This Church is God's house.

God loves and welcomes you whoever you are, whatever your age, gender, mental health, physical ability, race, sexuality or financial situation.

You are welcome here, whatever your circumstances; however much or little you wish to engage; whatever you feel about faith.

WELCOME TO

AYLESBURY METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Richard Atkinson 01296 339899

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Sunday 20th October 2024

8.45am: Communion Service led by Rev Hee-gon Moon. 10.30am: Reader Service led by Mr Brian Stabler.

If you are visiting our Church for the first time, do introduce yourself to one of our stewards, who, today, are Frances Aylen at 8.45am, and Gill Marks and Derek Adams at 10.30am.

Please join us in the Hall after the service for tea, coffee, and a biscuit.

The words of the hymns are projected at the front of the Church. If you would like to have a hymnbook for the service, please ask.

Hymns	10.30am: StF 20 82 824 (read) 548 404 503			
Readings	10.30am: StF 824 Hebrews 5: 1-10 Mark 10: 35-45			
Organist	8.45am: Derrick Matthews 10.30am: David Brooker			
Streaming	To safeguard children and any vulnerable adults, our live- streamed services will not show the congregation.			

If your little ones (up to age 3) become restless during services, you are welcome to take them into the creche room in the Welcome Area to play. The service can be heard from there.

All children MUST be accompanied by an ADULT.



#### **CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

We are sad to report this week the death of two of our long-standing members. Pat Olde passed peacefully away on Tuesday at Fremantle Court. She had been a regular attender here for many years and supporter of the Youth Club attended by her son Kevin. She moved into Fremantle a while ago when her health began to fail.

We also remember Joan Orlik (formerly Joan Page) who also died earlier in the week. Joan always kept her membership here, although moved to Beaconsfield when she remarried; but in the last couple of years she returned to her old house and has been looked after by her son Tony.

We remember both Kevin Olde and his family and also Tony Page in our prayers. No news of funeral arrangements as yet.



**SHOEBOX APPEAL.** Many of you have picked up a Link to Hope shoebox form and some have been very generous with donations of money. The last date for me to receive boxes is the 8th November so that they are with me in time for the van to

come and collect them from my house. I am on holiday from 25th October till 1<sup>st</sup> November but you can leave any filled shoeboxes in the office while I am away. There is still plenty of time, so if you haven't picked up a leaflet yet, there are still some available in the Welcome Space.

Happy shoebox filling. Margaret Miskin.

up liquid & laundry detergent pods.

## Don't forget your donations for the Aylesbury Foodbank

Currently, the need is for donations of: UHT milk, tinned meat, fish & fruit. Sponge/rice puddings, small jars coffee, long life juices, pasta sauce, tinned meals (eg chilli, curries). Tinned soups, jam & spreads, as well as toiletries, together with washing



**Prayer Requests.** If you have requests for people or situations to be included in the prayers, there is a Prayer Request folder in the display cabinet in the Welcome Space for you to write in, or you could let a steward know in advance. Our Prayer Group also meets on alternate Tuesdays, 10.45-12noon, and are very

happy to receive prayer requests. They would also welcome anyone who would like to join them. Please email Ruby: rubydarku@hotmail.co.uk

## Derek Treks Britain (last instalment - for now!!!)

## Leg 8, Day 21. Wednesday 9th October.

An early morning trek to Armadale for the last ferry of this trip to Mallaig. Derek met members of the Crew, including Ian and Annalize - as all Calmac Ferry employees encountered on this trip, very welcoming and helpful. Many thanks indeed to Fiona Bowman from Calmac for arranging Derek's island-hopping journey. We are very grateful for the help, and Derek has really enjoyed his times onboard the various craft.

Upon disembarking, Derek quickly found his way to RNLI Mallaig, and met Andrew, who was an RNLI man of many years, still very enthusiastic and knowledgeable. Derek then met Mo, now in his 70's with an even longer record than Andrew.

The final lapel badge was purchased for this Leg!

Derek made his way to Glasgow via Fort William, passing the Jacobite train packed full with Harry Potter fans having just crossed the Glenfinnan viaduct. As a keen historian, Derek was pleased to spot the statue of Bonny Prince Charlie at the spot where the Clans gathered at the start of the Jacobite rebellion.

In Glasgow, Derek enjoyed his meal at 'The Counting House', the foundation of the Bank of Scotland - yet another being put to good by J D Wetherspoon. Thus ended the last day of Leg 8.

He will be wending his way home tomorrow.

