

**WINDOW
ON WESLEY'S**



MARCH 2017

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Dear Friend

Lent, the season where we're encouraged to exercise a little self-discipline, is upon us. Margaret and I are back from our travels full of memories and wonderful impressions. It was so odd to find ourselves at the beginning of February on the island where Christopher Columbus was buried and, a mere two weeks later, in the city where Vasco da Gama was interred. One went west and the other went east, both of them at the turn of the 15th and 16th centuries. It's good to be back and to face the rigours of this new season.

At least the days are getting longer. Getting up in the morning isn't nearly as difficult now that a little light edges around the curtains of our bedroom. You'll see from other pages of this issue of Window on Wesley's that we have a fistful of activities and services taking place in the next few weeks. Wednesdays at lunchtime and in the evenings; Thursdays at lunchtime; and Saturday mornings will all offer every one of you something that you will find helpful. Perhaps a Lenten resolution would be to opt for one of these. I'll leave that to you!

The world is in a bit of a mess at the moment. I've been spending long hours in the House of Lords where we've been discussing Brexit. I suppose that one or two of the readers of this letter may actually be in favour of our coming out of Europe. As for me, I simply can't understand it for a moment. I have a daughter living in France. We have a student member of the Chapel who is Italian. The comings and goings of our congregation seem never-ending. Saying no to Europe resembles, at least in my poor mind, the efforts of King Canute over 1000 years ago to keep the incoming tide at bay. Futile! Such efforts are in defiance of all the natural forces that shape our population. We'll have to see what's going to happen. There are so many people writing to me with their concerns and anxieties.

This has been a tough winter for many people and I hope, if you're one of them, that the spring-time will bring its own joys. It's

also been a time when a number of our folk have travelled overseas to be at home with their families and friends. If you're one of our returnees, let me just say "welcome back!" Good to have you with us again.

Lent is with us. In our bible studies and sermons we'll be following the bitter path that leads to the cruel events of Good Friday – the via Dolorosa. But we know that that will never be the end of our story. This is a great season for facing the darkness, for facing down the darkness and for turning our face towards a light that will never be diminished.

The Lord bless you and bless you kindly,

Leslie Griffiths – March 2017

Church News

In the February edition of Window on Wesley's we reported that *Christiana Gibson* was in hospital. Sadly she has been in hospital ever since then as the medical people seek a way to bring down her blood pressure. At the time of writing she just let us know that she is home. We wish her well and pray that she will soon be back with us. In the meantime *Apollos* has moved into a Care Home near their daughter in South London.

Shortly after his return from Ghana, *Paul Appafram* had an unfortunate fall just outside the Chapel as he was leaving the choir practice. This resulted in a broken ankle. We pray that the healing process will go smoothly and he will soon be restored to our fellowship.

During her stay in Ghana, *Victoria Yamoah-Pedanou's* brother sadly passed away. In due course she will be returning for the funeral. We pray for her and the wider family in this time of grief. *George Acheampong's* mother, *Lydia Kwarteng*, has passed away in Ghana. He will be travelling to the funeral in early March. Our condolences go to him and the wider family.

Georgina Boateng, the aunt of *Henrietta Mbeah-Bankas* died quite suddenly in Dartford where she lives. Her funeral will be in Dartford on Friday 17th March. We send our sympathies to the family.

We are sad to report the death of *Esther Golley*. Her funeral will be held at the Chapel but the date is yet to be decided.

Recently we welcomed *Albie James Lachlan Kennedy* into the family of the Church at Wesley's Chapel. He was baptised on Sunday 26th February and we wish him and his parents, *Carrie and Gerard* all God's blessings.

We are glad to see *Kofi and Valle Agbolegbe* back with us but concerned about the illness of their daughter, *Ametor*, who we learn is now well on the way to recovery. We pray for a speedy return to full health for her.

We give thanks that Anna Morrison's grandson who lives in America, Jason, who has been quite ill is now out of hospital. We pray that he will soon be on the road to full health.

Mavis Edwards, a lady with long links to both the Leysian Mission and Wesley's Chapel died on 2nd February after a life time of ill health, bravely borne. The photo shows Mavis celebrating her 70th birthday last year. Her funeral was held at the Chapel on the 20th February. May her soul rest in peace.



