**RAYLEIGH METHODIST CHURCH**

Eastwood Road, Rayleigh

**Minister**

Rev Nana Thomford 01702 298135.

**Coordinating Steward**

Mrs Pat Norman01268 781896



**THE NEWSLETTER**

**JULY and AUGUST 2019**

**TOMORROW**

During my downtime I love watching movies. Horror movies are my favorite along with action movies and musicals. There is one particular movie that I came to love as a child . This movie was produced in 1982 by John Hutson. This movie is about a young red head/freaked face orphan by the name of Annie. Annie lived in Hudson Street Orphanage in NYC with other young girls under the cruel supervision of Ms. Hannigan played by Carol Burnet. Annie’s day to day life consisted of scrubbing/ mopping floors, doing laundry, eating cold mush and often times being taunted by Ms. Hannigan. She often found herself sad, depressed and lonely. Throughout this movie Annie dreams of being adopted and having a family of her own. Somehow in the midst of all the kayos in her life she still hoped for a better tomorrow. Her tomorrow meant having a mother and father. Her tomorrow would mean having a warm bed to sleep in at night. Her tomorrow meant having hot/fresh meals to eat, her tomorrow meant having clean clothes to wear. At the end of movie Annie got her heart’s desire. She was adopted by a billionaire named Daddy Warbucks. Being a hospital chaplain for over 5 years I have cared for patients from all walks of life. I see patients that are suffering with all types of illnesses and traumas. On one occasion while visiting some of the patients and families two a patient requested. Chaplain, can you pray that I can go home tomorrow then the other also said I have a procedure tomorrow can you pray that God will be with me? In the hospital, tomorrow could be a family meeting when the physician will give the family members the results from the various tests that have been ran on their loved one. Tomorrow could mean the patient will be going to a long-term rehab facility to get physical therapy. Tomorrow could be when the family comes and says their final goodbyes as their loved one is being taken off of life support.



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Tomorrow could mean a patient is going home under hospice care to transition with loved ones near the bedside. Tomorrow could mean a patient going home after having a lengthy stay in the hospital where they will go back to enjoying life as usual. I would like to ask all of us reading this What does your tomorrow look like? Or what is your tomorrow? What do you dream of your tomorrow looking like ? Maybe your tomorrow is full of anxiety or excitement about starting this new job, having a GP appointment, meeting families. Maybe your tomorrow is full of uncertainties about what’s next Maybe tomorrow is full of stress, frustration, doubt, fear… Maybe your tomorrow is full of happiness and joy Or maybe you will be the individual to bring hope to a person’s tomorrow. Maybe you will be the calming presence to the wife that’s worried about her husband or a child looking for somewhere to sleep. Maybe you will be the one to help someone in his/her journey with God Maybe tomorrow you will be the one that will speak words of encouragement that will ease someone’s fears Maybe tomorrow you will be the individual that will encourage the person who has discriminated against you Maybe tomorrow you will be that individual to help that visitor to feel welcome in your church Just maybe you will be the one to remind them that there is still hope and a better tomorrow. Let me leave you with the words to from the bible Psalm 121 I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip— he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord watches over you— the Lord is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all harm— he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

Rev. Nana Banyin Thomford

Minister Rayleigh Methodist Church

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**CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

Congratulations and all good wishes to Eileen Trayling, who will  
celebrate her 100th birthday on 15th August. Eileen is in church on most Sundays and still comes to the Women's Fellowship and Care and Share group. We hope she will thoroughly enjoy her special day.  
  
Birthday greetings also to Val Pells, who will be 90 on August 16th.We wish her a happy day and  better health in the coming year.  
  
Best wishes to Kev and Karen Wagg and family following  the birth of a grandson, Jasper Dean, born to Martin and Chrissie on 29th May, a brother for Daphne.  
  
I am pleased to report the birth of my  greatgandson, Jacob Isadore, born to Alex and Shona on 3rd June, a brother for Elise.  
  
We have missed seeing  Val Smith in church, but send our love and hope she will feel better soon. Cynthia Hall is making progress.  
  
Congratulations to Margaret Flintham's granddaughter Natalie, who has  
gained a First in her Business Degree from the University of  
Sheffield.  She has employment with Ted Baker.  
Well done Natalie.

Some of the younger members of our church family are taking exams at the time of writing.  We wish them well and  look forward to hearing some good results.  
  
Enjoy the summer - if we get any.

