



Newsletter

SPRING 2008

SPRING

*God's Word is like refreshing rain
That waters crops and seed;
It brings new life to open hearts
And meets us in our need*

God wants you to water the seed
He's planted in your heart



Message from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Well, we are in a period of great change at the moment, aren't we?

The church is soon to be redecorated, Ruth and I are looking for a good removal firm and we may well soon know who our next pastor will be.

We have Easter, KWF Sunday, Open Day, Mother's Day & Father's Day, Pentecost and Singspiration to look forward to along with all our weekly church events.

Then there are all our personal and family events and adventures. No wonder time flies!

I really do hope that this will be a good and richly blessed year for you. Just keep trusting that the Lord loves you and is working to a plan to enrich and bless your life.

And remain thankful for His grace and care in all things. As the hymn says, "Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who like thee His praise should sing?"

Carry this faith over into your church life as well. Be positive and hopeful, be an encourager like old Barnabas. Why not try to say something kind to at least one person every Sunday.

A word of approval, "You are so good at that."

A word of appreciation, "Thanks for doing that each week."

A word of affirmation, "You are so right to do that."

A church is where the family of God come together. So the family likeness should shine through. Think of that, God's character shown in you, wow! But it must be possible, seeing as how we have the Holy Spirit in us. Yes of course it is possible. All we need to do is put to death what Paul calls the deeds of the flesh - and live in the Spirit. So that's saying yes to all good thoughts and deeds - and no to the bad things.

I do hope that you have a happy life and that our dear church prospers and grows. The way to grow the church is through prayer and action. The way to be happy - is to live to make others happy

All praise and glory and honour to our wonderful Lord. God bless you all,,

Gordon



Editor's Ramblings



Looking

In a recent daily bible reading it talked about the Bison and the Giraffe.

The Bison is made in such a way that its natural inclination is to look down. The design of its neck makes it difficult to look up.

Giraffes on the other hand are designed in such way that makes looking up easy.



Looking up - down - backwards -forwards.

Looking back can be with joy, sadness or even anger. We can't put right wrongs of the past. We can look back at opportunities lost and wish that we had done something different. We can't change what has gone!

But we can look forward. Maybe we need to change our lifestyle and/or attitudes. Some are looking forward to RETIREMENT and all the new opportunities that can bring. We can make new choices and even new friends.

What of the church? We are looking forward for a new minister and ministry - looking forward for growth. Change in any aspect of life isn't always easy but very often necessary.

As Christians and as a church we put our trust and faith in the Lord to lead us forward on a daily basis. He holds the future in His hand for you and me and for our (His) church.

Sometimes we look in all the wrong places. Peter walking on the water looked down instead of up - he took his eyes off Jesus and began to sink.

I love that chorus we used to teach the children - it's in Mission Praise:

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face;
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace.

Let's look to the future with boldness.



Country Wise

By A. Deacon

Guess Who

It's the middle of February, a beautiful warm sunny day, ideal for a couple of hours in the garden. Trying to catch up what wasn't done last year.

A bit of pruning I thought - as I started there he (or she) was bursting into song, "where are you?" I said half expecting an answer. Still the song carried on and on. I looked up and around me - no sign of the songster. Again I said "where are you?" and then I looked straight ahead - we were eye-to-eye and the singing went on. It felt almost as if I was being told what a glorious day it is and the songs were of happiness.

I moved along - the singing continued, where are the songs coming from - I looked straight ahead and yes, we were eye-to-eye again enjoying each others company.

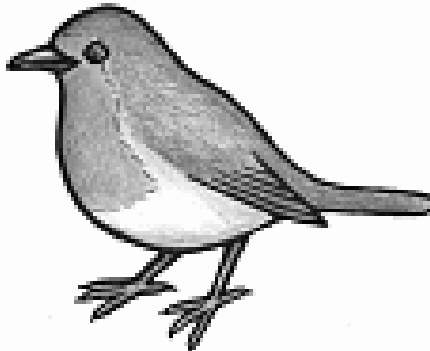
Later on I moved to the back garden.

Time to clean out the greenhouse ready for the plants for our Open Day. Then there was that sweet singing again. This time sitting on the watering can. I cleaned the floor of the junk left over from last year. The singing had temporarily stopped. "Now where are you?" I asked. I soon found out sitting on the greenhouse floor turning over the bits of leaves etc. I had to wait ten minutes before I could get back in the greenhouse.

