

The Unlocked Link

from
Hockley and Hawkwell Methodist Church

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Minister – Rev Dr Calvin Samuel

Rev. Calvin Samuel' Pastoral Letter



Over the past two weeks we've begun the process of returning to worship in our building. As with much of the rest of the pandemic it's proving to be a learning process and I suspect will continue to be so, for months to come.

The Prime Minister's message in recent days has made it clear that the risks to life and health associated with the pandemic are not decreasing and the hope of a vaccine still lies at some point in the future. Moreover, with winter only a few months away there is the prospect of some challenging months ahead.

The toll of the pandemic has been enormous: tens of thousands of deaths and a loss of over 100,000 jobs. And the long-lasting impact on the economy for years to come cannot yet be quantified. Yet like any disease, if we can but survive it, we often emerge with greater resilience. My prayer is that this will prove to be the case in this pandemic.

One of the things that the pandemic and #Lockdown have begun to teach us is how to live with uncertainty. In truth, the pandemic has not increased uncertainty. Rather, it's exposed how little we actually control, despite our best efforts to the contrary. This pandemic is a lesson in learning to live in the now, because the future is as unpredictable as it has ever been.

So what might all of this mean for us as a church family? First, it means that we shall continue to learn to adjust. Face masks and no singing in church are just the beginning of our adjustments. We will increasingly operate in hybrid ways. By this I mean that some of our gatherings will be in person and some will remain online.

Second, we will learn to be open to new opportunities. Some of our church family are more in contact now than they have ever been because of the new approaches we've been forced to adopt. We have the potential to be in touch with a far wider range of people online than would ever have come into our building. Part of our challenge is figuring out how these new opportunities are integral to our mission as a Church in Hockley.

Third, we may have to say goodbye to some familiar and precious things in order to be open to the new opportunities that are opening up before us in this unusual situation we are navigating. Let's be open to that possibility with all of its disappointments so that we can also be open to the silver lining.

Fourth, we will need to be more intentionally prayerful in the days ahead. We can truthfully say that we have never lived through days like these. Finding wisdom to navigate these days well, whilst maintaining an openness to the leading of the Spirit, and continually learning to adjust to our new realities, opportunities, and threats, is likely to demand more than we have to give.

This is not the time, therefore, to become less prayerful. Only by seeking to remain open to God and to divine enabling can we hope to navigate this season fruitfully and well.

*Sovereign God,
who alone holds the future,
teach us by your Spirit
how to live in the present.
In your Son, give us eyes that see
ears that hear and
hearts that gratefully apprehend,
even in the midst of great trial and loss,
something of your goodness and grace
in the world. Amen.*

Calvin

Prayers for this week

For the government, both local and national and all in public service, as the country strives again to control the virus, save lives but maintain jobs and livelihoods.

For the people of the world, that each play their part for the common good, and for the health of all the nations.

For the Rohingya people of Myanmar, still in exile, some forced to live on remote islands, many still in overcrowded refugee camps

For Nazanin Zahari-Ratcliffe, now harassed at her parent's home by Revolutionary Guards whilst under house arrest, awaiting the date of a second trial.

For Ian MacKenzie, Vivienne, Pauline, Richard, Peter and their families as they support each other during the treatment of Ian's depression.

For the Elkington family, supporting Grandma and struggling to maintain family life under the present circumstances.

For those members of the church family who are unable to be with us because of frailty and ill health.

A Message from Michael and Jane Moon

Michael and Jane sent this message after last Sunday's service:

*"We were so delighted to see friends there.
It was a big surprise that the church prepared lots of gifts for us!*

Cards, gifts and even money too! We will buy a new washing machine with that money as the present one is broken. That would be a meaningful gift for us to remember the church in our heart.

After the service, Michael and kay invited us with the Thursday Club reps. We enjoyed lunch in the garden observing the rule of 6!

We want you to convey our sincere love and gratitude to the church as we were able to serve the church for 18 months.

Once again, please deliver our appreciation to the church.

Love and peace”

Michael & Jane

Our Thank you to Michael and Jane

When you came to minister to us at Hockley we had just passed through a time of sadness and upheaval and your ministry brought us renewal, hope and calmness.

We have all loved your presentations with their beautiful pictures and inspiring words. We have truly enjoyed your singing.

You have led worship in so many innovative ways. Who can forget the Teddy bear service? All ages loved it, from toddlers to the eldest of us. Or the contemplative service where you had set up so many different areas to share. And many more.

