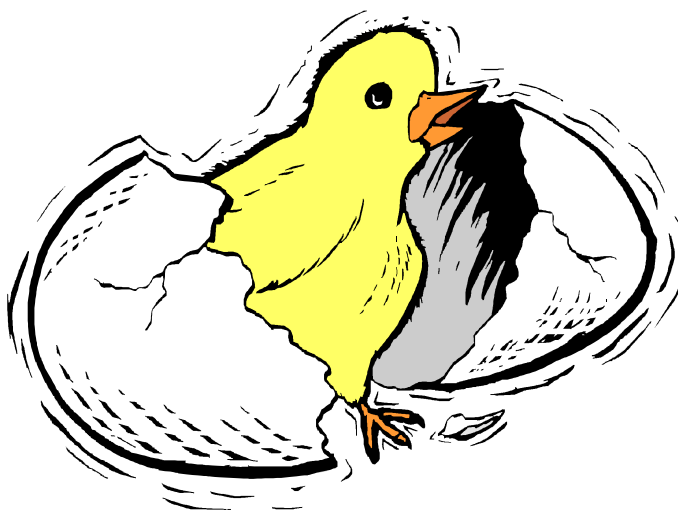


# The Link

Between you and the Church



## **Editors Note**

Thanks to all who have helped towards this Easter edition of The Link.

Easter blessings to all our readers.

Here is a QR Code link to our Church Web Site.



The views expressed in this magazine are those of the various authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy of the Church Trustees

**Issue: 192**

## Message from the Manse

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Lent, but by the time you read this we will be well on our way to Easter. Have you ever thought it would be nice to put the brakes on?

I am in the process of negotiating for a new car rather than the tiny one which sits on our drive not being used. The foot has a lot to do with this so I do not take responsibility for it sometimes. The trouble is, it is big and bulky, but then so am I, so maybe I am wrong to completely blame the foot. Anyway, I have to find a vehicle which allows me to despatch said podiatry to the corner of the foot well and keep 'out of the way' thank you very much! Suffice to say, in case I have lost you along the way, any encroachment of said member could prevent use of a vital part of the vehicle, (the brake).

Anyway, it has been a tiresome experience. Although I get into the van quite easily, it is a motor home and can prove cumbersome and sometimes apt to be too familiar with such things as bollards.

Have you noticed these days that there are new vehicles being 'driven' at us from all directions? Many are the same which is boring, but some of them have the ability to stop if they encounter something ahead, tell you if you are lane wandering or even park it for you! Now that's scary. Don't get me wrong, a lot of the innovations which have been developed are excellent. When it comes to the future, it seems that electric/petrol is the way forward for the common man/woman, known as 'Hybrid'. Strangely enough, that is unless you only want to float around locally for a short period before recharging, or really show a clean pair of heels to the nearest Sports Utility Vehicle. Both ends of the spectrum and price line also.

Anyway, the one I am being pushed towards has this ability to charge itself when you brake. I don't know how good it is but I have a theory that I could drive to both my churches and back, without using any petrol, just the oversize Duracell glued to the gearbox! Well it's a thought.

But this business of re-charging while slowing down seems a good idea generally and one which we should adhere to if we are to cope with the rush which is all around us at any time of the year. I can't wait to try my theory out on one of those roads we have which has an escape lane.

Oh and I have no intention of using the escape lane, that's for those who don't see the value in slowing down where you are able. Kind Regards,

**Steve**

# Church Family

**Bereavement:** We send our love, prayers and deepest sympathy to the family of Harold Collingridge and all who are mourning the loss of a loved one.

**Illness:** Our prayers are asked for Sheila Hayman, Eunice Burge, June and Arthur Waterfield, Ron Holloway, Jo Bennett and all who are experiencing difficult times.

**Congratulations:** to Holly, Stuart and family on the arrival of Maria Rose Miller, weighing in at 9lbs.

## Coffee Rota

February

4<sup>th</sup> Kath  
11<sup>th</sup> June & John  
18<sup>th</sup> Di & June  
25<sup>th</sup> Kay & Michael

March

3<sup>rd</sup> Kath  
11<sup>th</sup> June & John  
18<sup>th</sup> Di & June  
25<sup>th</sup> Kay & Michael



## Flower Rota

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Kay Deedman	S.202802
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	vacancy	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Linda Clarke	S.204559
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Linda Williams	S.204309
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Anne Sains	S.202010



## **Easter 2018**

This year on **Maundy Thursday** there is a joint service with Rayleigh at Hockley. It will begin at 8pm and will take the form of a reflective service. It will include a light meal of soup and a roll, as a reflection of the meeting of Jesus and the disciples in the Upper Room. This will all take place in the church, at tables and will include Communion and will be led by Rev Steve. We look forward to seeing you all there. Please ask for a lift if you need one.

