

THE INDICATOR

SUMMER 2015



***Beckenham Methodist
Church***



Bromley Road Church



Clock House Road Church

Dear Friends at Beckenham,

This is my final Indicator Letter to you as your minister. We are scheduled to move to Felixstowe in late July. Our address will be 2 Church Road, Felixstowe IP11 9NF. We sincerely hope that if you are ever in our neck of the woods that you will look us up. You will be most welcome and the invitation will not cool with the passing of time.

Naturally, we don't want to leave so many good friends behind and it is only natural to be a bit anxious about the future. But I have discovered, as has a countless host before me, the future is crowded with little seeds of potential and God has more wonderful friends waiting for us, more splendid experiences lying in store.

Moreover, what is true for Jane and me is also true for the great family of the Church. Six years ago I left Leicester feeling just as I do now and Methodist folk up and down the land said farewell to their much-loved ministers with just the same mixture of anxiety and excitement. Yet in these past six years God has blessed all of us.

“Thank you, oh thank you, Lord, for so much you have given and for the more you have yet to give.” Not least among the many blessings God has showered upon us has been the strength to cope with the darker days and, looking back, the mysterious evidence of those ‘footprints in the sand’.

My considerable thanks are also expressed to the Bromley Circuit Meeting for giving me the chance to serve here; for my other Methodist colleagues throughout the London District whose friendship I have really appreciated and whose fellowship and support has been so significant, and most especially to the people of West Wickham and Beckenham, well and truly amongst the most wonderful people we've met - so far!

Please continue to pray for me and Jane as we retire from the itinerant ministry, and also for others as they prepare to make the wrench away from the warmly familiar to uncertain pastures new. This is a particularly apprehensive time for most of the spouses of Ministers on the move for whom this whole experience can be a lonely and very daunting advent.

Through all the changing scenes of life, in trouble and in joy . . . Your wants shall be his care.

God bless you all.

Mike.

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We have the opportunity to express our thanks to Mike for his caring support at services on Sunday 19th July.

10.30am Holy Communion at Bromley Road for both Beckenham congregations.

3pm Circuit Service at West Wickham, followed by refreshments

God be with you, Mike and Jane, in all that the future holds.

GENERAL CHURCH MEETING (AGM)

On Sunday 14th June we will be holding our meeting open to all members and friends. There will be the opportunity to look back at the previous year, but the main focus is the affirmation of the Stewards for the year September 2015/16 and the Elected Representatives to the Church Council.

It is important that you know who these people are as they are your representatives when decisions are made by the Church Council affecting the future of Beckenham Methodist Church.

The meeting will begin as soon as possible after morning service, when members and friends have been able to come to Bromley Road after the service at Clock House.

It will conclude with fellowship over soup, rolls and fruit.

Please join us in support of our Church. I look forward to seeing you there.

Jenny Nichols, Senior Steward

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We are pleased to report that a total of £1,6500 has been sent to Christian Aid for the **Nepal Appeal** following our retiring collections to top-up the special donation of £1,000 from General Church Funds.

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Christian Aid Week

Collections including the FFF walk (see page 18) amounted to £258.51

TC's at Bromley Road – 16 years on

We are in the 16th year of TC's operation at Bromley Road and 12 church members, in various capacities, together with 4 further volunteers, are somehow managing to keep the community café open Monday – Friday, 10.30am – 2.30pm, as well selling some Traidcraft goods, but at times of holidays or illness or in emergencies we have very few further people on which to call.

It has been said before and it is still true that it is somewhat disappointing and disheartening for the volunteers that the congregation, for the most part, do not support one of the church's outreach projects, but thank you to those who do. Why not consider having coffee and home-made cake with a friend one morning, or meeting someone for lunch and sampling one of our 'toasties' and salad, or buying a Traidcraft item or your birthday cards from our selection? We would be so pleased to see you.

