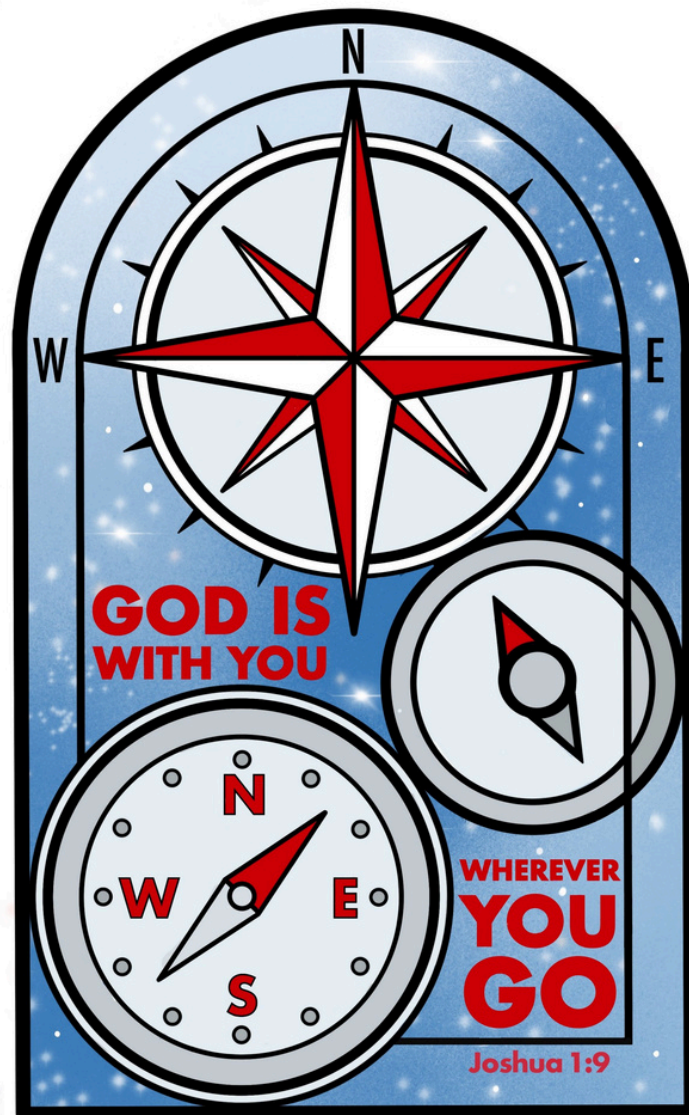


WINDOW ON WESLEY'S

July/August 2026



John Wesley
Wesley's Chapel
& Leysian Mission



Keep in touch with us online:



on TikTok @WesleysChapel_Museum



on Facebook /WesleysChapel



on Instagram @wesleyschapel.lm



on Threads @wesleyschapel.lm



Scan to visit
everywhere we're
online via Linktree

Dear friends,

Welcome to the July/August issue of Window on Wesley's; we hope you were able to stay cool in the recent heatwave, and any which are to come.

This has been a season of great joy with baptisms and weddings, also of great sadness with tragic bereavements in the congregation. We are standing in solidarity with one another to pray for comfort for all in tragedy as in blessing.

Alongside this, we have news to share: on 29 June the British Methodist Conference elected me to serve as its President during the year June 2027 to June 2028.

I will remain living at Wesley's, but during that year I will be mainly taken up with representing the Conference across Great Britain and further afield.

It is a great honour and deep privilege to follow in the footsteps of others who have served as President of Conference, not least John Wesley himself. It is also only possible because of the excellent ministry and lay leadership we have, which will allow us to continue to support one another and the growth of this church.