On **Good Friday** there will be a chance to follow “The Road to Cavalry” in a new and individual way. Anne Briant from Shoebury, and wife to Bob who has preached at Hockley a few times, has put together a series of her own paintings, to help you follow that road and think about the participants, their emotions and your emotions. You can follow the paintings in your own way and at your leisure. It will be a quiet time, in the church, with background music, all devised, painted and produced by Anne, backed up by Bob who will both be hosting the event with our support. Please come and experience this and bring someone with you if you can. There will be light refreshments, (but no lunch) in the hall. The event will take place between 11 o’clock and 2 o’clock, so there is a wide window of opportunity for everyone.

On **Easter Day** there will be a Celebration at 9.30am, led by Rev Steve, including the puppets and a breakfast, once again all in the church. Breakfast will consist of croissants and similar breakfast pastries with juice, so you might want to have your cereal before you come! There will also be communion and the decorating of the Lenten Cross. This will truly be a service for everybody, with all the important elements of Easter Day rolled into one event.

***The Worship Team***

## HAROLD COLLINGRIDGE

*Dad made it very easy for us to compile a tribute to him as, amongst his effects, was this painstakingly typed account of his life in his own words. As always, it shows how organised and forward-thinking he was, so here it is:*

Harold was born on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 1923 on Alderman's Hill, Hockley, where he lived with his parents. In 1927 they moved into the bungalow in Highams Road (and where Harold was to spend the majority of his life), which his father had had built when his mother was expecting their second child, Norman. During the next few years his brother had health problems relating to a blood condition, necessitating his mother having to take him to a London hospital frequently for treatment. Sadly, his brother died, aged three years, and is buried in St. Mary's Church in Hawkwell.

When Harold was five years of age he remembered his father bringing him to Sunday school here and he attended for some years after. He went to Hockley Primary School on the Main Road until he was eleven, subsequently attending Eton House School in Southend.

In 1937 his parents decided to move to a house in Highlands Boulevard, Leigh and let out the bungalow in Highams Road. As Harold was no longer at school he found a job with a department store – Gamages – in London. As the war was expected, his father's insurance firm in Cornhill evacuated to Littlehampton, his father renting a flat nearby. Subsequently the firm decided to move once more for safety and took offices in a large mansion called Naseby Hall in the Midlands. The family rented a house in a village nearby, but his mother decided that she could not live there and she and Harold moved back to Leigh-on-Sea, his father returning at weekends. Harold had to find a job and took a post with a local estate agent. His duties included collecting rents (**on his bike**).

In May 1942 he received his calling-up papers for the Royal Navy, which he was pleased about, having always loved the sea and ships. He attended the Signal School at Devonport, qualifying as a signalman after a 9-month course. He was drafted to an allied ship of the Royal **Norwegian** Navy as a liaison rating. The ship was operating as escort in the waters of the Atlantic, Orkneys, Shetland and the Faroe Islands.

On one occasion, whilst on leave, he visited a dance hall in Westcliff and learnt that **Jean Andrews**, who had lived near him in Hockley, sometimes attended the hall. On his next leave he met her and found that she now lived in Prittlewell. They kept in touch and were together whenever he managed to get leave.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> May 1945 his ship, together with others, took part in the liberation of Norway in Bergen. After spending five months in Norway he was drafted back to England, and was demobbed in 1946. Subsequently he obtained a post with a firm of Valuers and Estate Agents in Chalkwell.

He was able to spend more time with Jean and at Christmas 1947 they became engaged and were married at St. Mary's Church, Prittlewell on 24<sup>th</sup> July 1948. They lived for a while with Harold's parents until renting three rooms in Bull Lane, Rayleigh. In January 1950 they moved to a flat in Prittlewell when Jean was expecting their first child, **Susan**. They lived there until 1955, during which time their son **Martin** was also born. They moved to a house in Henley Crescent, Westcliff, but when in 1959 Harold's father died, his mother did not wish to stay in the bungalow at Highams Road, where they had returned to after the war. The family decided to move into there themselves in December 1959.

On returning to our church in 1960, Harold learned that the 1<sup>st</sup> Hockley Scout Troop was looking for a new leader, as the then Scoutmaster was retiring. He agreed to take over on a temporary basis until a new Leader could be found, which happened some time later, namely Derek Evans. Harold remained as Assistant Scout Leader for some years after.