Because of the customers we do attract we are still able to raise around £4,500.00 a year from our operational surplus and, after giving 10% of the total raised to the church for lighting and heating, in 2014 were able to make another donation to '**Stones to Water**' to sink a further borehole in Juru, Zimbabwe, enabling the children of Chipangura Primary School and their families to enjoy fresh, clean water. This is what makes carrying on with TCs so worthwhile. Daphne Brown (our contact in the UK) tells me 'I wish you could see the children's smiling faces and see them collecting the water as they sing their song of thanks, dancing round with joy. "Water is life, you have given us life, thank you"'.

It may be in the future we will, once again, donate to other causes, locally, nationally and internationally. So come on friends at Bromley Road and Clock House Road, take part in reaching out to those who need our help, enjoy yourselves and support TCs and Traidcraft at the same time.

Valerie Wilson

Local Clothes Bank Update

You will have read in the last Indicator of the change in emphasis from helping the homeless men in London to this new initiative of supporting the local Clothes Bank at Holy Trinity Church, Lennard Road, Penge, for those who are homeless, in temporary accommodation or hostels, according to their needs.

How it works is this: clothing is donated by local churches, including Bromley Road, taken to Penge Congregational Church where it is sorted (Mens', Womens' and Childrens'), orders are taken on Fridays when those who require help attend the Living Well project at Holy Trinity for lunch and their Food Bank. Those attending write down their needs and these are met, if possible, from the clothes store. The clothes are bagged up, listed, with the person's name attached, ready for collection on Saturday morning. Any toiletries donated are included in the orders as available.

We have joined the team to transport clothing etc. from Penge Congregational Church to Holy Trinity, set out the goods, serve any who come for their orders or those who come in on the day and then return surplus goods to the clothes store at Penge Congregational Church.

After our first trip at the end of May we gained more of an insight into how the project works. We did not have many 'customers' but those we did serve were appreciative and grateful and it was good to be able to help them from 'the Bank'.

At the present time it would appear that Men's clothing and the toiletries are the most needed.

Watch this space for developments!

Colin & Valerie Wilson

FROM THE VESTRY

One Saturday morning in April, nine of us from Beckenham Methodist Church met in the Richmond / Epworth rooms to take part in first aid training. (Two people had volunteered the information that they already held certificates.)

Four hours later, we were the proud holders of certificates and hope that we would be able to deal competently with a situation, should it arise.

The following hold current certificates:

Cynthia Campbell
Mary Cook
Carole Dewar
Alice Everest (paediatric)
Holly Everest
Christine Handel
David Jackson
Barbara Kyei
Beverley McCleary
Graham McLeod
Jenny Nichols

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If there is anything about church life you would like to comment on, please feel free to speak to me - *Jenny Nichols*

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GIFT DAY

We are pleased to report that the total received so far is approximately **£5,500**

A Brief Guide to Methodism - Part 2

The Methodist Conference

The governing body of the Methodist Church is the Methodist Conference, which has responsibility for the government, discipline, management and administration of the life of the Church. Members of the Conference hold a trustee responsibility. The Conference is also a place for worship, thanksgiving, Ordination and celebration. It meets annually in different parts of the country.

In 2015 it is being held in Southport from Thursday 25th June - Thursday 2nd July.

The Representative Session begins with the Opening of Conference and the Induction of the President and Vice-President.

The President is a minister and the Vice-President is always a layperson. Both are elected and serve for one year.

In June 2015 Rev. Steve Wild will be inducted as President and Dr. Jill Barber as Vice-President.

Ordinations will take place on Sunday 28th June 2015.

New presbyteral and diaconal ministers are received into full Connexion at the service of Sunday Worship in the morning. Later in the day presbyters, deacons, family and friends will travel to local places of worship around Southport to be ordained.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

Leaders of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Church of Scotland, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church signed an open letter to David Cameron, congratulating him on his election and encouraging him to hold ‘truth, justice, peace and wellbeing’ at the heart of government.