Your pastoral care was appreciated by all, particularly by those you visited in hospital. Your genuine concern for all your flock and the wider community did not go unnoticed within our fellowship and outside it too. There is so much more- too much to mention here. We can't leave Jane out. Jane, we have loved having you in our congregation and we are grateful for all the times that you grabbed the Hoover or did the washing up. We will miss you both.

We hope that you will enjoy our gift, offered with all our love and best wishes. We know that you have always trusted in God to lead you and we ask His blessing on you both as you move on to a new phase of your journey with Him.

Thank you, Michael and Jane

Link to the Past

For this week's entry I am taking the liberty of using "The Little Book of Essex" by Judith Williams. There are so many interesting pieces of information I could use and I could have used details of Essex going back 450,000 years ago but unfortunately my memory doesn't go back that far. I have decided to go back to the middle and late 20th century and I hope you find these entries interesting.

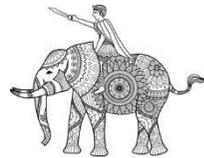
MODS AND ROCKERS

Groups of "Mods" dressed in parka jackets and riding Lambretta scooters clashed with rival "Rockers", characterised by motorbikes and leathers, at Clacton over the Easter weekend in 1964.

Newspapers reported that they had been "roaring and rampaging" in an orgy of "hooliganism." Alan Jones from Dagenham remembers, "We knew we were going down there for a rumble I took on about three or four mods and I got a deckchair over my head." Similar gangs made a habit of visiting Southend on bank holidays or weekends and became an icon of the 1960's Essex seaside.

CONNECTING TO THE WORLD

The three Roman roads which first opened Essex up to travellers are now all but obliterated beneath the busy A12, A120, A13, A130, A414 and A127. Two motorways, the M11 and the M25, also now pass through Essex. Emperor Claudius, if he returned today, would be able to cross the Thames with his marauding elephants (as one would do), to Thurrock via the Dartford Tunnel, which opened in 1963, with the second tunnel opened in 1980. They could return via the Queen Elizabeth II Bridge, which opened in 1991 to accommodate the demand from over 130,000 vehicles a day crossing the Thames at this point.



This was some feat by Emperor Claudius as you must remember this was prior to W.H. Smith's selling their road maps and also before the convenience of car sat navs.

During the 1960's, Southend was London's third busiest airport but that role passed to Stansted in the 1970's. Southend Airport now handles scheduled passenger, charter and business flights, cargo flights, pilot training and recreational flying.

Stansted Airport started life in 1942 as a USAAF bomber base. The British Airports Authority developed the terminal in 1969 and extended it in 1972. In 1984 it gained approval for expansion and in 1986 work began on the main terminal that stands today. Stansted won numerous awards for the architecture and practicality of the new terminal, opened in 1991.

It is now the fourth busiest airport in the United Kingdom. Planes from Stansted fly to over 140 destinations covering thirty four countries across the world.

Since going to print and in present difficult times, these figures may now be inaccurate.

Stansted Airport was acquired by Manchester Airports Group in 2013 for £1.5 billion and hopes to expand even further.

Harwich International Port has retained its close ties with Europe, while Tilbury is now London's major port.

More news from The Link next week. If anyone has any old Link magazines I could borrow, would be most grateful as I am running out of magazines to use.

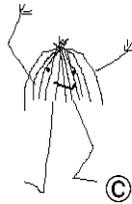
Ray Williams

Billy Mawhinney

Here is a painting commission Billy did for some friends, and an accompanying verse. What a beautiful image.



“You've gotta dance like there's nobody watching,
Love like you'll never be hurt,
Sing like there's nobody listening,
And live like it's heaven on earth.”



Ray's Quizzoom Co. Ltd survives hairy plin © publications' takeover bid

Uproar on the Stock Exchange as FTSE10000 newcomer **Ray's Quizzoom Co Ltd** survives the unlikely takeover bid from the from Boggart Hole Clough company **hairy plin publications ©** .