Early in the sixties one of the stewards of this church, Mr. E. Deedman, - **Michael's father** - told Harold they were looking for another door steward for evening services and Harold agreed to accept this duty, which he carried out for approximately fifty years.

In 1967 they were blessed with another child, who they named **David**.

Harold continued working in Chalkwell until the office had to close in 1984. He immediately obtained another position with a firm of Chartered Surveyors – Rona's in Rayleigh – which he enjoyed until retiring in April 1988, but returning part time for 6 months.

Harold and Jean enjoyed many holidays in the UK and Europe. He also had a long-awaited nostalgic return to Norway in 1988 with Jean, visiting one of his Norwegian shipmates, Rolf Dahl in Oslo.

*There Dad's account ends, with the words "to be continued", and we all know he went on to have a very full, happy life with our Mum until she passed away nearly five years ago. Life since then was very challenging at times, but he faced it all with quiet humour and strong faith and determination; right until the end. We, as a family, have always been very proud to call him our Dad and Grandad and know that his life is "To be continued".* **Susan, Harold's daughter**

## **. Revd. Brian Gameson's Memories of Harold**

I understand that a few years after leaving the Navy Harold received a letter from Oslo informing him that the Norwegian Naval command had awarded him The War Medal with certificate and Norwegian Service Medal and certificate for service in the Royal Norwegian Navy. How proud you will be of him. It is always inspiring to learn of the experiences of someone we have known for years yet has not talked about them himself.

I remember well from my time here how faithfully Harold carried out his duties as Assistant Scout Master. He was regular too serving as Steward at our evening services and also as our Home Missions Representative. In 1983, at the time of the Centenary of Hockley Methodist Church, he was the Church's Press Officer. He was very concerned with the campaign to "Keep Sunday Special" and on its behalf wrote many letters.

In later years he was a loyal supporter of the Tuesday Fellowship and Bible Study and subsequently of the Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study. When later he was in the Residential Home in Ashingdon he looked forward to the same group, led by Revd. Phil Warrey, visiting him there and sharing communion.

Phil telephoned me with the following message:

"I will long remember Jean and Harold. They were stalwarts of our evening services at Hockley. When I arrived in September 2012 I'd walked to the Church with them, it was a short while before Jean died and she was so tired. Harold missed her desperately. They were so in love, and it's good to think of them reunited.

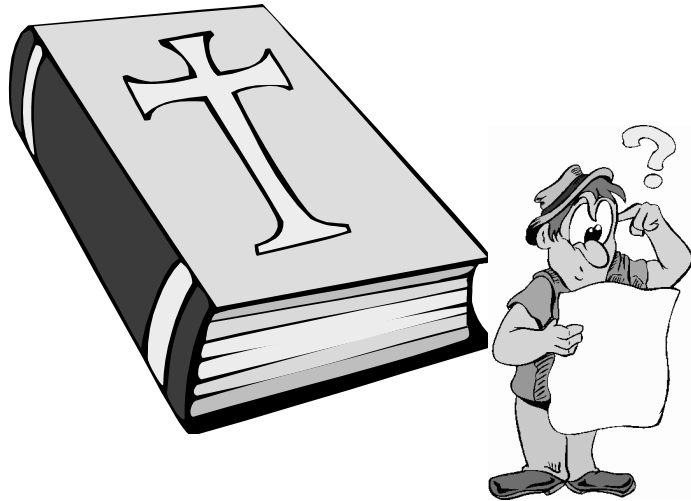
A visit to Harold at his cottage was a treat, small cakes would be lined up beautifully on a plate and a cup and saucer brought in. He was a gentleman of the first order and he bravely soldiered on, not wanting to tell us he wasn't well. Still coming to church whenever he could, I remember us having a Chinese evening and he thought he would not come as he had never had Chinese. I said to him: "It's about time you did" and he smiled his amazing smile and decided he would come. I will treasure the gift he gave me of a small communion plate.

Lord I warmly commend to you my friend Harold who loved You and Jean and his family of whom he spoke warmly and proudly.

Bless you Harold. Phil Warrey"

We will all have our memories of Harold as a loving caring Father and Grandfather. All who knew him described Harold as "a lovely man and a true gentleman" which is not surprising for his Christian faith shaped his life. Today we rejoice in a life well lived and that now he is reunited with Jean in God's presence. For as St. Paul wrote, "I am sure that neither death nor life nor anything else will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8).





## 2018 PROGRAMME

Here's the programme for 2018. It's a bit later than usual because we were away around the time of the previous Link deadline. The walk on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May is a sponsored walk in London for Christian Aid; if you're interested in coming on that **please speak to Mike or Muriel as soon as possible** – we can register as a Group. There is a 3 miles route, or a 6 miles route and the intention is to go up on the train after morning service.

