

## Sunday Services

Evening services are at 6.30pm unless otherwise shown.

### August

- 1st Brenda Gutberlet (S)  
No service (service at Hockley)
- 8th Maureen Sams  
Brian Gameson
- 15th Len Ward  
No service (service at Hockley)
- 22nd Worship Leaders  
Brenda Gutberlet
- 29th Pam Freeborn  
Rev Norman Hooks

### September

- 5th Brenda Gutberlet (S)  
Circuit Service at Leigh Wesley  
(6.30pm [Rev Bryan Tolhurst])
- 12th John Phillips  
Rev Gordon Bates
- 19th Brenda Gutberlet  
No service (*Church Barbecue*)
- 26th **Harvest Festival**  
Roy Girling  
Brenda Gutberlet

*There are some changes from the Circuit Plan - the ones above are correct at the time of printing. All services are subject to change at short notice - see your printed notices for up to date information each Sunday.*

## Dates for your diary:

### August

- 1 Morning service expected to include dedication of chair in memory of Kit Turner.
- 2 (and week ) Greaves Hall floor maintenance
- 13/14 Model Railway Exhibition and Charity Car Wash, Chalkwell Park Church, 10-4
- 21 **BIG PAINT** (see article on page 6)

### September

- 4 Circuit Induction service for our new Superintendent Minister Bryan Tolhurst, Rayleigh, 4pm
- 5 New Superintendent's first Circuit Service, Leigh Wesley, 6.30pm
- 13 Women's Fellowship restarts, 2.30pm.
- 14 Circuit Meeting, 8pm
- 21 Church Council, 8pm
- 26 Harvest Festival and lunch.
- 26 Back to Church Sunday

### October

- 5 Guild restarts, 8pm
- 24 Pilgrims Way Review
- 31 Guild Anniversary, Andrew Farmer, Rayleigh  
Guild with us, 4pm

### November

- 7 Housegroup-led service, 11am
- 7 Worship for All service at Highlands, 6.30pm
- 13 Christmas Bazaar, WI Hall.
- 25 Circuit Meeting, Whittingham Avenue, 8pm
- 28 Advent service at St Andrew Ashingdon, 3pm

### December

- 5 Gift Service for HARP

## Other churches' magazines

Some churches in the Circuit take part in an informal newsletter exchange, where we receive copies of newsletters from other churches in the Circuit in exchange for ours. Apart from finding out what other churches are doing, you can also get a new perspective on things that are happening in, and to, the Circuit.

The copies we receive can be found at the back of the church, so if you want to find out what's happening, feel free to have a look at them.

What we do ask, though, is that if you take one home to read, please return it as soon as possible so someone else can read it before it gets out of date.

# Rochford Methodist

The Methodist Church 



**We have no mission but to serve  
In full obedience to our Lord:  
To care for all, without reserve  
And spread his liberating word**  
Fred Pratt Green (Hymns & Psalms 804)

## Aug/Sep 2010

The Newsletter of  
**Rochford Methodist Church**  
77-79 North Street  
Rochford  
SS4 1AD

Rochford Methodist Church is a member of **Southend and Leigh Circuit**, part of the **Beds, Essex & Herts District**

[www.rochfordmethodist.org.uk](http://www.rochfordmethodist.org.uk)

Join our Facebook group

## Money page

Olive raised £240 for her charity walk and wishes to thank everyone who contributed.

Tom Mortlock was one of only a few people in his group who completed the 3-peaks Challenge on 5th July and raised just over £1300 for the Naomi House children's Hospice in the process. The Challenge starts at midday on Saturday with climbing to the top of Ben Nevis (1344 metres, or 4409ft), followed by a dash by minibus to Scafell Pike, 978m, (in Cumbria) climbing that in the dark. After having got down by about 3am on Sunday, there's another dash to Snowdon, 1085m, to finish the climb before midday on the Sunday. 15 people started and only 10 finished in what turned out to be during really bad weather. Well done Tom. And thanks to all who donated.

You may have seen in the *Evening Echo* that the retiring Chairman of Rochford District Council has given £1000 to Brenda's churches from his charity fund-raising for good causes. Each year the incumbent Chairman raises money by quiz nights, charity golf matches and special charity events. This year Tony Humphries raised more than £13,000, the majority of which went to Havens Hospice. Tony attended Rayleigh Sunday School when he was young. Brenda has split the money three ways with £400 going to Rayleigh and £300 each to Hockley and Rochford. Ideas for spending the money please! And our grateful thanks for thinking of us.