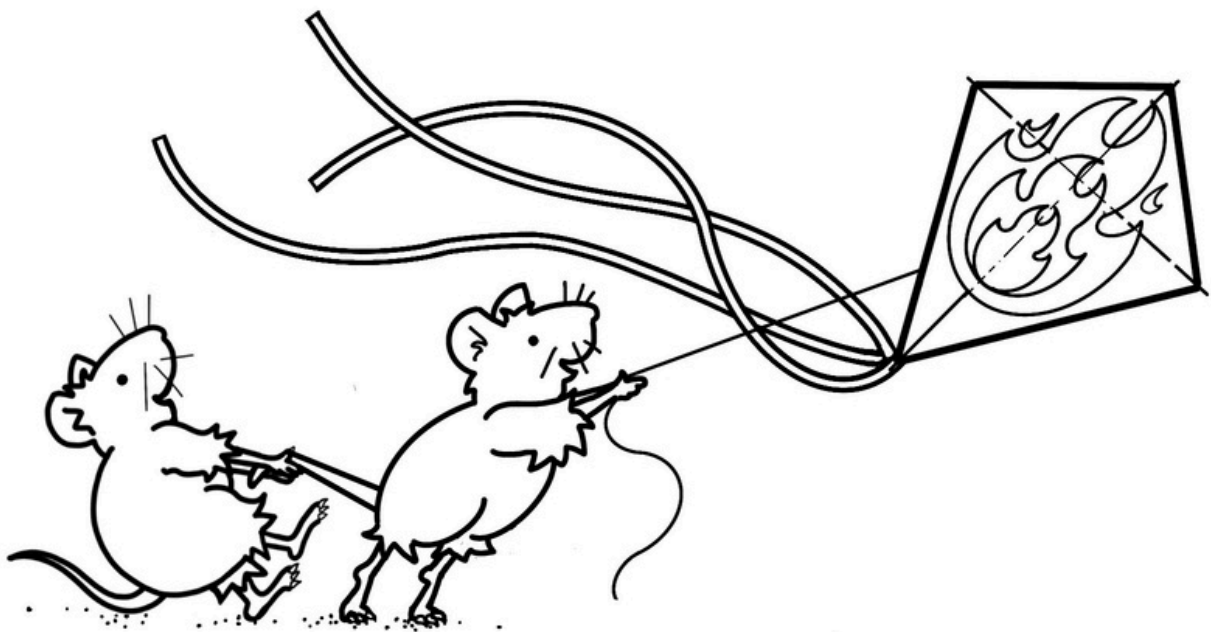
My term of office will coincide the beginning of Wesley's 250th anniversary year with its theme 'Grace for all': I will look

forward to raising the profile of our work across Britain, and in the wider Methodist family. Of course there will be provision to support our ministry during the year, and I will return here after it finishes.

Please pray for all of our congregation in this time of preparation, and as we join one another as ever on good days and bad. Our God is faithful.

All best,

Jen



Weekly Programme

Sunday

9am | Men's Prayer Breakfast (1st Sunday of the month)

9.45am | Holy Communion Service (Except 1st Sunday of the month)

11.00am | Morning Service (with Sunday School except 1st Sunday of the month when there is Holy Communion)

12.30pm | Methodist Women in Britain (1st Sunday of the Month)

Young Adults' Group (2nd Sunday of the Month)

Wesley's Chapel Ghana Fellowship (Last Sunday of the Month)

1.30pm | Ghanaian Language Worship (3rd Sunday of the Month)

5.00pm - 6.30pm | Zoom Fellowship, Bible Study and Evening Prayer

Monday

2.00pm | Sisterhood

Tuesday

1.05pm | Lunchtime Recital (Except July, August & December)

6.30pm | Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association (Term-Time Only)

Wednesday

10.30am | Stay and Play (Term-Time Only)

12.45am | Service of Holy Communion

Saturday

5pm | Choir Practice

Monday-Saturday Morning Prayer is Livestreamed at 10am
Livestreams can be found at: youtube.com/@WCLM/streams

Our Minister Writes...

It is with joy that a new piece of work will start at the beginning of July. After a recruitment process, the Trustees have appointed Mr Jehoshua Wright to the role of Digital Mission Interim Consultant. He will work with us for an initial period of three months. This will lead to the creation of a new employed position at the Chapel for a Digital Missioner.

The Methodist Church in recent years has increasingly realised the need to take seriously the digital world that is our daily reality. In every Sunday service our community of worshipping people is far larger than we can see in the Chapel. People are in different spaces and different times. Some live almost on our doorsteps and others on the other side of the world.

The Digital Mission role for these three months will focus on our community who encounter us online or through social media. Who are they? What are their needs? What resources do they need to be able to live out their faith in the current world? How can they feel connected and cared for? How are they developing their faith and discerning and responding to God's call for them?

The other aspect of the role is to commission some work on branding. This is the face and voice we present to the world. It is about logos, colours, fonts and styles of communication and also the voice we speak with.

I wonder what you think about our current logos?