## PLEASE PUT THE DATES IN YOUR DIARY

Details of the walks will also be on the Church website

<http://www.hockleyhawkwelldist.org.uk/>

### **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April Roxwell near Writtle - 4 miles**

A very pleasant and easy walk through fields and paddocks, in part alongside a brook; a few stiles. A good pub for a meal before we start! Leave Church car park 11:30am.

### **Sunday 20th May Christian Aid Sponsored Walk London**

Take part in the "Circle the City" walk in London and "Discover London's historic places of worship". We'll go up to London on the train immediately after the morning service. **Please let Mike or Muriel know as soon as possible if you're coming on this walk.**

### **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June Woodbridge - short!**

Another visit to Woodbridge for a pub lunch, a short walk (probably round Shotley) organised by Peter Cogar and tea at Peter, Anne and Claire's. Leave Church car park 10:45am.

### **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July Mountnessing – 5 miles**

Lovely pub to start with then an easy walk through some historical settlements and pleasant countryside. Leave Church car park 11:30am.

### **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> August Messy Holiday Walk**

Family Walk & Picnic Lunch in Hockley Woods. Coffee Morning and Activities at Church at 10:00am, followed by a short buggy-friendly stroll through the Woods starting at 11:00am and picnic in the playground around 12 noon. In the Hall if it's wet.

### **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September Longford near Maldon) - 4½ miles**

Start with a pub lunch in Maldon (yet to be selected!) then a walk through the fields and along the Chelmer Navigation. Some lovely stretches of countryside. Leave Church car park 11:30am.

### **Thursday 20th September Mill Green- 4½**

Pub lunch then a walk taking in ancient

### **Saturday 13th October Matching - 5½**

Pub lunch then a rural walk through fields,

\*\*\*\*\*

Please make sure you have sturdy walking shoes warm to wear. Always bring something to drink.



**miles**

woodland and common near Writtle. Leave Church car park at 11:30am.

**miles**

woodland and gently-rolling countryside. Leave the Church car park at 11:30am.

shoes (not "fashionable" trainers) or boots, plus waterproofs and something to drink. All these walks are fairly straightforward but any activity like rambling (even the

inactive variety!) needs care so  
please watch what you're doing and keep an eye on any young people.

Contact Mike or Mu Pregnall on 01702 204748  
or e-mail [mumic@pregnall.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:mumic@pregnall.freeserve.co.uk)  
if you want further details of any of these  
walks or need a lift.



**EASTER  
2018 at**



## **Maundy Thursday**

**29<sup>th</sup> MARCH 8:00pm**

A reflective gathering led by  
Rev Steve Watts with Communion  
and a light meal

## **Good Friday**

**30<sup>th</sup> MARCH 11:00am – 2:00pm**

### **“The Road to Calvary”**

Reflection and Meditation on the  
emotions and feelings experienced along  
the Road to Calvary through Anne  
Briant's original art work

Open Church – no charge, browse at your  
leisure. Light refreshments available in the Hall

## **Easter Day**

### **Communion and Croissants!**

**SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> April 10:00am**

An Easter Celebration led by Rev Steve Watts  
with Communion, tea, coffee, confections and  
Hand-in-Glove Puppets

# FUN ANTIQUE VALUATION

given by an amateur valuer

*at the church*

on SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL

*between 10 am and 12 noon*

£3.00 per valuation



Tea, coffee and cake available



**Good Friday**  
**30<sup>th</sup> MARCH**  
**11:00am – 2:00pm**

## **“The Road to Calvary”**

**Reflection and Meditation on the emotions and feelings experienced along the Road to Calvary through Anne Briant's original art work**



Open Church – no charge, browse at your leisure. Light refreshments available in the Hall

**Hockley & Hawkwell Methodist Church Main Road Hockley Essex SS5 4QY**  
01702 205870 [info@hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk](mailto:info@hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk) [www.hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk](http://www.hockleyhawkwellmethodist.org.uk) [www.facebook.com/hockleymeths](https://www.facebook.com/hockleymeths)

## **FOR SALE – A Wii Rock Band - Drum Kit and Guitar - £30**

Rock Band Drum Kit (model 19092) with drum sticks, pedal, dongle, microphone, etc.  
Guitar (model no. 19091).

Includes The Beatles Rockband and Band Hero.



Given to Friday Club but only used occasionally.  
Good condition.  
Contact Mike 204748 if you're interested

### **This might ring a bell with some readers:-**

I have been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone.

