

Manley Park Methodist Church 100 year birthday

100 YEARS OF WORSHIP, MISSION AND SERVICE



MINISTERS' MESSAGE

We give thanks to God for Manley Park Methodist Church, and for 100 years of worship, mission and service.

We give thanks for those faithful people both past and present, who through their dedication to God, have contributed in so many ways to the life of the church and made these centenary celebrations possible.

We are grateful for so many people's prayers and good wishes during this special year and we are glad that some will be able to join with us in our celebration meal and worship services in June.

We ask for your ongoing prayers and support as we look to the future and seek fresh ways of living out our faith alongside our multi-cultural neighbours.

Thank you to all those who have given to the centenary fund. Half of the money raised this year will go to support the valuable community work, which takes place in the building, and we hope this will lead to the further development of our links with these local groups in the future.

We ask God's blessing on our centenary programme this year,



Lyn and Dave Gallimore

and look forward with hopeful anticipation to many more years of worship, mission and service.



Don't be fooled
date of completion
opened

FROM THE EDITOR:

Welcome to our centenary booklet and its glimpses of Manley Park building's life, past and present.



I make no apology for the plethora of over 250 photographs because we are a friendly bunch and like being seen together.

You will find a large spectrum of articles from historical and reminiscing to news and advertising.

You will see themes of history, continuity and looking to the future but you will also see a working partnership between Church and community. It is symbolic that the partition that forms the wall

between church and community hall and rooms is a movable one.

The building is one that has been well used and 'hats off' to its past.

More importantly its present is full of energy and reaching out too ..

..so as you read on you can appreciate that there is a vision that includes more anniversaries to come.

Inevitably with many authors there is a variety of styles, fonts and artwork and we urge you to enjoy the flavours and colours!

Don't forget to do the quiz and you must try our famous recipes.

This booklet has just got to be worth the donation you made to our centenary fund ! Good reading.

1910 - 2010
100 Years of Worship,
Mission & Service

Russell Kirby, church steward and editor.
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construction. The building
early 2010 (honest!)

1909



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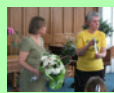
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... And there's more. Read on ...

EARLY HISTORY-

Manley Park Methodist Church



Before 1900, the area South and West of Hulme and Moss Side was largely open country, farmland and smallholdings, until you got to the village of Chorlton-cum-Hardy apart from the large houses of prosperous businessmen in Whalley Range and along Seymour Grove. This was now rapidly changing as large estates came on the market and developers moved in.

The local Wesleyan Methodist Circuit covered Hulme, Moss Side, Whalley Range and Chorlton-cum-Hardy with the leading Church being Radnor Street in Hulme and the Circuit being known as the Radnor Street Circuit. With redevelopment it is difficult to say now exactly where the Church was but it was in the general area of the old Hulme Hippodrome which still stands. Other Churches were in Whalley Range (Withington Road) and Chorlton (Manchester Road).

In 1899 the Quarterly Meeting of the Radnor Street Circuit noted the rapid development of the Manley Hall Estate and that there was no place of worship nearer than the new parish of St. Werburgh formed in 1898; but the Church wasn't opened until 1902. The Presbyterian Church of England (later St. Ninians) was established in 1903 but the Church not built until 1908. A committee was set up (a typical Methodist response) to explore

the possibility of starting a new work in Manley Park.

The committee reported that there was a suitable site available on the corner of Egerton Road and Clarendon Road at a reasonable price and they were authorised to buy it. However, there was no money available at that time to build a Chapel on the land, so, for a few months in 1900 services were held in English in the new Welsh Chapel while other possibilities were considered. One was to rent a room in Wellington Avenue, but while this was being thought about an offer came from a Mr. J. Cunnah who owned some land on the corner of Clarendon Road and Cromwell Avenue 'to erect a small building on the land and make such arrangements with him as they think proper'. Of course this generous offer was accepted, and the new premises were put under the control of the Whalley Range Chapel and Leaders Meeting.

This building was opened in late 1901 and was constructed of corrugated iron so it soon became known as the 'Tin Tabernacle'. As there was no

congregation to start with volunteers from Whalley Range took the Church and Sunday School posts temporarily until a new congregation could take over.

In the minutes of the December 1901 meeting Manley Park appears for the first time in the numerical returns with 12 members. This steadily increased to about 40 by the middle of the decade. Of course the actual congregations would be far higher than this, and the numbers in the Sunday School soon proved a headache [*17 children in 1901 became 81 by 1910 - Ed.*].

As always, money was a problem. A new mission had been started in Cedar Street, Hulme in a very needy area and a soup kitchen and clothing distribution begun, so a new building at Manley Park had to wait its turn. In fact in 1905 it was proposed to open a new Church in Old Trafford on Ayres Road but this came to nothing due to lack of funds.

Money was always a big problem even in Edwardian times. Appeals were made and Bazaars were held but somehow the balance at the bank was always overdrawn and interest had to be paid draining the funds even further.



The Bazaars were very grand affairs usually lasting three days, with a celebrity opener (if one could be found) on each day. The souvenir booklet was also rather grand, 72 pages, landscape

format, 14 x 22 cm (5.5x8.5 inches) with details of all the stalls, sideshows and refreshments as well as adverts not only for local shops and business houses but national firms as well like Boots the Chemists and McDougall's flour. Bazaars were held in aid of Manley Park at Radnor Street, Whalley Range and Chorlton and later at Manley Park itself.

By 1908 it was obvious that things would have to be got moving. Money was being paid out in interest on loans and on rental for the temporary buildings plus maintenance which would be better spent on building a new school/chapel on the land they already owned. A new committee was formed (of course) and they soon got down to the business of appointing an architect, Mr Edward W Leeson of Manchester, and raising funds.

Mr Leeson had built a Methodist Church in Glazebrook the year before and this was used as a basis and modified for Manley Park use. The contractors were W. Rowlands and son of 78, Clarendon Road, Whalley Range. The terra cotta facings and probably the bricks were delivered to Chorlton Station and brought from there probably by horse and cart as there were very few petrol lorries around at the time.

The stone-laying ceremony on Saturday 17th July was described as a glorious day, which was just as well, as there were seven people laying stones. Did they all have to make a speech? *[the silver trowel used that day will cut our anniversary cake this year! Ed]* The Cedar Street Brass Band would also be grateful for the good weather. Afterwards tea

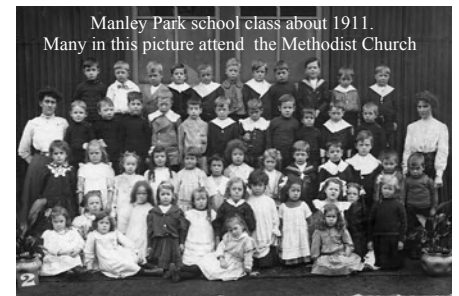
was provided in the 'present building' and a public meeting followed in the evening.

For the opening of the new building no less a person than the President of the Methodist Conference was the speaker. This was on Friday 21st January 1910, then on Sunday 23rd the ex-President of Conference preached and on Sunday 30th it was the turn of the President-designate. All the 'Big Guns' came to little Manley Park. Although the opening was in January there was still work going on until March.

Manley Park must have been one of the few Churches built at that time not to have had fixed pews. There is an item in the accounts for chairs, £46/6/- (£46.30). Curiously, there is no mention of an organ or any other means of leading the singing, until in 1913 there is a sale of work to raise £80 for a new pipe organ. There was a choir but Methodism is not known for a *cappella* services. Perhaps a harmonium had been brought from another church until an organ could be purchased.

As the years went by more and more houses were built in the area and the Church practiced that 'aggressive evangelism', which the Quarterly Meeting had advised, leafleting new housing as it was built. Uniformed organisations and a church youth club were formed as well as fellowship groups. In the First World War there were no air raids but plenty of austerity and long queues for food. A lot of the young men from the Church went to the trenches in France and Belgium,

and some never returned. This put a strain on the teachers and leaders and made it acceptable for women to do jobs they had not done before. Also, because there were Army barracks on Upper Chorlton Road, soldiers were billeted on the local residents with them having no say in the matter and making it harder for normal life to continue.



The streets at this time were all paved with setts which were better for the horses hooves to get a purchase on; the only exception being half of Alport Avenue which was always concrete *[These setts are still there and can be seen when the surface asphalt is removed for repairs -Ed.]* Milk was brought round twice a day in a churn with a pony and trap. You brought out your own container and a measured amount was poured in - no fridges then! Mrs. Willott was the caretaker at Manley Park; and later Miss Willott. They were related to Mr Clare. They took a real pride in the job even to 'donkey stoning' the broad steps up to the main entrance. Not a speck of dust was allowed inside. This was in the days when Trafford Park was the 'Workshop of the World' and the air was full of dust and nasties.

This early history was written by Philip Lloyd. He is happy for more stories and additions.
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It is 1910 and ..

Emily has something to tell us

My Name is Emily Parker. My husband, Manley and I live in one of those new houses (A) near Manley Hall (F). I'm very excited because our church is moving to new buildings (B) and we can get out of our tin shed of a place (C).

I'm going to tell you about the area around here. I live near the border between Manley Park and Whalley Range. It is great to walk along Clarendon Road and up York Avenue to take Wesley to school at Manley Park. We go past the rows of terraced houses (D) built with the help of Welsh immigrants to house the workers from Wales and nearer in to Manchester. The "Rec" as we call it (E) is a bit rough but the line of trees is beautiful – I wonder what will become of the land? Of course Wesley and Sarah love the school (O) with its corrugated iron roof and walls and view over to the Manley Hall ruins (F). I'm sure Sarah will get to Whalley Range High (G) when she's older – it is a very progressive area to have had a girl's High since 1880. Father says there was local opposition to educating girls! Most of us walk of course, a few come by horse-drawn bus, some down the tramway on Upper Chorlton Road (H) and some from the big houses use their own horse carriages.

Actually transport is very good. I get the train to Manchester sometimes with my father who has a 'season ticket' - one up for Chorlton as we've had these tickets for 30 years and they are only starting nationally this year. We don't have to wait

hour. And isn't it fantastic there are aeroplanes now! The first ever flight to Manchester from London landed near Fog Lane Park only a few months back but they say a later one landed near Chorlton! Can't see that I will ever fly.

I like the shops on Clarendon Road for most things but Chorlton is good to visit. I go past Hawarden (pronounced 'Harden') House (I) and down the track through the fields. I always have to watch Wesley and Sarah over the two planks of the footbridge (J) or they are bound to fall in.

What can I say of the big houses and other places? You will know of the only two times this area has been in the national press. There was that shooting of the Policeman Nicholas Cock by Charlie Peace outside West Point House (K). He confessed before they hanged him for another murder but I wonder if he really did it? Then there was that amazing Warrell divorce case – fancy, a **divorce**, what **are** we coming to? The Warrells lived at Crimsworth (L) and he had all that money being a dye works owner. They say he had lots of telephones and there are still less than 300 on the whole Chorlton exchange. Robert Rohleder the cotton and umbrella merchant, lives at Doenberg (M). Whalley House (N) is where Samuel Brooks Esq. lived – him who bought and drained the land to build Whalley Range in the first place. Father says he gave strict instructions how the houses were to be built and what with so it could remain an 'exclusive residential development free

long with the trains 3 or 4 times an

from commercial activity'.

Our Church looks grand on the corner opposite the farm (P). Father is a trustee and says it is one of the last pieces of land from the Manley Hall estate left and they got it for £600. We are Wesleyan Methodist so we are well ordered and we all have jobs to do in the church. I think the people from the 'Welsh Chapel' (Q) next door are too informal but they sing real well!

MAP extra details

(F) Manley Hall land went for houses in the 1920s.

(J) The site of the footbridge is roughly at the junction of Egerton Rd North and Brantingham. If you listen carefully you can still hear the stream flowing in the culvert underneath - **be careful of the traffic**.

(K) The Seymour Hotel from the mid 1920s.

(O) Manley Park School was a 'temporary corrugated iron roofed and walled building and remained so until after the 2nd World War.

(R) Lancashire Independent College trained people for the Congregational ministry. The GMB Union building in 1985, it is now the Islamic Heritage Centre.

(S) Became Range Warehouses.

(T) The Muth family moved to Beech Hurst from Withington but after 1910. They anglicised their name to Marlowe and had an astronomical observatory in the garden.

NB. Demand for trains was so high consideration was given to 4 lines out of Chorlton . hence the extra wide bridge at Mauldeth Road West.

Samuel Mendel, a Russian emigré owned and developed the land of Manley Park. He was fabulously rich through shipping going round Africa through the Cape of Good Hope and his art collection was reputed to be the finest in the North of England. He didn't see the development of the Suez canal coming, lost his money and died in poverty in 1884.