Vivienne Oduro is sadly still on crutches, we hope that she will soon be restored to health and mobility and be back with us in the fellowship of the church.

A Georgian Valentine's Day

On the 14th February our intrepid Learning Officer, Aisha, and some of our resourceful Heritage Stewards put on a re-enactment day under the heading *A Georgian Valentine Day* – I am not sure what Mr Wesley would have made of this – I do not think there is any evidence of him having celebrated the day himself!



However, our very own Mr Wesley, Keith Dutton, was at his desk – was he writing to his first love – Grace or to Molly whom he married?

Our Stewards were suitably attired in Georgian dress, had biscuits that would have been popular at the time for people to taste and put on craft activities for people to try.

We had lots of visitors that day – 106 adults and 15 children. The children were able to try their hand at card-making and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



Although unable to cook on the range in the kitchen as the chimney sweep had not been for a long time, the cooks were able to offer visitors some tasty things to eat – heart-shaped biscuits, rosewater flavoured macarons and wigs – a sweet type of 18th century bread,



The death of John Wesley 2nd March 1791

On the first Sunday in March each year we commemorate the death of John Wesley. We do it in two ways – at 9.45am we hold a Lovefeast in the Foundry Chapel – such Lovefeasts were held in Wesley's own time. We sing hymns, say prayers, share any special Bible verses or happenings in our spiritual lives and then eat cake and drink water using the two-handled, Lovefeast cups. It is a time of fellowship, similar to a Communion Service but one that can be held by anyone and in which everyone is free to share their thoughts and prayers.

Then, after the morning service we lay flowers on the grave of John Wesley in a short service. This year it is 226 years since he died in the house across from the Chapel.



Wesley died in his own house at 10.00am of the morning of 2nd March. He was 87 years old and had realised that his health was failing for some weeks but he still kept up his schedule of visiting and preaching. On February 19th 1791 Wesley wrote to a friend saying that his health was 'wavering.' He told his friend that he could not yet make plans for future journeys but that he hoped to set out for Bristol on the 28th February. He even sent his chaise

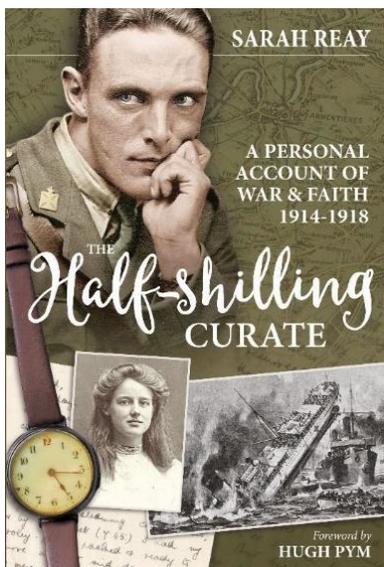
and horses to Bristol and booked a place for himself and friends on the coach to Bath.

Although he was not well enough to leave his house on Sunday 20th, he did manage to go to Twickenham for a meal with a friend the next day. On Tuesday 22nd Wesley preached at the Chapel and the following day visited a recently converted person at Leatherhead and preached to him and his friends. 24th February saw Wesley write his last letter, a letter of encouragement to the anti-slavery campaigner, William Wilberforce before setting off for Balham to spend time with a friend there. From Balham he had to be taken back home unwell and he never left his room after that. Friends saw the change in his condition and knew that the end was nigh. He was, however, still able to talk and spoke encouragingly to those gathered around him. Shortly before he died, he spoke the now famous words, 'the best of all is God is with us' and feebly whispered, 'farewell.'

What an example to us all of dedication to his faith right to the end.

The Half-Shilling Curate

In October last year a book was published with the title *The Half-Shilling Curate: A Personal Account of War and Faith* by Sarah Reay. It tells the story of a young Wesleyan Army Chaplain during the First World War, actually the grandfather of the author. His real name was Revd Herbert Butler Cowl and his account of the war dates from Christmas Eve 1914 until the very end of hostilities in 1919 and includes his personal letters and writings.