Not a charity, but earlier in the year we received some money in memory of Kit Turner and it was agreed by the church council that we would buy a chair similar to the one we had in memory of Kit's husband Jim. This has now been obtained and the chair will be blessed during the service on the morning of 1st August. The balance of the money has been put towards new cupboards for the Vestry, but that's another story!!

The next planned publication date is 3rd October 2010. Articles, etc, should be with Dave by 19th September please.

I prefer articles by email, floppy disc or typed with a good DARK original (because I can handle these without re-typing them!), but I am happy to receive them in any form – so long as I get *something*!  
Emails can be sent to me at either of the addresses shown in the box on the right.

The **Rochford Methodist** is published on behalf of Rochford Methodist Church. Opinions expressed in this newsletter may not be those of the Methodist Church.

### Minister:

Revd Brenda Gutberlet, 259 Eastwood Road, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 7LF (01268) 770333.  
Email: brendagutberlet@btinternet.com

### Editor:

Dave Dobbin, 130 Ashingdon Road, Rochford, Essex, SS4 1RR (01702) 544096  
email: dvdobbin@aol.com or  
general@rochfordmethodist.org.uk

## What goes on at Rochford Methodist Church?

### Sunday

10.55 am FJ Club  
10.55 am Morning Service  
6.30 pm Evening Service

### Monday

2.30 pm Women's Fellowship (Sept - May)  
4.30 - 6.30 pm The Urban Street Dance Group  
7.00 - 9.00 pm *Blossom on the Oasis.*

### Tuesday

9.30 - 11.30 am *Happy Hands* Baby and Toddler Group  
12.00 - 2.00 pm *Happy Hands* Baby and Toddler Group  
3.00 - 7.30 pm Hildale School of Dancing  
8.00 pm Wesley Guild (Oct-Apr)

*Happy Hands* is now closed until 7th September

### Wednesday

3.45 - 6.30 pm The Urban Street Dance Group  
7.00 - 10.00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous

### Thursday

9.30 - 11.30 *Music Dreams* (for 0-2 years)  
3.45 - 7.30 pm Hildale School of Dancing  
7.30 - 9.30 pm Table Tennis

Hildale and Music Dreams close for the summer school holidays, so check with the organisers before you turn up

### Friday

4.00 - 6.00 pm The Urban Street Dance Group  
8.00 pm Rochford Floral Group (2nd Friday of month)

### Saturday

9.00 am - 2.30 pm Hildale School of Dancing

The premises are available for use outside the above times. Contact Margaret Rayner on 544252 for more information.

### And in addition . .

Two House Groups meet each month in a different place each time. Look in the weekly notices for the dates and venues.

## **WORSHIP - Colourful celebrations mark 120th church anniversary**

**From: Dersingham Methodist Church, Hunstanton Circuit**

A Book of Many Colours' was the theme for a flower festival marking the 120th anniversary of Dersingham Methodist Church. The twelve arrangements depicted Bible passages and events in which different colours are mentioned. "The flowers and words reminded us of the wonderful variety and beauty of God's creation", reports church member, Elizabeth Batstone.

"We were pleased to have a colourful picture display from the year 5 children from St George's Junior School, Dersingham, who also opened the flower festival on Thursday morning with several songs about colours. The children of Dersingham Infant and Nursery School drew pictures and made models to illustrate the Feeding of the Five Thousand and the colour green. They also entertained us with singing on Friday morning. The church hall was very busy with people enjoying coffee, lunch, tea, as well as the stalls – cards, Christian books, jewellery, bric-a-brac, cakes and plants. Among the complimentary comments received was one that read; 'you can feel the fellowship and love in this church'. We were blessed with a great team of helpers who enjoyed the fun and fellowship, as well as the hard work, and who met for prayers each morning.

The Sunday morning service was led by our minister, the Revd Kim Nally, and in the evening we met at Hunstanton Methodist Church for a circuit service. Some of our members joined the West Norfolk Circuit choir for a performance of the Paul Field musical, 'Hopes and Dreams', with the offering for the Leaders of Worship and Preacher's Trust (LWPT).

The flower festival raised £2,340 which has been divided equally between The Ocean Stars Trust Sri Lanka, who work in areas devastated by war and the tsunami; the Hope Centre project in Straupe, Latvia, part of the Methodist Church of Latvia, where the women's hostel supports unmarried mothers and their children; and our own church funds to purchase copies of Complete Mission Praise.