We enjoyed our little chat together - he (she) disappeared down the garden and I went for lunch.

Who was I chatting to?

We get a lot of birds in our garden and they give us a lot of pleasure being able to watch them.



I WATCHED HIM

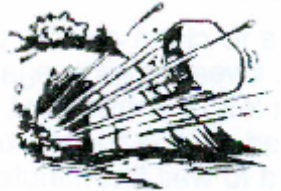
I watched him die on Friday.
I drove the nails into his hands and feet.
I thought this death would be like all the rest,
Instead I witnessed earth and heaven meet.
I watched him die.



I watched his tomb on Saturday.
I rolled the stone in place, with guard and seal.
I thought we'd surely seen the last of him,
I should have known the words he spoke were real.
I watched his tomb.



I watched him rise on Sunday.
I felt the nuclear blast as he strode out.
I know now that no bribe or threat of death
From Rome can make me lie, recant or doubt.
I watched him rise.



(c) Ruth Steer

THANK YOU

A big "Thank-You" to Rachel Holister for all her hard work over the past 4 years as Church Secretary. She stepped into the role shortly after Brenda was called home, just before Gordon took up his duties with us. She has been a thorough and efficient secretary, undertaking many different duties, often behind the scenes.

We wish her well in whatever role the Lord calls to her to serve next.

The Role of Church secretary is very important to a Baptist Church, and we invite you to pray with and for the Deacons and Pastor as they work out how best to fill the role and its various duties next.



To everybody who took part and helped out during the Christmas activities. It was very much appreciated by all who came. And to Everyone who contributed food for the tea after the carol service.

With food in mind, again thanks to all who supported and contributed to our Saturday get-together to meet Richard and Larrie.

It was good to see members in church when Richard came to preach for the second time and for a good turnout at the church meeting. My thanks to those who have contributed to the Newsletter (more please!) and on behalf of those of you who get lifts to church - our thanks to everybody who use their cars to get them here.

I see the flower list is getting full, thanks again to everybody who contributes to flowers, and special thanks to Rita who looks after and distributes the flowers at the end of Sunday services.

Thanks to everybody who supported Ruth Steer^v's card-making evening, it was very much enjoyed by all. (See report on next page).

Which of the following quotes are in the Bible?

1. Cleanliness is next to Godliness
2. God help them who help themselves
3. Confession is good for the soul
4. Man is born to trouble as the sparks fly upward
5. Money is the root of all evil
6. Honesty is the best policy

Believe it or not, only one of these quotes is found in the Bible - which one? Look for the answer later in the Newsletter.

KNAPHILL WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

It seems no time since Christmas and we now look forward to Easter in a few weeks. We have had a quiet start to 2008, the two main meetings being Eileen Byde with a Home Mission DVD and the other being Ann Floss and her husband with their two dogs telling us about pets as therapy. This was most interesting and the dogs so well behaved. Our members enjoyed this very much and it was so different to our usual meetings. Our Fellowship afternoons are proving popular and different members are taking turns telling us a little about their families. We enjoy our friendship together on Tuesday afternoons.



Card-Making Evening : 7th February

Following a few requests to show how I go about making my greetings cards, nine of us got together for an evening of fun, learning new techniques and, above all, creating lovely cards. We started with a session of looking at various materials and resources, then a demonstration of how quickly and easily a card can be made, to give professional-looking results.

Then it was down to business! First it was a matter of deciding who the cards were for and what the occasion was (e.g. Great Aunt Mabel's birthday or a Valentine for ... now, that's a secret!). Then we had to choose suitable materials - if you want to know what toppers and embellishments are, just ask someone who was there. And in case you ever need to know what to do if you run out of capital letters for your Easter card ... ask Pauline!

While we worked we chatted endlessly, laughed a lot and helped ourselves to the chocolates provided - yes, you really missed out there! The range of cards produced was amazing, as you can see from the photos. We all learned from each other and everyone went home realising that we do have hidden talents and abilities. It was a great evening of fun and fellowship, where we all got to know each other that bit better.

Ruth Steer.



