

WINDOW ON WESLEY'S



MAY 2015

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(Superintendent)
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Rev John Cooke MA (Supernumerary)
Rev Brian Goss MA (Supernumerary)
Rev Stephen Penrose (Supernumerary)
Rev Ken Start (Supernumerary)
Rev Ian Yates (Supernumerary)

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Dear Friend

The year is fast developing and moving towards its mid-point. May is a wondrous month and we must enjoy the freshness of its colours and the invigoration it brings to the weary soul. It's truly my favourite month of the year. It's also, for all of us at Wesley's Chapel, one of our busiest months. There will be details elsewhere in this issue of the various events, services and moments of celebration with which this month is studded. I'm beginning to cast my mind ahead to the time (two years distant) when I shall step down from my present responsibilities. I'm beginning to identify areas where we are going to need to pull up our socks and do a little better than we've been doing up to now. Let me give some examples.

The Church has increased in size from 204 members (when I arrived) to 450 at the present moment. Since we are a city-centre church and our members are scattered all over London, keeping tabs and exercising pastoral for such a widespread congregation is difficult. We're total dependant on the three dozen splendid people who act as pastoral leaders. Through their eyes and contacts our small team of ministers and lay workers can keep abreast of needs and questions that they could never otherwise be aware of. We're going to need to boost the number of these leaders and be sure that all of them are focussed on the tasks which fall to them. That's going to be an area we must give serious attention to over the next couple of years.

Then there's Sunday School. We have bucked the trend in the magnificent work that's happening "below stairs" as the congregation worships on a Sunday. We have over 100 children and young people on our books. We have a crèche that's to die for – truly we are a fertile bunch! But with that blessing goes a need for teachers to care for the development of those young minds. The congregation as a whole, all of us, loudly exclaims every time we have a baptism: "with God's help we will" do our best to ensure that the children we receive at such events have every chance of growing up as Christians. Teaching in the

Sunday School is a material element in fulfilling that promise and commitment. We've baptised some 300 children and we have a great duty to do our part in their Christian upbringing. In recent weeks you will have seen lines of children being marched back into Church after we thought we'd said goodbye to them. They have decided to "work to rule". They will continue to be marched back in this way until we are able to cater properly for them with a good supply of Sunday School teachers. Those who volunteer to help in this way need not feel that they are committing themselves to an every Sunday exercise. We have good rotas and can use people who'd only want to give a partial response to this need. Could this be you?

We also need appropriate skills and competencies amongst those who govern our Church and steer its financial and developmental programmes. We have all kinds of people with professional skills in our membership. I wonder whether we could have some kind of commitment from them? Wesley's Chapel is a big operation and it needs some committed energy. We'll be looking for such people in the months that lie ahead.

And then there are some simple manual tasks. From time-to-time, the garden needs watering, a wall needs painting, some remedial jobs need doing. Small working parties (on a Saturday morning, for example) could have good fellowship as they helped us with some of the practical tasks of keeping the Chapel cheerful and in good shape.

So you see that my mind is turning towards preparing us to take responsibility for a moment of transition that is now not too far distant. God has truly blessed us at City Road and we must not spurn that blessing by ignoring the responsibilities that fall to all of us. Be ready for more of this kind of appeal.

To you and your loved ones wherever this finds you, especially if you're going through a bad time, I send my warmest affection.

The Lord bless you and bless you kindly.

Leslie Griffiths – May 2015

Church News

It is with great sadness that we report the death of *Michael Aderinola* who died suddenly and at young age on April 16th. We will give you more details concerning the funeral as soon as we get them. Our prayers and thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

It has been good to see *Shirley Pollaya* back with us in Church. We pray that she will continue to make good progress.

On the 19th April we welcomed *Anayah Christelle George-Lowe* by baptism. We pray that God's blessing will be with her and that she will be a blessing for her family.