At the end of the festival we were tired but delighted to have met so many people and shared God's riches of colour and creation."

E-mail contact: Elizabeth Batstone [pebatstone@fsmail.net](mailto:pebatstone@fsmail.net)

Church website: <http://www.camethodist.org.uk/churches.php?Dersingham>

[This item is from issue 84 of *The Buzz*, a resource provided by the Methodist Connexion for sharing experiences of successful ideas between districts, circuits, churches and church groups. An electronic version is available at [www.methodist.org.uk](http://www.methodist.org.uk)]

*From our minister . . .*

*Dear friends,*

The end of July and August are usually the height of summer, holiday time or, if at home, at least some opportunity for relaxation. In the churches during this period a lot of mid-week activities cease and we appreciate the break from the regular cycle of activities and then prepare for the new church year which begins in September.

In Philippians chapter 1, St. Paul writes, "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1 : 3-6)

What a difference it makes in life to know that we are not alone, that God is with us and we have the joy of one another too, as we journey on in faith and hope into our new church year. One thing's for certain, there will be change for to live is to change and faith is dynamic. At the last circuit meeting the proposed budget was rejected and a revised budget will be offered at the autumn circuit meeting. This will entail having to make savings across the circuit in terms of personnel. Please pray for the circuit leadership team as they seek to take us forward as a circuit.

Part of our response as circuit churches must be to look at how we 'do' church and ask ourselves a number of questions as we review what we do and why and ask if changes should be made. To this end I have arranged a meeting to share and discuss what might happen within the circuit and to look at each church in our section etc.

The times and dates for the meetings are as below.

If you cannot attend the one at your own church please feel free to go to one of the other two. Wesley in one of his hymns wrote, "To serve the present age my calling to fulfil, O may it all my powers engage to do my Master's will!" (Hymns & Psalms 785, verse 2) – AMEN to that!

### **Hockley Methodist Church**

Wed 28<sup>th</sup> July – 2pm to 3pm (this will be followed by a short service of Holy Communion).

### **Rochford Methodist Church**

Sat 31<sup>st</sup> July – 11am to 12 noon (in the church)

### **Rayleigh Methodist Church**

Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Aug - 10am to 11am (in the church)

Upwards and onwards  
With love and prayers

*Brenda.*

Brenda will shortly be distributing a short questionnaire connected with these meetings. This is something that Brenda is doing herself - it is not something the Circuit has asked for.

You will not need to put your name on it and so all answers are totally anonymous. There are no 'right' or 'wrong' answers so feel free to be brutally frank and honest.

## Women's Fellowship

September. The time the children go back to school, the month when the weather turns warm again - and didn't we have some warm days in July!?

September is also the month the Women's Fellowship re-starts for the new session. Dave's seen the list of speakers and even he's impressed, so it looks like a good session ahead, with a range of talks and activities planned

The meetings for September are:

- 13th Revd Brenda Gutberlet
- 20th Len Ward
- 27th Gwenda Andrews - this is our Harvest Festival.

We meet at 2.30pm on Mondays and our meeting open to all ladies, whether or not they attend our church. Come along, bring a friend, make new ones. You are guaranteed a warm welcome and a cup of tea.

If you have access to the internet, the dates for the whole of the quarter can be found on the church website at [www.rochfordmethodist.org.uk](http://www.rochfordmethodist.org.uk).

## An apology

In the last edition, there was a report about Circuit Finances. What I did not make clear was that as the budget was *rejected*, the new figure of £7.50 per head for the assessment *does not apply*. However, a new budget will be produced in September when we will hear the new figures.



### August

- 1 Joan Beehag
- 8 Margaret Rayner
- 15 Olive Pavitt
- 22 Win Bayford
- 29 Sue Edwards

### September

- 5 Judy Garner
- 11 Marie Denny
- 18 Marian Webb
- 26 **Harvest Festival**

## New Hymn Book

The news from Conference is that the new Methodist Hymn Book, *Singing the Faith*, was approved after a debate. The book will be published by *Hymns Ancient and Modern* on behalf of the Methodist Publishing House.

It is currently expected that the words-only edition will be about £11 and the music edition will be around £30. It will be an 'approved' resource so will be suitable for use in Methodist churches but will not be compulsory. There will also be a 'rolling resource' of additional hymns and support material online.

display at up to 1080 lines, but this level of quality is only currently available if you attach a 'Blu-Ray' disc player.

