

HEATH STREET

BAPTIST CHURCH



NEWSLETTER

Issue # 1035 | Jan - March 2017

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MINISTER'S LETTER

Looking back over the 2016, the first things that comes to mind are the most recent: our busy advent/Christmas here at Heath Street. It was a joy to see various charitable events at the church going well: in total over three thousand pounds was raised at the church in December. Chiefly responsible were Elisabeth Kristiansen and Ana Silvera, both back for a second consecutive year, and singing for Shelter and Care4Calais respectively along with Orly Orbach, Heath Street Choir and many others who helped in collecting for Panzi hospital at our annual Christmas fundraising event. For me, getting to know about Panzi hospital has turned out to be one of the year's

highlights. The rich and fascinating history of our congregation in the Congo has always intrigued me, and we have tried for some years to support that beautiful and troubled country in one way or another. But while we've already made efforts, it has been frustrating that the big umbrella organisations (e.g. Christian Aid, or our own BMS) change the projects they support on so frequent a basis. That makes it hard for an individual person or congregation to become very knowledgeable, much less emotionally invested, in any particular project.

As regulars will know, this spring Heini and I participated in a conference in St. Paul's Bay, Malta, where representatives of European Baptist congregations met to discuss short-term church-to-church visits - more of this below. One unexpected thing that came out of the conference was a tip from some Belgian-Congolese pastors, who answered my Congo queries by unanimously recommending we take a look at what's going on at Panzi Hospital. Panzi works principally with women who have been the victims of sexual violence in Eastern Congo, and both as pastor and as one of the Heath Street Choir basses, I'm grateful to have had the chance to be involved in a performance of The Messiah which raising 1,700 pounds for that work. I pray that this will only be the beginning of the relationship between the two institutions. The concert in question was something of a rite of passage for the singers, who well and truly won their

spurs by singing the Hallelujah chorus for the first time - now we can call ourselves a Proper Choir!

On the subject of the Congo, please continue to keep in your prayers the family of Maria Mbombo, a woman of Congolese origin, but a neighbour of ours, whose life was taken in tragic circumstances earlier this year. Maria's funeral, which took place here at the church, was a memorable experience for me, and I hope it will lead to closer relations with our local Congolese community. The congregation will also have fresh in their minds two of the year's principal events - the death of Marie Isaacs and the baptism of Wilf Merttens.

Besides fundraising events, advent-tide saw the wedding of Anna and Joe, the nearest we've had to a traditional white wedding with 'all the trimmings' at Heath Street in my time. Anna's family put the church into exquisite Christmas trim, and a beautiful eight-voice choir led by Simone Ibbet-Brown, sang Christmas carols and anthems. And those who have followed the Heath Street war on junk will be pleased to know that it has continued apace this year, with two carloads and one lorryload reacing Regis Road Recycling Centre. The latter was thanks to the staff and parents of New End school, and that's a cheerful sign of the increasing rapprochement between the church and our local state primary, which of course had its beginnings down in the lower hall of the church.

Looking towards 2017 at Heath Street, several things look exciting. Perhaps the boldest venture is the passionate arts festival that's coming up in April. Holy Week will be marked at a Heath Street by a week-long celebration of the story of salvation. We've done similar things in the past, but this year a new contribution will be made by young Austrian artists coming from or through Beheimgasse Baptistengemeinde, Vienna. Let me know if you can help with accommodation!

We have lots more remarkable events planned, and I'm sure the best are still unplanned. Nevertheless, the most exciting thing about 2017 isn't the one-off events, but is the prospect of still being here, week in, week out, a small and unremarkable Christian congregation, seeking through our weak words and feeble efforts to proclaim the glorious gospel of the eternal God. May His blessing rest upon each one of us in the coming year. And may God use all our words and deeds, and send His Spirit to bless the continuing work we do, both in the community, and in our ministry of prayer, proclamation and praise!

With love,

Ewan



A NOTE FROM WILF

The youth of Heath St. Baptist Church are going from strength to strength! T shirt making and redesigning the world have been some popular activities of recent weeks in Sunday Club. Aside from a few preliminary conversations - where many of the children banded together and argued



New End
Concert >

quite vociferously that it would be really quite entertaining if I were to play the baby Jesus - we have not yet started on our nativity. If your child would like to be involved please get in touch asap.

Storymakers is a club for creative kids. We are currently playing the cult tabletop storytelling game Dungeons and Dragons. We

have a royal gypsy demon thief on the run teaming up with a rather jovial runaway priest turned bar-room brawler and confidence

trickster. If your child would enjoy these kind of shenanigans then bring them along one Tuesday after school.