There were recriminations all round after Chairperson of the **Ray's Quizzoom** Board, Raymond Fils de Guillaume, fell unexpectedly ill with Dead Parrot's Sickness (DPS). He claimed dirty tricks by **hairy plin publications' ©** solicitors, Fleasem, Pockitt, Tall and Scramme, who he alleged had sent him a diseased parrot in the post. "*Eet wurze une Norvége Bleu*" said Raymond "*Sacré Bleu, je penséed, quel sal treek*". A Twitter storm ensued (*a what? Ed*)

After threats of legal reprisals from Fleasem, Pockitt, Tall and Scramme, Raymond withdrew his allegations, the Twitter storm subsided (*thank goodness. Ed*) and everybody lost interest, including **hairy plin publications ©** who withdrew the bid for **Ray's Quizzoom Co.**, citing unwarranted, adverse publicity. Rumour has it that Fleasem, Pockitt, Tall and Scramme have been 'released' from their role as legal advisers and Knever, Noe, Ingly, Dunnan Unestdaes, Werkk & Prtnrs. appointed in their stead.

More rumours – the Noddy copyright issue may have been resolved following extensive research and after expensive Counsel's opinion had been sought. **hairy plin publications ©** may be reviving their interest in the long-planned and eagerly anticipated opera.

hairy plin publications © own offshore solicitors, Knott, Sweeval, Butts, Till, Prettymeen and Cringeworthy were tight lipped about the prospects but more information is available on their website at www.ksbtpc-maphear.org.pa.

Do you know.....

... where was the first meeting of the United Nations held?



It might be an odd question out of the blue, and the answer surprised me when I read it. There's Methodist connection – answer on the last page.

Mike

The Real Advent Calendar 2020

It may seem a long time till Christmas but we've already had this advert from Meaningful Chocolate.



Because of the uncertainty over the future spread of Coronavirus they think it's more important than ever to find ways to share the Christmas story and support Fairtrade.

So, they've decided to produce a special edition 2020 Real Advent Calendar - complete with rainbow markings and a new Christmas story activity book.

Because of the uncertainty this year they want us to buy now or to start planning to buy for Christmas early. They ask us to:

1. Be a Champion and collect orders from family and friends and order a case from us (Free posters & sign up lists available on our website)
2. Buy a case to share with friends, family or a school
3. Send single calendars in any numbers direct through the post along with other items from our 2020 range
4. Sponsor a calendar, case or pallet to be sent to a food bank.

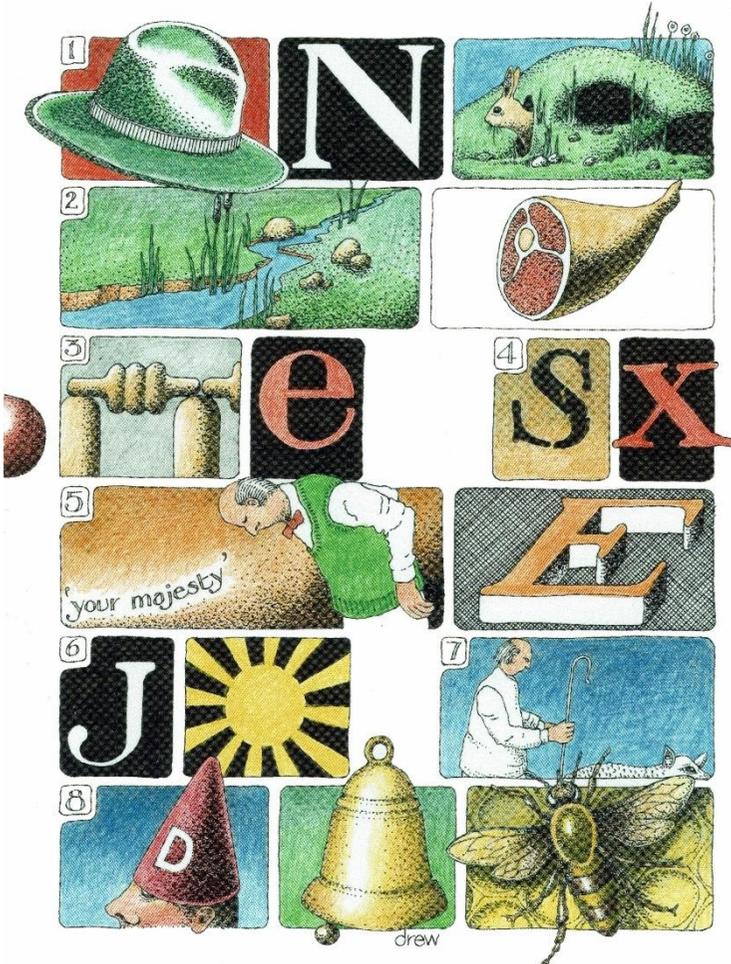
There are more details on their website at

<https://meaningfulchocolate.co.uk/collections/christmas>

Simon Drew's "Spot The .." Postcards

These Catchphrase-like games are available on postcards with a whole range of subjects. We'll print some in the next few issues and give you the answers in the subsequent edition.