At the outbreak of war, Herbert volunteered to become a Wesleyan Army Chaplain and served on the Western Front. His service was cut short when he

was severely wounded. He was transported back to England on the hospital ship, *Anglia*, which hit a German mine in the Channel, four miles off Dover and the 400 injured men on board were in danger of being lost in the sinking ship or in the freezing sea. Barely able to walk and having witnessed horrific scenes, Herbert found himself trapped in a dead-end corridor with the water rising. Not only did he manage to get to the deck but he also got life rafts into the sea for a group whose lifeboat had failed. Although 139 of the 400 people died that day, the death toll would, almost certainly, have been higher had it not been for his swift and self-sacrificing action. For this he received the Military Cross.



This photo shows Herbert and his bride in Colchester in 1916.

For further information you can visit the website at: www.halfshillingcurate.com . You will also be able to buy the book in the Museum.

Jennifer M. Potter

WE NEED TO THINK ABOUT DYING AND DEATH

Here is an article written by one of our Supernumerary Ministers, John Lampard.

I know this is not the most appealing subject, but before you switch your gaze to the next article in 'Windows on Wesley' please give me a chance?

For over twenty years I have been involved in writing books and articles, giving lectures, and conducting services about death, so it does not have the same 'turn-off effect' for me as it does for

others. This has helped me to a positive appreciation of thinking about dying and death.

The part of 'thinking about dying and death' that I want to look at here is preparing for your own death. I have put it in the form of a check-list, so you can tick items off. First some things about your life before you die, and then actions to be taken after you die

Have I made a Power of Attorney?

This will enable your trusted named relations or friend to take over your financial affairs if you become incapacitated. They can manage your bank account and all business affairs on your behalf. It is distressing how often the life of a person with, for example, a severe stroke or increasing dementia, is unnecessarily complicated and hindered because no one can handle their finances. I know a daughter who paid for all her mother's extra expenses in a nursing home out of her own pocket when her mother's pension was piling up in the bank but could not be touched.

Have I made a 'Living Will'?

A living will, now correctly called 'an Advanced Decision to Refuse Treatment,' allows you to record now any medical treatments that you do not want to have in the future, in case you are later unable to make or communicate a decision for yourself. And it will only be used in such circumstances. It is your direct communication to any doctor treating you if you are not able to communicate yourself.

The best steps to take are first, to think about the sort of situations where you would want to refuse certain treatments. Then speak to those close to you about your wishes, and if possible your doctor. Third, fill in an Advanced Decision form. These can be obtained free from either Compassion in Dying 181 Oxford Street London W1D 2JT or you can go to its website www.compassionindying.org.uk. You do not need assistance from

a solicitor to make an Advanced Decision, but it will need to be witnessed.

Have I made a will?

This will enable you to leave your assets and possessions (but fortunately not your debts!) to whoever you wish to receive them. Your debts will be paid off before anything of your estate is distributed. You can also make additional requests in your will; who you want to care for infant children, instructions for burial, or cremation and disposal of your ashes; and how your children should deal with personal possessions. It is often said that lawyers get very rich helping families sort out the uncertainties of 'homemade' wills, so it is wise to avoid this by getting a solicitor to draw up your will.

Have I left instructions for my funeral?

I do not know how often I have sat with grieving families as they try to recall what Dad or Grandma wanted for their funeral. Do you want a cremation, followed by a church service, or the other way round, or a service and a burial? Do those close to you know about your wishes, or know where to find your choice of hymns, readings, and people to be invited to share in the service, and where the funeral is to be held. My wife, Judith and I have chosen enough hymns to keep a congregation singing for hours, the family will have to make a choice!



If you are to be cremated, what do you want done with your ashes? Are they to be placed in a cemetery or church graveyard, buried in a small urn, with or without a memorial plaque? Ashes can also be strewn, that is scattered into the earth without a container and covered over; they can be scattered at a crematorium or other place; or ashes can be kept on the mantelpiece. Perhaps it needs to be said that only the first two (burial and strewing) are encouraged by our Christian understanding of the sanctity of the body in life and death.

Am I ready for my own death?

There is (I think) a very funny line in one of Terry Pratchett's novels where the figure of Death, who is very kindly and caring, arrives at the front door of a young man. When he says, 'I wasn't expecting you,' Death replies, 'I thought I would come early to avoid the rush.'

We all know the words of Thomas Ken's hymn,

“Redeem thy misspent moments past,
And live this day as if thy last.”

That is a tough call, but an awareness of the fragility of life, its many uncertainties, and the randomness built by God into the universe should make us aware of our mortality, that we will all die, and that we do not know the day or the hour.