With a focus on ‘loving our neighbour’, the letter reminds the Prime Minister that a wholesome society should be concerned for the weakest and most vulnerable, both locally and globally. It highlights several of the key concerns that the Churches believe should be higher on the agenda of the new government, calling for:

- a full review of the impact of the benefits sanctions system
- a postponement of further spending on Trident and a serious re-assessment of the need for nuclear weapons
- assertive international action to uphold human rights and deliver humanitarian assistance in Syria
- action to make freedom of religion a human rights priority in all aspects of foreign policy

“Remembering our neighbours is vital for a healthy society”, said Rachel Lampard, leader of the Joint Public Issues Team, which works on behalf of the Churches. “Whilst policies protecting the most weak and vulnerable of society may not always be the most popular, they are necessary to live out the common good, regardless of political perspective.

CLOCK HOUSE PRE-SCHOOL **25th BIRTHDAY PARTY**

The pre-school is now 25 years old and will be holding a party on Sunday 7th June from 1pm to 5pm. All church members and friends are invited to join the celebrations.

The pre-school was started in 1990 when Sister Kathy Lamb decided we needed a playgroup for children who attended parent and toddler group, but who lost contact when they reached the age of two and a half. She went to speak to students attending a local course for potential playgroup leaders and asked for volunteers to start a new group at Clock House. Four people volunteered:

Sarah Campbell

Irene Baker-Hunt

Mark Jennings

Anita Yusuf

Sarah became the leader and all four ran the group.

After a few years Irene and Anita left to do youth work elsewhere. They both kept in touch with the playgroup. Unfortunately Irene died of cancer in 2011 and a memorial will be unveiled in her honour at the party. She is sorely missed at our fund-raising events. She also came back every Christmas to organise the Nativity play.

Over the years they have gradually increased to providing 5 morning and 5 afternoon sessions, with a rota of 6-8 helpers.

The party will include tea and coffee and cakes, bouncy castle, raffle, games, stalls etc.

Entrance is free.

LINDEN CLUB

The West Wickham Methodist Church, Hawes Lane, has a small fellowship group on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month starting at 2.15pm.

We are a very pleasant and friendly group and would welcome some new members. At our meetings we have a variety of speakers and finish with a cup of tea and a chat.

We offer a very warm welcome to anyone who feels they would like to join us.

The next meetings will be on:

10th of June for the **A.G.M.**

24th of June for the **Garden Party**

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HOLIDAYS

Many readers will be taking advantage of the warmer summer weather to go away on holiday, to visit friends and family or to explore locally.

If you are out and about, please bring back a postcard with you.

In the Autumn, we can put them together and have a fellowship time together.

Looking forward to seeing a wide collection.

Jenny Nichols

CHURCHES TOGETHER in BECKENHAM

BIG PICNIC

**On Beckenham Green SUNDAY 7th June
from 1pm - 3.30pm**

I am sure you will remember the Pentecost Picnic organised on Beckenham Green by CTiB last summer. It was a great event and well attended.

If you didn't make it you will be pleased to hear that you have another chance to attend such a day as CTiB have decided to hold another Big Picnic this summer.

This will be held on **Sunday 7th June** and it is hoped that all the Churches will be involved.

Please bring your own picnic, rug or chair and enjoy the various stalls, presentations, prayer tent etc.

There will be worship from 2pm

Christine Handel

HOLIDAY ANAGRAMS

One word answers

1. cartpods
2. aceram
3. outstirs
4. micceear
5. unity coders
6. traneremained
7. magpinc
8. dewease

Two word answers

9. rise his cup
10. basic pink etc
11. set holy meat
12. sat until noon
13. seam needs rope aid
14. O crisp chat

Three word answers

15. bend as a pet duck
16. banked fast bread

Answers in next edition of the Indicator

FOR THOUGHT, PRAYER AND ACTION?