Ruth's Page

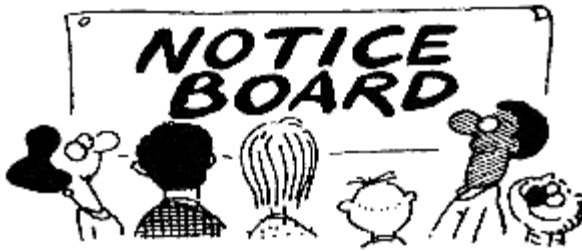
The theme for my Quiz is animals, birds and creepy crawlies, mentioned in the Bible. How many can you answer?

1. What four creatures did God send as plagues upon the Egyptians?
2. What venomous creature bit Paul on the hand but did not harm him?
3. Into what animals did Jesus send the legion of evil spirits he had cast out of a man?
4. What type of birds fed Elijah in his solitude by the brook Cherith?
5. What two animals owned by the Philistines carried the ark of the covenant back to Israel?
6. Who in the Old Testament had a talking donkey to ride on?
7. What miraculous animals parted Elijah and Elisha when Elijah was taken by a whirlwind into heaven?
8. Which bird served as food for the Israelites in the wilderness?
9. What animal did God provide as a sacrifice in substitute for Isaac?
10. What did God send to destroy the vine that shaded the sulking prophet Jonah?
11. When some young people laughed at Elisha for his baldness, which animal mauled them?
12. Who did God instruct to put a bronze snake on a pole so that anyone who was bitten by a snake could look at it and survive?
13. Which Old Testament character claimed he had killed lions and bears to protect his sheep?
14. Which prophet predicted that the Messiah would enter into Jerusalem riding on a donkey?
15. Which is the only Gospel to mention that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey?
16. In Revelation, which horse represents death?
17. Which King had twelve thousand horses?

The answers will appear in the next issue or, if you cannot wait that long, they can be obtained from me in return for a donation of 50p to the Manse Fund.

Answers to the June2007 Quiz

1. Isaiah (Isaiah 40:3) / John the Baptist (Mark 1:3)
2. Above the Ark of the Covenant (Numbers 7:89)
3. Isaac (Genesis 27:22)
4. John (Revelation 1:10-11)
5. Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:17-19)
6. Laodicea (Revelation 3:20)
7. Jesus' baptism (Matthew 3:13-17)
8. Samuel (1 Samuel 3:3-14)
9. Elijah (1 Kings 19:12)
10. The heavens (Psalm 19:4)
11. The shepherds (John 10:4)
12. The cedars of Lebanon (Psalm 29:5)
13. Peter (Acts 2:14)
14. King Darius (Daniel 6)
15. Rhoda (Acts 12:13-14)
16. Paul (1 Corinthians 13)



Dates for your Diaries
7th March

Women's World Day of Prayer

to be held at the RC Church at 10-45am
Guest Speaker is Christine Musser
and has been prepared by the Christian Women of Guyana.
Christine is the lady of 'TV fame'¹ from the programme
about Boscastle in Cornwall last year.

8 & 9 March

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Guest Preacher NORMAN THARBY

Saturday 12 April

SINGSPIRATION

This will be their third visit. They are looking forward to coming again.

May 17

Our third Open Day

Theme: HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

Early beginnings to present day Plus the usual stalls and exhibitions

Keeping in Touch

Did you know that you can get the church's weekly news sheet on-line or by email?

The latest copies are (nearly) always on the InterWebThingy at www.KnaphillBaptistChurch.Org.uk/notices, or you can have them emailed to you most weeks. Please drop me a note at EricMoore@bigfoot.com.

If this has left you baffled, then it's probably not relevant to you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

3 - 8 Years

Welcome to another exciting Sunday School report. It is nice to see Khloe and Luke with us more often. Having Stephen and the other two makes it more worthwhile. The Holy Spirit is definitely with us.

This term we learnt how God was with Daniel, Esther and Nehemiah. How Daniel trusted God and we can trust him too. (We made some Daniel mobiles) great success!

How Nehemiah went to help rebuild the city of Jerusalem as God told him to. (We also made some praise cubes). Another success.

The children have been learning about how they can talk to God about anything. Please pray for us all, thank you, Joanna.

9+ Years

We had a great Christmas Party and Lauren brought Haley who had fun helping with the obstacle races. The 'Silent' Nativity seemed to work - the children being very good and quiet between sound effects and Ann managed not to shout "STOP!" Jade read all the narration beautifully.