A Christian's sense of closeness to God in Christ, an awareness of God's goodness and mercy to us, a sense of the unseen cloud of witnesses which surrounds us, and the hope which lies within us, should all enable us to reflect on our own death, in the words of the Funeral Service, 'with hope and confidence, and even with joy'. I pray the words of St Francis:

“And thou most kind and gentle death,
Waiting to hush our latest breath,
O praise him, Alleluia!”

So, if you have managed to stay on to the end of this article, I hope it has helped you with your need to think about dying and death in a positive way.

John Lampard - johnslampard@googlemail.com

Two hundred years of Methodism in Haiti

Our image shows the main Methodist Church in the centre of the capital, Port au Prince, at the wonderful celebratory service attended by over a thousand at the beginning of February



Leslie and Margaret began their eventful February by attending these celebrations marking two hundred years of Methodism in Haiti. *Eglise Methodiste d'Haiti* was the very first Protestant Church in the country, which had been a French colony and thus Roman Catholic in faith. Other visitors for the UK included Anne McConnell, the granddaughter of Revd Ormond McConnell, an Irish Methodist minister, who arrived in Haiti in 1935 and pioneered literacy in Haitian Kreyol.

Leslie's book *The History of Methodism in Haiti*, had been translated into French for the Anniversary and he was kept busy signing copies of the book.

One highlight of the celebrations was the presentation of certificates to 600 Local Preachers, who had been trained with the help of the Michigan Conference of the UMC and Sharon Harbottle, a mission partner in Haiti from the British Methodist Church, serving along with her Doctor husband, John. There was a surprise for Sharon at the end of the ceremony. There was another certificate to present – her own for 40 years' service as a local preacher. The certificate had come from London and was presented by the Secretary of the Haitian Conference, Revd Marco Depestre, pictured on the left of the photo, with Bishop Gesner Paul, head of Eglise Methodiste d'Haiti on the right.



While all were gathered for the significant Methodist occasion there was a pretty significant occasion for the nation, too. After a long and complicated process, involving delayed elections because of, amongst other things, Hurricane Matthew Haiti inaugurated a new President, Jovenal Moise, who leads the Tet Kale Party (the bald-headed Party –believe it or not!)



Let us always live up to our reputation

On a recent Sunday we had a visit from an American man who was married here at Wesley's Chapel 20 years ago and who always tries to visit when he is in London on business. His letter shows us what a reputation we have to live up to. We hope that all our visitors experience such a warm welcome.

My family and I always look forward to our visits to your church. Once again I had a wonderful visit with you and your congregation. I must say that your congregation may be the warmest and most welcoming of any church we have ever attended. I wish I had done better remembering names of the people I met, especially the gentleman that greeted me at the door and introduced me to you before the service. He also welcomed me to the museum afterwards and showed me the movie. What made the movie even more special is that I had seen and spoken to almost everyone in the movie at some point during the morning.

It is no wonder that I have always felt at home when attending services at Wesley's Chapel. You and your church family are truly inspiring and I only wish we could attend more often. You are always in our thoughts and prayers.

I look forward to returning in 2018 with the whole family to celebrate our 20 years of marriage beginning at Wesley's Chapel.

*Best regards,
Glen*



**A celebration of the life and work of Morfydd Owen through
song, piano music and text at Jewin Welsh Church
Saturday 25th March at 7.30pm**

Morfydd Owen led an eventful life by any standards - she was beautiful and brilliant attracting many potential suitors along the way. Morfydd made extraordinary friendships including D H Lawrence, Ezra Pound and the flamboyant Prince Yusupov (who went on to assassinate Rasputin) and was rapidly becoming the toast of musical society in Edwardian London when she married the Freudian psychoanalyst Ernest Jones. Their marriage was difficult and she died the following year, 1918, aged just 26 under circumstances which have never been fully explained. *Portrait of a Lost Icon* celebrates the quality and genius of Owen's creativity, showcasing her astonishing and diverse output, from her natural affinity with the medium of song and her growing authority writing for piano whilst revealing aspects of her engaging personality through the personal letters she wrote to Eliot Crawshay-Williams.