In June and July

Methodist Homes Sunday : 14th June

The theme of Methodist Homes Sunday 2015 is *Who is my Older Neighbour?*. Methodist Homes (MHA) help over 16,000 older people across the UK to get more out of life. Their mission is to improve the quality of life for older people, inspired by Christian concern. MHA provide care homes, retirement apartments and community support.

Refugee Week : 15th – 21st June

Refugee Week is a UK-wide programme of arts, cultural and educational events and activities that celebrate the contribution of refugees to the UK and promotes better understanding of why people seek sanctuary. Publicity posters declare ‘Let’s get together and celebrate the contributions and resilience of refugees in the UK.’ More information from refugeeweek.org.uk

Disability Sunday : 5th July

This is a day for UK churches and fellowships to focus on celebrating the abilities of disabled people. In Britain one person in six lives with one or more of the recognised disabilities. The theme of Disability Sunday this year is ‘Friendship’. When ‘Through the Roof’ surveyed disabled people about their experience of church, their greatest heart-cry was a longing for deep, reciprocal friendships between disabled Christians and their fellow church members. More information from churchesforall.org.uk

Action for Children Sunday : 12th July

Founded in 1869 by Methodist minister Revd Thomas Bowman Stephenson, Action for Children (formerly NCH – National Children’s Homes) has grown to become a leading children’s charity. It is now running over five hundred projects and working with more children and young people affected by poverty, disability or abuse than any other UK charity.

Please remember these special events, and the work that is done throughout the year, in your prayers and, if possible, support the work in whatever way you can.

OPEN DOOR

**Mondays 2 to 3.30pm in the Wesley Lounge at
Bromley Road.**

Come every week or just when you can.

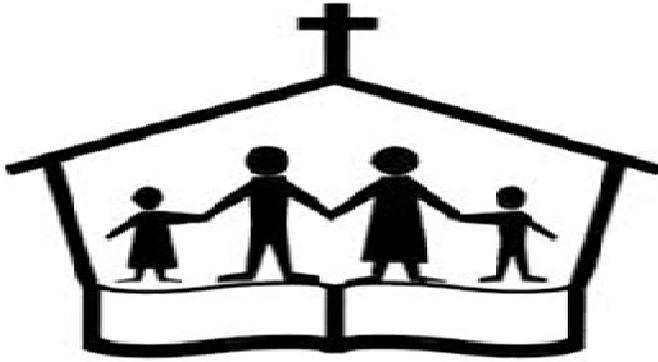
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|-------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| June | 1st | Ben Alcock - India |
| | 8th | Food for Thought - Fish |
| | 15th | Revd. Mike Cassidy |
| | 22nd | Christine Pope |
| | 29th | Sr. Jo Harvey |
| July | 6th | Favourite Poems |
| | 13th | Members' Afternoon |

SUMMER BREAK

See you again on Monday 7th September 2015

Always time for chat and refreshments!

All welcome



News of the Church Family

We are sorry to record the passing of two of our members, namely, Ann Dyson whose funeral service took place on 20th March at Bromley Road Church and Salima Mohabir whose funeral service took place on 10th April at St. John the Evangelist, Shirley.

We give thanks to God for their lives.

We remember Eva Hardin whose husband, Frederick, passed away suddenly and whose funeral took place at Bromley Road Church on 20th May.

We continue to hold Margaret and Michael Harradine in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

We hope that any of our young people who have taken exams recently will receive good news in the coming months!

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EASTERTIDE MELODIES

Answers to the well known Easter hymns in the last Indicator

1. *There is a green hill far away*
2. *All glory, laud and honour*
3. *Yield not to temptation*
4. *Ride on ride on in majesty*
5. *Forty days and forty nights*
6. *When I survey the wondrous cross*
7. *Low in the grave he lay*
8. *Make way, make way, for Christ the King*
9. *This joyful Eastertide*
10. *Christ the Lord is risen today*
11. *I know that my Redeemer lives*
12. *In the cross of Christ I glory.*

MENS FORUM – PROGRAMME 2015

Our Men's Forum meets monthly at 11.00 am to 12.30/1.00 pm on the second Saturday at our Clock House Road site to provide Christian fellowship based upon presentations of interest followed by discussion.