SPOT THE FAMOUS DAVID



The answers to the last 'Spot the ... Postcard' quiz, Capital Cities, are:

1 Helsinki 2 Canberra 3 Tokyo 4 New Delhi 5 Kartoum 6 Ankara

Vivienne and Ian Mackenzie

As most of you will know, Ian has been taken ill with depression. He is currently in hospital in Grays. Vivienne visited him on Wednesday but has been told that no further visits will be allowed for the time being, although she can continue to phone him.

To help Vivienne manage the house in his absence she would like to know if anyone can recommend a gardener not just to cut the grass but to tend the borders as well.

Vivienne can be contacted on 01702 4550

Carolyn

A Picture from the Past

This picture came to us via Anne Collins and the Local History of Hockley and Hawkwell Facebook page. It's a photo of the "official" opening of our Church on 8th April 1906 by a Mr Arthur W Cox (don't know who he is, but he's probably a relative of Shirley James)..



The original photo, on a postcard, is in poor condition with creases and scratches all over it, but thanks to modern technology (and Billy) it now “looks good for its age”! Mind you considering it’s meant to be a celebratory occasion most of those present look pretty miserable!

Newsletter No. 25 – unlocked!

Thanks again to everybody who’s contributed.

Now we’re back in Church it’s hardly correct to keep calling this newsletter ‘The Lockdown Link’ – at least for the time being we are able to meet in Church and are actively looking at re-opening for at least some community activities. So, a new name and thanks to Billy for a new logo.



Thank you too, once again, to everybody who’s contributed and please keep your contributions coming! Send items to us at hmethslink@gmail.com or phone 07798948236.

Muriel & Mike

We’ve re-opened for Worship

We’ve now had two Sunday services in Church, both led by Rev Calvin Samuel, who will also lead the service this Sunday and next week, which is Harvest. Both will start at 11:15am



Because of the necessary precautions, Church and the service look and sound different from the “old normal”. Here are some of the points you need to remember:

- please don’t come to Church if you have coronavirus symptoms or have had recent contact with anyone who has symptoms or has been tested positive

- everybody will have to wear a mask
- maintain social distancing – 1m +
- there will be no singing
- please stay seated throughout the service, from when you arrive till when you leave. Don't move the chairs.

So there won't be any Sunday Zoom services for the time being but we'll continue with our Wednesday Morning Zoom Chats and, for as long as Ray's willing to think up the questions, with Ray's Friday Quizzoom.

Hockley Methodists' on Zoom

Wednesday Morning Social Chat at 10:30am

An opportunity to meet friends and find out how they are and find out what they've been doing. We had 12 at this Wednesday's Chat.



Ray's Friday Quizzoom at 7:00pm

Five rounds of five questions in each - with everything from TV soaps to quantum mathematics! There were 12 quizzoomers on 11th September and **David was**

Quizzoomer of the week with 22/25. There were 12 quizzoomers last Friday too, **and Billy was Quizzoomer of the week , also with 22/25.**



If you haven't got a Zoom account go to <https://us04web.zoom.us/signup> Any problems installing it phone Mike on 07798948236. Don't be put off by the technology, once it's going it's not complicated. Before each Zoom you'll get an email with a meeting ID and password and full instructions on how to join in.

You can join either of these events on your landline (or mobile), you don't need a pc, laptop or tablet. Ask Mike and he'll give you the number to call (it's a UK number) and the meeting ID and password. You ring it at the start of the event; you get instructions as you go along till you reach a "waiting room" and Mike will let you into the event from there (this is a security measure to keep out unwanted "guests"). June Waterfield has regularly joined us on Sunday and Wednesday mornings without any difficulty. If you need persuading or any help in joining us (or even a practice session) phone Mike on 07798948236.

Online Worship

Some members and friends will be unable to get to Church but you will still be able to follow services at **Wesley's Chapel in London**. Several Services are "streamed" from there during the week and can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUAUqhmhevz5sqhh72LIMxA>.