During July, FreeView introduced some HD services. You may need to repeat the exercise from a few months ago when all the FreeView boxes needed retuning. If after retuning, you cannot find the HD stations then I'm afraid it means your 'digibox' is probably semi-obsolete already - you can still use it to receive non-HD stations but not the HD ones.

## What about DAB?

Oh, yes. Radio stations are going digital as well and Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) is what you will have to use (but see below). The government wants to sell off the radio frequencies for other uses, so our existing radio stations (plus several hundred new ones) will be transmitted in a new form - one your existing AM/FM radio cannot decode. **You will need a new radio in a few years time.** There is no definite timescale yet but it is thought that by 2015 the old transmitters will be turned off and all the radios without DAB will be useless.

So, if you need to buy a radio, it will be best to buy a radio that receives DAB - or just accept that in the next 2-5 years you will have to scrap the shiny new FM or AM radio you have just bought! However, DAB radios are expensive (but the prices are dropping) and they do need to be able to get a decent signal, so positioning of the aerial, or set, is important to get the best from it. If you're interested, the *Daily Mail* is running a promotion where you need to collect vouchers for a 'free' good quality DAB portable radio. It sounds a good deal until you discover the cost of buying the paper just for the vouchers, plus the cost of post & packing, come to more than the value of the radio!

Don't forget though, that many of the radio stations being transmitted on DAB can also be received through your Sky, FreeView or FreeSat systems - they're the stations in the high numbers. Saga FM may not be there, but all your BBC radio stations - Radios 1, 2, 3, 4, 4 Long Wave, 5 Sports, 5 Sports Extra, 7, etc - will be available. If you want to wait a bit before you buy a DAB radio and you have Sky, FreeView or FreeSat, this will be a cheaper option, with the added novelty of listening to your favourite radio stations through your TV!

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Mrs. Hansen had been a member of First Baptist church for twenty-five years. After the service, as she walked toward the pastor who stood waiting at the sanctuary door, it was obvious that she had something on her mind. She complained, "Reverend, if God were alive today, He would be shocked at the changes in this church!"

## First TV, now Radio

As part of keeping every one up to date with what's happening in the world of entertainment, we can say with some certainty that the Digital Switchover for TVs is on schedule for 2011 if your TV service is broadcast from Sudbury and 2012 if you receive from London or Bluebell Hill/Dover. Or put it another way, Anglia ITV is 2011 and Meridian/London ITV is 2012.

If you are aged over 75, or have lived in a care home for 6 months or more, or are registered as blind or partially sighted, or are eligible for Disability Living allowance, Attendance allowances or mobility allowance then you are eligible for the Switchover Help Scheme. This means that you will be provided with personal advice, and the equipment needed to convert *one* TV in your home to digital - this may not be a new TV, but will probably be an electronic FreeView box that converts the digital signals to the type your old TV can use. Digital UK will also do the installation, re-align or replace your aerial (if necessary) and provide 12 months of aftercare. So if you qualify for this scheme, it should be free.

If you do not qualify, then you are on your own and it is up to you whether you go for FreeView, FreeSat or Sky. FreeView uses the transmitters you are used to - Sudbury, Crystal Palace (almost), Dover, Bluebell Hill - along with a few extras, eg Ashingdon Hill. Ashingdon is a fill-in transmitter and will have a restricted number of channels available when it comes on air in about 2012.

Sky, of course uses satellites and you pay extra for 'packages' of channels. FreeSat also uses satellites, so you will need a dish (an old - or current - Sky dish can be used) as well as a FreeSat box to receive the stations, but you will get a package of channels free of charge and without needing a subscription. TVs are now available with the necessary electronics built in.

### What is this HD I keep hearing about?

HD stands for 'High Definition'. Remember 405-line television? When it went to 625 lines in the 1960s there was a big improvement in the picture quality. Well, HD has 720 lines and the quality has gone up a notch further. HD also allows a much higher quality of sound, providing 5.1 sound. That's 5 speakers you can put around the room so it sounds as though you are really sitting in the concert hall or sports stadium. But you can only get the full High Definition service if you are tuned to an HD station - although with TVs from the major manufacturers you will often get a much better picture even with non-HD stations.