<New End Concert

TREASURER'S LETTER

MONEY MATTERS

The November church meeting is due to look at a financial report for the first nine months of our financial year, January to September. While you cannot expect me, as Treasurer, to suggest we are comfortably off, our bank account was looking a bit healthier than usual at the end of September. Some of this is simply because we did relatively little work on the building in the period, though we have now done improvement work on the sanctuary dais—which by the time all the bills are paid will have dented the savings a bit. It does look good, though, with gleaming wood instead of tatty carpet, and a discreet hinge in the brass rail that will allow us in due course to have a small grand piano and manoeuvre it round the pulpit as needed.

Two factors have recently helped our cash position. A wonderfully generous local donor has given two donations from his business which together add up to 7,000 and which he wants to see us using to improve the hall and kitchen area downstairs, as his big interest is our work with homeless people and therefore the facilities we have for the Contact Club to use. Also, I did battle (that is what it felt like) with the Government's appointed agents who administer a listed buildings scheme that refunds some VAT on building work. We

received a refund and, after a bit more argy-bargy, two more chunks of money, all amounting to 21,541. We still need, and use well, every scrap of funding we receive from the congregation and visitors and people who hire our space. If you are a regular giver (on any scale) and a UK taxpayer and you haven't a PIN to write on your offering envelope, do let me know as every claim we can make under Gift Aid adds 25% to the value of your gift.



AN OLD FRIEND

It was good to receive an email recently from Lilli Schott whom some of the congregation will remember worshipped with us a few years ago while she was a student in London, before going to Thailand with a German missionary organisation. She sends her best regards to everyone who remembers her: "my time at Heath Street Baptist Church is related to a very good and blessed time!". Lilli has gone back to Germany and is living in a small city almost in the centre of the country. She says "Somehow Thailand did not work out as I hoped many years ago but I still believe that God has good plans for me. Since last year September I am at World Vision Germany; it is a pleasure to be part of this large Christian INGO and working for the good of children as

found a good church and wonderful friends and is thrilled to have three new little nieces. I have an email address for Lilli if anyone wants to be in touch.

C O M E T O C H U R C H ?

I can't resist sharing some church publicity I found while I was on holiday on the west coast of the USA in the autumn. You may have seen the first two elsewhere, though they were new to me when I saw them on huge billboards outside churches

God wants you to be fishers of men. You catch 'em, He'll clean 'em.

Don't let your worries get you down. Remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

But maybe the best one was for Cowboy Church, 9.30 a.m. every Sunday-

"put some YEE-HAW into your life!"



C H R I S T M A S P O S T ?

Quick reminder as we are coming to the time of year when most of us get more post than usual. For some time we



have been collecting stamps to be sold in aid of Baptist Home Mission. Any stamps, however ordinary, UK or foreign, torn or cut from envelopes (with about half an inch of margin if possible)-all are welcome (and odd foreign coins too. There's a box for them on the vestibule table. It is astonishing how much money is raised from this and it very easily becomes a habit to open a letter and tear off the stamp before you recycle the envelope. Thanks!

Let me know if you want to see the church finance report or if you have any questions about the accounts or how Gift Aid works.

With love and good wishes,

Gaynor

< potential?

P R A Y E R & C O N

January 1st-7th

Isaiah 63:7-9

- 1st 'The arrow is flown, the moment is gone,
2nd The millennial year / Rushes on to our view,
& eternity's here'
3rd Euan McLeod
4th HM
5th Nomsa Ndebele
6th For the World Baptist Alliance
7th Frida King

January 8th - 14th

Isaiah 42:1-9

- 8th For children who attend the Sunday Club
9th Eleanor Neil
10th For all who sing in the Sacred Harp
11th Andrea MacEachan
12th 'O that each in the day - Of his coming might say,
13th "I have fought my way through,
14th - I have finished the work thou didst give me to do!"

January 15th - 28th

Isaiah 49.1-7

- 15th Nesa Thorne
16th Sharon Williams
17th Onome Okunlola
18th Paul Conrad
19th For all who sing in our Community Choir
20th 'The year of jubilee is come:
21st Return to your eternal home.'



TEMPLATION

January 22nd - 28th

1 Corinthians 1.10-18

22nd For all who help at the Contact Club
23rd John Walsh
24th For the Baptist Union of Great Britain
25th Ethan McLeod
26th John Baker
27th
28th Annie Fang

January 29th - February 4th

1 Kings 17.8-16

29th For the bereaved
30th Evelyn Baker
31st Rebecca and Neil McLeod
(Feb) 1st David Neil
2nd For all in prison
3rd Teni Okunlola
4th Joachim King

February 5th - 11th

Isaiah 58.1-12

5th For the work of Henderson Court
6th Theresa Thom
7th or the London Baptist Association
8th Diana Young (Priest-in-charge, St. John's Hampstead)
9th For the life and ministry of St. Mary's, Hampstead
10th Margaret Smith
11th Eri Okunlola

March 5th - 11th

Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7

5th Into the desert I was led, where I fasted w/out substance;
6th Where I fasted without substance;
7th Susan Le Quesne
8th Beryl Dowsett
9th The Devil bade me make stones my bread,
10th To have me break my true love's dance.
11th Wilf Merrttens

March 12th - 24th

Genesis 12.1-4a

12th Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love.
13th Mysie Johnson
14th The priests on me they made great suit,
And with me made great variance,
15th For all who perform at & attend the lunchtime recitals
16th Edward Humphreys
17th Because they loved darkness rather than light,
18th To call my true love to my dance.

