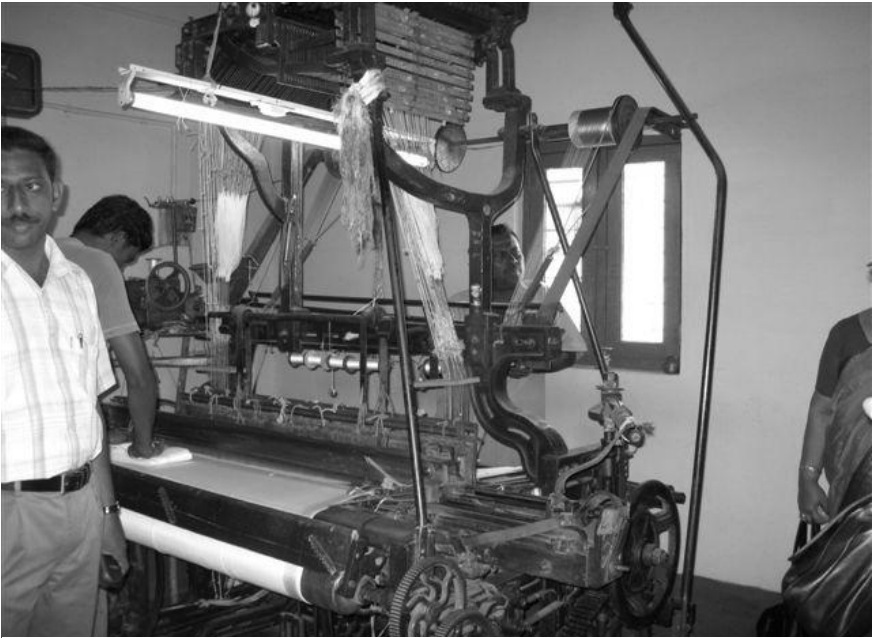
Rosemary Milns

Telephone number 8363 6571

INDIAN VISIT

Our trip to Bangalore in February was a most amazing and rewarding experience. Six of us from various North London United Reformed Churches spent 12 days in Bangalore, most of the time at the Guest House of the Karnataka Central Diocese. We were also invited individually, to stay with a minister's family in a nearby town for a day or two. I had met my host, Reverend Vincent Vinod Kumar when he visited Enfield last summer and it was a delight to meet his wife and son. We were looked after extremely well during the whole trip, having two jeeps to ferry us around, with a local minister accompanying each group of three. We were very grateful for their presence, mainly to ward off unwelcome interest, and also I'm sure we would have all been run over at our first attempt to cross the road. The traffic is horrendous, red traffic lights being a mere suggestion. Those who do obey lights constantly rev their engines, mostly motorcycles, and then it resembles the start of a grand prix when the lights change to green. The idea is to aim rather than drive, hand on horn. Surprisingly, I saw no accidents. Two of us asked to travel by motorised rickshaw unaccompanied, but our "carers" were not too keen on the idea. However, they took great trouble to find us a Christian driver! I can't think what special qualities he might have as he was determined to point out places of interest, not really looking where he was driving. It was quite comforting to see pictures of Christ adorning his cab.

The highlight of the visit for me was to see the work already done by URCs for the silk weavers in the



This is one of the looms now owned by the weaver and is in his own home. The half a person on the left is their paster, Rev.Soojeeth Kumar



These children are from a slum area in Bangalore

village of Doddaballapur. We were shown an industrial unit that is rented jointly by four families to house their four looms. This opened in April 2007 and was funded by various URCs. The families now own the looms and 8 weavers are earning. They work up to 16 hours a day depending on the unreliable electricity supply. The gratitude shown to us was overwhelming. It was a great pleasure to present the sum of £2,850 to their bishop; £2,000 raised by Lancaster Road and £850 by Christ Church. This will buy 3 looms.

We had a very busy program, visiting schools, a hospital, day centres, slum villages, and a home for the elderly. There are so many projects being supported by different denominations, not only from the UK.

There were many different visits and experiences that would take up too much space. Later on, I hope to plan an Indian evening with more detail and photos. I was taught how to prepare some Indian dishes, so there could be some spicy food for the adventurous.

All the hard work everyone has put in over the past eight months to raise money for the looms will be used to help the weavers' families. I am in regular contact with members of the Church of South India and I'll keep everyone posted with news of the Karnataka Central Diocese.