Ecumenical Pilgrimage to the First World War Battlefields of Belgium April 15-20th 2015

Our group of local churches – Anglican, Roman Catholic, Welsh



Presbyterian, Lutheran and Wesley's Chapel have been on a number of pilgrimages together. We have been to Rome, to Latvia and to Oporto and Lisbon in Portugal. Our fourth ecumenical pilgrimage was a little different. As it is the centenary of the 1914-18 War we decided, after

doing an autumn course on the First World War in 2014 that we would go to Belgium to see some of the battlefields and cemeteries and try to gain some insight into the experiences of the soldiers who went to fight there.

There were 21 of us altogether and we travelled by Eurostar to Brussels and then by local train to Ypres (Ieper). Our hotel was themed to look like an army barracks but was, nevertheless, reasonably comfortable – we were not in camp beds and although the Dining Room was ‘the canteen’ the food was good and the facilities modern (except that the wifi was not working).

On our first evening we had our service in St George’s Memorial Anglican Church near the centre of Ypres. This Church was put up as a permanent memorial to the dead and as a meeting place for visiting relatives. It was officially opened in 1929. Every item in the church, plaques on the



walls, chairs, windows, banners and church furniture were given in memory of someone who had died during the war. There was a kneeler with the badge of the Boys’ Brigade embroidered on it. Many schools had put up plaques to their old pupils who died in the battles in this area.

On our second day we visited several small cemeteries but also the huge one, Tyne Cot, which is pictured at the beginning of this article. This is the largest British War cemetery with 11,908 graves of which 70% are the graves of ‘unknown’ soldiers. Bodies were brought from around the battlefields after the war and so many of them had no identification. On the wall around this cemetery are the names of 35,000 British and Commonwealth soldiers who died between 1917 and the end of the war and who have no known grave. Amazingly there are still 43,000 soldiers missing from the First World War, whose remains have never been discovered. However remains are still being discovered and in many cases identified through DNA testing. Later in our stay we

visited a cemetery where the remains of six soldiers had just been



buried with full military honours. One of them, Richard Lancaster, had been identified with the help of the man, Ian McHenry, who was our guide.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission which oversees all of the war cemeteries around the world handles about 30 sets of remains from the Western front battlefields each year as they are uncovered by builders and farmers.

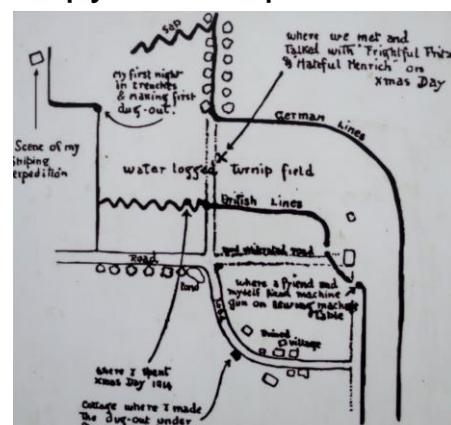
Also uncovered regularly are shells from the war – they are left at the side of the road for collection by the bomb disposal squads.



We visited the site of the 1914 Christmas Truce where German and British soldiers came out of their respective trenches, sang carols, exchanged gifts and had a kick about of football.

By the side of the field where the truce is known to have started there is a copy of a map drawn by one of the soldiers at the time, which shows just how close the two opposing forces were to each other.

Back In Ypres we went in the evening to the Menin Gate, where each evening at 8.00pm the Last Post is sounded and people come to lay wreaths. We had organised this ahead of time and three of our number, led by Margaret Griffiths laid a wreath on our behalf.





On the fourth day of our trip we moved from Ypres eastwards towards Mons and Namur. We were able to visit the cemetery at St Symphorien, just south of Mons, where the commemorations were held at the beginning of the centenary in August 2014.

This cemetery is very different from those with rows of identical graves – it has small mini-cemeteries within wooded glades. It is also very different in another important respect – the land was given by the Belgian landowner on the basis that both German and British war dead be buried alongside each other. We held our service for the day in the midst of this cemetery.