Internationally renowned soprano Elin Manahan Thomas sings the songs and reads her letters and is accompanied by Brian Ellsbury, the first pianist to record Morfydd Owen's solo piano works. Elin and Brian have recently recorded an album of Morfydd Owen's songs and piano music at Nimbus records which has just been released on the Ty Cerdd label.

Tickets are available on the door for £15 at Jewin Church, which is on Fann Street, not far from Aldersgate Street.

Water of Life? Creation, Culture & the River Thames

***An evening of music, poetry, speakers, art and community*
Thursday 23rd March 2017, 6.30pm**

On and around the UN's World Water Day, cathedrals and churches worldwide will draw attention to our obligation to care for God's sustaining gift of water in all its forms. As part

of this *Just Water initiative*, St Paul's Cathedral will be organising a series of events including art exhibitions, an



event on water conflict, a series of film screenings and a set of sermons during Lent.

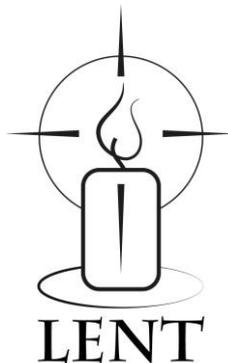
Why not go to this **flagship event** for *Just Water* in the UK with a wide range of performances, speakers and organisations present. Don't miss out!

Featuring excerpts from **Handel's Water Music** played on the Grand Organ; Prof. David Vaughan OBE, Director of Science at the **British Antarctic Survey**; Emma Howard Boyd, Chair of the **Environment Agency**; Philip Fletcher, former Chair of the **Church of England's Mission and Public Affairs Council**; archaeology from the **Thames Discovery Programme**; poetry readings from **Jane Draycott**; new artworks from **Pablo Genovés** and more to be announced.

Moderated by the **Rt Revd James Jones KBE**, former Bishop of Liverpool.



Find out more and get involved at www.justwater2017.org





SERENDIPITY TWENTY-FOUR

The Riddle of John Wesley's Statue

Part Two: Or Why Things Are Not Always What They Seem

As was explained in Part One, the statue of John Wesley which is now such a familiar feature of the forecourt of Wesley's Chapel, was not placed there when the Chapel was first opened in 1778. Instead its introduction only came about around 125 years ago as the result of a proposal made in 1890.

As reported in a recent edition of the Methodist Recorder, the 1890 session of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference approved a plan to both celebrate the growth of Methodism since the time of John Wesley and to commemorate the centenary of his death. This was linked in with a scheme to renovate the City Road

Chapel in order to rectify its poor structural condition and to introduce much improved facilities. As a result a major fund raising appeal was launched to encourage Methodists both at home, and abroad, to raise the serious amount of money needed for what proved to be a major restoration of the fabric of the building and the renovation of the interior. As can be seen from his memorial plaque in the Chapel, one of the secretaries of the appeal committee was the Rev Thomas Ellaby Westerdale.

The programme of work funded from the results of the appeal, was responsible for many changes still evident today. It included the introduction of new pews and the erection of the columns of French Jasper as replacements for the original wooden pillars made from old ships masts, the laying of new mosaic floors, the raising of the Chapel ceiling, the construction of new entrances to the galleries, the purchasing of a new organ as well as the installation of up-to-date sanitary facilities, and as such, was so extensive, that it took until 1899 for it to be finished as can be seen from the commemorative plaques distributed around the Chapel.

During the preparations for this work, but almost as an afterthought, it was decided to appeal to the "Children of Methodism" to subscribe to a fund for the making of a statue of John Wesley to stand in the forecourt of his City Road Chapel. The unveiling of this statue on March 2nd 1891, that is, 100 years since the day of John's death, was then to be the centrepiece of the centenary celebrations. The rationale being, it is supposed, that because of the extent of the work required on the Chapel, it would in no way be possible for it to be completed, and the Chapel reopened by that date, while a statue would be a tangible object to act as a focus for the commemoration. This was an excellent idea, but the lateness of the proposal meant that its realization was liable to be a close-run thing.

As related by the eminent Methodist historian, Dr John Vickers, in his article "City Road Secrets", published in an edition of the Wesley's Chapel magazine, the statue was commissioned from

the Wesleyan Sculptor John Adams-Acton but rather late in the day. In fact only a little over one month before it was scheduled to be unveiled. This, as can be appreciated, left a very inadequate time frame for the Adams-Acton to execute his commission; the work involving as it did, the sculpting of a clay original of the statue, its conversion into bronze metal, and finally it's installation upon a granite pediment in the Chapel forecourt.