March 19th - 25th

Exodus 17.1-7

19th Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love.
20th For thirty pence Judas me soldHis covetousness for to
advance:
21st Robin Thorne
22nd Tom and Susan Brandt
23rd With our poor flesh and our poor blood
24th Was clothed that everlasting good.
25th Mark whom I kiss, the same do hold!
10 The same is he shall lead the dance.



February 12th - 18th

Deuteronomy 30.15-20

- 12th For all who attend the Contact Club
- 13th For Syria
- 14th Thaddeus King
- 15th Feyi Okunlola
- 16th Judith Peak
- 17th For all in hospital
- 18th Heini King

February 19th - 25th

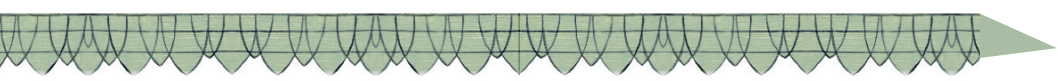
Leviticus 19:1-2,9-18

- 19th Stan Dorer
- 20th Neil McLeod
- 21st For children, parents and carers who attend OTNursery
- 22nd Gaynor Humphreys
- 23rd For the Ukraine
- 24th Lana Okunlola
- 25th For our church secretary

February 26th - March 4th

Genesis 1.1 - 2.3

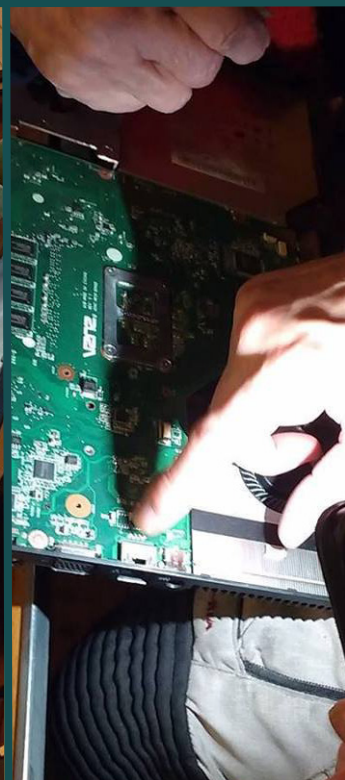
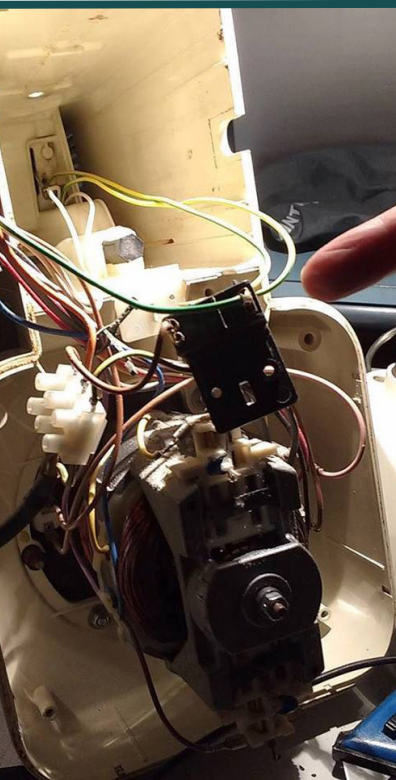
- 26th For our worshipping congregation
- 27th For children, parents & carers who attend OTNursery
- 28th For our church treasurer
- (March)1st Monsignor Phelim Rowland
- 2nd For all who sing in our Community Choir
- 3rd Lydia Baker
- 4th Hildegard Williams



March 26th - April 1st

1 Samuel 16.1-13

26th Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love.
27th Robin Thorne
28th Tom and Susan Brandt
29th Before Pilate the priests me brought,
30th Where Barabbas had deliverance;
31st They scourged me and set me at nought,
1st Judged me to die to lead the dance.