Perhaps you also have a view on the colour palette we might want to use. It might not seem all that important in the context of the complex world we are part of, and yet communication lies at the heart of the mission of God and we need to consider every aspect of it.

Similarly, below is illustrated our current default colour palette, what do you think of it?



These may or may not be where we end up, but it indicates the thought process that Jehoshua will now be leading us through.

If you have any ideas about our digital mission and particularly the two aspects of 1. Knowing our digital community and 2. Developing our brand, please do contact him on DM@wesleyschapel.org.uk . He will be glad to hear from you.

Thank you to the trustees for their vision and to those who carried out the recruitment process.

With all good wishes

Claire

Wesley's Out and About

- Our Superintendent Minister preached at the welcome service of the new Minister of the St Albans URC church.
- Our Global Mission Fellow, returned from Belize will be heading to Dublin for a GMF event this July.
- Several members of our congregation are travelling abroad for family funerals. We hold those who are mourning in prayer.



Note From the Editor

Thank you for feedback on last month's issue. We have made a few changes and welcome further suggestions/criticisms.

Also: where an article is unattributed it is usually by the editor, our Leysian Missioner, Thomas Smith.

A spectacular celebration of
the ever-unfolding journey of faith

JOIN US ON THE WAY

Friday 2nd – Sunday 4th October
If your child aged 8-18 wishes to come
with us please let us know ASAP. There
is no charge, but we need to book train
tickets. Please speak to Thomas or
Tamira TODAY or email
missioner@wesleyschapel.org.uk
to secure a place



3GENERATE 2026
Methodist Children & Youth Assembly

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S
Steel Pan
MUSIC WORKSHOP



**Join us Saturday 18th July
10.30am-3.30pm
Free - including Lunch - for under 25s**

Funded by the Michael Aderinola Memorial Fund



John Wesley
Wesley's Chapel
& Leysian Mission

Presidents & Wesley's - A Quiz

With Jen joining the list of Superintendent Ministers of this Church who have been Presidents of the Conference, we (the editor) have put together this quiz, the questions of which get progressively harder...

In the interests of consistency, names lack all titles and honourifics.

1) When will Jen begin her time in office?

- A) June 2027
- B) September 2027
- C) August 2026
- D) January 2027

2) Who is the President on 5th July 2026 (when this issue comes out)

3) On which two occasions is it customary for the President and Vice-President to attend and lead Worship at Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission?

- A) Wesley Day/Aldersgate Day and New Year's Day
- B) Wesley Day/Aldersgate Day and Methodist New Year's first Sunday
- C) Wesley Day/Aldersgate Day and their first Sunday in office
- D) Methodist New Year and Calendar New Year

4) Which Minister and Deacon couple served as President and Vice-President respectively, in different years, before they came here for a year's service?

5) In which year did Jen's predecessor Leslie Griffiths serve as President of the Conference, before he became Superintendent Minister of the City Road Circuit?

- A) 1990
- B) 1994
- C) 1995
- D) 1996

6) Who was the First Minister to hold both offices at the same time?

- A) John Wesley
- B) Peter Jaco
- C) Adam Clarke
- D) Joseph Taylor

7) Who was the previous Minister to hold both offices at the same time?

- A) Walter H. Armstrong
- B) Colin Morris
- C) F. Luke Wiseman
- D) Allen Rees

8) How many Ministers in total have held both offices whilst serving as Superintendent for the Circuit including this Chapel?

- A) 10
- B) 20
- C) 5
- D) All of them

9) What can't the Vice-President of Conference be?

10) Which Minister served the Chapel twice, and was President in-between?

- A) Charles Wenyon
- B) Joseph Fowler
- C) Walter H. Armstrong
- D) Max W. Woodward.

Bonus Question: The President of which country (of the head of state variety) was the most recent to visit the Chapel?

Answers may be viewed over the page.



How the news was broken on the
Connexion's Social Media

Quiz Answers

1: A ; 2: Mark Slaney (Vice-President Caroline Stead); 3; B;
4: Stephen and Myrtle Poxon; 5: B; 6: A; 7: B; 8: A
9: An Ordained Presbyteral Minister of the Methodist Church. Half a point for “Minister”. 10: C Bonus Question: Fiji

How did you Do?

0 – Visitor – we’re glad you’re here, and are surprised you jumped straight to the quiz of all the things in the magazine!

1-3 – Member – you’ve been paying attention to the life of the Chapel, but perhaps aren’t yet an expert in the history?