In fact, the amount of time available for the accomplishment of this, even in the 19th Century, was by no means nearly enough, but as indicated, the date of the statues unveiling had been set by the need for it to coincide with the centenary of Wesley's death, and the necessary arrangements for the event had already been put in hand including the issuing of invitations to distinguished guests to attend at the Chapel on Monday 2nd March 1891. Thus, as can be seen, meeting this dead line did present the sculptor with something of a dilemma.

The designing and sculpting of the clay model of the statue was quickly achieved, as Adams-Acton specialized in producing busts of Methodist "worthies" as well as representations of both John and Charles Wesley; for example the memorial plaque to the Wesley brothers which is in Westminster Abbey. Thus, completing the first stage in the production of this new statue was not much of a problem. But what was apparently insurmountable, was the relatively lengthy process required to turn the clay model into the finished version cast in the metal bronze. The founders responsible for this important process just did not have sufficient time to do all that was necessary. But right from the outset, it would seem, Adams-Acton foresaw that this was likely and he devised a scheme to ensure, that whatever happened, the unveiling ceremony would go ahead on the due date.

One of the intermediate stages in the manufacture of the statue involved the production of a plaster cast of the clay model. Since this could be produced relatively rapidly once the design of the clay original had been approved, Adams-Acton, knowing that there was insufficient time available for him to get an actual metal

statue in place at City Road, arranged for the production of two plaster casts of the clay model. One was delivered to the bronze founders so that they could get on with their work, while the other was used for a different purpose. First it was tinted so that the normal white of the plaster was changed to that of the reddish-brown colour of metallic bronze. Then, with the connivance of those who needed to know, the modified plaster cast was delivered in secrecy to City Road, erected on the prepared granite pediment, and then immediately covered over ready for the great day.

The commemoration ceremony then duly took place as planned on the set date, when the unveiling was performed by Rev W.F. Moulton, the Headmaster of the Leys School, and then President of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference, in front of a large enthusiastic gathering, when none, except the cognoscente, appeared to be aware that the statue was not all it appeared.

Thereafter, as the sculptor related, the fact that the plaster cast was not the finished article had to be kept a dead secret, so after it was unveiled, and everyone had left the scene, it was covered over once more, and kept concealed until the real bronze was ready for substitution. The sculptor fearing, that, "Otherwise some mischievous small boy throwing stones might break off a piece of the brittle plaster, after which it would be impossible to convince the subscribers that they had paid for a real metal statue, even when it was in place". Indeed, such a catastrophe nearly happened on the great day itself when the covering failed to come cleanly away and a fold of the drapery got caught up. Then, a real possibility existed that tugging at the veiling, to try to free it, might also have wrenched off one of the figure's arms. Fortunately, the presence of mind of a workman with a ladder saved the day, as he was able to release the drapes without mishap.

Afterwards, when, in due time, the real bronze statue had been substituted for the plaster figure, none save the initiated would ever appear to have suspected the pious subterfuge which

brought about Wesley's portrait reaching its destination by the appointed date.

As Dr John Vickers wrote in the conclusion to his article, "when you are next passing his statue, look up at Mr Wesley and see whether you can detect at least the ghost of a smile on the face of the one who was surely in the know from the beginning"

Now, that the circumstances leading to the presence of a statue John Wesley in front of his Chapel have been explained, we need to return to the question that was prompted by the inscription on its supporting pediment that sparked the preparation of this latest Serendipity article. That is, who were those who were appealed to, and paid for, the statue?

Well, as indicated earlier, we do not know the actual names of the people hidden behind the soubriquet of "Children of Methodism", but we can surmise that they were from all over the Methodist worldwide connexion. That is, they were the posterity of the founding fathers and mothers of Methodism which, by the end of the 19th Century, had spread not only all around the British Isles but had penetrated many parts of the wider world including North America, the West Indies, Africa and Australasia, as exemplified, by the inscriptions on the brass plaques placed at the foot of each of the seven Jasper columns supporting the Chapel galleries. These men and women, motivated by their desire to celebrate and commemorate the tireless preacher John Wesley, their Father in God, gave and collected money not only for the making of his statue but also, it would seem, for the renovation of the Chapel; the house of prayer which now bears his name.