**Val Tyler**

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**SERVICES FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2019**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ' 7 JULY | '10.45 | W | ANDREW THOMAS |
| ' 14 JULY | '10.45 | W | REV NANA THOMFORD |
| ' 14 JULY | '18.30 | P | REV MICHAEL MOON |
| ' 21 JULY | '10.45 | W | LOCAL ARANGEMENT |
| ' 28 JULY | 10.45 | HC | REV NANA THOMFORD |
| ' 28 JULY | '16.00 | MESSY CHURCH | LOCAL ARRANGEMENT |
| '4 AUGUST | '10.45 | W | LOCAL ARRANGEMENT |
| '11 AUGUST | '10.45 | HC | REV CLIFFORD NEWMAN |
| '18 AUGUST | '10.45 | W | ROGER THOMAS |
| '25 AUGUST | '10.45 | W | JILL CAMPBELL |

P PARADE HC HOLY COMMUNION W WORSHIP RW REFLECTIVE WORSHIP JCA JUNIOR CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

**COFFEE MORNING**

The June coffee morning for church funds raised £353.90.  The wesley guild would like to thank all those who came along and supported us and all those members who contributed to the morning's event and made it such a great success.  You all worked very hard.

Magaret Flintham

**Women's fellowship programme for july 2019**  
  
1 July     Members Afternoon  
  
8 July     Speaker  Roger Robinson  
                  "Laural & Hardy"  
15 July    July Lunch  "start 12.45 pm"  
 Entertainment "the ladybirds"  
Meeting to restart  
 9 September    Social afternoon 2.30pm  
elaine blades

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**ALL IN THE MONTH OF JULY**

It was:

175 years ago, on 22nd July 1844 that William Archibald Spooner, British clergyman and educator, was born.  Known for his absent-mindedness, he often accidentally mixed up the syllables of words, to comic effect.  These are now known as spoonerisms.

Also 175 years ago, on 28th July 1844 that Gerard Manley Hopkins, British poet and Jesuit priest, was born.

100 years ago, on 20th July 1919 that Sir Edmund Hillary was born.  This New Zealand mountaineer and Antarctic explorer, along with the Sherpa mountaineer Tenzing Norgay, were the first two people to conquer Mount Everest. (Died 2008.)

90 years ago, on 3rd July 1929 that foam rubber was invented by British scientist E.A. Murphy at Dunlop Latex Development Laboratories.

80 years ago, on 9th July 1939 that Winston Churchill urged the governments of Britain and France to form a military alliance with the Soviet Union.

65 years ago, on 5th July 1954 that the BBC launched the first daily TV news programme in the UK.

50 years ago, on 1st July 1969 that Prince Charles was invested as the Prince of Wales.

Also 50 years ago, on 21st July 1969 that the American astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin ‘Buzz’ Aldrin became the first people to walk on the surface of the Moon.

25 years ago, on 21st July 1994 that Tony Blair was elected leader of Britain’s Labour Party.  He became Prime Minister in 1997.

20 years ago, on 1st July 1999 that the Scottish Parliament was officially opened.

10 years ago, on 31st July 2009 that Sir Bobby Robson, British footballer and manager, died.  He played for, and managed, several teams, and managed the England national team between 1982 and 1990.

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**GIFT DAY**

Dear Friends,

Until fairly recently we held two Gift days each year, spring and autumn, but there has not been one since 2014.

We have been waiting for a special project that should appeal to most people using the church premises, the kitchen, which is to be renovated in August.

Our kitchen is dated and is not really suitable for the purposes being used. The cost cannot be found from our regular income which is being absorbed by our outgoings.

We are fortunate to have a bequest fund but do not wish to dig too deeply into this.

Donations can be made through any of the following ways:-

* By presenting your donation in the Vestry between10 and 12am during the Coffee morning on 20th July.
* By placing your donation in an envelope marked Gift Day then adding it to the regular Sunday collections.
* By sending a cheque payable to Rayleigh Methodist Church c/o 8 Warren Close Rayleigh SS6 7BD.
* By bank transfer to HSBC Sort code 40-02-06 Account 40020087

If you are able to make a donation and are a taxpayer please consider Gift Aid so that our Church can claim repayment of the tax. (For further information on this please contact John Mayfield on 01268 774432).

Please support this Gift Day as generously as you are able.

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**TOP TEN**

Recently, I asked a member of the congregation what were her favourite top ten hymns (excluding Christmas Carols) and here they are:

The Lord's my Shepherd

All things Bright and beautiful

Dear Lord and Father of mankind.

Guide me Thou thy great redeemer

Make me a channel of Your peace

Love divine all loves excelling

I vow to the my country

Lord of all hopefullness

We plough the fields and scatter ..