4-6 – Steward – you’ve been glancing at the boards in the Foyer during your helping of the chapel we presume?

7-9 – One of Mr Wesley’s Preachers – you’re either a Methodist expert...or you realised a lot of these could be answered from 2 boards in the Foyer...which earns points for observation!

10 – Heritage Steward – If you’re not already helping, please get in touch with the curator, you are clearly a font of Methodist knowledge, and we’d be very glad to have you to help us!

250th Anniversary Update

From the Trustees...

At the Annual Church Meeting, we invited the congregation to share their hopes, ideas, and prayers for the 250th anniversary of Wesley's Chapel. We were deeply encouraged and thankful for the wonderful response. Since then, the planning group has met to reflect on all that was shared, and it has been a joy to see the enthusiasm, wisdom, and vision that will help shape this special milestone.

As we continue our preparations, many of your ideas are being woven into our plans for a year of celebration. Together, we hope to honour the rich heritage of Wesley's Chapel, celebrate all that God is doing among us today, and look forward with faith and hope to the future.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed. Your encouragement and involvement are invaluable, and we look forward to sharing more updates as our plans continue to develop.

We pray that this anniversary year will be a time of celebration, thanksgiving, and renewed mission for our whole church community.



Visit of Park Jeung

Gill Webster writes...



Park Jeung, his family and his painting which resides in the Kwanglim Room.

One of the most rewarding parts of being a Heritage Steward at the Museum of Methodism is the interesting visitors we have from all over the world. One of these visitors recently was Park Jeung who came with his wife and son from South Korea to see his painting, which he knew hung somewhere on the premises. With the help of Christian Dettlaff, the curator of the Museums; Park Jeung was delighted to locate his painting in the Kwanglim Room.

Park has made a fascinating personal journey. Born on October 27, 1974, he sustained a severe spinal cord injury in 1991 during a swimming accident. The accident left him disabled and having to use a wheelchair. In 1994, he taught himself how to paint using his mouth. He became an Associate Member of the international of Mouth and Foot Painting Artists (VDMFK) in 2007.

His artistic creations are vibrant oil and watercolour with many using his own Korean background. His work has been widely exhibited in major South Korean galleries.

If you haven't visited the Kwamglin Room it is well worth a visit and enjoying the paintings there.

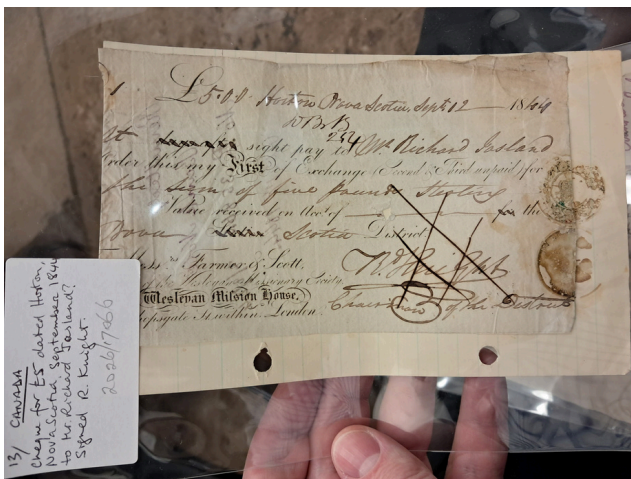


The Soaring by Park Jeung

From the Archives...

In the world of archives, “Ephemera” refers to those pieces of paper we don’t expect to survive. Old tickets; pamphlets; receipts; adverts...the sort of thing even now we might take and at the first opportunity bin or stuff into our pocket or handbag to await the next clear-out.

These things, because they are unlikely to survive, are highly prized by archives. People always want to know about the Ordinary Lives of people in the past, whereas we humans tend to put aside keepsakes from the extraordinary periods rather than the ordinary.



A cheque for five pounds sent to Nova Scotia in September 1844

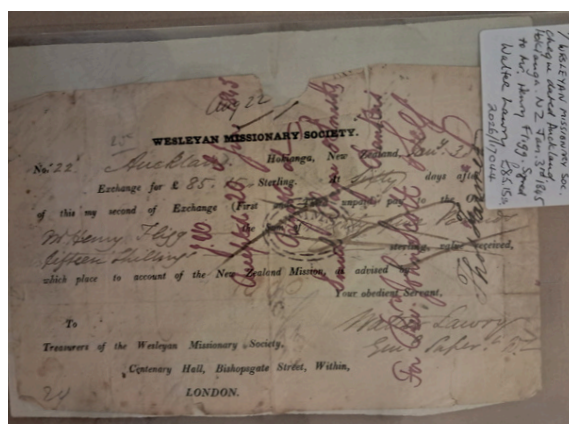
One sub-group of Ephemera is Cheques. Our diligent and much-prized volunteers have been sorting a collection of these, from the Wesleyan Missionary Society, which are in our possession.

