



The
**United
Reformed
Church**
Kelvedon

Magazine
July 2011

*We are a church seeking to grow in
Christ and through Him bring others
to God*

Dear Friends

Well, that's half of 2011 already used up. This time next year the country will be preparing for the Olympics, but what will we as a Church be preparing for.

During a period of vacancy the future is always uncertain, but with the decision taken at the last Church Meeting (early June) and the subsequent Elders Meeting, hopefully, prayerfully we are looking to the future.

By the time that you receive this magazine the Elders will have met with Andy Paine of the Damascus Trust and discussed how he and his organisation can help our Church to achieve in bringing the Good News to our communities. And the emphasis is on help. Nothing can be achieved unless there is support from within the Church to progress forward.

It means that for some of us, we will have to step outside of our "comfort zones" and do something that we have not done before and we will probably try some things that we have experimented with in the past that possibly didn't work at that time, but we will have to give them another chance, without people saying "We tried that before and it didn't work."

The important thing is to have open minds so that we are able to move down the path that God is guiding us.

One of the arguments that is used to defend the URC's policy of having periods of vacancy between Ministers is so that the local Church can become stronger by working together rather than having a certain amount of reliance upon a Minister.

Hopefully that will be the case for Kelvedon, when that new Minister is Inducted into the ministry of Kelvedon & Tiptree URC's, we will have a stronger church with a renewed focus


God's Blessing

Trevor

Monday evening Housegroup: 11th & 25th July 8pm at “Copper Beech”, Spa Road, Feering (Christine Saffell’s home). Everyone is very welcome.

Home Prayer Group: alternate **Wednesdays:** 6th & 20th July 8pm at Rose & John Loy’s (150 High Street, Kelvedon tel: 570200). This will take the form of a prayer meeting with a short Bible Study session.

Little Lambs: Every Thursday 10.30 am in the Church followed by tea/coffee in the halls. All babies, toddlers & their parents/carers are welcome.

 **Holdfast Credit Union** – Open Thursdays 10.30am – 12.00pm in the entrance lobby. An ideal way to save and help others.

Womens Fellowship: No meetings in July and August, but will be back in September on alternate Thursday afternoons 2.30pm.

The Bigger Breakfast : 8am at St Mary’s C of E Church, Kelvedon. Everyone is welcome.

Fair Trade:



There will be a Fair Trade stall with a small selection of cards, foodstuffs and craft items in the main hall after the service on the 4th Sunday of each month.

Deadline for the August Magazine: Saturday, 23rd June. Please give items for inclusion to Trevor or Janet Andrews or e-mail them to: magazine@kelvedon-urc.org.uk.

Cafe Church is an informal, friendly gathering of Christians of all denominations or none.

Everyone welcome.

Happy Brits on Holiday:

Cliff Richard used to sing “We’re all going on a summer holiday”. Some people in fact do not like holidays. Most of us, and especially the children, look forward to them. There is quite a range of different types to choose from.

It was not always thus. Many people simply could not afford them. Older, locally born members of our church’s congregation recall as children standing in the High Street (then the A12) awestruck by the spectacle of motor-coaches referred to as charabancs, travelling to and from the seaside at Clacton. Church Sunday Schools had day outings to sea or countryside.

A cheapish sort of holiday, then and in the present, is camping combined with healthy hiking or cycling. Nowadays we have the pick of other outdoor pursuits, for example, canoeing, climbing, pot-holing, ponk trekking, golfing, fishing. Staying with relatives can save some expense. My mother had a sister and brother-in-law (Salvation Army officers) living in the West Country. Dad worked on the railways, and the family got discounted tickets. Oh, the joy of seeing through the train-window the telegraph wires looping from pole to pole and the engine’s smoke drifting behind, until on the horizon appeared the thin blue line of the sea! And the bliss of bare feet sinking into soft, warm sand and the wavelets lap-lapping up the beach!

The old-time British holiday was bed-and-breakfast digs or a guest house, candyfloss, sticks of rock, deckchairs, pier, and a funfair where some of the rides were proper scary. My family had a couple of holidays at Great Yarmouth, and I remember my eyes went round with childish astonishment when, during a

circus performance, the floor of the ring was removed to reveal a big pool, and swimmers moved in patterns to music.