We did not spend the whole of our time visiting battlefields and cemeteries. We had a day in the ancient and very beautiful city of Bruges and then, on Sunday, our last full day, after we had had a Communion Service in our hotel, we went to a monastery in the rolling hills near the border of Belgium and Luxembourg. This was an unusual monastery as it was founded to bring together the Eastern Church and the Western (Catholic) Church. There were two churches, one in the Latin, Catholic style and one in the Eastern, Byzantine style – full



of icons and frescoes. Every wall and every part of the ceiling was covered with stories from the Bible – it was truly remarkable. You can see the image of Christ in the Dome of the Church in the photo. We had a very good pilgrimage. We learnt many new things, we

understood more fully the horror of the Great War and how the Belgium people had rebuilt their villages and towns after such destruction. We learnt that every day remains are found – of

soldiers who died, of equipment and munitions. The impact of a war, fought a hundred years ago, still continues in this part of Europe.

If you have the chance to go to Belgium or France, to stand at the Menin gate or visit a war Cemetery during these centenary years – please take advantage of such an opportunity. We tried to grapple with some of the questions posed by such slaughter as was experienced on the Western Front and to read the poetry both patriotic and cynical. We had much to think about in our devotions and reflections.

And what about the next ecumenical trip which should take place in around two years' time? First of all if you missed the details about this last one, you need to read your Window on Wesley's more closely – it is always flagged up in this publication not once but several times as well as details being on the notice board near the Radnor Room. Secondly if you want to put your ideas into the pot concerning where the next pilgrimage might visit, please give Jennifer your ideas



Wesley Day 2015 Programme

- 9.45 am Eucharist for Wesley Day
- 11.00am Morning Service for Pentecost/Wesley Day:
Preacher: Gill Dascombe, Vice President of the Conference
- 12.30pm Short Service at the Tomb of John Wesley

LUNCH BREAK

- 1.30pm Leave Chapel for Bunhill Fields
- 2.00pm Service near Susanna Wesley's Grave
- 2.10pm Leave Bunhill Fields for Aldersgate Flame, Museum of London
- 2.45pm Short Service at the Aldersgate Flame
- 3.00pm Arrive at St. Paul's Cathedral for Evensong
- 3.15pm Evensong begins
- 4.15pm Short Service at the Wesley Statue at St. Paul's Cathedral
- 4.30pm Depart

This year Wesley Day falls on a Sunday and this means there are changes to the usual programme of events. As you can see from the outline for the day, we shall have our normal morning services at 9.45am and 11.00am – except that we know that we shall be getting some overseas visitors – from Norway, USA and South America and we may well get many more visitors that we will not know about until the day. We shall also have the President and Vice President of the Conference with us. So this will be a day for

all of us to exercise our ministry of welcome and hospitality – by greeting people, by offering to serve refreshments and by helping people to see around the whole site in the short time between the end of the service and the beginning of the walk towards St Paul's Cathedral at 1.30pm.



As Wesley Day falls on a Sunday the service of Evensong at the Cathedral begins at 3.15pm and also there is a sermon during the service which will be preached by the Methodist President of the Conference, Rev Ken Howcroft.

For those with strong legs and a stout pair of shoes there is the pilgrimage walk from the Chapel via Susanna Wesley's grave in Bunhill Fields and the Conversion Flame Monument at the Museum of London in Aldersgate Street. For those who do not feel up to that walk there is a number 76 bus from outside the Chapel, which stops very close to the Cathedral.



After Evensong we shall gather for a short service around the statue of John Wesley at the Cathedral and then the ceremonies will be over for the day and we can depart for home at that point.

Jennifer Potter

A Word in Time

Just a reminder that if you wish to have a daily Bible Study, you can find one on the Methodist website and can also download it as part of the Methodist App. Each day a passage of Scripture is explained and questions are provided for further thought. There are also suggestions for a psalm and a hymn for each day. During May Jennifer will be one of the contributors.

The Wesleyan Holiness Church

On Sunday 26th April we had a visit from about 40 people belonging to the Wesleyan Holiness Church – they had been in an International Conference in Kent. Some the visitors were from Britain but other were from the USA, from Poland, Austria, the Czech Republic. People from other European countries had also been at the Conference but had had to leave early. They really enjoyed their experience with us and stayed to look around the Museum and John Wesley's House. For many of them it was their first opportunity to make contact with their Methodist roots.