The term “cheque” however is perhaps misleading,

these are forms of “Bill of Exchange” which had been introduced a century earlier to make highway robbery harder. Essentially your bank issued the note, and it was sent to you. If it made it, then you had to wait a certain number of days (specified on it) before you could get the money. This meant if it was stolen, you could get the word out it had been, and since it could no longer be cashed, it became worthless to the thief. You could also, by writing on it, give it

to someone instead of cash. The piece of paper then might continue to be transferred in this way for some time, until someone decided to exchange it for regular money. Several of our examples are liberally written on for this purpose. The term cheque will continue to be used in this article however for the sake of brevity.

The collection has been sorted into groups of “Canada”, “New Zealand” and “Australia and Tasmania”. They date to the early 19th century. While Canada had been gradually settled by Europeans for about two centuries by this point, Australia’s first European Settlement was begun in 1788. In New Zealand although Europeans had visited for over a century, the first organised European settlements were not until about 1809.



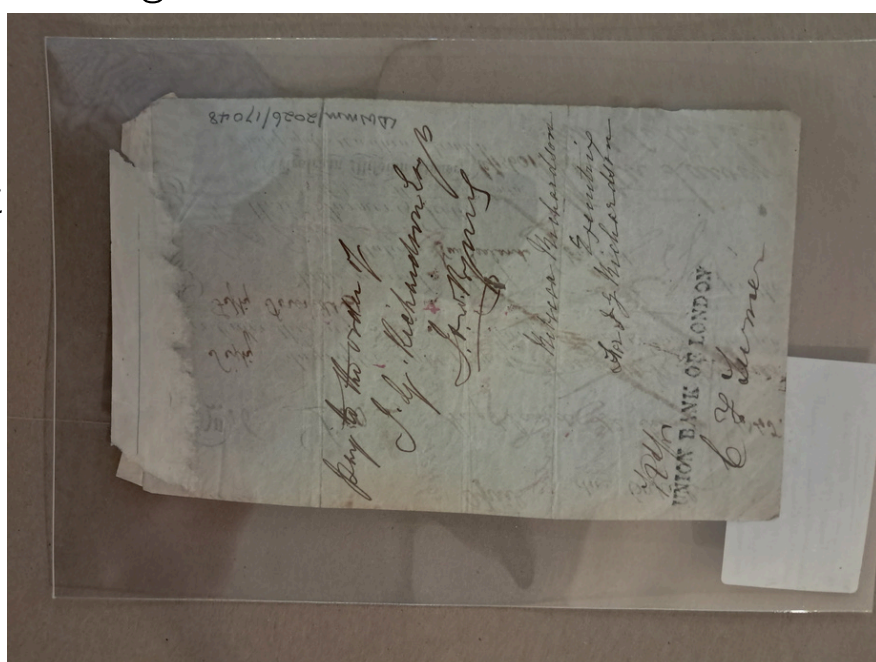
A Cheque for £85.15/0d
Dated 3rd January 1845;
Hokianga, New Zealand

Missionaries were sent to the pre-European-settlement inhabitants of these places, although as more Europeans arrived some work would be done for those who had not been in a church-going habit before they emigrated.

The Evangelical Spirit of the Methodists meant there was a keen interest in reaching those who had never heard of Jesus in the farthest flung parts of the world. The presence of British Government for the Colonies being formed in these places meant that there was a degree of protection for Missionary Work. Not least, they didn't need to be sent out with everything they'd ever need. They could be paid by a cheque written in London, cashed by

the Missionary not too far from their base (comparatively!) and the money could be spent locally. The cheque itself once paid would be sent back to London with “Paid” written on it so the account books of the bank could be balanced. No currency conversion was needed as the Pound, Shilling, Pence system (written: £1.2/6d for £1, 2 Shillings and 6 pence) was in use at the time in all these territories, though Canada’s move towards a decimal dollar was being considered already. Some of the sums involved suggest a good part or all of a year’s wages were being sent at a time.