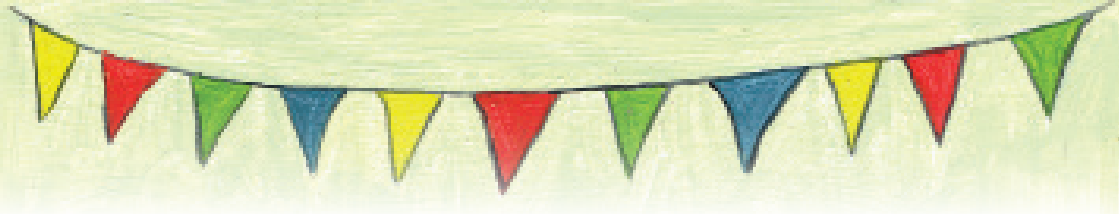




HAMPSTEAD RESTART PARTY

NAME	ITEM	PROBLEM	FIX?	
JACKIE	PC LAPTOP	WOJNT CHARGE (CONNECTION)	DIAGNOSED + ADVICE GIVEN ON PART	JOHN 😊
STUART	PC LAPTOP	SOFTWARE ISSUE	Installed chrome + Uninstalled some drives	DAVID 😊
BIBIANA	BLENDER (THERMO MIX)	WOJNT WORK AT ALL	Faulty switch identified	IAAS 😊
KACCI	LAPTOP PC	UPGRADE TO SSD.	Done (almost)	TOSHI 😊
MARISA	XP LAPTOP	CANT GO ONLINE	Failed linux install	UGO 😊
SHEILA	TOUCH LAMP	NOT LIGHTING	MADE 'STANDARD'	STEPHANIA 😊
BCRAG	SAMSUNG SA	NOT POWER ON		DAVID 😊
UGO	FREEVIEW BOX	NO DISPLAY ISSUES	NO TIME (SORRY UGO)	
SPENCER STEVIE	BATTERY DRILL	NO CHARGER, NEEDS ADVICE	ADVICE GIVEN	JOHN 😊
STEPHEN	HEDGE TRIMMER	CABLE ISSUE POSSIBLY	MEWD CABLE	JOHN 😊
XBOX CALLUM	XBOX	FAULTY DISK DRIVE		STEPHANIA 😊
CHOU	CORLESS SCREWDRIVER	NO POWER	DIAGNOSED - FAULTY BATTERY	JOHN 😊
PETAR	PC LAPTOP	BROKEN SCREEN		DAVID 😊
MATT	FLASHLIGHT QUESTION	- RE SWITCH	Advice given	JOHN 😊
JOHN	HEATED JACKET	NOT WORK		JOHN 😊
ROB	TABLET	CRACKED SCREEN (NEEDS ADVICE)	ADVICE ON PARTS WILL	JOHN RETURN 😊
MONKA	MAC LAPTOP	'?' when powered on		JANET 😊
CATHERINE	IPAD	CRACKED SCREEN	ADVISED ON PARTS	JOHN 😊
JANET	VIDAL SACHS HAIRDRYER	NOTHING HAPPENS, BURNING SMELL	MATK	😞

> Restart Party 17th Jan



U P C O M M I N G E V E N T S

J A N U A R Y

- Sun 1st 11am Communion Service
- Wed 4th 8pm One True Vine Concert-Appalachian Soul Trio
- Sun 8th 11am Visiting minister: Revd. Dr Julian Gotobed
- Sun 15th 11am Visiting minister: Revd. Dr. Rob Ellis
- Tues 17th 7pm RESTART party

F E B R U A R Y

- Sun 5th 11am Communion Service
- Tues 28th Shrove Tuesday

M A R C H

- Wed 1st Ash Wednesday
- 19:00 'Death Actually' Film screening



W E E K L Y A C T I V I T I E S

Sundays	11 - 12 : 00	Divine Worship (Sunday Club for children)
	20 - 22 : 00	Contact Club
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Mondays	19 ; 00	Swing Patrol (Swing Dancing)
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Tuesdays	10 - 11 : 00	Old Time Nursery
	13 - 14 : 00	Lunchtime Concert
	16 : 00	Storymakers Club
2nd Tuesdays	19 - 21 : 00	Sacred Harp Hymn Singing
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Wednesdays	14 : 30	Any Beny Russian Language Class
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Thursdays	19:30-21:00	Heath Street Choir
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Fridays	10 : 00	Swing Patrol (Fitness Class)
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Saturdays	11 - 13 : 00	Coffee Morning (alternate Saturdays - see opposite)

HEATH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

Church officers & staff:

Theresa Thom - Secretary

Gaynor Humphreys - Treasurer

Annie Fang - Deacon

John-Henry Baker - Arts & Things

Wilf Merttens - Children's Worker

For requests regarding church membership,
Baptism or opportunities for Christian ministry in
the church please contact the minister.

For questions regarding space use and room hire
please contact the minister.

Copy for the April 2017 newsletter
should reach Ewan King
(ewan_king@mac.com)

Not later than Wednesday 22nd March



Minister Ewan King

Heath Street Baptist Church

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