Also we are pleased to join in witness with our brothers and sisters at Bromley Methodist Church at their Thursday lunch time services.

| | | |
|---------|-------|---|
| June 13 | 11.00 | My experiences in Indonesia an address by Peter Reardon |
| June 25 | 12.15 | Bromley Methodist Church followed by lunch. |

All interested to join our Group are asked to contact Graham McLeod at 0208 325 5243 or 07534 184 471 or join us at any of our meetings.

BROMLEY METHODIST CHURCH

THURSDAY SERVICES at 12.15 pm

All are welcome to worship at BMC's lunchtime service, held every week in the lovely Vine Chapel from 12.15 to 12.45 pm. At the time of writing preachers for June and July are being recruited from Methodism and other local churches.

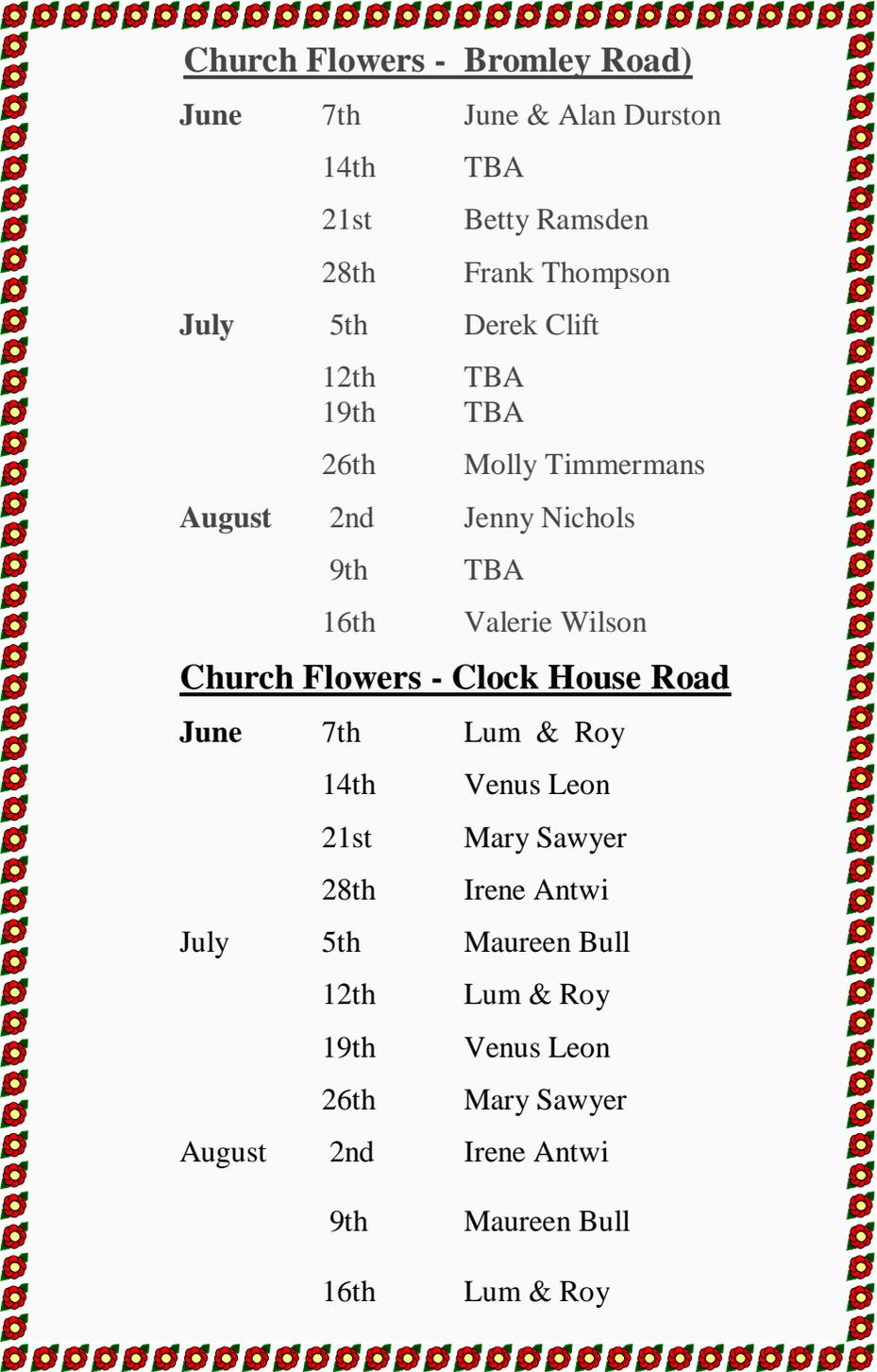
I can tell you that on 4th June **Revd Mike Cassidy** is taking his final Thursday service before his retirement, and that on 2nd July we are welcoming back **Alfred Wood**, the Anglican lay-reader and good friend of BMC. Other preachers will be announced on the Church notice board in the concourse, and in the weekly notice sheet / newsletter.