A number of people in the congregation asked, 'who are these people? We have never heard of them before.'

In the middle of the 19th century in America there was what has come to be known as the Second Great Awakening, which grew out of Methodism and also the ministry of George Whitefield. It was brought about in large part by the revivals and Camp Meetings that took place around the country. Their stress was on holiness, by which they meant that believers could have a second blessing in which they were 'cleansed' of the tendency to sin, enabling them to live a holy life and ideally, to live without wilful sin. The Nazarene Church also grew out of this movement. In Britain the influence of the Holiness Movement was seen especially in the Keswick Convention, a body which still exists.

The Holiness Movement spread from the USA to the Caribbean and became quite widespread across the islands. Most of the Wesleyan Holiness churches in Britain have a predominantly Caribbean membership. Our former District Chair, Revd Ermal Kirby came from the Wesleyan Holiness Church.

The other people who were here on Sunday were largely from the USA and from Eastern European countries to which the

Americans have sent missionaries. Faced in the 21st century with a growing identity crisis and dwindling numbers, in the midst of the growth of many other charismatic and Pentecostal groups, the Wesleyan Holiness movement has re-appropriated its Wesleyan theology to explore contemporary social issues and address the ‘post-modern’ mind-set.

Just as we have made good contacts with the Nazarene Church over the past years so, hopefully, we will also develop good links with our brothers and sisters in the Wesleyan Holiness Church.

Jennifer Potter

News from the London District Synod

Revd Stuart Jordan, the District Chair who relates to our part of London will be retiring(‘sitting down’ in Methodist terminology) at the end of this Connexional Year. He will be preaching here at Wesley’s Chapel on the morning of 21st June and in the evening of that same day, at Central Hall, Westminster, there will be a **Farewell Service** for him. It would be excellent if Wesley’s Chapel could be well-represented at that service.

Then, on Sunday 23rd August at Hinde Street Methodist Church there is the **Welcome Service** for the Revd Nigel Cowgill, who becomes the new District Chair in September this year. He is known to many people at Wesley’s Chapel as he was a Lay worker here in the 1990’s and candidated for the ministry from here. Leslie will be the preacher at that service.

Hannah Roberts, the **District Treasurer**, is also going to be stepping down at the end of her six year term. A new District Treasurer is needed. If you or someone you know feels this is something you could do, please get in touch with the Church Office.

Methodist Women in Britain, London District – there will be a residential weekend at High Leigh Conference Centre,

Hoddesdon, (just 20 minutes on the train from Liverpool Street station) from Friday 24th to Sunday 26th July on the theme, ‘transforming lives and communities.’ More details can be found on the notice board outside the Radnor Room.



who feel God’s call to become a Lay worker, a Preacher, a Minister or a person who works with young people. This will be held at Chislehurst Methodist Church on the 16th May. There is a notice about this on the board near the Radnor Room.

If you are interested in the intersection between **Art and Faith** there is a day Conference on Monday 18th May at the Royal Foundation of St Katharine’s located near Limehouse Station. It will be from 10.00am to 4.00pm with lunch and refreshments provided free. To attend please send your details to communications@methodistlondon.org.uk

On May 17th in the evening at 6.30pm here at Wesley’s Chapel there will be the **District Ordinands’ Testimony Service** for those from our District going forward to ordination at the Conference in Southport in June. Many people will be coming from around our District, so let us be there to welcome them.

The Museum gains funding for the World Parish Display Case

As all of you know over the last two years we have been in the process of completely refurbishing our Museum. It has been very successful and we have attracted more visitors than ever before. However there is one exhibition space which is still empty – we have been awaiting funds to be able to complete it.

We are very happy to announce that we have just been awarded up to £98,300 by the Heritage Lottery Fund to put in the remaining exhibition case on the ‘World Parish.’ This will display the wide variety of places around the world to which Methodism was taken by missionaries, using artefacts and documents from those places.

Running alongside this exhibition of the global spread of Methodism will be a project to gather oral histories from you, our diverse congregation.