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Rose Queen Mavis Gill

Mrs Bailey
crowns
Audrey Yuille

ROSE QUEENS

The

Rose Queen Festival was an annual event at Manley Park for around 40 years. One Saturday in summer the church would be festooned with bunting welcoming the local community to partake in home-made cakes, rifle through the jumble and enjoy fun and games on the church lawn. Entrance was free but any monies raised from socialising and stalls would go towards church funds. And then a break in the proceedings, and the carpet rolled out, (or retire to the church, depending on the weather), for the crowning ceremony itself.

At the front, the retiring Rose Queen, then the music struck up – “Gold and Silver Waltz” by Lehar – the traditional piece for the ceremony at Manley Park. The petal throwers processed up the aisle, then the new incumbent in bridal white followed by more children throwing petals, as if at a wedding ceremony. A few words exchanged and the crown was handed over.

Wearing the long, white dresses, home-made by relatives or members of the congregation was the highlight of the day for the teenagers taking part. Rose Queens, Rose-Buds and Petal Throwers were all young members of Manley Park Sunday School chosen by the Sunday School leader for the role.

A parade would then be organised on a Sunday following this event. After the morning service the entire congregation would gather outside church then process around the local streets with the local community looking on. The route would change year on year, but would have taken a circular route – perhaps: Egerton Rd North; Clarendon Road; Marlborough Avenue; Brantingham Road; and Cromwell Avenue.

Leading, were the 63rd Manchester Boys Brigade Band and banner bearers – two strong men from the Wesley Guild. The banner was blue with gold tassels and bore the Church name, also in gold. Following were the Rose Queen, Rose Bud, retiring Rose Bud and retiring Rose Queen then the rest of the Sunday School. Finally other members of the congregation completed the processional party.

Rose Queens had a duty to appear at special events in the Church calendar, such as the Christmas fair, although these varied over the years. All ex Rose Queens, however, remember how special the event made them feel.

Minoli
de MelRosebud Queen
Judith BourneBeryl Hampson and
Sue ShawRenée Critten
and Valerie
Bateson

Janet Smith

Beryl
HampsonRose Queen crowning
ceremonyRose Queen
presented to Miss
Lilly Mitchell

Rose Queen Parades



Boys Brigade

Beryl Hampson
1968

Renée Critten



Janet Smith



Mavis Gill



Barbara Cartman



Helen Smith



Janet Smith



"... The Rose Queen had a full retinue of petal throwers, a page boy, train bearers and ladies-in-waiting, which stayed with her when she was the retiring queen. The Rose Bud Queen had two attendants. The Rose Bud Queen was crowned by the retiring Rose Queen and presented with a bible by the retiring Rose Bud Queen. Mrs Cartman had responsibility for the Rose Queen festival and practices started well in advance. On the day itself, the partition was drawn back, the pulpit removed and the stage moved to the back of the Church and turned round so that the communion rail was at the back. This is where the Rose Queen sat; the Rosebud Queen sat off to one side and the Retiring Rose Queen off to the other. After all the queens and their attendants had processed up to the stage-end and taken the seats, there was the crowning and speeches. At some point there was dancing by members of the Sunday school. The stalls for 1964 and 1966 (Teas, Sweets, Ices, Minerals, Fancy Stall, Flower Stall and Side Shows) were setup outside the rear of the church. In both years the procession of witness was on the following day - starting at 12 noon. I remember the blue and gold Church banner with tassels and ribbons".

Debbie Evans (née McNulty)



Church Hall



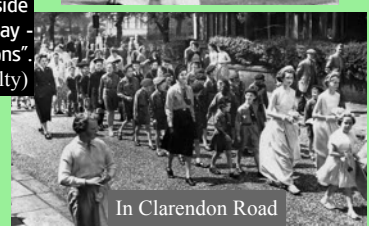
Gillian Smith

Susan Shaw

Rosie Brown



Mock Wedding



In Clarendon Road



Cheer Leaders



Cromwell Avenue



Year	Rose Bud Queens	Rose Queens
?		Audrey Yuille
?	Judith Bourne	
?'53		Renée Crompton
?		Mavis Gill
?		Beryl Munifox
?'57		Ann Salisbury
?'58		Minoli de Mel
?'59		Barbara Cartman
	Janet Smith	Rosemary Mitchell
1963	Elaine Shaw	Susan Chinnery
1964	Debbie McNulty	Anne Hulme
1965	Helen Smith	Linda Stephens
1966	Sylvia Marrin	Janet Smith
1967	Christine Stephens	Sylvia Wilcock ?
1968	Ukatchi Nwagbara	Beryl Hampson
1969	?	Rosie Brown
1970	Gillian Smith	Susan Shaw

Colour photos came in later but we don't have photos of most of the participants. Nor do we have a record of all the Rose queens and Rosebud Queens. Can you help? Send photos, memories or details to the editor.

NATIONAL INFLUENCE

'Student Team Years'

an Experiment in Ministerial Training
and Pastoral Oversight



The mid-1970s saw Manley Park Methodist Church accepting and welcoming the challenge to play a key role in the training of Methodist ministers. Although Methodist ministerial training had moved from the former Hartley Victoria College (HVC) building on Alexandra Road South, the College still owned a number of houses in the area. Some were quite close to Manley Park and some students and families began to worship with us. In 1974, the former Withington Circuit was faced with having to reduce the number of ministers. The Revd Colin Colclough, one of whose pastoral charges was Manley Park, was due to move on. At the same time, at HVC, consideration was being given to improving the practical experience of those in ministerial training. In a paper considered by the college late in 1974 it was noted that although students had various 'Circuit Practice' placements, "...there are no regular experiences in which students have sustained responsibility (for) any aspect of Church life" and therefore that "...the college would like to experiment with a situation in which a student team, drawn from men and women at all stages of their college life, would be totally responsible for running a Church, but under the final guidance of a Tutor". (At that time ministerial training was normally full-time and college based.)

This suggestion was discussed

with the Circuit and, because Manley Park seemed an appropriate setting, with the Church. On all sides, to the best of my recollection, the proposal was warmly welcomed. It has to be said that a number of those who had formed the backbone of Manley Park's leadership had moved away, passed away or become unable to maintain their previous roles. But it would not be fair to say that this was just seen as a lifeline. The Church genuinely saw the possibilities of what was being proposed, not least as a way of making a contribution to Methodist ministerial training. And this scheme cemented the links which had already begun to develop with student families living in the neighbourhood.



So, in September 1975, Manley Park's pastoral oversight was taken over by a student team under the leadership of Revd Graham Slater who had previously been in the area as Methodist Chaplain to the University of Manchester and who had recently been appointed Tutor at HVC under

the principalship of Revd (now Dr) Dick Jones. Graham was with us until 1982 when he succeeded Dick Jones as Principal and Revd Tom Stuckey became Tutor. Tom led the team until the link with Manley Park ended in 1990 (though links between the College and the Circuit continued). Graham and Vera Slater and Tom and Chris Stuckey continued to be held in great esteem and affection by the folk at Manley Park after their years in Manchester. We have been delighted that Tom and Chris have been able to share *both* of Manley Park's centenaries and that Tom preached at Manley Park during his year as President of the Methodist Conference.

This 'experiment' was primarily about making a contribution to ministerial formation. Nearly forty students spent periods of time on the 'team'. Some had greater involvement than others – in particular those who lived

nearby and whose families also became part of the fellowship. They have gone on to minister in the UK and overseas in a variety of capacities. A number have maintained links with Manley Park

and have visited from time to time. It may seem invidious to pick out names, but I wonder how many of us thought that the young Martyn Atkins would become the Revd Dr Martyn Atkins, General Secretary of the Methodist Church. (Dare I say that I doubt whether Martyn would have envisaged that as a

possibility!) We are of course delighted that Alison Tomlin is able to share our centenary celebrations just before she embarks on her year as Conference President

There were inevitably some concerns and tensions: the tradition of holding Church Council meetings on Mondays began when they had to shift from Tuesdays to avoid a clash

with the College's weekly service for which there seemed to be a three-line whip. More seriously, there was concern as to who was actually the person to contact should 'the minister' be required. But perhaps an unforeseen plus was that this contributed not only to ministerial formation but to Manley Park formation as the church learned something about a collective self-reliance

and about not leaving things to the minister.

This type of arrangement would not easily fit current patterns of ministerial formation. But it was a far-sighted venture and Manley Park can feel some satisfaction in the contribution it made over the fifteen team-years.



Arian Curtis



STUDENTS (Team and Congregation)
Tutor: Rev Graham Slater 1975-1982

Tony Clarke (Anthony) and Merryl
Wilfred (Wilf) Kaburu
Derek Palmer
Malcolm Purdy and Marbeth
Philip Seaton and Pauline
Barrie Morley and Joan
Peter Bedford
John Fenner
John Izzard and Marian
John Saville and Ruth
Peter Summers and Jan
Martyn Atkins
Andrew Maguire
Andy Foster and Janice
Philip Wren
Doreen Hare
Bob Little

STUDENTS (Team and Congregation)
Tutor: Rev Tom Stuckey 1982-1990

Peter Taylor
Jim Dobson and Marilyn
Alison Tomlin
Will Hunter
John Atkinson
Albert Gayle
Ian Gibson
Ken Stokes
Pam Pettitt
Patrick Slattery
Bruce Thompson
Jonathan Kerry and Debbie
Geoff cowling
Kathy Smith
Peter Cross and Pauline
Roger Dunlop and Ruth
Elizabeth Peters
Christopher Mabb
John Wiltshire and Judy



Calfaria -The 'WELSH CHAPEL'

E g e r t o n R o a d N o r t h

Would you like to rent a delightful 50 square metre building with a small kitchen, a toilet and an interesting history? It is the small building next door to the Methodist Church.

Many immigrants from Wales came into the Manley Park and Whalley Range areas in the late 19th century to build the houses on land recently drained and released to developers. Many were Methodists, the church begun by John and Charles Wesley 150 years before. They wanted to worship in their own building and so in 1880 built the chapel called Calfaria (pronounced 'Kal va ria') meaning Calvary, the place where Jesus Christ was crucified. It cost £1000. It is not known if they were exclusively Wesleyan or if there were Calvinistic Methodists as well. Services were for a long time exclusively in the Welsh language.

"The walls of the Chapel echoed with the sound of wonderful Welsh singing and (rather long) Welsh sermons preached by some of the great preachers of Welsh Methodism"

This quote is from the Rev. T. Aneurin Evans who spent the first 20 years of his life at 18 Park Drive which was then one of the new houses built on the site of the original Manley Hall. His Grandparents came from Wales in the 1880s seeking work in Manchester and lived at 42 York Avenue. His wife was one of the Williams' living two doors down at number 38. The chapel flourished and saw many weddings, baptisms and funerals.

One of the congregation was the coal merchant for the area who lived in College Drive. He was known as 'Jones the coal' and would have used the depot at the sidings at Chorlton station.

Rev. T. Aneurin Evans again - "It was in this Chapel that I and my brothers and sister were baptised and received into membership. I preached my very first sermon in the little Chapel and it was here that I felt the call to ordained ministry in 1954. The little Chapel was my 'spiritual home' and I

The proud history of the chapel which belonged to the Manchester circuit of the First North Wales District synod came to an end with closure on October 30th 1956. At a meeting that month Calfaria was represented by T.H.Evans, Gwilym Evan and Rev Berwyn Roberts and it was noted that membership was down to ten; repairs of £100 were needed; that it received a shilling each year for 'right of light'; and it should be sold. Manley Park purchased the chapel for £400. The debt was cleared by selling the land adjoining Clarendon Road for the unexpectedly high sum of £775. The church lost a tennis court, allotments and a big maintenance headache. Manley Park Methodist, which those at Calfaria called "The English Chapel", took over the premises and the fence

between them was symbolically removed.

The building was initially used by the Sunday School for some of its classes. In the next 50 years it was used by many different groups, for meetings and also for worship (in English!) on Sunday Evenings.

The building came close to extinction in 1986 as Dry Rot – the fungus that lives off wood and destroys bricks and mortar – was discovered. "One of the biggest fruiting bodies we've seen" was found under the floor and led to the loss of the altar platform and half the floor and walls. Members of the congregation put down bibles and hymn books and picked up saws, trowels, hammers, chemical spray guns, paint and varnish. 'Calfaria' was saved for the future, its work not yet done.

This year of 2010 has been one of refurbishment for the Chapel. Roof fixed, Floor sanded, toilet plastered and fitted out, new kitchen, new electrics, full re-painting, entrance hall re-decorated. Double glazing is planned for 2011. It doesn't pretend to be a palace but proudly remains a Chapel with a Welsh origin, a history of worship by Methodists and service to groups and the community.