Jerusalem

Various reasons were given for her choice but mainly they reflected events in her lifetime and she also enjoyed singing them. Perhaps you have your favourites, if so let me know, and I will put them in the September issue of the newsletter.

**RELIGIOUS MUSIC IS EVERYWHERE**

An astonishing fact about our secular age is that “religious music is absolutely everywhere, all the time.” So says Ivan Hewitt, former presenter of BBC Radio 3’s Music Matters.

Hewitt believes that there is some significance in this.  He wrote recently: “I would say it shows that in a stressful age, people have developed a need for music that quietens the mind, offers a haven from the hurry and noise of everyday life, and unlocks a passage to our deeper selves. Despite the decline of organised religions, there is still a vast, inchoate sense in the population at large that there is more to life than getting and spending…. Religious music gives us access to that realm, without the commitments of organised religion.”

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**THE SID BROOMFIELD TROPHY took place on 21 May at Roots Hall the home of Southend United**

The clash saw the Southend United League One winning squad from 2006 getting back together to play against the Colchester United side that finished second that season to play for the trophy.

A former Southend player together with a reporter from the ECHO organised the game to raise as much money as possible for Havens Hospices.

So who is Sid Broomfield and why does this article finds its way in the Newsletter. Simply, Sid is the late brother of a member of our congregation, Eileen Morgan.

Former Echo reporter, Bernie Friend, explains why Sid is so special.

“Football fans love nothing better than to pick out their club legends … those rare bright stars whose memorable magic will remain in their hearts forever. But I hold equally high esteem, Sid Broomfield, the man who built a Roots Hall stage … a theatre of dreams for all Shrimper fans. Sid, who could be seen matchdays standing by his groundsman hut passed away aged 94.

He always had a cheery word, a story from yesteryear and a hot cup of tea at the training ground in his hut on a rainy day. As he stirred the pot a giant knarled hand gripped the spoon. Working hands that put Roots Hall together where hundreds and thousands have watched football. My footbal hero!!!”

**LADIES CLUB**

Our programme for the following weeks is as follows:

3 July Graham Mee “RSPB”

10 July Games Afternoon

17 July Summer Lunch

Elizabeth Ellis

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**WALKING ON THE MOON IN JULY 1969**

American astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin ‘Buzz’ Aldrin became the first people to walk on the surface of the Moon 50 years ago, on 21st July 1969.

There had been some dispute over who would step first on to the Moon’s surface, but Apollo 11 commander Armstrong was given the privilege partly for technical reasons. Lunar module pilot Aldrin followed him almost 20 minutes later.

Both men were Christians. Aldrin, who was an elder at Webster Presbyterian Church, Texas, had got special permission to take bread and wine with him to space and take Communion privately. He did this with Armstrong watching in silence.

Armstrong wrote later: “We had come to space in the name of all mankind – be they Christians, Jews, Muslims, animists, agnostics or atheists. But at the time I could think of no better way to acknowledge the Apollo 11 experience than by giving thanks to God.”

The two men spent 21.5 hours on the lunar surface before rejoining the command module Columbia in lunar orbit.

Armstrong’s first step onto the lunar surface was broadcast on live TV to a worldwide audience. He described it as “one small step for a man – one giant leap for mankind”.

**THE KITCHEN**

The much talked about renovation of the kitchen is finally going to happen!

Work will start at the end of July and it will be out of service for all of August,

Everything must be removed by then as all of the present cupboards etc. will be taken out.

It should be possible to utilise the “flower kitchen” in a limited way.

Drawings showing the new kitchen will be displayed in the Welcome Area soon.

The project is to be financed by a Gift Day, the Bequest and Building funds.

Pat , John & Pat

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**OUR FRIENDS ACROSS THE POND**

July 4th is a special day in the USA and has been for 343 years. It is Independence Day, when they celebrate the Second Continental Council which declared the 13 American colonies were free of English rule. They were later joined by others, eventually forming the nation we now know as the ‘United States of America.’

In those 343 years America has changed, of course, from a vast land sparsely inhabited, entirely dependent on agriculture for survival, to becoming the richest, most powerful nation in the world. Its economic enterprise and cultural dominance are universally recognised. The Americans kept the English language of their colonial founders and have used it to dominate the world-wide film industry, popular music and theatre.

Perhaps because of this British people tend to be ambivalent about the USA. Yes, they have been our closest allies, and comrades in arms in two world wars. But in that ‘special’ relationship there is often a touch of envy. We may sing ‘Britannia Rules the waves’ but it is actually America that calls the tune.