This answer would seem to be more logical, and to make better sense than any other interpretation of the inscription.

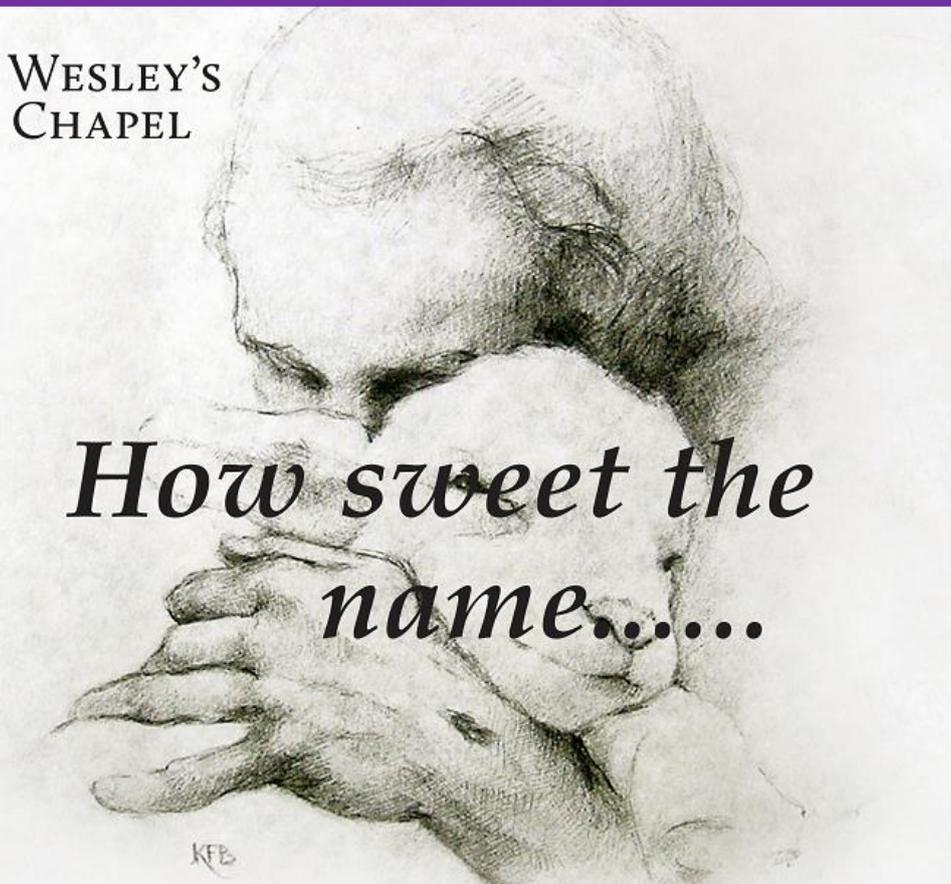
Nevertheless, it is a shame that John's statue was not paid for with money collected by actual young people of the Methodist Church, since proving otherwise has lost the good tale that this Heritage Steward, at least, used to relate in answer to enquiries. But now, we have perhaps a better answer to give since, it is possible to assure both our current congregations, as well as our

many visitors, that they are the present day descendants of those original 19th Century “Children of Methodism” whose gifts not only paid for the statue of John Wesley but also helped to ensure that his Chapel is still here and open for worship and visits in the 21st Century.

Keith Dutton - Heritage Steward

Wednesday Evening in Lent at Wesley’s Chapel

WESLEY’S
CHAPEL



*How sweet the
name.....*

Evening Communion Services 7.30pm

March 2017

1st Ash Wednesday Communion

8th Shepherd - John 10:1-15

15th Brother - Hebrews 2:5-18

22nd Friend - John 15:1-17

29th Prophet - Matthew 21:1-14

April 2017

5th King - John 18:28-38

13th My Way, My End - John 14:1-14

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SUNDAY SERVICES IN MARCH

5 th	9.45am	Love Feast – Staff team
	11.00am	Morning Service & Communion
		Preacher: Leslie Griffiths
		Officiant: Jennifer Potter
12 th	9.45am	Holy Communion – John Lampard
	11.00am	Morning Service – Jennifer Potter
19 th	9.45am	Holy Communion – Jennifer Potter
	11.00am	Morning Service – Leslie Griffiths
26 th	9.45am	Holy Communion – Leslie Griffiths
	11.00am	Morning Service – Jennifer Potter
	7.00pm	Taizé Evening prayer service