For many of us, Thursdays at BMC offer many blessings: good fellowship enjoyed with an excellent 'cuppa and cake', followed by lively worship and always something to think about from the preacher. Why not join us?

David Lemmon

Please send articles for the next Indicator, covering August and September 2015, to Jenny Nichols (e-mail jenny.nichols1@ntlworld.com) or Christine Handel (e-mail christine.handel@ntlworld.com) by Sunday 2nd August 2015 at the latest for distribution on Sunday 16th August.

Volunteers are requested to join the Folding and Stapling Party at 10.00am on Thursday 13th August in the Wesley Lounge.

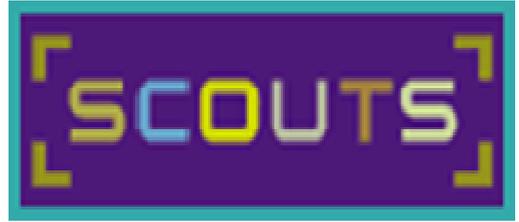


Church Flowers - Bromley Road)

| | | |
|---------------|------|---------------------|
| June | 7th | June & Alan Durston |
| | 14th | TBA |
| | 21st | Betty Ramsden |
| | 28th | Frank Thompson |
| July | 5th | Derek Clift |
| | 12th | TBA |
| | 19th | TBA |
| | 26th | Molly Timmermans |
| August | 2nd | Jenny Nichols |
| | 9th | TBA |
| | 16th | Valerie Wilson |

Church Flowers - Clock House Road

| | | |
|---------------|------|--------------|
| June | 7th | Lum & Roy |
| | 14th | Venus Leon |
| | 21st | Mary Sawyer |
| | 28th | Irene Antwi |
| July | 5th | Maureen Bull |
| | 12th | Lum & Roy |
| | 19th | Venus Leon |
| | 26th | Mary Sawyer |
| August | 2nd | Irene Antwi |
| | 9th | Maureen Bull |
| | 16th | Lum & Roy |



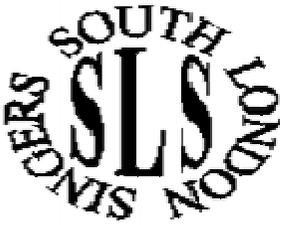
say thank you!

Thank you to everyone who is supporting us in collecting the Active Kids Sainsbury's vouchers.

We have collected 365 vouchers this year so if you have any tucked away in purses, wallets, kitchen drawers or handbags we would love to have them.

The deadline for submitting vouchers is the 29/06/2015 so please put any you have in the box in the Bromley Road Church Lower Kitchen

Thank you again for your support.