It is what it is – a part of the history of Manley Park and somewhere to be used.



Garden upgrade in 2010

JEWISH SETTLEMENT

In Whalley Range

From the earliest days of Jewish settlement in Manchester, while the main 'Jewish Quarter' evolved in north Manchester, a handful of Jewish families chose to live to the south of the city. In the late 1840s Victoria Park and Plymouth Grove attracted Jewish export merchants, chiefly of German origin, trading in Manchester cotton goods. In the 1860s this southern community was increased by families of shopkeepers, again chiefly Germans, but now highly anglicised, moving across the city from Cheetham Hill which at that time was experienced the settlement of Yiddish-speaking Russian Jews fleeing poverty and persecution in the Tsarist Empire. As the area became densely populated by Eastern Europeans, these anglicised shopkeepers sought a more open and sophisticated (and more English) life in the southern suburbs. By 1872 they were sufficiently numerous to convert houses in All Saints into the first South Manchester Synagogue. The form of service was a slightly anglicised version of orthodox Judaism described at the time as 'gentle reform' to distinguish it from the heterodox Reform Movement. The later history of these families, as their social ambitions developed, like those of their non-Jewish neighbours, was essentially a movement southwards along the line of Oxford Road into Manchester's growing southern suburbs. The first stop (in the 1890s) was Fallowfield, where a number of Jewish families settled along Wilbraham Road. To meet their religious needs the synagogue in

All Saints, now well out of walking distance, was replaced in 1913 by the fine new building on Wilbraham Road which still exists. The domed synagogue was designed by the Jewish architect, Joe Sunlight, who also built (and owned) Sunlight House in Deansgate and also developed cheap housing in Crumpsall and beyond, correctly anticipating a movement of Jewish families northwards from Cheetham Hill. The South Manchester Synagogue served the much smaller body of orthodox Jewish merchants and shopkeepers in the Fallowfield area, while those who favoured Reform, thus freeing themselves from restrictions on Sabbath travel, were able to travel across town to the Reform Synagogue in Park Place, Cheetham Hill. Jewish settlers in Fallowfield, however, were chiefly orthodox and of German origin (the Ashkenazim), but included a few merchants who had migrated to Manchester from the coastlands of the Mediterranean (the Sephardim, who later developed their own congregations in Withington, which still exist). The new South Manchester Synagogue provided them with rabbinical leadership, daily services, a social life and an elementary education in Hebrew and religion for their children.

During the 1930s many refugees from Germany and Austria chose to settle in South Manchester and most became members of the South Manchester Synagogue. This refugee connection was reinforced by young refugees

housed in Kershaw House, a hostel created by the Manchester Jewish Refugees Committee in Alexandra Road South, and later by the appointment of a refugee, Rabbi Felix Carlebach, as its minister. After flourishing as the major centre of Judaism in south Manchester, the South Manchester Synagogue in Wilbraham Road, like its predecessor, lost its value as a place of worship as its congregants moved still further south towards Bowdon, where yet another new South Manchester Synagogue now exists. The Wilbraham Road building remains, however, as a place of worship, a social and study centre, for Jewish students lodging in the area. It is currently in the process of reconstruction to better serve these purposes.

The role of Whalley Range in local Jewish history is primarily as a port of call: for Jewish families moving southwards into the leafy suburbs and for Jewish refugees of the 1930s either middle-class refugees seeking a haven in which they might feel comfortable or young refugee women seeking the posts as domestic servants which alone made it possible for them to enter Britain. The social life of young refugees also found venues in Kershaw House or in the first headquarters of the Free German League in Clarendon Road. Although a few refugees still live in Whalley Range, their numbers can be counted on one hand. The area never took shape as a preferred place of permanent Jewish settlement.

Thanks to Bill Williams

MUSIC in Manley Park Methodist Church Worship



Music has always been an important component of Methodist Worship. This is characterised by an inclusiveness, Methodist congregations tend to sing lustily. Such enthusiasm and even rejection of conventional, delicate, 'music' is certainly not an indication that 'anything goes' as long as you enjoy it. The meaning of the words of hymns is vital. The Wesley's put a great deal of effort into ensuring that the words of Hymns reflected their theology. Methodists, including those at Manley Park, continue to 'sing their theology'. The congregation enjoy singing from a range of traditions, this is a democratic activity, there is no choir. The singing is led by an organ and from time to time by a grand piano. The piano was originally in use in Upper Moss Lane Primitive Methodist Chapel in 1932 and donated by the choir.



Organs are odd instruments, every one is unique. Indeed pipe organs are adjusted to fit their buildings. The original organ at Manley Park was installed in 1912 although it wasn't paid for until 1913 by a "sale of work that required a huge investment of time and energy to raise the required finance.

This original organ had two manuals, with a range of stops (voices) on each and a pedal board. This was built into the alcove in the south east corner of the Church. The resonance of the alcove gives richness and character to the sound. The organist sat facing the instrument and could see the congregation over their right shoulder or by using the mirror provided.

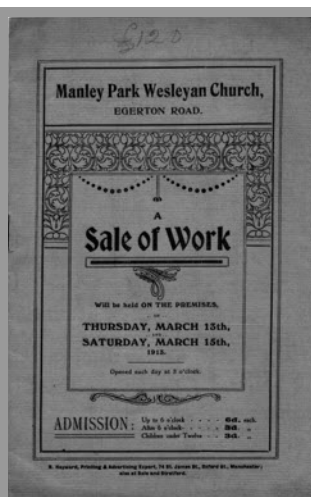
With regular tuning and a little maintenance organs are very reliable instruments. The original served the congregation for seventy years.

One of the early organists was a Mr Lowe. Joe Bamforth tells us that he lost his toes from frostbite in the first World War. And that "people were amazed at how well he could play"
(quite a feat - Ed)

Nevertheless repair work to a pipe organ has always been expensive..

In the early 1980s the bellows (actually this was an electric pump under the floor) needed to be replaced, other insults included water from a leaky roof and heavy objects being dropped onto the pipes. The identity of these 'object(s)' remains a mystery to the congregation but this was associated with decorating work and the object may even have been one of the decorators!

At this point insurance came to the rescue and also the



"Sale of work" to pay off the debt owed in 1913

Organ stop from first instrument



Church Organ 1912 - 1981

organ was sold 'for parts', that is, most of the pipes were recycled into other instruments. The total from all sources including a few of the pipes being sold to members of the congregation was the sum of £1500 pounds which also happened to be the cost of the instrument and installation as paid off in 1913.

As a replacement an electronic instrument was installed. This has rather more voices than the original, but the variety of sounds may be more limited, but so are the maintenance bills! The electronics are rather dated, a similar instrument today might include voices that are based on recordings of pipes in other organs being activated by digital programs. However it does make its mark on the building. It is sited in the alcove but the player now faces the congregation and has a direct

view over the top of the instrument.

Recently it has been noticed that something loose in one of our new gas wall heaters resonates when a loud, low A is played. For some Hymns it is as if the heater is singing along! In the past, a part of the stained glass window made a less musical rattle in response to particular notes.

Several years ago it was noted that some very low notes seemed not to be sounding. The engineer was called in to investigate, but decided that there was nothing that he could do. His 'diagnosis' was that the back board, which is intended to resonate, was 'catching' reflected sounds from the church walls. At the critical frequency (the note affected did vary slightly with the weather, temperature and humidity) the reflected sounds and the

resonance of the board were cancelling each other out. Some days after this it occurred to me that turning the instrument a little, to avoid the back board being parallel with the walls might help. A quick heave on one corner and the problem was solved, the instrument once more takes advantage of the resonance of the alcove for the full range of notes.

One difficulty that has occurred with the electronic instrument that could never have occurred with the pipe organ is that for some time it happened to act as an aerial and pick up the radio signal of a local taxi company. The organist had to turn it off between hymns or the speakers would deliver messages about picking up customers from local landmarks. The solution was to add an earthed screen to the inside of the cabinet in to shield the sensitive parts from the radio waves. Radio technology has moved on but old habits die hard, organists continue to switch it off when it is not being used. This has other benefits, in particular it limits the disturbance for the occasional mishap, for example, a heavy book being dropped on to the keyboard or (much worse) the pedals.

It is interesting to note the way the complex instrument responds to and creates resonance in its surroundings. Could it be that this is similar to the way a congregation influences the community around it?



Hilary Curtis, our longest serving organist

JAMAICAN FOLK

Ensemble Manchester



The Jamaican Folk Ensemble (Manchester) came into being in January 1980, as a response to a cultural need and the stimulus of nostalgic reflection. It is a collective representing the African and Caribbean folk music community across Manchester that has been developed to raise the profile of African Caribbean folk music.

The ensemble reflects different aspects of Caribbean

artistic creativity and African aesthetic forms to enrich a wide cross section of people living and working within Manchester.

A specific purpose of the group is to introduce insight and create interest in our

and our ethnic cultural activities together with appreciation of the Arts. We also enable children of Jamaican origin who are experiencing an identity crisis to be given the opportunity to create an interest and motivation in our culture, and to fulfil some of their emotional needs.

Enid Saunders



cultural heritage.

Although the group has experienced a period of transition today our aims remain the same presenting the flavour of our Jamaican dialect poetry and folksongs



MANLEY PARK FOLK

P a s t a n d p r e s e n t



Carol singing

Mrs Berry



Mrs Young



Benjamin Jaquiss at 83 yrs



Cyril and Mrs Mossman



Miss Marian S. Baynes
aged 90 in 2009



Mrs Brown



Bert Jaquiss at 95 yrs.



Margaret Salisbury



Ken Critten's 'grandfather Anderson' who attended Manley Park. The lad, Harold Scarman was killed in 1943 flying with coastal command.

Mr Chester Watson



Celebrating the diversity of Whalley Range: Call Chris @ JNR8 on 881 3744

Free accessible Community events, activities and fun from 'Celebrate'

The JNR8 centre can become a fun, busy and exciting place to meet with friends old and new.

From lantern making to skipping, to clowning, dancing, and singing, cooking, playing and making

There's something for everyone at JNR8



Food for thought at JNR8

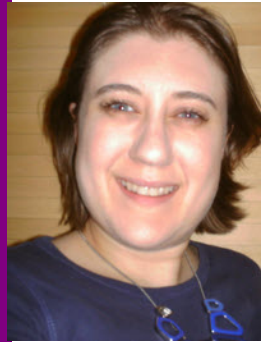
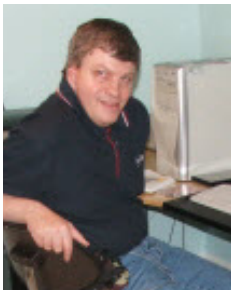


The JNR8 centre has a history of successful cookery sessions - including the JNREAT project which created the Food 4 Us practical guide to cookery sessions - and led to the TV appearance of some of the young cooks on Ready Steady Cook.

The cooking and sharing of food is a very important aspect of JNR8 Youth & Community centre; some of the young people who attend come from single parent homes where often the parent will be out at work in the evenings.

The centre serves as a welcoming '2nd home' often providing the only chance of a hot, freshly cooked meal, created in a supportive welcoming environment with friends and staff working together.

The under 12's weekly cookery club focuses on the importance of a healthy diet, basic cooking skills, safety in the kitchen and basic food hygiene; we have an ongoing recipe book which we share with other groups, families and friends.



MANLEY PARK 'MIX'

We are many parts but one body

Over the years churches form, open and close. Often church (small 'c') is used for the building and Church (big 'C') for the body of people - use is not always consistent.

'Manley Park Methodist' Church was a group of Wesleyan Methodists who decided that a certain area with new houses needed to have their particular Christian presence long before it was a church building as such.

An example of Manley Park Church's caring for each other.

In the early Church records a prominent name is Tom Mitchell of Granville Avenue, later of 2, Spencer Avenue. Tom died comparatively young, leaving his widow, Lizzie, with very little to live on. However, some Manley Park friends got together and subscribed an amount each week to help her out. This, they told her, was from a Church fund and she never knew it was a private arrangement. She lived to a great age, being looked after devotedly by her niece Winnie Burton, from Louth in Lincolnshire, and the fund continued up to her death

by Philip Lloyd, whose mother was one of the subscribers.

The Methodist churches in an area are formed into 'circuits' of anything from a small group to up to 30 plus. Manley Park has been in a number of different circuits including:

Hulme Radnor Street:
Whalley Range:
Chorlton and Moss Side:
Manchester Withington:

The building stays the same only the administration changes!

A number of churches have "ceased to worship" over the years and at the point of closure the congregation must decide which church to change to. Usually a hard decision and usually necessitating a 'splitting' of the congregation to different churches. Notable splits have led to groups of Methodists coming to Manley Park on the closure of their chapels.