**THE ABSENT-MINDED WILLIAM SPOONER**

William Archibald Spooner, university lecturer, dean and priest, was born 175 years ago, on 22nd July 1844, in London. Known for his absent-mindedness, he sometimes mixed up the syllables of words, to comic effect.  These are now known as spoonerisms.

Spooner was an albino and suffered from defective eyesight. He studied at New College, Oxford, and then lectured there for 60 years in history, philosophy and divinity. He was well liked and respected, kind and hospitable. He was also highly intelligent, and it was suggested that his mind was occasionally too quick for his lips to follow – resulting in the unintended plays on words that made him famous.

Many of those attributed to him are undoubtedly apocryphal, but it is fairly certain that in 1879 he gave out from the pulpit the first line of a hymn as “Kinkering Kongs their titles take”. He is said to have disliked the reputation he gained for getting his words muddled, but at the same time he is believed on occasion to have made the “errors” deliberately.

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**WESLEY GUILD SUMMER COFFEE MEETINGS**

June 20th    2.30pm Margaret & Ivan Kinseth - 32 Danbury Road

July 4th       7.30pm Margaret F & Margaret L - 9a Alexandra Road

July 18th     7.30pm Rene Crompton - 14 Gayleighs

August 1st   7.30pm Pat & John Harrison - 8 Warren Close

August 15th 2.30pm Joan Watts - 28 Brooklyn Drive

August 29th 7.30pm Sheila & Marion - King George's Court

All are welcome to our get togethers and we look forward to seeing you.

Margaret Flintham

**NATIONAL ‘DON’T STEP ON A BEE’ DAY IS ON 10TH JULY**

This annual day encourages people to protect and encourage their local bees.  For ideas of how you can best help the bees in your garden, visit:  [www.awarenessdays.com/awareness-days-calendar/dont-step-on-a-bee-day-2019/](https://www.awarenessdays.com/awareness-days-calendar/dont-step-on-a-bee-day-2019/)

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**LOVE PARKS WEEK BEGINS 12TH JULY**

Do you enjoy the local parks?  Then you might like to visit this website and see what is planned for the event this year.  Visit:  [www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/love-parks-week](http://www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/love-parks-week)

**TREFOIL GUILD COFFEE MORNING.**

**20th July 2019**

**from 10.00 to 12.00**

**in aid of HARP**

***It will include the following stalls, cakes cards, books, bric-a-brac,***

**and much more**

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* + 1. **RAYLEIGH METHODIST CHURCH**

1. **PRAYER GROUP MEETING DATES**
2. **2019**
4. *July 3rd & 17th. NO MEETING IN AUGUST.*
5. *September: 11th & 25th. October: 9th & 23rd.*
6. *November: 6th & 20th. December: 4th.*
7. ALL MEETINGS ARE IN THE WELCOME AREA, COMMENCING AT 9.30AM, FOR ABOUT 45 MINUTES.



1. ***FROM THE EDITORS WE NEED YOUR ARTICLES for the SEPTEMBER 2019 EDITION***
2. *The deadline for the submission of articles for this edition of the Newsletter is Sunday* ***11 August 2019*** *( in Welcome Area) or*
3. *Wednesday* ***14 August*** *by post or email.*
4. [***johnward816@gmail.com***](mailto:johnward816@gmail.com)
5. **Bible Study** at Clifford and Linda's house at 10am on
6. Friday 26th July and the theme is Peace.

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**SERVICES**

**Sunday Services**  10:45 am and (6:30 pm 2nd and 4th Sunday)

**Junior Church**  10:45 am

**Mid-Week Communion**

With the exception of August it is held on the third Tuesday of each month in the WESLEY ROOM at 10:30 am.

**REGULAR WEEKLY MEETINGS**

**Monday**

1:15pm Sunbeams Parent and Toddler Group

2:30 pm Women's Fellowship

**Tuesday**

**Wednesday**

1:45pm – 3:15pm Ladies Club

4:15 pm-5:30 pm Rainbows

5:45 pm -7:15 pm Brownie Guides

7:00 pm-8.45pm Guides

**Thursday**

10:00 am Care and Share

5.15 pm- 6.15pm Beavers

6:30 pm - 7:45 pm Cubs

8:00 pm – 9:30pm Scouts

8:00 pm Wesley Guild (Sept to May only)

**Friday**

4:30 pm-5:45 pm Rainbows

5:30 pm-7:00 pm Brownie Guides

7:15 pm -9:00 pm Guides

7:15 pm -9:00 pm Guides Senior Section (fortnightly)



**Preschool**

Mon 9:15 am to 11:45 am

Tues Weds Thurs Friday 9:15-11:45 am and 12:30-3:00 pm

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