People will be trained in gathering oral history and then congregation members will be approached to tell us their life and faith journey and about their experience of Methodism in other parts of the world. The material will then be prepared in both written and digital form which will allow visitors of many nationalities to explore the origins and development of Methodism.



We will be telling you more about this project in the next few months so please look out for information in Window on Wesley's.

Jennifer Potter

If you are interested or involved in music or art in worship you might like to know about an organisation called ArtServe. For 75 years Methodism had an organisation called the Methodist Church Music Society (MCMS). The focus of MCMS was largely on helping to develop organists, choirs, hymn-writers and composers. Changes in worship and the decline in the numbers of choirs prompted a change. So ArtServe was born to serve the church in the arts interpreted more broadly.



ArtServe has a magazine and a website (www.artserve.org.uk) and holds a weekend Conference event each year in October. This year it is at Swanwick Conference Centre from 16-18th October and the theme is “Theatre of Stories: The Mystery, music and

‘magination’. Shifting Sands Theatre group will be present to lead some of the sessions.

So, if music, art or drama is your thing, go onto the website or contact the Church office for more information.

Jennifer Potter

Leysian Missioner's Letter

Dear Friends,

May brings along two big events in the life of Wesley’s Chapel: Christian Aid week (10th-17th May) and Wesley Day (24th May). I’m sure Jenifer and Leslie will have mentioned Wesley Day in their submissions this month, so I thought it was worth reminding everyone of some easy ways you can be a part of Christian Aid week.

Especially with recent events in both Nepal and the Mediterranean the work of Christian Aid and its partners is an even more worthwhile cause to support. There are lots of ways to get involved with Christian Aid week at Wesley’s Chapel.

On Sunday 3rd May you can:

- Sign up to circle the city on the 17th May with the Wesley’s Chapel group.

This sponsored walk is a fantastic opportunity to see some of London’s historic churches, to take part in activities and join with over 500 people from across London in raising money.

- Sponsor one of our walkers.

If you can’t find someone who is walking, leave your contact details and the amount you are willing to give at the office FAO Judith and she will link you up with someone.

On Sunday 10th May you can:

- Eat cake and drink fresh coffee!

The leaders of the Sunday School, with the help of Youth Group, will be running a bake sale. For a donation come and enjoy fresh coffee from Christian Aid mission partners along with cake made by the Sunday School Leaders.

- Donate in the retiring collection.
Margaret Hazard and her volunteers will be shaking their buckets at the end of service. Every penny counts, so please do pop a donation in, however small.
- Sign up to circle the city or sponsor a walker. *Last chance!* This will be the last week you can sign up on a Sunday to walk with us, or sponsor our walkers. Don't miss out!

On Sunday 17th May you can:

- Donate in the retiring collection.
This will be the last opportunity for you to add to our fund raising efforts. If you could help hold a bucket at the end of service please speak to Margaret Hazard.
- Pray for our walkers.
We'll be commissioning the walkers as part of the service, at which time they will go straight to the start point. There will not be time to sponsor them on the day; please speak to them before the service or catch them the week after if you would like to sponsor them.

If you've read to the end of this, thank you. Please do consider how you could be involved, and share the news with others.

Together we can really make a difference.

As always I'm here to answer questions, or to talk about anything that is on your mind. I'll even come to you, and can arrange to come of an evening if that fits your schedule better. Pastoral visiting is what I'm here for. Just get in touch via email

(missioner@wesleyschapel.org.uk) or through the Chapel Office.

Should you know of someone else who could do with a visit please do let me know.

Prayers and best wishes,

Judith Burton – Leysian Missioner

SERENDIPITY NINETEEN

Part Four: The Recipients of the Wedding Present

Earlier episodes of this story in previous editions of Window on Wesley's, have introduced a rather unusual wedding present and have related how Mr Wesley's own experience of married life with his wife Mary Vazeille Wesley, might have influenced his choice of a present.

As already noted, the set of roundels, which are now exhibited in a case on the second floor of John Wesley's House, were John Wesley's wedding present to one of his preachers, Adam Clarke, who married a Miss Mary Cook on April 17th 1788.