In addition, the **Circuit Zoom service** is continuing till the end of September. It starts with social chat at **10:30am**, then **worship starts at 11:00am**.



The joining details are the same for each week: -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84166449486?pwd=SlhvK2VlbkE0ZU9xeU8yMkl0aHU0Q>
T09 Meeting ID: 841 6644 9486 Passcode: 322853

One tap mobile

+442039017895,,84166449486#,,,,,0#,,322853#

+441314601196,,84166449486#,,,,,0#,,322853#

Dial on your landline

0203 901 7895 United Kingdom

0131 460 1196 United Kingdom

0203 051 2874 United Kingdom

0203 481 5237 United Kingdom

0203 481 5240 United Kingdom

Meeting ID: 841 6644 9486

Passcode: 322853

Rev Calvin Samuel's YouTube services will still be available at https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Rev+Calvin+Samuel

And there are other services you can watch or listen to at home, for instance:

Methodist Central Hall <https://www.youtube.com/user/MCHWevents>



plus Songs of Praise every Sunday on BBC1 TV
Radio 4 Sunday Worship at 8:10am

BBC
RADIO



Ray's Quizzoom

For those of you who missed Ray's Quizzoom 18 on 11th September, here it is (no cheating – use of smart phones not allowed!) along with the answers (no peeping!) to that and to Quizzoom 17 and the questions from last week, Quizzoom 19, when there was no newsletter.



Ray's Quizzoom 18 – 11th September 2020

ROUND ONE - MEDICAL DRAMAS

- Q.1 Hawkeye, Radar and Hotlips featured in this American medical series from 1973 to 1983 and based on the Vietnam War.
- Q. 2 Holby City is a spin off from which other medical drama.
- Q. 3 Martin Clunes plays a doctor based in Cornwall. Name this medical series.
- Q. 4 Which actress and comedienne plays the part of "Chummy" in "Call the Midwife."
- Q. 5 Raymond Massey played Dr. Gillespie in this medical drama of the 1960's. Richard Chamberlain played the doctor which is the title of this series. Name it.

ROUND TWO - NUMBERS

- Q. 6 Patrick McGoohan starred in the series of "The Prisoner" in the late 1960's which was filmed in the Italianate village of Portmeirion in North Wales. His character repeatedly said "I am not a number." What number had his captors given him.
- Q. 7 What do the two opposite sides of a dice add up to.
- Q. 8 How many sides has an octagon.
- Q. 9 In a normal sized sudoku puzzle, what is the highest number.
- Q. 10 How many legs has a lobster.

ROUND THREE - CITIES OF THE WORLD

- Q. 11 The very first modern Olympic Games was held in this city in 1896.
- Q. 12 Which river flows through the centre of Budapest.
- Q. 13 In which city did Arthur Guinness open a small brewery in 1759. Hence the expression, "I'll have arf a Guinness."
- Q. 14 In Japan, what other city has the same five letters as Tokyo.
- Q. 15 The capital of Thailand has 164 letters in the Thai language. Name this capital city (PAUSE) sorry, in its English spelling.

ROUND FOUR - CAROLS

Q. 16 Which Carol preceded Rachel Riley on "Countdown."

Q. 17 Who wrote the story "A Christmas Carol."

Q. 18 Which Carol is a regular presenter on many gardening programmes including "Gardener's World."

Q. 19 This Carol was appointed as Poet Laureate in 2009 and held this position for ten years.

Q. 20 Which prolific singer and songwriter wrote and performed the song "Oh Carol."

ROUND FIVE - ROBBERS

Q. 21 This highwayman rode from London to York on the horse Black Bess. Name this highwayman.

Q. 22 What two word Italian name refers to the Mafia.

Q. 23 In 1820's Edinburgh, what was the name of the pair of infamous grave robbers.

Q. 24 In what year did The Great Train Robbery take place.

Q. 25 By what name was William Bonney, more commonly known by, in the Wild West.

Ray's Quizzoom 19 – 18th September 2020

ROUND ONE - PLACE NAMES

All answers in this round are a place, which is also the surname of this particular person.

Q. 1 This Ian was a Northern Irish loyalist politician and Protestant religious leader and was also First Minister of Northern Island from 2007 to 2008.

Q.2 Tony is an English disc jockey who broadcasted in the 1960's on Radio Caroline and Radio London before joining the BBC.