Radnor Street church was sold in the late 1930's and a group transferred to Manley Park. The old building was made into a cinema - some from the church spelled it 'sinema' - and when it burnt down a few years later this was considered a judgement.

Great Bridgewater Street Mission was forced to close to make way for the building of the Great Northern Railway Company warehouse.

Many of the members went to Bridgewater Hall in Hulme and that in turn was forced to close because of the building of the Mancunian Way, inner ring road so members moved to Wesley Methodist Church, Hulme. This too had to close in 2003 and a group of members began to attend Manley Park.

Another aspect of 'mix' is that of black and white members of the congregation. Members from the Caribbean began to form part of the congregation from the 1960's. The minister, Rev David Kynaston, probably performed more weddings and christenings than any other at Manley Park. Folk came mainly from Jamaica, some from Barbados and Nevis and St Kitts. Methodism is strong on the islands and the influence remains strong today with communication, prayer and holidays bridging across the ocean.

Like many Churches a mix of ages is something we are having to try much harder to achieve. The building, however, through the community groups has loads of children and young people - check this booklet out!



Bridgewater Hall

what's going on at

WHIZ

Youth Project?

We provide a space for young people to have fun and take part in leisure/sport activities.

Come join us in:

MON

Girls Only -

**Dance - Street, Making Music
Food**

come and tell us what you want!

TUE

Whiz Drop in 4-6pm

Thai Boxing 6:30-7:30pm

Gaming 7:30-9:00pm

WED

**Gang and Social
Awareness Sessions**

**Let's Cook
6-9pm**

THURS

Whiz Drop in 4-6pm

Thai Boxing 6:30-7:30pm

Gaming 7:30-9:00pm

**Thai Boxing
Group Discussions**

**Cooking
Music Workshops**

Pool

Drama

Trips out

Fun

Gaming Sessions

A Place to:

Chill-out

Chat

Meet new friends

Get info/advice

We provide volunteering, employment or training opportunities for the young people who attend the project, encouraging them to move from NEET to EET, and get involved in issues that affect them and their community

If you are aged 11 to 19 and want to get involved in any of the activities we have on offer, come along and meet youth workers and other young people and share ideas and interests.



**82 Cromwell Avenue,
For more details**

**Whalley Range, Manchester, M16 0BG
contact Alison on 0161 881 3744**

The Youth centre attached to Methodist Church on Cromwell Ave in Whalley Range, brings back unforgettable memories till this day. I have lived in Whalley Range for more than Thirty Years and the Church is only around the corner from my home, this is the place as child we used to play hide & seek and we Made our first gang den in the bushes in the back gardens, we would meet up here after school. I used to hide out in the den from my family when getting into trouble

ENOUGH SAID!

In the early 90's the church was a full time Thai Boxing gym. I was in my teens by now. Our trainer, Oliver Harrison also lived close by and set it up. This is where I made lots of friends from different areas; we were like a big family supporting each other. Most of all for me this is where I began my career as a professional Boxer / Thai Boxer

winning the British Muay Thai Boxing title in 1987 -1994

and fighting on the England team,

then pro-boxing 1995 - 2000

Then three years ago in 2007 Mike from the Whiz project, a mentor, asked me to teach Thai Boxing at the church for the youth in the area. I snatched this opportunity as I have a passion to support any community through this sport and also to re-envisage the past memories at the church.

Noor Wahid (Fats)



Thai Boxing is becoming increasingly popular. New equipment has made a huge difference to attendance.

“Its a lot easier to train, there’s no setbacks or time wasting. Now we can get on with it!”

*Young
person
Whiz*



Training involves: running, shadowboxing, rope jumping, medicine ball exercises and weight training.

Training that is specific includes training with coaches on Thai pads, focus mitts, heavy bags and sparring.



Our Gang and Social Awareness sessions are very well received and attended.

These sessions include cooking, where food is eaten after the session; we see cooking as an essential part of our work – our young people come together, there are no barriers and they can relax.



This picture was taken before Mr Joe Kelly re-did the cupboards and the kitchen!



Increased attendance to the Gang Awareness sessions is proving that our work is successful in its own right – engaging young people rather than have them stood on street corners and getting involved with gang members and/or drug dealers, thus reducing the fear of intimidation and crime within the community.



GIRLS AT WHIZ
Our Girls Only space
provides a positive
opportunity to engage with
local young women

**Girls at Whiz applied
successfully at the Whalley
Range U Decide event and are
now putting into place the
Street Dance workshops**



You need your Girl Space...

Come and meet new friends

De-stress

Chill out

Chat

Get info/advice

Most importantly... TELL US WHAT YOU WANT!

'I really enjoy drama, it gives us a
chance to behave in ways we
wouldn't normally - we had a
great laugh this day'
Young person, Whiz

Come join us in:

Arts n Crafts

Cooking

Trips

Dance

Pool

Music

Drama

Fun



MANLEY PARK SCHOOL

The school has helped a lot with this booklet and not just with the covers.. However we will start with them.

A challenge was given to the assemblies of the junior and infants to have a competition to design a cover. Rushna Avari invited Russell and Hilary Kirby into the junior and infant assemblies to give a talk about the Manley Park church and community centre building. They showed pictures and asked for posters, histories and designs to go on the cover of this booklet. Louise Bamthorpe's class went about designing the cover with a will and nearly thirty entries resulted in the

winner, **Omar Almohy**, having the chance to have his entry as the cover. All of the entries were great and some of the others are on the back cover.

The competition for posters was equal between Razeen, Yahya and Sameera from 4RA and Ethan from 3JM The competition for writing a history was between Dawood and Maryam of 5UA, Eram of 3HB and Razeen of 4RA.

Dawood's history tells us of the

Manley Park Methodist Church

Manley Park Methodist Church is celebrating its 100th birthday, so I have been reviewing what Manley Park School used to be like and how it has improved, as I am a student at the school.

Also the head teacher Mr G. Handforth has made some improvements himself such as playtimes, school dinners, ICT and much more.

The building itself has made some improvements like Crimsworth now has an orchard and we will be planting apple trees which children can eat at lunchtimes and some handmade statues.

In addition we have improved a lot in singing as a school as we have weekly singing assemblies and year groups have singing lessons from two people called Chrissie and Beth. Another change is at the end of each

term we have singing squares which Miss Wolstenhome arranges. A singing square is where the school sits in a square and each year group learns two or three songs and then performs in front of the whole school which 'song bosses' lead. Song bosses are children that practice songs which they sing for the singing square. The year 5 and 6 song bosses have had special training from Chrissie.

Despite all that happening, lunchtimes and playtimes were changing. They now have play leaders who are in charge of putting out sport equipment and collecting them in at the end of playtimes. Children have been having so much fun with the new equipment.

One of our teachers Miss Livesly has been training chosen children to become either a buddy, mediator or playleader. A buddy is a person who sorts out friendship problems and helps children make friends. A mediator is the same but is more serious. A playleader is in charge of putting out sport equipment at lunchtimes and playtimes.

Now Manley Park Primary School has changed a lot with singing, the building and playtimes. They have also improved as a school. Manley Park's motto is "Sharing a Love of Learning" and that is what Manley Park have done.

MANLEY PARK METHODIST CHURCH

Manley Park Methodist Church has been open for a long time and has a lot of history. It has different areas and lots of activities, for example:- cooking, kickboxing, craft stalls and much more. It also holds weddings, funerals and birthday parties as well as other functions. The church has stained glass windows and high ceilings that are man made. Lots of people enjoy going there and they have so much fun. It's quite popular. Manley Park Methodist Church was opened in 1910 when a group of Christians decided they needed a bigger place to worship. This year the church will be celebrating 100 years of mission, worship and service. It was popular in the 1950s and they had a Sunday school of over 200 children. They held a 'May Queen' procession and paraded through the local streets. In the 1960s many West Indian church members joined the congregation and it remains a 'mixed' congregation. In the 1970s and 1980s, the role of Minister was given to a team of students from the Methodist Training College.

Five or six students worked as the 'minister' under a tutor in the college. Manley Park Methodist Church helped to train about 40 ministers. To celebrate 100 years the church will be holding concerts and events to mark the occasion.



Razeen Islam

school and motto.

Ethan tells of a forest of trees before Manley Hall. Maryam talks about church, road and school. Razeen gave a history of the Manley Park Church and mentioned some of the community groups meeting in the building.

The prize, presented at assembly by Rushna and Russell was a chill factor trip for all the entries.



I think our historian, Philip Lloyd, has found some competition! Or more likely we have found more people to help make history real to those coming after.



Razeen

Dawood Rubani

Russell Kirby

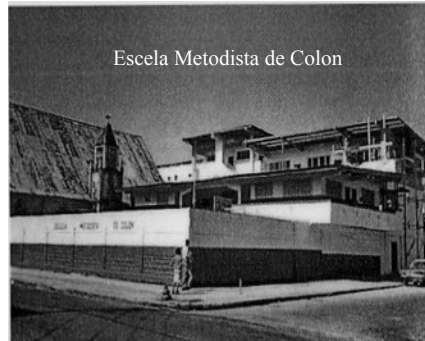
Escuela Metodista de Colon Methodist School in Panama



Rev Vic Watson and Annie Toya Skerritt, a young church member, were concerned about the many children in Colon who were denied any real hope for an improved quality of life. They had no security for their future because there was no possibility for them to gain basic educational skills. The Church members had for years hoped that a Methodist School could be built in Colon for the children of Methodist parents.

Prayers were answered and a grant of £500 was received from the then Methodist Missionary Society and the school was founded on 25th May

1959. In a borrowed room, on the first day, seven children were enrolled.



As a Church we believe that Jesus and His Love are at the centre of all that is wholesome and good. That was the foundation on which the school was built.

The school today is a gleaming beacon in a sea of desolation. This year 363 children are on the school roll and so are able to stand taller and have hope for a brighter future because a risk was taken to start a school in the impoverished city of Colon. No child is turned away whatever their background or religious persuasion. The

Scholarship fund ensures that poverty is not a barrier for any child to have a place.

On 25th May 2009 the School celebrated its 50th Anniversary --- by the Grace of God, a truly miraculous achievement. Manley Park Methodist Church has contributed to the Scholarship fund of the School through individual giving, having a concert and enjoying pancakes at the Manse.

We hope that the vision will continue for another 50 years so that the School may celebrate its centenary anniversary as Manley Park Methodist is doing this year. Together let us continue to Pray for God's Blessing on this Work of Mission in our world today.



First graduation from kindergarten 1961

The author of this article, Gwenda Watson, whose husband, Rev Vic Watson died a few years ago, is a member of Manley Park Methodist Church.

1961 The first floor of Escuela Metodista was built, providing 3 classrooms, an office and toilets.

1964 A second floor was added which gave 4 more classrooms.

1994 After a painful wait of 30 years the school was completed.

ACTION FOR CHILDREN Was National Children's Homes

Manley Park Methodist Church has a long history of supporting the children's charity 'Action For Children'. Originally known as 'National Children's Home' the charity now focuses less on 'homes' and more on helping young people in their environment with emphasis on 'action'.

A considerable amount of money has been raised over the

years, principally around Christmas. One fun way has been the annual walk around local streets singing carols. Wind, rain, snow, freezing conditions have not prevented it! Counting the cash afterwards in a warm house with hot drinks and mince pies made it worth while. Traditionally at this time of celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ people send Christmas cards to each other. Members of the church are encouraged to

sign one large communal card - saves paper for the planet and saves money for the charity! Members buying goods through the a catalogue was a great success for many years and raised almost £4000 shared between the charity and the fund for the main window at the front of the church (which includes a red cross you can see from Egerton Road).

The author, Ann Cavill, heads up the work for this charity each year.

LOCAL Preachers



Peter



Pat

Services in Methodist Churches are led by a rich variety of people, all called by God and trained by the Church. Some are called to full time ministry and are ordained and work for God through the Church – they are called Ministers and are either addressed as Reverend or Deacon as we have two types (other churches may call them priest, or pastor or father etc). Ministers are itinerant in that they move around the Connexion (the spelling is correct - another Methodist thing). However such leaders of worship are a minority in Methodism as they are responsible for more than one church. So, the majority of our services are conducted by lay people called Local Preachers.

The first local preachers were appointed by John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, to assist him with the preaching ministry to the people. Manley Park Church has five

local preachers among its congregation. They are ordinary members; male and female; black and white; young and less so. They are different from ministers as they are not ordained and can't preside at Holy Communion. They are not paid.

What is the difference between a Minister and a Local Preacher?

A minister is paid to be good; a Local Preacher is good for nothing.
(Author's name supplied)

Before becoming a Local Preacher one must serve an "on trial" period of study and assessment. A successful candidate is 'recognised' at a special circuit service and is said to be an "Accredited Local Preacher".