When we had three extra guests - Gerry's daughters - we had fun following the route of the growth of the early churches, complete with cardboard tent! Now we are discovering the symbolic characters in Revelation and the New Heaven and the New Earth.

We thank Ruth Steer for helping us make cards for Mother's Day. Ann.

WEDNESDAY COFFEE MORNING

The Christmas Party went down a treat with mince pies and Santa paying a visit. John had to re-deliver Vi's as the Elves had got it wrong! After all the expense, we were still able to make the usual donation to the church for heating and lighting.

In January the Community Support Officer introduced himself to us all and downed a cuppa. Ken has been in the wars a bit - sprained his ankle and had to stay away. Then he bashed his elbow and someone else had to pour the tea! We do appreciate his stalwart help. But seriously, aren't the Spring flowerpots looking great? Thanks Ken.

We ate Scotch Pancakes to mark the beginning of Lent and last week we had a long awaited visit from Jeanette Hicks, her granddaughter and her little dog. Everyone said afterwards "She hasn't changed a bit has she?!"

We now look forward to an Easter service and hot cross buns. Ann

Moving to Woking

"I started IMA ten years ago and after operating in central London, decided to relocate to Woking, moving in just before Christmas"

Like all moves and change that we undertake, in life or business, there was a high degree of fear – that we may lose some clients and business.

The office was officially opened by our MP Humfrey Mallins – some of you may have seen the report in the local press.

Well, by God's grace – it has all been positive.

I believe there is a purpose behind the move – already I am experiencing a greater involvement in the local community, which is something I have always wanted. Hopefully in time we can give something back to the community.

To live, work AND worship in the local area is extremely important to me.

I try to run the business on Christian principles, which given the competitive and materialistic environment in which we operate is not always easy, but with God's help, we can succeed.

To those of you who don't know, we buy media space on an international basis, current clients include, Calvin Klein, L'Oréal, Budweiser and Turkish Tourism.

It seems that 2008 will certainly be a year of "change" for me, at work and for all of us at Knaphill Baptist Church, but with God's guidance and help we will succeed.

Together, let's keep our eyes firmly fixed on the Lord"

Sohan Singh

Moving to Knaphill!

It is with great pleasure we can report that Richard Sherlock has accepted the church's invitation to be the next Pastor following Gordon's retirement in June.

He graduates this summer, and is to be ordained in Magor in Wales on June 28th.

Full details of dates and things are still to be finalised, but it is expected that Richard and Larrie will move to Knaphill in August and Richard will begin his ministry in September. His induction will be organised for a date in September.

Watch the newsletter for details of dates and events.

Church Calendar

MARCH 2008

SUNDAY 2 nd MOTHER'S DAY	11.00am	Morning Worship	
	6.30am	After Church Fellowship Evening Worship & Communion	Revd Gordon Steer
TUESDAY 4 th	2.45pm	KWF Gordon Steer	
	8.00pm	Deacons' Meeting	
141 st CHURCH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND			
SATURDAY 8 ^m	6.30pm	Church Anniversary Supper	
SUNDAY 9 th	11.00am	Morning Worship & Communion	Revd Norman Tharby
	6.30am	Evening Worship	
TUESDAY 11 th	2.45pm	KWF Fellowship Hour (Stall)	
WEDNESDAY 12 th	8.00pm	Church Members' Meeting	
SUNDAY 16 th	11.00am	Morning Worship	
	6.30pm	Evening Worship & Communion	Revd Gordon Steer
TUESDAY 18 th	2.45pm	KWF Social Afternoon	
THURSDAY 20 th		Maundy Thursday	
FRIDAY 21 st		Good Friday	
SUNDAY 23 rd EASTER	11.00am	Morning Worship & Communion	Revd Gordon Steer
	6.30pm	Evening Worship	
Clocks go forward			
SUNDAY 30 th	11.00am	Morning Worship & Communion	Revd Gordon Steer
	6.30pm	Evening Worship	