Unfortunately, we do not know a great deal about Mary, apart from the fact that she gave full, and devoted support to her husband, all their married life; that she was the same age as her husband, and was born in Trowbridge in Wiltshire where her father had become relatively wealthy from his involvement in the manufacture of the local specialty woollen fabric known as Broadcloth.

Of her husband, Adam Clarke, we know a great deal more as he was an important preacher colleague of John Wesley and member of the early Methodist societies. As to his background, he was Irish, having been born about 1760, (he thought that 1760 was his date of birth, although his father suggested that it was actually 1762), at Moybeg in what is now Northern Ireland, the son of a schoolmaster who gave him a classical education. The latter, he subsequently built upon by his own exertions including extensive researches in the wide fields of philosophy, literature and languages, although his honorary doctorate, from Aberdeen University was received later in his career. His reputation, at his death was such, that he was reckoned to be "*the most learned Methodist that ever lived*".

He and Mary were both 28 years of age when they wed, this being some six years after Adam had become an itinerant preacher, having joined the Methodists in 1778 and starting on a preaching career soon after. In 1782, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of the Londonderry circuit, he was invited to London by John Wesley, who recognised the inherent potential of Clarke, and appointed him to the Bradford-on-Avon circuit. It was during his first year in this station that Adam met the young woman who was to become his wife. Precisely how much time he had to court Mary is difficult to ascertain, because in 1786 he was stationed in the Channel Islands where he remained until 1789 when he was appointed Superintendent of the Bristol circuit, from which followed moves to several other different parts of the British Isles, including the Shetland Islands, during the course of his very varied career

That neither Adam or Mary were influenced by the wording on the present they were given by John Wesley, would seem certain, for they looked to have had a long and happy marriage till it was terminated by Adam's death in 1832. Indeed the anniversary of their wedding day was always celebrated. For example, in 1799, the eleventh of such occasions, Adam gave Mary a gold watch, and with it a letter:

Bristol, April 1799

My very Dear Mary,

This gold watch, ---- the beautiful dial of which is an emblem of thy face, the delicate pointers of thy hands, the escapement of thy temples, the balance of thy conduct in thy family, the gold case of thy body, and the cap of thy prudence ---- thy affectionate husband presents to thee on this eleventh anniversary of our wedding day. Adam Clarke

A very different picture, it will be agreed this paints from what we know of Mr Wesley's experience from his dealings with his own wife.

In the course of his ministry, Adam Clarke was three times President of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference; the author of thirteen volumes of works besides his commentary on the Bible which encompassed an encyclopedia of Biblical science and literature, (and was the one book, besides the Bible which, it was said, every Methodist of the time had on their bookshelf), as well as four volumes of sermons and a bibliographical dictionary in 8 volumes. Further, because he was, “*one of Ireland’s most notable gifts to Methodism in England*”, many souvenirs, such as jugs, mugs and plaques were produced bearing Adam’s portrait.

In the 19th C back bedroom, on the second floor of John Wesley’s House, the room next to that where the wedding present given by Mr Wesley is now exhibited, will be found two depictions of one of the recipients. Firstly, in the form of the souvenir ceramic plaque portrait of Adam Clarke hanging on the wall near the window, and secondly, in the picture hanging over the fireplace which is a painting, of 1820, by the artist Alex Moss. In this, Adam Clarke is shown sitting in the study at his then home in Millbrook, near Liverpool, in the company of two Buddhist priests. The background to this is, to quote “The Dictionary of Methodism: “*The scholarship of Dr Adam Clarke was outstanding and wide ranging, his chief reputation was as a linguist, particularly in Middle Eastern and Oriental languages, (including Persian, Arabic, Ethiopian, Coptic and Sanskrit). A keen advocate of missions at home and overseas, in 1818, he undertook the Christian education of two Buddhist priests from Ceylon, (now Sri Lanka),*

It is these two men, Muni Rathana and Dherma Rama, who are seen in the company of Adam Clarke in the painting. After spending one year with Clarke, they became Christians, were baptised Adam and Alexander, respectively, then went back to their homeland in 1820.