'HD Ready' TVs will receive the HD signal, but do not necessarily display in High Definition. To make sure you can get the full benefit you need 'Full HD' - these are also sometimes shown as '1080p', because they can actually

## Join our Big Paint!

**The back corridor and Vestry suffered from water damage due to the theft of the lead from our roof and need a bit of TLC.**

**On 21st August we are planning a "Big Paint" and you are invited. More details to follow, but please put it in your diary and bring a paint brush or two so we can slap on the emulsion and gloss.**

**Tea-makers and go-fers are needed as well so don't rule yourself out!**



### August

- 7 Bruce & Carole Glendenning, George & Sue Edwards
- 14 Mike & Heather Sims, Jan Willson, Sandra Hull
- 21 Judy Garner, Rosie Isaacs, Maureen Whalley, Ivy Blenkinsop, Sheila Webber
- 28 Dave & Val Dobbin, Roy & Olive Pavitt, Gwenda Andrews

A new Cleaning Rota will start in September so keep an eye open for it. Also, please see Val's item on page 6.

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### Rev Peter Perowne

Those who remember the Southend Circuit before the merger with Leigh will remember Peter. He has recently moved to Prince William Avenue on Canvey.

## Cleaning

I'm sorry about the incorrect date for the July *Big Clean*. As advertised by Marian, it was yesterday!

The **August** 'Big Clean' is a *Big Paint* - if you are able to come, please let Colin or myself know, then we'll know how many paint brushes are needed.

A new cleaning rota will be out at the end of August so if you wish to join our band of workers, or wish to come off the list, please let me know by 15th August (a message can be left if we're not available).

**Val**

## Back to Church Sunday (26th September)

It's too late to register for this year, but Back To Church Sunday is based on research done by Tearfund which shows that there are 3 million people who would respond positively to an invitation to attend church. Back to Church Sunday provides this opportunity.

The emphasis is on individual Christians giving personal invitations to appropriate people in their circle of contacts. It is therefore an encouragement to Christians to regain confidence in doing something that they know they should.

It is also proving to be an opportunity for those who have got out of the habit of going to church, or for those who have thought it is something they should look into, to find an entry point.

To operate it effectively in a church planning has to start early and resources ordered by 15th June. The first thing is for the Church Council to decide whether or not the church will take part - this would be before Easter. Further details of the process can be found on the Methodist Church website at

[www.methodist.org.uk/index.cfm?fuseaction=opentogod.content&cmid=2626](http://www.methodist.org.uk/index.cfm?fuseaction=opentogod.content&cmid=2626)

Here are some comments from Methodist participants from previous Back to Church Sundays:

"In 2008, a young woman of 22, step granddaughter of a church member came to B2CS for the evening service. She told me (the minister) later on that she couldn't really sit through a church service, but would really like to do some youth work. A year later, we have a Friday night youth group, co-led between her and I, and other congregation members, with a core group of 8. It just takes one new one - a whole load of difference can be made."

**Revd Fran Rhys, Crossgates Methodist Church, Leeds**

*(Continued on page 7)*

## Church Barbecue (Free)

As you might have seen in the plan there have been a few 'No Service' entries in the Circuit Plan for Rochford. This does not mean that we cannot meet as a church fellowship at this time, it just means there will be no *preaching* service. We can always meet as a housegroup, bible study, a prayer meeting, a 'love feast' (a kind of communion that does not need a minister), go for a 'prayer' walk, or anything else that involves the congregation meeting together 'in fellowship'.

**There is a 'No Service' on 19th September. We will have a barbecue in the church garden at 4pm.** There will be no charge for those attending, but if you do wish to help towards the event, eg by providing food, money, organisational skills, cooking skills, etc, we would be most grateful.

The afternoon will be a chance for fellowship within the church - not as a money-making scheme. So what do we want on the menu . . . ?

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

Friday 24th September is the date of the *World's Biggest Coffee Morning*. Over the years this has raised millions of pounds for the Macmillan Nurses to enable them to provide home care and support for terminally ill patients and their families. Keep an eye open for our local events.

Although the official date is 24th September, some events do take place on other dates.

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*(Continued from page 6)*

"A lapsed attender had just needed a reason to come back. A widow whose husband's funeral took place at the church and a family who had their baby baptised here, came back in response to the invitation."

**Revd Christine Hey, Uttoxeter Methodist Church**

"One family really appreciated the reminder to come back to church. They have been coming back since Back to Church Sunday. I think, for some people, the invite is the last kick to get them to go again."

**Revd Marschner, St Andrews Methodist Church, Pudsey**

"We combined Back to Church with our Harvest and Parade service on 11 October and so the church had about 200 adults and young people in. There was a vibrancy and excitement about the service. One lady said that she had got married in our church 10 years earlier and the invitation was just the push that she had needed to come back to church and she would come again and bring her children."

**Revd Alan Crump, St James Methodist Church, Liverpool**