APRIL

TUESDAY 1st'	2.45pm	KWF	
	8.00pm	Deacons' Meeting	
SUNDAY 6th	11.00am	Morning Worship After Church Fellowship	Revd Gordon Steer
	6.30pm	Evening Worship & Communion	
TUESDAY 8 th	2.45pm	KWF	
SATURDAY 12 th	7.30pm	SINGSPIRATION	
SUNDAY 13th	11.00am	Morning Worship & Communion	Revd Gordon Steer
	6.30pm	Evening Worship	
TUESDAY 15 th	2.45pm	KWF	
SUNDAY 20th	11.00am	Morning Worship	Revd Gordon Steer
	6.30am	Evening Worship & Communion	
TUESDAY 22 nd	2.45pm	KWF	
SUNDAY 27th	11.00am	Morning Worship & Communion	Revd Gordon Steer
	6.30pm	Evening Worship	
TUESDAY 29 th	2.45pm	KWF	

MAY

SUNDAY 4 th	11.00am	Morning Worship After Church Fellowship	Revd Gordon Steer
	6.30am	Evening Worship & Communion	
TUESDAY 6th	2.45ppm	KWF	
	8.00ppm	Deacons' Meeting	
SUNDAY 11 th	11.00apm	Morning Worship & Communion	Revd Gordon Steer
	6.30ppm	Evening Worship	
TUESDAY 13 th	2.45ppm	KWF	
WEDNESDAY 14th	8.00ppm	Church Members' Meeting	
CHURCH OPEN DAY			
SATURDAY 17 th	10.00am - 12.30pm	Church Open Day	
SUNDAY 18th	11.00am	Morning Worship	Revd Gordon Steer
	6.30ppm	Evening Worship & Communion After Church Fellowship	
TUESDAY 20 th	2.45ppm	KWF	
SUNDAY 25 th	11.00am	Morning Worship & Communion	Revd Gordon Steer
	6.30ppm	Evening Worship	
TUESDAY 27th	2.45ppm	KWF	

BIRTHDAY SCHEME

Happy birthday to the following friends of the Birthday Scheme

APRIL

1st Adelle De Bono
5th Miss Pam Rice
6th Mrs. Brenda Elliot
6th Camelia De Bono
23rd Miss Joanna Stringer

MAY

7th Miss Bethany Steer
8th Mrs. Joan Kenton
22nd Mr. Bruce Whittingstall

JUNE

8th Mrs. Janie Hollingshead
10th Mrs. Dot Wye
17th Rev. Gordon Steer
17th Mrs. Toots' Lockyer
24th Miss Nadia Singh

Many thanks for your loyal support Rita

Stop Press

The refurbishment of the church will be starting on Monday April 14th. Access to the main church will be restricted for about two weeks. The Sunday services will not be affected, but Toddlers and the coffee morning will not operate, and the KWF will need to use the side entrance.

A Final Thought

A word of encouragement can make the difference
between giving up or going on.

The purpose of prayer is not to get what we want, but
to become what God wants.

FROM THE TREASURER'S CALCULATOR

Another year; another challenge. This will certainly be a year of change and challenge, both for the church and for me personally.

It is really good news, as you will read elsewhere in the magazine, that Richard Sherlock has agreed to accept the call to be our next Pastor.

This will mean changes in the church as we and he adapt to each other, perhaps to new days of the week for meetings, perhaps taking part in new and different initiatives. And we'll definitely miss Gordon and Ruth.

It's also a year where we will have a new Church Secretary. Our grateful thanks go to Rachel for all her hard work, stepping into the role just after Brenda died. It may be that we organise things differently – we will have to wait and see how the Lord guides us.

We have also agreed to redecorate the interior of the church. That will be a very visible indication of a wish to renew and regenerate. Let's pray that it will be a willingness to renew and regenerate the whole of our church life, both corporate and personal.

And for me? Some of you will know that I finished with working at BOC, now part of the German Linde Group last week. I have been there more than 23 years. As so often happens following a take-over, there were many changes, and I finally concluded that I needed to move. It has been a hard decision, but one that I know God has been in throughout.

I'm looking for a new job at the moment, and plan to stay in this area, so don't panic! The IT job market is quite buoyant so I am hopeful of a quick change. Whatever I do will be different to BOC – but I am looking forward to new challenges and new people to work with. I'm praying for patience in seeking the right job, but I'm praying for it quickly!

Please pray most especially that we will be led by God in all that we do and seek His face daily.

Finally, the recent offering figures... Thank you again for your great generosity!

	Jul '07	Aug '07	Sep '07	Oct '07	Nov '07	Dec '07	Jan '08	Feb '08
Actual	£445	£490	£504	£667	£501	£402	£544	£494
Target	£488	£488	£488	£488	£488	£488	£506	£506