### Friday 11th October.

Derek took me by surprise by arriving home mid-afternoon, the earliest return time to date! This was due to the kindness of the wonderful people he met in Kyle of Lochalsh.

Thank you so much - a final generous example of the warmth of the Scottish people. That's all for now, Folks.

Leg 9 will probably be immediately after Easter 2025. We will keep you updated.

Just to remind everyone of the fundraising Derek is trying to achieve: £10,000 to be divided across his chosen three charities: RNLI (Royal National Lifeboat Institution), BHF (British Heart Foundation) and CRUK (Cancer Research UK).

Any donation to get him closer to his target is very much appreciated. <a href="https://justgiving.com/team/DEREKtreksBRITAIN">https://justgiving.com/team/DEREKtreksBRITAIN</a>
or donations can be given direct to Derek's wife, Sue.

# 4

#### 'GOOD NEWS' FROM AROUND THE CIRCUIT

#### KARIBUNI CHILDREN



Dear All,

This Sunday, 20 October, the focus of our Circuit Karibuni Children Prayers is on Karibuni Children and we join Joy as she

shares her story with us. We will learn the inspirational story of how Corinne became led by God to start Karibuni Children. ,This is the story of how a wonderful family listened to and responded to God's call to offer love and help to a whole generation of young people. ,Please pray for those precious young people who have been given such an amazing start to life, that they may be able to plough their God-given skills back into their local communities and bring the riches of God's creation and the light of His love to those who struggle daily to survive.

Pete.

#### Where to start? What started it all! Who was God?

I was the second of 3 children with a single parent from the age of five, which was when my father, who had been in the RAF, left us to join his WAAF lady friend after the war.

Four years later my sister was born - a great relief to me as we were now 2 girls and 2 boys!

We were brought up in Blackpool, having been evacuated from Hull when our house there was bombed. A wonderful place for us children who played on the beach as often as possible. I became the second mum in the family as our Mum had to work fulltime in a shop and seasonal hotel work evenings; so I took my young brother to school and home again; and later took my sister to nursery on (sort of) my way to Grammar School – I was the first in the whole wide family to pass the 11+, and very proud I was!

We never went to church – it was never even thought of. However, my friend and I went to Sunday School for enough weeks to qualify for the Sunday School picnic outing! Then no more until next summer! Bless them, they never turned us away.

At 16½ I left home and became a cadet nurse at Booth Hall Children's hospital, Manchester, later qualifying as a Paediatric Nurse there; and a General Nurse at Manchester Royal in 4 years. While at Booth Hall I started to go to the local Methodist Church – but only to keep my new friend company. This was a mind-blowing, life-changing experience for me – there was a crowd of young people who had real fun together. They were funny and caring and, especially the boys(!), very interested in these two girls who joined them. It was after a few weeks I gave my life to Christ and started on a new life-long learning – not finished yet after the first 68 years!

During that time, Mum and my younger brother and sister emigrated to Australia, upset and angry that I wouldn't go with them until I'd finished training. My older brother was already married and living in Canada, so I could well understand Mum's distress, but as a new Christian, I told her that 'having put my hand to the plough, I couldn't turn back'. How priggish and superior I must have sounded — sorry Mum. But I promised to join them when I'd qualified.

If I'd gone with them, I wouldn't have met Bill! He was already at Theological College when we met, and I fell hook, line and sinker for him! Sadly, after about 3 months back at college, Bill decided he was called to a celibate ministry – his Irish ancestry? This heartbroken nurse emigrated to Australia – and had a wonderful time; Australia had a shortage of unattached women at that time, and, working as a ward sister, there were crowds of doctors!!

I joined the Sydney Methodist Mission and enthusiastically joined in the city centre mission experience, and was later appointed to a nursing position there. Then Bill got in touch through a friend back home, admitting he'd been mistaken. Now in his first appointment in Basingstoke, he realised how lonely he was; he loved and missed me and asked me to go back home and marry him! I then had to leave the new role at the mission; I was in awe of the Super and had to ask him to release me. I invented my own 'Jason's fleece', deciding to tell Rev Alan Walker what was happening, without saying what I really wanted to do. If Alan said 'Joy, this is wonderful, you must go and marry Bill' I would say 'Thank you, Lord' and go home. If he had the slightest hesitation; I would accept that returning to England was not what God intended for me! When Alan looked at me and said, 'Joy, this is wonderful, etc' – you don't need more than one guess what I did! And I upset Mum yet again – sorry!