Part of the leading of worship by the preacher is the delivery

of a sermon. This can be approximately 20 minutes (although in former times could be much longer) and is often challenging to prepare. Also as it is a major way to communicate the gospel (the 'good news' of Jesus Christ) it should be a challenge to hear!

Services often include a children's address and as a small child I ruined one by not knowing that real mushrooms are not red with white spots and the preacher didn't seem to have read any children's story books.

(author's name supplied)

If you visit a Methodist church



Keith

for a service and the preacher is not wearing a "dog collar" it's probably one of us -



Adrian



Margaret

- a Local Preacher.

Thanks to
Peter
Smith and
Pat
Watson.



A group of preachers including Ministers, Deacons and Local Preachers - what should the collective noun be?



Youth on Solid Ground is a not-for-profit voluntary organisation that has been working with young people in the Whalley Range and Chorlton area for several years, but formalised this service in March 2009. We work with young people who find themselves in difficult situations.

Whatever the reason for their situation, we help them out. We work with their families and their communities wherever and whenever young people need us most; in schools, on the streets, in the home, at youth and community centres. As young people become more positive, productive and independent, the whole community benefits.

We provide social, recreational, educational activities, support programmes, sports apprenticeships, activities and facilities for the well being of local youth.

We support the social development and interaction of young people in the local community. We help develop the citizenship skills of young people to improve their quality of life e.g: increasing their knowledge and awareness regarding their rights, responsibilities and expectations.

We strengthen and develop links to promote community cohesion and well being.

We address issues and barriers which may affect the local youth

We support local youth who are socially isolated and excluded.

Our outreach team offers one-to-one tailored mentoring support, tackling issues the youth are faced with. YSG staff and our multi agency partners have substantial understanding and expertise of the complex issues involved in working in Whalley Range and the surrounding areas, through a combination of living and working locally, professional training in Informal Education, a commitment to community development and a willingness to learn from young people. We seek to stand alongside and work in active partnership with young people in response to their interests, concerns and needs.



Youth on Solid Ground congratulates Manley Park Methodist Church on its 100th Birthday and wishes it the very best for the future.

YSG meets at the JNR8 Youth & Community Centre every Saturday 6pm- 11pm
& on Sundays, sports activities are in Manley Park 6pm- 8pm

For further inquiries please contact: Majid Dar / Nabeel Bilal
Tel: 07966 882856 Email: ysg09@live.co.uk Web: www.yosg.org.uk

FUTURE

Even discussions on the future have a past! Over the years the Church has sought ways to fulfil mission and seek visions. Tom Stuckey's was a notable time of group discussion and action in this area. We must ask if any of his subsequent books were influenced by his time as tutor to the team here.

On the right you will see two of the covers of a 2001 series published by the Methodist Church, resourcing mission office. The series went under the name of "Pilgrim's Way" and Manley Park and its folk were used for the illustrations. It would be nice to think we have trodden at least part of that 'way' and are still on track.



CENTENARY BANNER

Have you completed your squares yet?

Lyn Gallimore's idea of a banner comprising individual squares made by folk in the congregation and elsewhere has taken root. Although not completed at the time this booklet goes to print, about 50 6" x 6" squares have already been glued, stitched or painted.



The whole reflects Manley Park's past, present and future and its grounding in the Spirit and gospel.

It is intended initially to hang the banner at the front of the church on the partition.



Pilgrims Way

Your journey of discovery starts here.



CENTENARY FUND

What would you spend £4000 on?

Donations in 2010, money from events and sales should total more than £4000. **THANKS.** This will enable the Church and community (on a 50-50 basis) to fund future projects - but we're still open!

One major portion of the Church's money has gone to re-furbish the Welsh Chapel to ensure rent for the future and community work from the building. We are also looking at the church entrance, the sound system and the grounds - including planters.

The community has not decided on projects as this booklet goes to print. However it is likely that bids of up to £500 could be considered. If you have ideas of where money should go why not get in touch with someone on the users group?

PPPpppolitics



Ours is a time when politics has a bad name and it's easy to disengage and decide that we are quite justified in avoiding involvement! But, like religion, politics is about how we live in our community. Whether religious or not, to retreat into ourselves together with a lack of concern for others is surely not how we should be living. It's easy for those of us who are religious, to think that our faith is a private matter. But, as Jim Wallis argues in his book 'God's Politics' we misunderstand. "God is definitely personal but never private" says Jim.

There is a long tradition in our bible of not only caring for others in practical ways but also of a constant call for justice. From the prophets onwards to the life of Jesus, to Ghandi and Desmond Tutu in our generation [and in other faiths] we see a call for challenge to those in power. Members of Manley Park have been involved over the past few years in demands for fair trade and the lifting of debt for those in the third world and in collections for Christian Aid to support its campaigns for justice in our modern world.

In our centenary year, as we look to the future, there are many challenges ahead of us to get involved politically and to take our responsibility for the world even more seriously. There are important political decisions to be made at a time when severe cuts in our national spending will have to be made and when the realities and consequences of global warming become apparent. As believers, we are called to be Christ's body in the world in all its elements – hands, heart and mind. Our God is very personal but never private and we are all challenged to be involved in the politics of our world in order to influence the future.

Margaret Westbrook

GREEN APPROACHES

Ours is a time when there are many different questions about the realities of climate change. It seems, however, that there is little doubt that it is happening at a much faster rate than previously experienced, and that most scientists are convinced of this. In addition, the testimony of those who live in Bangladesh or Africa or by the glaciers will simply underline this truth. We cannot escape the facts.

As people of faith we believe we share the responsibility for creation. We are stewards of the resources available to us and can share this responsibility with people of other faiths and none.

There are many initiatives to help us, both inside and outside of the church. They

will help us to prepare for shortages and other potential effects of the way we have exploited our planet and its fragile eco system. For example, the move for Transition Towns, which gives a framework to work with others to develop and share local resources and skills; the



Faith4change initiatives, which started in the Anglican church in Liverpool; and the opportunity to become an eco-congregation.

Both church and community sides of the building are looking to green energy solutions. Grant applications have been made for double glazing and wall insulation and for a bio-mass boiler to be fuelled from local sources.

Effort to has been put in to the education, particularly web-site, aspects. We are also using volunteer effort in further renovation work in the hall and the grounds.

Looking to the future at Manley Park Church we need to build upon our initial responses to the eco-congregation requirements and look more seriously at how we can become accredited. We can become more practical and share our grounds with our neighbours; use the suggested allotment project to grow more local food; and develop a garden, which the community can share with us. We will need hands to do this and more – a challenge to us all.

Margaret Westbrook is a member of Manley Park and a Local Preacher.

80's and 90's Children

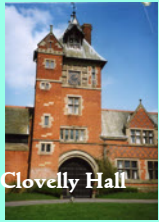
Manley park church

It was a feature of this period that the church had a number of children, similar in age and leaders willing to get out and about. The first major foray was a Sunday School camping weekend which included a first night in rain when we slept under the rolled out tent because we couldn't put it up!



Generally a brilliant era to be a child at Manley Park!

Inters weekend



Young people from different churches away together for a weekend – welcome to “Inters Weekend”. During the ‘80s and early ‘90s we went to Cliff College conference centre near Calver village in Derbyshire and more recently to Clovelly Hall in Shropshire. Amongst the recollections foremost in my mind was the excitement and camaraderie experienced by my peers; singing, fellowship, mealtimes, workshops, and of course trips out to various places in the locality.

Our chaperones for the weekend were Alaine Sheppard, and the late, great



Arthur Brown, whose anecdotes and infectious laugh ensured a constant supply of entertainment.

Friday nights we spent getting to know everyone in our dorms. Saturdays were industrious, with everything leading up to the Sunday's service of worship which was the culmination of the workshops including music, dance, drama and my own favourite – art & craft. This last group was led by a man called Derek, whom several of us

affectionately nicknamed Grandpa Del! Until a few years ago, I still had one of the artifacts I produced at one of his workshop sessions – a translucent ‘stained glass’ window hanging, subsequently displayed at the Sunday service – now a faded but poignant reminder of how you could explore aspects of the Christian faith through the medium of art.

These weekends and the eagerly anticipated return to Cliff College concentrated on youth fellowship, yet they were also socially stimulating, good fun and allowed a degree of personal development through rapports with others, exposure to a unique and interesting environment and exploration and expression of faith through a variety of artistic means.



7
4
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On the Sunday night before going back to school, many children get bored and complain a lot – but Manley Park children were lucky enough to have 745 group! Organised by Hilary Kirby we

met each week.

We enjoyed planning worship services, songs and dramatising parts of the bible. Adrian Curtis led a discussion on comedy stories and funny parts of the bible encouraging us to read it more.

Every month 745 went to Colliers (aka Centre Spot) in the centre of Manchester for a collective worship with other

young people. One that was particularly remembered was a service on HIV and Aids where sufferers came to talk to us and we learned about life from a completely different perspective. We also loved the charity sleep-over in the church, going bowling, tasting chips from all the local chip shops to choose the best, and of course cooking in the Manley Park kitchen!

Homefield Prestatyn



Worship, family and fun – for us, 'Prestatyn' took all the best parts of Manley Park Church and rolled them together for one weekend!

Homefield was a Methodist holiday home we went to from 1987 to 1998. 25 to 40 of us would gather with piles of gear and food. It was a grand old house with many bedrooms, communal areas, massive grounds and lots of nice places to visit in the surrounding areas.

We have taken a survey of the children of that era (youngish adults now!) and between us have many amusing and some wacky memories! We enjoyed the more serious side making up hymns and dances, doing music and arts and crafts.

Leisure times included; playing cricket, football, giant chess, zooming down the wooden slide (which looked harmless



but was really fast!), John Cavill's treasure hunts, the secret garden with the sundial, trips to the beach (and making a big sand car for everyone to sit in) and of course who could forget Arthur Brown rolling down the hill with all of us!



Meals would be cooked in the communal kitchen with what to us children seemed to be giant pots and pans and enough food to feed the 5000!

On Sunday we had a worship coordinated by the leader of the weekend, often one of the student ministers. Everything we had learned and created during the weekend would be shared.



Thanks to James Robertson, Eleanor and Rachel Kirby for the articles on these two pages .

2010's Children

Try these jokes from Lois:

Why Didn't the two elephants go swimming?
Why did the skeleton cross the road?
What has three heads is ugly and smells?
What type of paper sings?

See
answers
later

WAR

War is hard. Hard for combatants; those left behind; evacuated; bereaved; defenders; the imprisoned; those in fear and traumatised ... People from Manley Park had all these roles and

experiences and memories of these times are strong.

Listen to Bert Jaquiss - "In the First World War in France I was running the telegraph wires between forward base and the trenches repairing breaks in the wire from artillery damage. I was lucky. I got a wound in the foot" - ('blighty wound' allowed him to be shipped home).

Listen too to Derek Critten from the Second World War - "Services at the church were rarely interrupted by air raids and the church itself had sustained little or no damage from them despite the fact that nearby houses in Cromwell Avenue had been destroyed [look at the difference now in roof line and architecture in Nos 73,74,75: Ed.]. Numerous houses in the surrounding area suffered damage mainly to windows blown out and roof tiles dislodged. All windows in mother's house were replaced by white cloth nailed to wooden frames".

Derek's brother Ken writes - "In December 1940 the bomb dropped in Cromwell Avenue. It was Sunday evening. We youth group members were having a meeting. The blast from the bomb scared the wits out of us. The floor appeared to rise. I felt as if I was being lifted with it. We were plunged into darkness.



Mr Jaquiss suggested we sang a hymn and asked Betty Mossman who had a beautiful voice. She sang 'Silent Night' ... in German. Others joined in. The young men escorted the girls home. In the blackout, with a girl on each arm I escorted Lillian Ridgeway and Joan Bardon along the shaken streets".

The blitz for Manchester started on Christmas Eve and Day 1940. Manley Park area was hit and many church members had to leave shattered homes. There was civil defence and the church had Fred Clare, Joe Bamforth and maybe others as ARP wardens. One operated from the warden station on Clarendon Road where police houses were later built. When the siren sounded for an air raid it was the warden's job to get people out and down the local shelters. The biggest shelter in the area was the one under the corner of what is now Manley Park. The entrance was down a slope at the corner of York Avenue and Clarendon (not the large mound at the back of the park) to a door nine feet below ground level. The shelter held up to 500 people and was 'furnished' with wood forms and duck boards for the flooding when it rained. In the early days after 1940 folk would make their way to shelter treading gingerly through rubble along streets blacked out and with the gas lamps in Clarendon

Road painted over except for a small patch at the bottom. However it wasn't long before many didn't bother and kids would play cricket down the shelter annoying few.

