

# PARSONS HEATH BAPTIST CHURCH



## Diary of Activities June 2015

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## ***"SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO PARK THE CAR AND TAB IT"***

So said Lee McDade, visiting us at the school service on Sunday talking about his work with soldiers. Lee is serving with SASRA (Soldiers' and Airmen's Scripture Readers Association). Layered up against the cold, in combats, with a rucksack on his back, Lee leaves his car at the bottom of the hill and walks for miles in freezing weather over rough, unforgiving, snow-covered terrain, to where a group of soldiers are on exercises. Taking sweets, words of encouragement, and a willingness to endure their discomfort, he gets alongside them right where they are. His effort and preparedness



to give up home comforts mean that soldiers like and respect him.... friendships are formed. When Lee shares what his faith means to him, the soldiers are prepared to listen. When they need someone to trust, they turn to him.

We all know that to achieve anything worthwhile takes effort and commitment. In schools



across the country this month, teachers and students have been getting into work early, using their lunch times and staying late to revise key areas for important exams. In the recent elections, campaigners have been out in all weathers knocking on doors and handing out leaflets to drum up support for candidates. Keen gardeners have been facing the elements and breaking finger nails to take control of the weeds that threaten to overwhelm.

The example of Jesus suggests that God's salvation plan is no different. In obedience to the Father, Jesus endured hostility and persecution which led him to the cross. It wouldn't be long before his disciples also discovered what it was to 'take up their cross and follow him' (Luke 9:23) for the sake of the kingdom.

In the life of our church, where are we putting our effort and commitment? What is our gracious God calling us to do for Him? And when He calls us, are we willing to give our effort and commitment in order to seek glory for Him?



In what way can you “park the car and tab it” for God this month? Below are some of the activities where help is desperately needed. Could one of these openings be a way for you to serve God and bring his kingdom in?

- Serving tea and coffee after the service.
- Helping out at Olive Branch, Toddlers or Light Years.
- Helping to supervise a game at the primary school fayre on 27th June
- Baking, serving or stewarding for the celebration of the Queen's reign on 12th September
- Setting up and attending the prayer breakfast on 13th June.

Steve Rudge

### **CHURCH PRAYER BREAKFAST**

**SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE AT 8.30AM**

**Please make every effort to come along to the prayer breakfast so that we can seek God's guidance together.**

## **OLIVE BRANCH**

At Olive Branch on 20<sup>th</sup> May, John Kevan came to speak to us about the work giving improved sight to many in Malawi, through eye tests and using our old glasses. John inspired us once more to renew our efforts to provide more spectacles (including sunglasses). He also collected an amazing number of glasses which you had donated.

Here is the article he included in his 'Focus on Malawi' blog:



**20 MAY 2015**

### ***OLIVE BRANCHERS' COLLECT 90 GLASSES!***

It was great to visit the Olive Branch at Parson's Heath Baptist Church yesterday. They're a very sociable and welcoming group for the over 55s, and yesterday were serving amazing home-made ginger cake with the tea and coffee. It was our second visit to talk about Focus on Malawi and, since the first, they had collected 90 pairs of second-hand glasses for sending to Malawi. And here they are all set out. Thank you Olive Branch for your interest in Focus on Malawi and your generous work!



## **LOCAL FOCUS THIS MONTH**

### **WEST MERSEA FREE CHURCH**

**Rev. Dr. Rob Hughes Church Minister**

*With over 50 people attending every week, and several youth groups, the church caters for those of all ages, with house groups, fellowships, and all-age services.*



*As a church, we aim to 'produce changed lives and Christ-like people', and to do this we stand on five main principles:*

- *To worship God*
- *To care for one another*
- *To bring people to Jesus and into God's family*
- *To teach them so that they grow in their relationship with God*
- *To equip them to serve God*

*Our church groups aim to bring new people to Christ with activities related to them.*

Every Sunday the church meets together at 10:30 am for worship. With plenty of songs that are suitable for all ages - including ones aimed at children - the church caters for everyone. Part of the way through the main service the children & youth leave to go to Crèche, Causeway Kids, and Hype. These groups allow for the younger ones to learn about God in a way suitable for them. Also, on the first Sunday of each month we hold an all-age service where we focus on preaching to all audiences, and we include fun, games, and challenges.

### **Generous God - Generous People**

Our current theme is 'Generous God - Generous People'. We are thinking about how generous and compassionate God is, and therefore what our response to him and others should be.

**Please pray for our brothers and sisters in West Mersea.**



# JUST? WILLIAM!



William talking to the men about the Gospel.

**THE *NEW* SCRIPTURE READER  
IN COLCHESTER GARRISON FOR THE FIRST TIME  
IN ALMOST *10* YEARS! BUT WITH YOUR SUPORT  
HE IS NOT ALONE!**

SASRA Scripture reader William Wade will move to Colchester this summer with his wife and family and two children. The plan is for William to work with 16 Air assault Brigade. SASRA aims to partner with local churches to gain vital support for out-reach to the Brigade.

## Meet the family!



William with his wife Tulsi and their two daughters.

