

Langford Link

Issue Number 73 **Sixth Anniversary Edition** June 2014

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

Still celebrating



As reported in our April issue, **May and John Hunt** celebrated their Diamond Wedding on 3rd April. As well as a much-prized letter from Her Majesty the Queen, their daughter **Angela** and son-in-law **Tony** had planned a Garden Party, which was held in May and much enjoyed by all, despite a strong wind attempting to play havoc with the gazebo. *(Another photo inside.)*

From the Pastor's study

Does prayer actually change anything? Some people think that it is just something that makes us feel better. Others give up praying when the answers don't seem to come. The April meeting of local evangelical churches was held at Langford and we changed the format to allow more time for prayer. The shorter sermon took us to the Lord teaching His disciples to pray and we were reminded that Jesus Himself prayed. So He must have thought it worthwhile! The subject stayed with me and was brought up again when I attended a Minister's Fellowship meeting a few days ago. The topic was the life and theology of George Whitefield, a contemporary of the Wesleys. After many struggles he came to faith in Christ and was a pioneer outdoor preacher, drawing vast crowds day after day. He was a man who spent hours in prayer and it showed when he spoke. There was a time when prayer meetings would be filled in this country and even a brief study of the history of blessing and revival will reveal the emphasis that was placed on prayer. We hear of other countries where hundreds still meet to pray and the Lord's work prospers; situations change and new hope is found. God tells us, "Draw near to Me and I will draw near to you" (James 4 verse 8). So why don't we? God and His power have not changed. If you're too busy to pray, perhaps you are *too* busy!

The "Link" is six

Did you notice the box on the front page? Yes, that's right, the first issue of this newsletter was published in June 2008. A lot has happened since but we are still trying to bring you a mix of news and comment, some serious stuff and some more light-hearted. We seek to make it interesting for all but suggestions are welcome.

Getting nearer. . .

As mentioned in earlier **Issues**, a fourth **Holiday Bible Club and Mission** has been arranged for August. This will be led again by **Clive Williams** of the **Open-Air Mission** and will include events for both children and adults. We are pleased that we have offers of help in preparing and running this event.

Langford's rival to Mary Berry?



Angela's amazing display of cakes, which she prepared for May and John's celebration Garden Party (see front page story).

For your diary

Events in **June** include the following:

On Sunday **8th** at **6.30 p.m.** we expect another visit from the **Bristol Evangel Male Voice Choir**. We missed booking them last year, so are pleased to get them back again. Their powerful singing and moving testimony to the good news of Jesus is always appreciated.

The monthly **Aroma** coffee morning will be on Saturday **28th**, from **10.30** onwards. The usual mix of good coffee and home-made cakes with a friendly welcome brings people back - if you've not been yet, why not pop in?

Don't forget our usual Sunday and Tuesday services — the Bible should not be an optional extra!

Who's who at Langford Chapel

An occasional look at the people we see here

Roger Hitchings came to preach for us in May and told us it was about 30 years since he was last at Langford. He was working in Bristol with blind people and then for Age Concern. After that he was a Pastor in Birmingham before leading a church in East Leake for many years. Now he is based in Swindon we hope to see him again. He is an authority on age-related issues. Roger's wife **Cathy** accompanied him and very ably led our worship at the piano.



Quiz Corner

We are soon commencing studies in Mark's Gospel. Can you find the answers to these questions there (Chapter 1)?

1. *In which river was John baptising the people?*
2. *A voice came from Heaven when Jesus was baptised. What was said?*
3. *What did Jesus preach about?*
4. *What two things did He tell people they must do?*
5. *What were Simon and Andrew doing when Jesus saw them?*
6. *What were the names of Zebedee's two sons?*
7. *What was it in Jesus' teaching that astonished those in the synagogue?*
8. *Whose wife's mother was sick with a fever?*
9. *What did Jesus do after he got up very early in the morning?*
10. *What did Jesus say to the leper?*

Prayer requests

There are still several members and friends who are **unwell** — please go on praying for them.

Continue to remember all those who have been affected by **terrorist** activities, including the girls taken from the school in **Nigeria** and also those affected by the recent bombings in that country.

Pray for those who have been **bereaved** — including one lady who formerly attended our Sunday School, whose husband died in a tragic accident.

Pray that the **gospel** will be clearly preached.