What these were actually paid in is a difficult question – coin shortages were a problem so far from London, and while Bank notes were in use, so were “promissory notes” – pieces of paper on which a shop would promise to pay the sum in cash in requested – but you could use the



The reverse of a cheque sent to New Zealand cashable from 12th June 1845 which was accepted by the bank back in London on 2nd February 1846

note like a banknote. This was how banknotes had originated, to this day British Banknotes still say “I promise to pay the bearer on demand the sum of” – although these days you can only get coins not pounds in weight of gold!

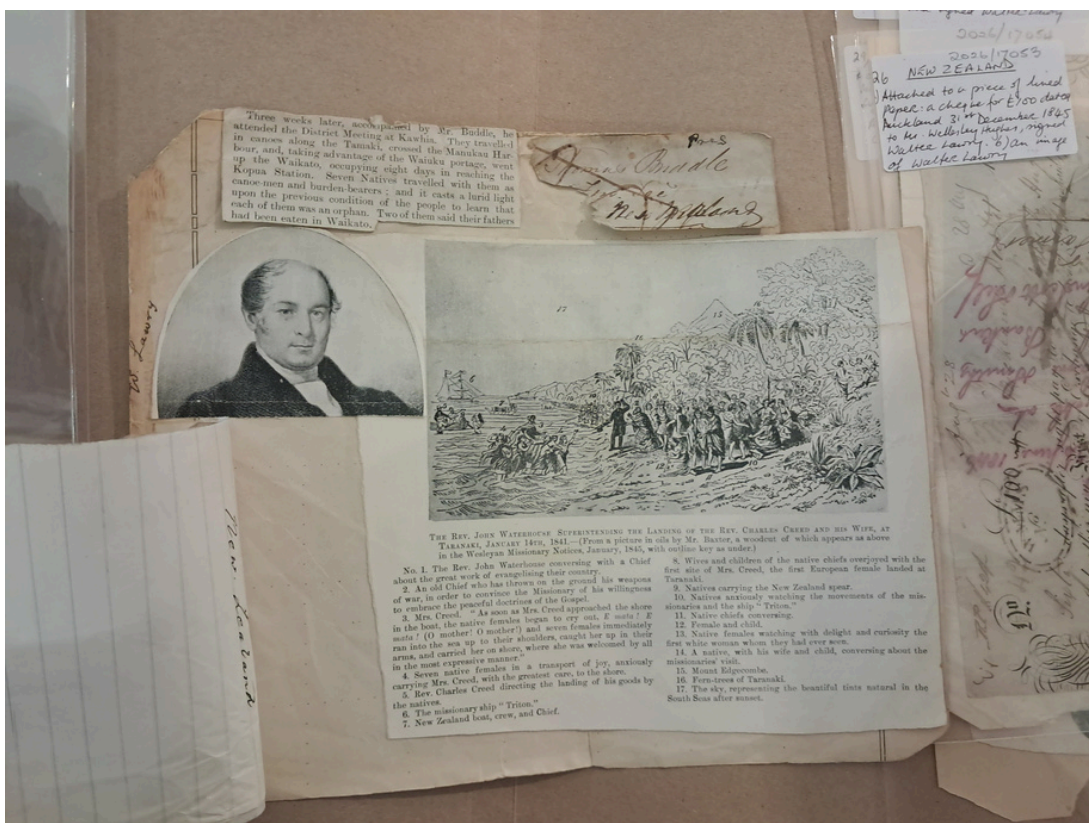
Coins of former rulers would still circulate as would those of neighbouring countries and colonies. Everything would be worked

out in British Currency, but you might be given French, Spanish and Dutch coins, all on different systems, to actually give you the money. I am sorry to say we aren't told what mess of coinage the missionaries were actually given!

What is revealed is the complexity of the chain linking these Missionaries to those who had sent them and the Headquarters in London.

The accounts of these early Missionary efforts were eagerly read back in Britain, where the idea of Missionary work combined a mixture of great adventure and the prospect of a heavenly reward eagerly read about in magazines and newspapers.

Amongst the cheques are occasional engravings of the people being preached to, and cuttings of reports about their activities and the tales these reveal will be covered next issue.



A sample of our source materials for the next issue of Window on Wesley's

Summer holidays?

As this issue of WOW covers the School Holiday months, spare a thought for those for whom this will be a Very Significant Summer.