I had the great privilege of representing P.H.B. at an introductory meeting for William to meet ministers and leaders of the local churches in Colchester.

This was truly an inspiring evening with the main address given by General Lord Dannatt, who was Chief of the General Staff from 2006 -2009. William also talked about how he is looking forward to the challenging task ahead.

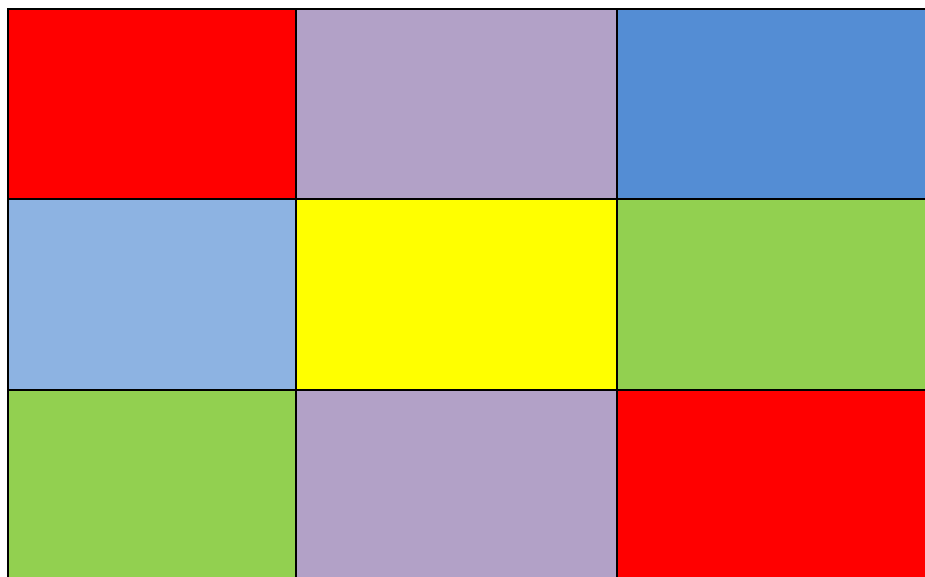


**Alan Baker**

## **ADVANCE NOTICES**

<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Church Prayer Breakfast – 8.30am</b>
<b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Parsons Heath School Fete 1 - 4pm</b>
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>OLIVE BRANCH EVENT Day Trip to Somerlayton Hall</b>
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>EBA Conference – 3.30pm Garland Street Baptist Church, Bury St. Edmunds</b>
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>OLIVE BRANCH EVENT Garden Party</b>
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Garden Party at Mersea. Bring your own picnic. Donations to TOTT.</b>
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Queen's 60 years Celebration</b>
<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October</b>	<b>TOTT EVENT Quiz Night held at the school 7.00pm - £5.00pp</b>
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>OCC EVENT Hotpot Supper. £10.00pp</b>
<b>Saturday 14th November</b>	<b>OCC EVENT Coffee Morning</b>

## POST-IT NOTES



## **VERSE FOR REFLECTION**

If anyone would come after me, he  
must deny himself and take up  
his cross daily and  
follow me.  
Luke 9:23





## **ACTIVITIES IN JUNE**

<b>Monday 1st</b>	
<b>Tuesday 2nd</b>	<b>Olive Branch – 10.00am Funeral of Florrie Brown - 11.00 (West Mersea Free Church)</b>
<b>Wednesday 3rd</b>	<b>House Group at the Church – 10.00am</b>
<b>Thursday 4th</b>	<b>Little Gems – 9.30am GENERAL CHURCH MEETING – 7.30PM</b>
<b>Friday 5th</b>	
<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup></b>	
<b>Sunday 7th</b>	<b>Prayer in Hut – 9.30am Preacher: Steve Rudge - 10.45am Welshwood Manor service 2.00pm</b>
<b>Monday 8th</b>	<b>Leaders Business Meeting at Ardleigh 7.30pm</b>
<b>Tuesday 9th</b>	<b>Community Prayer – 10.30am House Group at Claudia's – 7.30pm Matthew 4 - The start of Jesus' teaching</b>
<b>Wednesday 10th</b>	<b>House Group at the Church – 10.00am</b>
<b>Thursday 11th</b>	<b>Little Gems – 9.30am</b>
<b>Friday 12th</b>	
<b>Saturday 13th</b>	<b>Prayer Breakfast – 8.30am</b>
<b>Sunday 14th</b>	<b>Prayer in Hut – 9.30am Preacher: Richard Hudson – 10.45am This service will include communion</b>