Clarke died suddenly of Cholera on 26th August 1832, aged 72 years, having enjoyed a marriage of 44 happy and productive

years, but was outlived by Mary who survived him a further four years.

A memorial to Adam can be found in Wesley's Chapel, in the Apse, on the right hand side and, most appropriately, just below the memorial to Rev Thomas Coke who is often known as "The Father of Overseas Missions".

It will be seen that Clarke's memorial plaque is decorated with an eagle holding two partially opened scrolls, one with a Latin and the other with a Greek inscription and carries a relatively simple epitaph.

Although Adam's memorial is in the Chapel, he himself, is buried in the garden at the back and almost directly adjacent to John Wesley's own tomb. Clarke's grave was once marked by a stone table on top of which was the memorial plaque, but this is now set level with the ground, and any inscription, apart from his name is almost completely illegible. Fortunately, Stevenson, in his book, "The History of City RoadChapel", gave the details of the inscription:

*Sacred to the Memory of Adam Clarke LLD, FAS
who*

Rested from his labours August 26th 1832, aged 72 years.

Also to the memory of

*Mary, wife of Adam Clarke LLD who
Died December 20th 1832, aged 76 years*

Also to the memory of

*John Wesley Clarke esq. Eldest son of the above who
Died February 29th 1840 aged 51 years*

Stevenson also noted that at the head of the inscription was carved a device representing a burning candle encircled by a motto in Latin which translates as:

In serving others I am myself consumed

This being the badge and motto of the fund which Clarke helped to establish in order to provide a pension for retired Methodist ministers.

Today, this time worn plaque is supplemented by a separate, smaller stone tablet, attached to the base of Wesley's own grave monument, which clearly records Adam's name and the dates of his birth and death. Moreover, in a way, John Wesley's own grave monument is also a memorial to Adam Clarke, for on it is the epitaph to Mr Wesley, that Adam composed, having, it is said, first scratched it out on a window pane on hearing of Wesley's death.

As can been seen, something of the life of Adam Clarke can be traced by going, from the epitaph he composed for Mr Wesley, to his grave in the garden of Wesley' Chapel, to the memorial plaque in the Chapel Apse, to his portraits in John Wesley's House and in the adjacent room the wedding present which he was given by Mr Wesley.

As to the present itself, this still remains something of a puzzle, since why did John give this set of items, albeit that they were antiques, even then, and probably, therefore, comparatively valuable?

When Kate Poole composed her Window on Wesley's article, she suggested that Mr Wesley might have thought that the verses on his present to Adam and Mary Clarke, constituted something of a joke. However, although John did have a sense of humour, it is perhaps more likely that he could have considered the ideas expressed in the antique writing to be more in the nature of a salutary warning to his preacher protégé. Nevertheless, if the latter was the objective, the happy marriage enjoyed by Adam and Mary indicates that little heed was paid to the sentiments spelled out in the doggerel verses. Indeed, the likelihood is that the roundels perhaps never came out of their storage box, since the condition of their surfaces, despite their age, suggests that they received little wear from use.

Reader, go on a tour of John Wesley's House, if you haven't already done so, and seek out the puzzling wedding present that John Wesley gave in 1788. Indeed, if you have been to John's House, but missed the roundels, then go back and get a Heritage Steward to point them out.

See what you make of the items and decide for yourself whether they were meant as a joke or a hint from John Wesley, or whether he, as a busy man, with too many calls on his time, and with failing eyesight, had little opportunity to peer closely at the charming articles, and instead, bought them, because, as Kate, in 2009, also hinted, John thought that a set of table mats/coasters, was likely to be a useful present for a newlywed couple setting up their first home together.

Keith Dutton - Heritage Steward

Thursday Lunchtimes
at Wesley's Chapel (12.45-1.15pm)

"Their voices live on"

May

**7th Lucian Tapiedi & Grand Duchess
Elizabeth of Russia**

14th Martin Luther King

21st Wang Zhiming

28th Maximilian Kolbe

ALL ARE WELCOME

CHILDREN'S PAGE

Mouse Makes

What happened when the Holy Spirit came at PENTECOST?