I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognises you there.

I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport, you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to children, friends, family and work.

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I am not too much on physical activities anymore.

I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go and I try not to visit too often.

I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I am getting older.

One of my favourite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenaline flowing and pumps up the old heart. At my age I need all the stimuli I can get.

I may have been in Continent, but I don't remember the country I was in. It's an age thing.

*Submitted by David Clarke*



### Amusing Snippets

During a visit to my doctor, I asked him, "How do you determine whether or not an older person should be put in an old people's home?" "Well," he said, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the person to empty the bathtub." "Oh, I understand," I said. "A normal person would use the bucket because it is bigger than the spoon or the teacup." "No" he said. "A normal person would pull the plug."

The teacher said that it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah." The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?" The girl replied, "Then you ask him."

A kindergarten teacher was observing her class of children while they were drawing. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied "I'm drawing God". The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied "They will in a minute."

The children had all been photographed, and the teacher was trying to persuade them each to buy a copy of the group photograph. "Just think how nice it will be to look at when you are all grown up and say, "There's Jennifer, she's a lawyer", or "That's Michael, He's a doctor." A small voice from the back of the room rang out, "And there's the teacher, she's dead."

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to "Honour thy Father and thy Mother" she asked. "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" From the back, one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, "Thou shall not kill".



**The deadline for the next issue of  
The Link is Monday May 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Please make a note of this in your diary**

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## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

<b>SUN</b>	Morning Worship	10.30 am	
	Children's activities every Sunday	10.20 am	
<b>MON</b>	Brightstars Parent & Toddler Group	9.30 – 11.45 am	
	contact Linda 07964 864872		
	Ballroom Sequence Dancing (in the hall)	7.30 – 9.30 pm	
	contact Fay 01268 780028		
	Triple H Community Choir (in church)	7.30 – 9.30 pm	contact Ashley 07581390448
<b>TUE</b>	Dru Yoga Class contact Ruth on 07818599183	10.00–11.30 am	
	Dru Yoga Class contact Ruth on 07818599183	7.30 – 9.00 pm	
	Messy Church (3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month)	4.00 – 5.30 pm	
	Contact Anne S. 202010		
<b>WED</b>	PIYO Pilates & Yoga contact Rachel Yates 07990513413	9.30 – 10.30 am	
	Bible Study followed by a Communion Service 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed.	3.00 – 4.00 pm	
	contact Anne S 202010 or 07739184627		
	2nd Hockley Brownie Pack: contact Amy Ensum, S 470134	5.30 – 7.00 pm	
	<a href="mailto:amyensum@hotmail.com">amyensum@hotmail.com</a>		
	Badminton Club: contact Wendy S 200484	7.30 – 9.30 pm	
	Gospel Rocks Choir (in Church)	8.00 – 10.00 pm	
	Contact: Hannah Conacher <a href="mailto:gospelrocksgcc@gmail.com">gospelrocksgcc@gmail.com</a>		
<b>THU</b>	50+ Keep fit, contact Julie 07912622483	9.15–10.00 am	
	50+ Stretch & Trim: contact Julie 07912622483	10.15–11.00 am	
	U3A Floral Art Group, 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday in the month	1.30 – 4.30 pm	
	contact Irene Morris 01787 310265.		
	1st Hockley Beaver Colony: contact Jane S 203739	5.15 – 6.15 pm	
	1st Hockley Cub Scout Pack contact Mike, 01702 201253	6.30 – 8.00 pm	
	or email <a href="mailto:hockleycubs@yahoo.co.uk">hockleycubs@yahoo.co.uk</a>		
	Thursday Social Club: contact Joyce S 201635	7.30pm, alternate weeks	
		8.15pm if in the church	
<b>FRI</b>	Pilates. Contact Mrs Tracy Bateman 07961 954966	9.15 – 10.45am	
	Email <a href="mailto:tracybateman1107@aol.com">tracybateman1107@aol.com</a>		
	U3A Play Reading Group (every 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday)	11.00 - 1.00pm	
	Contact Coral Kathro 01702 201252		
	Email <a href="mailto:coralkathro@gmail.com">coralkathro@gmail.com</a>		
	Friday Club (years 3-7) Contact Merie Kebbell 07796 958343	6.00 – 7.30 pm	
	Friday Club + (years 7 & upwards) ,, ,,	6.45 – 8.15 pm	

**Web:** 259 Eastwood Road, Rayleigh, SS6 7LF, **Email:** revswatts@btopenworld.com  
[www.hockleyhawkwelldist.org.uk](http://www.hockleyhawkwelldist.org.uk)