CRADLE ROLL BIRTHDAYS MARCH

5 th	Caleb Bade	5 years
26 th	Amarion Adjei	5 years

May God bless these children and their families



FREE ENTRY

WESLEY'S CHAPEL

Lunchtime
Music Recitals
Tuesdays at 1.05 – 2.00pm

March 2017

7th	Sergei Podobedov (Piano)
14th	No Recital this week
21st	Edward Leung (Piano)
28th	Duo Brikcius (Cello)

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Evening

Taizé

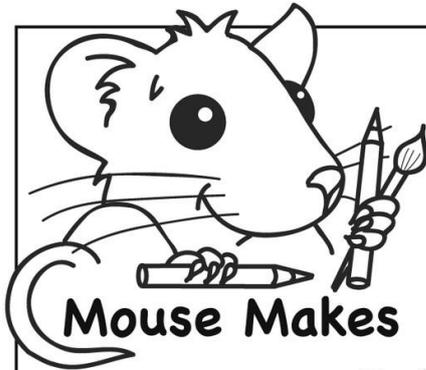
Wesley's Chapel



A Service of prayer, Song and Contemplation

**Last Sunday of every month
at 7.00pm**

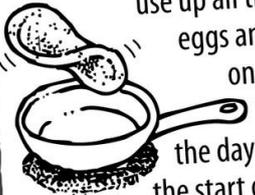
Children's Page



Mouse Makes

SHROVE TUESDAY

During **Lent** some Christians eat simple food or go without food for a while like Jesus did. Pancakes are often made to use up all the fresh eggs and milk on Shrove Tuesday, the day before the start of Lent.



ASH WEDNESDAY

The first day of **Lent** is called **Ash Wednesday**, it is a day for saying **sorry** to God for any wrong things you have **said** or **thought** or **done** and to ask for God's help to live in the right way.

In bible times people would cover themselves with ashes as a sign of repentance.

In some churches today on Ash Wednesday the minister will draw a cross shape on our foreheads with ash.



WHAT IS LENT?

When Jesus was 30 years old he was baptised by John in the River Jordan. Before Jesus began to preach and teach and heal he went out into the wilderness alone. For 40 days he did not eat but spent time praying and talking to God, preparing himself for what God had sent him to do.



Remembering those days Jesus spent in the wilderness, the Christian Church set aside the 40 days before Easter as a time to pray, read the bible and learn more about God.

This time is called **LENT**



While Jesus was out in the wilderness he was tempted by the Devil *three* times.

Look up the bible verses to see how Jesus replied.



- 1** The devil said, "If you are God's Son order this stone to turn to bread."
Read Jesus' reply in **Luke 4: 4** and **Deuteronomy 8: 3**
- 2** The devil said, "I will give you power and wealth if you worship me."
Read Jesus' reply in **Luke 4: 7** and **Deuteronomy 6: 13**
- 3** The devil said, "If you are God's Son, throw yourself down, the Scriptures say God will take care of you."
Read Jesus' reply in **Luke 4: 12** and **Deuteronomy 6: 1**



Dear Lord,
Please forgive me for

.....
Amen

And finally.....

A grandmother was taking her young grandson for a walk in the park. The daffodils were in bloom, and it was a beautiful Spring day. Wanting to encourage her grandson's spiritual understanding of the world, she said: "Doesn't it look like an artist painted this scenery? Did you know God did all this?"

Her grandson replied: "Oh yes, and God did it left handed, too." In astonishment, the grandmother asked what he meant. "Well, he must have done," said her grandson, "because we learned at Sunday School last week that Jesus sits on God's right hand."

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 (Last Sunday in the month)
Monday	7.00am	Prayer Meeting
	2.00pm	Sisterhood Fellowship
Tuesday	1.05 pm	Lunchtime Recital
	7.45pm	Boys' Brigade (Company & Seniors: over 11's)
Wednesday	10.00am	Stay and Play (pre-school)
	12.45pm	Service of Holy Communion
Thursday	12.45pm	Lunchtime Service
Friday	7.00pm	Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association (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**