There are those who will be changing Schools come September, and will have to get uniform during the holidays. Who else just heard their parents saying “you’ll grow into it?”

Similarly there are those for whom the summer holidays include the dreadful wait for exam results. Even though now it is for most logging into a website rather than getting an envelope (either in the post or at school), the nerves haven’t changed. Especially hold in your prayers those for whom so much depends on results, University and Apprentice places, and job offers too.



“I didn’t think you’d grow that much!”

Those of us for whom school is far away enough that we no longer shudder when walking past one and hearing the bell, are apt to be sanguine at such moments. There is something of an internet joke about a certain sort of person boasting about their poor grades and that they’re now sipping champagne etc. All very well with hindsight, but would 16- or 18-year-old them have been much placated by being told they’d be rich when they were more than

double their age?

For farmers of course the “Summer Holidays” are really the time children are let out of school until harvest is in. While we no longer have infants wielding scythes, many teenagers in the countryside will be up at dawn helping make sure the rest of us eat all year.

Elsewhere summer means Tourists. Little towns and villages suddenly swell, the trip to the shops takes three times as long, the beach which is often empty fills with unfamiliar faces, and “where’s the toilets/post office/ice cream stall/chip shop” become the most likely thing you’ll be asked.

In London of course we get a good wave of tourists too. The tube fills up and the silent seethe-at-those-who-don’t-know-which-side-of-the-escalator-to-stand-on will unite the commuters who’ve come in. Meanwhile their colleague posts about their cocktails on their beach in the office group chat.

The lines for the galleries and museums swell, outdoor seating proliferates anywhere the council will let it. The long late bright evenings mean we leave work in bright sunshine, and dodge round the thronged pubs.

As we go through these days, we should try to remember to ask God to give open eyes to see the joys of the season that are in front of us. And patience with those who are worried, or trying to have a break from worry.

Children's Pages



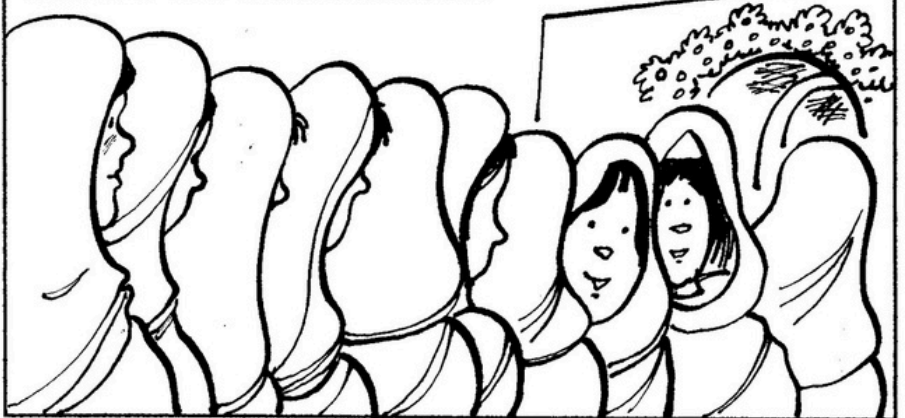
JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS - WE CALL THEM "PARABLES".



JESUS ONCE SPOKE ABOUT TEN YOUNG WOMEN



THEY HAD BEEN INVITED TO A WEDDING - AND THEY WERE WAITING FOR THE BRIDGROOM.



EACH ONE HAD AN OIL LAMP.



BUT ONLY FIVE OF THEM HAD BROUGHT ALONG SOME SPARE OIL.