Maureen Prior
Lancaster Road URC

April Church Diary 2008

- Wed 2nd 2.15pm Friendship Club Mrs M Taylor from the donkey sanctuary in Sidmouth will show slides and talk about her work
- Sun 6th 11am The Revd David Atkinson
Holy Communion offering for the Lancaster road Church Special Supper Ministry
Duty Elder— Pamela Mansley**
- Wed 9th 9.45am -11.15 Joint bible study with Lancaster Road at Lancaster Road URC
- Sun 13th 11am The Worship Group
Duty Elder — Pamela Fisher**
- Sun 20th 11am Mrs Michaela Lawrence
Family Parade Service
Duty Elder— Stephen Gilbert`**
- Wed 23rd 9.45am -11.15 Joint bible study with Lancaster Road at Lancaster Road URC
- Thurs 24th 7.45-9.15 Bible study at Christ Church in the hall—beginners room
- Sun 27th 11am Boys Brigade Enfield Battalion
Parade Service
Duty Elder— Ron Smith**
- Wed 30th 2.15pm Friendship Club Mr Frank Bayford will be showing 'Slides of Flowers' including some which grow in his garden

May Church diary 2008

Thurs 8pm Ascension Service
1st May Lancaster Road URC

Sun 4th 11am The Revd David Atkinson
Holy Communion offering for the
Communion Fund
Duty Elder— Ron Smith

Wed 9.45am- Joint bible study with Lancaster
7th 11.15 Road at Lancaster Road URC

Sun 11am The Worship Group
11th Pentecost (Whit Sunday)
Duty Elder Pamela Mansley

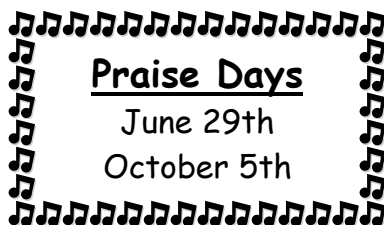
Advance dates for 2008

Elders Meetings 8pm

8th May
26th June
2nd October
4th December

Church Meetings 12.30pm

1st June
7th September
2nd November
(elders election)



North West Enfield Group of Churches United Services

Sunday, 11th May at Lancaster
Road URC at 6:30pm.

Thames North Synod 10am

20th September
8th November

**** PILOTS ****

WHAT: Pilots are a group for boys and girls aged five upwards. They meet for games, drama, craft activities and fun, based on a bible theme.

WHERE:

Pilots meet in
the church hall

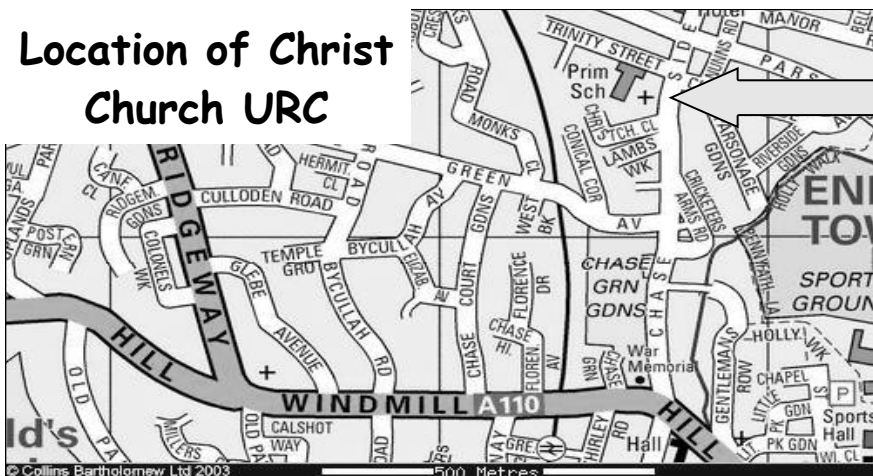


WHEN:

Sunday
mornings from
11am to 12 noon

If you are interested in coming or would like further details please contact Rosemary Milns 8363-6571

Location of Christ Church URC



Articles intended for inclusion in the **May 08**
issue should reach the Editor by **2nd Sunday in April 08.**

Items can be either handed to or sent to:-
Pamela Fisher
40b Chase Green Avenue, Enfield EN2 8EB
020 8482 4610 Email ; pjf_40b@hotmail.com