The South London Singers

Directed by Julian Collings

INDEPENDENCE DAY CONCERT

Having chosen the date of 4th July for their Summer Concert this year it was natural that the choir should put together a programme of American music for the occasion. It is traditional for the Summer Concert to have a lighter feel and this year will be no exception with John Rutter's arrangement of seven spirituals from 'Joshua fit the battle of Jericho' to 'When the Saints go marching in' and with a medley of favourite songs from Bernstein's West Side Story.

A mezzo-soprano soloist, Kate Bishop, will be taking part and David Thorne will be at the piano this time instead of the organ. He will be joined by Julian Collings, the conductor, and Maggie Isom in a six-hand version of the 'Stars and Stripes for ever'. The choir will also sing three of America's best known patriotic songs ending with 'The Star Spangled Banner'.

An uplifting evening will be rounded off with the annual SLS Summer buffet, this year with an American theme, all included in the ticket price of £12.50.

We were all very sorry to hear that the Beckenham Ladies Choir was closing down on the retirement of their conductor after so many years of great music making in Beckenham and beyond and after raising so much money for charities. However we were very pleased when some of their number came along to join the SLS. You can't keep a good singer quiet!

Tickets for the Independence Day concert which will take place at Bromley Road and begin at 7.45pm, will soon be available from TCs or from **Carol Jefferies, Sheila Priestman, Mary Cook and David Jackson.**

Sunday Services

Bromley Road

Revd Mike Cassidy
Holy Communion

Revd D Stanworth

Revd Karen George

Mr R Baker

Miss J MacKenzie

Mrs M Bull

Revd Mike Cassidy
Holy Communion

Mr J Holman

Revd J Beeson

Revd Karen Jobson
Holy Communion

Mrs P Wilson

7th June
10.30am

14th June
10.30am

21st June
10.30am

28th June
10.30am

5th July
10.30am

12th July
10.30am

19th July
10.30am

26th July
10.30am

2nd August
10.30am

9th August
10.30am

16th August
10.30am

Clock House Road

Mrs Maureen Bull

Revd Karen Jobson
Parade Service

Revd Mike Cassidy
Holy Communion

Mrs M Smith

Dr C Timehin

Mrs P Wilson

(United Service at BR)

Major C Kent

Mr D Lemmon

Ms A Driscoll

Revd D Stanworth
Holy Communion

USEFUL CONTACTS

Beckenham Methodist Church

(Registered Charity No. 1138006)

Bromley Road Church BR3 5JE & Clockhouse Road Church BR3 4JP
0208 650 2763 0208 663 6149

Minister in Charge: Revd Mike Cassidy 8249 8592 or 07473 827774

Stewards: Jenny Nichols (Senior) 8460 6713 Christine Handel 8658 1381
Irene Antwi 8778 2124 Comfort Lawson 3539 4944
Sheila Priestman 8460 1091 Barry Stewart 8325 8861

Church Council Secretary: Sheila Priestman 8460 1091

Church Treasurer: Mark Cheesman 8249 5522

Junior Church Co-ordinator: Mary Cook 8656 2815

Flower Secretaries: BR - Margaret Hazlewood 7733 6116
CHR - Irene Antwi 8778 2124

Property Co-ordinator: David Jackson 8656 2815

Property Stewards: Colin Wilson 8464 3768
David Jackson 8656 2815
Barry Stewart 8325 8861
Roy Charles 8402 5562
Graham McLeod 8325 5243

Room Booking Officers: BR David Jackson 8656 2815
CHR Graham McLeod 8325 5243

Brownies: Carole Dewar 8650 9027
Guides: Karen Millican 8650 6248
Beavers: Mandy Sarhane 8650 4822
Cubs: Steve Shirley 8650 0330
Scouts: Gordon Wilson 8650 1035

Web Site: <http://www.beckenhammethodistchurch.co.uk>