Q.3 A star of many a "Carry On" film, Barbara was also the landlady of The Queen Vic in Eastenders.

Q.4 Felicity starred in "The Good Life" with Richard Briers which ran from 1975 to 1978.

Q. 5 Born in Basildon, Justin was a footballer who started his league career with Southend United before playing for Tottenham Hotspur, Portsmouth and finally Billericay Town.

ROUND TWO - PAINTINGS

- Q.6 Which artist painted the “Mona Lisa.”
- Q.7 Which artist painted “The Haywain.”
- Q.8 Which artist painted “The Laughing Cavalier.”
- Q.9 Which artist painted “The Scream.”
- Q.10 Which artist painted “Campbell’s Soup Tins.”

ROUND THREE - ON THE FARM

- Q. 11 Which soap series dropped the word “Farm” from its title in 1989.
- Q. 12 Who wrote the novel “Animal Farm.”
- Q. 13 The Wurzels had their only UK No. 1 in 1976 singing about an essential piece of farming equipment. Name this song.
- Q. 14 This radio series on Radio 4 has been broadcast since 1950, taking place in the village of Ambridge.
- Q. 15 “The Darling Buds of May” was on TV from 1991 to 1993 and took place on a farm. It starred David Jason, Pam Ferris and Catherine Zeta Jones. What was the name of their family in this series.

ROUND FOUR - WORDS

- Q. 16 What word has a boiling point of 212 degrees and a freezing point of 32 degrees.
- Q. 17 What type of triangle has two sides that are equal.
- Q. 18 What word do Americans use for a courgette.
- Q. 19 What seven letter word can be used to describe , a party game, a tornado , or a cheat.
- Q. 20 What is the name for a female donkey or ass. It is also a girl’s name.

ROUND FIVE - MUSICAL FLOWERS

In this round a flower connection will be in either the question or answer.

- Q. 21 Which group recorded “Lily the Pink” in 1968.
- Q. 22 “Edelweiss” comes from which musical.
- Q. 23 The film “Brassed Off” featured this song by The Brighouse and Rastrick Brass Band. It was also recorded by Terry Wogan.
- Q. 24 This group recorded “Flowers in the Rain” in 1967.
- Q. 25 Which American group had a hit in 1976 with “Car Wash.

ANSWERS to Ray's Quizzoom 17

ROUND ONE - PUNCHLINES

1. HATS
2. CUCKOO
3. FEET
4. LUCKY
5. ROME

ROUND TWO - WHO SAID THAT

7. LEWIS CARROLL
8. HAROLD WILSON
9. NOEL COWARD
10. ABRAHAM LINCOLN

ROUND THREE - BIRDS

11. DOVE
12. NORWEGIAN BLUE
13. MERLIN
14. PEN
15. MAURITIUS

ROUND FOUR - RELIGIONS

16. GOD THE FATHER, GOD THE SON, GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT
17. JAMAICA
18. JUDAISM
19. BUDDHA
20. HINDUISM

ROUND FIVE - MUSICAL PLACES

21. SAN JOSE
22. MOON
23. WINCHESTER
24. SAN FRANCISCO
25. HEAVEN'S

ANSWERS to Ray's Quizzoom 18

ROUND ONE - MEDICAL DRAMAS

1. MASH
2. CASUALTY
3. DOC MARTIN

4. MIRANDA HART
 5. DR. KILDARE
- ROUND TWO - NUMBERS
6. SIX
 7. SEVEN
 8. EIGHT
 9. NINE
 10. TEN

ROUND THREE - CITIES OF THE WORLD

11. ATHENS
12. DANUBE
13. DUBLIN
14. KYOTO
15. BANGKOK

ROUND FOUR - CAROLS

16. CAROL VORDERMAN
17. CHARLES DICKENS
18. CAROL KLEIN
19. CAROL ANN DUFFY
20. NEIL SEDEKA

ROUND FIVE - ROBBERS

21. DICK TURPIN
22. COSA NOSTRA
23. BURKE and HARE
24. 1963
25. BILLY THE KID

Do you know.....



The first General Assembly of the United Nations, comprising 51 nations, convened at **Westminster Central Hall** in London on 10 January 1946. The Security Council met for the first time a week later in Church House, Westminster. The League of Nations formally dissolved itself on 18 April 1946 and transferred its mission to the United Nations. One week later, the U.N. Security Council met for the first time and established its rules of procedure.