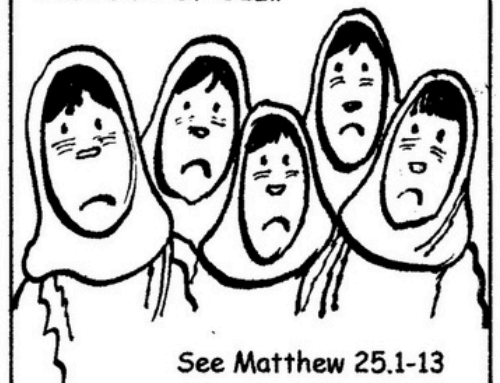
LATE AT NIGHT THE BRIDGROOM ARRIVED



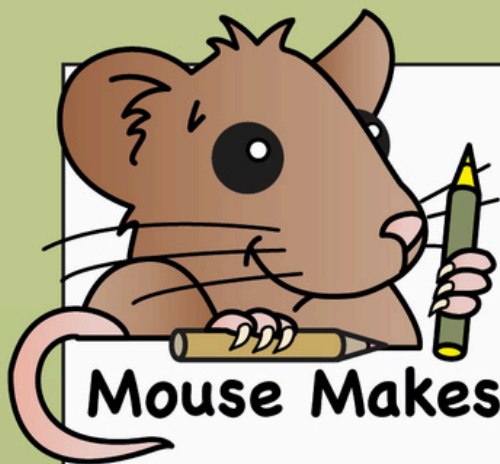
FIVE YOUNG WOMEN COULD LIGHT HIS WAY.



THE OTHER FIVE FELT VERY FOOLISH - THEIR LAMPS HAD RUN OUT OF OIL!!



See Matthew 25.1-13



Mouse Makes

1. To which city did God send Jonah?

Jonah 1:1-2



2. Where did Paul travel to after seeing a vision?

Acts 16:9-10

MOAB

5. Which town did Naomi and Ruth travel to after leaving Moab?

Ruth 1:22



6. Where did Paul and Barnabas go after being persecuted in Antioch?

Acts 13:51

4 across

After Paul was stoned, where did he travel to with Barnabas?

Acts 14:19-20

LYSTRA

4 down

Where was Saul travelling to when Jesus appeared to him?

Acts 9:3



EGYPT



JERUSLEM

7 across

Where did the Church in Jerusalem send Barnabas?

Acts 11:22

JOURNEYS

JUDEA

7 down

Where did Noah's ark come to rest after its journey?

Genesis 8:4

9. To which city did Philip travel to proclaim Christ?

Acts 8:5

10. To which river did people travel out to to be baptised?

Mark 1:5

11. After a five day journey where did Paul arrive?

Acts 20:6

GALILEE

12. Which sea did Moses walk through to get away from the Egyptians?

Exodus 15:4



8. To where did Mary and Joseph flee to get away from Herod?

Matthew 2:13



13. Where did Paul travel to after he left Athens?

Acts 18:1

Worship at Wesley's Chapel & Leysian Mission

Monday – Saturday

10.00am Morning Prayer from the Methodist Worship Book

Wednesday

12.45pm Service of Holy Communion

Sunday

9.45am Service of Holy Communion (except first Sunday of the month)

11.00am Morning Worship

7.00pm Service in the style of Taize (first Sunday of the month)

All services except the Wednesday Lunchtime Communion Service are also live streamed (www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/livestreaming) and remain viewable afterwards at: www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/previous-services .

Worship by Telephone

Most of our services are also relayed by telephone call. Call 020 3880 0873 shortly before the service begins and when instructed enter the “Conference ID on your ‘phone keypad: 135 491 69 # . You will be able to hear the person leading the service and join in the responses with the others on the call. If you are able to mute your end of the call at other points this improves the audio quality. Greetings after the service follow when talking is very much encouraged. You are welcome to just listen too.

Prayer Requests

We also have a dedicated email address for prayer requests which will be received directly by our ministers Jen and Claire, and will be prayed during the course of the Daily Morning Prayer service. Please send all prayer requests to: prayer@wesleyschapel.org.uk .

Staff

Ministers

The Revd Canon Dr Jennifer H Smith BA M.Phil (Superintendent)

The Revd Dr Claire Potter BSc, MA

Associate Ministers

The Revd John Cooke MA (Supernumerary)

The Revd Paul Hulme BA (Supernumerary)

The Revd Dr John Lampard BA M.Th (Supernumerary)

The Revd Stephen Penrose (Supernumerary)

The Revd Ian Yates (Supernumerary)

Lay workers

Ms Tamira Nunez (Global Mission Fellow)

Mr Thomas Smith (Leysian Missioner)

Mr Jehoshua Wright (Consultant for Digital Mission)

Museum

Mr Christian Dettlaff MA (Curator)

Mrs Charlotte Hay-Campbell (Learning & Community Engagement Officer)

Administration

Miss Beatrice Omane (Administration Assistant)

Miss Daphne Johnson (Finance Officer)

Choir

Mrs Mikyung Kim

Church Office: 49 City Road

London EC1Y 1AU

020 7253 2262

administration@wesleyschapel.org.uk



Enjoy
Summer
TIME