On the outbreak of World War Two many children had been evacuated. Renée and Derek Critten went to Charlesworth in Derbyshire. Many from local schools were billeted together but some made private arrangements. Bert Jaquiss got his son Bryan and the boy next door, Ian Sutton, fixed up in Lymm. Visits by parents didn't always help home sickness and Bryan was rescued from unhappiness and brought back to Hulme Grammar Prep School which had kept running.

The church maintained a membership of about 100 throughout the war. Neither the start nor the end of the war was noted in the 'society minute book' but 'home' and 'overseas' missions continued and the flower fund was ever present. One statement in the book noted "work done by the comforts committee in distributing eleven parcels of socks made by the knitting circle".

Local metal including iron fencing was handed in for the war effort. Some holes atop stone walls where railings were removed can still be seen with good examples at Park Drive next to 'RB Halal Poultry and Grocery' and 133 College Road. There was a Barrage Balloon in the grounds of Crimsworth near Upper Chorlton Road and the local Ack-Ack (first war slang

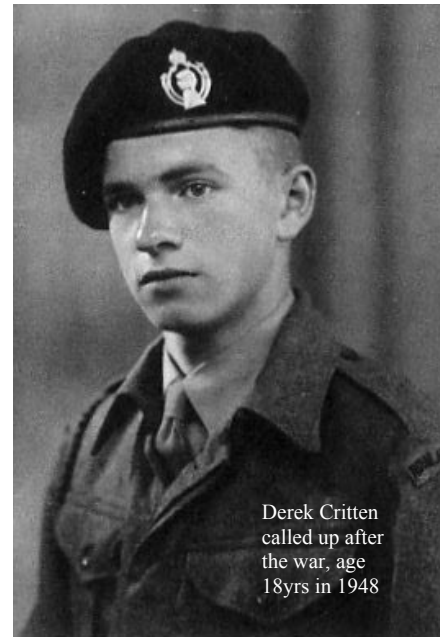
for AA - anti-aircraft) battery was in the grounds of what is now the Islamic Heritage Centre.

There wasn't much to occupy local youth. Some collected shrapnel to be melted down - Derek used to sell the best bits in the school playground! Manley Park and other Churches kept morning services although evening ones largely shut down. The Sunday evening youth group at Manley Park continued and there was a thriving Dramatic Society.



Charlie Buckley rehearses the drama group during the war

In 1944 it was considered safe enough to start an evening mid week youth club for boys and girls from 13 years. About 40 teenagers came twice a week. There was dancing, darts, billiards on a half-sized table and occasionally boxing. The highlight of the evening for the boys was a tough chasing game called 'British Bulldog'. Individual and group skills didn't avoid abrasions and bruises - not something to have to write a risk assessment for. (Have any readers got memories of that time? Who were the ladies that helped Charlie Buckley and Bert Jaquiss run the club? Ed.) Derek again: "my memory of those days is not so good but I can recall Norah Bough, Muriel George, Lillian, Joan ... I wish I could see again those young girls I knew in those long gone days".



Derek Critten called up after the war, age 18yrs in 1948

Arrangements were made by the church for VE day - a short service followed by a social.

Russell Kirby

Memories of an Earlier Time



I was born on December 11th 1919 at 12 Spencer Avenue and was christened on March 2 1920 at Manley Park Wesleyan Methodist Church by my uncle the Rev Joseph Grange Radford my mother's elder brother. We moved in 1921 to 28, College Drive, Whalley Range and were there until the house was badly damaged in December 1940 by a land mine in the war. My father ran a Boy Scout Troop and my mother a Girl Guide Company.

The Church: In ground alongside the chapel were tennis courts. The ground was available for extension to the Chapel if and when necessary.

The Sunday School: There were two departments and the primary was led by Miss Annie Johnson. At 8 years old you moved into the 'Big School'. Until about 1925 my father was superintendent (Sunday School) and after came Mr Percy Frost. After came Bert Jaquiss, Mr Bateson and Mr Cook.

Sunday School Sports: There was a circuit event held annually in the grounds of the Independent College. The Sunday School with highest scores was awarded a large engraved shield held for a year.

Missionary Interest: JMCDSO - 'Junior Missionary Collectors Distinguished Service Order' was a sort after award. Collectors had a dated notebook to record weekly subscriptions which were handed to the 'Missionary Secretary' each week. I was started on this exercise with my mother's help at the age of 4 and collected for 14 years. If you collected £5 in a year (often in pennies and half pence) you got a medal and a bar for each succeeding year. You got a certificate with 7 different coloured seals and the annual amount recorded. I still have mine and the medal.

Sunday School Anniversary: These were highlights of all the Chapels in the circuit and I am sorry to say engendered a good deal of jealousy. My debut as a reciter was at the age of 8 when I was given the longest piece to memorise and recite in a presentation entitled 'The Building of the Church'. Wooden shapes were slotted into a frame, each shape depicting a characteristic of a church such as prayer, praise and so on. Mine was 'faith' and I still remember the opening line. In the weeks before the anniversary after Sunday dinner I was sent upstairs while my parents were in the kitchen and if they couldn't hear every word distinctly there was trouble!

Later: When I went to Sheffield University in 1938. Eventually in the 1950s I found my spiritual home among the Baptists. My mother maintained her Methodist membership and was invited by the Manley Park Chapel to return as one of the speakers for the 50th anniversary celebrations.

MEMORIALS QUIZ

Around the church

In Cathedrals and churches throughout the land you will find brass plaques and memorials commemorating the lives of people who have died.

Your task, should you choose to accept it, is to find the brasses, record what objects they are on and where they are placed.

IN MEMORY OF
ARTHUR GILL
DIED 14TH MARCH 1981
ORGANIST OF THIS CHURCH
FOR MANY YEARS

8

..... one will go to anyone connected through the community side of the building



1

Sometimes they will say something about them or a particular deed. Sometimes a plaque records a gift and the name of the giver.



4

Prizes can be claimed from the Editor.



9

..... and one to the first school student from Manley Park School, not connected to the community side of the building, to complete the challenge.



5

Prizes are limited so



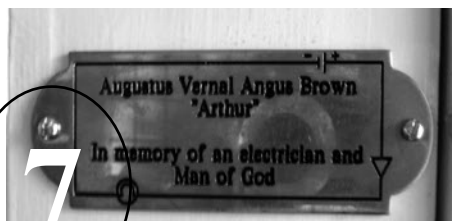
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On this page you will see black and white photos (often deliberately hard to read!) of ten brass plaques that can be found somewhere between the front doors of the church and the partition through to JNR8 and the community hall and rooms.



6

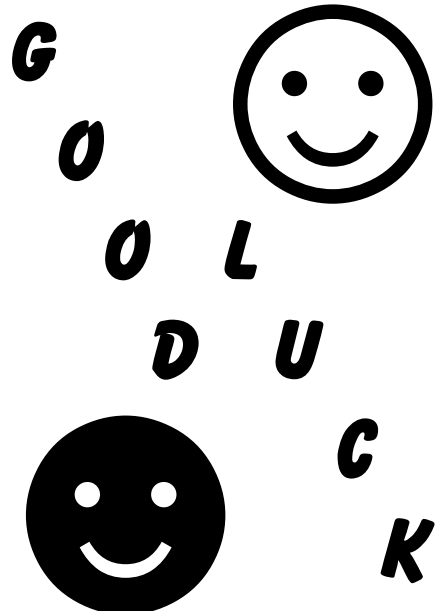
..... only one will go to a member of the congregation,



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3



"IT WALKED FROM THE BUPA HOSPITAL"

In the late 1970s and early 1980s Lorraine and I ran a youth club that met each Monday night in the back rooms of Manley Park Methodist Church with loyal help from a social worker friend, Nigel. Drawn exclusively from the local West Indian community, at least 30 and occasionally up to 100 young teenagers met together to listen to their reggae music, play pool, table tennis and, of course, dominoes and just hang out together.

It was a place of refuge for a group of first generation British born black young people many of whom struggled to find their place in our society. Our proudest moment was being the only youth club open to offer a place of shelter from the violence on the streets the night that Moss



Side burned in a summer of rioting. Our kids', as we thought of them, were often alienated from their parents who themselves had been brought up in much stricter, god fearing, tight knit communities, yet they clearly did not fit into the wider white working class community around them. Many struggled at school and underachieved. Some regularly played truant. A

few were in and out of trouble with the police and a handful in and out of prison. Yet many others were decent kids trying to make their way in a world they struggled to understand and which so often made no effort to understand them.

The vast majority of 'our kids' were just like teenagers all around the world, trying to make sense of growing up, trying to find role models they could admire and follow, trying to put meaning to the experiences and the places they found themselves. They were spirited and lively, always interested if sometimes bemused by our white middle class ways. Once tuned into their street language, conversation was never a problem. It was us, as much as them who learnt about a different culture, different diets, different relationships between the sexes, different attitudes to drugs (accepted) and alcohol (frowned upon).

Occasionally we took groups of the young people out of their comfort zone away from the streets so familiar to them. The girls were ace netball players and the lads not at all bad at 5-a-side football. So we took part in Methodist Association of Youth Clubs sports competitions. In one sense this did them a power of good, showing them that they



could compete and succeed. On the other hand it exposed them (and by association, us too) to startlingly overt racism. They

were shunned, stereotyped and blamed. It was an eye-opener for Lorraine and me. I only hope our society has become more tolerant and understanding in the last 30 years.

For those not playing serious dominoes, music was the big pull at the Youth Club each Monday evening. Huge sets of speakers would be hauled to the church and set up at one side of the room, often joined by a second set brought by another group of young people, set up on the opposite side. Led by two competing DJs, each 'sound system' would compete with the other. Style and volume were the grounds on which the competition was won or lost.

On one evening a group of youngsters arrived with a



massive set of sound system speakers (or 'boxes' as they called them). As an NHS administrator at the time, I noticed that as they came to the door they were wheeling their boxes

on a hospital bed. "Where on earth did you get that bed from", I cried. "Don't worry, Stephen", they replied, "it walked from the BUPA hospital, not from the NHS". That was all right then!

Steve Thornton

Sports and Social - MANLEY PARK

MESSING ABOUT

Enjoying themselves participating

You will see on these pages and read on the captions a few aspects of Manley Park Church's life on a more social front. Drama used to be a big thing, particularly in the 1940's and 1950's but that mantle has passed in a Methodist sense very much to Manchester Road church. Please support their productions. The 1960's was an era of uniformed organisations but later in 1970 and with a brilliant bunch of young people from the



Netball Team



5-a-side football 1977-78

Caribbean, 5-a-side football and netball held sway. Circuit sports days and the annual swimming gala were major competitions after the war but sadly petered out by the early 1970's. Cricket made a wonderful but fleeting appearance in the early 1980's when our faster bowlers were mainly white and the spinners black. Arthur's slow turners were a wonder as was the appearance of Vera Nevers on the field in full 'whites'. Honours have to go to Chester Watson for his all round performance with an honourable mention to Adrian

Curtis's attempt to catch a six with his bald(ing) head!

It is many years since the Church has ventured on the field of play



The last trophies we won.

and we are content with our Friday night social evenings where dominoes, table tennis and pool hold sway.



Beach

On a less strenuous note our coach trips to Llandudno, Chester, York, the Lakes, Stourport-on-Severn and so on have provided great memories and still do – next trip is in a few weeks time, God willing.



Cricket Lovely Cricket



Panto is a lot of fun. Oh yes it is



Tramp up Scafell Pike



This social business isn't all fun



Rev John Bennett leads the line in Grease



Trip to the Lakes 2009



York

Walking group
in 2009...

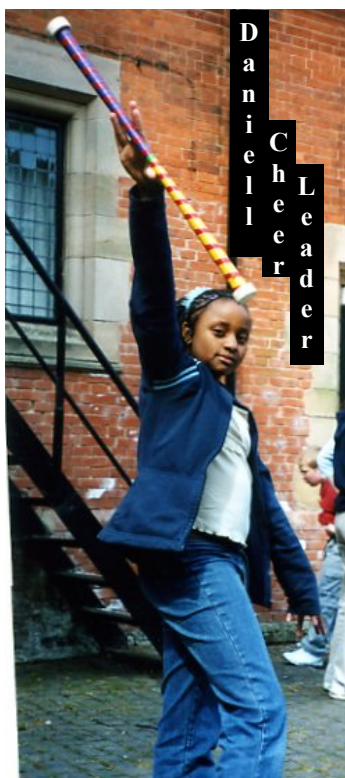
...not walking.

Meals are a
Manley Park
feature over
the years

Llandudno



Youth group in London

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rAnother
mealRaising money collecting paper
in Cromwell Avenue was a social
event as well.



LISTS: for those that like them.

