

Langford Link

Issue Number 60

May 2013

Keeping you in touch with the life and news of Langford Evangelical Church, which meets in Langford Chapel, Blackmoor, Lower Langford.

More on our website: www.langfordevangelicalchurch.org

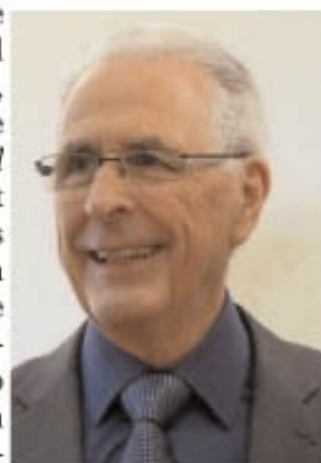
Bright day for the bride



For some time we have had the pleasure of seeing **Martin Thomas** and **Jenny Ivers** at the Chapel. Martin, who is from Calne, works at Bristol Airport while Jenny is busy with Barnabas Fund projects. They were married at Calne Free Church on a warm and sunny April day. The service, conducted by **David Sawyer**, was attended by a large congregation. They are initially going to live in Chippenham, but we hope that we will see them again.

A different sort of evening

On Thursday the 25th April we were able to join other local evangelical churches at Copse Road Chapel, Clevedon, for the quarterly "P1:5" get-together. The speaker was **Brian Edwards** (pictured right), whose strange-sounding subject was "The tale of two empires". This proved to have nothing to do with Queen Victoria or Star Wars but referred to the Assyrian and Babylonian empires, the history of which provides a background to much of the Bible. Brian was born in Devon and became a Christian at an independent evangelical church in Kent during his mid teens. He is author of twenty books and a sought-after speaker. He gave an absorbing and informative illustrated talk which was appreciated by those who attended. Modern archaeological investigations have demonstrated the accuracy of the Bible and shed light on some of its content. Scripture passages which had been scoffed at are now known to be true. Although there was much to take in, we felt we understood some things more clearly as we made our way home.



Fifth anniversary

Saturday 27th April was a significant day - it marked five years since the start of the monthly **Aroma** coffee mornings. Attended mostly by those who live near the Chapel, the combination of real coffee, homemade cakes and a quiet haven brings friends back. We don't preach at them but of course we are happy to help any who want to know about Jesus.

Men at work

You may find that there is some unusual activity going on at the Chapel. A local building firm, **Harris & Hughes**, have been engaged to replace some of the pointing and to restore the exterior notice board. (If the latter disappears briefly, don't worry, we haven't closed down!) We are hoping that the weather stays good for the work to be quickly finished.

From the Pastor's study

What is "Church" all about? The word conveys different ideas depending on who you talk to. To some it is a building; to others a denomination or style of worship. Yet the original Greek word (*ekklesia* or assembly) was different — it meant "a group of people called out for a common purpose". We find it in the second chapter of the book of Acts. After Peter preached about the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus, many people believed and started to meet together. They accepted the teaching of the apostles; united in fellowship (sharing or partnership); regularly joined in the Lord's Supper and met to pray together. It was not about a building and there were no denominations then. Those who had truly believed that Jesus was the risen Lord and the only Saviour joined them. Going to church does not make you a Christian but real Christians still meet together. Why? Because they want to share with each other their joy in Jesus; they want to pray and work in unity to tell others about Him; they want to praise God with those who know His saving power. They just can't stay away!

For your diary

May is not so busy a month but don't forget our regular services and events:

We shall be seeing more visiting speakers while our Pastor is on holiday, including on Tuesday 14th when **Calix Furus** from Clevedon will lead our Bible Study and on the 21st when we expect **David Herring** to be with us. Some readers may not have realised that these meetings are open to anyone, including friends who cannot be with us on Sundays. Start time 7.30.

If you are looking for a Church which isn't "trendy" but is welcoming, have you thought of visiting us on a **Sunday**? All we can offer you is reverent worship, God's word and Jesus' love — maybe you need to have those things in your life?

The **Aroma** coffee morning this month is on Saturday the 25th, starting as usual at 10.30. If you have never been before, join us as we start our sixth year (see "*Fifth Anniversary*", on the preceding page).

Who's who at Langford Chapel

An occasional look at the people we see here

Bill Dyer made his first visit as a preacher to Langford recently. He had intended to be with us on Easter Day but a combination of snow near his Yorkshire home and his wife being unwell meant a week's delay. Bill originally came from Somerset and often visits, so we hope we can get him to preach here again.



Quiz Corner

Whitsun is the traditional time to recall the Holy Spirit's coming. How much do you know about Him?

1. *What did the Spirit's coming sound like according to Acts Chapter 2?*
2. *Were all the disciples filled with the Holy Spirit or only some of them?*
3. *How do Acts 5 verses 3 and 4 show us that the Holy Spirit is God?*
4. *Who did the Holy Spirit send out as missionaries in Acts 13?*
5. *Is it possible to belong to Christ and not have the Holy Spirit? (If you are stuck, see Romans 8 verse 9!)*
6. *What is the first fruit of the Spirit mentioned in Galatians Chapter 5?*
7. *According to Ephesians 1, what had happened to them so that they could be sealed with the Holy Spirit?*
8. *How does Ephesians 4:30 prove the Spirit is a Person, not an influence?*

Prayer requests

As well as local friends who are **ill**, let us remember those who were with us before moving away from Langford, including **Mrs. Vivienne Lee** who has been in hospital and **Claire Stubbs** who had a bad fall.

Pray that the Church will have sufficient **workers** to maintain its activities — a combination of infirmity and some conflicting responsibilities is causing us problems just now.

Remember those caught up in the two recent **tragic events** in the United States and pray for those who bring God's comfort. Pray that **our nation** will be brought back to God.