Some of us enjoy touring by car, perhaps with a caravan. There are caravan parks by the sea and in the country. Holiday camps, like Butlins with chalets, meals and entertainment, boomed for a spell after the 1939-43 war. These were the start of popular, organised packet holidays, which, with our increasing affluence, now include locations in Britain and far beyond. I took wife June and the kids to Majorca – a touch of the exotic and an impressive, spacious hotel – for our first foreign holiday. When modern youngsters think they are too grown up for family holidays, bunches of them take off independently to the Greek islands, etc. I went with mates to Margate, and our capers were petty tame in comparison.

June and I have been to Lake Garda and Venice, Sorrento and Capri. The most exciting holidays have been in Australia, staying with relatives near Melbourne for part of the trip, but sight-seeing in Sydney harbour, Kangaroo Island, the Barrier Reef, to mention a few. Usually the flight has been broken at Singapore.

There is a craze for cruising in what resemble huge, luxurious, floating hotels – see the pages and pages of adverts in the weekend newspapers! June would like to try one, but we share the zen of many pensioners to visit bits of Britain that are new to us. Coach holidays, based at quiet, comfortable hotels, have optional excursions with a driver/guide. We have done Tenby, York, Chester, Iron Bridge Gorge, Newcastle, Torquay and Eastbourne.

Many others of us probably have a not dissimilar hoard of golden holiday memories and, like June and I, anticipate adding to them this particular year. Isn't there a saying that travel broadens the mind?

In 1992 June and I stayed in Cyprus and took the opportunity to have a day in Israel. We saw Nazareth and the Lake of Galilee

and Capernaum, where Jesus seems to have been based, and Magdala, from where Mary Magdaline derived her surname. We visited the place where Jesus is said to have preached the Sermon on the Mount. There is a commemorative little church with verses from the Sermon displayed inside. How splendid if every church followed suit and had these on show rather than the “thou shalt not” Commandments! Whenever we left the air-conditioned coach, the heat hit like a furnace. Imagine Jesus and his disciples tramping about in that! A second thought – Jesus never travelled all that far, but his broad mind encompassed the whole of our human anxieties, hopes, hurts and happiness.

John Allard



Saturday 10th September

10.00am – 6.00pm



It is hoped even more people will take part in this year's Ride + Stride on Saturday 10th September. Please put the date in your diary now... and start training if you are intending to cycle! I will be appealing for people to sign in the riders & walkers in the August magazine. If you would like a sponsor form, please speak to me.

Thank you.

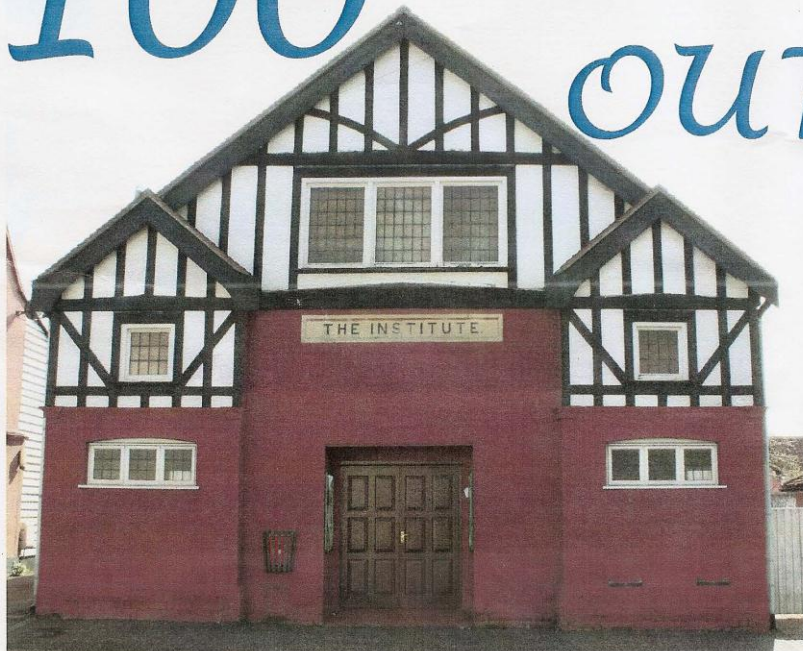
Janet Andrews

Kelvedon Players



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