Ministers from the start of the Church



Year	Circuit	Minister	Comment
Dec.1901	Radnor St.	Burnett	First mention of MP in circuit Schedules.
Dec. 1901			MP has 21 members, 1 on trial, 20 junior members.
Jan. 1910			MP building opened with 27 members.
1901-1902	Radnor St	Burnett	Rented premises
1902-1905		Mees	Rented premises
1905-1908		Jones	Rented premises
1908-1911	Radnor St.	Smith T.	Manley Park Church moved to current premises
1913		Wilbert F. Howard	
1917-1922		Robert Simpson	..Active supernumerary minister over Manley Park
1922-1928		William Johnson	ditto
1928-1932		Stephen Gibson	First minister. Given Manley Park as 'second charge'.
		Cecil H.G. Carter	Had BSc "...preaching ability and keen science interest"
1932-1935			given Manley Park as his "second charge"
1932			"real Lancashire" "...there are no loose ends to his work".
			Methodist union decreed that Radnor St. close and members transfer to Upper Moss Lane (former Primitive Meth.Ch.) - significant numbers join Manley Park.
1935-1938 (MP)	Hulme and	Stanley Finch	MP 1st; Maitland Ave. 2nd charge. (His ministry began at
	Whalley Ra.		
1938-1940		Robert Bowers	ditto
1940-1944		James Wright	ditto. (His ministry began at MP)
1944-1948		John Winn	Whalley Range first charge; Manley Park as second
			Gtr West St, High La, BurtonRd (ex-prim) churches join MP
1948-1951	Chorlton + Moss Side	Cyril Henman	Whalley Range first charge; Manley Park second.
1951-1954		Malcolm Womack	Whalley Range first charge; Manley Park second
1954-1957		Thomas(Tom)Mellor	High Lane first; MP second; Maitland Ave. third charge
1957-1960		Alexander(Alec)Reid	ditto
1960-1962		Baden Pearce	Whalley range first charge; MP second
1962-1965		Brian Jackson	Whalley Range first charge; MP second.
1965-1970		David Kynaston	Manley Park first charge; Maitland Ave. second.
1970-1975	Manchester Withington	Colin Colclough	Manchester Rd. first charge; Manley Park second.
1975-1982		Student Teams(1)	Student Team under Rev Graham Slater
1982-1990		Student Teams(2)	Student Team under Rev Tom Stuckey.
1990-1995		John Leech	Manchester Road and Manley Park
1995-2004		John Bennett	Manchester Road and Manley Park
2001-date	M/cr circuit		
2004-date	M/cr circuit	Lyn+Dave Gallimore, deacons	- responsibility for M/cr Road. and Manley Park



John and Jean Leech



Colin Colclough



Baden Pearce



David Kynaston



James Wright

BMHC

British Muslim Heritage Centre



The best way to understand what the British Muslim Heritage Centre (BMHC) is all about would probably be to study the rationale behind the name as it in itself captures in very few words what the BMHC is aiming for. Add a little context to it and you will very quickly realise what ingredients have been used and why.



The BMHC is a large National Centre based here in Whalley range aiming to reach out to a wide diversity of people on local, national and international levels.

The BMHC was established partly in response to the growing need for greater community cohesion and improved understanding between different sectors of society, be they of a religious, cultural, ethnic or socio-economic nature. It aims to help shape a cohesive British society through promoting a common sense of belonging to British values, citizenship by facilitating social engagement and dialogue via its services and programmes. The authenticity of information or knowledge is becoming increasingly diluted

as a result of entities holding their own interests at heart at the expense of others, which is only exacerbated by the flurry of media we are faced with on an hourly basis. The Centre will aim to focus its efforts to make authentic knowledge available on a neutral platform for all, thus portraying the religion of Islam for what it actually is.

The Centre will create an 'open to all' ethic and environment by opening its doors to the entire community regardless of faith, culture, ethnicity or background. The Centre will endeavour to facilitate access to education about Muslim Heritage and the rich contribution it has made to civil society as well as aiding the general development of the community, be it in an educational, social, economic or spiritual way.



As you may be aware the building site acquired for the project (the former GMB National College), is one of significant historical prestige, recognition and architectural beauty. The Grade II* listed building, set in approximately 8 acres of land, now stands as an iconic landmark not only

for Manchester but for the North West and indeed for the whole of Britain.

The long term vision at the BMHC possesses both a national and international dimension as it seeks to reach out not only to the local community, but to the wider British, European and International communities as well. This aspect of the project renders it unique in the sense that it is the first ever project spearheaded by the Muslim



community to be wholly dedicated to the cohesion of people of different faiths, cultures and backgrounds on both national and international levels. It is for these reasons, and more, that the Centre enjoys widespread support, including that of the Manchester City Council, a number of MPs including Leader of the House of Commons- Harriet Harman QC MP and Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs - David Miliband, MEPs, Ministers and International dignitaries such as Ambassador Susman for the U.S. and Dr. Khaled Al Duwaisan-The Kuwaiti Ambassador, amongst others, most of whom have been to the Centre and have high hopes for the future of the project.

Thanks to Nu'maan Mamood, public relations officer at BMHC

LETTING the buildings

Church, Hall and Welsh Chapel

Before 1988, we had a number of long term lettings - such as Girl Guides and Brownies, a nursery and of course youth clubs. The first club is noted in the 1940's and early on was associated with drama productions. In recent times work has manifested as after-school, peripatetic work, and other community groups and activities.

The hiring out of the building serves a number of functions providing us with the income we need to maintain the building and worship in it; it advertises our presence locally; and it forms part of our mission to the community.

I became lettings steward at a time when we needed to increase our income [plus ca

changel. One way we could do this was by hiring the hall for parties, often for Asian weddings, sometimes for birthdays. There was a downside from wear and tear, clogged drains and the lingering food smell for Sunday worship. However, we became more known in the community and the church was occasionally used for meetings - some of which showed local tensions and could become heated or even violent

What we needed was a long term 'let' to provide steady income and outreach. Along came Oliver Harrison and his boxing ring. The ring and punch bags took up most of the back hall and did years of service. We had a succession of similar lettings until the Whalley Range Youth Opportunities Association,

otherwise known as JNR8, moved in. This has fulfilled our wish to reach out to the local community and provide income and a steady relationship - we hope this will long continue.

Meanwhile, over in the Welsh Chapel, we hosted a succession of church groups, one of which was led by a bishop, no less, and which were notable for the length of their worship. The recent letting to Cool UK ended on a bad note with money owed and the building left in a poor state [but there is often a 'silver lining' and this year's centenary fund has allowed such good renovation work that we can begin again our letting of the premises]. Youth on Solid Ground are our current users.

In the best traditions of Manley Park, The Big Comedy Shop is using the back hall on Saturdays.

Thanks to Dave Robertson.

In the Year

The earth passed through the tail of Hailey's comet

1910

The first labour exchanges opened in England
Vaughan Williams' *A Sea Symphony*, and Stravinsky's *The Firebird*, composed

Birth of Mother Teresa

Alliott Verdon Roe and his brother founded AVRO in an Ancoats mill

Henry Ford sold 10 000 automobiles

Death of Leo Tolstoy

The union of South Africa became a dominion

Louis Paulan made the first London to Manchester flight, landing near Fog Lane Park
Dr Hawley Crippen was arrested on board ship, the first time 'wireless telegraphy' had been used for that purpose. He was later hung for murder.

Death of Mark Twain

Geoege V ascended to the throne on the death of Edward VII

Birth of Jacques-Yves Cousteau

Death of Florence Nightingale

Manley Park Church moved into current building

RECIPES

Spicy Chicken

Ingredients

6 chicken pieces
1 teaspoon minced garlic
1 teaspoon coriander
½ teaspoon black pepper
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon chilli powder
2 tablespoons olive oil or vegetable oil

Method

Mix together all the above ingredients, rub into the chicken pieces and leave to marinate for at least 1 hour. Cook in preheated oven at gas mark 6 (200°C) for 40 minutes.

Pat Watson

Carrot, Banana & Raisin Salad

Ingredients:

3 large carrots, 2 bananas, a generous handful or two of raisins, Juice of half a lemon.

Method

Peel and grate the carrots to get a pile of grated flesh on your chopping board.

Brush generously the whole bananas with lemon juice and cut into slices. Lay the slices on the plate and brush again with juice.

Layer the ingredients in a bowl. Reserve plenty of banana and raisins for display on the top. Pour any remaining lemon juice over.

Put aside in a cool place for an hour or so for the raisins to soften and flavours to mingle.

John Cavill

Jamaican Patties

For the pastry; 12 ounces plain flour, 1 teaspoon ground turmeric, ½ teaspoon salt, 6 ounces margarine

For the filling; 1 tablespoon cooking oil, 9 ounces minced lamb or beef, 1 small onion, finely chopped, 1 clove garlic, crushed

1 red chilli pepper finely chopped, seeds removed 2 tomatoes skinned and chopped, salt and pepper.

Method; sift flour salt and turmeric into a bowl rub in margarine till it resembles breadcrumbs. Add about 4 tablespoons cold water to make a firm dough. Cover and chill for 1 hour. Preheat oven to gas mark 6 (200°C); heat oil in frying pan, fry onion, garlic and chilli until soft add mince and stir until browned. Add tomatoes, salt and pepper. Stir in 4 ounces water and cook for 10 minutes until liquid has evaporated. Leave to cool.

Divide pastry into 8 and roll into circles approximately 7ins. Put a spoonful of filling on 1 half of each circle. Moisten the edges with water and press down to seal. Place on greased baking tray, brush with beaten egg and bake for 30 minutes until golden.

Pat Watson

Weight Conversion

1 oz = 30 g: 2 oz = 55 g: 3 oz = 85g: 4 oz = 115 g: 5 oz = 140 g: 6 oz = 170 g.

Volume conversion

½ teaspoon = 2.5 ml: 1 teaspoon = 5 ml
1 tablespoon = 15 ml: 2 tablespoons = 30 ml
4 tablespoons = 55 ml

JNR8 Cookery Club

Easy way to 5-a-Day Fruit Smoothie Recipes

(Banana added for sweetness and texture: add yogurt for creamy flavour!)

Strawberry and banana smoothie

Approx 3 strawberries, a third of a banana
Blend with 100 mls orange juice.

For variations add kiwi, mango frozen berries;
Add a splash of pineapple juice and/or coconut milk for a tropical twist!

Chris Ricard

Mincemeat Crumble Bake

Ingredients

12 oz self raising flour
3 oz sugar
6 oz margarine
1 egg

5-6 rounded tablespoons of mincemeat

Method

Mix flour and sugar. Separately melt margarine (not too hot!) and add the beaten egg to it.

With a fork, mix these ingredients and press 2/3 into a greased, 12"x 8", Swiss roll tin.

Add the mincemeat and spread on top. Sprinkle the rest of the pastry on top leaving the texture rough. Bake for 30 minutes at gas mark 4 (180°C).

Cut into squares and lift when cold..

Hilary Kirby via Joan Morley

HYMNS to celebrate our birthday



A Century of witness

1. A century of witness
From those who've graced this place,
Borne out in life and service
to Christ, God's human face.
We gather here together,
To mark this hundredth year,
With all the Lord's disciples,
who've served Christ Jesus here.
2. We celebrate together,
on this auspicious day,
we join the stream of worship
from all along the way.
Here gathered in your presence,
let hearts and voices blend,
to praise you for your greatness,
our constant, faithful friend.
3. We thank you for the gifts, Lord,
shared with your people here;
for those you've called and chosen,
to serve you far and near.
For all the signs of love, Lord,
for acts of kindness too
for faith and prayer and service,
all offered here to you.
4. We've coped with many changes,
around us and within;
the things to stir and challenge
each passing year may bring.
For you have been there with us,
to lead us through it all;
you are our inspiration
and we have heard your call.
5. A century of travelling
along the Christian way;
empowered by the spirit,
enabled day by day.
In this our hundredth year, Lord,
we celebrate today;
from here we'll travel onwards,
with you to lead the way.

©John Forster
Tune 7.6.7.6.D

11.07.09
Aurelia (HP515)

A Hundred Years

1. A hundred years of worship,
A hundred years of grace;
A hundred years of blessing
bound-up in love's embrace.
We gather here in worship,
Your name by all adored.
We come to sing your praises -
one Church, one faith, one Lord.
2. A hundred years of service,
A hundred years of care;
A hundred years of living;
sustained by daily prayer.
We gather, Lord, to bless you
in deeds of love record,
a people called through Jesus -
one Church, one faith, one Lord.
3. A hundred years of preaching,
A hundred years of time;
A hundred years of sharing
Your life in bread and wine.
We learn the ways of Jesus;
we join in one accord,
in worship and in mission -
One Church, one faith, one Lord.
4. A hundred years of working,
A hundred years of love;
A hundred years of seeking
the ways that God would prove.
We praise you for the power,
That takes away discord,
And binds us in Christ Jesus -
one Church, one faith, one Lord.
5. A hundred years of future,
A hundred years of past;
A hundred years of living
in God from first to last.
We give our lives of witness
to Christ the living Word,
and strive each day to serve you:
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

©John Forster
TUNE: 7.6.7.6.D
(HP784)

Nov 2001
Thornbury

Centenary Hymn

- 1: Come and celebrate this day of days,
Hearts and voices lift in songs of praise,
Thanking God for all the wondrous ways
He brought salvation to our lives.