<b>Monday 15th</b>	
<b>Tuesday 16th</b>	<b>Olive Branch – 10.00am Quiz with Alan Baker</b>
<b>Wednesday 17th</b>	
<b>Thursday 18th</b>	<b>Little Gems – 9.30am CHURCH PRAYER MEETING IN HUT – 7.30PM</b>
<b>Friday 19th</b>	
<b>Saturday 20th</b>	
<b>Sunday 21st</b>	<b>Prayer at 9.30am Preacher: Steve Rudge – 10.45am THIS WILL BE A BAPTISMAL SERVICE AND WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE SCHOOL</b>
<b>Monday 22nd</b>	<b>Leaders Prayer Meeting in the hut – 7.30pm</b>
<b>Tuesday 23rd</b>	<b>House Group at Claudia's – 7.30pm Matthew 5 1-12 The Beatitudes</b>
<b>Wednesday 24th</b>	<b>House Group at the Church – 10.00am</b>
<b>Thursday 25th</b>	<b>Little Gems – 9.30am</b>
<b>Friday 26th</b>	
<b>Saturday 27th</b>	<b>Parsons Heath School Fayre (1-4pm)</b>
<b>Sunday 28th</b>	<b>Prayer in Hut - 9.30am Preacher: Steve Rudge – 10.45am</b>
<b>Monday 29th</b>	
<b>Tuesday 30th</b>	



# **PARSONS HEATH SCHOOL FETE**



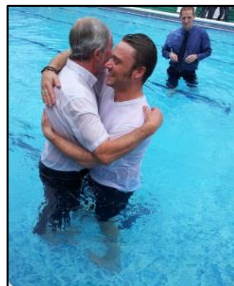
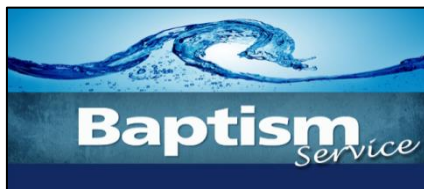
**SATURDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2015**

**1 – 4pm**

**Please come and support the school**

**If anyone can lend a hand on the day please see  
John, Alan, Hazel or Steve.**

***PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CAR BOOT SALE HAS  
BEEN POSTPONED. WE WILL LET YOU KNOW  
WHEN WE HAVE ARRANGED ANOTHER DATE***



**SUNDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE  
2015**

A number of people have asked to be baptised and in doing so will be publicly declaring that Jesus is Lord of their lives.

A Baptismal Service will be held at our next school service. Please be there to give support to our brothers and sisters at this incredible point in their Christian journey.

***This service will be an amazing time!!***

***How exciting!!***

***Don't miss it!!***

If you would like to take this next step in your walk with God please have a chat with Steve.

**AMIALE AMBLERS**

**6TH JUNE BURES – NAYLAND ROAD**

Park in the car park next to the Bures Community Centre.  
CO8 5BX.

Speak to Phill Moore if you are interested in going.



Dear Friends,

We are so grateful for the kind gift of £2000.68 to help the people of Karamoja, Uganda. Your support is most encouraging.

It is absolutely heart-breaking to see people who are forced to drink filthy, bacteria-ridden water. Karamoja is one of the poorest places in the world and they have been in a severe drought for the past four years. To make matters worse, their stagnant water sources are shared by livestock and wild animals. It is a desperate situation that demands a response.

So thank you for responding!

All gifts for this project will be matched pound for pound by the UK Government. Therefore, please be encouraged that your gift will be multiplied!!

This is going to make such a difference to the lives of the people in Karamoja and we will keep you informed of progress with building and repairing the wells. We are planning to start the work on 1 July this year and it will take up to 36 months to complete the 50 wells, but clean water will be reaching communities as each well becomes operational, which should be in December this year.

*“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ” (Galatians 6:2)*

God bless you for helping to lift the burden of those in Karamoja.

Every blessing  
Rachel Harwood  
Church Relationship Co-ordinator



## **40 DAYS OF HOME MISSION**

***Beacon Community Church - doing things differently***

**Beacon Community Church was planted in 2009 by the Eastern Baptist Association and is based in the premises of the former Bacton Baptist Church. Since the beginning we have wanted to do church differently - to see church work in a very rural context. Home Mission support has been a great help over these past five years as we have steadily grown, though progress has been slow at times. Twelve baptisms (plus three more in the pipeline) are encouraging, but we desperately want to see more! Like many small rural churches we can feel isolated and thus greatly appreciate the prayer support of other interested congregations and individuals. Visitors are very welcome!**

**On most Sundays we would average about 45 people but a much greater number are involved in small groups, parent & toddler, and craft groups. More than simply numbers, we are seeing life change: salvation, water baptism, baptism in the Spirit, people receiving inner healing from past wounds, physical healing and other breakthroughs. It is wonderfully encouraging to see God at work in this way. But at the same time we are very conscious that we are simply dipping a toe into the ocean.**



***Welcome home Mick and Angie. It's great to have you back. You've been missed!***

**If you would like to listen to any sermons  
please go to our website.**

**Google - Parsons Heath Baptist Church**

**THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE HAVE  
BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE**

*This section has been edited out  
for the online version*

**If anyone is in need of a lift to church or to any of  
our meetings please contact one of the leaders  
while Mick is away, and they will make  
arrangements for you.**

**If you have any items for inclusion in the July  
edition please let Hazel have them by Sunday 21st  
June.**

**Please contact me if you would like to be included  
on the prayer list next month. I do not need to  
include any personal details.**