READ Acts 2:1-41

HOLY SPIRIT is with us and in us
John 14:16-17

HOLY SPIRIT teaches us about God
John 14:26

HOLY SPIRIT helps us to pray
Romans 8:26-27

HOLY SPIRIT helps us to speak about God
Acts 1:8

There was a sound like a blowing of a violent wind... and what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each one of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit.

BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

EPHESIANS 5:18

How many believers were baptised that day?

Colour the flames, cut out and tie together to make a Pentecost mobile.

SUNDAY SERVICES IN MAY

3rd 11.00am Morning Service & Holy Communion
Preacher: Leslie Griffiths
Officiant: Jennifer Potter

10th 9.45am Holy Communion – Jennifer Potter/Minho Lee
11.00am Morning Service – Samuel Kow Arthur

17th 9.45am Holy Communion – Leslie Griffiths
11.00am Morning Service – Leslie Griffiths

24th Wesley Day

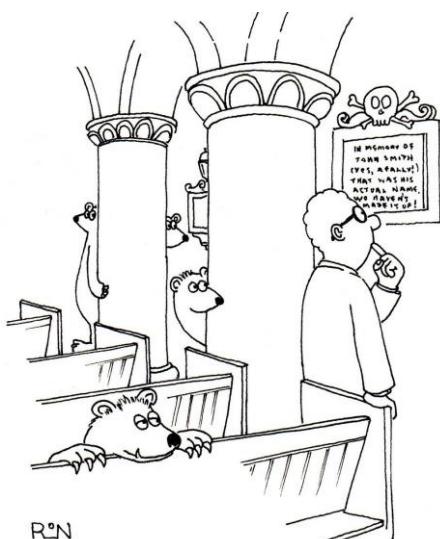
9.45am Holy Communion – Leslie Griffiths
11.00am Morning Service – Ken Howcroft

31st 9.45am Holy Communion – Leslie Griffiths
11.00am Morning Service – Leslie Griffiths
7.00pm Taizé Evening Service

May Cradle Roll Birthdays

19th Alice Pearson – Peacock 5 years
25th Ezri Akiwumi 4 years

May God bless these children and their families



Dennis spent a long time in church
looking for his forbears

May Lunchtime Recitals

5th Charlotte Rowan - violin

12th Avis McIntyre

19th Gisela Meyer - Piano

26th Alexandro Velonis - Piano



Church Directory

Dear Friends

I'm in the process of compiling the Directory and Handbook for **2015/2016**. As a member of the Chapel your name, address and telephone number is printed in the Directory and Handbook which is issued to all members.

However, before the booklet is printed, the Data Protection Act requires that I ask your permission before including your details in the directory. You have a right under the Data Protection Act for any or all of this information not to be published.

So, unless I hear otherwise, by the end of May, I shall assume that you have no objections to your details being published as in prior years.

Finally, if any of your details have changed or are due to change, please be sure to inform **Tracey Smith** or **Judith Burton**.

Kind regards

Tracey Smith

Weekly programme of events

Sunday	9.45am	Holy Communion (except 1 st Sunday in month)
	11.00am	Morning Service
	12.30pm	Methodist Women in Britain (MWIB) (First Sunday in the month)
	12.30pm	Wesley's Chapel Ghana Fellowship (Last Sunday in the month)
	7.00pm	Taizé Evening Service (First Sunday in the month)
Monday	7.00am	Prayer Meeting
	2.00pm	Sisterhood Fellowship
Tuesday	1.05 pm	Lunchtime Recitals
	7.45pm	Boys' Brigade (Company & Seniors: over 11's)
Wednesday	10.00am	Parents/Minders & Toddlers
	12.45pm	Service of Holy Communion
Thursday	12.45 pm	Lunchtime Service
Friday	7.00pm	Boys' Brigade (Anchors: 5-8 years)
	7.00pm	Girls' Brigade 2 nd London Co
	7.00pm	Boys' Brigade (Juniors: 8 ⁺ -11 years)

**If you would like to submit an article, poem, prayer or item of interest for this magazine please email it to:
pa@wesleyschapel.org.uk
or leave it at the Church Office marked FAO Tracey Smith**