So, I did private nursing to raise my fare home. Had a lovely 6-week cruise back to Southampton, arriving 21<sup>st</sup> June 1963. We got engaged on 5<sup>th</sup> July at Conference, where Bill was ordained in the church in Blackpool that I had attended from school for our annual services! We were then married

14<sup>th</sup> September 1963, 3 months after returning from Australia, not having seen each other for nearly 3 years! God must have been in there with us. Four children, thirteen grandchildren and two great grandchildren later, I still believe in God's guidance and providence – that each step has prepared us for the next.

We served in Basingstoke; Friendship House, Wandsworth; Dorking (what a contrast!); Northwood; and finally, Amersham.

While we were in Northwood, we took part in a 7-month exchange with John Mungania, a Kenyan minister; a life-changing, challenging and wonderful time. Corinne, our daughter, came with us, taking a year off school. This time laid the seeds of Karibuni Children! We served at Kariokor Methodist Church in Nairobi - - all that happened there is another story, but we were very aware of God's presence protecting and guiding us.

On our return, we applied to work overseas with the Missionary Society, and were accepted to work in Harare - Bill as the Super and me as a nurse in the HIV/AIDs clinic at the church. Then the Zimbabwean Government discovered Bill was already 60, which is when their ministers retire, so refused a visa for him. We were shattered and decided to go on holiday to France, to pray and re-think our future as manse-less and churchless family! Corinne came with us.

On our third day we were in a horrific crash; Bill and I had minor injuries, and Corinne was severely injured and in a coma in intensive care.

Miraculously, our future had been sorted while we were away, and when we got home, we immediately had to pack up to move to Amersham – a new church and a new home, with Corinne still in hospital for a further 3 months in Kenton! I had to stay at the hospital with Corinne for some time, so our Northwood church packed us up and our new church at Amersham unpacked us – it took ages for me to find anything when I finally got there!

Two years later, as Corinne improved, she went to the MAYC rally in London with a friend. She had been a member of their national choir but could no longer sing after all the intubation. She later told us that, as she sat in the audience listening to the choir sing, she had a vision of children in Kenya holding out their hands and saying, 'Help me, help me'. She replied that she would help them.

Bill and I listened and decided it was a result of her injury, and she'd forget about it. Some days later she came in and said she'd been to see the bank manager and told him her story and said she intended opening a bank account to collect money for the children. He asked how much money she had, and she gave him £2.56 - all she had! He looked at it, looked at her, and agreed to open a bank account for her.

To add more obstacles, we told her no-one would give her money unless it was a registered charity; she then went to the Charity Commissioners in London and learned what had to be done. In record time we had 10 Trustees, a name and a charity number.

The rest is history! The first money was raised (£13,500) by Corinne cycling 460 miles from Edinburgh to London, finishing on the stage at the next MAYC rally in Battersea.

The bigger miracle was Bill and me cycling alternate days with her. God's leading through this adventure is another story of God's care and encouragement!

Karibuni was born, and many doors opened and gave us the openings we needed to spread the story of how it had happened and the many miracles that are happening in the projects Karibuni supports. Children with no hope of a daily meal, of going to school, gaining a skill, going to university and college, now healthy, educated and working, some able to support their families and volunteer in the projects!

As people in Kenya constantly assert, 'God is Good – All the Time'.

As I go round the projects each year, I become more aware of God's goodness and his many blessings as I interact with the children and staff, the wonderful friends who host me and chauffeur me – what a privilege and honour is mine.

'Karibuni' means 'Welcome to many', and over the years hundreds of children have had their lives changed through the vision of a young woman who listened to God and made a difference. Next year is Karibuni Children's  $30^{th}$  Anniversary, and celebrations are being planned – join in when you are able and help Karibuni to achieve their  $50^{th}$  Anniversary!

**Asante sana na Mungu Awabarike! Thank you very much and God Bless you!** Joy.



#### **Next Week**

Mon	21 Oct	6.00pm	Girls' Brigade
		6.30 - 8.00pm	Food Hub
Tues	22 Oct	9.30am	Chair Yoga
		10.45am	Prayer Group
		6.15pm	Boys' Brigade
Thurs	24 Oct	10.00am	Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group
		From 1.45pm	Blood Donor sessions
Frid	25 Oct	2.30pm	Friday Feathers – Badminton Club

## Sunday 27th October 2024

10.30am: Morning Worship led by Mr Ken Harris.

The designated fire officers are the Duty Stewards		
First Aid boxes are located in each of the kitchens		
Fire doors are not to be wedged open, except those fitted with Dorgard		
(Please ensure other doors close behind you after passing through		
Duty Manager (Roger Kirk: 01296 415312 Mobile: 07484 392734)		

'Derek the Cleric'



**@ANDY ROBB**