So we share this anniversary -
A hundred years of history,
Blessed by countless people's ministry
To spread the message of God's love.
- 2: We have many stories to impart
Of men and women who played their part
To give this church a warm and loving heart
By selfless giving of their lives.

So we share this anniversary -
A hundred years of history,
Blessed by countless people's ministry
To spread the message of God's love.
- 3: Loving Father, show us now, we pray
How to serve you in this present day.
Give us strength to keep us in your way.
May your spirit fill our lives.

So we share this anniversary -
A hundred years of history,
Blessed by countless people's ministry
To spread the message of God's love.

Ruth Lamont. August 2009.
Tune: Calypso Carol - HP 118

Manley Park

1. Now we give our thanks and praise
For our church's witness here.
Hymns of adoration raise
Show our faith both far and near.
(alt: This is our one hundredth year.)
2. Years of prayer and thoughtfulness
Sharing times of trial and doubt,
Overcoming strain and stress,
That's what this church is about.
(alt: That's what Manley Park's about.)
3. Young and old together sing,
Prayers are said for all around,
Bless the people here within,
Listen to our joyful sound.

Hilary Curtis. May 2010
7.7.7.7. own tune supplied.

Sing out some praise.

1. We join together, in celebration
A revelation to share our joy.
So come together, oh congregation.
Man, woman, girl and boy.

*Sing out some praise. Sing out some praise.
Bring happiness as we sing in harmony.
Sing out some praise. In glory blaze.
Celebrate and sing in harmony.*

2. Oh come and join us; let every heart sing;
Give Praise for everything. This is our Prayer:
Unite and guide us in peace and harmony.
In faith and hope we share

Chorus.

Chris Ricard. Feb 2010. Own tune supplied

Come and Join the Celebration

*Come and join the celebration, it's a very special day,
Come and share our jubilation, Manley Park's 100 today!*

1. Friends and family hurry down to Whalley Range,
Remember good times, look to the future and embrace its changes.
2. Wise folk gathered led from distant scenery,
To play our part in Manley Park centenary, so,
3. God is with us, round the world the message bring,
Spreading good news, wake up Manchester it's time to sing!

Eleanor Kirby. April 2010
Tune HP 97



Thanks

Thanks

Thanks

Thanks

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For further reading see:

- “For the Work of Ministry” by Elaine Kaye, published in 1999 by T and T Clark. It covers the history of the Independent College (now British Islamic Heritage Centre).
- “ Britain in Old Photographs: Chorlton-cum-Hardy” by Cliff Hayes, published in 1999 by Sutton. It includes pictures of MP church, MP hall, local transport and the story of Charlie Peace.
- “The decline and fall of Manley Hall” an article from the Manchester Evening News, February 28th 1968.
- “Daughters of the Manse” by Miss Irene Johnson and Mrs Winifred Campbell.

And the answers to those jokes?

1. They only had one pair of trunks.
2. To get to the body shop.
3. Oops! My mistake, you don't have three heads.
4. Wrapping paper.

All mistakes, inaccuracies and errors are ultimately my fault and/or responsibility as editor.

However I would very much like corrections and additions.

In particular please contact me with more memories or photos of the area and the church, Church, buildings and grounds.

russell.kirby3@btinternet.com

WEDDINGS

At Manley Park



CENTENARY GREETINGS

"...Manley is still so dear to me and I wish you a very happy and successful anniversary. How I wish I could be with you but I will be in Spirit."

Renee Crompton (née Critten)
78 yrs

My sister Ruth
brother John (who h
lived in New Zealand for 2
years) and myself all send
you our best wishes for
the celebrations and the
future.

Anne
Klinkenburg

"..my greetings to the people at
Manley Park Methodist Church
(which we in our family used to refer
to as – 'the
English Chapel')".

Rev. T. Aneurin Evans 78yrs

"Totally impressed
with your efforts around
memory - totally in keeping
with Jesus' technique to
connect memory with meals.
Just sorry I can't be with you
[June 5th anniversary meal].
Blessings and peace.
Inderjit Bhogal

Manley
Park will ever have a
special place in my heart. I thank
God for its continuing ministry and
pray that the centenary celebrations will
be a time of much blessing for the
church.

Rev Baden Pearce (minister
1960)

Fond memories ... the
experience I got as a
plumber's labourer when we
installed de-humidifiers; the
monthly rounds collecting
waste paper decades before
recycling was fashionable;
cricket matches that were as
serious as test matches; the
food at church events; the
Valentine' day parties; the
recurring nightmares caused
by the alien life form posing
as a dry rot fruiting body the
size of a football (lol); the
patience, understanding and
care of the folk – Bert
Jaquiss, Jean and Edie. We
considered ourselves very
fortunate to be part of the
Manley Park
Family for three
years.

Peter (student
minister in 80s)
and Pauline
Cross.

Mem
ories of the
people, the
conversations,
the time of
learning and
mistakes
(accompanied by much
patience on the part of
members!) never fail to bring
a smile to my face and a sense
of warmth and joy within.
**Bruce Thompson (student minister
in 80's)**

Warmest
greetings and best
wishes to all at Manley
Park as you celebrate
your centenary.
Rev John and Anne
Bennett

19
70 -1974 when
I was minister was
my introduction to
working with a mixed white-
west Indian community, from
which I learnt a lot about the
two cultures. Although the
adult congregation then was
mostly white the Sunday
School was mainly black.
Our best wishes for a
great celebration.
Rev Colin Colclough

Please give my
good wishes to those
who remember me.
Thanks and God bless.

Alison Tomlin (student
minister at MP and
President of Methodist
Conference 2010)

Busy Bee

Best Wishes and

greetings to

Manley Park

Methodist Church

Toy Shop

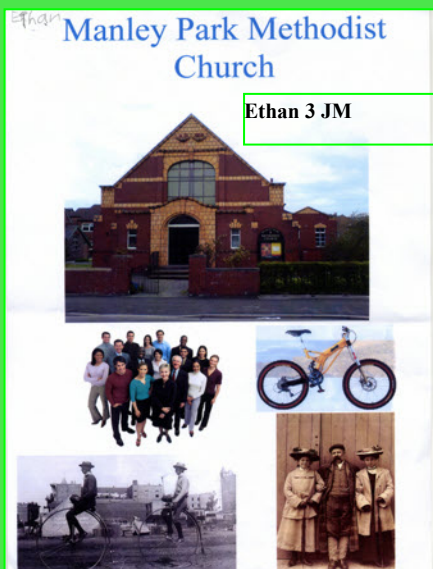
Claire Waite

Store Manager

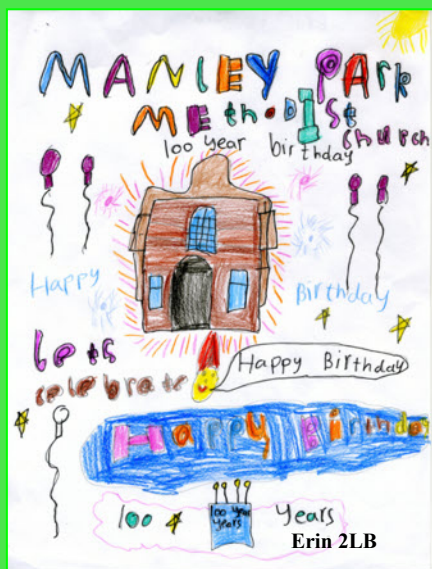


0161 881 5838 - claire@busybeetoyshop.co.uk
517 Wilbraham Road, Chorlton, Manchester M21 0UF
www.busybeetoyshop.co.uk
Busy Bee Toy Shop is a community co-operative

Many more greetings, verbal,
by phone, email, text and in
writing have been received.
It is a great blessing to
become aware of affection
from near and far.



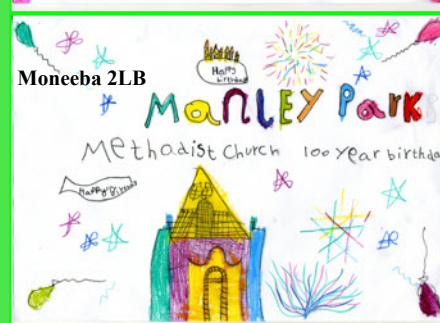
Ethan 3 JM



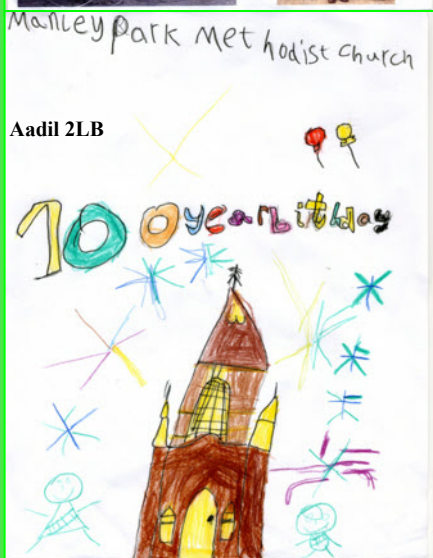
Erin 2LB



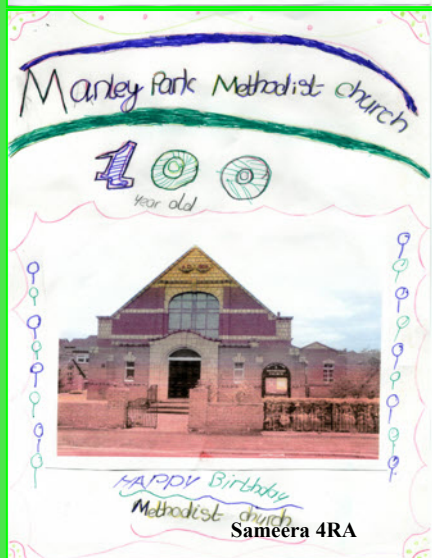
Zaina 2LB



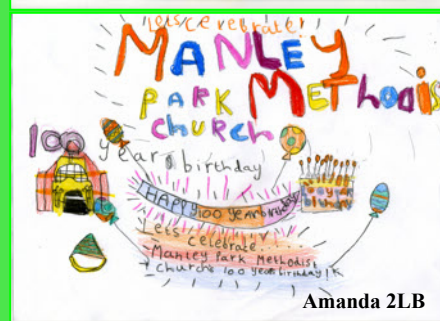
Monceba 2LB



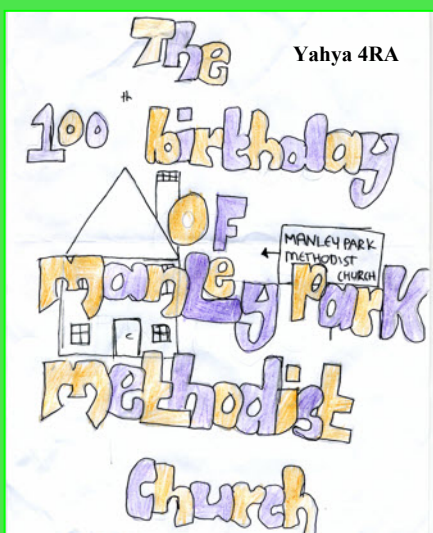
Aadil 2LB



Sameera 4RA



Amanda 2LB



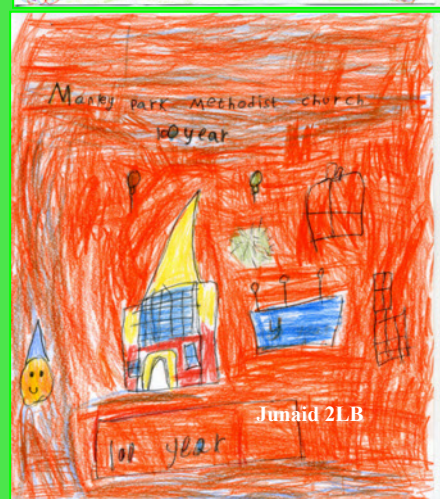
Yahya 4RA



Taniya 2LB



Isabella 2LB



Junaid 2LB

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Please consider giving a donation of **£4** or
above to go to the Centenary Fund to finance
Church and community projects in the area

